Owner's Manual for

by

Man's Best Friend Software
8400 Brookside Glen Drive
Tinley Park, IL 60477-7057

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Contents

Welcome

Introduction to Pedcasso™

Man's Best Friend Software is proud to announce Pedcasso™ . This tool will enable you to make custom pedigree layouts for use in MegaPed™ 2001-3 modules in the following programs:

?? The Breeder's Standard™ 2001, 2002 and 2003

?? The Cattery's Standard™ 2003

Pedcasso seamlessly integrates with the above programs, and lets you "clone" any existing pedigree layout and use it for designing your dream pedigree.

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Getting Started

Installation

In order to install Pedcasso™ , you must first have The Breeder's Standard™ or The Cattery's Standard™ installed on the same computer. After that, you will be able to install Pedcasso™ .

System Requirements

In order to successfully install Pedcasso™, you will need a computer with the following:

?? Windows 98, ME, 2000 or any edition of Windows XP

?? 128MB of RAM

?? A Pentium III or better processor, any speed

?? Minimum SVGA (600 x 800) display at 16-bit or better color

?? 12 Megabytes of free disk space, plus about 100K-1Meg for each new pedigree layout that you wish to create.

?? The Breeder's Standard™ 2001, 2002 or 2003; or The Cattery's Standard™ 2003. **You must have the latest patch in order to use**

Pedcasso pedigree layouts without errors. See http://www.mbfs.com/autoupd.asp in order to check your programs to see if they are up to date, and to download a free update if they are not.

Installing from Download

If you want, you can get Pedcasso™ via electronic delivery, and download After you have downloaded the Pedcasso™ installer from the Internet, you need to double-click the installer to run it. This will cause the installer to unpack several files into a temporary folder, and after that, to run the install program.

Installing from CD

To install from the compact disc, you place the CD into the drive. Windows will automatically attempt to run the setup program on the CD. Usually this succeeds, but if it fails, open the CD and run the SETUP program. You can open the CD using the "My Computer" icon on your desktop.

After the CD opens, you will receive an animated window telling you that there are programs, manuals and other things on the CD. Click the "Programs" button, and you will receive a list of programs. After that, locate and choose Pedcasso™, and you will be able to install the program.

The Installer

First, the installer will ask you to agree to the license agreement for Pedcasso™.

The installer will ask you the directory into which you would like to install Pedcasso™. Usually this is:

C:\Program Files\Pedcasso

…but you can choose anywhere on any drive you please. It does not matter where you have The Breeder's Standard™ or the Cattery's Standard™ installed; Pedcasso is able to locate them if they are properly installed.

Then, Pedcasso™ will be installed, along with new template pedigree layouts. Once the installer is complete, you are ready to start using Pedcasso™.

The First Time

Pedcasso™ will start up when you use this icon, which will be on your Windows desktop, or in the start menu, as you set it up during the install:

Double-click the icon to start Pedcasso™ .

If you have both programs

If you happen to be one of the lucky people who have both The Breeder's Standard **and** the Cattery's Standard, you will receive a window when Pedcasso starts up.

That window looks like this:
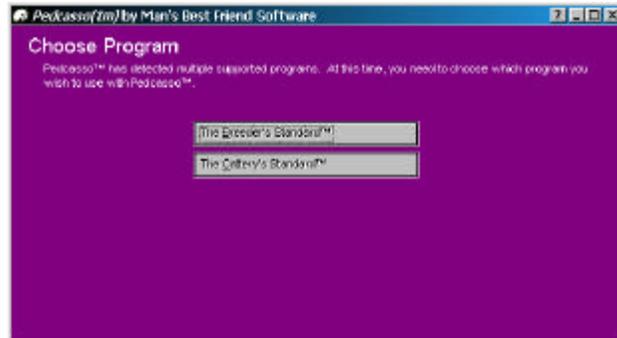
Figure: Pedcasso™ , Choose Program window

Click the button for the program whose pedigree formats you shall be changing.

Activation

Why we Require You to Activate

We need to know who has which copies of the program. This helps us to know who is buying the program, and allows us to keep your costs low by preventing software piracy. The Software Publishers Association (SPA) estimates that over 50% of business PC software is illegally-used, and over 65% of personal PC software is illegally-used. This is *stealing.* Software companies cannot operate unless they are paid for what they produce.

