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## Formatting Word fields with switches

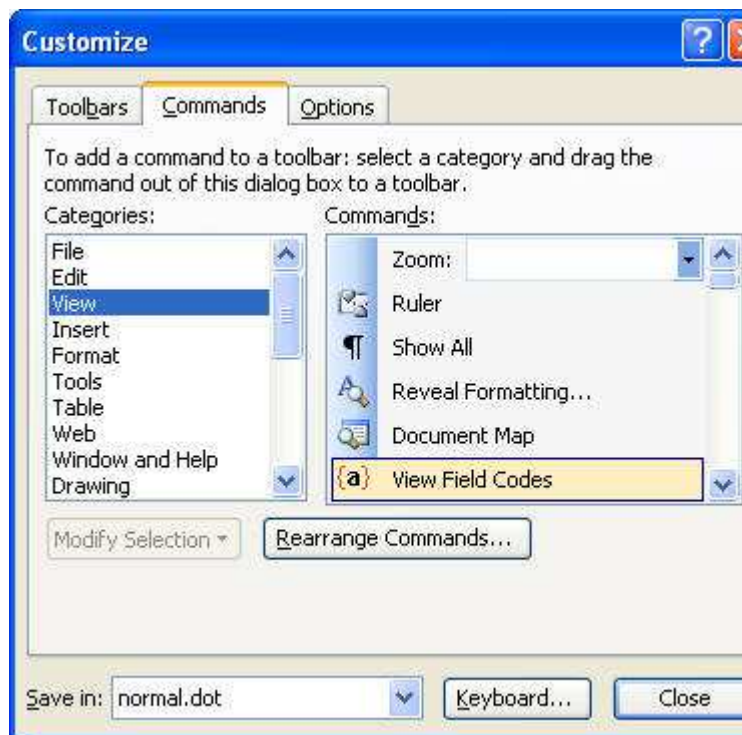
Word provides the means to format the contents of fields inserted into the document, by the masks. The full range of these switches can be found at the end of this page.

The following tips are intended to cover some of the less obvious issues.

**Where field combinations are inserted manually, the field boundaries { } are inserted not typed directly from the keyboard.**

To edit the field switches, toggle between the field display and the result with ALT+F9 or use add a View Field Codes toolbar button to toggle the display.

Select the item from the list and drag it to a toolbar:



The F9 key will update the field content to reflect the changes, or you could use macro code fields in the document.

**Microsoft changed the way office programs are connected for the purposes of mail merge in Office 2002 and this change was maintained in Office 2003/2007/2010. Word is now expecting numbers to be formatted with commas. It is still possible to revert to the old way of doing things. To this end, see the section of 'Mail Merge to Labels with Office XP'. Number fields (For negative numbers, use the separate entry.)**

Word's formatting switches can handle numbers up to 14 digits after which it rounds off the number, which can cause problems when serial numbers contain more than 14 digits and the last digits are rounded off.

Take the example of the number **3456 7123 0987 7652**, assembled as four blocks of four digits each. This may be stored as a single number **3456712309877652**.

Inserting the Mergefield

`{ MERGEFIELD Serial_No }`

will produce:

3456712309877652

Logic, and Word's help on the subject, suggests the addition of a numeric switch thus:

`{ MERGEFIELD Serial_No \# "0000 0000 0000 0000" }`

will produce the required result, but in fact what happens is that the number is rounded to 14 digits.

3456 7123 0987 7700

The answer should be to split up the field into two parts with the aid of the SET field to assign bookmarks, then to display the bookmarks with the switches.

```
{ SET A "{ MERCEFIELD Serial_No }" } { SET B "{ =INT(A / 100000000)
=A - (B * 100000000) }" } { B \# "0000 0000" } { C \# "0000 0000" }
```

The result is:

3456 7123 0987 7653

unless there is a zero as the penultimate number in the sequence, where thanks to a bug in mathematics, the last number is rounded down to zero also.

From the database - 2234567890124506

From the calculation - 2234 5678 9012 4500

It requires a little brute force to overcome this by adding the last digit back into the bookmark usually known, this means that you have to add a calculation for each of the 9 possible alternative resulting constructions is never going to look elegant. But it does work.

```
{ SET A "{ Mergefield Serial_No }" } { SET B "{ =INT(A / 100000000) "
(B * 100000000) }" } { IF { A } = "*01" "{ SET C { =C+1 } }" } { IF { A }
C { =C+2 } }" } { IF { A } = "*03" "{ SET C { =C+3 } }" } { IF { A }
=C+4 } }" } { IF { A } = "*05" "{ SET C { =C+5 } }" } { IF { A } = "*
=C+6 } }" } { IF { A } = "*07" "{ SET C { =C+7 } }" } { IF { A } = "*
=C+8 } }" } { IF { A } = "*09" "{ SET C { =C+9 } }" } { B \# "0000 0
"0000 0000" }
```

Corrected - 2234 5678 9012 4506

**Thanks to MVP Peter Jamieson for suggesting the above solution.**

## Insert field information and associated text conditionally

Sometimes when merging data you may need to include additional text only when the associated content, or you may wish to insert a particular field without leaving a space when there is none. The simplest method is to use a conditional field or fields to place the data and associated text.

In the following example using data from an Outlook contacts list, I have prepared a simple merge which includes various fields and associated text depending on whether the fields have content.

