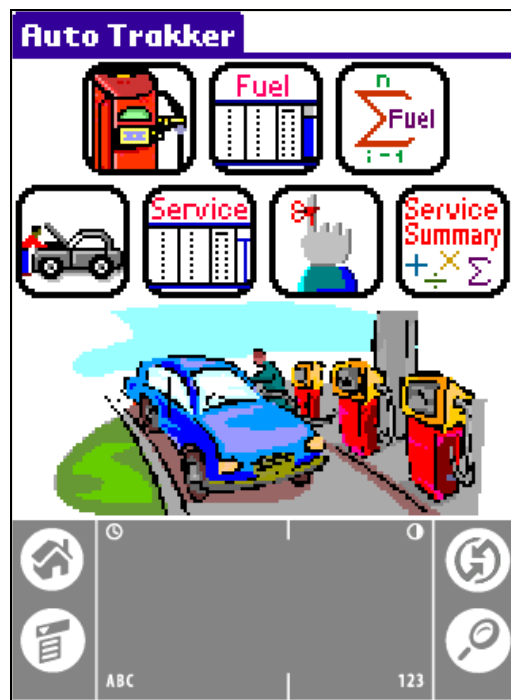


AUTO TRAKKER

For Palm OS®

Users Manual
Version 2.0



Software by,
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Program Overview

Auto Trakker is a compact PDA program that has the ability to track records for up to 15 vehicles. You have the ability to monitor records using the units of your choice. That is, liters versus gallons or Mpg versus km/L and many more. The option to convert existing database entries to different units is available too.

Fuel records can be entered in any order. There is a built in validation checker to verify data entries. For example, more recent entries must have higher odometer readings and vice versa. Unlike other programs that have you calculate the distance you traveled from the previous fuel purchase then enter the value into the program, Auto Trakker handles all of the operations for you. You can even enter records out of order, just as long as the new entry meets Auto Trakker's validation requirements. Auto Trakker lets you take full control of monitoring your vehicle's maintenance. Maintenance options can be added, deleted, or modified as desired. Scheduled maintenance alarms can be setup to trigger by either date or by distance (odometer values). Finally, all vehicle service records can be easily added tracked and exported to a PC for record keeping.

Summary reports for each vehicle can be generated based on the selection of a start and end date. The summary will provide results that can then be exported to Memo Pad and hot-synced to your PC for backup. Just like with the fuel tracking features, summaries can be generated for all vehicle maintenance, too.

Demo vs. License Version

The demo version has all of the same functionality as the licensed version. However, once you have entered 15 records into the database the program will be locked. A fully functioning version with an unlock is only available by purchasing the software from PdaSolutions4U.com, PalmGear.com or Handango.com.

You may also purchase the program through PayPal using email address PdaSolutions4U@yahoo.com. PayPal purchases receive a 10% discount. The PayPal purchase price is \$18.00 compared to the \$20.00 charged at the popular software storefronts. Visit PdaSolutions4U.com for more information.

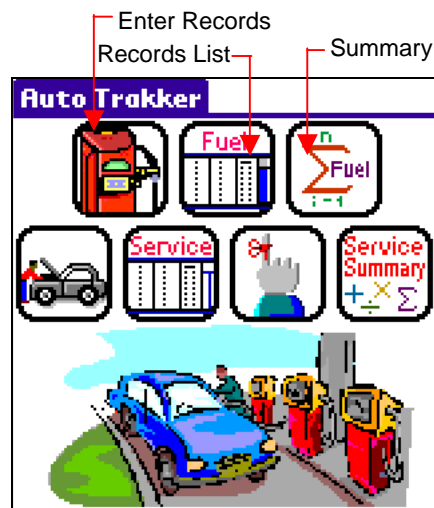
Adding/Renaming Vehicles

Adding vehicles is done the same way categories are managed in other Palm programs. Up to 15 vehicles can be added by selecting the "Edit Vehicle.." pop-trigger located in the upper right corner of any of the forms. When the trigger is selected you can add, change vehicle names, or delete vehicles.

