# GeekTool 2.0

# User's manual

## About

GeekTool is a preference pane module that lets you dipose on your desktop 3 kinds of informations!:

Log files

Choose one or more log files (usually in /var/log directory) they will be show in real time where you want them to be.

*Common files are /var/log/system.log, /var/tmp/console.log, /var/log/httpd/\**

Commands

Specify unix (or shell) commands, and the output will be available anywhere, you will have to type a refresh time too.

*Common commands are uptime, df, netstat, vm_stat, ifconfig… U can pipe sedor awk script to filter outputs.*

Pictures

Grab any picture on the internet with its URL, and assign a frame type, transparency and so on…

*Common pictures are MRTG/RRD/Cacti graphs, webcams…*

Additionaly, you can set «!always on top!» windows to keep an eye on some informations, all the time, as your clicks always goes through to not disturb your habits!☺.

Users of the first version of GeekTool will be suprised seeing all those new features, that's why I release only one version of GeekTool 1, because I focused quickly on 2.0 release. Preferences of version 1 are not compatible with 2.0 version, you will have to define your entries one more time, sorry.
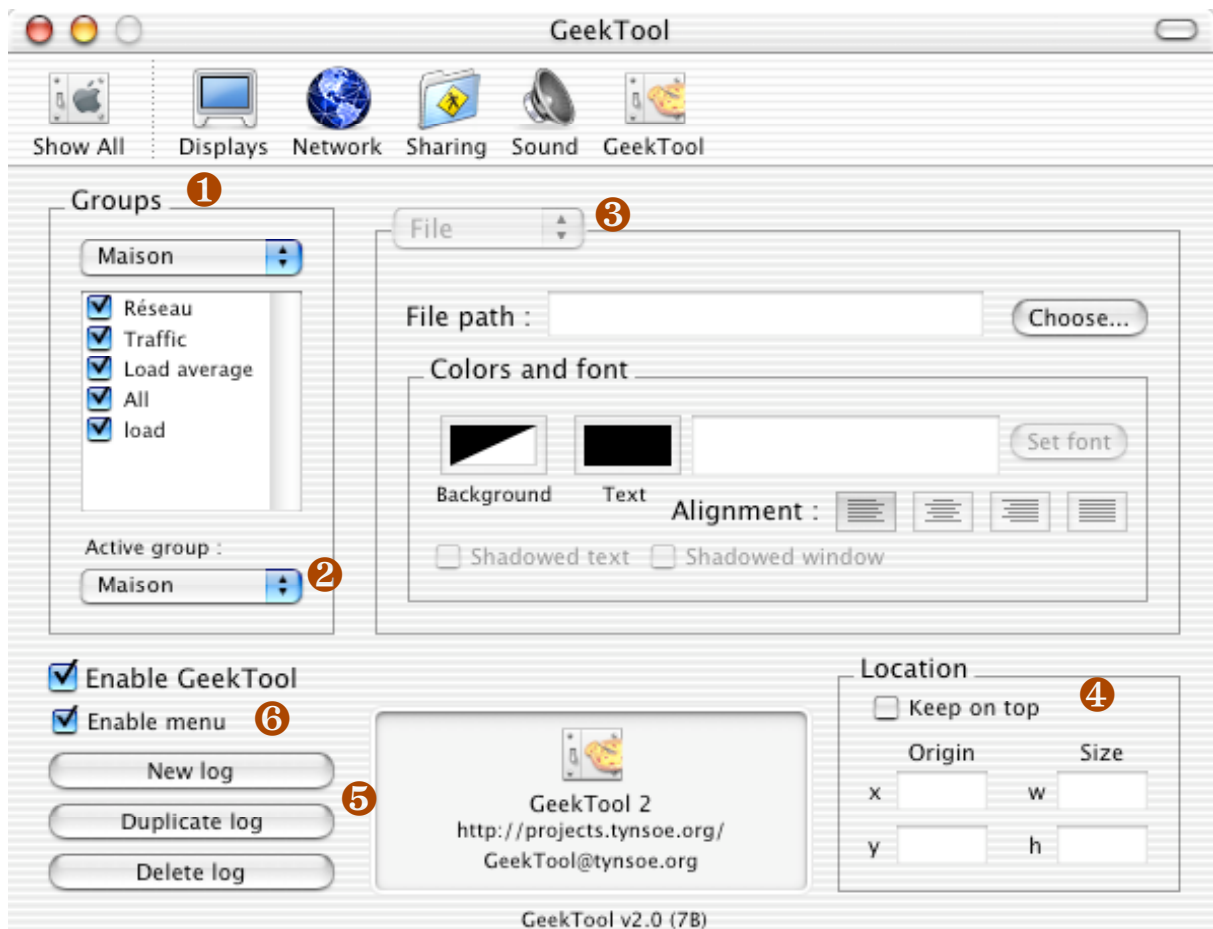
## Installation

