

# Clipboard Filters

## Special Paste Clipboard Filters

In GenScriber version 2.2, external clipboard filters were introduced.

There was a need to expand these filters. So, external clipboard filters were introduced.

The purpose of these external filters is to filter and format data that has an unusual layout. For example, the SSDI records from AmericanAncestors.org.

There are 2 internal filters. TABLE and RECORD, These filter will format standard table and record formats found on web pages and spreadsheet apps etc.

[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)

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## Details about each filter and how to use them

### TABLE Filter

The TABLE filter will paste from the clipboard multiple records formatted as tabulated data. The data can be taken from other applications (i.e. excel, openoffice etc.), or from websites that display formatted records in tables.

'**Smart Paste**' is on by default when pasting. This can be turned off during pasting if required.

#### When Smart Paste is ON

The clipboard data must contain column titles in the first row.

Column order is not important. Column titles are compared to the existing worksheet, and any columns with matching titles will be used. Other columns will be discarded.

If '**Create New Document**' is selected from the Paste dialogue, any column titles found are automatically entered for you.

#### When Smart Paste is OFF

Data is pasted 'As Is'. Even if column titles do not match. This is useful for cases where there are no column titles.

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### RECORD Filter

The RECORD filter will format a single list style record found on several websites.

#### Example record formatted as a list

**FirstName:** John

**Surname:** Hunt

**BuriedBy:** Joshua Brookes Chaplain

**Relationship:** son

**MotherFirst:** Mary

**MotherSurname:** Hunt  
**Source:** LDS Film 2356998  
**Parish:** Manchester  
**Church:** Cathedral  
**Register:** Burials 1792-1800

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## TABLE\_FreeCEN

The TABLE\_FreeCEN filter will correctly format data from FreeCEN search results.

1. Copy your search results table from the web page. *(including table titles)*.  
Copy only the table. Take care not to copy any surrounding webpage items.
  2. Click the '**Special Paste**' button.
  3. Choose '**TABLE\_FreeCEN**' from the '**filter type**' pull down list. The search results should now be correctly formatted in the preview table.
  4. Click 'Paste' to add the records to your worksheet.
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## TABLE\_FindMyPast

The TABLE\_FindMyPast filter will correctly format data from FindMyPast search results.

1. Copy your search results table from the web page. *(including table titles)*.  
Copy only the table. Take care not to copy any surrounding webpage items.
  2. Click the '**Special Paste**' button.
  3. Choose '**TABLE\_FindMyPast**' from the '**filter type**' pull down list. The search results should now be correctly formatted in the preview table.
  4. Click 'Paste' to add the records to your worksheet.
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## SSDI\_LIST\_AmericanAncestors

Filter for SSDI at [americanAncestors.org](http://americanAncestors.org)

The SSDI search results at americanancestors.org require considerable editing before they can be used in a spreadsheet. This filter will make it easy to copy/paste SSDI data.

1. Copy your search results from the web page. *Be sure to copy only the table data.*

2. Click the '**Special Paste**' button.

3. Choose '**SSDI\_LIST\_AmericanAncestors**' from the '**filter type**' pull down list. The search results should now be correctly formatted in the preview table.

4. Click 'Paste' to add the records to your worksheet.

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## SSDI\_RECORD\_GenealogyBank

The '**SSDI\_RECORD\_GenealogyBank**' filter will format a single list style record found on genealogybank.com Social Security Death Index (SSDI) Death Record results.

1. Copy the record from the web page. Be sure to copy only the record data. (*Starting 'Name' ending 'Zip Code'.*) Do not copy the big title above the record.

2. Click the '**Special Paste**' button.

3. Choose '**SSDI\_RECORD\_GenealogyBank**' from the '**filter type**' pull down list. The search results should now be correctly formatted in the preview table.

