

Re: Date: Can you have one that is just mm/dd or mm/yyyy etc?

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- *From:* "P.Hill" <[goodhillREMOVE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:goodhillREMOVE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 27 Apr 2006 22:01:09 -0700
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Roedy Green wrote:

You can use a convention, e.g. story YYYY-MM as if it were YYYY-MM-01.

At first I thought both Roedy and Thomas were oh so wrong, but I realize that they read the original quote:

>some data in this format: "mm/yyyy"

Meaning that the OP has a column of date all of which only has month resolution. If so, they are right, just display it with less resolution might be your ticket. If "some" applied to some of the rows in one column then Libby is SOL, because 01/01/2006 00:00:00.00 stored in either a java.util.Date or a DB DATETIME needs something else to tell us if it is exactly that time or trying to represent the whole month of January or even the whole year.

Others talked about an additional column which sort of implied that they were thinking of there was mixed resolutions in one DATETIME column.

Libby, here are some things to consider:

>but when I do format.parse() on "12/2001" it helpfully returns >December 1, 2001".

No, it returns a java.util.Date which when you call the toString() either explicitly or when you are using System.out.print(myDate), shows a millisecond value converted to localized String. Go back to this code and consider always showing it to yourself while debugging and to the user using a SimpleDateFormat as several others have pointed out. If this consistency of simply ignoring the smaller fields works your in business.

One thing to watch is to NOT take my suggestion and print out everything in the Date wherever you have it in application (particularly right before displaying to the user and right before shipping to the DB) and make sure 2005-04-01 T 00:00:00.0000 (using ISO 8601 notation to avoid any month day confusion in this discussion), doesn't magically drift to 2005-01-04 T 15:34:17.1234 because you ran the application in the afternoon and somehow you t