Copy  «!GeekTool.prefPane!» in your users's «!Library/PreferencePanes/!» or «!/Library/PreferencePanes/!» to make it globally installed (available for all users on the system).

To uninstall, please see «!Uninstalling!» section for special instructions.

Once installed, GeekTool is available in System Preferences, in «!others!» section. You do **not** need to restart, or log off.

## Introduction



Screen  1 : GeekTool main screen

❶     Groups management, use groups to switch quickly between different logs
      dipositions, or items you want to see at home or at work for example.

❷     Select here the group you want to be active now

❸     Main configuration frame, choose here the type of item to see appropriate
      configuration options.

❹     You can type coordinates in pixels or move window with the mouse. Check
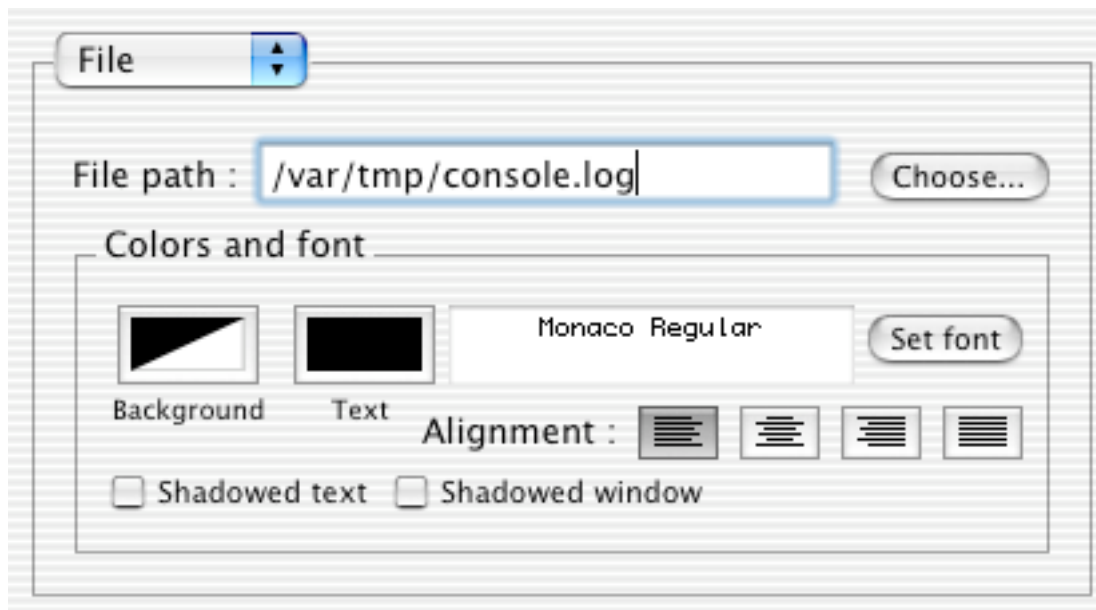      «!Keep on top!» to always show this item.

❺ Log management, clic here to create, duplicate or delete entries

❻ Don't forget to enable GeekTool!! Clic here to enable geektool menu too.


