

Month Calendar

Version 2.6 8 June 2008

Summary

Month Calendar is a resizable calendar showing a month at a time. The month is displayed in weeks, each starting on a Monday (or optionally on a Sunday). The ISO 8601 week-number is displayed at the start of each week. [Note that ISO 8601 weeks always start on a Monday.]

A memo can be attached to any date. The first three lines of the memo are displayed in the date's tooltip. Memos are saved as files.

Calendar files (iCal files) can be imported (alt-click the previous month button) and managed (alt-click the next month button). When enabled and selected, calendar events appear in the dates' tooltips.

This version has a Date Selection hotkey (initially Control+F8), which open a date selection dialog box. When a date is selected in this way, the calendar moves to the selected year and month and opens a memo window for the selected day. The selected day may be set to 00, in which case the memo window is not opened.

Files, texts and URLs may be dragged onto a memo window or onto a calendar date (in which case the memo window opens). The dragged text is appended to the text already in the memo window.

The widget can speak the selected date when a memo is opened and there is also a Speak Memo hotkey (initially Control+Space) which can be used to speak the contents of memos.

CAUTIONS

This is a work in progress. The widget is being frequently updated in response to user feedback. Such software is likely to be less stable than software which has been fully debugged over a long period. If you use this software, you must expect bugs from time to time. Politely framed bug reports are very welcome; others will be ignored.

There are things you can do to avoid trouble. Keep one or two earlier releases in case a new release gives problems. Do not, however, change the name of the current widget, as your memos will appear to vanish. Change the names of the older releases or keep them in separate folders.

Use the **Backup Memos...** context menu item to save your memos from time to time. The best way to use this is to make a backup folder called, for example, **MC Backup** before using the context menu command. Copies of all your memos will then be placed in the backup folder.

Do not use this widget where malfunction could result in injury or financial loss. Please read the full license conditions.

Instructions

The following two images show the widget when unfocussed (left) and when focussed (right).



The widget has a large numbers of tooltips. Placing the mouse pointer over the various text and image items will normally produce relevant information.

Calendar (iCal) files can be imported (by alt-clicking the *top-left* previous month arrow) and can be managed (by alt-clicking the *top-right* next month arrow).

If iCal events are enabled, a summary of any event appears in a date's tooltip. If a date has a memo, the first three lines of the memo also appear in the tooltip.



Memos

Each day can have at most one memo associated with it. To open a memo, **double-click** on a date. If necessary, the widget will create a new memo.



Text may then be typed directly into the memo window. To save a memo, click on the rightmost + button. To delete a memo, clear the memo window (e.g., by using the wrench button), then save it. Note that memos are only written to disk when the + button is used. When an empty memo is saved, the memo file is deleted.

