

MacYTDL Version History

Version 1.21

- The MacYTDL Service can now download videos directly without opening the MacYTDL Main dialog – “Auto download”. When Auto downloads are on, the name shown for the Service in the Services menu changes to “Download Video Now” (macOS 10.15+).
- Settings can now be saved and restored and returned to the default.
- MacYTDL now starts more quickly and the Main dialog shows more quickly when returning from “Settings” and “Utilities”. The slow startup and slow Main dialog were due to running *youtube-dl/YT-DLP* to get their version every time the Main dialog was displayed. The version of those tools are now stored in the MacYTDL preferences file.
- MacYTDL is now compiled in macOS 12 Monterey. That has enabled the AppleScript Unix executable to be compiled into Universal format. Thus, MacYTDL now runs with either x86_64 or ARM64 code according to the architecture of the Mac.
- Because they can involve hundreds of videos, a warning is issued for YouTube channel URLs.
- The Monitor now shows more useful detail towards the completion of a download. It can show that the download is being merged, converted or being fixed.
- The dialog reporting that there was a warning in the simulated download no longer provides the option to check for *youtube-dl/YT-DLP* updates. This is because such warnings rarely if ever relate to using an old version of those tools.
- The Adviser should no longer report the the download is incomplete when the video has already been downloaded and not replaced.
- The AtomicParsley executable has been updated to the latest provided by [“Wez” on GitHub](#).
- Successive Monitor dialogs should be correctly positioned according to the number of downloads currently underway instead of the number of downloads in the current session.
- The various processes started for each download are now more likely to be correctly stopped when the user stops a download. This includes stopping the Adviser process first.
- New code used to get screen resolution (suggested by Shane Stanley). Addresses crashes in OS X 10.11 and 10.12.
- A few coding improvements including using a better way to get the MacYTDL version.
- Code which used to look for and delete an old version of the Dialog Toolkit has been removed.
- There should no longer be a crash due to *YT-DLP* not being installed.
- The names of the localisation tables have been changed to be compatible with *Script Debugger 8*.
- The name of the file containing the MacYTDL logo has been changed to be compatible with *Script Debugger 8*.

- All code now refers to the *YT-DLP* executable in lower case to be consistent with the form provided by the *YT-DLP* developer.
- Live streams from SBS OnDemand in Australia should be correctly identified and recorded.
- The Adviser should now provide the option of playing a recorded live stream after download is stopped.
- Some re-jigging of code to reduce errors caused by performing calls not supported by “System Events”.
- The warning issued by *YT-DLP* when subtitles are being ignored is now suppressed. This is an issue in *YT-DLP* which might not be addressed for some time.
- “Category” URLs for ABC iView are now treated as unsupported.
- The “Episode Chooser” is now shown for ABC iView shows when downloading is done by *YT-DLP*. This also prevents an extractor error when *YT-DLP* miss-categorises certain iView URLs as playlists.

Version 1.20

- New option to add timestamps to response log files using the *ets* tool.
- New option to include custom *youtube-dl/YT-DLP* settings.
- Fixed a bug in which an Alert during components install might not automatically close.
- Fixed a bug in which users on macOS 10.14 and earlier switching to *YT-DLP* would get *youtube-dl* installed instead.
- MacYTDL should not quit if checking for MacYTDL updates while offline.
- “Keep original video and/or subtitles file” is now available in all post-processing cases. Previously it was only available if user specified a remux or required a subtitles conversion.
- The Service should behave more elegantly if a web browser is active but with no window open.
- The Service should show the MacYTDL logo in its warning dialogs.
- An alert is displayed reminding the user to wait when download of a playlist has being requested.
- The Monitor no longer closes if the “Logs” button is clicked.
- Text shown in the Monitor has been reduced – previously advice Monitor showed was obvious.
- The Monitor shows a “Logs” button for live stream downloads.
- Clicking on the “Play” button after stopping a live stream recording should work.
- Monitor no longer shows a warning dialog if the “Stop” button is clicked after a download has been completed.

- Recording SBS live streams should be more reliable.
- Playlists are no longer checked for live stream status – by definition a playlist should not contain a live stream as that would prevent later playlist items from being played. This should speed up playlist processing somewhat.

Version 1.19.4

- Fixed bug in script used when user is using MacYTDL for first time. It failed to register that it had installed YT-DLP.

