

# InstaDMG 1.4b3

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## Introduction

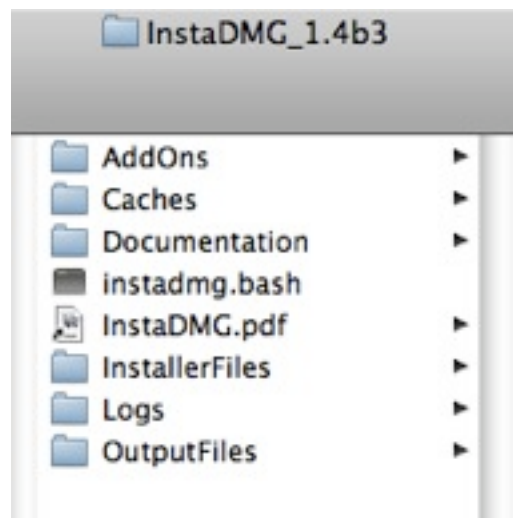
InstaDMG represents a deployment image methodology that allows for the creation of ASR images that have never been booted. This is accomplished via the use of disk images and Apple Installer packages.

However the purpose of this document is not to pontificate on the advantages of the InstaDMG workflow. If you have downloaded this package then you have probably already read the [Image Creation Revolution](#) article on AFP548.com. If you have not then you should go read it now.

This document is a step by step on basic InstaDMG usage.

## InstaDMG Structure

Using the instadmng script is very simple. The basic folder structure looks like this.



InstaDMG\_1.4b3: The root folder. instadmng is designed to be fully self-contained. This allows it to live on an external disk that you can plug into any Mac.

AddOns: This is where default extensions such as InstaUser and InstaUp2Date are.

Caches: Base install cache disks are stored here.

Documentation: The location of this pdf and other documentation.

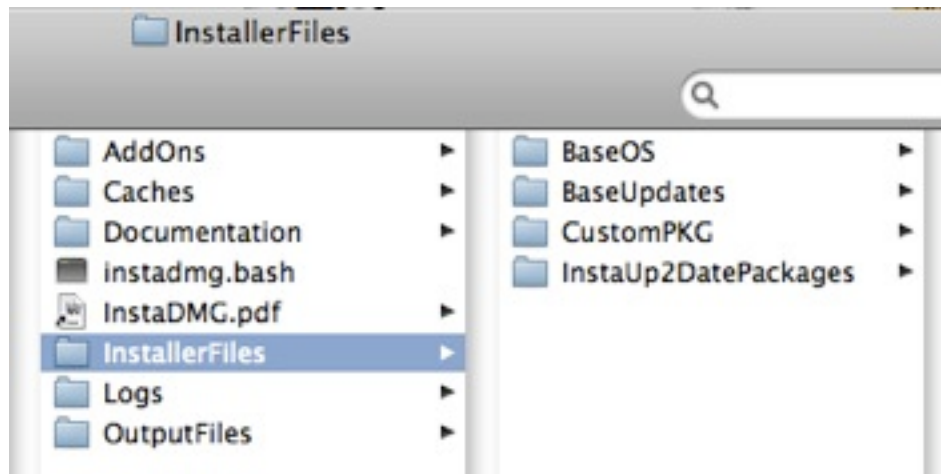
instadmng.bash: This is the core InstaDMG script.

InstallerFiles: The location of the software to be installed.

Logs: Build logs are placed here.

OutputFiles: This is where the final ASR image will be created.

Inside of the InstallerFiles directory there are 4 subdirectories.



BaseOS: This folder holds a disk image of your installer DVD.

BaseUpdates: This is where you place updates for the BaseOS install. Typically this will only include Apple updates.

CustomPKG: This is where you place all of the installer packages for your organization.

InstaUp2DatePackages: If you are using the InstaUp2Date tool it will deposit packages here.

## InstaDMG Setup

To begin using instadmng you simply need to put files in folders.

1. Create a dmg from a Mac OS X installer DVD and place it in the BaseOS folder.
2. Place any BaseOS Update packages into numbered subfolders in the BaseUpdates folder. The numbering of the subfolders determines the order in which the packages will be installed. The subfolders are required.
3. Place any other packages you wish to install in the CustomPKG folder. Use the same subfolder convention of the BaseUpdates folder to order your packages.
4. If you are installing 10.5 you can use an InstallerChoices.xml file to control what OS packages get installed. Place the file in the BaseOS folder and it will be detected and used. To create your own InstallerChoices.xml file please [follow these steps from](#)

[AFP548.com](http://AFP548.com). As of InstaDMG 1.4b2 you can use an InstallerChoices.xml file for each installer package by placing it in the package folder. For example you could put an InstallerChoices.xml file in the Microsoft Office 2008 package folder to control the Office components that are installed.

## InstaDMG Use

With the files in place simply execute the instadmg.bash script as root. It is recommended you use sudo to accomplish this. If you are installing Tiger you will need to plug your InstaDMG disk into the correct platform Mac for the version of the OS you are installing.

All output will be sent to the Logs folder. There are two different log files generated. The standard log file contains all output while the pkg log only contains information about which packages have been installed.

After the script finishes you will have an ASR ready image in the OutputFiles folder.

By default on InstaDMG 1.4b3, or later, a cached copy of the installed base OS will be placed in Caches. On subsequent runs the BaseOS image and InstallerChoices.xml files will be checksummed. If the checksums match, the existing BaseOS install will be used with a shadow file. This allows you to skip the initial OS install and greatly speeds up the build process. Caching can be disabled with a flag at execution time.

## Advanced InstaDMG Use

As of InstaDMG 1.4b3 there are several command line flags that may be set at execution time. These flags allow you fine grained control of the folder locations and will override the defaults set in the header of the script. The flags are as follows:

Usage: instadmg.bash [options]

Options:

- a <folder path> Put the final output in this folder
- b <folder path> Look for the base image in this folder
- c <folder path> Look for custom pkgs in this folder
- h Print the usage information (this) and exit
- i <iso code> Use <iso code> for the installer language (default en)
- l <folder path> Use this folder as the log folder
- n <name> The name to use for the final output

- q Quiet: print only errors to the console
- s Enable MacOS X Server installs (not implimented)
- u <folder path> Use this folder as the BaseUpdates folder
- v Print the version number and exit
- z Disable caching of the base image