

Assigning Users to Tasks is now Optional

for all users of Studio Manager 10

Any active employee may be assigned to a task. In Studio Manager 10, users were required to assign employees to a job before they could be assigned to a task for that job. **Now in Studio Manager 11, any active employee may be assigned to a task** and the assigning of people to jobs or tasks, although recommended and advantageous for those who want to track time used by task or have the ability to compare number of hours assigned to the number used, has become **optional**.

Background

In designing Studio Manager 10, it was decided that Studio Manager would by default require that employees be assigned to a Job (via a Job Assignments screen) and that *only* these people could then be assigned to perform tasks for that job.

The original decision was based on the fact that we had customized Studio Manager for a number of clients for that purpose. Also, because it makes sense in large shops and facilitates tracking jobs by tasks as well as by billing code.

Then along comes Studio Manager 11 and the advent of simplified layouts for the iPhone and iPad. During development and documentation for these, it became clear to us that this process of requiring that you assign people to Jobs in order to assign them to tasks, adds a level of complexity that is useful to some users but certainly not all. *Therefore*, the decision was made to re-simplify Studio Manager by including the function (for easy customization) but to not set it as the default.

You still can assign employees to jobs and then to tasks for each job but you are no longer required to do so.

The consequence of not assigning tasks:

If you do not assign tasks, you cannot use the Record Time shortcut button (in Contacts on the Employee Dashboard on the Tasks tab for Today) to create timesheet entries.

Studio Manager via FileMaker Go

There is no way to assign staff to tasks nor is the shortcut even included in the FileMaker Go version of Studio Manager 11 (for iPad, iPhone or iPod touch).