

FileManager

Introduction	3
Main Window	3
Tab Bar	3
Directory Window	4
<i>Directory Window Navigation</i>	
<i>Directory Window Logging</i>	
<i>Automatic Refresh</i>	
<i>Directory Window Commands</i>	
<i>Command (⌘)-Directory Window Commands</i>	
<i>Directory Contextual Commands</i>	
File Window	5
<i>File Window Navigation</i>	
<i>File Window Commands</i>	
<i>Control (^) File Commands</i>	
<i>File Contextual Commands</i>	
<i>File Specification</i>	
<i>File Tagging</i>	
Branch Window	7
Copy & Move	7
<i>Clipboard</i>	
<i>Copy/Move Menu</i>	
<i>Copy/Move Limitations</i>	
Rename Mask	9
Quick Look	9
Configuring FileManager	9

Documentation & Support	10
What's in a Name	10
Limitations	10
<i>Known Issues</i>	

1.Introduction

[FileManager](#) is an Xtree like file manager with a GUI interface for Mac OS X v10.6

The current functionality is [incomplete](#), with many more features planned, but it provides a workable file management tool meeting most of its design objectives (see ReadMe.txt)

2.Main Window

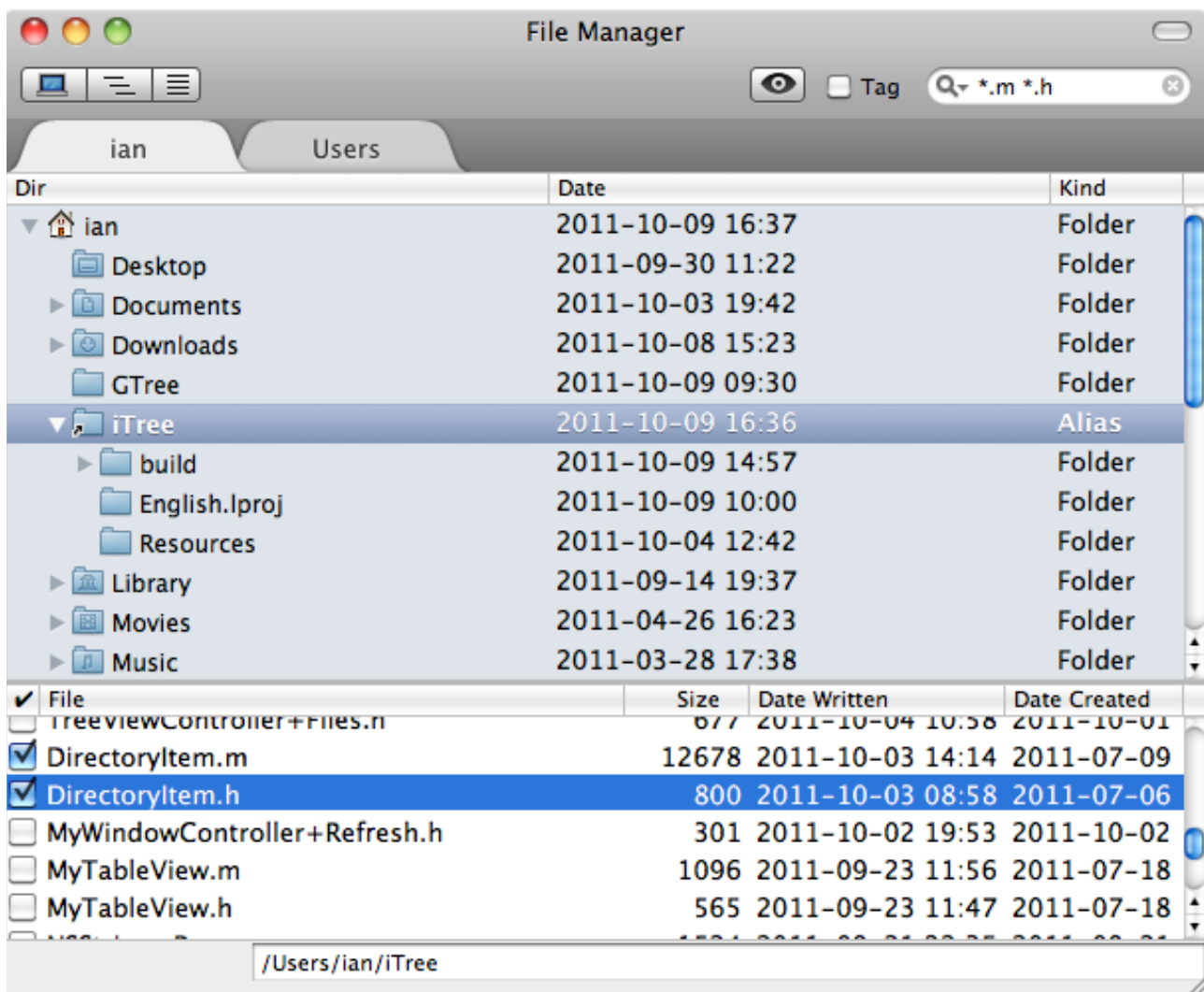
The initial FileManager Application Window is divided into 3 principal parts.

