



ASD Software, Inc.
4650 Arrow Highway, Suite E-6
Montclair, CA 91763
Voice: (909) 624-2594
Fax: (909) 624-9574

Internet: info@asdsoft.com
Web: www.asdsoft.com

America Online: ASDSOFT

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Welcome to YankPro™ *for the Macintosh*



Macintosh users love to use their computers. They like to try out new software, download files over the Internet, and add utilities and extensions to change the way their Macs look, feel and sound. They like to surf the web, send email, play games and run businesses from their computers, and they love to be able to make their Mac reflect their own interests and way of working.

Over time, your Mac's hard drive can get crammed full of files that you don't need, want or use any more. Preferences from the word processor you used three releases ago may now just be taking up room in your System Folder. Aliases that point to programs you don't have any more waste some more space. "Fat" binary programs that *could* run on both PowerMacs and older "68k" Macs don't really need the old code to run on your new G3 system. Sooner or later, your hard drive gets filled up with a bunch of junk that you don't need, but don't know how to track down and eliminate.

YankPro is the best tool available to help you clean out all of those unnecessary "junk" files that fill up your hard disk and slow down your computer. Use YankPro to uninstall old programs that you don't use (or that don't work with your new computer or Mac OS upgrade), to identify and delete duplicate or damaged files, clean out the "fat binary" code that takes up space but will never run on your computer, and more. With YankPro, it's easy to find the files that are wasting space on your hard drive, round them up, and throw them in the Trash—or any other place on your hard drive where you can examine them and be sure you don't need them any more before you delete them.

System Requirements: YankPro works on any Macintosh computer running operating system versions from System 7.1 through Mac OS 8.5, and works with Apple's new "extended" drive format (sometimes called "HFS+"). YankPro requires 4mb of application RAM, but if you have a particularly large hard drive or a very large number of files you may wish to assign more memory to the program. You can do this through the "Get Info" window in the Finder when YankPro is not running.

Note: The screens you see may be slightly different from the ones in this book because Macs are so easy to customize.

In addition to this manual, Balloon Help is also available for YankPro. More help can be obtained by clicking on the small "question mark" button found on most windows. There is even a "Quick Help" mode available. You can activate "Quick Help" mode by pressing and holding down the Control key while moving the cursor over a YankPro window. Release the Control key to disable "Quick Help" mode. If you ever need to contact us for tech support, there is even a live link to our web site and our email address in the "About YankPro" information window in the program (live linking requires that you have installed the freeware program Internet Config). And, if you need to talk to a real person you can call our friendly technical support line at (909) 624-2594 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Pacific Standard Time.

We think YankPro is the best program of its type on the market, and we're always interested in hearing your ideas on how we can make it even better. If you think of a feature that you'd like to see added to future versions of YankPro, visit our web site at <http://www.asdsoft.com> and let us know. Every time a Macintosh product improves, the entire Mac community wins.

Introduction

All of YankPro's main features are used in a similar fashion. When you click on one of the buttons in YankPro's main program window you'll be asked to select upon which volume(s) you wish to perform the operation. You can choose individual volumes, or you can select all volumes from a popup list.

Once you've selected the volume(s), YankPro executes a very fast search to find all of the files that meet the specifications you've selected. For instance, finding all the Orphaned Aliases on that volume, or all the files which are associated with the program that you want to uninstall. YankPro presents all the files it finds in a "Found Item List" so that you can decide how each item should be treated. If you like, you can save this list of found items on your hard drive.

The Found Item List has several buttons at the bottom which will be available or unavailable depending on which item you've selected. For instance, you can only "trim the fat" out of a "fat binary" program, so that button will be unavailable if you have clicked on a text file in the list. An "assistant" button is available to help you decide which items to select (to move to the Trash, for instance) depending on which feature you are currently using.

Once you've finished trashing, moving or otherwise dealing with the files in the list in the way you wish, you can simply close the list window to get back to YankPro's main window and perform another operation. When you've finished cleaning up your hard drive, check out YankPro's "Results" window (from the Window menu) to see the results of your action. If you prefer, you can keep the Results window open while you are working on your hard drive and it will be updated automatically.

