Database

The purpose of this document is to instruct a user in how to author the Notes Database.

The Notes Database organizes the weekly notes into “Series”, each containing individual “Messages”.

This models the traditional style of a particular theme that runs for a given time, with a different message each week.

The Database utilizes XML and a XAML-like syntax, so a familiarity with XML/XAML will allow a user to quickly begin creating notes.

Useful Links:

XML: <http://www.w3schools.com/xml/xml_whatis.asp>

XAML: <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms752059(v=vs.110).aspx>

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## Database Overview

The Database is an XML document utilizing XAML-like syntax that instructs the appin how to organize and display the notes available to the user, and the location of them on the internet.

Consider the following Note Database:

|  |
| --- |
| <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?> |
| <NoteDB>  <HostDomain>http://ccv.church/ccvmobile/</HostDomain> |
| <SeriesList>  <!--Start Series-->  <Series>  <Message>  <Name>ARE ALL FAITHS EQUAL?</Name>  <Speaker>Todd Clark</Speaker>  <Date>5/10/2015</Date>  <NoteUrl>xml/message\_5\_9\_2015.xml</NoteUrl>  </Message>  <Name>YOU ASKED FOR IT</Name>  <Description>  Do you have a tough question about life or faith that you just can't seem to find a good answer for?  We will take on some of your top questions.  </Description>  <DateRanges>5/9/2015 - 6/1/2015</DateRanges>  <BillboardUrl>images/you\_asked\_for\_it.png</BillboardUrl>  <ThumbnailUrl>images/you\_asked\_for\_it\_thumb.png</ThumbnailUrl>  </Series>  <!--End Series-->  <SeriesList>  </NoteDB> |
|  |
|  |
|  |

This file defines a single **Series** named “YOU ASKED FOR IT” with a single **Message** titled “ARE ALL FAITHS EQUAL?”.

The format of the file is as follows:

## NoteDB

This is the required root element.

Supported Elements:

### HostDomain

This is the “root” domain where any file using a relative path will be looked for.

This allows the notes to all use relative paths and be moved servers without needing to update every note location individually.

Consider the following example in this snippet:

|  |
| --- |
| <!--Start Series-->  <Series>  <Message>  <Name>Message 1</Name>  <Speaker>John Doe</Speaker>  <Date>4/1/2015</Date>  <NoteUrl>**www.example.com/xml/message\_1.xml**</NoteUrl>  </Message>  <Message>  <Name>Message 2</Name>  <Speaker>John Doe</Speaker>  <Date>5/1/2015</Date>  <NoteUrl>**www.example.com/xml/message\_2.xml**</NoteUrl>  </Message>  </Series>  <!--End Series--> |

This NoteDB is defining messages using absolute URL paths. The notes are stored at [www.example.com/](http://www.example.com/)

Now let’s assume the notes must be moved to another server located at [www.newlocation.com/](http://www.newlocation.com/)

Because the URLs are absolute, care must be taken to update every single <NoteURL> to point to the new domain.

This is where <**HostDomain>** comes in. Consider the same example, except using **<HostDomain>**

|  |
| --- |
| **<HostDomain>http://www.example.com/</HostDomain>**  <!--Start Series-->  <Series>  <Message>  <Name>Message 1</Name>  <Speaker>John Doe</Speaker>  <Date>4/1/2015</Date>  <NoteUrl>**xml/message\_1.xml**</NoteUrl>  </Message>  <Message>  <Name>Message 2</Name>  <Speaker>John Doe</Speaker>  <Date>5/1/2015</Date>  <NoteUrl> **xml/message\_2.xml**</NoteUrl>  </Message>  </Series>  <!--End Series--> |

Now each message location is defined *relative* to **<HostDomain>**. Should the location of the notes need to change, only **<HostDomain>** need be updated.

**<HostDomain>** can be used for any URL defined in the Note Database.

### SeriesList

This is required and simply defines the start of the **<Series>** entries.

## SeriesList

This defines the list of **<Series>**.

Supported Elements:

### Series

An individual series within the series list. There can be an unlimited amount of these.

## Series

This defines a “theme” of messages. For example, you may have a theme where each message is related to a movie. The theme might be called “At the Movies”. This would be the **series**, and each message would be in the series.

Supported Attributes:

### Private=”true” or “false”

If true, the series will only be displayed to users of the app who have “Note Refresh” enabled.

This is useful when working on a series that is not ready for the public to see.

**Note:** If you set the series to private, all messages in the series will be hidden, regardless of their individual private setting.

Supported Elements:

### Name

The name of the series.

### Description

The description of the series.

### DateRanges

A string defining the start and end date of the series.

### BillboardUrl

URL pointing to the billboard image to use for the series. This image should be 750x422.

### ThumbnailUrl

URL pointing to the thumbnail image to user for the series. This image should be 140x140.

### Message

Defines a message in the series. There can be an unlimited number of these.

## Message

Defines an individual message within a series.

Supported Attributes:

### Private=”true” or “false”

If true, the message will only be displayed to users of the app who have “Note Refresh” enabled.

This is useful when working on a message that is not ready for the public to see.

Supported Elements:

### Name

The name of the message.

### Speaker

The speaker that presented the message.

### Date

The date the message was given.

### NoteUrl

The URL where the NoteScript can be found.

### AudioUrl

Optional. If there is an audio podcast available for this message, the URL where it can be found.

### ShareUrl

Optional. The URL to embed in an email if a user chooses to share the message with someone.

### WatchUrl

Optional. If there is a video podcast available for this message, the URL where it can be found.