Version 1.19.3

- Implemented a work-around caused by AppleScript error in Monitor.scpt in non-English language.

Version 1.19.2

- Enabled the MacYTDL Service to work in the *Brave* web browser.
- Batch downloads should work rather than crashing MacYTDL.
- Monitor should no longer encounter an error because the response file name is too long. If the name is too long, any custom output template is removed.
- A warning is displayed if the format of the “BatchFile.txt” file is incorrect – usually because of manual edits.
- “Show settings before download” is now implemented for batch downloads.
- An error should no longer be caused by non-UTF-8 characters in a file name saved in “BatchFile.txt”.
- Batch downloads now respect the runtime option for downloads folder set in Main dialog.
- Progress monitor for a batch download no longer shows a redundant return character after the file name.
- Python version has been removed from the “Show settings” dialog. It was pointless as all Macs still have Python 2.7 installed and *YT-DLP* is packaged with Python 3.8.
- The “Remove last item” function no longer raises an error if there is only one URL in the batch.
- The progress monitor dialog no longer shows a URL after the file name.
- It is no longer possible to dismiss the “download folder is not available” warning without making the folder available, returning to the Main dialog or quitting MacYTDL.
- Changes to Settings cannot be saved if the downloads folder is not available.
- MacYTDL can now use an NAS as the download folder. This has been tested on a basic *Netcomm* modem. Results may vary with the make and arrangement of NAS.
- Code used to get the current date and time has been fine-tuned.

- Some old code has been removed.

Version 1.19.1

- MacYTDL no longer crashes if the most recent version of *YT-DLP* is not available.
- MacYTDL no longer crashes on start if “Check [youtube-dl/YT-DLP] version on startup” is specified.
- SBS OnDemand “Show” and “movie” pages are now correctly parsed and downloads succeed rather than crashing MacYTDL.
 - Note that on some show pages, “Season 1” may appear in the MacYTDL “Chooser” dialog instead of the season name shown by SBS (e.g. “2021”).

Version 1.19

- MacYTDL can now use *YT-DLP*. MacYTDL can switch between *youtube-dl* and *YT-DLP*.
- MacYTDL now works better on M1 Macs (with high resolution Retina screens).
- Batch functions dialog is now correctly positioned.
- Multiple downloads now working again.
- The “Play” function of the “Adviser” can now play the first video in a completed batch download.
- Fixed the bug in which the SBS “Episode Chooser” incorrectly referred to “Season 1” for all downloads.
- Fixed another bug in the SBS “Episode Chooser” in which errant numbers were sometimes shown before episode detail.
- The “Alerter” tool is now used for all component installations.
- A preference file maintained by macOS is now deleted by the “Uninstall” process.
- MacYTDL no longer crashes on Quit if there is a non-null URL.

Version 1.18

- New option to specify a custom file name template. This powerful option can create new folders and include a large variety of keywords in the file name, e.g. auto-numbering multiple downloads and create folder for a playlist. Detail on how to use custom templates is provided here: [youtube-dl/output template](https://github.com/ytdl-org/youtube-dl/blob/master/README.md#output-template).
- New option to specify a “cookies” file to provide credentials for downloads (e.g. the YouTube “Watch Later” playlist).
- MacYTDL now uses macOS notifications via a separate tool, *Alerter*, to notify when download is completed.
 - Includes option to play the completed download in default video player.