That's it! YankPro is that simple to use. More information and some screen shots follow on the succeeding pages for those who wish to know a bit more before diving in. Those of you who "don't read manuals" are now free to experiment with the program, but please be careful when you delete items from your System Folder so that you don't delete something you don't understand. When in doubt, err on the side of caution and move items to a temporary folder until you can be sure that removing the item won't adversely affect your system. And remember, some programs (like security software) need to be turned off from within the program before you uninstall it with YankPro to be sure that you don't get any lingering effects.

Use YankPro a few times a year (or more, if you try out a lot of new software) to keep your hard drive "lean and clean" and to improve system performance. If you plan to "optimize" your hard drive with one of the many utilities out there for that purpose, it's a good idea to use YankPro first, so you don't "optimize" files that you'd be better off deleting.



YankPro's main window is shown here. To use one of the program's functions, just click on one of the twelve buttons.

Main Program Features

- [Uninstall](#)
- [Clean up Prefs Folder](#)
- [Help and Apple Guide Files](#)
- [Slim Fat Applications](#)
- [Orphaned Text Files](#)
- [Orphaned Aliases](#)
- [Empty Files & Folders](#)
- [Damaged Files](#)
- [Duplicate Applications](#)
- [Duplicate Files](#)
- [Cache Files](#)
- [Compressed Files](#)

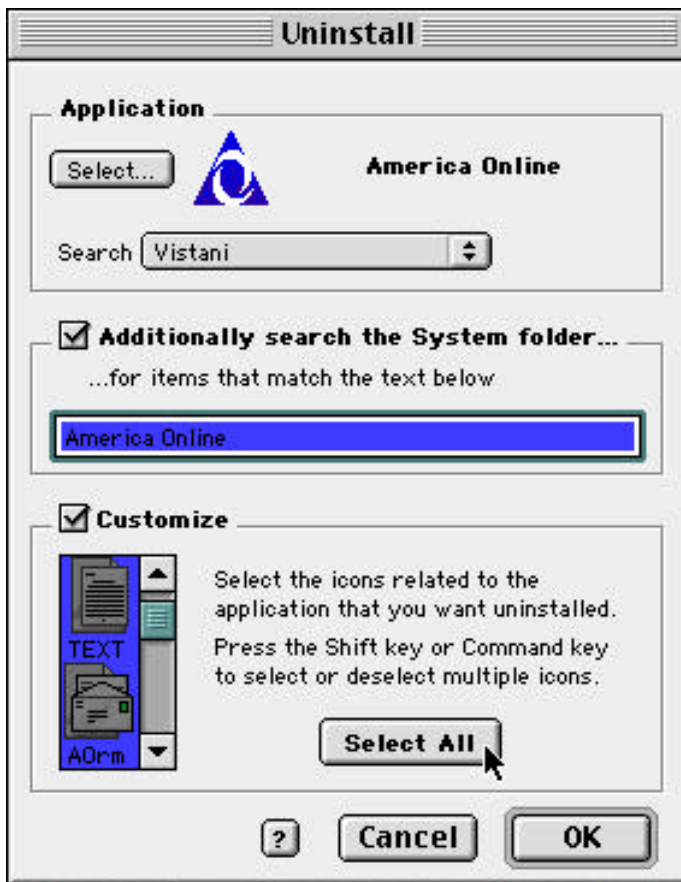
Other Important Notes

- [List of found items](#)
- [Preferences](#)
- [Mac OS Easy Open](#)



Uninstall...

Uninstall creates a list of applications and related files that you want uninstalled. From this list items can be moved to the Trash or to any other location on your hard drive. For example, did you install the free America Online software on your hard disk years ago, but you never use it? Now you can uninstall America Online and all AOL related files.



To select the application, choose a volume from the “Search” popup menu, then click on the Select button, or drag and drop the application icon onto the window.

To perform an additional search by the name of items in the System folder, enter a search string before clicking on OK.

YankPro may not find some system extensions or control panels that may have been installed with the application. That's because system extensions or control panels usually do not have any direct relationship with the application that uses them, other than a possible name match.

If you have Mac OS Easy Open installed or are using Mac OS 8.5 or later, you can further customize which items to uninstall. After an application has been selected, click on the Customize checkbox to limit which items to uninstall. For example, suppose you want to uninstall all America Online items except graphics. You would click on all AOL icons except the graphic icons.

