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Welcome to

HM Find+Rename 1.1.7



Find and rename files by means of
wildcards and regular expressions.

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Short Description

PROGRAM : HM Find+Rename
VERSION : 1.1.7 (= 1.1 SP7)
LANGUAGE : English
SYSTEM : All Windows versions (32 bit, 64 bit)
AUTHOR : Dipl.-Ing. Martin Haller
CATEGORY : Shareware, File Utility
DESCRIPTION : Find and rename files by means of wildcards and regular expressions.

Product Support

Homepage : <http://hmse.biz.tm> ➡🌐
E-MAIL SALES : office@hmse.biz.tm
E-MAIL SUPPORT : support@hmse.biz.tm

Share*It! Online-Shop

PROGRAM NUMBER : 300334568
PRODUCT INFO : [Product Page](#) ➡🌐
ORDER : [Online Order Page](#) ➡🌐

HM Find+Rename is an easy to use and powerful **rename utility** for files. **HM Find+Rename** is fast and therefore best qualified for renaming a large number of files too.

With **HM Find+Rename** you can find and rename files in a folder and its subfolders in any way. HM Find+Rename is useful for renaming a large number of files with similar filenames according to a certain pattern.

For example, if you copy the files of a web site from your browser cache to a folder on your disk and you wish to remove the automatically inserted numbering of the files (xxxx[1].yyy), **HM Find+Rename** can help you with one single renaming action for all files in a folder and its subfolders. Or another example: if you manage a large number of JPEG, MPEG or MP3 files, you can number the files or change an existing numbering of the files by renumbering.

For **finding** the files enter a search pattern matching the filenames either with simple *wildcards* (*) and (?) or with complexer *regular expressions*.

For **renaming** the files enter a supplementary replace pattern, possibly containing simple *replace expressions* which can refer to temporary character buffers containing matching results of subexpressions of the search pattern. Therefore you can do complexer renaming actions too. With one single renaming action you can rename either one single file found or a sequence of files found in a folder and its subfolders.

Frequently used **search and replace patterns** can easily be **stored persistently**, and can be recalled later easily and fast by a popup menu.

Moreover, with **HM Find+Rename** you can **successive number** found files (ascending or descending) and change file names to **upper/lower case** or mixed formatting as well as change **file properties** (creation date, modification date, last access date, the file attributes Archive, Hidden, System and Read-only).

HM Find+Rename is provided with a **Preview function** for testing the desired rename actions. Additionally, **HM Find+Rename** has a powerful **Undo function**. You can undo all modifications since last find action.

Just like in Windows Explorer you can **sort** the displayed file list of **HM Find+Rename** by file attributes. You can select a file to **edit** the filename or to run a command from the file's **context menu** as defined for this file type by Windows. You can select one or more files to copy or move them to another folder using the Windows clipboard or by drag & drop.

Some examples with wildcards:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
[?].	*,*	Name[1].htm	Name.htm
*.txt	*	Name.txt	Name
*	XY-*	Name.txt	XY-Name.txt
XY-*	*	XY-Name.txt	Name.txt
*.gif	Pic:(008).gif	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	Pic008.gif Pic009.gif Pic010.gif
-.*	\2-\1.*	Text-1.doc Text-1.gif Text-2.doc	1-Text.doc 1-Text.gif 2-Text.doc

Some examples with regular expressions:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
^(.*)\[[0-9]+\]\.(.*)	\1.\2	Name[1].htm Name[12].htm	Name.htm Name.htm
^(.*[^0-9])[0-9]*\.gif	\1:(001).gif	Maria01.gif Monica.gif Martha02.gif	Maria001.gif Monica002.gif Martha003.gif
^.*a+.*		All files containing at least one "a".	



Program Version 1.1.7 (= 1.1 SP7) - 11 May 2014

More Input Comfort

- If the search action displays an error message for a folder (e.g. "access denied") then, in the displayed error message box, the user can choose now to suppress this error message for all further folders.

Bug Fixes

- Under Windows 9x up to and including Windows 2000 the context help popup windows (tips) did not work anymore as of HM Find+Rename v1.1.6.
- Under Windows Vista/7/8 64bit the menu commands of the "Send To" submenu of a file in HM Find+Rename's file list failed.
- If ENTER was pressed after input of a search pattern into the "Search" field then sometimes a previously used search pattern was shown in "Search". But the search action was performed correctly with the new search pattern.
- Workaround added for a bug in the Microsoft Windows API. A wildcard search with a file extension with three characters (e.g. "*.htm") did not just find the files with this file extension but also all files with longer file extensions starting with the file extension searched (e.g. ".html").

Note: If necessary, you have to modify manually your stored wildcard search patterns if you need the previous search behavior (e.g. "*.htm*").

- Workaround added for a bug in the Microsoft Windows API. As of Windows 2000 the ? wildcard search is buggy and delivers different results depending on the character position in the search pattern. The ? wildcard is defined as a placeholder for any single character. But for example at the end of a file extension the ? wildcard accepts any single character OR NO CHARACTER. Example: The search pattern "*.ht?" should find all files with a file extension of three characters and starting with "ht". But under Windows 2000 and newer the Windows API delivers additionally all files with the two character file extension ".ht". The workaround filters all false found files.

Note: If necessary, you have to modify manually your stored wildcard search patterns if you need the previous search behavior (e.g. "*.ht*" or an appropriate regular expression).

- Workaround added for a bug in the Microsoft Windows API. If a wildcard search pattern begins with a * wildcard and searches for any file extension (e.g. "*.t.*") then the last part of the search pattern (".*") is ignored completely. For example, "*.t.*" finds "at.htm" (correct) but also "ab.txt" (false). The workaround filters all false found files.

Note: If necessary, you have to modify manually your stored wildcard search patterns if you need the previous search behavior (just delete the part ".*" at the end of the search pattern).

- Workaround added for a problem with the Microsoft Windows API. If a particular icon handler is installed for a file type, the "Last Access Time" of a file is updated when accessing the meta data of that file, even though the file itself is actually not accessed. For example, this case occurs for html files when Microsoft Office is installed on the system. So, if in HM Find+Rename the "Last Access Time" of such files were modified and after that the file list of HM Find+Rename was refreshed by a find re-run, the "Last Access Time" was updated again with the current date and time by the icon handler. The workaround ensures that a find run in HM Find+Rename doesn't modify the "Last Access Time".

Minor Tweaks

- The help on "Entering Replace Patterns" is improved slightly.
- New Homepage and email forwarding addresses.

Program Version 1.1.6 (= 1.1 SP6) - 30 Aug 2011

Minor Tweaks

- New Homepage and email forwarding addresses.

- Improved What's This help in the application's main window.
- Some minor source code optimizations.

Program Version 1.1.5 (= 1.1 SP5) - 07 Sep 2009

Minor Tweaks

- Modified Shareware restrictions for the unregistered version of the program.
- New Web links to the product page and online order page of the Share*It! Online-Shop.

Program Version 1.1.4 (= 1.1 SP4) - 07 Aug 2009

Additional Functions

- Improved compatibility with Windows Vista and newer Windows versions.
- Program option 'File List - Maximum Size' on the 'General' options tab accepts now the value 0 causing the file list to have no maximum size.
- On the 'General' options tab there is the new program option 'Auto-display of context help popup windows (tips)'.

More Input Comfort

- The graphical user interface of HM Find+Rename is improved (some field labels weren't fully readable) and its "Look & Feel" is adapted to Windows XP and Vista style.
- The keyboard shortcut for saving a new pattern within the input fields 'Search' and 'Replace' has been changed from 'Ctrl+Ins' to 'Ctrl+Shift+Ins' because 'Ctrl+Ins' in input fields is the standard shortcut for 'Edit » Copy' in some Windows applications.
- The keyboard shortcut 'Alt+H' now opens the Help menu from the Menu Bar. For triggering the previous meaning of 'Alt+H' (cancel a running Find, Rename or Change action) now, please use the 'Esc' key or just press 'Enter' or 'Return'.
- The ten most recent values entered into the input fields 'Folder', 'Search' and 'Replace' are no longer saved just temporarily but also persistently now and, therefore, are available again after a restart of the program.
- In the 'Dates/Attributes' program view the input fields for specifying the new date and time within the group box 'New File Times' have been simplified.

Bug Fixes

- Under Windows XP and Vista double-clicking a file in the file list didn't work (Open command of the file).
- Under Windows Vista the program crashed when displaying the sub menu "Open With" of the context menu of a file in the file list, because Vista returns an invalid parameter value.
- Under Windows Vista HM Find+Rename's Help and Context Help didn't work anymore because Vista doesn't longer support Win32hlp, the help system of previous Windows versions. Now HM Find+Rename's Help is implemented with HTML Help, the new Windows help system.
- Under Windows Vista the uninstaller of the previous versions of HM Find+Rename failed unless it was launched by a user logged in with administrative privileges and by the context menu command "Run as administrator". Now installation and uninstallation is always automatically launched with administrative privileges.
- Search/replace patterns didn't work properly with non-ASCII characters (German umlauts, etc.), for example in upper/lowercase conversion.

Program Version 1.1.3 (= 1.1 SP3) - 18 Apr 2002

Bug Fixes

- Under certain hardware configurations (low screen resolution, standard graphic driver, ...) the date input fields of the 'file attribute view' were displayed too small. That is why, for example, the year was not completely displayed and moreover couldn't be entered.
- Under certain hardware configurations (low screen resolution, standard graphic driver, ...) some static texts were not completely displayed in several windows and dialogs.
- Under certain hardware configurations (low screen resolution, standard graphic driver, ...) the main window was displayed too small after program start (not adapted to the size of the displayed view).

Program Version 1.1.2 (= 1.1 SP2) - 29 Jun 2001

More Input Comfort

- Now the browser window for selecting the search folder remembers the last entered/selected search folder on opening.

Bug Fixes

- Bug: If Windows Explorer is configured not to display the extensions of filenames, HM Find+Rename don't display the extensions too, having the aftereffect that rename actions do not find the files to rename (the message '0 file(s) renamed' is displayed after each rename action). Fix: Now HM Find+Rename displays filenames always including the extension.

Program Version 1.1.1 (= 1.1 SP1) - 07 Mai 2001

Bug Fixes

- Bug: If program option 'Rename All: resume the Rename All / Change All action at the next file' is activated, in some cases, if a file could not be renamed, the rename action is not continued at the next file but at the same file, so that the same error message is displayed again and again. This bug occurs only with the version 1.1.

Program Version 1.1 - 01 Apr 2001

Program version 1.1.0 provides the following innovations:

Additional Functions

- Now it is possible to change the following file properties of one or more files with one single action:
 - Creation date, modification date, last access date,
 - File attributes (Archive, Hidden, System, Read-only).
- Now Undo function is applicable to direct editing of a file name in the file list too.

New Menu Items

- Edit - Select All (applies to the file list and all edit fields).
- Edit - Invert Selection (in the file list only).
- View - Find/Rename (shows the program view for renaming of files).
- View - Dates/Attributes (shows the program view for changing the file properties).
- View - Options (contains an additional register for the management of the persistent search/replace patterns).

New Function Keys

- F2 (in the file list only): Edit the file name of the selected file.
- F4 (in the input fields Search Folder, Search and Replace only): Shows the dropdown list.
- F5: Restart the Find action.
- ESC: Cancel a running search, rename or change action (same as clicking the Stop button).

More Input Comfort

- Now the most important input fields (Search Folder, Search, Replace) automatically store the user input in a dropdown list until the end of the program session.
- Often used search and replace patterns can now be stored persistently and can be recalled easily and fast by a popup menu.
- New edited search and replace patterns can easily be added to the persistent search/replace patterns by entering CTRL+INS in the input fields "Search" or "Replace".
- Simple wildcards and regular expressions are preconfigured as persistent search/replace patterns.

