

# Introduction to macros

## Overview

Macros are a way to automatically call specific functions or set specific values. Macros can be called from workspace buttons, or can be triggered from specific actions (like: from starting a cue in a cue list or - as of Titan v10 - starting a set list track).

Essentially there are two types of macros: macros recorded live on the console, and macros which are written in code. More about this is written in [Recorded vs. coded macros](#). However, this wiki is dedicated to coded macros.

While macros are a very powerful tool to customize your console, writing macros is nothing for the faint of heart. Some basic windows knowledge - browsing and copying files across your system - as well as a good text editor are pre-requisites. It is recommended to try your macros on your private computer sporting [Avolites Titan Simulator](#), and using it on your live console only when you have proven it works and doesn't harm system, show or nerves.

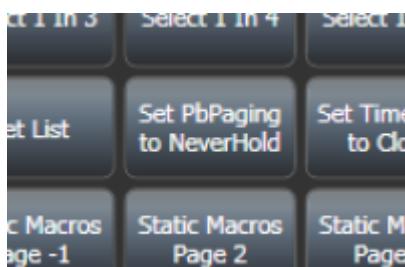
## Some info and useful links

- the [Macro section of the Avolites forum](#)
- the [Avolites facebook group](#)
- a [short introduction \(pdf\)](#)
- the official [Avolites API documentation](#)

And if you are looking for a comfortable text editor: there are many available, and even Windows notepad will do. However, please **don't use a big word processor (Word, OpenOffice etc.)** - they might have their problems with the xml markup which is used, will make your macro fail to run, and more. Personally I prefer an editor called [Notepad++](#) which I can strongly recommend.

## Writing a macro

Writing a macro is easy as macros are text files in a certain format: fire up your text editor, write something like the text below (or simly download it), save this file with a name like `setpaging.xml`, copy it to *My Documents/Titan/Macros*, start (or restart) Titan Simulator - and when clicking `<Macro>` [Show All] you should find a new macro named 'Set PbPaging to NeverHold' like this (that's a real life example - I was looking for a way to make one of my favourite user settings more accessible):



[setpaging.xml](#)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<avolites.macros xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="Avolites.Menus.xsd">
  <!-- Macro to set PlaybackPaging to never. Sebastian Beutel with help
  by Gregory Haynes 05/09/2016 -->
  <macro id="Avolites.Macros.PagingNeverHold" name="Set PbPaging to
NeverHold">
    <description>Sets PlaybackPaging to NeverHold.</description>
    <sequence>
      <step>ActionScript SetProperty.Enum("Handles.HandlesHeldover",
"NeverHold")</step>
    </sequence>
  </macro>
</avolites.macros>
```

## What's next

Gotten curious? Welcome to the club - now you know what all this is about. You may go on reading here:

- a condensed - but helpful - overview about the syntax and formats is available at [Formats and syntax](#)
- where exactly are the macro files stored: [Macro folders](#)
- how to [make macros available in Titan](#)
- there is also a [section on the differences between recorded and coded macros](#), complete with a [detailed example](#)
- and finally the core of this wiki: a growing [collection of example macros](#) and a [documentation of the functions](#)

## P.S. My first Macro Howto

This is the prequel of the wiki: back in 2016 I wrote my first documentation for the new macro engine. If you want you may have a look at it:

[avolites\\_titan\\_macros\\_v0.9.pdf](#)

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Last update: **2024/08/24 08:16**

