

Step Pause

Pause is a direct property per step and defines a delay time before this step is executed. While some macros will flawlessly work without a step pause set, others may show unreliable behaviour. This is due to the fact that each command and action takes a certain time to complete, and if the next step is called before the previous one is completed, undesired results may occur.

Peter Budd explains this:

The reason for the pause property is in some ways a bit of a hack. When you change something in the user interface it goes away and maybe works back through the interface to the engine. To a user they will see the result of the interface changing or a light coming on etc. Depending on precisely what you call the function on the panel may return straight away, or do some of the work then return. This could lead to your macro having slightly unpredictable behaviour.

You certainly don't do any harm by adding a very little time to each step by writing

```
<step pause="0.001">...</step>
```

And if you don't, and your macros appear to act unreliable then this is worth a try.

further readings

- [Introduction to macros](#)
- [Console and simulator](#) - how actions on the consoles are described
- [Recorded vs. coded macros](#) - both kinds: Country, AND Western
- [Macro file format](#) - what to observe when creating macro files
- [Macro Folders](#) - where exactly are the macro files stored
- [Deploying macros](#) - how to import a macro file into Titan
- [XML format](#) - a veeeery basic introduction into the format macro files are written in
- [Macro Variables](#) - defining and using variables in macros
- [The Syntax of Functions](#) - understanding how functions are described in general
- [Control Structures](#) - conditions and other means to control the flow
- [Action and Menus](#) - when a menu needs to be toggled in addition to the action
- [Step Pause](#) - a little delay might sometimes be helpful
- [Active Binding](#) - highlighting a macro handle as active
- [Namespaces](#) - a way to keep order of the functions, properties and other stuff
- [Datatypes](#) - numbers, words, yes & no: the various types of values
- [Properties list](#) - the affected system variables of Titan
- [Function list](#) - the functions mentioned in this wiki
- [Examples list](#) - all the contributed macros. And where is yours?

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