

MySQL-Front Manual

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1 Introduction

1.1 Short Overview

MySQL-Front is an easy to use, compact, and very fast graphical tool to manage your MySQL database - from anywhere in the world.

The program makes it possible to perform all essential administration tasks such as create/change data structures, viewing / creating data, and direct execution of SQL commands easily and comfortably with the look and feel of Windows.

1.2 Features

High-Degree of Compatibility:

- Supports MySQL databases starting with version 3.23
- Supports all commonly used MySQL table and column types
- If desired, use of the MySQL DLL to access the database and thus compatible with future versions
- Runs on any version of Windows (starting with 95 / NT 4.0) system
- Use of numerous Windows API functions to ensure compatibility with future Windows versions
- Full Drag&Drop and Copy&Paste support
- If the ISP prohibits external access to the database, use a PHP tunnel to still access the database

Ease of Use:

- Windows-conformant use of all elements
- Clearly structured menu prompts
- Efficient use either via keyboard or with mouse only
- Data structure depiction same as in Windows Explorer
- Interactive dialogs to edit the entered data structures
- Data depiction with data grid same as in MS Excel
- Detailed manual
- Very fast

Individual Configuration:

- Language settings (more than 25 languages available, unicode supported)
- Design settings
- Various options to configure the database linkage
- Numerous program use settings
- Syntax highlighting with individual colors

Standard Database Editing:

- Create, change and delete databases, tables, views, indices, fields and foreign keys
- Create, change and delete data (incl. Memo / BLOB fields)
- Display graphics in BLOB data (BMP, GIF, JPEG and PNG)
- Create, change and delete and edit BLOB data using a HEX editor
- Full Unicode support for data and identifiers

Data / Data Structure Import:

- SQL File

- Text File (CSV format)
- MS Access File
- ODBC (Open Database Connector)

Data / Data Structure Export:

- SQL File
- Text File (CSV format)
- HTML file
- XML file
- Other MySQL database

Enhanced Database Manipulations:

- Detailed Search inside whole table(s) / database(s) with regular expressions
- Fast Search&Replace inside whole table(s) / database(s)
- Easy Synchronisation between two tables / databases

Database Administration:

- Overview and ending of single processes and the entiered server
- Detailed server status overview
- Configuration of server variables
- Highly individualized user rights administration
- Security settings on host level
- Table maintenance options (check, analyze, optimize and repair)

Efficient Troubleshooting:

- Distinct filtering and data sorting functions
- Logging of SQL queries sent to the database
- Display of source code of databases, tables, views and users
- Printout of data structure and data
- Management of user-defined SQL scripts

See also:


Missing Features  34

1.3 Minimum Requirements

Hardware:

- PC with Pentium (compatible) processor
- 5 MB hard disk space

Software:

- Windows 95 / NT 4.0 or higher with TCP/IP protocol and Internet Explorer
- [MySQL database](#) version 3.23.20 or higher
- PHP Tunnel  34: PHP 4.1.0 or higher

Documentation:

- [MySQL database manual](#)

1.4 Installation / Uninstallation

Installation is very simple: Launch the `MySQL-Front_Setup.exe` setup program and follow the instructions in your language. Defaults are offered for all configuration possibilities, which function

problem-free on almost all systems.

Uninstallation is just as simple: Select the uninstall program from the start menu or the Windows Control Panel (Software) and confirm – done.

The Setup program accepts optional command line parameters. These can be useful to system administrators, and to other programs calling the Setup program.

MySQL-Front_Setup.exe [Options]

List of Options:

/SP

Disables the "This will install... Do you wish to continue?" prompt at the beginning of Setup.

/NOCANCEL

Prevents the user from cancelling during the installation process, by disabling the Cancel button and ignoring clicks on the close button.

/LOADINF="filename"

Instructs Setup to load the settings from the specified file after having checked the command line. This file can be prepared using the '/SAVEINF=' command as explained below. Don't forget to use quotes if the filename contains spaces.

/SAVEINF="filename"

Instructs Setup to save installation settings to the specified file. Don't forget to use quotes if the filename contains spaces.

/DIR="x:\dirname"

Overrides the default directory name displayed on the Select Destination Location wizard page. A fully qualified pathname must be specified.

/GROUP="folder name"

Overrides the default folder name displayed on the Select Start Menu Folder wizard page.

/NOICONS

Instructs Setup to initially check the Don't create any icons check box on the Select Start Menu Folder wizard page.

1.5 Purchase

Shareware Version Notes:

You can order the shareware version of this program as follows:

- On the Internet through the online shop.
- Or use the online order form.

All other ordering details and prices are listed on the ordering form.

Updates of the shareware version may be downloaded from the Internet whenever they become available.

2 Program


2.1 Files


2.1.1 Connection

Menu: File / Connection... (only standard mode)

Opens a connection with a database.

See also:

Close  12

Sessions  26

2.1.2 Object Browser

Menu: File / Object Browser (only professional mode)

Opens a window containing the data structure.

See also:

Sessions  26

2.1.3 Data Browser

Menu: File / Data Browser (only professional mode)

Opens a window containing the data.

See also:


Sessions  26

2.1.4 SQL Editor

Menu: File / SQL Editor (only professional mode)

Opens a window with an editor used to directly create and execute SQL scripts.

