FileTyper
Version 4.2.2

by Daniel Azuma
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What is FileTyper?

If you're an experienced Macintosh user, you've probably had to edit file types and creators, those four-character codes that identify a file's type and owner. Back in the days of System 6, I used to use ResEdit whenever I needed to change a type or creator, which was a pain since ResEdit took so long to open, and seemingly even longer to quit.

And so came FileTyper. It is a small "drop-box" application, one of the first to use the new System 7 technique, that provides a quick way to edit file types, creators, and Finder flags. Just put FileTyper or an alias of FileTyper in a handy place—I keep it on the desktop next to the trash—and drag files, folders, disks, anything onto its icon. Simple and painless.

Since its incarnation in 1991, shortly after the release of System 7, FileTyper has developed into a powerful file-manipulation tool, while still keeping its small size and simple concept. Some of the features it supports include batch jobs, searching of folder contents, filtering, and an interface designed to make altering a file extremely quick. Also included in the FileTyper package are two supplemental utilities: a control panel that adds a "FileTyper…" item to the Finder's File menu, and an application that creates custom "AutoTypers", which are tiny drop-boxes that will automatically make a certain change to items dropped on them.

System requirements

All the items in the FileTyper package require System 7 or later. Older versions of FileTyper had a component specially designed for System 6 use. This has been removed, since it looks like no one is using System 6 anymore, and since it is becoming nearly impossible for me to find computers running System 6 for testing purposes. If you as a user still want or need System 6 compatibility, then email me, and if I get enough complaints, I'll see what I can do.

Filetyper will run on a Power Macintosh in emulation. At some point, I will probably compile a PowerMac native version of FileTyper, but since the I/O routines in MacOS are still emulated, this would result in lots of mode switching, minimizing any speed gains.

Shareware notice

FileTyper is being distributed as shareware. After a 15-day trial period, the cost for a single-user license is U.S. $10, and the cost for a site license (which covers all Macintosh computers located at a single U.S. postal address) is U.S. $30. Please send U.S. cash or a check drawn on a U.S. bank, as it is very difficult for me to deal with anything else.

Make checks payable to DANIEL AZUMA.

There is a registration form included in this package; print it, fill it out, and send it along with your payment to:

FileTyper registration

1449 Belleville Way
Sunnyvale, CA 94087-3807 U.S.A.

Also, it is important that I get some information with your registration: your name, company or

organization (if applicable), address, e-mail address (if any), and FileTyper version number. You can write down this information separately, or print out the registration form provided.

If you are already a registered user of an earlier version, your upgrade is free.

If you aren't familiar with how shareware works, here's the run-down: You are allowed to try out the FileTyper package free for 15 days. If, by the end of that time, you decide that you do not need or want FileTyper's capabilities, you only need to trash it, and you owe nothing. If you decide that FileTyper will be useful to you, and you decide to keep it, you are expected to register your copy by sending in a registration form and your payment. You are on your honor to do this; there is no way for me to track you down and beat you on the head if you don't.

Why should you register shareware then? Some shareware products give you incentives, either by displaying annoying shareware notices on unregistered copies, hiding features from unregistered users, or offering privileges to people who do register. For FileTyper, I don't believe in posting annoying shareware reminders or hiding features, because I consider that contrary to the spirit of the shareware system. I do, however, look more kindly on registered users when it comes to answering questions or problems you may have. But the real reason you should pay for FileTyper, and shareware products in general, is that it gives me, the author, feedback that this product is being used and appreciated, and encourages me to continue improving it.

Installation

FileTyper is an application; drag it to a convenient location. I keep it on the desktop next to the Trash, but you may choose another location.

FileTyper Menu is a control panel. If you want the capabilities it offers, drag it to the System Folder and allow the Finder to place it into the Control Panels folder. Make sure you don't have two copies of the control panel installed at once; FileTyper Menu may behave strangely if more than one copy is installed.

The "FileTyper Folder" contains supplemental files for use with FileTyper. Place this folder in your System Folder or the Preferences Folder inside the System Folder. FileTyper does not require this folder to be present, but some features will be disabled if it is missing.

