

FIT1013 Digital Futures: IT for Business

Week 11 : Database Queries

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On completion of your study this week, you should aim to:

- Create a query based on multiple tables
- Use a comparison operator in a query to match a range of values
- Use the And and Or logical operators in queries
- Create and format a calculated field in a guery
- Perform calculations in a query using aggregate functions and record group calculations
- Use the Like, In, Not, and & operators in queries
- Create a parameter query
- Use query wizards to create a crosstab query, a find duplicates query, and a find unmatched query
- Create a top values query



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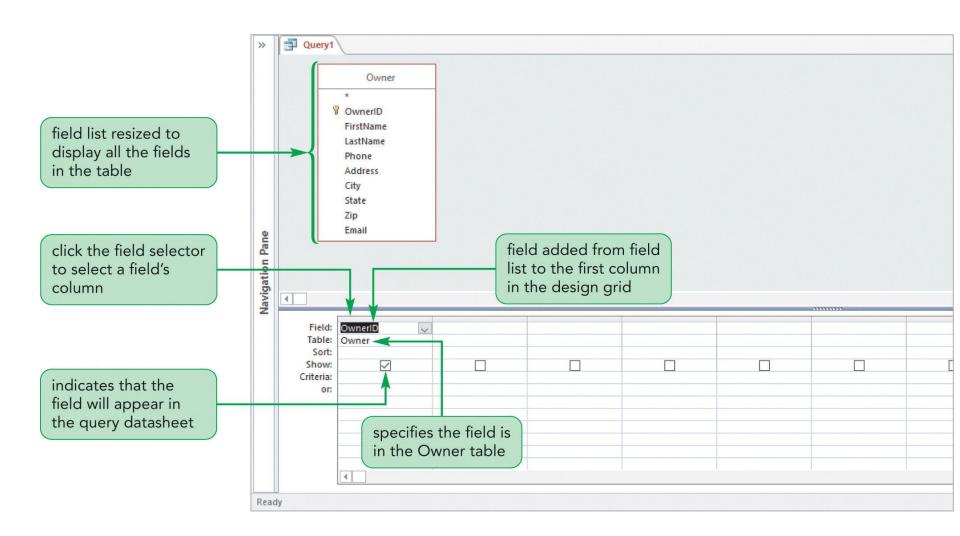


Introduction to Queries

- Access provides powerful query capabilities that allow you to do the following:
 - Display selected fields and records from a table
 - Sort records
 - Perform calculations
 - Generate data for forms, reports, and other queries
 - Update data in the tables in a database
 - Find and display data from two or more tables
- The answer to a select query is returned in the form of a datasheet
 - The result of a query is also referred to as a recordset because the query produces a set of records that answers your question

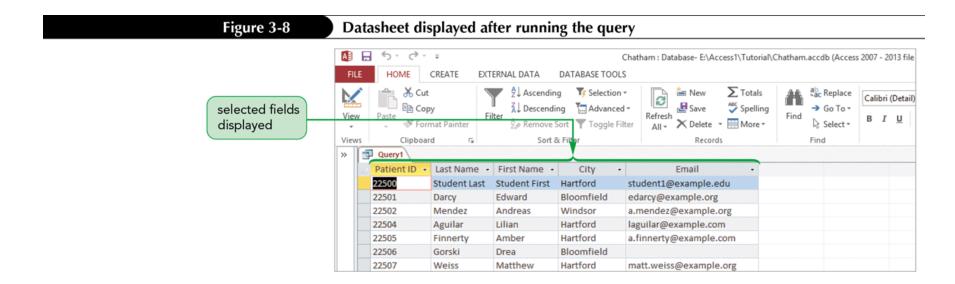


Creating and Running a Query





Creating and Running a Query (Cont.)



