

A nighttime photograph of the Vasco da Gama Bridge in Lisbon, Portugal. The bridge is illuminated with warm lights, and its reflection is visible in the water. The city lights of Lisbon are visible in the background, and the sky is a deep blue.

cd collabdays | lisbon

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Tips and tricks to customize SharePoint/Microsoft Lists forms Using Power Apps

by Michel Mendes

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Speaker Presentation

Michel Mendes



- Senior Consultant @ Storm Technology LTD
 - In the IT field since 2008
- Developer Background
 - .net/C# -> SharePoint -> M365 / Power Platform
- Brazilian, since 2018 living in Dublin/Ireland

 /in/michelcsmendes

 @michelcarlo

Agenda

1. Why to customise a Form using Power Apps?
2. Recommended Use Cases
3. Differences with a Standard Canvas App
4. Disadvantages/Tricky Bits
5. General Recommendations
6. Demo

Why to customise a Form using Power Apps?

Only alternative to build more complex forms

- No Custom Form SPFx yet 😞 (Full list experience needs to be built)
- JSON formatting does not allow controlling behaviours
- Form rules only allow showing or hiding fields

2021
Nov
29

New event
🕒 12:00:00 AM - 12:00:00 AM

Main

Session name *
New event

Session code
Enter value here

Session type
—
Describes what kind of a session this is

Description
Enter value here

Speaker(s)
MM Michel Mendes X Enter a name or email addr

Attachments
Add attachments

Logistics

Start date and time
11/29/2021 12:00 AM

End Date and Time
11/21/2021 12:00 AM

Duration
#Name?

Capacity
Enter a number

Location
—

Notes
Enter value here

Please check the Collabdays Website for More Details on the Session New event

Save Cancel

Why to customise a Form using Power Apps?

Reuse Out-of-the-box functionality

Users may be already used to it

Filtering, sorting, grouping

List formatting

Excel Exporting

InfoPath replacement? 😄

PowerFx

Language for custom code/formulas has good documentation and supporting community

The screenshot displays a Power Apps interface for 'Gestao De Ideias'. On the left, a sidebar contains navigation links: 'Página Inicial', 'Idéias', 'Documents', 'Shared with us', 'Recycle bin', and 'Edit'. The main area shows a list of ideas with columns for 'Título' and 'Status'. The list includes items like 'Instalar Windows 11 para todos' (7 implemented), 'Apresentar no MeetUp', 'Teste de permissões', 'Aprovações sem Approvals', 'Fazer uma demo', 'Manda Feedback sempre', 'Ultimo teste', 'Apresentar no Meetup', and 'Feedback mensal para os colaboradores' (1 pending). A bottom panel shows a 'Submit' form with fields for 'Nome Revisado da Idéia', 'Descrição Revisada da Idéia', 'Status' (set to 'Aprovada'), and 'Feedback' (set to 'Boa ideia amigo').

Recommended Use Cases/Good Side

Integration

Manipulate data from other SharePoint lists

Manipulate data from Other M365 Apps

Permissions based on AAD Security Groups

More Flexible Layout

Tabs

Sections

Custom columns

Quick win to build forms with rules/custom behaviours

Basic customisations with drag and drop or few formulas

Conditionally make fields visible, enabled or required

Regex or custom logic to validate text fields

Differences with a standard Canvas App

Form is accessible only from the List

Not listed between other Canvas Apps

Screen OnVisible/App OnStart events run only on the first time a form is open

Be careful with variables

Export and import a form to a different list is tricky (unsupported)

Need to modify the exported zip and update the site Urls and List GUIDs.