- : If downloading a playlist or multiple videos, the first video downloaded will be played.
 - Notification settings can be changed in “System Preferences”.
- MacYTDL behaves better with YouTube playlists:
 - Warns user if a playlist has more than 35 items – MacYTDL will seem to be not responding and downloading can take a very long time.
 - YouTube URLs which link to a playlist item will cause MacYTDL to download just that item.
 - The “Monitor” dialog cannot be closed for URLs which link to a live stream. The only option is “Stop”. That prevents accidentally closing the Monitor while a stream is being downloaded.
 - *Note*: MacYTDL can’t reliably identify all live streams. This is because some web sites do not report the “is_live” parameter. Beware of accidentally closing the Monitor dialog in such cases.
- MacYTDL no longer shows a warning if the title of a download file contains the word “warning”.
- MacYTDL no longer shows an error if the last character of a URL is a space.
- The “Embed thumbnails” now only applies to m4a and mp3 audio files and the setting is always visible (even if *Atomic Parsley* is not installed).
- The Monitor dialog is positioned closer to the right end edge of the main display.
- The Monitor dialog could fail to display after the download had started but before any relevant detail had been posted to the response file. It now should display in all circumstances.
- The MacYTDL Service should produce fewer errors when there is no URL copied or selected.
- The MacYTDL Service will look for MacYTDL’s bundleID instead of the app short name when checking whether MacYTDL is running.
- The MacYTDL Service should be less likely to paste a previously used URL into the Main dialog.
- MacYTDL should work better with file names containing non-ASCII characters (e.g. é).
- The default location on the screen for the Main, Utilities and Settings dialogs is set to 50x50 on the Main display when an error is encounter with the System Profiler call.
- The “Play” option provided when a download is finished should work when download has been remuxed and/or when *youtube-dl* merges downloads into “mkv” format.

Version 1.17

- Added option to supply a proxy URL for video downloads.

- The Send-URL-To-MacYTDL service can now recognise URLs which have been copied to the Clipboard or selected in the text of any document. If both apply, any URL in text selected is used. If neither apply and a web browser is active, the URL in the active tab is used.
- To reduce crashes in IDE used to create MacYTDL, a major restructure of handlers. Approximately 30% of code is now in a separate script file.
- Installation process on first use of MacYTDL simplified: user is asked for agreement to install all components once instead of separately for each component.
- Fixed a number of bugs in the SBS and ABC episode choosers including:
 - crashes when user chooses “All episodes”;
 - crash if an SBS OnDemand search URL was used;
 - failing to show last column of episodes in the ABC and SBS episode choosers;
 - episode chooser instructions sometimes overlapped the dialog heading.
- A late change to the SBS episode chooser due to recent changes to the SBS web site. For the time being, the episode chooser can only provide episodes in season 1 for each show.
- MacYTDL no longer crashes if user cancels the Uninstall at credentials stage.
- FFmpeg and FFprobe are now required installs. Previously they could be installed later on which was pointless as youtube-dl needs to use FFmpeg for many downloads.
- If the user chooses a file for the download folder, MacYTDL assumes the parent folder is intended. Previously, this was not checked and would cause a crash when MacYTDL tried to download a video ‘into a file’.
- Made a note to self to always publish MacYTDL in a disk image file. Versions released in a Zip archive caused the Update MacYTDL function to crash.
- Updates to the localisations (using Google Translate). Also, some words in drop-down boxes are now localised.
- Dialogs and response files now include the name of more YouTube playlists.
- Minor changes to layout of some dialogs.
- Fixed the problem in which some partly downloaded files were not deleted when download was stopped.
- Clicking on the “Help” button should now show the Help file instead of causing an error.
- MacYTDL copes more elegantly when the Service is called while any dialog other than the Main Dialog is showing.
- Monitor should no longer crash when ptogress is reported in GiB instead of MiB.
- A “User cancelled” dialog is no longer shown when the “Download might not have completed” dialog is cancelled.

Version 1.16.1

- Restored post-processor argument to speed up remuxes by FFMpeg. Remuxes now copy the audio and video codecs to the desired container rather than decoding and re-encoding (which takes a considerable amount of time).
- Added code to update the DialogToolkit as necessary.
- Using the “Delete logs” function in Utilities should no longer cause a crash when there are a large number of files.
- Now reverts to Finder for screen resolution details in cases where system_profiler does not provide resolution (e.g. integrated GPU on a Mac with no display).
- Reduced minimum button width to enable smaller buttons in dialogs.
- Added auto-subtitles and rate limit settings to the “Show Settings before download” dialog.

