Release Notes

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# 08. Release Notes

Parent Topic: /  
Category: General Article  
Export: RWExport-To-HTML, Release Notes

## Overview

Release Notes for RWExport-To-HTML.ps1

by EightBitz

## Version 1.5

Important: I overhauled a few existing chunks of code in this release to add the new functionality detailed below. In my testing, I noticed I broke a few things here and there along the way. I fixed everything that stood out in my testing. I, however, do not have the extensive Realms that some of you have, so I may not have caught everything. Please keep this in mind as you export your realms, and please report any bugs, discrepancies or odd behaviors to me, either on the Lone Wolf forums, or via email (eightbitz73@outlook.com).

New Command Line Option:

* -Format

-Format

This option will allow you to choose your output format. Valid options are "HTML" and "Word". The default is "HTML".

If you specify "Word", several command line options will be ignored. These include:

* -Indent
* -SeparateSnippets
* -InlineStats
* -SimpleImageScale
* -SmartImageScale
* -KeepStyles
* -CSSFileName

Please see "04. Exporting to Word" in the documentation for helpful information about this option.

RWExportGUI.ps1

* Updated to accommodate the new -Format option.
* Fixed a bug where the "Load" button was not properly updating the visible command line.

ValidateInput.ps1

* Updated to accomodate the new option to export to Word.

I think there may have been some other bugs I fixed, but in my fervor to get Word exports working, I may have lost track of what those might have been.

## Version 1.0

User Input Validation: The script and the GUI will validate file names and folder names and make sure the image scale values are in range, that the sort option is valid, etc. It's not foolproof. You can break it if you try. It's mainly meant to be a more userfriendly check for honest mistakes you might make.

This is done with a new script named "ValidateInput.ps1". I made this an external script so it can be accessed by both the GUI and the main script.

You might notice that when you run the script through the GUI, even when you do not select "Bypass input validation", you'll still see a messge that says "Bypassing input validation." This is because the GUI is calling the main script with the -Force option. Since the GUI has already validated the input, it's telling the main script that it doesn't have to. This makes things less annoying.

New Command Line Option:

* -Force

-Force

This will bypass user input validation. If you find it annoying, or if you want to automate things, you can use this option to bypass questions about overwriting files, and just let things run. There is also correlating check box in the GUI labeled "Bypass input validation."

## 0.95b

RWExportGUI.ps1

* Load Scripts: The "Load Script" button now works, but only with scripts saved by the GUI, or with scripts formatted in the exact manner that the GUI saves them.
* If you have a script with multiple lines, only the first line of the script will be loaded.
* Save defaults: The GUI also has a "Save Defaults" button which will save your current settings to a "Defaults.ps1" file. Every time you load the GUI, it will look for that file, and if it exists, it will load the settings from that file.

Bug Fixes

* I fixed a bug that none of you would have probably ever encountered as it dealt with the way I was handling unknown snippet types, which none of you should have at this point. But if you somehow do, the bug was fixed.

Other Improvements

* Interactive topic links: Whether you save all your topics to a single .html file or save each topic as a separate file, you will now see interactive topic links.
* Note that you must include either the -Details option on the command line or the "Include topic details" option in the GUI. Unfortunately, the Compact Export option in Realm Works does not include enough information to make it practical to restore the links to the main body of the text, so they instead appear in the section with the other topic details.

Possible Issues

* Daplunk has reported an issue where the GUI seems to hang. I have not been able to reproduce that. He kindly offered to do further testing. Until I have more details I can neither confirm nor deny whether or not this is an issue or why.
* One thing I really wanted in thie version was input validation. Alas, it didn't happen. The code I came up with just wasn't working 100%. It seemed like every time I would fix one thing, something else would break. That's what held me back from making this a 1.0. Otherwise, I think the script is mature enough to graduate it to 1.0, but this one thing is nagging at me.

## 0.9.1b

RWExportGUI.ps1

* There is a new checkbox for a new command line option.
* Previously, after the "Run Script" button was clicked, the GUI window was set to inactive to indicate the script was running. When the script finished, the form was reactivated.
* Apparently, deactivating the whole form was causing some issues for at least one person, so now it's only the "Run Script" button that is deactivated and reactivated.
* Modified the "CSS File" button so it truncates the path name and just leaves the file name. You can still manually edit it to be whatever you wish.

