

Human Interface Verbs :

write log: Write a timestamped message to the log file

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write log string -- message to log
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[**color** black/blue/green/red] -- Set color of the text to : Black, Blue, Green, Red

example : write log "Motion detected in the garage"

This verb provides the ability of any script to write a timestamped message to the log file, as well as a Colored entry to the Log Window.

alert user: Display a dialog for the user

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alert user string -- Message to place in the dialog
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example : alert user "Glass breakage in the Dining Room"

This verb allows any script to display a human-response-required dialog on the host screen.

This means that a human must hit 'OK' and acknowledge the event before the notice is cleared.

This is a special dialog which will not interfere with other Mac functions.

Also, multiple alerts may be 'stacked' on screen until acknowledged.

Alert user should not be used but for events which you want to make sure someone 'sees'.

PS: don't confuse this verb with the utility program "Alert User" ...

get input: Request input from the user

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get input string -- dialog box prompt
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Result: string -- returned string (Maximum 32 characters at a time)

example : **display dialog (get input "Enter your Password:")**

display dialog: Display a dialog for the user

display dialog string -- text to display

example : display dialog "There is a Fire in the Basement"

NOTE: this special verb creates a NON-modal dialog --it won't stop XTension

speak: Use the Macintosh speech synthesizer to speak a message

speak string -- Message to speak

example : speak "There is a FIRE in the GARAGE"

This verb will call upon the Macintosh speech module to announce the given string.

NOTE: this special verb creates a NON-modal dialog --it won't stop XTension

front window: Bring a specified window to the front

front window string -- window name

example : front window "Master List"

This verb is used to bring one of the XTension windows to the front. Used in conjunction with the highlight unit verb, it can be used to point out a specific unit in any View or List.

hide window: Hide a named window if it is visible

hide window string -- window name

example : hide window "Master List"

This verb is used in conjunction with the 'front window' verb for just the obvious reason.

highlight unit: Selects a unit in the front window

highlight unit string -- unit name

example : front window "Master List"

highlight unit "Foyer Light"

This verb will cause any database unit in the front window to be selected. In a View, the icon for the unit is selected, and the name is displayed below the icon.

set logging: Sets the level of detail displayed in the Log Window

set logging string -- "all" "normal" or "exceptions"

example : set logging "all"

This verb will change the current logging detail preferences to the desired level of detail. "All" of course will cause every event to be written to the Log Window, and "exceptions" will limit the detail to only errors or explicit 'write log' events.