

Users-Manual for TotalCar and TotalCarC

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Brief Summary:

TotalCar is a handheld application that works with the PalmOS compatible handhelds. It offers total car care for you car or cars! It keeps track of one to four vehicles.

- Fuel - keeps track of your fuel costs.
- TripLog - keeps track of your business trip expenses.
- Maintenance - keeps track of your vehicle's maintenance and sets alarms!
- Repair - keeps track of your vehicle's repairs.

And finally, it has an Summary/Analysis screen that helps you query each cars history and total expenses between two dates. And if you want to print out a report to your PC's printer, just export to MEMOPAD and using your Palm Desktop Software you can print the report you exported! Please note, all units are neutral. I put no restrictions on units of distance or fuel amounts or even monetary units. If you want to enter Fuel in Gallons or Litres then that is what the units are.

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Chapter 1 - Purchasing / Registering



Palm-Basics

Above is a diagram showing where the different buttons are and what they are called. The diagram's main purpose is as a guide for the next section on how to Register the program you purchased.

**Registering Program
Sending the Fee**

For up-to-date instructions on how to pay the \$10 fee visit me at
<http://www.witkowski-design.com> .

Registration-Screen

A screenshot of a registration screen with a black border. At the top is a purple header bar with the text "Register Now!" in white. Below the header, the text "Contact: Ed Witkowski" is followed by "www.witkowski-design.com" and "ed@witkowski-design.com". Below this, "FEE \$10" is displayed. Further down, it says "Send Reference# when Registering." followed by "Reference # : EDMUNDWI". Below that is "Reg-Key : " followed by a dotted line and an upward-pointing arrow. At the bottom left is a button labeled "(exit)" and at the bottom right is a button labeled "(Register)".

A Reg-Key will unlock the 15-day limitation and allow the program to run indefinitely. In order for me to Generate your unique Reg-Key I need you to send me your REFERENCE# and which Palm-Model (PalmIII, PalmV, etc.) you use. The REFERENCE# is found on the Registration-Screen.

There are two ways to get to the Registration-Screen:

- 1) Allow the program to expire and the only screen it goes to is the Registration-Screen.
- 2) Hit the REGISTER button on the Introduction Screen. The REFERENCE# should be 8 Capital Letters and/or Numbers. In some instances it will say "No Ref#" which is a valid REFERENCE#.

Reg-Key

The Reg-Key must be entered in the Text-Field to the right of "Registration Code:" The Reg-Key is case sensitive and MUST be entered exactly as I give it to you. After entering the Reg-Key into the Text-Field press the REGISTER button. If you entered it incorrectly it will display INVALID. If you entered it correctly it will return to the application and refuse you further access to the Registration-Screen.

Upgrading Older Versions

Upgrading versions to applications you already purchased are FREE as long as the Reg-Key given when you purchased is still valid. Contact the programmer for further assistance. There are two ways to upgrade a newer version: Delete Old One or Overwrite Old One.

Don't forget to HotSync first to back up your database with your PC so you don't lose any saved data. Assuming you have your PalmDesktop Software set to Synchronize Palm and PC, or Palm overwrites PC, the 1st being the best choice, your database will be backed up on your PC during a HotSync.

Delete Old One

To delete ANY Palm application you must go to the Palm System Menu (see diagram) and choose DELETE. Then a list will appear showing all currently HotSynced programs. Choose the application name you want to DELETE (in this case TOTALCAR) and delete it. You are now ready to HotSync the new version into your Palm.

Overwrite Old One

As the Programmer/Developer, I often just HOTSynchronize the newer version of a program into my palm over top of the older version. This usually works, however, I have encountered times when it still sees the older version no matter how many times I HotSync the newer version over top of the older version. In this case, you must DELETE the older version BEFORE HotSyncing the newer version (see section-a above.)