Inside the FileTyper Folder are three items. "FileTyper 4.2 Prefs" contains your preferences for FileTyper. If this file is not present, FileTyper will not save preferences. You can still change the preferences, but they will be lost when FileTyper quits. FileTyper will not automatically create a preferences file for itself. The reason for this is, you may want to use FileTyper on a one-time basis on a certain computer, and probably won't want it to leave its preferences file there.

"FileTyper 4.2 Help" contains balloon help resources for FileTyper. If this file is not present, FileTyper will not provide balloon help. So, if you never use balloon help, this file does not need to be present.

"FileTyper Pop-ups" contains pop-up menus for FileTyper. These provide a quick way to set commonly used types and creators. If this file is not present, pop-up menus will not be available.

Special notes for version 3.x users:

    If you've already installed prefs and/or help files for 3.x versions of FileTyper, these are no longer needed, and you can trash them.

Special notes for version 4.0 or 4.1.x users:

If you've already installed the FileTyper Folder for version 4.0, or 4.1.x you should replace the

prefs and help files with these updated ones. FileTyper 4.2 will not recognize earlier versions of its help and prefs files. If you have been using 4.0 and you want to keep your custom pop-up menus, copy them from the old help file using ResEdit and paste them into the new "FileTyper Pop-ups" file.

Special notes for version 4.2 users:

The major change has been to AutoTypers; however, minor changes have been made to the FileTyper and MakeAutoTyper applications. You should replace your copies of the FileTyper and MakeAutoTyper applications with the new version, and use your new MakeAutoTyper to update your existing AutoTypers. You do not need to touch your FileTyper Folder.

Special notes for version 4.2.1 users:

You should replace your copies of the FileTyper and MakeAutoTyper applications with the new ones in this package. Nothing else has changed.

Important:

Do not attempt to rename the FileTyper Folder or any of the files contained within it. FileTyper will not be able to find these files if they have been renamed. Especially, do not attempt to "upgrade" your old help or prefs files by renaming them, as this may cause your balloon help or preferences to misbehave.

Getting started with FileTyper

Most of this is pretty intuitive

Simply drag icons onto the FileTyper icon. FileTyper will launch and present a dialog box letting you edit file types, creators, and finder flags. Click "Change" to make the changes or click "Cancel" to discard them. "Revert" returns to the original settings. When you are done, FileTyper will quit automatically.

FileTyper also has a "Same as" button. If you press this button, FileTyper will prompt you to choose a file. It will then set the type and creator fields to the same as the type and creator of the file you select. This feature is often useful if you can't remember some obscure type/creator combination.

FileTyper displays the Finder icon next to the type and creator fields, so you can see instantly what effect your changes to the type or creator will have. This is the icon corresponding simply to the type and creator of the file; if you have installed a custom icon using System 7, it will not appear here. After you edit the type and/or creator, you can click on the icon to see what effect the new type/creator combination will have on it.

If you like, you can also double-click FileTyper to open it as an application. You can then edit files using the "Open…" menu command. This is useful for editing invisible files, and is also required for opening aliases.

If you drag an alias onto FileTyper, FileTyper will open the original file and not the alias itself. If you want to open an alias, open FileTyper as an application and choose "Open…" from the File menu. Then check "Open alias instead of original".

If you open a stationery pad, FileTyper will edit the original stationery pad, not an "untitled" copy.

If you have a slow Macintosh or a slow hard disk, or you simply use FileTyper often, and you don't want to wait for FileTyper to launch and quit each time you edit a file, just double-click on FileTyper to open it as an application. Then, you can drag files and folders onto it without waiting for it to

open, and FileTyper won't quit until you choose "Quit" from its menu. If you use FileTyper very often, you might consider putting an alias of it in your Startup Items folder.

You can edit both files and folders using FileTyper. Since folders don't have types or creators, and don't use as many flags, the folder-editing window is smaller than the file-editing window.

Using FileTyper: Batches

This section describes what you can do by dragging multiple files onto FileTyper

If you drag more than one object onto FileTyper, you can either edit them one at a time, or change them all at once. To edit them one at a time, make your changes to each item, and press the "change" button, and FileTyper will present you with the next item, cycling first all the files, then through all the folders. To edit them as a batch, changing all the items in the same way, make your changes and press the "Change All" button. There is also a similar "Cancel All" button.

