

79 Converting AM/PM time to seconds

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This tech note describes how to convert a string representing the time of day entered in AM/PM format to an integer representing the number of seconds since midnight.

Syntax AMPM2Seconds(*strexpr*)

The following function will convert a *strexpr* in 00:00:00 am/pm, 00:00 am/pm, or 24 hour format to an integer which is equal to the number of seconds since midnight. If the AM/PM notation is left off, it will default to AM, hence there is no need to enter AM/PM if the time is entered in 24 hour format. Entering seconds is optional.

```

$colon:=Position(":";$1)
$colon2:=Position(":";Substring($1;$colon+1;Length($1)-$colon+1))+$colon
$xhours:=Num(Substring($1;1;$colon-1))
$xmins:=Num(Substring($1;$colon+1;2))
If ($colon2#0)            `if there isn't a second colon
  $xsecs:=Num(Substring($1;$colon2+1;2))
Else                    `user did not enter seconds
  $xsecs:=0
End if
$result:=( $xhours*60+$xmins)*60+$xsecs
Case of
  : ($xhours=12)
    Case of
      : (Position("P";$1)=0)                    `midnight hour
      $0:=$result-43200                    `noon hour less 12 hours
    Else
      $0:=$result                    `noon hour, use the result
    End case
  : ((Position("P";$1)#0)&($xhours<13))        `if there's a P in there
    $0:=$result+43200
  Else                    `default to AM
    $0:=$result
End case

```

Example:

ALERT(String(AMPM2Seconds(Request("Enter a time: ";Time string(Current time))))+" seconds")

