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## Using Ninite Website to Install Common Applications

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Most of us have downloaded various kinds of proprietary software and freeware from the internet and installed it on our computers. Usually these installs, especially if they are numerous, become rather labor intensive. If, for example, we want to install five software packages, what is involved is launching each install binary and responding to quite a number of “Next” prompts, among other things. Also, many software packages include things that we don’t necessarily want installed, such as browser toolbars, and the like, which many term junkware, or crapware. To avoid installing the junkware, we have to be on the lookout for a checkbox to clear, or something similar.

But there is an alternative. The website [www.ninite.com](http://www.ninite.com) provides a great service to those needing to install multiple software packages. The site provides a list of many freeware or trial versions of different software packages. Any number of these packages can be selected, and a single installer created to install all of the packages at the same time. You download the created custom installer, launch it, and walk away for the duration of the installs. When you return, everything has been completed for you. Kind of sweet.

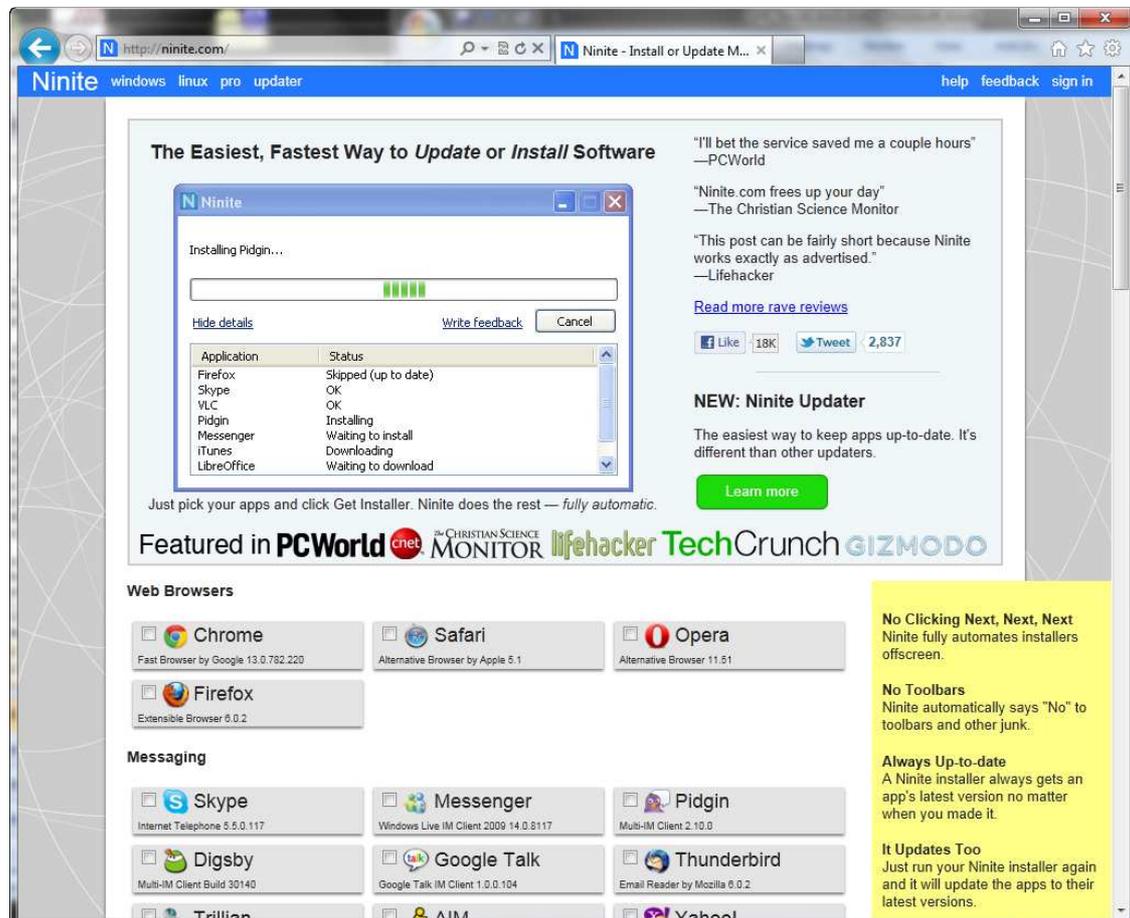
But there’s more to the story. The Ninite installer can be used to subsequently update any of the installed packages by rerunning it at any point in the future. Or, you can use the installer to load the same software on other computers. Different installers can be created with different sets of software packages depending on the need for a particular class of computer. So there is a fair amount of flexibility and different possibilities of use with Ninite.

