HANDYAID

FOR PALM PDA AND COMPATIBLES

Version 1.1

User Guide

HandyAid Version 1.1 User Guide

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Introduction

HandyAid is an enhancement for the Palm PDA. The main enhancement focus on reducing battery usage and reduce data losses due to dead battery. Other enhancements focus on addressing operational restrictions of the PalmOS.

Additional enhancements will be added based on demand.

All screens in this manual are for illustration only and may differ from what you actually see on your Palm device.

WHAT'S IN VERSION 1.1

HandyAid version 1.1 requires PalmOS 5.x and above.

New in 1.1

- Support alternate method to dim the display. This is to address dimming issue on Tungsten T3.

Main Features

- PalmOS provides a single auto-off timeout for all operations. HandyAid provides 5 additional auto-off timeout settings for some of the common operations (software-on, end of hotsync, SD/MMC card operations and remove from cradle). The additional settings reduce the need to switch-off your PDA manually and reduce battery wastage when it is not attended to.

- Manage Software-on. There are times when your PDA switches on itself when you are not around. This can be due to Datebook alarm or other 3rd party software you configured to perform functions at specific time. For the built-in Datebook alarm and some of the 3rd party tools, the PDA will only switch-off after the auto-off time has expired. HandyAid allows you to configure a shorter auto-off time for this event. This event can also be started without the screen backlight, conserving your battery. If you happen to be around and you attend to this event, all you need is a tap on the screen or press one of the hardkey to restore the full functionality of the PDA.

- Switch-On Guard. Accidental switch-on can lead to dead battery and loss of all data on your PDA. HandyAid provides complete customization on the button to use for switch-on. When wrong buttons are used to switch-on, the HandyAid solution reduces the screen flickering that is common in other software providing this functionality.

  Note: The advance display-off to reduce screen flickering requires specific hardware support, which may not be present in your PDA.

- Standard PalmOS "stay-on in cradle" has the following limitations:

- o "Stay-on in cradle" can only be enabled with the security auto-lock disabled.
- o If "Stay-on in cradle" is enabled and in switch-off mode, a DateBook alarm or similar event will cause it to stay on until you attend to it, shortening the display lifespan.

HandyAid stay-On works with the security auto-lock enable. However the device will only be locked at the next switch-off and if the auto-lock is due. The HandyAid stay-on feature is only enabled when it is physically switch-on using one of the PDA's buttons. In short, the stay-on feature is only enabled when you want it.

- Display Saver. This feature helps to conserve your battery and extent your display lifespan. With the dimmer enabled, the screen will be dim when there is no activity. On the next level, either with or without dimmer enable, you can customize it to switch-off your display as well, but remain active. To reactivate your PDA, all you need is a single tap on the screen or press one of the hardkey. You can now customize your PDA to power-on longer to suit your needs, reducing the need to constantly switch-on the device due to auto-off timeout.

Note: The display-off functionality requires specific hardware feature, which may not be present in your PDA.

- Switch-Off Cleanup. With this feature, you can be sure your Private record is set back to "Mask" or "Hide" mode.

With the beam receive ON, your PDA is constantly scanning for beam activity. HandyAid can ensure the beam receive is "switch off".

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Use this program at your own risk !!!

UNREGISTERED VERSION

The unregistered version provides you with a way to evaluate and decide before purchasing. **NO REFUND** will be entertained after the purchase.

The Unregistered Version has the following limitations:
- There is a splash screen when you launch HandyAid for customization.
- 7 days trial period. During this trail period, the program functions as the registered version, except for the limitation as mentioned above.
- At the end of the trial period, the program will automatically disabled itself when you next power-on manually or there is user acitivity. You can extend the trial by another day, by enabling HandyAid manually.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration will entitle you to unlimited free upgrade of future release. Release update is 1.x.x. Major version update may require an upgrade fee. Next version update will be 2.x, 3.x and so on.

