

JudgeCalc Quick Start Guide

1. Launching JudgeCalc

When you open JudgeCalc, today's date appears at the top as the "starting date." All calculations are based on this date.

2. Setting Date Exclusion Options

By default, JudgeCalc excludes weekends and federal holidays from calculated dates.

To change these settings, click the Date Options button. You can choose which days to exclude or reset to defaults at any time.

3. Selecting a Starting Date

Click the starting date or calendar icon to open the calendar picker.

Select any permissible date (excluded dates are grayed out). JudgeCalc recalculates all deadlines instantly when you change the starting date.

4. Viewing Pre-Calculated Deadlines

JudgeCalc displays tables of common offsets (days, weeks, months, years) from the starting date.

Click a row to select a date; double-click to make it the new starting date for further calculations.

5. Custom Date Calculations

Use the Offset section to add or subtract days, weeks, months, or years from the starting date.

Double-click the offset date or click Set as Start Date to use it as your new starting date.

6. Copying Dates

Use the Copy buttons below the calculated dates to copy any date to your clipboard for easy pasting into documents or emails.

7. Resetting Dates

Click Today to reset the starting date to today.

Use Reset Offset to clear custom offsets, or Reset All to restore all settings and dates to their defaults.

8. Court/Business Days

To count only business days (Monday–Friday, excluding holidays), select Court Days in Date Options. Only the days input will be available for this feature.

Tips

- Hover over any date to see if it was moved due to exclusion settings and why.
- Tooltips provide additional information about date adjustments.

Ready to get started? JudgeCalc is designed for speed, accuracy, and flexibility—ideal for legal and business deadline management.

JudgeCalc User Guide

Welcome to JudgeCalc!

Initial Settings

When JudgeCalc is initially loaded, the current date ("today's date") will be displayed in the large box near the top. This date will be referred to as the "starting date" as all other dates are calculated from it. As the main purpose of JudgeCalc is to prevent starting or ending on excluded days the following date options will be set by default the first time you open it: exclude starting or landing on federal holidays and weekends; use calendar days; which counts every day as will be explained below; all of the pre-calculated days, weeks, months, and years (the "date tables") go forward in time; if a calculated date would land on an excluded date JudgeCalc will go forward to the first permissible date; and if you open JudgeCalc on an otherwise excluded date (typically a federal holiday or weekend), a pop-up box will ask you if you want to temporarily change the exclusion option to allow all dates or keep the exclusion settings as is. All of these will be explained more fully below.

Date Exclusion Options

To change any of the default date options click the Date Options button. There you will be given choices for the various options mentioned above. If at any time you want to return to the default settings, click the Reset Defaults button.

If you do have JudgeCalc set to exclude weekends and/or holidays and you open it on one of those days, by default a window will appear offering to temporarily allow all days or keeping your current settings. If you pick to temporarily allow all dates then JudgeCalc will set the start date to today's date and will revert to your current settings at the end of the excluded period (Sunday at midnight if weekends were excluded or midnight for the current holiday if those are to be excluded). In the Date Options dialog under the Open on Excluded date heading you will be able to choose if you want this pop up to open on those dates or to automatically temporarily switch to either the allow all dates setting or to keep your current settings. If you do pick to temporarily allow all dates and want to reset that you can click a button that will appear in the Date Options dialog for this purpose. This button will not be visible otherwise. When appropriate it will appear just to the left of the Cancel button and will be clearly labeled.

If you want to see the current date option settings just hover your mouse over the Date Options button and a tooltip will pop up with that information.

If you do have JudgeCalc set to prevent starting or ending on federal holidays and/or weekends then any date, including the start date, will be automatically adjusted to a permissible date. To see if a date was moved, why it was moved, how much it was moved, and the direction it was moved, hover your mouse over the date for a couple seconds and a tooltip will appear with that information and stay visible for 2 seconds. You will also see the tooltip if you select a date in the 4 main date tables or if an offset date (explained below) would have resulted in an excluded date. If you want to see the tooltip again on a selected date you can press Ctrl+Enter or for any moved date, move your mouse off the date and then move over it again.

