



PocketPlanter

Bringing it all
together!

PocketPlanter™

version 2.4

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Bring the power of your desktop computer into your garden through the convenience of your handheld computer.

Installing PocketPlanter...

PocketPlanter™ must be installed on your handheld computer. It can, optionally, also be installed on your desktop computer, allowing sharing of the same data between the handheld version and PocketPlanter for Windows.

The setup program will handle the whole installation process for you, giving instructions along the way. Be sure to read the instruction screens to get the program and data conduit set up correctly.

If you are planning to use both the handheld and Windows versions, you need to perform the installation by following the following steps, *in order*.

1. First, run Setup.exe to install the desktop software and to prepare the handheld computer version of PocketPlanter for installation on the handheld at your next HotSync.
2. After exiting setup, perform a HotSync to move the PocketPlanter files to your handheld computer.
3. You should then start PocketPlanter on the handheld computer, at least once. This will create the necessary files on the handheld to make possible the synchronization with the desktop computer.

If you are upgrading from an earlier version of PocketPlanter, a notice will appear, telling you that your data files need to be updated to the new version. When prompted, select [Update] to convert your existing data files to the new version. The data conversion takes 1 to 10 minutes, depending on your device's processing speed.

Enter any database registration codes you may have purchased. (To enter code(s), tap the [Register] button you see when you open the various databases: Annuals, Perennials, and Shrubs.)

4. Next, you should HotSync again to move the newly created handheld computer files to your desktop.
5. Finally, click the Windows Start Button, select Programs, then locate the PocketPlanter program group and select a) Run PocketPlanter for Windows to run the desktop version.

Using PocketPlanter...

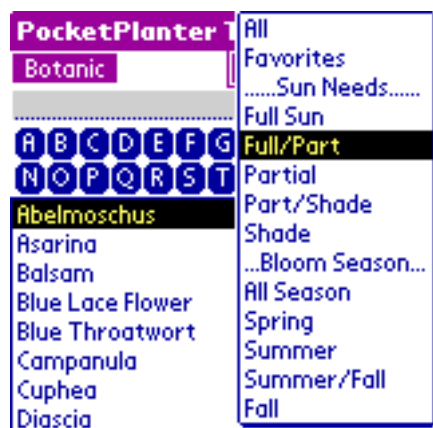
The PocketPlanter Plant Encyclopedia “Main Menu”.

The most obvious feature of the encyclopedia is the plant name selector in the lower half of the screen. To locate a plant in the list, you can use the up/down scroll arrows that appear on the right side of the plant name list, or you can use Graffiti or the letter buttons on the screen to enter the first few letters of the plant name you are searching for. The list will scroll to the closest match. You can also use the PageUp and PageDown “hardware buttons” in the lower area of your handheld computer to scroll the name list.




When you locate the plant you’re looking for, tap it’s name on the list to open the plant record. You can change the plant list to show botanic rather than common names by tapping the [Botanic] button in the upper left area of the screen. In botanic name mode you can only search for a plant name by using the up and down scroll arrows to the right side of the plant name list.

A P S The [A],[P],and [S] buttons in the upper right area of this screen let you switch between the Annuals, Perennials, and Shrubs databases (if you have these databases installed on your device).



A category selector in the extreme upper right corner of the screen lets you limit the plant name list to only show the types of plants you are currently interested in.


There are three small buttons  in the upper right area of the screen that let you: Backspace in the plant search field, backing up one character at a time, Clear the plant search field, using the eraser button, or bring up the Find screen by selecting the “magnifying glass” button to let you search for a particular word or phrase among the currently-displayed plants.

Finally, you can select the **Journal** button to open the planting journal, where you can track plants you grow in your garden, beds you plant, and you daily garden diary.



The Plant Data Screen.

When you select a plant's name on the encyclopedia main menu, information is displayed on that plant. Selecting buttons lets you investigate the plant's Uses, and the look of its Leaf and the Form, or shape, or growth habit. Scroll bars are available to display information hidden from view in some sections.



The little book button  in the upper left section of the screen toggles the display of the pronunciation of the plant's botanic name.

