

FileMaker and FMTouch 1.3

Getting Started Guide

“FMTouch simply gives you the power to have your FileMaker database with you no matter where you are. You do not have to be connected to the Internet, its simple, you can have multiple related databases on your iPhone or iPod Touch anywhere.”

This document serves a guide in getting started with FMTouch. It is not a user’s manual. You can download that from the FMTouch website (link below).

You will need the following:

1. FileMaker Pro or Advanced 8-9
2. An iPhone or iPod Touch (2.0 firmware)
3. FMTouch: <http://www.fmtouch.com>
4. A Database Developer Report of your file you would like to use. If you don’t have FileMaker Advanced, you can use this: <http://www.fmtouch.com/DDR>
5. The synch plug-in: <http://www.fmtouch.com/sync>
6. The FMTouch User Guide: <http://www.fmgateway.com/download/FMTouchUserGuide.pdf>
7. FMTouch Style Guide and starter database:
http://www.fmpug.com/members_download.php?filename=FMTouchStyleGuide_v2.zip&free=true
8. A pinch of patience.

For the sake of this demonstration we assume you already have:

- a copy of FileMaker installed and know how to use it
- an “iPhone” or an iPodTouch
- a database you would like to use remotely.

Follow these simple steps to get started:

1. Design your layouts you would like to use on the iPhone according to the style guide
2. Buy FMTouch form the iTunes Store
<http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewSoftware?id=286468161&mt=8>
3. Download the synch plug-in and place it in your FileMaker’s extension folder, then restart FileMaker.
4. Make sure the plug-in is enabled.
5. Set up synching to your database on the iPhone (follow User’s Guide)
6. Transfer DDR to iPhone.
7. Name your Database.
8. Initialize DDR.
9. Choose the layouts you want to see.
10. Re-initialize.
11. Synch your database to get the data from the computer.
12. Open your database.

HINTS

LAYOUT DESIGN

You can design the layouts based on the example DB and provided style guide. Make sure you pay attention to scrolling with fingers. If you don't want editable fields to get in the way of scrolling, make sure to lock them down.

With FMTouch you can show layouts in "portrait" (vertical), "landscape" (horizontal) or "both" modes. The iPhone is not able to differentiate between layouts whether they are designed for portrait or landscape modes. So you cannot simply rotate the phone in the hope that it will switch to a different layout. So, at this point you're better off locking FMTouch to either vertical or horizontal mode, which you can do if you go to "Settings" after you click on the little "i" on the bottom right.

Every time you change the layouts you would like to show, you have to reinitialize your solution.

LABELS

FMTouch is currently unable to show more than one line in a label showing text on the layout. You can, however, create two different workarounds:

1. You can type every line of text into a new label.
2. Create a calculation field with the text you would like to show and place that on the layout.

FIELDS

You can use container fields in layouts, but they can only show a reference to an image. So you have to import reference only when you import an image, otherwise it will not show in FMTouch.

SCRIPTING

You can use the following script steps attached to a button on a layout:

- Go to Layout
- Go to Record
- New Record
- Delete Record
- Set Field
- Go to related record.

Note: You can use the "GoToLayout" script step directly from a button, but you cannot use this script step as part of a script, because "Perform Script" is not a supported script step.