

User Guide Supplement

ScrapX™: Scrapbook for Mac OS X

Version 1.3.5

Introduction

ScrapX version 1.3.5 allows capture of content from "promised files" and adds several new features that dramatically reduce item sizes in new and existing scrapbooks. The result is improved access to scrapbook content and faster scrapbook opening and saving. All of the new features are available to registered and unregistered users.

Capture of Promised Files

When content is drag-and-dropped to ScrapX 1.3.5 from a web browser that has put a "promised file" onto the pasteboard, the contents of the file are inserted into the new ScrapX item. Supported browsers are Safari, Internet Explorer, Camino, Firefox, Mozilla, Netscape, and Opera. The capture of the web page title and web page URL occurs only with Safari.

In the Snowboarder scrapbook example discussed below the promised file is a JPEG. But also can be a GIF or aGIF. Until now the type list showed "promised file" as an unsupported type, but the content of the promised file did not become part of the ScrapX item.

Note: *Capture of promised files is possible only when content is drag-and-dropped to ScrapX. When content is copied and pasted promised files are not put on the pasteboard and therefore are not captured by ScrapX.*

Unique behavior is observed with the browsers BumperCar and OmniWeb, which do not use promised files and which put only a single type of the pasteboard. When an image without a link is dragged to ScrapX they pass the file contents directly; the result is the same as if the file itself has been dragged to ScrapX. But, if the image has a link then only the link URL is captured.

Example of Reduced Item Sizes

The following tables provide examples of reductions in sizes for items created with ScrapX 1.3.5 compared to v1.3.4. The first table has results when running under Mac OS X 10.3 (Panther) and the second under Mac OS X 10.2 (Jaguar). In each table:

- 'Item' refers to the item number in "Snowboarder" scrapbook that is included with the ScrapX 1.3.5 download.
- 'Conditions' describe the version of ScrapX and the User Preference settings for "Types Loaded for New Items."

- 'Size' is the size of the item created in ScrapX by dragging the snowboarder image on the Apple home page from Safari to ScrapX. And,
- 'Types' is the list of types in the newly created ScrapX item.

