



fmTrace — Quick Start

fmTrace — Quick Start for Trial Users

Script execution in FileMaker usually feels like a black box. You run one script, which may trigger other scripts, open layouts that have their own attached scripts, and so on — but all you see is the final result of the whole chain. Yes, the Script Debugger is there, but it doesn't give you the full picture at a glance.

fmTrace is built to fill that gap.

fmTrace lets you record everything that happens inside FileMaker during script execution, visualize the recording as a clear graphical timeline, and pinpoint bottlenecks — the script steps that take the longest to run. You can also track how Variables and Fields change over time, also see all Errors.

What's in the box

fmTrace ships as two modules:

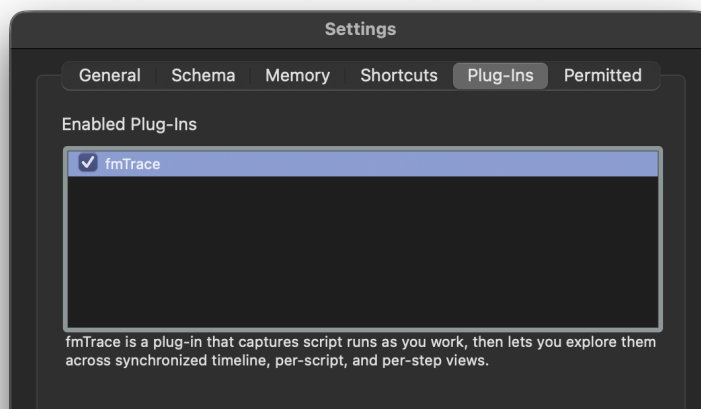
1. **fmTrace.fmpplugin** — a plug-in for FileMaker Pro on Apple Silicon Macs. It records script execution as it happens. Recordings are written to `.fmtrace` files.
2. **fmTrace.app** — a viewer that opens the `.fmtrace` recordings produced by the plug-in.

fmTrace supports FileMaker Pro from **v.19** through the latest release (currently **v.26**).

Installation

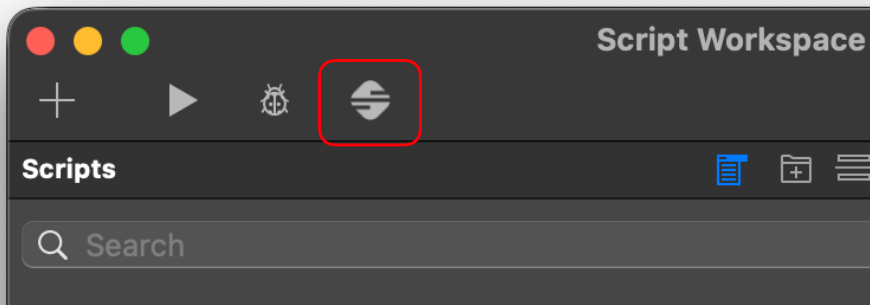
Double-click **fmTrace-Installer.pkg**. The installer contains just two items — `fmTrace.fmpplugin` and `fmTrace.app` — and places each one in the correct location.

After installation, launch FileMaker Pro and confirm that the plug-in is loaded.

