



## Using Firefly Media Server with Roku SoundBridge

For Mac OS X 10.3.9 and 10.4.x

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# Introduction

## *What is Firefly*

The Firefly Media Server is an Open Source server program capable of serving your music files to compatible clients on your home network, including your Roku SoundBridge. Firefly has many advantages compared to other media server programs:

- Firefly is lightweight with low system requirements.
- Firefly is available for multiple operating systems, including Windows, Mac OS X and Linux.
- Firefly supports multiple media formats including MP3, AAC, WMA, and Apple Lossless.
- Firefly supports transcoding of formats to allow clients to play formats they otherwise would not be able to play.
- Firefly is Open Source, allowing users to enhance and extend the server if desired.
- Firefly runs as a background service — it does not require the user to run anything after Firefly is initially installed.
- Firefly is integrated with your iTunes Library. It understands iTunes playlists (including SmartPlaylists) and allows your SoundBridge to access them from across the network.

## *Latest Information*

The latest information about Firefly including the latest version of the server can always be found at <http://www.rokulabs.com/firefly>. Here you will also find support documentation as well as discussion forums where you can ask your questions and receive help should you need it.

# Installation

Firefly's installation procedure is simple and straightforward.

## ***Getting Firefly***

The latest version of Firefly will always be available at <http://www.rokulabs.com/firefly>. Follow the links to download the version appropriate for Mac OS. Firefly is also available for Windows and Linux.

*Note: Firefly is distributed as a Universal Binary — it will run well on both PowerPC and Intel-based Macs.*

## ***Installing***

Please follow the step-by-step instructions in the Read Me First file that is included on the installation disk image.

## ***Post Installation***

Once you have chosen whether to install for one or all users, Firefly will display its System Preferences Pane. Review these settings, adjusting any settings to your liking. For detail on these settings, see the Firefly Preferences information below. Click the 'Start Firefly' button to start the server once your settings have been made.

*Note: The first time you start Firefly, it may take a few minutes to scan the library file. During this time, the status will be displayed as "Firefly is starting". Once the initial scan is complete and the server is available on the network, the status will update to "Firefly is running".*

# Firefly Preferences

There are three methods by which you can modify Firefly's settings. For most users, the System Preferences Pane will be all that is needed. However, Firefly also offers a web-based interface and a configuration file for the adventurous users out there.

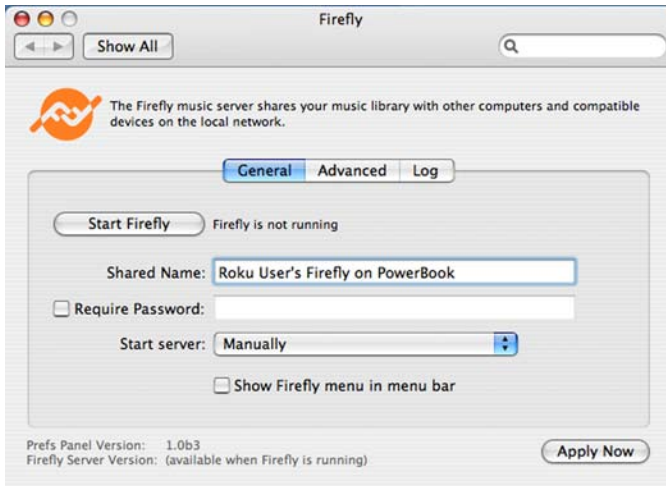
## *Firefly Preference Pane*

Firefly includes a System Preferences pane for performing the most common maintenance tasks. The Preference Pane can be accessed via the Firefly icon in your Mac's System Preferences.



The Preferences pane has three tabs: *General*, *Advanced* and *Log*.

The *General* tab allows you to start and stop the Firefly server, set the name for the server, optionally add a password, and configure how the Firefly server starts. Additionally, this tab allows you to set whether to show the Firefly menu in the menu bar (see the “Firefly Menu” section below).

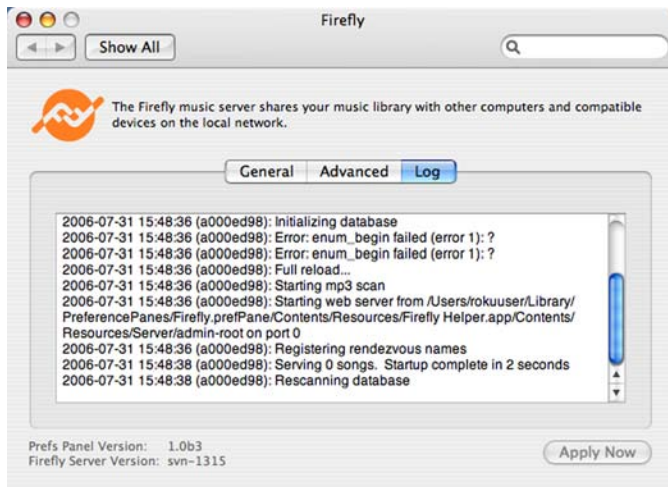


The **Advanced** tab allows you to set the network port on which the server listens, as well as the directory where your music and iTunes Library can be found. Finally, the Advanced tab allows you to access the Web-based configuration and status page (see below).