We could raise prices to cover our costs, but this penalizes our honest customers by making them pay for the pirates' copies of the software. Instead of that, we keep our price low and make it impossible to illegally

use Pedcasso™ . We plan to know *everyone* who buys our program, and to make it so that any illegal copy of the software is traceable, identifiable and practically unusable. This means that we'll be paid for our hard work, and in turn, you'll be paying less for the software and for technical support.

What This Means

When you pay for Pedcasso™ , you are *required* to Activate the program. Pedcasso™ will not run on your without being Activated. You'll get a pop-up to remind you that you need to Activate to use the software. Then, you will receive the Activation window (see "How to Activate" on page 13), and will need to call us at the number in the window to obtain your Activation key. Not entering the Activation key will mean that Pedcasso™ will not operate until it is entered.

How to Activate

The activation window automatically appears the first time you run Pedcasso™ .

The Activation window looks like this:
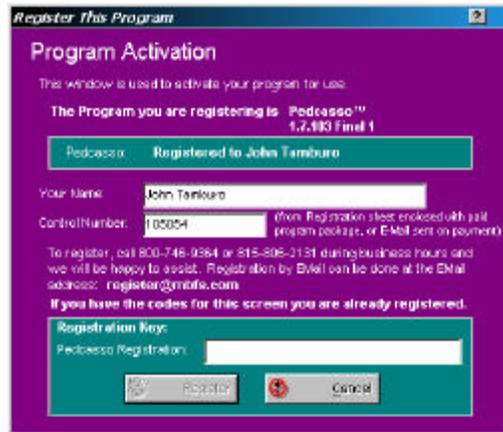
Figure: Pedcasso™, Activation Window

Type in your name and the control number from the Activation sheet or product pick ticket. You t ype in the Activation number and click on the "Activate" button. The name you type in must match your TBS or TCS registration.

If you lose your Activation number, and have to re-install the software, call us and we will issue you a new one, provided you are legally licensed to use the software.

Using Pedcasso™

The Main Window

Pedcasso™ is simple in that it only employs two windows to do its operations. The first window you will use is the Main Window.

The Main Window looks like this:

Figure: Pedcasso™ Main Window.

This is the Main window, where you can Work with Pedigree Layouts. The first ten layouts in the list are *system layouts*, provided with the program by Man's Best Friend Software. **You cannot change or delete these layouts.**

Creating a New Layout

In order to create a new layout, you will need to click on an existing layout. Then you will click the "Clone…" button. This is the clone button:

Clone...
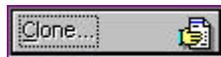
What this button will do is to take the selected pedigree layout, and make a copy of it. After that, you will be asked to name the new layout (see "Name the New Layout" on page 17). Give the layout a name that will let you know what the layout does, and then you will be ready to work with that layout in the Designer Window (see "The Designer Window" on page 18).

Changing an Existing Layout

To change an existing layout, you click on the layout that you wish to change, and then on the Edit button. This is the Edit Button:
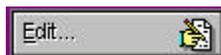
Edit...

Please remember that you cannot change any of the system layouts included with Pedcasso. If you are attempting to select a system layout, the edit button will be disabled.

After you click the edit button, it will be opened up and then you will be ready to work with that layout in the Designer Window (see "The Designer Window" on page 18).

Deleting a Layout

To delete an existing layout, you click on the layout that you wish to change,

and then on the delete button. This is the Delete Button:
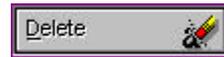
Please remember that you cannot delete any of the system layouts included with Pedcasso. If you are attempting to select a system layout, the delete button will be disabled.

After you click the delete button, you will be asked to confirm the deletion, and after you click YES to confirm, the layout will be permanently deleted.

CAUTION: Be aware that once you delete a layout, you cannot get it back. There is no undo for deletes.

Name the New Layout

When you tell Pedcasso™ to create a new Pedigree Layout using the Clone Button, you will have to give this layout a name. The name is a text name, and is *not* subject to Windows file naming guidelines. You can use up to 65 characters to name the file.