Landing Date Direction

Choose the "Go forward" option in the Date Options dialog when you need to be *within* a certain time period before a given end date. For example, if you must file some papers within a 90-day window before a deadline. Conversely, if you had to do something *before* a deadline expires, like paying your credit card or filing motions or exhibits, choose the "Go further back" option.

Calendar Picker

To select a different starting date, click on the start date or the calendar icon and a calendar picker will appear.ⁱ This picker will display the month and year of the current starting date and a calendar for that month. The current

starting date will be highlighted with a blue background. If the current starting date isn't today's date it, today's date will have a blue ring around it when the current month is being displayed. Any excluded days are grayed out with holidays having a gray circle around them. If you hover your mouse over a date that isn't the current starting date it will be highlighted with a lighter blue background. To select that new date simply click it. This will change the starting date to that date and JudgeCalc will automatically close the calendar picker and recalculate all the date tables based on the new date.

While in the date picker, you can select a different month in several ways. You can click on the month name or its down arrow to display a list of months for you to select from. Alternatively, you can use the left or right arrows at either end of the calendar picker. The reason the right arrow is at the far right of the calendar picker is that it will take you to the next year if you click it while you are viewing December of the given year. Similarly, clicking the left arrow while viewing January of a given year will take you to December of the previous year. If you click the month's name a pop-up with all 12 months will appear. Click on whichever one you want to select or press the Escape key to close it without changing the current month.

To change the year, use the up or down arrow spinners if they are visible,ⁱⁱ or click the displayed year. Clicking the year opens the year picker dialog box. The initial display is the decade containing the current date picker year. There will be highlights in the same manner as the month calendar, i.e. the currently selected year will have the darker blue background, the current year will have a blue circle around it if it is not the current date picker year, and any other year you hover will be highlighted with a lighter blue background. You can also click on the left or right arrows to view a previous or subsequent decade. To select a new year, simply click on it. If you don't want to change the current selected year, press the Escape key or click anywhere outside the year picker. If you click outside the year picker, click the calendar picker again to select it.

Once back at the main calendar view, if you don't want to change the current starting date, press the Escape key or click elsewhere on your screen to close the date picker.

Working with Pre-Calculated Dates

When you move your mouse over one of the pre-calculated date offsets in the Days, Weeks, Months, or Years table that row will be highlighted in a light blue. If you click a row one time it will be selected and will turn a darker blue. To make one of these pre-calculated dates the new starting date, double-click anywhere on that row. As always, anytime the starting date is changed, all the pre-calculated dates will be instantly recalculated. As a judge, I found having the row highlighted made it much easier for me to read it at a glance, particularly as I would have to look back and forth between the screen and the parties several times while giving out dates. I also found the ability to change the starting date quickly by double clicking a table row particularly useful in giving out brief and response dates. For example, if the first party wanted 30 days to brief an issue, I would single-click the 30 days row and tell them that date. Then, I would double-click somewhere in that row to make it the new starting date. I could then easily assign the deadline for the other party based on this new starting date. The reason this is important is that giving each side 30 days is not always the same as using 60 days from the starting date. A quick example will make this clear. Let's say that on June 3, 2025, I wanted to give the first party 30 days to file their brief. Since June has 30 days, that would normally be July 4, 2025, which of course, is a federal holiday. Therefore, the brief would actually be due Monday July 7, 2025, as the 4th of July was a Friday in 2025, and weekends are also excluded for federal court deadlines. Giving the other side 30 days from July 7, 2025, results in a due date of August 6, 2025. If I had just used 60 days from June 3, 2025, the second brief would have been due August 4, 2025, shortchanging the second party.

