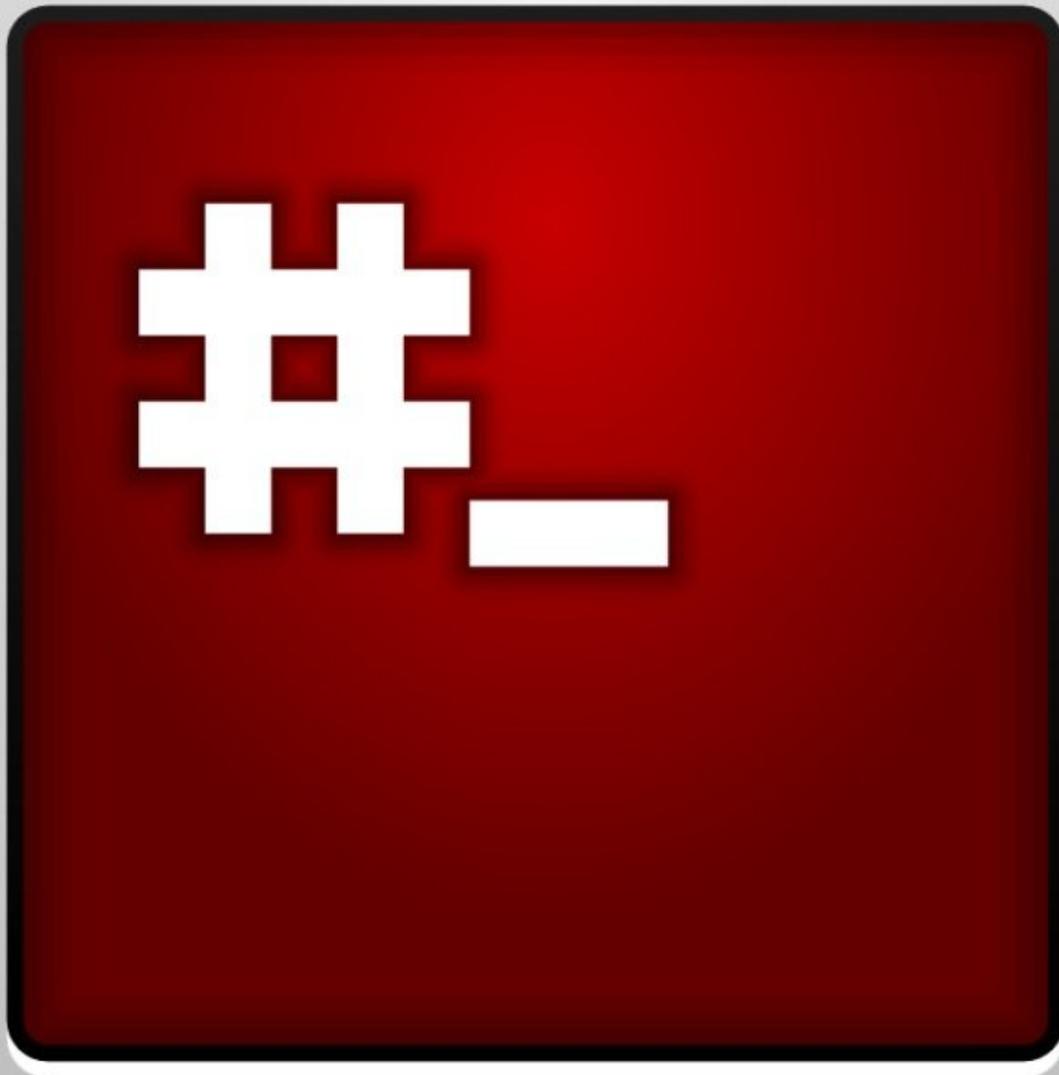




# How to Open an App as Root on a Mac

Written By: Robert K



## Step 1 — Disclaimer and Risks



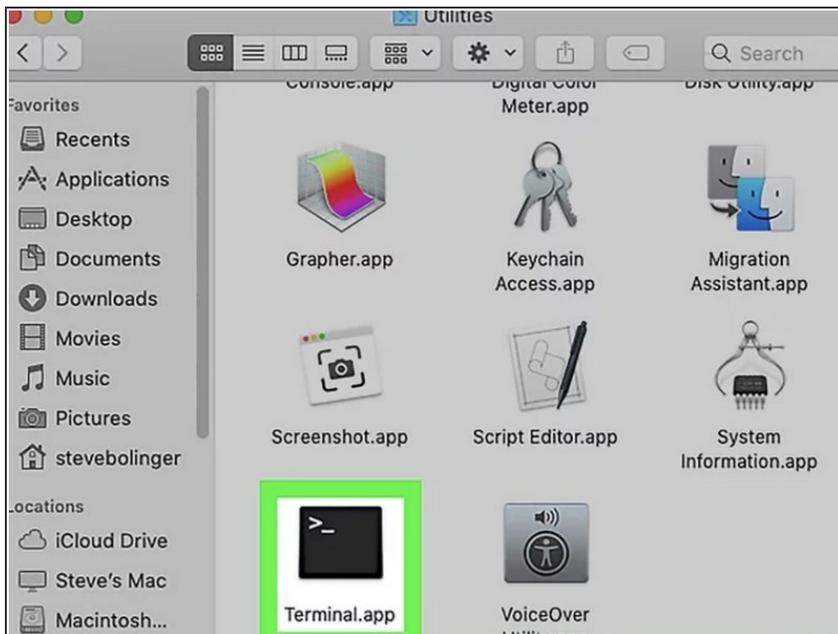
**⚠** Most graphical applications are not designed for root access.

**i** Limit yourself to specific tasks you need to execute, understand well, or you can experiment (if you don't care about your data).

**i** One wrong move can cost you: inaccessible files, application crashes, or security vulnerabilities.

