

NetShred Read Me

Email: support@mireth.com
Web Site: <http://www.mireth.com/>

Description

How private is your web browsing?

Are you concerned that anyone with access to your computer can see what you've been doing on the Internet? Your web browser stores copies of the images and text that you see in the "cache" folder on your hard disk, as well as a list of the sites that you have visited in a history file. Anyone can look through these files and see what information you have accessed on the web (*e.g.* personal financial information, web site passwords, other private information). Do you *really* want to risk having your private information read by anyone with access to your computer (a child, your spouse, the cleaning staff)?

And throwing these files in the trash will not remove the file contents from the hard disk – it just removes the file name from the directory, leaving the data intact and vulnerable. What you threw away can be recovered. Is this a risk you'd like to avoid?

NetShred is a software utility that securely deletes files you created when using the Internet. Each time it is run, NetShred shreds web browser cache, browser history files and email trash. It supports several web browsers and email applications, and can be run either manually or automatically (when you quit from your browser or email application, or when you shutdown your computer.) NetShred also supports Netscape profiles and will find cache files that are not in the default.

NetShred – the internet privacy utility.™

System Requirements

To run NetShred you need

- Macintosh® 68K or Macintosh® PowerPC
- Mac OS® 8.x or later

NetShred works with the following web browsers:

- Netscape® 4.x
- Internet Explore® 4.x (both AOL and Microsoft distributions)
- Internet Explorer® 5.0
- iCab® 1.x

NetShred works with the following email applications:

- Netscape® 4.x
- Eudora® 3.x, 4.x, 5.x

There are PPC, 68K and FAT versions available. The FAT version is bigger (and takes longer to

download), but will run on both PPC and 68K Macintosh® computers. It is provided for the convenience of large site administrators who are installing NetShred on a variety of Macintosh® computers.

How to Install NetShred

1. If you haven't already done so, download NetShred onto your computer.

If you're not sure you have the latest version, compare the version number on our Download Page (<http://www.mireth.com/Download.html>) to the version number of the NetShred application in this folder (Highlight the program icon and select "Get Info" from the "File" menu.)

2. Drag the NetShred folder to wherever you keep application software.
3. Configure NetShred. To configure NetShred, double click the NetShred Setup Icon. Configure the following items:

Confirm Shredding - Tick this box to be prompted before NetShred shreds cache, history or mail trash. Default value is "on".

Shred:

Cache - Tick this box to shred your browser's cache whenever NetShred is run. Default value is "on".

Mail Trash - Tick this box to shred your email application's trash whenever NetShred is run. Default value is "on".



History - Tick this box to shred your browser's history file whenever NetShred is run. Default value is "off". If your browser does not use a history file, ticking this box will have no effect.

Activity Log - Tick this box to create a NetShred log file. Read the log file to confirm what files were shredded the last time NetShred was run. Default value is "off".

Write Pattern - Set this popup menu to the pattern that you wish to overwrite the original data with. Default value is "Mireth Standard". (To better protect your privacy, the Mireth Standard Write Pattern is confidential.)

Num. of Writes - Set this popup menu to the number of times you wish to overwrite the original data. Default value is "Mireth Standard". (To better protect your privacy, the Mireth Standard Number of Writes is confidential.)

Registration Key - (Required) Enter the Registration Key supplied when you paid for NetShred.

The easiest way to do this is to copy (Apple  - C) your Registration Key from the email and paste it (Apple  - V) it into the Registration Key field.

Profiles - (from the menu bar) Choose the profile(s) you want NetShred to shred.

You only need to configure this if your browser supports multiple user profiles.

Custom - (from the menu bar) Use custom to configure NetShred to shred your cache or profiles *if you have moved them* from the default location for your browser or email application. (If you choose a location which *does not* contain a cache file or profile, the files will not be shredded.) The following supported browsers/email applications allow custom locations:

Eudora - Does not currently allow you to move your email trash.

iCab - Allows you to re-locate your cache. If you have done this, use Custom location to tell NetShred where you have moved it to. (If you have not moved your iCab cache, configuring a Custom location is not required.)

Internet Explorer - Allows you to re-locate your cache. If you have done this, use Custom location to tell NetShred where you have moved it to. (If you have not moved your Internet Explorer cache, configuring a Custom location is not required.)

Netscape - Allows you to re-locate your profiles when you add them using the Manage Profiles button. If you have done this, use Custom location to tell NetShred where you have moved it/them to. (If you have not moved your Netscape profiles, configuring a Custom location is not required.)

4. Once you have configured your settings, quit from NetShred Setup.
5. To run NetShred, see the "How to run NetShred" section of this document.