Recommended script to help: **<https://github.com/Zerg00s/FlowPowerAppsMigrator>**

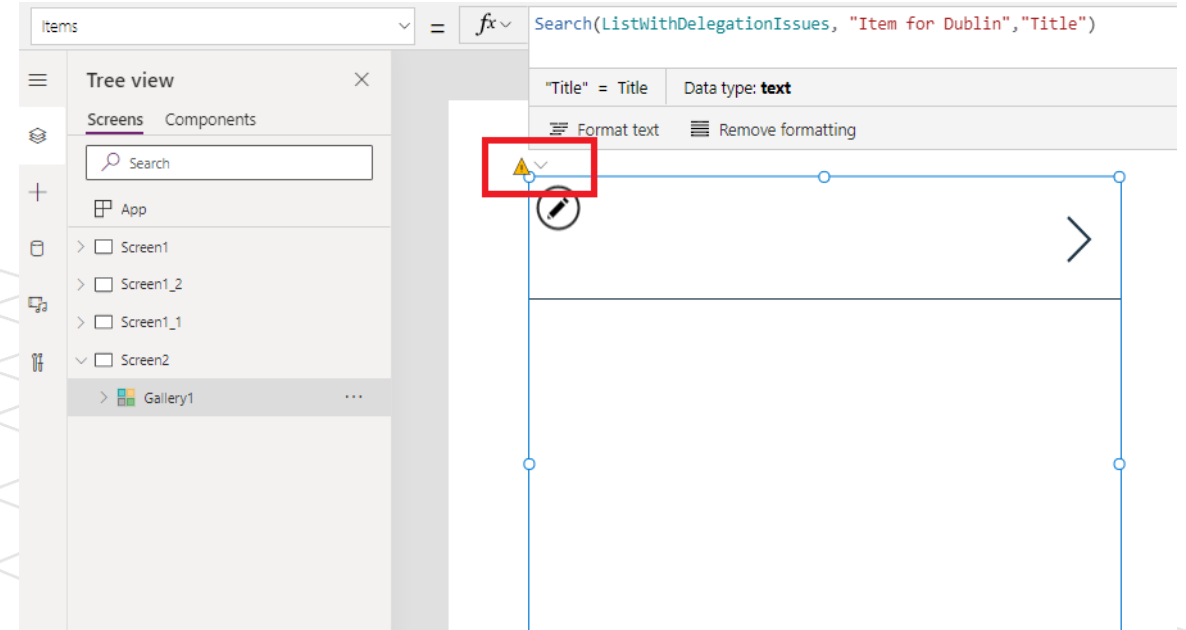
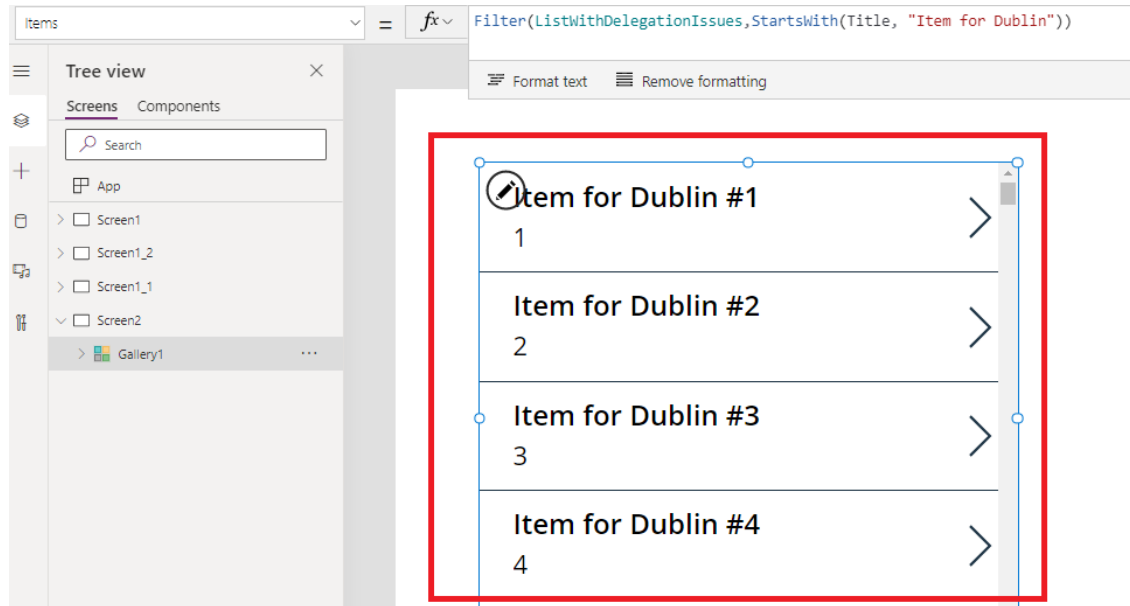
A decorative graphic at the bottom of the slide consisting of a grid of thin, light gray lines that intersect to form a series of diamond shapes, creating a perspective effect that recedes towards the center.