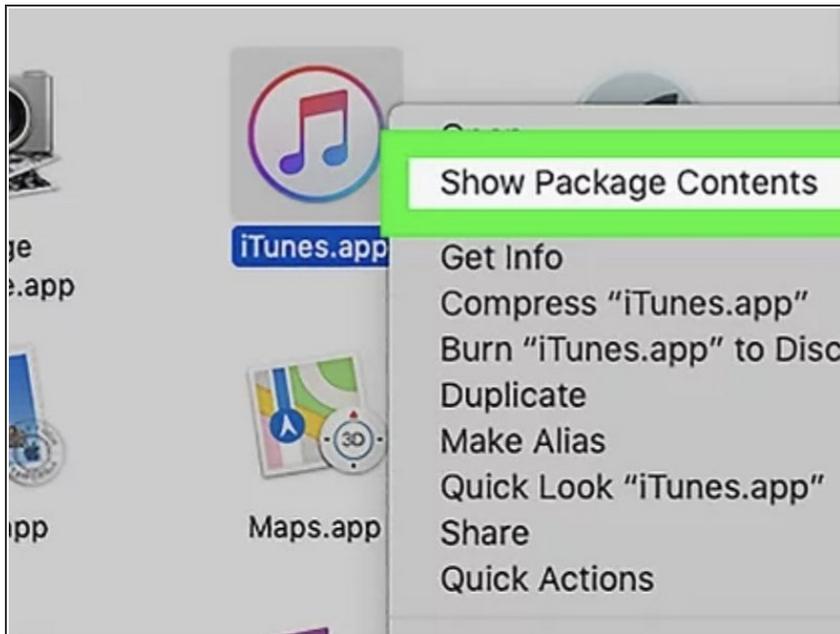
**⚠** You will need an administrator account!

## Step 2 — Open Terminal



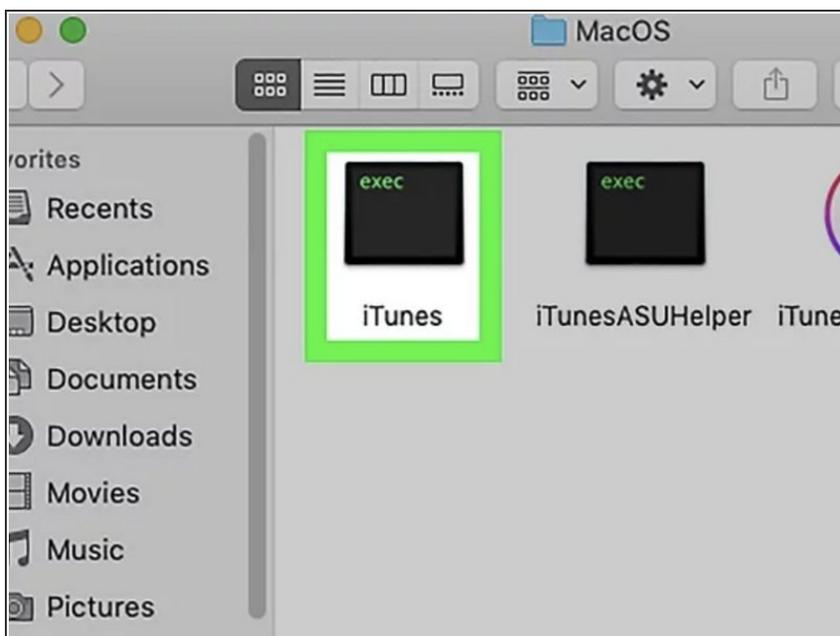
- Open Terminal.
  - Log into an administrator account on your computer. Go to Applications → Utilities and launch Terminal.
  - i** This administrator account must have a non-blank password, or Terminal will not allow you to access root privileges.