For example, suppose you have three identical text files, and you want to change their creators to "R*ch", "KAHL", and "MMCC", respectively. You would drag all three onto FileTyper. A window will come up showing you the settings for the first file. Set the creator to "R*ch" and press "change". The first file will be done, and another window will come up for the second file. Set the creator to "KAHL" and press "change". When the third window comes up, set the creator to "MMCC" and press "change" one more time. On the other hand, if you wanted to change the creators of all three files to "MMCC", you would just set the creator to "MMCC" and press "change all".

You can also change the file name from within FileTyper. This is useful for quickly renaming locked or nameLocked files. Note that, if you open more than one file and press "Change All", the new file name will only affect the first file; the names of all subsequent files will be left unchanged. (This is because the files are probably in the same folder, and you can't have more than one file of the same name in the same folder.)

Now, suppose you've dropped several files onto FileTyper, and you want to change only certain attributes and leave the rest alone. For example, suppose you have a folder filled with applications of all different types and creators, and just want to lock all of them, while leaving the types and creators alone. If you just set the locked flag and press "Change All", FileTyper will lock them all, but will also change all the types and creators, and the rest of the flags, to the same as the first application.

Because of this, you have the option of disabling certain attributes. You disable a flag or the type or creator by option-clicking on it. A disabled attribute will appear grayed-out. You can also re-enable it by option-clicking it again.

Disabled attributes are ignored when FileTyper makes its changes. In the example above, you could achieve your desired change by disabling the type and creator and all the flags except for the locked flag. Then, only the locked flag will be changed; the rest of the information will be left alone.

To help you in enabling and disabling, "enable all" and "disable all" buttons are also provided. To disable all the attributes except for the locked flag, you will probably find it much faster to press the "disable all" button then option-click the locked flag to re-enable it, rather than option-clicking each attribute to disable it separately.

Using FileTyper: Filtering

This section describes a powerful technique for choosing which files to operate on.

Sometimes you might want to operate only on certain kinds of files. For example, suppose you had just downloaded a large number of different kinds of files, and you wanted to change the creators of only the text files to "R*ch". One way to do this would be to change one at a time, clicking "cancel"

for all the files you wanted to ignore; however, you might find this a slow and clumsy process. A much quicker way is to use FileTyper's powerful filtering capability to automatically scan for and operate on the text files.

To set up a filter, open the preferences window (described in the next section) and press one of the "open only…" buttons. There are two of these— one for files and one for folders. You will be given a window that looks similar to an editor window. Using this window, you can cause FileTyper to open only those files or folders that match certain criteria.

Like in the editor window, all the attributes in the filter window can be enabled or disabled. When a flag or the type or creator is disabled, FileTyper ignores that attribute when filtering. If it is enabled, FileTyper will open only those files or folders that match that setting. For example, to open all files, regardless of their attributes, leave everything disabled (this is the default setting). To open only text files, leave everything except for the type field disabled. Enable the type field and set the type to "TEXT". To open only *un*locked applications, leave everything except the creator field and the "locked" bit disabled. Enable those two items, set the creator to "APPL", and make sure the locked checkbox is *un*checked.

Like in the file editor window, you can use the "same as" button or pop-up menus to set the type and creator in the file filter.

You can also filter out all files or all folders, if you only want to open one kind of item. To prevent FileTyper from opening folders, for example, uncheck the checkbox labeled "edit folders" in the preferences window.

Using FileTyper: setting preferences

This section describes how to customize FileTyper's behavior.

In FileTyper, you can set a number of preferences controlling how FileTyper works. Choose the "preferences" item from the File menu, and a window will pop up showing…

Auto-display "Open…" dialog: This is for those of you who want to use FileTyper as an application without using drag-and-drop. When this option is checked, if FileTyper was opened with a double-click instead of a drag-and-drop, the "Open…" dialog will appear automatically, saving you a trip to the menu bar.

Warn before changing all: When this box is checked, an alert will be shown when you choose "Change All," asking you to confirm your change. The "change all" function is powerful, but it is also dangerous since it changes many files at once, very quickly, and it might spell bad news if you clicked it accidentally.

Make changes undo-able: When this option is checked, FileTyper's undo feature will be active. See "Using FileTyper: the undo feature" later in this document for information on undo.

