Building blocks of model-driven apps

A model-driven app consists of several components that you select by using the App Designer. The components and component properties become the metadata. Let's look more closely at these components.

Data

The table below shows the different data components that can make up a model-driven app which can determine what data the app will be based upon. It also shows what designer is used to create or edit the data component.

DATA

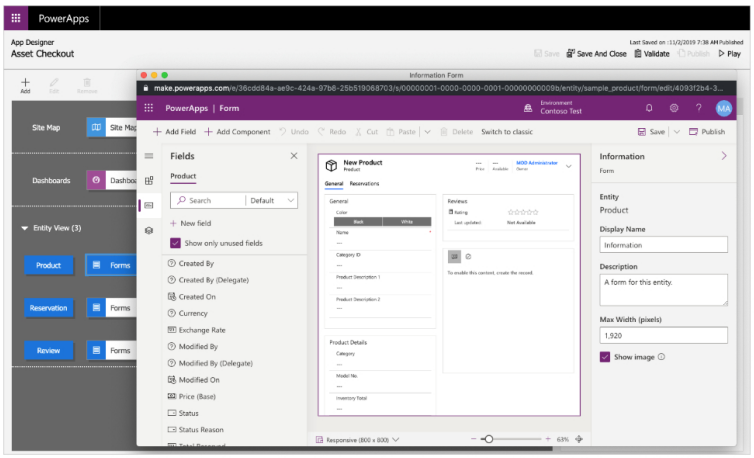
Component	Description	Designer
Table	Tables are items with properties you track. Examples include contacts and accounts. Many standard tables are available. You can customize a non-system standard table (or production table). You can also create a custom table from scratch.	Table designer
Column	Columns are properties that are associated with a table and help define the table. A column is defined by a data type, which determines the types of data that can be entered or selected. Examples of data types include text, number, date and time, currency, and lookup (which created a relationship with another table). Columns are typically used in forms, views, and searches.	Table designer
Relationship	Relationships define how tables can be related to each other. There are 1:N (one-to-many), N:1 (many-to-one), and N:N (many-to-many) relationships. For example, adding a lookup column to a table creates a new 1:N relationship between the two tables and lets you add that lookup column to a form.	Table designer
Choice	This type of column shows a control that lets the user select among predefined options. Each option has a number value and a label. Choice columns can require either a single value or multiple values.	Table designer

User interface

The table below shows the user interface components which determine how users will interact with the app and what designer is used to create or edit the component.

USER INTERFACE

Component	Description	Designer
App	Apps determine the app fundamentals, like components, properties, the client type, and the URL.	App designer
Site map	A site map specifies the navigation for your app.	Site map designer
Form	Forms include a set of data entry columns for a given table. A form can be used to create or edit an existing data row.	Form designer
View	Views define how a list of rows for a specific table appears in your app. A view defines the columns shown, the width of each column, the sorting behavior, and the default filters.	View designer



Logic

The logic components determine what business processes, rules, and automation the app will have. Microsoft Power Apps makers use a designer that is specific to the type of process or rule they are needing.

LOGIC

LOGIC

Type of logic	Description	Designer
Business process flow	Business process flows walk users through a standard business process. Use a business process flow if you want everyone to handle customer service requests the same way. Or you can use a business process flow to require staff to gain approval for an invoice before submitting an order.	Business process flow designer
Workflow	Workflows automate the business processes without a user interface. Designers use workflows to initiate automation that does not require any user interaction.	Workflow designer
Actions	Actions are a type of process that lets you manually invoke behaviors, including custom actions, directly from a workflow.	Process designer
Business rule	Business rules apply rules or recommendation logic to a form to set field requirements, hide or show fields, validate data, and more. App designers use a simple interface to implement and maintain fast-changing and commonly used rules.	Business rule designer
Flows	Power Automate is a cloud-based service that lets you create automated workflows between apps and services to get notifications, sync files, collect data, and more.	Power Automate

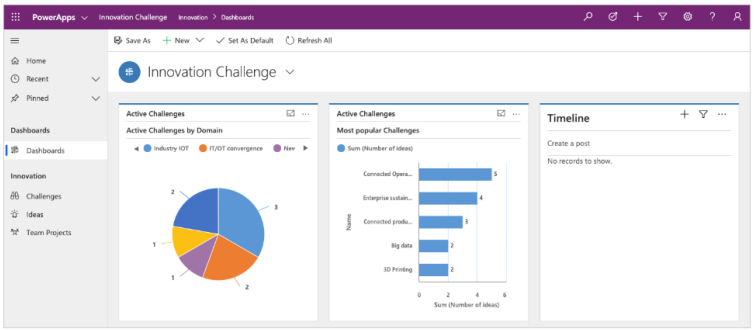
Visualization

The visualization components determine what type of data and reporting the app will show and have available and which designer is used to create or edit that component.

VISUALIZATION

Component	Description	Designer
Chart	Charts are individual graphical visualizations that can appear in a view or a form or that can be added to a dashboard.	Chart designer
Dashboard	Dashboards show one or more graphical visualizations in one place that provide an overview of actionable business data.	Dashboard designer
Embedded Microsoft Power BI	Power BI adss embedded Power BI tiles and dashboards to your app. Power BI is a cloud-based service that provides business intelligence (BI) insight.	A combination of chart designer, dashboard designer, and Power BI

Some examples of visualizations in a model-driven app:



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