The plant record features three tabs. Selecting "Needs" along the top of the screen shows information about the plant's horticultural needs. The Needs tab also lets you mark the current plant as one of your favorites. A notepad button brings up a text editor where you can enter any data you want to add about the current plant. Finally, the "Varieties" tab will tell what color of blooms are available for this plant, and lists some different cultivars of the current plant.

The tiny   buttons in the upper right area of the screen will advance to the previous or next record in the database, allowing you to scroll through the plants one-by-one.

The Planting Journal.

The journal consists of three sections: "My Plants", "My Beds", and "My Diary".

These sections are accessed by selecting the "tabs" along the top of the screen. All three sections operate in the same basic way. Until you have created records here, the screen will be mostly empty. To create a record, tap the "blank page" button in the lower section of the screen. Once a new record has been created, it's name will appear on the list of plants, beds or diary listing. To open a previously created record for editing, tap the "open folder" icon to the right of the record you want to open/edit. To remove a record from the list, tap its "trash can" icon and confirm that you want to delete the record.



On the handheld computer, enter dates using the device's built-in date selector. In Windows, enter dates manually. The computer will attempt to make sure you enter the date in the correct format, but it's up to the user to enter valid dates. For example, the computer won't care if you enter a date showing 30 days in February.

In the My Plants section, you can enter information about what you have planted and when you planted it, as well as how you should care for it.

Planting Record Save Cancel

Plant name: Impatiens Accent Salmon

Planting date: 03/02/2002

Planted as: Seed

Planting depth: Surface

Seed germination requires light

Water: Cover with plastic

Soil: Sandy

Light: Full sun

Fertilizer: Miracle Gro



The plant records provide a place to keep track of what you have planted, and when. It's a good idea to use this screen to store the information from seed packets or plant pack description tags. That way information on planting depth, water, light and fertilizer needs is always easily at hand.

You can set up the dropdown lists to speed data entry later. Adding items to the "Planted as", "Water", "Soil", "Light", and/or "Fertilizer" lists can let you quickly plug standard information into a record's text fields.

Alternatively, you can enter text directly into the text field.

The notepad button at the bottom of the screen opens a text editor where you can store any other notes about the current record.

In the My Beds section, enter information on different plant beds you create, what plants they contain, and their maintenance schedule.

The Beds screen is used to keep information about different beds or sections of your garden, including when you planted the bed, when you last watered and fertilized it, and what it's water and fertilizer needs are. The plants list at the bottom is to track what plants are in the bed. You can enter plant names directly, or you can use the Plants dropdown list to plug in any of the plants you've previously set up in the "My Plants" database. A notepad button is also available to let you enter any notes you may need to make about the bed.

Beds Journal Save Cancel

Bed name: Annuals Bed

Planting date: 05/25/2002

Water: Keep moist

Last watered: 06/10/2002

Fertilizer: 13-13-13

Last fertilized: 07/01/2002

Plants: Gazania Daybreak Mix;
Impatiens Accent Salmon;
Impatiens Mosaic Lilac



Diary entry for: 06/20/2002

Planted a new Japanese Keria where the old one died on the west side of the house.

Pruned the apple trees.

Blooming this week in the garden:

Gladiolus

Iris

Daylilies

Roses

The My Diary section lets you store, by date of entry, any information you want about your plantings and gardening experience. One good use of the diary is to track what plants are in bloom at a particular time in your garden, so you can enhance your garden display by grouping plants that will bloom together.

Records in the diary are stored by date, in the format YYYY MM DD, so that all entries for the same year will be grouped together, and all entries for the same month are grouped together, with days of the month placed in proper order.

For example, an entry preceded by 20020714 would have been created in the year 2002, on July 14. The diary section displays the most recent entries by default, so to find older entries, scroll up, going back in history.

The “Top Menu”

The menus along the top of the screen change, depending on what screen is currently in view. On the handheld computer, tap the device’s dropdown menu button to open the top menus. In Windows, the menus are already visible.



Beaming PocketPlanter

The Beam menu on the main screen of the of the plant encyclopedia lets you send the PocketPlanter files to another handheld computer. The program beams as a 10-day trial version. The receiving device must be on and ready to receive. You must send the PocketPlanter file itself, plus at least one plant database (Annuals, Perennials, and/or Shrubs). If you send Annuals or Perennials, you must also beam the associated Index file.