To register please refer to REGISTER.TXT file.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

If you wish to contact me, I can be reached at:

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Web Page:

http://www.klumpit.com or

http://home.pacific.net.sg/~kokmun/ or

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MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

H andyAid needs a minimum of PalmOS 5.x and above. This program should work on any Palm PDA or it's compatible such as HandSpring, and Sony with PalmOS 5.x and above. As the tool uses specific hardware features, some of the functionality may not work on your PDA.
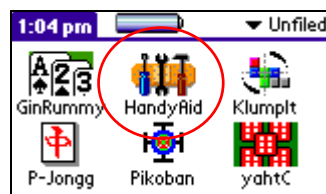
The program requires a minimum of 39K of free memory on your PDA for installation.

INSTALLATION

I n the software package, there is a file called HANDYAIDUNREG.PRC. If you have not installed your Palm Desktop, please install the Palm Desktop software first before proceeding.

With Palm Desktop installed, use the following steps to install HandyAid into your Palm PDA:

1. Double click on the PRC file. This will launch the Palm program installer.

2. Select the Hotsync-Id and select OK. You will see a list of programs that will be installed into your Palm PDA on your next Hotsync.

3. Perform the Hotsync to complete the installation of HandyAid into your Palm PDA.

4. After installation, HandyAid will appear under the UNFILED category of your program launcher of your Palm PDA.
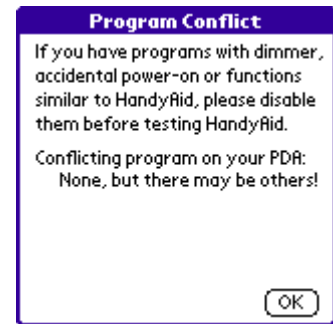

5. On first launch, there is a disclaimer splash screen, which you need to read and acknowledge. If you do not agree with the disclaimer, please do not continue to use the software.

HandyAid Disclaimer

This product is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. In no event shall the author of this software be liable for any damages whatsoever arising out of the use or of inability to use this product. Please read the full disclaimer in the documentation before you continue.

(I Read all and agree)   (- NO -)

6. The next step is to detect conflicting program that may interfere with HandyAid's functionality. If you have programs with dimmer, accidental power-on or functions similar to HandyAid, you need to disable them when you are using HandyAid. This is necessary, as those programs will interfere with the proper function of HandyAid.

HandyAid will list known program that will interfere with it. This is however, not a complete test of program conflict.
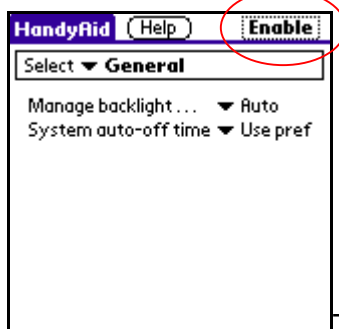
Program Conflict

If you have programs with dimmer, accidental power-on or functions similar to HandyAid, please disable them before testing HandyAid.

Conflicting program on your PDA:
None, but there may be others!

(OK)

7. If you have not registered the tool, you will see the Unregistered Screen, as below.

Unregistered Shareware ⓘ
HandyAid v1.0
© 2003 Tan Kok Mun
All Rights reserved
7 days Free Trial.
At the end of the trial, HandyAid will automatically disabled itself.
Press i at top-right corner for registration information.

(Registration) (OK)

If you have registered, select "Registration" to enter your registration information. See the section "***Entering Registration Information***". Select OK if you want to continue the trial without registering.

8. When the tool is first launched, it is in Disable mode. The current mode is shown at the top left hand corner.
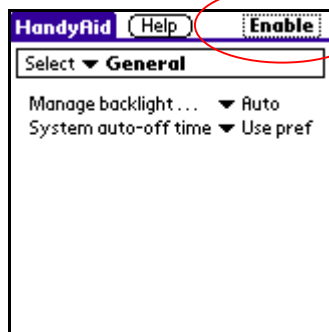
HandyAid (Help)   **Enable**
Select ▼ **General**

Manage backlight ...   ▼ Auto
System auto-off time ▼ Use pref

To enable the tool, tap on the box to toggle the mode.
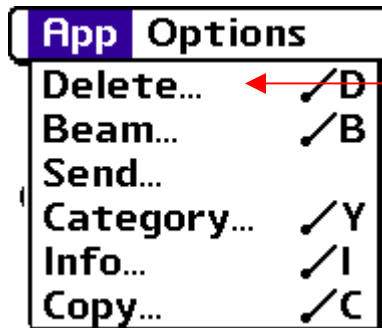
9. Review each of the categories and customized it to your needs.