Chapter 2 – DataBase and Data Loss

Database Files

There are 5 databases that encompass TotalCar:

- 1) TcA3_Fdb.PDB (Fuel Database)
- 2) TcA3_Mdb.PDB (Maintenance Database)
- 3) TcA3_Rdb.PDB (Repair Database)
- 4) TcA3_Tdb.PDB (TripLog Database)
- 5) TcA3_Vdb.PDB (Vehicle Database)

Backup

Everytime you HotSync your Palm in its cradle the databases are backed-up on your PC, assuming your System Conduit is set to "HandHeld overwrite PC". This is good and bad. It is bad because it overwrites the PC files with the HandHeld files every time you HotSync, which could potentially overwrite good data with bad data. There is no conduit at this time. Conduits are a more sophisticated (and more complicated for both programmer and end-user to set-up) and allow for synchronization between both PC and Handheld (similar to your Address Book and MemoPad). What is happening here is a blind copy to your PC every HotSync.

Restoring

If you ever DELETE TotalCar or do a Hard-Reset you will need to re-HotSync TotalCar.PRC and then HotSync each of the PDB-files listed above into your Palm. This should restore everything.

Don't forget to hit the RESET ALARMS button on the Maintenance screen to reset all of your alarms in your Calendar. Don't worry about creating duplicate alarms if some of the alarms are already set, the program verifies their existence and if they are not there, then they are reset.

Location

Where are they located? Well, your PalmDesktop Software sets up a Palm Folder and then in that folder sets up a USER-NAME folder and then in that folder sets up a BACKUP folder. Each installation can be customized and I can not say where it will be on everyone's, but I can say where it is on my PC. I took Default values and for my User-Name I choose "WitkowE", so my database files are located in:

C:\ Palm \ WitkowE \ Backup

Chapter 3 – Icon-Bar

There are six icons, each one taking you to a different screen.



Icon1 - Introduction Screen

Picture of small letter “i”

Contains the Title, version#, Programmer/Developer, e-mail address, Continue Button, and a Register Button to take you to the Registration Screen.



Icon2 - Fuel Screen

Picture of Gas Pump

This screen serves two purposes: stores all data pertinent to fueling up and allows you to view Fuel-Data that you have stored in the database.



Icon3 - Maintenance Screen

Picture of oil-can dripping oil

This screen serves two purposes: stores all data pertinent to maintenance and allows you to view Maintenance-Data that you have stored in the database. This screen has a list of maintenance items that need to be done periodically. After entering the data on the screen and saving it an entry is automatically created inside your Palm DateBook and an alarm is set.



Icon4 - Repair Screen

Picture of wrench

This screen serves two purposes: stores all data pertinent to repairs and allows you to view Repair-Data that you have stored in the database.



Icon5 - Summary Report Screen

Picture of bar graphs

This screen allows you to pick a Starting Date and an Ending Date. And between those two dates you can generate a Summary Report on a single vehicle for either Fuel, Maintenance, Repairs, or all three. Exporting to the MEMOPAD allows printing to a PC-Printer (if you have one.)



Icon6 - Preference Screen

Picture of capital letter “p”

This screen allows you to choose which vehicle you want to store data on or view data on. It also allows you to edit or create your current list of up to 4 vehicles.

Chapter 4 – Introduction Screen



Description

The Introduction Screen contains the Title and the version # so you know if you have the latest version. It also contains contact information if you need to contact the Developer.

Continue Button

The **Continue** button will take you to the **Preference** Screen where you choose which vehicle you want to start with (or add a vehicle if this is your first time using it.)

Register Button

The **Register** button takes you to the Registration Screen where you enter your unique Reg-Key to unlock the 15-day limitation (for more information see Chapter 1 Section-ii for directions on Registering.)

Chapter 5 – Fuel Screen

Jeep (TripLog) 2000-08-23

Odometer 57310.8

Previous 57001.5 view

Distance 309.3

Fuel Cost 1.459 Save

Amt.Fuel 13.708 ← Calc

Tot.Cost 20.00 C

Gas Mileage 22.6 Tips

Description

This screen serves two purposes: stores all data pertinent to fueling up and allows you to view Fuel-Data that you have stored in the database. All units are whatever you want them to be.

Standard Mode

This is the mode the screen enters in. Whenever you hit the SAVE button it automatically saves that record into the Fuel database. This mode allows you to use the Fuel Calculator and enter new records.

