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# **qslaunch Documentation**

*Release 0.2*

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# OVERVIEW

`qslaunch` is a small framework to launch stuff from [Quicksilver](#).

The trick is to create a python script containing a bunch of rules. Quicksilver executes the script using a given *name* that the script will match against the rules.

If a match is found, the command associated with the rule is executed.

The command can be any python code you supply. Or it can be one of the included commands...

`qslaunch` comes with a few predefined commands that can:

- using [iTerm](#):
  - create an iTerm session (either in a new window or in a new tab of an existing window) based on a bookmark as defined in iTerm's bookmark manager;
  - create an iTerm session and execute an arbitrary command in it, allowing to start any software requiring the use of a terminal;
  - create an iTerm session in the folder of the current Finder window;
- for [TextMate](#):
  - change the current theme in TextMate;
  - create a new empty file from a template in TextMate.

The project page is currently hosted on my blog: [qslaunch](#).



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# INSTALLATION

## 3.1 Requirements

This package depends on two other python packages:

- `appscript`;
- Growl's `python bindings` (optional).

Growl is not required. It's only used to pop an error message when a requested command cannot be found.

## 3.2 Installing

To install Growl's binding, follow the instructions on their page. (The bindings are in Growl's SDK disk image, not the installation image! You can find it on [Growl's sources page](#)).

To install `qslaunch`, simply open a terminal and type:

```
$ sudo easy_install http://greyworld.net/qslaunch/files/qslaunch-0.2.tar.gz
```

If `appscript` is not installed, it should be handled automatically by `easy_install`.

If using `pip`, you can install it directly from the mercurial repository:

```
$ sudo pip install hg+http://greyworld.net/qslaunch/hg/
```



# EXAMPLES

## 4.1 Simple example

Suppose that you have two bookmarks in iTerm: the first named “local” and the second named “somewhere”. You could then place two python scripts in a directory and add it to Quicksilver’s catalogue.

The first, named `local.py`, could contain this:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
from qslaunch.helpers.ityerm import cmd_bookmark
cmd_bookmark('local')
```

The second, `somewhere.py`:

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
from qslaunch.helpers.ityerm import cmd_bookmark_in_tab
cmd_bookmark_in_tab('somewhere')
```

Typing “local” in Quicksilver would open a new window with a local shell.

Typing “somewhere” would open a new tab in the top window, possibly with a remote shell defined in iTerm’s bookmark manager.

## 4.2 More complex examples

You can find other examples in the “examples” directory of the source.

You can browse this online on [qslaunch’s mercurial repository](#).



## 5.1 qslaunch

### 5.1.1 qslaunch

#### **exception NoSuchCommand**

Exception raised when command could not be found.

#### **execute** (*name*, *patterns*)

Execute a command by finding it in a list of patterns.

##### **Parameters**

- *name* – name to lookup in the pattern list
- *patterns* – list of patterns

The list of patterns is a list of tuples, referenced here as “pattern”.

A “pattern” tuple has two items:

- 1.regular expression to match
- 2.command

The command is also a tuple, with three elements:

- 1.the function to call
- 2.positional arguments (tuple)
- 3.named arguments (dict)

If the patterns contains named references (e.g. (?P<xx>yyy)), these will be also placed in the named arguments dictionary.

Example:

```
patterns = [  
    (r'^x-(?P<tag>.*)$', (somefunc, (), {a=17})),  
]  
execute('x-abc', patterns)
```

Will call `somefunc(a=17, tag='abc')`.

#### **get\_version** ()

Return version number.

## 5.2 qslaunch.helpers

### 5.2.1 qslaunch.helpers.ityerm

Provides helper functions for opening iTerm sessions.

#### Execute helpers

**bookmark** (*name*, *where*=*'window'*, *cd*=*None*)

`ityermhelpers.execute()` helper for `cmd_bookmark()`.

See `cmd_bookmark()` for usage.

**shell\_exec** (*command*, *where*=*'window'*, *title*=*None*)

`ityermhelpers.execute()` helper for `cmd_exec()`.

See `cmd_shell_exec()` for usage.

#### Commands

**cmd\_bookmark** (*bookmark*, *where*=*'window'*, *cd*=*None*)

Create a new iTerm session in a new window or tab and launch the specified session in it.

##### Parameters

- *bookmark* – bookmark name. It doesn't exist, iTerm uses the default bookmark
- *where* – string: either *'window'* or *'tab'*
- *cd* – string or callable

If *where*=*'tab'* and there are no windows, a new one is created.

If the *cd* parameter is a callable, the return value must be a string.

**cmd\_exec** (*command*, *\*\*kwargs*)

Create a new iTerm session in a new window or tab and execute the specified shell command inside.

##### Parameters

- *command* – shell command to execute
- *where* – where to open the session (*'window'* or *'tab'*, default = *'window'*)
- *title* – title to give to the terminal

#### iTerm helpers

**current\_terminal\_window** ()

Return the front most iTerm "terminal".

If there are no windows, create a new one.

**new\_terminal\_window** ()

Return a new, empty iTerm "terminal".

## 5.2.2 qslaunch.helpers.textmate

Provide useful shortcuts for TextMate.

### Execute helpers

**new\_from\_template** (\*args)

Create a new TextMate window based on a specific template.

**Parameter** *args* – The path to the template in the “File” menu. For example,  
`new_from_template('Python', 'Python Script')`

**set\_theme** (theme=None)

Change TextMate’s theme.

**Parameter** *theme* – Theme or None

**Note:** If “theme” is None, be sure to define a “theme” backreference in the ereg!

### Commands

**cmd\_new\_from\_template** (template\_path)

Create a new TextMate window from a template.

**Parameter** *template\_path* – tuple/list representing the template.

The tuple is the menu items under “New From Template”.

Example:

```
cmd_new_from_template(('Python', 'Python Script'))
```

**cmd\_set\_theme** (theme)

Set the current theme using System Events.

**Parameter** *theme* – Name of the theme

## 5.3 qslaunch.utils

### 5.3.1 qslaunch.utils.finder

**front\_most\_path** ()

Return the path of the active finder window, or None.

### 5.3.2 qslaunch.utils.growl

**growl\_error** (error\_title, error\_body)

Output an error message through Growl.

**Parameters**

- *error\_title* – Growl title
- *error\_body* – Message body

The application is registered in Growl as “qslaunch.py”.

If Growl cannot be imported, nothing happens.

### 5.3.3 qslaunch.utils.sysevents

**click\_menu** (*process\_name*, *menu\_bar\_id*, \**args*)

Short cut to click a menu through System Events.

#### Parameters

- *process\_name* – ex: u’TextMate’
- *menu\_bar\_id* – probably always 1
- *args* – the menus to click

Exemples:

```
click_menu('TextMate', 1, 'File', 'New From Template', 'Python', 'Python Script')
click_menu('TextMate', 1, 'File', u'Open\u2026')
```

**Note:** (u2026 is the “...” char)

**Note:** this ONLY works if the process has been activated first! E.g. app(u’TextMate’).activate()

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