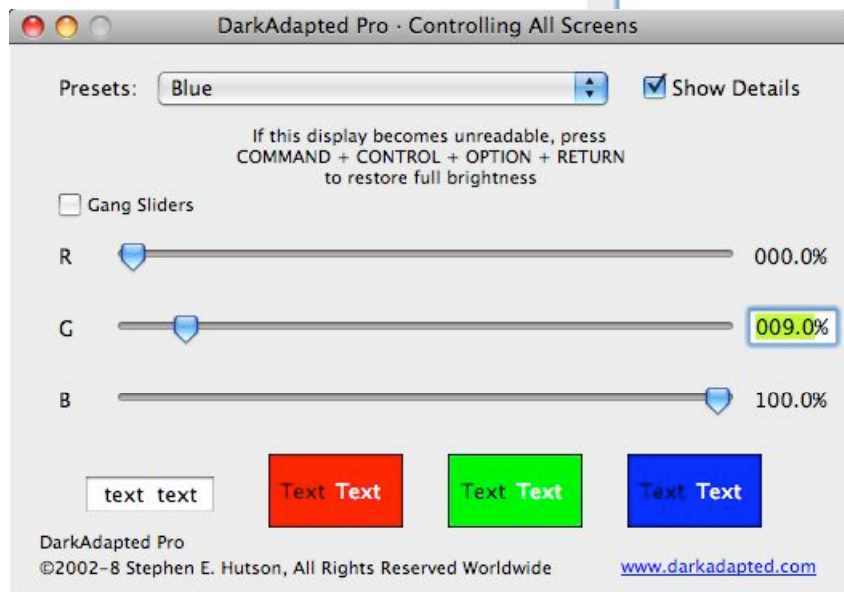
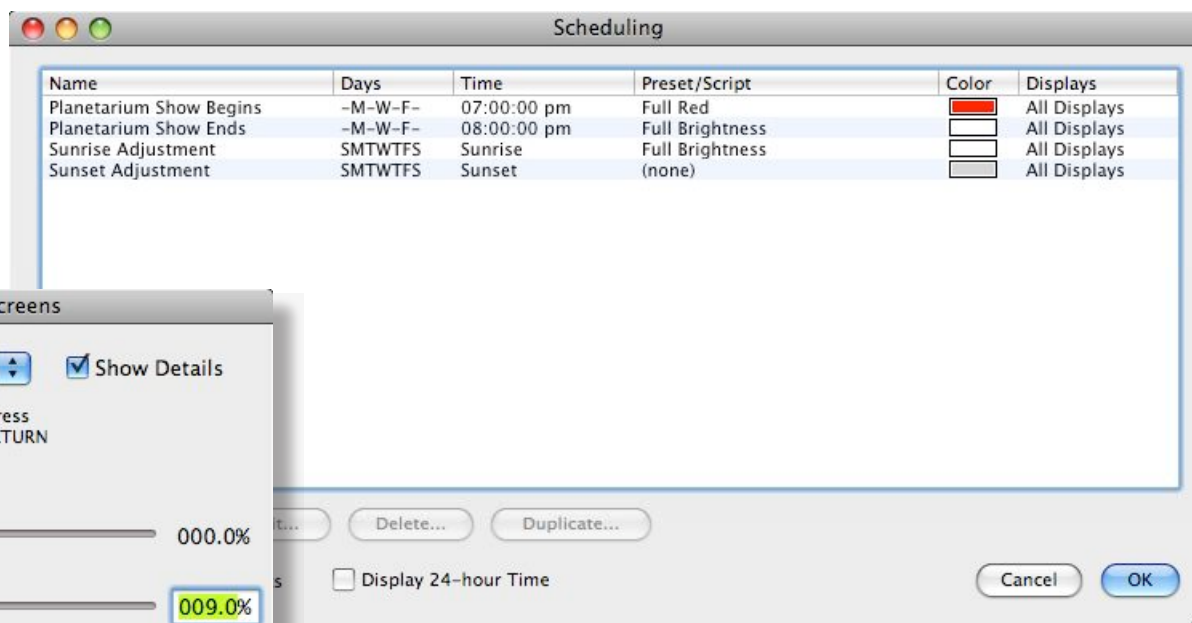


DarkAdapted and DarkAdapted Pro

Version 2.3.5 User Guide

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

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Section 1:

Introduction



DarkAdapted can dim your screen to the point that it becomes unreadable! If this occurs, the default escape sequence on a Macintosh is  command  shift RETURN. On Windows, it is  control  shift RETURN. This will return your screen to full brightness.

1.1 — License Agreement

Before using DarkAdapted, carefully read the enclosed Software License Agreement. If you do not agree with any provision of this agreement, do not use DarkAdapted, and delete all copies of the program. Using DarkAdapted indicates your acceptance of the Software License Agreement.

DarkAdapted is freeware, but remains a copyrighted program. Distribution of DarkAdapted must include this User Guide and all other documentation.

1.2 — What is DarkAdapted?

DarkAdapted is a gamma control application program. It modifies the red, green, and blue components of your screen gamma so that you may, for example, preserve your dark adaptation while using your computer.

DarkAdapted boasts such features as:

- Includes the same powerful screen adjustment technology as [ScopeDriver](#), a full featured telescope control program.
- Customizable gamma presets. Use predefined settings, create your own, and manipulate your presets with ease.
- High-resolution sliders allow you to adjust red, green, and blue video components individually and in real time.
- Set red, green, and blue video components via the keyboard, and toggle between entering percentages and raw gamma values.
- Small screen mode hides advanced controls, minimizing the use of valuable screen real estate.
- Gamma toggle keys offer quick switching between full brightness and the most recent gamma setting. Modifier keys are fully assignable, and are available system-wide.
- Switching to gamma presets is performed via smooth fades, never abrupt shifts in screen color or brightness.

- Control console “remembers” its position on your screen in both its minimized and maximized modes.
- Saved gamma preset is restored when DarkAdapted is launched, and reset when DarkAdapted quits.
- Useful display features show gamma changes’ effects on selected text, as well as text on different backgrounds.
- Useful numeric and graphical readouts of gamma values.
- In multiple monitor setups, DarkAdapted controls all displays in unison.
- Automatic and/or manual Internet update checking ensures you have the latest version.
- And many other time savers and productivity enhancers.

Additional features available in **DarkAdapted Pro** (available for Macintosh only) include:

- System-wide Status Item Menu offers control of virtually every DarkAdapted setting.
- System-wide hotkeys allow setting brightness, gamma values, presets, and much more via a customizable key combination.
- Global hotkeys for adjusting screen brightness.
- Independent control windows for multiple display setups.
- Scheduled gamma fades by day of week, time, and/or sunrise and sunset.
- Scheduled AppleScript execution by day of week, time, and/or sunrise and sunset.
- Preset Sets, which can implement gamma fades for multiple screens simultaneously with a single command or hotkey.
- Run AppleScripts from the system-wide menu, or at the touch of a hotkey.
- Automatic launch at login for one or all users.
- Shared or individual preferences for all users.
- Define a minimum brightness for all displays.
- Scroll wheel support for slider motion and *Preset*: pop-up menu.
- Expanded AppleScript support.
- And much more!

1.3 — System Requirements

DarkAdapted requires the following hardware setup:

- **Macintosh:** Mac OS X 10.3.9 or later. Intel Macintosh or Power Macintosh.
- **Windows:** Windows 2000 or later. PC capable of running Windows 2000 or later.
- **Windows:** Compatible monitor and video card.
- At least 25 MB available hard disk space.

1.4 — Special Thanks

Special thanks to my wife, Nancy, who endures my descriptions of the latest DarkAdapted features, and patiently sits down to look at the DarkAdapted interface. :-) She also helps proofread the documentation and tests the product.

1.5 — Trademark Information

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1.6 — Guide Layout

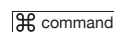



Mac This symbol references features or behavior specific to Macintosh computers. Such items are not applicable to IBM-compatible PC's.



Win When you see this symbol, the manual discusses features or behavior specific to IBM-compatible computers. Such items do not apply to Macintosh computers.


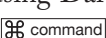
Pro This symbol denotes features relevant only to **DarkAdapted Pro**, which operates only on the Macintosh platform.


Throughout this User Guide, menu selections and menu titles are depicted using the following typeface: **Menu Title**

Keyboard equivalents are shown using the following key symbols:

 command  option  shift  control

...along with the modifier key(s). For example,  **S** means that you hold down the  (command) key while typing the letter **S**.

Win If you are using DarkAdapted for **Windows**, substitute the  key for the  key.

Win If a keyboard equivalent with no menu counterpart doesn't seem to be working, simply add the  key to implement the action. This is necessary because Windows doesn't allow window keyboard shortcuts that override menu keyboard shortcuts, even when the menu is disabled.

Window names appear in boldface, as in **Scheduling** window.

Hyperlinks appear in blue text. Links to web pages are underlined, such as [DarkAdapted web site](#). Links to other pages in this document appear as follows: "[Scheduled Event Execution](#)" on page 30.

DarkAdapted has been designed with ease of use in mind. Any features of the program not covered in this brief guide are, hopefully, self-explanatory. Your suggestions for improvement are always welcome!

1.7 — Connecting to Our Web Site

Clicking the web address in the **Control** window will launch your browser and attempt to connect to the [DarkAdapted web site](#). This will work *only* if you have defined a default browser using your system software.

Section 2: Installation and Setup


2.1 — Installation

To install DarkAdapted, you should follow the below procedure. Instructions are provided for [Macintosh](#) and [Windows](#).

If you do not have the correct application file for your operating system, check the [DarkAdapted web site](#) for the correct file.

Macintosh Installation Instructions

- Locate and open the Macintosh disk image that you downloaded.
- Open the disk image by double-clicking it.

 If a DarkAdapted disk does not appear on your desktop or in your Finder's sidebar, drag the disk image over the application *Disk Utility*'s icon. Disk Utility resides in your Utilities folder.

- A window will open containing the DarkAdapted installer icon, as illustrated below. Double-click the *Double-click to Install* icon.



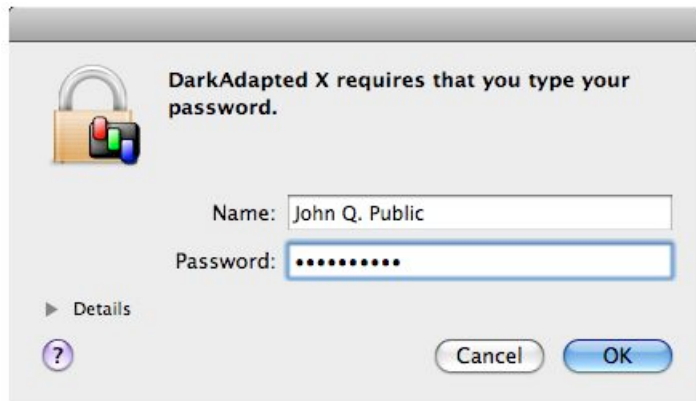
- A *License Agreement* window will then appear. Indicate whether or not you agree to the terms of the license agreement; if you disagree, the DarkAdapted installer quits.
- DarkAdapted will offer to copy itself and its documentation to a folder named "DarkAdapted Folder" in your Applications folder, as depicted below. Click *Install* to proceed with installation.



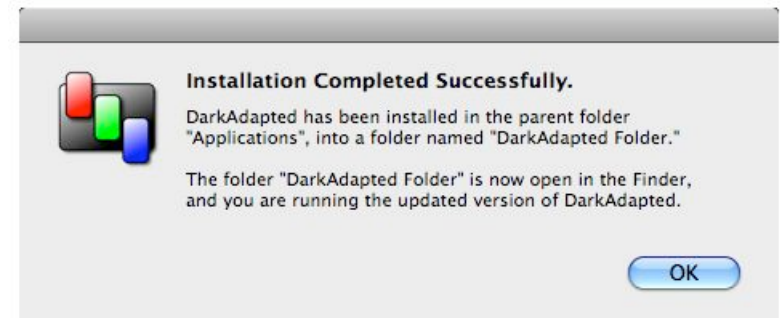
- If you prefer to install to a location other than your Applications folder, click the *Change Location...* button and select the folder where you'd like to install the DarkAdapted application and its support files.


DarkAdapted Clock then provides confirmation of your selected folder before proceeding.

- DarkAdapted then requests an administrator's password before it begins the installation procedure:



- After you click *OK* in the password dialog, files are copied, and a dialog lets you know where DarkAdapted was installed:



-  If you are upgrading from an earlier version of DarkAdapted, the above dialog may contain additional information as described below.

If the installer detects an existing copy of DarkAdapted, it creates a .zip archive of it in a folder named "Moved by Installer" before replacing the existing application.

Similarly, if other files would be replaced by the installer, these files are also placed in the "Moved by Installer" folder before installation begins.

The "Moved by Installer" folder, if needed, is created inside your "DarkAdapted Folder." No existing files are ever deleted by the installer.

- Click the *OK* button to open the DarkAdapted folder and DarkAdapted itself.

-  The Finder window containing DarkAdapted remains open so that you may see where it was installed, and also for convenience when creating an alias to the application or adding it to the Dock.

- That's it! DarkAdapted finishes opening, and may present an introductory dialog as described in "[First Run](#)" below.

Windows Installation Instructions

- Locate the downloaded installer, which appears similar to the below illustration. The Setup utility will install the DarkAdapted application program, documentation, and extras.



Double-click to open the Setup utility, then follow the instructions on screen.

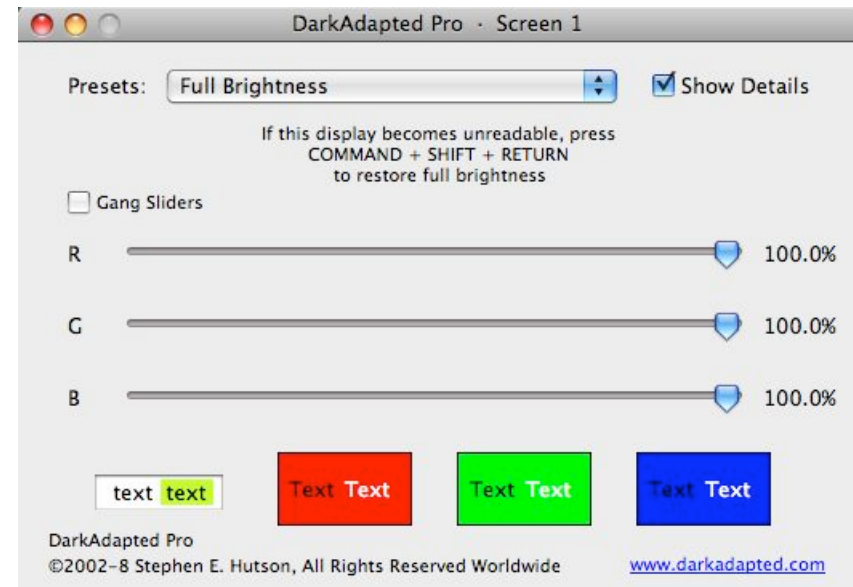
After installation is complete, select **Read Me** from the **Special** menu to read any late-breaking breaking information or special instructions.

- That's it! DarkAdapted finishes opening, and may present an introductory dialog as described in “[First Run](#)” below.

2.2 — First Run

Mac The first time you run DarkAdapted, a dialog will appear inviting you to try DarkAdapted for free, as illustrated in “[Try DarkAdapted Pro for Free](#)” on page 9.



Double-click on the icon representing the DarkAdapted application. The **Control** window will then appear, as depicted below:



Control Window



Note the text that appears below the *Presets*: pop-up menu. **These are the keys that you must hold down to return to full screen brightness**, in the event that your adjustments result in a monitor that's too dark to read. Press these keys once to return to full brightness, and again to return to the previous gamma setting.

Mac The default gamma toggle keys on the Mac platform are ⌘ command ⇧ shift ↵ RETURN (although they may be changed in the **Preferences** window). All of these keys must be held down simultaneously.

Win The default Windows gamma toggle keys are   (changeable via the **Preferences** window). All of these keys must be held down simultaneously.

Pro DarkAdapted Pro can present multiple **Control** windows, with each window appearing on a different screen. In this mode, the gamma toggle keys may apply to whichever main window appears in front, or to all windows, as set in the **DarkAdapted Preferences** window.

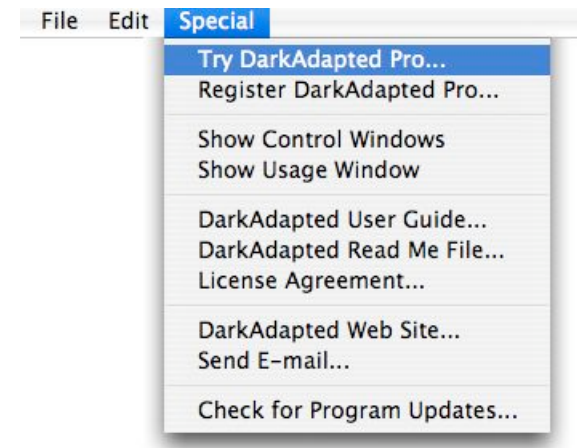
The gamma toggle keys may also be used to toggle between full brightness and the most recently selected gamma values. Simply release and again press the gamma toggle keys to toggle between the two states.

 To configure DarkAdapted Pro at the **Control** window, right-click (or -click) in a non-control area of the window, and a contextual menu opens with the choices **DarkAdapted Preferences...**, **Show System-wide Menu...** (in DarkAdapted Pro only), and **Quit DarkAdapted**.

2.3 — Try DarkAdapted Pro for Free

Mac DarkAdapted Pro is only available to users running DarkAdapted on a Macintosh; it is not available on Windows, owing to gamma control limitations on this platform.