To Do List

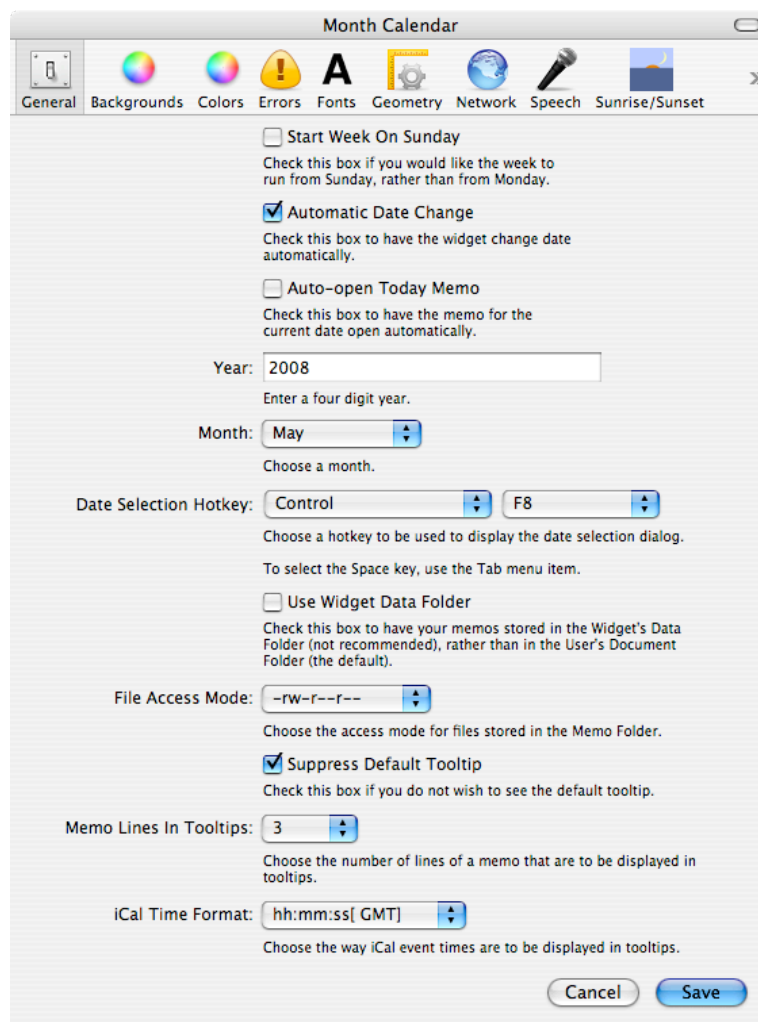
This version also provides a **To Do List**, which is essentially a memo that is not associated with a specific date. To open the To Do List, click on the right-most day name (**Sun** in the above images).

Preferences

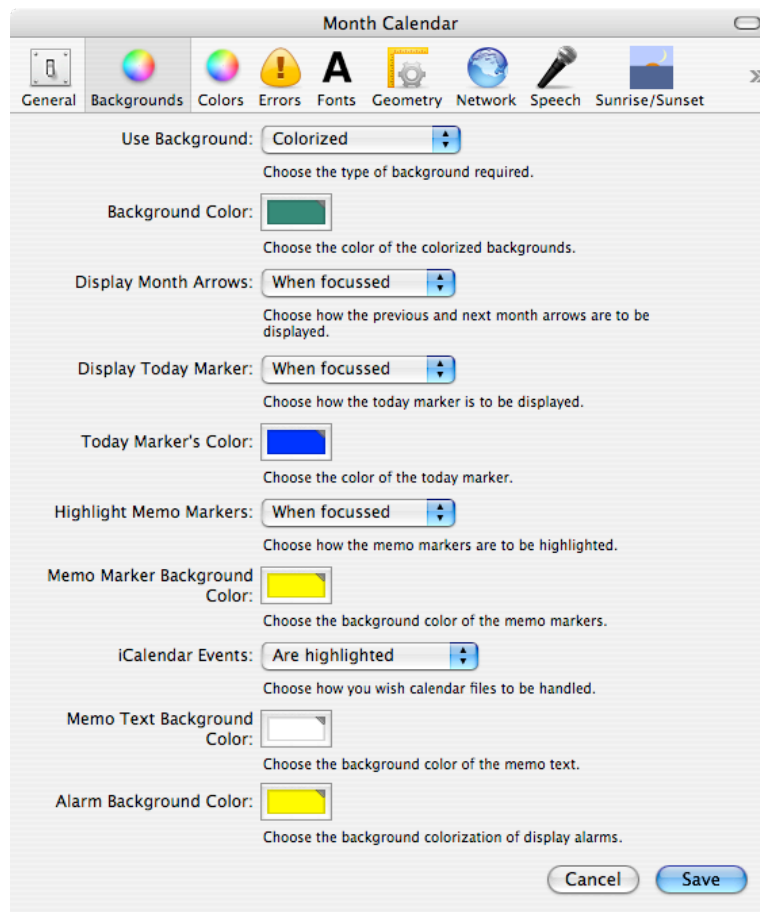
There are eleven preference panes.

