

# Chapter 4 – Customizing the Program

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The Master Genealogist™ offers various ways for you to customize the program. Most are of a personal preference regarding data/screen displays. Others will have a significant effect on your data and will be noted where applicable.

This chapter will discuss the default options as well as suggested options for first-time users. As you feel more comfortable with the initial setting you should take a look at the various other options and try them to see how they affect the program.

Customizing TMG begins the first time you run the program (see Figure 4-1). It is advisable for new users to choose the “Beginner” option. This can always be changed later as stated on the bottom of the window.

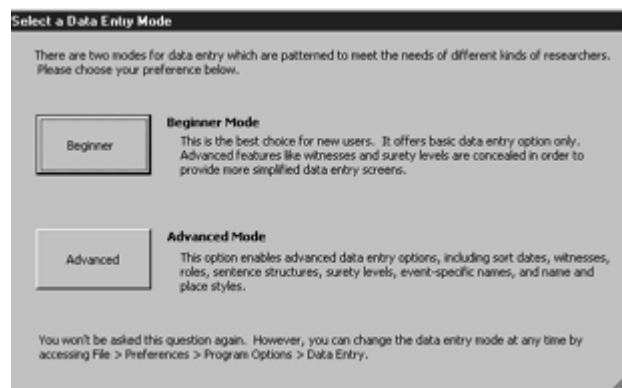


Figure 4-1: Select a Data Entry Mode

The four major area of customizing TMG that will be covered in this chapter are:

1. Preferences
2. Toolbar Customization
3. Screen Layouts
4. Other Info Box

Also language customization will be briefly discussed.

## 1. Preferences (see Figure 4-2)

This is the first place you may want to visit before bringing your data into TMG. Here you will find the options for the display of your data, the format for data entry, and many other useful options.

Note: You will need to have a project (such as SAMPLE) open when setting your preferences.

There are two main sections to Preferences: **Program Options** and **Current Project Options**.



Figure 4-2: Preferences

The **Program Options** selections are passed on from one project to another and affect any new projects opened or imported. Also the settings are kept in the file APP.INI. Keeping a backup copy of this file is highly recommended.

The **Current Project Options** affects the project that is currently open. These options are saved with the project at the time of backup.

Don't worry about making choices that you find you don't like. The defaults can be reset for either the Program Options or the Current Project Options. Or both can be reset by clicking on the Reset Defaults... button at the bottom left of the Preferences window.

To save the selections you make, click on Apply, then OK or just click on OK to return to the main program. If you wish, you can always select the Cancel button and return to the main program without saving the changes.

The old saying “all roads lead to Rome” can be said about Preferences. The window is easily accessible by right clicking on any object in the Layout windows.