

April 26, 2007

Before you read any further please be warned that this software comes with no warranties, it is highly experimental, and it may fry your apple tv and you may not have any recourse. I am not responsible for any damage to your equipment. Use at your own discretion.

I got tired of constantly renaming the Finder killing it and then running another app, then renaming it back. Luckily Erica Sadun figured out how to suspend the Finder and have it relinquish control of the screen. Read more at http://www.oreillynet.com/mac/blog/2007/04/apple_tv_finder_hiding_widget.html

This frappliance will add an 'Applications' menu to ATV that will allow you launch any application that is installed on ATV. This would allow us to run Centerstage without permanently disabling the Finder. It uses the code samples from EricIII and Erica Sadun.

I only hacked it together, they are the geniuses who figured out how to do this.

Installation:

1. Move the frappliance to the usual location on ATV
2. copy the Applist.txt to \Users\frontrow\Documents, if the directory doesnt exist create it.

Usage:

1. Edit the file to your specifications the format is Menu Label,path/to/your/app, notice that you have to find the actual executable usually located in Contents\MacOS directory. Look at the Applist.txt file.
2. Restart Finder and you will find an Applications menu

Usage Notes:

Please note that there are no spaces between the Menu Label and the path, I haven't tested it with spaces so don't know how it would react.

This frappliance suspends the Finder until the application you are running terminates, in case the app you are trying to run doesn't launch the Finder will stay suspended. All you have to do is kill the finder and it will relaunch.