I’ll mention next that there is also a pay option whereby a Ninite updater is installed on the computer and subsequently will automatically check for updates to all software packages on a regular basis.

<https://ninite.com/updater/>

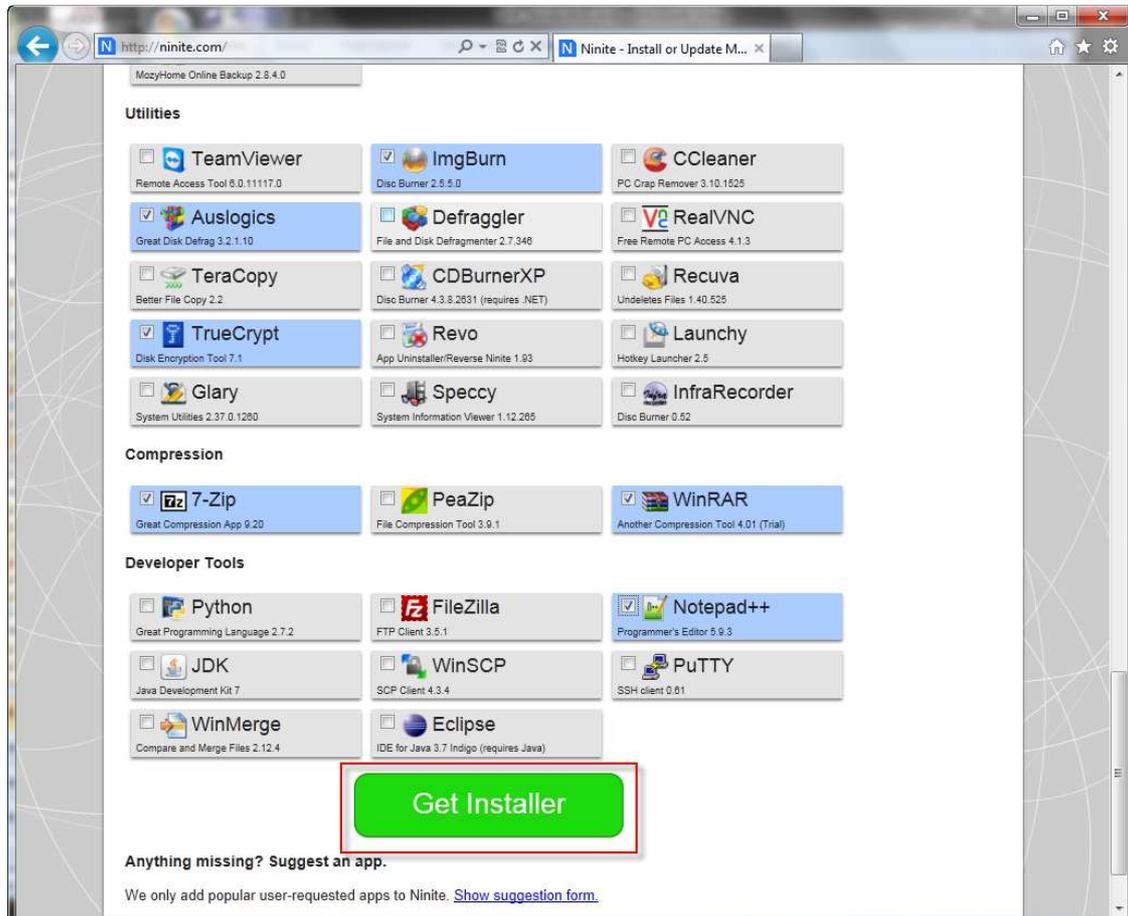
They want \$9.99 for this, with a sliding scale for larger numbers of licenses. It’s not my purpose to advocate for this service, but only to make you aware of it, if there is perceived value for you. There is also a Professional version of Ninite for enterprise use which I’ll say even less about. Have a look for yourself if you have an interest.

Anyway, let’s now have a look at how this all works in practice. Below is a screenshot of the Ninite webpage. Let’s see what we find.

