

Re: Evaluating a MERGEFIELD = "RET"

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Word/microsoft.public.word.vba.general/2007-06/msg00328.html>

- *From:* Michael Holz <MichaelHolz@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 15 Jun 2007 12:56:01 -0700
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I was too lazy to read the whole post, but with your information I was able to figure out what to do and then had a good explanation to get started at understanding it a little more completely.

I invested my time instead in some hands on learning and found that you did have to use the Bookmark somewhere in the template document before it would cause the "inconsistency" and automatically translate the RET brought in by the merge field into the bookmark value.

It appears that it is double translating unless we put the quotes around the reference to the datafile. But I think that was making it even more of a challenge is that the double translation is not happening all the time. The reference is treated as just a reference to the datafile if you don't use the bookmark reference elsewhere in the template.

I don't think the mere existence of the bookmark in a referenced document (for example I have multiple references to a bookmark collection and am referencing other bookmarks from the file containing the collection) until you use that specific bookmark in the template document, which makes a LITTLE more sense after I thought about it.

Thanks again for the help, keep up the good work.

It looks like once a reference is made within the template, that it likes to take a little shortcut and remember that reference translation.

"Peter Jamieson" wrote:

Try

```
{ IF "{ MERGEFIELD AdmitType }" = "RET" "test" "what" }
```

(If field syntax cannot in the general case be as minimal as is generally thought – however, in this case, the chances are that the problem is caused by having a bookmark called RET in your document).

Re: Evaluating a MERGEFIELD = "RET"

Peter Jamieson

"Michael Holz" <Michael Holz@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:13A98DBD-30B8-4C70-8DB1-3F08E4CEBBEA@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

This is a really wierd one. I am guessing that "RET" may have some reserved meaning and it is interfering with my IF statement, but not sure.

So here is what I'm trying to do. In Office 2003, I'm doing an INCLUDETEXT thing when a certain MERGEFIELD = "RET" which is something that we pull to a data .csv file from our database. I've dumbed it down for myself for testing to take out all but the easy stuff so I could make sure that I isolated the problem, and I still see this odd issue.

Here's what I've been using for testing when I discovered this issue.

```
"{IF{ MERGEFIELD AdmitType } = "RET" "test" "what"
```

No matter what I do this always outputs: what

I have verified that the field in the data file does in fact contain "RET" by just printing "{MERGEFIELD AdmitType}" in the form letter. The Mergefield by itself in the form letter prints "RET"

In addition, I've also changed a single letter in the datafile so that {MERGEFIELD AdmitType} contains "REM" and then changed the one character in the line of code so that the line of code reads:

```
"{ MERGEFIELD AdmitType } = "REM" "test" "what"
```

Then the output in the merge finally reads: test

Any suggestions as to how to get around this? Is there some type of escape character? Or is anyone else even able to duplicate this?

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