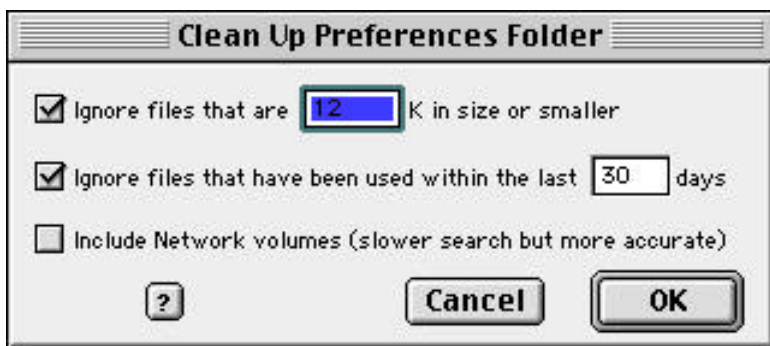
Note: You cannot uninstall from a read-only volume, such as a CD-ROM.



Clean Up Prefs Folder...

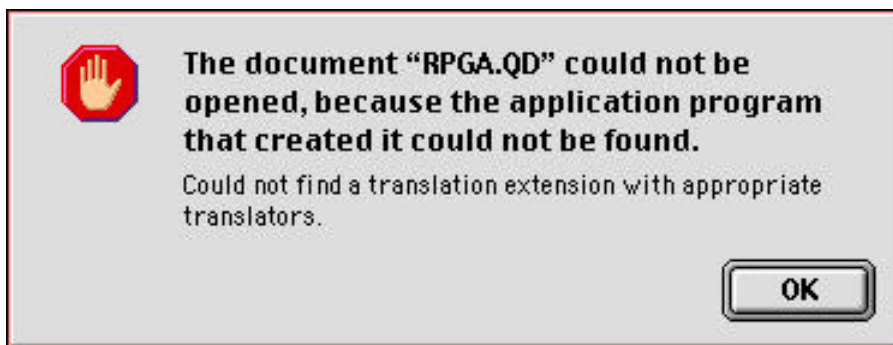
This option searches the System Preferences folder for orphaned preference files. Almost every program you ever run creates a preference file, including those shareware programs you tried years ago just one time.

Note: this is not an exact process. Some files may be listed as being orphaned because they don't contain information about which program created them, while in fact they may be essential to your Mac. Use caution when moving preference files to the Trash. If you see a preference file that is obviously an orphan, normally you can safely Trash it. When in doubt, have YankPro move it to a temporary folder until you can be sure that all your programs are working correctly. You will be able to save a log of all files that were moved to the Trash, and where they came from.



If "Include Network volumes" is not checked, then only volumes that belong to your Mac (local volumes) are checked for a matching application. If "Include Network volumes" is checked, then all local and currently mounted network volumes may be checked for a matching application. Having this option checked will produce more accurate results because server volumes can be

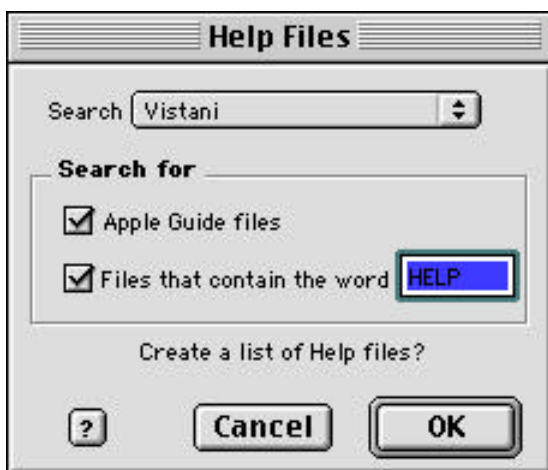
checked for applications which may have created files on your hard drive, however, it may take longer if you have many volumes mounted on your Mac.



An orphaned file in this sense means that you do not have the application that created the file. One way to test if a file is an orphan is to try to open the file. If the Finder displays an alert similar to the one 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). Some preferences files are just text documents, so be sure to take a look at the names of the preferences files before blindly deleting them.

Help Files...



