

Data Table App



Introduction.

With the Data Table app data tables used in your digital signage project are easy to create and maintain. If you have data-bases on your digital project, like a train timetable that needs constantly updating, this is a really simple way of updating on-screen tables. Define how it appears and what it looks like and update content through any XML file for ease and efficiency. Once a change has been made to the XML file the data in the table is automatically updated without having to manually edit the on-screen content. The XML file can be accessed and edited by any number of personnel.

Uses.

This app allows you to display data from a source file (XML or CSV) in a table.

Visual style templates can be applied to the table and events can be triggered when cells in the table are clicked e.g. setting Acquire Variables.

The table can be integrated with other page apps to control the data it displays. You can make buttons to turn the table page, use a scrollbar to scroll through the table and use a text box to filter the items shown.

Various transitions can be applied when turning a page so you can, e.g., make the table look and act like an airport timetable.

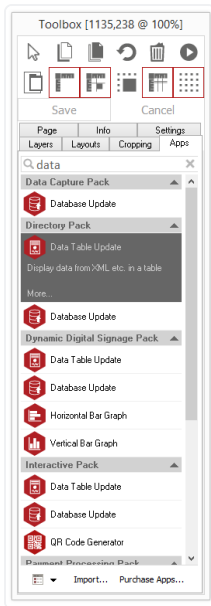
The data source file can be set to reload at intervals keep the table up-to-date.

Using Data Table page app

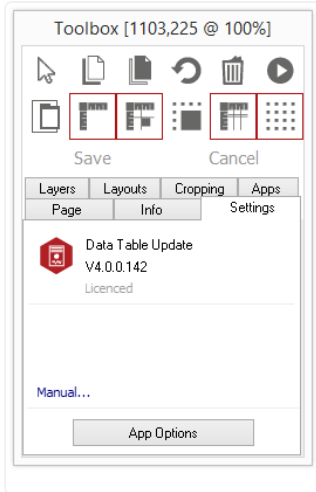
To access the app open an existing or new page and select the **'App'** tab of the page editor **'Toolbox'** (shown).

Apps are grouped within the relevant app packs and are displayed red if they have been licenced. For more information about licencing apps go to [Licencing apps](#).

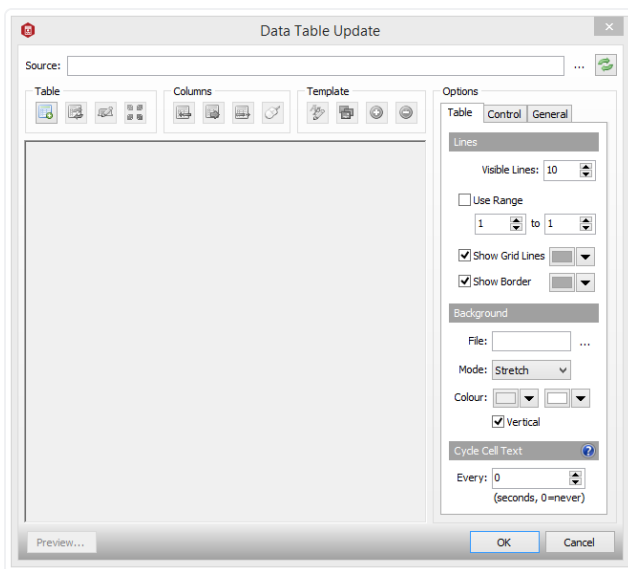
Select the app from the list or search for it using the search bar. When an app is selected it will be highlighted as shown.



Once you have selected your app draw an area on your page where you would like to use the app. The **'Settings'** tab within the Toolbox will automatically open when the app is added to the page. From here you can set your app up by clicking on the **'App Options'** button.



Source.



This is the source file and is located in the project's media folder. It can be an XML or CSV file. Use **'...'** to locate your file and press the refresh button to update if the file has been edited. Use the **Table**, **Columns** and **Template** options to edit the table. (See creating a table section below). Options controls provide additional table settings.

(See options section below).

Creating a table.

In order to define your table you must first have a source file from which to extract some data. Make sure that this is in your project's media folder.

XML.

1. Click the Source File "..."/>

CSV

1. Click the Source File "..."/>

Editing your table.

Click cells in the Table to select them and then use the Control Panel buttons to adjust your table and the selected Template.

Table

 Make new table: Starts the **"Make table wizard"**.

Note -The existing template will be replaced.


 Flip the table: Change the orientation of the table. When **"Flipped"** the headings will be down the side.