General

This is used to set the basic options of the widget. Most are self-explanatory, but it is, perhaps, worth mentioning that the calendar will only update to the next date at midnight if the **Automatic Date Change** box is checked.

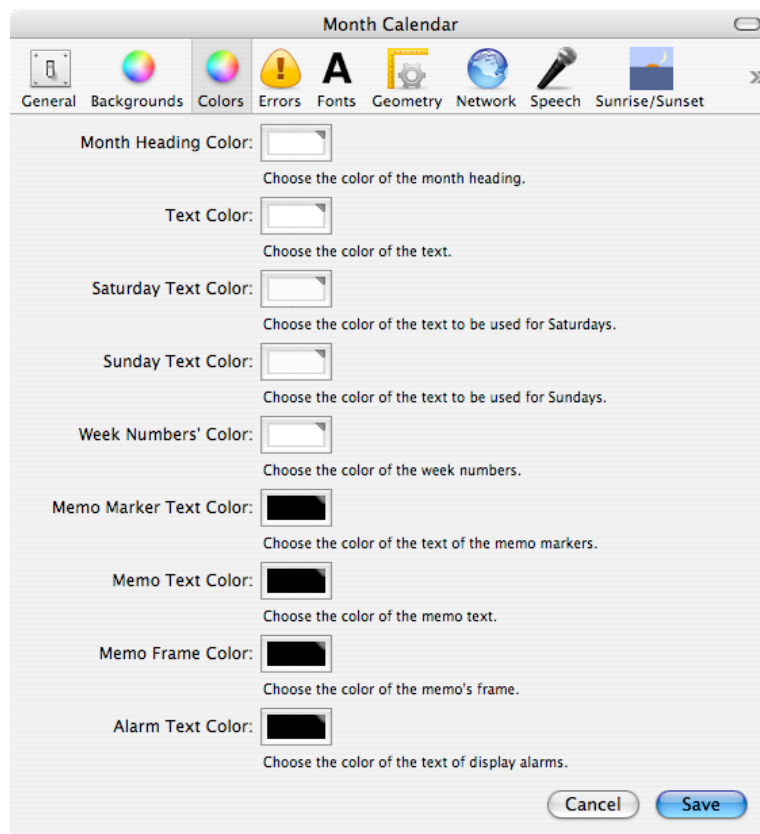


Backgrounds



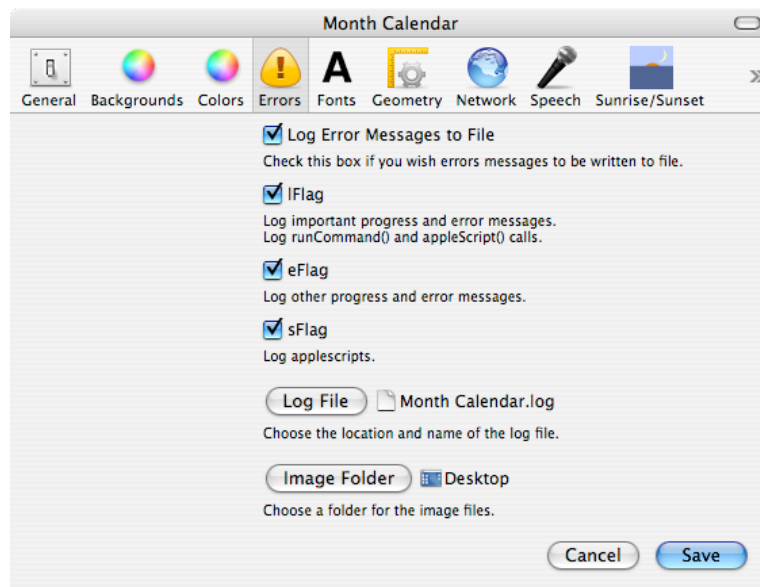
Colors

This pane can be used to customize image, text and text background colors.