File List

- Multi-selection possible (that means, multiple or all files in the file list can be selected, just like in the Windows Explorer).
- F2: Edit the file name of the selected file.
- CTRL+C / CTRL+X: Copy/Cut the selected files to the Windows clipboard.
- Drag & Drop for the selected files (Copy/Move the files into an other folder or application).
- If the input focus is in the displayed file list and one or more files are selected, pressing the ENTER/RETURN key now opens the selected files (just like in the Windows Explorer) in contrast to the previous behavior of restarting the Find action (note, to restart the Find action at any time now use function key F5).

Bug Fixes

- Bug: A File directly edited in the file list after that is sorted with the old file name.
- Bug: If check box "Whole List" is unchecked and "Rename All" action does not find a matching file starting at the current selected file to the end of the file list, "Rename All" continues the search at the beginning of the file list.
- Bug: In some cases the action buttons are not properly activated/deactivated.

Better License Terms

- On damage or lost of your bound volume (= licensed disk) or if you substitute your hardware you can request for a free follow-up license.
- For companies which would like to use the program on multiple workstations we offer low-cost and easy to handle multi-user licenses.



HM Find+Rename with standard access rights (recommended)

If you have activated the user account control (UAC) under **Windows Vista and later** (default setting), **HM Find+Rename** will normally run with *standard user rights* independently of having logged on to your computer with a standard user account or with an administrator account.

These standard access rights are quite sufficient for **HM Find+Rename** to work on all your own files. Usually you save your own files in your **Personal Folder** and its subfolders.

However, if you want **HM Find+Rename** to modify properties of files which require administrative access rights (e.g. files in folder 'C:\Program Files'), **HM Find+Rename** will display the error message "**access denied**" during the rename or change action, because the standard access rights are not sufficient for it.

HM Find+Rename with administrative access rights (not recommended)

If needed, you can run **HM Find+Rename** with *administrative user rights*. Log on to your computer with an administrator account. Right click **HM Find+Rename's** shortcut in the program group or on the Windows Desktop and then select the context menu command 'Run as administrator'.



This approach is explicitly not recommended. Don't modify files in the Windows folder or in folders protected by Windows. This may compromise the stability of your system.



The *rename* and *change* functions of the unregistered version of **HM Find+Rename** are limited to maximal 10 modifications per session.

Besides, if you want to test more modifications, you can do that with the program's **preview mode**. In preview mode the results of executed file modifications are displayed in the file list of **HM Find+Rename** but the file modifications are **not** really done in the file system.

The unregistered version allows you to measure the *savings of time* by using **HM Find+Rename**, for example, to rename a larger number of files with similar filenames compared to renaming the files by editing a new filename for every single file.

How to **register the Shareware version** see [Order Information](#).



Registered and licensed users will get technical support directly from the Author of **HM Find+Rename**:

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How to **register the shareware version** see [Order Information](#).

To report suggestions, modification requests and errors fill in the [feedback form](#) and send it to the above email address. Thank you.



Overview

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- [Uninstallation](#)
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To install **HM Find+Rename** you should follow these steps:

1. Download the self-extracting installation package (exe file) for the desired language to a temporary folder of your choice.
2. If you are using Windows NT/2000/XP or a later version of Windows make sure you are logged in as user with **administrative privileges**.
3. Run the self-extracting **HM Find+Rename** installation package (exe file) and follow the installation instructions displayed.

Note: If you have a previous version of **HM Find+Rename** installed on your computer, you need not uninstall the previous version before. The setup program detects an existing installation and performs an update installation itself.

4. Next, read carefully the file *readme.htm*. It may contain further installation instructions. Moreover, you will find the requirements for running the current program version in it. *Readme.htm* contains a complete list of all files and folders installed on your computer by the setup.

The setup program copies all required files of **HM Find+Rename** onto your computer and creates the program symbols and shortcuts for all user accounts.

Notes:

- The installation package of **HM Find+Rename** exists in several languages. However, on a computer with multiple Windows user accounts you can install only one language common to all user accounts.
At the [Product Homepage](#) of the application you may find additional installation packages with other languages for downloading.
- How to **register the Shareware version** see [Order Information](#).



Repair Installation

The installation program of **HM Find+Rename** provides a simple **repair feature**. If you have erroneously deleted files, program symbols or shortcuts of **HM Find+Rename** you can reinstall the missing parts as follows:

1. Under Windows NT/2000/XP and all later versions of Windows log in as user with **administrative privileges**.
2. Run the self-extracting installation package (exe file) of **HM Find+Rename**.
3. The installation program self-recognizes that it is a maintenance installation and doesn't let you enter any more certain installation options (installation path, program group).
4. On the wizard form '**Select Components**' the components already installed are pre-selected. Leave the selection unchanged and click *Next* to finish the installation.

Installation of Additional Components

Normally, on [main installation](#) of **HM Find+Rename** you install right from the start all optional components needed. If not, it may happen that you have to additionally install an optional component.

To **install additionally** an optional **HM Find+Rename** component follow these steps:

1. Perform a **repair installation** as described above in chapter '*Repair installation*'.
2. On the wizard form '**Select Components**' choose the installation type '*Custom installation*' and select additionally those components you want to install. Leave the check state of all other components unchanged. Then follow the installation instructions displayed to finish the installation.

Note:

This way you can separately install additional components, but you can't separately uninstall components already installed.

Uninstallation of Additional Components

The installation program of **HM Find+Rename** can't uninstall optional components separately but only together with the **HM Find+Rename** application.



Uninstallation

To **uninstall HM Find+Rename** you should follow these steps:

1. Under Windows NT/2000/XP and all later versions of Windows log in as user with **administrative privileges**.
2. Open Windows *Control Panel* and then the icon *Programs and Features* (aka *Software* in earlier Windows versions).
3. In the list of *Installed Programs* select the item **HM Find+Rename** and click the button *Uninstall* (aka button *Remove* in earlier Windows versions).

Assumed that uninstallation with Windows Control Panel is impossible, you can launch the uninstall program

C:\Program Files\HM Find+Rename\Unins000.exe

straight from the Windows Explorer by double clicking.

Manual Uninstallation



A manual uninstallation is not recommended. Perform a manual uninstallation only if the uninstall methods described above are impossible or have failed. Incorrect modifications of the Windows system registry may cause your system unstable.

To **uninstall HM Find+Rename manually** you should follow these steps:

1. If you are using Windows NT/2000/XP or a later version of Windows log in as user with **administrative privileges**.
2. Delete the program group of **HM Find+Rename** from the Windows Start menu as well as the shortcut on the Windows desktop (if existing).
3. Delete all files from the home directory of **HM Find+Rename**, usually the folder
C:\Program Files\HM Find+Rename
4. In the Windows registry delete the following items:
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Dipl.-Ing. Martin Haller, Software-Engineering & EDV-Beratung\HM Find+Rename
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\Software\Microsoft\Windows\CurrentVersion\Uninstall\HM Find+Rename_is1

Then perform the following steps once as administrator and once under each additional user account **HM Find+Rename** was used:

1. Log in under this user account.
2. In the Windows registry delete the following key:
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Dipl.-Ing. Martin Haller, Software-Engineering & EDV-Beratung\HM Find+Rename



Find and rename files

To **find and rename** one or more files in program view *Find/Rename* follow these steps:

- Step 1: Specify the Search Folder for Searching
- Step 2: Specify the Search Options
- Step 3: Perform the Find Action
- Step 4a: Specify the Replace Options
- Step 5a: Perform the Rename Action

Find files and change their file properties

To **find and change the file properties** of one or more files in program view *Dates/Attributes* follow these steps:


- Step 1: Specify the Search Folder for Searching
- Step 2: Specify the Search Options
- Step 3: Perform the Find Action
- Step 4b: Specify the Change Options
- Step 5b: Perform the Change Action

Step 1: Specify the Search Folder for Searching

HM Find+Rename
Vers. 1.1



To specify the **search folder** for searching, there are three choices:

- Enter the fully qualified path of the search folder into the input field '*Folder*' (e.g. c:\windows), or
- click the button  beside the input field '*Folder*' and open the dialog window 'Find Folder' to choose the desired search folder. After closing the dialog window with OK the search folder selected will be displayed in the input field '*Folder*'.
- Or, open the **dropdown list** (shortcut 'Alt+↓') of the input field '*Folder*' and select one of the pathes previously entered.

Step 2: Specify the search options

Step 2: Specify the Search Options

HM Find+Rename
Vers. 1.1



After you have entered the [search folder](#) you can define following **search options** to configure the *Find action*:

- [Include subfolders](#)
- [Search pattern for filenames](#)
- [Regular expression](#)

[Step 3: Perform the Find action](#)

Step 3: Perform the Find Action

HM Find+Rename
Vers. 1.1



After you have entered the [search folder](#) and the desired [search options](#) you can start the **Find action** as follows:

- Mouse: Click the 'Find' button, or
- Keys: 'Alt+F' or 'F5' or, if the input focus is not in the file list just press 'Return' or 'Enter'.

During the Find action the folder currently searched will be shown in the [status bar](#) and the files found will be added to the file list. At the end of the Find action the number of the files found will be shown in the status bar.

A running Find action can be [cancelled](#) at any time.

Notes:

- For security reasons folders which are marked as system folders are not searched by a Find action. System folders contain files you should better not modify. But caution, not all Windows folder are system folders.
- Furthermore, a Find action doesn't find files which are marked as temporary because that files are usually locked by another application and therefore can't be modified anyway.

[Step 4a: Specify the replace options](#) or

[Step 4b: Specify the change options](#)

Step 4a: Specify the Replace Options

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Before or after the [Find action](#) you can specify the following **replace options** to configure the *Rename action*:

- [Restrictive search pattern for filenames](#)
- [Replace pattern for filenames](#)
- [Preview](#)
- [Whole List](#)

[Step 5a: Perform the Rename action](#)

Step 5a: Perform the Rename Action

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After you have entered the [replace options](#) you have two choices for renaming files. You can rename either a single file or all files matching the search pattern.

To rename a **single file** matching the search pattern:

1. Select the file in the file list and
2. Mouse: click the 'Rename' button, or
Keys: 'Alt+R'

To rename **all files** matching the search pattern:

1. Mouse: click the 'Rename All' button, or
Keys: 'Alt+A'

If the replace option '[Whole List](#)' is selected, the 'Rename All' action always starts at the first line of the file list, otherwise it starts with the currently selected file in the file list. The 'Rename All' action always stops at the end of the file list.

During the 'Rename All' action the new filenames are displayed in the file list immediately. At the end of the 'Rename All' action the count of files renamed will be shown in a dialog box.

A running 'Rename All' action can be [cancelled](#) at any time.

When using regular expressions please note the [remarks on entering the search pattern](#).

Step 4b: Specify the Change Options

HM Find+Rename
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Before or after the [Find action](#) you can specify the following **change options** to configure the *Change action*:

- [Restrictive search pattern for filenames](#)
- [New file properties](#)
- [Preview](#)
- [Whole List](#)

[Step 5b: Perform the Change action](#)

Step 5b: Perform the Change Action

HM Find+Rename
Vers. 1.1



After you have entered the [change options](#) you have two choices for changing the file properties. You can change the file properties either of a single file or of all files matching the search pattern.

To change a **single file** matching the search pattern:

1. Select the file in the file list and
2. Mouse: click the 'Change' button, or
Keys: 'Alt+G'

To change **all files** matching the search pattern:

1. Mouse: click the 'Change All' button, or
Keys: 'Alt+A'

If the change option '[Whole List](#)' is selected, the 'Change All' action always starts at the first line of the file list, otherwise it starts with the currently selected file in the file list. The 'Change All' action always stops at the end of the file list.

During the 'Change All' action the new file properties are displayed in the file list immediately. At the end of the 'Change All' action the count of files changed will be shown in a dialog box.

A running 'Change All' action can be [cancelled](#) at any time.

When using regular expressions please note the [remarks on entering the search pattern](#).



These are the main functions provided by **HM Find+Rename**.