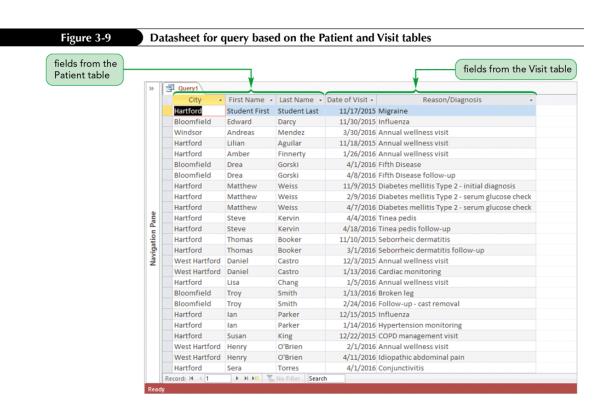


Creating a Multitable Query

A multitable query is a query based on more than

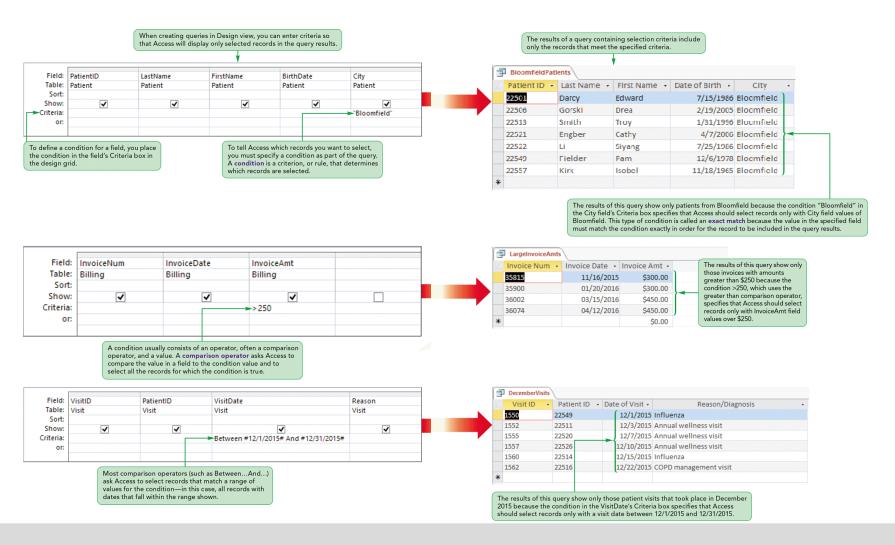
one table

 If you want to create a query that retrieves data from multiple tables, the tables must have a common field





Selection Criteria in Queries





Defining Record Selection Criteria for Queries

- To tell Access which records you want to select, you must specify a condition as part of the query
 - A condition usually includes one of the comparison operators

Figure 3-16 Access comparison operator
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Operator	Meaning	Example
=	equal to (optional; default operator)	="Hall"
<>	not equal to	<>"Hall"
<	less than	<#1/1/99#
<=	less than or equal to	<=100
>	greater than	>"C400"
>=	greater than or equal to	>=18.75
Between And	between two values (inclusive)	Between 50 And 325
In ()	in a list of values	In ("Hall", "Seeger")
Like	matches a pattern that includes wildcards	Like "706*"

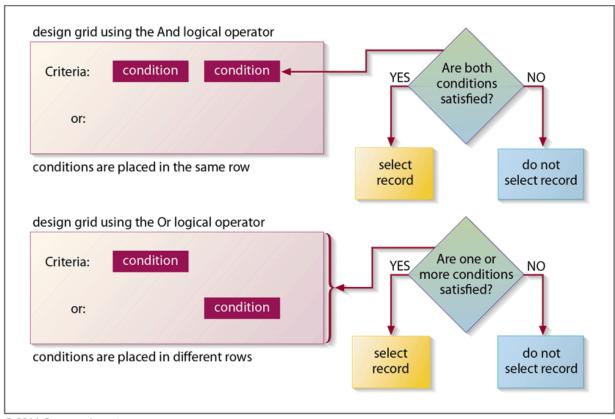




Defining Multiple Selection Criteria for Queries (Cont.)

Figure 3-26

Logical operators And and Or for multiple selection criteria



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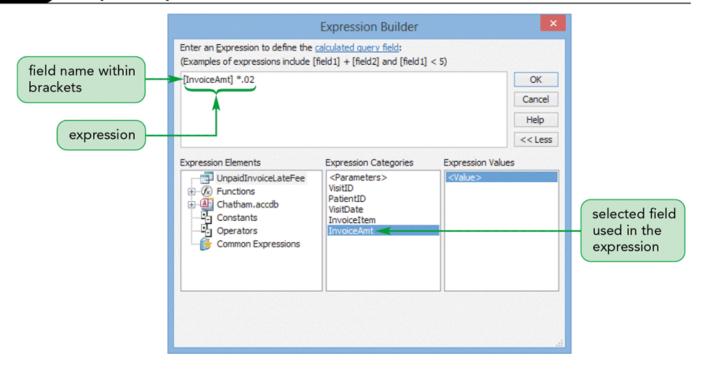
Creating a Calculated Field

- Queries can perform calculations
 - Must define an expression containing a combination of database fields, constants, and operators
 - A calculated field is a field that displays the results of an expression but it does not exist in a database
 - The **Zoom box** is a dialog box that you can use to enter text, expressions, or other values
 - Expression Builder is an Access tool that makes it easy for you to create an expression
 - It contains a box for entering the expression, an option for displaying and choosing common operators, and one or more lists of expression elements, such as table and field names



Creating a Calculated Field (Cont.)

Figure 3-33 Completed expression for the calculated field





Using Aggregate Functions

- You can calculate statistical information, such as totals and averages, on the records displayed in a table datasheet or selected by a query
 - Use the Access Aggregate functions which perform arithmetic operations on selected records in a database

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Figure	3-36
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Frequently used aggregate functions

Aggregate Function	Determines	Data Types Supported
Average	Average of the field values for the selected records	AutoNumber, Currency, Date/Time, Number
Count	Number of records selected	AutoNumber, Currency, Date/Time, Long Text, Number, OLE Object, Short Text, Yes/No
Maximum	Highest field value for the selected records	AutoNumber, Currency, Date/Time, Number, Short Text
Minimum	Lowest field value for the selected records	AutoNumber, Currency, Date/Time, Number, Short Text
Sum	Total of the field values for the selected records	AutoNumber, Currency, Date/Time, Number

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Reviewing the Clinic Database

- The Navigation Pane displays the objects grouped by object type
 - Each object name has a prefix tag—a tbl prefix tag for tables, a qry prefix tag for queries, a frm prefix tag for forms, and a rpt prefix tag for reports
 - All three characters in each prefix tag are lower case. The word immediately after the three-character prefix begins with an upper case letter
 - Using object prefix tags, you can readily identify the object type,
 even when the objects have the same base name
 - Object names have no spaces, because other database management systems do not permit making it easy during conversions to those systems

