

Card Types

Currently, MacFlash supports 5 different card types, with the potential for additional types to be implemented by the author by request. Because of this, MacFlash is a very versatile system for editing and quizzing flashcards, but it does lead to complicated editing details. This section covers specific instructions for each card type, in both the Editor and the Quizzer.

Plain Text

A Plain Text card is probably your 'standard' flashcard. It asks a single question, and requires a single answer. For most people, this card type should be sufficient for putting together a quick deck.

There are no special details to editing this card in the Editor. Both a question and an answer are required.

The Plain Text card can be reversed in the Quizzer. That is, depending on the user's options, the card can be shown with the program providing the answer, and the user entering the appropriate question. This reversal works best when both the question and answer are single words or short phrases, such as in foreign language vocabulary. See the Quizzer chapter for more details on reversal.

Multiple Choice

A Multiple Choice card contains a single question and up to 4 possible answers. In the Quizzer, the user will be presented with the question and the answers, each associated with a letter. To get the card correct, the user must type in the appropriate letter of their choice.

In the Editor, the Multiple Choice card has four fields for entering the answers, and a set of radio buttons to select the appropriate answer. The question and the answer associated with the correct answer must be provided; if only one of the answers is filled, the program will provide a warning.

he Multiple Choice card does not support reversing.

Picture

A Picture card has the ability to associate a picture with a card. The card may have a question along with it, but this is not necessary. In the Quizzer, the picture is displayed along with the question if present.

The Editor interface for the Picture card type is shown below. Besides the standard question and answer fields, there is a third field which shows a scaled version of the current picture for this card, or a greyed-out area if there is no current picture. By clicking on this area, you can access the clipboard, allowing you to cut, copy, paste, or clear the picture from this field. This box accepts pictures in the standard Macintosh form of a 'PICT' clip; most graphic programs will produce a clip of this type. Furthermore, you can load a picture by clicking on the "Load..." button. This will bring up a standard file requester with any 'PICT' files that you may have. Select one to bring that picture into the card.

his card requires an answer and either the question or the picture. You can leave out only the question, or you can also leave out only the picture, but then this card is the same as a Plain Text card, which would be inefficient. Both of these cases will provide a relaxed reminder of this situation.

The Picture card does not support reversing.

Multiple Answers

The Multiple Answers card is similar to the Plain Text card, except that it features the ability to have 1 or more correct answers associated with it. In the Quizzer, you can type in any of the given answers to get a question correct.

The Editor interface for the Multiple Answers is shown below. In addition to the Question field, there is a list box with 3 buttons for the answers. Use the "Add" button to create a new answer. If an answer is selected in the list box, you can then use the "Change" button to modify it, or use the "Remove" button to delete it. Within the dialog that is created when adding or changing an answer, the "OK" button will save the new or changes answer and then close the dialog, while the "OK and Add" will do the same without closing the dialog. Use this button to quickly add new answers to the deck.

his card requires the question and at least one answer. A relaxed reminder will open if there is only one answer, as this case also simplifies to the Plain Text card.

The Multiple Answer card does not support reversing.

Sound

The Sound card, as with the Picture card, allows one to associate a sound with a card. Within the Quizzer, the question for the card is displayed, along with the notification that this card contains a sound clip and how the user can hear it, as shown below.

The Editor interface for the Sound card is shown below. As with the similar Picture card, there is a third field that can be selected in order to access the clipbound. The Editor uses the standard Macintosh sound format, a 'snd' clip, for this field. The "Load" button will bring up the file selection dialog, displaying all 'sfil' files. (This is the standard Finder sound file format). In addition, one can hear the current sound by clicking the "Play" button. Additionally, if there is a microphone attached to the computer, one can use the "Record" button to grab a sound from an input source. This will bring up the standard Record dialog, which is self-explanatory.

As with the Picture card, this card requires an answer and either the question or the sound clip. Either the question or the sound may not be present; a relaxed reminder will be presented if either are missing.

The Sound card does not support reversing.