To try DarkAdapted Pro's advanced features, select **Try DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu, as illustrated below:



“Try DarkAdapted Pro...” Menu Item

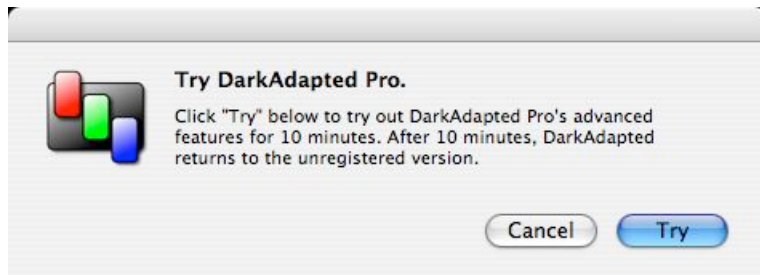
DarkAdapted Pro offers several additional features over the basic program, including:

- A system-wide Status Item Menu, from which you may select Presets, change brightness, control RGB values, and control virtually every DarkAdapted setting.
- Automatic launching of DarkAdapted at login, for the current user or all users.
- System-wide hotkeys, which allow setting brightness, gamma values, presets, and any other item in the Status Item Menu via global key combinations.
- Global, repeating hotkeys to adjust screen brightness in selectable increments.
- The ability to share DarkAdapted preferences between all users of the same computer, if desired.
- The ability to control multiple displays independently, using a separate **Control** window for each display.
- The option of creating Preset Sets, which can implement gamma fades for multiple screens simultaneously with a single command or hotkey.
- Scheduling capabilities, including defining events that change gamma values on particular days of the week, at certain times, and/or at sunrise or sunset.

Scheduled events may control all displays and/or a single display. You may even schedule AppleScript execution.

- Scroll wheel support for the *Presets* pop-up menu and the gamma sliders. In the case of the gamma sliders, the scroll wheel control moves the sliders in unison, and offers the option to either preserve or ignore relative gamma intensities. In contrast, selecting *Gang Sliders* only offers the option to preserve relative gamma intensities.
- A system-wide AppleScript menu that can execute AppleScripts via the menu, or via user-defined, global hotkeys.
- Enhanced AppleScript support to support the additional features of DarkAdapted Pro.
- And much more.

After you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the Special menu, the following dialog appears:



Try DarkAdapted Pro Dialog

Select *Try* to enable all of DarkAdapted Pro's enhanced features for a period of ten minutes, or click *Cancel* to continue using DarkAdapted in standard mode.

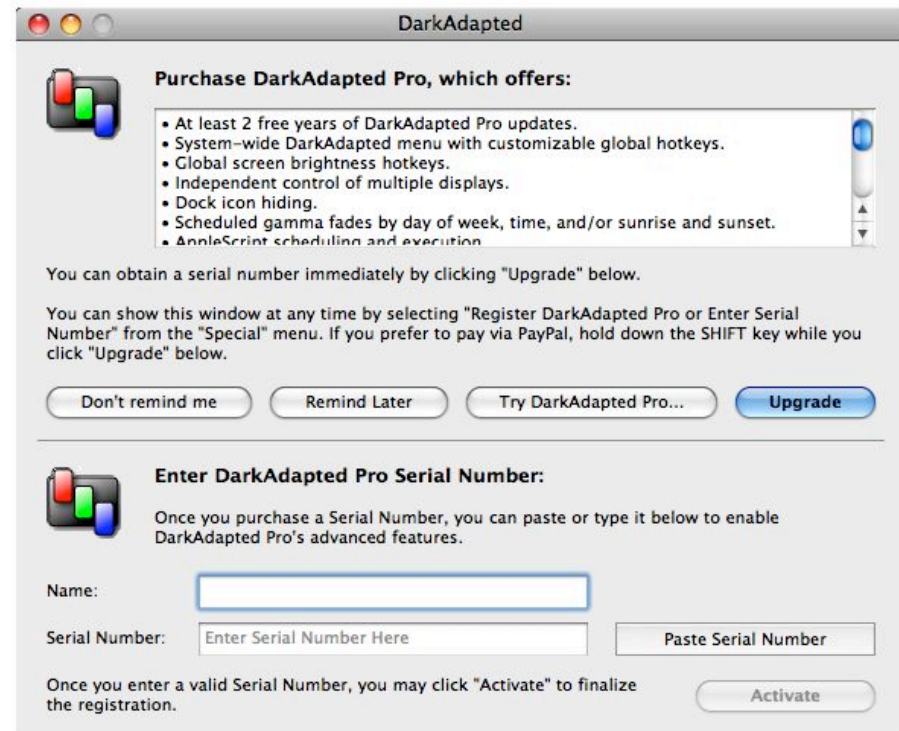
After ten minutes, DarkAdapted Pro reverts to standard mode, and presents a dialog allowing you to register, as described in "[Registering DarkAdapted Pro](#)" below.

If you'd like to try DarkAdapted Pro for another ten minutes, simply select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the Special menu again, as often as you wish.

2.4 — Registering DarkAdapted Pro

Mac DarkAdapted Pro is only available to users running DarkAdapted on a Macintosh; it is not available on Windows, owing to gamma control limitations on this platform.


After you have launched DarkAdapted a few times, the **Register DarkAdapted Pro** window appears, as illustrated below:




Register DarkAdapted Pro Window

You may also summon the above window at any time by selecting **Register DarkAdapted Pro or Enter Serial Number...** from the Special menu.

To immediately obtain a serial number and begin using DarkAdapted Pro's advanced features, connect to the Internet if necessary, then click the *Upgrade* button. You will be directed to our secure web site, where you may immediately obtain a serial number.

 Clicking the *Upgrade* button takes you to our secure online store, and provides you with a serial number immediately. If you would

prefer to use PayPal, hold down the  key while clicking *Upgrade*, and you will be directed to our web page where you have the option of paying via PayPal.

Other choices in the **Register DarkAdapted Pro** window include the *Try DarkAdapted Pro...* button, which performs the same function as the menu command discussed in the section “[Try DarkAdapted Pro for Free](#)” on page 9.


The *Don't Remind Me* button dismisses the **Register DarkAdapted Pro** window so that it shouldn't appear again in the present version of DarkAdapted, and the *Remind Later* button postpones the window until the next time DarkAdapted is opened.

Entering Your Serial Number

Once you have received your serial number, you can again open the **Register DarkAdapted Pro** window by selecting **Register DarkAdapted Pro** or **Enter Serial Number...** from the **Special** menu.

Locate the section of the window marked **Enter DarkAdapted Pro Serial Number**, and enter your name and/or organization into the text entry field labeled *Name*.

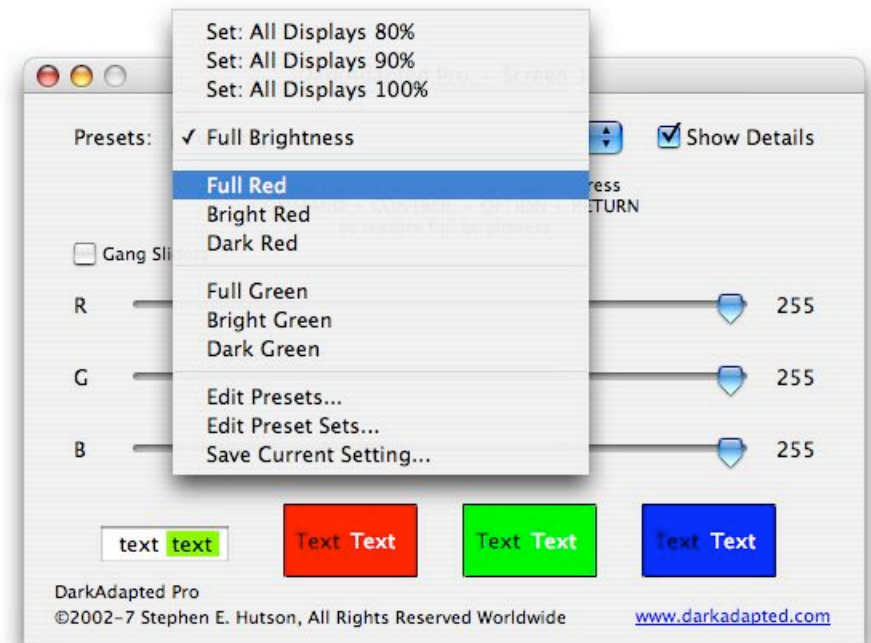
Next, copy the serial number from your order confirmation screen, order confirmation e-mail, etc., then click the *Paste Serial Number* button to enter it into the *Serial Number* text field. Alternatively, you may click to select the *Serial Number* text entry field, then type your registration code.

 You don't have to carefully select the serial number in order to use the *Paste Serial Number* button — you may copy any text that *contains* your serial number, and the *Paste Serial Number* button will still work.

Once a *Name* and valid serial number has been entered, the *Activate* button becomes operational, and you may click it to complete the upgrade process. All of DarkAdapted Pro's features will then be enabled.


2.5 — Selecting a Preset

DarkAdapted includes several built-in presets, selectable via the *Presets:* pop-up menu, as depicted below.



The Presets Pop-up Menu

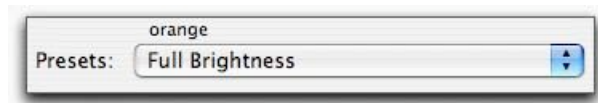
When a preset is selected, the screen fades to the selected gamma setting. A *preset set* is a special type of preset that can control multiple displays, and is a DarkAdapted Pro feature described in “[Preset Sets](#)” on page 18.

 The most recent preset selected may be restored when you next launch DarkAdapted, by changing the appropriate setting in the **Preferences** window, as described in “[Restore previous gamma values on program launch](#)” on page 24.

Pro You may define global hotkeys for any preset, so that the preset can be accessed from anywhere on your computer, no matter which application program is in front. Setting hotkeys is described in “[System-wide Menu Hotkeys](#)” on page 27.


Any preset in the *Presets:* pop-up menu may also be selected via the keyboard whenever a **Control** window is frontmost. In the below illustration, the text

orange has been typed on the keyboard, and so appears above the *Presets:* pop-up menu:




Miscellaneous Options — Preferences Window

DarkAdapted will then automatically display the first preset in the *Presets:* pop-up menu beginning with the text you type. For example, typing `ora` would select a preset named `Orange`, if that is the first preset in the menu beginning with the three letters `ora`.


 Typing a single `[SPACE]` character will toggle between `Full Brightness` and the last selected gamma setting.

If no entries in the *Presets:* pop-up menu begin with the text you typed, nothing is selected from the menu, and the text you typed will clear from the display after a one-second delay.

The `[BACKSPACE]` key will delete the last character typed.

 Typed entries normally select a matching preset one second after you type the last character. To select the matching preset immediately, press the `[RETURN]` or `[ENTER]` key after typing the preset's name.

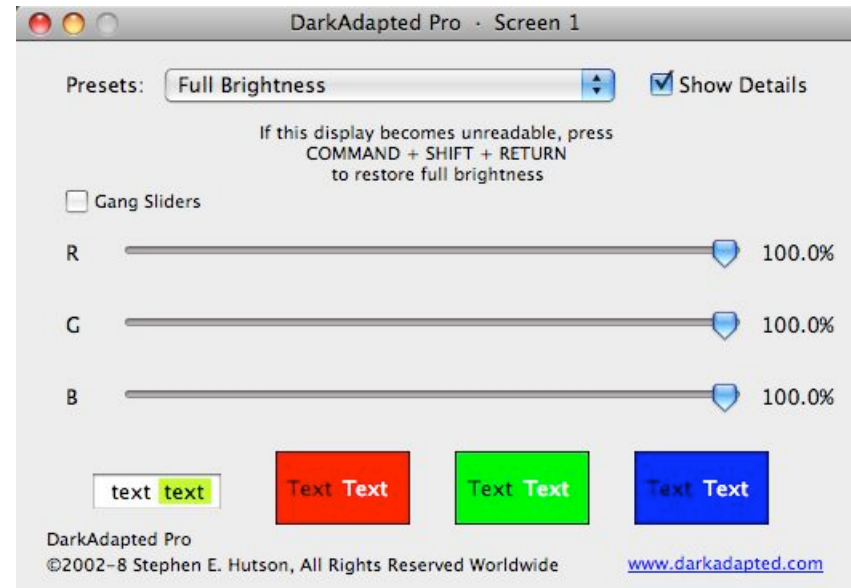
Pro DarkAdapted Pro users may position the cursor over the *Presets:* pop-up menu and change the selected preset by using the scroll wheel on the mouse.

 The *Presets:* pop-up menu automatically changes to reflect any preset that matches the state of the *gamma sliders*. So, if you have defined a preset named `Gray` that consists of red, green, and blue values of 70% each, the *Presets:* pop-up menu will automatically switch to `Gray` when you again move all three sliders to 70%.

2.6 — Showing Additional Detail

When first launched, DarkAdapted displays its **Control** window with all of its controls and explanatory text. To display the full (maximized) **Control**

window at any time, click to select the checkbox control entitled *Show Details* to reveal additional controls and displays, as shown below.




Expanded Control Window

The three slider controls control the primary colors red, green, and blue — and they are labeled with the first letter of each color's name. To the right of each control is displayed the actual gamma value of the corresponding color, which by default shows the current gamma percentage for each primary color. You may change the readouts to instead display the actual gamma value (between 0 and 255) in the **Preferences** window.

Click and drag any slider to change its gamma value.

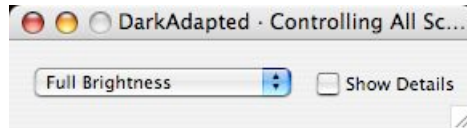
The four regions near the bottom of this window reveal the results of your gamma adjustments. The text field at lower left displays both selected and normal text; the remaining displays show both black text and white text on backgrounds that correspond to the three primary colors.

 These display regions are useful in determining whether your changes may render text or graphics unreadable under certain circumstances.

Pro DarkAdapted Pro users may position the cursor over the gamma sliders and move the sliders in unison by using the scroll wheel on the mouse.

2.7 — Showing Less Detail

Click to deselect the **Control** window's *Show Details* control to minimize the **Control** window, as depicted below:



Minimized Control Window

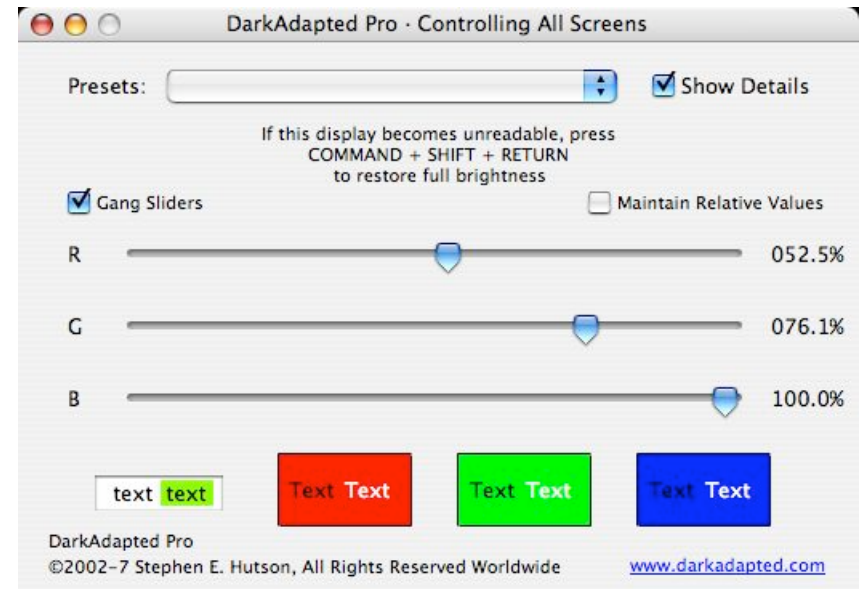
When minimized, the **Control** window occupies much less screen area, hiding the text displays, the gamma sliders, and the text which reminds you which gamma toggle keys will restore the screen to full brightness.



DarkAdapted “remembers” the **Control** window’s position independently for both its expanded and minimized states. This allows you to preserve one desired screen position for the expanded **Control** window, and a different screen position for when the window is minimized.

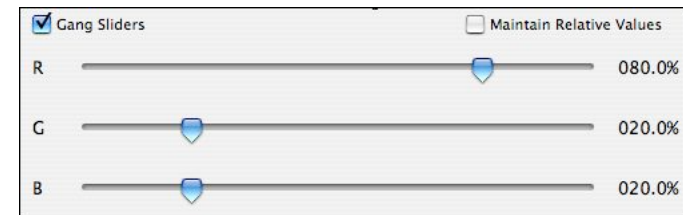
2.8 — Ganged Sliders

By default, DarkAdapted allows independent control of each gamma channel (red, green, and blue). To instead move the sliders in unison, click to select the *Gang Sliders* control in the **Control** window, as depicted below:

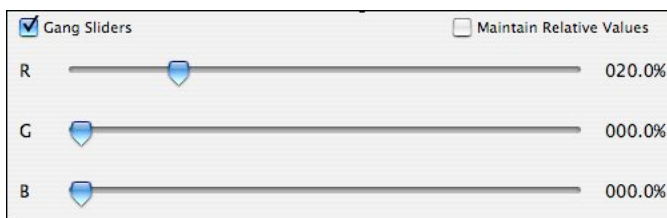


Ganged Sliders Mode

Ganged slider mode preserves the relative red, green, and blue values, until one or more sliders reaches the end of its travel, then the relative values are discarded. For example, if you start with the following gamma values:

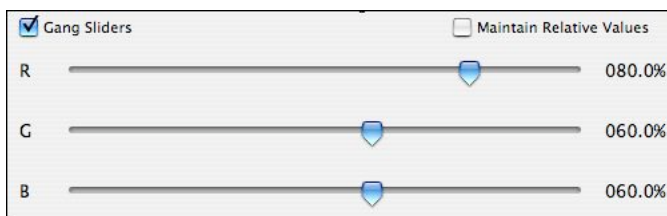


...and then slide the Red slider left toward 20%, the Green and Blue sliders will follow along, stopping at 0%, since no slider can go below 0%, as shown below:



The *Gang Sliders* and *Maintain Relative Values* settings are preserved when you quit and re-open DarkAdapted.

