

Tile Builder Documentation

Initial Draft

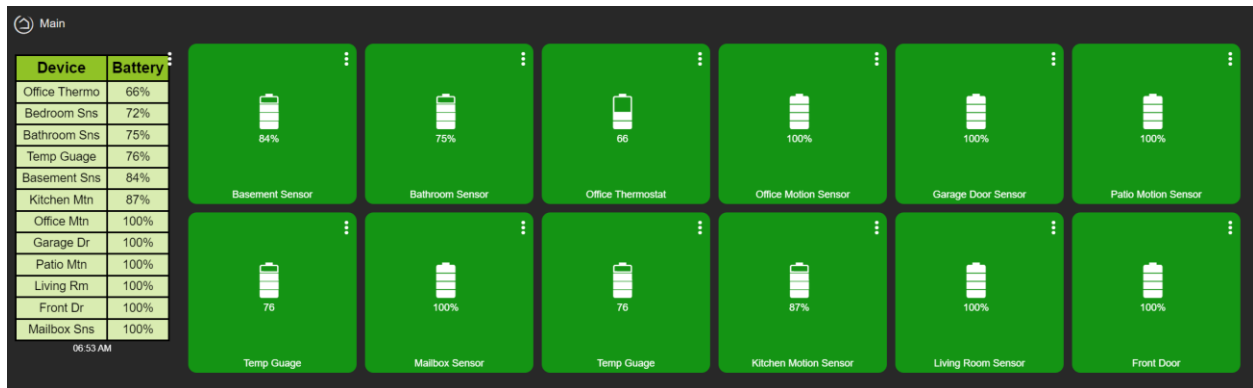
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Introduction

Tile Builder is a novel way of presenting data on a Hubitat Dashboard. Rather than each tile being a single unique device, Tile Builder allows data from multiple devices to be presented on the same tile in a highly customizable tabular format.

It is entirely native to Hubitat and does not require any third party elements or knowledge of CSS in order to achieve quite impressive results. The image below shows how one of these tables vs the traditional method of using individual tiles.



One of the biggest benefits of Tile Builder is that it allows information to be presented at a much higher density and with a much greater degree of control over color, style, placement, effects etc. all without such as in this example. (Looks like I have a battery that needs changing.)

Top Inactive Battery Devices	
Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room Sensor	48d 2h
Dawn Remote	1d 12h
Gary Remote	9:12
Front Door	2:11






There are a large number of devices that only gather data without offering any control. For example, temperatures, motion, humidity, battery, contacts, leaks all merely present data without any corresponding action. Devices that do support an action need more real estate to accommodate user interaction vs. merely reading a value and are therefore more suited to individual tiles\lower tile density.

How Tile Builder Works

There are 4 components to Tile Builder all of which are required for installation.

- 1) Tile Builder Parent App
- 2) Attribute Monitor (child app) – Generates device tables using a single attribute such as the first battery example.
- 3) Activity Monitor (child app) – Generates device tables using the ‘Last Activity’ attribute and can be used to monitor both active and inactive groups of devices.
- 4) Tile Builder Storage Driver – Device driver used for storing Tile Builder data.

The Tile Builder parent app is the primary organizing app.

	Tile Builder 	Tile Builder (user)
	Battery Status	Tile Builder - Attribute Monitor (user)
	Recently Open Windows	Tile Builder - Activity Monitor (user)
	Top Inactive Battery Devices	Tile Builder - Activity Monitor (user)

Tiles are generated by one of the two child apps and organized under the parent app. When tiles are generated, the results are stored in the Tile Builder Storage Device in a specific attribute. This attribute is then placed onto the dashboard as shown previously.

Attribute Monitor uses an event subscription model. If the value of one of the monitored attributes changes the table is automatically regenerated and is updated on the dashboard. This happens within fractions of a second without any perceptible delay.

Activity Monitor uses a timed model. A query is constructed via the child app such as 5 most recently opened windows or 10 least active devices and a refresh interval is assigned from minutes to months. When that interval is reached the table is regenerated, the results are stored in the Tile Builder Storage Device and immediately displayed in the dashboard.

The Hubitat dashboard has a limit of 1,024 bytes for any attributes that are display and Tile Builder operates within this constraint. The simple rule of thumb is the more data you want to display the less features can be displayed. But don't worry, Tile Builder offers a great deal of optimization and guidance to help you find that balance point.

Current HTML size is: **1011** bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is **1024** bytes.

Enabled Features: Comment: Off, Frame: Off, Title: Off, Title Shadow: Off, Headers: On, Border: On, Alternate Rows: Off, Footer: On, Overrides: Off (0 bytes)
Space Usage: Comment: 0 Head: 327 Body: 684 Interim Size: 1206 Final Size: 1011 (Scrubbing is: On)

I have been able to display up to 20 devices in the most basic of tables. But if you want a moderate level of customization then 8-12 devices is probably more realistic. With all display features turned on, including highlights and animations, 4-6 devices is probably a reasonable estimate.

