

Hi [FirstName],

Simply Access Tips

Issue 5 – 2008

May 3rd 2008

Welcome to the fifth edition of Simply Access Tips for 2008.

Housekeeping, as usual, is at the end of the Newsletter so; if you need to know how to unsubscribe, white-list, etc., then scroll to the bottom.

Julie's ponderings

Hi [FirstName],

Welcome everyone.

Not much news on the home front. All I have seem to have done this month is work. I have a couple of clients that require a fair bit of work as well as my regulars. I also continue to work 3 days a week at the local hospital. Sometime I wonder if I should work on my Microsoft Access business full time. I like the security and the regular pay checks though. So who knows?

Hopefully I will get my next newsletter out a bit quicker than this one. I have been so slack in this area. Sorry to everyone and thanks for being so patient.

Talk to you soon

Julie

Back Issues

Just a reminder, back issues of Simply-Access Tips can be found at:

<http://www.simply-access.com/SimplyAccessTipsNewsletter1.html>

Yes, I am finally up to date, apart from this Newsletter. I will endeavor to update the previous Newsletter as I write the next one.

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): NOTE: I am on vacation from All Experts at the moment as I have too much work on and I was struggling to keep up even with one questions a day.

<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: Problems with Selecting Items in a Comb Box

Question

I am creating a form in which the zipcode combo box is automatically populated with zipcodes based on the city selection in the city combo box. I named each box cityname and zipname respectively. I have a table called city with the fields being cityid and cityname. I have a table called zip with the following fields: cityid; zipname; zipid

On my form I right click the zipcode field and go to rowsource and click the ellipses. In the cityid column I enter the following criteria:

```
[forms]![my form]![cityname]
```

Then in the after update event I enter

```
me.zipname = null  
me.zipname requery  
me.zipname = me.zipname.itemdata(0)
```

I right click the city combobox and in the afterupdate event I enter

```
me.zipname.requery  
me.cityname.requery
```

Everything works great until I go to use the form. When I select a city in the city combo, I get the zipcodes for that city in the zip code box.

My problem is that I can only select one zipcode from the list (the first one in the list) If I choose a zipcode further down in the list, nothing happens. The first zipcode is always chosen.

Answer

Try the following.

For your city combo box, base the combo box on both the city table and zipcode table. You may have to create a query with both of these first. Add to this query the cityID, Cityname and zipcode in that order.

On the after update event of the city combo add the following code:

```
Me!zipcode = me!cityname.column(2)
```

This will update the zipcode to the zipcode column in the city combo. Note: The zipcode field now only needs to be a text box. Also the column count starts at 0, thus the reason for column(2) and not column(3) as one might assume.

Tip 2: Adding the value of many fields

Question

I made this database for keeping records of different companies that are availing our facilities. For this database I have this particular field where I input the different types of facilities. This field has a text box which performs a summation calculation based on my list of facilities and their amounts. Initially I had ten fields for my facility table. The summation worked fine then. However, I had to add a few extra fields to the table. Now, the problem is that the summation is not working anymore. In the summation text box, I keyed in the formula "`=lgd1+lgd2....+lgd13`".

Answer

A couple of possible scenarios (some of them may seem obvious)

Check your spelling

Check the names of your text boxes - sometimes if you add a textbox they are given the name text60 or similar.

Are there null values in some of the fields? It is better to write your code using the Nz function i.e.

`=Nz(lgd1,0) + Nz(lgd2,0).....`

This will put the value of 0 in the field if there is a null value (i.e. empty).

Tip 3: Calculations in a form

Question

I am encountering a problem in form (textbox). I am trying to display the value of each individual record. For example

NET PRICE (Textbox) should display the value of `LP*QTY*1-1/100)+P_H`. Please guide me how to encode/put in expression. I am very novice to programming

Answer

Is NetPrice - linked to an underlying table/field or is it an unbound text box? As it is the result of a formula it should be unbound - i.e. the result of this will be produced on

the fly, when the form is opened. To do this add an unbound text box from the toolbox toolbar, then in the textbox write the following:

=LP*QTY*1-1/100)+P_H

This textbox will then be updated any time any of the above values change on the form.

To store the value in a table is quite complicated and you have to take into account what happens if one of the numbers in the formula changes - you have to make sure the NetPrice is also changed - if you miss this, then this value would be wrong, thus it is safer to produce the number on the fly. As then it is always correct.

Housekeeping

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

julie@simply-access.com

This will ensure the weekly arrival of this Newsletter.

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