But when you return the Red slider to 80%, note that the Green and Blue sliders are now much closer to the Red slider's value, as shown below:



In other words, the relative gamma values between the Red slider and the Green and Blue sliders have *changed*, because the Green and Blue sliders “bottomed out” at 0% when you moved the Red slider to the left.

If you wish to instead *preserve* the relative gamma values of all three sliders in Ganged Mode, click to select *Maintain Relative Values*. When *Maintain Relative Values* is checked, DarkAdapted “remembers” the relative gamma values, even if one or more sliders reach the end of their travel.

The easiest way to understand the effect of *Maintain Relative Values* is to experiment with the control on and off. Make sure you set the sliders at greatly differing starting values to see the effect.

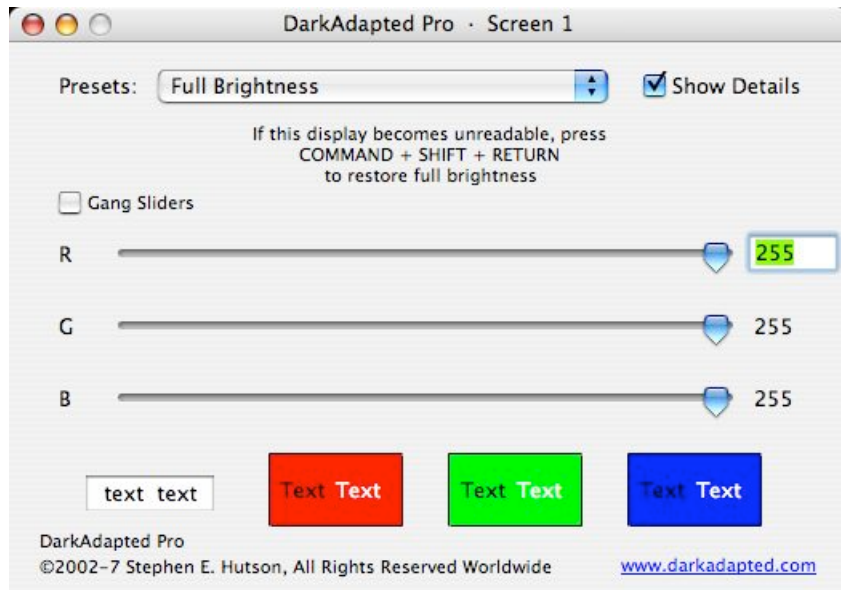


In Ganged Mode, you may still temporarily move a slider independently of the others. Simply hold down the ⇧ shift or ⌥ option / ALT key as you click on the desired slider, and you may move it without affecting the other sliders.

Pro You may use your mouse's scroll wheel to control the sliders in Ganged Mode. Simply position the mouse over the slider region and adjust the scroll wheel on your mouse. Note that scroll wheel support is a DarkAdapted Pro feature which requires registration.


2.9 — Keyboard Control of Gamma Values

When any **Control** window is active, you can press the **TAB** key to numerically specify gamma values, entering those values via the keyboard. The **Control** window is depicted below, as it appears after pressing the **TAB** key:




Keyboard Control of Gamma Values

In the above illustration, note that the gamma value display to the right of the Red slider appears as editable text, and is selected. You may select the Green and Blue values by again pressing the **TAB** key.

 Holding down the **⇧ shift** key as you press **TAB** selects the gamma value displays in reverse order.

Once you have selected a gamma value for editing as described above, you may type in any valid gamma value between 0 and 255, or between 0% and 100%, as described below:

- If you type in a number *without* a percent sign (“%”), DarkAdapted expects a gamma value between 0 and 255. All displays will change to reflect gamma values, if they were showing percentages.
- If you type in a number *with* a percent sign (“%”), DarkAdapted expects a gamma percentage between 0 and 100. If necessary, all displays will change to show gamma values as percentages.

 When you want to toggle between percentage and numeric displays, simply press the **SPACE** key when editing any of the gamma value displays. The display will alternate between the corresponding slider’s raw gamma value (zero to 255) and its percentage value.

When the gamma displays are displaying gamma *percentages*, and you press the **TAB** key, only the numeric portion of the gamma percentage is selected, to speed keyboard entry, as shown below:




You may simply type the number portion of the percentage, and it will replace the selected text, leaving the percent sign (“%”) intact. If you instead wish to enter a raw gamma value between zero and 255, simply press the **SPACE** key to toggle between percentage and raw value modes.

Once you have typed a gamma value, you can implement the change in one of the following ways:

- press the **TAB** key to select the next display, or
- press **RETURN**, **ENTER**, or **ESCAPE**, or
- move the mouse, or
- activate any other window.

Editing the gamma value displays to change between percentage and raw display values also changes the state of *Report Gamma Values as Percentages* in the Preferences Window, as described in “[Editing Preferences](#)” on page 20.

 You may also move the sliders via the arrow keys. First, select the text to the right of the slider you wish to change. You may select the text by clicking in the text display, or by pressing the **TAB** key.

To move the selected slider to the right, hold down one of the modifier keys **⌘ command**, **⌥ option**, or **⌘ control** — and press the **→** or **↑** key. To move it to the left, hold down one of the modifier keys **⌘ command**, **⌥ option**, or **⌘ control** — and press the **←** or **↓** key.

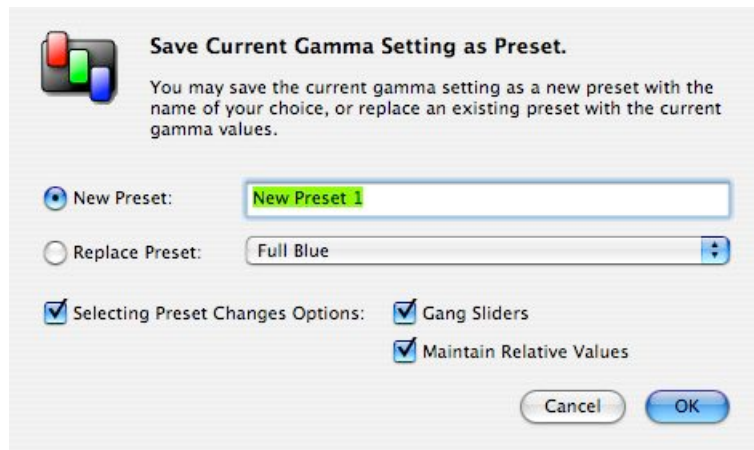
If *Gang Sliders* is activated, you may move *only* the selected slider by using the **⌥ option** key modifier while pressing the arrow key. Otherwise,

move all sliders in unison by holding down **⌘** **command** or **⌘** **option** while pressing the arrow key.

2.10 — Saving a Preset

Once you have defined a useful screen gamma value, you will probably want to use it again. DarkAdapted provides a simple method by which you may add as many presets as you desire.

Add a preset by selecting **Save Current Setting...** from the *Presets:* pop-up menu (or by selecting **Save Current Screen as Preset...** from the **File** menu, or by typing **⌘** **command** **S**). A window will then appear, where you may define a new preset or replace an existing one, as shown below:



Creating a Preset

If you would like to create a new preset, click the *New Preset:* button, then enter the desired name for the preset into the text field to the right of the button.

To replace an existing preset, click the *Replace Preset:* button, then select the existing preset that you would like to replace from the pop-up menu.

If, when you select this preset in the future, you would like to change the **Control** window options *Gang Sliders* and *Maintain Relative Values*, click to select the checkbox labeled *Selecting Preset Changes Options:* Once selected, you may then toggle the state of the *Gang Sliders* control, and — when *Gang Sliders* is selected — also toggle the state of *Maintain Relative Values*.

Click **OK** to add the preset to the *Presets:* pop-up menu, and to make it available throughout the program. If you wish to continue without adding the new preset, simply click *Cancel* to return to the **Control** window.

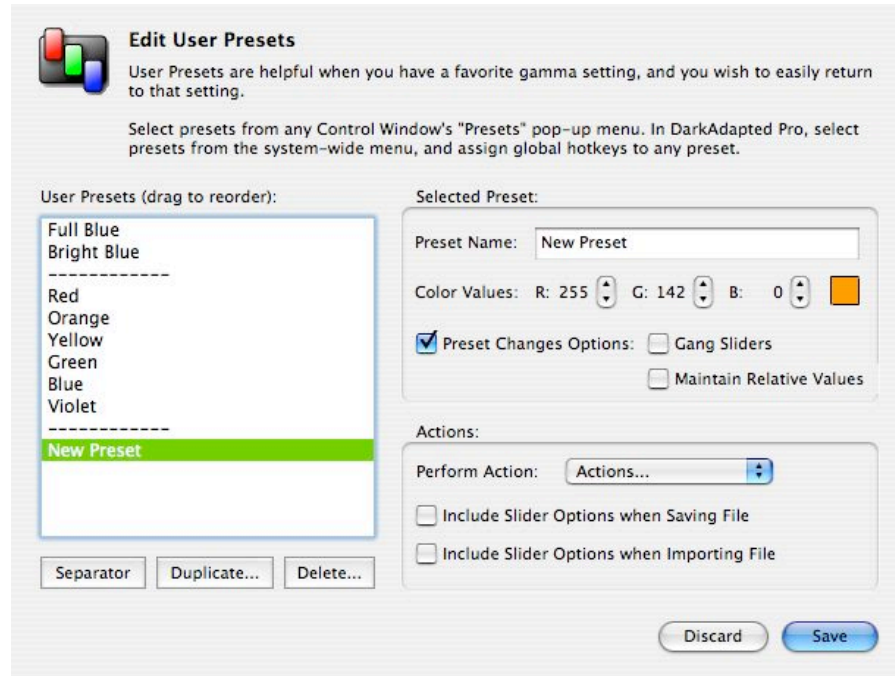
2.11 — Managing Presets

DarkAdapted gives you control over how your presets appear in the pop-up menu and throughout the program, and the program lets you delete, duplicate, and rename presets that you have added to the program.

Presets may also be stored in disk files. If you have downloaded a presets file — or wish to load one of the sample files included with DarkAdapted — you may double-click the presets file or drag it over the DarkAdapted application icon to load its contents. You may also load a presets file from the **Edit Presets** window, as described below.

Win Since DarkAdapted does not attempt to modify your Windows registry, double-clicking a presets file may not load the file.

You may edit your presets by selecting **Edit Presets...** from the *Presets:* pop-up menu, by selecting **Edit Presets...** from the **Edit** menu, or by typing **⌘E**. The **Edit Presets** window appears, as shown below:



Edit Presets Window

Every preset that you have defined or imported from a file will appear in the scrolling list. Select all presets by choosing **Select All** from the **Edit** menu, or by typing **⌘A**.

To change the name of any preset, select the preset by clicking on its name in the scrolling list, then edit the *Preset Name:* in the *Selected Preset:* area of this window.

The selected preset's *Color Values* are also displayed here, with numbers between zero and 255 representing the values for each color component (red, green, and blue). The displays for red, green, and blue are labeled *R:*, *G:*, and *B:* respectively.

You may change the red, green, and blue components of the selected preset by using the arrow controls to the right of each value.


The selected preset's gamma color is also displayed visually in a colored square which appears to the right of the *Color Values:* control area.

You may also use your operating system's Color Picker dialog to change the gamma hue; simply click on the colored square that appears to the right of the *Color Values:* controls.

It is also possible to specify that a preset can change certain **Control** window options when the preset is selected. To specify that this preset should change the **Control** window options *Gang Sliders* and *Maintain Relative Values*, click to select *Preset Changes Options:* Once selected, you may then toggle the state of the *Gang Sliders* control, and — when *Gang Sliders* is selected — also toggle the state of *Maintain Relative Values*.

Duplicate an entry by selecting it and clicking *Duplicate* to save a copy of a preset under a different name.

Delete any number of presets by selecting one or more list entries, then click the *Delete* button (or press the **DELETE** or **BACKSPACE** key). The selected preset(s) will be deleted after a confirming dialog.

 You may skip the confirm deletion dialog by holding down the **⌘** or **ALT** key while deleting the entry as described above.

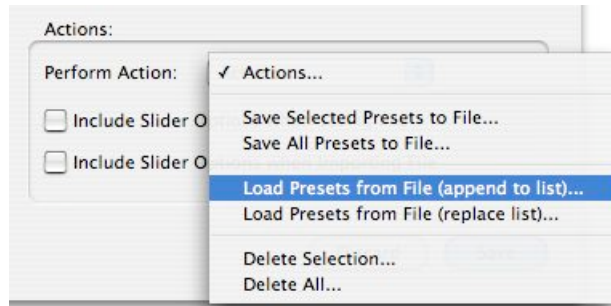
You may also change the order by which your presets appear in the **Control** window's *Presets:* pop-up menu. Simply click and hold on an entry, then drag it to the desired location in the listing.

You may also organize your presets by adding separators to your listing. Clicking the *Separator* button inserts a separator after the currently selected preset. If no preset is selected, a separator is added to the end of the listing.

DarkAdapted does not allow the following actions: adding a separator when another separator is selected, exporting only separators to a file, renaming a separator, or duplicating a separator.

The *Actions:* area of the **Edit Presets** window offers several useful features, as described below:

The pop-up menu labeled *Perform Action...* offers additional options when you click on the pop-up menu and hold down the mouse button, as depicted below:




The Perform Action Pop-up Menu


Select one of the options from this pop-up menu, as described below:

- When at least one preset is selected, you may choose *Save Selected Presets to File...* to summon a save dialog, where you may specify a name and disk location for the presets file. Only the selected preset(s) (and separators, if any) will be saved to the disk file.
- When one or more presets have been defined, you may choose *Save All Presets to File...* to summon a save dialog, where you may specify a name and disk location for the presets file. All presets and separators in the scrolling list will be saved to the disk file.
- When no presets have been defined, you may select *Load Presets from File...* to summon an open dialog, where you may select a presets file from any available disk. Any presets and separators in the disk file will populate the scrolling presets listing.
- When one or more presets have been defined, you may choose *Load Presets from File (append to list)...* to summon an open dialog, where you may select a presets file from any available disk. Any presets and separators in the disk file will be added to the end of the scrolling presets listing, and will become selected.
- When one or more presets have been defined, you may choose *Load Presets from File (replace list)...* to summon a file selection dialog, where you may

select a presets file from any available disk. Any existing presets will be removed from the scrolling listing, and all presets and separators in the disk file will populate the scrolling presets listing, and will become selected. You may suppress the warning dialog by holding down the **⌘ option** or **ALT** key.

- When at least one preset is selected, you may choose *Delete Selection...* to remove the selected presets and/or separators from the listing. A confirming dialog will appear, but you may suppress it by holding down the **⌘ option** or **ALT** key.
- When at least one preset has been defined, you may choose *Delete All...* to remove all presets and/or separators from the listing. A confirming dialog will appear, but it may be avoided by holding down the **⌘ option** or **ALT** key.

 When loading or saving presets files, the file selection dialog opens at the default presets file directory (folder). This folder is defined as being located in the same directory as DarkAdapted, containing “Presets” in the folder’s name. If no folder meets this requirement, DarkAdapted selects the first folder it may find containing presets files. You may override this behavior by holding down the **⇧ shift** key while opening or saving presets files.

 Presets may optionally change the **Control** window options *Gang Sliders* and *Maintain Relative Values*, as described earlier. By default, DarkAdapted does not include this information in files that it saves and loads.

To save *Gang Sliders* and *Maintain Relative Values* information into your presets files, click to select *Include Slider Options when Saving File* — and then save the file as specified above.


To include any *Gang Sliders* and *Maintain Relative Values* information that may be present in a presets file that you are loading, click to select *Include Slider Options when Importing File* — and then load the file as specified above.

When you are satisfied with the changes you have made in the **Edit Presets** window, click the *OK* button to implement your changes, or click *Cancel* to discard all changes you made since the window opened.

2.12 — Preset Sets (Pro Only)

Pro Preset Sets are only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the Special

menu. To upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

 You may set global hotkeys for any Preset Set, so that the Preset Set can be accessed from anywhere on your computer, no matter which application program is in front. Setting hotkeys is described in [“System-wide Menu Hotkeys” on page 27](#).

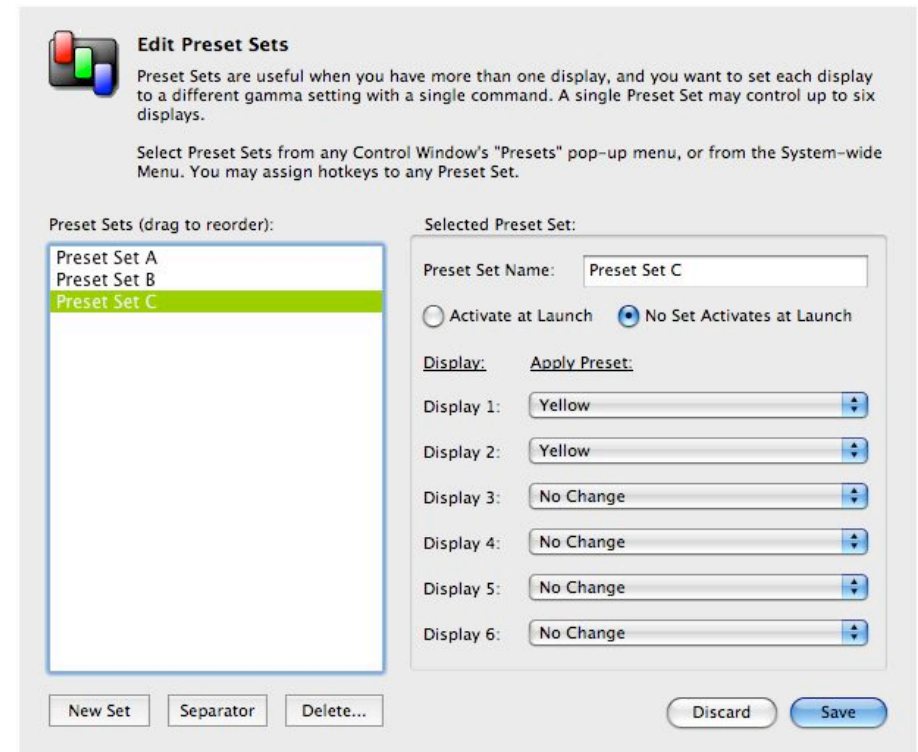
In multiple-display environments, it is often useful to change all displays in unison. *Preset Sets* allow you to control up to six connected displays simultaneously.