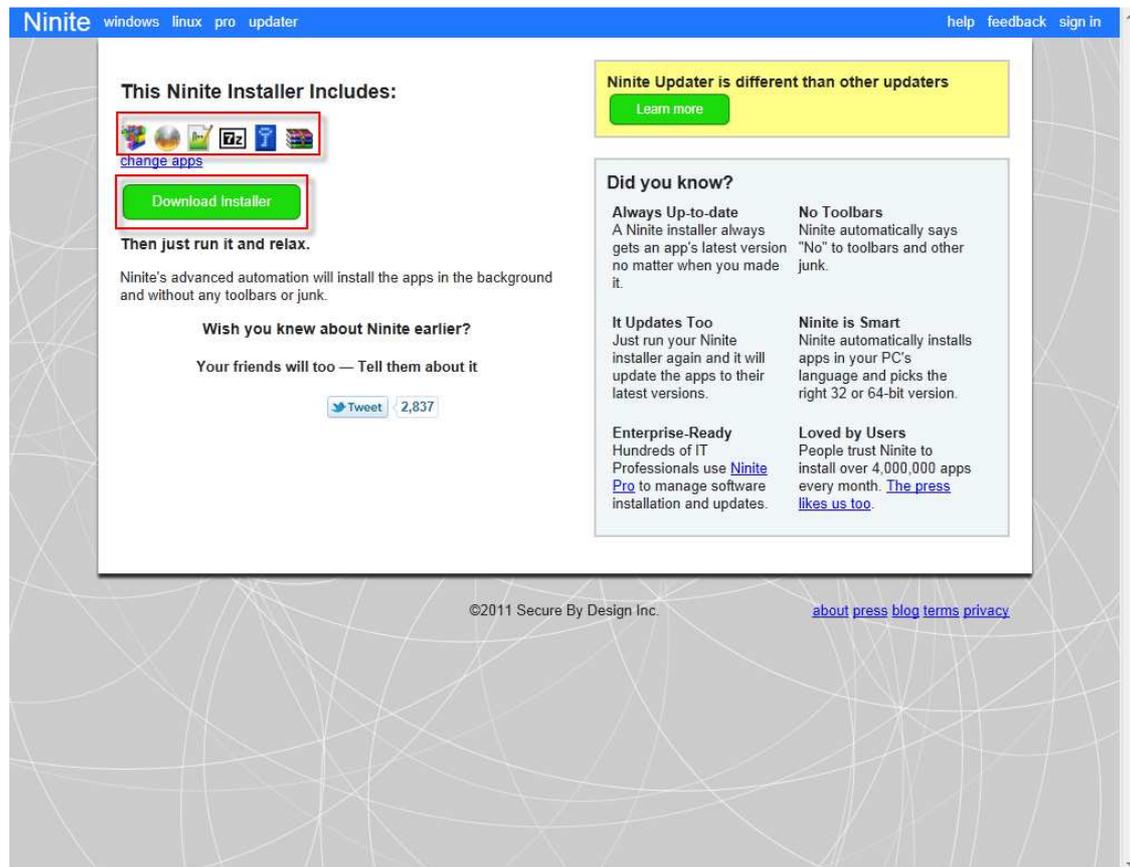


After bringing up [www.ninite.com](http://www.ninite.com) in a browser, we can observe a number of things. In the top menu bar, if you want to investigate the updater client, click on "updater". If you are interested in the enterprise service, click on "pro". With that out of the way, let's check out the more important stuff. The applications supported by Ninite are separated in groups which roughly correspond to their function. For example, we see the web browsers in the first group, and then messaging software in the following group.

In the screenshot example below, we have selected six applications in subsequent groups for install. Let's look at that now.



To select a software package, simply check the box for that application. Once all the desired applications have been selected, click on the “Get Installer” button, outlined in red above. This will generate a custom installer for all the applications which will then be downloaded and launched. We see this happening in the next screenshot.



Ninite windows linux pro updater help feedback sign in

**This Ninite Installer Includes:**

[change apps](#)

**Download Installer**

**Then just run it and relax.**

Ninite's advanced automation will install the apps in the background and without any toolbars or junk.