Version 1.16

- New option to limit download speed – download rate specified in MB/sec.
 - Does not work if downloading is delegated to FFMpeg.
- New option to download auto-generated subtitles (or “captions”) from YouTube.
 - MacYTDL respects youtube-dl behaviour – if both author and auto-generated subtitles are available, author is downloaded.
- Australian SBS “OnDemand” show pages are now parsed – provides a list of episodes from which to choose.
- Implemented Spanish localisation.
 - Main, Utilities and Settings dialogs reformatted to more suit Spanish.
- New option to set the codec format for audio-only downloads.
 - Audio format options removed from File format chooser as they are not supported by youtube-dl.
- Container can now be remuxed when audio-only is specified. However, audio codec is automatically changed to be compatible with the container.
- MacYTDL can now be renamed without crashing e.g. “MacYTDL v1.16”. However, not all functions perform ideally.
- Better handling of YouTube playlists.
 - Simulate stage waits till end of simulation before reporting errors.
 - Playlist name shown in response file name, Monitor dialog and Adviser dialog for most downloads.
- The “Adviser” script, when requested, opens the user’s default text editor instead of TextEdit.
- Removed duplicated code which checked for install of youtube-dl and FFMpeg.

- Better handling of warnings and errors in the simulation step.
- Handles more gently attempts to download from 7Plus, 10play and 9Now show pages.
- Monitor dialog shows name of download instead of “the-error” or “the-warning”.
- “avi” and “mkv” removed from File format chooser as they are not supported by youtube-dl.
- Minor code change of some tell blocks from Finder to System Events and removing some calls outside “tell system events” blocks – reduces errors.
- Utilities dialog should work properly for users who install a custom brewed version of FFmpeg.
- “IOError: CRC check failed” cases handled more elegantly.

Version 1.15

- Fixed various mistakes in localisations.
- To avoid expired certificates, changed download source for *youtube-dl* from “[ytdl.org](https://yt-dl.org)” to [GitHub](https://github.com/ytdl-org/youtube-dl).
- Fixed various bugs in youtube-dl, FFmpeg and FFprobe update functions.
- Changed design of Monitor dialog – it’s now narrower and longer.
- Fiddled with layout of other dialogs to reduce amount they take of screen real estate.
- Improved positioning of dialogs on dual monitor setups.
 - Using System Profiler to get screen bounds instead of Finder.
 - Monitor dialog always displays on the main screen.
 - Other dialogs display where user leaves them – but with some layouts, results can be unexpected.

Version 1.15.b.1 – Localisation and bugs

- FFmpeg install/update should work – again.
 - Should get version information correctly if FFmpeg installed using *Brew*.
- Implemented localisation.
 - Current languages available: German, Italian.
- Improved layout of Utilities dialog.
 - Removed redundant labels advising that Service and Atomic Parsley were/not installed.
 - Integrated youtube-dl and FFmpeg version numbers with relevant checkbox labels.
- Stop function in Monitor dialog should work.
 - Also fixed another crash in the Monitor.

- “Visit Site” and “Send Email” buttons in “About” dialog now work.
- URL format checks.
 - Now finds blank URLs.
 - Doesn’t pop error for URLs starting with “http:”

Version 1.14.3 – FFmpeg install error

- FFmpeg install/update should work.

Version 1.14.2 – workaround for expired CA root certificate

- Downloading the youtube-dl executable now working. An error was caused by “curl” reporting that a CA root certificate had expired. The workaround suppresses the SSL verification. For more information see: <https://support.sectigo.com/>

Version 1.14.1 – bug fixes

- All dialogs should now respect dark mode settings.
- Subtitles downloads now works when more than one format of subtitles is available for download.
- Debugging dialog removed from “Check for MacYTDL update”.
- Using batch functions no longer causes errors.
- Under the hood changes to facilitate localization in a future version.

Version 1.14 – progress reporting and bug fixes

- Changes to the Monitor dialog:
 - Now reports on download progress with either amount or percentage of total downloaded so far.
 - Has been relocated to the top right hand corner of the Desktop.
 - Has smaller and realigned text to be less intrusive.
 - “Downloads” button removed.
- Adviser dialog should no longer show error text when user chooses to download despite the error.
- Updating the *youtube-dl* python script should no longer encounter an “internal server error”.
 - When an http error is reported user is advised to try again later.
- “Operation not permitted” error when installing *FFmpeg* should no longer occur.
 - Was caused in certain macOS Catalina installs when the Desktop folder was protected.
 - FFmpeg is now installed from Zip file downloaded to “usr/local/bin”.

- Utilities dialog can now install *FFmpeg* when it has not yet been installed.
- Fixed anomaly in *Atomic Parsley* installation if user decides to install FFmpeg later on.

Version 1.13.1 – single bug fix

- MacYTDL should, hopefully, be able to install *FFmpeg* when first run.
 - Removed trailing slash which causes error for some people on first use of MacYTDL.
 - This did not rectify all problems with *FFmpeg* install.