Helps you get rid of unnecessary Help and Apple Guide files. You probably already know how to use your applications, so there is no need to clutter up your hard disk with all those unwanted—and usually pretty large—help files. To Search for Apple Guide files, check the box "Apple Guide files." To search for other Help files, check the box "Files that contain the word" and then fill in the search text to match with the name of the file. To find all files whose name contains the word HELP, enter HELP in the text area. You could try entering other text as well, such as MANUAL, GUIDE or READ ME. YankPro quickly searches for unneeded Help and/or Apple Guide files and displays them in a list so you can decide which to delete.



Slim Fat Applications...

Many applications contain two sets of code so they can run in native mode on both PowerMacs and older 68K Macs. This type of application is called a “fat” application. That means they contain some code that you’ll never use. Now you can reduce the size of most fat applications by up to 30%.



Select the volume to search from the pop-up menu. At the end of the search a list of fat applications is displayed. To slim an application, click on the application in the list and then click on the “Slim the fat...” button. A window like the one at the right appears.

YankPro will tell you whether you have a 68K Mac or a PPC Mac (PowerMac). You should make the application appropriate for your Mac. A 68K program will run (albeit slowly) on a PowerMac, but a PPC application will not run at all on a 68K Macintosh. By default, the correct choice is selected for you.

You are given the chance to make a copy of the application before you slim it. We recommend that you do



this, just in case you choose the wrong kind of application or anything goes wrong during the slimming process. If you choose to duplicate the application first, a copy is made in the same folder as the original application. When you are ready to proceed, click the “Slim It” button.

When the application has been slimmed, you’ll see a dialog box like this one. You can click the “Launch application” button to verify that the slimmed application still works on your machine. If everything is working as expected, you can then click the “Move copy to the Trash” button to automatically get rid of the copy you made. If there is any problem with the original, you can simply delete the



slimmed version and use the copy you made before the slimming process (you should remove the word “copy” from the name of the duplicate application in this case). The bottom of the dialog box reminds you how much hard disk space you saved by slimming this application.

Orphaned Text Files...

Searches your hard disk for orphaned text files. A text file is considered to be an orphan if the application that created the file can't be found. At the end of the search you can reassign the file to another application, send it to the Trash or anywhere else on your hard drive.



Select the volume to search from the pop-up menu. If “Include Network volumes” is not checked, then only volumes that belong to your Mac (local volumes) are checked for a matching application. If “Include Network volumes” is checked, then all local and mounted network volumes may be checked for a matching application. Having this option checked will produce more accurate results, however, it may take longer if you have many volumes networked to your Mac. Click OK to begin the search.

YankPro quickly searches for orphaned text files. When the final list is displayed, you will have the opportunity to reassign the files to another application, or simply move them to the Trash.

Orphaned Aliases...

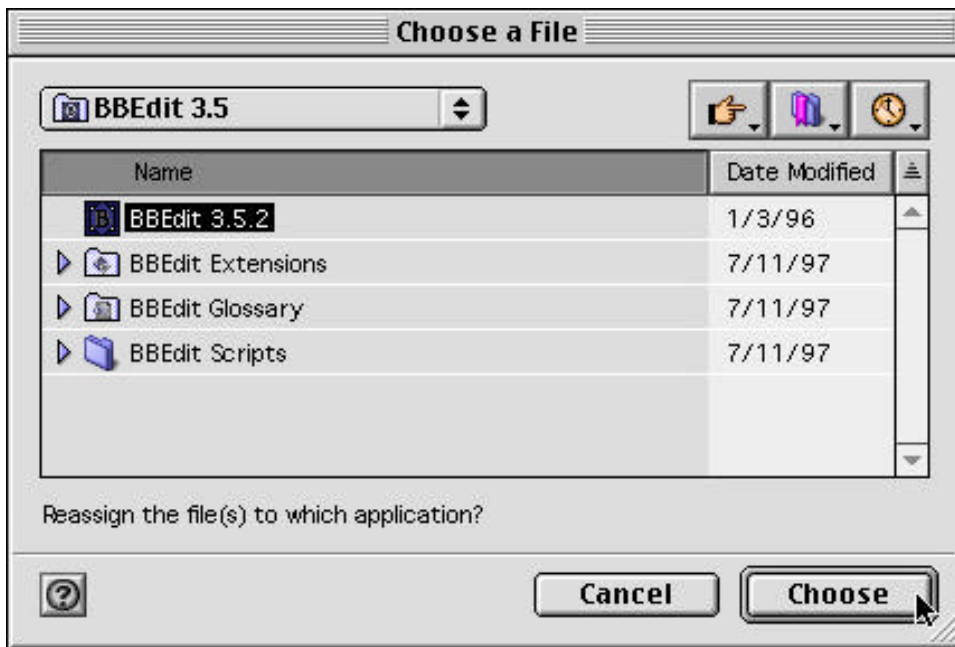
This option works much like Orphaned Text Files, except that it searches your hard disk for orphaned alias files instead. An alias file is a file that points to another file. If somehow the alias loses track of which file it points to, it becomes an orphaned alias.