View/Edit Mode

You activate this mode by pressing the VIEW button. Now you can view all the Fuel records for the selected vehicle currently in the Fuel Database and edit any records you choose. To save any changes you make press the SAVE button. It will ask if you want to Modify (meaning overwrite the current record) or New (meaning create a new record and leave the current record as is.)

Screen Items

Odometer – Current odometer reading in miles, kilometers, or any units you prefer.
Previous – Previous odometer reading of your vehicle the last time you got fuel. This is automatically filled in for you from your previous database record.
Distance – Automatically Calculates distance driven since your last fill-up.
Fuel Cost – Unit cost of the fuel per Gallon or per Liter or whatever unit you prefer.
Amt.Fuel – Amount of Fuel it took to fill your car on that Date.
Tot.Cost – Total Cost that the fill-up cost you.
Gas Mileage – Depending on units it could be MPG or KPL or whatever the units. This field is automatically calculated for you.
TripLog Button - Takes you to the TripLog Screen where you can track your business travel expenses.
Date Button - Displays the date of fill-up. Click Date to go to Calendar Screen where you can select any date you want.
View Button – When lit indicates you are in View/Edit mode. When unlit you are in normal mode.
Delete Button – Only appears in View/Edit mode. Deletes current Record.
Save Button – In View/Edit mode it asks if you want to Modify current record or Create a new one. In normal mode it just creates a New record.
Calc Button – Calculates Distance, Gas Mileage, and whichever field has the arrow next to it (see Fuel Calculator section below.) It is necessary to hit this button after inputting new data to refresh the Distance field and Gas Mileage field.
C Button – Clears every field but the Previous Odometer reading.

Swapping Odometer Readings

If you tap the Text (Odometer or Previous) to the left of the Input Fields the values will swap. This is handy when starting with an older record and you want to enter the new odometer reading without erasing the old one.

Entering Odometer Readings

Every time you enter the Fuel Screen you are given you last recorded Odometer reading in the PREVIOUS Field. You can enter the DISTANCE and hit CALC and it will calculate the current ODOMETER reading for you. Or you leave the DISTANCE field blank (you MUST leave it blank) and fill in the PREVIOUS odometer reading and the current ODOMETER reading and hit CALC and the DISTANCE will be calculated for you. Or you can enter View/Edit Mode and select a particular record (the fields will be filled in with the record's data) and go back to Standard Mode.

Fuel Calculator

Only works in normal mode, doesn't work in View/Edit mode. There is an arrow to the right of Fuel Cost, Amt.Fuel, and Tot.Cost. Every time you click in one of those fields the arrow moves next to the field you clicked in. Whichever field the arrow is next to when you hit the CALC Button, that field will be calculated and whatever data is in it will be overwritten.

How much was the Fuel cost per unit volume (meaning per Gallon or per Litre)?

Enter data into the Amt.Fuel Field and the Tot.Cost field, and click once inside

the Fuel Cost field so that the arrow is next to it, then hit the CALC button.

How much Fuel will you need to Fill up your tank at this moment?

Enter data into the Fuel Cost field and the Tot.Cost field and click once inside the Amt.Fuel field so that the arrow is next to it, then hit the CALC button.

How much will it cost if you filled the tank right now?

Enter data into the Fuel Cost field and the Amt.Fuel field and click once inside the Tot.Cost field so that the arrow is next to it, then hit the CALC button.

Example

Filling your tank

(Please note that this example will use Gallons and Miles and American Dollars for the currency but that doesn't mean you have to use these units to use this program.)

Let's suppose you just filled your tank. You put \$18 of 87-Octane at the rate of \$1.559 per Gallon. Your Previous Odometer reading the last time you filled your tank was 75200miles and the current reading is 75675miles.

The Previous Odometer field should have the previous reading of 75200 taken from the last Fuel record in the Fuel database already filled in for you. And the Date should already be set to the Current Date and shouldn't need changing (unless you are entering a past record in which case you need to hit the Date Button and enter the past date of fill-up.)

The FIRST thing you have to do is enter the current Odometer reading of 75675 into the Odometer field.

The SECOND thing you have to enter is that Gas Station's Fuel Cost of 1.559.

The THIRD thing you have to do is enter the Total Cost of 18 into the Tot.Cost field.