## Creating entries

 First of all, clic the «!New log!» button, a default one will be created and named «!Console!».
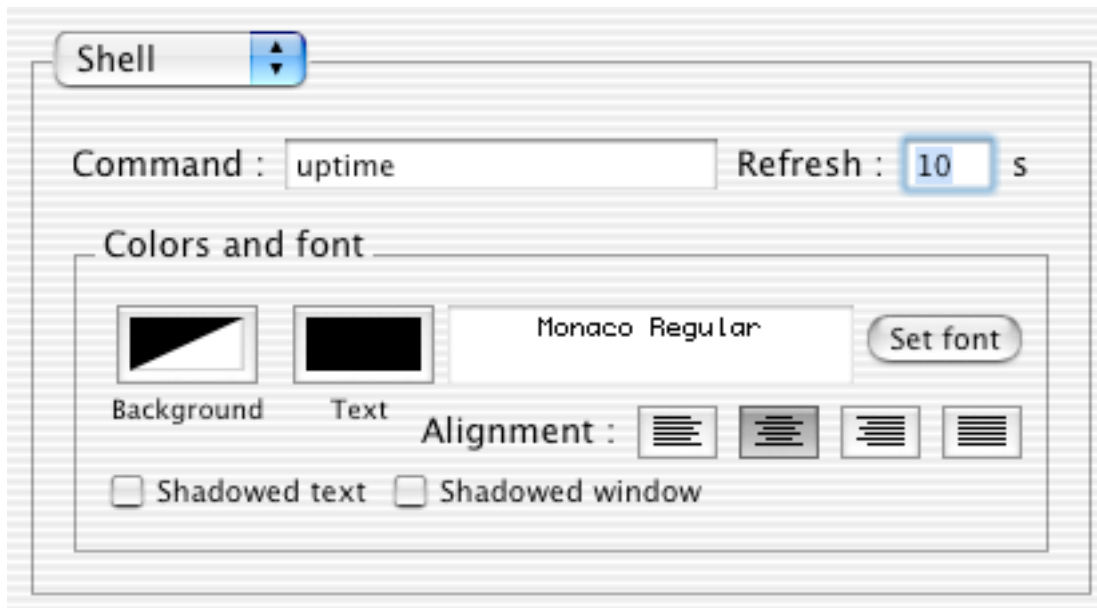 Now, you have to choose the type of log you want to create!:

### File



 You can type path to your log file or click «!Choose. to see a regular file selection panel.
 Next, set up Background and text color, each can have an alpha value as you can see at the bottom of the color palette. Choose a pretty font and a text alignment too.
 If you want drop shadows under text, or under full window, use appropriate checkbox. Be carefull, a background-less window can not have a shadow. Uncheck «!Shadow window!» before changing background color.
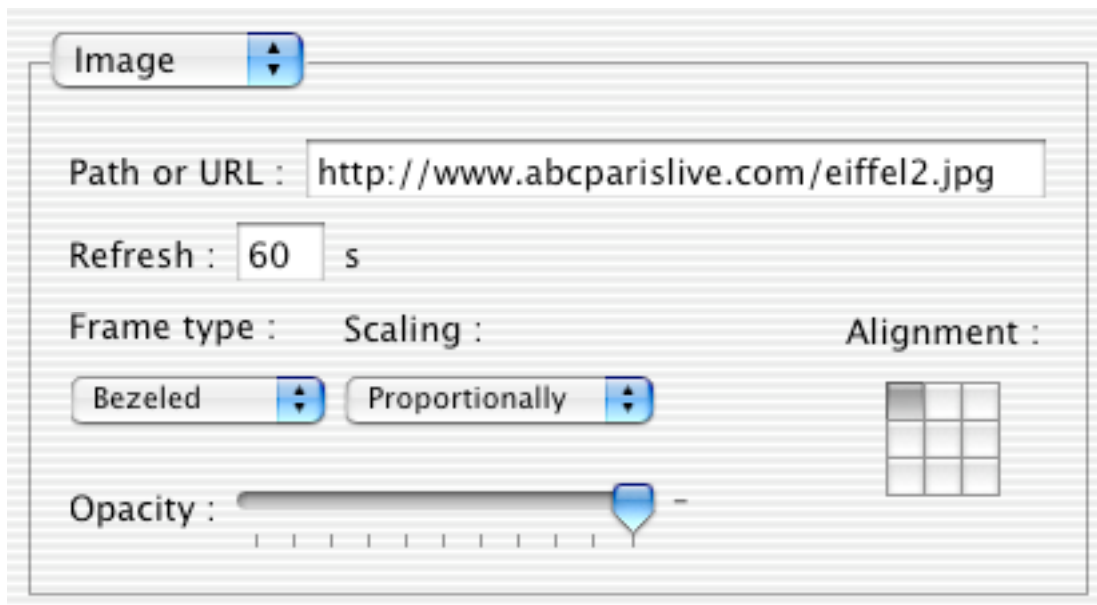
## Shell