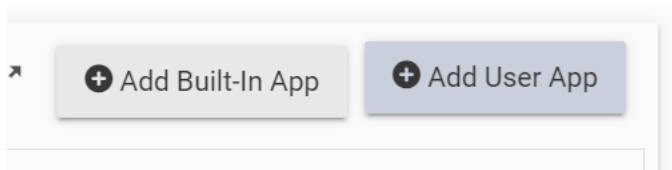
Tile Builder Installation

Tile Builder is listed in Hubitat Package manager. Choose to install by tags and select the “Dashboards” tag. Select “Tile Builder for Hubitat” and complete the installation process. This will place the code on your hub but there are a few steps to complete the installation.

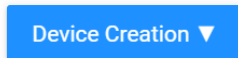
Tile Builder for Hubitat by Gary J. Milne

Create dashboard tiles that are highly customizable and can contain data from multiple devices.

1. Go to the Apps tab and click on “Add User App”



2. Select Tile Builder from the list of available apps.
3. Tile Builder will install and bring you to the parent screen.
4. **Select the appropriate License Type (see paragraph below on licensing).**
5. Under “Device Creation” you must first create the storage device and then connect the app to the device. Just use the default device for now.



✗ - A Tile Builder Storage Device is not connected.

Select a Tile Builder Storage Device



You must connect to a storage device in order to publish tiles.

6. Once the device is created and connected it will look like this.



✓ - Tile Builder Storage Device 1 is connected.

You have successfully connected to a Tile Builder Storage Device on your system. You can now create and publish tiles.



7. We can now create our first tile.

Licensing

Tile Builder has Standard and Advanced versions. The Standard version has a great degree of functionality and is entirely free to use as much as you wish. The Advanced version adds some very powerful features such as highlighting, thresholds, styles, overrides and a lot more.

License ▼

The basic version of Tile Builder is free to use and provides a highly functional addition to the basic Dashboard capabilities.

The advanced version gives access to the Highlights, Styles and Advanced tabs which adds some powerful customizations including icon's, threshold and all kinds of animations. See documentation for details.

Licensing is done on the honor system. A license to the Advanced features of Tile Builder is granted by a donation of any size via PayPal using this link: [Donate to Tile Builder Development](#).

Select the appropriate license type.

Standard Mode (I have not donated) ▼

In order to license the Advanced version you must make a monetary contribution via the link in the app. There is no specific price, but if you can tip a barman \$2 for the time it takes to pour a beer then the hundreds of hours that I have put into this should be worth something. When you donate, please include your Hubitat Community ID and I'll put you on my nice list with the highest priority for answering questions, bug fixing and feature requests.

Your donations free me up from other money generating activities and will allow me to add some additional modules to Tile Builder. Those I have in mind are a Menu link tile, a multi-device x multi attribute tile and a control tile, but they do take time.

Creating a Tile Using Activity Monitor

Within the Tile Builder parent app go to the section called "Create Tile" and select "Add New Activity Monitor"

Create Tiles ▼

There are two types of tile available in this version (one that aggregates multiple devices\multiple attribute)

Add New Activity Monitor

Add New Attribute Monitor

The Activity Monitor main screen will be displayed. The top part of the display controls which devices will be monitored and how that information will be displayed.

[Activity Monitor](#)

[Select the Devices to be Monitored.](#)

You can choose a list to make it easier to select devices. You only need to populate the list you plan to use as only one list will be active at a time.

Use List *

All Devices ▼

All Devices to be monitored
Click to set

Select Report Options.

Inactivity threshold

1 day ▼

Device Limit threshold

5 devices ▼

Truncate Device Name

20 characters. ▼

Sort Order

Show devices with longest Inactivity period first. ▼

Strip Device Text

?

☐ Use Abbreviations in Device Names

► Report Notes

We will create a sample looking for inactive battery devices. Note: I have some battery devices that fail while the battery still claims to be at 100% so using the percentage alone is not a guarantee of catching a failed battery.

