

New Age I Ching Oracle
(Version 2.1, February 28, 2005)

Version 2.1 Upgrade Installation

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1. HOW TO UPGRADE YOUR VERSION 2.0 DATABASE TO 2.1

Just like any new installation, you will need to unzip the database files place them in a new folder. After that you will need to register the new database using your Registration Key.

- (1) In the **old** database, go to the Introduction panel, and click on the button to display the Registration Key. Note this number down. If for some reason you are unable to get this number, contact the developer at webmaster@newagequest.com, and you will be sent your key.
- (2) In the **new** database, go to the Introduction panel, and enter that Registration Key. You will also have to give a new Master Password and Hint.

Note that if the database is shared, and you *really* want to make sure that no one can access your data without your knowledge, 2 or 3 people can jointly “own” the Master User password. When you key it in, each person can type their own word. You can leave spaces between the words, and length is not a problem, since it is only displayed in dialog boxes. The hint should also be used jointly so that no one forgets what they added.

If you wish to move your currently saved queries from the old database into the new database, you will need to perform the following procedure:

- (3) In the **old** database, go to the Utilities Panel, and under Master User functions, click on the Export All button. You will be prompted for the Master User password. This will put all the saved queries into an export file.
- (4) In the **new** database, go to the Utilities Panel, and under Master User functions, click on the Import from 2.0 Database button. This will import the export file created by the version 2.0 database. Note that this *adds* the queries to the version 2.1 database. So, only do this once (otherwise you’ll have duplicates of everything)!

2. CHANGES IN THE NEW VERSION

Differences in the new version include (a) changes in current functions, and (b) new features.

(a) Changes in current functions are:

(1) The login process has been modified. In the middle of the New Query screen is a **long red button**. This is a multi-modal login and folder-open button. When it says **<START> Click here** you click to enter your User Name. After you do that, your list of folder names will be displayed to the right to remind you what you have, and the button will now say **<AGAIN> Click here** for you to enter the Folder Name and Password of the folder you want.

After this, button will now display the current folder name. Just click on it to open the folder.

The buttons labelled USER LOG IN, Select a Folder, and Display Folders do, of course, perform those individual functions, but using the red button is simpler and quicker.

(2) The display order in the folders is now changed so that the most current query is always at the top of the list. In the older sort sequence, it was rather annoying that while it was sorted by day, within each day the most recent query was always at the bottom, so it was less visible and harder to get to.

(3) All of the buttons have been refined. In some cases, they have been repositioned for more efficient use, or relabelled for better information. One notable change is the *select query button* inside folders (before now a small button with an arrow on it at the left of the line) now essentially *is* the entire line. (Actually, the button underlies the entire line, and the descriptive text sits over the button.) This makes it much easier to select a query, since clicking virtually anywhere on the line selects it.

(4) There have been some minor code modifications, most not directly apparent. One notable bug was found and fixed which on occasion could actually destroy some line 6 hexagram text when the comment was mishandled!

(5) The import and export functions have been revised. One change is that ANY user can export and import their folders. Another is that there is a special button for a one-time import from the version 2.0 database.

(b) Completely new features are:

(1) Added the Meditation Mode. This gives you the chance to have a “meditation picture” displayed on the screen before you press the Consult button. You also have the ability to store your own images in the database. (Up to 64 images in a wide variety of formats can be stored, including movies and even sound files.) You can select one of these as the default picture displayed on the screen, or you may select a range of pictures from the list which will be randomly displayed on the screen.

CAUTION: It isn't possible to export & import these into future database upgrades! You could, of course, copy them out of the database and place them into the new

one, but you may want to keep a copy stored elsewhere as a backup.

(2) Added the “Today’s Oracle” feature. This ignores any other text or button settings, and looks only at today’s date and the time of inquiry to determine the daily oracle. It notes the daily oracle by placing [TODAY] in the subject line, and [DATE ...] in the question line, and the label “Today’s Oracle” in the query header section.. Note that this is time sensitive, and doing this at different times of the day (within the two-hour blocks used by the oracle) will give different answers.

3. A WORD FROM THE DEVELOPER

I hope users of this program appreciate the capabilities and features of the program. It is unique among I Ching products in several very important ways -- the number of I Ching oracle systems provided, the ability to store queries and comment on them, multi-user support, the ability to document queries from external oracles, as well as my own tested individual enhancements to the oracle process.

This is a very complex product, and has been tested extensively. However, it is always possible, especially with revisions to complex systems, that unexpected problems will be introduced. This revision has been delayed several times by unexpected problems, and I want to apologize to those who have been awaiting it.

If any problems come up, issuing a revised and corrected product is certainly possible, however, since FMP does not support export/import of the meditation images, this could cause some serious hardship on some users who choose to add many images to the image library. I am hoping the product is fully mature, and so no future upgrades will be necessary.

Some people have expressed interest in Shao Yung’s “Astrology of the I Ching” system. I do have extraordinary research (and enhancements) to this, but this work is not included in this system. Presently my work is only in paper form, and it would entail another very complex programming effort to get it into a computerized form. I might do this at some point, but my plans in this area are unclear. Since this would undoubtedly be a low-volume demand product, I might instead simply package my paper system for distribution if I were to sell it at all.

Note: I have seen a couple other computerized “Astrology of the I Ching” systems available on the internet, but since these exactly follow the method in the book (which contains errors) I cannot in any manner recommend them.

[end]