

Bulk Rename Utility – Change Log

Revision History

!=Fix, +=new feature / enhancement / change

Version Date

- 4.0.0.7 **17/APR/2025**
- + Added back and forward navigation buttons next to the current folder bar for easier navigation.
 - + New message preferences to enable or disable specific warnings via the Preferences window, or by clicking on the checkbox "Do not show again":
 - Warning: "Allow using '\' in Renaming Criteria for Creation of New Folders" option is active; prompt to continue (show/don't show).
 - Warning: "Overwrite/Delete Existing Files" option is active; prompt to continue (show/don't show).
 - Warning: "Skip renaming if filename already exists" option is active; prompt to continue (show/don't show).
 - + Added new option to increment timestamps by a fixed number of seconds in *Change File Timestamps*.
 - + Introduced multiple-level undo functionality with a visible list of undo actions.
 - + Added new "Move to Bottom" and "Move to Top" buttons in the List dialog. The "Add" button now inserts entries below the current position. Hold Shift to add entries above the current position, Ctrl to add entries at the end of the list, and Alt to copy an existing entry.
 - + When resetting renaming criteria with "Reset" or creating a new BRU file with "New", default values are now loaded from the *default.bru* file located in the installation folder if it exists.
 - + New command: "Clear All Renaming Criteria" (Ctrl + Shift + T). This is a hard reset that empties all renaming criteria and does not load the default.bru file, even if one is present in the installation folder. It behaves the same as the existing "Reset All Renaming Criteria" command if no default.bru is present.
 - + Bulk Rename Utility now navigates automatically to the folder containing the *_autoload.bru* file when an *_autoload.bru* file is opened.
 - + Favourite Files: automatic path Storage with ".path" suffix. When a favourite file is saved or loaded and its filename ends with ".path", the current folder path is automatically saved into the favourite file and restored upon loading, regardless of the "Store Pathname and Refresh File List on Open" option setting.
 - + Reorganized items within the "Copy to Clipboard" context menu in the file list.
 - + Added Ctrl+V to support copy and paste of files intended for renaming. File paths can be copied and pasted from Windows File Explorer or from a list in Word, Excel or other text editors. The file's full path needs to be specified for each file pasted into Bulk Rename Utility.
 - + Added new "Paste from Clipboard" context menu options:
 - Paste Items from Clipboard (Ctrl+V)
 - Clear and Paste Items from Clipboard (Shift+Ctrl+V)
 - Set New Names from Clipboard (Alt+N, unchanged)
 - + Introduced a new program preference to hide the folder tree when starting Bulk Rename Utility via "Bulk Rename Selected Items" from Windows File Explorer.
 - + Added Hebrew numeral support in Numbering (10).
 - + Enabled the option to hide the logo on the bottom-right by right-clicking on it.
 - + Added "Reset," "Import New," and "Select All in File List" options to the Import Rename-Pairs View.

- + Displaying "Scanning... Press ESC to cancel" in the file list when scanning large folders.
- + Displaying "Folder is empty" or "No Items found" if the file list has no items.
- + The main menu no longer displays menu keyword cues unless entered via keyboard.
- + The columns in the file list now have *three* possible states: Sort Ascending, Sort Descending, and No Sort. Clicking on a column header will cycle through each state. When No Sort is active (i.e. no sort icon is shown in the column header), objects are listed in the order returned by Windows. When dragging and dropping objects or adding them from Windows File Explorer, the objects will be sorted - or not - according to the current column sorting state.
- + Added additional tooltips for various controls.
- + Added new renaming tags: <size>, <folder>, <numfiles>, <randnum>, <randchar>, <rand>, <randname>, <ulid>, <uuid>.
- + Set the default value of preference "At startup, recall the last used criteria if no favorite file (.bru) is active, instead of starting with blank criteria" to *No*.
- ! Fixed an issue where the "new drive detected" message appeared incorrectly after waking Windows from sleep.
- ! Files imported via "Import Rename-Pairs" now display in the same order as they appear in the imported file.
- ! Auto-Date (8): Custom date format now maintains the user-specified separator.
- ! Allowed parentheses "(" in file property tags.
- ! Enhanced speed and improved autofit functionality for all file list columns.
- ! Improved sorting behavior for all file list columns when "Sort Files and Folders Together" is disabled.
- ! Enabled logical sorting by default (Display Options → Sorting).
- ! Fixed crash when dragging and dropping files into Bulk Rename Utility and the Javascript condition in *Filter (12)* is not empty.

