

Palm OS® File Resources

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Overview

The application you create with PDA Toolbox, like all Palm OS® applications, is actually a special database made of a series of records. Each of these records is a *resource* commonly abbreviated as "rsrc." Each resource in your application specifies a part of your program. For instance, one resource might specify the look of a form, another might specify what action is to be taken when you tap a button.

Every resource has a four- letter name, or type, assigned to it that identifies the type of resource it is. You'll see four-letter name references a lot in PDA Toolbox since not only resources are named this way, but also Creator IDs, database Type IDs, and Field Names use this convention. Examples of a resource name are: 'tain', 'tSTR', and 'Actn'. Note the odd character case of each name - resources are very case dependant so 'tain' is not the same resource as 'TAIN'.

In addition to a resource name, every resource has a numeric ID. These are whole numbers less than 65000. So, a 'tFRM1000' and 'tFRM1100' specify two different resources.

You can edit resources with a special program called RsrcEdit which is available from www.Quartus.net. RsrcEdit allows you to edit all kinds of program resources.

Technical Reference

Rsrc ID	Description	Std?
Actn	Specifies the action to take when you tap on a button or menu item.	PDAT
Acts	Additional action data. Used by PDAT/Advanced apps only.	Adv.
Actx	Additional action data. Used by PDAT/Advanced apps only.	Adv.
code	The core of your application. 'code1' is the primary machine code that operates your application. Additional code segments are numbers 2, 3, 4, etc.	Yes
data	Data required by 'code1' and generally is specific to an app.	Yes
FmDt	Form Data. This holds stuff like field IDs and calculations plus more. The ID specifies which form it belongs to.	PDAT
MBAR	A menu bar resource.	Yes
paUI	Theme Color Palette Data. See 'tclt'.	PDAT
pmat	Search method resource.	Adv.
PopD	Popup Data. Specifies linkages for dynamic popups. The ID specifies	PDAT

Rsrc ID	Description	Std?
	which popup ID it belongs to.	
Tabl	Tables Data. Specifies the database to be displayed, fields, and field widths. The ID specifies which gadget ID it belongs to.	PDAT
tAIB	Icon images for your app. 'tAIB1000' is the large icon and 'tAIB1001' is the small image. Both may contain image families.	Yes
Talt	An alert resource.	Yes
tAIN	The title of your application. This overrides the filename of your app. Gives it a more friendly name. Typically 'tAIN1000'.	Yes
tAIS	Initial database categories.	Yes
Tbmp	A normal bitmap image. This may contain "families" of images for various screen resolutions.	Yes
tclt	Color Palette Data.	Yes
tFRM	A form resource.	Yes
tint	A 16 or 32 bit constant value. Used for a variety of purposes.	Yes
tiac	Category specifier. Basically text specifying which category your application should appear under in the standard launcher.	Yes
tSTL	A string list resource.	Yes
tSTR	A string resource. Basically text.	Yes
tver	The version number that shows up in the standard launcher's information screen.	Yes

Yes=Standard Palm OS®, **PDAT**=PDA Toolbox, **Adv.**=PDAT/Advanced