



Re: Using dates during mail merge

The other thing that might be causing problems here is that, regardless of how the DATE field nested in the ASK field is formatted, the user will need to enter the date in the format set up in their regional options (or any other format where the month and day are not ambiguous.

"Graham Mayor" <gmayor@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:u1QilMabiHA.3972@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:u1QilMabiHA.3972@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Re the typo – I use the macro at [http://www.gmayor.com/export\\_field.htm](http://www.gmayor.com/export_field.htm) to export field contractions to avoid typos. I missed it because as you noted it works as it stands. I was however remiss in not changing the field name from that in my data file as this added some unwelcome confusion :( --  
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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:

Where Graham has "date2" you need to put the name of the field in the data source that you want to compare with (i.e. that has the date in "1st February 2008" format)

(i.e. Graham's example has used the name "date2" where my example has used "mydatetext", but in both cases you need to substitute the name in your data source.)

Other than that, AFAICS, Graham's fields should work – if you change the two { DATE } fields in my example so that instead of looking like { DATE .... }

they look like

{ REF MyDate .... }

you should be there. In theory there's a typo (unusual for him :-)) in Graham's code:

```
{ ASK MyDate "Start Date" \d { Date \@ "dd/MM/yyyy" \o } }
```

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should have an extra quote:

```
{ ASK MyDate "Start Date" \d { Date \@ "dd/MM/yyyy" }  
\o }
```

but in practice it works as it is.

I'd select your field codes and press F9 to re-execute them after you change them.

"gjupp via OfficeKB.com" <u41094@uwe> wrote in message  
[news:7fa15597a8bdf@xxxxxx](mailto:news:7fa15597a8bdf@xxxxxx)

Many thanks for this. I tried it out but couldn't make it work. I even tried 'tweaking' spaces and quotes (very much groping in the dark) to see if this would do the trick. You included 'MyDate' and 'Date2' in your construction but I cannot understand the function of 'Date2'. It is probably this element that I have got wrong.

Peter Jamieson has suggested a solution that I have been able to make work. This is great and really deals with my original request. However, it is irritating that I have not been able to make your 'ASK' routine to function properly. If you have time to clarify, I shall be grateful. Please don't bother if you are too busy. Many thanks again.

Graham Mayor wrote:

It appears there were two issues that prevented this from working here as intended

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1. I was using an ASK field to collect the date to compare thus

```
{ ASK MyDate "Start Date"
\d { Date \@
"dd/MM/yyyy} \o }{
SKIPIF
{ MERGEFIELD Date2 }
<> "{ REF MyDate \@ "d "
\*Ordinal}{ REF
MyDate \@ " MMMM
yyyy" }" }
```

Unfortunately I was using one of my test data files which also had a field called MyDate (unused in the merge) which conflicted with the bookmark of the same name. With that fieldname changed it worked. 2. This construction will not work for a range of dates eg

```
{ ASK MyDate "Start Date"
\d { Date \@
"dd/MM/yyyy} \o }{
SKIPIF
{ MERGEFIELD Date2 } >
"{ REF MyDate \@ "d "
\*Ordinal}{ REF
MyDate \@ " MMMM
yyyy" }" }
```

for that type of range you cannot compare dates with ordinal fields and must revert to the switch I posted earlier. You cannot derive a date in the format \@ "yyyyMMdd" from a field containing ordinal text.

Seems OK  
in both

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2003 and  
2000, with  
or without  
the quotes,  
which  
leads me to  
wonder  
whether we  
are  
attempting  
the same  
thing  
and/or

[quoted text clipped – 86  
lines]

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

--  
Message posted via OfficeKB.com  
<http://www.officekb.com/Uwe/Forums.aspx/word-mailmerge/200802/1>