

Launcher 3.0.1 for OSX

Somewhere back in the late 90's, after I first started using Mac OS X Server 1.0.2 every day I began to have problems keeping my Workspace organized. Links were covering my desktop, my Apple menu was about 2 feet long, my machine was a mess. None of the NeXT-style dock replacements had enough slots for all of the stuff I needed to store, either.

So I decided to recreate the Mac OS 7.1/8 Launcher control panel for Mac OS X Server using the Cocoa frameworks (although it was known as the "Yellow Box" back then).

Problem solved, I still use it everyday when I work on Mac OS X Server 1.x.

When Mac OS X 1.0 was released, I'd pretty much decided *not* to update the Launcher for the new operating system. Let it go, I thought -- I really liked the Dock.

After the release of Mac OS X 1.0, the email started coming in. Several dozen messages from people trying to run my old Mac OS X Server Launcher on Mac OS X 1.0 (it doesn't work). I began to waver.

Then one day, I realized that I was starting to get my work 'spread out' to the point where I was doing a lot of digging in folders looking for one project or another. My Dock was getting kind of crowded as well.

So, I decided to update the Launcher with a few new Aqua twists, like transparent/translucent regions, and a drop down system-wide menu. After a Friday evening coding binge, voila, it was done.

Problem solved, again.

Using Launcher for OSX

How do I...

Add an item to a panel.

Drag an application, document, or folder from the Finder onto the colored panel.

Remove an item from a panel.

Hold down the **Command and Option keys** and drag the item off the the Launcher panel

Add a new panel.

Open the `(Home)/Library/LauncherItems` folder, and create a folder with a name that starts with a "_". You can open the `(Home)/Library/LauncherItems` folder quickly by holding down the **Option** key and clicking one of the upper panel buttons.

Remove a panel.

Open the `(Home)/Library/LauncherItems` folder, and remove the folder with the panel name starting with a "_". You can open the `(Home)/Library/LauncherItems` folder quickly by holding down the **Option** key and clicking one of the upper panel buttons.

Power Tips

- You can change the name of the button by changing the name of the alias in the `LauncherItems` folder/subfolders.
- Open the Preferences panel to set the Launcher transparency and toggle the system-wide Launcher menu.

Registration

Launcher for OSX is a shareware product. The cost is \$15 per machine.

I'm of the opinion that people will either pay shareware fees, or they won't. You may use Launcher for OSX without registering it until you feel that it is worth \$15 to you.

Please visit <<http://order.kagi.com/?5MG>> to register Launcher for OSX.

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