

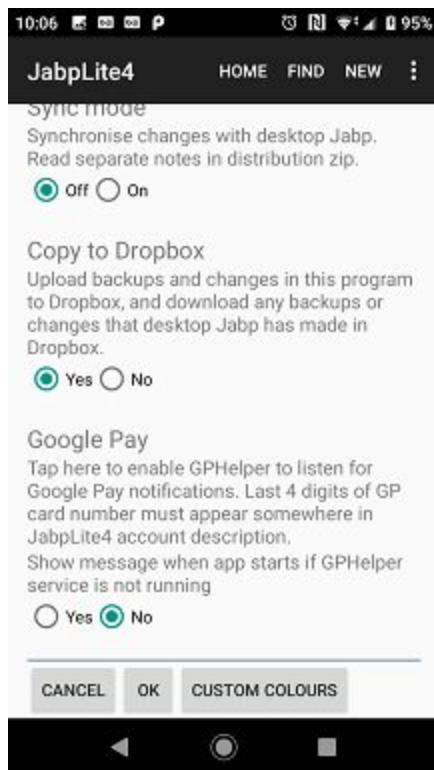
Using Dropbox with Jabp & JabpLite for backup and sync

Introduction

If you are using Jabp for desktop computers and JabpLite for Android then it can be useful to keep both programs synchronised. Both programs have the ability to upload to and download from Dropbox - either for full synchronisation or just for backup/restore functions.

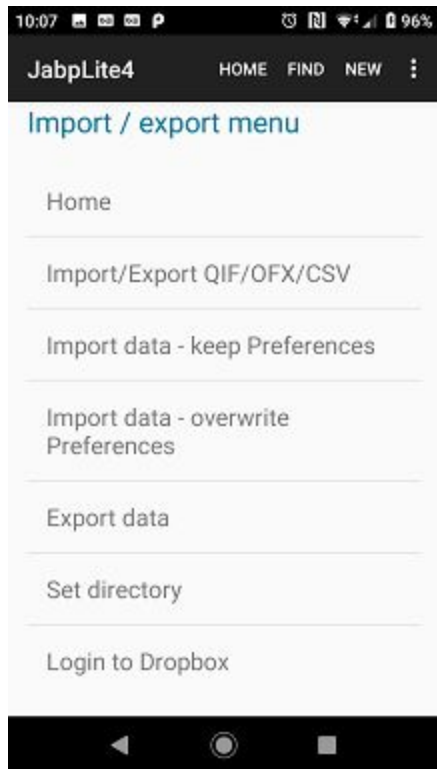
Setting up Dropbox on JabpLite for Android

In JabpLite, open the Preferences menu and set Copy to Dropbox to Yes, as shown here:

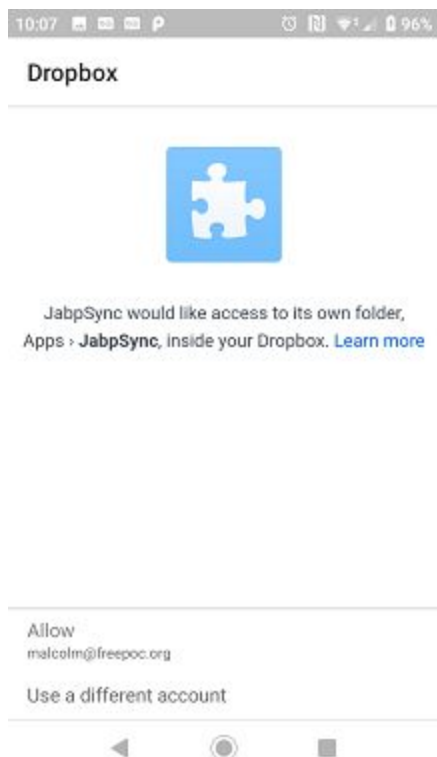


Press OK to save this change.

Now go to the Import / Export menu and you will see a new 'Login to Dropbox' option, as shown here:



Selecting this option will take you to the Dropbox authorisation webpage below:



From this webpage you can allow JabpLite to access its own folder (and nowhere else) inside your Dropbox. This folder will be called Apps/JabpSync. Once you authorise this access, press the back key to return to the JabpLite app. You will see that the 'Login to Dropbox' option no longer appears in the Import / Export menu - the app will remember your login details.

Importing data from Dropbox and exporting data to Dropbox in JabpLite

When you select Import Data from the Import / Export menu, the app will first download JabpLite.dat (or JabpLite.dat# if you have set a password and are using the 'Encrypt backup file' option in the Preferences menu) from your Apps/JabpSync Dropbox folder.

When you select Export Data from the Import / Export menu, or when you select Backup Data from the main menu, the app will upload your backup file to the same Dropbox folder.