Navigating The Software

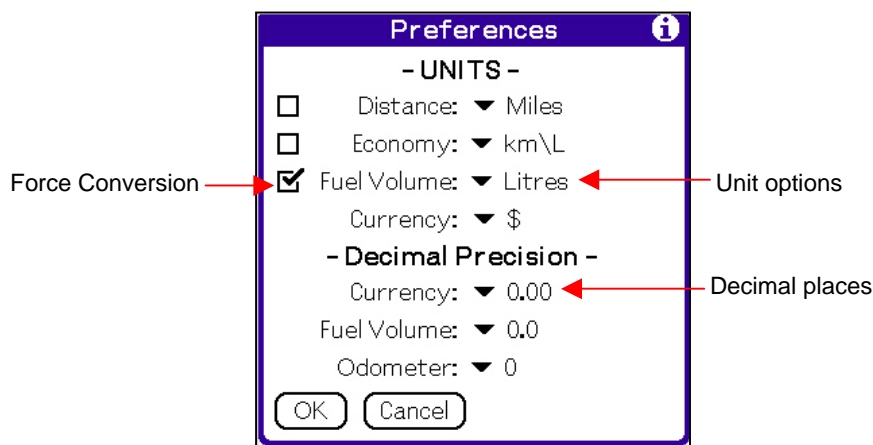
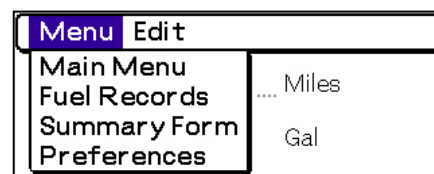
When Auto Trakker launches, a main screen appears. This is the *menu* that points to all of the program's functionality. There are seven buttons that make navigating through the program easy. These buttons are:

- Enter Fuel Records button (gas pump icon): used for inputting all fuel information.
- Fuel Records List button (fuel icon): all fuel record entries are found here.
- Fuel Summary button (fuel summation icon): fuel database queries are performed here.
- Enter Service Records button (car icon): used for inputting all service records.
- Service Records List button (service icon): all service record entries are found here.
- Scheduled Service Reminders button (finger w/bow icon): enter and track all future service reminders here.
- Service Summary button (service summary icon): maintenance database queries are performed here.



Setting Up User Preferences

Select "Preferences" from the menu options located on any of the forms to gain access to the Preferences Form. This form allows you to choose the units and the number of decimal places that will be displayed for selected items on each form.



There are only three things to consider when using the Preferences form. What units you want to use for each item, how many decimal places you want displayed, and should the existing units be converted. Selecting the units to be displayed and the number of decimal places to be shown is rather straight forward. In order to force a conversion of units, i.e. Liters to US Gallons, you must already have Liters selected as your current units. Then you select the "Force Conversion" box as shown in the figure below. Selecting the box will force all values of the current vehicle to be changed. In the figure below, all database values for Fuel Volume of the current vehicle will be converted from the previous selected units (Liters in our example) to US Gallons.

You may also track your expenses using different currency options. There are five different options currently available, which are ¢, ¥, £, \$, and the Euro.

FUEL MONITORING SECTION

Entering Fuel Records

Select the gas pump icon from the main menu to enter the Fuel Entry form. This is where fuel entries for vehicles are made. The form consists of the following details:

The screenshot shows the 'Fuel Entry' form for a vehicle named 'Hemi Ram 1500'. The form contains the following fields and controls:

- Vehicle name:** A dropdown menu showing 'Hemi Ram 1500'.
- Odometer:** A text field with '78253.3' and a unit dropdown set to 'Miles'.
- Total Fuel:** A text field with '25.321' and a unit dropdown set to 'Gal'.
- Fuel Cost:** A text field with '66.56' and a currency dropdown set to '\$'.
- Date:** A date picker showing '5/4/04'.
- Full Tank:** Radio buttons for 'Yes' (selected) and 'No'.
- Buttons:** 'Menu', 'Clear', and 'Enter' buttons at the bottom.

Red arrows point from text labels on the right to each of these elements.

- Vehicle name: select the vehicle that is to receive the new record entry.
- Odometer: the odometer reading when the vehicle was fueled. This value is used for validating data entries and tracking fuel economy.
- Total Fuel: the amount of fuel that went into the vehicle.
- Date: the date the vehicle was fueled. The date is used for validating other fuel entries by comparing it to the odometer readings of previous and prior fuel entries. Also, the date is used for summary reports that are discussed in the Vehicle Summary Section.
- Full Tank: only select [Yes] if the tank was completely topped off. This entry is used to determine how the fuel economy should be calculated. If the tank was not completely filled, fuel economy calculations will be

incorrect. Also, if you are missing the fuel entry prior to the current entry select [No]. Otherwise, the fuel economy calculation will show a very efficient fuel economy value. If you are entering fuel records out of order and you know that you will be entering the previous fuel record eventually, then go ahead and select [Yes]. Auto Trakker will automatically recalculate the fuel economy for any previous and prior record entries when a new record is entered into the database.