Select the volume to search from the pop-up menu. If you check “Include unmounted volumes in search,” you may be asked to mount any unmounted volumes (disks) that may contain the item that the alias points to. This may slow down the search, but it produces more accurate results.

Click OK. YankPro quickly searches for orphaned alias files. At the end of the search, a list of orphaned aliases is displayed. When the final list is displayed, you will have the opportunity to reattach the orphaned aliases, or simply move them to the Trash.

Both orphaned text files and orphaned aliases can be reassigned so that they point to a valid location or application. When you click the “Reattach...” button at the bottom of the list window, a navigation dialog box opens like the one shown here. Simply navigate through your hard drive to the file that you want your alias to point towards, or to the application that you want to use to open your text file, then click the “Choose” button to make your selection. Once you do, your alias or text file will no longer be “orphaned,” and its name will be removed from the list. You can continue assigning “parents” to your orphaned files, or you can click a button to move the files to the Trash or to any other location on your hard drive.



Empty Files & Folders...



Helps you get rid of files that contain no data and folders that don't contain any files. There is usually no need to clutter up your hard disk with unnecessary empty files and folders. **Note:** some empty files are used by the operating system, so be careful which files you move to the Trash. Operating system files are usually marked as invisible or have their name locked.

First choose which you want to do; search for Empty Files or search for Empty Folders. If you chose Empty Files, the next window looks like this:



Choose which disks to search and click OK. YankPro quickly searches for empty files or empty folders and displays them in a list. **Note:** some empty files and empty folders are used by the operating system, so be careful which files you move to the Trash. Operating system items are usually marked as invisible or have their name locked. If you're not sure whether the empty file or folder is important, move it to a temporary location on your hard

drive instead of the Trash until you're sure your computer operates normally without the file or folder.

Clicking on the Assistant button selects the empty files suggested for moving to the Trash, which are all empty files not in a System folder. Empty files in the System folder may be used by other applications or the operating system, so it may be safer to leave them in the System folder. If you agree with the selections, click on the "Move to the Trash" button to send the selected empty files to the Trash, or click the "Move to..." button to specify a different place to move the files.



Damaged Files...



Searches your hard disk for damaged files. The resource fork of each file is examined for any problems.

Choose which disk(s) to search, and click OK. YankPro quickly searches for damaged files. At the end of the search all damaged files are displayed in a list. You should move all damaged files to the Trash and replace them with undamaged versions from your installation disks or your backups.



Duplicate Applications...



This searches for duplicate applications. You really only need ONE copy of SimpleText, after all.

Select the volume to search from the pop-up menu. If any duplicate applications are found, it's recommended that you keep the newest version and send the older versions to the Trash.



Duplicate Files...



Searches your hard disk for duplicate files. A file is considered to be a duplicate if one or more occurrences of the file has the same name, same data length (both forks), and the same modification date. However, the contents of the file is not examined.

Select the volume to search from the pop-up menu and click OK. YankPro quickly searches for duplicate files. At the end of the search all duplicate files are displayed in a list.



Cache Files...



This searches for cache files, which are usually temporary files used by Internet browsers such as Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer. Cache files can normally be safely deleted. They are usually used to speed up displays, however, these cache files can pile up in a hurry, robbing you of needed disk space. Select the volume to search from the pop-up menu and click OK. YankPro displays a list of all cache files found.

Before sending any Cache files to the Trash, be sure to first quit the application that created the cache file (for example, before sending Netscape cache files to the Trash, make sure Netscape is not currently running). The Assistant button does not apply for this task because you probably want to Trash most if not all cache files.

Compressed Files...

