

## **IDate (TM) for Windows**

Shareware Version 4.10

Serial Number: 0056-0-2-002-008-15

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The popular shareware Personal Reminder cum Organizer for Windows.

The PTLabs Page URL:

<http://nusunix2.nus.sg/nussu/stud/eng40263>

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## Overview of IDate 4.10 for Windows

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**The IDate Editor**

IDate is a Shareware personal organizer cum reminder which is designed to assist you remember important dates and events.

Messages will pop-up to your screen upon starting Windows when you put IDate in the StartUp group. You can customize IDate so that messages will start popping-up from a specified period of time from the actual date intended, i.e. an Early Warning System. You may also choose to setup IDate such that it will not allow Windows to exit before you read all your messages for the day.

Perfect for reminders of birthdates, anniversaries, appointments, deadlines etc. Use IDate to generate reminders for the week, month or even year!

IDate has two main components, namely the Main program and the Editor.

The Main program displays the dates and messages that go with them when the pre-defined warning period is reached.

The Editor enables you to build and manage the data bases that will contain your dates and messages. It allows you to set specific options for every individual record as well as define default settings.

IDate supports files which use the Data Bank 2.x format. It converts these files with 100% compatibility. IDate files are saved with an .IDT extension. IDate files have a unique format. Therefore you are advised against editing them using text editors or word processors.

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### **Shareware Notice & Registration**

IDate is SHAREWARE. You may use it for an evaluation period of not more than 21 days. After this period, you must register if you wish to continue using IDate. Upon registration, you will no longer have to tolerate the reminder screens which pop up every now and then. You will also receive free bug-fixes for IDate if they are any! Registered users will also be given a unique User ID and will receive technical support from the author.

To register, please print out the form in the file REGISTER.WRI and send it together with US\$15.00 (check payable to CHIAM YIH WEI) to the address below:

CHIAM YIH WEI,  
1, JALAN 119, KEPONG BARU,  
52100 KL, MALAYSIA.

Internet EMail:  
[eng40263@nus.sg](mailto:eng40263@nus.sg)

The PTLabs Page:  
<http://nusunix2.nus.sg/nussu/stud/eng40263>

Registered Users of IDate 2.01 need only to pay US\$10.00.

Registered Users of IDate 3.00, IDate 3.00a and IDate 3.00b need only to pay US\$8.00.

Registered Users of IDate 4.00 need only to pay US\$5.00.

This upgrade is FREE for registered Users of IDate 4.05.

All registered users of IDate will be given discounts when registering for future new versions of IDate.

Site licensing is also available when purchasing multiple copies of IDate. Please contact the author for prices of site licenses.

The unregistered evaluation copy of IDate 4.10 is freely distributable as long as the file IDATE410.ZIP is distributed as a full package in its original state.

#### **Disclaimer:**

THE PROGRAM IS PROVIDED "AS-IS". NO WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, ARE MADE AS TO IT OR ANY MEDIUM IT MAY BE ON. ANY REMEDY FOR INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, PUNITIVE OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES ARISING FROM IT, INCLUDING SUCH FROM NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY, OR BREACH OF WARRANTY OR CONTRACT, EVEN AFTER NOTICE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES WILL NOT BE PROVIDED.

## **The IDate 4.10 Editor Overview**

IDate comes with an internal Editor which is used for editing, creating and maintaining IDate files. It also supports files saved in Data Bank 2.x format. The IDate Editor allows you to set detailed options for each record of your data base. However, the IDate Editor can only be accessed if IDate is not password protected.

For more information on Data Bank 2.x Personal Address Book shareware, please contact the author, Chiam Yih Wei.

See also:

**Constructing a Data Base**

**The File Menu**

**The Records Menu**

## **IDate 4.10**

### **File Menu**

The File Menu of the main program consists of:

#### **Load**

Loads up a file to be scanned in IDate. The file must be of IDate format. Files which are of Data Bank 2.x format can be converted with 100% accuracy using the IDate Editor.

#### **Print to File**

Prints out the messages that appear now into a text file of your choice. Useful for generating hard copies of appointments etc when preparing for travel.

#### **Editor**

#### **Range**

Specifies the range for IDate to scan forward. This option allows you to see all the messages for the events which will occur in the specified range of days.

#### **Exit**

Exits IDate.

See also:

**The Options Menu**

**The Setup Menu**

**The IDate Editor**

## **IDate 4.10**

### **Options Menu**

#### **AutoLoad**

Allows you to specify the file that IDate will load automatically every time it starts up. A tick will appear next to this option if the AutoLoad file has been set. To erase the AutoLoad setting, simply click Cancel when you are at the AutoLoad dialog box and answer Yes when IDate asks if you wish to delete the current AutoLoad file.

#### **Font**

Allows you to choose the default font name and size that IDate will use in the Message Box.