New Command Line Option:

* -ExtractFiles

Changes to existing command line options:

* -Log

-ExtractFiles

This will extract embedded files, and save them each in their original format. Note that if you use this option, then you must specify a folder name for -Destination instead of a filename. Additionally, that folder must have a subfolder named realm\_files.

-Log

This option now works. Add it to your command line, followed by a file name. The result will be a log file that contains version info, start time, the list of topics and sections that were processed, the completion time, and the total run time.

Most errors that occur while processing topics, sections and snippets will also be written to the log.

CSS Changes:

The CSS file has been modified to use div tags and to use variables. For more information, see "06. Formatting Your Document with CSS"

Other Improvements

* All embedded and extracted files for a known snippet type (including "Foreign Object") now have clickable links to open the embedded or extracted files.
* The above is a result of improved handling of MIME types when dealing with embedded files.
* Apparently, thumbnails for smart images were broken. I'm not sure if that happened in the previous version or if that happened as a result of changes I was making to this version, but if you've experienced that issue, it should now be fixed.
* As Parody informed me on the forums, I was missing a "<!DOCTYPE html>" at the beginning of my HTML output. That is now fixed.
* I removed a few chunks of obsolete code (much of which was made obsolete by the use of div tags in the CSS file).
* Error trapping for most errors that occur while processing topics, sections and snippets.
* Unknown snippet types, instead of being ignored, will now be listed as "[Unknown Snippet Type]". A warning will appear in the log as well.

## Version 0.9a

RWExportGUI.ps1

* Applied a fix to enclose all file paths in quotes to avoid errors regarding spaces in folder names or file names.

Changes to existing command line options:

* -SimpleImgScale
* -SmartImgScale

When I first implemented these options, they were working fine...sort of. But somewhere between then and now, they stopped working at all.

Now I have them working again, but the way I had them working wasn't really doing what I intended. It was scaling the size of the photo, but it was still leaving white space all around it equivalent to the full size of the photo.

That seems rather pointless, so I changed how this works. It now scales the width relative to the size of the area available. In other words, -SimpleImageScale 50 will tell the image to take up 50% (or less, if the image is smaller) of the width of the page.

New command line option:

* -SplitTopics
* Updated RWExportGUI.ps1 to accommodate this new option.

-SplitTopics

This will save each topic as a separate HTML file. Note that if you use this option, then you must specify a folder name for -Destination instead of a filename.

Important:

* The folder name should already exist and should be empty (except for the relevant CSS file).
* If you keep exporting to the same folder without clearing it out first, the files will accumulate.
* Nothing will be overwritten.
* If you forget to copy the CSS file into the folder, there will be no formatting in place when you view them.

The file name for each topic will be in the format of: Prefix-topicname(suffix).html

The prefix and suffix are included automatically to help prevent duplicate file names if the topic names are otherwise identical. If there is still an issue, then a number will be appended to each subsequent file name. For instance, if you have the following topics in your realm:

* Mr. - John Smith (Esquire)
* Dr. - John Smith (Alien)
* Dr. - John Smith (Alien)
* John Smith
* John Smith
* Dr. John Smith (Human)

Your filenames will be:

* Mr.-John Smith(Esquire).html
* Dr.-John Smith(Alien).html
* Dr.-John Smith(Alien)-1.html
* John Smith.html
* John Smith-1.html
* Dr.-John Smith(Human).html

Characters that are invalid for filenames will be replaced with an underscore. So if you have a topic with a prefix of "Level 1:" and a name of "Map Room", the file name will be Level1\_-Map Room.html.

I don't expect this option to be commonly used, but it was mentioned on the forums that one could transfer a realm to Obsidian Portal by exporting one topic at a time, and using this script to convert each topic to HTML. That sounds horrendously tedious, so for anyone wha wants to do this, I hope I've made things easier for you.

