

Quote Loader Extension Version 2 for Moneydance 2022-2024

Create On Demand and Scheduled Auto Run at defined time on Linux.


PDF V 1.3

Use at your own risk

Only Tested on Linux Mint Cinnamon, Ubuntu & Feren OS and may not work on other Linux Distributions

Create On Demand and Scheduled Auto Run on Linux. Both opens Moneydance, then runs Quote Loader (as denoted by quotes appearing in the status line at the bottom of the Moneydance window). On completion closing Moneydance. Both can be initiated as many times per day as you want. It is suggested this process is tested on a restored backup to ensure the expected results are obtained. The three distributions covered have different ways of creating the same actions, as outlined below. Other distributions may require modifications to these processes to achieve the same results. If you have several Data Sets you can setup several differently named Shell scripts and short cuts. Experienced users can adapt the scripts to meet their own needs, see Appendix A.

Note: Make sure in the **File** manager, that **Show Hidden Files** box is ticked. Mint and Feren OS under View.

Ubuntu under 

Create a Shell script (.sh) file The file example below assumes Moneydance has been installed in the standard location.

The Shell script file contain the command lines defined in the PDF Quote Loader Extension Version 2 Advanced User Into Writing Scripts section.

Namely:

`export md_passphrase=xxx`

where `xxx` is your Moneydance Data Set password.

`/opt/Moneydance/Moneydance "/home/zzz/.moneydance/Documents/yyy.moneydance" -invoke=moneydance:fmodule:securityquoteload:runstandalone`

where `zzz` = User name, where `yyy` = Moneydance Data Set name.

In this example Data Set password `xxx` = `test`, Moneydance User name `zzz` = `appliances` and

Data Set Name `yyy` = `Quote Loader Examples`

If you have not set a Moneydance Data Set password just leave `test` in the script.

Thus the two lines become:

`export md_passphrase=test`

`/opt/Moneydance/Moneydance "/home/appliances/.moneydance/Documents/Quote Loader Examples.moneydance" -invoke=moneydance:fmodule:securityquoteload:runstandalone`

You can create a Shell script file that contains these commands as follows.

Note: `pid=$(pgrep -f Moneydance)` finds the **Process ID (pid)** for Moneydance and if running **Exits** the scrip without closing Moneydance or attempting to run the script **QL_Auto_Run.sh**

Open a text editor and paste the following commands. 21 lines only. Line 20 starting `/opt` ending `:runstandalone` as one line. You will need to edit to achieve one line.

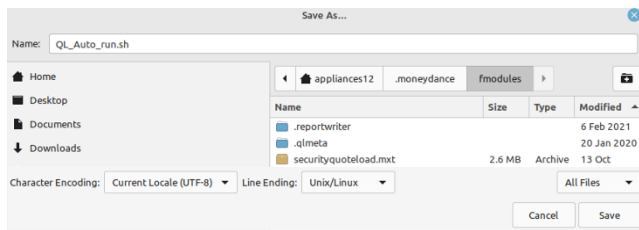
Remember to substitute the **RED** text with your own [Data Set password, User and Data Set Names in script.](#)

```
#!/bin/bash
# QL_Auto_run.sh
# Find the process ID of Moneydance
pid=$(pgrep -f opt/Moneydance)
# Check if Moneydance is running
if [ -n "$pid" ]; then
# If running, exit this script, QL_Auto_run.sh
exit 0
# if not continue
fi
# Display message
(
echo "0" # program Percentage
echo "# Quote Loader Auto Run --PLEASE WAIT--\n"~"\nOnce Moneydance opens there will be a delay of 20 seconds before Quote Loader runs"
sleep 10 # Display message for 10 seconds
) | zenity --progress --no-cancel --auto-close --pulsate --title="Auto Run" --width=650 --height=100 & #create message window
# Set the md_passphrase environment variable
export md_passphrase=test
# Run Moneydance with the specified .moneydance file and invoke the specified module
/opt/Moneydance/Moneydance "/home/appliances/.moneydance/Documents/Quote Loader Examples.moneydance" -
invoke=moneydance:fmodule:securityquoteload:runstandalone
exit 0
```