Errors

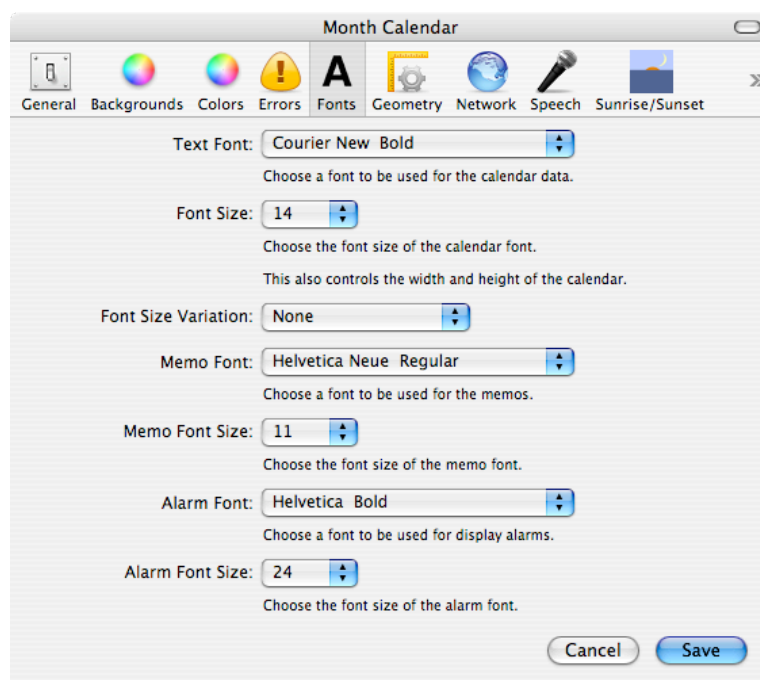
This pane allows you to save progress and error messages to file. If you encounter or suspect a bug, use this to provide a log file.



Fonts

This pane allows you to choose the calendar and memo text fonts and to set their sizes.

Note that the size chosen for the calendar font also controls the size of the calendar.



Geometry

This pane control the size of the memo window.

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☐ Allow Oversize Settings
Check the box to allow settings to exceed the width and height of the available screen.

Memo Window Width:
Set the preferred width of the memo window (in pixels).
You may leave either or both of the Memo Window Width and Memo Window Height preferences blank.

Memo Window Height:
Set the preferred height of the memo window (in pixels).

Maximum Width:
Set the maximum width of the memo window (in pixels).
You may leave either or both of the Maximum Width and Maximum Height preferences blank.

Maximum Height:
Set the maximum height of the memo window (in pixels).

☐ Suppress Frame
Check the box to suppress the frame.

☐ Fixed Aspect Ratio
Check the box to force a 4:3 aspect ratio.

Memo Magnification Factor:
Choose the magnification factor for the memo window.

Anchor Point:
Select where the memo window should be anchored.

Network

This pane provides access to a remote iCal file and also allows the users of Month Calendar to share memo, iCal and sound files.

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Network iCal File:
If required, enter the URL of a remote iCal file.

☒ Use A Shared Memo Folder
Check this box to have your memos stored in a shared folder rather than in the Widget's Data Folder or the User's Document Folder. Select the shared folder below.

Choose the Shared Memo Folder.

Shared Access Mode:
Choose the access mode for files stored in the Shared Memo Folder.

Update Interval:
Choose the shared update timer interval (in minutes).

Please see the separate documentation on setting up the multi-user features.

Speech

This pane controls the speech feature of the widget.

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Speak Memo Hotkey: Control F1

Choose a hotkey to be used to speak the current memo.

To select the Space key, use the Tab menu item.

Maximum Speech Time: 60

Choose the maximum time for continuous speech (in seconds).

☐ Speak Memo Dates

Check this box if you wish the date to be announced when a memo is opened.