4.0.0.6

03/MAR/2025

- + New option "Keep Folder Structure" in Copy/Move to Location (13). This option lets you perform copying or moving while preserving the original folder hierarchy of your files.
- + New command "Import Rename-Pairs from Clipboard" (Ctrl+Alt+C) to import new name-old name rename pairs directly from the Windows clipboard.
- + New command "Set New Names from Clipboard" to set the new names of the selected items directly from the Windows clipboard.
- + New shortcut Ctrl+Alt+R to clear all imported rename-pairs items.
- + New option "Use Monospaced Font for List and Tree". Enable this option if you need to ensure that each character occupies the same amount of horizontal space in the file list and tree. This uniformity makes it easier to align text vertically.
- + New JavaScript functions: countFilesInFolder(), listFilesInFolder(), removeExt().
- + New functionality in Remove (5) -> Chars. A removal condition can now be used, for example:
 - >c : Remove characters greater than c.
 - <Z : Remove characters less than Z.
 - >c<Z : Remove characters greater than c and less than Z.
 You can use >ÿ to remove all characters greater than ÿ -- that is, all characters past the Latin-1 Supplement (such as emojis).
- + Added support for quoted file names in CSV files when importing rename pairs from CSV.
- ! Fixed an issue where pressing the Esc key outside of the Bulk Rename Utility, during a long renaming operation, would inadvertently stop the renaming.
- ! Fixed the Remove (5) -> Accents issue with Unicode-16 surrogate characters.

4.0.0.5

21/JAN/2025

- + Added two new toolbar buttons for quick access: "Refresh" and "Show Only Items Affected by Renaming Criteria", positioned next to the path bar.
- + Added Tag Name display in the 'Show List of File Properties' and 'Show EXIF Info' windows.
- + Added new program preference: "At startup, recall the last used criteria if no favorite file (.bru) is active, instead of starting with blank criteria". This can be set to Yes (default) or No.
- + Added new program preference: "Automatically save the used renaming criteria to the recent entries when renaming is performed". This can be set to Yes (default) or No.
- + File Property Tags, Hash Tags, and EXIF Property Tags can now also be used in RegEx (1) → Replace and Replace (3) → With.
- + Moved the Remove (5) → Trim option to be the last removal step under Remove (5).
- + Enhanced the 'Show Only Items Affected by Renaming Criteria' command: if only one item or no items are selected, all items are selected first, then, it displays only items affected by the current renaming criteria.
- + Improved "Highlight Name Changes" functionality in certain situations.
- + Added option "Simplify Differences" under "Highlight Name Changes". When this option is enabled, Bulk Rename Utility will try simplify and group multiple differences between the current and the new name for better readability. This option is disabled by default.
- + Added keyboard shortcuts:
 - Alt+Enter: Show Windows Properties.
 - Alt+P: Show List of File Properties.
 - Alt+X: Show EXIF Information.
 - Alt+Q: Open Containing Folder.
- + During an F2 manual rename, Tab and Shift+Tab now function as they do in Windows File Explorer for consistency:
 - Tab completes the manual rename and initiates a manual rename operation on the next item in the list.
 - Shift+Tab completes the manual rename and initiates a manual rename operation on the previous item in the list.
- + Expanded the Remove Symbols option (Remove (5) → Sym.) to include these symbol categories: General Punctuation, Arrows, Miscellaneous Symbols, Dingbats, Miscellaneous Symbols and Pictographs, Emoticons, Transport and Map Symbols, Alchemical Symbols, Geometric Shapes Extended, Supplemental Symbols and Pictographs, and Latin-1 Supplement.
- ! Resolved an issue where using RegEx (1) and File Segment together could result in an incorrect new name computation.
- ! Fixed a bug where parentheses (and) were ignored in RegEx (1) → Replace unless escaped with \.

4.0.0.4

08/JAN/2025

- + Added "Bulk Rename Selected Items" menu entry to the Bulk Rename Here Windows File Explorer extension.
- + New option in the Link Files by Extension function: Allow Link Across Folders.
- + Added "Reposition" menu to the item context menu in the file list (right-click).
- + Remember the last renaming criteria even when no .bru file is selected.
- + Automatically load renaming criteria from the file _autoload.bru on drag-and-drop or on Bulk Rename Here, if this file is present in the folder.
- + Maintain the correct order of files on drag-and-drop or on 'Bulk Rename Selected Items' from Windows File Explorer.
- + Drag-and-drop items are now added at the end of the file list if other items are

already present.

+ Increased 'Bulk Rename Here' limit to a maximum of fifty thousand files at one time.

+ Highlight with bold font when a program preference is not set to the default value (not in dark mode).

