

Hi [FirstName],

Simply Access Tips

Issue 4 – 2007

February 5th, 2007

Welcome to the fourth edition of Simply Access Tips for 2007.

I have added the housekeeping section to the bottom of the Newsletter so, if you need to know how to unsubscribe, white-list, etc., then scroll to the bottom.

I have also added a new section, ‘Simply Access’ products, where I will showcase one of my products each week, just in case you are interested:

Weekly Update

Hello [FirstName],

I may be intelligent in some areas, but in others I definitely miss the obvious. Let me tell you a story of how dumb I can be. I have re-taken up kayaking this year and hope to (will) compete in the Australian Marathon Titles (Vet 45). I paddle a single racing kayak which is very unstable and, if you have been out of it a little while, it does take a while to get your balance back. I have been back paddling for a while now and I have not been able to get my balance, I was especially having difficulty with taking a stroke on my right-hand side. I must admit I was getting more than frustrated and was beginning to wonder if I could compete. When.....

My daughter decided to try out a few different paddles so collected half a dozen or so and put them all on the bank, mine included. She said, ‘Who’s paddle is this? It is straight!’ I said “It’s mine”.

Now, just so you know, kayak paddles are double-bladed and each blade is at a 60 – 90 degree angle from the other – mine wasn’t, it was dead flat! I have a paddle that you can change the length of, so it has the ability to move in the center. It must have slowly moved around until it was flat. I feel like a real dill for not noticing this as I am supposed to be reasonably intelligent. I then promptly picked up another paddle, with the proper angles and, after a few kilometers of getting used to the change, I have my balance back and I can paddle on the right-hand side. There is now light at the end of the tunnel.

Julie

Questions

Unfortunately, I am unable to answer individual questions personally via email. Purely due to the fact that all I would do is answer questions. You do, though, have three other options for me to answer your questions:

- 1) I can include them in an edition of Simply Access Tips (if you do not mind your question being shared). There may be a wait before they are included, depending on how many I have.
- 2) You can go to All Experts and post your question there; I answer one question per day from All Experts (this helps to keep control of the questions):

<http://www.allexperts.com/browse.cgi?catLvl=3&catID=1440>

If I am not available, there are many other experts.

- 3) Or, you can subscribe to my Question Subscription Service, \$23.95 AUD per month, for unlimited questions:

<http://www.simply-access.com/MicrosoftAccessQuestions.html>

Product of the week

Learn VBA

You may have noticed I have used VBA code in some of my answers. If you would like to learn this valuable skill to enable you to expand the flexibility of your Microsoft Access database, then click below to get your first lesson free, or cut and paste into your URL Address bar. You will need to scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your information into the form.

<http://www.simply-access.com/LearnVBA.html>

Tips

NOTE: If you are copying code from the tips and find it is not copying correctly – i.e. the html is also being copied, then copy them into NotePad first (not Microsoft Word, as Word keeps the formatting) then copy from NotePad into Microsoft Access.

Tip 1: *Compacting a Database*

As you make changes to the database in Design view, you may notice that it will grow in size very quickly. To return your database to a reasonable size you will need to compact it.

To compact a database:

- Open the database in Design view, click on Tools > Database Utilities > Compact and Repair.

This should reduce your database back to close to its original size.

Tip 2: *Setting Text Font Using VBA*

Question:

```
Private Sub Detail_Print(Cancel As Integer, PrintCount As Integer)
```

```
    If Lang = "P" Then  
        Text15 = [books.name_p]  
        Text15.FontName 'i want to set font name here kindly help  
    Else If Lang = "E" Then  
        Text15 = [books.name_e]  
        Else  
            Text15 = [books.name_h]  
    End If  
End Sub
```

This is my code. I want to set a font name here and I am not able to get a property for that

Answer:

To set a Font in VBA, use the following:

```
Me!Text.FontName = "Courier"
```

Tip 3: *Selecting Specific Rows to Display in a Query*

Question

I have a table with two fields (columns). The first field contains a unique ordinal number for each row. The second field contains some text.

I've created a query that shows only the rows that have the word "chair" in them (in the second field). Let's say there are only 2 such rows: row 4 and row 9. How can I create such a query that would also show me the two previous rows and one after? In the example above it would be the following rows: 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Answer:

To do what you ask try the following:

Create a query with the above table, with the ordinal field, and the "chair" filtered field.

In the third column type the following in the first row:

PlusOne: [ID]+1

In the next column, the following:

MinusOne: [ID]-1

Then, finally, in the next column:

MinusTwo: [ID] - 2

Exchange the [ID] field to the name of your ordinal field.

Close and save the query.

Create a new query - but do not follow the wizard. Choose to create the query in Design view. Add the above query when prompted to do so and close the add query/table window.

On the toolbar, click on Query > SQL Specific > Union.

Type the following in the blank window provided:

```
SELECT ID FROM OneBeforeAfter1
UNION SELECT PlusOne FROM OneBeforeAfter1
UNION SELECT MinusOne FROM OneBeforeAfter1
UNION SELECT MinusTwo FROM OneBeforeAfter1
ORDER BY ID;
```

Once again, changing the ID field to your ordinal field.

Then, use the results of this query to build another query that will display other fields, if needed.

Housekeeping

Once again, just a quick reminder: Please ensure the following email address is white-listed with your ISP:

`jmisson@iprimus.com.au`

This will ensure the weekly arrival of this Newsletter.

Unsubscribe

To unsubscribe to this Newsletter, just hit the REPLY button and type UNSUBSCRIBE in the subject section of the Email. I will remove you from my emailing list and send you an email to let you know I have removed you from my list. You will not receive any more Newsletters unless you re-apply via the website.