Here is the Name Layout window:

Figure: New Format Name window.

Simply type in the name you would like to use and click the OK button.

The Designer Window

When you use the Main Window (see "The Main Window" on page 15) to clone or edit a Pedigree layout, the layout is loaded into a window. This window is called the Designer Window.

The Pedcasso™ Designer window looks like this:
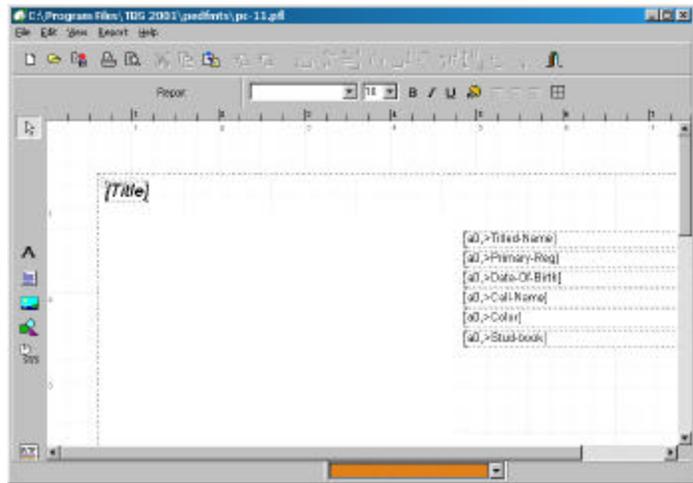
Figure: Pedcasso™ Designer Window.

The Designer window is a WYSIWYG (What you see is what you get) window. It will show the margins as dotted lines, and each layout element (except images) with a border of dotted lines.

Modes

Arrow Mode: This is the select mode. Click the Arrow button to go into Arrow Mode.

A **Text/Label Mode:** This is the mode where you can add text or labels to a layout. Click the "A" button to select this mode.

Memo Mode: This mode will enable you to add a large block of plain text to the pedigree. In future versions, you will be able to specify that certain animal fields will be able to be placed in memos.

Image Mode: This mode will enable you to place BMP and JPG picture images onto the layout. If you are looking to put an animal's image onto the layout from one of the pedigree animals, you must assign a specific name to the image using the pop-up menu.

Shapes and Lines Mode: This mode enables you to draw shapes and lines on the pedigree. Any shape or line you draw will be colored with the color chosen in the MegaPed colors section for "Lines," but you can override that by naming this element with a name beginning with the letters "LC."

System Fields Mode: This mode enables you to add a system field, such as Date, Time, etc., to your layout.

Rich Text Mode: This mode enables you to add a rich-text field to the pedigree layout. Rich Text will maintain font and format settings in

the Text. A future version will support placing an animal's profile description into the element.

Selecting Items on a Layout

You select an item by putting Designer in Arrow Mode (see "Modes" on page 18) and clicking on an element. When you select a report item, you will see Drag Points. These are drag points:

{Title}

You can drag the little black squares to change the size of the element, or click anywhere on the element to move it.

Selecting Multiple Items

Pedcasso will let you select multiple items to move them or to edit their properties. To do so, simply hold down the SHIFT key and, while holding it down, click on all of the elements you want to select.

Undoing an Accident: If you accidentally click on something you don't want to select, keep on holding the shift key, and click it again to unselect that element.

Lasso: If you need to select a large number of items that fall within a rectangle, hold down the CTRL key and drag a rectangle. When you release the mouse button, all items that are completely or partly within that rectangle will be selected.

Using the keyboard

The designer can be used with the mouse most of the time. Some functions can also be accessed with the keyboard:

Enter:

Show the element's property form

Cursor keys:

Move a report element

Shift + Cursor keys:

Resize a report element

Del:

Delete a report element

Tab and Shift + Tab:

Select next or previous report element

Removing items

To remove items from a pedigree layout, select them with arrow mode, and press the DELETE key. The items will be *permanently* removed from the layout. There is no undo except to close the designer window and choose NO when asked to save changes.

Using Certain Fields

You can choose, in Text/Label mode, to make a field show certain data. You will be using PML (Pedigree Management Language) to tell Megaped what to do with a field.