With the three records used for the illustration, one of the conditionally included fields and the first of the three illustrations, note the positions of the quote marks "" which set the limit

```
{ MERCEFIELD File_As }
{ MERCEFIELD Business_Address } { IF { MERCEFIELD Business_Phone } <>
Phone: { MERCEFIELD Business_Phone } " } { IF { MERCEFIELD Home_Phone } <>
Home Phone: { MERCEFIELD Home_Phone } " } { IF { MERCEFIELD Other_A
```

```
Other address:
{ MERCEFIELD Other_Address } }
```

\*\*\*\*\*

For the sake of clarification, for the second illustration I have switched on the display of field codes (or click the ¶ button on the toolbar).

```
{ MERCEFIELD File_As } ¶
{ MERCEFIELD Business_Address } { IF { MERCEFIELD Business_Phone } <>
Phone: { MERCEFIELD Business_Phone } " } { IF { MERCEFIELD Home_Phone } <>
Home Phone: { MERCEFIELD Home_Phone } " } { IF { MERCEFIELD Other_A
¶
Other address: ¶
{ MERCEFIELD Other_Address } } ¶
¶
*****
¶
```

In the third of the pictures is the result of the merge

KLM UK  
 Customer Relations  
 P.O. Box 104  
 Crawley  
 West Sussex  
 RH10 6YH

\*\*\*\*\*

Cyprus Airways  
 37 Gladstone Str.  
 Paphos  
 Cyprus  
 Phone: +357 (26) 233556

\*\*\*\*\*

Helios Airways Ltd  
 22 Nietzsche Street  
 Ria Court No. 9, 1st Floor  
 6028 Larnaca  
 Cyprus  
 Phone: +357 (24) 815 700

Other address:  
 Kenville House Unit 3  
 Spring Villa Business Park  
 Spring Villa Road  
 Edgware, Middlesex  
 London  
 HA8 7EB

\*\*\*\*\*

## Conditionally Insert a graphical image

Where images are included as part of a conditional (IF) field construction, the IncludePicture field is anticipated. The results of the conditional field are hard coded into the merge, which does not provide an opportunity to update, following a merge to a new document. (See also [Mail Merge Graphical Fields](#))

Thus conventional wisdom would suggest that:

```
{ IF { Mergefield Fieldname } <> "" "{ INCLUDEPICTURE D:\\My Documents\\My Pictures\\{ Mergefield Fieldname }" } "" }
```

should insert the picture identified from the mergefield 'Fieldname' and nothing when the field is empty. Unfortunately this is not the case.

The following workaround demonstrates the insertion of a blank image where the condition is not met. A 1 pixel transparent image as [Blank.jpg](#) to give the effect of nothing being inserted - or doing nothing (by clicking the link). Note that INCLUDEPICTURE is the primary field and the condition is a secondary field rather than the other way around.

```
{ INCLUDEPICTURE { IF { Mergefield "Fieldname" } <> "" "D:\\My Documents\\My Pictures\\{ Mergefield "Fieldname" }" "D:\\My Documents\\My Pictures\\Blank.jpg" }
```

You can insert the required picture into the result of the conditional field directly and that will work.

an airmail image to envelopes intended for other countries, you could use the following:

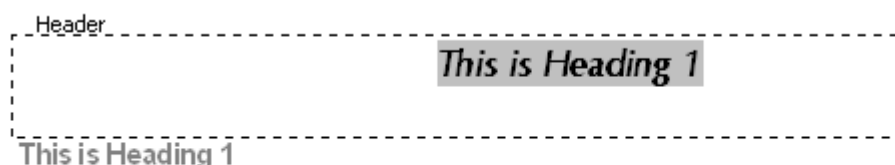
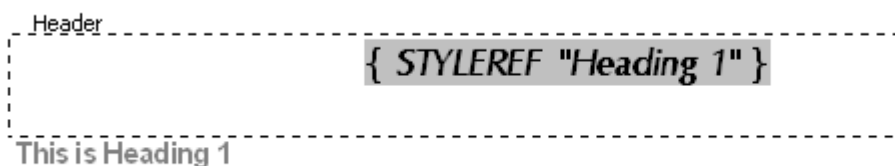
```
{ IF{ Mergefield Country \*upper} <> "CYP*" "
```



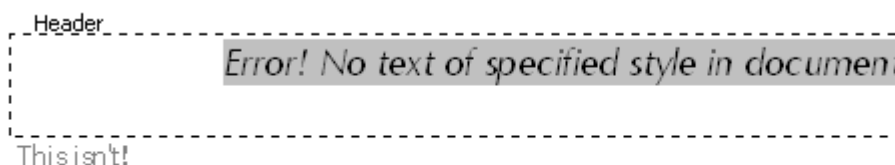
which will insert the **airmail image** when the country field is other than Cyprus (where I live

### Conditionally insert a Styleref Field in a header/footer

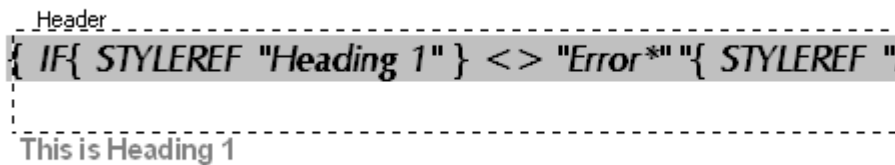
Styleref fields are used to display the content of a nominated paragraph or character style frequently found in page header or footer.



