



Introduction

Have you ever experienced the problem where you download a document from the internet, receive one as an e-mail attachment, or copy one from a network and you just can't get it to open? Moreover, sometimes these documents *will* open, but in one of the last applications you'd want them to...

...well, Extension Wizard is a utility created to help end these frustrating situations!

How it Works

Extension Wizard works by checking the document's **extension**—the end of the document's name that usually has a period and three characters (for example *.jpg*), and then converts the document into a more appropriate kind of document, allowing it to be easily opened. Documents such as these are often associated with an application which doesn't exist on your computer, are associated with an inappropriate application, or worst of all, are altogether the wrong kinds of documents they should be!

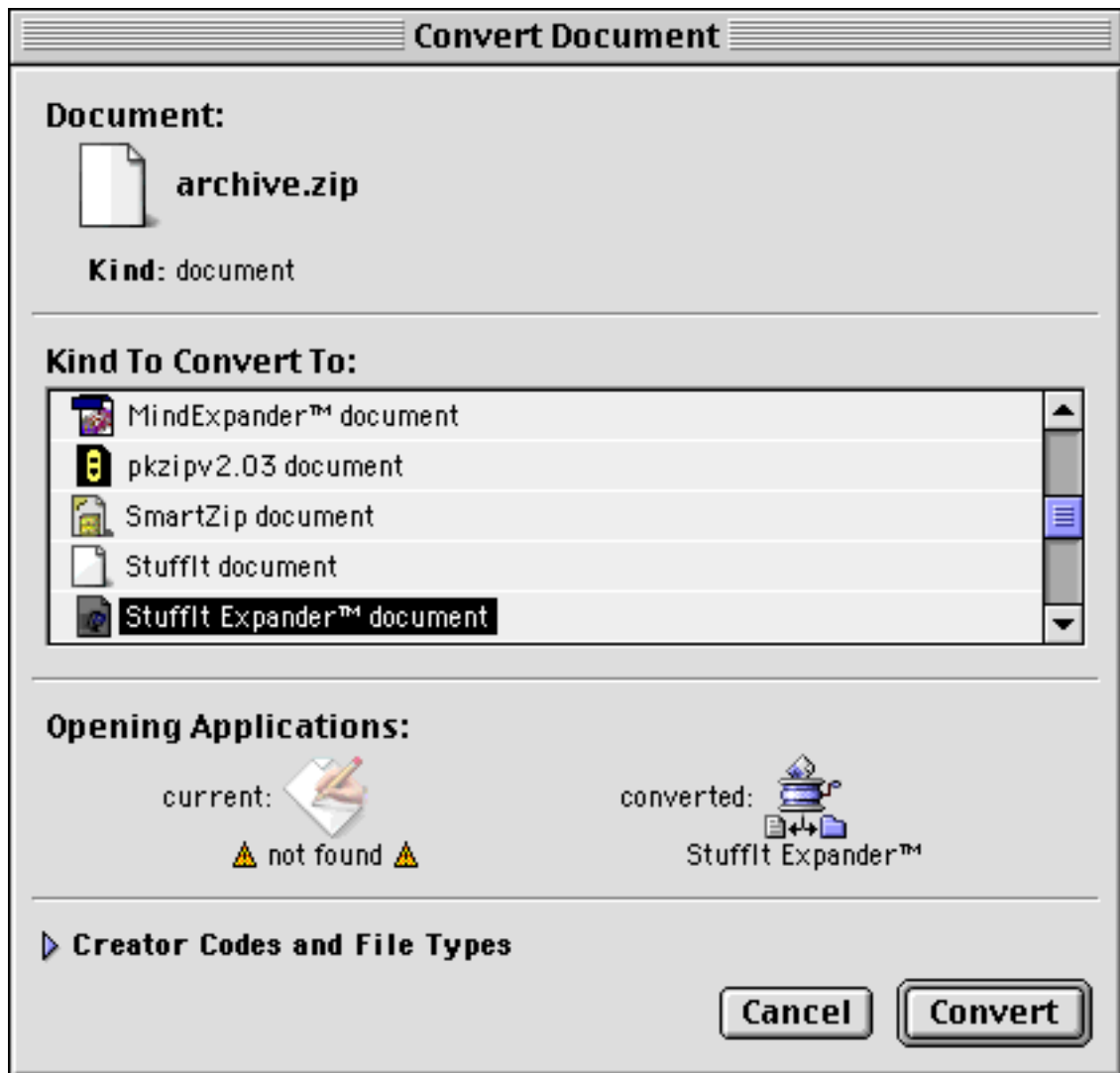
Usually, the problem is that these documents were created on a computer with a different operating system than your Macintosh, such as Windows or UNIX, and these other operating systems create documents that lack some necessary information called a **creator code** and **file type** that Macintosh documents need. The document's creator code is a set of four hidden characters that designates which application created it, thereby allowing that same application to be the one that opens the document when it's double-clicked. The document's file type is also a set of four hidden characters that designates what kind of document it is, such as a picture or text. Together, the creator code and file type make it possible for your Macintosh to determine a document's kind, for instance, a *MoviePlayer movie*.

