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Installer: Why it's more useful than copying system files

In general, the Installer is a very flexible program for installing just about anything. Since the Installer is designed to be programmable, the number and sort of items it replaces can vary, depending on the installer script.

In the case of updating a System or Finder file, the Installer will usually only replace resources it identifies as: 1. Apple's and 2. outdated. This method is better than simply swapping an old System for a new one because it lets you keep custom setups including Desk Accessories, Fonts, and special drivers, like MacServe and InBox.

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