**Wish you knew about Ninite earlier?**

Your friends will too — Tell them about it

[Tweet](#) 2,837

**Ninite Updater is different than other updaters**

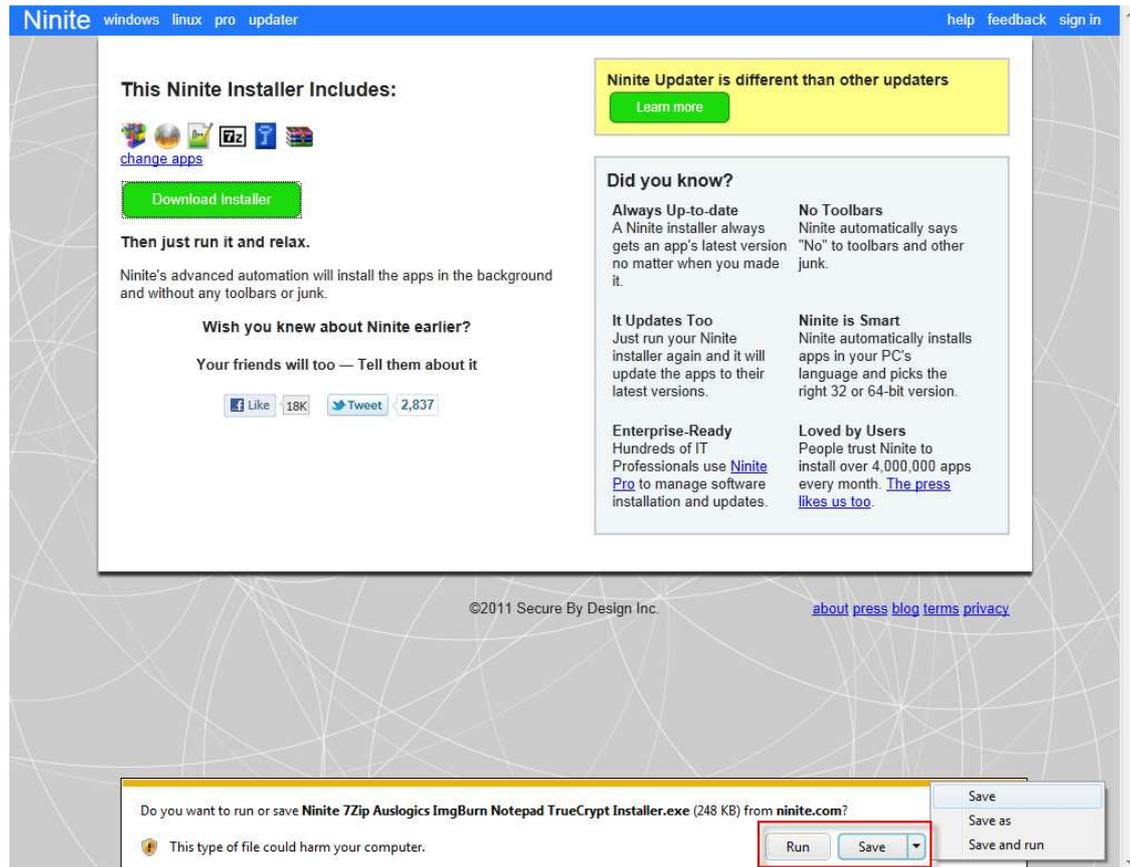
[Learn more](#)

**Did you know?**

<b>Always Up-to-date</b> A Ninite installer always gets an app's latest version no matter when you made it.	<b>No Toolbars</b> Ninite automatically says "No" to toolbars and other junk.
<b>It Updates Too</b> Just run your Ninite installer again and it will update the apps to their latest versions.	<b>Ninite is Smart</b> Ninite automatically installs apps in your PC's language and picks the right 32 or 64-bit version.
<b>Enterprise-Ready</b> Hundreds of IT Professionals use <a href="#">Ninite Pro</a> to manage software installation and updates.	<b>Loved by Users</b> People trust Ninite to install over 4,000,000 apps every month. <a href="#">The press likes us too.</a>

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After clicking “Get Installer”, we see that the installer has been prepared with the six applications that we have selected. The six selected application icons are shown outlined in red at the top. Below this is the “Download Installer” button. Click on this to begin the process. See the next step in the following screenshot.