In Text/Label fields, you place a PML command into a pair of brackets [ ]. There are many PML commands. See "Pedigree Management Language

(PML)" on page 22 for the detailed syntax of PML.

PML values are placed into the actual label itself as its text, and when the pedigree is printed, it is replaced with the data that the PML requests.

Pedigree Management Language (PML)

Pedigree Management Language is the language of Pedcasso™ and its sister, MegaPed. Pedcasso "speaks" PML, while MegaPed "reads" it.

PML Commands are enclosed in brackets like this: [rn].

PML Commands are as follows:

?? **[Title]** Title line of the Pedigree, including animal Titled name.

?? **[rn]** Registered Name of the Megaped program, which must, for security reasons, match the Pedcasso™ registered name.

?? **[kn]** Kennel or Cattery name entered into The Breeder's Standard™ or The Cattery's Standard™.

?? **[ka1]** Kennel or Cattery Address 1

?? **[ka2]** Kennel or Cattery Address 2

?? **[kcsz]** Kennel or Cattery City, state / region and postal code merged up into a single line.

?? **[kphone]** Kennel/Cattery Phone

?? **[kemail]** Kennel or Cattery email address

?? **[cert1]** Certification Line 1

?? **[cert2]** Certification Line 2

?? **[cert3]** Certification Line 3

?? **[tagline]** This is a **required** element. You cannot delete this element from the layout, and if you do not have a tagline in the layout, Megaped will not print the pedigree. This is for security reasons. The [tagline] attributes the name of the user registered to use Megaped, and its origin from Megaped.

?? **[A##,xxxxxx]** This is the command to indicate that information for an animal needs to be retrieved into this field. ## is a number from 0 to 127, indicating what animal this is. 0 is the target animal of the pedigree. 1 is the sire, 2 is the dam. You then go to the grandparents and number from top to bottom, and so on through six generations.
xxxxxx is the specific animal field you wish to reference. The next section describes those fields in particular.

Specific Animal Fields

When you use the A command in PML, you have to specify the fields you wish to use after the comma.

For example, to include Animal 1 (Sire) and use the tokens in line 1 as set up in MegaPed 2003, you would code:

[A1,L1]

The specific animal fields are:

?? **L1:** Megaped™ 2003 line 1 tokens

?? **L2:** Megaped™ 2003 line 2 tokens

?? **L3:** Megaped™ 2003 line 3 tokens

?? ***:** This will return all three lines in one field. For example, you could set auto stretch to true (see "Adjusting the way fields Act" on page 25) and word wrap to true, and then MegaPed will stretch the box vertically to fit in all of the text at the field size you choose.

?? **>:** This operator will tell Pedcasso to insert the field name that occurs immediately after it (no spaces please).

Field names on the > command

    Titled-Name: Animal's name including all titles.

    Call-Name: Animal's call name.

    Color: Animal's color.

    Tag-Tattoo: Animal's Tag and Tattoo identification field.

    Breed: Animal's breed

    Primary-Reg: Animal's primary registration number.

    Chip-Number: (Dogs only) Animal's chip number.

    DNA-Code: (Dogs only) Animal's DNA Code.

    OFA: (Dogs only) Animal's OFA Certification. (Cats only) TICA Number.

CERF: (Dogs only) Animal's CERFCertification. (Cats only) CFF Number.

Date-of-Birth: Animal's Date of Birth.

Date-of-Death: Animal's Date of Death.

Gender: Animal's Gender

Breeder: Animal's Breeder.

Owners: Animal's owners.

Obtained-From: From whom you obtained the animal.

Adjusting the way fields Act

The individual properties of a report element can be changed anytime during report design. Select the desired element and either double-click with the left mouse button, or press the right mouse button and choose "Edit" from the popup menu. The property dialog for the selected report element will open, which is the same dialog as the one that shows up when inserting a new report element.

