

JUMBO BLOCK ENGINEERING SUITE

JUMBO BLOCK Note

User Manual · Version 1.0.0

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1. Overview

JUMBO BLOCK Note is the fast local note-taking tool of the JUMBO BLOCK Engineering Suite, with export, import, and linkable links and files. It serves for freely documenting thoughts, intermediate states, or references to other suite tools and external resources, without being tied to a specific technical subject itself.

The program runs entirely locally in the browser as a single HTML file. There is no cloud connection, no server, and no user account.

An important difference from all other suite tools documented so far: NOTE automatically and persistently saves all notes in the browser's local storage (localStorage), not just in the memory of the open page. Notes therefore remain available even after closing the tab or restarting the browser, provided the same browser on the same device is used (chapter 9).

Like CALC and UNITS, NOTE does not exchange data with the suite's shared project.dbm; export and import use their own, NOTE-specific file format (chapter 8). NOTE is one of several standalone tools in the suite (including HYDRO, PLAN, BUDGET, STATIC, TEMP, CALC, UNITS, Project).

2. Getting Started

The very first time note.html is opened — when no NOTE data yet exists in the browser's local storage — an empty first note is automatically created and shown in the editor on the right. On every subsequent opening of the page, previously saved notes are automatically loaded and the last active note is shown again (or the first note in the list, if the last active note no longer exists).

The interface is organised into two columns: on the left, the note list with a search field and the New note, Export, and Import buttons; on the right, the editor for the currently selected note with title, text, and links/files sections plus the Delete, Save, and Print buttons.

3. Note List and Search

Each entry in the note list shows the title (or “Untitled note” if no title was given) and the date and time of the last change. The note currently open in the editor is visually highlighted in the list.

New notes are always inserted at the top of the list (in creation order, not by last modification) — the order of existing notes therefore does not change through mere editing.

The search field filters the list live and case-insensitively according to the current language: title and note text are searched together. If there is no match, or no notes exist yet, a corresponding empty-state notice appears instead of the list.

4. Creating, Editing and Saving a Note

The “New note” button creates an empty note, sets it as active, inserts it at the top of the list, and moves input focus to the title field. If the previously active note had unsaved changes, it is automatically saved beforehand without a status message.

Title (maximum 200 characters) and note text are captured in separate fields. Every input internally marks the note as “unsaved”, without this immediately being written to local storage.

The “Save” button transfers the title, text, and all links/files of the current note into persistent local storage, updates the modification timestamp, and confirms the action with a brief status message (“Note saved.”), which automatically disappears after a short time.

5. Switching and Deleting Notes

Clicking another entry in the note list switches to that note. If the previously active note had unsaved changes, it is automatically saved without a status message before the new note is loaded — changes are therefore not lost when switching.

The “Delete” button permanently removes the currently displayed note, after a confirmation dialog has been explicitly confirmed. If it was the last remaining note, a new empty note is automatically created so the editor never remains completely empty; otherwise the topmost note of the remaining list becomes active.

6. Links and Files

The “Links and files” section within each note allows two kinds of attachments: external or relative links (e.g. a web address or a relative path to another suite tool such as “plan.html”) and locally attached files.

A link is captured via a label field (optional — otherwise automatically taken from the link target) and a link/path field, and added to the list via “Add link” (or the Enter key in the path field). If no link or path is entered, a corresponding notice appears.

“Attach file” allows selecting a local file. It is fully embedded into the note (as a Base64-encoded data URL) and thus remains retrievable even after saving and even after an export/import, without the original file needing to be available again. The maximum file size is 10 MB; larger files are rejected with a notice.

Every entry in the links/files list shows the label and — depending on its kind — either the link target or the file name. Clicking the link text opens external links in a new tab, or downloads attached files under their original file name. The “x” button next to each entry removes it again; the removal is only permanently applied once “Save” is pressed.

7. Printing

The “Print” button first automatically saves the current note and then opens a standalone, print-ready report in a new window: title, complete note text, all linked links and files (label plus link target or file name), and the creation date, last modification date, and print date/time. Within the report window, a separate “Print / PDF” button triggers the browser's print dialog.

If content is missing or no links/files are present, the report shows placeholder text in the corresponding sections instead of an empty area.

8. Export and Import

“Export” first automatically saves the current note and then downloads all existing notes (not just the currently open one) as a standalone JSON file named YYYYMMDD_HHMMSS_note.dbm. This file is not an excerpt of the suite's shared project.dbm, but its own NOTE format, identifiable by the field “schema”: “JUMBO_BLOCK_NOTE” within the file. Locally attached files are fully embedded within it; no SHA-256 hash check takes place.

“Import” opens the file selection dialog and reads a file previously exported by NOTE. If the file is not a valid NOTE format (incorrect or missing “schema” field, no notes array), the message “Invalid NOTE DBM file.” appears and nothing is applied.

A successful import completely replaces all notes previously stored in the browser with the contents of the imported file — the first note in the imported file is automatically set as active. This action cannot be undone; exporting the previous state beforehand is recommended if the previous notes should be preserved.

9. Keyboard Shortcut and Automatic Saving

Ctrl+S (Cmd+S on macOS) saves the current note at any time directly from the title or text field, without needing to click “Save” with the mouse, and shows the same status message as a manual click.

NOTE also saves automatically and without a status message in three further situations: when switching to another note (chapter 5), when creating a new note (chapter 4), and when leaving or closing the page, provided unsaved changes exist at that time. In practice, unsaved changes are therefore lost only in rare exceptional cases (e.g. a browser crash).

10. Language (German/English)

Language switching is handled via the suite's global menu (menue.js) above the tool. NOTE fully switches all labels, placeholder texts, and the print report between German and English, without altering the saved notes.

A notable feature compared with other suite tools: if the language is switched in another, simultaneously open browser tab of the same origin, NOTE automatically adopts the new language in the already-open tab as well, without the page needing to be manually reloaded.

11. Limitations, Notes and Best Practices

- NOTE persistently stores data in the local storage of the respective browser on the respective device. Switching browser, switching device, or clearing browser data (e.g. “clear browsing data” or a private/incognito window) makes the notes stored there inaccessible, unless an export was made beforehand.
- Notes are not automatically synchronised between devices or browsers; data exchange is only possible via the manual export/import mechanism (chapter 8).
- An import always replaces the entire previous note collection in the browser, not just individual notes — exporting beforehand as a backup is therefore recommended before importing.
- Attached local files are fully embedded as Base64 data within the note and thus also within every export file; with many or large attachments (up to 10 MB per file), the exported .dbm file can become correspondingly large.
- NOTE does not exchange data with the shared project.dbm of the other suite tools. Links to other suite tools (e.g. “plan.html”) are pure references without a technical connection — clicking merely opens the target page, no data import takes place.
- The note list is sorted by creation order, not by last modification; to find a recently edited but older note again, using search is recommended.

12. Quick Reference of Buttons

Button	Meaning
New note	Creates an empty note and sets it as active
Save	Transfers title, text, and links/files of the current note into persistent storage
Delete	Permanently removes the current note after a confirmation dialog
Print	Opens the print-ready report of the current note
Attach file	Embeds a local file (up to 10 MB) into the note
Add link	Adds an external or relative link to the note
× (next to a link/file)	Removes the respective entry from the note
Export	Saves all notes as a standalone .dbm file
Import	Replaces all saved notes with the contents of a previously exported file
Ctrl/Cmd + S	Saves the current note via keyboard shortcut