Cancel Save

There is an option to set a limit to the size of memo that the widget will speak. The limit can be set from 10 seconds to 100 seconds. Short memos (less than 10 seconds) are spoken directly on request. In the case of longer memos (shorter than the limit), the widget announces the likely duration before speaking them. It refuses to speak memos which exceed the limit. A second use of the hotkey will stop the speech.

Sunrise/Sunset

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Sunrise/Sunset Type: Official

Choose the type of sunrise/sunset calculation.

Latitude: 53 39 29 N

Enter a latitude (dd mm ss.ssss N/S) in this box.

Enter a latitude and a longitude or leave both blank.

Longitude: 1 56 41 W

Enter a longitude (dd mm ss.ssss E/W) in this box.

Altitude: 70

Enter the altitude to be used in the calculation.

Units: metres

Choose the units to be used for the altitude.

Time Zone: My Local Time

Choose the timezone to be used for the display of sunrise and sunset times.

Time Zone Offset: 0

Enter the number of hours that the time zone differs from UTC(GMT).

Zones west of Greenwich take negative values. Offsets should be expressed in hours, with a decimal part, if need be.

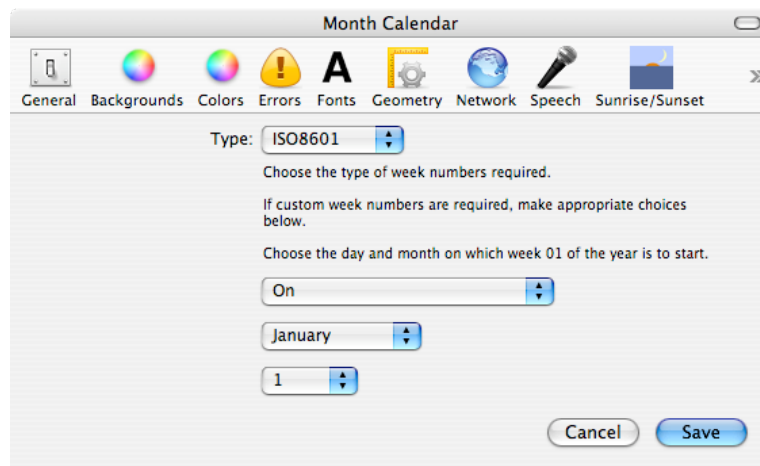
☐ Use 12-Hour Clock

Check this box if you would like rise and set times to be shown in 12-hour format.

Cancel Save

Sunrise and sunset times are shown in the tooltip of the memo window, if the user's location has been specified.

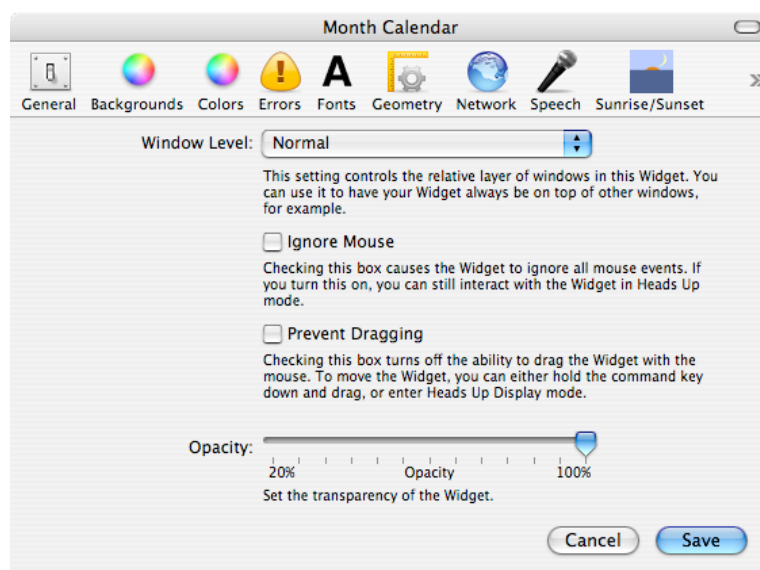
Custom Week Numbers



Week Numbers can be chosen to be ISO 8601 compatible or they can be customized. In the latter case, the user must specify the rule to be used to define the day of the year on which week 01 of the year is to start. This is done using the three popup menus at the bottom of the pane.

