



Haxial DiskCatalog 1.200 Documentation

Haxial Software

<http://www.haxial.com/>

Description

Haxial DiskCatalog is a fast utility for cataloging CDs, hard disks, folders, and any other type of disk. It allows you to browse the contents of disks without having to find them and insert them into your computer. More importantly, you can search all of your disks at once (again without having them in the computer), and DiskCatalog will display a list of all the files found, and their location. When you're looking for a file and you don't know where it is, this is much easier than manually searching all your disks. DiskCatalog is designed to be very fast -- search results usually appear instantly.

System Requirements

- MS Windows 95 or better, or
- MacOS 9 with CarbonLib 1.3.1 or better, or
- MacOS X (10) or better.

The Main DiskCatalog Window

The main window in DiskCatalog looks like this:

	Name	Size	Items
	Archived Stuff 1	589.6M	16
	Archived Stuff 2	639.7M	188
	Assorted Junk	785.6M	3,877
	Current	535.9M	49
	Downloaded recently	7.5G	36,813
	Games	1.0G	980

The window displays a list of your catalogs (which are usually generated from disks). Initially the list will be empty because you have not cataloged anything yet. The list has a number of columns:

Name: The name of the disk, volume or folder that was cataloged.
Size: The size in bytes of the item. Note for a disk, this size is the total size of all files on the disk (how much is used on the disk, not the maximum capacity of the disk itself). After the size is a letter, for example “1.0G” means 1 gigabyte.

K	kilobyte	(1,024 bytes)
M	megabyte	(1,048,576 bytes)
G	gigabyte	(1,073,741,824 bytes)
T	terabyte	(1,099,511,627,776 bytes)

If the number does not have a letter have it, then it is an exact number of bytes (less than a kilobyte).

Items: This is the total number of items (files and folders) that are inside that catalog.
Date Cataloged: This is the date and time of when that catalog was created (if the disk is one that changes, you can use this to see how out-of-date the catalog is).
Date Modified: This is the last modification date and time taken from the disk, volume or folder that was cataloged as it was when the item was cataloged.

The title bar of the window contains a few buttons:



Close Button: Click this to close the window.



Window Menu Button: Click this to show a popup menu with commands that affect the window or its contents. It looks like this:



This is what each command in the menu does:

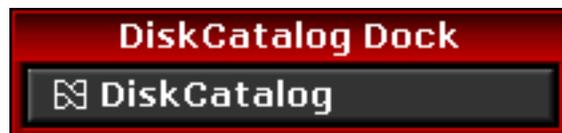
- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Add: | Shows a window in which you choose a volume or folder to be cataloged and added to the list. |
| Batch Add: | Use this when you have a number of disks and you want to catalog them all (which is explained further ahead in this documentation). |
| Find: | Shows the Find window, which is used to search for files in all catalogs (which is explained further ahead in this documentation). |
| Settings: | Shows the Settings window, which allows you to change a number of things about DiskCatalog (more info about this following). |
| About: | Shows some information about DiskCatalog, including the version number. |
| Exit DiskCatalog: | Exits/quits/closes the DiskCatalog program. |



Zoom Button: Click this to expand the window to display all of its contents.



Click this to dock/minimize the window to get it out of your way. The window is hidden, and a button to represent it is added to a dock window, like this:



To restore the window, click the button representing it in the Dock window. If multiple windows are docked, they are all added to the

same Dock window.

MS Windows Only: You can second-click any minimize button to minimize the whole program to the system tray. All DiskCatalog windows hide, and an icon is placed in the system tray (example following). Click the icon to restore the windows.



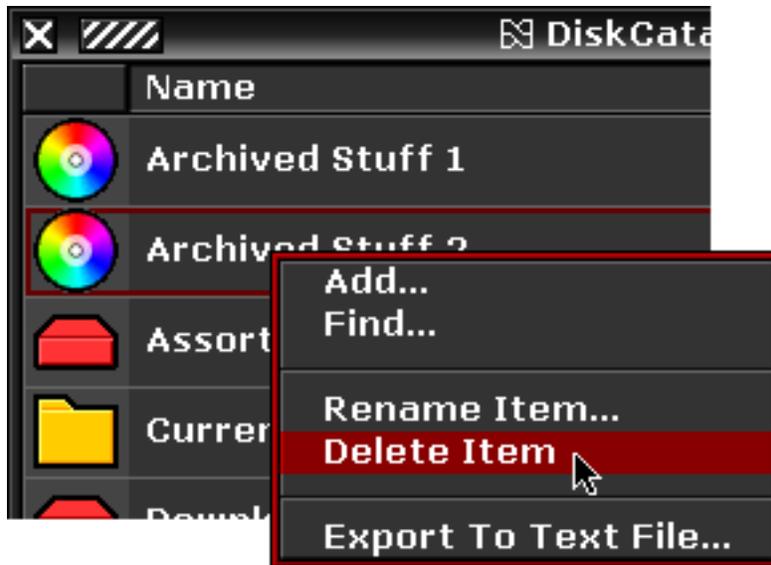
You can also second-click the DiskCatalog item in the task bar to show the standard Context Menu. Choose Minimize to hide all windows. Alternatively, if you click the DiskCatalog item in the task bar when it is already selected, it will deselect it and minimize the program.



