

Re: Input Mask on Date for Year or Month Only

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Microsoft.Public.Access.GettingStarted/2008-05/msg00538.html>

- *From:* fredg <fgutkind@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 21 May 2008 21:26:24 -0700
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On Wed, 21 May 2008 18:28:32 -0700, B J wrote:

Yes, thank you – I needed to clarify what I needed. Upon further thought, a single column for Year/Month is all I really need.

I know there will have to be a value in "Day", but that's irrelevant to me, as would the decimal places for "Time".

I can have the user enter it as either "August, 2008", or "08/2008", then, which is largely what I was driving at.

How do you change the default display, then? Can I change it to a custom "yyyy-mm" format?

"fredg" wrote:

On Tue, 20 May 2008 15:36:01 -0700, B J wrote:

I want to have either a single classification for Year-Month, or a field for year, and a field for Month.

I'd like to be able to use the Date/Time functions to compare these to other data.

Can I use an input mask to capture only the year or only the month?

Specifically for the month, I'd like the user to be able to enter "August" or "08" into the field – not sure how to do this if I used "Integer" or "Text" as the field type.

If anyone has some thoughts on this, they'd be much

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appreciated.

Thanks;
Ben.

Why??????

If you wish to use the DateTime functions, then the field's datatype should be DateTime.

A DateTime datatype value must be a valid date, which includes the Month, Day, and Year, so while you can DISPLAY a date in month/year format, the stored value must contain the day as well.

What you can do is have the user enter the date value in mm/yyyy or mm-yyyy format, i.e. 08/2008 or 08-2008. Access will then interpret and store that value as 08/1/2008. Do not use an Input Mask. Set the Format property of the control to mm/yyyy or mm-yyyy. You will be able to use any of the Access Date functions.

Other than that, you could create a Text datatype field, enter the "08/2008" or "08-2008" as text. But then you will no longer be able to use any of the date functions without first converting the text back into a valid Datetime value which means giving it a day value. The same holds true if you used separate month and year fields.

—
Fred
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With the field a DateTime datatype you can use an input mask of 00/0000 which will accept an entry, for example, of 05/2008 (the user must enter a 2 digit month number and a 4 digit year). The actual value will be stored as 05/1/2008. If you then set the Format property of the control on the form to yyyy/mm it will display as 2008/05.

—
Fred
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