The FOURTH thing you have to do is tap your pen once inside the Amt.Fuel field so that the arrow is now to the right of that field.

The FIFTH thing you have to do is hit the CALC button to refresh the Distance field (475) and the Gas Mileage field (41.1) as well as the Amt.Fuel field which should say 11.546.

And FINALLY hit the Save button to save this data as a new record in your Fuel database.

Chapter 6 – TripLog Screen

2000-08-23 Jeep Continue

Note: Picked up Documents view

Start Odom 56789.0

End Odom 56989.0 Save

Distance 200.0 C

PricePerDistance 0.35

Cost 70.00

Description

This screen serves two purposes: stores all data pertinent to the TripLog Database and allows you to view TripLog Data that you have stored in the database. All units are whatever you want them to be.

Standard Mode

This is the mode the screen enters in. Whenever you hit the SAVE button it automatically saves that record into the TripLog database.

View/Edit Mode

You activate this mode by pressing the VIEW button. Now you can view all the TripLog records for the selected vehicle currently in the TripLog Database and edit any record you choose. To save any changes you make press the SAVE button. It will ask if you want to Modify (meaning overwrite the current record) or New (meaning create a new record and leave the current record as is.)

Screen Items

Start Odom – Starting odometer reading of your vehicle as you begin the trip. This is automatically filled in for you from previous records.

End Odom – Ending odometer reading in miles, kilometers, or any units you prefer.

Distance – Distance between Start and End Odometer Readings.

PricePerDistance - This is the Price you are getting paid per mile or per kilometer or per unit distance driven.

Cost Button – After specifying a PricePerDistance and the total Distance driven, the Cost Button calculates the total cost of the trip.

Date Button - Displays the date of the trip. Click Date to go to Calendar Screen where you can select any date you want.

View Button – When lit indicates you are in View/Edit mode. When unlit you are in normal mode.

Delete Button – Only appears in View/Edit mode. Deletes current Record.

Save Button – In View/Edit mode it asks if you want to Modify current record or Create a new one. In normal mode it just creates a New record.

C Button – Clears every field but the Starting Odometer reading.

Swapping Odometer Readings

If you tap the Text (Start Odom or End Odom) to the left of the Input Fields the values will swap. This is handy when starting with an older record and you want to enter the new odometer reading without erasing the old one.

Entering Odometer Readings

Every time you enter the TripLog Screen you are given you last recorded Odometer reading in the START ODOM Field. You can enter the DISTANCE and hit COST and it will calculate the END ODOM field for you. Or you leave the DISTANCE field blank (you MUST leave it blank) and fill in the START ODOM field and the END ODOM field and hit COST and the DISTANCE will be calculated for you. Or you can enter View/Edit Mode and select a particular record (the fields will be filled in with the record's data) and go back to Standard Mode.

Example

Going on a business Trip.

(Please note that this example will use Gallons and Miles and American Dollars for the currency but that doesn't mean you have to use these units to use this program.)

Let's suppose you are starting a trip and your current odometer reading is 75,000 Miles. At the end of the trip the odometer reads 75,250. Now you've driven 250 miles and you are reimbursed 30cents per mile.

And the Date should already be set to the Current Date and shouldn't need changing (unless you are entering a past record in which case you need to hit the Date Button and enter the past date of the trip.)

The FIRST thing you have to do is enter the Starting Odometer reading of 75000 into the Start Odom Field.

The SECOND thing you have to enter is either 75250 in the End Odom Field and leave the Distance Field blank, OR enter 250 in the Distance Field and leave the End Odom Field Blank.

The THIRD thing to enter is 0.30 in the PricePerDistance Field.

The FOURTH thing you have to do is hit the Cost Button and the cost should be calculated as \$75 dollars.

And FINALLY hit the Save button to save this data as a new record in your TripLog database.