See also:

Sessions  26

2.1.5 System Tools

Menu: File / System Tools (only professional mode)



Opens a window with various tools used to configure the database server.

See also:Sessions 

2.1.6 Open

Menu: File / Open (only SQL Editor)


Opens a SQL script from a file.

See also:Save Recent files 

2.1.7 Save

Menu: File / Save (only SQL Editor)


Saves a SQL script to a file.

See also:Save as 

2.1.8 Save as

Menu: File / Save as (only SQL Editor)


Saves a SQL script to a file and prompts for the file name.

See also:Save 

2.1.9 Recent files

Menu: File / Recent files (only SQL Editor)

Shows a list of recently used files.

See also:Open 

2.1.10 Import

2.1.10.1 SQL File

Menu: File / Import / SQL File

Executes all SQL queries from the specified file in the **selected** database.

SQL queries are executed directly without first loading the entire file into the SQL Editor. This means the execution is much faster and saves system resources.

Error Handling: (Only CSV file)

Deactivates MySQL-Front error handling. This means data records are written to the database much faster.

Error show:

Only shows errors that occurred without informing the user explicitly.

Error Save in file:

Saves the sections with an error during importing to a file

2.1.10.2 CSV File

Menu: File / Import / CSV File

Imports data of a text format file to the **selected** table.

Use headline:

The first line of the import file contains the field names.

Separator:

Character used to separate the individual fields from one another.

Quote Character:

Characters used to enclose strings.

Existing data:

Existing data are updated (overwritten) without any warning.

2.1.10.3 MS Access File

Menu: File / Import / MS Access file

Imports data of a table from a .mdb file to the **selected** table.

2.1.10.4 ODBC Table

Menu: File / Import / ODBC Table

Imports data of a table to the **selected** table using ODBC.

2.1.11 Export

2.1.11.1 SQL File

Menu: File / Export / SQL File

The **selected** data and their structures are exported to a SQL file. This conforms largely to the output of `mysqldump`.

Use this file to save the content of database to a file. This is rather practical for data backup or to send data, for example.

Include:

Structure: Exports the data structure with `CREATE TABLE` queries.

Data: Exports the data.

Database:

Create Database(s): Generates `CREATE DATABASE` queries

Select Database(s): Generates `USE `databasename`` queries

Handle existing data:

Drop before Create: Generates a corresponding `DROP` query before each `CREATE` query to delete any existing data.

Complete Insert Queries: Generates `INSERT` queries for which the field name is also indicated for every field. (Only meaningful if data are not to be added to an existing table and if the existing table does not **exactly** correspond with the table to be exported.)

General:

Include Comments: Adds comments to the file to make the file easier to read.

Quote Identifiers: Encloses all identifiers in quotes. This is required if identifiers contain empty character strings or reserved words.

Disable Keys: Deactivates foreign key verification while importing the file.

Lock Tables: Prevents updates of other programs/users during the export.

2.1.11.2 CSV File

Menu: File / Export / CSV File

The **selected** data and their structures are saved to a comma separated values text file.

These types of files are easily used by programs such as Excel.

This format used to be the default format to transfer table contents between different programs. This is more frequently done with XML files as well.

If several tables are selected, a file is created for each table.

Write Headlines:

Generates a line containing the field names.

Separator:

Specifies the separating character between the fields or a fixed column width for individual fields.

Quote Character:

Character used to enclose all string fields.

New Line:

Selects the default line break.

2.1.11.3 HTML File

Menu: File / Export / HTML File

The **selected** data and their structures are saved to a file viewable with a Web browser.

This is useful to easily send data and their structures via email or show to other developers via Internet/Intranet.

The generated file uses the so-called cascading style sheet (CSS) to visually improve output. However, browsers without CSS also display the data – but in that case with less formatting.

BLOB field data are not exported since HTML cannot display these.

Include:

Structure: Exports the data structure with `CREATE TABLE` queries.

Data: Exports the data.

2.1.11.4 XML File

Menu: File / Export / XML File

The **selected** data and their structures are exported to an XML file.

The XML format increasingly develops into the default format for data transfer between different systems.

Importing XML files, however, is rather complex and resource-intensive. Many systems therefore do not offer such an import as of yet.

2.1.11.5 Other database

Menu: File / Export / Other database

The **selected** data and their structures are exported to a different database of the same or a different database server.

This is the easiest option to transfer data from one database to another.


As an alternative, data can be exported to a SQL file first and later imported by the other database.

Options are identical with Export to SQL File .

2.1.12 Print

Menu: File / Print (requires Internet Explorer)

Prints the data and their structured of the current selection.

Options are identical with Export to HTML File .

Tip:


Data can be exported to a PDF file using the PDF printer driver.

2.1.13 Close

Menu: File / Close

Closes the current window.

See also:


Close all 

2.1.14 Close all

Menu: File / Close all

Closes all windows.

See also:


Close 

2.1.15 Exit

Menu: File / Exit

Closes all open windows and exits the program.

See also:

Close 

2.2 Edit

2.2.1 Undo

Menu: File / Undo (only SQL Editor)

Undo reverses the last change.

2.2.2 Redo

Menu: File / Redo (only SQL Editor)


Redo reverses the last undo.