Type here the shell command you want to see the output, you can adjust refresh value, don't set a too short interval or your machine's performences will drop dramatically.

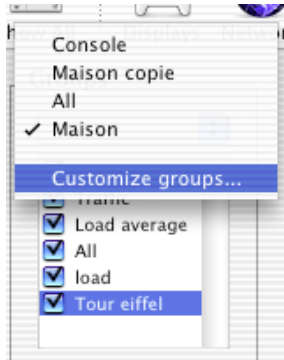Colors and font options are the same as «!File!» type.

## Images



Type URL (local file with file:// or remote with http://) and the refresh interval of the picture. As a test, you can take this webcam of Eiffel's tower!☺. Cocorico.

Different type of frames are available, try them and take your prefered (the traditionnal «!Bezeled!» is very cool.
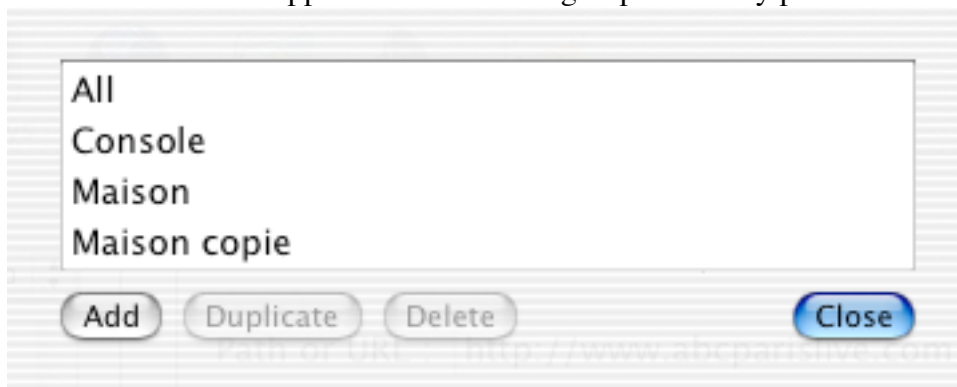
Choose your scaling between!:

Proportionally!: Image ratio is preserved, size reduced as needed.

Fit!: Image is force to fit into frame, ratio is not preserved.

None!: original size is preserved, croping the image if frame is too small.

## Creating groups



The first time GeekTool is started, it creates a default group that you can rename in the customization panel.
Click on the groups menu on top of logs list and choose the «!Customize group!» item.

You will see a sheet appear with the list of groups currently present!:



From here you can easily create new groups, delete a group or even duplicate, usefull if you want to have two identical groups, just one showing console log and another another one showing system.log and quickly switch between them.

Click twice on a row to rename a group.

## GeekTool menu

Logs grouping would not be something great without a way to quickly switch between those groups. That's why tou can enable a menu item always available to list groups and switch GeekTool state or open preferences!:



You can reorder the menu by clicking with Command key down and moving.

## Uninstalling

To uninstall GeekTool you absolutely need to use the «! GeekTool  Uninstaller »! programm to make a clean uninstall.

Because Apple did not make public the menu API used for the GeekTool menu feature, there is a little hack installed to show the menu, the uninstaller removes the hack and the preference pane. By the way, it do not remove preferences, so you will have to do it by hand if you relly want to. The file to trash is Library/Preferences/org.tynsoe.geektool.plist.

## Greets

First of all, thanks to Véronika and her patience while I was spending evenings and nights coding GeekTool.

Thanks to Christophe, for intensive beta testing and great ideas.

Thanks to Nicolas too, for passive beta testing!!

And thanks to Apple for making Cocoa so accesible and easy to learn.