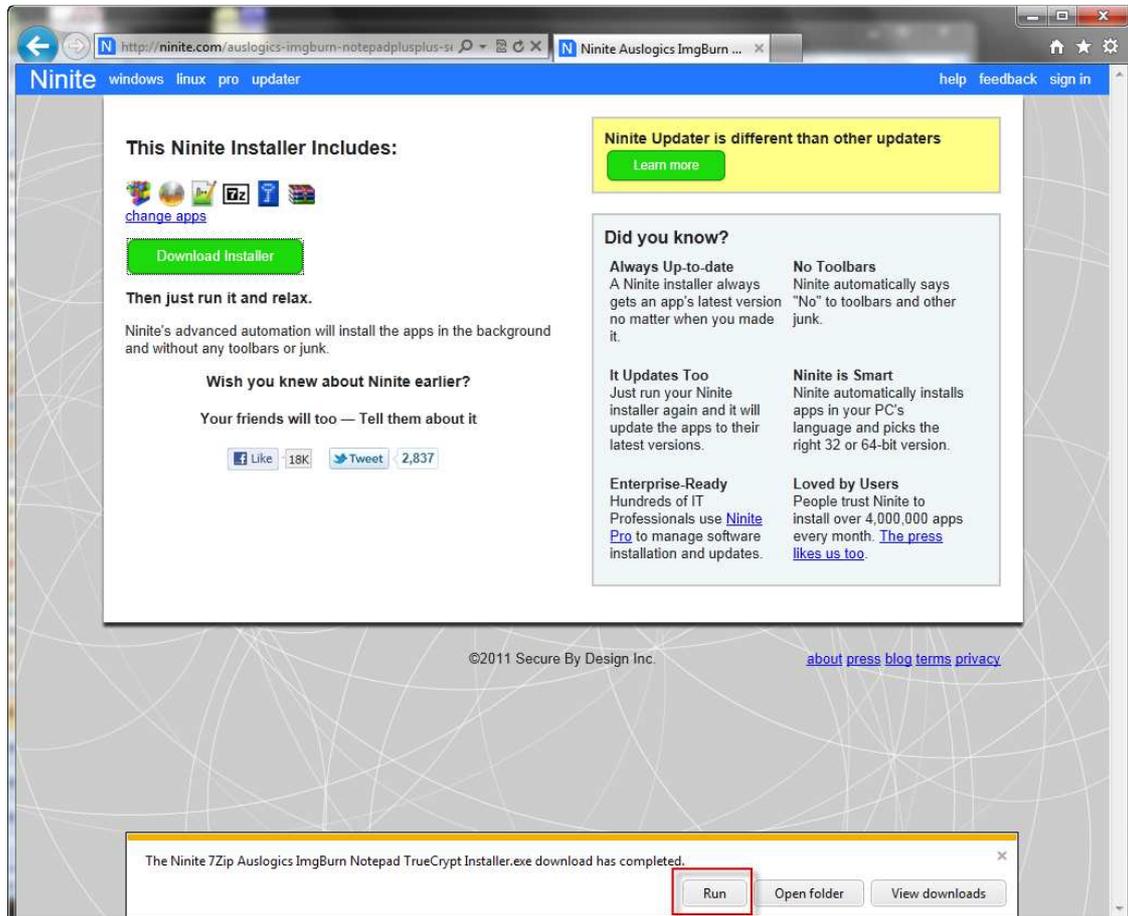


The screenshot shows the Ninite website interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Ninite', 'windows', 'linux', 'pro', 'updater', 'help', 'feedback', and 'sign in'. The main content area is divided into several sections:

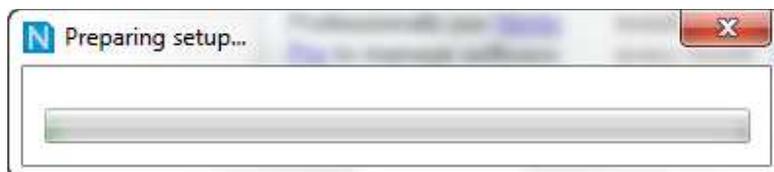
- This Ninite Installer Includes:** A list of application icons with a 'change apps' link and a 'Download Installer' button.
- Then just run it and relax.** A paragraph explaining that Ninite's automation installs apps in the background without toolbars or junk.
- Wish you knew about Ninite earlier?** A social media sharing section with 'Like' (18K) and 'Tweet' (2,837) buttons.
- Ninite Updater is different than other updaters** (Yellow box): A 'Learn more' button.
- Did you know?** (Light blue box): A grid of six key features:
  - Always Up-to-date:** A Ninite installer always gets an app's latest version no matter when you made it.
  - No Toolbars:** Ninite automatically says "No" to toolbars and other junk.
  - It Updates Too:** Just run your Ninite installer again and it will update the apps to their latest versions.
  - Ninite is Smart:** Ninite automatically installs apps in your PC's language and picks the right 32 or 64-bit version.
  - Enterprise-Ready:** Hundreds of IT Professionals use [Ninite Pro](#) to manage software installation and updates.
  - Loved by Users:** People trust Ninite to install over 4,000,000 apps every month. [The press likes us too.](#)