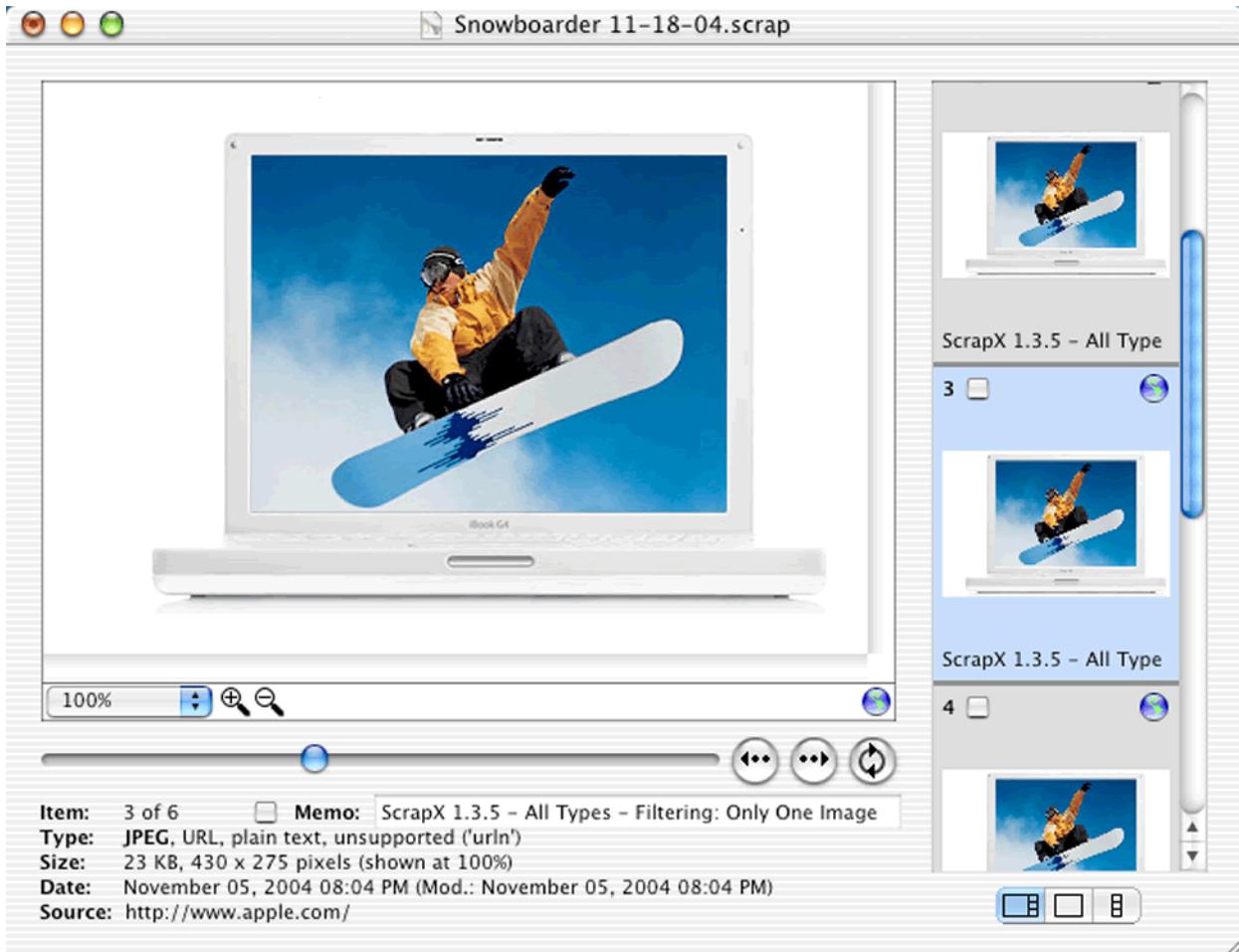


Illustration 1. Item in the Snowboarder scrapbook created with ScrapX 1.3.5 using the "All Types" and "Only One Image" selections in the User Preferences for New Items.

The first item in each table was created with ScrapX 1.3.4 in order to establish a baseline item size. In these items note that the type list includes "promised file" but promised file content is not part of the item. The remaining items were created with ScrapX 1.3.5 using different "Types Loaded for New Items" User Preferences.

Running under Panther

Under Panther, the "None" selection for Type Filtering results in item size being cut almost in half. However, the "Only One Image" setting causes automatic stripping of the redundant PICT image type and the RTFD type that Safari places on the pasteboard when running under Panther. (In this example the RTFD type contains only an identical image.) As a result, with this Type Filtering setting **item size is reduced by about 35 fold. This is accomplished without any loss of information content;** item 4 retains URL, plain text, and unsupported type information. And the item size is indistinguishable from

that for the JPEG type alone—the item created using the "Only Primary Type" filter or the file created by dragging the image from Safari to the desktop.

Item	Conditions	Size	Types
1.	ScrapX 1.3.4	721 KB	TIFF, PICT, RTFD, URL, plain text, unsupported (promised file, 'urln', 'phfs', 'fssP')
2.	ScrapX 1.3.5 - all types - filtering: none	397 KB	JPEG, PICT, RTFD, URL, plain text, unsupported ('urln')
3.	ScrapX 1.3.5 – all types – filtering: only one image	23 KB	JPEG, URL, plain text, unsupported ('urln')

Note: Consistent with behavior of ScrapX 1.3.4, when Type Filtering occurs a Modification Date is added.

Note: Item size does not include thumbnails. Since ScrapX stores thumbnails in order to speed up scrapbook opening, reductions in scrapbook sizes are not quite as large as reductions in item size. Still, they average about 15 fold.

Running under Jaguar

Under Jaguar, size reductions can be even larger because Jaguar often puts duplicate copies of some types on the pasteboard. In this example the baseline item size is 1.3 MB. So between the baseline conditions (item 4) and the "Only One Image" condition (Item 6) **the reduction in item size is more than 60-fold!** Similarly dramatic reductions in item size will be seen with ScrapX 1.3.5 when dragging other image types from Safari or other supported web browsers.