If you wish, you can beam your own Plants, Bed, and/or Diary Journal data. If you don't send these files, the receiving device will create it's own Journals.

Edit/Paste/Copy

In the full screen notes editors throughout PocketPlanter you can highlight text and select Copy from the top menu, then move to another place and select Paste to paste the copied text in somewhere else, either a place withing PocketPlanter, or anywhere that will accept pasted text on your device (or in Windows, into any Windows program).

Likewise, you can copy text from somewhere else on your desktop or handheld computer and paste the text into a plant note in PocketPlanter.

Help

Online, context-sensitive help is available on most screens, via the About menu on the top menu. Just select About^o This screen.

Lists

The Lists menu on the Plant Encyclopedia main screen lets you erase all your plant notes for the currently displayed database (annuals, perennials, or shrubs). This menu choice also resets the favorites list so no favorites checkboxes will be marked.

The Category menu choice will clear all your category lists (Full sun, Full/Part, etc.) for the currently displayed database (annuals, perennials, or shrubs). The lists will be rebuilt as needed.

Preferences

The Pref menu on the Planting Journal screen lets you, optionally, set PocketPlanter to start with the Planting Journal displayed first, rather than showing the Plant Encyclopedia first.

The Pref menu on the encyclopedia main screen lets you control this same setting. It also lets you set your preference on selecting plant names on the encyclopedia plant name selector. By default, one tap on a plant name opens the record. If you wish, however, you can set the selector preference to let the first tap highlight the plant name (to make sure you've tapped the record you meant to tap) then the second tap opens the record.

Printing records

A menu choice on several screens lets you generate printed reports of PocketPlanter data. In the plant encyclopedia, display the records screen or notes for a record you want to print and select "pRint this record" from the top menu.

In the Journal, you can print plant, bed, or diary screens in the same manner. A record must have first been created and saved before it can be opened and printed.

On the handheld computer, printing requires that you have PalmPrint or SCSPrint installed on your device. A free trial version of SCSPrint is included with PocketPrinter. You must also have an IR-capable printer, such as the HP Laserjet 5P to receive the beamed-report from the handheld. (It's also possible to print using a serial cable connection. See information on that at <http://www.stevenscreek.com/palm/palmprintconnectivity.html>)

In Windows, reports are generated and placed, as a plain text file, on your computer's hard disk. By default, reports are named for the current record and placed in your PocketPlanter HotSync folder. You can, however, specify a different report output folder and filename, if you wish. Once reports are generated, you can open them into any word processor, reformat and manipulate the text if desired, then print it. The reports look best and format properly if viewed using a fixed-width font such as Courier.

Removing PocketPlanter.

Should you need to remove the PocketPlanter files from your computer(s), follow the instructions below:

Removing the handheld computer version

To remove just a portion of the program, you can use the PpRemover.PDB program. It will remove any of the plant databases you don't need. You must have at least one plant database on your device in order for PocketPlanter to function. To remove other databases,

1. Go to the PocketPlanter program group in your Windows Start button^o Programs section and select g) Install PocketPlanter Database Remover.
2. Perform a HotSync.
3. On the handheld's main menu screen, look for and tap the PocketPlanter removal utility icon.
4. When the remover utility starts, tap the button(s) naming the database(s) you want to remove.



To remove the entire PocketPlanter program from your device, use the device's Delete function, located on the device main screen's dropdown "top menu". Locate PktPlanter on the list of programs on your device, select it, and tap the [Delete] button.

Removing PocketPlanter for Windows

1. First, you should remove the PocketPlanter conduit. Click the Windows Start button, select Programs then locate the PocketPlanter program group on the list of programs. Click to open the PocketPlanter program group, then select f) Remove PocketPlanter (ARKd) Conduit. When asked, click to confirm that you want to remove the conduit.
2. After removing the conduit, return to the Windows Start button and open the PocketPlanter program group again and select "Uninstall PocketPlanter".
3. When prompted, click [Yes] to confirm that you want to remove PocketPlanter.