

# The Mac 512 User Group

## Newsletter



Inspired by the Original Macintosh, for all Macintosh lovers.

### MiniFinder - How to...

April 1985 was the beginning of a faster way to maneuver around your Macintosh. MiniFinder was born!

MiniFinder allowed Macintosh owners to assemble on a diskette the applications they used most in a convenient, one-stop launching pad. The simplified approach hid the Finder and provided a way to open the listed or other applications and documents, eject mounted disks, change the current disk and Shutdown the Macintosh entirely. If you brought up MiniFinder by selecting the Use MiniFinder command from the Finder up it came... empty! Press the Finder button to exit to the desktop. We will show you how to place icons in there.



How MiniFinder looks when applications or documents were not selected to open up with it.

The first series of questions are -  
What do I want to open quickly?  
Where is it located?

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As MiniFinder debuted as MFS (Macintosh Filing System) was around, all applications and documents were physically on the root layer of each disk. Folders were an illusion. Thus MiniFinder worked this way as well. The funny thing is, you had to highlight all of your applications and documents when you invoked the Use MiniFinder command. Even if they were in different folder locations.

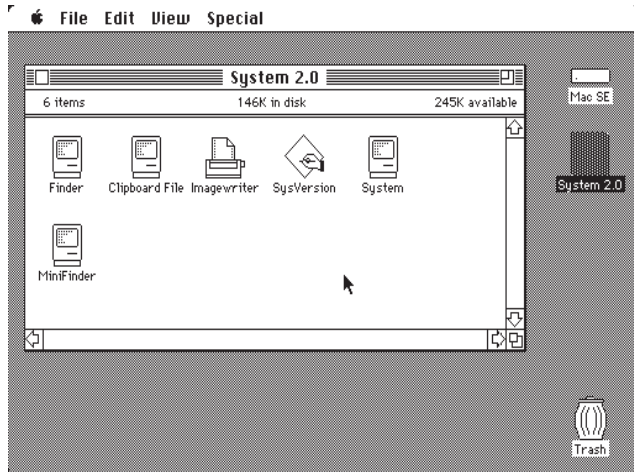
MiniFinder works best if all of the applications and documents are on the same disk. If you managed to setup applications or documents from a different disk, make sure you insert the disk in the second disk drive before MiniFinder starts. I have had a few of my files disappear on me. I believe the reason was the other disk was not in there. I have found that if you keep it to one disk MiniFinder works better. If you have a hard disk using MFS or HFS it works great as all of your applications and documents are on one disk.

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## MiniFinder - How To... Continued

### How to enable MiniFinder

- ◆ Startup your Macintosh and insert a System boot disk in the disk drive (if you are not using a hard disk). After your Macintosh is at the desktop, proceed.
- ◆ Open the disk and find all of the applications and documents you want in the MiniFinder.

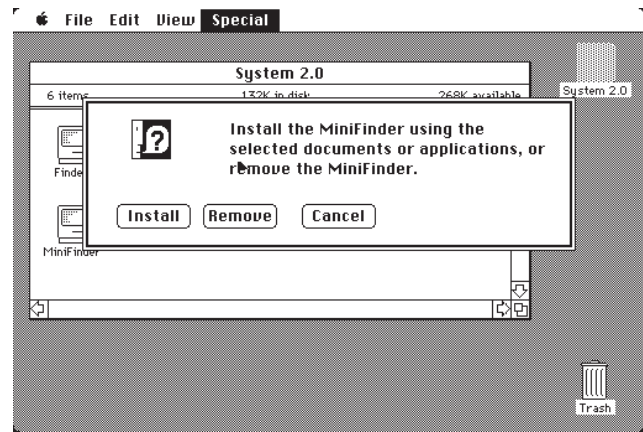


The startup disk with the MiniFinder System file.

- ◆ Select and highlight them. In the above example we will select just the SysVersion application.
- ◆ Select the Special Menu.
- ◆ Select Use MiniFinder.

A dialog will appear asking if you want to install MiniFinder with the application you selected or remove MiniFinder. This is the easiest way to remove MiniFinder when you don't want to use it anymore.

Once you click on the Install button the application will be loaded in the MiniFinder window. The same goes for any other applications or documents. MiniFinder can be a useful utility to speed out your old Mac if the time is spent on organizing the applications, documents and System boot disks. Some people have referred the MiniFinder in the same category as another of Apple's products, At Ease.



The MiniFinder install dialog box



Our installed applications in the MiniFinder.

At Ease is totally different as it is a simple launcher meant to hide the Finder's complexity while the MiniFinder's purpose is to speed up the Mac by reducing the number of trips going back to the Finder. MiniFinder was smaller and faster to load.

One of the biggest add-on utilities in 1985 was a disk cache. These enhancements let the Mac store commonly used portions of disk data and applications. The main reason was to speed up going back to the Finder to launch another application. As Cut, Copy and Paste caught on, using applications together increased this Finder load, and thus MiniFinder was Apple's answer to the Finder slowness of loading.

Requirements: Free  
Runs on a Mac 128K and up.  
Available in Finder 4.1 (part of Macintosh System Software 0.3 & 0.5).

Download at:  
<http://www.athenet.net/~gyouнк/ssdl.htm>

# Black & Bleu - Utility Review

A useful utility came across my inbox the other day. Black and Bleu shows you the meaning of the entire documented Mac OS error codes, as well as and many undocumented error codes. The version I tested (v. 1.01) contains 2500 different error code descriptions.

You start by either knowing the error name or the error number. After you select the error in question a short description is shown. If no detailed description shows up, Bleu Rose has an error analysis program registered users can take advantage of. They will assist you to determine what caused the error. My iMac came up listed as a NewWorld or Starmax 6000/23 with an iMac keyboard. Not a big deal however it could limit the solution. Make sure you look at the error report to correct any information is look at wrong.

Most of the errors I had encountered there was a basic explanation available, plus a detailed description. Don't get too excited, while I was browsing the database of error codes I found a lot which don't have this level of detail. With the older Macintoshes I work with I don't see this as a shortcoming. Plus with the free error analysis, Bleu Rose Ltd. does not leave you hanging to wonder what caused it.



The basic explanation of error code 02 (address Error)

If you are getting many error codes on your Macintosh collection and want to know what is going on, this is one utility you should consider.



The detailed description including code examples.

Requirements: \$34.00 (electronic version)  
\$41.00 (CD-ROM)

Runs on a Mac Plus and up, using Mac OS 7.0 or later

Available from Bleu Rose Ltd.

<http://www.bleurose.com>

## The Mac 512 User Group Newsletter

The Mac 512 User Group Newsletter is written and produced by G. Younk. Its intent is to share ideas and some history to people interested in older Macintoshes.

Any reproduction of this newsletter must first get permission from G. Younk.

Published roughly bi-monthly.

We encourage comments . Thank you!

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