

Web Database Connectivity

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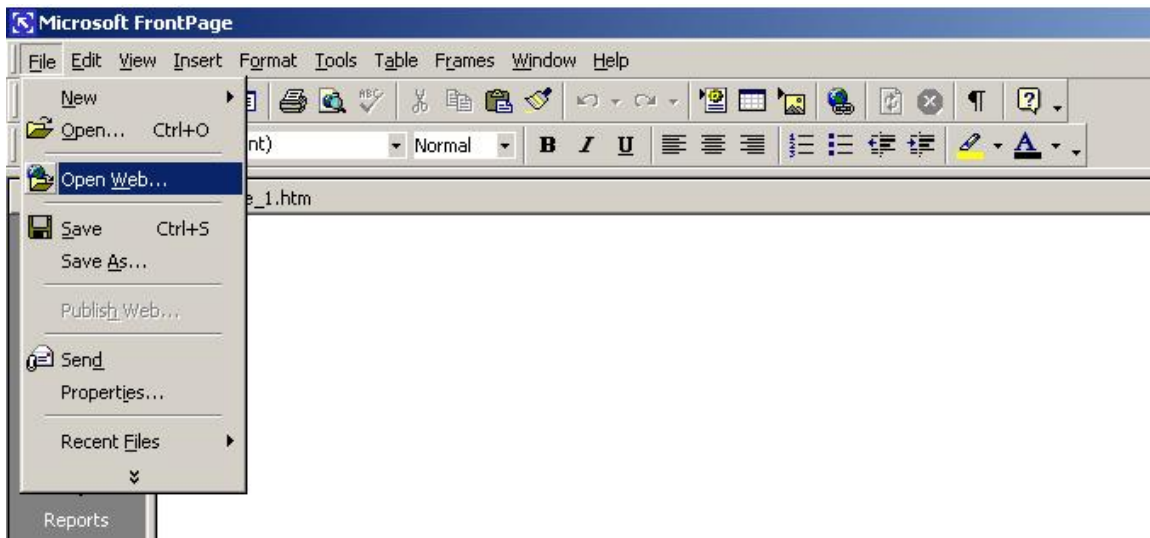
Computer Engineering Department
King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals
Dhahran-31261, SAUDI ARABIA

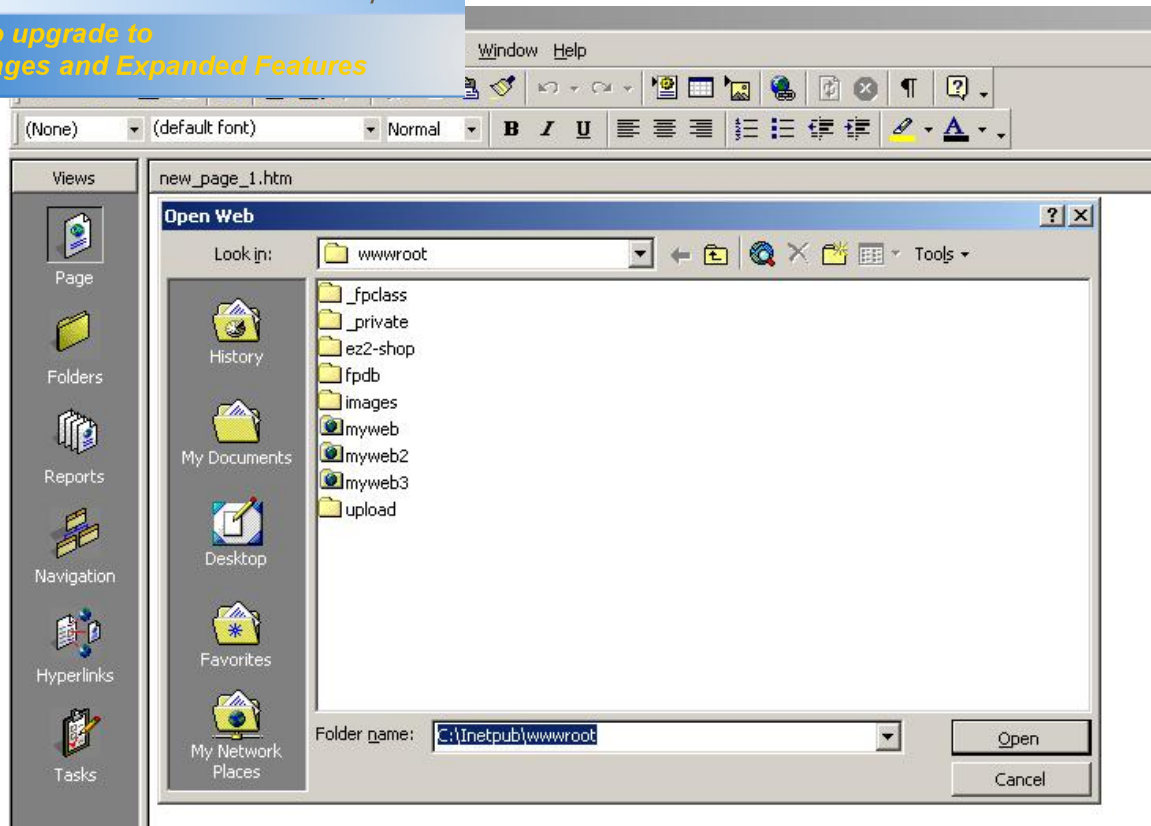
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- Create a database in Access
- Insert data through web in Microsoft Access.
- Read the data through web.