How to Run NetShred

You can run NetShred three ways, manually, automatically when you quit from your browser/email application, or automatically when you shutdown your computer. Use the method that works best with the way that you use your computer. If you are the only user of your computer and you always shut down when you are finished using it, set up NetShred to run each time the computer is shut down. If there are multiple users to your computer, or you put your computer to sleep when you are finished instead of shutting it down, set up NetShred to run each time you quit from your browser or email application.

Note: Even if you have set up NetShred to run automatically, you can still run it manually by double-clicking it. You may want to do this before turning the computer over to your spouse if you don't want he/she to know about the birthday present you just ordered.

To set up NetShred to be run manually

- Select the NetShred Application by single-clicking the NetShred Icon.
Ensure that you select the NetShred application, not the entire folder. (The application is called "NetShred (FAT/PPC/68K)" and has a shredder icon. The folder is called "NetShred.FAT/PPC/68K Folder",

- has a folder icon and contains the application, the demo application and the documentation.)
- From the File menu, select Make Alias.
 - Drag the NetShred Alias to the Desktop.

To run NetShred manually, double-click the NetShred icon or the NetShred alias icon, if you have created one.

To set up NetShred to run each time you quit from your browser or email application

- Select the Browser Watch Application by single-clicking the Browser Watch Icon.
- From the File menu, select Make Alias.
- Drag the Browser Watch Alias to the Startup items folder ("System Folder:Startup Items").
- Restart your computer.

NetShred will now run automatically each time you quit from your browser or email application.

To set up NetShred to run each time the computer is shut down

- Select the NetShred Application by single-clicking the NetShred Icon.
Ensure that you select the NetShred application, not the entire folder. (The application is called "NetShred (FAT/PPC/68K)" and has a shredder icon. The folder is called "NetShred.FAT/PPC/68K Folder",

has a folder icon and contains the application, the demo application and the documentation.)

- From the File menu, select Make Alias.
- Drag the NetShred Alias to the Shutdown items folder ("System Folder:Shutdown Items").

NetShred will now run automatically each time you shutdown your computer.

How to Install and Run the NetShred DEMO

Use the NetShred DEMO to see how the program works. The demo looks and performs exactly like NetShred, but instead of shredding the browser/email files, it only deletes them. Once you have tried it, you can get a fully functional version of the program by purchasing a Registration Key and following the instructions in the How the Install NetShred section of this document.

1. If you haven't already done so, download NetShred onto your computer.

If you're not sure you have the latest version, compare the version number on our Download Page (<http://www.mireth.com/Download.html>) to the version number of the NetShred application in this folder (Highlight the program icon and select "Get Info" from the "File" menu.)

2. Open the NetShred folder.
3. To configure the NetShred demo, double click the NetShred Setup Icon. Configure the following items:

Confirm Shredding - Tick this box to be prompted before NetShred DEMO deletes cache, history or mail trash. Default value is "on".

Shred:

Cache - Tick this box to delete your browser's cache whenever NetShred is run. Default value is "on".

Mail Trash - Tick this box to delete your email application's trash whenever NetShred is run. Default value is "on".

History - Tick this box to delete your browser's history file whenever NetShred is run. Default value is "off". If your browser does not use a history file, ticking this box will have no effect.

Activity Log - Tick this box to create a NetShred DEMO log file. Read the log file to confirm what files were deleted the last time NetShred DEMO was run. Default value is "off".

Write Pattern - This popup menu has no effect in the demo software but you can set it to whatever value you prefer. Purchase the full version of NetShred to activate this option.

Num. of Writes - This popup menu has no effect in the demo software but you can set it to whatever value you prefer. Purchase the full version of NetShred to activate this option.

Registration Key - (Not Required)

Profiles - (from the menu bar) Choose the profile(s) you want NetShred to shred.

You only need to configure this if your browser supports multiple user profiles.

Custom - (from the menu bar) Use custom to configure NetShred to delete your cache or profiles *if you have moved them* from the default location for your browser or email application. (If you choose a location which *does not* contain a cache file or profile, the files will not be deleted.) The following supported browsers/email applications allow custom locations:

Eudora - Does not currently allow you to move your email trash.

iCab - Allows you to re-locate your cache. If you have done this, use Custom location to tell NetShred where you have moved it to. (If you have not moved your iCab cache, configuring a Custom location is not required.)

Internet Explorer - Allows you to re-locate your cache. If you have done this, use Custom location to tell NetShred where you have moved it to. (If you have not moved your Internet Explorer cache, configuring a Custom location is not required.)

