

# Re: need access to read to SQL db and Access frontend

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Access/microsoft.public.access.tablesdbdesign/2007-08/msg00521.html>

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- *From:* Janis <[Janis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Janis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Tue, 28 Aug 2007 11:36:01 -0700
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I just tried the documentor and it seemed like it was trying to format the pages. Perhaps I did it wrong the second time. I asked for the relationships and tables so it was taking some time. I will try it later but I'm trying to figure out how to see the linked tables if that is possible.

thanks,

"Pat Hartman (MVP)" wrote:

Does the documenter product a report and you just can't print it or is the documenter just not producing a report?

I can't help you with printer issues with Terminal Services, you need to talk to your tech people about fixing that.

"Janis" <[Janis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:Janis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message [news:29E35BDD-6857-47BF-90BE-CB8E798A8958@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:29E35BDD-6857-47BF-90BE-CB8E798A8958@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

The weird thing is I looked at it about a month ago and I could print the field definitions. Now I cannot print anything in the documentor. I don't

know if it got changed but I don't know why someone would do that.

"Pat Hartman (MVP)" wrote:

Starting from the back – dbo\_ is the usual prefix for SQL server tables.

It is short for database owner. So it is possible for the prefix to be different. Local Access tables are frequently prefixed with tbl. You can tell the source of the table by the icon to its left. Squares that look like datasheets are local tables, datasheet squares with arrows

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to the  
left  
are linked Jet tables. Globes with arrows to the left are linked ODBC  
tables, excel symbols with arrows to the left are linked excel  
sheets.  
So,  
anything that is linked will have a right facing arrow to the  
left of the  
type symbol. If you roll the mouse over a linked table, you  
should see a  
tool tip with the path to the source database or DSN for the  
ODBC  
database.

If the tables are linked to a SQL Server database or even  
another Access  
database, you will not normally see the relationships in the  
relationship  
window of the FE. You would need to view them in the back  
end database.  
Most developers don't bother to define the relationships in  
the FE since  
they would be descriptive only. Only the relationships stored  
in the  
physical database are used to enforce RI.

I feel your pain (and your bosses) but you may not be able to  
get a  
usable  
copy (unsecured .mdb) from the developer. An .mde will not  
let you view  
any  
code or any design for forms and reports. It will let you view  
queries  
and  
tables though and macros (although if your developer is a  
pro, there  
won't  
be more than 2 or 3 of them. If there are lots of macros, your  
developer  
is  
not a pro.)

Is the documenter available in the .mde? Have you tried  
running it?

I don't like to encourage this, but you may be able to create a  
new empty  
database and link it to the SQL Server back end if you can  
identify which

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DSN to use. This will allow you to see the linked tables but I think you'll need Enterprise Manager (for SQL 2000) or SQL Server Management Studio (for SQL 2005) to view the relationships. If you open a linked table in design view, Access will allow you to view the primary key and any other indexes but that's about all you can see. Of course, you can't change the structure from an .mdb. Actually, you might be able to create an .adp which gives you a lot more capability where SQL server is concerned so with that, you will be able to see relationships, etc.

"Janis" <Janis@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message [news:AF7F6A4D-6733-4051-88F5-69829E3DA246@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:AF7F6A4D-6733-4051-88F5-69829E3DA246@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

We have a regional dbA. I was hired to create a new dbB for our location because my supervisor doesn't like the interface for dbA. I believe dbB is a separate module/entity from dbA and doesn't need to be related but I have access to dbA through terminal services. The structure of dbB should be similar to dbA with some differences. I asked the regional dba to give me his structure so I could benefit from the knowledge. All I have is the web interface to an mde file. It took 2 years for the dba to build our department dbA.

I noticed that I can't print the fields and tables in the relationships

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window. I could do a print screen of the field and table names. I don't see any relationships in this window only tables and fields. When I try to print the queries I get the message doc\_tblObjects already exists? I could print one query, presumably because that is the query for the report they give us? I would love to see the reports, the macros, the queries so as to build on what they have already learned.

Are there no relationships in the Access dbA because it is only a frontend to a SQL db or because it is an mde file? I think it is stored in SQL because there is a large amount of data or because there are other databases stored and it is easier for the dba. All we need is our tables for our weekly Excel report. Do I need to ask for the SQL database structure as well? Would it help to see the Access relationships?

Shouldn't it be acceptable for us to ask him for a copy of the access db itself? We aren't allowed to query this SQL database or read from it. I don't know what his tables and fields mean

1. dbo\_XXXX means database open?
2. tbl\_XXX means table .?
3. \_XXX would this mean a related table or library file?

There seems to be a communication problem but maybe I am lucky I get the fields and table names?

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Tia,