

How to hide/show the page buttons conditionally

This document shows some ways for the user to modify a resource to accomplish functionality that does not exist in the EpiCraft Editor. One must be EXTREMELY careful in modifying resource files as doing so incorrectly can easily make your application unusable.

A screen element such as a button, a field, a label, a group, or a tab can be displayed or not based on a condition. In the EpiCraft editor, one can make a label/field pair or a group or tab display conditionally (using javascript syntax - see the EpiCraft reference sheets, section “Conditional display” for details), but not buttons. If one modifies the XML of a **Form** resource (Administration > Manage resources > forms > *form_name* > Action > Open), you could see a button element that looks similar to this:

```
<form_row editor_id="skplthjquo1470226096498">
  <button label="Save" action="save"/>
</form_row>
```

This is a simple **Save** button. To show it conditionally, you can use a JavaScript expression referencing one or more variables. For example, if we want to hide the **Save** button when the user enters an interger value less than 100 for a specific variable, we can do so by adding the *option* tag to the *button* node with the following attributes.

```
<form_row editor_id="skplthjquo1470226096498">
  <button label="Save" action="save">
    <option output="html" option_name="show_on" value="{varset_x.var_a} &gt;=
100"/>
  </button>
</form_row>
```

To reference a variable, the syntax used is {varset_name.variable_name}. Additionally, the conditional display of an element can be based upon the current screen’s mode. For example, a form can be displayed in Read Only mode (when you have used the button “View” in a listing -- the user will “view” the page in Read Only mode) and one may not want certain buttons to appear. This is done by declaring the condition based upon the page’s current mode.

```
<form_row editor_id="skplthjquo1470226096498">
  <button label="Save" action="save">
    <option output="html" option_name="show_on" value="{parameters->mode} ==
'rw'"/>
  </button>
</form_row>
```

In the button element above, because of the option tag and its attributes, the **Save** button will only be displayed when the page is in ‘rw’ (Read/Write) mode and not when it is in Read Only mode.