Viewing Fuel Records

Select the fuel record list icon from the main menu to enter the Fuel Records form. There are five columns in the list of records as shown in the following figure. The labels above each column identify the numbers in each column. The labels will change according to the desired user preferences.

The database will regenerate with new values automatically if a different vehicle is selected. Also, there are several sort order options available for the database. You can sort by date, distance, fuel quantity, fuel cost, and fuel economy. Each row is a single database entry. If you want to view every detail of the record or modify the record, simply select any item in the row. This will launch a window with all of the record information; refer to the Modifying Fuel Records section for more information.

The table scroll arrows will only appear if you have more records than can be viewed at one time. Selecting the arrow will cause the records to scroll one page at a time. This allows you to cycle through records very quickly.

****Tip**** If your PDA has a wheel it will perform the same function as the table scroll arrows. This will provide even faster movement through database entries.

The screenshot shows the 'Fuel Records' screen. At the top, there is a header bar with 'Fuel Records' on the left and a dropdown menu showing 'Hemi Ram 1500' on the right. Below this is another dropdown menu labeled 'Select Sort Order'. The main area is a table with five columns: 'Date', 'Miles', 'Gal', 'Cost', and 'Mpg'. The table contains ten rows of data. At the bottom left is a 'Menu' button, and at the bottom right is a table scroll arrow icon. Red arrows point from text labels to these specific elements: 'Current vehicle name' points to the 'Hemi Ram 1500' dropdown, 'Database sort order' points to the 'Select Sort Order' dropdown, 'Single fuel record entry' points to the first row of the table, and 'Table scroll arrows' points to the scroll arrow icon.

Date	Miles	Gal	Cost	Mpg
4/30/04	3212.23	21.23	41.25	10.41
4/15/04	2991.30	22.23	39.25	12.02
4/2/04	2724.20	23.36	46.25	12.97
3/25/04	2421.30	19.37	38.25	10.90
3/11/04	2210.20	22.32	42.15	12.44
2/29/04	1932.50	20.52	44.32	10.23
2/14/04	1722.50	21.35	51.32	10.42
2/1/04	1500.10	22.53	45.55	11.10
1/15/04	1250.10	22.13	44.54	11.30

Modifying Fuel Records

Selecting any record from the Fuel Records table will produce all the contents of the record. You can change every detail of the fuel entry even the vehicle that the record belongs to.

Whenever the [OK] button is selected a recalculation of previous and prior records occurs. If the record is moved to another vehicle, the fuel economy values for the vehicle gaining and the vehicle losing a database entry are updated automatically to reflect the change.

Deleted database entries are permanently removed and they cannot be recovered. A warning message will appear if the [Delete] button is selected, which helps prevent accidental deletion of records. Selecting [Cancel] from the warning message will send you back to the current fuel record.

Fuel Record	
Vehicle:	▼ Hemi Ram 1500
Odometer:	85000.00 Miles
Fuel Qty:	21.25 Gal
Fuel Cost:	44.6 \$
Date:	1/1/04
Full Tank:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="button" value="OK"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/> <input type="button" value="Delete"/>	

Creating Fuel Reports

Select the Fuel Summation icon from the main menu to access the Fuel Summary form. There are only two items needed to create a report; the “start date” and the “end date”. Once you have chosen the desired dates select the [Calculate] button to create the report. The results will appear as shown on the accompanying form. You must select [Calculate] to update the report if you change the dates or vehicle.

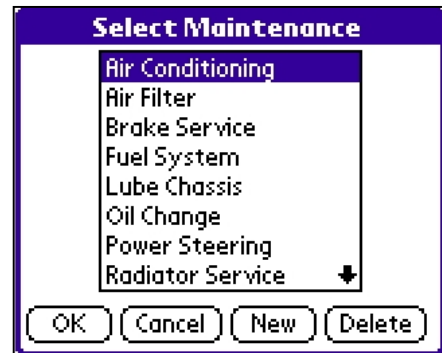
The units listed on the report will correspond to the user preference selections. For your convenience, when the form is accessed or a different vehicle is entered, the date of the oldest record entered for that vehicle will be automatically entered into the start date.