The [Tab Bar](#) selects a view containing a [Directory Window](#) and a [File Window](#).

The top [Directory Window](#) is a tree display of Directories.

The bottom [File Window](#) is a list of Files currently selected in the Directory Window. The relative sizes of the Directory and File views can be controlled by dragging on the divider.

There is also a Menu bar and a Status box, which contains the path of the current directory.



3.Tab Bar

FileManager has a multi-tabbed interface. Each tab selects a view of the logged file system. The tabs are independent, and maintain their Tree/File/Branch view, [File Specification](#) and tagged only display, but share underlying data including File Specifications history etc. Files tagged in one tab will be tagged in other tabs.

Tabs are created or destroyed in the View Menu. Each new tab opens the default Startup Directory or the currently Selected Directory.

Tabs can also be created from the Directory Contextual Commands

Tabs can be dragged to any position on the Tab Bar.

4.Directory Window

The Directory Window is a tree display of Directories. This is similar to the main Finder display, except that it will never contain files.

The top item displays a single directory, which is the User's home directory by default, although any directory can be selected.

Sub-directories are indented to the right.

The tree may contain a disclosure triangle ▶ indicating that the directory may be expanded or ▼ indicating that it is already expanded.

4.1.Directory Window Navigation

The Directory Window can be navigated with the mouse or trackpad by clicking on a directory, or by using the following keys:-

Up/DownArrows	Move a single row, scrolling if necessary.
Right Arrow	Expand a directory.
Option-Right Arrow	Expand all directories within the selected directory
Option-Left Arrow	Collapse the selected directory.
Command (⌘)-Up Arrow	Show the directory containing the top directory.
Option-click ▶	Expand all directories within the selected directory
Option-click ▼	Collapse the selected directory.
Double-click	Make the selected directory the top.

4.2.Directory Window Logging

Directories need to be logged before they can be used. FileManager saves directory contents in an internal database. All first level sub-directories and files are logged, and the contents of sub-directories are logged as they are displayed.

This is similar to Finder, but there are 2 important differences. Once logged the contents are kept in memory, and they are not automatically refreshed if the contents change. There is a command to refresh directory contents, and optional [Automatic Refresh](#).

When FileManager 'logs' a directory it loads the path back to the root. Although only the logged directory is initially displayed, all directories back to '/' are loaded into memory. It is possible to select any directory as the apparent root of the display.

Symbolic links (and Aliases) are loaded into the appropriate position in the FileSystem (and the path back to '/' is loaded into memory). No matter how many links point to a target it will only be loaded once.

By default, FileManager does not log hidden files or directories. The default may be changed (see [Configuring FileManager](#)).

