

# Datatable property type for Alfresco Share

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## Why

Because I found useful to store same group of information on the same document more than once, so I would be able to track, for an example - items on incoming invoice.  
It may seem that aspect would do the trick, but aspect can be applied only once.

## How

This property control simply gets stored JSON string inside text property and displays JSON object in yui's datatable widget. On every change of datatable content, control logic updates JSON string and that is saved on document upon meta-data Save.

It's got read and read/write mode, depending on user privileges and current view mode.

**This control can be applied to any text field on document.**

## Package content

- **extension/my-model.xml**
  - example data-model
- **extension/my-model-context.xml**
  - example data-model context
- **web-extension/share-config-custom.xml**
  - example of document's meta-data configuration for Share and how to configure datatable.
- **web-extension/site-webscripts/org/alfresco/form/controls/datatable-property.ftl**
  - datatable property control

## Installation

If you want to use example model, copy my-model.xml and my-model-context.xml files to your 'extension' folder (need to restart alfresco after).

To install control, copy datatable-property.ftl to 'web-extension' folder. This could be placed wherever you like, or you may use the same path as in package example (this is the path you need to know when you setting up property control inside share-config-custom.xml. (need to refresh Share's scripts after copying files).

## Setup

This is done through XML configuration in share-config-custom.xml. To display property on document as datatable, when creating appearance on document, change default text control to “datatable” control. To define datatable columns, add configuration to “config” parameter inside control. To display text property beside datatable, and see JSON string, enable debug mode on “debug” parameter.

From the example:

```
<field id="mymodel:ListOfItems" >
  <control template="/org/alfresco/form/controls/datatable-property.ftl" >
    <control-param name="config">
      id, ID, number;
      name, Item, text;
      quantity, Quantity, number;
      price, Price, currency;
      paid, Was paid, radio, ["Yes", "No"];
      features, Features, checkbox, ["JPEG", "MPEG", "MOV"];
      color, Color, dropdown, ["Black", "White", "Blue"];
      date, Date, date;
    </control-param>
    <control-param name="debug">false</control-param>
  </control>
</field>
```

Example above explains column syntax as well.

column\_id, column\_label, column\_type, array\_of\_values;

Each column is separated with ';'. List inside XML can be in 1 line only or each column in it's own line. Javascript logic should be able to parse both ways.

Column types are what YUI offers by default:

- text
- number
- currency (will format number with currency simbol in front)
- radio (radio buttons with list of option values)
- checkbox (checkbox with list of option values)
- dropdown (with list of dropdown values)
- date

## Screenshots

### Displaying in read-only when in “view” mode

The screenshot shows a document view interface. On the left, under the 'Metadata' tab, the following information is displayed:

- Name: Meeting notes.doc
- Title: Meeting notes
- Description: Notes from very important meeting.
- Created Date: 15.02.2011. 18:01
- Items:

ID	Item	Quantity	Price	Was paid
23	Canon	321	\$1,000.00	Yes
55	Nikon	1	\$500.00	No
56	Oly	2	\$456.00	No

Below the table, there is a 'Tags' section with the text '(None)'. On the right side, under the 'Document Actions' tab, the following actions are listed:

- Download
- View In Browser
- Edit Metadata
- Upload New Version
- Copy to...
- Move to...
- Delete Document
- Assign Workflow
- Manage Permissions
- Manage Aspects
- Change Type

- click on datagrid will popup that datatable in a dialog (useful when datatable doesn't fit view mode width)

The screenshot shows a document view interface with a dialog box open. The dialog box is titled 'Items' and contains a table with the following data:

ID	Item	Quantity	Price	Was paid	Features	Color	Date
23	Canon	321	\$1,000.00	Yes	JPEG,MPEG	White	02/02/2011
55	Nikon	1	\$500.00	No	MOV	Black	01/03/2011
56	Oly	2	\$456.00	No	MPEG	Blue	12/03/2010

The dialog box has a 'Close' button at the bottom. In the background, the 'Metadata' tab is visible, showing the same information as the first screenshot. The 'Tags' section also shows '(None)'.

Edit mode

Edit Metadata

Name: \*

Meeting notes.doc

Title:

Meeting notes

Description:

Notes from very important meeting.

Created Date: \*

15.2.2011

18:01

DD.MM.YYYY    HH:MM (24 Hour)

Items:

ID	Item	Quantity	Price	Was paid	Features	Color	Date	
23	Canon	321	\$1,000.00	Yes	JPEG,MPEG	White	02/02/2011	+
55	Nikon	1	\$500.00	No	MOV	Black	01/03/2011	-
56	Oly	2	\$456.00	No	MPEG	Blue	12/03/2010	-

Add new row

Save

Cancel

How some edit controls work inside datatable

aid

Features

Color

Date

+

JPEG,MPEG

White

02/02/2011

-

MOV

Black

01/03/2011

-

JPEG

MPEG

MOV

03/2010

-

Save

Cancel

ures

Color

Date

+

G,MPEG

White

02/02/2011

-

/

Black

01/03/2011

-

EG

Black

Save

Cancel

## Issues

There's some problems with YUI's datatable library version on Share (/share/yui/\*) which is of version 2.7. This wasn't working on Alfresco 3.3g community, not sure if they updated YUI libraries later on.

```
<script type="text/javascript" src="{url.context}/yui/datatable/datatable-min.js"></script>
```

Solution is to include version 2.8.2r1:

```
<script type="text/javascript"
src="http://yui.yahooapis.com/2.8.2r1/build/datatable/datatable-min.js"></script>
```

If you don't like this to download each time, replace datatable script from Share with this one.