- Entering Search Patterns
- Selecting search Options
- Entering Replace Patterns
- Selecting Replace Options
- Entering New File Times
- Entering New File Attributes
- Selecting Change Options
- Cancel a Running Action
- Undo of Rename and Change Actions
- Sorting the File List Displayed
- Editing a Filename in the File List
- Other Commands in the File List
- Search/Replace Patterns




The **search pattern** describes the filenames to be add to the file list by a Find action.

You have two choices for entering a search pattern, either a filename with/without wildcards or a regular expression.

To enter a **filename with/without wildcards** as search pattern:

1. Unselect the search option 'Regular expression'.
2. Enter the filename with/without wildcards into the input field 'Search' or click the button  and select a search/replace pattern from the popup menu displayed.

To enter a **regular expression** as search pattern:

1. Select the search option 'Regular expression'.
2. Enter the regular expression into the input field 'Search' or click the button  and select a search/replace pattern from the popup menu displayed.

Remarks on using a regular expression:

The *Find* action tries the regular expression against each filename once. If the filename (or part of it) matches the regular expression, the file will be added to the file list.

The *Rename* action finds the first match of the regular expression in a filename starting at the beginning of the filename of the file selected in the file list, and replaces the matching sub-string corresponding to the replace pattern. Then, if the filename contains another match of the regular expression, this filename still remains selected. The next *Rename* action starts again at the **beginning of this filename**. However, if the filename contains no (more) matches of the regular expression, the next filename matching the regular expression will be found and selected.

The *Rename All* action always replaces all matches of the regular expression within a filename and, just after that, it searches for the next matching filename. So you can replace with a single 'Rename All' action, for example, all hyphens ("-") by underscores ("_") in all filenames of the file list.

ATTENTION: Be careful in using the regular expression "." (matches not only any characters but the empty string too!). Better use "+" (matches any characters too but one character at least). When using "." there may be some regular expressions finding and renaming always the same filename again and again (endless).

Tip:

To prevent from this or to ensure that each filename will be renamed only once, you have to formulate the regular expression adequately. For example, ALWAYS begin a regular expression with the special character "^" (anchor to the beginning of the filename). If the regular expression consists of some alternative branches (<regexp>|<regexp>|...), each branch has to start with "^" (^<regexp>|^<regexp>|^...).



There are the following **search options** to configure a *Find action*:

- [Include subfolders](#)
- [Search pattern for filenames](#)
- [Regular expression](#)

Search option: Include subfolders

If this search option is selected, all subfolders of the search folder will be included for searching, and the subfolders of the subfolders too, recursively.

If this search option is NOT selected, only the search folder will be searched for files.

Search option: Search pattern for filenames

If you enter a [search pattern](#) into the input field 'Search', only the filenames matching the search pattern will be found in the folders.

If you enter NO search pattern into the input field 'Search', one of the following search patterns will be used depending on the search option 'Regular expression':

- If 'Regular expression' is NOT selected, the search pattern "*" is used.
- If 'Regular expression' is selected, the regular expression ".+" is used.

Search option: Regular expression

If this search option is selected, the search pattern in input field 'Search' is assumed to be a [regular expression](#).

If this search option is NOT selected, the search pattern in input field 'Search' is assumed to be a [filename with/without wildcards](#).




The **replace pattern** describes the *new filename* for a found file. It may contain only characters valid for a filename, plus the meta characters of the placeholders described below.

Entering replace patterns in the main window

Dependent on the value you have entered in the [main window](#) into the input field 'Search' (*filename with/without wildcards or a regular expression*) you have to enter a corresponding replace pattern into the input field 'Replace'.

To enter a replace pattern:

- Enter the replace pattern into the input field 'Replace' or
- click the button  and select a replace pattern from the popup menu displayed.

The replace pattern is a filename without placeholders

In that case only the first file found in each folder will be renamed. For all other files found in the folder you will get an error message because the filenames in each folder have to be unique.

The replace pattern is a filename with placeholders

In a replace pattern you can use the following placeholders:

Placeholder "&":

The placeholder & will be replaced by the characters matched by the entire search pattern. That is always the entire filename for a wildcard search pattern. That can be either the entire filename or just a part of it for a regular expression search pattern.

Examples with a wildcard search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
*.txt	A&	Name.txt	AName.txt
.	& - file	Hello.txt	Hello.txt - file

Examples with a regular expression as search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
^[^.] + \$	&.txt	Name	Name.txt
^.*\..*	& - file	Hello.txt	Hello.txt - file
- _	\$&\$	Hello-World.txt Hello_Name.txt	Hello\$-\$World.txt Hello\$_\$Name.txt

Placeholder "*":

This placeholder is allowed in a replace pattern if and only if the search pattern is a wildcard search pattern.

You can use the placeholder * in a replace pattern one or more times. The * will be replaced by the characters matching the corresponding * in the search pattern. What matters is the order of the placeholder *. The first (left-most) * in the search pattern corresponds to the first * in the replace pattern, and so on. If the replace pattern contains more placeholders * than the search pattern, the more * are replaced by nothing (empty string).

Examples with a wildcard search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
[?].	*.*	Name[1].htm	Name.htm
*.txt	*	Hello.txt	Hello
*	XY-*	Hello.txt	XY-Hello.txt
XY-*	*	XY-Hello.txt	Hello.txt
[].*	*.*	Name[1].htm	Name.1
[?].	*(*).*	Name[1].htm	Name(htm).

Placeholder "Index":

A search pattern stores particular parts of a found filename to temporary character buffers which you can refer to in the replace pattern with the placeholder "Index" to insert the content of the referred buffer into the generated filename. There are a maximum of 9 character buffers.

For each wildcard * in a *wildcard search pattern* the characters of a found filename matched by the * are stored to a character buffer. The character buffers are assigned to the wildcards * in a left-to-right order which means, the first (left-most) wildcard * in the search pattern is assigned to the first character buffer, the second wildcard * is assigned to the second character buffer, and so on. Character buffers with no assignment remains empty.

In a *regular expression search pattern* you can specify with parentheses "()" that the characters matched by the subexpression within the parentheses should be stored in a temporary buffer. The character buffers are assigned to the parentheses "()" in a left-to-right order which means, the first (left-most) parentheses "()" in the search pattern is assigned to the first character buffer, the second parentheses "()" is assigned to the second character buffer, and so on. Character buffers with no assignment remains empty. The open round bracket "(" of a parentheses "()" expression is the essential thing for these assignments. For example, in nested parentheses "()" expressions the outer expression is first.

In the replace pattern you can refer in any order to the content of those character buffers by an index, starting with 1. The syntax of an index is like this:

\<index>

where <index> is a digit from 0 to 9.

The placeholder \1 will be replaced by the characters of the first character buffer. The placeholder \2 will be replaced by the characters of the second character buffer, and so on. If you use an index without having a corresponding reference in the search pattern, it will be replaced by nothing (empty string).

Additionally, there is the placeholder \0 which is special. It will be replaced by the characters matched by the entire search pattern (it corresponds to the placeholder &).

Examples with a wildcard search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
-.*	\2-\1.*	Text-1.doc Text-1.gif Text-2.doc	1-Text.doc 1-Text.gif 2-Text.doc
[].*	\1.\3	Name[1].htm Name[12].doc	Name.htm Name.doc

Examples with a regular expression as search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
^[^.]+\$	\0.txt	Name	Name.txt
^(.*)\[[0-9]+\]\.(.*)	\1.\2	Name[1].htm Name[12].htm	Name.htm Name.htm

Placeholder "Counter":

You can specify a counter in the replace pattern as placeholder for a consecutive numbering of the found files. The syntax of a counter is like this:

:(<start>;<inc>)

where <start> and <inc> are integer values. These integers control the counter during the rename action.

<start> defines the initial value of the counter. The first occurrence of a counter in the first renamed file in a rename action will be replaced by this initial value. The number of digits in <start> defines the minimum count of characters to insert. If the current value of the counter has less digits, preceding 0 are inserted on the left-side. If <start> is omitted, the default initial value for the counter is 0.

<inc> defines the increment of the counter (next counter value = old counter value + inc). If <inc> is omitted, the default value for the increment is 1.

Note:

You can specify one or more counters in a replace pattern. However, all counters use internally the same counter variable. Therefore the counters do not count independently from each other. The first (left-most) counter in the replace pattern defines the start value and increment.

Examples with a wildcard search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
*.gif	Pic:(008).gif	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	Pic008.gif Pic009.gif Pic010.gif
*.gif	Pic:(1;5).gif	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	Pic1.gif Pic6.gif Pic11.gif
*.gif	Pic:().gif	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	Pic0.gif Pic1.gif Pic2.gif
*.gif	Pic:(;4).gif	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	Pic0.gif Pic4.gif Pic8.gif
*.gif	*.:(01)	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	Maria.01 Monica.02 Martha.03
*.gif	:(010;10) *	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	010 Maria 020 Monica 030 Martha
*.gif	:(1;5).:(3)	Maria.gif Monica.gif Martha.gif	1.6 11.16 21.26

Examples with a regular expression as search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
^(.*[^0-9])[0-9]*\.gif	\1:(001).gif	Maria01.gif Monica.gif Martha02.gif	Maria001.gif Monica002.gif Martha003.gif

Placeholder "Formatting":

You can specify one or more upper/lower case formattings anywhere in the replace pattern. An upper/lower case formatting changes the currently available replace text generated so far by the replace pattern. The syntax of an upper/lower case formatting is like this:

:(<format>;<format width>)

where <format> is one of the following letters:

Letter	Description
U	Uppercase (conversion to upper case)
u	Uppercase (conversion to upper case)
L	Lowercase (conversion to lower case)
I	Lowercase (conversion to lower case)

<format width> is an integer value controlling which and how many characters are converted. If you enter a positive integer value, conversion starts at the beginning of the available replace text. If you enter a negative integer value, conversion starts at the end of the available replace text. If you enter 0 or if <format width> is omitted, the whole available replace text is converted.

Note that the position of the Formatting placeholder within the replace pattern is important. A Formatting placeholder quite at the beginning of the replace pattern has no effect because at this

moment the replace text is empty. A Formatting placeholder quite at the end of the replace pattern uses the whole replace text as basis for the conversion. A Formatting placeholder within the replace pattern uses the currently available replace text as basis for the conversion, which is the replace text generated so far by the part of the replace pattern left to the Formatting placeholder.

Examples with a wildcard search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
*.gif	*.gif:(L)	Maria.gif	maria.gif
*.gif	*.gif:(U;1)	maria.gif	Maria.gif
*.gif	*:(U).gif	Maria.gif	MARIA.gif
*.gif	*.gif:(U;-3)	Maria.gif	Maria.GIF
*.gif	*:(010).gif:(L):(U;1)	Maria.Gif MONica.gif martha.gif	Maria010.gif Monica011.gif Martha012.gif

Examples with a regular expression as search pattern:

Search pattern	Replace pattern	Matched file	will be renamed to
^(.*)\.gif\$	\1.gif:(L)	Maria.gif	maria.gif
^(.*)\.gif\$	\1.gif:(U;1)	maria.gif	Maria.gif
^(.*)\.gif\$	\1:(U).gif	Maria.gif	MARIA.gif
^(.*)\.gif\$	\1.gif:(U;-3)	Maria.gif	Maria.GIF
^(.*)\.gif\$	\1:(010).gif:(L):(U;1)	Maria.Gif MONica.gif martha.gif	Maria010.gif Monica011.gif Martha012.gif



There are the following **replace options** to configure a *Rename* or *Rename All* action:

- [Restrictive search pattern for filenames](#)
- [Replace pattern for filenames](#)
- [Preview](#)
- [Whole List](#)

Replace option: Restrictive search pattern for filenames

A rename action renames only files displayed in the file list. However, if you do not want to rename all files of the file list, you can enter a restrictive search pattern into the input field 'Search'. A *restrictive search pattern* describes only a subset of the files displayed in the file list.

An example:

You perform a *Find* action with the search pattern "*.txt". The file list will display all files found with extension ".txt". But you would like to rename only those files of them, starting with an "A" in the filename.

For that, you have to enter the *restrictive search pattern* "A*.txt" into the input field 'Search' and the desired replace pattern into the input field 'Replace', and start the *rename* action.

