

Table of Contents

Chapter 1. Database Review	10
Chapter 2. Tables and Sets	12
Chapter 3. Action Scripts.....	14
Chapter 4. Xbasic Variables and Constants.....	25
Chapter 5. Your first Xbasic script.....	28
For Advanced Users – Declaring and Assigning Variables in One Step.....	28
Chapter 6. Input and Output.....	29
Chapter 7. Variable scoping and Namespaces.....	31
Namespaces	31
Chapter 8. Functions, Methods and Properties.....	33
Chapter 9. Flow Control.....	39
Indentation.....	42
The line continuation character.....	42
Chapter 10. Return to functions.....	44
Chapter 11. The Interactive Window.....	48
Chapter 12. Your first (almost useful) program.....	50
Chapter 13. The Big Event.....	51
Form Events.....	53
Tabbed Subform events.....	55
Browse Object Events.....	56
Field object events on a form.....	57
Button events.....	58
Multistate Button events.....	59
Text object events.....	60
Record events.....	60
Chapter 14. Custom Field Rules	63
Chapter 15. The Debugger.....	68
Chapter 16. Table Pointers.....	71
Field manipulation.....	72
Examining methods and properties in the interactive window.....	72
Chapter 17. Preventing Duplicate Records.....	74
Chapter 18. Ordering a table: Indexes and Queries.....	77
Chapter 19. Breaking and Entering, um, I mean Entering and Changing.....	82
Chapter 20. Functional Literacy Revisited.....	84
More Useful Functions.....	86
Chapter 21. Example: Aged Accounts Receivable.....	88
Chapter 22. Xdialog.....	92
a_dlg_button and Xdialog events.....	97
Modeless Xdialog Boxes.....	99
Chapter 23. Table.current() and Table.get().....	109
Chapter 24. Detail General Ledger.....	111
Example: Creating a Pop-Up Alert.....	115
Chapter 25. Time waits for no man, or woman either.....	118
Time Entry in Xdialog.....	123

Chapter 26. Record locking and Multiple Users	129
Example: Multiple instances of the same modeless dialog box.....	132
Chapter 27. The Object Is.....	136
A method to our madness.....	136
The Address, Please.....	137
Chapter 28. Using Action Scripting on Form Objects.....	137
Chapter 29. Xbasic control of Form Properties	144
Placing a query on a child table	145
Preventing any changes to a form	146
Chapter 30. Manipulating Objects on the Form.....	148
The this object alias.....	148
The .this object qualifier.....	148
Bringing Hidden Forms in and out of view	150
The obj() function.....	151
Chapter 31. The Alpha Five Cheat Sheet.....	153
Chapter 32. Run-Time Security.....	156
Compile the script into an executable library.....	173
Chapter 33. Memo Manipulation and External Files.....	176
Mission: Possible.....	176
Chapter 34. Appending memo fields	179
Chapter 35. Duplicating Records.....	181
Duplicating records from a set.....	182
Chapter 36. Crosstabs and Exports.....	186
Chapter 37. A relational operation.....	190
Chapter 38. Restricting form properties.....	192
Toggling Modeless Data Entry.....	192
Chapter 39. Custom Menus.....	194
Chapter 40. Custom Toolbars.....	196
Chapter 41. A Running Balance.....	198
Chapter 42. An Audit Trail.....	207
Chapter 43. A Calendar Application	218
Step 1. The data structures.....	218
Step 2. The calendar layout.....	220
Step 3. Show the appointments on the calendar.....	226
Step 4. Add events to the calendar to make it dynamic.....	228
Step 5. Write the Xdialogs to edit dates and appointments and insert them into the script.	229
Step 6. Add Rollup and Printing Events.....	233
Chapter 44. Packaging your application.....	240
Step 1. Export the scripts and functions to a text file.....	240
Step 2. Create a new database to house the library.....	241
Step 3. Remove the originals from the development database.....	242
Step 4. (Optional). Compile your scripts and functions.....	243
Step 5. Be kind to your network users.....	244
Chapter 45. Much ADO about nothing.....	246
Step 1. Download and install MySQL.....	246
Step 2. Create a table in MySQL.....	247
Step 3. Create an ODBC connection to our MySQL database.....	248

Step 4. Connect to MySQL through Alpha Five.....	250
Step 5. Rewrite the calendar scripts to use ADO.....	254
Chapter 46. Moving to the Web.....	265
Step 1. Configuration of the Web Application Server.....	265
Step 2. Create a web component.....	266
Step 3. Edit the page to change the default behavior of the grid.....	272
Chapter 47. Design a web page from scratch.....	275
Step 1. The top section.	275
Step 2. Layout the calendar.....	281
Chapter 48. Finishing the Web Calendar Application.....	290
Step 1. Change component behavior in editday.a5wcmp.....	290
Step 2. Modify the editday.a5w page.....	290
Step 3. Add a little security to editday.a5w	291
Step 4. Create an editone.a5w page.....	293
Step 5. Create calRpt.a5w.....	294
Chapter 49 Object-oriented Xbasic.....	298
A simple object.....	298
A more complex class	301
Add the MoveDown and MoveUp methods.....	303
Add a sophisticated Xdialog user interface to the object.....	304
Scope of classes.....	308
For Refugees from C#.....	308
Constructors and Destructors.....	308
Static functions and Private functions.....	310
Inheritance.....	311
Chapter 50. Javascript and the WAS.....	313
Multiple-field server level validation.....	313
Javascript in Two Minutes.....	315
The Web Page, Examined.....	316
Chapter 51. Web App Server and AJAX.....	322
XML? What's that?.....	322
A simple example	322
A more complex example.....	325
Chapter 52. OLE Automation.....	332
Embedded Object.....	332
The OLE Automation Browser.....	336
A more difficult example: OpenOffice automation.....	341
Chapter 53. Gimme Music.....	349
Chapter 54. And Pictures, Too!.....	353
Chapter 55. ActiveX Events.....	358
Chapter 56. Scan and Print: ActiveX and Image Management.....	363
Chapter 57. Upsize Your Database!.....	370
Table structures.....	372
Add a New User.....	377
An AlphaDAO Connection String.....	378
A Simple Xdialog.....	382
Always an Argument.....	386

Add Navigation Buttons to the Form.....	393
Separate the Header Fields.....	398
Adding New Transactions.....	404
MySQL Procedures.....	413
Reconciling the Checkbook	419
Updating and Maintaining the Account and Payee Tables.....	423
Make Mine MDI.....	430
Can You Do It in WAS?.....	431
Using Javascript.....	437
A Bit of Style.....	449
Chapter 58. Your turn.....	452