This searches for compressed, MacBinary, and BinHex* files. Whenever you download anything from the Internet, the file is almost always downloaded in compressed, MacBinary, or BinHex format. Often times when a file is downloaded in BinHex format, it is converted to a compressed file, and then uncompressed, leaving two extra unneeded files on your hard disk. Now you can search for all these no longer needed files and move them to the Trash.

Select the volume to search from the pop-up menu and click OK. YankPro shows all compressed, MacBinary, and/or BinHex* files.



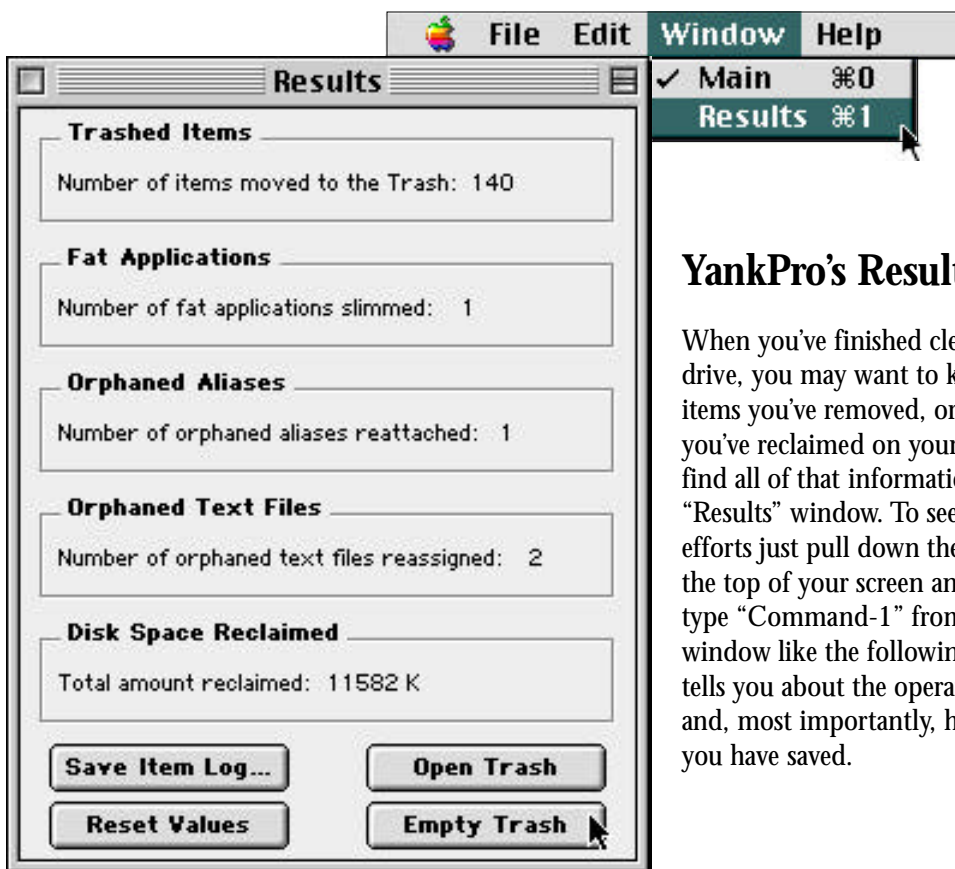
Compressed, MacBinary, and BinHex files usually have an identifying extension appended to their file name to show what type of file it is. Below is the file naming convention.

File Type	Extensions
Compressed	.sit, .cpt, .sea
MacBinary	.bin
BinHex	.hqx

For example, a file called “test.hqx” is most likely a BinHex file. Some items in the list may not be compressed, MacBinary, or BinHex files. For example, if you asked YankPro to search for all StuffIt files, YankPro returns all files ending in “.sit”. However, there could be a file called “About XYZ.sit” and YankPro will list that file also, even though it's probably not a StuffIt file.

YankPro could check the creator type for verification, however, it is possible that you may have some StuffIt files on your hard disk that do not contain the correct creator type for StuffIt, so YankPro instead uses the file name extension.

*BinHex (short for Binary Hexadecimal) files are text files that have been encoded from binary files (binary files are normal Mac files, including compressed files). Decoding a BinHex files converts the text back to a binary form.