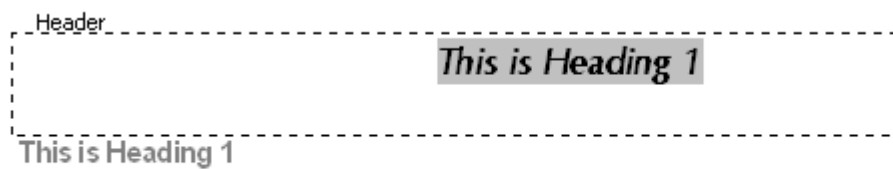
If the nominated style does not exist, then the following error message is displayed:



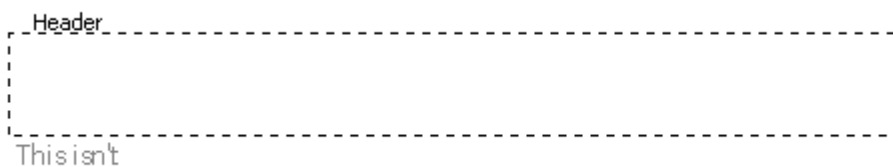
This is not very helpful when building a template that may not have this particular style. It is possible to conditionally search for the error message in the field result and only insert the Styleref field if the error message is not present. You can use a wildcard in the search pattern as shown.



This produces the required content when the style is present .....



..... but nothing when it isn't



### Insert quotation marks in a conditional merge field result

Peter Jamieson also came up with the following approach to the problem of inserting quotes result of a conditional mail merge.

In a recent newsgroup question the questioner wanted to insert Exhibit "A" when a certain

The logical code for this would appear to be

```
{ IF{ Mergefield Test } = "" "Exhibit "A":" }
```

but this chops off the text at the first quote mark:

Exhibit

You may then consider 'escaping' the quote mark with a '\' e.g.:

```
{ IF{ Mergefield Test } = "" "Exhibit \"A\":" }
```

but unfortunately Word inserts the quotes but also the slash

Exhibit \"A\":

One solution is to set the quote and the slash as a bookmark using a SET field and then in using REF fields (the REF part is optional) thus:

```
{ SET q "" } { IF{ Mergefield Test } = "" "Exhibit { q }A{ q
```

An alternative approach is to use a pair of Quote fields to place the quotes characters direc

```
{ IF{ Mergefield Test } = "A" "Exhibit { Quote 34 }A{ Quote 3
```

either of which produces the desired result:

## Exhibit "A":

**Testing for a value in one of several fields.**

Sometimes when preparing a mail merge document, you may wish to insert text based upon whether a value has been inserted in one of a number of fields.

The following example tests for whether Field1 contains "A", or Field2 contains "B", or Field3 contains "C", or all of those fields meet the condition, "True" is entered in the merge document. If not, "False" is entered. In a real merge situation True or False can be replaced by whatever you wish.

You could test for any content using this method, which uses a collection of conditional fields with a value of 1 or 0 into a calculation according to whether the value required is contained in the field. They are added together. If the result of that calculation is 1 or more, then one or more of those fields contains the value. Thus:

```
{ IF{ =( { IF{ MERGEFIELD Field1 } = "A" 1 0 } + { IF{ MERGEFIELD Field2 } = "B" 1 0 } + { IF{ MERGEFIELD Field3 } = "C" 1 0 } ) >= 1 "True" "False" }
```

The following shows the content of the three fields and the result of the merge calculation.

Field 1 = <b>A</b>	Field 2 = <b>B</b>	Field3 = <b>C</b>	Result = True
Field 1 = B	Field 2 = V	Field3 = J	Result = False
Field 1 = V	Field 2 = <b>B</b>	Field3 = T	Result = True
Field 1 = Q	Field 2 = L	Field3 = <b>C</b>	Result = True
Field 1 = K	Field 2 = H	Field3 = P	Result = False

**Convert upper case data to lower case with the first word capitalized.**

The `\*FirstCap` switch is normally used to format fields to lower case with the first word capitalized. However with some upper case data sources, the switch doesn't appear to do as intended. Here is to convert the field to lower case first, by using a `\*Lower` switch, thus:

```
{ Mergefield Fieldname \*Lower \*FirstCap }
```

The `\*Lower` switch is also useful when used in conjunction with data - e.g. user forms where content is entered in upper or lower case, but you wish to test for the entered content. Let's take the example of a user form which requires YES to be entered in the document when the content of the field is 'YES' or 'Yes'. In this case add the `\*Lower` switch to the REF field and test for y followed by a space.

```
{ IF{ REF bookmarkname \*lower } = "y*" "YES" "NO" }
```

**Format cash amounts to 2 decimal places**

Sometimes when merging data, comprising cash amounts, especially when importing from Excel, the data displays up to 14 decimal places. This is caused by the way Excel handles numeric data in spreadsheets. This can be tamed by the addition of a switch to limit the data to 2 decimal places. e.g.

```
25.00000000
```

```
$25.00
```



are produced by the following 2 fields respectively

```
{ MERCFIELD Amount }           { MERCFIELD Amount \# "$,0.0
```

In the second field, the switch \# "\$,0.00;(\$,0.00)" includes a comma, which provides for the thousands and millions e.g.

and an optional currency symbol - here a dollar sign. The numeric mask can also be expressed as \# "\$,#.00" where the '#' will suppress the 0 for amounts less than a dollar.

