

**UTIutility 1.0b1 for El Capitan, Sierra, High Sierra & Mojave**  
*Release Notes*

Howard Oakley <https://eclecticlight.co>

These release notes describe the features of **UTIutility**, a utility which looks up different type specifiers for files, folders, and other items, based on Apple's **Uniform Type Identifiers** (UTI), and which can discover UTIs which are not elsewhere documented.

Apple's documentation of UTIs hasn't been updated for nearly nine years, and omits many UTIs which are now in common use, both public UTIs with names starting in public. and many private ones. Converting between UTIs and other type specifiers such as filename extensions is also not easy. UTIutility opens up access to all of these without having to use Terminal.

### **What you need**

- A Mac running El Capitan, Sierra, High Sierra or Mojave. This release has been built to be fully compatible with High Sierra, including the APFS file system, and with Mojave.
- A copy of the latest release of UTIutility from <https://eclecticlight.co/downloads/> (This is delivered by secure HTTPS download.)

### **Getting started**

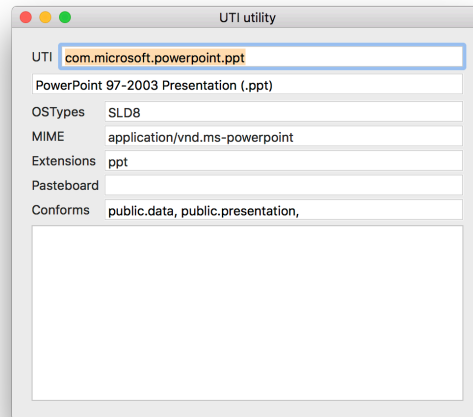
UTIutility comes compressed as a Zip file, which you should decompress, and move the app to your preferred folder, such as /Applications. It is not fussy where it is run from, though.

UTIutility uses my developer code signature, so should run normally first time after installation. If it does not, you should still be able to use it safely. Instead of double-clicking to run it the first time, select the app icon in a Finder window, and use the Finder's **Open** command to run it. You will be prompted to confirm that you want to open it: click on the button to say that you do. After that first use, on that Mac, you should be able to use it normally. If you are told that it is damaged or the signature is incorrect, please contact me.

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**Converting UTIs and other type schemes**



The main window of UTlutility contains seven text boxes and a large text scroller at the bottom. Currently, the text scroller does not display anything, but will do so in a future version. The text boxes above it are:

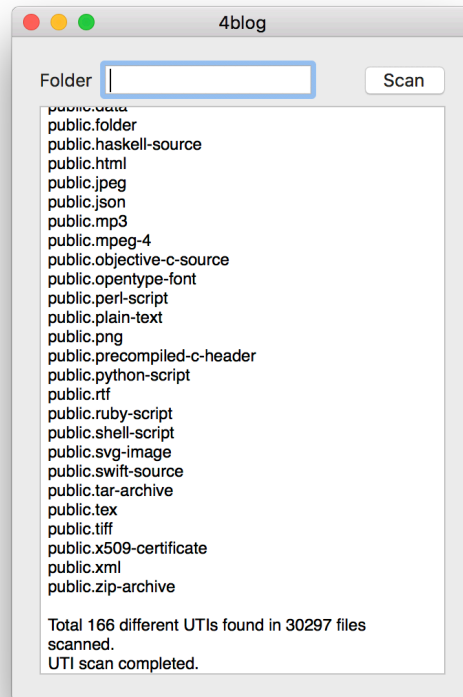
- **UTI**: type or paste a UTI in here, press return, and if it is valid and recognised by your Mac, other details will be displayed.
- below the UTI box is the **descriptor** for that UTI, which explains that type.
- **OSTypes** gives the macOS OSType for the supplied UTI. You can also type or paste an OSType into this box, press return, and details of that OSType will be used to find its UTI.
- **MIME** gives the MIME type for the supplied UTI. You can also type or paste a MIME type here, press return, and see its UTI and other details.
- **Extensions** gives the filename extension for the supplied UTI. You can also type or paste an extension (without the period), press return, and see its UTI and other details.
- **Pasteboard** gives the macOS Pasteboard type for the supplied UTI. You can also type or paste a Pasteboard type, press return, and see its UTI and other details.
- **Conforms** lists those UTIs to which the supplied UTI conforms. In other words, these are more general types which are higher up in the tree of UTIs.

These let you supply any of UTI, OSType, MIME type, filename extension, or Pasteboard type, then on pressing return you will see the other identifiers for the one which you supplied.

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**Scanning for UTIs**



Discovering which UTIs are in use is more difficult. Although Precize now shows the UTI for individual files, the best way to discover which are in current use is to open UTIutility's crawler view, using the Open Crawler command in its Window menu. Either click on the Scan button to select a folder to examine, or type a path (~ is allowed as shorthand for your Home folder) into the Folder textbox, then press the Scan button.

UTIutility will then check the UTI of every file and folder within the selected folder, and supply a list of those found in the scrolling box below. You cannot currently save that directly, but can copy and paste it into another document, or copy and paste from it into the main window to look up a UTI there.

If there is sufficient interest in UTIutility, I will change this so that the Crawler automatically builds a list of UTIs which can be accessed directly from the main window, without copying and pasting, and which can be augmented by further scans, and saved.

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**Acknowledgement**

UTIutility uses Hiroki Kato's UTI extensions to Swift, which are supplied under the MIT License:

```
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// SOFTWARE.
```

I am very grateful to Hiroki for making my task so easy.

**Updates**

To check for updates to UTIutility and other apps, use the **Browse updates** command in the **Help** menu. This opens a special page on The Eclectic Light Company blog in which you can view current versions, and download any that you wish.

**Change list**

*1.0b1:*

- initial release.

4 July 2018.