As mentioned above, if you hover over one of those rows for 2 seconds and the date had been moved due to your weekend or federal holiday settings a tooltip will appear for 2 seconds telling how many days it was moved and why it was moved. To recall the tooltip, you can press Ctrl+Enter or move your mouse off it and then move it back over the date again.

Custom Offset Dates

If you want to calculate a date that is a combination of plus or minus dates, you can use the Offset section right below the starting date row. To enter amounts into the offset Days, Weeks, Month, or Years input fields, you can either type in the desired amount or use the spinners, if available, for each field. For negative dates use the bottom spinner next to the input field, if available, or type "-" (without the quotes) and then the number. You do not need to type a plus sign, "+," for positive numbers. Like the pre-calculated dates, double-click the offset date to make it the new starting date. You can also click the Set as Start Date button to achieve the same thing. To reset all the offset fields to zero and clear the offset date click the Reset Offset button.

If an offset landing date was moved due to your federal holiday and/or weekend exclusion settings a tooltip will appear a couple of seconds after you enter your inputs. The offset tooltip can also be made to appear by moving your mouse over it. To bring the tooltip up again type Ctrl+Enter or move your mouse off of it and then move your mouse back over the offset date.

Copy Buttons

Below the calculated dates are two copy buttons. These buttons are initially based on the starting date but change to any of the calculated dates if you click one of those rows. Likewise, clicking the offset date will set that date on the copy buttons. If you then click one of the copy buttons the date in the displayed format will be copied to your system's clipboard. This functionality is the same as using the copy feature anywhere else on your computer. You can then paste the date into any location where you would normally be allowed to paste text.

Today and Reset Buttons

If the current start date is not today's date you can reset that to "today" by clicking the Today button. As mentioned earlier, the Reset Offset button in the offset date panel will reset the days, weeks, months, and years input fields to zero and clear out the offset date. To reset all these fields *and* reset the starting date to the current date ("today"), click the Reset All button.

Court (Business) Days

Courts often want to ensure that parties have enough actual working days, especially for short periods, to file documents so they employ "Court Days", which are also commonly called "Business Days" and are typically Monday through Friday. When set to the default of Calendar Days all days are counted to reach the final date but avoid starting or ending on dates excluded by your date options setting. In contrast, Court/Business Days do not count any of the chosen exclusion settings. Let's illustrate this with a quick example. In the default mode of using calendar days, excluding federal holidays and weekends and moving ahead to a permissible date if you would otherwise land on an excluded date, 10 days from Monday, June 9, 2025, results on Friday, June 20, 2025. This is because 10 days from June 9, 2025, would actually be June 19, 2025, but that is the federal holiday, Juneteenth. Therefore, the next non-Federal holiday, non-weekend day, was on day past that, Friday, June 20, 2025. If you had chosen to go back to the first permissible landing date the result would have been June 18, 2025.

On the other hand, 10 Court/Business Days from June 9, 2025, does not count the weekend days of June 14th, 15th, 21st, and 22nd, and does not count June 19th, arriving at Tuesday, June 24th. In other words, the 10 counted days from Monday, June 9, 2025, are (1) Tuesday, June 10, (2) Wednesday, June 11, (3) Thursday, June 12, (4) Friday, June 13, (5) Monday, June 16, (6) Tuesday, June 17, (7) Wednesday, June 18, (8) Friday, June 20, (9) Monday, June 23, and (10) Tuesday, June 24.

Court/Business days are only counted in increments of days. Therefore, if you do select Court Days in the Date Options dialog all the date tables will be hidden and the weeks, months, and years offset inputs will be disabled, leaving only the days input useable for this feature.

As the whole idea of Court/Business days is to exclude counting certain days for deadlines it is logically incompatible with having Allow All days selected. If you had selected Court Days in the Date Options dialog and then select the Allow All radio button it will automatically switch you back to using calendar days. Conversely, if you

had selected Allow All days and then pick Court Days it will automatically select to exclude federal holidays and weekends. If you want to, you could then select to only exclude federal holidays or weekends.