Chapter 7 – Maintenance Screen

The screenshot shows a handheld device screen with a maintenance management interface. At the top is a toolbar with icons for information, fuel, a wrench, a bar chart, and a 'P' icon. Below the toolbar, the vehicle name 'Jeep' is displayed. To the right, a scrollable list of maintenance items includes 'FuelFilter', 'IgnitionCap' (highlighted in blue), 'IgnitionRotor', and 'Inspection'. Below the vehicle name, there are fields for a date ('2000-10-04'), a cost ('Cost 15'), and an odometer reading ('Odom 56,789.0'). The 'Next Expected' date is shown as '2001-01-04'. At the bottom, there are four buttons: 'reset alarms', 'Set Alarm' (with a checked checkbox), 'Save', and 'View'.

Description

This screen serves two purposes: stores all data pertinent to maintenance and allows you to view Maintenance-Data that you have stored in the database. This screen has a list of maintenance items that need to be done periodically. After entering the data on the screen and saving it an entry is automatically created inside your Palm DateBook and an alarm is set.

Standard Mode

This is the mode the screen enters in. Whenever you hit the SAVE button it automatically saves that record into the Maintenance database as well as sets an entry into the DateBook when the next maintenance is expected and sets the alarm.

View/Edit Mode

You activate this mode by pressing the VIEW button. Now you can view all the Maintenance records for the selected currently in the Maintenance Database and edit any records you choose. To save any changes you make press the SAVE button. It will ask if you want to Modify (meaning overwrite the current record) or New (meaning create a new record and leave the current record as is.)

Screen Items

Cost - This field is the total cost of the Maintenance you had done on your car.

Odom – Current odometer reading in miles, kilometers, or any units you prefer.

Maintenance List - Select the Maintenance you had done in the list of choices.

Date Button - Displays the date of Maintenance. Click Date to go to Calendar Screen where you can select any date you want.

Next Expected Maintenance Date Button - Displays the date of the next expected maintenance for the maintenance job you just had done. Click Date to go to Calendar Screen where you can select any date (as long as it falls after the original date of service.)

View Button – When lit indicates you are in View/Edit mode. When unlit you are in normal mode.

Delete Button – Only appears in View/Edit mode. Deletes current Record.

Save Button – In View/Edit mode it asks if you want to Modify current record or Create a new one. In normal mode it just creates a New record.

Reset Alarms Button – In case you LOST all of your data and had to Restore you data from the Backed-Up TotalCar Databases, you will need to reset all of your alarms. This button doesn't create duplicate alarms, it merely verifies the alarms exist in your calendar and if they are not there then they are reset.

C Button – Clears every field but the Odometer reading.

Example

Let's suppose you just winterized your car by having the anti-freeze flushed and re-filled for \$75 on September 15, 2000 and you get this done every year before winter and your current odometer reading is 75800.

The FIRST thing you would do is enter the Date as September 15, 2000 (or at least verify the current date is listed correctly.)

The SECOND thing you would do is enter the cost as 75.

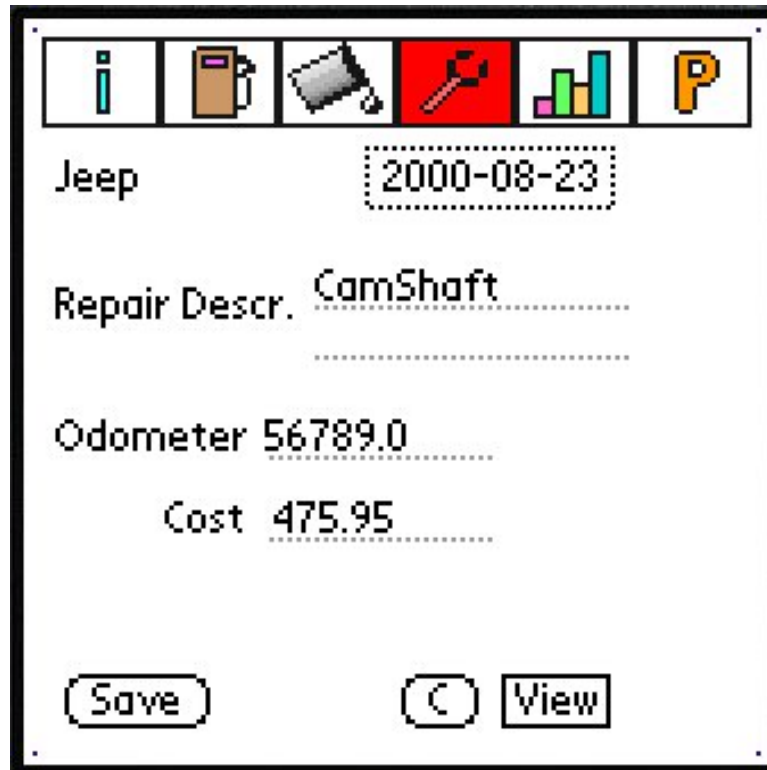
The THIRD thing you would do is enter your Odometer reading as 75800.