Resize Button: Press the mouse button in this button and drag the mouse to change the size of the window. Also note that the window can be moved by dragging the title bar, OR by dragging one of the edges of the window.

Context Menu

The list of catalogs in the main window has a Context Menu. To show the Context Menu, second-click an item in the list (if your mouse has only 1 button, then click the item while holding down the control key instead). Some items in the Context Menu operate on the item you clicked to activate the menu. For example, in the following screenshot, the menu has been shown, and if the user clicks the “Delete Item” command, it will delete the catalog named “Archived Stuff 2”.



This is what each command in the menu does:

- Add: Shows a window in which you choose a disk, volume or folder to be cataloged and added to the list.
- Find: Shows the Find window (explained further ahead in this documentation). Note that “Find” in the Context Menu searches only the catalog that you selected, whereas “Find” in the Window Menu searches all catalogs.
- Rename Item: Use this if you want to change the name of the selected catalog.
- Delete Item: Deletes the selected catalog and removes it from the list.
- Export To Text File: Converts the selected catalog into a tabbed text file, suitable for importing into a database or spreadsheet program.

Resizing Columns

The width of each column in the list can be resized by pressing the mouse button on the line between 2 columns (in the column header, NOT in the list), and then dragging the mouse left or right.

Before:

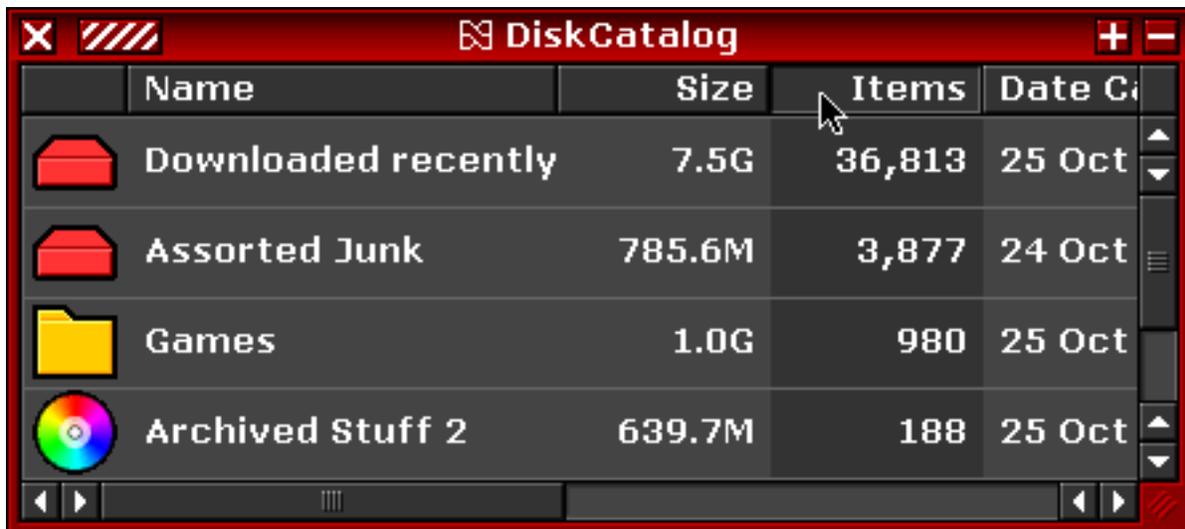


After:



Sorting Columns

By default, the list is sorted alphabetically by the name of the catalog, but you can change this. If you click on a column header at the top of the list, then the list will be resorted according to that column. For example, in this screenshot the "Items" column header has been clicked and now the list is sorted by the number of items in each catalog, rather than alphabetically.



