XLSForm Resources

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1 Introduction

This guide compiles a comprehensive XLS Form Resources available over the Web.

To help you author your forms quickly and easily, we will reference here multiple commonly-used expressions in XLS Forms that are supported by DataWinners.

2 XLS Form Documentations

XLSForm

XLSForm	This document will help you design your Questionnaire including advanced logic, using the XLSForm syntax
XLSForm Standard Document	A complete reference on XLSForm authoring, including specific input types, column headers, syntax in XLSForms, and examples
Question Types	A look at each question type in action!
Constraints Examples	A few examples of Constraint expressions
Repeat Group Illustration	An example of Repeat group
Cascading Select Example	An example showing how to use the Cascading select logic
Appearance Attributes	A look at all the appearance attributes in action
Relevant Example	An example featuring a multiple choice question with the option to specify "other"

ODK Website

Form ID Guidelines	A set of guidelines for creating your forms including naming conventions and performance considerations
How to Build the XLS Spreadsheet	A tutorial teaching how to build forms using Excel, with a sample form to follow along
XLSForms expressions	A list of useful expressions to use in the constraint column including examples and explanations

GeoODK

GeoODK - XLSForm Format Documentation	This document helps you to design your Questionnaire, demonstrating the different elements of an XLSForm and how to use them. You can refer to a sample Excel file as you read through the tutorial

W3Schools.com

Xpath Operators	A list of the operators that can be used for the formulas used in the constraint, relevant and calculate columns

Formhub University

Sample forms	Multiple sample forms you can use to create your own forms

3 XLS Form Expressions

3.1 "Constraints" Column and Options

type	name	label	hint	constraint
integer	my_int	Integer	Try entering a number < 10	. < 10
decimal	my_decimal	Decimal	Only numbers > 10.51 and < 18.39	. > 10.51 and . < 18.39
date	my_date	Date	Only future dates allowed	. >= today()
date	my_date	Date widget (no appearance attribute, has constraint and default value)	Date cannot be past today's date.	. <= today()

type	name	label	hint	constraint
select_multiple list	my_select_multiple	Select multiple widget	Constraint does not allow c and d to be selected together; default a and c selection	not(selected(., 'c') and selected(., 'd'))

type	name	label	hint	constraint
select_multiple technique	technique	Techniques?		
decimal	area	Area?	If "none" is selected, area can be >=0 but if one or more technique is selected, area must be >0	if((${technique} = 'none'), . >=0, . >0)

type	name	label	Comments	relevant
select_multiple water_sources	hh_water_source	Where do you get the water you use at home?	Multiple answers allowed. Constraint: if one of the answers is "I don't know" then no other options can be checked.	not(selected(., 'dk') and (selected(.,'house_tap') or selected(.,'bottled') or selected(.,'other')))

3.2 "Relevant" Column and Options

type	name	label	Comments	relevant
select_one yes_no	likes_pizza	Do you like pizza?		
select_multiple pizza_toppings	favorite_topping	What are your favorite pizza toppings?	Display if the answer to ${likes_pizza} is yes	${likes_pizza} = 'yes'
text	pizza_toppings_other	Specify other	Display only if "other" is selected in the previous question	selected(${favorite_topping}, 'other')
text	favorite_cheese	What is your favorite type of cheese?	Display the cheese question every time the user selects cheese as one of the answers (regardless of whether additional answers are selected)	selected(${favorite_topping}, 'cheese')
text	not_cheese	Why don't you like cheese?	Display the not_cheese question everytime the user doesn't select cheese	not(selected(${favorite_topping}, 'cheese'))

Integer	age	How old are you?		
begin group	child	Child	The two child group questions ${muac} and ${mrdt} will only appear if the child's age from the first question is <= 5	${age} <= 5

integer	muac	Child's mid-upper arm circumference		
select_one yes_no	mrdt	Rapid diagnostic test positive?		
end group				

select_multiple technique	technique	Techniques?		
decimal	area	Area?	Do not display this question if only "none" is selected	not(${technique}= 'none')

select_one mbr	member	Type of farmer trained		
select_one yes_no	imitator	Imitator?	Won't appear if the type of farmer is mbr or hmm or hmd	not((${member}= 'mbr' or ${member}= 'hmm' or ${member}= 'hmd'))

3.3 "Calculation" Column and Options

type	name	label		calculation
decimal	amount	What was the price of the meal?		
calculate	tip		Calculate automatically the amount of the tip based on the ${amount} question	${amount} * 0.18
note	display	18% tip for your meal is: ${tip}	The ${tip} will be replaced with the actual tip amount	

3.4 "Appearance" Column and Options

type	name	label	hint	appearance
date	my_date	Day	Input day, month and year	
date	my_date_month_year	Month-year	Input only month and year	month-year
date	my_date_year	Year	Input only year	Year
Text	my_long_text	Multiline text widget (Enketo only)	Can be multiple lines (type=text, appearance = multiline)	my_long_text

select_multiple list	select_horizontal _compact	Select multiple widget displaying horizontally (Enketo only)	(type = select_multiple, appearance=horizontal-compact)	horizontal-compact
select_multiple list2	select_horizontal	Select multiple widget displaying horizontally but in columns (Enketo only)	(type=select_multiple, appearance=horizontal)	horizontal
select_one yes_no	select_one_horiz ontal_compact	Select one widget displaying horizontally (Enketo only)	(type=select_one, appearance=horizontal-compact)	horizontal-compact

select_one list2	select_one_horiz ontal	Select one widget displaying horizontally but in columns (Enketo only)	(type=select_one, appearance=horizontal)	horizontal
select_one list	spinner	Spinner widget: select one	Shows a pull-down list of options (type=select_one, appearance=minimal)	minimal
select_multiple list	spinner_all	Spinner widget: select multiple	Shows a pull-down list of options (type=select_multiple, appearance=minimal)	minimal

begin_group	table_list_test	This group of questions will appear on a single screen (only needed with mobile clients)	Shows all questions on one screen (type=begin_group, appearance=field-list)	field-list
select_one yes_no	table_list_test_label	Labels only	Shows only the answer choice labels and not the inputs (type=select_one, appearance=label)	label
select_one yes_no	table_list_1	Question 1 - inputs only	Shows only the inputs of these options and not the labels (type=select_one, appearance=list-nolabel)	list-nolabel
select_one yes_no	table_list_2	Question 2 - inputs only	Shows only the inputs of these options and not the labels (type=select_one, appearance=list-nolabel)	list-nolabel
end_group				

begin_group	table_list_test2	A much easier way to do the same as above.	But it may slow down your form a bit (type=begin_group, appearance=table-list)	table-list
select_one yes_no	table_list_3	Question 1 - inputs only	No need to put appearance attribute here.	
select_one yes_no	table_list_4	Question 2 - inputs only	No need to put appearance attribute here.	
end_group				