

Making Updates

Start up UpdateMaker, or select New from the File menu. The Update Specifications window will be shown. Click on the Choose Files button.

Select the first (or only) old file that the update is to apply to and click Add Old. You can do the same for any alternative old files that you would like the update to apply to, for up to fifteen old files.

To remove a file from the list of old files, select its name in the list and click Remove Old. Select the new file that the update is to convert the old file or files into, and click New File. Click Done once you are satisfied with your choices.

Consider whether you need to use the Expert Options (described below) at this point. Are the user's target files exactly the same as the old files you are using to build the update? For example, many applications (like UpdateMaker, in fact) are modified the first time they run, when they ask for and remember your name.

Enter any remarks for users of the update in the Notes for Users box, then click Make Update and UpdateMaker will start building the update document. You can continue editing the Notes for Users until you save the completed update.

During the Build

Building the update may take some time, depending on the number and size of the files and the extent of the differences between them. UpdateMaker will display a progress bar, but its speed will vary as it encounters different parts of the file. The bar may even go backwards if UpdateMaker decides to try an alternative path in comparing the files. UpdateMaker will build the update in the background if you want to use another application while you are waiting. When the build is finished, choose Save or Save Application from the File menu and fill in the Save dialogs.

UpdateMaker will warn you when the build is completed if no parts of the old files are used – in which case the update will work on almost any target file – or if the update is actually larger than the “new” file.