Fuel Summary ▼ Hemi Ram 1500	
Select Start Date:	8/16/04
Select End Date:	6/11/05
Total Distance:	4569.0 Miles
Total Fuel Cost:	845.44 \$
Total Fuel:	393.62 US Gal
Avg. Economy:	12.28 Mpg
Avg. Cost/Distance:	0.176 \$/Mile
<input type="button" value="Calculate"/> <input type="button" value="Menu"/>	

MAINTENANCE MONITORING SECTION

Entering Maintenance Records

Select the car icon from the main menu to enter the Service Entry form. To choose what type of service was performed on the vehicle, select the Service trigger. A window will pop up with a list of services to choose from. If the type of service that you want is not listed simply add it by selecting the [New] button. You can also delete items that you find irrelevant. Deleting the name from the list will not delete the name from records that used the service name prior to deleting it.






The next thing that needs to be entered is the date that the service was performed. Select the date trigger and select a date from the calendar. The other two items that must be entered in order for the program to accept the record is the Odometer reading and the Cost. There is a place to enter notes for your own reference. However, entering a note is not mandatory for creating a maintenance record. If you find that you have entered a significant portion of an entry incorrectly, select the [Clear] button to start over. This will reduce the amount of time spent erasing each item on the form.

Service Entry ▼ Hemi Ram 1500	← Vehicle name
Service: Air Conditioning	← Service performed on vehicle
Date: 2/9/05	← Date the vehicle was serviced
Odometer: 12345.6 Miles	← Current odometer reading
Cost: 123.26 \$	← Cost for services
Notes: Clutch seized, had to replace pump and belt.	← Memo for your records.
OK Menu Clear	← Button choices

****Tip**** To better track the expenses of each service rendered, enter each item individually. That is, if three different maintenance options were performed on the vehicle the same day, enter each item separately. This will make tracking the expenses for each service easier. The Service Records Table has some entries that further illustrate the example in the *Viewing Services Records* section.

Viewing Service Records

Select the service record list icon from the main menu to enter the Service Records form. There are four columns in the list of records as shown in the following figure. The labels above each column identify the items in each column. The labels will change according to the desired user preferences.


Service Records			
▼ Xterra			
▼ Select Sort Order			
Date	Miles	Service	Cost
5/9/05	15920.2	Lube Chas..	12.25
5/9/05	15920.2	Oil Change	27.03
2/5/05	12923.6	Oil Change	25.95
1/31/05	12100.0	Air Filter	13.21
1/1/05	10000.0	Tire Rotati..	10.00
1/1/05	10000.0	Air Conditi..	123.45 
12/20/..	9123.6	Oil Change	21.33
9/3/04	6532.1	Brake Ser..	---
9/3/04	6532.1	Lube Chas..	25.36 
<div> <div>Menu</div> <div>New</div> <div></div> </div>			

Sort order for the listed records.

Indicates a note exist for the record.

No cost indicator (free service).


Select to create a new record.

You can sort by date, Service, and cost. Each row is a single database entry. If you want to view every detail of the record or modify the record, simply select any item in the row. This will launch a window with all of the record information; refer to the Modifying Service Records section for more information. The "---" in the cost column means that there was no charge for the service. The "" icon next to the cost means there is a note associated with the record. To view the note, select the note icon and a window will popup with the contents of the note.

The table scroll arrows will only appear if you have more records then can be viewed at one time. Selecting the arrow will cause the records to scroll one page at a time.

Modifying Service Records

When a Service record is selected from the table it will popup in the Service Record window. All of the information entered for the record can be viewed and modified here. If the record is no longer wanted it can be permanently deleted by selecting the [Delete] button. However, use some caution when deleting records because once the record is deleted it can not be recovered. If a note has been added, or if a note needs to be added to the record select the note icon to open the note form. You can also delete any note from the record by selecting the [Delete] button on the Note Form.


Service Record 

Vehicle: ▼ Xterra

Service:

Date:

Odometer:

Cost: 

OK

Cancel

Delete

Scheduling Vehicle Maintenance

The one thing that truly separates Auto Trakker from any other vehicle service monitoring software is the scheduling. You can set reminders that will trigger an alarm when a certain date is reached **or** when the odometer value passes a set number.

Date / Distance	Service	Icons
6/12/05	Lube Chassis	[Checkmark icon]
9/12/05	Lube Chassis	[Checkmark icon] [Bell icon] [Notepad icon]
12000	Oil Change	[Checkmark icon]
15000	Oil Change	[Checkmark icon]

Menu New

No matter which option you select, “Date” or “Dist”, they can be switched back and forth with ease. Also, they can be used simultaneously for the same vehicle. This allows for a great deal of flexibility for ensuring that warranty requirements are adhered to.