Netscape - Allows you to re-locate your profiles when you add them using the Manage Profiles button. If you have done this, use Custom location to tell NetShred where you have moved it/them to. (If you have not moved your

Netscape profiles, configuring a Custom location is not required.

4. Once you have configured your settings, quit from NetShred Setup.
5. To run NetShred DEMO, double-click the NetShred DEMO icon. The demo will delete the requested files.

How to uninstall NetShred

1. The first step of de-installation depends on how you had NetShred set up to run.

Netscape profiles, configuring a Custom location is not required.

If you set up NetShred to be run manually

- Drag the NetShred Alias from the Desktop to the trash.

If you set up NetShred to run each time you quit from your browser or email application

- Drag the Browser Watch Alias from the Startup items folder ("System Folder:Startup Items") to the trash.
- Restart your computer.

If you set up NetShred to run each time the computer is shut down

- Drag the NetShred Alias from the Shutdown items folder ("System Folder:Shutdown Items") to the trash.

2. Drag the preferences files to the trash
 - "System Folder:Preferences:NetShred {x.x} Prefs"
 - "System Folder:Preferences:NetShred Log" (if it exists)
3. Move the NetShred folder from wherever you keep application software to the trash.
4. Restart your computer.
5. Empty the trash.

How to uninstall the NetShred DEMO

1. Drag the preferences files to the trash
 - "System Folder:Preferences:NetShred {x.x} Prefs"
2. Empty the trash.

Troubleshooting

For answers to the most common NetShred support questions, please see the NetShred Support FAQ

included in this folder. There are a number of FAQs available on our Web Site at:

<http://www.mireth.com/>

or, if you prefer, email us at:

support@mireth.com

FAQ

- *What is the difference between the demo version and the full version of NetShred?*

The demo version of NetShred does not require a Registration Key to run. It will delete cache, email trash and history as specified by the user, *but will not shred them*. This allows the user to see how the product would work before purchasing it. It can be run manually.

The full version of NetShred requires a Registration Key to run. It will shred cache, email trash and history as specified by the user. It can be manually, automatically when you shut down your computer, or automatically when you quit from your browser and/or email application.

- *How do I buy a Registration Key?*

For your convenience, you can buy a Registration Key on-line, by phone or by mail. Once your payment is received, you should receive your Registration Key by email within 24 hours.

For further information on buying a Registration Key, goto:

http://www.mireth.com/text/buy_a_key.html

or see the Buy Me file in this folder

- *What are the technical details?*

Each time NetShred is run, it finds and shreds the requested files for all of the browser and email applications it supports. If any of the browser or email applications it supports are running when NetShred is run, it will wait for it/them to be shut down before shredding. Which files it will shred (cache, email trash, history) is configured by the user. Which Netscape profiles it will shred for (some, all, none) is configured by the user. If the cache, email trash and history have been moved from the default locations specified by the application, the user needs to specify the new location to enable NetShred to shred the files (using the custom location option).

By shredding, we mean that for each requested file NetShred will overwrite the contents of the file, the data fork, the resource fork, the file name, the file type and the file owner. The pattern of bits which NetShred will use to overwrite with is configured by the user. The default pattern used is proprietary. The number of times the data will be overwritten is configured by the user. The default number of times the data is overwritten is proprietary.

- *Is there a way to recover files I've already shredded, such as with a File Recovery Utility?*

No there isn't. If you are using a File Recovery Utility like Norton Utilities Unerase feature or TechTool Pro, and you shred files using NetShred, you may be able to recover the names of the files you have shredded, but not the contents.

For help, please email Product Support at: support@mireth.com

Version History

- 00 Mar 22 1.4 Provides the user with the ability to select the write pattern and the number of overwrites used.
- 00 Apr 1 1.5 Provides support for Internet Explorer 5.0 and a new user selectable option to shred web browser history files
- 00 Apr 24 1.5.2 Maintenance Release
- 00 Jul 16 1.6.1 Provides support for Netscape profiles and cache custom locations
- 00 Jul 18 1.6.2 Maintenance Release
- 01 Feb 5 1.8 Shreds File Name with the overwrite pattern and number of overwrites specified by the user.
- 01 Sep 20 2.0 Provides support for Eudora 5.0 and improved configuration interface

Known Problems

There are no known problems or incompatibilities with NetShred.

ShredIt

How secure is *your* trash? If you throw confidential documents into your computer's trash, they can be recovered. You need ShredIt to securely delete files, folders, or disk free space. Don't risk throwing confidential data in the trash - ShredIt. For further information, see our Web Site at <http://www.mireth.com/SI.html>.