1. On the “Use List” dropdown select “Battery Devices”.
2. Click on the selector now titled “Battery Devices to be Monitored”. This is a filtered list of all your devices that have a battery capability. Select all the devices.
3. The “Inactivity Threshold” will limit the results to only those devices whose inactivity is greater than the threshold value. The default is 1 day, let’s change that to 4 hours.
4. The “Device Limit Threshold” limits the display to no more than this number, but it may be less. We will leave that at the default of 5.
5. The “Truncate Device Name” allows you to shorten the device name and is useful in shrinking the amount of data space required, making devices names more consistent in length and to reduce text wrapping. In this example I chose to truncate at the second space.
6. The Sort Order allows you to sort the table by oldest or youngest. Given we are looking for devices that might have a failed battery we will set it to “Show devices with longest Inactivity period first.”
7. The “Strip Device Text” allows you to specify a string that will be completely eliminated from the device names. I sometimes use ascii characters such as ! or ~ to group like devices together in the device table and device picker. I can strip those characters from the final display name. We can leave this at the default for this example.
8. The “Use Abbreviations in Device Names” is an option for reducing the size of the data in the result set. With this enabled the word “ Room” becomes “ Rm”, “ Sensor” becomes “Sns” etc. When trying to cram a lot of data into a table this can be a very useful option but mostly of use in Attribute Monitor where the result sets are longer. We will leave this turned off here.

My report looks like this based upon these parameters. Only 4 battery devices have not been active in the last 4 hours. The “Living Room” device which is a sensor obviously needs a battery replaced despite the fact the last report stated the battery was at 100%.

Select Report Options.

Inactivity threshold	Device Limit threshold	Truncate Device Name	Sort Order	Strip Device Text
4 Hours	5 devices	Second Space	Show devices with longest Inactivity period first.	?
<input type="checkbox"/> Use Abbreviations in Device Names				

Report Notes

Design Table

Refresh Table

☐ Customize Table

Display Tips

Device	Inactive Hours
LIVING ROOM	4:54:48h
Dawa Remote	1:11:48h
Gray Remote	1:11:20h
Front Door	4:19h

Current HTML size is: 699 bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is 1024 bytes.

All of the table customizations are hidden unless the “Customize Table” option is checked. We will come back to that but at this point there is nothing else that is required and we can publish the table.

Publishing a Tile

The publishing options are shown below.

[Configure Data Refresh Interval and Publish](#)

Here you will configure how where the table will be stored and how often it will be refreshed.
The HTML data must be less than 1024 bytes in order to be published.

Which Tile Attribute will store the table? tile1	Name this Tile* Click to set	For Reference Only: Tiles already in Use Click to set
---	---------------------------------	--

Note: The Tile Name given here will also be used as the name for this instance of Activity Monitor.

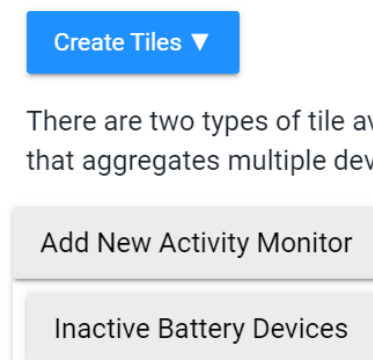
Table Refresh Interval
1 minute

[Publish Table](#)

There are just a few steps.

1. Select the tile attribute to store the table in. Tile attributes are tile1 – tile 25. We will use the default of tile1 in this case.
2. Give the tile a meaningful name. I'm going to call it "Inactive Battery Devices". This is also the name that will be used when looking at the Tile Builder parent app.
3. Select a Table refresh interval. No need to make the hub work too hard. In this case I think hourly would be reasonable.
4. With those values set click on "Publish Table".
5. Click on Done to close the Activity Monitor app.

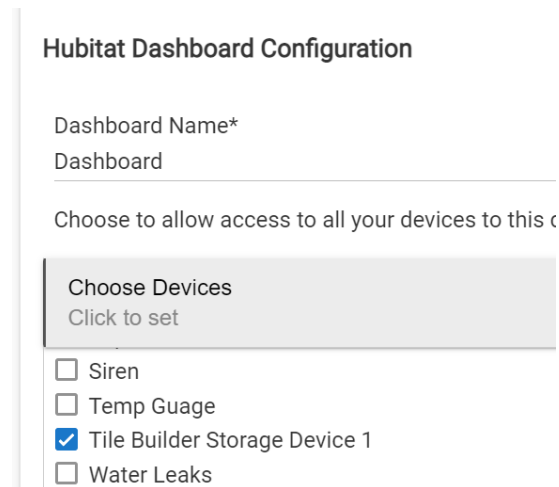
You should see your new tile listed under the "Activity Monitor" child app like this.



You can go back and edit this tile any time by clicking on this button.

Dashboard Integration

We are done with Tile Builder for the moment and now we must add the newly generated tile to the dashboard of our choice. Before we can do that, we must first grant the dashboard access to the Tile Builder Storage Device as shown below.