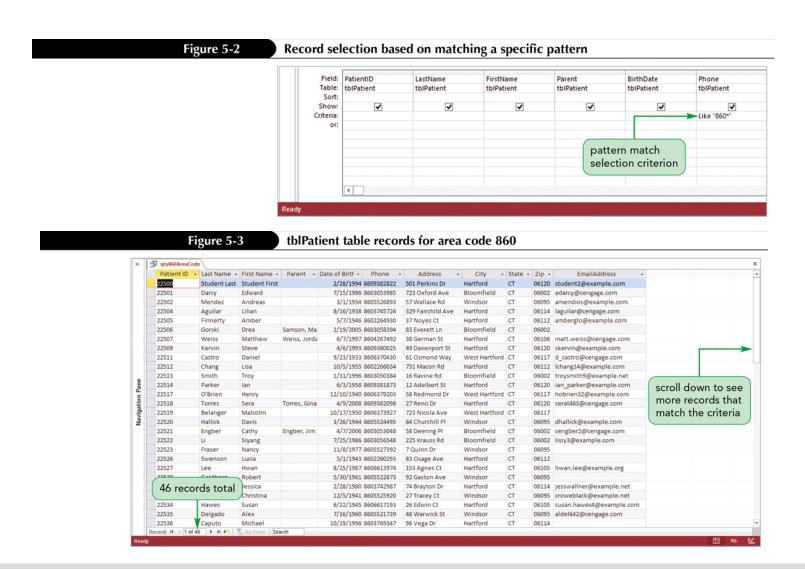


Using Pattern Match in a Query

- A pattern match selects records with a value for the designated field that matches the pattern of a simple condition value
- The Like comparison operator selects records by matching field values to a specific pattern that includes one or more of these wildcard characters: asterisk (*), question mark (?), and number symbol (#)
 - The asterisk represents any string of characters, the question mark represents any single character, and the number symbol represents any single digit



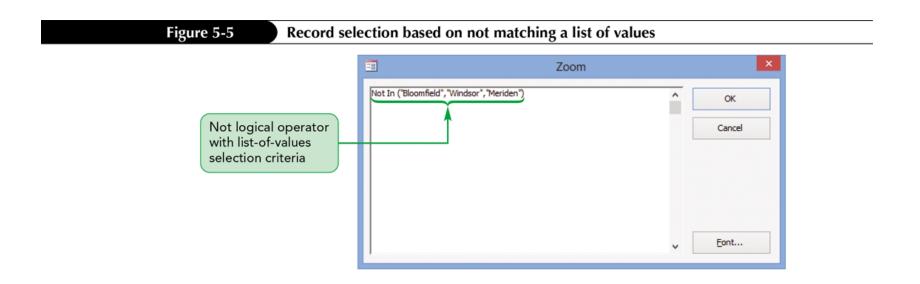
Using Pattern Match in a Query (cont.)





Using the Not Logical Operator in a Query

 The Not logical operator negates a criterion or selects records for which the designated field does not match the criterion





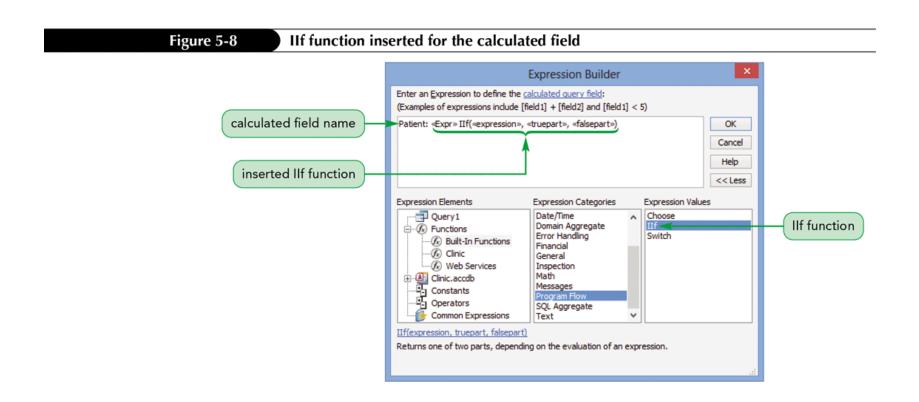
Assigning a Conditional Value to a Calculated Field (Cont.)

- The IIf (Immediate If) function assigns one value to a calculated field or control if a condition is true, and a second value if the condition is false
 - The IIf function has three parts: a condition that is true or false, the result when the condition is true, and the result when the condition is false
 - Each part of the IIf function is separated by a comma
 - The IsNull function tests a field value or an expression for a null value; if the field value or expression is null, the result is true; otherwise, the result is false



Assigning a Conditional Value to a Calculated Field

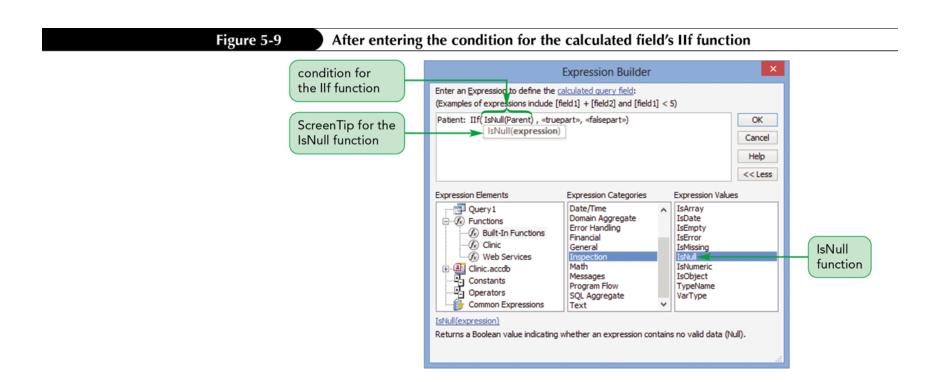
(Cont.)