For example, you may define a Preset Set that changes your primary monitor to bright red, and your secondary display to dark red.

Define Preset Sets in the **Edit Preset Sets** window, which you may access as follows:

- Select **Edit Preset Sets...** from any **Control** window's *Presets:* menu, or
- Select **Edit Preset Sets...** from the **Edit** menu, or
- Select **Edit Preset Sets...** from the **System-wide Menu**, or
- Type `⌘ command` `⇧ shift` `E`

The **Edit Preset Sets** window is depicted below:



Edit Preset Sets Window

Existing Preset Sets appear in the scrolling listing labeled *Preset Sets (drag to reorder)*. Select a Preset Set by clicking on it. Select all Preset Sets by choosing **Select All** from the **Edit** menu, or by typing `⌘ command` `A`. You may control the order in which Preset Sets appear by dragging the desired Preset Set to a new location in the scrolling list.

Create a new Preset Set by clicking the *New Set* button. The new Preset Set will appear in the *Preset Sets* listing, and you may change its name and options in the *Selected Preset Set:* section of this window.

You may specify an option for each of up to six connected displays, using the pop-up menu that appears next to the desired display. Display 1 is your primary display (the one containing the menu bar), and you may define actions for up to five other displays, even if they are not presently connected.

For each display, you may select an existing gamma preset from each pop-up menu. You may also select *No Change*, which means that the desired display will be unaffected when the Preset Set is selected.

Preset Sets that you define will appear in most of the same places as regular gamma presets, namely:


- In any **Control** window's *Presets:* menu, and
- In the System-wide Menu

Preset Sets do *not* appear in the **Scheduling** window, however. There, you may apply a given preset to all monitors, or simply create separate events for each desired display.

You may drag Preset Sets to different positions, to change their display order. As with gamma presets, you may add a separator after the selected Preset Set by clicking the *Separator* button.

Additionally, you may specify that one Preset Set is activated when you first open DarkAdapted Pro. Simply click once on the Preset Set's name in the *Preset Sets* listing to select the set, then click the button captioned *Activate at Launch*.

To change the Preset Set that activates at launch, simply select a different Preset Set, then click *Activate at Launch* for the selected set. To specify that *no* Preset Set activate at launch, click the *No Set Activates at Launch* button when any Preset Set is selected in the *Preset Sets* listing.

 Specifying a Preset Set that activates at startup will override the application preference *Restore previous gamma values on program launch*, described in “[Editing Preferences](#)” on page 20.

Delete one or more selected Preset Sets by selecting the desired Preset Set(s), then click the *Delete...* button (or press the **DELETE** key). Skip the warning dialog by holding down the **⌘** option key as you click the *Delete...* button or press the **DELETE** key.

To save any changes you have made in the **Edit Preset Sets** window, and to close the window, click the *Save* button. Click *Discard* to close the window without saving changes.

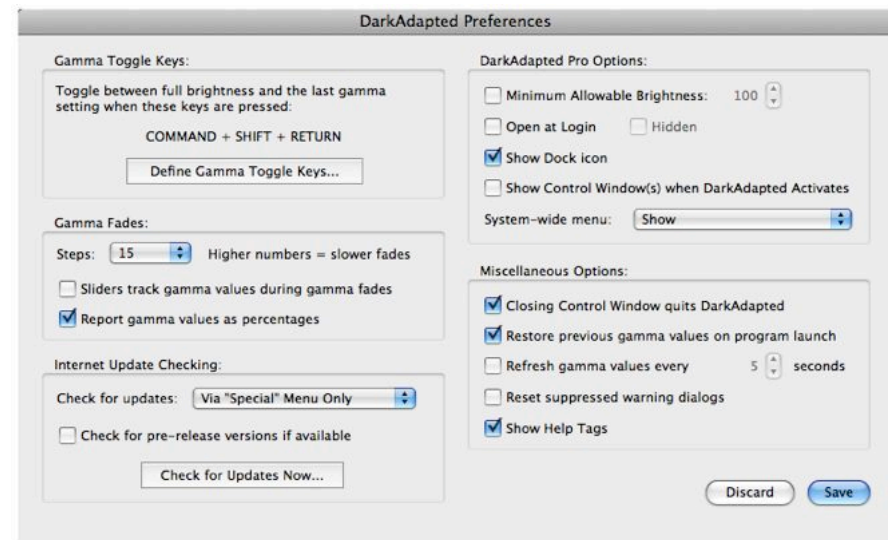
2.13 — Editing Preferences

To summon the **Preferences** window, select the Preferences... menu item as described below, or type **⌘** command **,** (comma).

Mac Select Preferences... from the DarkAdapted X menu.

Win Select Preferences... from the Edit menu.

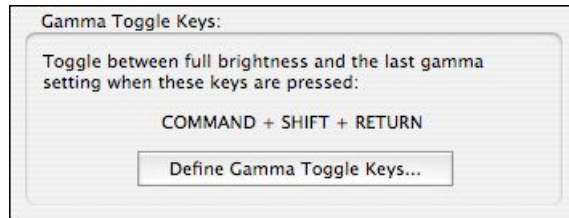
The **Preferences** window will then appear, as depicted below:



DarkAdapted Preferences Window

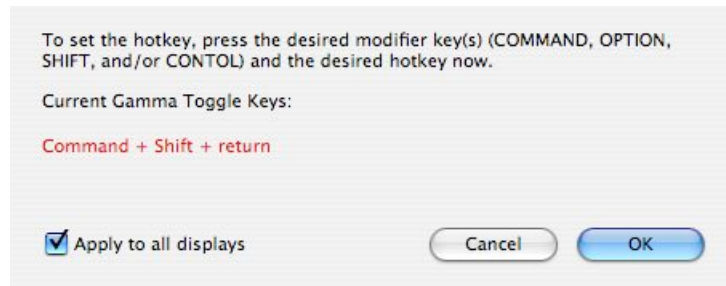
The **Preferences** window is where you can customize DarkAdapted to suit your tastes and requirements. There are several groups of controls in this window, and each group is pictured and described below.

Gamma Toggle Keys



Gamma Toggle Keys — Preferences Window

The *Gamma Toggle Keys*: section, depicted above, allows you to select which keys — when held down simultaneously — will return your monitor(s) to full brightness. Pressing the keys again will restore the previous gamma setting. Click the *Define Gamma Toggle Keys...* button to change the gamma toggle keys, and one of the following windows appears, depending on your computer's operating system:



Set Gamma Toggle Keys Window — Macintosh



Set Gamma Toggle Keys Window — Windows

Mac Type any combination of modifier keys, plus the desired non-modifier key, to set the gamma toggle keys. Modifier keys are **command**, **shift**, **option**, and **control**. Non-modifier keys are most of the other keys on your keyboard. At least one modifier key must be selected, unless the key is a *function key*, in which case you may press only the function key, or the function key plus any modifier key(s).

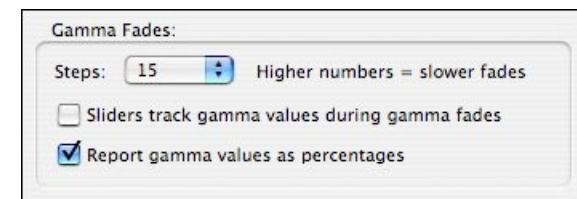
Almost any Macintosh non-modifier key may be selected, including function keys and many other keys on the extended keyboard. Note that the numeric keys that appear above the letters on your keyboard are *not* the same as the numeric keys on your numeric keypad. This gives you greater flexibility in defining hotkeys.

Win Select any modifier key(s) by clicking to select the corresponding checkbox control, and type a non-modifier key to change the displayed key name. Modifier keys are **control**, **shift**, **ALT**, and **WINDOWS**. Non-modifier keys are most of the other keys on your keyboard. At least one modifier key must be selected.

Pro DarkAdapted Pro may control multiple displays independently. If you have registered DarkAdapted Pro for Macintosh, and wish to have the gamma toggle keys control all displays in unison, click to select *Apply to all displays*. Leaving *Apply to all displays* applies the Gamma Toggle Keys to only the frontmost **Control** window.

Click *OK* to save the changes you made to the gamma toggle keys, or click *Cancel* to close the window without changing the key combination.

Gamma Fades



Gamma Fades — Preferences Window

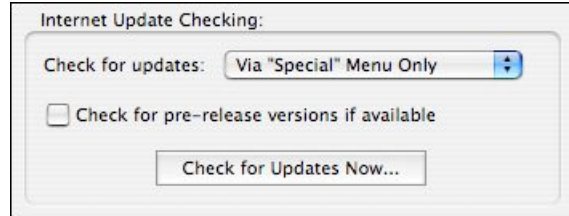
The section entitled *Gamma Fades*: contains three controls:

- The *Steps*: pop-up menu lets you control the speed of gamma transitions. Selecting “1” will result in a nearly instantaneous gamma tran-

sition. The default value of “60” results in a gamma fade which lasts approximately one second.

- Selecting the control labeled *Sliders track gamma values during gamma fades* causes the slider controls in the **Control** window to move as their corresponding gamma values change.
- *Report gamma values as percentages* controls how the current gamma values are displayed to the right of the **Control** window’s gamma control sliders. When selected, the readouts are populated with percentage values between zero and 100%. When this control is deselected, the slider readouts report the gamma value as integers between zero and 255. This controls the display format only; functionality is not affected by this control’s setting.

Internet Update Checking



Internet Update Checking — Preferences Window

The *Internet Update Checking*: section controls DarkAdapted’s version checking functionality, as described below:

- The *Check for updates*: pop-up menu controls whether DarkAdapted checks for updates manually, or automatically at a selectable interval. Select *Via “Special” Menu Only* to check for newer versions of DarkAdapted only when you select **Check for Program Updates...** from the **Special** menu. If you select *Every Week*, DarkAdapted will check for a newer version every seven days. Selecting *Every Month* causes DarkAdapted to check for updates every thirty days.
- To also check for newer alpha or beta versions of DarkAdapted, click to select *Check for pre-release versions if available*. Pre-release versions of DarkAdapted always check for such releases, regardless of this control’s setting.

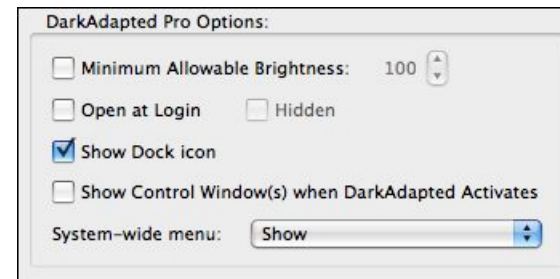
Click the *Check for Updates Now...* button to immediately check for program updates, which requires you to close the **Preferences** window.



An Internet connection must be established in order for update checking to occur. If you use a dialup or other Internet connection that is not always available, we recommend selecting *Via “Special” Menu Only* from the *Check for updates*: pop-up menu.

More information regarding Internet update checking will be found in the section [“Internet Update Checking” on page 35](#).

DarkAdapted Pro Options (Pro Only)



DarkAdapted Pro Options — Preferences Window

When you have registered DarkAdapted Pro for Macintosh, the *DarkAdapted Pro Options* control group is enabled.

Pro *DarkAdapted Pro Options* are described below, and are only available once you register DarkAdapted Pro. To upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

- If you want to avoid situations where your monitor becomes too faint to read, click to select *Minimum Allowable Brightness*. When this feature is selected, the brightness readout may be set to any value between 1 and 400, using the up and down arrow controls to the right of the readout.

When activated, *Minimum Allowable Brightness* causes the **Control** window’s gamma sliders to enforce the total brightness limit that you set here. Each of the **Control** window’s gamma sliders (red, green, and blue), may be set to a value between 0 and 255. When you adjust one slider downward, this feature automatically adjusts the other two sliders (if necessary) in order to maintain the minimum brightness you have set.

The *Minimum Allowable Brightness* that you set is checked using the *sum* of all three gamma sliders.

If DarkAdapted Pro enforces your minimum brightness, the **Control** window’s *R*, *G*, and *B* labels become enclosed in parentheses — (*R*), (*G*), and

(B) — as a reminder that the displayed value reflects the minimum allowable brightness.

- If you would like DarkAdapted Pro to start every time you log in to your computer, select *Open at Login*. By default, DarkAdapted Pro configures your system so that DarkAdapted Pro opens at login, and remains visible. To instead hide DarkAdapted Pro when it opens at login, check both *Open at Login and Hidden*.



A bug in Mac OS X 10.4.x (“Tiger”) prohibits the *Hidden* control from functioning. When using Tiger, you may open System Preferences → Accounts → Login Items to toggle the login visibility of DarkAdapted Pro.

- *Show Dock icon* controls whether DarkAdapted Pro appears in the Mac OS X Dock. If you deselect this option, DarkAdapted will open without a Dock icon the next time it is launched.



The *Show Dock icon* control is only available when you are logged in as a user with administrative privileges. This is because DarkAdapted Pro must modify its own application file in order to change the Dock icon’s visibility. Only an administrative user may modify the Applications folder, so if you wish to toggle the state of *Show Dock icon*, log in first as an administrator, then change the Dock icon’s visibility. This setting will be preserved when you log back in as a non-administrative user.



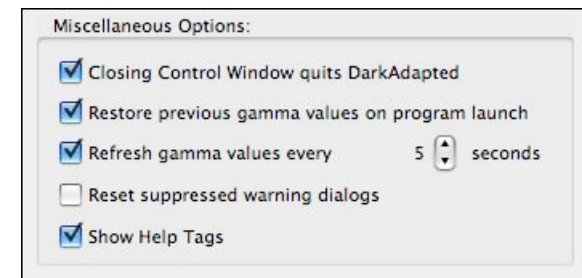
If you deselect *Show Dock icon* and set *System-wide menu* to *Hide*, then your only interface to DarkAdapted Pro will be via its **Control** window(s). To configure DarkAdapted Pro at the **Control** window, right-click (or ⌘-click) in a non-control area of the window, and a contextual menu opens with the choices *DarkAdapted Preferences...*, *Show System-wide Menu...*, and *Quit DarkAdapted*. You may use one of these to restore your user interface.

If you also set the preference to deselect *Closing Control Window quits DarkAdapted*, then there will truly be no interface by which to control DarkAdapted Pro. If this occurs, DarkAdapted Pro will present a dialog which offers to show the System-wide menu, or at least enable its hotkeys, so you have some means by which to control DarkAdapted Pro.

If you opt to enable hotkeys only — and you have defined no hotkeys for setting menu hotkeys and quitting DarkAdapted Pro, then DarkAdapted Pro will add those hotkeys for you and display them in a dialog.

- The control labeled *Show Control Window(s) when DarkAdapted Activates* causes any hidden **Control** windows to be shown when you return to DarkAdapted Pro from another application. To close **Control** windows without quitting DarkAdapted Pro, make sure you do *not* select the preference *Closing Control Window Quits DarkAdapted*.
- The *System-wide menu*: pop-up menu allows you to control the visibility and behavior of DarkAdapted Pro’s system-wide menu (☰). Select *Show* to reveal the system-wide menu at the right side of your menu. Select *Hide* to prevent the system-wide menu from appearing. Selecting *Hide, but enable hotkeys* causes the system-wide menu to not appear, but its hotkeys (keyboard shortcuts) continue to function.

Miscellaneous Options




Miscellaneous Options — Preferences Window

The *Miscellaneous Options*: controls are described below:

- Click to select *Closing Control Window quits DarkAdapted* if you want DarkAdapted to quit whenever any **Control** window is closed (the default behavior). Deselect this control to simply hide the **Control** window using its close control. If you hide the window in this manner, you may again show it by selecting *Show Control Window* from the **Special** menu.

Win Because closing the **Control** window will leave you with no menu bar on the Windows platform, *Closing Control Window quits DarkAdapted* is disabled on Windows.

Pro DarkAdapted Pro users who deselect *Closing Control Window quits DarkAdapted* may quickly re-show all **Control** windows by holding down the  key while clicking DarkAdapted Pro's Dock icon in Mac OS X. To upgrade, select Register DarkAdapted Pro... from the **Special** menu.

- When the control labeled *Restore previous gamma values on program launch* appears with a check mark, then DarkAdapted will store the state of all gamma sliders (and the *Presets*: pop-up menu, if applicable) when you quit DarkAdapted. The next time you launch DarkAdapted, the screen gamma will be returned to the saved values.

Pro When you reopen DarkAdapted — and its previous state was set to control displays independently, all displays will be returned to their previous gamma values when *Restore previous gamma values on program launch* is selected.


Pro If you have specified that a Preset Set should be activated at launch, then the Preset Set overrides this setting, and the Preset Set will be activated at launch, instead of the previous gamma values. Specifying a Preset Set to activate at launch is described in the section “[Preset Sets](#)” on page 18.

- The *Refresh gamma values every N seconds* checkbox, when selected, causes DarkAdapted to re-implement your screen's gamma settings periodically. This may be used, for example, to retain your preferred gamma setting when entering and/or exiting a screen saver, which will usually interfere with DarkAdapted's settings. Use the small arrows to select a refresh frequency between 1 and 60 seconds. By default, DarkAdapted enables this setting, with a period of 5 seconds.
- The control labeled *Reset suppressed warning dialogs* may be used to reset any warning dialog boxes that you have chosen not to display in the future, usually by selecting a *Don't show again* checkbox or clicking a *Suppress* button in a dialog. If you click to select *Reset suppressed warning dialogs*, all suppressed warnings will again show after you save the preferences by clicking the *Save* button.
- By default, help tags (sometimes called “tool tips”) appear when you position the cursor over many of DarkAdapted's controls for a few seconds. If you prefer not to see these help tags, click to deselect *Show Help Tags*.