One variation I used to use a lot is for Cyprus Pound currency amounts (Cyprus has since changed its currency):

```
{ MERCFIELD Amount \# "CY£,0.00;(CY£,0.00)" }
```

The section after the semi colon dictates what to do with negative amounts - here they are coloured red. The semi-colon and following section are optional.

### Format cash amounts to 0 decimal places

Sometimes with decimal amounts, when the amount to the right of the decimal is zero, you want to display a whole number, without the decimal, whilst retaining the amount to the right of the decimal if it is greater than zero e.g. \$12.00, should display as \$12, but \$12.95 should retain its decimal part. This is achieved with a simple switch and therefore you need to insert a conditional field to display the amount according to what comes after the decimal. In the following example I have suppressed the decimal part (see section below).

```
{ IF { =MOD({ Mergefield Amount },1) } = 0 "{ Mergefield Amount \# "$,0.00" } }
```

### Formatting cash amounts in words

Word provides special switches - **\*cardtext** and **\*dollartext** (detailed in the table at the end of the page) are somewhat limiting if you want to express amounts in words. It is, however, possible to express amounts in words using conditional, and formula fields with the **\*cardtext** switch.

The following example takes the decimal output from a form field, using the default format field **Text1**. The fields can be easily adapted to use mergefields and any decimal currency.

```
{ SET x { Ref Text1 }
}{ SET y { =INT({ x }) }
}{ Set z { =({ x } - { y }) * 100 }
}{ IF { y } <> 0 "{ y \*Cardtext } dollar" }{ IF { y } > 1 "s" }{ IF { y } < 0 " and " " " } }{ IF { z } <> 0 "{ z \*Cardtext } cent" }{ IF { z } >
```

Where **Text1** contains the amount **1.00** - the fields produce **one dollar**

Where **Text1** contains the whole number **2.00** (or greater) the fields produce **two (or more)**

Where **Text1** contains **.01** the fields produce **one cent**

Where **Text1** contains **.50** the fields produce **fifty cents**

Where **Text1** contains **5.75** the fields produce **five dollars and seventy-five cents**

etc

The method has problems with numbers over 1 million, so as a workaround, you could use lines of

```
{ SET x { REF Text1 }
}{ SET r { =MOD({ x },1000000) }
}{ SET m { =INT(( { x } - { r } ) / 1000000) }
}{ SET c { =MOD({ x }, { =INT({ x } ) } ) }
}{ IF { m } = 0 "{ =INT({ r } ) * Cardtext } Dollars" "{ =INT({ m } ) \*Card
=INT({ r } ) * Cardtext } Dollars"
}{ IF { c } <> 0 " and { = { c } * 100 \*Cardtext } Cent" } { IF { = { c } *
```

## Percentages

Frequently, percentages will display as decimals - e.g. 41% from the data may display as 0 merged into Word. To display the decimal as a percentage, you should create a calculated

```
{ = { MERGEFIELD Amount } * 100 \# "0%" } 41%
```

## Suppress field display for numbers <=0

You may wish to suppress the field result altogether, when the numeric content is 0 or a ne can be achieved with a conditional field, or more simply with a variation on the above nume **\# "\$,0.00;;"**

Any positive number will display in a dollar format (the dollar sign being optional again). Ze will display nothing.

The two semi colons at the end determine what happens with negative numbers and zeros principle consider

**\# "\$,0.00;negative;zero"**

In other words for a number greater than zero the result is formatted as **\$,0.00**

For numbers less than zero - the number is formatted as negative - in this case "negative"

For a result of zero - the number is formatted as zero - and again in this example will be en

Lets say you have a data file with a single field called 'Number', which contains the followin

-1

0

1

Merging that field - **{Mergefield Number \# "\$,0.00;negative;zero"}** will result in:

**negative**

**zero**

**\$1.00**

## Calculated Form Fields - suppress zero

The currency switches available in a calculated form field are limited, but you can suppress calculated form field, by adding a switch to the calculation part of the field. Toggle the displ

Quantity { FORMTEXT }      Price { FORMTEXT }      Sub Total  
 =Quantity \* Price }

Then add the switch.

Quantity { FORMTEXT }      Price { FORMTEXT }      Sub Total {  
 =Quantity \* Price \# "£,0.00;(£,0.00);" }

Alternatively abandon the calculated form field and use instead a Word formula field thus:

Quantity { FORMTEXT }      Price { FORMTEXT }      Sub Total  
 \* { Price } \# "£,0.00;(£,0.00);" }

Then toggle back or lock the form to display the results, which would be the same in either

Quantity 2	Price £30.00	Sub Total £60.00
Quantity -3	Price £30.00	Sub Total (£90.00)
Quantity 0	Price £30.00	Sub Total

### US Zip Codes

Five digit zip codes are reported as dropping the leading zero when merging from Excel/Access simple numeric switch should fix that one

{ MERCEFIELD Zip \# "00000" }

Formatting problem: the zip codes in my data source are 5-digit or 9-digit. What I'd like to do is format that will convert all ZIP codes to ZIP + four format, i.e. **12345** becomes **12345-0000** and **123456789** becomes **12345-6789**

This requires the use of a conditional field which tests whether the field has five or nine digit appropriate formats.

