

Coffee Timer documentation

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- ◇ **Please register**: your support is the only way for me to keep working on cool shareware programs.

- Introduction

- ◇ The Coffee Timer is a very simple **countdown timer** I built after frying my third coffee pot. Like many other programmers, I often drink coffee while working - I mean Italian espresso coffee, the kind you make with a "moka" coffee pot. However, I don't usually wait for the coffee to be ready before going back to work, which often results in the coffee pot being forgotten on the fire for hours. This is a programmer's solution to the problem: a simple countdown timer with a **loud alarm** and a couple of other useful options.
- ◇ For those of you who need more flexibility in their timer, the Coffee Timer allows a **KeyQuencer macro** to be run when the timer times out. This lets you instruct your Mac to do pretty much anything at alarm time. The Coffee Timer works with both KeyQuencer 1.2.x and the forthcoming KeyQuencer 2.0 (which you don't want to miss!).

- ◇ Quite obviously, the Coffee Timer is not limited to your daily coffee break. You can use it to remind yourself of anything that must happen in the near future... filling the bath tub? taking a short sleep? delaying a fax? Just launch the Coffee Timer and let it help your memory and your watch.
- ◇ You may even put an alias to Coffee Timer in your Startup Items folder to prevent yourself from sitting in front of your Mac for long periods of time. All you have to do is take a break every time the timer starts bugging you...

• Instructions

- ◇ **File menu:**
 - **Close:** closes the timer window.
 - **Quit:** resets and quits the timer.
- ◇ **Timer menu:**
 - **Reset:** resets the timer.
 - **Display:** opens the timer window if it was closed.
 - **Configure:** lets you change the name and duration of 10 different timer events.
 - **Timers 1...10:** sets the timer to a specific duration. This does NOT reset the timer.
 - **Other...:** lets you quickly specify a timer duration without saving it in the one of the 10 timer events.
- ◇ **Alarm menu:**
 - **Show Timeout Message:** shows a message when the timer times out.
 - **Play Alarm Sounds:** plays alarm sounds when the timer times out.
 - **Keep Playing Forever:** keeps playing forever instead of only playing 5 sounds.
 - **Full Speaker Volume:** brings the speaker volume to its top level before playing. The volume is reset to its previous value when the Coffee Timer quits.
 - **Stop Playing:** stops playing the alert sounds without resetting the timer.
 - **Run KeyQuencer Macro...:** runs a KeyQuencer macro when the timer times out. This requires the KeyQuencer macro engine to be installed (version 1.2.x or 2.0.x). You can leave the macro text field empty if you don't want to run any macro. Note that the macro text should contain the actual macro, not the name of an installed macro.

• Technical notes

- ◇ The **timer** is based on the Mac's **internal clock**. Its minimum time frame is **1 second**, so don't expect it to be more precise than that. Specifically, the first second after you reset the timer may be partially cut to align the counter to the Mac's seconds counter.

• Compatibility notes

- ◇ **PowerPC:** Coffee Timer is a **fat binary**, containing both 680x0 and native PowerPC code.
- ◇ **System 7 and later:** Coffee Timer runs fine on any version of the Mac OS starting with 7.0.
- ◇ **System 6:** System 6 is **fully supported** by Coffee Timer, although the coffee pot icon is not drawn in the timer window.

• Distribution

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- **Version history**

- ◇ 1.0.1 - Recompiled with CodeWarrior 9 and updated documentation.
- ◇ 1.0 - First public release.

- **Thanks to...**

- ◇ **Valentina Pavia**, who waited patiently until late at night;
- ◇ **Alberto Ricci**, for his beta-testing and suggestions;
- ◇ **Fabrizio Oddone**, for all his usual help;
- ◇ **Masatsugu Nagata**, for his invaluable beta testing of all my stuff;
- ◇ **All those who registered** for my other shareware; they are now way too many to be listed, but this program wouldn't be here without them.

- **Disclaimer**

- ◇ This software should never cause any damage, but you're using it at your own risk. As an independent software developer, I can make **no warranties** whatsoever on it.

- **Have fun!**

- ◇ And don't forget to **register** your shareware, so that more cool inexpensive utilities can see the light in the future.