At the bottom, a Windows security warning dialog is open, asking: 'Do you want to run or save Ninite 7Zip Auslogics ImgBurn Notepad TrueCrypt Installer.exe (248 KB) from ninite.com?'. The dialog includes a warning icon and the text 'This type of file could harm your computer.' The 'Run' button is highlighted with a red box.

Running on Windows 7, we are given the choice of immediately running the installer, or saving it. We elect to download and save the installer. In the next screenshot, we will run the installer.



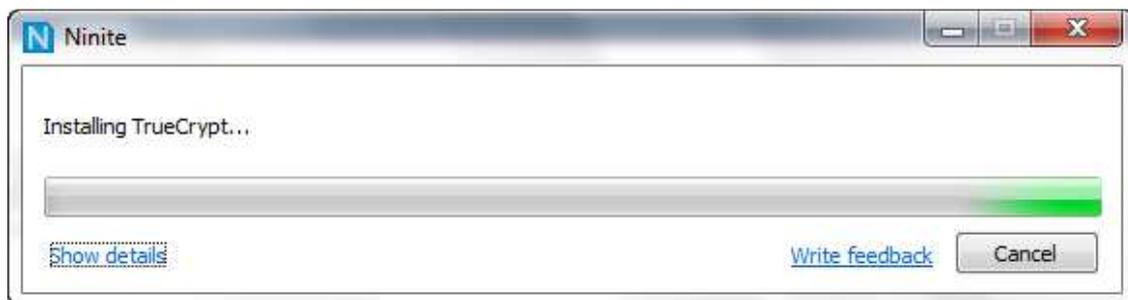
After downloading the installer, we now choose to run it, by clicking “Run”.



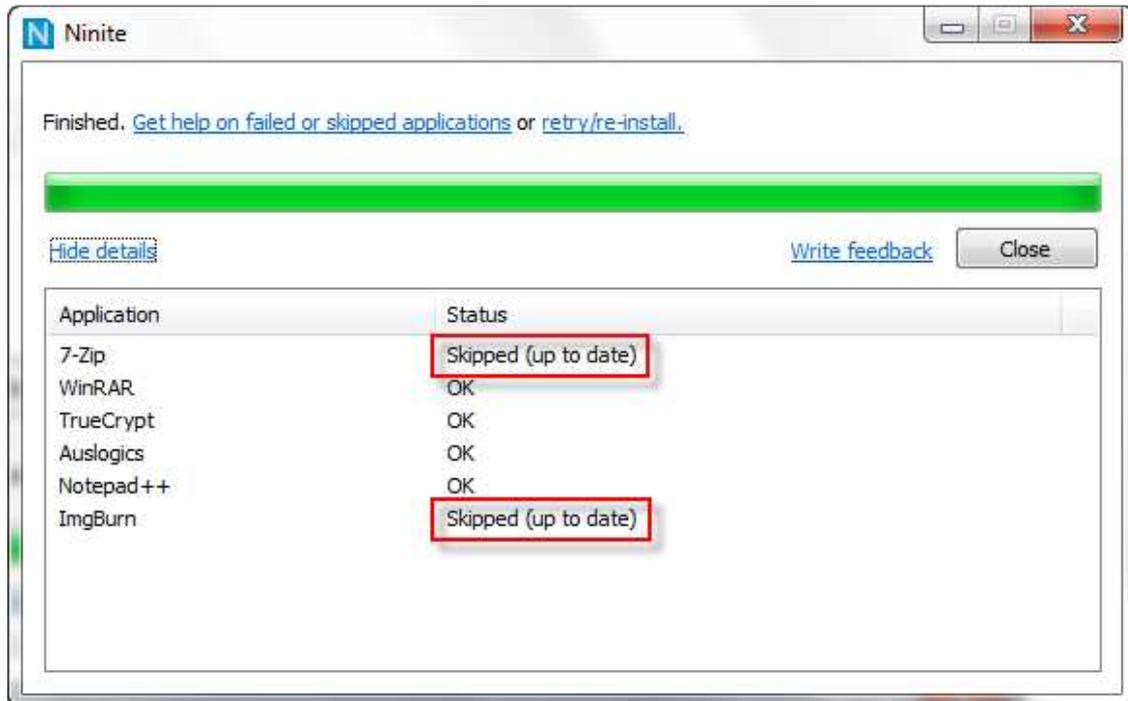
We will then get a popup graph which advises us of the progress in preparing for the installation run. Following this we will get a similar graph for downloading and installing each application. For examples of this, see the next screenshots.



