

Clarion Magazine

A Better DATE Function

by Carl Barnes

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Here's a replacement for the Clarion DATE function that fixes some of DATE's limitations.

I frequently want to go back x days or months. DATE () cannot handle something like DATE (1 , -15 , 2000). This function also handles going forward before calling DATE () so the C5 leap year problem is fixed with DATE (14 , 29 , 1999).

Here's the source, or you can use the version in the downloadable APP, below.

```
DateFixed2  PROCEDURE(long _Month,long _Day, long _Year)
```

```
RetDate      long,auto
```

```
YrsAdj       long,auto
```

CODE

```
! Passing Date Function a Negative or Zero,  
! Month or Day Does not work, it returns  
! a bad value. There was a bug with 14/29/1999  
! not seeing it as 2/2000 and as a Leap Year  
! So try to get the date parts into correct range  
! values before using Clarion Date()
```

```
!If all zeros then do not try to adjust and get confused
```

```

IF ~_Month AND ~_Day AND ~_Year THEN RETURN 0.

! Date cannot deal with Negative or zero Month
! so how many years are we off + 1
if _Month < 1
    ! advance Month forward
    YrsAdj = 1 + ABS(_Month) / 12
    _Month += YrsAdj * 12
    ! adjust years back
    _Year -= YrsAdj
end
! If year passed as YY for 2000 (i.e. 00) and
! adjusted with -1 this fixes -1 to be 1999
if _Year < 0 then _Year += 2000.

! In Leap Years but with Months > 12
! as noted by Clarion Mag
if _Month > 12
    YrsAdj = (_Month - 1) / 12
    _Month -= 12* YrsAdj
    _Year += YrsAdj
end

! In case 99 gets passed and +1 to
! 100 else (14,29,99) fails
if _Year > 99 and _Year <= 999 then
    _Year += 1900
end

! Date() cannot deal with Negative Day
if _Day < 1
    RetDate = date(_Month, 1, _Year) - 1 + _Day
else
    RetDate = date(_Month, _Day, _Year)
end

return RetDate

```

[Download the source](#)

[Carl Barnes](#) is an independent consultant working in the Chicago area. He has been using

Clarion since 1990, is a member of Team TopSpeed and a TopSpeed Certified Support Professional. He is the author of the Clarion utilities CW Assistant and Clarion Source Search.

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