2.2.3 Cut

Menu: Edit / Cut

Copies the current selection to the Windows Clipboard. Once the content of the Clipboard has been inserted somewhere the selection is deleted.

See also:


Delete  13

2.2.4 Copy

Menu: Edit / Copy

Copies the current selection to the Windows Clipboard.

See also:

Copy to file  13

2.2.5 Paste

Menu: Edit / Paste

Inserts the content of the Clipboard to the selected location.

See also:

Paste from file  14

2.2.6 Delete

Menu: Edit / Delete

Deletes the current selection.

See also:

Cut  13

2.2.7 Select all

Menu: Edit / Select all

Highlights (selects) all elements.

2.2.8 Copy to File

Menu: Edit / Copy to file

Copies the current selection to a file.

See also:

Copy 

2.2.9 Paste from File

Menu: Edit / Paste

Inserts the content (of a file) to the selected location.

See also:

Paste from file 

2.2.10 Rename

Menu: Edit / Rename

Renames the current selection.

2.3 Search

2.3.1 Search

Menu: Search / Search

Searches for a character string.

See also:


Search Next 

2.3.2 Replace

Menu: Search / Replace

Searches for a character string and then replaces this string with a different character string.

See also:

Search Next 

2.3.3 Search Next

Menu: Search / Search Next

Repeats the last search.

See also:

Search 
Replace 

2.4 View

2.4.1 Object Browser

Menu: View / Object Browser (only standard mode)

Switches the view to the data structure.

2.4.2 Data Browser

Menu: View / Data Browser (only standard mode)

Switches the view to the data.

2.4.3 SQL Editor

Menu: View / SQL Editor (only standard mode)

Switches the view to the SQL Editor.

2.4.4 Address Bar

Menu: View / Address Bar

MySQL-Front offers the same navigation as with Web Browsers with the help of URLs. This can significantly speed up searches with many databases / tables.

Favorites also use these addresses (URI format). It is also possible to call MySQL-Front by using a URL. This means links from the Windows start menu or other programs can be directly setup to connect with a specific view within MySQL-Front.

This also functions the other way around. Addresses of other programs can also be entered into MySQL-Front. For example, entering <http://www.mysql-front.com/> opens the homepage of MySQL-Front in the Web Browser.

2.4.5 Navigator

Menu: View / Navigator

Shows/hides the navigator.

2.4.6 Favorites

Menu: View / Favorites

Frequently used addresses can be saved as Favorites within MySQL-Front similar to the function found in other programs such as Web Browsers. Views are thereby loaded much faster.

2.4.7 SQL Log

Menu: View / SQL Log

Shows/hides the log of the executed SQL queries.

Each update of the log requires time. Logs should thus only be displayed if you are really interested in the sent queries.

In case of importing, it is recommended to always hide the log to increase speed.

2.4.8 List

Menu: View / List

Elements within the Object Browser can also be depicted only as a text name without details. Since this additional information does not have to be loaded from the database, the display is much faster.

2.4.9 Report

Menu: View / Report

All elements can also be depicted with additional information within the Object Browser. This means details can be displayed in an organized structure without having to open and view the properties of individual objects.

2.4.10 Status Bar

Menu: View / Status Bar

Additional hints such as focused menu entries, for example, are displayed within the status bar of the program

2.4.11 Window Bar

Menu: View / Status Bar


The Window Bar shows like the Task Bar of Windows all windows inside MySQL-Front. While several different windows are opened the Window Bar enables the fast and easy switching between the windows.

2.4.12 Refresh

Menu: View / Refresh

Updates and redraws the right side of the current window of the database.

See also:

Refresh All 

2.4.13 Refresh all


Menu: View / Refresh all

Updates and redraws the entire window of the database. This means all elements (and possibly the cache as well) of the current window are updated.

Note:

If several windows of the same session are open, update and redraw also includes these other windows.

See also:

Refresh 

2.5 Favorites

2.5.1 Add

Menu: Favorites / Add

The current view (address) is added to the list of Favorites. An individual name can be indicated for each Favorite. (Assignment of identical names is not permitted.)

The format of the address will be described here .

See also:

Properties 

2.5.2 Properties

Menu: Favorites / Properties

The Favorites view is used to edit Favorites. A unique name can be indicated for each Favorite.

Format of the address:

mysql://username:password@www.myserver.com:3306/browser/databasename/tablename/

Addresses starting with "mysql://" refer to MySQL-Front. MySQL-Front passes other addresses to the respectively linked program.

The username / password is not needed since it will be stored in the session.

The server has to be the same like the server of the session.

There are some additional parameter possible:

Data Browser:

limit: Number of records

filter: Filter of the SELECT query to get the data

SQL Editor:

file: Filename to open

It's also possible to start MySQL-Front with a address as parameter. In this case the servername / username will be needed to detect the correct session.

2.6 Database

2.6.1 Run


Menu: Database / Run (only SQL Editor)

Executes all queries of the SQL Editor.

If the SQL Editor contains several queries, these are sent to the database one after the other.

The result of the last query is displayed if necessary.

Note:

Larger scripts in the form of a file can be imported directly (and thus quicker) when using Import from a SQL File .

If you do not want to change the SQL script, you should import instead of using the SQL Editor.

See also:

Run Selection  ¹⁸

2.6.2 Run Selection

Menu: Database / Run Selection (only SQL Editor)

Executes the current/selected query of the SQL Editor. This is useful for testing individual sections of a script.