Another example:

You perform a *Find* action with the search pattern "A*.txt". The file list will display all files found, starting with an "A" in the filename and with extension ".txt". There are further files in the search folder, not matching the search pattern and not displayed in the file list. Hence, if you enter the search pattern "*. *" into the input field 'Search' and the desired replace pattern into the input field 'Replace', and start the *rename* action, all files displayed in the file list will be renamed. Those files of the search folder which are not displayed in the file list but would match the new search pattern "*. *" too, will not be renamed because they are not contained in the file list.

Replace option: Replace pattern for filenames

To rename files you have to enter a [replace pattern](#) into the input field 'Replace'. The replace pattern is used to determine the new filename.

If you have not entered a replace pattern, the rename buttons are inactive.

Replace option: Preview

If this replace option is selected, the files found will be renamed only in the file list but not in the file system. So, the files will actually not be renamed. This option is useful for testing the entered search and replace patterns.

If this replace option is NOT selected, the files found will be renamed both in the file list and in the file system.

Replace option: Whole List

If this replace option is selected, the 'Rename All' action always starts at the beginning of the displayed file list. Anyway, the 'Rename All' action always ends at the end of the file list.

If this replace option is NOT selected, the 'Rename All' action starts with the currently selected filename in the displayed file list. This option is usefull, for example, if a previous 'Rename All' action was aborted due to an error and you want to resume the action with the next filename.



If not visible, switch to the program view [Dates/Attributes](#).

Selection of the file times to change

In the column 'Change' of the input field group 'New File Times' check those file times you want to change. The corresponding date/time input fields beside will be activated. The unchecked file times will remain unchanged during subsequent change actions.

Entering a new file time

You always have to enter all related date/time input fields of a file time.

In each input field under the column 'New Date' you have the following alternative ways:

- Keys: Just enter the new value on the keyboard or count the currently selected value up or down with the arrow keys '↑' and '↓'. Using the arrow keys '→' and '←' you can jump to the next or previous value within the input field.
- Mouse: Clicking the drop-down list button at the right side of the input field opens a calendar control element instead of the drop-down list in which you can easily choose a new date with few mouse clicks.

In each input field under the column 'New Time' you have the following alternative ways:

- Keys: Just enter the new value on the keyboard or count the currently selected value up or down with the arrow keys '↑' and '↓'. Using the arrow keys '→' and '←' you can jump to the next or previous value within the input field.
- Mouse: Count the currently selected value up or down by clicking the spin button arrows at the right side of the input field.



If not visible, switch to the program view [Dates/Attributes](#).

Selection of the file attributes to change

In the column 'Change' of the input field group 'New File Attributes' check those file attributes you want to change. The corresponding checkboxes beside will be activated. The unchecked file attributes will remain unchanged during subsequent change actions.

Entering a new file attribute

If you want to set a file attribute (e.g. Archive), CHECK the corresponding checkbox in the column 'New Value'.

If you want to unset/clear a file attribute (e.g. Archive), UNCHECK the corresponding checkbox in the column 'New Value'.

You can change the state of a checkbox as follows (the checkbox must have the input focus):

- Keys: press the `Spacebar`.
- Mouse: click the checkbox.



There are the following **change options** to configure a *Change* or *Change All* action:

- [Restrictive search pattern for filenames](#)
- [New file properties](#)
- [Preview](#)
- [Whole List](#)

Change option: Restrictive search pattern for filenames

A change action changes only files displayed in the file list. However, if you do not want to change all files of the file list, you can enter a restrictive search pattern into the input field 'Search'. A *restrictive search pattern* describes only a subset of the files displayed in the file list.

You will find examples for explanation of this option in the corresponding chapter [Replace option](#).

Change option: New file properties

To be able to change the properties of files you have to enter a [new file time](#) or a [new file attribute](#) at least.

If you have not entered a new file property, the change buttons are inactive.

Change option: Preview

If this change option is selected, the files found will be changed only in the file list but not in the file system. So, the files will actually not be changed. This option is useful for testing the entered search patterns and new file properties.

If this change option is NOT selected, the files found will be changed both in the file list and in the file system.

Change option: Whole List

If this change option is selected, the 'Change All' action always starts at the beginning of the displayed file list. Anyway, the 'Change All' action always ends at the end of the file list.

If this change option is NOT selected, the 'Change All' action starts with the currently selected filename in the displayed file list. This option is usefull, for example, if a previous 'Change All' action was aborted due to an error and you want to resume the action with the next file.



To cancel a running Find, Rename or Change action:

- Mouse: click the 'Stop' button, or
- Keys: press `Esc` or just *Return* or *Enter*.



With the 'Undo' command you can undo all rename and change actions **since the last find action**. To enable this command for the file list, set the input focus into the file list, for example, by clicking it once.

You cannot undo rename or change actions previous to the last find action. In that case you have to rename the renamed files with new rename actions back to their old filenames and you have to change the changed files with new change actions back to their old file properties, if possible.



You can sort the file list by any **column**, *ascending* or *descending*. You can reverse the order (ascending, descending) by sorting the file list twice by the same column.

To sort the file list:

- Click the column header of the column you want to be the sort criteria for the file list.

Tip:

To sort the file list by a *main sort criteria* and a *sub sort criteria*:

1. Sort the file list by the sub sort criteria (e.g. name) as many times as needed for the order (ascending, descending) you want.
2. Then sort the file list by the main sort criteria (e.g. folder) as many times as needed for the order (ascending, descending) you want.

After that the file list is sorted by main/sub sort criteria (e.g. folder / name).



To **edit** a filename straight in the file list:

1. Select the filename in the file list.
2. Start editing of the filename by:

Mouse: click the selected filename once, or
Keys: press function key **F2**.

Thereupon the filename will be framed with a thin border and you can edit the text of the filename.

3. Enter the new filename.
4. Finish editing of the filename by:

Mouse: click somewhere in the window outside the border of the filename, or
Keys: just press *Return* or *Enter*.



Beside the commands [Sorting the file list](#) and [Editing a filename](#) there are further commands available in the file list:

- **Double-click a filename:**
Executes the *default command* defined for the file type (usually: open).
- **'Alt+Enter' with a selected filename:**
Displays the properties window of the selected file.
- **'Del' with a selected filename:**
Deletes the selected file.
- **Right-click a filename or 'Shift+F10' with a selected filename:**
Displays the context menu defined for the file type.
- **'Ctrl+C' or 'Ctrl+X' with a selected filename:**
Copy or cut the selected file to the Windows clipboard.
- **Drag & Drop with a selected filename:**
For example, if you drag the selected file to a Windows Explorer window and drop it over a folder in this window, the file is copied or moved to the folder (depending on the fact if you press the 'Ctrl' key during dropping or not).
- **Right-click somewhere in the other area of the file list (not a filename):**
Displays the [menu 'Edit'](#) (command ['Undo'](#)).

Notes

- The above commands are available for multiple selected files in the file list too.
- If you have renamed some files of the file list in [preview mode](#) the commands above are not available for those renamed files because in the file system those files will not be found with the new name.



Overview

- [Pattern Types](#)
 - [Wildcards](#)
 - [Regular Expressions](#)
- [Managing Search/Replace Patterns](#)
- [Selecting a Search/Replace Pattern](#)
- [Selecting a Replace Pattern](#)



The **pattern type** specifies the kind of a search/replace pattern.

There are two **kinds of search/replace patterns**:

- Patterns with wildcards and
- Patterns with regular expressions.

Patterns with wildcards

A **search pattern with wildcards** describes a group of similar filenames with the help of simple [wildcards](#).

A **replace pattern suitable for it** describes in the same manner the new filenames for the files found with a search pattern with wildcards. For details on the placeholders for such a replace pattern, see chapter [Entering Replace Patterns](#).

Patterns with regular expressions

A **search pattern with regular expressions** describes a group of similar filenames with the help of [regular expressions](#).

A **replace pattern suitable for it** describes in a similar manner the new filenames for the files found with a search pattern with regular expressions. For details on the placeholders for such a replace pattern, see chapter [Entering Replace Patterns](#).



Wildcards are special characters which are placeholders for none, one or more characters in the filename.

To specify a search pattern for a filename you can use the following *wildcards*:

- * ... asterix is a placeholder for any count of any characters.
- ? ... the question mark is a placeholder for any single character.

Examples:

Filename with wildcards	Description
*.txt	All filenames ending with ".txt"
*.?	All filenames ending with a dot followed by any single character
*	All filenames
ab??	All filenames with a length of 4 characters and beginning with "ab"
ab*cd	All filenames beginning with "ab" and ending with "cd"
*x*y*	All filenames containing at least one "x" and one "y"



The [Brief Tutorial](#) contains a short description of the **special characters** for regular expressions and their meaning.

In the [Detailed Description](#) you will find details about syntax and semantic of regular expressions, information about ambiguity of regular expressions and other implementation notes.

The chapter [Character Classes](#) lists examples of frequently needed regular expressions.

This implementation of regular expressions has been derived from work by Henry Spencer which is redistributable and useable in source and binary forms, with or without modification, provided that the [Original Copyright Information](#) are enclosed in the documentation.

This implementation of regular expressions is a plurally **altered and extended software** compared with the original version of Henry Spencer.



Regular expressions are *text patterns* that are used for string matching. Regular expressions are strings that contains a mix of plain text and *special characters* to indicate what kind of matching to do.

The table below describes briefly the **special characters**:

Character	Description
^	Anchors the match to the beginning of a line. For example, the expression "^A" will match the character "A" only at the beginning of the line. The caret "^" is significant only at the start of an expression.
\$	Anchors the match to the end of a line. For example, the expression "txt\$" will match the sub-string "txt" only if it is at the end of a line. The dollar sign "\$" is significant only at the end of an expression.
	Matches the expression before or after the " ". Mostly used within a group (sub-expression). For example, "(abc) (def) ghi" matches "abc ghi" and "def ghi".
.	The dot matches any one character.
[]	Set of Characters. Matches any one of the characters within the []. For example, "[abc]" matches either "a" or "b" or "c". To specify a range of characters, list the starting and ending character separated by a dash, as in "[a-z]", which matches any one lowercase letter.
[^]	Characters Not in Set. Matches any character not in the set of characters following the caret "^", for example "[^0-9]" matches any one character which is not a digit.
()	The parenthesis groups the characters within the parenthesis to a sub-expression and therefore affects the order of pattern evaluation. For example "(abc d)" matches "abc" or "d", where as "ab(c d)" matches "abc" or "abd". The parenthesis also serves as a tagged expression which tags the text matched by the enclosed expression. A tagged expression is something like a temporary memory. This memory can then be used when you want to replace the found expression with a new expression. The replace expression can specify "\N" where N is a number from 1 to 9 which inserts the text matched by the Nth tagged expression. The "\0" indicates a tagged expression representing the entire sub-string that was matched. Note that although the tagged expression 0 is always defined, the tagged expression 1, 2 etc. are only defined if the regular expression used in the search had enough sets of parenthesis, otherwise they insert an empty string.
\< \>	Matches the character or expression between "<" and ">" only, if it starts and ends with a word boundary. A word boundary is either the null string or a character which is neither an alphanumeric character nor an underscore "_". For example, the regular expression "\<old>" matches "old" in "I am old." but not in "It is cold."
\	Escape character. Matches the character following the backslash "\". This allows you to find the special characters used in the regular expression notation. For example, the expression "\." matches the dot character ".".
*	The asterisk "*" indicates that the character or expression to the left of the asterisk in the expression should match 0 or more times, matching as many characters as possible. For example, "a*" matches a sequence of 0 or more "a".
+	The plus "+" indicates that the character or expression to the left of the plus in the expression should match 1 or more times, matching as many characters as possible. For example, "a+" matches a sequence of 1 or more "a".
?	The question mark "?" matches the character or expression to its left 0 or 1 times.
{n,m}	Bounded repeater. The braces "{}" indicates that the character or expression to the left of the "{n,m}" in the expression should match from n to m times, matching as many characters as possible. The integers n and m must lie between 0 and 255 inclusive, and n may not exceed m. The upper bound m may be omitted which means "more times". For example, "a{0,}" is equivalent to "a*", "a{1,}" is equivalent to "a+" and "a{3,}" matches a sequence of 3 or more "a". Braces containing one integer and no comma "{n}" means "exactly n times". For example, "a{0}" is equivalent to an empty string, "a{1}" is equivalent to "a" and "a{3}" is equivalent to "aaa".

