

# Getting started

## If you don't read manuals:

- Do read the "What you need" section.
- Do look at some example scripts, and notice the dictionary. (Use the Script Editor to view it if you don't want to read it here)
- Browse some of the menus, buttons and scripts of the Demo database.
- Read the next chapter on Just the Facts. If you understand it, then you are on your way. Otherwise, study the manual, and the tutorials and articles on the website ([www.shed.com](http://www.shed.com)).
- PLEASE Note that XTension must be active at all times. If you shut down your Mac, XTension cannot function.
- XTension does not download to the CM11A or the CP290.
- Black and white versions of XTension are not as 'pretty', but you can run a monitor copy of XTension on another Mac via your network, and use the big screen/horsepower when you want to see all the spiffy icons etc.
- Please do not use the Demo Database as the foundation of your system. Always start with a 'fresh' database.

## What you need

- Macintosh running System 7.1 or later with AppleScript, and the Serial Tool. AppleScript and the Serial Tool may not have been loaded on your machine with your last system update.
- One of the supported X-10 interfaces :  
This is a small box which makes it easier for the host Macintosh to send and receive X-10 messages to and from the power bus:
- 'ActiveHome' interface (CM11A) from X-10 (USA).  
The CM10A may also be used interchangeably.  
XTension does not support download to the CM11A.

(The CM11a is sold under many brand names, but all look alike)

- 'CP290' interface from X-10 (USA).  
XTension does not support download to the CP290.
- 'LynX-10' interface from Marrick Ltd.  
XTension does not yet support all functions of the 'LynX-Port'.
- the "Two-Way" interface from Home Intelligence Corp.

- **Serial cable**

The package you purchased includes a serial cable for connecting the Macintosh to your chosen interface. See the tech notes chapter if you want to build your own cable.

Note that the cable that comes with XTension plugs in to the end of the cable that comes with the CM11.

- TW-523 from X-10 Powerhouse will also be necessary for the LynX models and the "Two-Way".

- **X-10 devices**

Any device which sends or receives X-10 commands, will work with XTension.

## Making the connection

- If you have a LynX or "Two-Way" interface :
  - Plug in TW-523 to a wall socket near the 'LynX' or the "Two-Way"
  - Connect the TW-523 cable to the interface.
  - Connect the serial cable between the Macintosh serial port and the interface.
- If you have a CM11A or CP290 interface :
  - Plug in the interface to a wall socket near your Macintosh.
  - Plug in the serial cable between the interface and the Mac.  
( DO NOT put the batteries in, you don't need them )  
( You do not need the TW-523 with either of these )
- For all interfaces :



- XTension DEMO database file
- XTension electronic manual
- Some example scripts
- A stuffed file of AppleScript and the Serial Tool

The first time you run XTension, you will be asked to insert your original installation diskette. Thereafter, you will not be bothered unless something 'fishy' occurs. ( ignore for freeware version )

Note that license to XTension allows multiple copies in a single household for a single interface type.

XTension will create other files and folders in the XTension folder after the first time that you run the program :

- Database Backup  
: a copy of the database
- XTension Log

: the log files of XTension activity

- Scripts folder

: where text copies of scripts are kept

- Logs folder

: where activity logs are archived

In addition, XTension creates and maintains a XTension Preferences file in the Preferences folder within your System Folder.