Schedule a Date Alarm:

Vehicle: Xterra
 Service: Lube Chassis
 Date / Dist: 6/30/05
 Alarm ☒ 3 Days before
 Repeat: Every 3 Months
 Notes: Have mechanic check the tie-rods too!
 OK Cancel Delete

None
 Every 3 Months Every 9 Months
 Every 6 Months Every 12 Months
 Repeat 5 times.
 OK

This form appears when the Repeat trigger is selected.

When the “Date” pushbutton is selected the following options are available:

- Vehicle: select the vehicle that is to receive the new record entry.
- Service: The name of the scheduled maintenance needed.
- Date: The date the scheduled maintenance is required.
- Alarm Checkbox: Selected only if an alarm is requested.
 - If the alarm checkbox is selected chose the number of “days in advance” that the alarm is to be triggered
- Repeat: The number of times the alarm is to repeat and at what interval.

- Notes: Memos or information that might be important.

When setting a Date alarm, and the Alarm checkbox is selected, the value of the selected alarm date minus the number of days in advance of the alarm must be in the future of the current date or the alarm will not be allowed to be set

When a repeating alarm is set, only one entry is added to the Scheduled Service table. When the alarm is triggered, the original entry will have the alarm checkbox and repeating options cleared. Then another record will be automatically created with the alarm checkbox selected, the repeating alarm value decremented by one, the alarm date advanced by the selected repeating value, and the alarm set to trigger at the new settings. This approach helps keep the table clean and easy to read.

Schedule a Distance Alarm:

The screenshot shows the 'Schedule Maintenance' dialog box. It has a title bar 'Schedule Maintenance'. Inside, there are fields for 'Vehicle' (set to 'Xterra'), 'Service' (set to 'Lube Chassis'), and a section with 'Date' and 'Dist' buttons. The 'Dist' button is selected, and the value '18523 Miles' is entered. Below this is an 'Alarm' checkbox which is checked, followed by '3 Miles before'. Then there is a 'Repeat' field set to '15' and a 'X ea.' field set to '3000 Miles'. At the bottom is a 'Notes' text area containing 'Have mechanic check the tie-rods too!'. At the very bottom are three buttons: 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Delete'. Red arrows point from text labels on the right to specific fields: 'Odometer reading when service is due.' points to '18523 Miles', 'Max number of miles before service is due.' points to '3 Miles before', and 'Number of times to repeat the alarm and the distance interval to increment the alarm.' points to '3000 Miles'.

The same features exist for a distance alarm when the “Dist” pushbutton is selected except that the date options are replaced by the following distance options.

- Distance: The odometer value which scheduled maintenance is required.
- Alarm Checkbox: Selected only if an alarm is requested.
 - If the alarm checkbox is selected chose the number of “units in advance” that the alarm is to be triggered. Units are defined by user preference, i.e. miles, km, etc.
- Repeat: The number of times the alarm is to repeat and at what interval.
 - The repeating alarm will be incremented by the distance interval plus the set odometer value after the alarm is triggered.

Distance alarms are a little less precise then date type alarms. In order for a distance type alarm to function properly, the fuel must be tracked for the same vehicle that is tied to the alarm. Whenever a fuel record is entered into the database, Auto Trakker will scan the alarm database to see if the maximum number of days prior to the alarm odometer value has been meet. If the alarm requirement is met, an alarm will be triggered and the alarm will be manipulated just like the date alarms are. The original record will be stripped of the alarm and

repeat values. Next, a new alarm will be created at the next odometer value and the repeating value decremented by the value of one.

The “Dist” option is ideal for drivers that do not do a lot of driving and are not held to a maintenance schedule based on monthly intervals.

Exporting Reports

In order to export a generated report choose “Export to Memo Pad” from the drop down menu located on any form containing data. The report is created in a comma-delimited format (.CSV). The report will be sent to your PC if your hot-sync program is setup to accept memos. Once the report is on your PC it can be viewed with any spreadsheet program.



****Tip**** If you use Microsoft Outlook you can access the CSV file by doing the following. Select the imported Fuel Trakker record that you want to view. Next, select FILE then SAVE AS. When prompted for the file name, change the extension to .CSV or .XLS for viewing in Excel.

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