4. Click 'Paste' to add the records to your worksheet.

### Example record from GenealogyBank

Name: John G. Hardy

State of Issue: Mississippi

Date of Birth: Monday August 17, 1908

Date of Death: Friday December 13, 2002

Est. Age at Death: 94 years, 3 months, 26 days

Confirmation: Verified

Last known residence:

City: Grenada; Dubard; Futheyville; Geeslin Corner; Hardy; Sunnycrest

County: Grenada

State: Mississippi

ZIP Code: 38901

Latitude: 33.8096

Longitude: -89.8042

Location of Last Benefit Paid:

City: Grenada; Dubard; Futheyville; Geeslin Corner; Hardy; Sunnycrest

County: Grenada

State: Mississippi  
ZIP Code: 38901

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## SSDI\_INDEX\_GenealogyBank

The 'SSDI\_INDEX\_GenealogyBank' filter will correctly format data from [genealogybank.com/gbnk/ssdi/](http://genealogybank.com/gbnk/ssdi/) search results.

1. Copy your search results table from the web page. (*including table titles*).  
Copy only the table. Take care not to copy any surrounding webpage items.
2. Click the '**Special Paste**' button.
3. Choose '**SSDI\_INDEX\_GenealogyBank**' from the '**filter type**' pull down list. The search results should now be correctly formatted in the preview table.
4. Click 'Paste' to add the records to your worksheet.

### Example GenealogyBank SSDI index

#### **John G. Hardy**

Born: 1908 Died: 2002  
State of last residence: Mississippi  
State issued: Mississippi

#### **Richard Hardy**

Born: 1917 Died: 1984  
State of last residence: Mississippi  
State issued: Mississippi

#### **Ida V. Hardy**

Born: 1916 Died: 1995  
State of last residence: West Virginia  
State issued: West Virginia

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## Clipboard Filters How To (developer)

### **Special Paste Clipboard Filters.**

There are two preset internal filters. TABLE and RECORD, These will filter standard table and record formats found on web pages and spreadsheet apps etc.

There was a need to expand these filters without having to rebuild GenScriber every time a new filter was needed. So, in version 2.2, external clipboard filters were introduced.

The purpose of these external filters is to filter and format clipboard data that has been copied from a web page. For example, the SSDI records from AmericanAncestors.org.

When a working filter is selected from within genscriber, the data will be displayed correctly in the preview grid. A wrong filter selection will usually just display nothing.

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### **Developer Information**

Filters can be programmed in any language capable of creating a command line application that can be called from genscriber.

The external filter application will input the raw data from a file (filter.tmp), filter and format it into a csv format, and set the first row as column titles. The data is then written back to the 'filter.tmp' file.

If the raw data is not suitable for the filter app, the 'filter.tmp' file is saved as empty by the app.

Filter apps are stored in the folder **'/include/filters/'**.

They may be written in any programming language that can be launched from the command line.

No values are passed to the filter app, and none are returned.

The filenames of the filter apps are used in the 'Special Paste' dropdown filter list, so filenames should be explanatory and must be a reasonable length.

After a filter has run, if the 'filter.tmp' file contains data (> 10 characters), it is assumed that the filtering was successful.

### **The filter app will do the following...**

1. Open and read the raw data from 'filter.tmp'.
2. If data is missing or not suitable for this filter, then save empty 'filter.tmp' and exit.
3. Parse and filter the data as needed.
4. Format as csv (comma separated values, with first row as column titles)
5. Save formatted data to 'filter.tmp' and exit.

### **An example vb app**

```
Dim sBuf As String
Dim sTempIn As String
Dim sTempOut As String
Dim iFileNum As Integer
Dim sFileName As String
sFileName = "filter.tmp"

'open the 'filter.tmp' file
iFileNum = FreeFile
Open sFileName For Input As iFileNum

' read in the data
Do Until EOF(iFileNum)
```

```
Line Input #iFileNum, sBuf
sTempIn = sTempIn & sBuf & vbCrLf
Loop
Close iFileNum

'your filter code goes here...
'filter the sTempIn >> sTempOut
'format it as csv
'-----

'Now save formatted data...
iFileNum = FreeFile
Open sFileName For Output As iFileNum
Print #iFileNum, sTempOut
Close iFileNum
```

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## Clipboard Filters How to (user)

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There was a need to expand these filters without having to rebuild GenScriber every time a new filter was needed. So, in version 2.2, external clipboard filters were introduced.

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### User Information

1. Select and copy the data from the web page as required by the filter you are using.
2. Click the '**Special Paste**' button.
3. Select the filter type from the drop down list. The formatted data should display in the preview grid.
4. Click the '**Paste**' button to paste into the worksheet. If a document is not already open, you will usually need to '**Create new Document**' before pasting.