Other CSS changes:

* I changed the structure of the default CSS file to accomodate a new section for Realm Details (see Other Improvements).
* I've renamed the default CSS file to RWExport\_09a.css to avoid compatibility issues with existing HTML files created with older versions of this script.
* Any new HTML files created with this script will look for the new CSS file.

Other Improvements:

* Added Aliases to the Topic Details section.
* Added all the information you fill out when you export your realm (Summary, Description, Requirements, Credits, Legal Text, Additional Notes and even the Cover Art).

## Version 0.8a (2017-01-24, 05:00 AM CST)

RWExportGUI.ps1:

* I've put together another script that serves as a GUI front end for the main script.
* The code for the GUI script was mostly borrowed and adapted. The original source had the following header:
* # Code Generated By: SAPIEN Technologies PrimalForms (Community Edition) v1.0.8.0
* # Generated On: 7/3/2011 11:35 AM
* # Generated By: sean.kearney

Licensing:

* RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 is now licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution license
* (I'm removing the non-commercial restriction.)
* Summary: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/
* Legal Code: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode

Basically, that means:

* -You are free to share and adapt the script.
* -When sharing the script, you must give appropriate credit and indicate if changes were made.

New command line options:

* -KeepStyles
* -CSSFileName

-KeepStyles

* By default, text formatting is partially stripped. This is done to allow more uniform controll of text formatting through the CSS file.
* If you wish to preserve your original formatting, include -KeepStyles on your command line.
* Right now, the affected formatting elements are: font, font size, font color and background color.
* Other formatting (bold, italic, underline, etc) will be preserved.

-CSSFileName

* If you want to define a different CSS filename for each export, you can do that now.
* Include -CSSFileName on your command line, followed by the name of the file.
* Note that this option does NOT create the file. It merely specifies in the header of the HTML output. You will have to copy the main.css file, and rename the copy accordingly.

Stat Blocks:

* HTML stat blocks are now also controlled by CSS. I was able to figure how to strip the previously defined formatting without breaking all the other formatting.

Other CSS Changes:

* Tables are newly stripped of the previously defined formatting as well.
* A new section for tables has been added to the main.css file to accomodate.

Other Improvements:

* Addressed a cosmetic issue where "Label:" and "Annotation:" were displaying when there was no accompanying text.
* Now, if a label is empty, you won't see "Label:" on an otherwise empty line, and if an annotation is empty, you won't see "Annotation:" on an otherwise empty line.

Issues:

* I looked into an issue where Wingdings characters were not displaying properly, only to find out that supporting Wingdings is not part of the HTML Standard.
* There are unicode equivalents, but building that translation table, and parsing the XML code for where to place substititons is more work than I want to do right now, and I don't think it's going to be a common enough issue to make it worthwhile.
* The logging option is still not really functional.

Bug Fixes:

* It looks like the "Stream was not readable" error is indeed fixed. Since applying the fix in the last version, I have not seen it reappear.

## Version 0.7a (2017-01-21, 06:40 AM CST)

Licensing:

* This script is now licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution + Non-Commercial license.
* Summary: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/
* Legal Code: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/legalcode

Basically, that means:

* You are free to share and adapt the script.
* When sharing the script, you must give appropriate credit and indicate if changes were made.
* You may not use the material for commercial purposes.

New command line options:

* -Details
* -SeparateSnippets

-Details

* Topic details (Category, Parent, Linkage, Tags, etc ...) are no longer included by default. The topic details are nice for reference, but the document looks more presentable without them. If you're planning to share or publish, you may not want them in there at all. However, if you do, you can use the -Details option to put them back in.

-SeparateSnippets

* Some snippets are longer, and some are shorter. Some are grouped and some are not. If you want a visual separator to show where one snippet ends and another begins, you can use the -SeparateSnippets option.

Stat Blocks:

* Inline statblocks are a lot cleaner now. They display the way they're supposed to display.
* For non-HTML stat blocks, you can change their formatting in the main.css file.
* HTML stat blocks are an exception, because they have inline CSS formatting. At this point I am concerned about the unintended consequences of programmatically stripping that out, regardless of how good my intentions may be.
* If I find a good way to include affet HTML stat blocks, I will make that change. That being said, HTML stat blocks display fine. They're just unaffected by changes in the CSS file.
* The original font size for stat blocks was 9 points. I had to squint to read that, so in the main.css file, I changed it to 12. If you click the link for the stat block, you'll see it in its original form, and you'll see the difference. If you like it at 9 points, you can easily make that change in the main.css file.

