# Free-Text Date Input Crib Sheet

## Free-Text Input

Display a default

05-May-2006

Support selection of the entire value

05-May-2006

Allow Free-Text entry of a date

**1**

**2**  05-Se

**3**  05-Sep-2007

Enter a date e.g. August 2005, or a shortcut e.g. +3m, or click on the calendar icon to select a date

Provide instructions on how to use the control

Allow the date elements to be individually edited

**1**  05-May-2006

**2**  05-Se-2006

Allow input of 'unknown' or similar

Unknown

Support arithmetic abbreviations for dates (but not for times)

+3d

## Follow guidance for Date Display

### Default Dates

dd-mmm-yyyy

Non-specific default

05-May-2006

Specific date as a default (for example Today's date)

### Ambiguous and Incomplete Entries

Display a message dialog box with appropriate instructional text if the data is ambiguous or incomplete

05/04/2009

Did you mean:

05-Apr-2009  or  04-May-2009  or  different date?

Display a maximum of 2 suggestions

Provide an option to re-enter the date

### Arithmetic Abbreviations

| + | For later dates | w | weeks | y | years |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| - | For earlier dates | d | days | m | months |

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