The File Browser Window

Click once on a catalog in the list to open it in a File Browser window that looks like this:



The File Browser window allows you to browse the contents of a disk even when you do not have that disk in the computer. Click once on a folder (directory) in the list to go inside that folder.

The left pane shows only the folder hierarchy. Click a '+' button to expand that folder to show the folders inside that folder. Because only folders are shown in this pane, you can navigate the hierarchy quickly. At any time you can click on a folder, and then the right pane will switch to show the full contents of that folder including files.

The list has 4 columns (scroll across or make the window bigger to see them all):

- Name: The name of the file or folder.
- Size: The size in bytes of the file or folder. If it is a folder, the size is the total size of all files in all folders descended from that folder.
- Type: A special type description. The type usually consists of a general group name such as "text", "audio", or "image" followed by a slash "/" and then the specific type. For example, "text/plain" means this is a plain text file. "image/jpeg" means this file is an image in JPEG format.
- Date Modified: The date and time that the item was last modified, as it was recorded on the disk when it was cataloged.

These columns are also resizable and sortable as previously explained. To recap

briefly, drag the line between 2 column headers left or right to resize, or click a column header to sort by that column.

Click the button at the top of the window to display the current path in a popup menu (picture follows). The path lists the folders you traveled through in order to arrive at the current folder. At the top of the menu (and as the title of the button) is the folder that you are currently viewing (whose contents is displayed in the list). In the following example, the user is currently viewing the folder named “Movies”, which is located inside the folder “Media” which is located inside the disk “The Animals! 2.0”. You can click any item in the menu to go to that folder.



Next to the Path button is a button titled “Back”. Click this to go back a folder (to the parent folder), this is the same as choosing the second item in the Path menu. Next to the Path button is a number, for example “[16]”. This is the number of items in the current folder.

The file list has a small Context Menu. To show the Context Menu, second-click an item in the list (if your mouse has only 1 button, then click the item while holding down the control key instead).



This is what each command in the menu does:

- Get Info: Shows information about the item (see following).
- Show Real File: This attempts to find the real file corresponding to the item in the catalog, and then shows it using Windows Explorer or the Finder on Mac. The CD must be in the

drive and ready for this to work.

Open Real File: This attempts to find the real file corresponding to the item in the catalog, and then opens it (as if you had double-clicked on it). This saves you the hassle of finding the real file. The CD must be in the drive and ready for this to work.

“Get Info” shows a window with more information on the selected item, like this:



The Info window displays this information:

- Type:** The item’s special type description, as previously explained.
- Size:** The size of the item, as previously explained. After the size in brackets is the exact number of bytes in the file.
- Items:** For a folder, this displays the total number of items in the folder and all folders descended from that folder.
- Created:** The date and time when the item was created, as it was recorded on the disk when it was cataloged.
- Modified:** The date and time that the item was last modified, as it was recorded on the disk when it was cataloged.

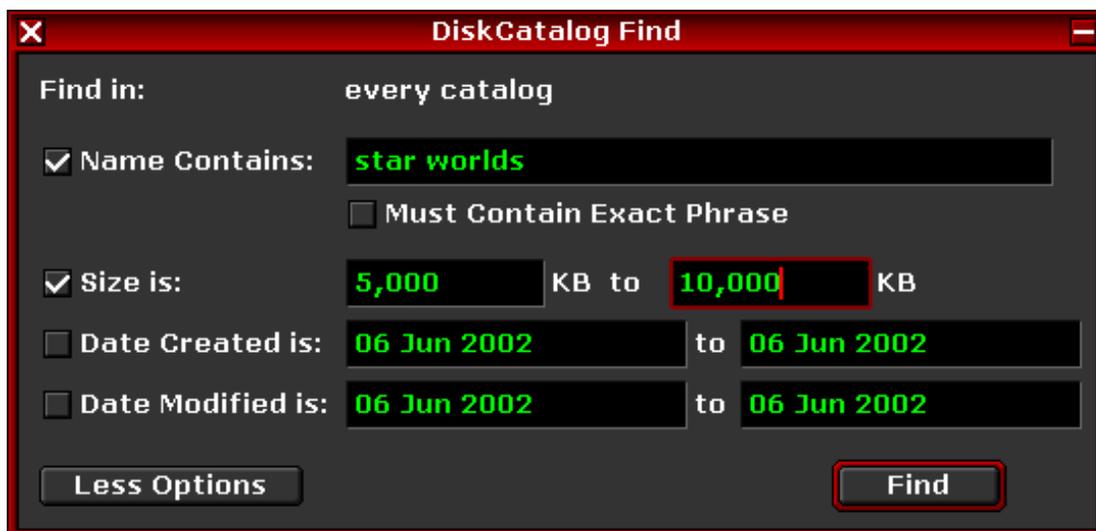
- Location: The folder that this item is inside (the parent). Click this to view the full path.
- Comments: Any comments that were saved with the file (not editable here).