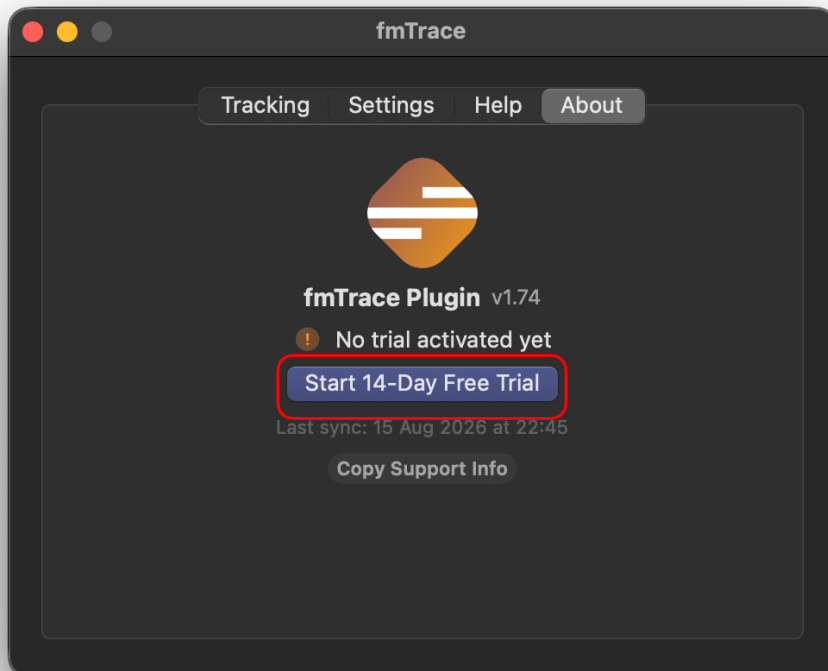


Using fmTrace

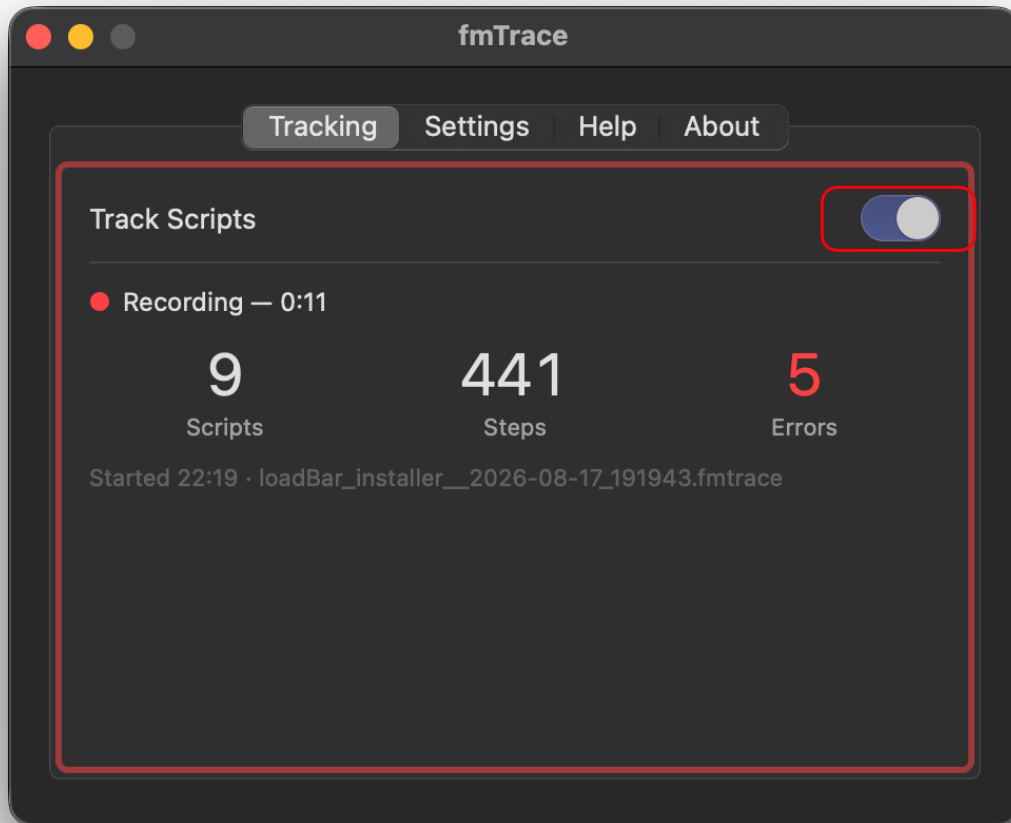
1. Open **Script Workspace** and click **fmTrace** button



2. Activate your **Trial**



3. Click **Track Scripts** to start recording, then work with the database as you normally would. fmTrace captures the full sequence of script execution.



4. Stop the recording. fmTrace.app launches automatically and displays the execution graph of every script and every step.

Working in the viewer

- Drag to select a region and zoom in on it. Double-click to reset the zoom.
- In the **Scripts** menu, click a script name to highlight every invocation of that script, or select individual time blocks one by one.
- You can also toggle the display of **Variables**, **Fields** and **Errors** along the timeline.



For beta testers

- If you hit a crash, please send the report to **support@fmtrace.com**.
- Try to keep recordings under ~100K executed steps — beyond that the viewer can get sluggish.
- Many improvements are landing in the next few releases — stay tuned.
- For anything else, reach us at **support@fmtrace.com**.