Note:

All other characters (the non-special characters) in a regular expression matches exactly themselves. As default the character match is **case-insensitive**. For example, the regular expression "ab" matches "ab" and "Ab" and "AB" and "aB"; or the regular expression "[a-z]"

matches any lower case character as well as any uppercase character. Optional a case-sensitive character match is possible.

The special characters asterix "*", plus "+" and bounded repeaters "{n,m}" always match as many characters as possible (maximum). The first (left-most) sub-expression has priority. An example:

The regular expression ".*[0-9]+.*" matches the text "abc01234def" like this: the first left-most sub-expression ".*" matches the sub-string "abc0123" (as many characters as possible), the second sub-expression "[0-9]+" matches the character "4" (at least one character) and the last sub-expression ".*" matches the remaining sub-string "def" (as many characters as possible).

For detailed information on regular expressions see [Detailed Description](#).

Examples:

Regular Expression	Input String	Match Results
a[^b]c	xadcd xa]cd	adc no match
a[^b]]c	xa]cd xay]cd	no match ay]c
^a(bc+ b[eh])g .h\$	abh	bh
ab*	a ab abbbc	a ab abbb
ab?	a ab abbbc	a ab ab
ab+	a ab abbbc	no match ab abbb
ab{2,}	a ab abbbc	no match no match abbb
ab{2,4}	a ab abbbc abbbbbc	no match no match abbb abbbb
a*?		error
\$*		error
^*		error
(a*)+		error



[Syntax and Semantic](#)

[Ambiguity](#)

[Other Implementation Notes and Restrictions](#)

Syntax and Semantic

A **regular expression** is one or more "branches", separated by "|". It matches anything that matches one of the branches.

A **branch** is one or more "pieces", concatenated. It matches a match for the first, followed by a match for the second, etc.

A **piece** is an "atom" possibly followed by "*", "+", "?", or a "bound". An atom followed by "*" matches a sequence of 0 or more matches of the atom. An atom followed by "+" matches a sequence of 1 or more matches of the atom. An atom followed by "?" matches a match of the atom, or the null string.

A **bound** is "{" followed by an unsigned decimal integer, possibly followed by "," possibly followed by another unsigned decimal integer, always followed by "}". The integers must lie between 0 and 255 inclusive, and if there are two of them, the first may not exceed the second. An atom followed by a bound containing one integer *n* and no comma ("{*n*}") matches a sequence of exactly *n* matches of the atom. An atom followed by a bound containing one integer *n* and a comma ("{*n*,}") matches a sequence of *n* or more matches of the atom. An atom followed by a bound containing two integers *n* and *m* ("{*n*,*m*}") matches a sequence of *n* through *m* (inclusive) matches of the atom.

An **atom** is a regular expression in parentheses "(...)" (matching a match for the regular expression), an empty set of parentheses "()" (matching the null string), a range (see below), a word boundary (see below), "." (matching any single character), "^" (matching the null string at the beginning of a line), "\$" (matching the null string at the end of a line), a "\" followed by one of the characters "\^.\$()*+?{\\" (matching that character taken as an ordinary character), a "\" followed by any other character (matching that character taken as an ordinary character, as if the "\" had not been present) or a single character with no other significance (matching that character).

It is illegal to end a regular expression with "\".

A "{" followed by a character other than a digit is an ordinary character, not the beginning of a bound.

A **range** is a sequence of characters enclosed in "[". It normally matches any single character from the sequence. If the sequence begins with "^", it matches any single character not from the rest of the sequence. If two characters in the sequence are separated by "-", this is shorthand for the full list of characters between them (inclusive) in the collating sequence (e.g. "[0-9]" in ASCII matches any decimal digit). It is illegal for two ranges to share an endpoint, e.g. "a-c-e". Note, which characters effectively are contained in a range depends on the based character set.

To include a literal "]" in the sequence, make it the first character (following a possible "^"). To include a literal "-", make it the first or last character. All other special characters, including "\", lose their special significance within a range.

A **word boundary** "\<" and "\>" match the null string at the beginning and end of a word respectively. A *word* is defined as a sequence of word characters which is neither preceded nor followed by word characters. A *word character* is an alphanumeric character (letter or digit) or an underscore "_".

Ambiguity

If a regular expression could match two different parts of the input string, it will match the one which begins earliest. If both begin in the same place but match different lengths, it matches the longest. Sub-expressions also match the longest possible sub-strings, subject to the constraint that the whole match be as long as possible, with sub-expressions starting earlier in the regular expression taking priority over ones starting later.

In general, the possibilities in a list of branches are considered in left-to-right order, the possibilities for "*", "+", "?", and "{*n*,*m*}" are considered longest-first, nested constructs are considered from the outermost in, and concatenated constructs are considered leftmost-first. The match that will be chosen is the one that uses the earliest possibility in the first choice that has to be made. If there is more than one choice, the next will be made in the same manner (earliest possibility) subject to the decision on the first choice. And so forth.

For example, "(ab|a)b*c" could match "abc" in one of two ways. The first choice is between "ab" and 'a'; since "ab" is earlier, and does lead to a successful overall match, it is chosen. Since the "b" is already spoken for, the "b*" must match its last possibility -- the empty string -- since it must respect the earlier choice.

In the particular case where the regular expression does not use "|" and does not apply "*", "+", "?", or "{n,m}" to parenthesized subexpressions, the net effect is that the longest possible match will be chosen. So "ab*", presented with "xabbbby", will match "abbbb". Note that if "ab*" is tried against "xabyabbbz", it will match "ab" just after "x", due to the begins-earliest rule. (In effect, the decision on where to start the match is the first choice to be made, hence subsequent choices must respect it even if this leads them to less-preferred alternatives.)

More examples:

The regular expression "(wee|week)(knights|nights)" matches all ten characters of "weeknights", the first parenthesized subexpression matches "wee" and the second matches "knights".

When the regular expression "(.)*.*" is matched against "abc" the parenthesized subexpression matches all three characters.

Other Implementation Notes and Restrictions

The maximum count of parentheses "()" is 9.

A regular expression should not be longer than 255 characters.

If the option 'case-insensitive' is selected, this applies to all letters of the regular expression, to the letters within a range too.



The table below lists **frequently needed regular expressions** for several character classes:

Regular Expression	Description / Character Class
[a-zA-Z0-9]	Alphanumeric character
[a-zA-Z]	Alphabetic character
[a-zA-Z]+	Alphabetic string
[0-9]	Decimal digit
[0-9]+	Decimal number
[0-9a-fA-F]	Hexadecimal digit
[a-zA-Z_\$_][a-zA-Z0-9_\$_]*	Identifier
(([0-9]+\.[0-9]*) ([0-9]*\.[0-9]+) ([0-9]+))	Relational number
("^[^"]*" '^[^']*')	Quoted string



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You have two possibilities for managing the search/replace patterns:

- With the menu command '[View » Options](#)' open the '[Options](#)' dialog and then click the '[Search/Replace Patterns](#)' tab.


In this tab you can insert, edit and delete search/replace patterns.

- Quick insertion of search/replace patterns:

In either of the input fields 'Search' or 'Replace' in the [main window](#) press the keyboard shortcut `Ctrl+Shift+Ins` to open the '[Search/Replace Pattern](#)' dialog in insertion mode. The current values of the input fields 'Search' and 'Replace' are picked up as default. Enter the other dialog input fields and save the new search/replace pattern with `OK`.



To select a **search/replace pattern** in the [main window](#):

1. First determine the desired **pattern type** by checking (= pattern type *Regular Expression*) or unchecking (= pattern type *Wildcard*) the search option '*Regular Expression*'.
2. Next, click the **button**  beside the input field 'Search' and select a search/replace pattern from the **popup menu** displayed.

Notes:


- The popup menu displays only search/replace patterns matching the selected pattern type.
- The popup menu displays only search/replace patterns containing either a search pattern alone or both a search and replace pattern. It does not display patterns containing a replace pattern alone.
- To close the popup menu without selecting a pattern, click somewhere in the empty area of the window outside of the popup menu or press one of the keys `Esc` or `Alt`.



To select a **replace pattern** in the [main window](#) matching the search pattern already entered:

1. Leave the search option 'Regular Expression' unchanged in order to have the replace pattern the same pattern type as the search pattern already entered.

If you have not yet checked or unchecked the search option 'Regular Expression' suitable for the search pattern already entered, specify now the desired pattern type by checking (= pattern type *Regular Expression*) or unchecking (= pattern type *Wildcard*) this search option.

2. Next, click the **button**  beside the input field 'Replace' and select a replace pattern from the **popup menu** displayed.

Notes:

- The popup menu displays only replace patterns matching the selected pattern type.
- The popup menu displays only pure replace patterns that are those search/replace patterns containing a replace pattern alone.
- To close the popup menu without selecting a pattern, click somewhere in the empty area of the window outside of the popup menu or press one of the keys `Esc` or `Alt`.



Overview

- Main Window
 - 'Find/Rename' View
 - 'Dates/Attributes' View
 - Title Bar
 - System Menu
 - Menu Bar
 - Toolbar
 - Status Bar
 - Scroll Bars
- 'Options' Dialog
 - 'General' Options
 - 'Search/Replace Pattern' Options
- 'Search/Replace Pattern' Dialog
- 'About' Dialog
- 'License Activation' Dialog
- Keyboard Shortcuts of HM Find+Rename
- Getting Help on HM Find+Rename
- Error codes of HM Find+Rename



The main window offers two **views** which can be toggled with the menu commands '[View » Find/Rename](#)' and '[View » Dates/Attributes](#)'. In the '[Find/Rename](#)' view you can search and rename files. In the '[Dates/Attributes](#)' view you can search files and change their file properties.

Directions for Use

The basic directions for use are the same in both views. First, you have to start a Find action to find the files you want to modify. The Find action adds the files found to the program's file list. Then you can modify the files in the file list (or a subset thereof) by a Rename or Change action (according to the view). For more details on the several steps of this process, see [Step-by-Step Instruction](#).

The '[Options](#)' dialog enables you to configure the program and adjust it to your requirements.

File List

The file list is located in the bottom area of the main window.

The file list columns indicate the file properties which are of relevance to the current view. Clicking a column header [sorts the file list](#) by this column.

After a *Find* action the file list shows the files found. During a *Rename All* or *Change All* action the file list shows ongoing the modified file properties.

With the '[Undo](#)' command of the file list you can undo all rename and change operations since the last Find action.

You may select one or more files in the file list and perform file-specific commands just like in Windows Explorer. See chapter "[Other Commands in the File List](#)".

Dialog Elements

For a detailed description of the **program-specific dialog elements** in the main window, see the Help on the particular view:

- ▶ '[Find/Rename](#)' view
- ▶ '[Dates/Attributes](#)' view

The **other dialog elements and areas** of the main window are similar to any other *Microsoft Windows* standard application. The main window has a [Title bar](#) (including a [System menu](#)), a [Menu bar](#), a [Toolbar](#) and a [Status bar](#).

Miscellaneous

The '[About](#)' dialog displays the program version and the copyright, license and support information as well. Furthermore this dialog window has a button to open the '[License Activation](#)' dialog in which you can enter your license information to activate the unregistered shareware version.



In this view of the [main window](#) you can search and rename files.