Version 1.13 – bug fixes and minor improvements

- Successive Monitor dialogs are now positioned on the screen so that they do not completely obscure each other.
- “Download complete” message now shows correctly for playlists.
- Should no longer crash downloading a playlist when an item is not available.
- The check for existing downloads should be more accurate.
- The MacYTDL Service, *Send-URL-To-MacYTDL*, now only shows in web browsers.
- The MacYTDL Service now works in Microsoft Edge.
- Monitor dialog text is smaller to enable more to be shown on screen at same time.
- iView single episode show downloads no longer have duplicated names (was due to series and episode name being the same).
- The “--restrict-filenames” parameter removed from all calls to *youtube-dl*. Was causing problems with special characters that were needed in file names etc.
- Monitor “Stop” function now removes partially downloaded files from playlists.
- Monitor “Stop” function now removes partially downloaded files which have names ending in “-2”.
- A new function added asks user what to do if download video already exists. Choices are for existing file to be deleted and a new copy downloaded; new download to have a different name; or to cancel the download.
- The “--prefer-ffmpeg” parameter removed from all calls to *youtube-dl*. Was unnecessary as it’s the default and MacYTDL currently provides no alternative.
- The “Check for MacYTDL update” function now downloads the latest version successfully.
- MacYTDL will no longer display a notice when the download file name contains the word “warning”.
- A new function added to check that user’s preferred file format is available for download. If not, user can ask to: download the best format available; download best format and remux to preferred format; or cancel the download.

- The Batch file is cleared if videos were downloaded and no errors reported.
- MacYTDL warns if any errors were reported with a download whether or not the download completed successfully.
- The file extension of a “description” file saved for a video is changed from “.description” to “.txt” when download folder path name has spaces.

Version 1.12.1 – bug fixes for subtitles and FFmpeg downloads

- FFmpeg and FFprobe installer now works more often – again.
- Warning that subtitles are not available is more accurate for multiple downloads.
- MacYTDL warns when preferred subtitles language is not available and provides a list of languages which are available.

Version 1.12 – mostly bug fixes

- FFmpeg and FFprobe installer now works (bug was hard coded file names) – again.
- FFmpeg and FFprobe installer on first run of MacYTDL now works better and should produce fewer errors.
- FFmpeg and FFprobe installer uses the downloads folder. Error when that folder is not available has been fixed.
- Improved layout of *Utilities* dialog including showing current versions of youtube-dl and FFmpeg.
- Previously, when the MacYTDL Service was automatically updated an old copy already in Trash would cause an error. That has been fixed.
- Improved logic for downloading subtitles. See *Help* for more detail.
- Error caused by dismissing admin credentials during youtube-dl install no longer occurs.
- User can now request subtitles in “lrc” and “dfxp” format.
- MacYTDL Service now works with the Chrome and Chromium browsers.
- Past download URLs should no longer affect new downloads.
- Changed call to youtube-dl to reduce error in which youtube-dl interprets single quotes around URLs as double-quotes. Now only using single quotes when URL contains an ampersand, “&”.
- “Check for MacYTDL Updates” now reports when user has current version.
- Updates to youtube-dl are now downloaded using the more secure “https” instead of “http” protocol.
- “Show settings” function now works when user requests existing copy of video download to be overwritten.
- Fixed Blank line in “Show Settings” dialog when *AtomicParsley* not installed.

- *Adviser* dialog now shows in all cases – previously did not show when user’s volume name had a space e.g. “Macintosh HD”.
- “.description” files are not renamed to “.txt” when there are two or more downloads in one process.

Version 1.11 – bug fixes and new features

- FFmpeg and FFprobe installer now works (bug was hard coded file names).
- “Show download settings before starting download” no longer causes a crash (bug was a “B” instead of a “b”).
- If user repositions the main window the new position is saved and used when the window is opened again in the same session or future sessions.
 - *Dialog Toolkit Plus* customised and renamed to *DialogToolkitMacYTDL*.
- MacYTDL is Notarized as well as Code signed.
- MacYTDL moved to GitHub – “About” box and Help file updated.
- New function to check for new versions of MacYTDL and download if user wishes.