When Extension Wizard is requested to convert a document to another kind, what it actually does is change its creator code and/or file type. Please note that the document's contents remain intact—no conversion to its contents takes place.

Extension Wizard knows how to convert documents to other kinds of documents through the use of what's called **extension mappings**. Extension Wizard comes with a standard set of hundreds of extension mappings that cover all kinds of documents such as pictures, text, HTML, sound, compressed archives, and much, much more. An extension mapping consists of one or more extensions and one or more document kinds. For example, the extension mapping for PICT picture documents consist of the extensions *.pict*, *.pic*, and *.pct* and the kinds *AppleWorks picture*, *PictureViewer document*, and *SimpleText picture*, among many others. When Extension Wizard is requested to convert a document with a name ending in one of these extensions, it then offers the document kinds included in the extension mapping for conversion choices.

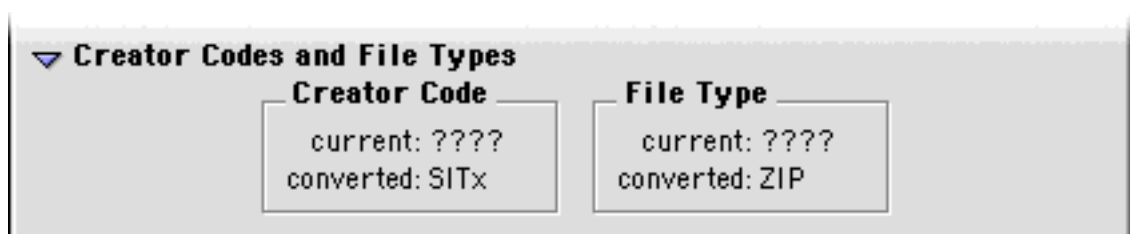
Converting Documents

Converting documents using Extension Wizard can be done in several ways. One way is to simply open Extension Wizard. It will then present you with a standard Open dialog box from which you may choose a document for conversion. After choosing a document for conversion, the Convert Document dialog box will appear:



Convert Document dialog box

Here you select the kind you want the original document to be converted to and then click the Convert button to perform the conversion. You may then choose the Convert... menu item under the File menu to choose other documents for conversion. To toggle between showing and hiding the creator codes and file types of the document (both the current ones and the ones that the document will be converted to), click the triangle labeled Creator Codes and File Types:





creator codes and file types shown

Another way to convert documents is to drag and drop any number of documents or folders containing documents onto the Extension Wizard icon:



before conversion



drag & drop onto Extension Wizard icon



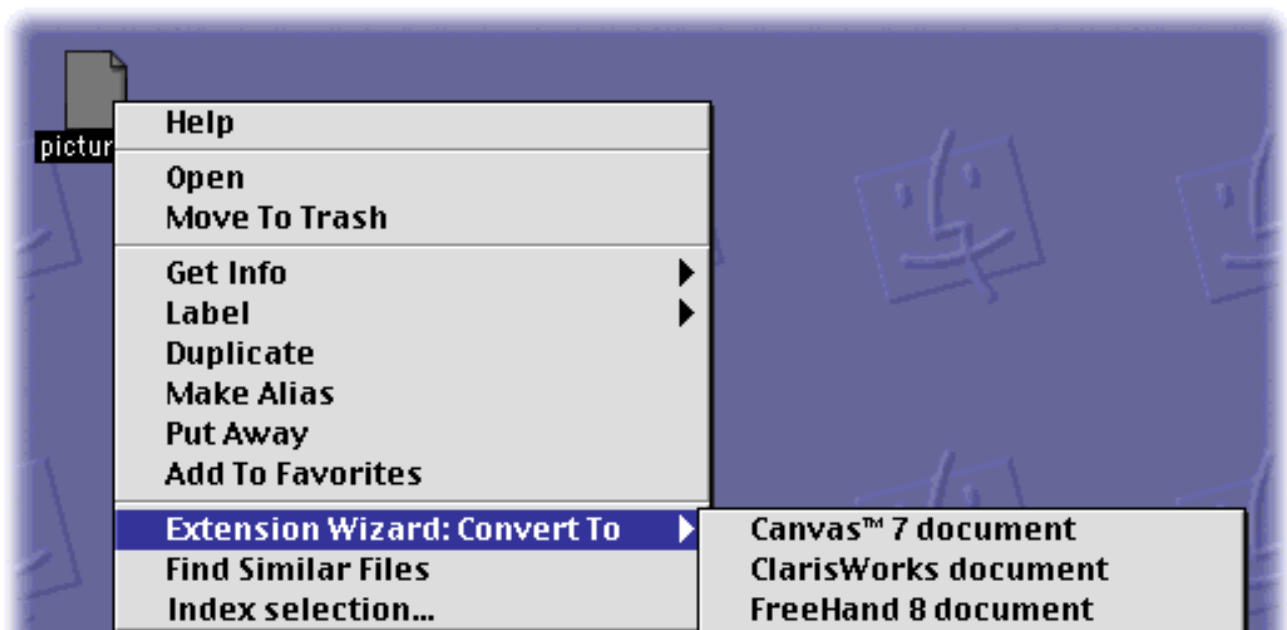
after conversion

Extension Wizard will then present the Convert Document dialog box for each document, allowing you to choose what kind to convert them to. When Extension Wizard is opened this way, it will automatically quit after all documents are presented for conversion.

Documents may also be converted without even opening the Extension Wizard application. Extension Wizard supports contextual menus (on Power Macintosh computers with Mac OS 8 or later), allowing extremely simple document conversion by control-clicking one or more documents (each having the same extension) and then choosing a kind from the “Extension Wizard: Convert To” submenu:



before conversion



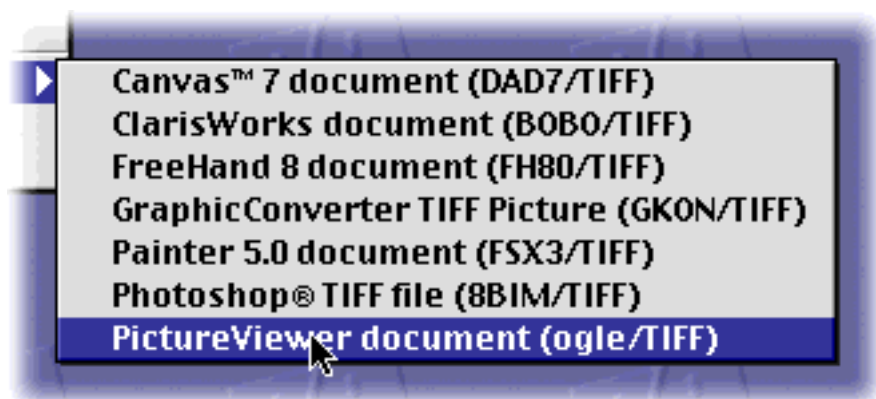


control-click document for Extension Wizard contextual menu to appear



after conversion

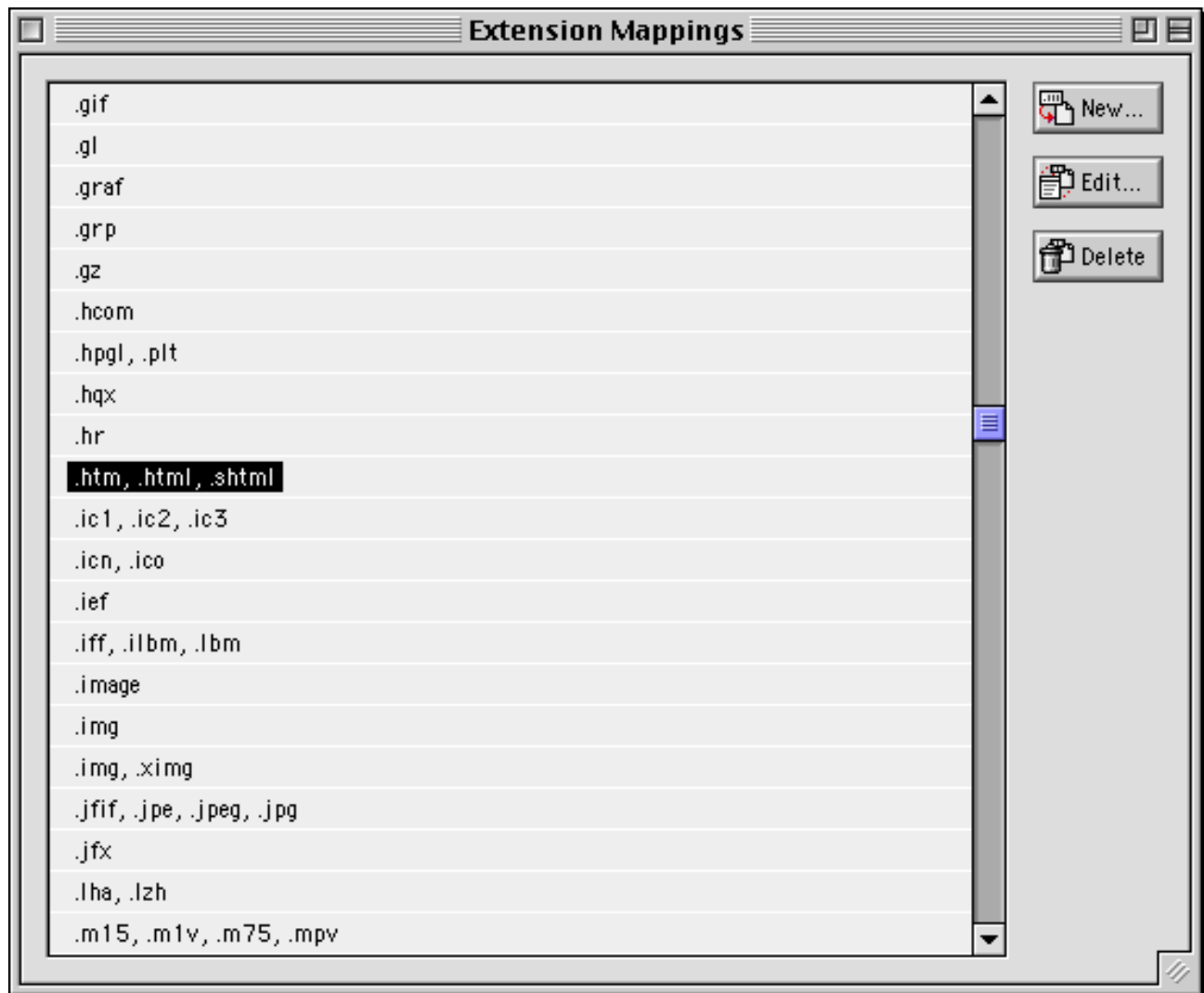
When the creator codes and file types are shown in the Convert Document dialog box, they're also shown for each kind in the Extension Wizard contextual menu:



