

Course Description: Xbasic, Level 1, is an instructor-led training (ILT) course designed for developers who are familiar with Alpha Five, but who seek a better understanding and ability to use Xbasic and for developers who are using Alpha Five as a front-end for other database products, and need a reference for the Xbasic commands, styles and structures. Participants learn Xbasic fundamentals for manipulating tables, records, forms, reports, and other objects. Participants will also learn the basics of code structure, how to write pseudo code, produce reports, create user-defined functions, use interactive commands, and create and use arrays. Additionally, participants will learn how to handle errors, manage email, configure application startup, and implement security.

Course Length: 2 Days

Prerequisites: Alpha Five v7, Level 1 and Alpha Five v7, Level 2.

OUTLINE

Getting Started with Xbasic

- What is Xbasic?
- Viewing Xbasic Code
- Examining Xbasic Tools
- Exploring the Code Editor
- Using the Xbasic Script Genie
- Understanding Functions
- Using the Function Finder

Xbasic Fundamentals

- Working with Variables
- Creating Variables
- Establishing Variable Types
- Dimensioning, Declaring, & Naming Variables
- Using the Xbasic Explorer
- Addressing Objects
- Understanding Pointers & Aliases

Xbasic Commands and Script Planning

- Using Decision-Making Commands
- Using Loop Management Commands
- Using Navigational Commands
- Using Commands for Variable Management
- Using Commands for Function Development
- Planning Your Scripts
- Using Pseudo Code

Managing Tables and Records

- Using Table Commands
- Opening a Table for Manipulation
- Closing a table
- Working with Records
- Creating a New Record
- Finding a Specific Record
- Changing an Existing Record

Selecting and Manipulating Records

- Working with Queries
- Using Query Parameters
- Fetching Through a Table
- Updating Table Records Based on Another Table's Records

Using Xbasic to Produce Reports

- Using report.print() and report.preview()
- Using report.saveas() and report.send()

Using Xbasic for Simple Form Management

- Opening and Managing Forms
- Using form.view() and form.viewqueried()
- Using f.show() and f.hide()
- Using f.activate() and f.close()

Using Events to Control Your Data

- Using Field Rule Events
- Using Control-Level Events in Field Events
- Using Control-Level Events in Button Events
- Using Form-Level Events
- Using Permission Events

Using Arrays

- What is an Array?
- When is an Array Needed?
- What can be done with Arrays?
- Building an Array
- Sorting an Array
- Inserting a Value

Using Interactive User Commands

Using Basic User Interface (UI) Tools
Controlling ui_buttons and icons
Using Xdialog
Saving Xdialog to a Script
Customizing Xdialog

Using Xbasic to Manage Email

Prompting for Email Settings
Sending Email with User Input
Automating Email

Configuring Application Startup

Using the Autoexec Script
Managing the Control Panel

User-Defined Functions

What is a UDF?
Creating a simple UDF
Creating a local function
Creating a complex UDF

Implementing Security

Controlling Access with Passwords
Setting User Rights Table
Setting Login Interface
Granting or Denying Access
Protecting Your Data with Encryption
Why encryption is important
Encrypting/Decrypting a table

Managing Errors

Overview of Error Trapping
What is Error Trapping?
Examining Types of Errors
Handling Errors
Reporting Errors

Exploring Other Tools and Functions

Using the Code Library
Using Code Editor Tools
Comment/Uncomment Code
Using the Transform Genie
Using Genies for Inserting
Viewing the Trace Window
Exploring Additional Xbasic Functions