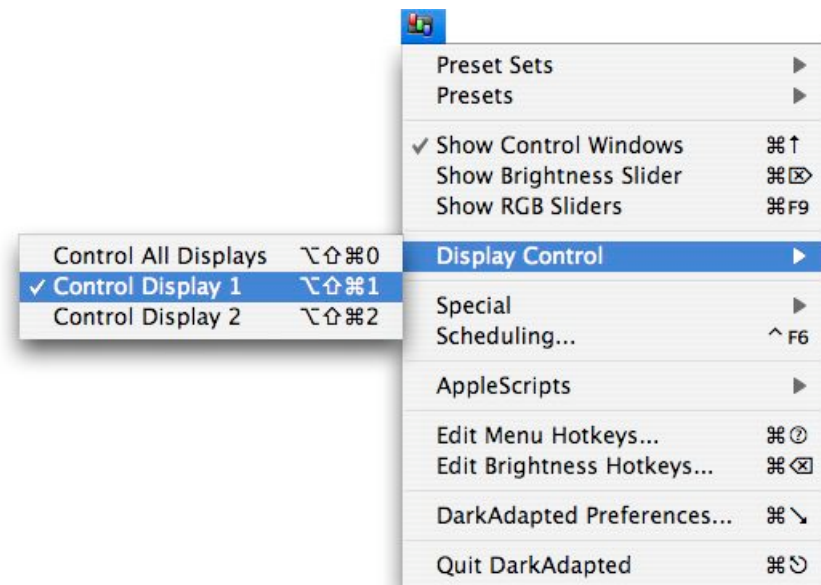
To implement any changes made in the **Preferences** window, click the *Save* button, or click *Discard* to close this window without saving your changes.

2.14 — The System-wide Menu (Pro Only)


Pro The system-wide menu is only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the **Special** menu. To upgrade, select Register DarkAdapted Pro... from the **Special** menu.

When you first register DarkAdapted Pro (or when you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the **Special** menu), the system-wide menu  automatically appears near the right side of your menu bar. You may choose to hide it by modifying the appropriate control in the **Preferences** window as described on [page 23](#).

The menu is illustrated below:



DarkAdapted Pro's System-wide Menu

 You may set global hotkeys for any item in DarkAdapted's system-wide menu, so that any menu command can be accessed from anywhere on your computer, no matter which application program is in front. Setting menu hotkeys is described later in this section.

The various menu selections of the system-wide menu are discussed below.

Preset Sets

If you have defined any Preset Sets (as described in “[Preset Sets](#)” on page 18), the first menu entry is labeled **Preset Sets**. When selected, a submenu opens where you may select any Preset Set that you have defined. The submenu also includes the command **Edit Preset Sets...**, which opens the **Edit Preset Sets** window.

Presets

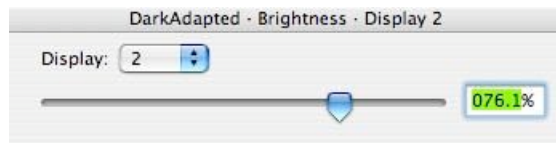
The next menu entry is labeled **Presets**. When selected, a submenu opens where you may select any of DarkAdapted Pro’s built-in gamma presets, or any preset that you have added. The submenu also includes the commands **Save Current Screen as Preset...** and **Edit Presets...**, which bring up the **Save Preset** window and the **Edit Preset** window, respectively. “[Saving a Preset](#)” and “[Managing Presets](#)” are described on [page 16](#) and [page 16](#), respectively.

Control Windows

The next menu item, **Show Control Windows**, appears with a check mark when at least one **Control** window is open. Select this menu item to alternately show or hide the **Control** windows.

The Brightness Window

Selecting **Show Brightness Slider** causes the **Brightness** window to appear:



DarkAdapted Pro's Brightness Window

You may select to control all displays, or a single display, from the *Display:* pop-up menu. Pressing the **[D]** key cycles between all connected displays, while pressing the **[A]** key selects all displays. After you select from the pop-up menu, the cursor moves to the brightness slider’s handle.

Moving the slider to the left dims the display, and moving it to the right brightens the display. This control retains the relative values of red, green, and blue on the selected display.

The slider may also be moved using your mouse’s scroll wheel. Scroll up to increase brightness, or scroll down to decrease brightness.

You may also move the brightness slider via the keyboard. To move the slider to the right, hold down one of the modifier keys **[⌘ command]**, **[⌥ option]**, or **[⌃ control]** — and press the **[→]** or **[↑]** key. To move the slider to the left, hold down one of the modifier keys **[⌘ command]**, **[⌥ option]**, or **[⌃ control]** — and press the **[←]** or **[↓]** key.



The window opens so that the slider’s handle appears under the mouse, unless doing so would cause the window to move partially off the screen, in which case the cursor is repositioned to appear over the slider’s handle. Thus, you will never need to reposition your cursor in order to start changing the brightness.



Unlike the **Control** window and the **RGB Sliders** window, the **Brightness** window displays the brightness *percentage* only; there is no way to toggle the display to show a “raw” brightness value. This is because there *is* no “raw” brightness value; the number of steps between zero and full brightness varies, depending on the screen gamma value when you first open the **Brightness** window.

You may also type a numeric brightness value using the keyboard. Enter a valid number between zero and 100%, and the screen brightness will update when you press the **[TAB]**, **[RETURN]**, or **[ENTER]** key. Pressing the **[ESCAPE]** key updates the screen brightness and closes the **Brightness** window.

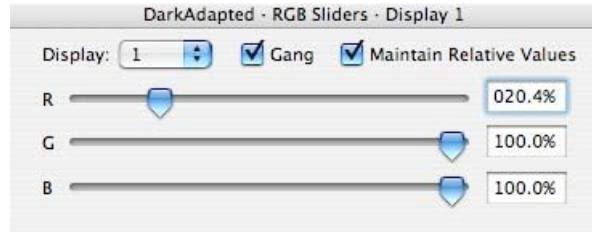


Some systems may prevent text entry in the **Brightness** window, because some software additions and system revisions do not allow floating windows to receive the focus for entering text.

The control disappears when the mouse leaves the **Brightness** window. To help you avoid accidentally closing the window, DarkAdapted waits until the mouse is at least 30 pixels outside of the window’s border before the window closes.

The RGB Sliders Window

When you select **Show RGB Sliders** from the menu, the **RGB Sliders** window appears:



DarkAdapted Pro's RGB Sliders Window

You may select to control all displays, or a single display, from the *Display:* pop-up menu. Pressing the **[D]** key cycles between all connected displays, while pressing the **[A]** key selects all displays. After you select from the pop-up menu, the cursor moves to the *Red* slider's handle.

The controls in this window function identically to those in the **Control** window, which was discussed previously. The *R*, *G*, and *B* sliders control the selected display's red, green, and blue gamma values respectively. The *Gang* control functions identically to the **Control** window's *Gang Sliders* control (described in “[Ganged Sliders](#)” on page 13). The *Maintain Relative Values* functions identically to the control named *Maintain Relative Values* in the **Control** window (see “[Maintain Relative Values](#)” on page 14).

The sliders may be moved in unison using your mouse's scroll wheel.

You may also move the sliders via the keyboard. First, select the text to the right of the slider you wish to change. You may select the text by clicking in the text display, or by pressing the **[TAB]** key. To move the selected slider to the right, hold down one of the modifier keys **[⌘ command]**, **[⌥ option]**, or **[⌘ control]** — and press the **[→]** or **[↑]** key. To move it to the left, hold down one of the modifier keys **[⌘ command]**, **[⌥ option]**, or **[⌘ control]** — and press the **[←]** or **[↓]** key.



The window always opens so that the red (top) slider's handle appears under the mouse, unless doing so would cause the window to move partially off the screen, in which case the cursor is repositioned to appear over the slider's handle. Thus, you will never need to reposition your cursor in order to start changing the sliders in ganged mode.

You may toggle the state of *Gang* by pressing the **[G]** key on your keyboard. If *Gang* is active, you may also toggle the state of *Maintain Relative Values* by pressing the **[M]** key.

You may also use your keyboard to type numeric gamma values, entering these values as raw values or as percentages.

As with the **Control Window** (described on [page 15](#)), you may press the **[TAB]** key to alternately select red, green, and blue values sequentially (or select in reverse order by typing **[⇧ shift] [TAB]**).



Some systems may prevent text entry in the **RGB Sliders** window, because some software additions and system revisions do not allow floating windows to receive the focus for entering text.

Once a gamma value is selected, you may numerically specify gamma values using the keyboard. As with the **Control Window** (described on [page 15](#)), you may type a number *without* a percent sign to specify a gamma value between 0 and 255, and you may type in a number *with* a percent sign to enter a percentage. You may also press the **[SPACE]** key to toggle between percentage and raw gamma modes.

When you change between raw gamma value and percentage display, all displays will change to show gamma values in the same format, and the state of *Report Gamma Values as Percentages* in the Preferences Window will also change, if necessary (see “[Editing Preferences](#)” on page 20).

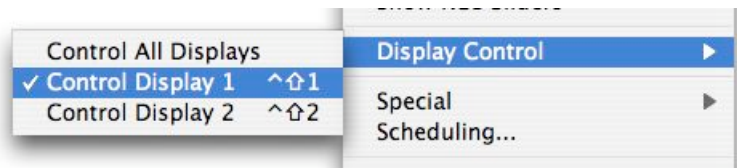
The screen's gamma will update when you press the **[TAB]**, **[RETURN]**, or **[ENTER]** key. Pressing the **[ESCAPE]** key updates the gamma and closes the **RGB Sliders** window.

The window disappears when the mouse leaves the **RGB Sliders** window. To help you avoid accidentally closing the window, DarkAdapted waits until the mouse is at least 30 pixels outside of the window's border before the window closes.

Display Control

If you have more than one display attached to your computer, the **Display Control** menu appears in the system-wide menu. In its submenu, you may

select Control All Displays, or select the desired display number, as illustrated below:

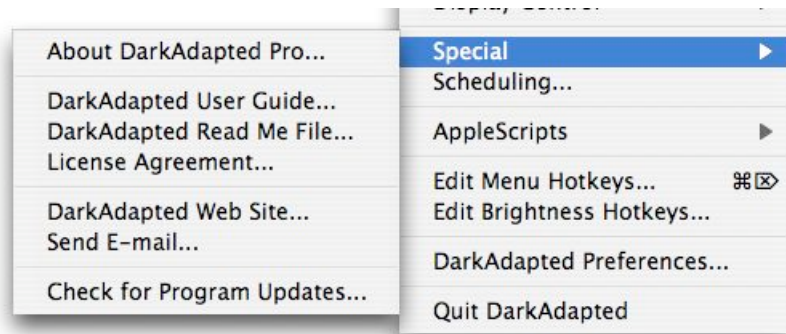


DarkAdapted Pro's Display Control Menu

The Display Control submenu is where you define which display will be affected by the menu commands Show Brightness Slider, Show RGB Sliders..., the *brightness hotkeys* (described in “[Setting Brightness Hotkeys on page 29](#)”), and any selection from the Presets submenu.

The Special Menu and its Submenu

The Special menu in the system-wide menu contains several selections, as illustrated below:



DarkAdapted Pro's Special Menu

The following items appear in the Special submenu:

- The menu item **About DarkAdapted Pro...** brings up the **About** window, which provides version and copyright information.
- The three documentation-related menu items — **DarkAdapted User Guide...**, **DarkAdapted Read Me File...**, and **License Agreement...** — attempt to open these documentation .pdf files, if they can be located. DarkAdapted Pro expects to find these documents in the same folder as DarkAdapted Pro, or in a subfolder named “Documentation.” If located,

DarkAdapted Pro attempts to open one of these documents using your default reader for .pdf files.

- Selecting **DarkAdapted Web Site...** opens your default web browser, and attempts to connect to our web site: www.darkadapted.com. You must be connected to the Internet, and your system must support automatically opening your web browser — in order for this command to function.
- Select the menu item **Send E-mail...** to open your default e-mail client, pre-addressed with our support e-mail address, and a subject line indicating your DarkAdapted version. In order for this to work, your system must support automatically opening your e-mail program.

Scheduling

The Scheduling... menu item brings up DarkAdapted Pro's **Scheduling** window, as described in “[Scheduled Event Execution on page 30](#)”.

AppleScripts

DarkAdapted can execute AppleScripts via the system-wide menu or via global hotkeys. The menu item **AppleScripts...** provides access to these scripts, and it is described in “[Running AppleScripts on page 30](#)”.

Edit Menu Hotkeys

A menu item entitled Edit Menu Hotkeys allows you to set global keyboard equivalents for any menu item in the system-wide menu, as described in “[System-wide Menu Hotkeys on page 27](#)”.

Preferences

The next menu item in the system-wide menu is labeled **DarkAdapted Pro Preferences...** . Select this item to open the **DarkAdapted Preferences** window, which is described in “[Editing Preferences on page 20](#)”.

Quit DarkAdapted

Finally, the menu item **Quit DarkAdapted** quits the program.

2.15 — System-wide Menu Hotkeys (Pro Only)

Pro The system-wide menu (⌘) and its associated hotkeys are only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select **Try DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu. To

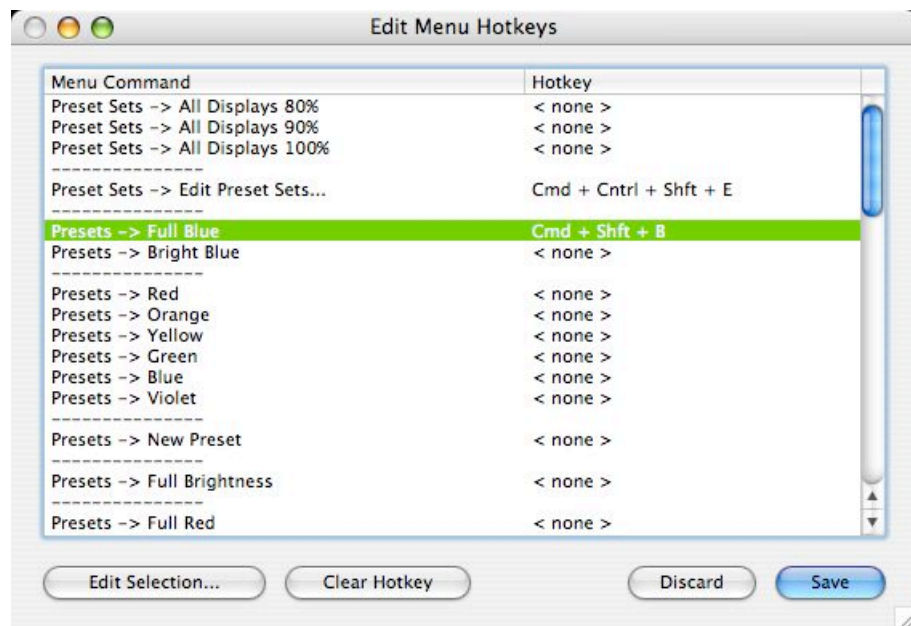
upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

You may invoke any item in DarkAdapted Pro's system-wide menu (🌐) via global hotkeys. Global hotkeys are simply keyboard shortcuts that operate from within any application, as long as DarkAdapted Pro is also running.

💡 System-wide hotkeys are available when you configure the *system-wide menu*: preference in the **Preferences** window to either “*Show*” or “*Hide, but enable hotkeys*” as described on [page 23](#).

Edit Menu Hotkeys Window

You may set system-wide hotkeys by selecting **Edit Menu Hotkeys...** from the system-wide (🌐) menu. When you do so, the **Edit Menu Hotkeys** window appears, as pictured below:



Edit Menu Hotkeys Window

The scrolling listing contains two columns: *Menu Command* and *Hotkey*. The *Menu Command* column displays every menu item available in the system-wide menu, along with the associated hotkeys in the *Hotkey* column.

Setting and editing hotkeys will be covered below.

If you have one or more hotkeys set up, and would like to clear the hotkey(s) so that no hotkey is activated for the desired menu command(s), simply click to select one or more entries in the scrolling list, then click the *Clear Hotkey* button.

The *Discard* button, when clicked, closes the **Edit Menu Hotkeys** window without saving any changes you may have made to the hotkeys. Click the *Save* button to save the hotkeys and close the window.

To set or change a menu command's hotkey, do one of two things:

- Select the menu command in the scrolling listing, then click the *Edit Selection...* button, or
- Double-click the desired menu command in the scrolling listing.

Set Menu Hotkey Window

Once you perform one of the above actions, the **Set Menu Hotkey** window opens, as illustrated below:




Set Menu Hotkey Window

This window reminds you of which menu command you are currently editing in the display region that begins *Current Hotkey for*, followed by the system-wide menu name. When the menu item is a submenu, its parent menu comes first, followed by “->” and the menu item itself.

To set a hotkey, press and hold the desired modifier keys (⌘ *command*, ⇧ *shift*, ⌥ *option* and/or ⌃ *control*), then — *while still holding down the modifier keys* — press the desired non-modifier hotkey.

💡 Almost any non-modifier key may be selected, including function keys. Furthermore, function keys do *not* require that a modifier key also be pressed, although you may add modifier keys if you wish. So, for example, a hotkey of only **F5** may be specified, as well as ⌘ **F5**, ⇧ **F5**, etc.


 Note that the numeric keys that appear above the letters on your keyboard are *not* the same as the numeric keys on your numeric keypad. This gives you greater flexibility in defining hotkeys.

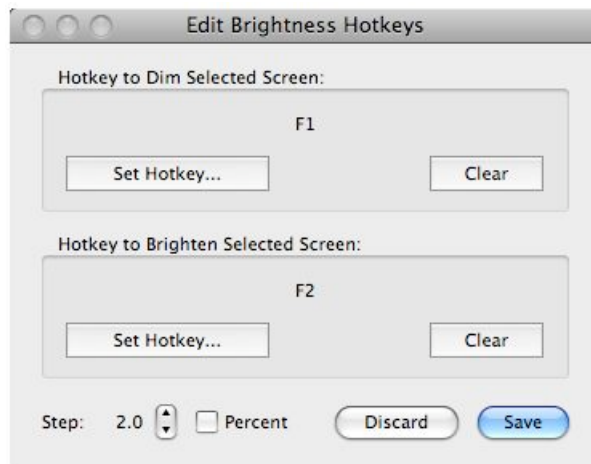
After you have pressed the desired key combination, release the keys and observe the state of the red text display, which should correspond to the keys you just typed. When you are satisfied with your hotkey, click the *OK* button to close the **Set Menu Hotkey** window and return to the **Edit Menu Hotkeys** window. Click *Cancel* to close the window without changing the hotkey.