Hubitat Dashboard Configuration

Dashboard Name*
Dashboard

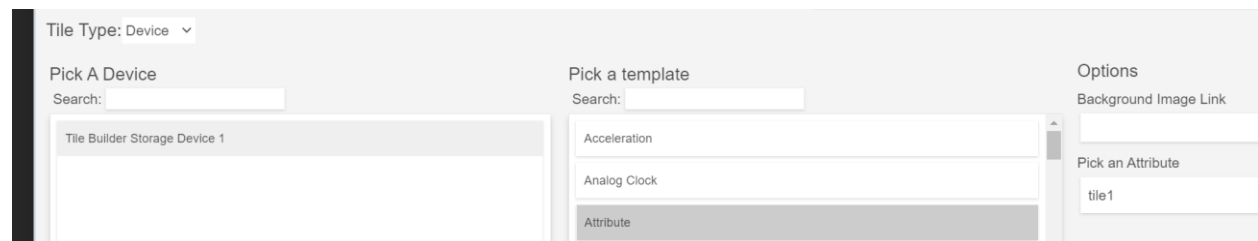
Choose to allow access to all your devices to this dashboard

Choose Devices
Click to set

- ☐ Siren
- ☐ Temp Guage
- ☒ Tile Builder Storage Device 1
- ☐ Water Leaks

Note: Dashboard does not need access to the underlying devices that provide data for the table.

Next we must add the newly generated tile to the Dashboard in the same way we would add any other device as shown below.



Tile Type: Device ▾

Pick A Device

Search:

Tile Builder Storage Device 1

Pick a template

Search:

Acceleration

Analog Clock

Attribute

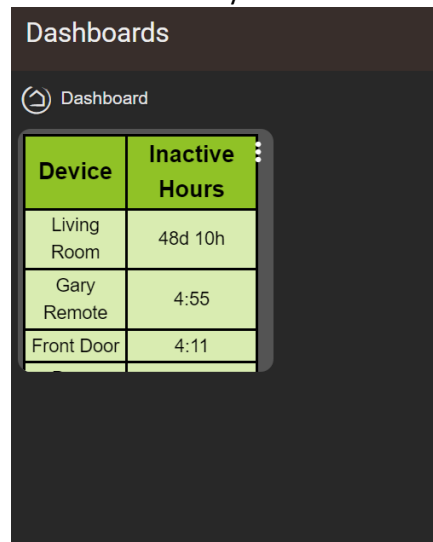
Options

Background Image Link

Pick an Attribute

tile1

The tile will initially look like this.



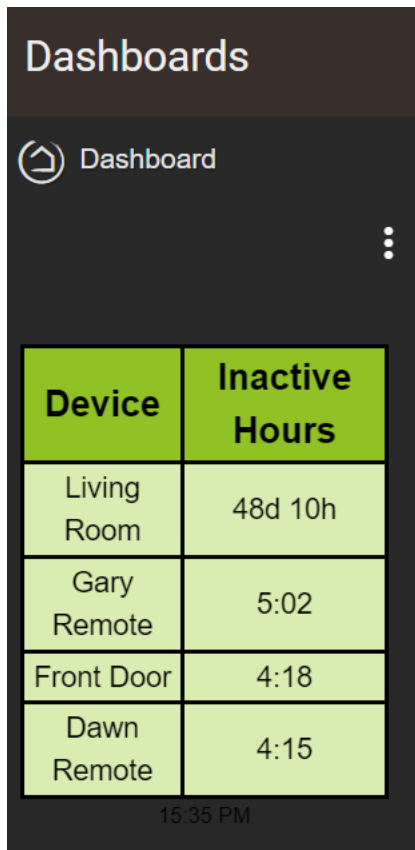
By changing the dimensions of a tile to 1 wide x 2 high it will look like this.



If you wish to you can improve the look of the tile by add these lines to your dashboard CSS.

```
#tile-1 {background-color: rgba(128,128,128,0.0) !important;}
#tile-2 {background-color: rgba(128,128,128,0.0) !important;}
#tile-1 .tile-title, #tile-2 .tile-title {visibility: hidden; display: none;}
```

These make the tile background transparent and then hide the name of the device.



Not bad, it has the basic information but it's not going to win any design awards. Here are a few things I don't like about it so far.

1. The font is rather boring.
2. It's not clear what the table represents.
3. It's hard to read the timestamp at the bottom of the time. (Last time it was generated.)
4. The table border blends into the background.
5. Green is not my favorite color.

Let's go back and fix these and make it a little more pleasing.

Editing Activity Monitor Tiles

Let's open the tile in Activity Monitor again. This time we will click on "Customize table". In the standard version it looks like this.

Select a Section to Customize

General	Title	Headers	Borders	Rows	Footer
---------	-------	---------	---------	------	--------

► Display Tips

Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room	48d 10h
Gary Remote	5:09
Front Door	4:25
Dawn Remote	4:23

15:42 PM

Current HTML size is: **697** bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is **1024** bytes.

Before we start, let's go to the "General" tab and change the "Select Tile Preview Size" to match our desired size. In this case "1 x 2". Then click on "Dashboard Color" and use the eye dropper tool to grab the color from your dashboard. This makes the preview more useful, especially when selecting colors.

