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Removing Services in OS X

After installing a bunch of stuff on my new PB, my Services menu started to get pretty cluttered with stuff I really didn't need. The whole point of the Services menu in OS X is to have quick access to useful commands in programs that support them, so having a super long list of useless stuff kinda totally defeats the purpose...

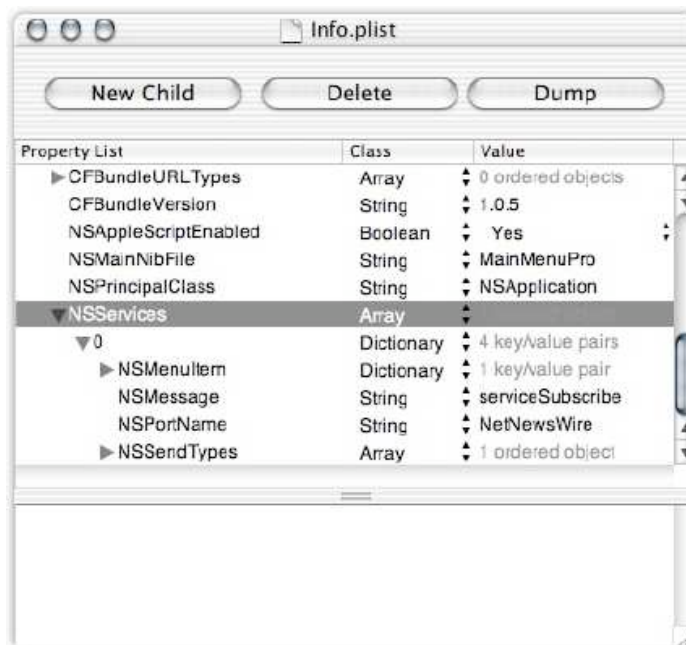
After digging around a little, I found the way to get rid of the items you don't need. It's relatively easy:

WARNING: if you don't know what you're doing, make a back up of anything you modify!!

01 – ctrl+click on the app that installed the service you don't want and select "Show Package Contents" from the contextual menu.

02 – in the new Finder window that appears, navigate to: `Contents > Info.plist` then open that `Info.plist` file with Property List Editor. It comes with the [Developer Tools](#), if you don't have them around and can't/don't want to download the whole 300MB, I put it [here \(49K\)](#).

03 – you'll get a window that lists all the properties. Find the property called "NSServices" highlight it, hit the "delete" button and save.



Find the property called "NSServices" and delete it

04 – log out and log back in to see the changes. It takes a minute for the Finder to scan all the `Info.plist` files from all the apps so wait a bit to see the changes.

Now I got a lean and mean (and therefor useful...) Services menu :)

weblogs that reference
'Removing Services in OS X'.

Just found the utility "Service Manager" which installs as a prefpane, allows for deactivating of services, very handy!

<http://macupdate.com/info.php/id/11777>

Posted by: xrissley on December 13, 2003 at 08:21 AM

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