Dialog Elements

Folder	Fully qualified path and name of the folder you want to be searched for files by the next <i>Find</i> action. Required input. For detailed information on the input possibilities of this input field, see chapter "Specify the Search Folder for Searching" .
Button '...'	See chapter "Specify the Search Folder for Searching" .
Include Subfolders	See chapter "Search Options" .
Search	For a <i>Find</i> action enter a search pattern describing the filenames to be added to the file list. If empty, all files of the search folder will be found. For a <i>Rename</i> action enter a search pattern matching those filenames in the file list which should be renamed. Mostly that is the same search pattern as in the previous Find action. However, it could be a restrictive search pattern matching only a subset of the files in the file list, or it is a modified search pattern which, for example, matches all files but additionally buffers parts of the filename, etc. If empty, none files of the file list are matching. The type of the search pattern is determined by the check box 'Regular Expression'. For detailed information on the input possibilities of this input field, see chapter "Entering Search Patterns" .
Button '>' (beside 'Search')	Displays a popup menu with stored search/replace patterns you can select and insert into the main window. For more information see chapter "Selecting a Search/Replace Pattern" .
Regular Expression	See chapter "Search Options" .
Replace	For a <i>Find</i> action this input is not required and may be empty. For a <i>Rename</i> action enter a replace pattern describing the new filename for a found file. The replace pattern has to be suitable to the pattern type of the search pattern you have entered into the input field 'Search'. For detailed information on the input possibilities of this input field, see chapter "Entering Replace Patterns" .
Button '>' (beside 'Replace')	Displays a popup menu with stored replace patterns you can select and insert into the main window. For more information see chapter "Selecting a Replace Pattern" .
Preview	This option controls <i>rename actions</i> . For more information see chapter "Replace Options" .
Whole List	This option controls <i>rename actions</i> . For more information see chapter "Replace Options" .

Buttons

Use button **'Find'** to start a **find action**. For detailed information see chapter ["Perform the Find Action"](#).

Use button **'Rename'** to perform a single **rename action** with the file currently selected in the file list if it matches the search pattern. Otherwise, the next matching file is searched in the file list. For detailed information see chapter ["Perform the Rename Action"](#).

Use button **'Rename All'** to perform a **rename action** with all files in the file list matching the search pattern. For detailed information see chapter ["Perform the Rename Action"](#).

Use button **'Stop'** to cancel a running find or rename action. For further information see chapter ["Cancel a Running Action"](#).



In this view of the [main window](#) you can search files and change their file properties.

Dialog Elements

Folder	Fully qualified path and name of the folder you want to be searched for files by the next <i>Find</i> action. Required input. For detailed information on the input possibilities of this input field, see chapter "Specify the Search Folder for Searching" .
Button '...'	See chapter "Specify the Search Folder for Searching" .
Include Subfolders	See chapter "Search Options" .
Search	For a <i>Find</i> action enter a search pattern describing the filenames to be added to the file list. If empty, all files of the search folder will be found. For a <i>Change</i> action enter a search pattern matching those filenames in the file list of which the file properties should be changed. Mostly that is the same search pattern as in the previous Find action. However, it could be a restrictive search pattern matching only a subset of the files in the file list. If empty, none files of the file list are matching. The type of the search pattern is determined by the check box 'Regular Expression'. For detailed information on the input possibilities of this input field, see chapter "Entering Search Patterns" .
Button '>' (beside 'Search')	Displays a popup menu with stored search/replace patterns you can select and insert into the main window. For more information see chapter "Selecting a Search/Replace Pattern" .
Regular Expression	See chapter "Search Options" .
Preview	This option controls <i>change actions</i> . For more information see chapter "Change Options" .
Whole List	This option controls <i>change actions</i> . For more information see chapter "Change Options" .
New File Times	For a <i>Find</i> action the inputs of this group box are not used. For a <i>Change</i> action check those file times beneath 'Change' which you want to modify. Then enter the new date and time. For detailed information on the input possibilities of this group box, see chapter "Entering New File Times" .
New File Attributes	For a <i>Find</i> action the inputs of this group box are not used. For a <i>Change</i> action check those file attributes beneath 'Change' which you want to modify. Then, beneath 'New Value', specify the new state of each file attribute concerned. For detailed information on the input possibilities of this group box, see chapter "Entering New File Attributes" .

Buttons

Use button **'Find'** to start a **find action**. For detailed information see chapter ["Perform the Find Action"](#).

Use button **'Change'** to perform a single **change action** with the file currently selected in the file list if it matches the search pattern. Otherwise, the next matching file is searched in the file list. For detailed information see chapter ["Perform the Change Action"](#).

Use button **'Change All'** to perform a **change action** with all files in the file list matching the search pattern. For detailed information see chapter ["Perform the Change Action"](#).

Use button **'Stop'** to cancel a running find or change action. For further information see chapter ["Cancel a Running Action"](#).



The title bar is located along the top of a window.



The title bar of the [main window](#) shows the name of the application, whereas the title bar of dialog windows shows the name of the dialog function.

Drag the title bar to move the window. Double-click the title bar to maximize or restore the window.

Note: You can also move dialog windows by dragging their title bar.

The **title bar of the main window** contains the following dialog elements:

- Application Control menu box (System menu)
- Name of the application
- Document name (optional)
- Minimize button
- Maximize button or Restore button
- Close button

Note: The buttons of the title bar correspond with the commands of the same name in the [System menu](#).

The **title bar of a dialog window** contains the following dialog elements:

- Name of the window
- Context help button
- Close button



The **System menu** (Control menu) of the [main window](#) offers the following *commands*:

Restore	Restores normal size and position of the window.
Move	Moves the window (with arrow keys).
Size	Changes the size of the window (with arrow keys).
Minimize	Reduces the window to an icon.
Maximize	Enlarges the window to full size.
Close	Closes the window.

Shortcuts

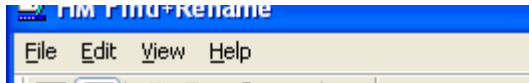
Keys: Alt + Spacebar

Mouse: Click on the top left edge in the title bar of the main window.





The menu bar is displayed across the top of the application's [main window](#), below the [title bar](#):



The menu bar provides mouse or keyboard access to the command menus of the application.

Command menus of the application

- 'File' menu
- 'Edit' menu
- 'View' menu
- 'Help' menu



The **'File' Menu** offers the following *commands*:

Exit Exits the application.

Invoking

Keys: Alt + F

Mouse: Click on "File" in the [menu bar](#) of the application.



The **'Edit' menu** offers the following *commands*:

Undo	Reverse the last editing operation.
Cut	Removes the selected data from the window and stores it on the clipboard.
Copy	Copies the selected data from the window to the clipboard.
Paste	Inserts the contents of the clipboard into the window.
Select All	Selects all files of the file list or the entire text in input fields.
Invert Selection	Inverts the selection of the file list.

Invoking

Keys: Alt + E

Mouse: Click on "Edit" in the [menu bar](#) of the application.



The **'View'** menu offers the following *commands*:

Find/Rename	Displays the program view for finding and renaming files.
Dates/Attributes	Displays the program view for changing file properties.
Toolbar	Displays or hides the toolbar.
Status Bar	Displays or hides the status bar.
Options	Opens the 'Options' dialog window with the program settings.

Invoking

Keys: Alt + V

Mouse: Click on "View" in the [menu bar](#) of the application.



The **'Help' Menu** offers the following *commands*:

Help Topics	Offers you an index to topics on which you can get help.
What's This Help	Displays help for clicked on buttons, menus and window portions.
About	Displays program information, version number and copyright.

Envoking

Keys: Alt + H

Mouse: Click on "Help" in the [menu bar](#) of the application.



The toolbar is displayed across the top of the application's [main window](#), below the [menu bar](#):



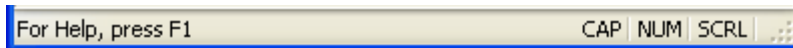
The toolbar provides quick mouse access to frequently needed commands of the application.

To display or hide the toolbar, use the '[Toolbar](#)' [command](#) in the '[View](#)' [menu](#).

Tool	Description
	Displays the program view for finding and renaming files.
	Displays the program view for changing file properties.
	Removes the selected data from the window and stores it on the clipboard.
	Copies the selected data to the clipboard.
	Inserts the contents of the clipboard at the insertion point.
	Reverse the last editing operation. Note: There are some actions you cannot undo.
	Opens the 'Options' dialog window with the program settings.
	Displays help for clicked on buttons, menus and window portions.



The status bar is displayed at the bottom of the application's [main window](#).



To display or hide the status bar, use the '[Status Bar](#)' [command](#) in the '[View](#)' [menu](#).

The left area of the status bar describes the actions of menu items as you use the ARROW KEYS to navigate through menus. This area similarly shows messages that describe the actions of toolbar buttons as you depress them, before releasing them.

Note: If after viewing the description of the toolbar button command you wish not to execute the command, then release the mouse button while the pointer is off the toolbar button.

The right area of the status bar indicate which of the following keys are latched down:

Indicator	Description
CAP	The Caps Lock key is latched down.
NUM	The Num Lock key is latched down.
SCRL	The Scroll Lock key is latched down.



Scroll bars are displayed at the right and bottom edges of a window. The scroll boxes inside the scroll bars indicate your vertical and horizontal location in the window. You can use the mouse to scroll to other parts of the window.



Use the **Options** (preferences) to configure the program and adjust it to your requirements. Click on the several tabs (option groups) and change the options you want.

The '**General**' tab contains general options to configure the application.

The '**Search/Replace Pattern**' tab serves for managing of user-defined search/replace patterns.

Buttons

Use button '**OK**' to save all your changes and close the dialog box.

Use button '**Cancel**' to close the dialog box without saving the changes you have made since opening the dialog box or the last saving of the options.

Use button '**Help**' to display help on this dialog box.


Invoking

Open this dialog window with the menu command '**View » Options**' in the **Main Window** of the application.



This tab of the 'Options' dialog contains general settings you can use to configure the applications behaviour. Modifications of settings on this tab will take effect immediately after closing the dialog box.

Dialog Elements

File List - Maximum Size	<p>This setting defines the maximum count of files displayed in the file list by a Find action. If there are more files matching the search options the Find action stops after reaching this value.</p> <p>The <i>default setting 0</i> means, there is no maximum size for the file list.</p> <p> On older Windows versions (Windows 95/98/Me) the default setting 0 or a very high value may cause system crashes or uncontrollable side-effects during a Find action. If you experience such problems set the maximum size to 60000 and decrease it step-by-step till the problems are gone.</p>
Rename All / Change All - Error handling	<p>This setting defines the error handling in the event the application cannot modify a single file during a Rename All/Change All action. The most frequent reason for this problem is that when renaming a file another file with the same filename already exists in the folder.</p> <p>First of all an error message with the path and name of the file will be displayed. Then, depending on the error handling mode of this setting, execution will continue as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• On '<i>abort the Rename All/Change All action</i>' (default setting): The Rename All/Change All action will be cancelled. The filename concerned will be selected in the file list. The files renamed/changed previously in the Rename All /Change All action will still be renamed/changed.• On '<i>resume the Rename All/Change All action with the next file</i>': After confirmation of the error message the Rename All/Change All action will be resumed with the next file. At the end of the Rename All/Change All action the count of files not renamed/changed will be shown in a dialog box. <p>Tip: If you start once again a Find action with the same search options thereafter, you will find exactly the files not renamed.</p>
Auto-display of context help popup windows (tips)	<p>If this checkbox is <i>checked</i> a context help popup window (small tip window) is displayed automatically if you position the mouse pointer over a dialog element.</p> <p>If this checkbox is <i>unchecked</i> the context help popup windows are not displayed automatically. But you can display them, if needed, using the shortcut Shift+F1. In chapter 'Getting Help' you will find further ways to display context help or more detailed help.</p>



This tab of the 'Options' dialog serves for managing the user-defined search/replace patterns. Modifications of the search/replace patterns on this tab will take effect immediately after closing the 'Options' dialog.

There are two **kinds of search/replace patterns**, that are [wildcard](#) patterns (file names with/without placeholders) and patterns with [regular expressions](#). First choose the type of patterns you want to manage. Then, from the list displayed, choose the search/replace pattern you want to display or edit.

