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IWPexport

<http://www.fmwebschool.com/iwpexport.php>

Web Compatible Data Export for Instant Web Publishing

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Introduction

What is IWP export?

IWP export is a FileMaker plug-in which allows the export of a found set from within FileMaker Pro or FileMaker Server running Instant Web Publishing. IWP export can also be used in a non IWP solution to save backup copies of specific found sets into container fields.

System Requirements

FileMaker Pro Client – version 7 or higher
Installation of the USB export Plug-In

How to Use IWP export?

IWP export is extremely simple to use, with only a single function to learn that will do everything for you – returning a container data object.

Installation

The IWP export plug-in is **installed differently** from other FileMaker plug-ins. The plug-in has to be installed both within your FileMaker Extensions folder, as well as the IWP plug-in folder which is **different from the FileMaker server plug-ins folder**. Please refer to the correct section below for your operating system paths.

Windows

FileMaker Pro

Copy IWP_Export.fmx into:

- C:\Program Files\FileMaker\FileMaker Pro\Extensions
- C:\Program Files\FileMaker\FileMaker Pro \Extensions\Web Support

Make sure to restart FileMaker Pro completely after installing the plug-in.

FileMaker Server

Copy IWP_Export.fmx into:

- C:\Program Files\FileMaker\FileMaker Server\Web Publishing\publishing-engine\wpc\Plugins

Make sure to restart your server after installing the plugin into a FileMaker Server.

Macintosh

FileMaker Pro

Copy IWP_Export.fmplugin into:

- /Library/FileMaker Pro/Extensions/
- /Library/FileMaker Pro/Extensions/Web Support

Make sure to restart FileMaker Pro completely after installing the plug-in.

FileMaker Server

Copy IWP_Export.fmplugin into:

- /Library/FileMaker Server/Web Publishing\publishing-engine\wpc\Plugins

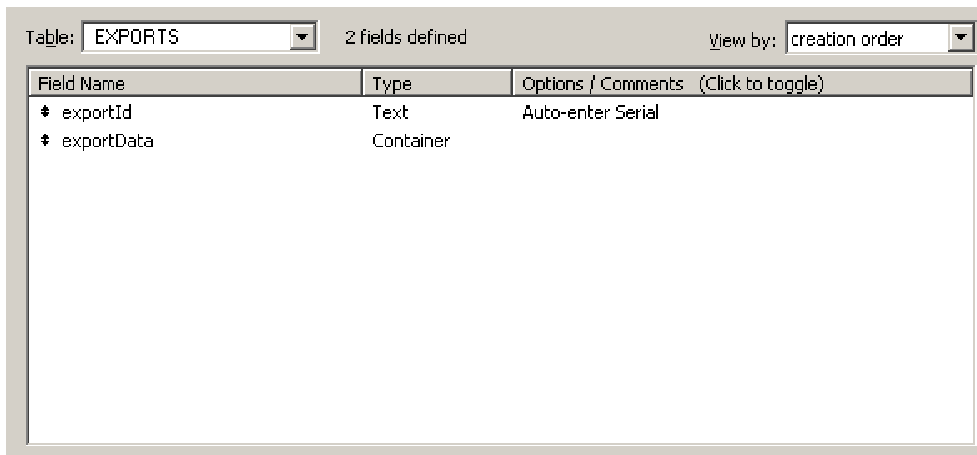
Make sure to restart your server after installing the plugin into a FileMaker Server.

Using IWP Export

Database Setup

Before using IWP Export, you will need to create a new table in your FileMaker database to store the export results after each export. Since IWP Export exports the data into container fields, your database needs a container field to hold the results. Once the results are in the container fields, it is a matter of presenting the container field to the user for downloading and viewing.

Simply create a container field in a new table that will hold exports, a sample table is shown in Figure 1-1.



The screenshot shows a FileMaker table named 'EXPORTS' with two fields defined. The table is viewed by 'creation order'. The fields are:

Field Name	Type	Options / Comments (Click to toggle)
exportId	Text	Auto-enter Serial
exportData	Container	

Figure 1-1: Suggested Table to Store Export Data

Export Script

IWP export is best called through a script that will retrieve and store the container object. This script has to perform the following steps:

1. Export the data into a variable by calling 'Set Variable' with the 'IWP_Export' function
2. Go to the exports layout
3. Create a new record in the exports table
4. Store the variable from the first step into the container field
5. Commit the record, **selecting the 'Preform without dialog' option**

This script will be specific to your database and table configuration, however Figure 1-2 contains a suggested script that should be customized for your solution.

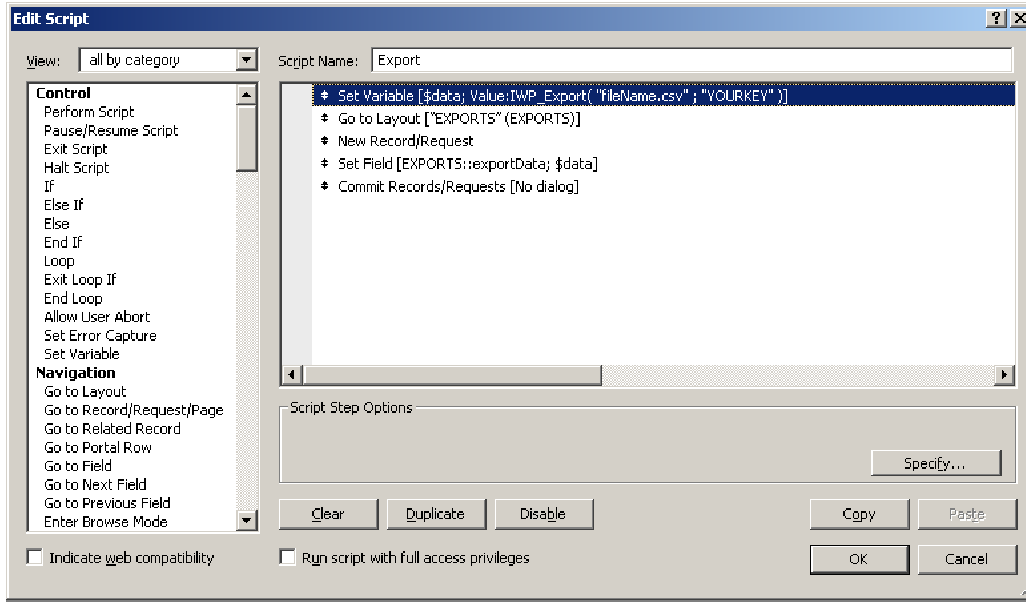


Figure 1-2: Suggested Export Script for IWP Export

Download Layout

Once the data has been exported, it should be presented to the user as a downloadable file. Within instant web publishing, the easiest way to provide a download layout is to create a layout with the container field being the only field available.

Ordering Information

To order this plug-in please visit the plug-in home page:

<http://www.fmwebschool.com/iwpexport.php>

Alternatively you may place your order by calling 1-800-353-7950.

Support

Support questions should be directed to our web help forum, located at

<http://www.fmwebschool.com/frm/>. Questions concerning your registration information or order details should be sent to orders@fmwebschool.com

Function Reference

IWP_Export function

Prototype

IWP_Export(file name ; registration key { ; no field names })

Parameters

file name	The file name stored within the resultant container field
registration key	The supplied plug-in registration key, this field is operating system sensitive
no field names	Optional third parameter, any value within it will remove the field names from the first line in the file

Result

This function returns a container field object with the exported records in Comma Separated Values (.CSV) format.

Notes

The registration key differs between Windows and Mac operating systems, please use the 'Get(SystemPlatform)' function to distinguish between the two keys in a cross platform solution.