

APPIMAGEFAQ(1) | AppImage FAQs for Version 2017/11

2017-11-21

Name

Frequently Asked Questions regarding AppImages, AppImageKit and their Design & Development

Synopsis

Many questions – short answers.

Go on!

What is the most important feature of the stuff you guys do?

So what exactly is an application that is at the same time one file only?

And that's all? Even when I want to test hundreds of AppImages and their versions I do not need to have a package manager working for me?

What is the special thing about AppImages then?

How do you boot all these ISO Live systems from a single medium? Is there any trick we need to know about and you are willing to share with us?

Is this why I've heard people saying about AppImages: *"Build Once, Run Anywhere"*?

Do AppImages ship with a secure sandbox or firewall? You know, in order to isolate their apps from the system and from other applications?

Isn't this "isolation", "sandboxing" and "firewalling" thing pretty important nowadays? At least it is all the buzz I keep hearing about Snap and Flatpak, which seem to be doing pretty well in this area and seem to be projects competing with you...

You think package managing systems are not a nice thing to have per se, but only a 'dirty' tool?

You seem to think a deeper change to the software building process is called for than what it looks at first when you encounter a working AppImage?

How does AppImage fit into the picture with Snapcraft and Flatpak then?

Uff... this is pretty heavy stuff! And this was your answer about the "isolation" and "firewalling" I asked?

Ok, let me try again. Which external tools can I use for sandboxing / firewalling with AppImages then?

Is there a HowTo of running an AppImage inside a sandbox?

They say that your method to achieve your goal *"1 app = 1 file"* is leading to bloat. They say, I end up with dozens of versions of the same library in my file system, where I'd need only one! They say, you're wasting my precious disk space...

Waaaaaah! I do not believe you: what about when the AppImage runs? It does need to be expanded then, for sure!

Sorry to have interrupted – but I needed this clarification. What was your second point again?

But isn't a typical RPM or DEB package also compressed when it is downloaded and installed? Isn't the AppImage advantage here purely fictitious?

Can you give me an example? One which a lot of Linux people would be using? How much space does that translate to for, say, LibreOffice?

So I can put any AppImage somewhere into my \$HOME directory and run it from there?

AppImages are only for individual users then? And each one has to get her/his own copy of an AppImage if they want to use it?

Sounds good so far... But aren't you a bit too much obsessed by your project? Hasn't your "one app = one file" principle now become a little dogma? Won't you ever make a compromise about this? Say, I wanted to integrate my collected AppImages into my desktop...

What does it do?

But, but... isn't that act of extracting the .desktop and Icon files a sort of "installation"??

How do I remove the new menu entries, .desktop and icon files from the start menu again? (Now we have a case of clutter, I knew it!)

Where can I get this magic daemon? Sure now I need to find a package from my distro! What do I do if they don't have it?

In the end, you do not look as dogmatic as I thought...

Why is there such an inconsistent naming convention with your tools? Some go with all lowercase, some with CamelCase spelling?

Is there an AppImage AppStore?

Why don't you provide your own collection of AppImages? Why don't you run your own AppImage AppStore?

An example Linux distro which embraces AppImages?

History

What are you currently working on? What are you planning for future work?

Does AppImage have a formal specification?

Where is your Code?

Where can I get in touch with you guys online?

Do you have a Wiki?

Is there a centrally maintained list of available AppImages?

Do you have a Homepage?

Do you have "job openings"? Which areas are you in need of helping hands mostly?

Are there man pages about your stuff? Soon. Look for

AppImage-AppDir(7), AppImage-AppImage(1), AppImage-AppImageKit(7), AppImage-AppImageUpdate(1), AppImage-AppRun(7), AppImage-FAQ(7), AppImage-Overview(7), AppImage-appimaged(1), AppImage-appimagetool(1), AppImage-linuxdeployqt(1), AppImage-payload(7) AppImage-pkg2appimage(1), AppImage-runtime(7), AppImage-validate(1), AppImage-zsync2(1), AppImage-zsyncmake2(1)

and ask your favorite distro to make a package of manpages :-)

Developers AppImage is developed by Simon Peter and a growing team of contributors. Simon is also the one who formulated and then pursued the packaging principle of "*One App = One File*" since over 13 years already. And he's not looking like he's ever willing to make any compromises on THIS one...