Version 1.10.1 – bug fixes

- FFmpeg and FFprobe no longer available in disk images – now using Zip files.
- MacYTDL dmg file now formatted Mac OS Extended instead of APFS – people using macOS 10.12 or earlier can now mount it.
- Errors when creating Preferences folder hopefully now stopped.
- “do shell script” calls now made by telling current application (ie. MacYTDL) instead of Finder or System Events.

Version 1.10 – re-design and bug fix release

- Renamed “Options” to “Settings” and “Functions” to “Utilities”.
- Redesigned and simplified the Main, Utilities and Monitor dialogs.
- Added a “Show download settings before starting download” setting.
- A new “Download Settings” dialog shows before the download starts.
 - The “Download Settings” dialog can be turned off in the dialog itself or in Settings.
- The download completed dialog reverted to a modal alert (and can’t be hidden).
 - Automatically closes after 5 seconds.
- Fixed bug in which an updated download folder was not used for the next download.
- Improved layout issues in the “Choose ABC Shows dialog”.
 - Takes screen resolution into account.

- Enabled ABC iView “Extras” videos to be selected and downloaded.
- Fixed bugs in downloading and embedding subtitles.
- The “Keep original” setting now applies correctly to the original video and/or the original subtitles file (as youtube-dl provides).

Version 1.9 – component update and bug fix release

- MacYTDL is now code signed.
 - Gatekeeper should allow MacYTDL to be run without administrator credentials.
 - Permissions in Mojave should stick.
- New version of Shane Stanley’s *Dialog Toolkit Plus* implemented.
 - More compatible with macOS 10.14 Mojave.
 - MacYTDL automatically updates *Dialog Toolkit Plus*.
- New version of the *MacYTDL Service* implemented.
 - Assistive access issues resolved.
 - Fixes problem with switching to MacYTDL when browser in full screen mode (takes browser out of full screen).
 - MacYTDL automatically updates the Service.
- Removed *Bring_Forward_Mac_YTDL.app* as function now in new *Service*.
- The download completed dialog can now be hidden.
- Errors caused by some ABC iView URLs fixed.
- Error caused by URLs ending in “/” fixed.
- Error caused by a missing FFmpeg executable fixed.
- Error if path to downloads folder has spaces or other special characters fixed.

Version 1.8

- Batch downloads.
- Reports when download finished and whether successful.
- “All episodes” option for choosing ABC iView episodes.
- Separate “About” dialog.
- New functions to remove the MacYTDL Service and *AtomicParsley*.
- Open downloads folder from Monitor dialog.
- macOS Notification displays when updating youtube-dl and FFmpeg.

- Bug fixes:
 - Credentials more likely to work.
 - Description files have “.txt” extension.
 - ABC iView episode chooser shows all episodes.
 - Warns if download folder not available.

Version 1.7

- Bug fix release. 12 various install and download bugs given concentrated attention and hopefully fixed.
- Saves separate response files for every download using date-time stamp.

Version 1.6

- Downloads from ABC iView now working (via an Episode chooser).
- Download any number of videos in one process.
- Some redesign of Main Dialog.
- Number of bug fixes.

Version 1.5.2

- Fixed storage of Metadata option.

Version 1.5.1

- Fixed Atomic Parsley installer.

Version 1.5

- New options to set subtitles format, download and/or embed thumbnail images, add metadata to video file and provide login credentials.
- New functions to open log folder, open MacYTDL web page, install MacYTDL Service, install AtomicParsley, move old youtube-dl response files to Trash.

Version 1.4

- New option to check for youtube-dl updates on startup.
- New option to remux every download file and keep/discard original.
- Can download audio file only with remux format choices: arc, flac, mp3, m4a, opus, vorbis, wav.

Version 1.3

- New runtime option to remux download file – format choices are: mp4, mkv, webm, ogg, avi, flv.

Version 1.2

- Can choose download file format (default, mp4, mkv, webm, ogg, avi, 3gp, flv)
- Option to embed subtitles.

Version 1.1

- Requires macOS 10.10 or later.
- New UI.
- Can cancel downloads (deletes partially downloaded files).
- Option for verbose feedback from youtube-dl.
- Option to over-write existing files.
- Service to invoke MacYTDL from browser (Safari & Firefox only).

Version 1.0

- First release. Worked in Mac OS X 10.6 or later.