

Resources in the System File

The System file contains resources that are shared by all applications and used by the User Interface Toolbox and Operating System as well.

Warning: Your application should not directly add resources to, delete resources from, or modify resources in the System file.

If your application needs to install drivers, you should ship it with the Installer and an Installer script for drivers. In order to distribute the Installer, you need to license the Apple system software, which includes the Installer.

In System 7.0, resources such as fonts, scripts, keyboards, and sounds are added to the System file when the user drags their icons to the System Folder. Desk accessories and resources such as system extensions are now stored in the subdirectories of the System Folder, not in the System file. (See **About the Finder Interface** for details.) These resources and others, such as the folders found in the System Folder, are represented by system icons. You can use these system icons in your application.

The System file also contains resources that convey information specific to the current computer on which your application is running, such as the user's name, the computer's name, or the current printer. You call the **Gestalt** function to obtain this information.

Some routines in the system software are located in packages inside the System file. A complete list of packages is provided. The change in behavior of a particular function key resource is also discussed.

System Icons

The Operating System uses system icons to represent documents, applications, folders, disks, and other elements of the Macintosh interface. These are commonly known as "Finder icons," but they are stored in the System file. You can design your own icons for many of these icons, but if you do not include a customized icon, your application can display the appropriate system icon by calling the **GetResource** function. It is recommended that you refer to the system icons by their constant names and not by resource ID.

Most icons are available in at least two sizes: large (32-by-32 pixels) and small (16-by-16 pixels). They are also available in three bit depths: 8-bit color, 4-bit color, and black and white. An icon family consists of the large and small icons for an object, each with a mask, and each available in the three different color depths. See the **User Interface Guidelines** for more information on the proper design of system icons. For information on how to create your own icons for your application, see **About the Finder Interface**.

Many of the system icons are also available in a tiny (12-by-12 pixels) size, represented by the 'SICN' resource, used primarily by the standard file dialog boxes. Tiny icons are also used in windows in the Finder that display the contents of disks or folders by name, date, size, or kind. The Views control panel in System 7.0 allows the user to choose large, small, or tiny icons for these windows. (The standard file dialog boxes use only the tiny icons.) You cannot design customized icons in the tiny size.

Document and Application Icons

These icons represent documents, including special classes of documents such as stationery, and applications and desk accessories. You can include customized versions of the icons with your documents and applications. There are icon families and 'SICN' resources for all of these icons, unless otherwise noted.

Icon and**Constant name****Description**

genericQueryDocumentIconResource

The default query document icon. This is the document used by the **Data Access Manager** for database queries. There is no tiny size for this icon.



genericExtensionIconResource

The default extension icon. The Finder displays this icon for any extension that does not have a customized icon. Extension files appear in the Extensions folder, which is located inside the System Folder.



genericDocumentIconResource

The default document icon. The Finder displays this icon if your application does not have a customized document icon.



genericApplicationIconResource

The default application icon. The Finder displays this icon for any application that does not have a customized icon.



genericDeskAccessoryIconResource

The default desk accessory icon. In System 7.0 desk accessories are represented on the desktop like applications, each with its own icon. The Finder displays this icon for any desk accessory that does not have a customized icon.

genericEditionFileIconResource

The default edition file icon. This is the intermediary file used by the **Edition Manager**.

genericStationeryIconResource

The default stationery file icon. Applications can use this file as stationery. (See About the Finder Interface)

genericPreferencesIconResource

The default preference file icon. Preference files appear in the Preferences folder, which is located inside the System Folder. There is no tiny size for this icon.

Folder Icons

These icons represent the different types of folders found on the desktop. There are icon families and 'SICN' resources for all of these icons, unless otherwise noted.

Icon and Constant name

Description

genericFolderIconResource

The default folder icon. This is the folder seen on the desktop.

privateFolderIconResource

The icon for a folder to which the user does not have access. It is dimmed and has a distinctly marked border. The Finder displays an alert box when a user without privileges attempts to open this folder.

ownedFolderIconResource

The icon for a folder that is owned by a particular user, usually on a shared volume like a file server. There is no tiny size for this icon.

dropFolderIconResource

The icon for a folder in which any user

may store documents, applications, and so on, but from which only a specified group of users can retrieve the contents. There is no tiny size for this icon.



sharedFolderIconResource

The icon for a folder that the owner has made available for file sharing. There is no tiny size for this icon.



mountedFolderIconResource

The icon for a folder that a guest has mounted on a remote volume. This icon appears only for the guest. There is no tiny size for this icon.