Calculate Folder Sizes: When this option is checked, FileTyper's will calculate and display the size of the contents of folders. Note that, as is the case with the similar feature in the Finder, this process may take some time, especially with large folders, so you may want to leave it off unless you find it useful.

Edit Files: When this box is checked, FileTyper will "see" files that you drop onto it. The only time you'll want to uncheck this box would be if you wanted to drop a large batch of stuff onto FileTyper but only edit the folders. The setting of this box doesn't affect the "Open…" dialog, only drag-and-drop.

Edit Folders: When this box is checked, FileTyper will "see" folders that you drop onto it. Just like in "Edit Files", the only time you'll want to uncheck this box would be if you wanted to drop a

large batch of stuff onto FileTyper but only edit the files. The setting of this box doesn't affect the "Open…" dialog, only drag-and-drop.

Open Only…: With these two buttons, you can tell FileTyper to scan for and open only those files and folders that match certain criteria. This filtering capability is described in more detail in the previous section. The default settings open any kind of file or folder.

Opening a folder edits…: This controls how FileTyper responds to opening a folder. You can set it to open just the folder itself, the folder and its immediate contents (those located just inside the folder), or the folder and its full contents (all files and folders contained within the folder, including those within subfolders). In FileTyper 4.x, the setting of this option affects the "Open…" dialog as well as drag-and-drop, so you can still edit folder contents from the "Open…" dialog. This is useful if you have to edit items inside an invisible folder.

The "Save" button saves your preferences in the "FileTyper 4.2 Prefs" file in the FileTyper Folder. The "Temporary" button saves the preferences in memory, but not to the file, so they will revert back to their original settings when you quit FileTyper. The "Save" button will not be available if FileTyper can't find its prefs file.

If you hold down the option key when FileTyper is launching, the prefs dialog will come up immediately. This is useful if you want to set "Open Only" prefs on the fly. For example, I usually leave filtering on its default setting of opening any kind of file or folder. However, occasionally, I'll want to change that behavior for just one batch, so I'll hold down option when dragging the batch onto FileTyper to bring up the prefs dialog, set up my filter, and click "temporary". FileTyper will then use the filter on this one batch, but will revert automatically to its default setting when it is done.

Using FileTyper: Help options

This section describes how to set up balloon help and other help resources.

FileTyper provides fairly extensive balloon help in the editor dialog, providing basic information on each of the Finder flags, as well as information on the other features. I realize that many people will never use balloon help, and the help text takes up quite a bit of room, so I placed all the help information in an optional separate file, "FileTyper 4.2 Help", which is located in the FileTyper Folder. If you want balloon help, make sure this file is present; If you will never use balloon help, you do not need to install this file.

The pop-up menus are also stored in a separate file, "FileTyper Pop-ups". If you want pop-up menus to be available, make sure this file is present in your FileTyper Folder. Note that the pop-up menus were stored in the help file in version 4.0, so if you are upgrading from that version, and you have customized your pop-up menus, you should copy them into the pop-ups file using ResEdit.

You can customize the pop-up menus with ResEdit. To edit them, just open the pop-ups file (it's a ResEdit document), and open "MENU" resource 1000 for types, or 1001 for creators. You can add, modify or delete items from these menus to suit your needs.

In the type and creator menus, the first four characters of the menu item must contain the type or creator code that you want to be associated with that menu item. If there are trailing spaces in the four-character code, they must also be included in the menu item.

For example, to create a menu item for text files, you can use:
"TEXT—a plain text file" in the type menu, which will map to type **"TEXT"**

Or suppose you wanted to create a menu item for the creator of MPW files, **`MPS `** (with a space after the "S"). If you tried:

    `MPS, creator for MPW` in the creator menu, it would map to **`MPS,`**.

The correct text for that menu item should be:
   `MPS , creator for MPW` with a space after the "S". This will correctly map to **`MPS `**.

One of my plans for version 5.0 of FileTyper is a way to edit these menus more easily, without having to use ResEdit.

Do not attempt to rename the help file or the pop-ups file. FileTyper will not be able to find them if they have been renamed.

Using FileTyper: memory considerations

This section describes FileTyper's memory usage and what to do if you think you are running out of memory.

One problem you may encounter in running FileTyper is memory-related. FileTyper is designed to be able to act on many files at once, thus automating what may otherwise be a tedious task, and such large jobs may require quite a bit of memory.

