

# New and Enhanced Features of HotDocs 11

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## Important Information about HotDocs 11.2.10

### Changes to HotDocs Form Templates (.HFT)

The HotDocs PDF Printer driver has been removed from HotDocs. The result of this is:

- HotDocs no longer supports the [saving of existing HotDocs Form Template \(.HFT\) files as PDF-based form templates](#). If you need to convert .HFT files it is recommended you install an earlier version of HotDocs Developer.
- You can no longer use the HotDocs PDF Printer driver to [print existing documents to PDF](#). This is a step required when creating form templates from existing documents. However, you can still use another PDF printer driver (for example, the Microsoft Print to PDF driver) to accomplish the task.

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## New and Enhanced Features of HotDocs 11.2.9

### Compatibility with Microsoft Word 2019

You can now build and use templates compatible with the latest version of Microsoft Word.

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## New and Enhanced Features of HotDocs 11.2

### Compatibility with Microsoft Word 2016

You can now build and use templates compatible with the latest version of Microsoft Word.

HotDocs 11.2 is a paid upgrade and license codes from earlier versions are not compatible. If you want to upgrade to HotDocs 11.2 you need to contact your HotDocs representative.

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## New and Enhanced Features of HotDocs 11.1

### More flexible dialog validation with the new **ERRORTEXT** key word

You can use the [new \*\*ERRORTEXT\*\*](#) keyword in dialog scripts to create custom error messages for your end users, as well as to prevent users from proceeding through the interview until they satisfy custom validation rules.

### [Automatic grouping of variables into default dialogs](#)

Use the new **Combine default dialogs** component file property to improve your end user's experience. This option groups individual variables (those not otherwise grouped into custom dialogs)

into default dialogs in the interview. This keeps your end user from needing to advance through multiple variables one at a time, as part of an interview.

In the 11.1 release, this feature is valid only for templates published to the desktop environment.

### **Easier creation of shared component files**

When creating templates, the [New Template Dialog box](#) now enables you to designate a shared component file from among those in the target directory.

### **More flexible repeats within table cells**

Previously, the only way to repeat information inside a single table cell was by using a computation variable. Now you can also embed a REPEAT/END REPEAT block [directly in a table cell](#). This is in addition to the existing use of REPEAT fields to repeat entire table rows.

### **Improved Update table of contents, references, fields, etc. for server-based assembly**

The server-side code that updates tables of contents, cross references and other types of fields after assembly is improved, and now more closely resemble the behavior of Microsoft Word. However, server-based field updates are still only an approximation of the behavior of Word on the desktop. Consequently, the former component file property to control whether such field updates should occur or not has been replaced by two new component file properties: one which governs behavior when assembling in desktop HotDocs, and a new check box on the [HotDocs Server tab](#) of the Component File Properties dialog that governs behavior when assembly is taking place on a server. When converting a template for use with HotDocs server, we recommend testing all features that previously relied on the desktop version of this option.

### **Support for [INSERT instructions](#) embedded in computation variables**

Templates containing INSERT instructions embedded within computation variables (rather than included in a template's main content) now work on both HotDocs Server and HotDocs Cloud Services. This change requires you to re-publish any existing affected templates.

### **WordPerfect X7 Support**

You can now build and use templates compatible with the latest release of WordPerfect. Note, though, that HotDocs no longer supports WordPerfect 12.

### **New license model**

HotDocs Developer, LE and User now require a valid license key to run. If you do not provide a license, the regular HotDocs Developer installer automatically installs HotDocs with a 30-day evaluation license.

The evaluation period begins with the date of first use rather than the date of install.

## Support for Inserting images into tables in DOCX templates

DOCX templates now join RTF templates in supporting INSERT FILENAME IMAGE fields within table cells.

## New currency symbols added to the Number Variable Editor

The Yen (¥) and Pound (£) symbols are now available in the Currency Symbol drop-down list in the [Number Variable Editor](#), regardless of system locale settings.

## Maximum Field Size Increased

The maximum size for fields in Microsoft Word templates has been increased from 256 to 512.

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## New and Enhanced Features of HotDocs 11

### Word processor support

HotDocs 11 now supports Microsoft Word 2013 and WordPerfect X6.

It no longer supports Microsoft Word 2000 and XP or WordPerfect 8,9,10, and 11.

