

Skint & SkintM Preference File Specification

1.0 25 February 2024

Howard Oakley, EHN & DIJ Oakley

Both Skint and SkintM store their preferences (documented in ReadMe and Help files) and test results of the last check they performed in their preference file, managed by `cfprefsd`. These are normally located at:

- `~/Library/Preferences/co.electiclight.Skint.plist` *and*
- `~/Library/Preferences/co.electiclight.SkintM.plist`

according to the app maintaining them.

Preference settings

- **dontXPR** value *true* or *false* when set to *true*, XPR scans aren't checked. This allows those running in normal user mode to benefit from all other checks. Default is *false*.
- **updateCheckInt** *real* the interval in seconds between checks. Default is 86400 = 24 hours. Set to less than 1 to return to default.
- **updateCheckTol** *real* the tolerance in seconds for checks. Default is 300 = 5 minutes. Set to less than 1 to return to default.

Results

- **dateChecked** *string* timestamp of the completion of that check, given in UTC/GMT as `YYYY-MM-DDTHH_MM_SSZ`, e.g. `2024-02-25T20_54_13Z`.
- **errorScore** *integer* overall score for all tests; 0 = OK, 1 = minor issues, 2 or higher = serious issues.
- **localRSR** *string* representing any local RSR version letter, or 0 when none is applicable.
- **localXPrem** *string* the version number of the local copy of XProtect Remediator, e.g. 126.
- **localXProt** *string* the version number of the local copy of XProtect data bundles, e.g. 2186.
- **macOSBox** *integer* whether the local macOS is up to date for that major version. 1 = correct, 0 = out of date
- **message** *string* text message shown to give details of any errors found, e.g. `Skint needs update.\nNo updates needed.\nNo XPR scans run in 36 hours.\nOldest log entry 4.423 hours ago.\n`
- **osMajVersion** *integer* the major version of macOS running locally, e.g. 14.
- **osMinVersion** *integer* the minor version of macOS running locally, e.g. 3.
- **osPatchVersion** *integer* the patch version of macOS running locally, e.g. 1.
- **protectionBox** *integer* whether SIP and other security protections are correct. 1 = correct, 0 = error(s) found, and details given in the message.
- **remOSMaj** *integer* the major version of macOS found in the database, to match that being run locally, e.g. 14.

Skint & SkintM Preference File Spec 1.0

- **remOSMin** *integer* the expected minor version of macOS found in the database, for the current local major version, e.g. 3.
- **remOSpatch** *integer* the expected patch version of macOS found in the database, for the current local major version, e.g. 1.
- **remRSR** *string* the expected version letter of any RSR that is current, or 0 if none is applicable.
- **remXPrem** *string* the expected version of XProtect Remediator, e.g. 126.
- **remXProt** *string* the expected version of XProtect data bundle, e.g. 2186.
- **scansBox** *integer* whether XPR scans have been performed and reported without problems. 1 = correct, 0 = issues found, with details given in the message.
- **skintBox** *integer* whether Skint is up to date, or a new version available. 1 = correct, 0 = not the current version.
- **updatesBox** *integer* whether XProtect and XPR versions found are up to date. 1 = correct, 0 = out of date, with details given in the message.

Reference values

These are freely available from my [GitHub](#). Key-value pairs there are currently

- **XProtect** *string* current version number of XProtect data bundle, e.g. 2186.
Repeated in the local key **remXProt**.
- **XPremed** *string* current version number of XProtect Remediator, e.g. 126.
Repeated in the local key **remXPrem**.
- **skint** *string* version number of the current release of Skint and SkintM, e.g. 1.04.
- **macOS14** *string* minor and patch version numbers of current release of macOS 14, e.g. 3.1.
- **macOS13** *string* minor and patch version numbers of current release of macOS 13, e.g. 6.4.
- **macOS12** *string* minor and patch version numbers of current release of macOS 12, e.g. 7.3.
- **RSR** *string* any current RSR applicable to macOS 14, or 0 when none is current.
- **URL** *string* URL for downloading the current version of Skint, e.g. <https://eclecticlightdotcom.files.wordpress.com/2024/02/skint104.zip>