System 7: Why the Clean Up Command Leaves Gaps Between Icons

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Article Change History

09/11/92 - REVISED
            • To add more information.

TOPIC ---

Why is it that when I use the Finder's "Clean Up by Name" command, with the
Option key held down, the result is often large gaps between the icons in
the window?

DISCUSSION --

This is a feature of System 7's Finder. It prevents the overlapping of
long filenames so you can read each icon's complete name, regardless of its
length.

System 7 allows a long filename on an icon to run into the next spot on the
grid rather than placing another icon there. The Finder skips one spot on
the grid and places the next icon in the next available spot. This creates
extra space between icons. The Finder does this regardless of the "Always
snap to grid" choice in the Views control panel. If you don't like the
extra space, you can manually place the icons where you want them.
Alternatively, try shortening the name of the file or folder that is
causing the gap.

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