Assigning a Conditional Value to a Calculated Field

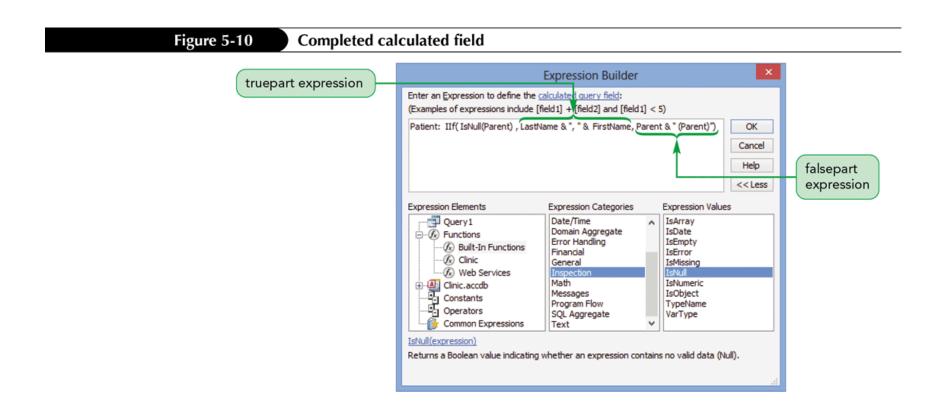
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Assigning a Conditional Value to a Calculated Field

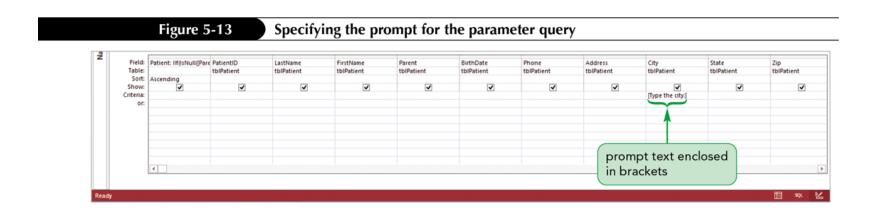
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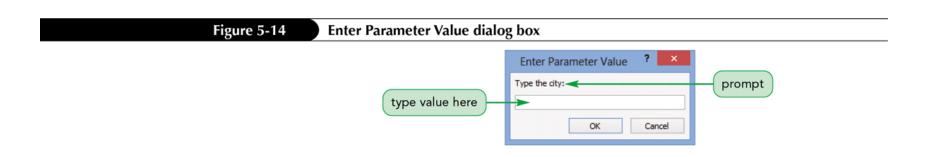
Creating a Parameter Query

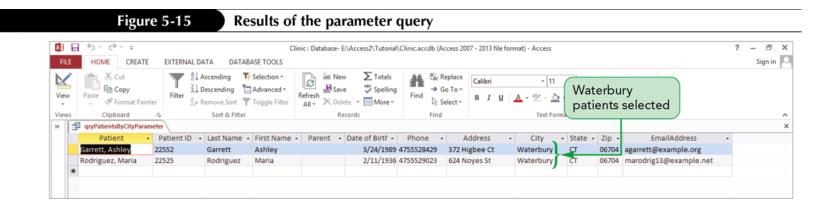
- A parameter query displays a dialog box that prompts the user to enter one or more criteria values when the query is run
 - The value entered into the prompt causes the query to select only those records with field value from the table





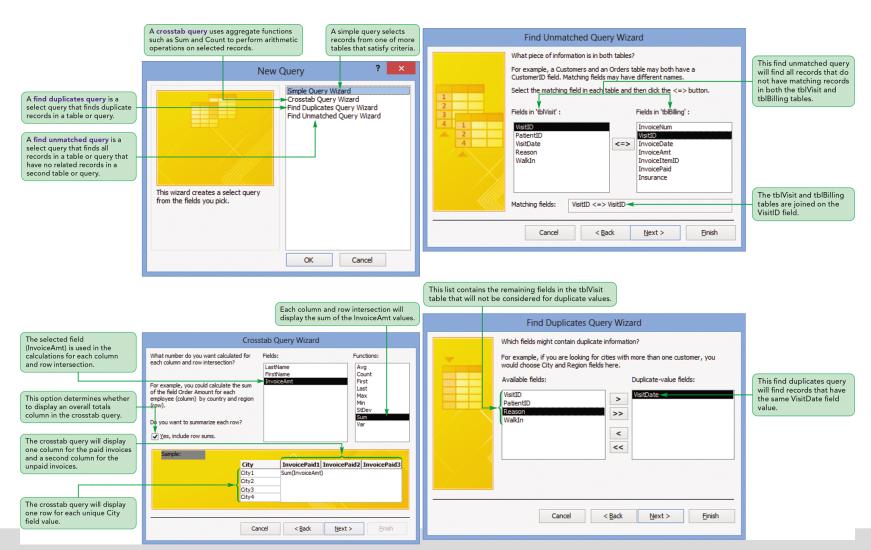
Creating a Parameter Query (Cont.)