System Folder Icons

These icons represent the different types of folders found in the System Folder. You should not alter the appearance of these icons. There are icon families only for these icons, unless otherwise noted.

Icon and Constant name

Description



systemFolderIconResource

The System Folder icon. This folder contains the System file and other system-related folders.



appleMenuFolderIconResource

The Apple Menu Items folder icon. This folder contains items found in the Apple menu.



startupFolderIconResource

The Startup Items folder icon. This folder contains documents, aliases, applications, and other objects that open when the computer starts up



controlPanelFolderIconResource

The Control Panels folder icon. This folder contains control panels



printMonitorFolderIconResource

The PrintMonitor Documents folder icon. This folder contains documents that

are in the queue to be printed.



preferencesFolderIconResource

The Preferences folder icon. This folder contains preference files for the Finder and other software that needs to remember user preferences.



extensionsFolderIconResource

The Extensions folder icon. This folder contains extensions to the System file, the Chooser, a network, a database, and so on. (See Terminology)

Desktop Icons

These icons appear on the desktop. The standard file dialog boxes use these icons in tiny size. There are icon families and 'SICN' resources for these icons, unless otherwise noted.

Icon and Constant Name

Description



floppyIconResource

The default icon for a 3.5-inch disk.



trashIconResource

The default empty Trash icon. The **Standard File Package** also uses this icon to represent the Trash.



fullTrashIconResource

The default full Trash icon, with bulging midsection. This represents the Trash when full. There is no tiny size for this icon.

Standard File Package Icons

These icons are used only by the **Standard File Package** and appear only in the tiny icon size, unless noted otherwise. You can not design customized icons in the tiny size. The pop-up menu in the standard file dialog box indicates where the list of files shown in the dialog box is located (whether on the desktop, at the top level of a volume, or inside a series of folders on a volume).

Icon and Constant name

Description



openFolderIconResource

The open folder icon, which appears in

a pop-up menu only. The standard file dialog boxes display this icon to indicate which folder is currently open.



genericHardDiskIconResource

The hard disk icon, which appears in a pop-up menu only. The same icon is used to represent internal and external disks. A different icon may appear on the desktop, because the manufacturer of the hard disk can design a special icon for a particular volume.



desktopIconResource

The desktop icon, which appears in a pop-up menu only. The standard file dialog boxes display this icon to indicate which files and folders are available on the desktop. In addition to the 'SICN' resource, there is also an icon family without an 'ICN#' resource for this icon.



genericFileServerIconResource

The file server volume icon. This represents any servers open on the desktop. A different icon may appear on the desktop, because the manufacturer can design a special icon for a particular server.



genericSuitcaseIconResource

The suitcase icon. This represents any suitcase, such as font suitcases or desk accessory suitcases. There are different icons for these suitcases in larger sizes, depending on the contents.



genericMoverObjectIconResource

The icon for any object that you can move into the System file. These objects include fonts, scripts, keyboards, sounds, and so on.

User Information Resources

There are resources in the System file that detail the user's name, the computer's name, the model of computer, the icon for that particular computer, and the current printer the computer uses.

Information

User name

Description

The name of the person who "owns" the machine or is the current user. This is stored in the System file as a 'STR' resource with resource ID -16096. Use the **GetString**

function to return the user name.

Computer name	The name of the computer, which is now distinct from the user name. It is also distinct from any internal hard disks that may be present. The computer name is stored in the System file as a 'STR ' resource with resource ID -16413. The default name of the computer is " <i>User name's</i> Macintosh." Use the <u>GetString</u> function to return the computer name.
Computer model	The model of the computer, such as Macintosh SE/30 or Macintosh Ilci. The computer model is stored in the System file as a 'STR#' resource with resource ID -16395. The Gestalt selector for the computer model is <u>gestaltMachineType</u> , and the <u>Gestalt</u> function returns a response value for this selector. Use this value as an index into the 'STR#' resource, using the <u>GetIndString</u> procedure. You should never use the model of computer as an indication of what software features or hardware may be available.
Computer icon	The icon for the computer model, such as the Macintosh II or Macintosh Ilci. The icons for computers are stored in icon families. The <u>Gestalt</u> selector for the computer icon is <u>gestaltMachinelcon</u> . Use the response value for this selector as the resource ID of the icon resource you want. (For more information about icon families, see <u>About the Finder Interface</u>)
Printer type	The type of printer to which the computer sends documents, such as a LaserWriter printer. There is no method for retrieving the name of the printer. The printer type is stored in the System file as a 'STR ' resource with resource ID -8192. Use the <u>GetString</u> function to return the type of printer.