+ Added new program preferences:

- Auto load the '_autoload.bru' file if present in a directory on drag and drop or on Bulk Rename Here.

- Clear all items already in the list on 'Bulk Rename Selected Items' from Windows File Explorer.

- Ask to refresh the folder tree if a new drive is detected

! Fixed action number count when the "Rename in Reverse Order" option is enabled.

! Fixed issue where clicking on the column header to sort would wrongly initiate a single-item rename edit.

! Fixed issue where the TAB key caused 'Select All', when manually renaming a single file.

! Fixed issue with empty multiple replacements causing a problem with the order of the replacements.

! Fixed issue with using {} in Replace (3) with wildcards.

! Fixed issue where the new license code was sometimes not accepted when upgrading to version 4 from version 3.

4.0.0.3

21/NOV/2024

! Fixed name change highlight issue (disappearing text).

! Fixed display issue when clicking on the vertical scrollbar.

! Fixed file name not being correctly updated (refreshed) in the file list after a rename.

! Fixed issue with the Picture Viewer not always releasing file handles.

! Fixed issue with the folder tree not staying hidden (F11) after a program restart.

4.0.0.2

05/OCT/2024

+ New "Detached Window" option for the renaming criteria. 

+ New "Highlight Name Changes" option to show detailed changes between new name and old name.

+ New Picture Viewer supports more image formats.

+ Dark Mode. Automatically enabled on Windows 11 and 10, if dark mode is active, or it can be manually enabled/disabled in program Preferences.

+ New 'Apply Windows Themes' option in program Preferences, set to Yes by default.

+ Support for Auto Refresh On / Off.

+ Shortcut to 'View Imported Rename-Pairs' using Ctrl+Alt+V.

+ Option 'Select Imported Rename-Pairs' (Ctrl+Alt+S).

+ Display Options → List → 'Size All Columns to Width' (Ctrl+Shift++).

+ Renaming Options → Advanced Options → 'Skip Renaming of File If File Name Already Exists'.

+ Program preference → Bulk Rename Utility logo type → Use custom logo image bru.bmp, bru.png or bru.svg.

+ Program preference → Ask to check for program updates every 30 days → Yes/No.

+ Support for double-quotes for Replace (3) when using wildcards * and ?.

+ Show total Elapsed Time for renaming operations.

+ When the ENTER key is pressed while on items in the file list, open up to 9 files in their default app.

+ Sort and select items after they are dropped into Bulk Rename Utility according to the current sort order.

- + New JavaScript object properties: object('container'), object('container[num]'), and object('containers').
- + Popup information balloon tip for certain program features.
- + New editor to easily build a list of multiple RegEx, Replacements, Case Exceptions, and Filters by clicking on the list button. ☰
- + Network paths and mapped drives improvements.
- + Ability to delete selected files from disk using Shift+Delete.
- + New Bulk Rename Utility general program preferences in main menu 'Tools'.
- + New program preference: Allow multiple instances of Bulk Rename Utility to run at the same time.
- + New program preference: When the ENTER key is pressed while on an item in the file list, action to be taken.
- + New program preference: Bulk Rename Utility logo on the main window, show or hide.
- + Remove non-printable Unicode characters from file properties if present.
- ! Fixed dropping the double quotes (") when loading values from a BRU file.
- + Track and select recently used entries in most input controls, including regex, add, remove, etc., using F8 or ⇄
- + Option to confirm each renaming operation individually.
- + Support for UTF-8 files in "Import Rename-Pairs".
- + Display the name of the current "Import Rename-Pairs" file in-use as a tooltip and in the imported pair list view.
- + New tooltip to show full text if otherwise truncated in the file list.
- + Prevent duplicates, "Start From 1" option.
- + Prevent duplicates, "Across Folders" option.
- + Pad Numbers and Reformat Date in *Name (2)*.
- + Support for wildcards * and ? in *Replace (3)*.
- + New \regex\ option in *Replace (3)*.
- + Support for negative from/to values in *Remove (5)* (= remove counting from the end)
- + New Copy Range and Move Range in *Move/Copy (6)*.
- + Support for negative values in *Move/Copy (6)* (= move/copy counting from the end).
- + New *Name Segment* section to apply the renaming criteria to just a specific part of the file name. Negative values are also supported (count from the end). Characters to start/end from/to also supported.
- + New *Special (14) Order* to change the order of the renaming criteria applied and name segment.
- + New *Link Files by Extension* option to rename files with certain extensions as if they were the same file.
- + Capitalize the abbreviation of month %b, in custom date format.
- + New option to auto-select all items after a drag and drop operation into BRU.
- + ALT key no longer stops the renaming operation, use the ESC key instead.
- + Ability to expand the width of the *Add (7)* group.
- + Possibility of hiding or customizing the BRU logo in the main window.
- + Ask whether to refresh the folder tree if a new drive is detected.
- + Warning shown in the Preview Window if duplicate names are found and the 'Prevent Duplicates' option is not enabled.
- + Display the number of duplicate names found in the Preview Window.
- + Enhanced item selection and folder scanning speed.
- + Enhanced preview speed.
- + Enhanced overall handling and responsiveness of the application when renaming several thousand files.
- + Quick access to open .bru files next to the rename button.
- + Added button to select recently browsed folders next to the path bar.
- + Fixed Title Enhanced behavior in Case (4) for words starting with numbers

