

HatchetMan Documentation

What is HatchetMan?

HatchetMan is a system extension (INIT) which helps keep System folders tidy by performing two major tasks. First, it prevents AppleShare volumes from auto-mounting, and secondly deleting superfluous fonts from the System file. Each of these functions is described in detail below.

But first, some history...

Those who maintained our MacLabs on campus suffered the continual problem of students removing applications from Macs, and storing their own rubbish (games, for example) on the hard disk instead. RevRdist was then introduced and immediately solved many of the problems. But after a while, we started to pick out several new difficulties:

- Students continually crossed the "auto-mount" box in the Chooser, causing the Mac to automatically connect to AppleShare servers on startup.
- Students also added vast numbers of fonts to the System.

So why HatchetMan?

Having servers auto-mounted was unacceptable for several reasons: (i) there are only a limited number of users who can connect to the server at a given time - thus an idle connection often prevented a legitimate user from connecting; and (ii) some of the servers being auto-mounted belonged to other departments - i.e. it was not within our power to install Nok Nok AppleShare on them, or access the server machine in any way. This problem *could* be solved by having RevRdist simply delete the AppleShare Prefs file (in the Preferences folder). However, as RevRdist was only set up to run every 4 hours, we found that there would still be lengthy periods of time during which the connection to the server remained idle, defeating the purpose. What we needed was a utility which removed AppleShare Prefs *every* time the Mac restarted. Unmounter *can* do this, but bombed our Macs at startup. Secondly, having excess fonts in the System was more of a nuisance than a real problem. This particularly resulted in difficulties when teaching Intro to Mac-type courses. Thus a vision for HatchetMan started to appear...

Removal of Prefs files

The names of AppleShare volumes to be mounted automatically at startup are stored in the "AppleShare Prefs" file, located in the Preferences folder. HatchetMan removes this file, thereby clearing any user settings. Put simply, it removes all the crosses from the auto-mount check boxes in the Chooser.

HatchetMan can also be set to remove any other files in the System folder: see the section "Customising HatchetMan".

Removal of Fonts

HatchetMan has an internal list of fonts permitted in the System. Any fonts whose names do NOT match these will be removed at startup.

Requirements

System 7 users:

HatchetMan was designed for System 7 & should work perfectly with System 7.0 & 7.0.1 with or without the TuneUps.

System 6 users:

HatchetMan will not remove the AppleShare Prefs file from a System 6 machine. To accomplish this, try using Temprament 2. The font removal part should work under all System 6 versions; testing has only been done for System 7 though.

Hardware:

HathcetMan has been tried on most hardware configurations: Mac Classic I, Classic II, LC, IIsi, IICI, LCII, IIfx & PB180 with no problems.

Customising HatchetMan

As mentioned previously, HatchetMan can delete other files in the System folder as well as AppleShare Prefs. To do this:

- Open up the HatchetMan extension using ResEdit.
- Open up the resource STR# with ID 128.
- Add, delete or change items in the list of filenames to be removed at startup.
- Resave the extension.

Customising the font list is very similar.

- Open up the HatchetMan extension using ResEdit.
- Open up the resource STR# with ID 129.
- Add, delete or change items in the list of font names to be retained.
- Resave the extension.

By default, the following typefaces are retained:

Bookman, Chicago, Courier, Geneva, Helvetica, MacHumaine, Monaco, New York, New Century, Palatino, Symbol, Times, Zapf Chancery, Zapf Dingbats.

When customising, don't include tpestyles. For example, if you have fonts "Goudy-Bold" & "Goudy-Oblique", only type "Goudy" in the list of fonts. If the font names have spaces, include both an entry with spaces, and one without spaces. e.g. include both "New York" and "NewYork".

But that's gross!

Admittedly, the user interface could be a lot friendlier! The extension could quite easily be rewritten as a control panel (cdev); this hasn't been done for a couple of reasons:

First, control panels don't load until *after* extensions under System 7. This means that by the time a HatchetMan cdev was run, the volumes would already have been mounted.

Secondly, students will not be able to reconfigure a HatchetMan extension without a utility like ResEdit, whereas a cdev is easier for them to get to.

As you'll probably only have to configure HatchetMan once or twice, I don't see this as a major problem. But for those interested, I did get half way through a cdev version with a slightly improved interface.

Known limitations

Of course, HatchetMan can be disabled at startup by holding down the Shift key. Apart from that, there are very few limitations. If students *really* wanted other fonts to be retained, they could always rename them so that the first part matched that of a permitted font. For example, to retain a font "Alice in Wonderland", they could rename it "Times Alice in Wonderland".

Under System 7.1, fonts are stored in a Fonts folder. HatchetMan will remove the actual fonts so that they don't appear in menus, but won't delete the suitcases containing them. I'll

worry about this when we install System 7.1 in the Labs!

Licensing & distribution

HatchetMan is totally free... there is no charge whatsoever for its use. I do ask, though, that those who make use of it send a postcard with the name of your institution on the back to:

Phantom Productions
5 Meath Ave.
Taroona
Tasmania 7053
Australia.

HatchetMan is intended as a tool for lab administrators, not for the general public, and so some distribution rules apply:

- You **must** include this documentation whenever you provide someone with the HatchetMan extension.
- HatchetMan must not be supplied as part of any software compilation.
- No charge may be made for HatchetMan other than to recoup costs, e.g. for modem lines or for the disk its supplied on.

HatchetMan does not come with any form of guarantee: any ill effects caused by HatchetMan are the sole responsibility of the person who installs it.

Enquiries may be addressed as above (snail mail) or via Email to
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