To remove HandyAid from your PDA, do the following steps.

1. If HandyAid is enable, please disable it before removal. Disable it by toggling the mode at top-left hand corner.

2. Start the Palm program launcher, by pressing the Launcher icon.

3. From the MENU, select "App-Delete".

4. Scroll till you see, HandyAid, select it and press "Delete" to complete the HandyAid removal.

Entering Registration Information

To complete your registration, just fill in the e-mail id and registration key. The e-mail id is case sensitive and must be entered as specified in the registration e-mail. The e-mail id will be the e-mail id you specified during registration.

If you have problem entering text or "@" character with Graffiti, you can invoke the keyboard, by pressing the left bottom corner of the Graffiti area or press the Keyboard button, as shown by the red arrow in the diagram.

When done, press OK. This will end the registration screen. If your registration is successful, you will not see the "Unregistered" screen during the tool startup.

An example of the registration information receives in the e-mail.

```
HandyAid Registration Information.

E-Mail: abcXYZ@handyaid.com

Registration Key: 1234567-890123
```
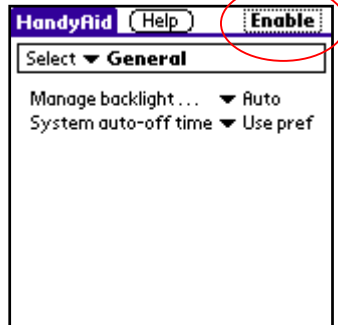
Notice the case sensitivity of the e-mail id.

ENABLE AND DISABLE HANDYAID

T he HandyAid status is shown at the top left hand corner of the customization screen. Tap on the status to toggle the status. This is a global switch for all the enhancements. If you do not want to enable specific feature, you can disable them individually in their respective category customization.

To customize individual category, select the category of interest by tapping on the triangle on the right of "Select".

T he general configuration consists of general settings.

Check Keyboard/Jog Activity: Check it to recognize keyboard and jog activity as hardkey pressed. This uses slightly higher overhead. If you do not have a keyboard or Jogdial, enabling them has no purpose.

Alternate dimming method: When selected, HandyAid uses a different method to dim the display. This setting is set during HandyAid installation. Some PDA like the Tungsten T support both the old and the new alternate method. Some of the PDA only support the new alternate method such as the Tungsten T3.

Manage backlight: Select how HandyAid should manage the backlight of your PDA.

Option	Remarks
No	Do not manage the PDA backlight.
Auto	Manage the backlight. Restore the backlight status to the same state as when it is power-off. On some occasion, the backlight status may not be restored correctly. If this is the case, use one of the other "Force" option.
Force Off	Manage the backlight. The backlight will be switch off when the PDA is power-on.
Force ON	Manage the backlight. The backlight will be switch ON when the PDA is power-on.

The "Manage Backlight" affects the settings in "Power-On" and "Software Power-On" category. If you do use "Prevent Accidental Power-On" feature ("Power-On" category), the recommended setting for "Manage backlight" is either "Auto" or "Force On". This will reduce the screen flickering when the wrong button is used to power-on the PDA.
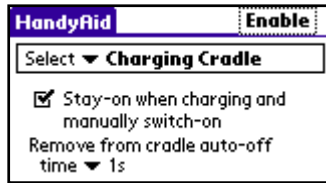
System Auto-Off Time: Change the global auto-off time of your PDA. This option provides greater flexibility in configuring the auto-off time. Together with other HandyAid enhancements, such as dimmer you can increase the auto-off time to your preference.

You can check the current auto-off time in the "Status and Stats." category.

Option	Remarks
Use pref.	Use the PDA preference setting.
[time]	Change the auto-off time to the selected time.