Advanced Query Wizards





Creating a Crosstab Query

Figure 5-17

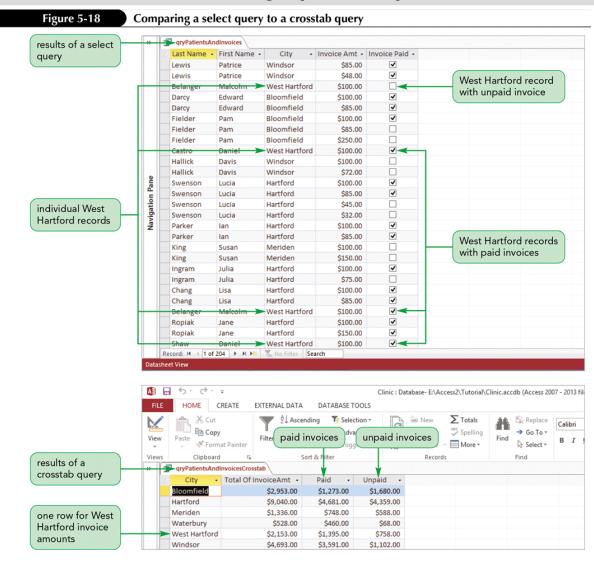
Aggregate functions used in crosstab queries

Aggregate Function	Definition
Avg	Average of the field values
Count	Number of the nonnull field values
First	First field value
Last	Last field value
Max	Highest field value
Min	Lowest field value
StDev	Standard deviation of the field values
Sum	Total of the field values
Var	Variance of the field values

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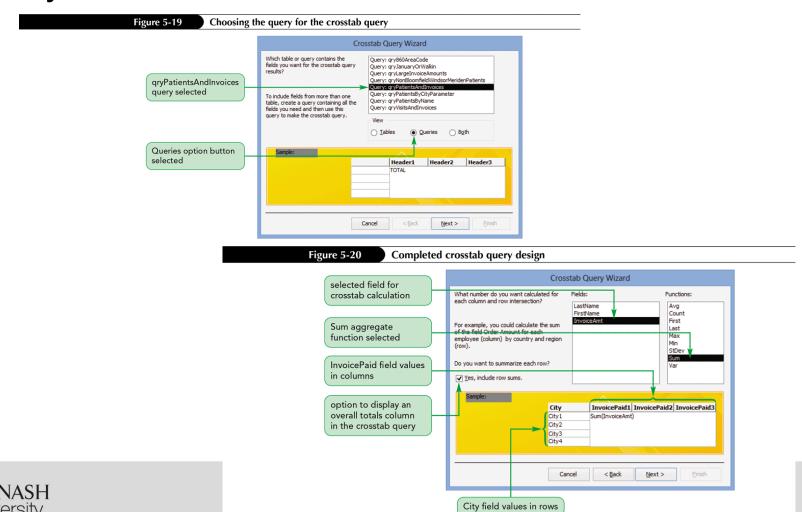
Creating a Crosstab Query (Cont.)





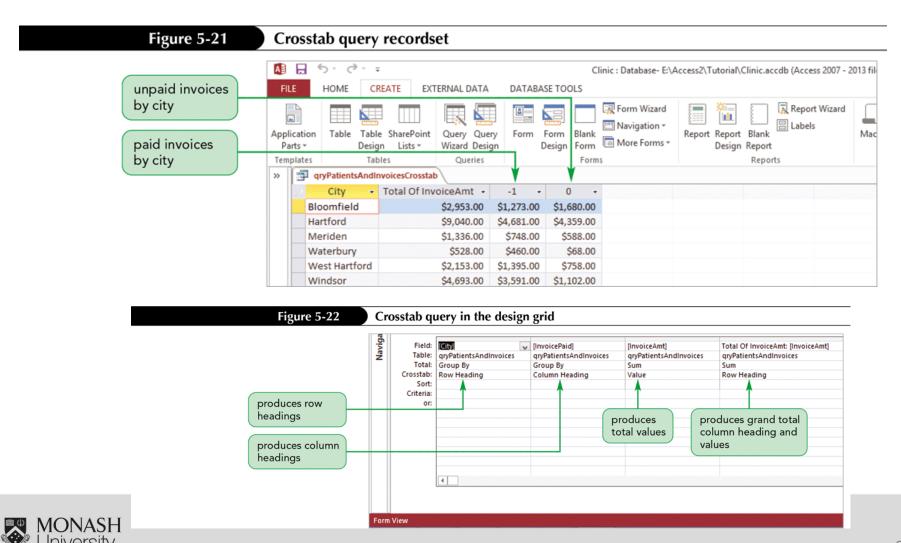
Creating a Crosstab Query (Cont.)

The quickest way to create a crosstab query is to use the Crosstab
 Query Wizard





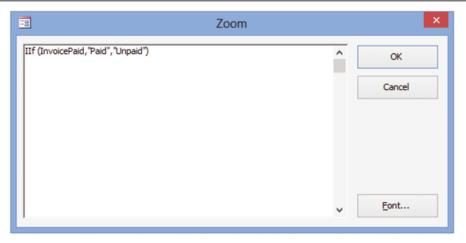
Creating a Crosstab Query (Cont.)



Creating a Crosstab Query (cont.)