YankPro's Results

When you've finished cleaning up your hard drive, you may want to know just how many items you've removed, or how much disk space you've reclaimed on your hard drive. You can find all of that information in YankPro's "Results" window. To see the results of your efforts just pull down the Window menu at the top of your screen and select Results, or type "Command-1" from the keyboard. A window like the following is displayed which tells you about the operations you performed and, most importantly, how much disk space you have saved.

Found Item List

A list of found items (applications, files and folders) is displayed at the end of each search function.

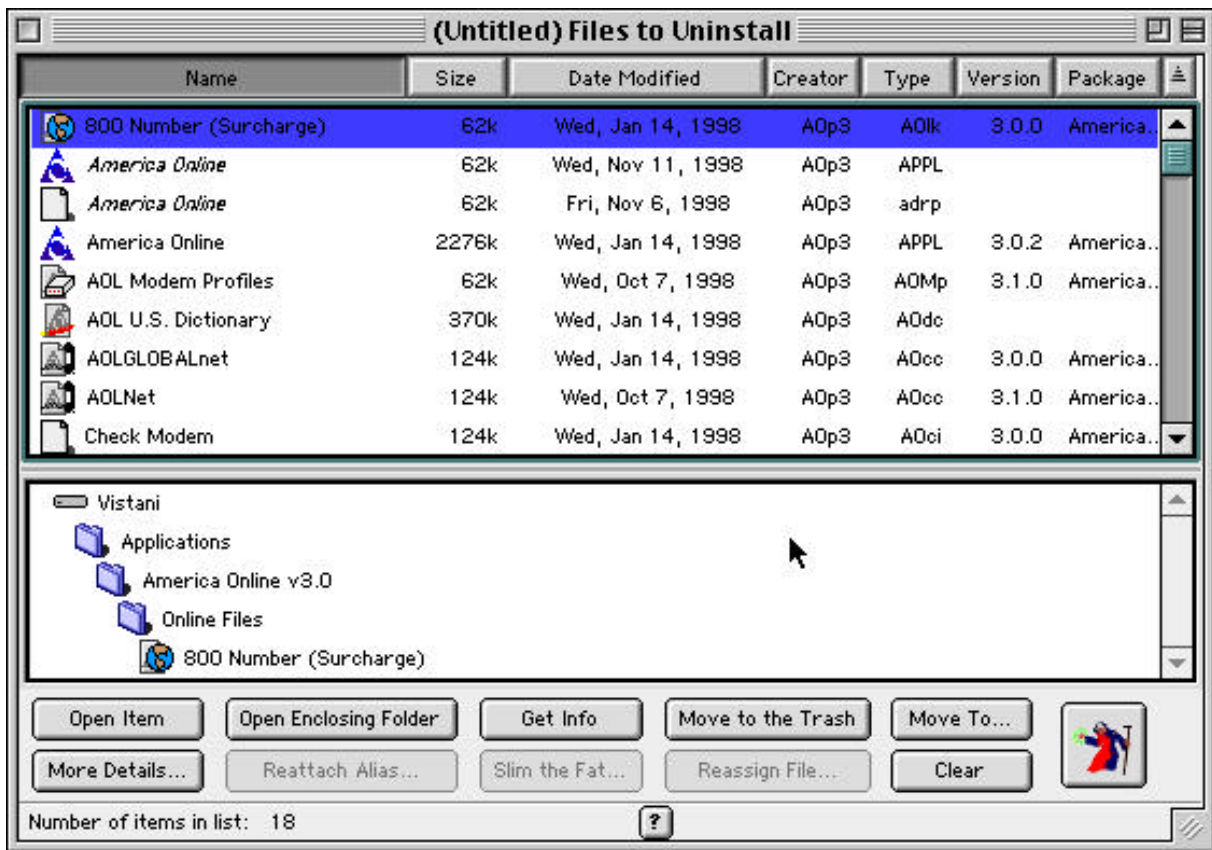
YankPro can show you where the item in the list is located on your Mac, open the item, open the enclosing folder, move the item to the Trash or anywhere else on your hard drive, Get Info on the item, if it's an orphaned alias, reattach the alias, if it's an orphaned text file, reassign the file, and if it's a fat application, slim the application.