Closing JudgeCalc

There's no need to close JudgeCalc. Simply close that tab or your browser.

Disclaimer

JudgeCalc is provided as-is, without warranty of any kind, express or implied, including but not limited to the warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose and noninfringement. The author does not warrant the accuracy of any date calculations, and the user agrees to hold the author harmless and not liable for any errors or damages resulting from its use.

History and Purpose (For those that may be interested)

The custom offset section was the initial part I developed when I was a practicing immigration attorney. If an individual obtained lawful permanent resident status (commonly known as their "Green Card") through marriage and had been married for less than two years on the date of approval, they were required to file a second set of documents within the 90-day window before the second anniversary of their Green Card date. To calculate when that was, I would set the starting date to their Green Card date and then utilize the offset fields to add two years and -90 days. As the papers had to be filed *within* that window, I made sure that any excluded date moved forward to be sure I didn't file the papers too early. After I got this date, I also wanted to set a tickler 30 days before that date to send my client a reminder letter. Since I wanted an easy way to get that -30-day date I added the feature of double-clicking that date to make it the new starting date and then entered "-30" in the days input field.

But then I left being in private practice when I was appointed by the Attorney General to be an Immigration Judge in October 2010 and served on the bench until December 31, 2024. Over my 14+ years on the bench, I had to provide next hearing dates, appeal dates, call-up dates (deadlines) for various motions, briefs, response briefs, and other matters. I would also often want to check if documents or motions were filed on time. While the government supplied us with a paper pad that had a page for each day of the year, with common dates in the future on it like 30, 60, 90 days, etc., it did not have a 15-day listing. That was an important omission as there was a 15-day deadline for motions and exhibits to be filed before hearings. As these pages were typically discarded daily, it was typically impossible to review past dates to check if filings were done timely on top of being wasteful using all that paper. Another issue with the pads was that we frequently received our new pad for the year after the new year had already begun, making it difficult to give out these dates for the first few weeks of the year until they arrived. Frustrated by the short comings of the paper pad I evolved my date offset app by adding the days, weeks, months and years tables along with the copy buttons and some of the other date options you'll now see. Incidentally, instead of using my date calculator the government paid to have the pad recreated electronically which still left off the 15-day time period and was totally static so that you couldn't use it to calculate any dates that weren't on it.

Final Thoughts

While I'm well aware that there are numerous other date calculators available, I've never encountered one that offers such a comprehensive view of always calculated dates at a glance. Since these dates get calculated virtually instantly any time you change the starting date, it is incredibly easy to get one of these dates without having to enter various amounts into an input field. Naturally, there are times when you do want to build a custom date, so I have included that as well. Simply put, JudgeCalc gives you the best of both worlds.

I have also found that many date calculators will treat excluded dates only like Court/Business dates. As you saw from the above example, 10 Court/Business Days can be very different from 10 calendar days. This makes those calculators not appropriate at best, and dangerous at worst, for calculating deadlines.

I genuinely hope you find this tool useful and enjoyable, just as I have over the years. I do plan on adding State holidays in the future, but this is extremely more complicated as I found that holidays are not consistently observed within each state. For example, courts in the counties near Washington D.C. in Virginia and Maryland may be closed

every four years for election days, but not the rest of the state. Likewise, some western counties of Mississippi close for Mardi Gras. I also found that sometimes closures are made county-by-county or on a circuit-by-circuit level. But, I also understand how this would make JudgeCalc even that more useful, so it is on the to-do list.

If you have any other questions or suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at JudgeKarden@judgecalc.com.

Sincerely,

Hon. Stuart F. Karden (Ret.)

ⁱ Flatpickr is under the following MIT license, copyright © 2018 Arien POLY:

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ⁱⁱ The spinners are often not visible on iPhones and iPads.