

Hi [FirstName],

Simply Access Tips

Issue 8 – 2007

March 6th, 2007

Welcome to the eighth 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.

Weekly Update

Hello [FirstName],

I am not sure where the weeks go. I cannot believe it is already March. This week has been quite busy with my hospital work, database work and other items.

I am starting back on full-time work next week, for four weeks, to help out. A few of the staff at work are taking long service leave which leaves a bit of a gap so, I put my hand up to help out by doing some extra days. I'm not sure how I will go keeping up with my database work, housework and training (for the Australian Canoeing Titles) in April - time will tell! I am committed though, to keeping up with this Newsletter on a weekly basis.

The full-time work will be nice to bring in some extra cash. I am going to spend it on some things for the house (like a new fridge).

Talk to you next week.

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>

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: Multiple Updates in the One Update Query

Question:

I would like to create an Update Query to update multiple criteria into multiple updates based on the criteria. For Example: If Field 1 contains "Yellow" or "Green" or "Red", can I update these records or Field 2 with "Caution" or "Go" or "Stop"? Thanks for your help!

Answer:

First of all, an Update Query updates your records and it cannot be reversed. So, whilst testing out the criteria, I would suggest you make a copy of your table so that you have a back up.

I am presuming the following:

Update field 2 with Caution if Field 1 is yellow; Go if Field 1 is green and Stop if Field 1 is Red?

If this is the case:

In the Update To: row for field2, type the following:

```
IIf([Field1]="Red","Stop",IIf([Field1]="Green","Go","Caution"))
```

Tip 2: *Strange Errors*

Question:

This is not a question as such, but a compilation of questions. I sometimes get questions about errors or strange behavior of the database, where the answer does not seem obvious.

Two of these examples are as per below (but there are many, many more):

When a subdatasheet is expanded to see the related records, you get what you expect. However, when the subdatasheet is sorted, the following error message appears, "You must use the same number of fields when you set the LinkChildFields and LinkMasterFields properties." Clicking the OK button, I get all the subdatasheet records instead of those only related to that record.

The second one was to do with strange results in calculations:

An unbound textbox has the following syntax:

```
=( $[\text{length}] * [\text{width}] * [\text{depth}]$ )
```

The result is nothing like what is expected.

Answer:

The first problem is caused by spaces in the table name. The second is caused by using a reserved Microsoft Access word (or function).

Therefore, when developing a database, I suggest:

- Not having spaces in anything. Instead of spaces use Capitals, i.e.
ThisIsMyTable

- Do not use Microsoft Access reserved words as table, form, query, report or field names.

For a list of reserved Microsoft Access words, see the following site:

<http://allenbrowne.com/AppIssueBadWord.html>

If you get a strange error or result, check the above as possible causes.

Tip 3: *Populating an Unbound Combo Box Using VBA*

Question:

How can I load my table data into an unbound combo box using VBA code. I am using front-end back-end two different databases.

Answer:

Try the following:

```
'*****
```

```
Dim strSQL As String
```

```
strSQL = "Select [Field1],[Field2] FROM [tblYourTable]"
```

```
Me!Combo15.RowSource = strSQL
```

```
'*****
```

You should be able to access the back end tables using the above, as I am presuming they are linked to the front end.

Change the field names, combo name and table name to suit. Add in as many fields as you need from the table, putting a comma between each one.

You may need to change the column count and column width properties, depending on how many fields you have.

I.e.:

```
Me!Combo15.ColumnCount = 2
```

```
Me!Combo15.ColumnWidths = "0cm ; 2 cm"
```

Add this to the 'On Current' event on the form - or somewhere else, depending on what you are hoping to achieve.

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. You will not receive any more Newsletters unless you re-apply via the website.