Dialog Elements

Pattern Type	This radio button group serves for choosing the kind of search/replace patterns to display. Selecting the option 'Wildcard' will display the list with wildcard patterns. Selecting the option 'Regular Expression' will display the list with regular expression patterns.
Pattern List	This list box displays the search/replace patterns of the selected pattern type. To display or edit the data of a search/replace pattern, select it in the list first. If the input focus is in the list, there are the following input possibilities : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The 'Ins' key triggers the 'Insert' button.• The 'Del' key triggers the 'Delete' button with the selected search/replace pattern.• The spacebar selects the current search/replace pattern.• The 'j' or '↑' key moves the selection to the next or previous search/replace pattern, respectively.• Clicking a line of the list selects this search/replace pattern.• Double-clicking a line of the list selects this search/replace pattern and triggers the 'Edit' button.

Buttons

Insert	This button opens a dialog you can use to add a <i>new search/replace pattern</i> to the list displayed.
Edit	This button opens a dialog you can use to edit the data of the currently <i>selected search/replace pattern</i> in the list displayed.
Delete	This button removes the currently <i>selected search/replace pattern</i> in the list from the list.

Note: The modifications made in the search/replace pattern lists by using the buttons above are saved persistently only when closing the 'Options' dialog with OK.



Use this dialog to enter a new [search/replace pattern](#) or to edit the data of an existing search/replace pattern.

A **search/replace pattern** is either a search pattern alone or a replace pattern alone or both a search and replace pattern. Enter the input field values accordingly.

Dialog Elements

Pattern Type	Indicates the kind of the search/replace pattern (not editable). The pattern type is already defined before opening the dialog window.
Menu Item	A short description of the search/replace pattern. Input is required. The text entered into this field is the name of the search/replace pattern which on the one hand is displayed in the popup menu for selecting a search/replace pattern and on the other hand is used as key value for storing the search/replace pattern persistent. Therefore the menu item text has to be unique which means there must not be another search/replace pattern with the same pattern type and the same menu item text.
Search Pattern	A search pattern describes the filenames to be add to the file list by a Find action. Use here just such placeholders suitable for the pattern type displayed. May be empty.
Replace Pattern	A replace pattern describes the new filename for a found file. Use here just such placeholders suitable for the pattern type displayed. May be empty.
Status Bar Text	Enter a description of the search/replace pattern as incisive as possible. May be empty. The text entered into this input field will be shown in the status bar while displaying the popup menu for selecting a search/replace pattern.
Caret Position After Insertion Is Situated In	Defines the input field of the main window which will get the focus and caret after this search/replace pattern was choosen in the popup menu and inserted in the main window. Choose the option ' <i>Search Pattern</i> ' if you have entered a search pattern alone or both a search and replace pattern. Choose the option ' <i>Replace Pattern</i> ' if you have entered a replace pattern alone.
Caret Position After Insertion Within The Pattern	Defines the caret position within the input field (' <i>Search Pattern</i> ' or ' <i>Replace Pattern</i> ') of the main window after this search/replace pattern was choosen in the popup menu and inserted in the main window. Choose the desired option. If you choose the option ' <i>in the pattern after the x. char</i> ', additionally enter the character position where the caret should be situated.

Buttons

Use button '**OK**' to close the dialog window and save all your changes to the search/replace pattern list.

Use button '**Cancel**' to close the dialog box without saving your changes.

Use button '**Help**' to display help on the dialog window.

Invoking

Open this dialog with one of the buttons '**Insert**' or '**Edit**' on the '[Search/Replace Patterns](#)' tab in the '[Options](#)' dialog of the application.

Alternatively, pressing the shortcut '**Ctrl+Shift+Ins**' in the application's [main window](#) opens this dialog too for inserting a new search/replace pattern.



This dialog shows the exact version number of the program, as well as copyright, license and support information.

Buttons

The button **'Close'** closes the dialog window.

The button **'License'** opens the ['License Activation' dialog](#) where you can enter your license information to activate the unregistered shareware version. *Note: If the application need not to be activated, this button does not exist.*

Invoking

Open this dialog window with the menu command **'Help » About'** in the main window of the application. If there is no menu bar in the main window, use the system menu command **'System menu » About'** instead.



In this dialog you can enter the license information you have got from the licenser to [activate](#) the unregistered shareware version of the program. The activation of the program is done by activating the entered license. Thereby the license will be verified. Note: You can repeat the activation of a license as often as you want.

Dialog Elements

Enter all data exactly the same as specified in the license you have received from the licenser. **Note that the values are case-sensitive and pay attention to the difference between the digit 0 (zero) and the uppercase letter O as well as the digit 1 and the uppercase letter I. The license number does not contain lowercase letters.**

Username:	First name and last name of the user or other name. May not be empty.
Organization:	Name of organization the user belongs to. May be empty for private persons.
Drive letter:	Letter of the drive containing the bound volume, followed by a colon ':'.
Volume S/N:	Serial number of the bound volume in hexadecimal. At least 4 characters.
Volume desc.:	Name / description of your choice of the bound volume. It is used in messages and may not be empty.
License number:	The license number you have got from the licenser (also called activation code). At least 10 characters.

Buttons

The button **'Show Volume S/N'** shows the serial number of the currently mounted volume in the drive entered in field 'Drive letter' and optionally take it to the input field 'Volume S/N'.

The button **'Check license'** verifies the entered license information to be valid.

The button **'OK'** activates the entered license (if it is valid) and closes the dialog window.

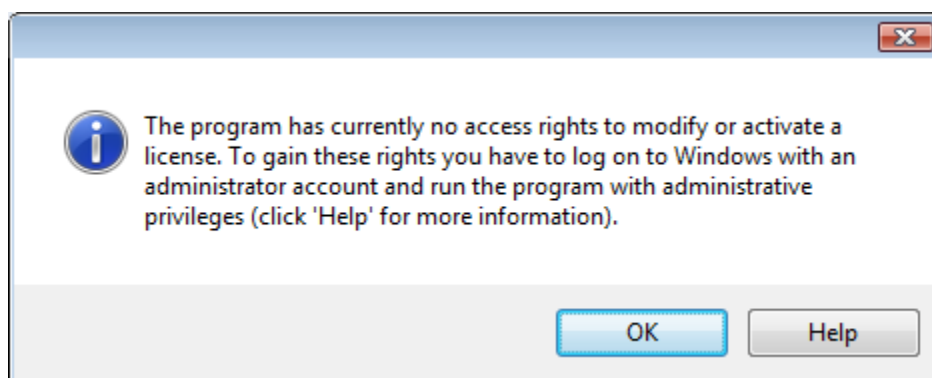
The button **'Cancel'** closes the dialog window without activating the entered license.

The button **'Help'** displays help on dialog window.

Invoking

Open this dialog window with the button **'License'** in the ['About' dialog](#).

Due to Windows security restrictions administrative privileges are needed to activate a license. If the following message is displayed when opening the dialog window, you are currently not authorized to it and all input fields as well as the button 'OK' are disabled.



To gain the rights needed you have to log on to your Computer with an administrator account and run the application with administrative privileges:

To find out which user account of your computer is an administrator account, open **User Accounts** in Windows **Control Panel**. Then if needed, restart your computer and log on to Windows with an administrator account.

To start a program with administrative privileges in Windows Vista and later right click the program's shortcut in the program group of the application and then select the context menu command **'Run as administrator'**. In previous Windows versions just click the program's shortcut.

Note: Starting the application with administrative privileges is only necessary to activate a license (see [Activation](#)). After it, you may restart the program as usual.



Use keyboard shortcuts (also known as accelerator keys) to gain quick access to often used commands or operations.

Common Shortcuts (in all windows)

Window control	Key(s)
Close the application	Alt+F4 or Esc
Close the active window	Alt+F4 or Esc
Help on the active window or the active dialog element	F1 or Shift+F1
Edit field control	Key(s)
Direct jump to an edit field	Alt+letter underlined
Jump to the next edit field	TAB
Jump to the previous edit field	Shift+TAB
To the beginning of the edit field	Pos1
To the end of the edit field	End
Undo the input	Ctrl+Z
Combobox control	Key(s)
Open or close the item list	Alt+↓ bzw. Alt+↑
To the next/previous item in the open item list	↓ or ↑
Pick current item of the item list	Alt+↓ bzw. Alt+↑
Tab control	Key(s)
To the next tab	Ctrl+TAB
To the previous tab	Shift+Ctrl+TAB
Checkbox control	Key(s)
Check/uncheck the checkbox	Spacebar
Button control	Key(s)
Press the button	Spacebar



HM Find+Rename offers you several ways to get help.

The **What's This? help** shows information on the current dialog element (edit field, combobox, checkbox, push button, and so on) of a window. The help text is shown in a small popup window near by the dialog element concerned. The popup window can be displayed automatically (tip window), or manually if needed.

All other help types are displayed in an own help window which can be enlarged, reduced or moved in any way.

The **context help** shows information on the active window and explains possible dependences of the several dialog elements.

The **help topics** offer an overview and hierarchical outline with all help texts available.

The **help index** offers the possibility to filter and display the existing help topics using predefined key words.

The **full text search** offers the possibility to search the existing help topics for any words.

Use the **favorites** to collect often used help topics to make them accessible quickly.

Invoking

Help Type	Getting help
What's This? Help	<p>Keys: Shift+F1</p> <p>Mouse: With the right mouse button click on the dialog element on which you need help. In the context menu displayed after that select the menu item <i>What's This?</i>. Note: If the displayed context menu does not contain a <i>What's This?</i> menu item (e.g. edit fields), right click the label of the dialog element instead of the dialog element itself.</p> <p>Depending on the current program configuration (see 'General' Options) you have additionally the possibility to let display the What's This' help in an automatically shown tip window. For this, position the mouse pointer for a moment over the dialog element you need help on.</p>
Context Help	<p>Keys: F1</p> <p>Mouse: Click the push button <i>Help</i>.</p>
Help Topics	<p>Keys: Alt+F1</p> <p>Mouse: n/a</p>



A file operation may fail due to several reasons. The table below contains a **list with the most frequent error codes** which may occur on file operations. This list is an excerpt of the WIN32 SDK error codes:

Error code	Description
2	ERROR_FILE_NOT_FOUND The file was not found (e.g. because it has been deleted by another program in the meantime).
3	ERROR_PATH_NOT_FOUND The new filename is invalid (e.g. empty string).
5	ERROR_ACCESS_DENIED You have no or too less access rights for the file to to perform a file operation with it (see also the notes on Windows Vista and later).
32	ERROR_SHARING_VIOLATION The file is opened by another program/user.
33	ERROR_LOCKING_VIOLATION The file is opened by another program/user.
123	ERROR_INVALID_NAME The new filename contains an illegal character: \ / : * ? " < >
183	ERROR_ALREADY_EXISTS There is already a file with this name in this folder.
206	ERROR_FILENAME_EXCED_RANGE The new filename is too long (path and filename must not exceed 256 characters).
2250	ERROR_ALREADY_EXISTS There is already a file with this name in this folder.



Overview

- [Copyright](#)
- [License Terms](#)
- [Copy Protection](#)



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On installation of the Software you have read and accepted the terms of the enclosed **End User License Agreement** which applies to this Software product.

End User License Agreement

PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLING THE SOFTWARE. THIS AGREEMENT LICENSES THE ENCLOSED SOFTWARE TO YOU AND CONTAINS WARRANTY AND LIABILITY DISCLAIMERS. BY INSTALLING OR USING THE SOFTWARE, YOU ARE AGREEING TO BECOME BOUND BY THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT. IF YOU DO NOT AGREE TO THE TERMS OF THIS AGREEMENT, DO NEITHER INSTALL NOR USE THE SOFTWARE.

1. Definitions.

- (a) The term "Licensor" means "Dipl.-Ing. Martin Haller, Software-Engineering & EDV-Beratung" and its suppliers.
- (b) The term "Software" means the enclosed Licensor's software product and the related documentation and all related updates.
- (c) The term "registration code" in this document means the data technical representation of a valid license according to point 5 of this agreement, whatever shape it has (activation code, license number, license file or others).