 Edit header text: If a header cell is selected you can edit its text.

 Edit column/row size: When cells are selected you can edit their width and height.


Columns

(Will be “Rows” if the table is flipped)

 Insert at selection: You can insert a new column into the table. Select the XML sub-section or CSV row item to use as the header.


See **“Creating a table”** above. You may also insert an empty column (does not extract data from the file). 


Append: As insert but adds the column to the end.


 Delete: Removes all columns that have selected cells in them.


 Edit Action: What to do when a cell in the selected column is clicked. You can set Acquire Variables with sub-section data and jump to another project page.

Template.

 Edit cell style: Edit the Template cell that is used for the selected table cell. You can change the text style and layout and put a gradient/image background behind it.

 Change: Select a new template from the list. Move the mouse over them before to see them in the table before making your selection.

 Increase: Increase: Add a row to repeat part of the template.

 Decrease: Remove a row to repeat part of the template.

See Appendix 2 for more about templates.

Options

Table

Visible Lines: How many lines to show in the table. If the table contains more than this amount they can be viewed by scrolling or turning the page.

Show Lines: Draw grid lines in the selected colour.

Show Border: Draw a line around the whole grid in the selected colour.

Background: Select a colour gradient and its direction to fill the area behind the table.

- Select an image file to show behind the table and whether to stretch or centre it.

Control

Auto Scroll: The table will continuously scroll through its items at the selected speed.

Turn Page: The table turns to the next page after the selected number of seconds and cycles to the start when all viewed.

Scroll Variable: The table will turn pages when this is set to **“PageUp”** or **“PageDown”**. You can do this on a page app’s **“On Click”** actions to make control buttons. Also if this variable is used by a ScrollBar app on the same page then the scroll bar will control the table’s position.

Note: Only use 1 scrollbar per page.

Filter: Entered an Acquire Variable. If this has a value then only rows will be shown whose data in the selected column starts with that variables value.

You can use this with the Text Edit app to create a filter.

General

Transition: Select a style and speed of transition. These occur when turning a page, reloading the source file and after applying the filter.

Reload Source File: The data source file will reload and the table refreshed at the interval entered.

Appendix 1: Source file data extraction

From XML files

Example XML file:

```
<weather>
  <day>
    <name>Monday</name>
    <low>10</low>
    <high>20</high> <description>Cold</description>
  </day>
  <day>
    <name>Tuesday</name>
    <low>12</low>
    <high>24</high> <description>Sunny</description>
  </day>
  <day>
    <name>Wednesday</name>
    <low>8</low>
    <high>14</high> <description>Wet</description>
  </day>
</weather>
```

“day” is a container section. In this example it repeats 3 times.

“name”, “low”, “high” & **“description”** are sub-sections of the container section.

In the **“Make table”** wizard you might choose **“day”** as your data location. All data will be extracted from these repeat sections.

You might then choose from **“name”, “low”, “high”** for your columns.

The table will then contain 3 rows, one for each repeating **“day”** section. Each column in that row will contain the **“name”, “low”** and **“high”** value from that section.

To simplify the display and selection of XML items they are represented as a **“Path”** in the various app selectors.

E.g. In the above example the **“name”** element is shown as [“weather.day.name”](#).

From CSV files

Example CSV file:

```
Day,high,low,description
Monday,10,20,cold
Tuesday,12,24,Sunny
Wednesday,8,14,Wet
```

The CSV directly represents the columns and rows in the table i.e. row items are the columns and file rows are table rows. In the above example the first row contains the column headers. In the **“Make table”** wizard you select which columns (**“name”, “low”, “high”, “description”**) to use.

To simplify the display and selection of CSV items they are represented as a “Path” in the various app selectors. In the above example the “name” element is shown as “[CSV.Rows.Name](#)”.

Appendix 2: About Templates

A template comprises a grid of style cells (fonts, colour etc.). The first is used when showing headers and the rest are cycled when showing rows.

E.g. the template below contains 1 column: 1 header row and 3 repeat rows.

Title Style
Style A
Style B
Style C

If the above Template is selected into the Table below the styles are uses like this:

Day	Temperature	uses Title Style
Monday	11	uses Style A
Tuesday	12	uses Style B
Wednesday	13	uses Style C
Thursday	14	uses Style A
Friday	15	uses Style B
Saturday	16	uses Style C
Sunday	17	uses Style A

When the Table is shown in the configuration you are editing then Template. Therefore the Table rows that are just repeats of the Template are greyed.