The following picture shows the property dialog for a label:
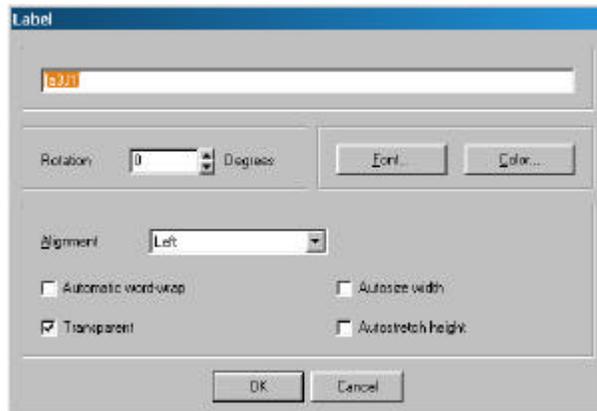
Figure: Label Edit Box

Edit the element properties to your needs and press the "OK" button to close the dialog and accept your changes. If you press "Cancel", all your changes are dropped and if you were inserting a new element, it will not be added to the report.

Naming Images and Shapes

Right click on the image or shape and choose Options. Then place the name onto the element.

The Options window looks like this:
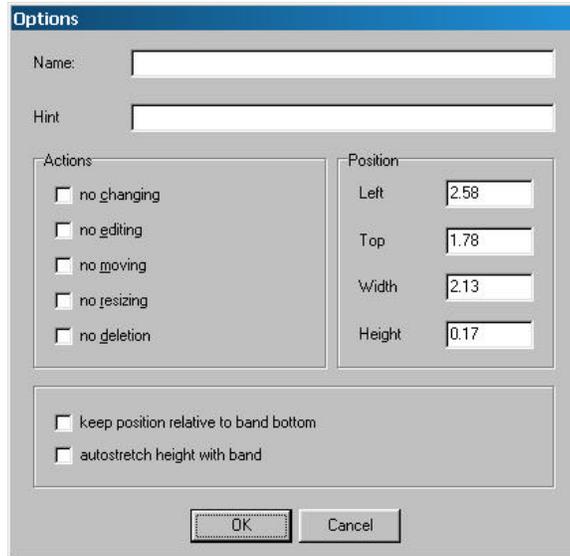
Figure: Field Options Window.

You don't need to worry about hint or the autostretch setting on this window. They're reserved for Tech Support use only. Set the name as needed for image or shape.

Special names of Images

Image names are set to KLOGO for kennel Logo, or A## for an animal, where the animal number corresponds to the PML animal number (see "Pedigree Management Language (PML)" on page 22). Other images, such as borders, etc., do not need to be named.

The Toolbar

You can change many report element properties directly with the toolbar instead of using the element's .

Additionally you can use it to modify multiple elements at once.

These Buttons are for creating a new report, loading a report file and saving a report.

Use These Buttons to print the report or to view a preview of the printout.
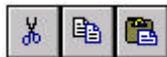
With These Buttons report elements can be cut to, copied to or pasted from the report designer's clipboard.
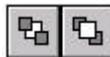
These Buttons are used to set a report element to the background or bring it in front of all other report elements, in case of overlapping elements.

Report elements can be arranged with these buttons. Some of the buttons are only enabled when multiple elements are selected (for example to align the left edges).

```
New report                    Label
```

This part of the toolbar shows the type of the currently selected report element and its main property (text if it is a label, data field, band type, ...). You can edit this property directly with the toolbar, without the need to open the element's property dialog.


```
Arial          ▼   10 ▼   B  U  I
```

Here you can set font and font styles of the selected report elements (font name, font size, bold, underline, italic).

 These Buttons are for aligning text within a report element. Text can be aligned left, right or centered. Of course this only makes sense if the report element's size is bigger than its text, and if "autosize" is deactivated.

 With this button you can open a dialog to set the frame options for the selected element.

Trouble-Shooting Guide

Introduction to Troubleshooting

Every program will give someone a headache from time to time. The larger the company providing the program the more quickly a response can be obtained.

This is business software for those in the business of breeding dogs. We pride ourselves on having set up one of the more innovative and responsive support mechanisms in this industry.

Figuring Things Out when There's a Problem

What to Check

Try rebooting the computer if you get a goofy error or a GPF. First, write everything down so you have it handy if you need to contact us for support.

