

Plex index's & RemIdx

This document is a **MUST READ** document **EVERY TIME YOU UPDATE** this program.

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About Plex

Plex is, at least as the writer of this documents thinks, the best of all media centers out there, due to the following:

- It's free
- It supports streaming towards multiple devices native
- IOS
- Android
- LG Smart TV
- Google TV
- Samsung Smart devices

and lot's of others

It also allows you to share your medias to either your-self, when on the road, or friends
Plex can be found here: <http://plex.tv/>

What is RemIdx

- RemIdx is a free open-source program, that adds to your Plex experience.
- RemIdx can be found here: <https://github.com/ukdtom/RemIdx>

- RemIdx will take the burden of your Plex server, if indexing is a problem
- RemIdx can be stopped/started at any time, and will continue where it left off

What is Indexes

Indexes, at least as I see it, is that Plex has implemented a new functionality, allowing you the following things:

- In your player, if the player support it, when doing a fast forward, they will see small snapshots of the movie, allowing the user to quickly determine where to go, instead of relying on movie timestamps
- In the Plex Web administration pages, when signed in to myPlex, you can see what people using your server is watching, and follow their progress via thumbnails of the movie In short, indexes is a small file, that contains snapshots of pictures in your medias at regular intervals

The problem

If you have a large section within Plex, and decide to switch on indexing, or if you have indexing turned on, and bulk add a lot of new medias, you might end up with your Plex Server not responding, due to a heavy workload on the server, until all medias has been indexed, and this **could take days!**

Naturally the time frame of this all depends on both the amount of items in your section, as well as the duration of the individual items, and the power of your server.

(But community reports are telling about **+15 days** for the task to complete, and most people can't live without their Plex for more than 5 sec. so it's a problem)

The program

System Requirements

Since this is a two-headed beast, requiring both a plug-in running on your PMS, as well as a remote workstation, I'm happy to say, that PMS wise, all platforms should be supported, but currently only tested on QNAP.

Remote Indexer Workstation

This little program needs the following:

- ffmpeg must be installed on the workstation running this program
- Python 2.7 must be installed on this workstation . (And it **must** be version 2.7)
- Currently, Windows as a PMS server is **NOT** supported, but will be soon

How it works

The program will do the following:

- When a media is refreshed, the agent bundle named RemIdx.bundle will detect this, and check if an Index exists
 - If an index already exists, it'll simply exit
 - If an index does not exist, it'll notify the Remote Indexer
- The Remote Indexer will then do the following:
 - add the media to its Queue
 - Process the Queue one by one, and do the following:
 - Stream down the media, and generate a bunch of thumbs
 - generate a bif file of above
 - Slam the PMS RemIdx agent on the PMS about the fact, that a Bif-file is ready
- PMS agent will then do the following:
 - Query the Remote Indexer about available Bif-files for download, and then fetch them one by one
 - Add them to the library
 - Tell the Remote Indexer to remove them from its storage
- The Remote Indexer will then do the following:
 - Remove the Bif-File

And then the story starts all over

Note:

If the Remote Indexer is not up and running, when doing a refresh on the PMS, requests will be discarded.

Installation

This will follow soon ;-)

/dane22

Known issues

Version 0.0.0.5:

- Not working with the remote indexer running on windows
- When doing a refresh of a single TV episode, all episodes in that TV-Serie will be queued, if they are missing an index
- If this program has finished creating an index for a media, and uploaded it to your PMS, Automatic Index Generation on the PMS will be switched back on. It will be on for about 1 sec. If you happen to add a new media during that exact second, then the new media might be indexed by the PMS :-(
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