

Re: identifying most recently used symbol (via VBA) in MSO2003, as

Source: <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.vba.general/2005-01/0373.html>

From: Sabaka (*Sabaka_at_discussions.micorsoft.com*)

Date: 01/08/05

Date: Sat, 8 Jan 2005 11:47:01 -0800

Hi Jay,

Thank you! I cut and pasted your code – it's pretty cool!

Thanks for answering my question about storing info. I'm teaching this to myself and it seems like something that could come up in a variety of contexts.

Thanks also for the code and the link. Working through the details of the syntax and the link will keep me busy for a little while.

"Jay Freedman" wrote:

> *Hi Sabaka,*
>
> *I don't mind solutions that aren't particularly elegant -- I use 'em*
> *all the time <g> -- but unfortunately this one doesn't work in all*
> *situations.*
>
> *The problem is that Word doesn't treat "decorative fonts" -- Symbol,*
> *the Wingdings family, and a number of others -- the same way it treats*
> *"normal" fonts when you use the Insert > Symbol dialog. There's a good*
> *discussion of this at*
> *<http://word.mvps.org/faqs/macrosyba/FindReplaceSymbols.htm>. The bottom*
> *line is that if you run your macro and insert something from a*
> *decorative font, the character it places at the beginning of the*
> *document is always a left parenthesis regardless of what character you*
> *selected in the dialog.*
>
> *To work around this, you need to use the technique indicated in the*
> *FAQ article: capture the character number and font name from the*
> *dialog and store them separately. The demo macros below show how to do*
> *that.*
>
> *As for where to store the info, there are several possibilities, and*

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> *the choice depends on what functionality you want to provide.*
>
> – *Storing them in the body of the document is generally not good for*
> *the reasons you've already given.*
> – *You can store them in document variables, as the demo below does.*
> *That way they're "invisible" except to macros. Doc variables are*
> *stored in the file when you save the document. This choice means that*
> *each document has its own "most recent symbol", which could be useful*
> *in some scenarios (e.g., if you send the document to someone else) but*
> *probably isn't what you want.*
> – *You could instead use the System.PrivateProfileString property to*
> *store the info either in the registry or in a separate text file. This*
> *makes the "most recent symbol" available system-wide (but it doesn't*
> *travel with a document that you send to someone). This is probably the*
> *best choice.*
>
> *Sub InsertSymbol()*
> '
> *'Intercepts Word Command for Inserting a symbol,*
> *proceeds with the insert symbol command, then*
> *stores info about the symbol in doc variables*
> *for later use*
>
> *Dim symb As String, fnt As String*
> *Dim MyRange As Range*
>
> *' Insert a special character*
> *With Dialogs(wdDialogInsertSymbol)*
> *.Show*
> *Selection.MoveStart unit:=wdCharacter, Count:=-1*
> *symb = CStr(.Charnum)*
> *fnt = .Font*
> *Selection.Collapse wdCollapseEnd*
> *End With*
> *' Place the symbol's charnum & font in document variables*
> *' where they can be read by another macro that needs to know*
> *' the value of the most recently used symbol*
> *ActiveDocument.Variables("SymbolMRU").Value = symb*
> *ActiveDocument.Variables("SymbolMRUfont").Value = fnt*
> *End Sub*
>
> *' the "other macro", for example...*
> *Sub InsertRecentSymbol()*
> *On Error GoTo bye*
> *Selection.Collapse wdCollapseEnd*
> *Selection.InsertSymbol _*
> *CharacterNumber:=CLng(_*
> *ActiveDocument.Variables("SymbolMRU").Value), _*
> *Font:=ActiveDocument.Variables("SymbolMRUfont").Value, _*
> *Unicode:=True*
> *Selection.Collapse wdCollapseEnd*

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> *bye:*
> *End Sub*
>
> --
> *Regards,*
> *Jay Freedman*
> *Microsoft Word MVP FAQ: <http://word.mvps.org>*
>
> *On Sat, 8 Jan 2005 05:39:03 -0800, Sabaka*
> *<Sabaka@discussions.micorsoft.com> wrote:*
>
> *>Here is a thought.*
> >
> *>If the special symbol is stored in a place that isn't readily accessible,*
> *>why not store it yourself in a location of your choosing? The code which*
> *>follows stores it at the start of the document. It would require that you*
> *>remember to manually delete the symbol at the end of your session (though I*
> *>suppose you could intercept a close event and do it with code then).*
> >
> *>It's not a partiucularly elegant solution. I would like to know how one can*
> *>save a variable after it goes out of scope when the Macro finishes so that it*
> *>could be used by another module (and so you don't have store it in the*
> *>document.)*
> >
> *>Sub InsertSymbol()*
> *>'*
> *>'Intercepts Word Command for Inserting a symbol,*
> *>'proceeds with the insert symbol command, then*
> *>'places copy of the symbol inserted at start of*
> *>'document for later reuse*
> *>'*
> *> Dim symb As String*
> *> Dim MyRange As Range*
> *>' Insert a special character*
> *> Dialogs(wdDialogInsertSymbol).Show*
> *>' Assign the special char to the variable symb*
> *> Set MyRange = ActiveDocument.Range(Start:=Selection.End - 1,*
> *>End:=Selection.End)*
> *> symb = MyRange.Text*
> *>' Place a copy of the symbol at the start of the document*
> *>' where it can be read by another Macro that needs to know*
> *>' the value of the most recently used symbol*
> *> With ActiveDocument.Content*
> *> .InsertParagraphBefore*
> *> .InsertBefore symb*
> *> End With*
> *>End Sub*
> >
> >
> *>"KR" wrote:*
> >

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> >> *Does anyone know where the information for the most recently used symbol can
> >> be accessed via VBA? It must be stored somewhere, because it is the leftmost
> >> symbol of the recently used symbols in the insert symbol dialogue box.*
> >>
> >> *I often use the same symbol lots of times in a single document, so I want to
> >> assign a macro to a custom button that simply inserts whatever the last
> >> symbol was that was inserted in the document. It'll still be better than
> >> using the keyboard shortcut, for example [<alt>+0176], assuming I could even
> >> remember the keyboard shortcut... :-/*
> >>
> >> *Thanks!*
> >> *Keith*
> >>
> >> --
> >> *The enclosed questions or comments are entirely mine and don't represent the
> >> thoughts, views, or policy of my employer. Any errors or omissions are my
> >> own.*
> >>
> >>
> >>
>
>