See also:

Run  ¹⁸

2.6.3 New

2.6.3.1 Database

Menu: Database / New / Database

Creates a new database.

Note:

MySQL does not permit subsequent database name changes.

2.6.3.2 Table

Menu: Database / New / Table

Creates a new table in the selected database.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.3.3 Index

Menu: Database / New / Index

Creates a new index in the selected table.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.3.4 Field

Menu: Database / New / Field

Creates a new field in the selected table.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.3.5 Constraint

Menu: Database / New / Constraint

Creates a new constraint in the selected table.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

Note:

MySQL-Front currently supports only foreign keys as constraints.

2.6.3.6 Host

Menu: Database / New / Host

Creates a new host.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.3.7 User

Menu: Database / New / User (only with MySQL version 4.0 and higher)

Creates a new user.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.4 Remove

2.6.4.1 Database

Menu: Database / Remove / Database

Removes the selected database including all therein contained tables.

2.6.4.2 Table

Menu: Database / Remove / Table

Removes the selected table.

2.6.4.3 Index

Menu: Database / Remove / Index

Removes the selected index.

2.6.4.4 Field

Menu: Database / Remove / Field

Removes the selected field.

2.6.4.5 Constraint

Menu: Database / Remove / Constraint

Removes the selected constraint.

2.6.4.6 Host

Menu: Database / Remove / Host

Removes the selected host.

2.6.4.7 Process

Menu: Database / Remove / Process

Ends the selected process.

2.6.4.8 User

Menu: Database / Remove / User (only with MySQL version 4.0 and higher)

Removes the selected user.

2.6.5 Properties

2.6.5.1 Server

Menu: Database / Properties / Server

General:

Displays additional information about the database server such as version and uptime.

The database can be closed. (This is only possible if sufficient access rights are available.)

Processes:

Additional process status information yields an overview over all database processes.

It is possible to end and close individual processes.

Status:

Displays an overview of the detailed database status. Please consult the MySQL manual for additional information.

Variables:

Displays an overview of the variables of the database. Many variables can be modified (insofar as permitted by the database).

2.6.5.2 Table

Menu: Database / Properties / Table

Changes the properties of the current table.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.5.3 Index

Menu: Database / Properties / Index

Displays the properties of the current index.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.5.4 Field

Menu: Database / Properties / Field

Changes the properties of the current field.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.5.5 Constraint

Menu: Database / Properties / Constraint

Displays the properties of the current constraint.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.5.6 Host

Menu: Database / Properties / Host

Changes the properties of the current host.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.5.7 User

Menu: Database / Properties / User (only with MySQL version 4.0 and higher)

Changes the properties of the current user.

The individual settings are described in the MySQL manual.

2.6.5.8 Variable

Menu: Database / Properties / Variable

Changes the properties of the current variable.

2.6.6 Insert new record

Menu: Database / Insert new Record (only Data Browser)

Adds a new record at the current position.

2.6.7 Delete record

Menu: Database / Delete Record (only Data Browser)

Removes the selected record.

2.6.8 Edit record

Menu: Database / Edit

Edits the current record.

Changes are automatically applied to the database when switching the record or when exiting the data browser.

2.6.9 Empty

Menu: Database / Empty

Empties the data of the selected element (sets the data fields to NULL).

2.7 Extras

2.7.1 Search

Menu: Extras / Search

MySQL-Front offers a data Search function within whole databases.

Searching requires significant resources if tables are large. The actual amounts vary depending on numerous different factors.

Search for:
Value / pattern for which to search

Search options:
Case sensitive: Capital/small letters are not adjusted.
Whole values: Only values completely matching the search pattern are considered.
Regular expression: Search using regular expressions.

See also:

Search 
Replace 

2.7.2 Replace

Menu: Extras / Replace

MySQL-Front offers a data Search&Replace function within whole databases. Depending on the applied search mask/criteria, data within the database can be replaced in part or as a whole.

Search&Replace requires significant resources if tables are large. The actual amounts vary depending on numerous different factors.

Search for:
Old value / pattern for which to search

Replace with:
New value / new pattern

Search options:
Case sensitive: Capital/small letters are not adjusted.
Whole values: Only values completely matching the search pattern are considered.
Regular expression: Search using regular expressions.


Backup:
A table can be generated before synchronization. This table will be assigned the name of the respective table with the extension "_bak". Already existing copies with this extension are overwritten without warning.
A backup copy is generated completely within the database. Creating backups can use significant resources of the database if tables are large.

Warning:

Existing data are changed and cannot be restored during replacing.
User or program errors are always a possibility.

Data backups are therefore important and should be created frequently!

See also:

Replace 

Search 

2.7.3 Synchronize

Menu: Extras / Synchronize

MySQL-Front allows the synchronization of different tables. The primary index is used to identify the data. This means that tables can be synchronized only with a primary index. The objects of the table(s) (fields / indices) are identified with the column names. Foreign keys are not transferred during the synchronization.

What:

Either the data structure (objects) and/or the data can be synchronized.

Direction:

Only the table(s) identified as slaves are modified.

Update existing objects:

The settings (e.g. data type) of existing object is updated.

Existing data:

Existing data are updated (overwritten) without any warning.