The FOURTH thing you would do is select CoolingFlush from the List-Box.

The FIFTH thing you would do is enter the next expected maintenance as September 15, 2001.

The FINAL thing to do is hit the Save Button.

Chapter 8 – Repair Screen



Jeep 2000-08-23

Repair Descr. CamShaft

Odometer 56789.0

Cost 475.95

Save C View

Description

This screen serves two purposes: stores all data pertinent to repairs and allows you to view Repair-Data that you have stored in the database.

Standard Mode

This is the mode the screen enters in. Whenever you hit the SAVE button it automatically saves that record into the Repair database.

View/Edit Mode

You activate this mode by pressing the VIEW button. Now you can view all the Repair records for the selected currently in the Repair Database and edit any records you choose. To save any changes you make press the SAVE button. It will ask if you want to Modify (meaning overwrite the current record) or New (meaning create a new record and leave the current record as is.)

Screen Items

Repair Descr. - Enter the Repair description in this field.

Odometer – Current odometer reading in miles, kilometers, or any units you prefer.

Cost - This field is the total cost of the Repair you had done on your car.

Date Button - Displays the date of the Repair. Click Date to go to Calendar Screen where you can select any date you want.

View Button – When lit indicates you are in View/Edit mode. When unlit you are in normal mode.

Delete Button – Only appears in View/Edit mode. Deletes current Record.

Save Button – In View/Edit mode it asks if you want to Modify current record or Create a new one. In normal mode it just creates a New record.

C Button – Clears every field but the Odometer reading.

Example

Let's suppose you just had your brake pads replaced and your rotors replaced for \$149.99 and the Date is July 31, 2000 and your Odometer reads 29500.

The FIRST thing to do is scribble the text into the RepairDescr. field as "Brake Pads & Rotors."

The SECOND thing you would do is enter your Odometer reading as 29500.

The THIRD thing you would do is enter the cost as 149.99.

The FOURTH thing you would do is enter the Date as July 31, 2000 (or at least verify the current date is listed correctly.)

The FINAL thing to do is hit the Save Button.

Chapter 9 – Summary Report Screen

The screenshot shows a software interface for generating summary reports. At the top is a toolbar with six icons: an information icon, a fuel pump, a wrench, a screwdriver, a bar chart, and a letter 'P'. Below the toolbar are two date input fields labeled 'Start' and 'End', containing the dates '2000-01-01' and '2000-08-23' respectively. In the center, there are four text labels: 'Vehicle: Jeep', 'Tot.Distance', 'Tot.Cost', and 'Avg Gas Mileage'. Below these are two buttons labeled 'Summary' and 'Memopad'. At the bottom is a row of five buttons labeled 'Fuel', 'Trip', 'Maint', 'Repair', and 'All', with 'Fuel' currently selected.

Description

The Summary Screen generates Summary Reports on the data you have been collecting in your database. You can generate 4 type of reports: Repair, Maintenance, Fuel, or all of the above. All Reports are generated per vehicle, meaning whichever vehicle is currently selected on the Preference Screen (and listed in the upper left corner), that is the vehicle you will generate a Summary Report for. Also, all reports are generated by specifying a time span between two dates: a Start date and an End date. This means that you generate a report for time spans, for instance, last month or the current month or the year to date, etc.

Printing Reports

Export to MemoPad by hitting the MemoPad Button. (see MemoPad Button below.)

Summary Button

Pressing this button generates a Summary Report based on the user's selections and displays the report on the screen. To get an Itemized listing of the entire report between the dates you have selected hit the Print Button.