2.16 — Setting Brightness Hotkeys (Pro Only)

Pro The brightness hotkeys are only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select **Try DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu. To upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

You may brighten or dim the selected screen(s) via global hotkeys. Global hotkeys are simply keyboard shortcuts that operate from within any application, as long as DarkAdapted Pro is also running.

You may set up brightness hotkeys by selecting **Edit Brightness Hotkeys...** from the system-wide menu (). The **Edit Brightness Hotkeys** window then appears, as depicted below:




Edit Brightness Hotkeys Window

The *Step:* control at the bottom of this window defines the number of brightness steps that DarkAdapted Pro uses when dimming or brightening the

display(s). The number may be adjusted between 1 and 20 via the arrow controls. A *Step:* of 1 produces a brightness change of about 0.4% per keypress, while a *Step:* of 20 produces a change of about 7.8%.

To instead specify that brightness is adjusted in *percentage steps*, simply click to select the *Percent* control, and DarkAdapted Pro will adjust the brightness in the percentage step that you specify.





 Unlike DarkAdapted Pro's other hotkeys, the brightness hotkeys *repeat* when you hold them down. The screen will continue to change in brightness until you release the brightness hotkey.


To set a hotkey for brightening or dimming the display(s), click the *Set Hotkey...* button in the controlling region matching the desired action (*Hotkey to Brighten Selected Screen* or *Hotkey to Dim Selected Screen*). When you click one of these buttons, the **Set Brightness Hotkey** window appears, as illustrated below:



Set Brightness Hotkeys Window


The text display that begins with “*Current Hotkey*” reminds you which brightness hotkey you are editing. The red text displays the current brightness hotkey, if any.

To set a hotkey, press and hold the desired modifier keys ( *command*),  *shift*,  *option* and/or  *control*), then — *while still holding down the modifier keys* — press the desired non-modifier hotkey.

 Almost any non-modifier key may be selected, including function keys and many other keys on the extended keyboard. Note that the numeric keys that appear above the letters on your keyboard are *not* the same as the numeric keys on your numeric keypad. This gives you greater flexibility in defining hotkeys.

After you have pressed the desired key combination, release the keys and observe the state of the red text display, which should correspond to the keys

you just typed. When you are satisfied with your brightness hotkey, click the *OK* button to save your new hotkey and return to the **Edit Brightness Hotkeys** window. Click the *Cancel* button to close the **Set Brightness Hotkey** window without changing the brightness hotkey.

The brightness hotkeys will apply to whatever display you have selected using the **Display Control** command of the system-wide menu () or — if the system-wide menu is not showing — the following displays:

- The main display when **Control Displays Independently** (in the Edit menu) is selected.
- All displays when **Control Displays Independently** (in the Edit menu) is *not* selected.


Click *Save* in the **Edit Brightness Hotkeys** window to save your brightness hotkeys and close the window. Click *Discard* to close the **Edit Brightness Hotkeys** window without saving any changes you may have made.


2.17 — Running AppleScripts (Pro Only)

Pro AppleScript execution is only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the **Special** menu. To upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

AppleScript Location

DarkAdapted Pro looks for AppleScripts (with the `.scpt` extension) in a folder named `AppleScripts`, which must reside in the same folder that contains DarkAdapted Pro. DarkAdapted Pro also looks for AppleScripts in the `startup_disk` → `Library` → `Scripts` → `DarkAdapted Pro Scripts` folder.

When one or more AppleScripts are located in one of these folders, a menu item named **AppleScripts** appears in the system-wide menu (). You may execute any AppleScript, from within any application, by selecting its name from the **AppleScripts** submenu.


 You may also define **hotkeys** that execute your preferred AppleScripts system-wide. Setting hotkeys for system-wide menu items is discussed in “[System-wide Menu Hotkeys](#)” on page 27. You may also schedule AppleScripts that run at the times you specify, as described in “[Scheduled Event Execution](#)” on page 30.

2.18 — Independent Display Control (Pro Only)

Pro Independent display control is only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the **Special** menu. To upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

By default, DarkAdapted controls all monitors using a single **Control** window. To instead use separate **Control** windows to control multiple monitors, select **Control Displays Independently** from the Edit menu (or type `⌘ command D`). This will open multiple windows, one for each connected display.

When in independent display mode, the **Control Displays Independently** menu item appears with a check mark next to it.

 If DarkAdapted Pro is set to *not* control displays independently, and a scheduled event specifies that a gamma fade should apply to a specific display, DarkAdapted Pro will automatically enable independent display control before executing the event.

DarkAdapted Pro saves the state of independent display control across launches.

2.19 — Scheduled Event Execution (Pro Only)

Pro Scheduled event execution is only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the **Special** menu. To upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

What is Scheduling?

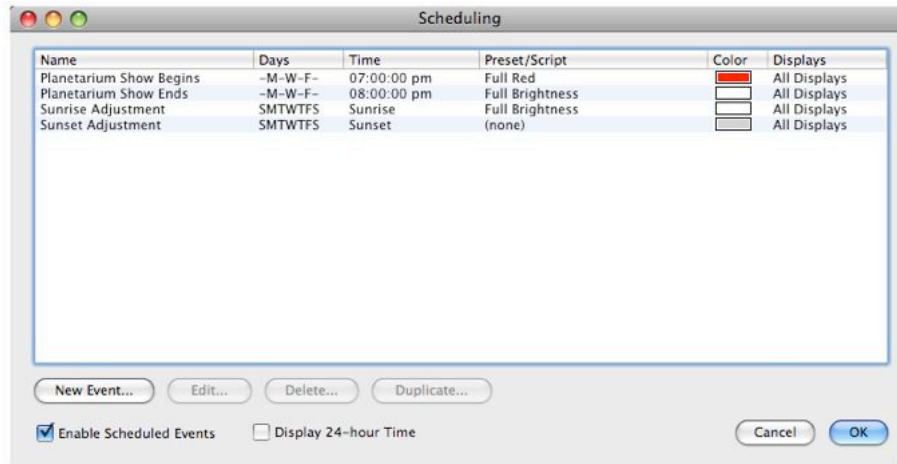
Scheduling references DarkAdapted Pro’s ability to perform actions (termed “events”) at specific times. You may schedule the following types of events:

- Run an AppleScript
- Implement a Gamma Preset
- Implement a Custom Gamma Color

Many users desire gamma changes and AppleScript execution that operates on a schedule. For example, a planetarium operator may desire that DarkAdapted Pro dim the screen at the beginning of a show, or an air traffic controller may wish to brighten the screen at sunrise.

Setting Up Scheduled Events

DarkAdapted Pro provides a flexible event scheduling mechanism, which is accessed via the **Scheduling** window. The window may be activated by selecting **Scheduling...** from the **Edit** menu, or by typing **⌘G**, in which case the **Scheduling** window appears, as illustrated below:



Scheduling Window

The control labeled *Enable Scheduled Events* specifies whether DarkAdapted Pro should execute any events you have defined. When the control appears with a check mark, DarkAdapted Pro adjusts gammas according to your pre-defined schedule. To prevent scheduled events from executing, click to remove the check mark from *Enable Scheduled Events*.

Click to select *Display 24-hour Time* to display the time values in the **Scheduling** window and **Edit Event** window in 24-hour time, rather than am/pm time format. This control only affects the display of time, not the time of scheduled events.

All events you have defined will appear in this window's scrolling display. You may select an event by clicking on the entry, or select multiple events by clicking while holding down your system's multiple-selection modifier key. You may also drag selected events up and down in the listing, which affects the order in which events execute *if* the events execute at the exact same time.

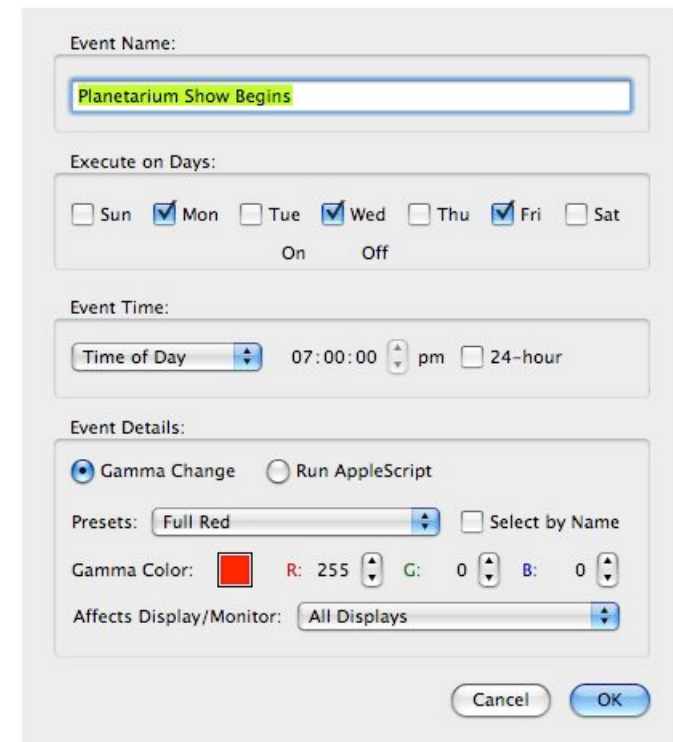
When one or more events are selected you may delete the selected event(s) by clicking the *Delete...* button. The events will be deleted after you confirm your decision in a dialog box, although you may skip the warning by holding down the **⌘option** key while clicking *Delete...*

To make a copy of the selected event, click the *Duplicate* button. The copy appears with a period and a number at the end, and is selected in the sorted list. You may then edit the copy as necessary.

You may edit an event by selecting a single event, then clicking the *Edit...* button. You may also edit an event by double-clicking on the event in the scrolling listing.

Creating and Editing Events

You may create a new event at any time by clicking the **Scheduling** window's *New Event...* button, in which case the **Edit Event** window appears, as illustrated below. The **Edit Event** window also appears when you edit an existing event.



Edit Event Window


Type a descriptive name for the event in the *Event Name:* text entry field. DarkAdapted Pro will warn you if you attempt to add an event with the same name as an existing event.

Scheduling Events on Specific Days of the Week

The *Execute on Days* controls allow you to specify the days of the week that your event should execute. DarkAdapted Pro requires that you select at least one day of the week in order to save the event.

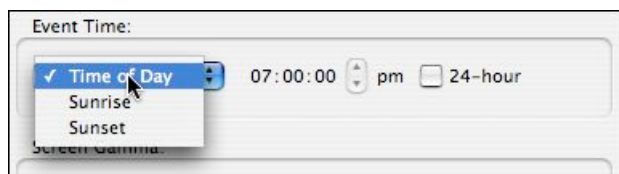


Click the *On* control to select all days of the week; click the *Off* control to deselect all days. Drag either control over one or more days of the week to apply the desired action to every day of week control that you drag over.

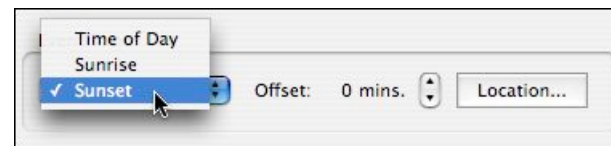
 Dragging the *On* or *Off* control to the desired day(s) of the week eliminates repetitive mouse-clicking, which is especially useful if you are defining several events. For example, to select only the weekend days (Sunday and Saturday), click *On* to select all of the days (if necessary), then drag the *Off* control across the weekdays to turn them off.

Setting the Event's Time of Day

The *Event Time* region is where you specify the time of day that the event should execute. From the pop-up menu, you may select *Time of Day*, *Sunrise*, or *Sunset*.

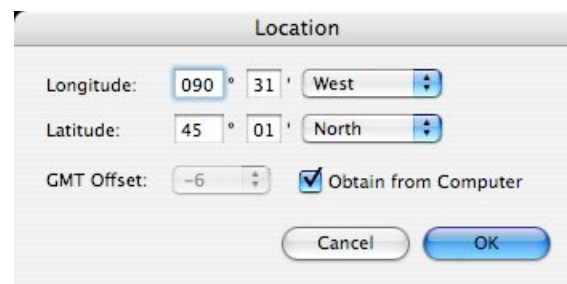


- When *Time of Day* is selected, a control appears wherein you may adjust the hour, minute, or second of the event. If you select *24-hour*, the time will be displayed in 24-hour format; when deselected, you may also click to adjust the *am/pm* indicator. When you click on the hours, minutes, or seconds region of the control, it becomes editable. You may then type a new value, or use the arrow controls to adjust the value upward or downward. You may also press the **TAB** key to move between all editable values and the *Event Name* text entry field.



- When you select either *Sunrise* or *Sunset*, two controls appear. One is labeled *Offset*, and specifies how many minutes before or after sunrise/sunset the event should occur. You may adjust the *Offset* up or down by means of the arrow controls. So, for example, to define an event that will execute 30 minutes before sunset, select *Sunset* from the pop-up menu, then click the “down” arrow control until the *Offset* reads “-30” minutes. The *Offset* may be adjusted in one-minute increments, with a minimum of -60 and maximum of 60 minutes. The *Location* control is explained below.

When you define an event as occurring based on sunrise or sunset time, DarkAdapted Pro requires your location on Earth in order to provide accurate times. If you have never specified your location, the **Location** window appears the first time you select *Sunrise* or *Sunset* from the pop-up menu. Thereafter, you may click the *Location...* button to change your location. The **Location** window is depicted below:



Location Window

Your longitude and latitude may be obtained from an atlas, or via the Internet. Longitude is expressed in degrees and minutes; select *West* from the pop-up menu if your location is west of the Greenwich meridian (longitude increases as you move westward), or select *East* if your location is east of Greenwich (longitude increases as you move eastward).

Latitude is also expressed in degrees and minutes. Select *North* from the pop-up menu if your location is north of the equator; otherwise, select *South*.

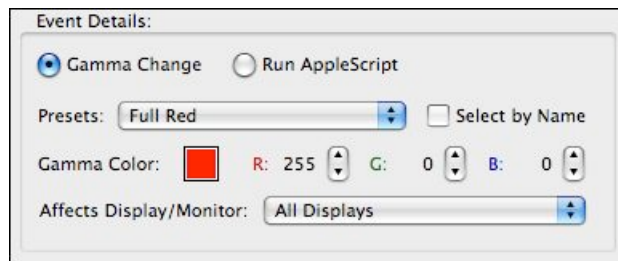
GMT Offset is the number of hours that your time zone differs from Greenwich Mean Time. This value will change throughout the year if you observe daylight saving time. In most cases, it is best to select *Obtain from*

Computer. You may also click to deselect *Obtain from Computer* and choose your offset manually from the pop-up menu, but be aware that choosing a manual adjustment will not automatically compensate for daylight saving time, if observed in your locale.

Click *OK* to save your changes, or *Cancel* to discard them. If no valid location is specified, the *Event Time* pop-up menu in the **Edit Event** window changes back to *Time of Day*. Closing the **Location** window returns you to the **Edit Event** window.

Specifying a Gamma Change Event

The **Edit Event** window's *Event Details*: region allows you to specify either a *Gamma Change* event or a *Run AppleScript* event.




Event Details Region with Gamma Change Selected

If you wish DarkAdapted Pro to change the screen gamma at the specified time, click to select *Gamma Change*. If you would like to execute an AppleScript at the specified time, click to select *Run AppleScript*.

When you select *Gamma Change*, you may then specify the gamma color that will be applied to the desired screen(s) when the event executes. You may select an existing preset via the *Presets*: pop-up menu, select a color using the Mac OS X Color Picker dialog (by clicking on the colored square), or define custom red, green, and blue values (using the up/down arrow controls).

Clicking *Select by Name* forces DarkAdapted Pro to select the gamma color by its Preset name. This can be useful if you plan on replacing a preset (in the **Edit Presets** window) with one that has an identical name, but different color values. This saves the effort of redefining your events with different colors.

In most cases, however, it is best to leave *Select by Name* unchecked.

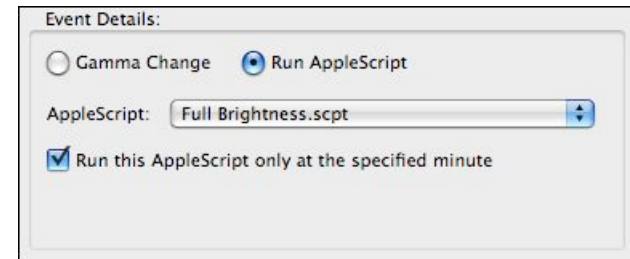
 If you delete a preset that is used by one or more scheduled events, DarkAdapted Pro will still be able to set the screen gamma to the

deleted preset's former values, *unless* you check the *Select by Name* option. This is why it's best to leave *Select by Name* unchecked.

If you would like your event to control all monitors in unison, select *All Displays* from the *Affects Display/Monitor*: pop-up menu. To instead control only a single monitor, select the display number from the pop-up menu.


Specifying an AppleScript Event

When you select *Run AppleScript* in the *Event Details*: region, a different set of controls appears here, as illustrated below:



Event Details Region with Run AppleScript Selected

Select an AppleScript to execute at the specified time by selecting the script's name from the *AppleScript*: pop-up menu.

 DarkAdapted Pro populates the *AppleScript*: pop-up menu with all of the AppleScripts (with the .scpt extension) it locates in a folder named *AppleScripts*, which resides in the same folder that contains DarkAdapted Pro. DarkAdapted Pro also looks for AppleScripts in the *startup_disk* → *Library* → *Scripts* → *DarkAdapted Pro Scripts* folder.