Regardless of the day of the week chosen in the popup menu (above), or the day chosen to start the week in the General pane (Sunday or Monday), the week numbers displayed on the calendar always refer to the **Monday** (when it is displayed).

Window

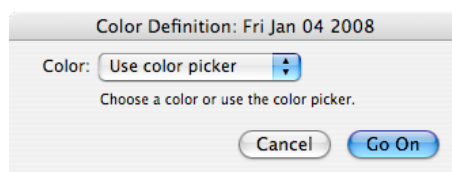


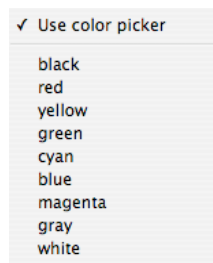
This pane provides the standard widget window controls.

Command Feature

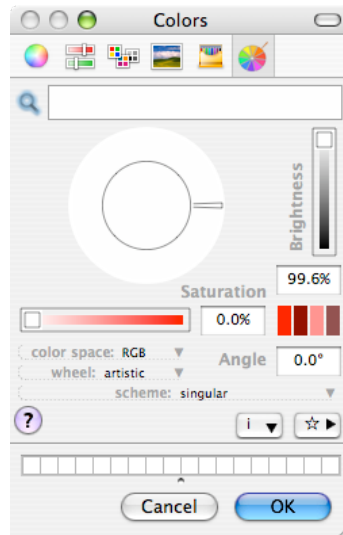
This version has a command feature which can be used to set the background **colors** of dates and to set **alarms**. Commands are embedded in the memos, but do not appear in tooltips and are not included when memos are spoken.

Color commands can be inserted into a memo by **alt+double-clicking** a date and choosing a color using the popup menu on form which appears.





If desired, the user may choose to use the color picker:



If several COLOR commands appear in a memo, only the last if effective. The chosen color overrides any background color that would otherwise be applied to a date.

Alarm commands can be inserted into a memo by **shift+double-clicking** a date and entering the desired alarm time into the dialog box which appears.

Alarm Definition: Fri Jan 04 2008

Alarm Time:

Enter the alarm time in the format: HH:MM:SS or HH:MM

Repeat:

Choose the maximum number of times that the alarm is to be repeated.

Every:

Choose the interval at which the alarm is to be repeated.

☒ Audio

☒ Display

☐ Email

☐ Open File

☐ Open Folder

☐ Open URL

☐ Memo and Display

Choose the type of alarm required.

Alarm commands with valid **Repeat** and **Every** fields are now processed. Alarms that lie within the day being defined may be repeated up to nine times. Alarms may also be defined so that they repeat at daily, weekly and other intervals. In this case, the alarm occurs once only at the specified date and time, but is then renewed automatically at the same interval. To cancel such a repeating alarm, delete the alarm entry from the memo of the same date.

Without intervention, repeating **month** and **year** alarms could land on dates that do not exist. To avoid this problem, alarms are, if need be, moved earlier in the month or year. They are not moved back to their original dates (the next time), even if that would be possible.

After completing this form, **the user is asked to complete further forms** for any of the alarm types selected.

Audio alarms are normally sounded about thirty seconds before the specified time and again at the specified time. However, if the specified time is within one minute of the time at which it is set, the alarm is only sounded once at the specified time.

Note that, in the case of the **Email** alarm, although the widget generates an email message using the default email program, **it does not send it**. The user must do that, as there is currently no simple way to send emails automatically from a widget.

Note also that alarm events defined in imported calendar (iCal) files are not processed or executed.

