



10 Knack Tips & Best Practices

I'm Dave Parrish, and I build and support a lot of Knack apps. These are things I use about every day. They are all pretty simple and can make your work a lot easier.

1 Auto Increment / Date Created

Create these two fields for every object you have, including users. It will help tremendously when you are managing and troubleshooting the backend data.

3 www.helpsite.com

Great tool, usually free, and easy. Create awesome instructions on how to use your new app. Can be linked directly from your app.

5 Full Width Setting

Select this in your app settings instead of max view. Do so specially if you have long tables, your users will thank you.

7 1-Row Pivot Tables

Want to display calculated data in a pivot table, but you only need one row that applies to all the records? Create a multiple choice with only one selection, I use "count", then use that field as the first row under "Table Rows".

9 Yes/No Fields

In most cases, it is easier to make a multiple choice with two selections, Yes and No. Don't use the actual Yes/No field. You'll thank me.

2 Re-Index Hack

If your conditional rules, or cross object operations haven't populated yet, create a multiple choice field called "Update" with one selection, "index". Then run an update on all the object's records with this field. Usually that does the trick.

4 Pop-Ups

Use the pop-up view feature for simple forms and detail views. It is a much better user experience. Doesn't work so well with larger or complex views.

6 Page Rules

Learn these functions, they are powerful and simple. Search Knack's knowledge base for full instructions.

8 Form Instructions

Make instructions easier to read. Insert this code snippet in your app's CSS:

```
.kn-instructions  
{  
  font-size: 12px;  
  font-style: italic;  
}
```

10 Copy for Testing

If you are adding or changing something complex, especially to an already built and being-used app, first make a copy of it and test it out. Then apply it to your main app.