Other CSS Changes:

* I discovered that lists were not effected by the definition for regular snippets, so I added two new CSS definitions. One for bulleted lists and one for numbered lists

Other Improvements:

* I added input validation and error checking to make sure that the script does not attempt to run with invalid options. If an input file cannot be read, or an output file cannot be written, or a sort value is out of range, the script will report the error and exit.
* This is prelude for better error trapping overall and for proper logging of errors to aid in future troubleshooting and debugging. The error trapping and logging were what I was originally planning to include in this release, but one thing after another took hold, and I figured people would appreciate the new changes and functionality.

Bug fixes:

* Fixed an issue where snippets that contain both GM directions and regular text were not being properly handled.
* Fixed some superficial, but nagging bugs. If you previously got a stream of errors reporting that certain functions or methods could not be called on a null value, those should be fixed in this version.
* For display purposes, I was appending a colon (:) to snippets that had labels that did not already end with a colon. I fixed an issue were the colon was showing up even if there was no text in the label.
* I have hopefully fixed an intermittent "Stream was not readable" error. It looks like the fix worked, but since it was intermittent, I can't say for sure. All I can say is that I have not had the error since applying a suggested fix.

Get-Help:

* I have updated the Get-Help info as well, so you can see all the available command line options, what they do, and some examples of how to use them.
* To use Get-Help, open a PowerShell window, and CD to the folder where you've saved the script. Then type any one of the following commands:
* Get-Help .\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1
* Get-Help .\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -examples
* Get-Help .\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -detailed
* Get-Help .\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -full
* Furthermore, you can send the results of any one of those commands to a text file.
* Get-Help C:\<full path>\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -full > Full-Help-for-RWExport.txt
* That will create the indicated text file that will contain the results of the Get-Help command, and you can just keep that handy somewhere.

## Version 0.6a (2017-01-19, 04:40 AM CST)

SHOW ALL THE SNIPPETS:

* Added at least a listing of all snippet types. If the snippet is there, you will at least see its name and type.

IMAGES:

* Added support for displaying images. Thumbnails display by default, but you can display a larger view with two new command line options.
* -SimpleImageScale 20
* -SmartImageScale 75
* These work by percentages. So with the above examples, simple pictures will display at 20% of their full size, and smart images at 75%.
* In both cases, the image name will be followed by a clickable link to display the image in full size.

STAT BLOCKS:

* Stat blocks can now be viewed. By default, there is a clickable link after the name. If you would prefer, there is an option to display stat blocks inline.

-InlineStats

* It's not always going to look pretty, but it's there. The clickable links will usually display cleaner versions.

HELP! WHAT DO I DO! HELP!

* I polished the Get-Help info. Any time you want to know what options are available and how they work, you can use the following commands:
* Get-Help C:\<full path>\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1
* Get-Help C:\<full path>\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -examples
* Get-Help C:\<full path>\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -detailed
* Get-Help C:\<full path>\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -full
* Furthermore, you can send the results of any one of those commands to a text file.
* Get-Help C:\<full path>\RWExport-To-HTML.ps1 -full > Full-Help-for-RWExport.txt
* That will create the indicated text file that will contain the results of the Get-Help command, and you can just keep that handy somewhere.

## Version 0.5a (RWExport-to-HTML.ps1)

These are the release notes for the HTML version.

* Most everything is the same, which is why I'm including the previous release notes for the text version.

The differences here are:

* The obvious: HTML formatting.
* With the HTML formatting comes and added CSS file, main.css.
* main.css should always be in the same folder as the HTML output, otherwise the output will not be properly formatted.
* There is also now an -Indent option which, if invoked, will indent nested topics and sections.
* If you lose your main.css file, see the sample below:

/\* Beginning of main.css file \*/

/\*

This file must accompany the resulting HTML file

as it defines the formatting of the HTML file.