Finding Files

To search for files, first show the Find window using either the Window Menu or the Context Menu, as explained previously. It looks like this:



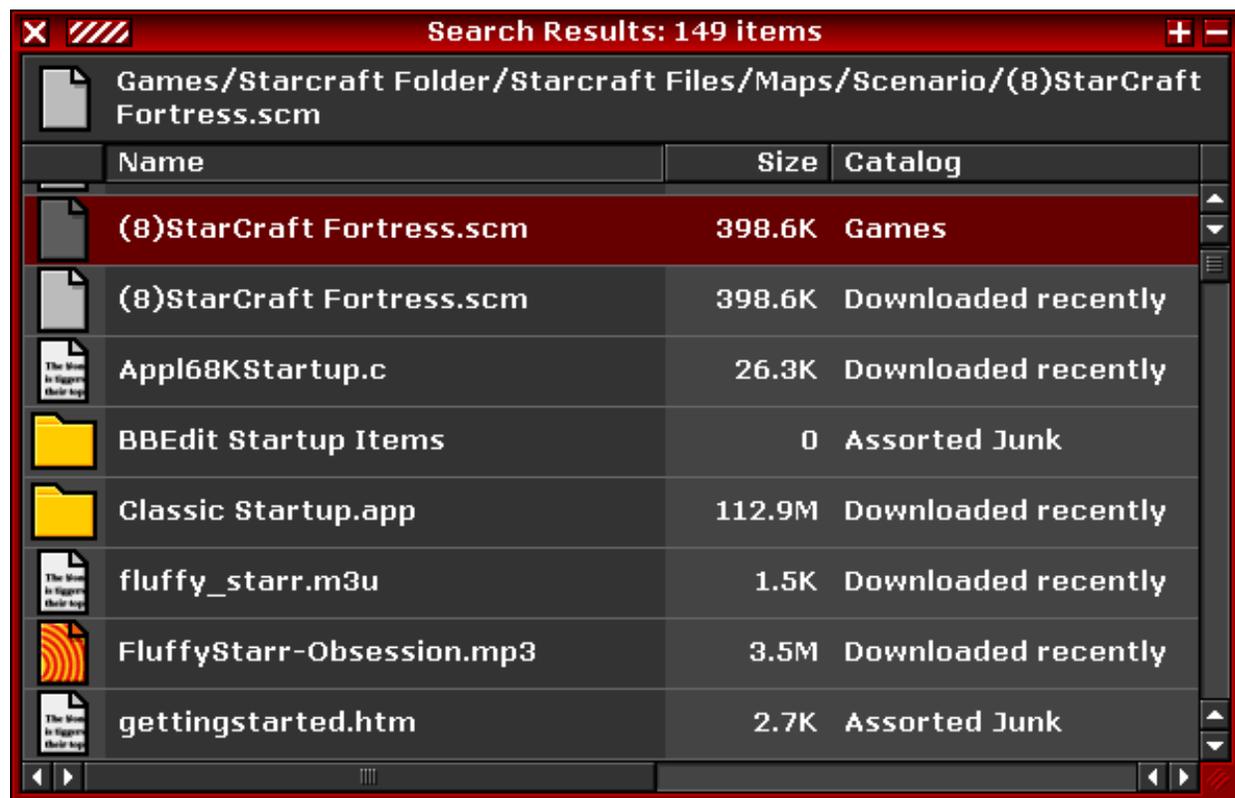
Type in some text to search for, then click Find (or press the return/enter key). DiskCatalog will find all items that contain the text that you typed. If you get no search results, try a shorter piece of text in order to increase the number of matches. You do NOT have to enter whole words, partial words are fine. If you want to do a more advanced search, click the “More Options” button, and the window changes to this:



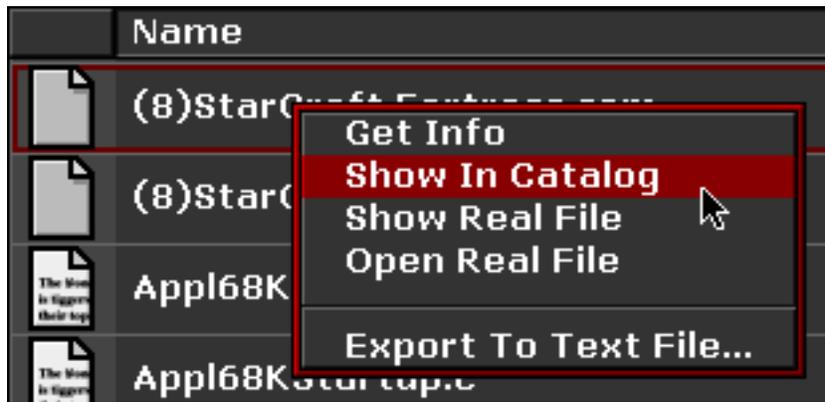
You can choose to search according to name, size, date created, and/or date modified. First tick the criteria that you want to use. Then enter the acceptable values. For example, in the above picture, only items with names containing “star worlds” and of size 5,000 to 10,000 kilobytes will be found. Or if you wanted to find any recently modified items, you could untick “Name Contains”, and tick only “Date Modified is”, and then specify a date range from a week ago until the present day.

Normally, a search for “good dog” will find “GoodDog”, “good-dog.jpg”, and “dog good”, but if you turn on the “Must Contain Exact Phrase” option, a search for “good dog” will find only names containing exactly “good dog” including the space.

If DiskCatalog finds items matching the search criteria, it shows them in the Search Results window, which looks like this:



Click once to select an item. The location of the item (the path) appears in the area at the top of the window. The names of folders are separated by slashes “/”. The list has a Context Menu, which again you can access by clicking with the second mouse button or control-click:



- Get Info:** Shows the Info window for the item, the same as explained previously.
- Show In Catalog:** Opens the File Browser window for the catalog, goes to the folder containing the selected item, and selects the item in the File Browser list. This is useful if you want to see where a file resides, or if you want to see what other files are in the same folder.
- Show Real File:** This attempts to find the real file corresponding to the item in the catalog, and then shows it using Windows Explorer or the Finder on Mac. The CD must be in the drive and ready for this to work.
- Open Real File:** This attempts to find the real file corresponding to the item in the catalog, and then opens it (as if you had double-clicked on it). This saves you the hassle of finding the real file. The CD must be in the drive and ready for this to work.
- Export To Text File:** Converts the search results into a tabbed text file, suitable for importing into a database or spreadsheet program.

Advanced Note: The Find window is shown automatically when DiskCatalog is opened because that is the window you most likely want to use. DiskCatalog takes a moment to load the catalogs files, which you can observe as it adds each catalog to the list. However, you can start typing in the Find window BEFORE all of the catalogs have loaded. ie, open DiskCatalog, and as soon as you see the Find window, you can start typing. By the time you finish typing, the catalogs will probably have finished loading, ready for a very quick search. It is okay to press the return/enter key before the catalogs have finished loading -- the search will begin as soon as they have finished.

Batch Cataloging

The “Batch Add” feature works a little bit differently depending on whether you are using MacOS or MS Windows, due to differences in the operating systems. The first thing you should do is eject the CD (or other removable media) in order to free the drive for inserting the disks that you want to catalog. Then choose the “Batch Add” command in the Window Menu.

Macintosh:

The Batch Add window looks like this:



The icon will flash between a CD icon and a Exclamation Mark icon in order to alert you that DiskCatalog is scanning for inserted disks. Insert a CD (or other removable media) into the drive. DiskCatalog should automatically recognize the disk, catalog it, add it to the list of catalogs, and then eject the disk. You can then repeat this process as many times as necessary with other disks. When you are finished, click “Done”.

MS Windows:

The Batch Add window looks like this:



Insert a CD (or other removable media) into the drive and then click “Check” (or hit the Enter key). DiskCatalog should recognize the disk, catalog it, add it to the list of catalogs, and then eject the disk (if possible). If the disk cannot be automatically ejected, you can eject it yourself once cataloging has finished. You can then repeat this process as many times as necessary with other disks. When you are finished, click “Done”. Note that Batch Add does not work with Floppy Disks due to the mechanics of the PC floppy drive, but it should work with CD’s and other removable media.