*Note: For most users, it will not be necessary to modify the settings on the Advanced tab.*

The **Log** tab shows detailed status events logged by the Firefly server. This information can be helpful to advanced users, and may be helpful in troubleshooting any problems. But, most users need not check the log often.



## Web Configuration

Firefly has a built-in web server that offers another method by which you can configure it. This web page is more advanced than the Configuration Utility and will allow you to alter more settings.

To access the Configuration web page, simply click on the *Open Web Page* button in the Advanced section of the Firefly Preferences Pane.

*Note: Firefly needs to be running in order to access the web-based configuration.*

## Configuration File

Firefly stores its settings in a text-based configuration file. This file is usually located in `/Users/<your user name>/Library/Application Support/Firefly/` and it is called `firefly.conf`. Should you wish, you can edit this file with your favorite text editor to change Firefly's settings. Be careful, though, as making mistakes in the file make cause Firefly to operate improperly.

## Firefly Menu

You may choose to display a Firefly menu in the menu bar, near the clock.



This menu is enabled by checking the appropriate box on the General tab (see above), and allows you to see the current server status without opening System Preferences. It also allows you to start and stop the server, as well as quickly open the Firefly System Preferences pane.

## Using Firefly with SoundBridge

The Firefly Media Server is among the most advanced SoundBridge-compatible servers available. It supports more music formats than other servers and also supports searching and browsing. SoundBridge uses these features to provide a very rich and powerful experience.

When your SoundBridge connects to your Firefly server, you will be able to browse, search and queue your music to quickly and easily listen to whatever you desire.

Please see your SoundBridge manual for more information about using Firefly and other servers with SoundBridge.

## Recognizing Changes Made to Your Music Library

The Firefly Media Server will periodically re-scan your shared music library in order to detect any changes you have made (such as adding tracks or playlists). By default, this happens every

5 minutes whenever a SoundBridge or iTunes program is connected to the library. (If no clients are connected, the server does not scan, even if the library changes.)

The default setting for the re-scan interval should work well for users who make occasional changes to their music libraries. Just be aware that fresh changes to the library may take a few minutes to appear on clients connected to the server.

If you want to adjust the interval, you may do so from Firefly's advanced configuration web page. Or, you may want to stop and then re-start the server if you have made changes that you want to see as soon as possible.

## Uninstalling Firefly

If you should decide that you want to uninstall Firefly, the easiest way is to run the "Uninstall Firefly" script file supplied on the disk image.

If you do not have access to the script, or if the script displays an error message, you may uninstall Firefly manually. Please follow the steps below:

*Note: These instructions are for uninstalling Firefly 1.0 or later. If you are currently running Firefly 1.0b1, 1.0b2 or 1.0b3, please see the specific instructions in the "Read Me First!" file on the installer disk image.*

- Open System Preferences and click on the Firefly icon
- If Firefly is running, click "Stop Firefly"
- Un-check the "Show Firefly menu in menu bar" box
- Change the "Start Server" option to "Manually", and click Apply Now
- Close System Preferences
- In the Finder, open your home folder
- Open the folder called Library
- Open the Application Support folder
- Drag the Firefly folder inside Application Support to the Trash

- If you installed for the current user only:
  - Go back up one level to your Library folder
- If you installed for all users:
  - Open the window for your hard disk drive, and within that window, open the Library folder
- Open the Preference Panes folder
- Drag Firefly Preference Pane to the Trash
- Restart your computer, or log out and log in again

## Troubleshooting

### ***My SoundBridge Does Not See Some Files***

If some of your files are not accessible on SoundBridge and you think they should be, verify that they are located in the directory in which Firefly is configured to look. You can verify the current firefly Music directory using the Firefly configuration preference pane or through the Firefly configuration web page.

If the missing files are all of a specific type (eg WMA) while the rest of your properly-functioning library is of a different type (eg MP3), use the Firefly configuration web page to verify that the missing file type is indeed listed among the file types for which Firefly will search. If the file type is missing, add it and restart the server.

You may also want to make sure that the metadata (artist, album and song title information is correct). There are various programs that can edit these tags, including iTunes.

### ***Sharing Files on Network Share***

If you store your music files on a network share, Firefly can still access them and serve them to your SoundBridge. To use a network share, ensure that your computer is connected to the share, then use the Browse button on the Advanced tab to browse to it.

Stop and then restart the Firefly server. The server will then rescan your music library. Note that the server volume will need to be “mounted” on your Mac whenever you want to share its music.

### *Still Having Problems?*

If you are still having problems getting your SoundBridge to work with Firefly, visit the Roku Forum at <http://www.rokulabs.com/forums> and let us help! For help with Firefly itself, visit <http://forums.fireflymediaserver.org>.



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06-FR00-UJG0810