Print Button

The Print Button will create a MemoPad entry in your Palm of an Itemized list of the current Report you have selected for the dates shown. If you HotSync your Palm in its

cradle with your PC, and you have the conduit set to either Synchronize the MemoPad between Palm and PC or Palm overwrites PC, then your MemoPad entries will download to your PC during the HotSync.

Now you can open up your PalmDesktop Software (on your PC not your Palm) that you use to HotSync with, and view the MemoPad entries. You can either print it directly to your PC Printer from here or export the MemoPad entry to MS-Word or MS-Excel or whatever you want to edit and view with.

Fuel Summary Report

Choose a Start and an End Date and highlight the FUEL push button. Hit the Summary button or the MemoPad button.

TripLog Summary Report

Choose a Start and an End Date and highlight the TRIP push button. Hit the Summary button or the MemoPad button.

Maintenance Summary Report

Choose a Start and an End Date and highlight the MAINT push button. Hit the Summary button or the MemoPad button.

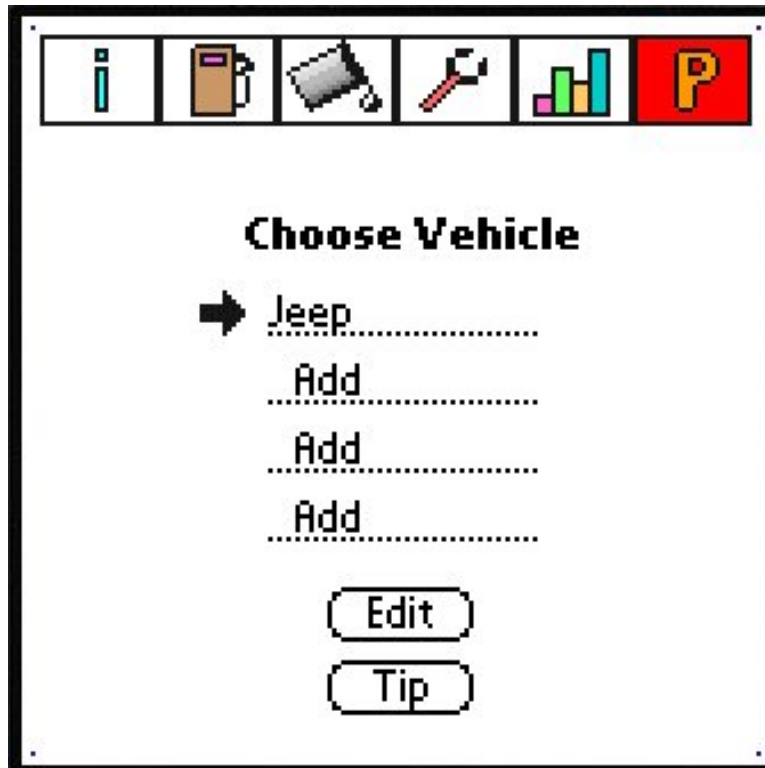
Repair Summary Report

Choose a Start and an End Date and highlight the REPAIR push button. Hit the Summary button or the MemoPad button.

All Summary Report

Choose a Start and an End Date and highlight the ALL push button. Hit the Summary button or the MemoPad button.

Chapter 10 – Preference Screen



Description

The Preference Screen contains has 4 lines to add a seperate vehicles, or a single vehicle with multiple uses so you can distinguish between (like personal versus business, etc.)

Choosing Vehicle

On the first screen of the Preference Screen (as shown above) you choose which vehicle you will enter/edit/view data on (indicated by the arrow on the left of the Fields) and if you need to you can add new vehicles by tapping the word "Add".

Adding / Editing / Deleting Vehicles

Tapping the word "Add" or selecting a vehicle and hitting EDIT will take you to the second Preference Screen. On this screen you simply enter a Name or Description of the vehicle (which will be used to represent that vehicle on the other screens.) You also enter the Odometer reading in that vehicle and the DATE that the odometer reading was taken. You would then hit SAVE to add that newly created (or modified record) vehicle into the database. If you don't want to do anything just hit DONE. And if you wish to remove that vehicle from the list just hit DELETE (it will prompt for confirmation so don't worry.)