FileTyper 4.2 comes pre-configured to use 80 kilobytes of RAM. This is adequate for most tasks that you might have FileTyper do. However, if you have a particularly large job, such as one involving editing folder contents, you may have to allocate more memory to FileTyper (perhaps 150K) using the Finder's "Get Info…" command. The easiest way to handle this is probably just to leave the memory allocation at 80K unless FileTyper complains that it has run out of memory (This is indicated by an error ID = -108).

Some older versions of FileTyper, as well as some other similar applications, had an absolute upper limit of around 460 on the number of files and folders that could be opened. This restriction has been removed in FileTyper; the number of items that can be edited is now limited only by memory constraints.

Note: Although there is no absolute upper limit, limits may be imposed by Finder memory requirements. If you drag large numbers (several hundred) of files onto FileTyper at a time, and the files are not converted, then most likely the Finder did not have sufficient memory to complete the operation. Technically, it does not have sufficient memory to allocate the required AppleEvent records. This is a Finder limitation, and will show up with any drag-and-drop application. To get around this problem, you need to drop files onto FileTyper in smaller groups, or use the "search folder contents" feature and just drag the enclosing folder onto FileTyper. This limitation may have been eliminated in System 7.5; I have not had the chance to do extensive testing yet.

Some system extensions, such as Now Software's Super Boomerang, hog up much more memory than they should. The amount of testing I was able to do suggested that Super Boomerang's "find" feature requires that you increase FileTyper's memory size to at least 100K. Your mileage may vary.

Using FileTyper: the undo feature

This section describes FileTyper's undo feature.

Batch changes by FileTyper can be undone using FileTyper's "Undo last change" menu command in the File menu. When FileTyper, performs a change, it logs that change in the prefs file. The Undo feature will take the information from the log and attempt to undo the operation.

Because the log is made in the prefs file, this operation is only available if the file "FileTyper 4.2 Prefs" is present in the FileTyper Folder.

When undo is active, changing file attributes may be noticeably slower, especially when you're altering large numbers of files at once. In addition, the prefs file may get fairly large if you've just

edited large numbers of files at once. In such cases, you may want to turn undo off, using the preferences dialog.

Important: Some changes I have planned for version 5.0 may require that I drop the undo feature. I myself never really use this feature; however, if you, as a user, consider it important, please let me know and I will try my best to continue to support it.

Known problems and troubleshooting.

FileTyper Menu problems: FileTyper Menu appears to be involved in a three-way incompatibility with the Thread Manager and recent versions (7.1.3 and later) of the Finder. If you use both the Thread Manager and a recent Finder, or if you use System 7.5 (which contains both of these components), FileTyper Menu will probably crash, so do not install it.

Opening aliases on the desktop: You may have a problem with FileTyper, resulting from a confirmed bug in System 7. Trying to use "alias instead of original" to open an alias that is in the Desktop Folder of a disk other than the startup disk will result in a file not found error (ID = -43). This happens only if you use the menu item; it does not affect drag-and-drop. Apple has finally fixed this bug, in the System software version 7.5.1 (i.e. System 7.5 with 7.5 update version 1.0). If you do not have this system version, and you are having problems with this bug, move the alias off the desktop and try again.

AutoDoubler users: An incompatibility with AutoDoubler from Salient Software can prevent FileTyper from changing types and creators. A beta tester reported this problem with several 1.0.x versions of AutoDoubler, and I have unconfirmed reports that 2.0.x versions of AutoDoubler also cause problems. Because AutoDoubler also seems to prevent ResEdit's type and creator function from working, I believe this is a bug in AutoDoubler. If this gives you problems, you'll have to expand the file before using FileTyper on it.

If drag-and-drop won't work: Desktop files have been a problem with Apple's System software since who-knows-when. Under System 7, screwed-up desktop files can prevent FileTyper's (as well as other programs') drag-and-drop from functioning. If FileTyper fails to accept drag-and-drops, try rebuilding the desktop. You can do this restarting and holding down the command and option keys until the dialog box appears. Note that because floppy disks don't use the new System 7 desktop files, drag-and-drop will not work at all if FileTyper (or any "drop-box" application) is on a floppy.