Figure 5-23

IIf function for the crosstab query column headings

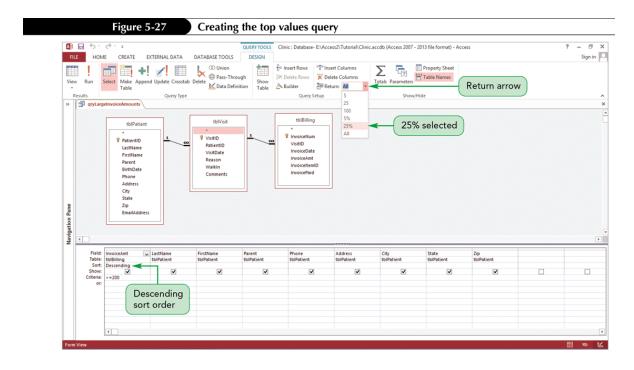




Creating a Top Values Query

- Users might want to limit the number to a more manageable size by displaying, for example, just the first 10 records
 - The **Top Values property** for a query lets you limit the number of records in

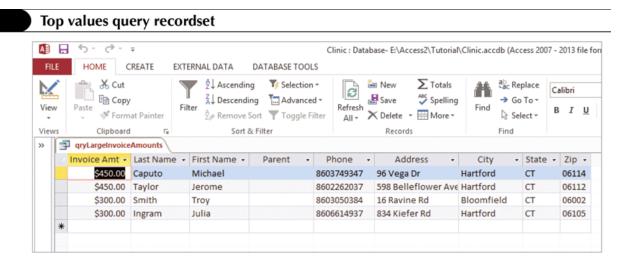
the query results





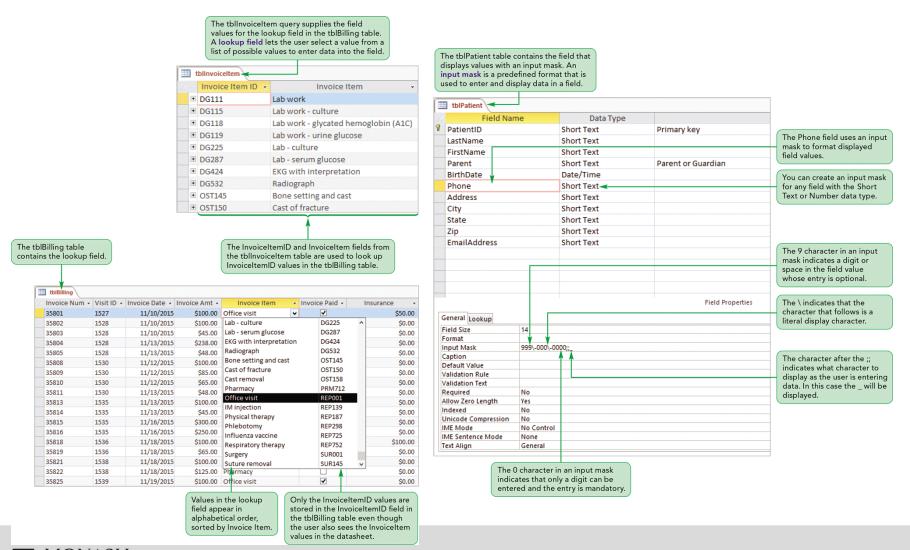
Creating a Top Values Query (Cont.)

Figure 5-28



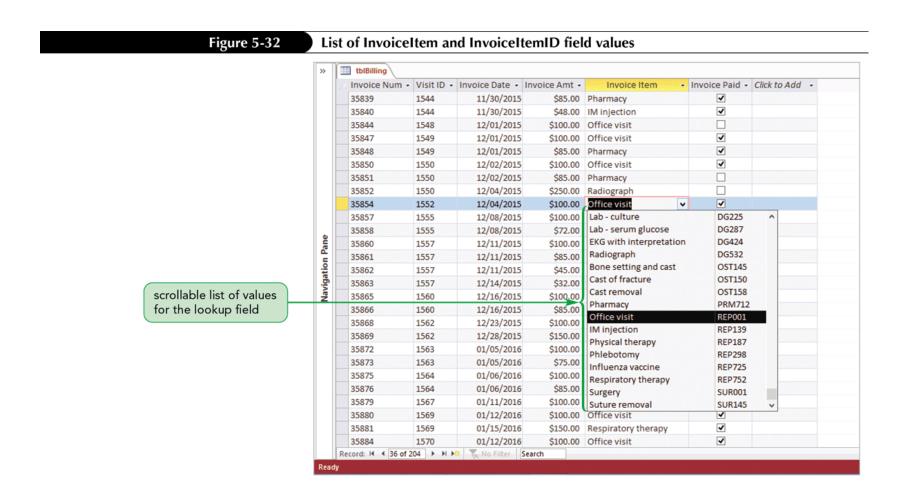


Lookup Fields and Input Masks



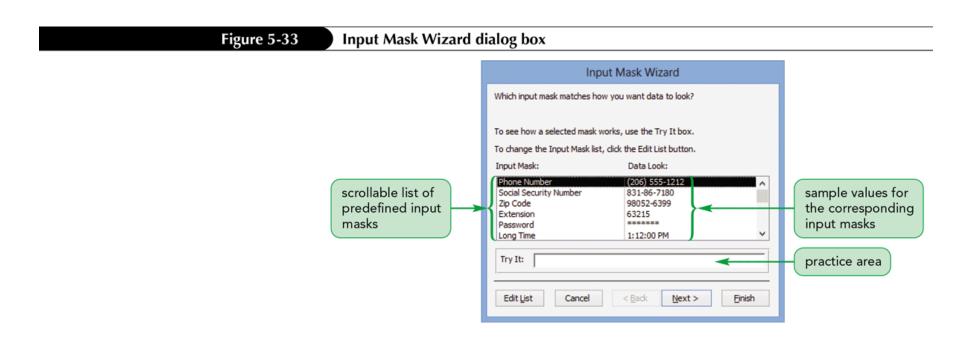


Creating a Lookup Field (Cont.)



