

## **Notes on Plain Text Export & Import**

**Warning:** The Export of sensitive information from a Password Safe database to a text file has serious security consequences. This operation will create an unprotected copy of **all** of the passwords in the database. Deleting this copy after use is **not** sufficient and other actions should be taken to properly erase the data (e.g. third party “shredding” utilities). The export of sensitive data bypasses the security of the Password Safe program.

***Export and Import to plain text files has been changed from V3.06 and later.***

Export will now *always*

- include a Title Row as the first record in the text file.
- require and use a delimiter to replace the “newline” character in a multi-line Notes field and the period (‘.’) if present in the Title field. You may still select the character to use, although the default, ‘»’ [Alt+0187], is very unlikely to be present in your fields but you should use a different value if it is.

Import will now *always* require:

- A Title Row as the first record in the text file.
- A delimiter to reinstate the “newline” character in a multi-line Notes field and the period (‘.’), if present, in the Title field. You may still select the character to use, although the default, ‘»’ [Alt+0187], is very unlikely to be present in your fields.

The Title Row for full data export is:

Group/Title  
Username  
Password  
URL  
AutoType  
Created Time  
Password Modified Time  
Last Access Time  
Password Expiry Date  
Record Modified Time  
History  
Notes

During Export, each “column heading” is separated from the next by a tab character. You may use the “Advanced” feature to exclude any number of these fields from the Title Row and the corresponding exported data.

During Import, the supplied Title Row must include “column headings” that match exactly one of the above. If any “column heading” is repeated, only the data in the last one will be added to the entries during import. If a “column heading” does not match one of the above, the data in that column will be ignored during import. The character separating the “column headings” must be the same as the one you specify separating the associated data in the following entry records in the text file being imported. Note: to import any data into Password Safe, the Title and Password fields must be present and neither blank nor empty, as it would be if adding a new entry to an existing database.

There is no restriction on the order of the “column headings”. Password Safe will use the supplied Title Row to correctly add the specified data to the right field.

## Data Formats

Column Heading/Field	Comments
Group/Title	If present, groups are separated by periods ('.'). The Title field cannot be blank, empty or contain the delimiter character.
Username	
Password	Cannot be blank or empty.
URL	
AutoType	
Created Time	See note <sup>1</sup> below
Password Modified Time	See note <sup>1</sup> below
Last Access Time	See note <sup>1</sup> below
Password Expiry Date	See note <sup>1</sup> below
Record Modified Time	See note <sup>1</sup> below
History	See note <sup>2</sup> below
Notes	The Notes field should not contain the delimiter character since on import it will be translated to a newline.

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Time fields can be one of the following 3 formats:

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a. yyyy/mm/dd hh:mm:ss      | e.g. 2007/01/26 19:31:25      |
| b. ddd MMM dd hh:mm:ss yyyy | e.g. Fri Jan 26 19:31:25 2007 |
| c. yyyy-mm-ddThh:mm:ss      | e.g. 2007-01-26T19:31:25      |

where:

yyyy The year in full. Value is between 1970 and 2038.  
mm The month; e.g. 01 = January, 02 = February etc.  
dd The day of the month  
MMM The short form of the month; e.g. Jan = January, Feb = February etc.  
ddd The short form of the day of the week; e.g. Mon = Monday, Tue = Tuesday, etc.  
hh The hour using a 24-hour clock.  
mm The minutes  
ss The seconds

Format 'b' is the output from the ANSI C function 'asctime' and format 'c' conforms to the ISO 8601 standard.

<sup>2</sup> Password history is represented in the exported entry record as a text field comprising a header followed by the required number of entries of old passwords:

Password History Header:

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1 hexadecimal digit  | status for saving PWH for this entry (0 = no; 1 = yes) |
| 2 hexadecimal digits | maximum number of entries in this entry                |
| 2 hexadecimal digits | number of entries currently saved                      |

Each Password History Entry:

- |                      |                                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 8 hexadecimal digits | time of this old password was set |
| 4 hexadecimal digits | length of old password            |
| character string     | old password                      |