

Re: Can I AutoSize (or Fit) merged, variable data within a text bo

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.mailmerge.fields/2006-04/msg00365.html>

- *From:* Eric Torres <EricTorres@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 25 Apr 2006 07:28:02 -0700
-

Thanks Peter. Looks like I'll have to wing it this time as the client is already calling looking for proofs this morning. This is my las tweak at work and I was trying to get this to work for my firend who is taking over the account when I leave. She knows a lot less about merges than I do and I was hoping to at least get this part resolved for her before leaving but I guess that how it'll have to be. I just heard that the company I'm leaving from hired an outside data service to help run this job every month from now on. Of course, this couldn't happen when I asked for it 8 months ago. Go figure...

Thanks again for all your input on this. I'll make sure to pass along all the information you gave me just in case she needs it. You never know.

See you around!

--

To every opportunity there"s an Access, but first you must Excel at choosing the right Word...

E.T.

"Peter Jamieson" wrote:

Well, one last shot...

If you are getting the texts through queries, you may be able to get the text length using the same query, then use that to name a file or bookmark in a file that you can include via INCLUDETEXT. Each file would have the formatting you need for a particular text length (there would obviously have to be some approximations as you'd be going on character count, not actual text width).

Might also be difficult because of difficulties working with text boxes and fields, but thought I'd just mention it anyway.

Peter Jamieson

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"Eric Torres" <EricTorres@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1CB92F66-F5D7-4F73-891B-F07A11688965@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Hello Peter,

Thank you for your suggestions. Unfortunately, I am not using IF statements for the messages as these are created through the queries in the background.

I'm actually inserting the message field which already has the message spelled out. The program is quite complicated for me as it is. There are two queries working in sync for each doc. The first one does a lot of the mathematical calculations for the invoice along with a few custom messages and footnotes. The second one (which is the one directly linked to the doc)

is the one that appends the messages into the message field along with some

other calculations. I tried converting the box to a table cell but the Fit

Text option only creates a single line of text inside the cell and anything

else past the cell boundary just disappears, as you mentioned on your first

response.

Obviously, this is something more geared up for someone with VBA experience

opposed to a self-taught individual like myself. Looks like I'll have to blast the news to my client today and hope for the best.

Thank you for your time and input.

Eric

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To every opportunity there's an Access, but first you must Excel at choosing the right Word...

E.T.

"Peter Jamieson" wrote:

Reading through your message again, as long as the possible texts are all

predefined, I wonder if you have tried simply formatting the text results

in

whatever IF fields you are using?

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e.g. in the simple case where you decide which text to insert based on a MERGEFIELD called "messagenumber", you might have

```
{ IF { MERGEFIELD messagenumber } = 1 "a short message" ""  
}{ IF { MERGEFIELD messagenumber } = 2 "a much longer message" ""  
}
```

format "a short message" directly in a large font, and "a much longer message" directly in a small font, each designed to fit the text.

Peter Jamieson

"Eric Torres" <Eric.Torres@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:AFB5D86E-BB7B-40FE-963F-BD9D568CD096@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Products: Word & Access 2003 Professional

Hello MVP's,

Although I have been working with Word and mail merges for many years I have never had the need to resize variable text "on-the-fly" until now. Normally, I set up documents this complex through a piece of software called PrintShop Mail, which is as sweet for this type of function as it is expensive. However, I am faced with a problem that I must somehow resolve through Word (so long as it is capable) because the documents I am using for this particular job were already laid out in Word and I do not have the time needed to change these to my PrintShop Mail software.

In short, I have eight individual documents that run a mailmerge from multiple Access queries. Since this is a custom billing program for members

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of an organization, most of the information throughout each of the docs is custom to the individual member, thus, these docs are filled with text boxes throughout. The merged results are then printed on a billing form that is pre-printed with multiple boxes, many of which are filled with the variable data from the merge. One specific text box (the "Message" box) could contain any of 28 different messages depending on the field value from the corresponding query. The whole program is difficult enough as it is but I've managed to get through it somehow from month to month.

The problem became a problem when my client decided that they no longer like the the way the "Message" looks within the assigned box on the form. Since the message box on the form is pre-printed with a border, every message must fit within the boundaries of the box. These 28 messages could vary from a single sentence to a whole paragraph of five sentences. In the past, I was able to assign the largest font that would accomodate for the longest message. The text was then centered inside the text box, both horizontally and vertically. Of course, whenever a short message appears, the text looks too small inside the box and the client no longer wants to do it this way. They want me to shrink and expand the font

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size based on message size
to
fill
the box as much as possible.

As I mentioned above, PrintShop Mail is
made for this kind of gig but
it's
not something I know how to do in Word, it
it's even possible? I found
every
option to resize the text box to the text but
not the other way around.

I
have read every knowledge base article that
talks about merges and text
formatting but can't find anything in regards
to conditional sizing of
text.

You guys are my last resource as I will not
be able to keep the client
around
if I can't get this to work on my next
mailing, which happens to be
this
week! It is too late to begin the layouts in
PrintShop Mail since the
front
end of the program takes me forever to get
done leaving no extra time
to
work
on the docs except for the merges.

What really bothers me is that I have seen
this before on some document

I
received at one time from another client but
I can't find it to save my
@r\$e!

The text, not the box, would resize based on
length with each record
but I
didn't have time to see how it was done.

I am in need of serious help and running out
of time. Any suggestion or
known solution to this problem would be
heavenly.

Thanks in advance for any words of wisdom

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(and for reading my novel?)