

User Documentation

Cheap Staples

Introduction (What it is & Purpose) ---

Cheap Staples is a program designed to assist low-income community members to easily find food at a cheap price. We've utilized web scrapers to automatically find the prices of common grocery staples at different stores and consolidate them into a single database. Simply choose the items you wish to see, confirm it, and examine the table that appears to plan your next trip to the grocery store.

Installation ---

This document is meant to help instruct the user on how to use the system after they have it installed. If you do not currently have *CheapStaples* installed, refer to our *Installation Guide* or *README* before proceeding.

Using the Program ---

Startup

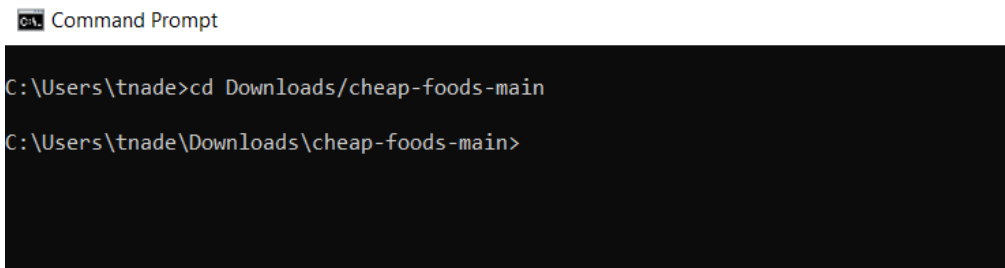
Once you have Cheap Staples installed, you can begin to run the program by navigating to wherever you saved your `cheap-foods-main` file and execute the command `python3 CheapStaples.py` in the terminal or command prompt.

Navigating

Open the command prompt (or terminal is on Mac) and type:

```
cd /INSERT_YOUR_PATH_HERE/cheap-foods-main
```

In this example, our folder is saved within the Downloads folder:



```
cmd Command Prompt

C:\Users\tnade>cd Downloads/cheap-foods-main

C:\Users\tnade\Downloads\cheap-foods-main>
```

Executing

Once in the appropriate directory, type `python3 CheapStaples.py`. This will execute the program and then you can proceed with the next step.

(If you're running an older version of python, try replacing `python3` with `python`)

Select foods & view chart

Once the program is running, you're faced with a new window and a list of checkboxes

View Certain Items:

- 1) Select any items you wish to see
- 2) Press the "View Selected" button to view the prices of only the items you

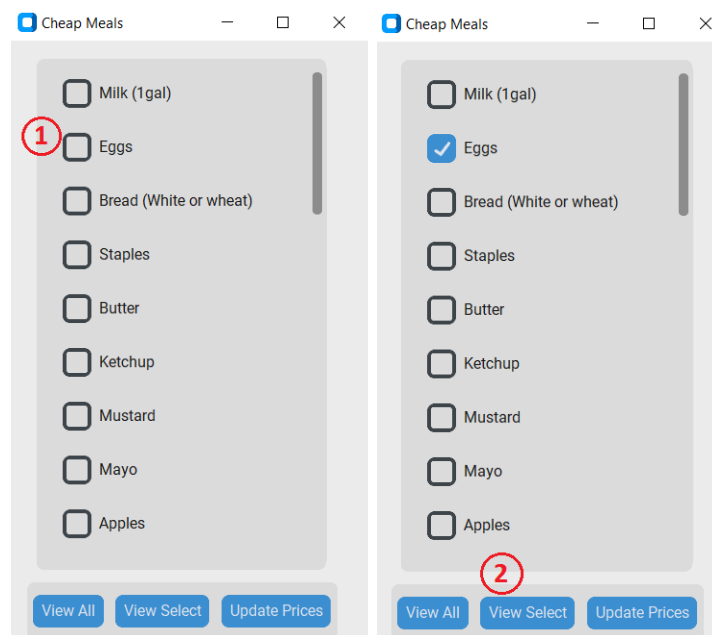


Figure #1: Selecting an item and choosing to view it

View All Items:

Press the "View All" button and it will display the prices of all items on the list regardless if they're checked or not.

Updating the prices

If you think the prices are out of date, you can press the "Update Prices" button to call upon the scraper to search online again for current prices and update the database. This may take some time, but when complete the system will notify you that it's done updating the database and update the timestamp of when the last update was.