The following table shows the progression of the table as the different elements are changed.

Change Dashboard Color then:

General Tab

Select font Comic Sans.

Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room	48d 10h
Gary Remote	5:16
Front Door	4:32
Dawn Remote	4:30

15:49 PM

Title Tab - Add Title

Size 110%, new color.

Battery Devices	
Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room	48d 10h
Gary Remote	5:28
Front Door	4:44
Dawn Remote	4:42

16:01 PM

Footer Tab

Size 75%, new color.

Battery Devices	
Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room	48d 11h
Gary Remote	5:32
Front Door	4:48
Dawn Remote	4:45

16:05 PM

Borders Tab – Change Border

Header Tab & Row Tab

Title Tab

Type: Ridge, Width: 4, new color.

Change background color.

Add a title shadow.

Battery Devices

Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room	48d 11h
Gary Remote	5:35
Front Door	4:51
Dawn Remote	4:48

16:07 PM

Battery Devices

Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room	48d 11h
Gary Remote	5:40
Front Door	4:56
Dawn Remote	4:54

16:13 PM

Battery Devices

Device	Inactive Hours
Living Room	48d 11h
Gary Remote	5:42
Front Door	4:58
Dawn Remote	4:56

16:15 PM

As you can see it is quite easy to make changes to the table and the number of variations are limitless. The purpose of most of the controls is obvious from the name. Where some explanation is needed it is included under a notes section that exists under each tab. The following example is from the “Border” tab.

▼ [Border Notes](#)

Border Radius applies to each individual cell, not the table as a whole. A border adds about 85 bytes.

Border padding takes precedence over Header text and Row text padding. Header and Row padding settings are ignored whenever Border padding is > 0.

Using a setting of 'Border Mode' = Seperate on the General Tab can give the appearance of a border but consumes less space as borders can be turned off.

Tile Size Limits

As previously mentioned the maximum size of data published to a dashboard via a device attribute is 1,024 bytes. This is not a lot of room to work with so it is helpful to be cognizant of the size of the tile you have created and what components are contributing to that size. Tile Builder has some capabilities built in to help optimize the tables.

- 1) Under the notes for each section the added payload from enabling a given option is displayed as shown in this example.

[Footer Properties](#)

☐ Display Footer?

▼ Footer Notes

Enabling a footer adds about 95 bytes plus the footer text. You can include %day% or %time% in the footer to automatically display a short version of the day and/or time the table was last generated.

- 2) The area below the table preview shows the current size of the table, the compressed size of the table and which options are currently enabled. For example:

Current HTML size is: **731** bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is **1024** bytes.

Enabled Features: Comment: Off, Frame: **On**, Title: Off, Title Shadow: Off, Headers: **On**, Border: **On**, Alternate Rows: Off, Footer: Off, Overrides: **On** (176 bytes)
Space Usage: Comment: 0 Head: 493 Body: 238 Interim Size: 920 Final Size: 731 (Scrubbing is: **On**)

- 3) “**Scrubbing**” removes all excess characters from the HTML making it extremely dense and is automatically turned on.
- 4) When the 1,024 byte limit is exceeded the size will be displayed in red and the “**Publish**” button will be greyed out (not shown).

Current HTML size is: **1122** bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is **1024** bytes.

Enabled Features: Comment: Off, Frame: **On**, Title: Off, Title Shadow: Off, Headers: **On**, Border: **On**, Alternate Rows: Off, Footer: Off, Overrides: **On** (176 bytes)
Space Usage: Comment: 0 Head: 493 Body: 629 Interim Size: 1311 Final Size: 1122 (Scrubbing is: **On**)

There are multiple strategies to keep the size of the tile within the limits and these tools will help you find that optimal point more quickly. It is important to note that changing the amount of data in the table is an equally important strategy to sizing tiles appropriately.

Note: If you have the Advanced version, you can load the style called “Everything Off” which uses all the HTML default values to render the minimal tile size. You can then add back\enable just the components that you deem necessary.

If you have the advanced version of Tile Builder you will also see Styles and Advanced tabs available. You can find details of these in the separate Tile Builder Advanced Features document.

Creating a Tile Using Attribute Monitor

The process for doing this is very similar to that for creating an Activity Monitor tile so I will only focus on the differences.

In Tile Builder parent app click on “Add New Attribute Monitor”

Add New Attribute Monitor

We will create a sample to monitor the contact status of doors.

1. On the “**Select Attribute to Monitor**” dropdown select “**Contact**”.
2. Click on the “Select Devices to Monitor”. This is a filtered list of all your “Contact” devices. Select all your doors.

In my example the screen now looks like this.

