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This tutorial demonstrates how you can use FileMaker and Windows to trigger a script to run in another FileMaker database at specified intervals. This technique also works to enable users to open remote files by opening the "Opener" file.

The first step is to create the "Opener" file, a new FileMaker database. You do not need to define any fields in this database, however you can create fields and track each time the file was opened. (creation date, creation time, creation user – and create add a new record script function to the script below)

Next you need to write the script that runs when the file is opened. The first script step is Perform Script ... External. If you are writing an opener file, then the first script step should be Open [remote file name].

"Specify Script" Options	? 🗙
Select a script to perform either in this another specified file.	file or in
Mileage	•
Test	
Optional script parameter	Edit
OK	Cancel

Choose the file and the script name that you want to run.

The next script step is to Close the file.



Edit Scrip	ot							? 🔀
<u>V</u> iew:	all by category	•	Script <u>N</u> ame:	Open				
Select	Window	~	+ Perform Sc	ript ["Test" fro	m file: "Mile	eage"]		
Close	Window	-	+ Close File [	Current File]				
Adjust	Window							
Move/	Resize Window							
Arrang	ge All Windows							
Freeze	Freeze Window							
Refree	Refresh Window							
Scroll	Window Hido Status Area							
Show	Hide Text Duler	_						
Set W	indow Title							
Set Zo	om Level							
View A	s		<					>
Files			-Scrint Sten Or	ntions				
New F	ile		outprotect of	Juons				
Open	File							
Close	File	~				Specify:	Current File (Opener.f	p7) 🗾
☐ Indica	ate <u>w</u> eb compatibility		Run script v	vith full access	privileges			
Clear	<u>All</u> <u>C</u> lear		ouplicate				ОК	Cancel

Those are the only two script steps you need to create the opener file.

Next you need to set the script to automatically run when the FileMaker database is opened.

In FileMaker 7, choose File ... File Options and choose Perform Script [script name]. In FileMaker 6 and below choose, Edit ... Preferences ... File Preferences and chose Perform Script [script name]. Now when the file is opened, the script you just wrote will run. If you are writing the opener file, then it is ready to use.



**Opener File - Scripting** © 2004 TSC

File Options for "Opener"	×
Open/Close Spelling Text	
When opening this file	
✓ Log in using: C Guest Account	
Account Name and Password	
Account: Admin	
Pass <u>w</u> ord:	
Switch to layout: Opener	
Perform script: Open	
When closing this file	
OK Cance	!

Now we need to configure Windows to automatically run this file at the intervals you specify.

Go to the Control Panel Folder. Depending on your version of Windows you can find this folder by opening the My Computer folder on your desktop.

Now, open the Scheduled Tasks folder. Click on Add Scheduled Task. A wizard will appear and guide to guide you through the process.



Scheduled Task Wizard		×
	This wizard helps you schedule a task for Windows to perform. You select the program you want Windows to run, and then schedule it for a convenient time. Click Next to continue.	
	< Back Next > Cancel	

Click Next. There may be a long pause while the system builds a list of processes. Be patient and wait for the list to appear.

Your file will not appear on the list so click on browse. Navigate to the "Opener" file and click open.

Now you must specify the duration. For this example we chose daily.

Scheduled Task Wizard		×
	Type a name for this task. The task name can be the same name as the program name.   Opener   Perform this task:      • Daily       • Weekly       • Monthly       • One time only       • When my computer starts       • When I log on	
	< <u>B</u> ack <u>N</u> ext > Cance	

Click on next.



Set the start time and other information you wish to change and click on Next.

Scheduled Task Wizard	
	Select the time and day you want this task to start. Start time: 2:30 PM Perfom this task: © Every Day © Weekdays © Every 1 days Start date: 6/ 1/2004 ▼
	< <u>B</u> ack <u>N</u> ext > Cancel

Click next until you reach the final screen and click Finish.

Your "Opener" file will now run the external script at the time and interval you configured.

If you have further questions, contact TSC.



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