

Clean Up Prefs Folder searches the Preferences folder (inside the System Folder) on your startup volume, and exams each file. If a matching application is not found for a file, Yank assumes the file is no longer needed and moves it to the Trash. Normally this is a safe assumption, but you probably should have the “Ask before moving a file to the Trash” option checked before moving any file to the Trash. If you are unsure about a file, do not move it to the Trash!

To start, click the Clean Up Prefs Folder... button on the main Yank window. The following window appears.

One way to test if you have the application that created a file is to double-click on the file. If the Finder displays an alert something like the figure below, that usually (but not always) means you no longer have the application that created the file (or you need to rebuild your Desktop file). Time to Yank the file to the Trash!

When using the Clean Up Prefs Folder feature, keep these things in mind:

🗑️ The “Thorough Scan method” option setting can be slow, especially if you have a lot of volumes mounted, but it does a more complete check than the “Quick Scan method.”

🗑️ After Yank moves files to the Trash, you can safely put them back where they came from with the Finder's "Put Away" command. Here's how:

- 1) Click on the files in the Trash that you want returned.
- 2) Select "Put Away" from the Finder's File menu (or type Command-Y).

Note: this may not work after you restart your Mac.

🗑️ Yank only moves files to the Trash, not folders.

🗑️ It's recommended to have all volumes mounted before you use Yank.

🗑️ It's recommended that you rebuild the desktop files on all volumes before you use this feature. To rebuild the desktop files, restart your Mac, and hold down the option & command keys until you're asked to rebuild the desktop—click OK.

🗑️ If you are unsure about a file, do not move it to the Trash!