



Introducing PersonalBrain 5.5

The Next Step in Advanced Information Management

Building on [PersonalBrain's award-winning user interface and file management capabilities](#), version 5.5 augments your ability to build and manage a complete knowledgebase without limits. Integrate all your information in context and accelerate your knowledge. Version 5.5 contains over 150 new features and

improvements. Major additions include:

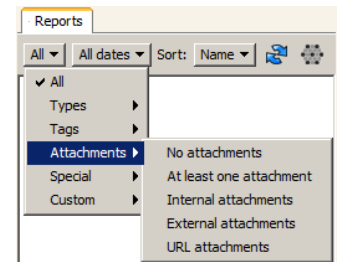
- Easier, more powerful reports with display filtering
- Faster, more flexible visualizations
- Streamlined user interface
- Revamped calendar with recurring events and more
- Keyboard shortcuts for virtually every command
- Integrated screen-capture capability
- Thought spellchecking
- Expanded preferences and much more...



The sections below describe key new features. For additional details on these features and a complete list of changes, [please see the release notes document](#).

Easier, More Powerful Reports with Display Filtering

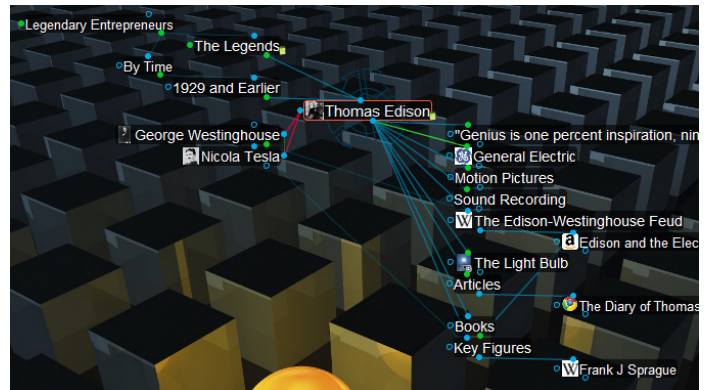
- The new reports quick-pick menu enables generating most reports with just two clicks
- Powerful custom reports using multiple criteria can now be defined utilizing multiple types, tags, and attachment criteria.
- Custom reports can be named and saved for future use
- All reports can now be filtered using a date range
- Display filtering lets you selectively hide sets of Thoughts from the view using a report. This can be used to show only Thoughts that match the criteria you select. Filter by tag, type, date, attachment, or anything else you can report on.
- Simply create a report, then click the filter button on the report toolbar to change the filter status
 - The normal filter hides any Thought not included in the report while the inverse filter hides only the Thoughts that are included in the report.



Faster, More Flexible Visualizations

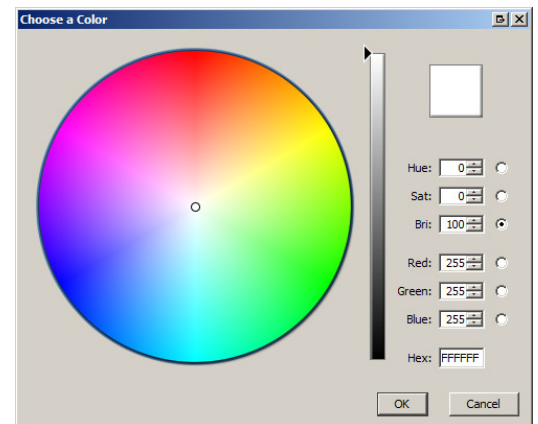
- General View Enhancements
 - Improved animation
 - When making changes such as editing a link or creating a Thought, the plex display is visually much more stable and does not disappear and get regenerated
 - Links retain their assigned colors even when they are highlighted
 - On mouseover of a link, if either of the Thoughts connected by the link is off-screen, it is displayed on-screen while the link is being highlighted.
 - Remembers the last view in use automatically
 - For example, if you set the view to outline view and close PersonalBrain, the next time you open it, it will return to outline view.
- Expanded View
 - Expanded view automatically saves
 - The "Expanded" option in the View menu has been replaced with "New Expanded" and "Last Expanded".
 - "New Expanded" maintains the current active Thought and other linked Thoughts and goes into the expanded view.

- “Last Expanded” returns to the last used expanded view, which is automatically saved when switching from the expanded view to another view
 - Improved collapse/expand UI
 - When you mouseover a collapse control, the Thoughts that will be hidden are highlighted with a strikethrough
 - When you mouseover an expand control, the Thoughts that will be expanded are highlighted with a rounded rectangle
 - Does less unneeded movement when activating a Thought
 - The layout stabilizes and reacts faster to input such as repositioning of Thoughts or linking and unlinking of Thoughts
- Outline View
 - Unlimited parent-ward expansion
 - Parents can be expanded, to show grandparents, great-grandparents, and so on, just like children, but in reverse.
 - The expand all and collapse all buttons affect both children and parents.