Item	Conditions	Size	Types
4.	ScrapX 1.3.4	1.3 MB	TIFF(2), PICT(2), URL(2), plain text, unsupported (promised file, 'phfs', 'fssP', 'urln')
5.	ScrapX 1.3.5 - all types - filtering: none	370 KB	JPEG, PICT, URL, plain text, unsupported ('urln')
6.	ScrapX 1.3.5 - all types - filtering only one image	23 KB	JPEG, URL, plain text, unsupported ('urln')

How is this reduction in item size possible? When an image is dragged from Safari to ScrapX 1.3.4 several image types are created in the new item because ScrapX accepts all of the information that Safari has placed on the pasteboard. Item size is reduced with ScrapX 1.3.5 because promised files are captured (the JPEG is far smaller than either the TIFF or PICT types it replaces because the latter are bit maps) and duplicate and redundant type information is stripped.

Elimination of Duplicate Type Information

"Duplicate" types means that an item contains two or more copies of the same type. For example, item 4 of the Snowboarder scrapbook has duplicate TIFF, PICT, and URL types. Duplicate types occur because under Jaguar when content is placed on the copy and paste or drag-and-drop pasteboards both Cocoa and Carbon/Classic compatible versions often are included. In earlier versions of ScrapX both copies of each type were placed in the scrapbook. (Panther does not place duplicate types on the pasteboard; it uses a different system to maintain compatibility between Cocoa and Carbon/Classic applications.)

Note: You can tell duplicate types are present by using the stripping commands; select either the TIFF or PICT type and then select **Item > Strip Selected Type**. You will see item size decrease by about 300 KB but the TIFF or PICT type will remain until you select **Item > Strip Selected Type** a second time.

In ScrapX 1.3.5 two improvements have been made to eliminate duplicate types:

- When ScrapX 1.3.5 creates new items it automatically strips duplicate types.
- The new **Item > Strip Duplicate Types** and **Scrapbook > Strip Duplicate Types...** commands eliminate duplicate information from existing items and scrapbooks. When the second menu command is selected ScrapX examines the scrapbook to determine how many items contain duplicate types and how much scrapbook size can be reduced. Then it offers the options of continuing with the stripping of duplicate types or canceling.

Note: Under Panther the creation of new items with duplicate types may not be a concern, but, the **Scrapbook > Strip Duplicate Types...** command still is useful to remove duplicate types from scrapbooks created under Jaguar.

Elimination of Redundant Type Information

Redundant types contain the same basic information encoded in two or more different file formats. For example, if an item contains both a TIFF and a PICT the image information is redundant. Web browsers commonly place redundant image content on the pasteboard, and redundant type information also can result when ScrapX receives a promised file.

Elimination of redundant type information occurs in three stages.

- First, any redundant TIFF types are stripped automatically; here "TIFF" includes the GIF, BMP, JPEG, and PNG types. In the Snowboarder example the addition of the JPEG from the promised file results in the TIFF bit map image being stripped.
- Further filtering of redundant image type information occurs depending on the setting for the ScrapX 1.3.5 "Type Filtering" for New Items. If "Only One Image" is selected ScrapX limits to one the number of TIFF and PICT types created in a new

item. (Filtering never causes the PDF image type to be stripped.) This preference applies to content received from any source whether by copy and paste or drag-and-drop.

- Finally ScrapX checks the RTFD type if present. If it contains only an image and that image is identical to the TIFF or PICT type, then the RTFD type is stripped.

Note: This preference also removes the redundant image type when a picture clipping is dragged to ScrapX and when an image is pasted to ScrapX.

To decide which types to strip, ScrapX first looks for an image in a promised file; if one is found it is inserted and other images are stripped. In there is no promised file, then ScrapX inserts the first TIFF it receives from the pasteboard, or if none is received, the first PICT received. Then other TIFFs and PICTs are stripped.

New Type Filtering

Illustration 2. Shows the revised "New Items" User Preferences. The default settings are "All Available Types" and "Only One Image." Note that the "Only Primary Type" filter is available only when "Only Supported Types" has been selected.