If you're running out of memory: Make sure FileTyper's memory size is set up to deal with the number of files you're opening, as outlined in "Memory Considerations." And be careful when you have "open folder contents" active—the number of files can pile up quickly. Also, beware that some system extensions, such as Super Boomerang, may require more memory. If FileTyper complains about an error ID = -108, it's a sign that you are running out of memory.

If you can't save preferences, or some other feature isn't available: Make sure you have the FileTyper Folder properly installed. It should be located either in the System Folder or in the Preferences Folder, and it should contain the help, preferences, and pop-ups files. Make sure these files are not renamed, and make sure the FileTyper Folder is not renamed, either.

Distribution information

If you want to pass on FileTyper to any other individual or group, this section will tell you what you may and may not do.

The FileTyper package and its components are NOT public domain. Distribution is subject to these conditions:

- The only packages that may be distributed are (A) the FileTyper package in its entirety, or (B)

individual AutoTypers or groups of AutoTypers that you create using the MakeAutoTyper utility. If the FileTyper package in its entirety is distributed, the distributor must make it clear that FileTyper is a standalone package of software that is distributed under the shareware system.

- The FileTyper package or any AutoTypers you create may be given to individuals; uploaded to bulletin board services or ftp sites; included in shareware collections on new hard drives; or included in shareware collections distributed on standalone CD-ROM media or floppy disks, or bundled with books or magazines.
- No amount of money may be charged specifically for the FileTyper package or the AutoTypers. Money may be charged to the party receiving the software only if it is meant for the cost of the media (i.e. download charges, cost of a CD-ROM, cost of a magazine), and if the presence of the FileTyper package or the AutoTypers does not increase such cost.
- Any AutoTypers you create (but NOT the FileTyper package itself) may be bundled with products that are public domain or "freeware." They may not be bundled with products that are sold, including shareware products, without permission.
- The FileTyper package or any AutoTypers you create may be bundled with products being used and distributed only internally within an organization or company, provided that no amount of money is charged to individuals for such distribution.

If you want to bundle the package or any of its components with a product that is sold, please contact me to determine licensing.

Disclaimer of warranty

Read this before trying to sue me.

The FileTyper package and each of its components are provided AS IS. No guarantee or warranty, express or implied, is made on the operation of this product, or its suitability for any task. The programmer, Daniel Azuma, will accept no liability for any damages incurred through the use or misuse of this product.

About the author

Just in case anyone is interested.

Hi! My name is Daniel Azuma.

As of the release of FileTyper 4.2.2 (July, 1995), I've just finished my sophomore year as an undergraduate student at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, CA, and I'm working as an intern at Apple Computer for the summer. My home town is Sunnyvale, CA (just down the street from Apple headquarters.)

FileTyper started off in mid-1991 as a quick-and-dirty drag-and-drop program, written in the now long-deceased Turbo Pascal, that just changed the type and creator of a single file. Basically it was a project for my good friend Steve Kalkwarf, who had finally gotten fed up with DiskTop and ResEdit. Just out of curiosity, we released version 1.0.1 on America Online as a freeware program, and the response was quite astounding. Apparently, we had hit on something big. In a couple of months, I moved the code to THINK Pascal, and perfected the release-quality version 2.0, which was then released as shareware in December, 1991. And the rest is… in the version history. =)

FileTyper is currently my only shareware program. I also have released several small freeware utilities, among which are Stopper (a simple security INIT), and Dismount (an extension that causes command-option-E to unmount floppies, like Finder 6 did), which has become quite popular on its own. I was also one of the core programmers of FilterTop (coming soon!), the "ultimate" file-management utility being

developed by Topsoft, Inc.

Version 4.2.2 Release Notes

Version 4.2.2 was a minor bug-fix upgrade from version 4.2.1. The changes are:

• Does a better job of finding the correct FileTyper Folder if more than one exists.
• Fixed up some inconsistencies in the documentation.

The upgrade to FileTyper 4.2.2 is free to all registered users.

Version History

1.0 – 9/16/91: This was the first version of FileTyper, which was not released but may have leaked out anyway.

1.0.1 – 10/14/91: First public release as freeware. Fixed a bug that could cause types and creators to get corrupted if they contained invisible characters.