C harging Cradle configuration controls settings when the PDA is in charging state and removing from the cradle.

Stay-on when charging and manually power-on: Select to enable the HandyAid stay-on feature.
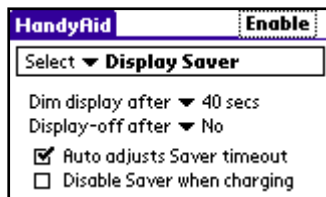
HandyAid stay-on works with the security auto-lock enable. However the device will only be lock when it is next power-off and the auto-lock is due. The HandyAid stay-on feature is only enabled when it is physically switch-on using one of the PDA's buttons and in charging mode. In short, the stay-on feature is only enabled when you want it.

Remove from cradle auto-off time: Set the auto-off time when the PDA is power-on and is removed from the cradle. This feature is useful for those who use the HandyAid stay-on feature. Set to *NONE* to disable this feature.

DISPLAY SAVER CONFIGURATION

D isplay Saver is useful when you need to have your PDA power-on longer but do not refer to it as often, such as during meeting. The dimmer will help conserve battery by switching the backlight off. To conserve even more, the display can be configured to switch-off but remain active. When the display is in switch-off mode, the LED will blink to indicate the PDA is still active.

To reactivate the screen, tap on the screen or press any of the hardkeys. Pressing the Page-Up/Page-Down key is recommended if you want to use the hardkey to reactivate.

Dim display after: Set the dimmer timeout value. When the time is reached without any activity, the PDA screen will be dimmed to conserve battery. Set to *NO* to disable this feature.

Display-off after: Set the display-off timeout value. When the time is reached without any activity, the PDA screen will be switch-off, but the PDA still remain active. Set to *NO* to disable this feature. When enable, the timeout value must be higher than the "Dim display" timeout value. This feature can be enable without enabling the "Dimmer" functionality.
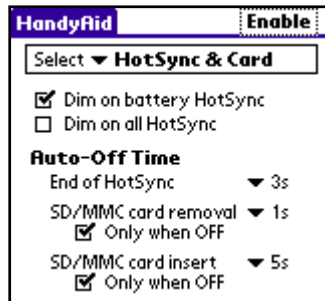
Auto adjusts Saver timeout: When enable, the Display Saver timeout value will be automatically adjust to fit the users. The timeout will be adjusted upward when the timeout is reached and the user immediately reactivates the screen. It will be adjusted downward when the user took a longer time to reactivates the screen. The timeout value however will never be lower than the set timeout value.

Disable Saver when charging: When selected the Display Saver feature is disabled when charging. *If you do use the Stay-on feature as well, disabling the Display Saver when charging is not recommended, as this will leave your screen power on with backlighting. This will shorten the display lifespan in the long run.*

Note: The display-off functionality requires specific hardware support, which may not be present in your PDA.

HOTSYNC AND SD/MMC CARD CONFIGURATION

H otSync and Card configuration allows you to customized timeout related to HotSync and SD/MMC card activities.

Dim on battery Hotsync: When enable, the screen will be dim during the HotSync process and the PDA is not charging.

Dim on all HotSync: When enable, the screen will be dim during the HotSync process.

End of HotSync auto-off time: Timeout value to switch-off your PDA at the end of the HotSync process. Set to NONE to disable this feature.

SD/MMC card Removal/Insert: Timeout value to switch off your PDA when the SD/MMC card is removed/inserted. Set to NONE to disable this feature. To have this timeout only when the PDA is in Power-Off mode, select the respective "**Only when OFF**".

SOFTWARE-ON (UNATTENDED POWER-ON) CONFIGURATION

S oftware-On configuration allows you to manage unattended switch-on by software. If you have alarm going off while you are away, the standard PDA feature will only switch-off the PDA after the set timeout value.

With this feature, you can set the PDA to switch-off earlier. In occasion, when you are around to handle it, a single tap on the screen or a press on one of the hard-keys is all that is needed to restore the PDA to it's normal state.