#### **Sound**

Toggles sound on or off. When the sound is set to on, IDate will beep when there are messages to be displayed.

#### **Protection**

#### **Exit Pop Up**

With this option set, IDate will prevent Windows from exiting whenever there is a message to be read. If there are messages to be read, IDate will automatically pop up and stop Windows from exiting when the user tries to exit Windows.

If this option is not set, IDate will close unconditionally whenever Windows exits.

See also:

**The File Menu**

**The Setup Menu**

**The IDate Editor**

## **IDate 4.10 Editor**

### **Open Command**

Performs the same function as the Open command in the File Menu.

### **Save Command**

Performs the same function as the Save command in the File Menu.

### **Quit Command**

Performs the same function as the Quit Editor command in the File Menu.

### **New Rec. Command**

Creates a new record.

### **Del. Rec. Command**

Deletes current record.

### **Dup. Rec. Command**

Duplicates current record.

### **Update Command**

Updates the current record. All changes will be updated into memory. This command is automatically executed when you move within the data base.

See also:

**Constructing a Data Base**

## **IDate 4.10 Editor**

See also:

**Records Menu**

**Constructing a Data Base**

### **Current Record**

This scroll bar is used to indicate the current record in the data base you are editing. Use it to move around the data base.

See also:

**Records Menu**

**Constructing a Data Base**

## **IDate 4.10 Editor**

See also:

**Constructing a Data Base**

### **Activate**

Tells IDate to activate the message every year, month, week, day, or simply once. Use this option for anniversaries, monthly events, weekly schedules and the likes.

If you select Yearly, IDate will remind you of this event every year.

If you select Monthly, you will be reminded every month, based on the day of the date entered.

If you select Weekly, IDate will remind you of the event based on the weekday (i.e. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, etc).

If you choose Daily, IDate will flag this event everyday, regardless of the date entered.

If you select Once, IDate will warn you of the event only once, at the specified date.

The Activate setting can be used together with the Warn in Advance setting to further enhance the flexibility of IDate.

### **Enabled**

Determines whether the record is enabled. If a record is disabled, it will not show up on the main program until you enable it. Use this option with extreme care as IDate will not inform you of the passing of the date of a disabled record. A default setting of Enabled is recommended.

### **Backdated Warning**

Forces IDate to flag messages that are within the last 3 days from the current date. This acts as a safety net in case you do not launch IDate on the day the message should be flagged. It is recommended that you enable the Backdated Warning feature by default.

This option is not available for messages which are activated Daily.

### **Automatic Clean Up**

This option can be used for messages that are one-off, meaning they are only meaningful for one particular day.

With this option turned on, messages which are activated Once and has the current system date will be removed from the data file upon loading it from the main window. Use this option together with the Confirm Clean Up feature from the main window for better automated management of your data files.

When used with Confirm Clean Up, you can purge events which only occur once, like meetings, appointments etc.

## **IDate 4.10 Editor**

See also:

**Backdated Warning**  
**Constructing a Data Base**

### **Warn in Advance**

Use this feature to tell IDate to flag the message a pre-defined of days before the actual date. This is especially useful for birthdates and important meetings or appointments. IDate will warn you of the event in advance every time it loads the file unless you disable the message by not checking the Enabled check box.

The valid values are from 0 to 49. Setting the Warn in Advance value to 0 means that IDate will not flag the message before the actual date of the event.

Using Warn in Advance with the Activate setting will give you enhanced flexibility in managing your reminders.

## **IDate 4.10 Editor**

See also:

**Warn in Advance**

**Constructing a Data Base**

### **Date**

Type in the date you want the message to appear. This is the actual date that the event will occur. Coupled with the Warn in Advance feature, IDate will be able to remind you of the event in advance.

### **Messages**

Type in the messages that you want IDate to display when the specified date is reached. You have about 1kB of space in this text box.

## **IDate 4.10 Editor**

See also:

**Constructing a Data Base**

### **File Menu**

The File Menu contains:

#### **New**

Creates a new data base.

#### **Open**

Opens a previously saved file. The file may be in IDate 2.01, 3.0, 4.0 or 4.05, or Data Bank 2.x. The default extension of IDate 2.01, 3.0, 4.00, 4.05 and 4.10 files is .IDT and the default for Data Bank 2.x files is .BNK.

If the file is of Data Bank 2.x format, IDate will extract the records that have valid birthday entries. All other information in the Data Bank 2.x file will be saved as Messages. Records without valid birthday entries will be ignored.

#### **Save and Save As**

Saves the current data base into a file. The file generated will be of IDate format.

#### **Set As Default**

Sets the current values for Warn in Advance, Activate Annually, Enabled and Backdated Warning as the default values for future records. Existing records will not be affected.

#### **Quit Editor**

Quits IDate Editor.