Ignore Foreign Keys:

Foreign keys are deactivated during synchronization. Please consult the MySQL manual for a description of advantages and disadvantages of this functionality.

Lock Tables:

A table being synchronized is locked to other users / programs during the synchronization process. Please consult the MySQL manual for a description of advantages and disadvantages of this functionality.

Backup:

A table can be generated before synchronizing data. This table will be assigned the name of the respective table with the extension "_bak". Already existing copies with this extension are overwritten without warning.

A backup copy is generated completely within the database. Creating backups can use significant resources of the database if tables are large.

Warning:

Existing data are changed during synchronization and cannot be restored.

User or program errors are always a possibility.

Data backups are therefore important and should be created frequently!

2.8 Settings

2.8.1 Sessions

Menu: Settings / Sessions

In MySQL-Front, settings relevant to database linkages are saved in "sessions". Each session contains various connection-related settings such as server, user, and password as well as numerous additional settings such as selection of utilized databases or caching settings.

This means it might also be advisable, in certain situations, to create different sessions for a database connection (e.g., one with caching and one without).

(To edit / delete a session you have to close all open windows of this session before.)

Common:

Name:

Specifies the name of the session used to identify the session in MySQL-Front.

Connection:

Server:

Address of the server hosting the database. The server is described with a domain name or an IP address.

Port:

Port number of the database (usually 3306).

Connection Type:

Indicates the type of database access. Direct access is usually possible. For reasons of compatibility, the use of a vendor library might be necessary. This library is supplied together with the MySQL database.

Some ISPs do not permit access to the database from external computers. This problem can be circumvented with the use of PHP tunnels^[34].

Timeout:

Length of time attempting to establish a database connection.

Compression:

Activates compressed communication between MySQL-Front and the database.

Login:

User:

Database server user name.

Password:

Database server password.

Save Password:

Saves the password in the registry of the local computer.

Database:

Utilized databases (several are separated with ",").

Cache:

The database structure is cached on the local computer if the cache function is activated. Caching can significantly increase working speed if the database connection is slow or inc ase of many tables.

However, if another user changes the database structure without updating the cache accordingly

problems may crop up. Such problems are then reported by the database.

The user thus has to decide for himself/herself how often to delete the cache.

Use Refresh all  to delete the cache once when working with the session as well.

Data Browser:**Limit:**

MySQL-Front can limit the number of records loaded in the Data Browser. This is practical in case of large tables since loading the complete table might take a long time or even exceed the memory capacity of the workstation.

Default Sorting:

MySQL-Front can load the records sorted in accordance with the order of the primary index of the database. This makes viewing these records much easier. Sorting can use significant resources of the database if tables are large.

See also:

Global Settings 

2.8.2 Global settings

Menu: Settings / Global Settings

This is where all of the settings for the program itself are configured. Included are language, design, and user level, for example.

View:**Language:**

Selects the language used in MySQL-Front. (This does not apply to database messages.)

Skin:

Selects the appearance (icons) of MySQL-Front.

User Level:

Describes the basic window layout within MySQL-Front. (To change this option please close all windows before.)

Navigator: Table details:

Shows indices, fields, and constraints within the navigator in addition to the other elements. (The right side does not list any information for these elements.)

Navigator: System Tools: view (Standard Mode)

Shows the system tools of the database (hosts, users, etc.). Obtaining this information from the database takes a little time.

Connections:**While connecting: Ask for connection**

Asks for the session when starting MySQL-Front.

Create new window:

Opens a new window for each new connection. If this option is not selected, an already existing window is used and brought to the foreground if necessary.

Start up: Connect last session

Connects automatically to the last used session when launching MySQL.

Files:

Languages:

Indicates the folder of the language files.

Skins:

Indicates the folder of the skin files.

Database Macros:

Indicates the folder of the MySQL macros.

Global Macros:

Indicates the folder of the global MySQL macros.

User Macros:

Indicates the folder of the user-defined MySQL macros.

File types: associate:

Links files with the .sql extension with MySQL-Front in Windows Explorer.

Data Browser:

Data Font:

Indicates the font used to display data in data tables.

NULL values:

Indicates the background color and a font for NULL values.

Maximal column width:

Wide data fields can be limited as specified so that several columns are visible on screen at once.

Memo data in grid:

Describes whether the content of text fields is also displayed within the data table.

BLOB data in grid:

Describes whether the content of BLOB fields is also displayed within the data table. (Only meaningful if text is saved within the BLOB fields. The latter is not intended by MySQL – but is still done by a few users.)

Default sorting:

Indicates whether the data of the database is to be sorted based on the primary index by default. In case of larger tables, this uses more system resources of the database.

SQL Editor:

Font:

Indicates the font used by the SQL Editor.

Colors:

Indicates the colors of the different elements of the SQL source code.

SQL Log:

Font:

Indicates the font used in the SQL log.

Line numbers:

Line numbers are displayed within the SQL log.

Time:

Shows the local time when the query has been sent to the database. (To change this option please close all windows before.)

Result:

Shows the result of the SQL query sent to the database. (To change this option please close all windows before.)

Errors:

Shows received errors from the database. (To change this option please close all windows before.)