creator codes and file types shown in contextual menu

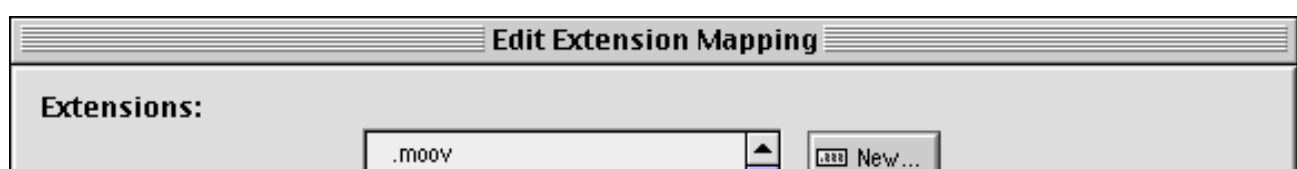
Modifying Extension Mappings

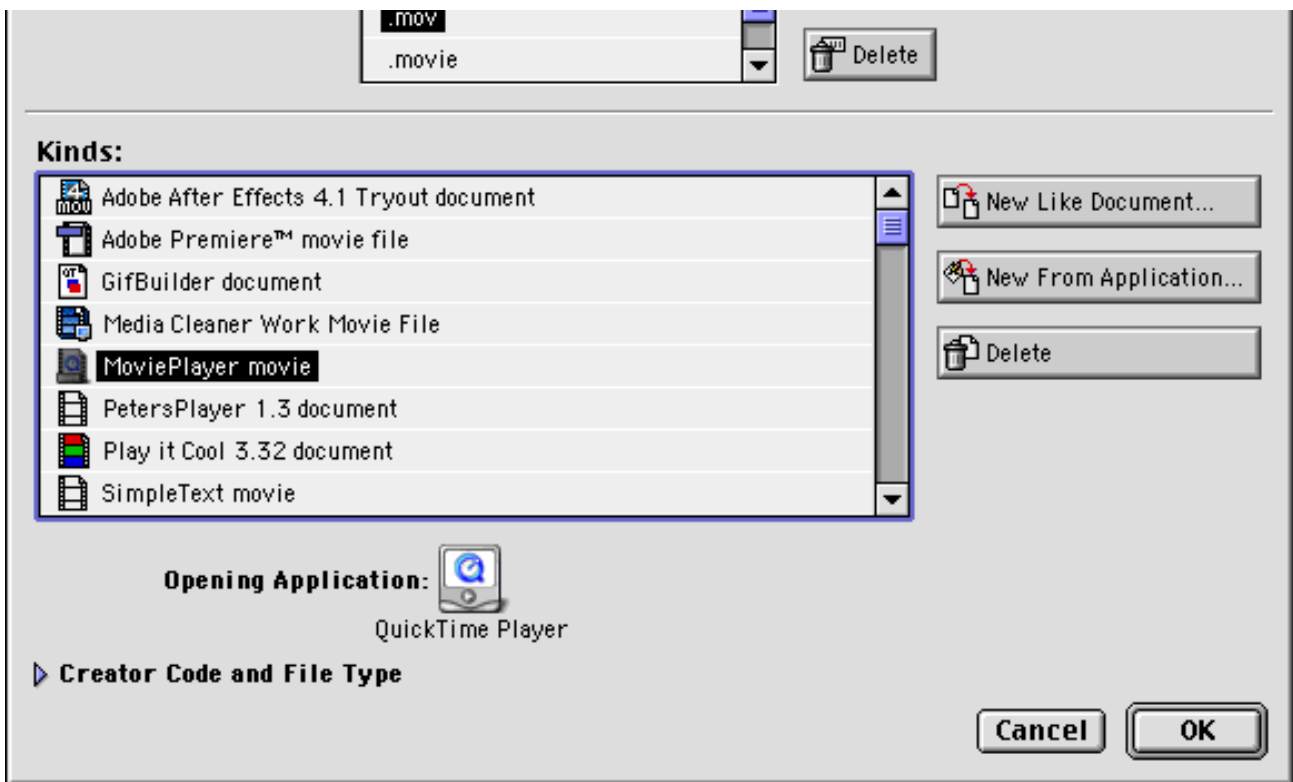
Although Extension Wizard comes with a very comprehensive standard set of extension mappings, it still allows you to easily edit these standards or even create entirely new ones. To do so, choose the Extension Mappings... menu item under the Edit menu. The Extension Mappings dialog box then appears:



Extension Mappings dialog box

To create a new extension mapping, click the New... button or to edit an existing extension mapping, select the one you wish to edit and click the Edit... button. This will open the New Extension Mapping dialog box or the Edit Extension Mapping dialog box, respectively:



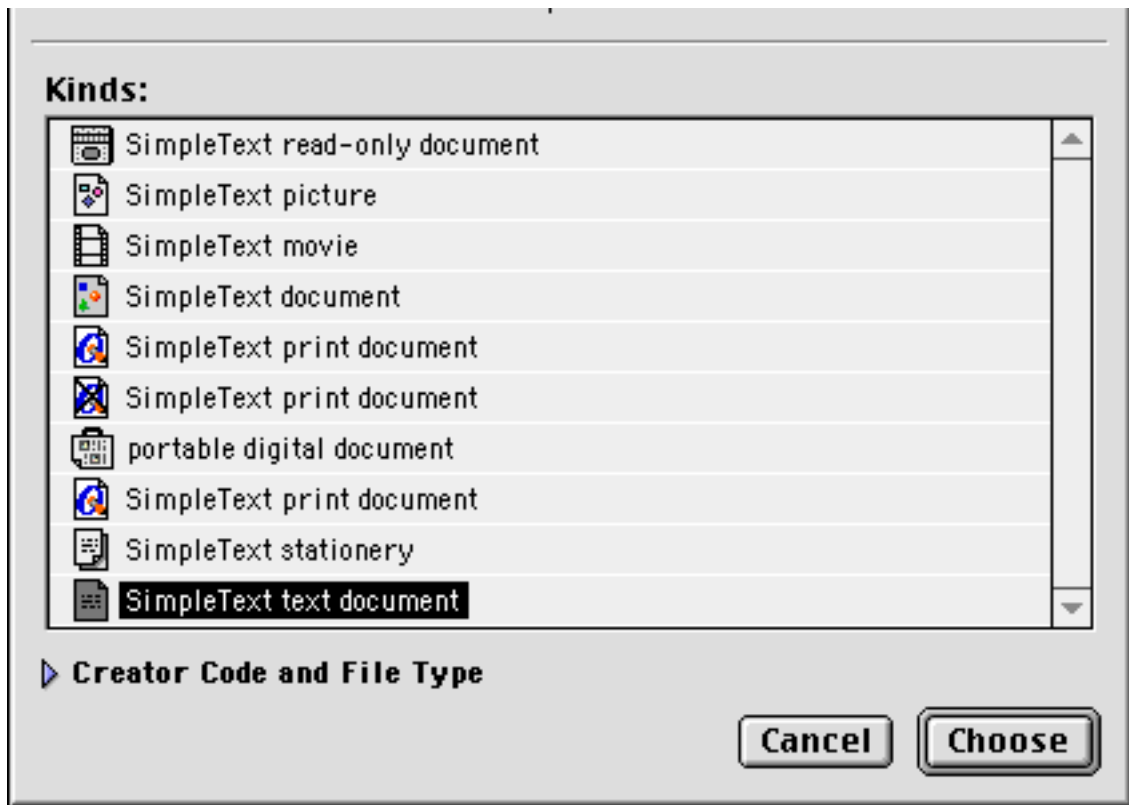


Edit Extension Mapping dialog box

To add a new extension to the extension mapping, click the New... button and type the name of the extension in the text box that appears. You may enter multiple extensions in this manner. To delete any extensions, select the ones you wish to delete and click the Delete button next to them.

To add kinds to the extension mapping, either click the New Like Document... button or the New From Application... button. The New Like Document... button is used when you want to add a kind to the extension mapping that's the same kind as an existing document. A standard Open dialog box appears, from which you may then choose a document. A kind that is the same as the chosen document will then be added to the extension mapping. The New From Application... button is used when you want to add a kind oh which a particular application can open. A standard Open dialog box appears, from which you may choose an application. The Choose Kind dialog box then appears from which you may choose a kind to be added to the extension mapping that the chosen application can open:

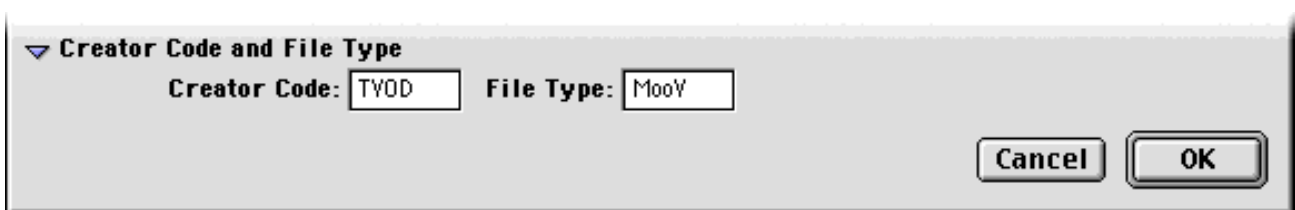




Choose Kind dialog box

To toggle between showing and hiding the creator code and file type of the currently selected kind in the Choose Kind dialog box, click the triangle labeled Creator Code and File Type.