## **IDate 4.10 Editor**

### **Records Menu**

#### **New**

Appends a new record to the existing data base or creates the first record in a new data base. The default values will apply to the newly created record.

#### **Delete**

Deletes the current record.

#### **Find**

Finds text specified by you. Any highlighted text in the text boxes will be used as the default search string.

#### **Find Next**

Finds the next matching text.

#### **Duplicate**

Duplicates the current record and places it at the end of the current data base.

See also:

**Current Record**

**Constructing a Data Base**

## **IDate 4.10 Protection**

See also:

**Overview**

### **What is Protection?**

The Protection option is used to password-protect your IDate program from unauthorized users. It allows you to specify a password to lock up the Load, Editor and AutoLoad options as well as the Setup menu in the main program. Disabling the Editor will block any attempts made to corrupt your data files or program settings.

### **Enabling Protection**

Close the Editor window if it is open. Protection cannot be used if the Editor is open.

Select the Options/Protection menu from the main program. If no password already exists, you will see a window with two text boxes. Enter your password and retype it to ensure you have not made a typing mistake. Then click OK to activate Protection. A tick will appear next to the Protection option when Protection is enabled.

### **Disabling Protection**

Select the Options/Protection menu from the main program. Enter the existing password once and click OK. Protection will be removed if your password is valid.

## **Constructing a Data Base using the IDate Editor**

### **Starting the IDate Editor.**

To launch the IDate Editor, the Protection feature in the main program must not be enabled. Disable it if it is already set.

For more information on Protection, see [Protection](#)

Launch the IDate Editor. To do that, click on the File/Editor menu in the main program or use the shortcut key of Ctrl+E. You may also click on the Editor button or the right mouse button to bring up a menu with the Editor choice. Once the Editor is launched, you are ready to start.

### **Setting the Date.**

Fill in the Date text box with the date that you want the record to be linked with. IDate will activate this record when the date is reached. Dates must be filled in using a valid format. It is recommended that you fill in the date using the format specified in the International settings in the Control Panel. Nonetheless, IDate Editor accepts several other formats. IDate Editor will give an error message should the format of the date you specify is invalid.

### **The Messages text box.**

IDate will display the Messages in this box when flagging this record. Feel free to put in any type of message. You have roughly 1kB of space to work on here.

### **Warn in Advance.**

This feature is used to instruct IDate to flag this record in advance. That means that IDate will warn you when the date of the record approaches. Simply drag the scroll bar to whatever value desired and the corresponding value will be reflected just on top of the scroll bar.

### **Setting the other options.**

It is recommended that you enable the Activate Annually, Enabled and Backdated Warning options. For further information on the functions of these options, see [Records Options](#)

There, now you have a constructed a record for your data base. Repeat the procedure to append more records to your data base. Use the Records menu to create, delete and duplicate records.

See also:

[The IDate Editor](#)

[File Menu](#)

[Records Menu](#)

## **IDate 4.10**

### **Setup Menu**

#### **Minimize When Idle**

When this option is checked, IDate will be a minimized icon when loaded if there is no AutoLoad file or when there are no messages to display in the current AutoLoad file. IDate is said to be idle in this situation.

#### **Exit TimeOut**

This option determines if IDate will automatically exit after a preset amount of time when there are no messages upon load-up, or in other words, when IDate is idle. Useful if you wish to free memory and resources when there are no messages for you to read.

Any positive number is accepted as a valid value. However, a value of 5 or more seconds is recommended. This value should be increased when the computer is slower. IDate will not exit if idle when the Exit TimeOut value is zero.

To activate the program before it exits automatically, simply click on any part of the form when the form is not minimized. IDate will not stop the TimeOut countdown if you click on it when it is iconified (i.e. the Minimized When Idle option is set to true.)

You may never be launch IDate properly if you set this value to a value so small that IDate will exit almost immediately after it is launched. This may also be caused if your computer is too slow. If you are ever caught in this situation and wish to manually override the settings, change the TIMEOUT value in the ID405.INI file to 0. This will disable the Exit TimeOut function.

#### **Confirm Clean Up**

Tells IDate to confirm every clean up it attempts to perform. Clean ups are performed when a record satisfies all of the conditions below:

1. The Automatic Clean Up option is turned on for the record.
2. The current system date is the same as the Date of the record.
3. The record is enabled.
4. The record is Activated only Once.

Use this feature together with the Automatic Clean Up option from the IDate Editor for better automated management of your data files.

When used with Automatic Clean Up, you can purge events which only occur once, like meetings, appointments etc.

#### **Save Settings on Exit**

Tells IDate to save current settings on exit.

#### **Save Settings Now**

Saves all current settings now.

You may also force IDate to save the settings during the current session without exiting by holding down the Shift key and proceed as if you were going to exit the program. The current settings of the program will be saved without exiting.

See also:

**[The File Menu](#)**

**The Options Menu**

**The IDate Editor**