(e.g., use 3rd, not 3Rd).

+ Added 'Select All' and 'Clear All' buttons next to the path bar.

+ Added 'Exif Date Taken (Original) / Item Date set to' in File Timestamps.

! Improved 'autofit all columns' functionality.

! Fixed bug when using | symbol and one single character in *Remove* (3).

! Fixed crash with certain JPG and TIF files when extracting EXIF information.

3.4.4.0

15/JUL/2022

+ Added ability to specify a custom '*Prevent Duplicates*' format.

+ Added ability to specify the rename *log file* name and path.

+ Added ability to use quotes (") in *Filters* (12) -> *Mask*.

! Fixed missing version in the BRU installer and the Windows Control Panel.

3.4.3.0

16/MAR/2021

+ Restored the original 'Title Case' behaviour in Case (4) and added a new 'Title Case Enhanced' that uses the 'New York Times Title Case' rules. Custom words, upper-case words and exceptions can be specified with the new 'Title Case Enhanced'.

+ *Log to File* now supports also Unicode names.

! Fixed issue with *Taken (Original)* and *Item Date* not showing when dragging files directly into Bulk Rename Utility.

! Fixed 'Lead Dots' not resetting in *Remove* (5) when clicking on 'Reset'.

! Fixed 1 hour skip issue in *Change File Timestamps* window - if DST active.

3.4.2.0

05/FEB/2021

+ Changed 'Simple' Regex behaviour from longest match to shortest match.

+ Enhanced 'Title Case' in Case (4) behaviour to use the 'New York Times Title Case' rules by default. Custom words and exceptions can be specified.

+ Added ability to have a general case exception for Roman Numerals in Case (4) using exceptions *<rnup>* or *<rnlo>*.

+ Added Roman Numerals as new Type in Numbering (10).

+ Added Lower and Upper Case options in Numbering (10).

+ Added support for extended Unicode characters when saving the .INI file and favourites files. New created files are saved as Unicode while all existing files are kept as they are.

+ Added ability to use \U \L \E \u \l modifiers in the Replace field of RegEx (1) also when the 'Simple' option is used.

+ Added ability to specify a subfolder level in *Filters*(12) to set the maximum level of recursive scanning when subfolders are included.

+ Added ability to use negative values for 'Levels' in *Append Folder Name* (9). A negative level number will only append that specific folder name to the file name instead of the chain of all folders.

+ Enhanced the *Change File Timestamps* function to use the file 'Item Date' if the EXIF 'Taken (Original)' timestamp is not available, for example for videos or some image formats.

! Fixed issue with file timestamps changing by one hour if the renaming operation is undone selecting 'Undo Rename'.

! Fixed issue with dates earlier than 1970 when using Windows File Properties to rename files.

! Fixed an 'open' file issue if the file path contains certain Unicode characters (the open file dialog would not open at all).

3.4.1.0

21/SEP/2020

+ Added support for renaming over Network paths (i.e. [\\computer\share\](#)).

+ Added 'First' only option in *Replace* (3).

+ Added support for replacing only First, Last, Start, End, Second, Third, Fourth,

Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth match in Replace (3).
+ Improved 'multiple replacements' algorithm for Replace (3).
+ Included 'New Name' column when using Clipboard Copy > All.
! Fixed 'Match Case' option, in Replace (3), now correctly saved to Favourite file.
! Fixed 'Drag and Drop' issue with files larger than 2GB.
! Fixed 'Item Date' display for HEIC files on Windows 10.