Information to have ready for Technical Support

When you call or post a message to Man's Best Friend Software, please have the following information immediately available:

Your Control number, from the invoice and/or registration sheet;

The number (if any) **and the full text** of any message you've received **Important! Include the full text of any message you receive! These messages contain vital information we need to solve problems!**;

Exactly what you did to receive this message;

What happened if you followed the steps outlined in the manual (if there were steps) to correct the problem?

This will greatly help us to quickly identify and resolve your problems.

Warranty Procedure

Our program disks are warranted for thirty days from the date you receive the program to be free from material defects. **This is NOT a money-back guarantee.** If you cannot make your installation diskette work, follow the procedure below for telephone support and call 888-820-0691. You will not be charged for support time for the call.

If we determine that your diskette or CD has failed, we will send you a new one. If we need the old one back, we'll instruct you on how to ship it back to us, and give you an authorization number for the return. **DO NOT RETURN ANYTHING WITHOUT A VALID RMA NUMBER! ALL UNAUTHORIZED RETURNS ARE REFUSED!**

Contacting Us for Support

Internet

Man's Best Friend Software has one of the largest animal-related sites on the Internet. On this site, we have product news, demos, patches, free utilities and support information. Our World Wide Web address is:

http://www.mbfs.com

This is an ideal first-look support resource. If you need additional assistance, please send Email to:

support@mbfs.com

...which will get you technical aid, usually within one business day.

FAX

Our FAX is on line all the time at **815-806-2134**. When FAXing, please send complete details, including all message number, texts, etc., so we can assist you. **FAXes must have a return FAX number or an Internet Email address to be responded to. You will not receive a voice call-back for a FAXed-in support issue. No exceptions.**

Telephone Product Support *

Man's Best Friend offers no-charge product support via voice telephone. This is a costly service for us to offer, and we ask and expect you to utilize this manual, the Internet site and other resources prior to tying up a person with a telephone support request. This is important, since we will be unable to keep this service free if it is not responsibly used.

Please do not call until you have all of the information that we need already in hand (see "Information to have ready for Technical Support" on page 30). This will make it possible for our support representative to give you assistance.

The USA number for product support is:

888-820-0691

The support number outside the USA is:

906-346-5009

Support hours are **Eastern** time, 9AM-5PM, Monday-Friday. If you get a voice mail, please leave a detailed message. You will receive a call back as soon as possible. Please be courteous and polite. You may be frustrated, but the support representative is not responsible for that. Support personnel are not punching bags or abuse sponges. Our representatives are instructed to decline support in the presence of boorish conduct, threats and the like.

* NOTE: We reserve the right to assess a fee for product support or to terminate it altogether. The sale of any product does not include any product support, which is offered solely as an accommodation. No sale is contingent upon any level of product support. See the license agreement ("Copyright and License" on page 1).

Messages Guide

Message 1: "Are you sure that you want to delete this format? Once you do, you'll never get it back."

Cause: This is a question. Pedcasso wants to ensure that you do not accidentally delete a format.

Action: Click Yes to delete the format, or No to keep the format.

Message 2: "Activation failed. Make sure that your code matches what was sent you, and that your registered name is the same as on Breeder's Standard and/or Cattery's Standard."

Cause: The information you entered is not correct.

Action: Recheck the information on your registration sheet and enter it correctly. Remember that Activation is case sensitive.

Message 3: "You cannot delete the tagline element from any pedigree format."

Cause: You tried to delete the tagline element and that is not allowed.

Action: Choose another element with which to work.

Glossary of Terms

Download

To download means to copy a file from another computer in another place to your computer. Nowadays, almost all downloads are done from the Internet using the FTP or HTTP protocols.

Pedigree Layout

A Pedigree layout is a file that tells MegaPed™ how to place the animals and other information onto a pedigree. Pedcasso™ creates and manipulates Pedigree layouts.

Arrow Mode

Arrow Mode in the Pedcasso™ designer window will enable you to select and move elements, as well as change their size by clicking on the drag points.

Drag

To Drag is to use the mouse by holding down the left mouse button and move it while the button is left down. This is used to move items and to draw rectangles.

PML

Pedigree Management Language. The language that MegaPed uses to determine what data goes where in a pedigree layout. PML specifies what animal and what field is to go into a specified label.

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