### New support for DOCX file format

HotDocs now supports DOCX format templates with no file conversion throughout, allowing HotDocs to better utilize the native properties of Microsoft Word, reducing any unexpected errors in assembly and avoiding unmanageably large file sizes. HotDocs will still support all RTF templates.

### New support for Plain Text Templates

In addition to word processor based templates, HotDocs now supports Plain Text Templates (.txt files). These templates can be automated using a text editor and when assembled the finished document can be sent to your default text editor.

### Parameters and Local Variables

A new feature in HotDocs Scripting is the use of Parameters and Local Variables for use in more complex scripting tasks. Parameters can be re-used throughout a template to save creating multiple computation variables with the same use, while local variables only exist within a particular computation. Neither of them appear in the Component Manager and they can both be set from the Computation Variable Editor.

### New Expressions

**New Math Expression Models: HotDocs now includes the following 6 new math expressions:**

- LOGARITHM( NUM ): Find the common logarithm of a number variable.
- NATURAL LOGARITHM( NUM ): Find the natural logarithm of a number variable.

- EXPONENTIAL( NUM ): Find the exponential value of a number variable.
- SQUARE ROOT( NUM ): Find the square root of a number variable.
- FLOOR( NUM ): Find the floor value of a number variable.
- CEILING( NUM ): Find the ceiling value of a number variable.

**New Financial Expression Models:** HotDocs now includes the following 5 new financial expressions, all of them utilize the same formula but differ on which value you are looking to generate :

- FUTURE VALUE (RATE, TERM, PAYMENT, PRESENT VALUE, TYPE)
- PAYMENT (RATE, TERM, PRESENT VALUE, FUTURE VALUE, TYPE)
- PRESENT VALUE (RATE, TERM, PAYMENT, FUTURE VALUE, TYPE)
- RATE (TERM, PAYMENT, PRESENT VALUE, FUTURE VALUE, TYPE)
- TERM (RATE, PAYMENT, PRESENT VALUE, FUTURE VALUE, TYPE)

**New Text Expression Models:** The following text expressions have been modified from existing expressions:

- POSITION( TEXT, TEXT, TRUE\_FALSE ): This function used to be POSITION( TEXT,TEXT ) but it now contains an optional true/false variable placeholder where false (or nothing) indicates HotDocs should begin from the left hand side of the text and true indicates HotDocs should begin from the right.
- TRIM( TEXT ): A new expression for removing white space that does the equivalent function of STRIP( TEXT, "\t", TRUE, TRUE ).
- TEXT STARTS WITH TEXT: This is a new variable based on TEXT CONTAINS TEXT but HotDocs checks if a text variable starts with the selected text.
- TEXT ENDS WITH TEXT: This is a new variable based on TEXT CONTAINS TEXT but HotDocs checks if a text variable ends with the selected text.

## Help System Re-structure

**Removal of the What's This help feature:** The **What's This** help buttons have been removed from HotDocs windows and dialogs.

**Window Specific Help File Pages:** The **What's This** help buttons have been replaced with a new buttons  and  which will open the relevant *At a Glance* window or dialog box page from the HotDocs help file.

**Re-structure of the HotDocs Help File:** The HotDocs Help File has undergone a change to the style and structure of the table of contents. There has been improvements made to the search function, index and glossary as well as the introduction of new *At a Glance* pages, where you can see the main features of HotDocs dialog boxes and windows. In the new help file *Introduction* pages are also now listed as *Introduction* pages.

## HotDocs Models

Model Documents have been re-named to HotDocs Models for the release of HotDocs Developer 11. Model Document Markup Language (MDML) will also now be referred to as Markup to avoid any confusion with other programming languages. This name change is accompanied by an updated toolbar

in Microsoft Word and a more comprehensive help system. Information for Developers can now be found in this help file and information for HotDocs Model users can be found on our [help website](#).

## **Inserting Instructions into template**

**Changes to INSERT instructions:** INSERT instructions will now work in Headers and Footers.

**Using SPAN instructions in DOCX templates:** SPAN sections will be stored in an RTF format during assembly and silently converted to DOCX when the document is opened or sent for print.

## **Import or Export Computation Variables**

You can now export Computation variables in a HotDocs readable syntax, allowing you to share computations with other HotDocs users. (See [Import or Export Computation Variables](#))

## **Template IDs**

HotDocs now generates a unique template ID number for every new template. You can see this at the **Component File Properties** dialog box.

## **Additional Improvements**

In addition to the new features above, this release of HotDocs contains software corrections and minor enhancements to existing features.