Dim software-on: Dim the screen when software-on is detected. This help in conserving battery when the PDA is power-on when you are not around.
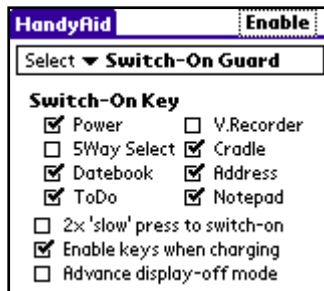
Flash-LED on Software-On: Flash the LED once, when software-on is detected. This feature requires specific hardware support which may not available on your PDA.

Note: This feature is only active when your PDA is in power-off mode.

SWITCH-ON GUARD (ACCIDENTAL POWER-ON) CONFIGURATION

S witch-On Guard helps to prevent accidental power-on of your PDA. Accidental switch-on can leads to battery drain and a dead PDA.

HandyAid provides complete customization on the button to use for switch-on. When wrong buttons are used to switch-on, HandyAid solution reduces the screen flickering that is common in other software providing this functionality.

Switch-On Key: Select the keys to switch-on your PDA. When non-selected key is used, the PDA will immediately be switch-off.

2x 'slow' press to switch-on: When enable, you need to press the same valid "switch-on key" twice, to switch-on your PDA. The double press has to be done within 1 second. The best way to do this is "Press - Full Release – Press". Quick double press is not recognized. This setting is not applicable when you enable the "*Enable keys when charging*" and the PDA is in charging mode. The "*Cradle*" key is not bound by this setting as well.

Enable keys when charging: When enable, all hardkeys can be used to switch-on your PDA when it is in charging mode.

Advance display-off mode: When enable, hardware specific feature is used to switch-off your PDA. If your PDA support this, this feature will reduce screen flickering when wrong key is used to switch-on your PDA.

Note:

1. *The "advance display-off" to reduce screen flickering requires specific hardware support, which may not be present in your PDA.*

2. *The "Manage Backlight" has to be enabled to reduce screen flickering.*

SWITCH-OFF CLEANUP CONFIGURATION

S witch-Off cleanup configuration allows you to configure function to be done your PDA is switching-off.
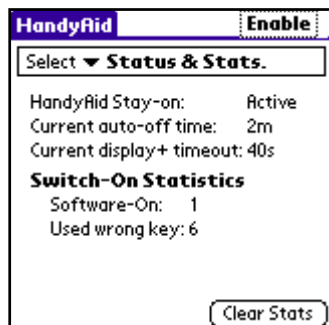
Private records: Mask/Hide your private record when your PDA is switching-off. Set to "Do nothing" to disable this feature.

Beam receives: Set to "Switch OFF" to disable your beam receives. Set to "Do nothing" to disable this feature.

S tatus and statistics provide a summary of some of the functionality and state of HandyAid.

Clear Stats: Press the button to clear the switch-on statistics.

For some of the reported information, you will see the following status:

Status	Remarks
Disable	The feature is disable.
Inactive	The feature is enable and is currently inactive. This can be due to certain condition that is not present at the moment for the feature to be active.
Active	The feature is enable and is currently active.

FREQUENTLY ASK QUESTIONS

1. *The timeout setting does not tally to what I actually experiencing?*

   Answer: The timeout are sets when the condition is detected. When the condition is detected may not tally to what you actually see on your PDA. Do give an allowance of +/- 2 seconds for all the timeout settings.

2. *Why is the Tungsten slider power-on a "software-on"?*

   Answer: Currently I have not found a way to detect the PDA is power on via the Tungsten slider. Palm has not released any information regarding the slider open/close operation.

3. *Is there a way to disable the "HandyAid is not enable …." pop-up warning?*

   Answer: NO. There is no setting you can change to disable this. This is done as it is because; chances are you will only see it once when you want to disable it and uninstall HandyAid. In normal operation, there is no reason to leave HandyAid "Disable" and the user launching the HandyAid configuration.

   If you have a valid reason, send me an e-mail.

Version History

Version 1.1 – 7th November 2003

- Added an alternate method to dim the display. This is to address dimming problem on the Tungsten T3.

Version 1.0 – 4th November 2003