3.4.0.0

8/SEP/2020

+ Added 'Simple' regular expressions in RegEx (1).
+ Added 'v2' (version 2) regular expressions in RegEx (1).
+ Added support for multiple regular expressions in RegEx (1).
+ Added support for multiple replacements in Replace (3).
+ Added support for full file paths in Import Rename pairs.
+ Added new 'Item Date' column to file list containing the Windows Item Date for media, pictures, videos, HEIC files, etc. It also supports dates earlier than 1970 unlike other dates in Bulk Rename Utility.
+ Added new 'Item Date' to Auto Date (8) : Type.
+ Added Ctrl+8 shortcut for 'Apply Random Sort to Current List'.
+ Added Ctrl+9 shortcut for 'Show Only Items Affected by Renaming Criteria'.
+ Added new command 'Clear All Non-Selected Items from Current List' and Ctrl+0 shortcut.
+ Improved items' selection from the 'Bulk Rename Here' shortcut.
+ Improved selection performed by the 'Select from Clipboard' command.
! Fixed typing negative numbers in some renaming criteria fields.
! Fixed 'Sentence' case for Extended ASCII characters.
! No longer deselect currently selected items when opening Favourite file.
! Bug fixes.

3.3.2.1

26/JUNE/2020

! Fixed .INI configuration file issue (not all settings stored properly).

3.3.2.0

31/MAY/2020

+ Added new F7 shortcut to clear file list.
+ Added creation of crash info files to debug application crashes (.rpt and .dmp).
! Fixed issues with 'Drag and Drop' files into BRU.
! Fixed a possible commercial license Windows Registry issue.
! Fixed a possible invalid memory crash reported on User's Forum.
! Fixed typing values in 'Name Len Min'/Max field and 'Path Len Min'/Max.

3.3.1.0

30/OCT/2019

+ Added new <removed> tag support to Add(7).
! Fixed 'Import Rename-Pairs' issue with some ANSI and UTF-8 text files.

3.3.0.0

23/OCT/2019

+ Added support for EXIF version-2 tags.
+ Added support for HASH value tags.
! Fixed 'Import Rename-Pairs' issue with UNICODE-16 (UTF-16) text files.
! Fixed 'Single-File Rename' issue using mouse clicks.
! Fixed issue with selecting 'Exit' from the main menu and not saving INI file.
! Fixed 'Character Translations' issue with recursive replacements.
- Windows Vista/XP/2003 are no longer supported: the last version to support Windows Vista/XP/2003 is version 3.2.0.1 (see below). Version 3.2.0.1 will remain available in the portable, no-installer download.

3.2.0.1

13/SEP/2019

! Fixed Windows XP issue with missing DLL link.

! Fixed double-click on a folder in the file list.
! Fixed file list flickering.

3.2.0.0

10/SEP/2019

- + Re-enabled clicking on the selected file to manually rename it.
- + Automatically adjust the font size at first start-up based on screen resolution.
- + Added '*Preview*' functionality to review all changes before renaming.
- + View the imported Rename-Pairs list.
- + Maximize the main file list, while hiding most renaming controls (F9).
- + View the list of all available Windows File Properties for a file (right-click on a file and select from menu).
- + Use the Windows File Properties to rename files (e.g. Video Length, Resolution, EXIF version 2, Word / Excel / PowerPoint properties or any other property supported by the Windows Property System). Windows File Properties can be used in renaming criteria via tags and also in Javascript via functions. *Windows File Properties are only available on Windows Vista or newer.*
- + Added tooltips for edit fields.
- + Use the <clip> tag in some of the renaming criteria. The <clip> tag is replaced with the current text in the Windows Clipboard.
- + Added Clipboard() function to Javascript.

! Fixed the crash with certain very old timestamps (EXIF or modified / created / accessed timestamps).

3.1.0.0

6/AUG/2019

- + 'Bulk Rename Here' extension improvements.
- + Support Windows High-Contrast mode.
- + Support Windows High-DPI settings.
- + Allow bigger/smaller font in the interface.
- + Support for repositioning/reorganizing items in the file list.
- + Show only items affected by renaming criteria in the file list.
- + Allow using '\' in renaming criteria for creation of new folders ('Folderize').
- + Option to increase file list height.
- + Option to open containing folder for items in the file list.
- + Added new 'Status' column to the file list, populated after renaming.
- + Ability to ignore all errors and continue during renaming.
- + Remember the last path selected when launching application.
- + Remember the last path selected when importing Rename Pairs.
- + Support importing Rename Pairs separated by a comma (CSV).
- + Solved freeze when showing icons issue on Windows 10.
- + Solved freeze when large zip files present.

! General reported bug fixes.

3.0.0.1

3/FEB/2016

! Fixed compatibility with Windows XP and Windows Server 2003.
! Fixed code signing certificate issue on Windows 10.
+ Added F2 rename action to menu.
+ Added PDF manual to installer.

3.0.0.0

11/JAN/2016

New version 3.0 released

<All version history prior to 3.0.0.0 now removed>