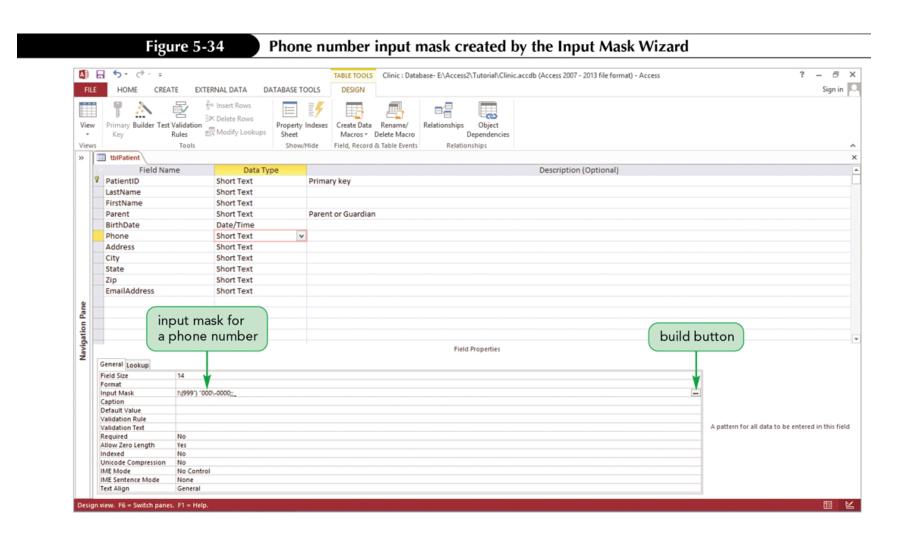


Using the Input Mask Wizard (Cont.)



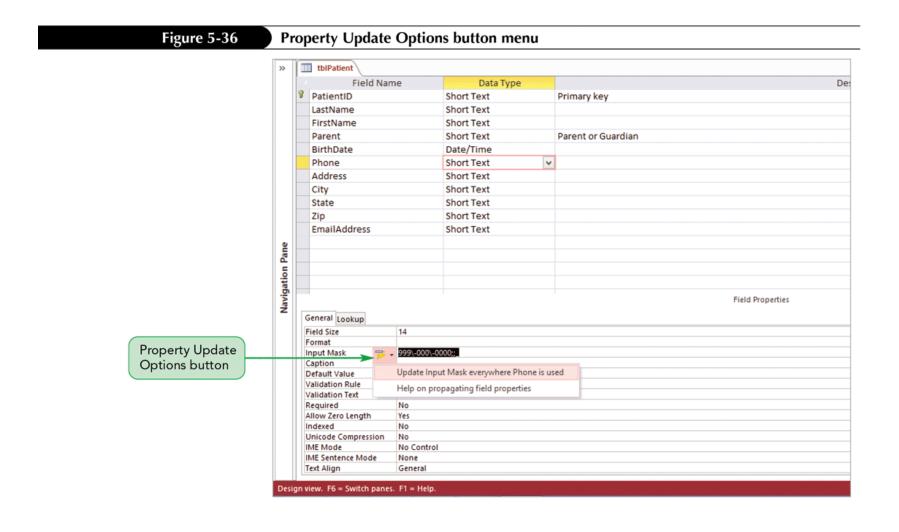


Using the Input Mask Wizard (Cont.)





Using the Input Mask Wizard (Cont.)



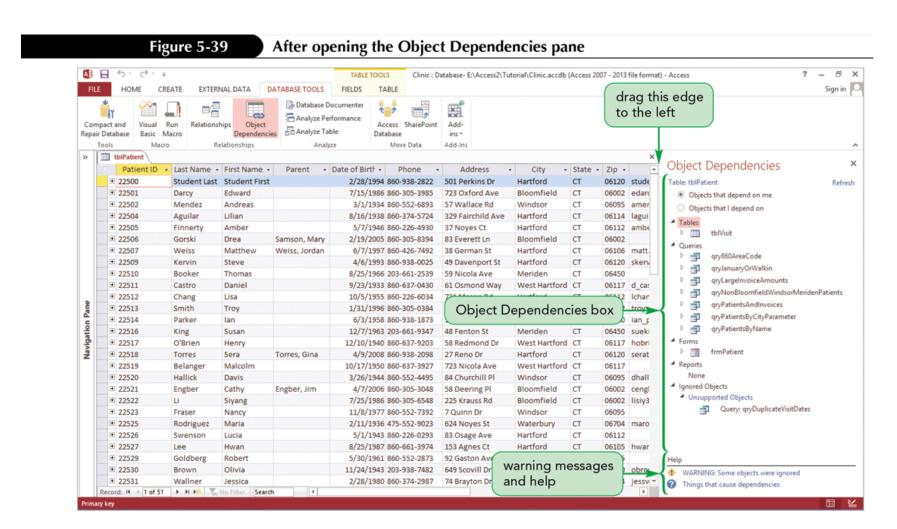


Identifying Object Dependencies

- An object dependency exists between two objects when a change to the properties of data in one object affects the properties of data in the other object
 - Dependencies between Access objects, such as tables, queries, and forms, can occur as relationships or using a query to obtain values from more than one table.
 - Any form or report that uses fields from a query is directly dependent on the query and is indirectly dependent on the tables that provide the data to the query
- The Object Dependencies pane displays a collapsible list of the dependencies among the objects in an Access database



Identifying Object Dependencies (Cont.)