Command Syntax

Users do not need to insert commands into memos by typing them. It is much easier and safer to use the dialogs described above.

The color command takes the form `<<COLOR=color>>` where **color** can be one of RED, GREEN, BLUE, YELLOW, CYAN, MAGENTA, WHITE, BLACK, GRAY, GREY, or a color-code in the form `#RRGGBB`, where **RR**, **GG** and **BB** are three two-digit hexadecimal color codes.

Alarm commands take the form `<<ALARM=hh:mm:ss>>` or `<<ALARM=hh:mm>>` where **hh:mm:ss** or **hh:mm** are in 24-hour time format, i.e. they run from **00:00:00** to **23:59:59**.

Alarm commands usually take extra parameters which vary from one alarm type to another.

For example, in the case of audio alarms, the name of a sound file may be included: `<<ALARM=hh:mm:ss;SOUND=filename>>`. Sound files for use as alarm sounds may be dropped onto any date or open memo window. Copies of the files are stored with the user's memos.

Here are some other alarm commands:

<code><<ALARM=20:21:45;REPEAT=3;EVERY=00:15:00;SOUND=G6AUC.wav>></code>	// sound alarm with repeat clause
<code><<ALARM=20:21:45;REPEAT=1;EVERY=two-weeks;SOUND=G6AUC.wav>></code>	// sound alarm with repeat clause
<code><<ALARM=20:21:45;TEXT=text>></code>	// display alarm
<code><<ALARM=20:21:45;TO=mailto;SUBJECT=subject;MESSAGE=body>></code>	// email alarm
<code><<ALARM=20:21:45;OPEN=path>></code>	// open file alarm
<code><<ALARM=20:21:45;SHOW=path>></code>	// open folder alarm
<code><<ALARM=20:21:45;URL=url>></code>	// open url alarm

Calendar (iCal) Files

Calendar (iCal) files can be imported (by alt-clicking the *top-left* previous month arrow) and can be managed (by alt-clicking the *top-right* next month arrow). Calendar files usually have the **.ics** extension. When an iCal file is imported, a copy is stored with the user's memos. iCal files can be deleted by using the management function.

iCal events appear in the tooltips of calendar dates. The widget handles simple events (i.e. those defined for specific dates in the current month) and repeating annual events that have been defined for a period that includes dates in the current month. iCal files (which are defined in RFC2445) can be very complex. This widget handles some of the most commonly occurring event formats, **but it is very likely that it will ignore many events altogether** and that it will not handle all of the features of those events it does handle.

Some iCal files may contain alarm events (VALARMS) which are similar to the alarm events described above. At present, alarms defined in iCal files are not processed or executed.

Month Calendar contains a helper widget (**To_iCal Widget**) which can be started from Month Calendar's context menu.



To_iCal can translate some Outlook style (CSV) calendar files to iCal (ICS) format. Drag and drop the CSV file onto To_iCal's window. The converted ICS file is placed in the same folder as the original CSV file. The ICS file can then be imported into Month Calendar in the usual way.

Credits

The widget uses a modified version of the GlassWindow class created by Michael Bleigh <mbleigh@cc.gatech.edu>.

The License window and Memo window graphics were designed by Ricky Romero.

The main sunrise/sunset calculation is based on an algorithm published by the US Nautical Almanac Office.

Almanac for Computers, 1990, published by Nautical Almanac Office, United States Naval Observatory, Washington, DC 20392.

The moonrise/moonset calculation is based on code by Stephen R. Schmitt published at

http://home.att.net/~srschmitt/script_moon_rise_set.html.

Widget Design, Coding and Documentation

The moonrise/moonset code is Copyright © 2004 Stephen R. Schmitt.

The rest of the code and associated documentation is Copyright © 2005-2008 Harry Whitfield.

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Licenses

Month Calendar - A Calendar with Week Numbers
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Moonrise/Moonset Calculation Code

Copyright © 2004, Stephen R. Schmitt

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