Highlighting:

Uses the same colors for the SQL log and the SQL Editor. Assigning the colors requires computing time every time the SQL log is updated. MySQL-Front is thus faster if the SQL log is used without colors.

Lines:

MySQL-Front requires more time and system resources for a large log. It is thus recommended limiting the size of the log.

HTTP Proxy:

Some internal networks and ISPs do not permit direct access to the database from the Internet due to security reasons. If this is the case, an HTTP proxy is used. MySQL-Front applies the http protocol for PHP tunneling.

Updates:

MySQL-Front is able to check automatically whether a program update is available.

See also:

Sessions  26

2.8.3 Import

Menu: Settings / Import

Loads all settings (session and global settings) from a file.

See also:

Export  29

2.8.4 Export

Menu: Settings / Export

Saves all settings (session and global settings) to a file. This means that these setting can also be transferred to another computer or restored after a hard drive crash.

Note:

This file also contains the passwords for the sessions. The file should therefore be safeguarded appropriately.

See also:

Import  29

2.9 Help

2.9.1 Index

Menu: Settings / Sessions

Displays the table of content for this help.

2.9.2 Homepage

Menu: Help / Homepage

Opens the MySQL-Front Internet homepage.

The homepage offers current information about the program, updates, and the opportunity to order a registered version.

2.9.3 Forum

Menu: Help / Forum

Opens the MySQL-Front Internet forum.

See also:

Support / Further help 

2.9.4 MySQL manual

Menu: Help / MySQL Manual

Opens the MySQL [online manual](#) on the Internet.

2.9.5 Install Update

Menu: Help / Install Update (needs a running internet connection)

MySQL-Front can install updates automatically. This requires the MySQL-Front is exited, which is why all open sessions have to be closed.

The update itself runs fully automatic until MySQL-Front is restarted.

2.9.6 Registration

Menu: Help / Registration (only unregistered shareware version)

Registers the installed MySQL-Front version.

After ordering, you will either receive a CD/floppy with a registered version of MySQL-Front or an

email listing the licensing key.

Copy and paste the licensing key into this input window. The MySQL-Front version installed on this computer is then registered.

Another option is to save the licensing key in the file `MySQL-Front.key` and store this file in the same directory as `MySQL-Front.exe` (e.g., when installing `MySQL-Front_Setup.exe`). The licensing key now does not have to be entered manually.

Note:

Keep the licensing key in a file or in the mail in a secure location. MySQL-Front cannot be used to display the key. (This is to prevent unauthorized copying of the licensing key.)

Any additionally requested licensing keys are subject to a fee!!!

2.9.7 Info

Menu: Help / Info

Opens a window containing information about MySQL-Front.

Info:

Displays information about the installed version and the applicable copyright.

License:

Displays information about the used licensing key:

- Name of the license holder
- Number of licenses
- Generation of the licensing key

Appreciations:

Displays the names of individuals that participated in MySQL-Front (insofar as desired).

3 FAQ

3.1 How to Start

How to Start After Installing MySQL-Front

You are prompted to create a so-called session when launching MySQL for the first time.

The following information is usually required for a session:

- Server (Connection tab)
- Port (Connection tab)
- User (Login tab)
- Password (Login tab)
- Database (Login tab)

Please ask your database administrator (often your ISP / Web hoster) for this information.

Use the following if you have installed MySQL on your own computer:

- Server: "localhost"
- Port: "3306"
- User: "root"

Do not enter a password or specify a database.

3.2 Connection Problems

MySQL-Front reports connection problems: "Can't connect to MySQL server on www.server.com (10060)". What can I do?

- Check the network connection to the server.
- Check your Internet connection and your firewall.
- Findout and solve other problems why MySQL-Front is not able to create a network connection to the database server.
- Read the MySQL manual: http://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql/en/Can_not_connect_to_server.html

I get the following error from the database: "Access denied for user: username@server.com" - What can I do?

Please be sure to enter exactly the login information (user, password **and** database) you received from your database administrator (often your ISP).

If this does not help you, please contact your ISP and ask if you are allowed to login from your local client to the database on your account. Frequently, the ISP does not permit this. In this case, you may be able to connect by using a PHP or a SSH tunnel (maybe with the program PuTTY).

Additional information is listed in the MySQL manual:
http://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql/en/Access_denied.html

Why can't I connect to "http://www.server.com/"?

"http://servername.com/" is the address of your Internet Browser to access the Web server. But you have to enter the address of the database server. Please contact your ISP to ask for the server name of the database. (The server name could possibly be "servername.com"...)

Which port should I use: 80 or 3306?

Port 80 is the port of the Web server. But you want to connect to the database server. Please contact your ISP to ask for the used port of the database server. The default port is 3306.

I updated from version 2.5 to 3.x and I can't connect since the update. What can I do?

Please try to re-enter the password.

Response from the database: "Lost connection to MySQL server during query."

- What can I do?

This is a problem of the database. Please contact the database administrator.

The database server might not be able to resolve the hosts. In this case, it helps to modify the `my.cnf`. Add the following line in the given section:

```
[mysqld]
skip-name-resolve
```


Why does MySQL-Front not support connections via SSL?

The protocol between the client (MySQL-Front f.e.) and the server allows to SSL - but if the server doesn't support SSL - like the very most servers - the client is not available to find out this issue of the server.

