

Minimal XML News Reader

v1.0

1. INTRODUCTION

This file is mainly focused on simple date news reader. It also can be used like a text content menu, changing the dates for section titles and editing the main external XML file. Two versions (white and dark) are included. You don't have to edit the fla to select one of them, just edit the xml skin node. (See next page - 3. *Xml Configuration*).

The pack includes source files for Flash CS3 and Flash 8. You will find those files inside /Source folder.

2. MAIN USAGE

Simply copy the **MINIMAL XML NEWS READER** folder to your project FLA. You will find all the actionscript (AS2) in layer "codes" inside the **minimalNewsReader** MC. All functions and entries are well commented.

To attach the file to your project just drag the **minimalNewsReader** MC to your Stage.

The clip contains its own background, which changes between white / dark depending of the skin selection. If you don't need the background just delete that layer (additionally you can delete the codes referring to the background, but it's not necessary). Same for Bottom line, just delete the layer if you don't want it in your final project.

The file has no limits of entries. However, Flash has some internal system limitations for object sizes. If you set hundreds of news maybe the file will not work properly.

When you copy all the elements to your project FLA, just remember to copy also the /caurina folder to the same folder where your FLA is located (tweener classes).

**For other configuration see Section 3 (XML Configuration)
and Section 4 (Customization)**

3. XML CONFIGURATION

Look at the example XML file to see how the news reader is constructed. The NODES content refers as follows:

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>
<news>
  <mainParameters>                                     //MAIN PARAMETERS NODE
    <skin>white</skin>                                  //Use: white or dark
    <mainColor>0x009cff</mainColor>                    //Main color (Hexadecimal)
    <openFirstOnInit>true</openFirstOnInit>           //First news open on init (true / false)
    <pageNumbering>true</pageNumbering>                //News Page Numbers (true / false)
    <scrollEasingSpeed>8</scrollEasingSpeed>           //Easing value for scroll (between 1 - 10)
    <mouseWheelSpeed>6</mouseWheelSpeed>              //Mouse Wheel scroll (between 1 - 10)
  </mainParameters>

  <newsItems>
    <item>
      <date>10/12/2009</date>                          //Date (dd/mm/yyyy format)
      <text>                                              //Main text. HTML tags enabled
      <![CDATA[ YOUR CONTENT WITH HTML TAGS ]]>
      </text>
      <topImage>images/image_002.jpg</topImage> //Top image (if needed)
    </item>
    <item>
      >>>>
    </item>
  </newsItems>
</news>
```

NOTES:

The main color affects to the bottom line and the RollOver effect for dates. The color inside the news text can be easily edited through the xml, with HTML tags. For other color configuration directly edit the FLA file.

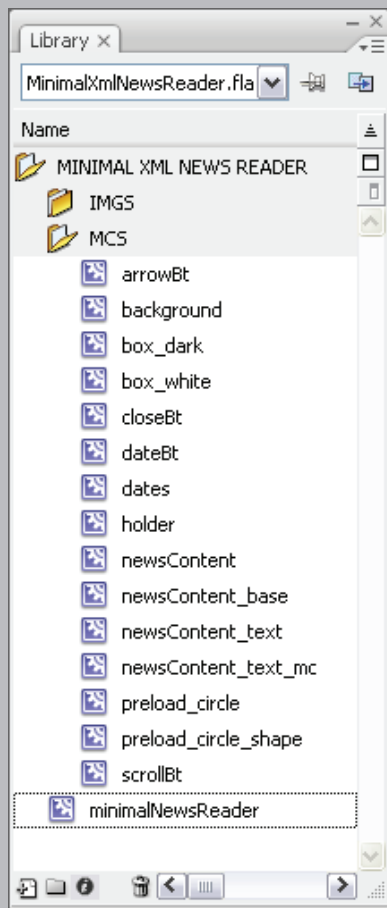
The main text of each news item must be inside CDATA. This is a safe way to use html tags with flash websites. To learn more about CDATA visit:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CDATA>

You can load images (jpg, gif, png) inside the <topImage> node (note that must fit the design. For other configuration edit the FLA to your needs). If one news does not use image, just leave that node empty.

Also you can put images inside the description text with thml tags.

Refer to the provided xml file to see different examples of the usage.



4. CUSTOMIZATION

As commented before you have some parameters that you can easily modify in layer "codes". All entries are well commented inside the FLA.

The main customization could be done directly in the XML file, without changing the source file. For other customization open the main FLA and edit any of the items of the library.

The design of this clip is inspired in a Standard Corporate Style. You have the full layered photoshop file with the elements, inside /PSD folder. So you can modify the colors, aspect or change it completely.

5. NOTES

This file uses **Myriad Pro** for news contents. Adobe distributes and installs this font with all their programs. Also uses the Free font **District Thin** for dates buttons and main title. You can download it for free here: <http://www.philfonts.com/freetfont.html>

AS2 **Tweener** is used for tweening. It's free and available for download: <http://code.google.com/p/tweener/>