[Select Report Options.](#)

Device Limit threshold	Truncate Device Name	Sort Order	Decimal Places	Units	Strip Device Text
5 devices	20 characters.	Sort alphabetically by device name	1	None	?

☐ Use Abbreviations in Device Names

► [Report Notes](#)

[Design Table](#)

☐ Customize Table

► [Display Tips](#)

Device	Value
Garage Door Sensor	closed
Side Door	open
-Back Door	closed
-Bedroom Deck Door	closed
-Front Door	closed

11:42 AM

Current HTML size is: **747** bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is 1024 bytes.

Let's go through each of the report options.

1. Device Limit Threshold: You can limit the number of devices displayed to be less than the number of devices being monitored. For example, I might monitor 12 temperatures but only display the 5 highest ones by using the appropriate sort order. In this case we will set the device limit to 7 so we see all the doors at once.
2. Truncate Device Name: Allows you to shorten the device name and is useful in shrinking the amount of data space required, making devices names more consistent in length and to reduce text wrapping. In this example I chose to truncate at the first space because I don't need the word door to be on every line.

3. Sort Order: Allows you to sort the table by device name, value, or value reverse. I care more about open doors so I will have them sort first by selecting the “Reverse Sort Alphabetically by Value” option.
4. Decimal Places: Reduces the Applies only the numerical data. N
5. Units: You can choose the type of units to display alongside the value. Not relevant here.
6. Strip Device Text: Allows you to specify a character or string that will be completely eliminated from the device names display. I sometimes use ascii characters such as ! or ~ to group like devices together in the device table and device picker. In this case my wired contacts have a ~ as the first character and it looks unsightly. I can strip those characters from the final display name by entering the ~ character in this field.
7. The “Use Abbreviations in Device Names” is an option for reducing the size of the data in the result set. With this enabled the word “Room” becomes “Rm”, “Sensor” becomes “Sns” etc. We will leave this turned off here as we have truncated device names at the first word so they are pretty short already.

Our table now looks like this.

Device	Value
Side	open
Sunroom	open
Front	closed
Back	closed
Patio	closed
Garage	closed
Bedroom	closed

12-01 DM

As you can see the table is pretty tight, the footer is getting cut off and I’d like to add a title to it so I’m going to go to the General tab and change the tile preview to “1x2” as I think that will be a better fit. I also changed the Dashboard Color to match my actual dashboard to give a more accurate preview. The table below shows the progression of the tile preview as I make each of the changes listed.

General Tab

Tile preview “1x2”, Dashboard color.

Device	Value
Sunroom	open
Front	closed
Side	closed
Back	closed
Patio	closed
Garage	closed
Bedroom	closed

12:08 PM

Title Tab

Add Title, color, padding, shadow.

Door Status	
Device	Value
Sunroom	open
Front	closed
Side	closed
Back	closed
Patio	closed
Garage	closed
Bedroom	closed

12:43 PM

Headers Tab

Header text

Door Status	
Room	State
Sunroom	open
Front	closed
Side	closed
Back	closed
Patio	closed
Garage	closed
Bedroom	closed

12:44 PM

Rows Tab

Text padding, alternate row color, background opacity.

Footer Tab

Footer text %day% @ %time%, text color.

Door Status

Room	State
Sunroom	open
Front	closed
Side	closed
Back	closed
Patio	closed
Garage	closed
Bedroom	closed

12:46 PM

Door Status

Room	State
Sunroom	open
Front	closed
Side	closed
Back	closed
Patio	closed
Garage	closed
Bedroom	closed

Mon @ 12:53 PM

When I first published the result to the dashboard it looked like the entry in the before column. Notice how the footer is partially cut off. This demonstrates that while the preview is a close approximation it is not exact. It's an easy fix, I went back to the Rows tab and changed the "Text Padding" from 6 to 5 and then everything displayed as expected.

<div> <h3>Before</h3> <div> <h3>Door Status</h3> <table> <tr> <th>Room</th><th>State</th></tr> <tr> <td>Sunroom</td><td>open</td></tr> <tr> <td>Front</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Side</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Back</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Patio</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Garage</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bedroom</td><td>closed</td></tr> </table> <p>Mon @ 12:53 PM</p> </div> </div>	Room	State	Sunroom	open	Front	closed	Side	closed	Back	closed	Patio	closed	Garage	closed	Bedroom	closed	<div> <h3>After changes to row text padding.</h3> <div> <h3>Door Status</h3> <table> <tr> <th>Room</th><th>State</th></tr> <tr> <td>Sunroom</td><td>open</td></tr> <tr> <td>Front</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Side</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Back</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Patio</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Garage</td><td>closed</td></tr> <tr> <td>Bedroom</td><td>closed</td></tr> </table> <p>Mon @ 12:57 PM</p> </div> </div>	Room	State	Sunroom	open	Front	closed	Side	closed	Back	closed	Patio	closed	Garage	closed	Bedroom	closed
Room	State																																
Sunroom	open																																
Front	closed																																
Side	closed																																
Back	closed																																
Patio	closed																																
Garage	closed																																
Bedroom	closed																																
Room	State																																
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Garage	closed																																
Bedroom	closed																																