To toggle between showing and hiding the creator code and file type of the currently selected kind in the New/Edit Extension Mapping dialog box, click the triangle labeled Creator Code and File Type. Text boxes will appear, allowing you to view and manually change the creator code and file type for the currently selected kind.



creator codes and file types shown

To delete any kinds, select the ones you wish to delete and click the Delete button next to them in the New/Edit Extension Mapping dialog box.

To delete any extension mappings, select the ones you wish to delete and click the Delete button next to them in the Extension Mappings dialog box.

Preferences

To change Extension Wizard's preferences, choose the Preferences... menu item under the Edit menu. The Preferences dialog box appears with the following options:



Preferences dialog box

Auto convert if only one choice—when checked, Extension Wizard will automatically convert documents when it finds only one document kind for the document to be converted to.

Only show kinds that can be found—when checked, Extension Wizard will only display kinds in the Convert Document dialog box that are currently found on your computer.

Icon Size in Lists—here you may choose the size in which icons will appear in all Extension Wizard kind lists.

Purchasing

A registration code to unlock Extension Wizard can be purchased online through our website at www.CajunSoftware.com for the low price of \$19.95.

A rectangular button with a light gray background and a thin black border. The text "Purchase Online..." is centered within the button in a black, sans-serif font.

Purchase Online...

Credits

Design

John Casasanta

Engineering

Bert Molinari
John Casasanta

Documentation

Julie Sylvester
John Casasanta

Artwork

Karein van der Lee
John Casasanta

Contact Information



Website

www.CajunSoftware.com

e-mail

General Information

info@CajunSoftware.com

Technical Support

support@CajunSoftware.com

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