Option-Right Arrow	Expand all directories within the selected directory
Option-click ▶	Expand all directories within the selected directory

4.3. Automatic Refresh

FileManager can optionally refresh the logged directories to reflect external changes. This is done by periodically monitoring a specified directory in the file system for changes. There is also an option to specify the directory which is monitored. This is initially set to the User Home Directory (see [Configuring FileManager](#)).

It is preferable to set this to either the default Startup Directory or User Home Directory. It is inadvisable to set this to the root '/' as the number of changes could swamp the program.

4.4. Directory Window Commands

Enter	Enter the File Window . This is only possible if there are visible files in the directory.
B	Enter the Branch Window .
T	Tag All files in the File Window.
U	Un-Tag all files in the File Window.
C	Copy Dir To see Copy Move Menu
M	Move Dir To see Copy Move Menu
O	Open Directory in Finder.
F3	Refresh the Directory contents
⌘ 	Move Directory to Trash

4.5. Directory Contextual Commands

Control-click	Show the Directory Contextual menu.
Secondary-click	
Right-click	
Open Dir	Open the Directory in Finder.
Copy Path	Copy Directory path to the clipboard.
Copy Dir	Copy Directory to the clipboard (it can be pasted in Finder)
Open in Terminal	Open a Terminal window at the directory.
Open in New Tab	Open a New Tab with the Directory as root.

5. File Window

The File Window displays a list of files and information. Initially there is a Small File Window below the Directory Window, but it can be maximised to fill the Window.

The Normal File Window displays files in a directory which match the current File Specification.

The left column contains a checkbox; ☒ indicates that the file has been “tagged”.

You can view the contents of files with the [Quick Look](#) feature.

5.1. File Window Navigation

The File Window can be navigated with the mouse or trackpad by clicking on a file, or by using the following keys:-

Up/DownArrows	Move a single row, scrolling if necessary.
Double-click	Open the File in the default application.

5.2.File Window Commands

Enter	Enter the Maximised File Window. If already Maximised return to the Directory Window .
Esc	Return to the Directory Window .
T	Tag the selected file and select next.
U	Un-Tag the selected file and select next.
O	Open File in the default application.
C	Copy File To see Copy Move Menu
M	Move File To see Copy Move Menu
⌘C	Copy File to the clipboard
⌘⌫	Move File to Trash
⌘Y	Open Quick Look

5.3.Control (^) File Commands

^ T	Tag All files in the File Window.
^ U	unTag All files in the File Window.
^ I	Invert Tags in the File Window.
^⌘C	Copy tagged Files to the clipboard
^⌘⌫	Move Tagged Files to Trash
^ Enter	Toggle File Window display between tagged files or all files.

5.4.File Contextual Commands

Open File	Open the File in the default application.
Copy Path	Copy File Path to the clipboard.
Copy File	Copy File to the clipboard (it can be pasted in Finder)
Copy tagged Files	Copy all tagged Files to the clipboard.

5.5.File Specification

File Specifications are a means of filtering the files which are displayed in FileManager. Only files which match the current File Specification are displayed in the File Window.

The File Specification comprises one or more patterns separated by spaces, and optionally enclosed in quotes e.g *.txt or *.doc which is entered into the Search Field on the right of the Menu Bar.

Each pattern may contain '*' and '?' wildcards: '*' matches an arbitrary, possibly empty, string, '?' matches an arbitrary character.

File Specifications are remembered in a history list. Previous values (if any - indicated by an arrow) can be selected from a pull-down list at the left of the File Specification text box.

NOTE (It is proposed to extend File Specifications to allow more patterns, file date and size matching and possibly regular expressions.)

5.6.File Tagging

Tagging is a means of selecting a group of files for display or other operations. Files remain tagged until explicitly untagged.