{ IF{ MERCEFIELD Zip } > 99999 "{ MERCEFIELD Zip \# "00000"-MERCEFIELD Zip \# "00000"}-0000" }

Zip = 12345	Zip = 123456789
12345-0000	12345-6789

If you wish to display the 5 digit zips without the '-0000' suffix used in the above example, and the field is empty then modify the formatting switch thus:

```
{ IF{ MERCEFIELD Zip } > 99999 "{ MERCEFIELD Zip \# "00000'-  
MERCEFIELD Zip \# "00000'"} }
```

Or

```
{ IF{ MERCEFIELD Zip } > 99999 "{ MERCEFIELD Zip \# "00000'-  
MERCEFIELD Zip \# "00000;"} }
```

**Calculations cannot be performed on text, so in order for the above to be of use, text entered as a continuous number of 5 or 9 digits. 9 digit numbers can be formatted formatting as a 5+4 Zip, which will provide the hyphen in the Excel display whilst in the raw data.**

## Telephone Numbers

Formatting problem: the telephone codes in my data source are formatted as **(000)000-0000** display as **0000000000**. This requires a simple numeric/text format switch:

```
{ MERCEFIELD Phone \# "(000) 000'-0000" }
```

Note the single quotes around the hyphen.

## Mail Merge and Date Fields

When creating a merge document that will contain a **DATE** field that is to be merged to a new document(s) as opposed to printed material, ensuring the the date in the merged document which the merge took place can be problematical. **DATE** fields are preserved across a merge. If a document is opened at a later date, it will display the system date from the PC rather than the original date.

If you insert a **CREATEDATE** field then that will always display the date the document was preserved during the merge, but is converted to text. While this is fine if you merge on the original document with the field was created, you may wish to re-use the merge document, and display the original date. **CREATEDATE** cannot do that (unless you use **SAVEAS** to save the merge document).

There are several ways to work around this problem e.g.

```
{ DATE \@ "d MMMM yyyy" }  
{ IF TRUE { DATE \@ "d MMMM yyyy" } }  
{ QUOTE { DATE \@ "d MMMM yyyy" } }  
{ SET D { DATE \@ "d MMMM yyyy" } } { REF D }
```

when merged these result as:

```
{ DATE \@ "d MMMM yyyy" }
```

```
29 June 2009
```

```
29 June 2009
```

```
29 June 2009
```

All but the date field are converted to text and thus retain the date of the merge.

### Testing for events that occur before or after a certain date

When running a mail merge, you may want to test for events that happen before or after a merge does not convert dates to numbers, so if you cannot automatically derive a date from the data file, as you could in (say) Excel, a different plan is called for.

Let's say the date comes into Word in the format **d/MM/yyyy** or **1/10/2002** (1st October 2002) in a **MERGEFIELD** called **Start\_Date**. In this example, we are looking to identify records with a date before 1st October 2002.

```
{ IF{ MERGEFIELD Start_Date } < 1/10/2002 "True" "False" }
```

The above would appear to be the logical check, but the check treats the date as a number and as 1, which is the first part of the number before the slash '/'. All dates other than the first are greater than 1, so all will produce the result **"False"**.

We therefore need to display the date in numbers that represent the date in a unique way that Word will view as a number. We can use **yyyyMMdd** which displays the date as a series of digits for year month and finally day, with a number that the conditional field will view as a whole.

```
{ IF{ MERGEFIELD Start_Date \@ "yyyyMMdd" } < 20021001 "True" "False" }
```

Thus any date before **1/10/2002** would produce **"True"** and any other date would produce **"False"**.

### Testing for fields that may contain numbers/date or text

While it would be better to ensure that the data file has separate fields for numbers and text to work with what you get. In a Word forum question a user wanted to test a field that contained only those fields that contained dates. The solution relies on the fact that if you merge a field containing text, an error message is produced e.g.:

```
!Syntax Error, TEXT
```

This can be trapped in a conditional field structure by comparing the result of the field with thus:

```
{ MERGEFIELD Result } { IF{ =( { MERGEFIELD Result } "The field contains a date" "The field contains text" } }
```

produces

```
13/03/2006
```

```
The field contains a date
```

if the field contains a date, or

Text                      The field contains text

If the field contains text.

There is no need to test against the complete error message, as the condition will accept w search for the leading exclamation mark and the wildcard character '\*' as shown.

## Date fields with ordinals

UK dates are often displayed using a superscripted ordinal such as **23<sup>rd</sup> November 2002**. to produce if the date is typed from the keyboard, but is difficult to produce automatically w is a possible solution suggested in fellow MVP Paul Edstein's impressive study of date field [download from this site in DateCalc.zip](#) as shown below:-

```
{QUOTE{DATE \@ "dddd 'the' d"}{IF{=(mod({DATE \@ d},10)<4)*({d},10)<>0)*({DATE \@ d}<>11)*({DATE \@ d}<>12)*({DATE \@ {=mod({DATE \@ d},10)-2 \# rd;nd} th)}{ DATE \@ "' of' MMMM, yyyy
```

which produces:-

Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of April, 2005

Without such complexity, Word can readily manage **23<sup>rd</sup> November 2002** i.e. without the s superscript is usually applied by Word's autoformat function, which does not affect insertior

The required format can be achieved by converting the field to text and then applying the a result.

