



THE LEADER IN DRUPAL PLATFORM DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

CUSTOMIZING VIEWS FILTERS

WHY USE A CUSTOM VIEWS FILTER?

- Complex filters
- To reduce data set appearing in filter
- Because the native filters in Views are just not cutting it.

THINGS TO KNOW

- Easiest to produce an override of an existing filter.
- Filters are built before the query result sets are returned, so they don't have access to the data set yet.
- All filters act on a database field.
- Filters are objects (classes).

VIEWS OUTPUT - THE PROBLEM WE'RE TRYING TO SOLVE

views_handler_filter

Views 6 handlers/views_handler_filter.inc 7 handlers/views_handler_filter.inc

Base class for filters.

Hierarchy

views_object

views_handler

views_handler_area

views_handler_argument

views_handler_field

views_handler_filter

views_handler_filter_boolean_operator

views_handler_filter_broken

views_handler_filter_equality

views_handler_filter_history_user_timestamp

views_handler_filter_in_operator

views_handler_filter_node_access

views_handler_filter_node_status

views_handler_filter_node_tnid

views_handler_filter_node_tnid_child

views_handler_filter_numeric

views_handler_filter_search

views_handler_filter_string

Most Useful



```
graph LR; MU[Most Useful] --> views_handler_filter_boolean_operator; MU --> views_handler_filter_in_operator; MU --> views_handler_filter_node_tnid_child; MU --> views_handler_filter_numeric; MU --> views_handler_filter_search; MU --> views_handler_filter_string;
```

WHERE TO START: FILTER CLASS LISTING ON API.DRUPAL.ORG

views_handler_filter_in_operator

Views 6 handlers/views_handler_filter_in_operator.inc 7 handlers/views_handler_filter_in_operator.inc

Simple filter to handle matching of multiple options selectable via checkboxes

Definition items:

- **options callback:** The function to call in order to generate the value options. If omitted, the options 'Yes' and 'No' will be used.
- **options arguments:** An array of arguments to pass to the options callback.

Hierarchy



views_handler_filter_in_operator handles “IN” clauses on filters.

Select a term to restrict the views query.

Output formats as checkboxes (in views admin) or a drop-down menu (as an exposed filter).

Properties

Name	Description
views_handler::\$table_alias	The alias of the table of this handler which is used in the query.

Functions & methods

Name	Description
views_handler::access	Check whether current user has access to this handler.
views_handler::broken	Determine if the handler is considered 'broken', meaning it's a placeholder used when a handler can't be found.
views_handler::case_transform	Transform a string by a certain method.
views_handler::ensure_my_table	Ensure the main table for this handler is in the query. This is used a lot.
views_handler::exposed_submit	Submit the exposed handler form
views_handler::exposed_validate	Validate the exposed handler form
views_handler::expose_submit	Perform any necessary changes to the form exposes prior to storage. There is no need for this function to actually store the data.
views_handler::extra_options	Provide defaults for the handler.
views_handler::extra_options_form	Provide a form for setting options.
views_handler::extra_options_submit	Perform any necessary changes to the form values prior to storage. There is no need for this function to actually store the data.
views_handler::extra_options_validate	Validate the options form.
views_handler::get_field	Shortcut to get a handler's raw field value.
views_handler::get_join	Get the join object that should be used for this handler.
views_handler::groupby_form	Provide a form for aggregation settings.
views_handler::groupby_form_submit	Perform any necessary changes to the form values prior to storage. There is no need for this function to actually store the data.
views_handler::has_extra_options	If a handler has 'extra options' it will get a little settings widaget and another form

LET'S GET STARTED

Create module files as normal - .module and .info at minimum. Code could also be added to an existing module if you like.

```
<?php
/**
 * @file
 * demo_view_filter.module
 */

/**
 * Implements hook_views_api().
 */
function demo_view_filter_views_api() {
  return array(
    'api' => 3,
  );
}
```

.module consists solely of hook_views_api function. This tells it to look for .views.inc file.

.VIEWS.INC

IMPORTANT LINKS

- http://api.drupal.org/api/views/handlers!views_handler_filter.inc/class/views_handler_filter/7
Full listing of all default filter classes.
- https://github.com/srjosh/drupal_demos - github repo with demo code

QUESTIONS?



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