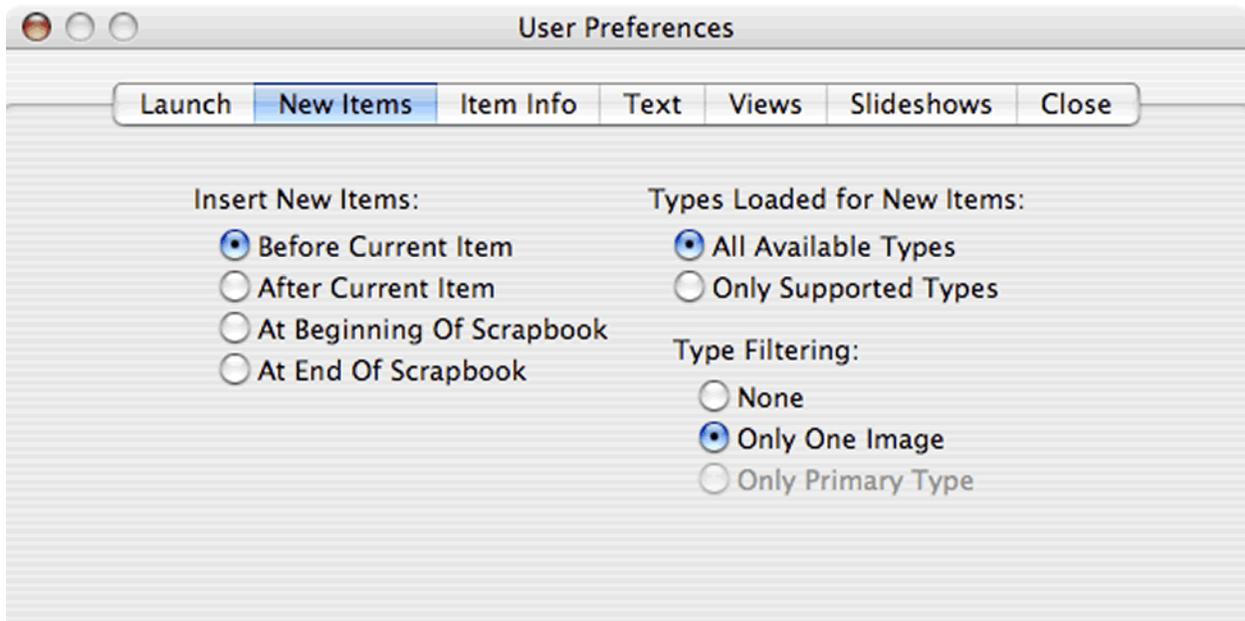


Illustration 2. The New Items User Preferences in ScrapX 1.3.5 shown with the default selections.

Note: Making "Only One Image" the default preference violates our own scrapbook principle, which says the result of moving content between two applications by way of ScrapX should produce exactly the same result as moving it directly. We do it nevertheless because we see no downside to removal of redundant image types.

Capture of iPhoto Content

When one or more photos are dragged from iPhoto to ScrapX copies of the images are inserted in the scrapbook and the image names are placed in the source fields. This feature can be used, for example, to collect a set of images that will be used for a particular project. Browse the hundreds or thousands images in your iPhoto albums and drag to a scrapbook those you want to display or work with.

Exporting Files

ScrapX 1.3.5 simplifies the exporting of content to desktop files. When an item is option-dragged to the desktop a file is created in the format of the type currently selected in the type list. The result is the same as that using the **Item > Export...** command, but the operation is done more simply.

***Note:** This operation involves sending a promised file to the Finder; alas, it cannot be used to drag a single item type from ScrapX to another application unless that application supports promised files.*

Until ScrapX 1.3.5, the source field indicated the URL of the page when content was dragged to ScrapX from Safari. Now that the content of promised file content is captured, there is a page source for the bulk of the content, and a file source of one of the types. ScrapX 1.3.5 handles this situation by displaying the page source but also storing the name of the promised file, and using it when the promised file content is exported or option-dragged to the desktop.

Additional Enhancements & Fixes

See the ScrapX 1.3.5 What's New document for a list of additional enhancements and fixes.

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