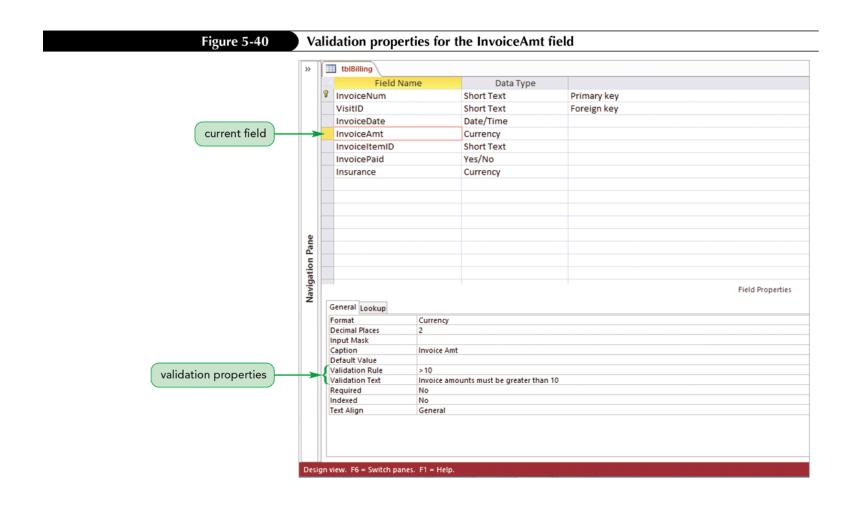
Defining Data Validation Rules (Cont.)

Defining Table Validation Rules

- To make sure that the value a user enters is not larger than the maximum field value, you can create a table validation rule
- Use the Validation Rule and Validation Text properties and set these properties for the table instead of for an individual field
- Use a table validation rule because this validation involves multiple fields
- A field validation rule is used when the validation involves a restriction for only the selected field, and does not depend on other fields

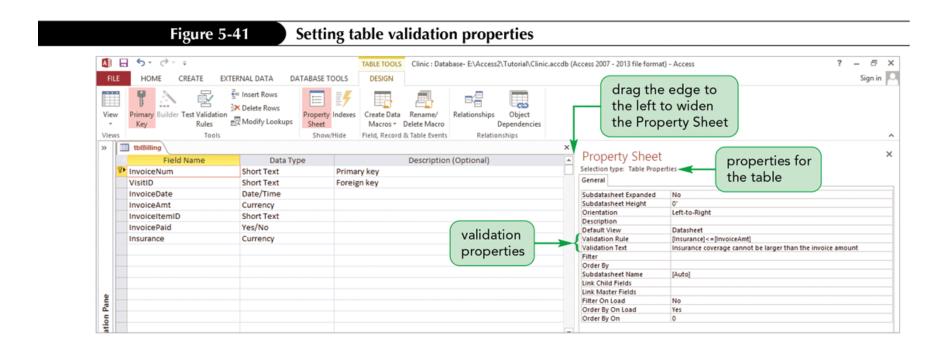


Defining Data Validation Rules





Defining Data Validation Rules (Cont.)



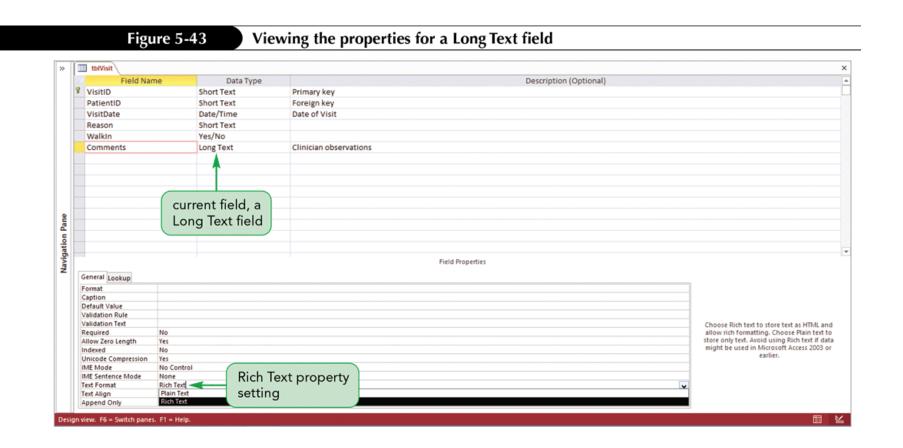


Working with Long Text Fields

- Use a Long Text field to store long comments and explanations
- Short Text fields are limited to 255 characters, but Long Text fields can hold up to 65,535 characters
 - Short Text fields limit you to plain text with no special formatting
 - Long Text fields store plain text similar to Short Text fields or to store rich text, which you can selectively format with options such as bold, italic, and different fonts and colors



Working with Long Text Fields (Cont.)





Summary

- Create different types of queries based on multiple tables
- Use operators in queries
- Create and format a calculated field in a query
- Perform calculations in a query

Homework

- Go through Access Modules 3 and 5
- Read Resources in Moodle