to give:




```
Open  + *QL_Auto_run.sh
~/.moneydance/fmodules
1 #!/bin/bash
2 # QL_Auto_run.sh
3 # Find the process ID of Moneydance
4 pid=$(pgrep -f opt/Moneydance)
5 # Check if Moneydance is running
6 if [ -n "$pid" ]; then
7 # If running, exit this script, QL_Auto_run.sh
8 exit 0
9 # if not continue
10 fi
11 # Display message
12 (
13 echo "0" # program Percentage
14 echo "# Quote Loader Auto Run --PLEASE WAIT--\n"~"\nOnce Moneydance opens there will be a delay of 20 seconds before Quote Loader runs"
15 sleep 10 # Display message for 10 seconds
16 ) | zenity --progress --no-cancel --auto-close --pulsate --title="Auto Run" --width=650 --height=100 & #create message window
17 # Set the md_passphrase environment variable
18 export md_passphrase=test
19 # Run Moneydance with the specified .moneydance file and invoke the specified module
20 /opt/Moneydance/Moneydance "/home/appliances/.moneydance/Documents/Quote Loader Examples.moneydance" -invoke=moneydance:fmodule:securityquoteload:runstandalone
21 exit 0
sh Tab Width: 8 Ln 22, Col 1 INS
```



Then **Save As** to create a Shell script file called **QL_Auto_run.sh** at

/home/appliances/.moneydance/fmodules

For Feren OS under  in the **Save** window ensure **Show Hidden Files** box is ticked.

Some editors omit the Users Name in the path. Once saved **Close** the text editor.

Note: You can use a different location to save the Shell script but remember to use that location where the location is referenced.

In **Files** right click on the file **QL_Auto_run.sh** just created at **/home/appliances/.moneydance/fmodules** and select **Properties**. In the **Permissions** tab tick **Allow executing file as program** box and then close Files manager.

Create On Demand, short cut icon on the desktop so you can run the Shell script file at any time.

Note: If Moneydance is running when the short cut is used, the script exists and the current Data Set remains open.

Linux Mint

1. On the Desktop right click and select **+Create a new launcher here**
2. In the **Name:** box type **QL_Auto_run_Shortcut**.
3. Click on Browse to fill in the Command box by navigating and selecting **/home/appliances12/.moneydance/fmodule/QL_Auto_run.sh** then click **OK - OK - NO**.

Double clicking on the desktop icon **QL_Auto_run_Shortcut.sh** after a short delay should run the process.

Linux Ubuntu

Open a text editor and paste the following 6 lines into the editor.

[Desktop Entry]

Name=QL_Auto_run_Shortcut

Comment=This is my QL Auto run script

Exec=/bin/bash /home/appliances12/.moneydance/fmodules/QL_Auto_run.sh

Terminal=false

Type=Application

1. Save the file as **QL_Auto_run_desktop.desktop** onto the **Desktop** and close text editor.
2. Right click on the desktop shortcut file **QL_Auto_run_Shortcut.desktop** and click on **Allow Launching**.
3. Right click on the desktop shortcut file **QL_Auto_run_Shortcut.desktop** and select **Properties** then **Permissions** tab ensure **Allow executing file as program** box is ticked and then close **Permissions**.

Double clicking on desktop icon **QL_Auto_run_Shortcut** should after a short delay run the process.

Linux Feren OS

1. On the Desktop right click and select **Create New – Link to Application**.
2. In the box type **QL_Auto_run_Shortcut** over **Link to Application**.
3. Under the **Permissions** tab ensure **is executable** box is ticked
4. Under the Application tab in the **Name:** box type **QL_Auto_run.sh** over **Link to Application**
5. Click on **Browse** to fill in the **Command:** box by navigating and selecting **/home/.moneydance/fmodule/QL_Auto_run.sh** then click **Open – OK**.

Double clicking on the desktop icon **QL_Auto_run_Shortcut.sh** after a short delay should run the process.

Create a Scheduled Auto Run

Cron is used to run **QL_Auto_run.sh** Shell script by the addition of a command line in the file **crontab**. Experienced users can enter the command **crontab -e** in Terminal to edit **crontab**. See Appendix A.

However, for less experience Linux user's an easier method of editing **crontab** is to install a graphical user interface (GUI) called **Zeit** as follows:

Open Terminal and type in the following three lines followed by return after each line.

```
sudo add-apt-repository ppa:blaze/main      If asked enter you Linux password. If asked Press Enter to continue
sudo apt update
sudo apt install zeit
```

Close Terminal

Zeit should now be available as a app.

