

Alessandro Levi Montalcini
C.so Re Umberto 10
10121 Torino
Italy
e-mail: LMontalcini@pmn.it
ftp://ftp.alpcom.it/software/mac/LMontalcini

enuBall 2.3 documentation - August 1995

• Introduction

◇ MenuBall is an **absolutely useless** control panel that puts a **bouncing ball** in your **menu bar**. It won't slow down your Mac and it shouldn't crash (but use it at your own risk). Should the ball ever leave a mark in your menu bar, don't panic: it is harmless, just switch to another application to have the menu bar redrawn properly.

- ◇ There's only one **smart use** for MenuBall: since the ball moves one step at each WaitNextEvent call, you can use it to **monitor the system activity**. If the ball **stops**, the Mac probably won't respond to user actions and may even be hung; if it **moves slowly**, the front application is being friendly to other processes and giving up a lot of processor time; if it **moves fast**, then the front application is eating most of the CPU time (and possibly wasting it).
- ◇ If you can bear MenuBall for more than half an hour, you've earned it.

• Instructions

- ◇ **On/Off hot key** lets you choose a key combination that will turn the menu ball on and off on the fly.
- ◇ **Enable gravity acceleration** changes the way the ball bounces around.
- ◇ **Disable horizontal movement** makes the ball stick to the left of the Apple menu.
- ◇ **Make menu ball larger** gives you a bigger ball.
- ◇ **Move menu ball faster** makes the ball speedier.
- ◇ **Show icon at startup** tells MenuBall to show its icon when the mac starts up.
- ◇ **Note:** the **ball speed** depends mostly on the application you're using. When a dialog window is open, the ball usually runs a lot faster.

• Version History

- ◇ **2.3** - Fixed an incompatibility with the PaperPort Extension, cleaned up the code for "strict windows" awareness.
- ◇ **2.2** - Slightly reduced the memory used by MenuBall, added support for the INITGestalt 1.0 proposal by Jeremy Roussak and Rene G.A. Ros.
- ◇ **2.1** - Added a new option to disable horizontal movement. The ball is no longer drawn if no menu bar is visible. Added pictures and a contents menu to the online documentation.
- ◇ **2.0.2** - Cleaned up the code and updated documentation.
- ◇ **2.01** - Recompiled with latest version of the compiler and updated documentation.
- ◇ **2.0** - Rewritten from scratch for Owen W. Linzmayer and his new book.
- ◇ **1.0** - First cut as a simple extension.

• Distribution

- ◇ MenuBall is ©1994-95 **Alessandro Levi Montalcini**. It can be freely distributed as long as it is not modified and there's no charge for it, but it may not be included in any commercial package without my consent.
- ◇ You may find the latest version of all my shareware programs by anonymous ftp to **ftp.alpcom.it**, inside the **/software/mac/LMontalcini** directory. The complete **ShareDisk** package, which contains all my stuff and can be registered at a very low price, is also available there.
- ◇ All **online services** and **bulletin boards** may make it available to their users at no charge other than the normal connection fees.
- ◇ All non-profit **user groups** may distribute it at no charge.
- ◇ All **magazines** may publish it on floppy disk without asking me first, as long as I get a copy of the issue containing

my software.

◇ All **CD-ROM shareware collections** and **CD-ROM magazines** may include it without my prior consent, as long as I get either a copy of the CD-ROM or an offer to buy the CD-ROM at a discounted price.

◇ All **redistribution companies** such as Educorp may distribute it, as long as I get a copy of each media containing my software and a catalog of the company's offerings (where applicable).

• Disclaimer

◇ MenuBall shouldn't cause any damage, but you're using it at your own risk. As an independent software developer, I can make **no warranties** whatsoever on it.