Streamlined User Interface

- Many menus and other user interface elements have been cleaned up and refined
- New tags user interface
 - View 3 to 4 times as many tags at once with the multi-column layout
- Improved Thought Tags and Types menus
 - The Thought Tags and Types menus are more powerful
 - Multiple tags can be selected without needing to reopen the menu
 - Colors and icons are shown in the menu
 - Types are arranged in a hierarchy if present
 - Submenus are never used not matter how many types or tags are present
- Improved color selection UI
 - All places where colors are selected use a better color selection tool that allows fast selection of current colors as well as more intuitive custom color selection
- Default notes styles let you easily modify colors and fonts for all notes within your Brain



Revamped Calendar with Recurring Events and More

- The event creation and editing user interface has been overhauled and the entire events system rewritten to enable additional capabilities
- Recurring events
 - Daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, and everything in between
- Additional fields on every event to record:
 - Where
 - Description
 - Percent Complete
- Independent start, end, and reminder times
- Reminders are now optional and can be set to occur at a customizable amount of time in advance of the event

Keyboard Shortcuts for Virtually Every Command

- Most commands can now be accessed by keyboard commands, which are user-configurable
 - See Preferences > Accelerators
 - Keyboard settings can be exported so that they can be shared with others and/or moved from one machine to another
- Pressing “Properties key” under Windows opens the popup menu for the currently highlighted (either with the mouse or the keyboard navigation tool) Thought
- The Delete key now serves several functions
 - If forgetting is enabled, it forgets the highlighted thought.
 - If forgetting is disabled or the Shift key is pressed, it deletes the highlighted Thought.
 - If a link is highlighted, it removes the link

Integrated Screen-Capture Capability

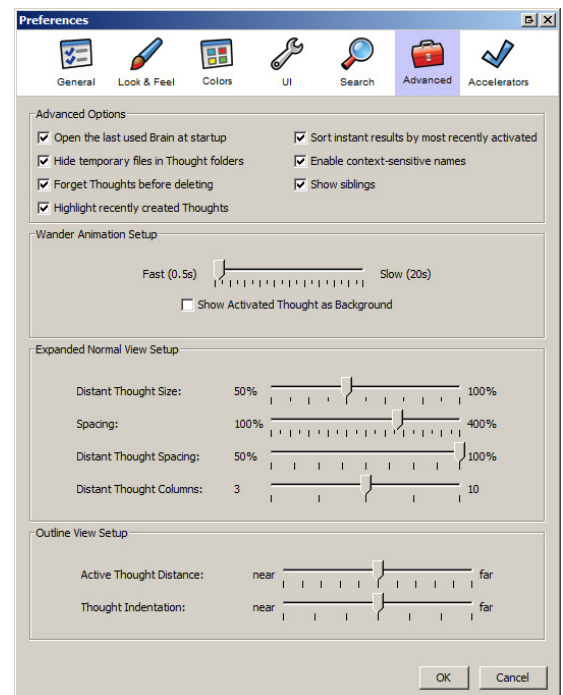
- Instant Screen-Capture of Thought Icons
 - A powerful and convenient method for grabbing any portion of your screen for use as a Thought icon
 - From the Thought menu, select Capture Thought Icon and then select any area of your screen to instantly add the selection as an icon
- You can also capture a portion of the screen and save it as an attachment by selecting “Capture image” from the Add Attachment dialog box.

Thought Spellchecking

- When creating a Thought misspelled words are automatically highlighted and can be right-clicked to view suggested corrections.
- New words can be added to the dictionary. The custom dictionary is shared with the notes editor.
- This option can be toggled via Options > Spellcheck Thoughts

Expanded Preferences and Other Enhancements

- Expanded preferences allow fine tuning of the user interface, including options for wander speed, size of distant Thoughts, spacing between Thoughts and much more.
- Overall performance has been improved
- Export to Folder
 - Exports Thoughts, attachments and notes into a flat or hierarchical set of folders with a single command
 - You can export your entire Brain or limit the export using the selection
- Search now indexes contents of MindManager and FreeMind files
- New command: “Copy as Text Outline with Notes”
 - This command copies the selected Thoughts along with their notes and places them in a text tabbed outline
- Improved printing automatically scales printouts to fit the full page and optionally retain on-screen colors and backgrounds
- New utility to search and replace of attachment locations
- Virtual thoughts now support Thought icons
- Search for Missing Files
 - If an external file attachment is moved to a different folder and then the link to that attachment is clicked, PersonalBrain offers to search for the missing file automatically.
- Improved Word import



- Word document “outline levels” are used to create the structure of Thoughts when importing a Word document. This enables creation of a Thought structure based on the Heading 1 and Heading 2 styles, visible in Word’s Outline View.
- Mac OS: Drag and drop of messages from Apple Mail is now supported
- Windows: Auto-hide works on multiple monitors
- Ability to copy information from Outlook instead of linking to it on drag and drop of items