The Settings Window

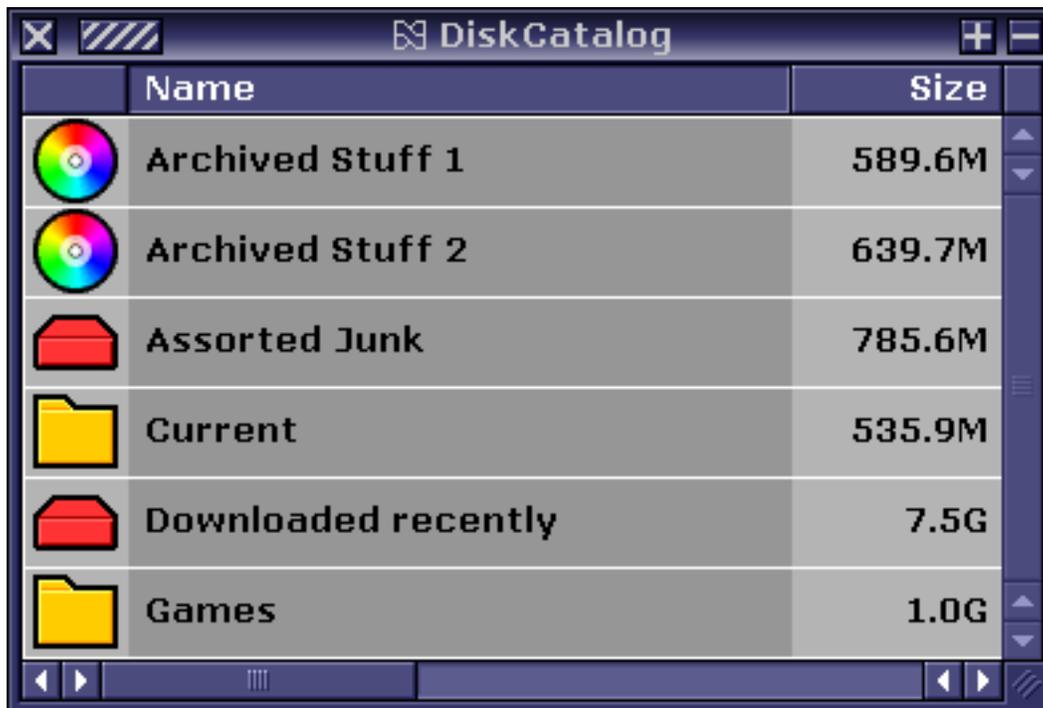
The Settings window is accessible from the Window Menu on the main window. It looks like this:



File List Font: You can change the font that DiskCatalog uses to display file lists (and the main catalogs list). For example, “Petit Mal” is a smaller font good for smaller screens.

Use Small Icons in File Lists: Tick this to make the file lists (and the main catalogs list) display small icons. Again this is good for smaller screens.

Color Scheme: You can also change the appearance of the whole program by selecting a different Color Scheme. For example, this is what DiskCatalog looks like when using the color scheme called “The Dream Scheme (Purple)”:



The easiest method to change the appearance is to simply choose one of the built-in Color Schemes from the popup menu. Alternatively, you can click the “Load” button to select a custom Color Scheme file that was created with Haxial’s Color Scheme Editor. You can download extra Color Scheme files from the Haxial website (www.haxial.com), or you can make your own Color Scheme using the Color Scheme Editor, which you also download from the Haxial website.

Advanced Tip: If you would like to override the contents of the Color Scheme popup menu in the Settings window, you can create a folder (or an alias/shortcut to a folder) named “Color Schemes” in the same folder as the WorldClock program. Then put your Color Scheme files into that folder, and then when you click Settings in WorldClock, the menu will display the contents of that folder instead of the built-in schemes.

Icon List: The icons that DiskCatalog uses can be changed. You can download Icon List files from the Haxial website, and then put them into a folder named “Icon Lists” in the same folder as the DiskCatalog program. Then go into Settings, and you can select them in this menu. You can also make your own Icon Lists using the Icon List Editor available for download on the Haxial website.

Keyboard Shortcuts

You can press the following keyboard combinations instead of using the menus:

Control-Q or Command-Q:	Quit/exit the program.
Control-F or Command-F:	Show the Find window.
Control-K or Command-K:	Same as the “Add” command. Shows a window to let you choose an item to be cataloged.
Control-B or Command-B:	Same as the “Batch Add” command.

Any questions/suggestions/feedback?

Feel free to send an e-mail to support@haxial.com, your feedback is welcomed. Although due to the volume of e-mail received, please be patient when waiting for a reply.

Please support the development of this product

Please support the development of this program and other Haxial products by paying for it. DiskCatalog is not free, but it only costs \$20. Your money funds the development of this product and others. You can pay at the Haxial website, which is <http://www.haxial.com> . Thank you.

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