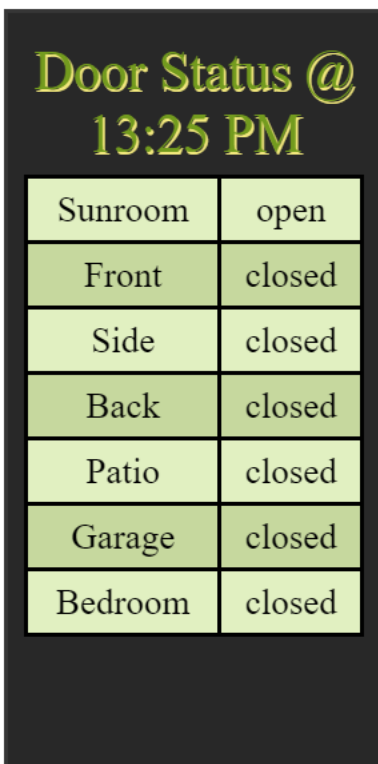
Tile Size

In this case the final tile size was 1,008 bytes after scrubbing so we are pretty close to the upper limit. We might have been able to fit in one more row of data but that would be about it.

Current HTML size is: **1008** bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is **1024** bytes.

Enabled Features: Comment: Off, Frame: Off, Title: **On**, Title Shadow: **On**, Headers: **On**, Border: **On**, Alternate Rows: **On**, Footer: **On**, Overrides: Off (0 bytes)
Space Usage: Comment: 0 Head: **546** Body: **462** Interim Size: **1266** Final Size: **1008** (Scrubbing is: **On**)

If we wished to add more lines of data, we would have to cut some of the features that were turned on. In this case I'd think about turning off the header rows as the title tells me what the rest of the table is about. I would also consider moving the footer text into the Title. If I do both of those things the tile now looks like this:



The image shows a vertical dashboard tile with a dark background. At the top, the title 'Door Status @ 13:25 PM' is displayed in a yellow, serif font. Below the title is a table with two columns. The first column lists various locations, and the second column indicates their door status. The table has a light green background with dark green text. The locations listed are Sunroom, Front, Side, Back, Patio, Garage, and Bedroom. The statuses are 'open' for Sunroom and 'closed' for all other locations.

Sunroom	open
Front	closed
Side	closed
Back	closed
Patio	closed
Garage	closed
Bedroom	closed

If we look at the HTML info we can see the tile size has shrunk from 1,008 bytes to 789. That is a big difference and would be sufficient to add another 5-10 rows of data if desired.

Current HTML size is: **789** bytes. Maximum size for dashboard tiles is **1024** bytes.

Enabled Features: Comment: Off, Frame: Off, Title: **On**, Title Shadow: **On**, Headers: Off, Border: **On**, Alternate Rows: **On**, Footer: Off, Overrides: Off (0 bytes)
Space Usage: Comment: 0 Head: **470** Body: **319** Interim Size: **1000** Final Size: **789** (Scrubbing is: **On**)

Appendix 1- Advanced Topics

Embedded HTML Tags

Anywhere you can enter text you can wrap it inside HTML tags. But rather than using <> you must use [] as normal html tags are rejected by the Hubitat interface. For example you could enter “[u]Door Status[/u]” in the title field and the title would be displayed in underline, “[b]Door Status[/b]” and it would display in bold. Multiple html tags can be used as long as they follow html conventions.

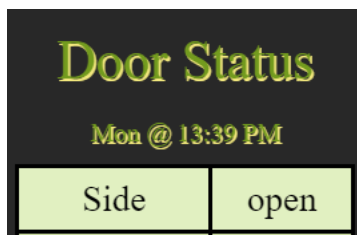
Macros

The following values are macros that will be expanded in the final html.

- %day% will be replaced by a short version of the day name
- %time% will be replaced by a 24 hr time including AM\PM
- %units% will be expanded into the Units chosen, if any.

In the above example the “Door Status” title text was replaced with “Door Status @ %time%”

Using the text “Door Status [br][font size=2]%day% @ %time%[font]” as the title would look like this.



You can use these macros in any text field combined with html tags

Publish and Subscribe Model

When you click on the “Publish and Subscribe” button Tile Builder creates an event subscription to each of the selected devices and chosen attribute. “Attribute Builder” then remains dormant until such time as one of the monitored attributes changes, in the above case a door opens or closes, at which point the table is regenerated and published.