There are many ways of tagging files, with the mouse or keyboard see [File Window Commands](#) and [Control \(^\) File Commands](#). The group tagging operations only affect files which are currently available for display in the [File Window](#), even if they are scrolled off the visible screen. This effectively means files which satisfy the current [File Specification](#).

It is possible to display only tagged files in the [File Window](#) or [Branch Window](#) using the ^ Enter keys or clicking the ☒ button near the File Specification on the Menu bar.

6.Branch Window

Branch mode displays all files in the selected directory and in all logged directories under the selected directory. The files are displayed in a single list in the [File Window](#).

Once displayed Branch mode operates the same as File mode. The path to the selected file is shown at the bottom of the screen. Branch mode is cancelled when you return to the [Directory Window](#).

Branch mode does not follow links (Aliases or symbolic links). To do so could include a number of files outside the target directory, or if the link points within the branch to duplicate entries. In the worst case this could cause an infinite loop.

NOTES Branch mode displays logged directories; if a directory has never been displayed on screen it may not be logged e.g. directories at the bottom which are off screen.

Similarly there may be directories included which have been logged because they are the target of logged links, and of course, any intermediate directories in the path.

7.Copy & Move

FileManager has 2 approaches to copying Files and Directories.

7.1.Clipboard

Copy (⌘C) Copies the selected File or Directory to the Clipboard.

Copy tagged Files will copy all tagged Files to the clipboard.

There are corresponding Contextual Menu Commands **Copy File**, **Copy Dir** and **Copy tagged Files**.

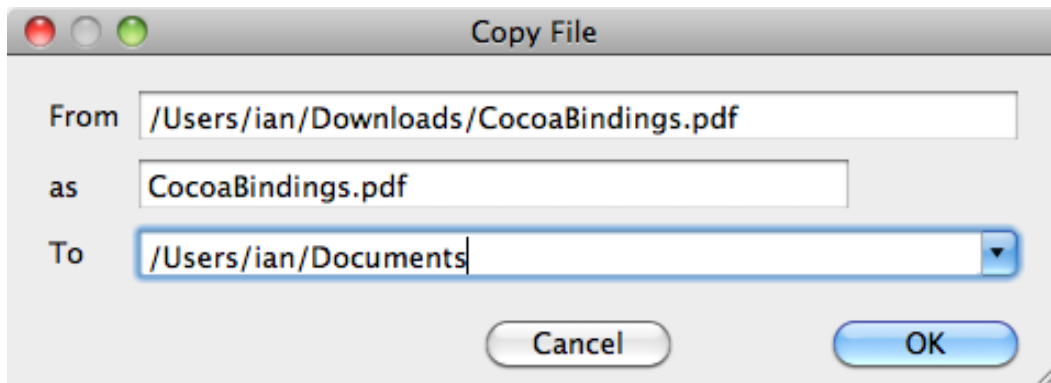
The Clipboard contents can be pasted into the selected Directory with the **Paste (⌘V)** command.

The results of **Paste** are similar to **Copy File To**.

Clipboard contents can be exchanged with Finder and other applications which support the protocol.

7.2.Copy/Move Menu

The **Copy File To (C)** and **Move File To (M)** commands bring up the Copy/Move Menu.



- The 1st line (**From**) shows the source path (for information).
- The 2nd line (**As**) is the name. This will be used as the name of the File or Directory and can be edited or replaced with a [Rename Mask](#).
- The 3rd line (**To**) is the destination Directory where the File or Directory to be copied or moved will be created. This is a pull down list which is populated with the currently selected directory in each Tab. For convenience the Tab to the right is selected (or the left if there is no right Tab). You can select any of these, edit the contents, or enter a new destination Directory.
- There are 2 buttons **Cancel** and **OK** to initiate the Copy or Move.

The destination path is created by combining the destination Directory with the renamed file or directory.

If source path is a file, **Copy File To** creates a file in the destination Directory with identical contents to the original file.