For a document template start with a combination of fields:

```
{ CREATEDATE \@ "d" \* Ordinal } { CREATEDATE \@ "MMMM
```

Select both fields and save to a bookmark - call it **Date**

The following macro will run automatically when a new document is opened, which will con and autoformat to add the superscript.

```
Sub AutoNew()
Dim oRng As Range
Set oRng = ActiveDocument.Bookmarks("Date").Range
With oRng
.Fields.Unlink
.End = .Words.First.End - 1
.Start = .End - 2
.Font.Superscript = True
End With
End Sub
```

**The macro MUST be saved in the relevant document template and not in the Norm**

While the above is ideal where the date field is pre-inserted into a document template, when you insert a similarly formatted current date into an existing document then with a small variation can be applied. Here the date fields are saved to an autotext entry - this time save in the normal template to enable such dates to be available to all documents. Call the autotext entry **Date**. The following macro inserts the autotext and then converts to text and formats the result.

```
Sub InsertFormattedDate()
Dim oRng As Range
Dim oFld As Field
Set oRng = Selection.Range
NormalTemplate.AutoTextEntries("Date").Insert Where:=oRng
With oRng
.Fields.Unlink
.End = .Words.First.End - 1
.Start = .End - 2
.Font.Superscript = True
End With
End Sub
```

## Changing minutes to hours and minutes

In a database used for mail merge, you may have a field called (e.g) MINUTES that contains e.g. 165 minutes, that you want to display in hours and minutes. Normal date/time switches you need to resort to mathematics to produce the required result

```
{ =INT({ MERGEFIELD MINUTES \# "0" }/60) \# "0'h"} { = 60 * ((
MINUTES \# "0"}/60) - { =INT({ MERGEFIELD MINUTES \# "0"}/60
```

alternatively

```
{ =INT({ MERGEFIELD MINUTES \# "0"}/60) \# "0'h"} { =MOD(
MINUTES \# "0" },60) \# "0'mins" }
```

either of which will produce

2h 45mins

In both examples the use of the formatting switches indicated below will remove any text formatting, thus if the field MINUTES actually contains 165 minutes, the content of the field is treated as plain text.

```
{ =INT({ MERGEFIELD MINUTES \# "0" }/60) \# "0'h"} { =MOD(
MINUTES \# "0" },60) \# "0'mins" }
```

## The basic switch information - reproduced and edited from Word Help

The following information extracted and edited from Word's own help files completes the picture of formatting switches.

## Format (\\*) fieldswitch

The following is a list of switches and items that they capitalize:

<p><b>\* Caps</b></p>	<p>The first letter of each word.</p> <p>For example, { FILLIN "Type your name:" \* Caps } displays "C name is typed in lowercase letters - graham mayor."</p> <p><b>Note: Where the text to be formatted is in uppercase, the \ do nothing. In this case first convert the content to lower case and use the \* Lower switch thus:</b></p> <p>{ MERGEFIELD Name \*Lower \*Caps }</p>
<p><b>\* FirstCap</b></p>	<p>The first letter of the first word.</p> <p>For example, { COMMENTS \* FirstCap } might display "Week</p> <p><b>Note: See also the previous section concerning the anomaly where text is formatted as all caps.</b></p>
<p><b>\* Upper</b></p>	<p>All letters are upper case</p> <p>For example, { QUOTE "word" \* Upper } displays "WORD".</p>
<p><b>\* Lower</b></p>	<p>All letters are lowercase.</p> <p>For example, { FILENAME \* Lower } displays "weekly sales report"</p> <p><b>Note: This switch has no effect if the entire field that contains the text is formatted as all caps.</b></p>

## Number formats

The following is a list of number switches and their results:

<p><b>\*alphabetic</b></p>	<p>Displays results as alphabetic characters. The result has the same capitalization as the switch.</p> <p>For example, { SEQ appendix \* ALPHABETIC } displays "B" (instead of "1").</p>
<p><b>\*Arabic</b></p>	<p>Displays results as Arabic cardinal numerals.</p> <p>For example, { PAGE \* Arabic } displays "31".</p> <p><b>Note: If the Number format setting in the Page Number Format dialog box (Insert menu) is not Arabic, this switch overrides the default setting.</b></p>
<p><b>\*CardText</b></p>	<p>Displays results as cardinal text. The result is formatted in lowercase letters. Use the \* Caps switch to specify a different capitalization.</p> <p>For example, { = SUM(A1:B2) \* CardText } displays "seven hundred and thirty-three".</p> <p><b>Note: \* CardText \* Caps } displays "Seven Hundred Ninety".</b></p>



<b>\*DollarText</b>	Displays results as cardinal text. Microsoft Word inserts "and" at the first two decimals (rounded) as Arabic numerators over 100. The result is in uppercase unless you add a format switch to specify a different capitalization.  For example, { = 9.20 + 5.35 \* DollarText \* Upper } displays "FOUR"
<b>\*Hex</b>	Displays results as hexadecimal numbers. For example, { QUOTE "4
<b>\*OrdText</b>	Displays results as ordinal text. The result is formatted in lowercase unless you add a switch to specify a different capitalization.  For example, { DATE \@ "d" \* OrdText } displays "twenty-first", and { DATE \@ "d" \* OrdText \* FirstCap } displays "Twenty-first".
<b>\*Ordinal</b>	Displays results as ordinal Arabic numerals. For example, { DATE \@ "d" \* OrdText } displays "21".  <b>Note: See the section above relating to the insertion of superscripts.</b>
<b>\*roman</b>	Displays results as Roman numerals. The result has the same case as the original code. For example, { SEQ CHAPTER \* roman } displays "xi", and { SEQ CHAPTER \* Roman } displays "XI".