If you know CSS, feel free to modify these definitions

To your liking.

\*/

/\* Title \*/

H1 {

font-weight:bold;

color:#000000;

letter-spacing:1pt;

word-spacing:2pt;

font-size:30px;

text-align:center;

font-family:helvetica, sans-serif;line-height:1;

margin:0px;

padding:10px;

}

/\* Topic Name \*/

H2 {

font-weight:bold;

color:#000000;

background-color:#CCCCCC;

letter-spacing:1pt;

word-spacing:2pt;

font-size:25px;

text-align:left;

font-family:helvetica, sans-serif;line-height:1;

margin:0px;

padding:10px;

}

/\* Topic Details (Category, Parent, Linkage ...)\*/

H3 {

font-weight:normal;

font-family:helvetica, sans-serif;line-height:1;

font-size: 16px;

font-style: italic;

color: black;

background-color:#CCCCCC;

padding:10px;

}

/\* Section Header \*/

H4 {

font-weight:normal;

text-decoration:underline;

font-family:helvetica, sans-serif;line-height:1;

font-size: 20px;

background: #ffffff;

color: black;

}

/\* Snippet \*/

P {

font-family:helvetica, sans-serif;line-height:1;

font-size: 16px;

background: #ffffff;

color: black;

}

/\* End of main.css file \*/

## Version 0.5a (RWExport-to-Text)

* Added a -Prefix switch to optionally include a topic's prefix.
* Added a -Suffix switch to optionally include a topic's suffix.
* Added a -Sort option to sort topics by:
* 1 = Name
* 2 = Prefix, Name \*\*Default\*\*
* 3 = Category, Name
* 4 = Category, Prefix, Name
* Choosing options 2 or 4 will sort by prefix, regardless of whether or not the -Prefix switch is specified. Likewise, choosing options 1 or 3 will sort by name, regardless of whether or not the -Prefix switch is specified.
* Added parentage for topics.
* Made the topic suffix parenthetical so it's consistent with the display in RW.
* Better (I hope) parsing of snippets, and support for more types.

Supported snippet types include:

* Text (Including lists and tables, but NOT including any formatting such as bold, italic, highlights, etc.)
* GM Directions
* Labeled Text
* Tags
* Calendar Date
* Calendar Date Range
* Numeric Value
* Tags (MultiDomain)

Unsupported snippet types include:

* Picture (Simple)
* Smart Image (Map)
* Statblock
* Hero Lab Portfolio
* Foreign Object
* Any snippet types listed under "Documents and Media"

## Version 0.01a

I am not well-versed in translating XML via XLST or CSS, so I'm working with what I know, and right now, that's PowerShell. I know there are probably 50 different ways that this could have been done better, and I know that there are a few people here who know all those ways, but alas, I'm stuck with what I know.

* In regards to the above, I'm not sharing this to impress anyone. I just want a simple, easy way to print, and I thought I would share this with anyone else who might want the same and who also isn't skilled with XLST and CSS.
* I'm mainly working on this for myself, because I want a way to print. If you like what you see, and you wish to request a change or a feature, I will do what I can, but understand that this is not my full-time job. In fact, I do not currently have a full-time job, nor any job, so my full-time job right now is to find a full-time job.
* This is a work in progress.
* I have tested multiple conditions, but only with small, simple exports.
* This will only process a compact export, not a full export. I'm not even going to mess with a full export.
* Right now, this is intended to process plain-text and tag-based snippets. It will not do anything with images, simple or smart. I have not tested how it handles tables or anything other than plain-text.
* The output, right now, is plain text. I would like to add CSS and HTML formatting, but right now, I wanted to get some basic functionality done first. And I still have to study up on CSS and HTML.
* The advantage with doing this through a procedural or scripting language is that I have finer control in what information to extract and how. The disadvantage is that it could take a while to run through a 5 GB realm. I'm not there yet, so I can't say for sure, though. But I'm guessing it will.
* I'm tired and I'm going to sleep. I hope this helps somebody. :-)
* Feel free to comment here or send me a PM, but just to preempt any questions of "Why did you do it this way when you could have done it this other and much better way?", the answer is, "Because this is the way I know how to do it."