

Bailiff 1.5 for El Capitan, Sierra, High Sierra, Mojave, Catalina & Big Sur
Release Notes

Howard Oakley <https://eclecticlight.co>



These release notes describe the features of **Bailiff**, a menubar tool which gives you control over which iCloud Drive items are stored locally, and which are kept in iCloud.

Files stored in iCloud exist in one of three states:

- A copy of the file is in your Mac's local storage, and another is on the iCloud servers. When you look at the file in the Finder, it has no iCloud icon by it (or an icon showing just the cloud ☁), and its status is **downloaded**.
- There is no copy of the file on your Mac's local storage, but it is on the iCloud servers (and possibly stored locally on other Macs or devices). When you look at the file in the Finder, it has an iCloud icon with an arrow pointing down ☁↓. Its status is **evicted**, as it has been evicted from local storage.
- The intermediate between those two states, in which a file is being downloaded from iCloud to provide a copy on your Mac's local storage. This is often marked by an icon showing just the cloud ☁ together with the downloading progress circle 🔄, and its status is **downloading**.

Behaviour of iCloud depends on two key settings in the iCloud pane: whether iCloud Drive is also enabled for **Desktop & Documents Folders**, and whether **Optimize Mac Storage** is enabled.

If **Optimize Mac Storage** is not enabled, then all files in iCloud Drive should either be downloaded or downloading, as without that storage optimisation, all files are stored locally. If **Optimize Mac Storage** is enabled, then files can be evicted by macOS, to save space on your local Mac storage, and that is when Bailiff is most useful, as it lets you decide which files are downloaded and which are evicted. As eviction is possible even with **Optimize Mac Storage** disabled, you can always use it to reclaim local storage. The Finder currently only lets you download files, not evict them. Bailiff gives you the choice as to what your Mac stores locally.

A good example of its value is if you have two Macs, one perhaps a MacBook Pro with Desktop & Documents Folders turned on, the other an iMac with it turned off. The MacBook Pro's Documents folder is included in iCloud Drive on the iMac, and even with Optimize Mac Storage turned on, each time your MacBook Pro adds a new document to its Documents folder, chances are that your iMac will download it into local storage. With Bailiff, you can evict the whole of that Documents folder, and keep your iMac clear of unwanted files, until you want to download them for local use.

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What you need

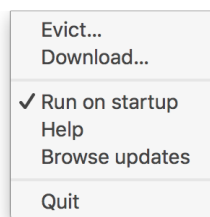
- A Mac running El Capitan, Sierra, High Sierra, Mojave, Catalina or Big Sur. This release has been built to be fully compatible with High Sierra, including the APFS file system, and with Mojave and later, including Dark Mode.
- An iCloud account, connected to iCloud Drive.
- A copy of the latest release of Bailiff from <https://eclecticlight.co/downloads/> (This is delivered by secure HTTPS download.)

Getting started

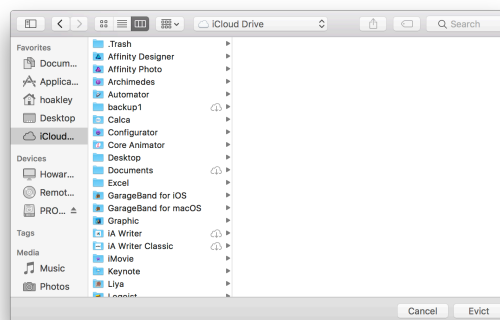
Bailiff comes compressed as a Zip file, which you should decompress, and move the app to your preferred folder, such as /Applications. As it runs from your menubar, it is best to keep it there.

Bailiff is now not just properly signed, but is also notarized for macOS Mojave, and checks the integrity of its code against its code signature each time that it is opened. If it finds any disparity, it quits immediately. If you experience any problems running the app, and are confident that you don't have a problem with malware, try installing a fresh download. Please don't hesitate to inform me of any problems with its notarization, signature, or signature check.

Features



Run Bailiff and it will install itself at the right side of your menubar, ready for use. It has six simple menu commands.

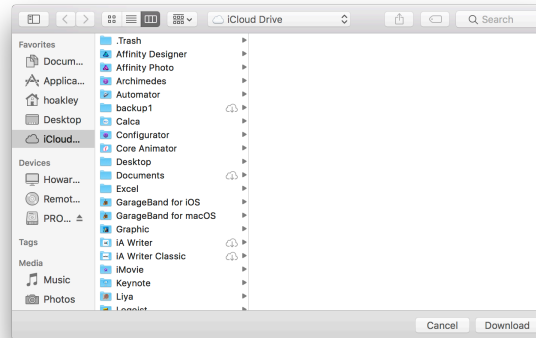


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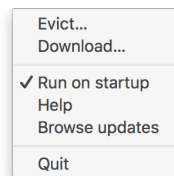
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The **Evict...** command produces an Open File dialog, which defaults to your iCloud Drive. Select the item which you want to evict from local storage, and click on the Evict button. This works best with whole folders. Because selecting a file causes QuickLook to show a preview of that file, it can temporarily prevent that file from being evicted. As folders don't have individual QuickLook previews, you'll find eviction works better on them.



