

AppleScript: Bulk Reminder Creator for Apple Reminders

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Overview

This AppleScript provides a fast, clean, and user-friendly way to add multiple reminders to a specific list in the Apple Reminders app, directly from a single input prompt. It supports per-task due dates using natural language, making it a powerful tool for daily planning, bulk task entry, or structured personal workflows.

Purpose

The script is designed to:

- Allow users to enter multiple reminders at once
- Optionally assign a different due date to each reminder
- Automatically create and target a specific Reminders list (Autoremind)
- Trim and validate input
- Handle errors gracefully
- Provide feedback on how many tasks were successfully added

Functionality

Core Features

- Prompt-based input: Users enter one task per line, optionally appending a due date using @.
- Smart parsing: Each line is split into a task and a due date (if provided), then processed individually.
- List assurance: If the target list (Autoremind) doesn't exist, the script creates it automatically.
- Reminder creation: Each valid task is added to the list with its associated due date (or none).
- Whitespace trimming: Prevents empty or messy entries from being added.
- Error handling: Tasks that fail to be added are caught and shown clearly.
- Success summary: After processing, the script shows a confirmation with the number of reminders added.

Input Format

Each task must be on a separate line. To add a due date, use the @ symbol:

Buy groceries @ tomorrow

Call dentist @ Friday

Submit tax return @ 2024-04-15

The script will:

- Extract the task name (before @)
- Parse the due date (after @) using macOS's built-in date parser
- Add each to the list with its corresponding metadata

Assumptions

- User is running macOS with Apple Reminders installed and working
- Script is executed from Script Editor, Automator, or a third-party launcher (FastScripts, Alfred, etc.)
- The default target list is Autoreminders, though this can be easily modified

Example Use Case

You run the script and paste:

Pick up dry cleaning @ tomorrow

Write blog post @ 2024-04-10

Call Hyeseong @ next Friday

The script will:

1. Create Autoreminders if it doesn't exist
2. Add 3 reminders, each with its associated due date
3. Display:

"Successfully added 3 reminders to 'Autoreminders'"

Error Handling

- If a due date can't be parsed (e.g. @ sometime soon), the script will skip that reminder and display a

message indicating the error.

- If the list cannot be created or accessed, the script halts with an error dialog.
- If the user cancels the input dialog or provides an empty list, the script exits cleanly.

Customisation Tips

- Change List Name: Modify the `listName` variable to target another list
- Default Due Date: Add a fallback due date: property if `@` is missing
- Priority or Notes: Add priority or body to the make new reminder block
- Logging: Log all added tasks to a `.txt` file for auditing or review

Future Enhancements (Suggested)

- Date/time parsing for precise reminders (e.g. `@ 2024-04-10 09:00`)
- Support for priorities (`!high`, `!medium`, etc.)
- Markdown or checklist parsing from Notes
- Saving imported tasks for reuse or review
- Voice-driven input (via Dictation + Shortcuts)

Privacy

All task data remains local to your machine and Apple Reminders app. This script does not transmit or save any content outside of Reminders unless explicitly modified to do so.