

Expanding Folders

Folders in the File List can be expanded to include their contents in the list as well. While the interface resembles the Finder, there are differences as well as similarities, and both are discussed here.

Q: What's the same?

A: Folders are expanded and collapsed by clicking the triangle to the left of the folder.

Items in an expanded folder appear directly under the folder, with the Names and anything to their left increasingly indented to the right with each level.

You can select items from anywhere in the list.

Collapsing a folder removes all items expanded from it from the list.

A folder item is not selected when you expand it or collapse it.

Sorting is applied to the contents of a folder separately from items outside the folder.

Q: What's different?

A: Shift-clicking selects an entire range of list cells, just as it always has. Command-click to get the same behavior as shift-clicking in the Finder.

You can remove an item in an expanded folder from the list just as you can any other item in the list. Collapse and re-expand the folder to bring it back.

It is possible for an item to appear in the list more than once. For example, if you did a Find for items with "File Buddy" in the name, both the File Buddy application and the folder containing it should appear in the list. Expanding the File Buddy folder would display the File Buddy application beneath the folder, at which point you would see 2 copies of the application in the list. This should not cause any problems, since duplicates are filtered out before acting on selected items.

Columns can be reordered, so the rule is that Name and any column to the left of the Name column indent for each level. Columns to the right of Name are vertical.

Q: Anything else I should know?

A: You cannot sort by Icon if any folders are expanded. If the list is sorted by Icon when you expand a folder, the list will be sorted by name before expanding.

You cannot sort by Kind because unlike other sort criteria, the Kind strings are not stored anywhere. Probably in a future version.

As a direct result of no icon sorts, Mark Duplicates is not available if any folders are expanded.

The secondary sorts described in the File List Window topic are not available if any folders are expanded.

Sorting the list will be a little slower if any folders are expanded. The difference shouldn't be noticeable unless the list is long and has a lot of expanded folders, and may not be noticeable at all compared to earlier versions of File Buddy.