## Character formats and protecting previously applied formats

The following are character formatting switches and their results:

<b>\*CHARFORMAT</b>	Applies the formatting of the first letter of the field to the entire result. For example, if the first letter of the field is bold, the entire result is bold. For example, the field { REF chapter2_title \* CHARFORMAT } displays "Whales of the Pacific".  You can of course use this to ensure that the formatting retains the field's formatting when the field is inserted into a document. Thus, the field { REF chapter2_title \* CHARFORMAT } would display "Whales of the Pacific".
<b>\*MERGEFORMAT</b>	Applies the formatting of the previous result to the new result. For example, if the field { AUTHOR \* MERGEFORMAT } displays "John Doe" in bold, the field { AUTHOR \* MERGEFORMAT } displays "John Doe" in bold. This switch is the default. You can turn this option off on an individual basis by clearing the <b>Retain previous formatting during updates</b> check box in the Field dialog box.

## Numeric Picture (#) field switch

Specifies the display of a numeric result.

For example, the switch \# \$,0.00 in { = SUM(ABOVE) \# \$,0.00 } displays a result such as \$1,234.56. If the result of a field is not a number, this switch has no effect.

**Quotation marks are not required around simple numeric pictures that do not include text. For example, { MarchSales \# \$,0.00 }. For more complex numeric pictures and those that include text, use quotation marks.**

spaces, enclose the numeric picture in quotation marks, as shown in the following Microsoft Word adds quotation marks to numeric picture switches if you insert a f command (Insert menu) or the Formula command (Table menu).

Combine the following picture items to build a numeric picture switch.

<b>0 (zero)</b>	Specifies the requisite numeric places to display in the result. If the that place, Word displays a 0 (zero). For example, { = 4 + 5 \# 00.00
<b>#</b>	Specifies the requisite numeric places to display in the result. If the that place, Word displays a space. For example, { = 9 + 6 \# \$### }
<b>x</b>	Drops digits to the left of the "x" placeholder. If the placeholder is to Word rounds the result to that place. For example: { = 111053 + 111439 \# x## } displays "492". { = 1/8 \# 0.00x } displays "0.125". { = 3/4 \# .x } displays ".8".
<b>. (decimal point)</b>	Determines the decimal point position. For example, { = SUM(ABO) "\$495.47".  <b>Note: Use the decimal symbol specified as part of the regional Windows Control Panel.</b>
<b>, (digit grouping symbol)</b>	Separates a series of three digits. For example, { = NetProfit \# \$#,###,### } displays "\$2,456,800".  This can be written more simply as { = NetProfit \# \$,0 }  <b>Note: Use the digit grouping symbol specified as part of the regional Windows Control Panel.</b>
<b>- (minus sign)</b>	Adds a minus sign to a negative result, or adds a space if the result example, { = 10 - 90 \# -0 } displays "-80" and { = 10 + 90 \# -0 } displays " 190".
<b>+ (plus sign)</b>	Adds a plus sign to a positive result, a minus sign to a negative result (zero). For example, { = 100 - 90 \# +0 } displays "+10" and { = 90 - 100 \# +0 } displays "-10".
<b>%, \$, *, and so on</b>	Includes the specified character in the result. For example, { = netprofit \# "##%" } displays "33%".
<b>"positive; negative"</b>	Specifies different number formats for positive and negative results. Sales95 is a positive value, the field  { Sales95 \# "\$,0.00;-\$, 0.00" } displays the value with regular format "\$1,245.65".  A negative value is displayed with bold formatting and a minus sign.
<b>"positive; negative; zero"</b>	Specifies different number formats for a positive result, a negative result, and 0 (zero). For example, depending on the value of the Sales95 bookmark, { Sales95 } displays positive, negative, and 0 (zero) values as follows: \$1,245.6

<b>'text'</b>	Adds text to the result. Enclose the text in single quotation marks. For example, <code>{ = { Price } *8.1% \# "\$,0.00 'is sales tax' " }</code> displays "\$347.44 is sales tax".
<b>'numbereditem'</b>	Displays the number of the preceding item that you numbered by using the Insert menu, Reference submenu) or by inserting a SEQ field. Enclose the text in single quotation marks. For example, <code>"table" or "figure," in grave accents (`). The sequential number is displayed. For example, <code>{ = SUM(A1:D4) \# "\$,0.00 'is the total of Table' `table` " }</code> displays "456.34 is the total of Table 2".</code>

### Date-Time Picture (\@) field switch

Specifies the display of a date or time.

For example, the switch \@ "dddd, MMMM d, yyyy" in the field { DATE \@ "dddd, MMMM d, yyyy" } displays "Friday, November 24, 2002." Combine the following date and time instructions— day (d), month (M); hours (h) and minutes (m)— to build a date-time picture. You can also include text, punctuation, and symbols.

