

About the Dash Board 1.5 Example Scripts

This collection of nine scripts is included with Dash Board 1.5. You are free to examine and modify these scripts for your own use.

Installing the scripts

To install the scripts, first install the “DBScriptSamples.pkg” package onto your MessagePad. Next, go to the Extras Drawer and find the “DB Script Samples” icon. Tap this icon.

You will see an installer screen. To add the scripts to your Dash Board Scripts soup on your MessagePad, just press the “Unpack” button. They will be added to your Dash Board Scripts soup, and appear in the Scripts panel of the Dash Board Prefs program.

This installer was built with PackMan for Dash Board, from Innovative Computer Solutions. If you would like to create similar installers for your own custom Dash Board scripts, you can do so with PackMan (as of this writing, only \$10.00). For more info, see the ICS web site at: <http://www.newts.com>

Where to learn more

The Dash Board Scripting Page has detailed explanations of some of these scripts, as well as other script-related links and downloads. Check it out at:

<http://www.fivespeed.com/dashboard/scripting.html/>

Descriptions of the scripts in this package

“Freeze/Thaw Group”

This is our most complex example script. It shows how to prompt the user, and depending on the response, either freeze or thaw a group of packages on the Newton device. Advanced scripters may want to look at all the source code, but even new scripters will be able to make copies of this script and customize them simply by changing the list of package names.

“Get Pkg Names List”

This short script is designed to assist users in customizing the “Freeze/Thaw Group” script to their liking. Since a package’s unique “packageName” text is not the same as the text that shows up in the Extras Drawer, this script prints out a list of packageNames for all installed packages to the Notes program. You can the copy these names and paste them into a copy of the “Freeze/Thaw Group” script, to create a script which freezes or thaws whatever group of packages you want.

“Insert Text”

This example is very simple. It shows how to use the DashBoardInsertText scripting command to insert whatever text you like into virtually any application.

“Remind Me”

This example script shows how to use the DashBoardDoDialog scripting command to present a dialog to the user. It also shows how to set a reminder alarm, using the text that the user enters in the dialog.

Scripts for PowerNames Users

The remaining five example scripts are for users of PowerNames, from SilverWARE (<http://www.silverware.com>). By popular demand, we have added a new scripting command, DashBoardFakePNButton. This command simulates a tap on the special PowerNames button.

Usually, the PowerNames button bar icon triggers different behavior when tapped on the icon or the text, or when tapped-and-held. Dash Board does not support this kind of button bar extension, but you can access the same functions through scripts.

The effects will depend on your PowerNames preferences settings.

“PN Button Hold (on icon)”

This script simulates a tap-and-hold on the icon portion of the PowerNames button.

“PN Button Hold (on text)”

This script simulates a tap-and-hold on the text beneath the PowerNames button.

“PN Button Tap (on icon)”

This script simulates a regular pen tap on the icon portion of the PowerNames button.

“PN Button Tap (on text)”

This script simulates a regular pen tap on the text beneath the PowerNames button.

“PowerNames Open Find Slip”

This script opens the PowerNames Find slip.