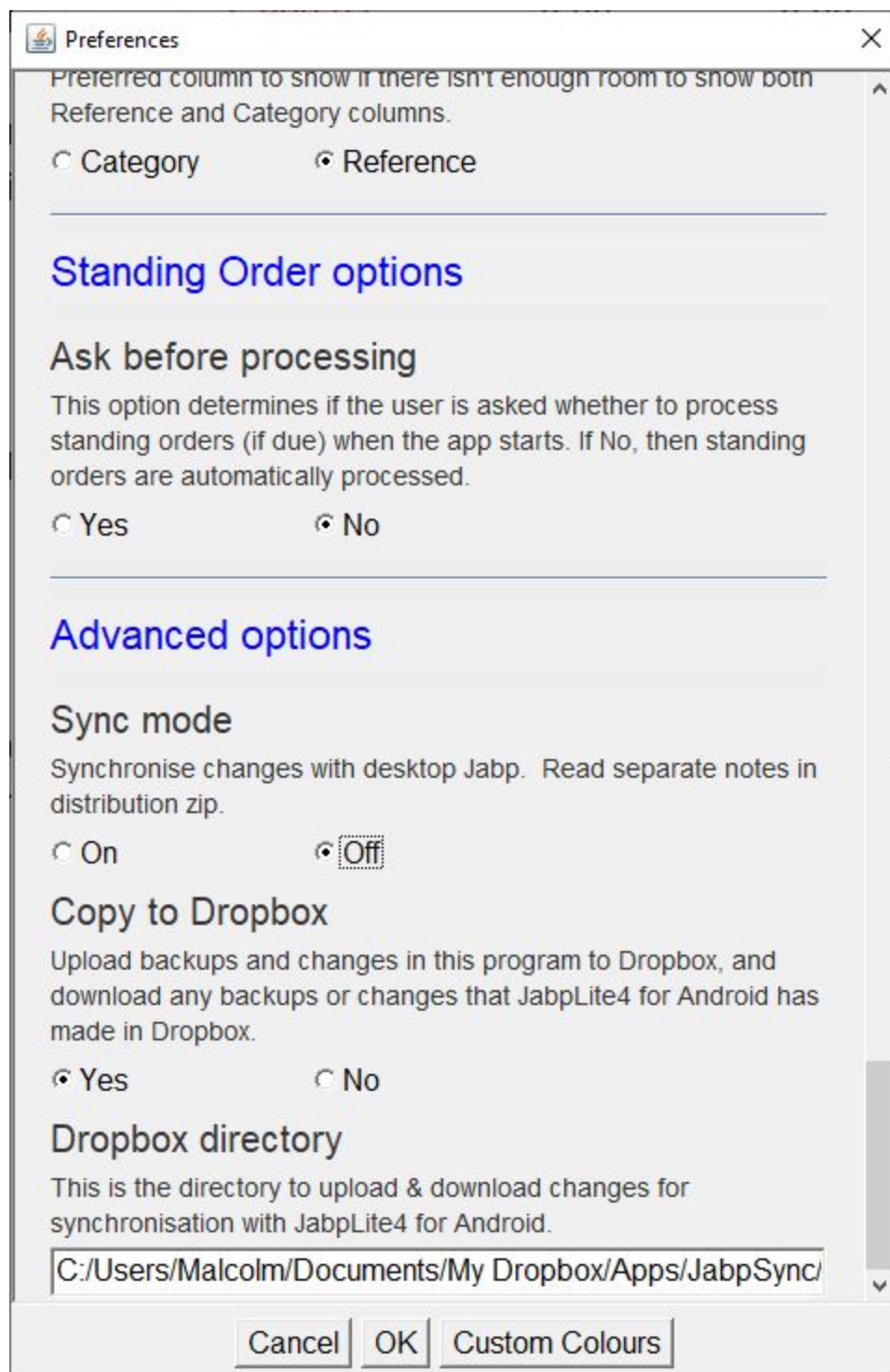
If copying to or from Dropbox fails - for example because you have no network connectivity - then you will see an error message. Your import or export will still take place using the local file copy in the folder shown in your Import / Export > Set Directory option. To connect to Dropbox, simply try again when your network connectivity is restored.

Note: uploading data to Dropbox only works when you select Export Data or Backup Data from within the JabpLite app. Using the preference 'Auto backup on exit' only writes a local backup and does not upload to Dropbox.

Setting up Dropbox on Jabp for desktop computers

Firstly, you will need to install the official Dropbox client app for your operating system and sign in using your Dropbox account. Note that transfers to/from Dropbox are handled by the Dropbox client app and not by Jabp itself. Jabp copies updated files into the Apps/JabpSync folder on your computer and the Dropbox client app takes care of the upload/download process.

In Jabp, open the Tools > Preferences menu and set Copy to Dropbox to Yes, as shown here:



Also, check that the Dropbox directory points to the Apps/JabpSync folder in your Dropbox account, as it appears in (for example) Windows Explorer. If not, change the entry to the correct directory.

Importing data from Dropbox and exporting data to Dropbox in Jabp

When you select Import Data from the Import / Export menu, the app will first copy JabpLite.dat (or JabpLite.dat# if you have set a password and are using the 'Encrypt backup file' option in the Preferences menu) from your Apps/JabpSync Dropbox folder.

When you select Export Data from the Import / Export menu, or when you select Backup Data from the main menu, the app will copy your backup file to the same Dropbox folder.

The actual upload and download process is handled in the background by the Dropbox client app for your operating system.

Note: uploading data to Dropbox only works when you select Export Data or Backup Data from within Jabp. Using the preference 'Auto backup on exit' only writes a local backup and does not upload to Dropbox.

Synchronising changes between Jabp & JabpLite using Dropbox

In JabpLite, go to the Preferences menu and turn Sync Mode to On. In Jabp, go to Tools > Preferences and turn Sync Mode to On. All your entries in each program can now be synchronised via Dropbox. This is done by selecting the Sync option in each program.

In Jabp: select File > Sync to JabpLite.

In JabpLite: select the menu option Sync to Jabp.

What to do if the two programs get out of step with each other

Simply export/backup data from Jabp and then import data to JabpLite. Or vice versa.

In the event of any difficulties, I can be contacted at the email address below.

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Last updated: 1 April 2019