

Introduction of Variables

With the introduction of PowerApps, more and more users are moving into PowerApps development for easy and no-code development tools. However, users from a coding background found it difficult, as there were no variables in PowerApps. Not now, with the introduction of variables in PowerApps, it has become a Powerful no-code tool. So let's understand PowerApps Variables and how they works.

Types of Variables

Just as we have different scopes of variables in the programming language in PowerApps, we also have different scoped variables the three different types of variables which are available in PowerApps, as mentioned below:

Global variable	App	This is similar to a global variable in programming language and it can hold a number, text string, Boolean, record, table, etc as a data value	Set
Context variables	Screen	This is similar to the parameter which we pass to methods or procedure and this variable can be referenced from only one screen	UpdateContext Navigate
Collections	App	This variable can store table which can be referenced across anywhere in the app	Collect ClearCollect

Creating and Removing Variables

In all programming languages, we declare a variable before using the variable but such is not the case with PowerApps. So, in PowerApps we never declare variables explicitly. In terms of typing, PowerApps has implicit typing. So, we do not require to specify the type of variable for example `int a = 0` in programming language indicated the variable is of type integer but in PowerApps we do not require to specify the type of variable.

To create a variable, we just need to run the function:

- `Set(global Variable, "Hello World")`
- `Update Context({context Variable:"Hello World"})`
- `Collect(collection Variable, "Hello World")`

Where X is the variable name and Hello World is the value of that variable.

For removing the variable, we are required to remove all Set, UpdateContext, Navigate, Collect, or ClearCollect functions that implicitly establish the variable. If these functions are not present then there is no variable. We must even remove the variable reference if used in other places.