This is a highly efficient model, and Tile Builder tiles will only regenerate when the underlying data has changed. Tile updates will appear on the dashboard at the same speed as a typical device tile.

Hubitat CPU Utilization

You can view the performance of Tile Builder apps under “Logs\App Stats”. In the below example you can see that the “Battery Status” has only been initiated 5 times since last reboot (reboots nightly) and has consumed a total of 0.004% of total CPU.

Name ↑⇅	Total, ms ↑↓	Count ↑↓	Avg, ms ↑↓	% of busy ↑↓	% of total ↑↓	State size ↑↓
Add device	0	0	0	0.0	0.000	71
Advanced Button Controller	0	0	0	0.0	0.000	21
Amazon Echo Skill	3,987	57	70	0.2	0.011	1,011
Basement Lights (Paused)	333	8	42	0.0	0.001	2,018
Battery Status	1,568	5	314	0.1	0.004	9,808
Battery Status 1,568 5 314 0.1 0.004 9,808						

In addition to the Tile Builder apps utilizing the CPU the larger consumer is the “Tile Builder Storage Driver”. You can track this in Logs\Device Stats as shown below.

In the instance shown below there are 5 published tiles and the “Tile Builder Storage Device” is about as busy as a thermostat.

Name ↑↓	Total, ms ↑↓	Avg, ms ↑↓	% of busy ↑↓	% of total ↑↓
Envisalink	1,362,152	244	93.5	3.832
Tile Builder Storage Device 1	19,696	13	1.4	0.055
House Thermostat - TCC	17,424	143	1.2	0.049
Temp Guage	15,736	11	1.1	0.044
Office Thermostat	14,270	10	1.0	0.040

Final CPU utilization in any given case will be a function of how many tiles you have published and how frequently those are updated.

Summary

As you can see, Tile Builder offers a great deal of flexibility in how to display data onto a Hubitat dashboard. What you have learned so far should keep you busy for a while. What you don't know is that there is a lot more to learn if you have the Advanced version of Tile Builder which will be covered in a separate document. Primary topics are:

Thresholds: Allow for the formatting and substitution of results based upon their values using font color, font size, icons and even animation.

Styles: Allows you to save any group of settings into a style and apply them to as many tiles as you wish. Tile Builder also has multiple built in styles that you can use or modify and create your own. Styles can be shared on Hubitat Community forums as simple cut and paste text strings.

Advanced: This is an immensely powerful capability that

A few examples of these customizations are shown in the tables below. See the Advanced guide for full details and more examples.

Highlighting Example – Value Highlighting

Furnace Leak	73.9 °F
Bathroom Sns	73.0 °F
Bedroom Sns	72.2 °F
Kitchen Mtn	69.6 °F
House Thermo	68.0 °F
Office Mtn	67.5 °F
Office Thermo	66.6 °F
Living Rm	63.3 °F
Basement Sns	62.9 °F
Patio Mtn	55.8 °F
Garage Dr	46.4 °F
Outdoor Temp	46.0 °F
Mailbox Sns	40.8 °F

Highlighting Example – Emoji's

Lights	
Porch	💡
Office Lights	💡
L.R. Rock	off
L.R. Decorative	off
Basement Light	off
Kitchen Cabinet	off
L.R. Tiffany	off
Garage Lights	off
Patio Lights	off

Style Example - Halloween

Humidity	
Attic Vent	25%
Bathroom Sensor	27.8%
House Thermostat	28%
Living Room	25.3%
Outdoor Humidity	30.0%
Temp Guage	27%
Weather	39%

Style Example – Black and White

Humidity	
Attic Vent	24%
Bathroom Sensor	27.8%
House Thermostat	28%
Living Room	25.3%
Outdoor Humidity	30.0%
Temp Guage	27%
Weather	39%

14:40 PM

Overrides Example – Radial Gradient

Humidity	
Attic Vent	24%
Bathroom Sensor	27.8%
House Thermostat	27%
Living Room	25.3%
Outdoor Humidity	29.0%
Temp Guage	27%
Weather	39%

14:43 PM

Overrides Example – Color Gradient

Humidity	
Attic Vent	24%
Bathroom Sensor	27.8%
House Thermostat	27%
Living Room	25.3%
Outdoor Humidity	29.0%
Temp Guage	27%
Weather	39%

14:47 PM

Overrides Example – Repeating Pattern

Humidity	
Attic Vent	24%
Bathroom Sensor	27.8%
House Thermostat	27%
Living Room	25.3%
Outdoor Humidity	29.0%
Temp Guage	27%
Weather	39%

14:48 PM

Overrides Example – 3D Effect

Humidity	
Attic Vent	24%
Bathroom Sensor	27.8%
House Thermostat	27%
Living Room	25.3%
Outdoor Humidity	29.0%
Temp Guage	27%
Weather	39%

14:50 PM