The **Download...** command produces an Open File dialog, which again defaults to your iCloud Drive. Select the item which you want to download to local storage, and click on the Download button. If the item has a QuickLook preview, you may find it already downloading before you have clicked on that button.

The **Run on startup** command controls whether Bailiff is run automatically each time your Mac starts up. When a tick ✓ appears next to this command



each time that your Mac starts up, Bailiff will be run automatically and install itself in the menubar, ready for use. When there is no tick, you will have to run Bailiff yourself before it will install there.

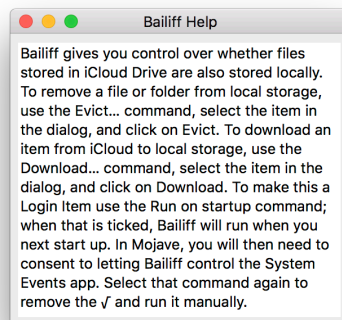
To add or remove the tickmark ✓ simply select this menu command, as it toggles between the two states. If you cannot control this setting using this command, you can always add or remove it manually – see below for instructions.

⚠ Mojave, Catalina and Big Sur users may then be prompted to consent to Bailiff controlling the **System Events** app. Please agree to that, or the app will be unable to install itself to run at startup. Consenting will add Bailiff to the **Automation** list in the **Privacy** tab of your **Security & Privacy** pane. You can always disable this control by opening that list and unchecking the pairing between Bailiff and System Events.

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The **Help** command displays this small window containing brief instructions. You can't resize the window, and close it using the usual red control at its top left. Unlike most app help, this window fully supports Dark Mode, so it doesn't dazzle.

The **Browse updates** command opens a page in your default browser on the Eclectic Light Company blog which lists version numbers and links to the current apps available, to make it easier for you to keep Bailiff and other tools up to date. If you are running El Capitan, the page only shows available tools for that version of macOS; if you are running Sierra or later, the page shows tools for those versions instead.

Note that Bailiff *doesn't* any update checking mechanism as my other apps now do, as it's designed to run each time your Mac starts up. Being invited to download an update then probably isn't what you want!

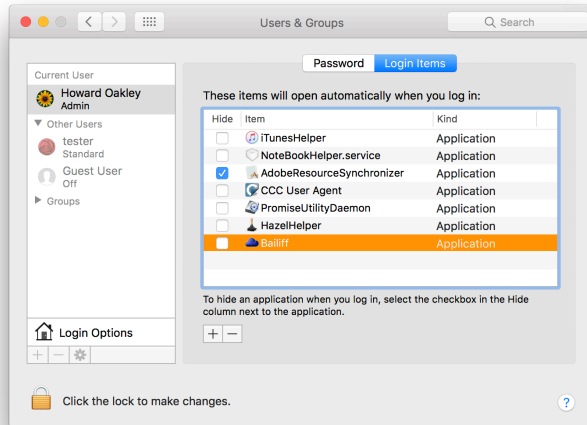
The **Quit** command quits Bailiff and removes it from your menubar.

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Installing Bailiff at startup

If you want to install or remove Bailiff from startup up automatically but cannot get its **Run on startup** command to work properly, you can also control this outside the application. Once you have installed Bailiff in your Applications folder, open the **Users & Groups** pane.



Select yourself as the **Current User** at the left, and click on the **Login Items** tab. Add Bailiff to that list by clicking on the + tool below, then selecting the app in Applications. Don't tick the box to Hide it, though. When you next start your Mac up, Bailiff will be automatically installed into its menubar.

Cirrus

If you want more extensive control over iCloud, with sophisticated test and diagnostic features, try my free Cirrus app.

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Change list

Bailiff 1.5:

- Universal App for Intel and Apple Silicon Macs, and Big Sur support.

Bailiff 1.4:

- ported to Xcode 10.3
- added code integrity checking on launch.

Bailiff 1.3:

- ported to Swift 4.2.1 and Xcode 10.1
- notarized for Mojave.

Bailiff 1.2:

- added Help information for Mojave, and information string for Privacy support
- built with Xcode 10.0.

Bailiff 1.1:

- tweaked interface to fully support Dark Mode
- ported to Swift 4.2
- built with Xcode 10B.

Bailiff 1.0:

- added Browse updates command
- code check for release.

Bailiff 1.0b2:

- added Run on startup command to add to Startup Items
- changed Evict and Download commands to add
- expanded Help window.

Bailiff 1.0b1:

- initial release, without self-installer.

12 August 2020.