If source path is a directory, the **Copy File To** creates a new directory in the destination Directory and recursively populates it with duplicates of the files and directories contained in source, preserving all links.

Symbolic links are not traversed but are themselves copied. File or directory attributes—that is, metadata such as owner and group numbers, file permissions, and modification date—are also copied.

Move File To moves the directory or file specified by source path to the destination Directory. If the source path and the destination path are not on the same device, **Move File To** performs a copy to the destination path and removes the original. If the copy does not succeed, it removes the incomplete copy, leaving the original in place.

7.3.Copy/Move Limitations

The destination path must not exist, and an Alert will display if it exists (an option to replace existing Files will be added in a future release).

The destination Directory must already exist, and an Alert will display if not (an option to create new Directories will be added in a future release).

8.Rename Mask

Rename mask allows you to change the name of the File or Directory to be copied.

The Mask mask may contain any characters which are acceptable in a File Name and wildcard characters '*' and '?'. Any normal characters are copied, '?' is replaced by the character in the corresponding position in the original name, '*' is replaced by the remaining characters in the original name and is equivalent to a string of '?'. Only a single '*' may be used in name and extension.

The following examples serve to explain how to use masks.

In all examples the original name is "abcdef.xyz"

Mask	Target
.	abcdef.xyz
*.bak	abcdef.bak
A*.*	Abcdef.xyz
A*M.*	AbcdefM.xyz
A?M.*	AbM.xyz
ABC.XYZ	ABC.XYZ
ABC.	ABC
ABC	ABC
ABC.DEF.*	ABC.DEF.xyz
.ABC.*	.ABC.xyz

9.Quick Look

Using the Quick Look feature, you can quickly view the contents of a file without opening it or starting an application.

Click the Quick Look (eye) button, or the ⌘Y keys.

A Quick Look window opens with the selected file displayed. To enlarge the window, drag the lower-right corner or click the double arrows to switch to full screen view.

Continue previewing files by selecting files in the [File Window](#). The Quick Look window displays each file as you select it.

To close the preview, click the Quick Look button (or press the the ⌘Y keys) again, or click the close (x) button in the Quick Look window.

The content you see depends on the type of item you're previewing. If it's an image, you see a smaller version of it. If it's a text document, you can read the text and scroll to see more.

10.Configuring FileManager

FileManager default settings can be changed through the Preferences Menu (⌘,).

These should be self explanatory.

Currently you can set:-

- File Sort Order
- Whether icons will be displayed in Directory or File windows

- Whether hidden Files or Directories will be displayed.
- Percentage Split of Directory Window (10% - 90%)
- The default Startup Directory.
- Automatic Refresh.
- Directory to monitor for Automatic Refresh.

Changes only take effect the next time FileManager is started, although Percentage Split will apply to any newly created Tabs.

11.Documentation & Support

This document can be accessed from the Help Menu.

There is Menu item to generate an email for support. Any feedback or suggestions are welcome.

12.What's in a Name

The next release of FileManager will be renamed **QuollEyeTree**.

QuollEyeTree (pronounced to rhyme with Quality) is a Mac OSX File Manager which provides a cat's **Eye** view into the OSX file system which it represents as a **Tree**.

The **Quoll** or native cat (genus *Dasyurus*) is a carnivorous marsupial native to Australia. Quolls are primarily nocturnal and partially arboreal. The name **Quoll** continues the Mac cat metaphor Leopard, Tiger, Snow Leopard.

13.Limitations

The current limitations (all planned for future releases):-

- Help system not yet implemented, although you can display the Documentation from the Help Menu.
- There is no way to create new Directories (other than copying existing).
- There is no rename for Files and Directories.
- Access to mounted Volumes is not easy (they are under hidden /Volumes). Sidebar access will be added in future releases.

13.1.Known Issues

- If the root directory of a Tab is deleted (in File Manager or externally) it will still display the old content, even though this no longer exists.