With the **Edit menu**, selecting "Select All" selects all items in the list. Selecting Clear simply deletes selected items from the list (but does not delete items from your hard drive or move the items to the Trash).

The picture below shows the list of files after asking YankPro to uninstall America Online. All items in the list can be moved to the Trash. The bottom part of the window shows the location of the selected item.

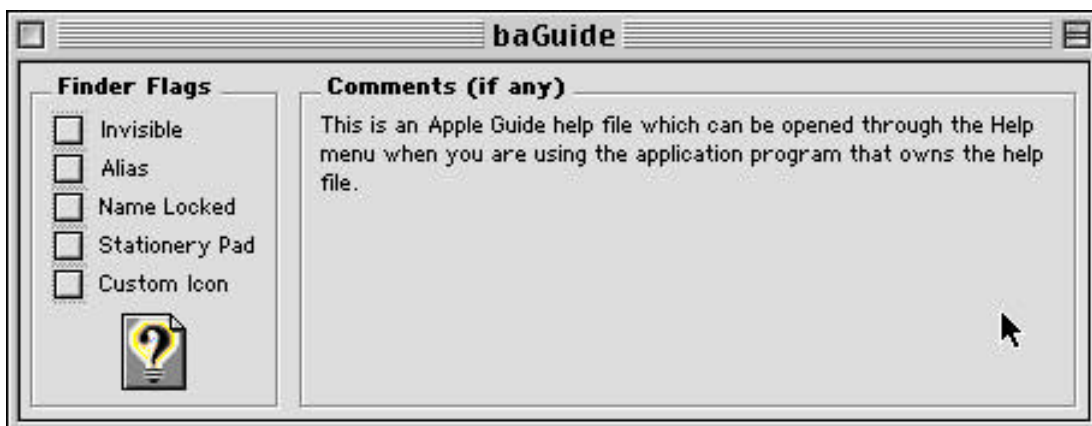
Click on a column header button to display the items in a different sort order. In this picture, the items are sorted by Name. To sort by Size, click on the Size column header button.

Some buttons are disabled because they don't apply to the items in the list.



This window also features a sliding divider bar. When the cursor changes to a double-arrow, hold down the mouse button and drag the divider bar up or down. That way you can easily see exactly where a file is located on your hard drive.

Click the “More Details” button (or double-clicking on an item) to bring up a window displaying more information about the item. The example below gives more information about the file “ba Guide,” part of Mac OS 8.5.



About Window

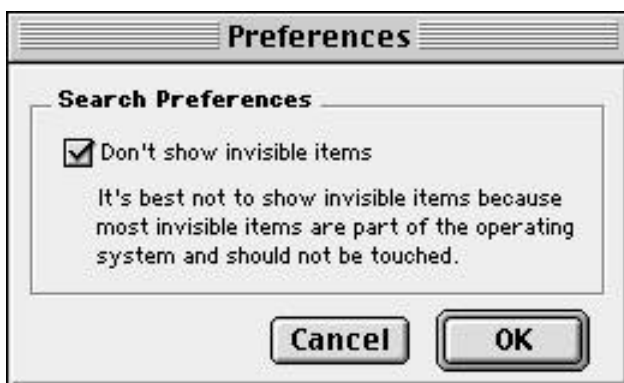


Select "About YankPro" from the Apple menu to bring up this window. Your name and organization will appear in the first box, and the credits will scroll upward in the second box. If you have a program called Internet Config installed and configured on your computer (most Internet software now comes with Internet Config), you can click on the blue link to our web site and your browser will start up and take you there. You can also click on the blue email link to start up your email program to send us a note.

Mac OS Easy Open.

With Mac OS 8.1 or earlier, some functions depend on having "Mac OS Easy Open" installed. If you don't have "Mac Easy Open" installed, you might be able to download a copy from <http://swupdates.info.apple.com/usalpha.html>. If you are using MacOS 8.5 or later: you're all set. For MacOS 8.5, The Mac OS Easy Open control panel is no longer installed. Its functionality has been moved to the System file.

Preferences



Display this window by selecting Preferences from the YankPro Edit menu.

Some files and folders are used by the operating system, and you need to be careful not to move necessary system items to the Trash. System items are usually marked as invisible or may have their name locked. By telling YankPro to not show invisible items, there is less chance that you'll accidentally send an important system file or folder to the Trash