The list is updated every time you open the **Edit Event** window, so you may add, change, or remove AppleScripts while DarkAdapted Pro is running.

The control captioned *Run this AppleScript only at the specified minute* lets you specify what happens if the machine is off or in sleep mode — or DarkAdapted Pro is not running — when an AppleScript is scheduled to run.

If you click to select *Run this AppleScript only at the specified minute*, DarkAdapted Pro will not run the AppleScript unless DarkAdapted Pro is running *and* your machine is “awake” at the scheduled execution time. When the control is *not* selected, DarkAdapted Pro will run the AppleScript (if it is the

most recent scheduled event) when the machine returns from sleep mode or DarkAdapted starts up.

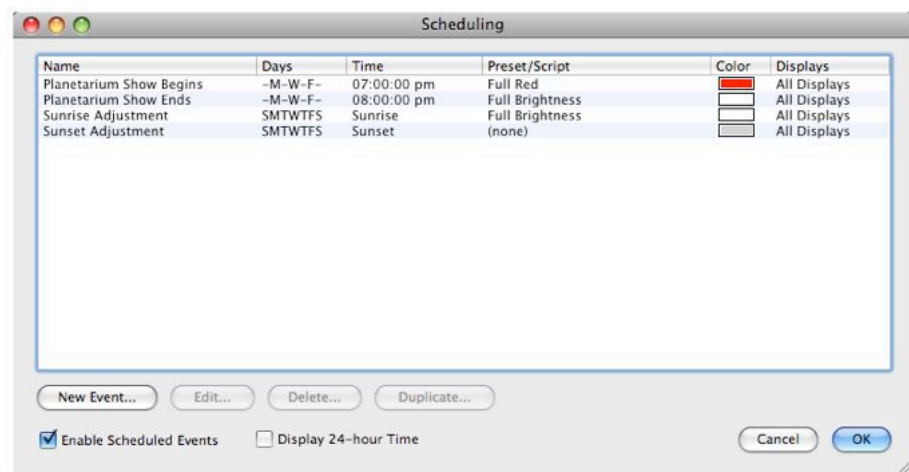
Save or Discard Event Changes

To save the changes you made in the **Edit Event** window, click the *OK* button, and the window closes. To close the window without saving changes, click *Cancel*.



Events in the Scheduling Window

The various columns in the **Scheduling** window begin with *Name*, which is simply the name you specified for the scheduled event in the **Edit Event** window.



Scheduling Window

The *Days* column provides a visual representation of the days of the week on which the event will execute. Each entry in this column consists of seven characters, one for each day of the week, starting with Sunday and ending with Saturday.

If a scheduled event will execute on a particular day of the week, the first letter of the day’s name appears; otherwise, a hyphen (“-”) appears. So, an entry in the *Days* column of “**S**-----” denotes an event that occurs on Sunday only; the entry “**SMTWTFS**” indicates that an event occurs every day; and an

entry reading “---**W-F**---” denotes an event that occurs only on Wednesdays and Fridays.

The *Time* column will display either the event’s time of day, or that the event occurs at sunrise or sunset. If an event specifies sunrise or sunset, the offset (if any) in minutes appears here also.

The column titled *Preset/Script* denotes the AppleScript name or the gamma preset associated with the event, if any. If the gamma value was specified manually in the **Edit Event** window, the text “(none)” appears instead of the preset’s name.

The column labeled *Color* displays different values, according to the type of event scheduled, as described below:

- For scheduled events that specify a gamma change, *Color* displays the color that will be applied to the screen(s) when the event executes.
- For gamma change events that specify *Select by Name*, the *Color* column contains the text “(name)”.
- For events that schedule an AppleScript, the *Color* column is blank.

The *Displays* column indicates which display(s) will be affected by the scheduled gamma change event when it executes. For AppleScript events, the *Displays* column indicates “(script)”.

To save changes to the listed events, click the *OK* button, which also closes the **Scheduling** window. Clicking *Cancel* closes the window, discarding any changes made since the **Scheduling** window last opened, including any changes made in the **Edit Event** window.



When first launching DarkAdapted Pro or closing the **Scheduling** window — and when scheduled events are enabled — DarkAdapted Pro checks to see which “past” event should be active, and implements that event.

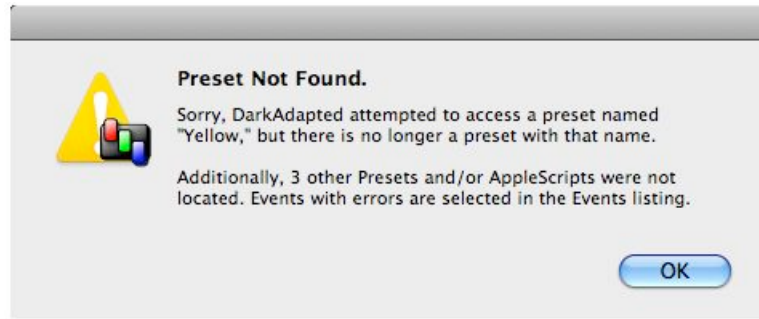
When you select a single event in the list, its next scheduled execution appears below and along the right edge of the events listing.

Event Errors

As described above, scheduled events can reference gamma changes by color or by Preset name. If you specify that DarkAdapted Pro should select a gamma change based on its *name* — and if that Preset has been renamed or deleted — DarkAdapted Pro will alert you to this when opening the **Scheduling** window.

Additionally, if you have set up a scheduled event that executes an AppleScript — and that AppleScript has been moved, renamed, or deleted — then DarkAdapted Pro will also report this when opening the **Scheduling** window.

The error dialog that appears when DarkAdapted Pro detects missing Preset name(s) and/or AppleScript(s) is illustrated below:



Missing Preset(s) and/or AppleScript(s) Warning

The dialog appears when opening the **Scheduling** window, and specifies the first error by the missing Preset's or AppleScript's name. All entries in the scrolling listing that contain errors are then highlighted for your inspection.

When Do Events Execute?

When your system is running, not in sleep mode, and DarkAdapted is running, events occur within one second of the time that they are scheduled to execute.


Sleep mode and system shutdowns can obviously interfere with scheduled event execution. This and other event execution details are summarized below:

- When your system returns from sleep — or DarkAdapted Pro resumes for any other reason — DarkAdapted Pro first determines whether any events have been “missed” during the time that DarkAdapted Pro was suspended. If no events were scheduled to run during that time, there is no need to do anything except wait for the next event to execute.
- If DarkAdapted Pro detects that events should have occurred since the last time it updated, the program clears its memory of *all* scheduled events. Then, it creates a list of future events that will execute later. DarkAdapted Pro also determines *which event should be active right now*, which is the most recent scheduled event, and that event is executed immediately.

- An exception to this behavior is a “Run AppleScript” event with the parameter *Run this AppleScript only at the specified minute* selected. Since this parameter specifies that a “missed” AppleScript should *not* run, DarkAdapted Pro will discard this expired event *if* it was set to occur more than 60 seconds ago.
- If DarkAdapted Pro discards an expired event as described above, then the program continues to look backward in time, implementing the most recent event it finds that also is allowed to execute late (that is, any event except an AppleScript event with the parameter set to *Run this AppleScript only at the specified minute*).
- DarkAdapted Pro normally checks its event listing once per minute, unless it determines that an event is scheduled to occur within the next two minutes. In that case, DarkAdapted Pro prepares to execute the event, checking the system time more and more frequently as the event time moves closer to zero. This minimizes CPU usage, while still allowing events to execute with 1- or 2-second precision.
- If more than one event is scheduled for the exact same time, DarkAdapted Pro executes the events in the order by which they appear in the **Scheduling** window.

2.20 — Internet Update Checking

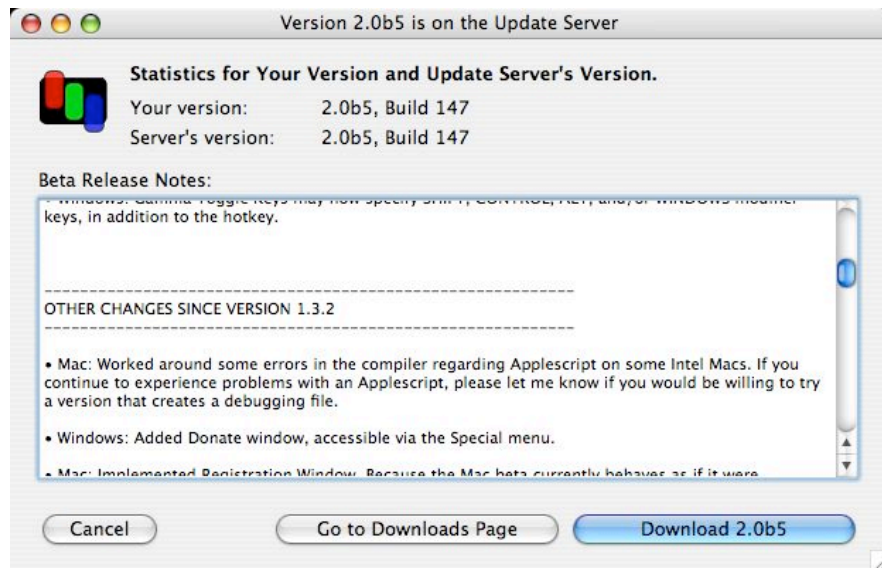
DarkAdapted is able to check for newer versions, provided you have an active Internet connection.

 Many error messages are the result of an inactive Internet connection. Make sure you are connected to the Internet before attempting to use DarkAdapted's Internet update checking.

To check for newer program versions, select **Check for Program Updates...** from the **File** menu.

If no update is required — DarkAdapted will present a dialog confirming that you are already up-to-date. If DarkAdapted determines that a newer version is

available, the **Update** window opens, as depicted below:



Update Window

Near the top of this window are listed the Version and Build Number for the currently-running copy of DarkAdapted (“*Your Version:*”) and for the *Newer Version:* available via the Internet.

The scrolling list may contain the latest changes in the new version, special instructions, program news, etc. The **Copy** command in the **Edit** menu may be used to transfer this text to another program.

Click the *Download Newer Version* button (at the bottom-right corner of the **Update** window) to begin the download. A standard dialog will appear, where you may select the download destination and optionally change the download’s name.

Once the download begins, the two buttons *Go to Downloads Page* and *Download Newer Version* will disappear, replaced by a download progress display which reports the download’s status both numerically and graphically.

During a download, the *Cancel* button serves to terminate the download and close the window, after a warning dialog. When no download is in progress, clicking *Cancel* simply closes the **Update** window.

Click the *Go to Downloads Page* button to open your default web browser and display DarkAdapted’s downloads page.

When you click the *Download Newer Version* button, the version of DarkAdapted that matches your platform (Mac OS X or Windows) is automatically selected for download. To instead download DarkAdapted for a different computing platform, right click (Mac: control-click) in a blank area of the **Update** window to summon the window’s contextual menu, as shown below:



Update Window’s Contextual Menu

Select the desired version from the menu, then download the file to the desired location.

After successfully downloading an update, DarkAdapted instructs you to quit the program, expand the archive, and launch the new version to complete the update process.



You may force the **Update** window to show — even if a newer version is not available — by holding down the **⌘** option or **ALT** key while you select **Check for Program Updates...** from the **File** menu. In such cases, some of the text in the **Update** window will change, and the *Download Newer Version* button’s name will change to reflect the update server’s version.

2.21 — Custom System-wide Menu Icon (Pro Only)

Pro The system-wide menu is only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select **Try DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu. To upgrade, select **Register DarkAdapted Pro...** from the **Special** menu.

DarkAdapted Pro normally displays a small DarkAdapted icon (🎨) to represent the system-wide menu. Experienced users may change this icon to, for example, match a particular menu bar theme.

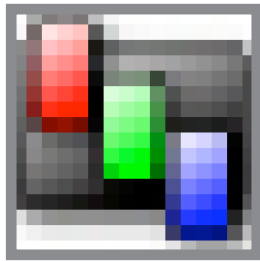
When launching, DarkAdapted Pro checks for a folder named “CustomIcon” (without the quotation marks) in the same folder as DarkAdapted Pro. It checks for the following two files inside the “CustomIcon” folder:

- DAIcon
- DAMask

These two files should each be 16 pixels wide by 16 pixels high, and may include an extension (such as .jpg). If QuickTime is installed on your system, DarkAdapted Pro can read most graphics formats. If QuickTime is not installed, only PICT files are supported.

The “DAIcon” file should contain your graphic of choice. The “DAMask” file should contain white pixels for any region that should be transparent, and black pixels for any region that should be visible.

Here are sample “DAIcon” and “DAMask” files — greatly enlarged — that represent the standard DarkAdapted Pro icon:

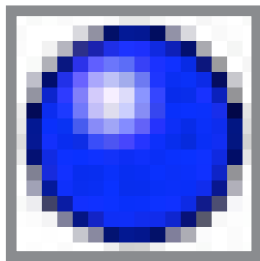


DAIcon

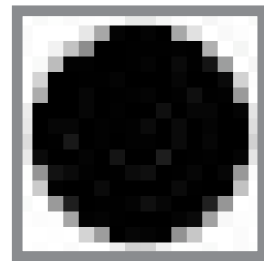


DAMask

Here is a simple example of a “ball” icon:



DAIcon



DAMask

Make sure that your images are exactly 16 pixels wide and high, that they are in a format that DarkAdapted supports, that you have named the files correctly (including the correct file extension), and that they are in the proper location, with a properly-named parent folder.

2.22 — Shared Preferences (Pro Only)

Pro Manually reading and writing the shared preference file is only available if you have upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, or when you select Try DarkAdapted Pro... from the Special menu. To upgrade, select Register DarkAdapted Pro... from the Special menu.

DarkAdapted normally reads from and writes to your user preferences file. It can also be instructed to read from or write to the shared preferences file.



The user preferences file is located at:

~ / Library / Preferences / DarkAdapted Preferences

where “~” is your home directory.

The shared preferences file is located at:

** / Library / Preferences / DarkAdapted Preferences*

where “*” is your startup disk.

If you would like to share your current DarkAdapted preferences with other users on the same machine, simply select Save Shared Preferences... from DarkAdapted’s Special menu.

Then, when you are running DarkAdapted while logged in as a different user, select Load Shared Preferences... from DarkAdapted’s Special menu. The shared preferences file will load, and will replace all of DarkAdapted’s configurable settings.




When you are logged in to a non-administrator’s account, you will need to enter an administrator’s password to save the shared preferences file.

If DarkAdapted cannot locate the user preferences file when you launch the application (when, for example, you are starting it for the first time on a particular user’s account) — and if the shared preferences file exists — DarkAdapted will load the shared preferences file as it starts up. Thereafter, it will continue to use the user preferences file.


2.23 — Using DarkAdapted with Display Calibrators

DarkAdapted has been designed to work well with monitor calibration systems. DarkAdapted takes your calibrated display profile into account before applying its own gamma corrections.

To use DarkAdapted with a display calibration device, *simply quit DarkAdapted before running your display calibration routine.*

 Running DarkAdapted while calibrating will produce unsatisfactory results, because most calibration routines reset the screen gamma throughout the calibration process.

Therefore, the best solution is to quit DarkAdapted, calibrate your display(s), then re-open DarkAdapted. DarkAdapted will then make gamma modifications relative to your calibrated monitor profile.

 When reducing brightness using DarkAdapted, most displays will maintain color fidelity down to about 60–75% brightness. This varies based on display characteristics.

Section 3: AppleScript Guide

3.1 — Introduction

Mac This section applies only to users running DarkAdapted for Mac OS X or Mac OS Classic. If you are using DarkAdapted for Windows, you may skip this section.

Pro In addition to its support of AppleScript control, DarkAdapted Pro adds the ability to schedule AppleScript execution, as described in [“Scheduled Event Execution” on page 30.](#)

DarkAdapted features extensive AppleScript support, allowing you to control almost every program feature and setting. This enables automated control of DarkAdapted from other programs or simple AppleScripts.

Additionally, you may obtain information concerning the current screen gamma, and store/retrieve preference settings.

A sample AppleScript is included with the standard DarkAdapted download.

3.2 — Command Reference

The following tables summarize DarkAdapted’s AppleScript support. In the examples, the “–” character indicates that the script’s line wraps to the following line; do not include the “–” character in your script.

Command:	activate
Syntax:	activate
Function:	Launches DarkAdapted if it is not already running, and brings the Control window to the front of the window layering order.
Example:	tell application "DarkAdapted" activate end tell

Command:	quit
Syntax:	quit
Function:	Quits DarkAdapted if it is running.

