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What is CheckUpdates 2

CheckUpdates 2 is a very simple to use utility that will warn you if your applications are not up-to-date. It's important to keep your applications and your system updated. Many improvement, and security patches are done in each update.

As you do not spend your time using all your applications, CheckUpdates 2 will check on the Internet if it can find the latest version for all your applications. Then, it will warn you if an update is available.

System requirement

Any Macintosh running Mac Os X 10.6.8 (“Snow Leopard”) minimum, and an internet connection.

Installation

To install CheckUpdates 2, simply drag and drop CheckUpdates 2 in the Applications folder on your Macintosh hard disk.

When you download CheckUpdates 2 from TRI-EDRE's website, you will have a file called a Disk Image (.dmg)

When you double-click the disk image, a virtual disk will appears on your Desktop. Double-Click to open the virtual disk, you will see this window:

Drag and drop CheckUpdates 2 to the Applications folder alias. When the copy is completed, open the Applications folder, and double-click the CheckUpdates 2 icon.

Please, read carefully the following instructions to use CheckUpdates 2 correctly.
**Register CheckUpdates 2**

At first Launch, CheckUpdates 2 will ask for your serial number.

To test CheckUpdates 2 in demo mode, wait 10 seconds at launch. **The Demo will let you use CheckUpdates 2, but with some limitations!**

If you want to register the application without launching it again, you can use the CheckUpdates 2 menu Preferences…>Register CheckUpdates 2.

**Demo version limitations**

If you run the trial version of CheckUpdates 2, the software is limited:

1. Only 25% of your applications can be checked (Alphabetic sorted, 10 minimum).
2. You cannot add Custom Application.
3. Preferences cannot be changed.

**Uninstall CheckUpdates 2**

To uninstall CheckUpdates 2, simply quit it in the main menu bar, then drag it to the Finder’s Trash. Advanced users may want to delete preference file. CheckUpdates 2 does not install anything in the System.

- Preferences: ~/Library/Preferences/com.ted.CheckUpdates-2.plist
- Application Support: ~/Library/Application Support/CheckUpdates 2/
- System Preferences: Users&Groups pane, Login Items, delete CheckUpdates 2.

**How does it works**

CheckUpdates 2 is a very simple application to use. It will periodically scan your Applications folder, retrieve local versions of all your Applications, then it will try to find them on the Internet and compare versions. If versions are different, CheckUpdates 2 icon will blink in the menu to warn you.

**Menu**

CheckUpdates 2 does not behave like all applications. It just display its icon in the main menu bar. The menu will blink when an update is available.

With the menu you can open CheckUpdates 2’s main window, Preferences, or force a version search.
Main Window

![Image of Main Window]

Filter Column

The left column in CheckUpdates 2 allows you to filter the applications list in the middle of the window.

For example, you may want to display only applications needing an update.

Choices are:

- **All Items**: Display everything
- **Installed Only**: Only applications into your hard disk are displayed.
- **Activated Only**: Only applications checked in applications list are displayed.
- **Update Available**: Only applications with a different remote version are displayed.
- **App Store**: Only applications downloaded from the Mac App Store are displayed.
- **Forced Update**: If you marked an application as Up-to-date manually it will appear here.
- **Custom Settings**: All applications you customized will be displayed.

Applications List

![Image of Applications List]

The list shows applications found on your hard disk. Icon, name and local version are displayed. If found, the remote version is also displayed.

The checkbox on the left lets you choose which applications CheckUpdates 2 should check for updates. If an application is unchecked, CheckUpdates 2 will ignore it.
Application details

When an application is selected in the list, CheckUpdates 2 will display details about it.

On the top, you can see the icon, the application name, and its full path on your hard disk. You can click on the path to open the folder in the Finder.

Below, the full version (4 digits) is displayed. This is the local version. The detection method is also displayed. In this example, CheckUpdates 2 found the remote version using Sparkle, framework included inside the selected application.

Below, if available, CheckUpdates 2 will display the credits of the Application.

Customization

Favorite Local Version:
Developers may include several different versions inside the application package. CheckUpdates 2 tries to guess and use which is the more useful for you. But sometimes, the guess is wrong.

You can choose the local version CheckUpdates should use to do the comparison.

Address in browser:
You can specify an url that will be opened when you click Open In Browser. Useful if you wan to open always the same page.

Update

Sometimes, CheckUpdates 2 can't find the application on the internet. The name may be slightly different, not well known application etc. You can specify an address where CheckUpdates 2 can find the version. You must also indicate a small text before the version on the page.

The example on the left is for the application "Flip4Mac". CheckUpdates 2 will detect the application named "WMV Player.app" in the disk, which is the real name. As a result, CheckUpdates 2 will not find a remote version. We have to customize the update settings. First, find a webpage for the product:

Second, find the text before the version number in the page. In this example "WMV Version ". Now fill up CheckUpdates 2 with the URL and the text, like in the first screenshot, press the Test button. If version is found, you can save it. You can also use a Joker character.

Note: If the page changes, the search may not work anymore!
Tools and usage

Open Application
Open the selected application. (like a double click in the Finder).

Open Browser
If an URL is found for the selected application (an update page for example), or if you specified an address in the Customization tab, CheckUpdates 2 will open your default web browser with this address.

Note: The button is disabled if no url is available.

Update Application
This button will force the search of a remote version of the selected applications. If you want to update all application, use the menu and Check Versions Now.

Mark as up to date
Sometimes, you want to "jump" a version and ignore it. If CheckUpdates 2 detects a new version, but you want to ignore it, just says to CheckUpdates 2 that the product is considered as up-to-date. CheckUpdates 2 will stop blinking, until an other new version is detected.

Search
Filter the application list. It will helps you to quickly find an application in the list.

Add Custom Application
CheckUpdates 2 only checks applications in your hard disk. But you may be interested in an application not yet there.

Let says you want to buy a new application. but, you know that this application will be updated soon, for example at the end of a beta test. It is interesting for you to be warned when the test is finished, to avoid buying an obsolete version.

This tool allow you to add the application you want without installing it.

More details in the next chapter of the user guide.
Advanced Usage

**Add Custom Application**

To add a custom application, follow these steps:

1. Open the Custom Application window
2. Enter the name of an application, for this example we will use Aperture.
3. Click **Try to find**
4. Application was found. The name was modified, and settings automatically filled up.
5. Click **Test Settings**
6. If version is found, click **Save**.
7. Now, in Applications list, Aperture will appear and will be monitored by CheckUpdates 2.

**Remove Custom Application**

Select a custom application you created previously. Then, Click the **Edit Application** in the Toolbar. In the opened window, click on the button **Delete Application**.

**Joker character to find version**

In **custom applications** and in **Update tab**, you can use a "Joker" character. You can specify "%V" (case sensitive) in a sentence to explain to CheckUpdates 2 where is the version number inside a long text.

For example in a web page you may find the sentence "Download our new version 2.0.3 on the next page". To explain CheckUpdates where to find the version, you can enter "Download our new version %V on the next page".

**Preferences**

You can register or change the serial number in this window. Click the **Register CheckUpdates 2** button to open the Registration window. When the software is registered, you can see the serial number on the right, or in the About CheckUpdates 2 window.

Below, you will find a list of folders that CheckUpdates 2 will scan to find applications. The local Applications folder is always in this list. You can add your custom application folder if needed (a folder outside the Applications folder).

Note: It is NOT recommended to move applications outside the Applications folder. Make sure to read and follow the user guide of each applications.