Here we have the graph showing the download of one of the application we previously selected.

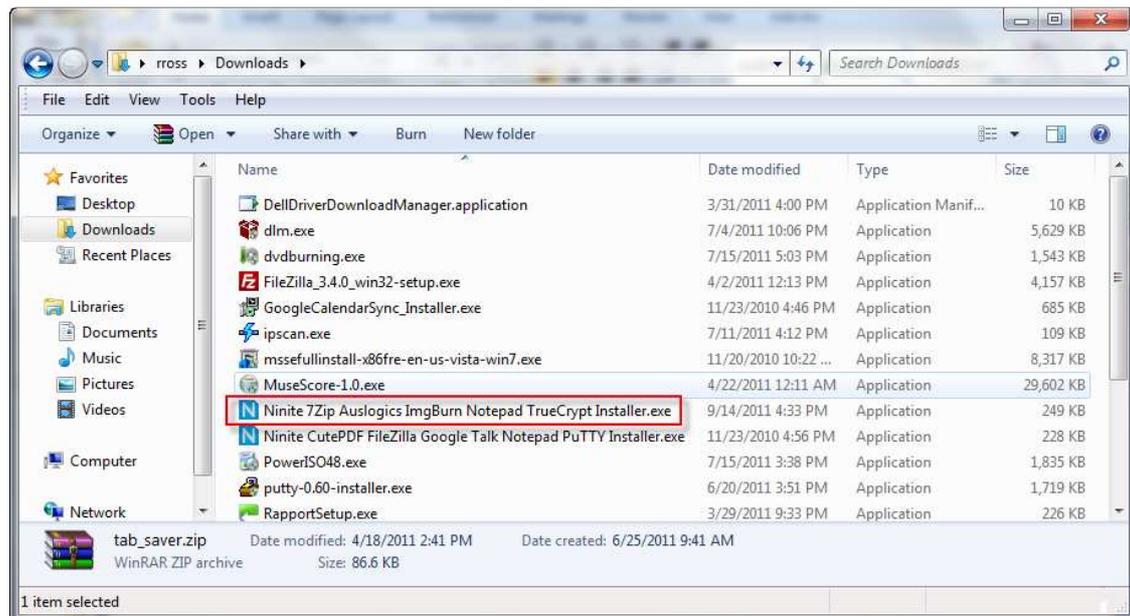


After downloading TrueCrypt, the installer immediately installs this application. This process is repeated for all the applications that were selected for the installer. After the installation is completed, we are presented with a report in the next screenshot.



The Ninite installer has now finished its work. Let's look at the reported results. We see that four packages successfully installed, and are shown as "OK". But what happened with the other two, (outlined in red)? The report tells us that they were "Skipped (up to date)". This means that these two applications had previously been installed and there were no updates available at this current time. There was nothing to do, either install or update, so they were skipped. If we run this installer again at some point in the future, and updates are available for any of the applications, we will see the updates installed.

In the next screenshot we take a quick look at the installer that has been created and downloaded.



If we open up Windows Explorer, and navigate to the Downloads folder, we can see what Ninite has created and we have downloaded. This is the installer that we ran, and we can run again in the future, as needed. Let's review what we can do with Ninite installers again.

- An installer can be created for any number of software packages to be installed automatically at one time.
- The installer can be used to update the installed packages by running it again at any future date.
- The installer can be used to install the packages on other computers. It is not limited to the computer where it was created and downloaded.

If you've got software to install, give this a try. I also find just looking at all the available software on Ninite a good source of information of what might be considered "best in class" packages available at the current time. Have a look, you might find something you'd like to try out and which may prove useful.