Disadvantages / Tricky Bits

Delegation

Max of 2000 items can be returned per query in Power Apps

Filter data correctly to get right results



Disadvantages / Tricky Bits

Limitations/Unsupported

Content Types

Managed Metadata (20 item limit/No hierarchy)

Location (View only)

URL (Updates as text)

Image (unsupported)



General Recommendations

Avoid excessive use of variables

Understanding PowerFx and when using declarative logic is the key

Always think: is there a declarative way of doing this instead of imperative?

Reference control selection directly when possible (if both are on the **same screen**)

Location

Lisbon

OnChange

fx

Set(showNotes, Self.Selected.Value = "Lisbon")

Notes

Visible

fx

showNotes

Notes

Visible

fx

cboLocation.Selected.Value = "Lisbon"



General Recommendations

When using Variables or Collections

Reset variables and Clear collections on the SharePoint integration events when needed

Be careful with context variables – Won't work as expected

Disable Quick Edit when using custom rules

Otherwise users can bypass rules from the form

'With' Function

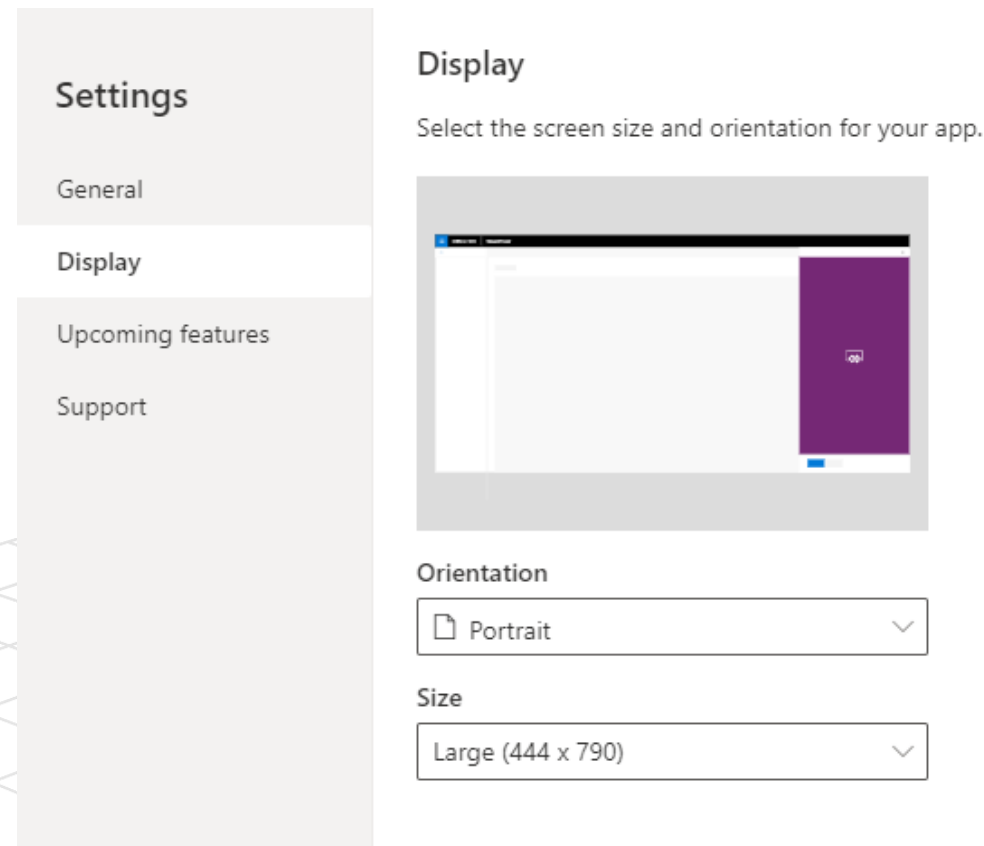
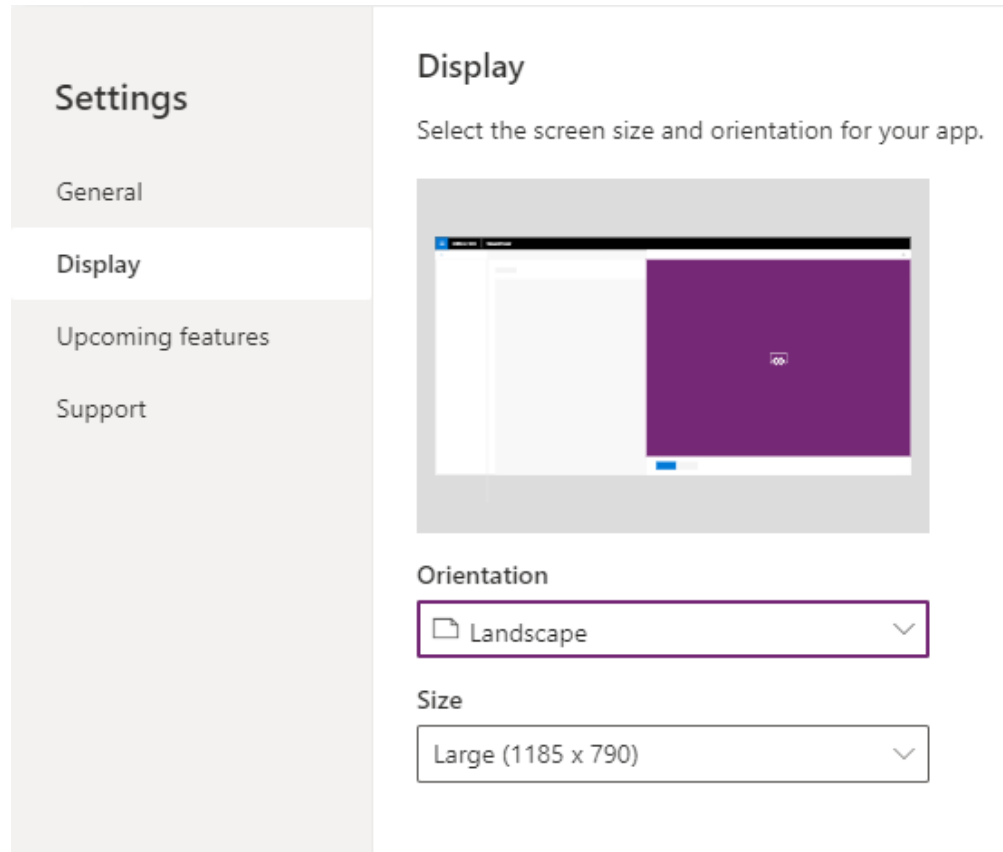
Useful to manipulate results as 'Temporary Variables' or self-contained formulas

```
With( { radius: 10,  
        height: 15 },  
    Pi() * (radius*radius) * height  
)  
// Result: 4712.38898038 (as shown in a label control)
```

General Recommendations

Landscape

Better layout for forms focused on Desktop only



Demo

Useful Resources

Script to convert exported packages and deploy to a different list/site:

- <https://github.com/Zerg00s/FlowPowerAppsMigrator>

Tokens and details to use with the IsMatch function:

- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powerapps/maker/canvas-apps/functions/function-ismatch>

With function explained:

- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powerapps/maker/canvas-apps/functions/function-with>

Integration with SharePoint explained:

- <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/powerapps/maker/canvas-apps/sharepoint-form-integration>

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