

RE: Sendkeys in Office 2003

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.modulesdaovba/2005-05/msg00753.html>

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-

The "True" and "False" flag may work differently in Access 2003. The false is supposed to wait and seems to execute the command at the typographic rate set in control panel.

Often you will send the keys before the menu or Windows screen is ready to take the keystrokes. In that case the keys are sent and you get nothing. Sometimes the first few keystrokes are lost in a transmission.

I uses several techniques to defeat the timing of a macro.

I use the "{home}" key as a nonsense time waster. For example,

SendKeys "{home 100}Then your important commands", true

Then if 1 to 99 of the {home} keystrokes is truncated you still get your critical data.

Here is where the true and false switch comes into play, I think, 100 keystrokes under true takes about a second. 100 keystrokes under false may take 3-10 seconds.

I will set up a useless loop in visual basic to waste some time and let a window open or a dialog box to appear.

Dim Wwait

```
For Wwait = 1 to 1000000  
next Wwait
```

If you want to waste some time in a loop like this at 1 gig your loop needs to be big.

I also use the timer interval to send code at specific times when my target application is very sluggish.

This is all sloppy coding and what I call brute force to accomplish your

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goals. But it can be the difference between getting the job done or not.

In order to be certain I often must use both in the same macro.

You may have better luck with the `doCmd` commands. Often you have very good direct commands to accomplish your goal. SendKeys are my last resort usually when controlling legacy applications by Access.

```
DoCmd.RunCommand acCmdSelectAll
DoCmd.RunCommand acCmdRecordsGoToFirst
DoCmd.RunCommand acCmdCopy
DoCmd.RunCommand acCmdPaste
DoCmd.RunCommand acCmdPasteAppend
DoCmd.RunCommand acCmdFind
DoCmd.RunSQL "DELETE ZF18.Document_Date FROM ZF18 WHERE
(((ZF18.Document_Date) Is Not Null));"
DoCmd.RunCommand acCmdRecordsGoToNew
DoCmd.Maximize
DoCmd.DeleteObject acTable, "ZF18"
DoCmd.Close acForm, "Menu", acSaveYes
DoCmd.OpenForm "Menu"
```

Some examples that are very useful.

Direct commands are always better than SendKeys examples when working from within Access. They do not present timing issues, they don't run out of order, and they give a much more dependable result.

"B.S.R." wrote:

- > We recently upgraded from Office 97 to Office 2003 and have noticed that our
- > SendKeys function no longer works. We use it when programmatically printing
- > a report to Adobe PDF; we loop through a variable (e.g. "Department") and
- > print the report once for each department. We use the SendKeys function to
- > pass along the name and directory location of the file to be saved, as well
- > as to hit "Enter".
- >
- > Do any of you know of how SendKeys may have changed in Office 2003? I've
- > been trying to debug it and I know that the keys are being sent, it's just
- > that the timing is off. I've tried putting the Sendkeys both before and
- > after the code that prints the report.
- >
- > Thanks in advance for your advice!
- >
- .

- **References:**

- ◆ **[Sendkeys in Office 2003](#)**

- ◇ *From: B.S.R.*

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