What are the alternatives for meld (graphical diff tool) on OSX [closed]

Asked 16 years, 2 months ago   Modified 9 years, 7 months ago

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62

As it currently stands, this question is not a good fit for our Q&A format. We expect answers to be supported by facts, references, or expertise, but this question will likely solicit debate, arguments, polling, or extended discussion. If you feel that this question can be improved and possibly reopened, visit the help center for guidance.

Closed 11 years ago.

I mostly develop on Linux and meld is indispensable for me. However, when I'm on the road I use a MacBook (leopard) and I want to use the same set of tools as on my main development box, meld being one of them.

Although you shoud be able to install meld, I could not succeed with it. So... are there any alternatives that are as good (or better) as meld?

One thing to point out, I use subversion and I just love the 'meld .' command that diffs my working directory to the BASE revision...

Johan

svn   macos   diff   meld

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Possible duplicate:
apple.stackexchange.com/questions/10099/… – 0 _ Jul 29, 2013 at 23:28
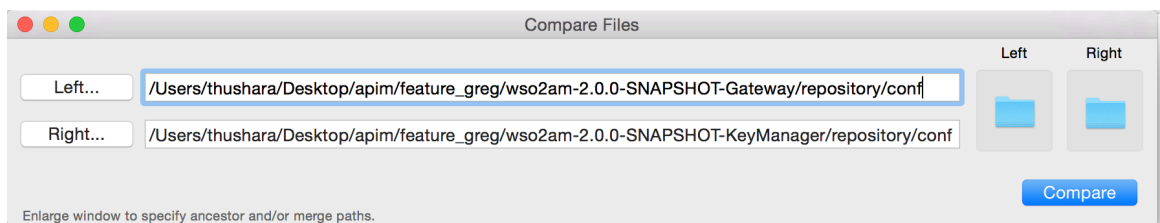
8 Answers

Sorted by: Highest score (default)

There's FileMerge.app, which comes with XCode.

It can be run as a separate standalone application :

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8   To open it from the terminal, run `opendiff` . – Dean Jun 19, 2013 at 3:56

usage: opendiff file1 file2 [-ancestor ancestorFile] [-merge mergeFile] – olore Mar 2, 2014 at 16:25 ✏

2   If you are used to the direct editing feature of `meld` , you will miss this at FileMerge – Lukas Aug 22, 2015 at 20:31

2   It seems a bit overkill that you need to install XCode for such a tool. – Edenshaw May 4, 2021 at 1:15

1   is there any app that lets you compare blank/unsaved files? – Shravya Boggarapu Aug 21, 2023 at 1:45

▲

17

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Apple's FileMerge (which is included in their Developer Tools download) looks similar to Meld, though I confess to not having used either..

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answered Oct 23, 2008 at 10:12

Andrew
13.2k ● 15 ● 57 ● 87

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9   Note that FileMerge can be invoked from the command line as `opendiff` . – j3h Jan 17, 2012 at 22:40

▲

11

Sourcegear DiffMerge is free and completely cross-platform (Windows, Mac and Linux). I've only used the Windows version, and it lacks some more advanced

features (like syntax highlighting and opening .diff files) but I'm very happy with it.

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answered Oct 24, 2008 at 21:36

alastairs
6,805 ● 10 ● 52 ● 64

1   FYI, DiffMerge lacks line wrapping. – Jess Riedel Sep 28, 2017 at 13:11

Fink has a meld package.

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answered Oct 23, 2008 at 17:13

dmckee --- ex-moderator kitten
101k ● 25 ● 146 ● 235

8

Fink took a long time to build and installed about 50 packages, but eventually ran. Darwin ports did not. – scotts Sep 20, 2011 at 0:12

KDiff is cross platform, open source, and has an OSX binary available.

7

http://kdiff3.sourceforge.net/

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answered Feb 4, 2009 at 18:38

Brad Parks
71.5k ● 69 ● 283 ● 366

3

Take a look at Changes.app. Yes, it is for pay, but it's very capable, fast, easy on the eyes. It also has a command line tool. Take a look at the wiki for tips and tricks, especially with getting it to integrate with version control systems. I love Changes.app.

answered Oct 23, 2008 at 17:46

danimal
514 ● 1 ● 8 ● 21

> Since writing this I would now recommend Kaleidoscope from Black Pixel. It can do text, directories, and images. I use it every day. It's one of the first things I install on a new dev Mac. – danimal Jan 30, 2016 at 0:49

3

Not a Mac user myself - but I stumbled across this post, and simultaneously found out about tkdiff, whose screenshot seems to be taken on a Mac; so maybe it helps.. Cheers!

answered Nov 9, 2011 at 12:38

sdaau
38.6k ● 46 ● 208 ● 298

TKDiff works on ARM Macs, while MergeDiff would require a Rosetta 2 because it's Intel only in the future. So I went with tkdiff. – Csaba Toth Nov 6 at 3:01 ✎

BBEdit has a good diff viewer in it.

2

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answered Oct 23, 2008 at 10:18

Ben Gottlieb
85.5k ● 22 ● 179 ● 173