2.0 – 12/9/91: Changed to shareware; added a check box for the locked attribute; added support for the required AppleEvents; added the ability to open many files simultaneously and edit them sequentially or as a batch; added the ability to edit folder attributes; enhanced the open dialog box to allow the opening of folders and aliases; added optional balloon help; improved handling of disk errors; fixed a bug that could, under extremely rare circumstances, inadvertently lock a file that had been canceled.

3.0 – 2/28/92: Added the MakeAutoTyper utility; added the preferences dialog; added code to cause the Finder to update its icons, etc. immediately; re-implemented the rename files function; customized the System 6 Open… dialog for opening folders; "Enable All" and "Disable All" are disabled when only one file is open; FileTyper Help now has its own bundle instead of a System 7 custom icon; improved the interface; fixed a few non-fatal bugs.

3.1 – 4/10/92: Improved preferences and fixed AutoDoubler problem with preferences dialog; improved handling of drops of file/folder mixtures; added data, resource fork size indicators; grays out OK button when volume is locked; fixed bug introduced in 3.0 that caused an error -43 when trying to edit a volume.

3.2 – 5/16/92: Fixed stupid bug introduced in 3.1 that caused an error -35 when using "Change All" with folders; fixed bug that often caused drag and drop to fail on newly created AutoTyper; removed the MacWrite II docs to make the package smaller.

4.0 – 2/28/93: Fixed rare bug sometimes causing garbage to show up in type or creator fields; added file filtering; option-dropping opens the prefs dialog; removed upper limit on number of files that could be edited; moved help and prefs files into FileTyper Folder; added undo feature; introduced FileTyper Menu control panel; added icon to FileTyper window; added pop-up menus; added "same as" button; improved interface.

4.1 – 8/20/93: Added folder size indicator; fixed EvenBetterBusError crash introduced in 4.0; moved pop-up menu resources to "FileTyper Pop-ups" file; Fixed incompatibility between FileTyper Menu and AliasMenu.

4.1.1 – 4/30/94: Fixed bug that sometimes caused crashes upon quitting MakeAutoTyper when the help file was not installed; fixed incompatibility between FileTyper Menu and SpeedyFinder, and the upcoming Aladdin Desktop Tools; finds FileTyper Folder in the Preferences Folder; added new e-mail address to docs, and removed disk option from registration form.

4.1.2 – 5/30/94: Put the "Use alias instead of original" item back in the Open… dialog; fixed a bug that sometimes caused FileTyper to search the "complete contents" when "immediate contents" was selected, if calculating folder sizes was active; added color standard file dialog resources to MakeAutoTyper (for

SU 3.0).

4.2   –   12/31/94:   Rewrite in C/C++ using Metrowerks Codewarrior (was
THINK Pascal!); finally fixed EvenBetterBusError problem once and for all (I
hope);

overhauled Standard File interface; added canceling capability; added change-all progress indication; other interface improvements and non-fatal bug fixes.

4.2.1 – 6/20/95: Recompiled using Codewarrior 6.1. Fixed a bug in the AutoTyper code that sometimes caused it to improperly read the "locked" attribute. Removed the FileTyper for System 6 component from the distribution package.

4.2.2 – 7/5/95: Does a better job of finding the correct FileTyper Folder if more than one exists. Fixed documentation.

Future Enhancements

I have several items on the wish list for version 5.0. If you have more ideas, I'd love to hear them!

- Modeless operation and Thread Manager support.
- Several additional, more obscure, flags.
- Created/modified date editor.
- Edit pop-up menus without having to use ResEdit.
- Installer program; no more juggling "FileTyper Folder" files.

Any Questions?

If you have any questions, comments, or (aaargh!) bug reports, feel free to contact me at

e-mail: dazuma@cco.caltech.edu

Or, if you don't have net access:

s-mail: Daniel Azuma
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One more thing: PLEASE do not call me at home unless you have a problem that absolutely ABSOLUTELY cannot wait. I've omitted my phone number from this document for a reason. And please note that the above address is *not* where I live for most of the year, so s-mail sent to me will almost certainly get delayed. Use e-mail if at all possible.

And finally…

Thank you to all the people who have sent in shareware registrations, and especially to those who have sent in helpful comments and suggestions. The list has grown too long to include here. It is this kind of feedback that makes shareware successful!