Without any informations the password and all data will be transered unsecure. Because of this the user would think to use SSL - but he doesn't.

While there is not option to be sure using SSL MySQL-Front has disabled the SSL at all. No user should think he's using a secure connection but he doesn't.

See also:

SSH Tunnel 

PHP Tunnel 

3.3 Using the Program

How can I sort the data in the Data Browser or the result of the SQL Editor?

Click on the grid header (not possible with text / BLOB fields). If a limit is set in the Data Browser, data are re-queried from the database – or data is sorted within MySQL-Front.

How can I sort the Data Browser / SQL Editor by multiple columns?

Please use the <Ctrl> or <Shift> key while clicking on the title of the column. With this, the clicked column will be used before (<Ctrl>) / after (<Shift>) the existing column inside the sort order.

When I press the refresh button, navigation is not actualized. Why?

The "Refresh" button updates only the right side to speed up this process.

If you want to refresh the navigator or the cache as well, please select the View / Refresh All menu or press the shift key while clicking on the refresh button in the toolbar.

How can I use the table services (check, optimize, repair, analyze)?

Please open the properties of the table and use the tab "Service." (If you want to use multiple tables at once, please mark the tables with the mouse by pressing the <Shift> or the <Ctrl> key.)

If the `CHECK` query of a MyISAM table fails, a `REPAIR` query will be generated automatically. Other table types do not support a `REPAIR` query.

Where can I find the system tools (User Manager, Server Status and Process List)?

Please enable the system tools in general settings.

I can't see if a field is unique in version 3.x. (in version 2.x I was able to see that). - Why?

MySQL-Front version 2.x shows columns as unique. But a MySQL column has no attribute to be unique. So this was a bug of version 2.x.

How can I step back after an update?

Please install the version you want to have. This will overwrite a newer version.

I purchased a shareware version of MySQL-Front and received it on a disk. How can I use a current version?

Please download the current version from the Internet. Please copy the license key file `MySQL-Front.key` from the disk to the setup program or to the installed program folder.

3.4 Speed up the Program

MySQL-Front is very slow. What could be the cause and how can I change this?

In most cases, the problem is that MySQL-Front does not receive the required data from the database as fast as the program needs them. This can have several causes:

- The connection between MySQL-Front and the database is slow (e.g., Internet dialup)

- connection).
- The database (database server) is slow.
- Making the data available is a very complex procedure (e.g., a large table to be sorted or a query across several tables).
- The data volume to be transferred is very large (e.g., many data records because these were previously not restricted with "limit").
- The volume of information is very large (e.g., determining the complete data structure).

The status line for each individual query depicts the execution time inside the database server.

MySQL-Front uses numerous settings to limit the number of required queries:

- Specifying the actually used databases within the session.
- Use compression within the session.
- Use of "Refresh" instead of "Refresh all" in the "View" menu.
- Select viewing the Object Browser as "List" instead of "Report".
- Use of the professional mode (less information made available per window).
- Deactivation of the system tools (standard mode)
- Cache (session) use so that it is not necessary to determine the complete database structure every time.
- Access to the database, if possible, not via the PHP tunnel (the SSH tunnel is indeed faster than the PHP tunnel but still slower than Direct access / access via libMySQL.dll).

The SQL log offers an overview over the used queries. This might help you to troubleshoot the cause for the speed problems.

In part, MySQL-Front has to manage and process large quantities of buffers (data). This can be compensated with the following settings:

- Deactivating highlighting of the SQL log (general settings).
- Deactivating highlighting of the BLOB and Memo values in the Data Browser (general settings).
- Deactivating error detection during import (SQL file only).

3.5 Missing Features

I miss some important / nice features in MySQL-Front. How can I get these feature or functions?

Please submit your suggestions to the MySQL-Front forum^[38]. The developers will try to implement the feature or function.

3.6 SSH Tunnel

What is a SSH tunnel and how does it work?

Please refer the MySQL manual:

<http://dev.mysql.com/doc/mysql/en/windows-and-ssh.html>

See also:

PHP Tunnel^[34]

3.7 PHP Tunnel

What is a PHP tunnel and how does it work?

Some ISPs permit access to the MySQL database only from the Web server due to reasons of

security. This means MySQL-Front cannot access the database normally (error: Access denied).

This problem can be circumvented with the use of so-called PHP tunnels. Install the PHP script `phpMySQL.php` on the Web server (included with the program). Then, from within the session, select the connection type "PHP tunnel" and specify the respective URL of the PHP script.

MySQL-Front converts the database query into an HTTP request and sends this request to the PHP script on the Web server. (The script can access the database since it is, same as the other scripts, located on the Web server.) The PHP script then converts the reply of the database and sends it as the HTTP result back to MySQL-Front.

Unfortunately, this is somewhat awkward and also significantly slower than any direct access. However, this makes it possible to access the database even if the provider does not permit access any other way.

If you are connected with the Internet through a firewall, you might have to use an HTTP proxy (Global settings^[27]).

In rare cases, it is necessary to enter "localhost" in the session server field. This is the case if the Web server does not feature DNS resolution.

Since PHP doesn't support to use resources in sessions each single database request opens a new database process and close them after receiving the single response. Because of this by using the PHP Tunnel the database is not be able to remember any session settings like variables, rollback or something like this.