Date instructions	
<b>Month (M)</b>	The letter "M" must be uppercase to distinguish months from minutes.
	<b>M</b> Displays the month as a number without a leading 0 (zero). For example, February is "2".
	<b>MM</b> Displays the month as a number with a leading 0 (zero). For example, February is "02".
	<b>MMM</b> Displays the month as a three-letter abbreviation. For example, February is "Feb".
	<b>MMMM</b> Displays the month as its full name. e.g. February
<b>Day (d)</b>	Displays the day of the month or the day of the week. The letter "d" can be either lowercase or uppercase.
	<b>d</b> Displays the day of the week or month as a number with a leading 0 (zero) for single-digit days. For example, the sixth day of the month is displayed as "06".
	<b>dd</b> Displays the day of the week or month as a number with a leading 0 (zero) for single-digit days. For example, the sixth day of the month is displayed as "06".
	<b>ddd</b> Displays the day of the week or month as a three-letter abbreviation. For example, Tuesday is displayed as "Tue".
	<b>dddd</b> Displays the day of the week as its full name. For example, Tuesday is displayed as "Tuesday".
<b>Year (y)</b>	Displays the year as two or four digits. The letter "y" can be either uppercase or lowercase.
	<b>yy</b> Displays the year as two digits with a leading 0 (zero) for single-digit years. For example, 1999 is displayed as "99", and 2006 is displayed as "06".
	<b>yyyy</b> Displays the year as four digits. For example, 1999 is displayed as "1999", and 2006 is displayed as "2006".

Time instructions		
<b>Hours (h)</b>	A lowercase "h" bases time on the 12-hour clock. An uppercase "H" bases time on the 24-hour clock; for example, 5 P.M. is displayed as "17".	
	<b>h or H</b>	Displays the hour without a leading 0 (zero) for single-digit hour of 9 A.M. is displayed as "9".
	<b>hh or HH</b>	Displays the hour with a leading 0 (zero) for single-digit hour of 9 A.M. is displayed as "09".
<b>Minutes (m)</b>	The letter "m" must be lowercase to distinguish minutes from months.	
	<b>m</b>	Displays minutes without a leading 0 (zero) for single-digit minutes. <code>{ TIME \@ "m" }</code> displays "2".
	<b>mm</b>	Displays minutes with a leading 0 (zero) for single-digit minutes. <code>{ TIME \@ "mm" }</code> displays "02".
<b>A.M. and P.M. (AM/PM)</b>	Displays A.M. and P.M. To change the A.M. and P.M. symbols for Microsoft Word settings in Windows Control Panel.	
	<b>am/pm or AM/PM</b>	Displays A.M. and P.M. as uppercase. For example, <code>{ TIME \@ "h AM/PM" }</code> and <code>{ TIME \@ "h am/pm" }</code> display "9 AM" or "5 PM".  <b>Note: To display lower case, add a <code>\*Lower</code> switch in the format code. <code>\*Lower</code> displays "9 am" or "5 pm"</b>
Other text and punctuation		
	<b>'text'</b>	Any specified text in a date or time. Enclose the text in single quotation marks. For example, <code>{ TIME \@ "HH:mm 'Greenwich mean time' " }</code> displays "11:15 AM Greenwich mean time".
	<b>character</b>	Includes the specified character in a date or time, such as a colon (asterisk), or space. For example, <code>{ DATE \@ "HH:mm MMM-d, 'yy" }</code> displays "11:15 Nov 11, 2002".
	<b>`numbereditem`</b>	Includes in a date or time the number of the preceding item using the Caption command on the Insert menu (Refer to the SEQ field). Enclose the item identifier, such as "table", in single quotation marks. Microsoft Word displays the sequential number in arabic numerals.  For example, <code>{ PRINTDATE \@ "'Table' `table` 'was printed on' M/d/y" }</code> displays "Table 2 was printed on 9/25/02".  <b>Note: Quotation marks are not required around single characters. Do not include spaces or text - for example,</b>

**{ DATE \@ MM/yy }.**

**For more complex date-time pictures and those that** enclose the entire date-time picture in quotation marks.

**{ DATE \@ "dddd MMMM d, yyyy", at' h:mm" }.**

**Microsoft Word adds quotation marks to date-time** a field by using the Date and Time command or the menu).

**Lock Result (!) field switch**

Prevents a field that is included in the result of a **BOOKMARK**, **INCLUDETEXT**, or **REF** field from being updated unless the field result is changed.

Without this switch, Microsoft Word updates fields included in the result of a **BOOKMARK**, **INCLUDETEXT**, or **REF** field is updated.

For example, the field

**{ INCLUDETEXT C:\\Sales\\Qtr4 Sales.doc ! }**

inserts the contents of the document "Qtr4 Sales.doc," and an **EMBED** field.

If you update the **INCLUDETEXT** field, the "!" switch prevents Microsoft Word from updating the **DATE** and **EMBED** fields in the included text unless they are updated in the original document ("Qtr4 Sales.doc").

The switch ensures that the text inserted by the **INCLUDETEXT** field is the same as the text in the original document. To update the **DATE** and **EMBED** fields in the original document ("Qtr4 Sales.doc"), update the **INCLUDETEXT** field.