

# Re: Using dates during mail merge

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.mailmerge.fields/2008-02/msg00085.html>

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- *From:* "Graham Mayor" <[gmayor@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:gmayor@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 7 Feb 2008 17:41:35 +0200
- 

Hmmm. I couldn't get it to work in Word 2003 – though I didn't have the quotes around "{ MERGEFIELD mydatetext }"  
I'll play again tomorrow :(

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◇>><◇><◇>◇><◇>◇><◇>◇><◇>  
Graham Mayor – Word MVP

My web site [www.gmayor.com](http://www.gmayor.com)  
Word MVP web site <http://word.mvps.org>  
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Peter Jamieson wrote:

OK, it certainly works here, i.e. in principle, so maybe the detail needs checking:

preferably with a space  
between month and year.

I suspected as much :-)

```
{ SKIPIF "{ MERGEFIELD mydatetext }" <> "{ DATE \@ "D" \*Ordinal }{ DATE \@ " MMMM YYYY" }" }
```

works OK here with that spec. All the { } have to be ctrl-F9 braces as usual, and the spacing and quoting is obviously import –

either one space between the two DATE fields and

```
\@"MMMM YYYY"
```

or no space between the two DATE fields and

```
\@"MMMMYYYY"
```

Re: Using dates during mail merge

"gjupp via OfficeKB.com" <u41094@uwe> wrote in message  
[news:7f606d68464d2@xxxxxx](mailto:news:7f606d68464d2@xxxxxx)

Yes, this is the comparison that I wish to make, preferably with a space between month and year. And yes, we wish to make a 'not equal' comparison. I tried your suggestion, but the merge returned nil results.  
Word  
date format  
(language 'English (UK)') was set to 'dd MMMM yyyy' without ordinal.  
However,  
this may have no relevance.

Unless your suggested SKIPIF syntax can be modified, I suppose it will not be possible to achieve my aim. If so, I shall continue to use SKIPIF with the comparison date manually inserted at each merge. This will be crude, but the method will work.

Many thanks indeed for your advice. It is very useful.

Peter Jamieson wrote:

You mean compare with things that are in your data source like

7th February2008  
1st March2008

etc?

As long as you can use date and numeric field switches that generate precisely the date format you need to compare with, you should be able to use a similar technique, e.g.

```
{ SKIPIF "{ MERGEFIELD mydatetext }" <> "{ DATE  
\@"D" \*Ordinal } {  
DATE \@"  
MMMMYYYY" }" }
```

Haven't tried it myself though, and at best you will only be able to do exact comparisons (equal or not equal), not determine whether one date is before the other.

Re: Using dates during mail merge

Many thanks indeed. This works fine.  
However, to go one step  
further: Is it

[quoted text clipped – 11 lines]

Many  
thanks  
in  
anticipation.

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Message posted via <http://www.officekb.com>