Kitlist

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Table of Contents

1 Overview

Kitlist allows you to maintain lists of kit that you may require for various activities, such as a vacation or a business trip. Kitlist can also be used for other lists, such as a ToDo or shopping list. Kitlist differs from many other list handlers in that it supports a many-to-many relationship between items and categories, i.e. an item may be in many categories and a category can contain many items.

The concept is that you maintain a full list of all items you may require for any activity. Items can optionally be grouped into categories, which may relate to specific trips, or simply be used to group items, e.g. items for hiking, cycling or horse-riding.

Each item may be in multiple categories, so any changes to an item are immediately reflected in all categories that it belongs to. Items can be individually selected and copied between categories.

Simple usage is to create a new category for a trip, peruse the full list of items selecting those required for the trip. Then copying those selected items to the new category. When packing for the trip, all check-boxes are cleared and the list filtered to show only unchecked items. Each item is ticked off as it is packed.

A more sophisticated usage is to maintain categories for specific tasks. E.g. Camping, hiking, flying, business, vacation, foreign travel, documents, driving, cycling, horse-riding etc. When you go on a trip, you create a specific category for that trip, then copy items from each of the appropriate activities to the new category. Items cannot be duplicated within a category, so combining items that exist in multiple categories does not result in duplication.

This can be very useful for activities that turn up at short notice. You can also use it to perform virtual packing over a period of time before a trip, thereby decreasing the chances of forgetting anything. Be careful this doesn't encourage you to take more than you really need!

2 Actions

File|New   Creates a new empty list

File|Open   Opens an existing list

File|Open Recent|...
          Re-loads the named recently loaded file

File|Save   Saves the current list

File|Save As|...
          Saves the current list with a new filename

Print|...   Prints the contents of the current list of items

Preview   Prints the contents of the current list of items

Quit   Quits the application

Edit|Select All
          Selects all items

Edit|Select All
          Unselects all items

Edit|New Item
          Adds a new item

New|Category
          Creates a new category

Edit|Check Selected
          Checks the currently selected items

Edit|Uncheck Selected
          Unchecks the currently selected items

Edit|Toggle Selected
          Toggles the checked state of the currently selected items

Edit|Copy Selected Items
          Copy selected items to one or more categories.

Edit|Remove Selected Items
          Remove selected items from the current category

View|Show All
          Removes any filters from the list

View|Show Checked
          Filters the list to only show checked items

View|Show Unchecked
          Filters the list to only show unchecked items

3 Implementation Details

Each list is stored in an XML document. The DTD for the XML document is distributed with the source. The application remembers the last used file and reloads it on startup, if it exists. It also maintains a list of most recently loaded files to make it easier to manage a number of lists. The preferencs are stored in `$HOME/.kitlist-2` on Linux based systems, and `$HOME/Library/Preferences/kitlist-2 Preferences` on macOS. It is a text file, so it's entries can be modified with a text editor. Perhaps a future version of Kitlist will provide a preferences page to modify these.

4 Source Code

The Kitlist source code and documentation can be downloaded from `https://www.fdsd.co.uk/kitlist`.

Index

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