Example:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" quit end tell</pre>
Command:	<code>savePreferences</code>
Function:	Saves all of DarkAdapted's preference values, and the current gamma preset(s) or color values, for possible restoration with the <code>restorePreferences</code> command.
Example:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" savePreferences end tell</pre>
Command:	<code>restorePreferences</code>
Syntax:	<code>restorePreferences [parameter]</code>
Parameters:	<code>with restoringGamma</code> <i>or</i> <code>without restoringGamma</code>
Function:	If <code>savePreferences</code> has previously been called, all of DarkAdapted's preference values are restored to their saved values. Use <code>with restoringGamma</code> to also restore the saved gamma setting(s) (or the saved preset(s), if selected).
Notes:	<code>restorePreferences</code> has no effect if <code>savePreferences</code> has not previously been called. If you specify <code>with restoringGamma</code> , the most recently stored gamma setting or preset is restored. If the gamma has never been stored, it remains unchanged.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" restorePreferences with restoringGamma restorePreferences without restoringGamma end tell</pre>
Command:	<code>independentDisplayControl</code> (DarkAdapted Pro only)
Syntax:	<code>independentDisplayControl [parameter]</code>
Parameters:	<code>true</code> <i>or</i> <code>false</code>

Function:	Specifies whether DarkAdapted Pro should control all displays in unison, or each display independently. Specify <code>true</code> to control displays independently, with a separate Control window for each display, or <code>false</code> to control all displays in unison, controlled by a single Control window. <i>DarkAdapted Standard simply ignores this command; it only works with DarkAdapted Pro.</i>
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" independentDisplayControl true independentDisplayControl false end tell</pre>

Command:	<code>selectDisplay</code> (DarkAdapted Pro only)
Syntax:	<code>selectDisplay [parameter]</code>
Parameters:	An integer corresponding to one of your connected displays. Specify 0 for the main display, 1 for the second display, and so on.
Returns:	boolean
Function:	Set the desired display to control via subsequent AppleScript commands, entering Independent Display Mode if necessary. If you specify a nonexistent display, the closest valid display is selected. Setting the display to 1 or higher enables Independent Display Mode, if necessary. This function returns <code>false</code> if a nonexistent display is specified, in which case DarkAdapted selects the closest valid display. Otherwise this function returns <code>true</code> . <i>DarkAdapted Standard simply ignores this command; it only works with DarkAdapted Pro.</i>
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" if not selectDisplay 0 then beep end tell</pre>

Command:	<code>getGamma</code>
Syntax:	<code>getGamma [parameter]</code>
Parameters:	<code>with percentages</code> <i>or</i> <code>without percentages</code>
Returns:	string

Function:	<p>Retrieves the gamma settings for the currently selected display in a comma-delimited string.</p> <p>If <code>with percentages</code> is passed, the values are returned as percentage values, including tenths of a percent.</p> <p>If <code>without percentages</code> is passed, values are returned in the range 0-255.</p> <p>The returned values represent the gamma's red, green, and blue components, respectively.</p>
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" if not setGamma preset "Full Brightness"~ then return -- sets the gamma to 100% display dialog getGamma with percentages~ -- displays "100.0,100.0,100.0" display dialog getGamma without percentages~ -- displays "255,255,255" end tell</pre>
Command:	setGamma
Syntax:	<pre>setGamma value [parameter] or setGamma preset [parameter]</pre>
Parameters:	<p>If using <code>setGamma value [parameter]</code>, the parameter must be passed as a comma-delimited string of the three integers which represent the desired gamma's red, green, and blue components, respectively. Each component value must be in the range zero to 255, with 255 representing full brightness.</p> <p>If using <code>setGamma preset [parameter]</code>, the parameter must be passed as a valid preset name (as it appears in the Control window's <i>Presets:</i> pop-up menu).</p>
Returns:	boolean
Function:	Implements a gamma fade on the currently selected display. Returns <code>true</code> if an allowable value or recognized preset is received, or <code>false</code> if an illegal value or unrecognized preset name is passed.
Notes:	DarkAdapted will not allow the gamma value to be set to "0,0,0" — because a scripting error could also result in three zero-values being passed. To turn the screen off, use, for example, "0,0,1"

Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" if not (setGamma value "255,255,255") then~ beep -- full brightness if not (setGamma preset "Full Green") then~ beep end tell</pre>
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Command:	displayControlWindow
Syntax:	displayControlWindow [parameter]
Parameters:	with detailsShowing <i>or</i> without detailsShowing
Function:	Use with <code>detailsShowing</code> to display the Control window at full size, or use <code>without detailsShowing</code> to minimize the window.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" displayControlWindow with detailsShowing displayControlWindow without detailsShowing end tell</pre>

Command:	gangSliders
Syntax:	gangSliders [parameter]
Parameters:	true <i>or</i> false
Function:	Specifies whether or not the gamma control sliders move in unison when adjusting one slider. Specify <code>true</code> to gang the gamma control sliders for the selected display(s), or <code>false</code> to set the sliders to independent control.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" gangSliders true gangSliders false end tell</pre>

Command:	maintainRelativeValues
Syntax:	maintainRelativeValues [parameter]
Parameters:	true <i>or</i> false
Function:	Specifies whether or not the gamma control sliders maintain their proportions of red, green, and blue. Enters Ganged Mode if necessary. Specify <code>true</code> to maintain relative slider values for the selected display(s), or <code>false</code> to cause sliders to lose their relative values when one slider reaches the end of its travel.

Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" maintainRelativeValues true maintainRelativeValues false end tell</pre>
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Command:	restoreGammaOnLaunch
Syntax:	restoreGammaOnLaunch [parameter]
Parameters:	true <i>or</i> false
Function:	Specifies whether or not DarkAdapted should restore previous gamma settings when it is launched. Specify <code>true</code> to restore previous settings at launch, or <code>false</code> to start up at full brightness.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" restoreGammaOnLaunch true restoreGammaOnLaunch false end tell</pre>

Command:	fadeSteps
Syntax:	fadeSteps [parameter]
Parameters:	1, 15, 30, 60, 90, <i>or</i> 120
Returns:	boolean
Function:	Specifies the number of steps in gamma fades. Returns <code>true</code> if an allowable value is received, or <code>false</code> if an illegal value is passed.
Example:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" if not (fadeSteps 15) then beep end tell</pre>

Command:	toggleKeys
Syntax:	toggleKeys [parameter]

Parameters:	<p>Any combination of two or more of the following: <code>shift</code>, <code>control</code>, <code>option</code>, <code>alt</code>, <code>command</code>, separated by commas.</p> <p>Optionally, you may also pass <code>keycode='X'</code> and <code>keytext='@Y'</code> where <code>X</code> references the Macintosh hardware keycode (in <i>decimal</i>) for the desired key, and <code>Y</code> references either the character printed on the key or its ASCII value.</p> <p>If passing the ASCII value, precede the value by the <code>@</code> character. You must pass both <code>keycode</code> and <code>keytext</code>, or neither.</p>
Returns:	boolean
Function:	Specifies the modifier keys, and optionally changes the non-modifier key, that must be held down in order to toggle the gamma setting between full brightness and its last non-full value. Returns <code>true</code> if a successful command is received, or <code>false</code> if an illegal value is passed.
Example:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" if not (toggleKeys "shift, control, option") then beep -- just changes modifiers, not key if not (toggleKeys "shift, keycode='36', keytext='@13') then beep -- changes gamma - toggle keys to Shift + Return if not (toggleKeys "control, keycode='3', keytext='F') then beep -- changes gamma - toggle keys to Control + F end tell</pre>

Command:	gammaToggleKeysAllDisplays (DarkAdapted Pro only)
Syntax:	gammaToggleKeysAllDisplays [parameter]
Parameters:	true <i>or</i> false
Function:	<p>Specifies whether or not the gamma toggle keys affect all displays, or only the display with the frontmost Control Window. Specify <code>true</code> to control all displays with the toggle keys, or <code>false</code> to control only the display with the frontmost Control Window.</p> <p><i>DarkAdapted Standard simply ignores this command; it only works with DarkAdapted Pro.</i></p>
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" gammaToggleKeysAllDisplays true gammaToggleKeysAllDisplays false end tell</pre>

Command:	gammaRefreshPeriod
Syntax:	gammaRefreshPeriod [parameter]
Parameters:	Integer in the range zero to 60.
Function:	Specifies how often the screen gamma will be manually re-applied. Enter 0 (zero) to turn off gamma refreshing, or specify a period in seconds between 1 and 60.
Example:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" gammaRefreshPeriod 30 end tell</pre>

Command:	doSliderUpdating
Syntax:	doSliderUpdating [parameter]
Parameters:	with trackingfades <i>or</i> without trackingfades
Function:	Controls whether sliders track gamma fades.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" doSliderUpdating with trackingfades doSliderUpdating without trackingfades end tell</pre>

Command:	reportGammaValues
Syntax:	reportGammaValues [parameter]
Parameters:	with percentages <i>or</i> without percentages
Function:	Controls whether the text readouts (to the right of the gamma sliders) report gamma values as percentages or as raw values.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" reportGammaValues with percentages reportGammaValues without percentages end tell</pre>

Command:	updateChecking
Syntax:	updateChecking [parameter]
Parameters:	with prereleases <i>or</i> without prereleases

Function:	Specifies whether DarkAdapted checks for alpha or beta (“pre-release”) versions when performing an Internet update check.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" updateChecking with prereleases updateChecking without prereleases end tell</pre>

Command:	updateCheckFrequency
Syntax:	updateCheckFrequency [parameter]
Parameters:	One of the following strings: weekly <i>or</i> monthly <i>or</i> via menu only
Function:	Specifies whether and how often DarkAdapted performs an automatic Internet update check for new versions.
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" updateCheckFrequency "weekly" updateCheckFrequency "monthly" updateCheckFrequency "via menu only" end tell</pre>

Command:	hideSystemWideMenu (DarkAdapted Pro only)
Syntax:	hideSystemWideMenu [parameter]
Parameters:	with hotkeysEnabled <i>or</i> without hotkeysEnabled
Function:	Hides the system-wide menu, either with hotkeys enabled or without hotkeys enabled. <i>DarkAdapted Standard simply ignores this command; it only works with DarkAdapted Pro.</i>
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" hideSystemWideMenu with hotkeysEnabled hideSystemWideMenu without hotkeysEnabled end tell</pre>

Command:	showSystemWideMenu (DarkAdapted Pro only)
Syntax:	showSystemWideMenu

Function:	Shows the system-wide menu and enables its hotkeys. <i>DarkAdapted Standard simply ignores this command; it only works with DarkAdapted Pro.</i>
Examples:	<pre>tell application "DarkAdapted" showSystemWideMenu end tell</pre>

Section 4: Troubleshooting

4.1 — Error Messages in Windows

Some versions of Windows do not automatically adjust an application's use of memory. If DarkAdapted exceeds the amount of RAM allocated to it, the program may display an error message, or it may crash.

If you are running DarkAdapted X under Mac OS X, then this section is not applicable.

Many error messages are memory related, so — if you frequently encounter error messages, you may wish to allocate more memory to DarkAdapted. Consult your computer's documentation as to how you may allocate more memory to an application program.

If you encounter error messages that you believe may be caused by an error within DarkAdapted, then take careful note of any error messages that appear, along with steps that lead to a reproducible error, and e-mail the information to us. We'll do what we can to identify, reproduce, and correct the problem.

Make sure you have 2 MB available RAM in which to run DarkAdapted, especially if you have added many presets or scheduled events. DarkAdapted runs well under virtual memory and with most popular memory-doubling technologies.

If problems persist, try restarting in “safe mode,” as described in your computer's documentation.

4.2 — My Monitor is Stuck at Reduced Brightness!

This usually occurs if DarkAdapted or your system has crashed, leaving your monitor's gamma ramp in a modified state.

First off, do not panic! It's easy to restore your monitor to full brightness.

Win Simply restart your machine to return your monitor to its default gamma setting. If this is not effective, open your *Display* control panel and click the *Settings* tab. Change your *Colors* control to a different value and back again. As a last resort, try reinstalling your video driver to clear the “stuck” gamma preference.

Mac Under Mac OS X, select **System Preferences...** from the Apple menu. Select the *Displays* preference pane, then click on the *Color* tab. Click to select a different *Display Profile*, then select the original (or any desired) profile to reset your gamma. If this does not work, you may have to restart your machine.

4.3 — Common Problems

Help! DarkAdapted no longer has an interface!

This can happen only when all of the following are true at the same time:

- DarkAdapted Pro has been set to show no Dock icon (so that it has no menu bar at the top of your screen), *and*
- The preference for the system-wide menu is *Hide*, *and*
- The preference *Closing Control Window quits DarkAdapted* has been set to false (deselected), *and*
- The last **Control** window (which has a contextual menu allowing you to set preferences or show the system-wide menu) has been closed, *and*
- You have forgotten the hotkey that shows the **Edit Menu Hotkeys** window.

If all of the above occur at the same time, DarkAdapted Pro warns you about a “no interface” situation, *unless* you have checked *Don't show again* in the warning dialog the last time it appeared. At the very least, DarkAdapted Pro enables system-wide hotkeys so that you can still control DarkAdapted Pro.

There are four ways out of this situation:

- Check out your “AppleScript” folder in your DarkAdapted folder for a script named “Restore Interface AppleScript.” Run this script, and all of DarkAdapted Pro’s **Control** windows will show, and the system-wide menu will be enabled.
- Try the default hotkey for **Edit Menu Hotkeys...** that DarkAdapted automatically sets up (if none is defined) when the interface disappears. That hotkey is **⌘ option [K]**. That may open the **Edit Menu Hotkeys** window. You can then set a hotkey to show the **Preferences** window, and configure DarkAdapted Pro.
- If you have defined a system-wide menu hotkey for **Edit Menu Hotkeys...**, and you can remember it, press that hotkey. You

can then set a hotkey for the **Preferences** window, and configure DarkAdapted Pro to your liking.

- As a last resort, you can quit DarkAdapted Pro using Apple’s Activity Monitor (or simply log out and back in), then remove the DarkAdapted Preferences file from the Preferences folder inside the Library folder of your home directory, *and* remove the DarkAdapted Preferences file from the Preferences folder inside the Library folder at the top level of your startup disk, then re-open DarkAdapted and re-register.

DarkAdapted does nothing on my system.

This occurs most often with Windows-compatible machines. While DarkAdapted functions well with many Windows systems, it cannot support all possible hardware/software combinations. Generally speaking, if your hardware supports standard gamma change routines, DarkAdapted will work on it.

DarkAdapted doesn’t affect some of my screen colors.

Windows does not consider white when modifying gamma values. Some users have reported success via changing the Windows theme to the “Classic” value.

My gamma setting is not persistent.

Most systems will reset the gamma ramp when you restart, when a screen saver exits, or when your system sleeps and wakes. DarkAdapted will not “know” about this event and may not reset the gamma. The solution is to enable the *Refresh gamma values* control in the **Preferences** window.

DarkAdapted periodically shows the License Agreement window when I open DarkAdapted.

The **License Agreement** window appears the first time you open a new version of DarkAdapted. If you open an earlier version, quit that earlier version, then open the newer version of DarkAdapted, the **License Agreement** window again displays.

DarkAdapted contains several presets for Red and Green; why not Blue?

DarkAdapted was developed to help preserve the user’s dark adaptation. Red is most widely regarded as the best choice for this purpose, while green also

has its adherents. Blue is not generally recommended to preserve dark adaptation, so no presets are supplied in the blue range.

If you'd like to add blue presets, check out the supplied file "Blue Presets," which is part of the DarkAdapted download package.

DarkAdapted does not affect all of my monitors.

Version 1.3.1 introduced multiple monitor support. If you are using version 1.3.1 or later, make sure you remove any prior versions of DarkAdapted, then restart your system to enable control of all connected displays.

I upgraded to DarkAdapted Pro, but the menu still reads "DarkAdapted."

Apple recommends against an application modifying the files that DarkAdapted would need to change in order to change the menu text. That is why we have added "DarkAdapted Pro" to the lower-left corner of all **Control** windows, to the **About** menu items, and to each **Control** window's title.

DarkAdapted does not present the option "Try DarkAdapted Pro..."

If you are already trying DarkAdapted in Pro mode, this menu item will be unavailable. Note also that DarkAdapted Pro is only available to users running Mac OS X.

DarkAdapted does not present the option "Register DarkAdapted Pro..."

If you have already registered DarkAdapted Pro, this menu item will be grayed-out.

If you are running Windows, note that DarkAdapted Pro is only available to users running Mac OS X, and so this command does not appear in Windows.

Scheduled events occur at unexpected times.

When you have enabled scheduling via the **Scheduling** window, DarkAdapted Pro checks for scheduled events when it is first opened, when you close the **Scheduling** window, and when the computer exits sleep mode. At those times, DarkAdapted Pro checks to determine which event has occurred most recently, and implements that event.

An exception to the above behavior occurs with AppleScript scheduling. If you have selected *Run this AppleScript only at the specified minute* in the **Edit Event** window, then DarkAdapted Pro will not implement the AppleScript if the machine is in sleep mode during the minute that the AppleScript is scheduled to execute.

If you have *not* selected *Run this AppleScript only at the specified minute*, then any AppleScripts that were scheduled to occur while the machine was in sleep mode will also be skipped, *unless* the most recent missed event is an AppleScript event, in which case the last missed event executes.

I receive error messages when I open the program.

If you are running DarkAdapted on an earlier version of Windows (prior to Windows XP), then the first issue you should suspect is a memory problem. Try allocating more memory to DarkAdapted as described in your computer's documentation or on-line help system.

It is also possible that the file "DarkAdapted Preferences" has become damaged. In Mac OS X, "DarkAdapted Preferences" is located in the active User's "Library" folder, in the "Preferences" folder. In Windows, the file is located in the same directory as DarkAdapted.

The preferences file must remain unlocked and in place while you use the program; otherwise, DarkAdapted will be unable to write preference information, and an error message will be generated.

I receive error messages when I quit the program.

See the above discussion concerning the file "DarkAdapted Preferences." Your startup disk must be writable (i.e., it cannot be a CD or other read-only medium). Otherwise, DarkAdapted will be unable to save preference information when you quit the program, and an error message will appear.

I receive error messages while using the program.

If DarkAdapted reports an error while you are using the program, one of the following is likely to be true:

- The program has run out of application memory. There isn't enough memory to store additional data or display a graphic. This should not occur when running DarkAdapted X under Mac OS X, because Mac OS X dynamically allocates memory to application programs. Windows XP and later also dynamically allocate memory.
- The program has attempted to write data to a disk that is locked or read-only. This may occur when saving a file, when the program writes to its preferences file, or when writing temporary files to disk.
- The program has attempted to access a file that has been moved or deleted since DarkAdapted last attempted to read from it.

- The program contains an error that causes results that have not been anticipated (a “bug”).

Make sure also that DarkAdapted and its support files are installed on an unlocked disk, and that you have started your computer from an unlocked, writable startup disk.

If you believe you have found a bug in the program, let us know! DarkAdapted contains many thousands of lines of programming code, and it is unrealistic for us to expect that we have anticipated every possible situation. If the situation is repeatable, please outline the steps that are required to reproduce the problem. Support information is described in the following Section.

4.4 — Technical Support

Consult the “Read Me” file in the Documentation folder — or click the link in DarkAdapted’s **Control** window — for technical support contact information.

You may also select **Send E-mail...** from the **Special** menu to send us a message using your default e-mail client.

Additional information is available at the [DarkAdapted web site](#).

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