### Step 3 — Open the app's package contents



- Open the application's package contents.
- Locate the application in Finder. Right-click (or Control-click) its icon and select Show Package Contents from the drop-down menu.

### Step 4 — Find the EXEC file

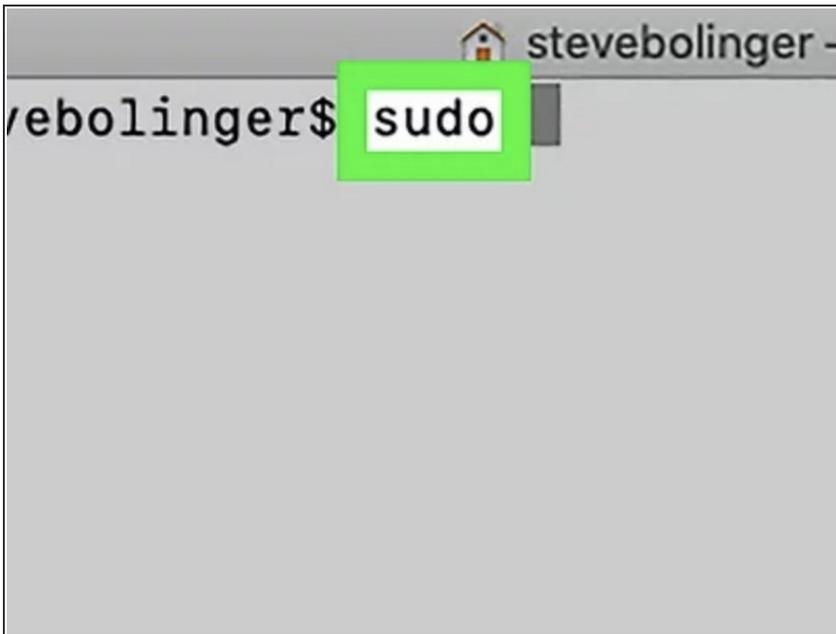


- You should now see one or more folders inside the application. Locate the executable file inside this folder.
- This is usually inside `/Contents/MacOS`.

**⚠** The executable often has the same name as the application, but it could have another name, such as "run.sh."

**i** The executable file icon is usually a black square with the word "exec" in small letters.

## Step 5 — Type sudo into terminal

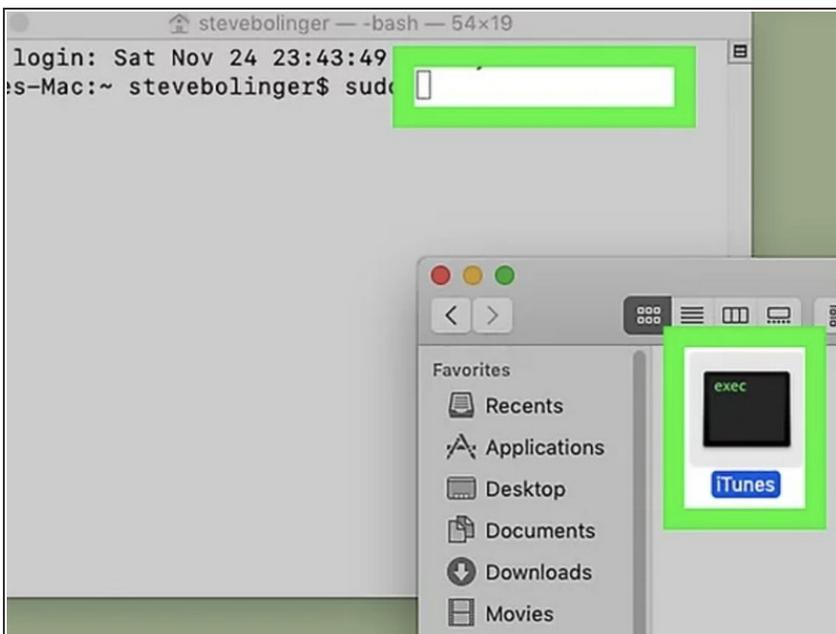


- Type sudo followed by a space. Do not enter the command yet.

⚠ Make sure to enter a space after sudo

⚠ Do not enter the command until the next step.

## Step 6 — Drag the EXEC file



- Drag the executable file into the Terminal line.
- This should automatically insert the file path to the executable file.

ⓘ You will need to enter your password to complete the operation.

⚠ When you type your password, **it will not show!** This is for security purposes. Be assured, your password is being registered even if nothing is being displayed on screen.

If you have questions, please leave a comment below. I will try to get to as many questions as I can.