

INSTALLATION & USAGE GUIDESIMSLIM BY MOBAI-APP

*Turn off unneeded iOS Simulator background services • ~4x less memory • Run more
simulators on one Mac*

★ **GitHub Repository:** <https://github.com/MobAI-App/slimsim> (~2,300+ Stars)

👑 **Tác giả / Tổ chức:** MobAI-App (Interlap)

License: MIT

Language: Go (CLI + library), SwiftUI (macOS app)

Platform: macOS only; requires Xcode with an iOS Simulator runtime

Key tech: xcrun simctl, the simulator's own launchd / launchctl

1. WHAT IS SIMSLIM?

A freshly booted iOS simulator starts around 180 background services: Siri, Spotlight indexing, photo analysis, News, wallpaper posters, iCloud sync, and more. None of it matters when you use the simulator for development, testing, or CI. simslim switches those services off, cutting each simulator's memory roughly 4x so the same Mac can hold many more simulators.

README numbers (M1 Pro, 16 GB, one simulator): processes drop from 258 to 70, and memory (phys_footprint) from 4.0 GB to 0.9 GB.

- **Safe for your Mac:** It only writes launchctl disable entries into the chosen simulator's own launchd database; your Mac is never touched.
- **Persistent:** From iOS 18.5, the simulator comes up slim on every reboot.
- **Flexible:** Keep whole categories (--except) or single daemons (--keep), and save the selection as a JSON profile for CI.
- **Checks:** doctor verifies the features your tests need; verify catches a simulator that drifted from its profile.
- **macOS app:** A SwiftUI app with live RAM columns, per-daemon controls, and disk analysis and cleanup.

2. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- macOS (simslim is macOS only).
- Xcode with an iOS Simulator runtime (simslim drives simulators through xcrun simctl).
- Homebrew, or Go if installing with go install.
- iOS 18.5 or newer for the slim state to persist across reboots. iOS 17.x and 18.3 can only slim the current boot session with --no-reboot.

3. STEP-BY-STEP INSTALLATION

Option 1: Homebrew (recommended)

```
brew install mobai-app/tap/slimsim
```

Option 2: Go

```
go install github.com/mobai-app/slimsim/cmd/slimsim@latest
```

Optional: build the macOS app (needs Go and Xcode)

```
make app
open build/SimSlim.app
```

4. FIRST RUN & USAGE

Get the simulator UDID with `slimsim list`, then turn slim on. The `on` command boots the simulator, disables the allowed daemons, and reboots it.

Basic commands

```
slimsim list          # simulators and their slim status (--booted to
filter)
slimsim profiles      # what a slim boot turns off
slimsim on <udid>     # slim a simulator and reboot it slim
slimsim measure <udid> # a booted simulator's memory footprint
slimsim off <udid>    # put it back to stock
```

Keep the features you need

```
# Keep a whole category (e.g. Spotlight search)
slimsim on <udid> --except search

# Keep one specific daemon (e.g. push notifications)
slimsim on <udid> --keep com.apple.apsd
```

CI profile: ci.json

```
{
  "name": "ci",
  "description": "UI test runs",
  "except": ["search", "store"],
  "keep": ["com.apple.apsd"]
}
```

Apply and check in CI

```
slimsim on <udid> --profile ci.json
slimsim doctor <udid> --requires push,storekit,universal-links
slimsim verify <udid> --profile ci.json || slimsim on <udid> --profile ci.json
```

Slim parallel-testing clones

```
simslim watch --except web,store &  
xcodebuild test -scheme App -parallel-testing-enabled YES  
-parallel-testing-worker-count 4 ...
```

Disk cleanup (plan first, then clean)

```
simslim disk-plan <udid>  
simslim disk-clean --categories caches,logs,temporary --confirm <udid>
```

5. COMMON ERRORS & FIXES

- **context deadline exceeded on slow CI:** Shared CI runners (such as GitHub-hosted macOS) can exceed the default 10-minute deadline. Raise `--boot-timeout` / `--spawn-timeout` or set `SIMSLIM_BOOT_TIMEOUT` / `SIMSLIM_SPAWN_TIMEOUT`.
- **simslim on rejects runtimes older than 18.5:** Those runtimes cannot persist overrides across reboots. Use `simslim on <udid> --no-reboot` and re-run it after every boot.
- **Push, StoreKit, or universal links stop working:** Push needs `apsd`, StoreKit testing needs `storekitd` (store category), universal links need `swcd` (web category). Keep them with `--except` or `--keep`, then check with `simslim doctor`.
- **Spotlight / Settings search returns nothing:** The search category is off. Re-run with `--except search`.
- **The simulator is heavy again:** erase, delete-and-recreate, or a new runtime all start stock. Use `simslim verify` to detect it and re-run `simslim on` (it only applies the missing delta).
- **Back to stock:** Run `simslim off <udid>` to clear the overrides and reboot.

Note

The Contacts, Photos, and Calendar pickers can act up without their categories. The README recommends cloning a simulator before service or disk changes so the copy serves as a backup.

Enjoy running a screenful of simulators on your Mac with simslim!

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Nội dung kỹ thuật tổng hợp từ tài liệu chính thức của repo <https://github.com/MobAI-App/simslim>