See also:

SSH Tunnel^[34]
Sessions^[26]
Speed up the Program^[33]

3.8 Translations

I would like to translate MySQL-Front into another language. Am I allowed to do so?

Yes. All language files are stored in the "Languages" folder. English is the original language. Just copy this file and translate it into the language of your choice.

The program "Ini Translator", <http://initranslator.sourceforge.net/> is a small but effective program to create and edit translations.

We would be pleased if we could offer your specific translation together with MySQL-Front for download to provide other users with the opportunity to enjoy your language file as well. If you are offering your quality translation to us, we will provide you with one free MySQL-Front license.

3.9 Known Bugs

Are there any errors known to exist in MySQL-Front?

Unfortunately, yes:

- Dates with the value "00" as month or day / "0000" as year are not supported within the Data Browser.
- Dates before the year 1900 are not supported within the Data Browser, too.
- Unsigned Bigint values with 64 bits (value > 9223372036854775807) are not supported within the Data Browser.

Should you detect any further errors or problems, please inform the developer via the forum³⁰ and they will try to correct the problem as soon as possible.

4 Others

4.1 Shareware

You may test and evaluate this program free of charge and pass it along to other interested users as well (without any registration key). Proper and standard use, however, requires registration of the program (purchasing the program).

After the trial period is over, the program will work in the lite mode only:

- The Object Browser is only usable as 'Read only'.
- It is not possible to insert new data records in the Data Browser.
- Profile Mode: Read only use of the system tools.

One license is required **for each user** using MySQL-Front! If several licenses are ordered, it is possible to obtain one key for all licenses.

4.2 Licence

This software is available for a free evaluation period of 30 days.

During this time period, the license to use the software is a "gift" from the copyright owner to the user. Because this is a gift, the user has **no** rights to make any demands pertaining to the copyright owner. Special note: The user is not entitled to any warranties or guarantees of any kind.

To use this software for an unlimited time, the user has to purchase a license.

This software can be evaluated before the actual purchase. Because of this the software is provided as is and without warranty of any kind.

This program is delivered together with a limited version of SSLeay. To be exact, it is possible to connect to the MySQL database by using an external DLL with SSL encryption. This DLL will be used for SSL connection via "Direct" or "PHP Tunnel" connection types only. Both options are not needed for full using of MySQL-Front, since it's possible to connect without SSL encryption.

SSLeay is a completely independent and different program (DLL) with his own copyright. Please read the attached licence or SSLeay for further details.

4.3 Redistribution

Redistributions in the internet has to be granted by the copyright owner. It's only allowed to publish this software in the internet if the publishing is listed on the download page of the program.

Additional the publisher has to make sure to update the binary program dayly. (Further informations on the download page of this program.)

Redistributions on physical media like CDs and DVDs are allowed without limitations if the author of the media uses the latest available version of this program right before manufacturing the media.

4.4 Copyright

The right to redistribute this product on the Internet has to be granted by the copyright owner. This software may be published on the Internet only if the appropriate data, permissions, and information appear on the download page of the program.

Additionally, the publisher has to make sure to update the binary program daily. (Further information is listed on the download page of this program.)

Redistribution on physical media such as CDs and DVDs is permitted without restrictions if the author of the media uses the latest version of this program available immediately before manufacturing the media.

The following is the copyright (C) owner of MySQL-Front:

Postal Mail:

Star-Tools GmbH
Hopfenweg 207
22851 Norderstedt
Germany

Internet:

<http://www.mysqlfront.de/>

Special thanks for using external toolboxes:

- Cristian Nicola for DirectSQL under LGPL
- SynEdit Development Team for SynEdit under MPL
- Markus Stephany for TMPHexEditor as freeware
- TurboPower Software for TurboPower LockBox under MPL
- Gustavo Hufenbacher Daud for TPNGImage as freeware
- Finn Tolderlund (Anders Melander) for TGIFImage

Special thanks for translations and generating the graphics depicted in the program .

All listed trademarks are property of their respective owner(s)!

4.5 Liability / Warranty

If this program is used improperly, it may result in the irretrievable destruction of all data in your MySQL database!


It is thus absolutely necessary to create a backup before using MySQL-Front. According to the ruling by the district court of Konstanz, Germany 1 S 292/95 from May 10, 1997, daily data backup is reasonable and can be expected!

Thus, any responsibility or liability for any losses or damages is not accepted!

NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES!

Note for the shareware version:

The purchase of this software is subject to BGB §494 (German Civil Code) and thus is defined as a "trial purchase." This means that the software can be evaluated before the actual purchase. The software is provided as is without warranty of any kind. Any rights for modifications or follow-up corrections do not exist.

Should you detect any errors, please inform our support staff via the forum  and we will try to correct the problem within a few days.

4.6 Support / Additional Help

If you have any further questions, please feel free to join the MySQL-Front [Forum](#).

The forum is used by MySQL-Front users to establish contact with other users for questions about the use of the program and to help others.

The forum is also the ideal location for improvement suggestions and requests for additional features and discussions.

If you have detected a problem or error in MySQL-Front, please search the forum for solutions. If the problem is not known yet, use the forum to inform the MySQL-Front developers of the problem. Most problems are eliminated in a very short time.

The forum provides an information exchange platform for minor questions about generating SQL queries or about configuring the MySQL database.

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