The unregistered shareware version may be freely distributed, provided that:

- Such distribution includes only the original archive supplied by the Licensor. You may not alter, delete or add any files in the distribution archive.
- Such distribution contains the same copyright and other proprietary notices pertaining to this Software that appear in the Software.
- The distribution does neither include a registration code nor methods, programs or instructions to get or create a registration code or in any other way upgrade the Software from its unregistered status unlawfully.
- No money is charged to the person receiving the Software, beyond reasonable cost of packaging and other overhead.



As a simple copy protection mechanism the license of the registered version will be **bound** to the **serial number** of a volume (disk, data medium) of your own. On [ordering](#) the license you tell us the serial number of a volume of your choice and the drive letter of the drive connected to this volume. At each startup the application checks the drive to contain this volume.

- [How to choose a suitable volume for copy protection](#)
- [How to find out the serial number of the volume of your choice](#)
- [What to do after reorganization of the drive letters of your computer](#)
- [What to do on damage of the bound volume or when buying a new computer](#)

How to choose a suitable volume for copy protection

As **bound volume** (= volume for copy protection) you can choose one of the hard disks of your computer or one of your 3.5" disks or CD-ROM's, DVD's, and so on.

However, **on choosing your bound volume** consider the following:

- Only *local volumes/drives* are possible. Server volumes, network drives and RAM disks are not allowed.
- *Virtual volumes/drives* which are logical partitions of a hard disk are allowed, but notice, they have a virtual serial number which may change on repartitioning the hard disk whereby the license would be invalid. Therefore, always choose the serial number of those partition which corresponds to the physical hard disk.
- If you choose a *fixed mounted volume/disk* (e.g. the hard disk of your computer with drive 'C:') you will have the advantage of an easy startup of the application at any time without having to insert the bound volume in a drive before. Moreover, hard disks have a higher duration of life than a removable volume/disk (3.5" disk, CD-ROM, other removable disk,...).

Therefore we recommend to choose a fixed mounted volume/disk (the hard disk of your computer with drive 'C:' is best) as bound volume. To this please notice the chapter [Damage of the bound volume or buying a new computer](#).

How to find out the serial number of the volume of your choice

The **serial number** of a volume is a *multi-digit hexadecimal number* (containing digits from 0 to 9 and letters from a to f, e.g. 45e78fa2). Note down the hexadecimal number **without** any special characters like spaces, hyphens.

To **find out** the serial number of the volume of your choice:

1. If the volume is a removable volume/disk insert the volume into the correct drive.
2. In Windows open a command line dialog window using the command sequence **'Start » All Programs » Accessories » Command Prompt'**
3. In the command line dialog window enter the command 'vol C:' (complete with ENTER), then the serial number of drive 'C:' is displayed. Note: In the previously mentioned command you have to replace the drive letter 'C:' by the letter of the drive containing the bound volume you have choosen, if necessary.
4. In the command line dialog window enter the command 'exit' to close the dialog window.

What to do after reorganization of the drive letters of your computer

Please notice, the license is bound only to the serial number of the volume and not to the drive letter. Therefore, you can reorganize the assignment of the drive letters of your system to the volumes/drives of your computer at any time.

After reorganization you merely have to enter the new drive letter of the bound volume into the input field *Dongle Port* of the ['License Activation' dialog](#) of the application and to repeat the license activation, to ensure the license to be valid.

What to do on damage of the bound volume or when buying a new computer

On **damage or lost** of your bound volume you can request for a [free follow-up license](#). The same is applied to if you have bound your license to a fixed mounted volume/disk of your computer (e.g. the hard disk of your computer with drive letter 'C:') and now want to substitute a new hardware for this volume/disk or the entire computer (e.g. you buy a new computer), provided that you uninstall the program from your old volume/disk or computer.

To request your **free follow-up license** send an email to the [Product Support](#) containing the following information: your full name and address, your valid email address, program name, version number, the old license number, the reason for the follow-up license (e.g. damage/lost of the bound volume, buying a new computer, ...), a confirmation that the program with the old license has been uninstalled or is no more usable due to a damaged bound volume, as well as the drive letter and serial number of your new bound volume/disk.



Overview

- [Order / Payment](#)
- [Delivery](#)
- [Activation](#)



Subject of the Contract of Sale

On paying the purchase price (registration fee) you purchase a **user license** for the full version of the program. The terms of the enclosed [End User License Agreement](#) are effective upon installation of the software.

Purchase Price / Registration Fee

The price indicated in the various download archives of the Internet is a target price. Dependent on currency exchange rates and the currentness of the web pages in the download archives the real price can differ slightly from this target price.

For the currently **valid purchase price** refer to the [Online Product Page](#) ➡ in the [Share*It! Online Shop](#).

Order / Payment

For order and payment of a **single user license** you can choose between the ways mentioned below. Each of these ways offer different types of payment. The purchase price is independent of the type of ordering and payment you select.

If you want to use the program on multiple workstations you should request for information about the low-cost and easy to handle **multi-user licenses**. Send your email request directly to the [HMSE Sales](#).

Companies within the European Union can order tax-free by using their VAT-No.

Order Types

Ordering via Share*It! / Digital River

ShareIt is a world-wide acting software distribution company selling the software of many software developers as a reseller. Which means, when selecting this way of ordering the contract of sale is made between you and ShareIt. Likewise, accounting and payment processing is handled by ShareIt.

ShareIt offers a fast **online order** and you can order by email, letter, phone or fax too. For payment you can choose between a multitude of payment types (all possible credit cards, transfer, check, cash, online payment, PayPal) and currencies.

► [Further information on ordering at ShareIt](#)

Ordering Directly at the Software Developer

Residents within the European Community can order directly at the software developer **HMSE**. When selecting this way of ordering the contract of sale is made between you and HMSE. In this case accounting and payment processing is handled by HMSE.


You can order by email, letter, phone or fax. Please note, when using this way of ordering, accounting and payment processing is possible in Euro solely. You can choose between the payment types EU standard transfer, collection only check or cash. Payment by credit cards is not possible.

Note: Companies, organisations and public institutions which are residents within the European Community and which are only allowed to **buy on account** due to existing regulations and legal provisions, should choose this way of ordering.

► [Further information on ordering at HMSE](#)



Order Procedure


Detailed information on the order and payment procedure at ShareIt you will find online in the [ShareIt Customer Care Center](#) .

If you have questions beyond or need further information please contact ShareIt directly: register@shareit.com.

Possible Types of Ordering


Online Order via Internet: [Online order form](#)

Ordering online is the **fastest way** to order the program and is handled via **secure web pages**. All information needed for ordering is available directly in the online order form and you can choose between different currencies, payment types, and so on.

Alternative to the link above, to display the online order form you can go to www.shareit.com  and enter the [ShareIt Program Number](#) into the input field 'searching for programs' at the bottom left of the screen.

Order by Letter/Fax/Email: [Orderform for printing](#)

Fill in the order form completely and send/fax/mail it to:

ShareIt! / Digital River GmbH	Phone: +49-221-31088-20
Scheidtweilerstr. 4	Fax: +49-221-31088-29
50933 Koeln	Email: register@shareit.com
Germany	Internet: www.shareit.com 

Order by Phone: +49-221-31088-20

Employees of the ShareIt call center, Koeln, Germany, will accept your order.

Customers in the United States and Canada may also order by calling the toll-free number 1-800-903-4152 of the US call center of ShareIt around the clock.



Order Procedure



Due to organizational reasons this way of ordering is possible only for residents within the European Community.

To order directly at the software developer **HMSE** send your order by email, letter, phone or fax to:

Dipl.-Ing. Martin Haller
Software-Engineering & EDV-Beratung
Langkampfner Strasse 19
6330 Kufstein / Austria

Phone: +43-5372-68504
Fax: +43-5372-68504
Email: see [product information](#)
Internet: see [product information](#)

Your order should contain the following **ordering data**:

- Your name, address and email:
Giving a valid email address is absolutely obligatory because the whole order procedure and delivery will be made by email.
- Your VAT number (only for companies within the EU, if available).
- The payment type you want:
You can choose between the following payment types: EU standard transfer, collection only check or cash. If you want an other payment type, please select an other [order type](#).
- Name and version number of the program:
See the [product information](#) for these data.
- The number of licenses you want to order:
You need a license for each computer you want to install and use the program.
- The registration data the license should be made out, once for each license ordered. For further information see [here](#).

To simplify the procedure you can use the enclosed [order form](#), print it and fill it out.

Order Confirmation

After receipt of your order you will receive an order confirmation by email containing an unique **order number**, the **total amount** to pay as well as further information on the payment type you have selected (bank infos, and so on).

Payment

Please understand, due to organizational reasons we can accept your payment in Euro only. If you want to pay in an other currency please select an other [order type](#). Possible exchange and transfer costs of the payment process are at your expense. To speed up the order processing it is **important** to give the **order number** from the order confirmation you have received as additional payment information.

Please note, that the contract of sale will not become operative until receipt of payment of the full total amount indicated in the order confirmation. Payment before [delivery](#) is world-wide the common practice when ordering shareware.

Buy on Account

This order type is intended for companies, organisations and public institutions only which are residents within the European Community and which are only allowed to buy on account due to existing regulations and legal provisions.

In this case please transmit your order containing your internal order number and signature and the other ordering data (see above) in written form by letter or fax. After receipt and verification of your order you will receive the delivery together with the order confirmation.



In your order give the following **registration data** once for *each license* ordered:

- Username:
First name and last name of the licensee or other name.
- Organization (may be empty for privat persons):
Name of organization the licensee belongs to.
- Drive Letter:
Letter of the drive containing the 'bound volume', followed by a colon (:), e.g. 'C:'.
You can see the drive letters of your computer in the *Windows Explorer* program.
- Volume S/N:
Serial number of the 'bound volume' as hexadecimal number (0-9, A-F).
How to find out the serial number of a volume (disk, data medium), please read [here](#).



After receipt of your [order and payment](#) you will receive your **user license** by email as soon as possible (on online ordering usually within 2 days).

The delivery of the user license will take place in form of a **license letter** containing your *license number* (activation code) and instructions how to activate the license and to convert the shareware version of the program to it's full version.

Additionally, in the next days the vendor will send you an invoice and by cash with order a confirmation of receipt of payment.

Note:

The program itself (the software) you have already downloaded to your computer, installed and tested as shareware version. As the shareware version is identical with the full program version, the software is not delivered once again. On [activation](#) of the shareware version all restricted program features are unlocked so that you can use the full programm unrestrictedly.

If you have not yet installed the shareware version of the program on your computer you can download it from the [Product Homepage](#) or from other shareware web sites.



To **activate** a license with the unregistered shareware version of the application:

1. Under Windows NT/2000/XP and all later versions of Windows log in to your computer with an **administrator account**.

Note: To find out which user account of your computer is an administrator account, open **User Accounts** in Windows **Control Panel**. Then if needed, restart your computer and log on to Windows with an administrator account.

2. If the volume (disk, data medium) you have specified in your order to **bind** the license to is a removable disk, insert it now into the correct drive.
3. Open the Windows **Start** menu and click '**All Programs**', click the *program group of the application* and then the program shortcut '**License Activation**'.
4. In the **License Activation** window click the button '**Start**' to open the '**License Activation**' dialog.
5. In the '**License Activation**' dialog enter all license information exactly the same as specified in the license you have got from the licenser. **Note, the values are case-sensitive.**
6. Click the button '**Check license**'. A message box will display the validity of the license. Close the message box.

Note: If the message box shows that the license is invalid, verify the license information you have entered and correct them if needed. Verify the inserted bound volume to have the correct serial number. If the drive letter of the drive with the bound volume has changed since ordering the license, enter the new drive letter. Then repeat the license check.

7. Close the '**License Activation**' dialog with '**OK**' by what a valid license is activated only.
8. Restart the application as usual. All of its features are unlocked now.