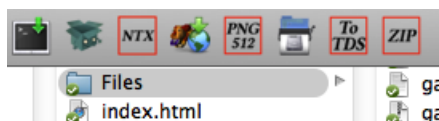


The Make Icons Macro

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This macro must be installed in T_EXShop's **Macros** menu. It requires that the front-most T_EX document be compiled successfully to a pdf which will serve to generate an .icns file with transparent background and in all sizes up to retina scale. I use the simple custom icons for Platypus and Automator applications where the usual interface is a small patch on the Finder **toolbar** onto which files and folder may be dropped. For example:



The T_EX document should generate a square page with no margins, and must be in a format to allow the macro to read the size of the page—it looks for a line of the form

```
\usepackage[papersize={1024pt,1024pt},margin=0pt]{geometry}
```

to determine the resolution it should specify, and will bail out if cannot find such a line, or thinks the size might not be square. You can use any dimension understood by T_EX, but 1024pt is numerically handy because one creates a 1024x1024 .png file in the initial step of the construction.

Here's a minimal sample file:

```
\documentclass[10pt]{article}
\usepackage[papersize={1024pt,1024pt},margin=0pt]{geometry}
\parindent=0pt
\usepackage[T1]{fontenc}
\usepackage[lining]{XCharter}% Charter is very readable at small sizes
\usepackage{xcolor}
\usepackage{graphicx}% in case you want a graphic as part of icon
\setlength{\fboxrule}{16pt}% 1024-16-16=992
\setlength{\fboxsep}{0pt}
\pagestyle{empty}
\begin{document}
%Set the font, style and size
\fontseries{b}\fontshape{it}
\fontsize{420pt}{460pt}\selectfont
%Create the icon to fill the page
\color{red}\fbox{% red border 16pt wide surrounding parbox
\parbox[c][992pt][c]{992pt}{% 992ptx992pt
```

```
\color{black}\centering
PNG\
1024}}
\end{document}
```

XCharter is a rather plain font designed to render clearly on small or low resolution devices, and I find it works well for small icons, especially using Bold Italic text. Notice that the dimensions of the `\parbox` (992pt) and those of the frame (2x16pt) add up to 1024pt. The resulting graphic looks like this, shown reduced to 20% of natural size:



Installing

First, copy the shell script `makeicon` into

`~/Library/TeXShop/bin`

Then install the macro **Make icons**.

- Select **Open Macro Editor...** from the **Macros** menu. From the **Macros** menu, select **Add macros from file** and select the file `MakeIcons.plist`.
- Move the macro to a convenient position, then click **Save**.