mmsql 1.1 – SQLite manager for the Colour Maximite 2

mmsql is a command line tool, written in MMBasic, to look into, change, check, repair, import and export SQLite databases on the Colour Maximite 2. It works on the VGA/HDMI screen and on a serial terminal (e.g. Tera Term) at the same time, and it follows the commands of the `sqlite3` shell, so it feels familiar to anyone who has used SQLite on a PC.

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The full description of all commands, options and limits is in the user manual: `MANUAL_mmsql.pdf` (German: `HANDBUCH_mmsql.pdf`). New to SQL? Start with `TUTORIAL_mmsql.pdf`.

Requirements

- Colour Maximite 2, generation 1, 2 or 3
- MMBasic **8.00.00b1** or later
- The `sql` folder from the firmware package in the root of the SD card (`A:/sql/sql.mod`)
- For firmware 7.00.00RC6 use **mmsql 1.0.1** (separate download)

Installation

Copy these files into one folder, e.g. `A:/SQL/` (with XMODEM: `xmodem receive "mmsql.bas"` and so on):

File	Purpose
`mmsql.bas`	the program
`mmsql_en.hlp`	English help (default)
`mmsql_de.hlp`	German help (`.set helpfile mmsql_de.hlp`)
`LICENSE.txt`	MIT License
`demo.sql`	sample data for the tutorial

mmsql creates two more files there: `mmsql.cfg` (options) and `mmsql.his` (command history).

Quick start

```
RUN "mmsql", "A:/sql/computers.db"
.tables
.columns computer
.browse computer WHERE year < 1982 ORDER BY year
SELECT maker, count(*) FROM computer GROUP BY maker
.quit
```

Commands start with a dot. Anything else is run as SQL. `.help` lists all commands, `.help name` shows the details of one (e.g. `.help import`), and `.help keys`, `.help sql` and `.help utf8` explain the editor, SQL and UTF-8.

Commands

Group	Commands
Database	`.open` `.close` `.info` `.databases` `.backup` `.vacuum` `.files` `.kill`
Look	`.tables` `.indexes` `.triggers` `.schema` `.columns` `.browse`
Data	`.insert` `.edit` `.delete` `.import` `.read`
Structure	`.create` `.alter` `.reindex`
Check	`.check` `.fkcheck` `.fk`
Output	`.mode` `.headers` `.separator` `.nullvalue` `.once` `.output` `.dump`
Settings	`.set` `.timer` `.bail` `.echo` `.cls` `.help` `.quit`

Highlights

- **Browse** tables page by page, with `WHERE` and `ORDER BY`.
- **Edit** a row field by field in the line editor (`.edit table key`); `.insert`, `.delete`, `.create` and `.alter` work the same way, with a question before anything is changed.

- **Export** as in the sqlite3 shell: `.mode csv|list|insert|line|table`, `.headers`, `.separator`, `.once file`, `.output file`, `.dump`. CSV follows RFC 4180 with CRLF line ends.
- **Import** CSV with `.import [--skip N] file.csv table`, run SQL scripts with `.read file.sql`.
- **Long texts and BLOBs** over 255 characters are shown, exported, dumped, read and imported in full (option `maxtext`, default 32 KB).
- **Ctrl-C** stops a running SQL statement and mmsql goes on; it tells you exactly what SQLite has undone.
- **Transactions** are watched: the prompt shows a star while one is open (`mmsql[club.db]*>`), and `.quit`, `.close` and `.open` ask whether to commit or roll back.
- **Several statements in one line**, separated by `;`, each with its own result.
- **Check and repair**: `.check [full]`, `.fkcheck`, `.reindex`, `.vacuum`, and `.backup file.db` for a clean copy (`VACUUM INTO`).
- **Several databases** with `ATTACH 'other.db' AS o` – e.g. to copy tables between files.
- **Files**: `.files [pattern]` lists files, `.kill file` deletes one after a question.
- Line editor with history (Up/Down), Home/End, Del, Esc to clear the line. Options are saved in `mmsql.cfg`.

Tested byte for byte against SQLite on a PC: CSV, insert and dump export, and the round trips CSV → database → CSV and dump → database → dump, including quotes, line breaks, tabs, UTF-8, 64-bit integers, texts up to 40000 characters and BLOBs.

Good to know

- **Input at the prompt is at most 255 characters** (an MMBasic string). Longer statements can be run from a file with `.read`. A statement must be in one line.
- `.insert` and `.import` use at most **20 columns** (firmware limit per command).
- **UTF-8**: the CMM2 font has no umlauts etc. By default each UTF-8 character is shown as one placeholder (·), so columns stay aligned; files and the database keep real UTF-8. `.set utf8 raw` sends the bytes unchanged.
- **CSV** cannot tell NULL from an empty field; use `.dump` to keep NULL.
- The SQLite module has no `EXPLAIN`, `ANALYZE`, WAL mode, math functions or extensions; `datetime('now')` gives the time of the CMM2 clock (no time zones). A database saved in WAL mode on a PC must be switched back first (`PRAGMA journal_mode=DELETE`).
- **Firmware 8.00.00b1** has a small bug in `LGETSTR$` (one byte too many at exactly 255 characters); mmsql avoids it. It is fixed in the next firmware.

Credits

- SQL support in MMBasic and the SQLite module by Peter Mather; MMBasic by Geoff Graham and Peter Mather.
- SQLite is in the public domain (https://www.sqlite.org/copyright.html).