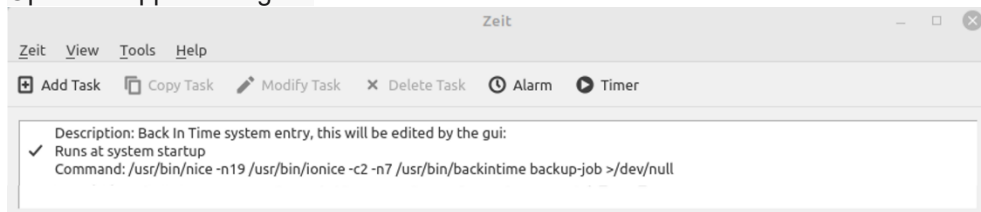
Note: Should you want to uninstall **Zeit** later you can open Terminal and type in the following two lines followed by return after each line.

```
sudo apt remove zeit                      If asked enter you Linux password. If asked Press Enter
                                           to continue or Do you want to continue enter Y
sudo add-apt-repository --remove ppa:blaze/main  If asked Press Enter to continue
```

Close Terminal

Using Zeit

Open the app **Zeit** to give:



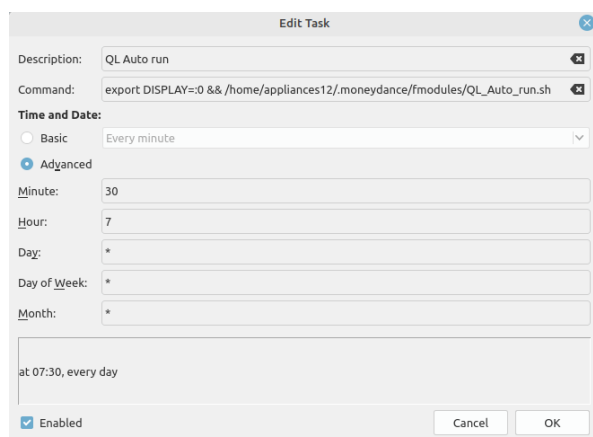
There may well be some Tasks already listed.

In this example cron is set to run at 7:30 am every day of the week, every month.

To add the new **QL_Auto_run** task click **Add Task**

1. In Description: over type **New Task** with **QL Auto run**
2. Check the value of the **DISPLAY** environment variable being used by Linux.
In Terminal type `echo $DISPLAY`
Whatever value is returned use it to replace **w** in the following line.
export DISPLAY=:w && /home/zzz/.moneydance/fmodules/QL_Auto_run.sh
3. In this example where **zzz** is the user name **appliances12** and **w** is **0** in **Command**: type
export DISPLAY=:0 && /home/appliances12/.moneydance/fmodules/QL_Auto_run.sh
4. Select **Advanced**.
5. In **Minutes**: over type * with **30**
6. In **Hours**: over type * with **7**
7. Select **Enable** and **OK** then close the **Zeit** app.

To Give:



To Edit QL Auto run in Zeit.

Click on **Zeit** app to open the app and highlight the **QL Auto Run** Task and click **Modify Task**

You can untick the **Enable** box to disable the Task Add Task without deleting it.

You can if required use **Delete Task**.

Appendix A

Experienced users can adapt the scripts to meet their own needs. For example if you have more than one Data Set you could create a Shell Script to process all required Data Sets in one script and thus have one desk top short cut and one crontab entry.

Instead of installing Ziel experienced Linux users can edited crontab directly in Terminal using the command **crontab -e** and if not already active select an editor when prompted.

But first check the value of the DISPLAY environment variable being used by Linux.

In Terminal type echo \$DISPLAY

Whatever value is returned use it to replace **w** in the following line.

```
***** export DISPLAY=:w &&/home/zzz/.moneydance/fmodules/QL_Auto_run.sh
```

In this example where **zzz** is the user name **appliances12** and **w** is **0**

```
***** export DISPLAY=:0 && /home/appliances12/.moneydance/fmodules/QL_Auto_run.sh
```

Where from left to right the * stand for:

1. Minute (0 - 59)
2. Hour (0 - 23)
3. Day of the month (1 - 31)
4. Month (1 - 12)
5. Day of the week (0 - 7) (Sunday = 0 or 7)

* Means every minute, Hour etc"

Thus 30 7 * * * is at 7:30 am every day of the week, every month.

And * * * * * would be every minute of every day.

So, try out this process and

HAVE FUN

Derek Kent

Thanks to dwg for reviewing this document and providing command lines corrections to enable cron to work.