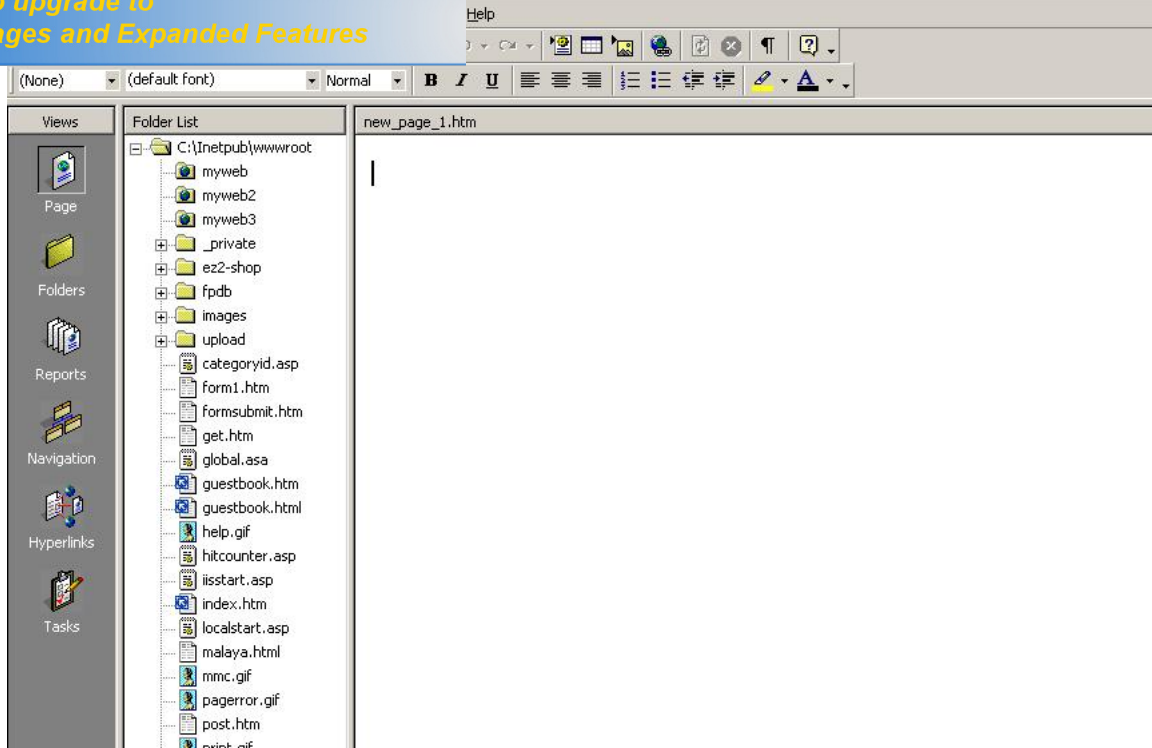
Step 1> Open a blank page to create a form.

Go to Start, Programs, and Open the Microsoft Front Page. Go to File and Click on Open Web.





Click on Open Button, it should look something like this:



On your menu go to INSERT | FORM | ONE LINE TEXT BOX this will insert a single text input field with a "submit" and a "reset" button it should look something like this:



The screenshot shows a single text input field with a vertical cursor. To the right of the input field are two buttons labeled 'Submit' and 'Reset'.

From there you will format the form by adding the text label in front of and right clicking the form field and re-naming it. Renaming it is important, as this will be your database field name as well. For this tutorial we will use "name" and add another two fields and call it "email" and "comments" respectively.



The screenshot shows a form with three text input fields. The first field is labeled 'Name:', the second is labeled 'Email:', and the third is labeled 'Comments:'. Below the input fields are two buttons labeled 'Submit' and 'Reset'.

A field can be renamed by right click on any text box, selecting Form Field Properties,

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Name:

Email:

Comments:

- Cut
- Copy
- Paste
- Paste Special
- Theme...
- Shared Borders...
- Page Properties...
- Form Properties...
- Form Field Validation...
- Paragraph...
- Font...
- Form Field Properties... Alt+Enter**
- Hyperlink... Ctrl+K

Name:

Email:

Comments:

Text Box Properties [?] [X]

Name:

Initial value:

Width in characters: Tab order:

Password field: Yes No

Thus, an html form has been successfully created with three fields: name, email and comments.

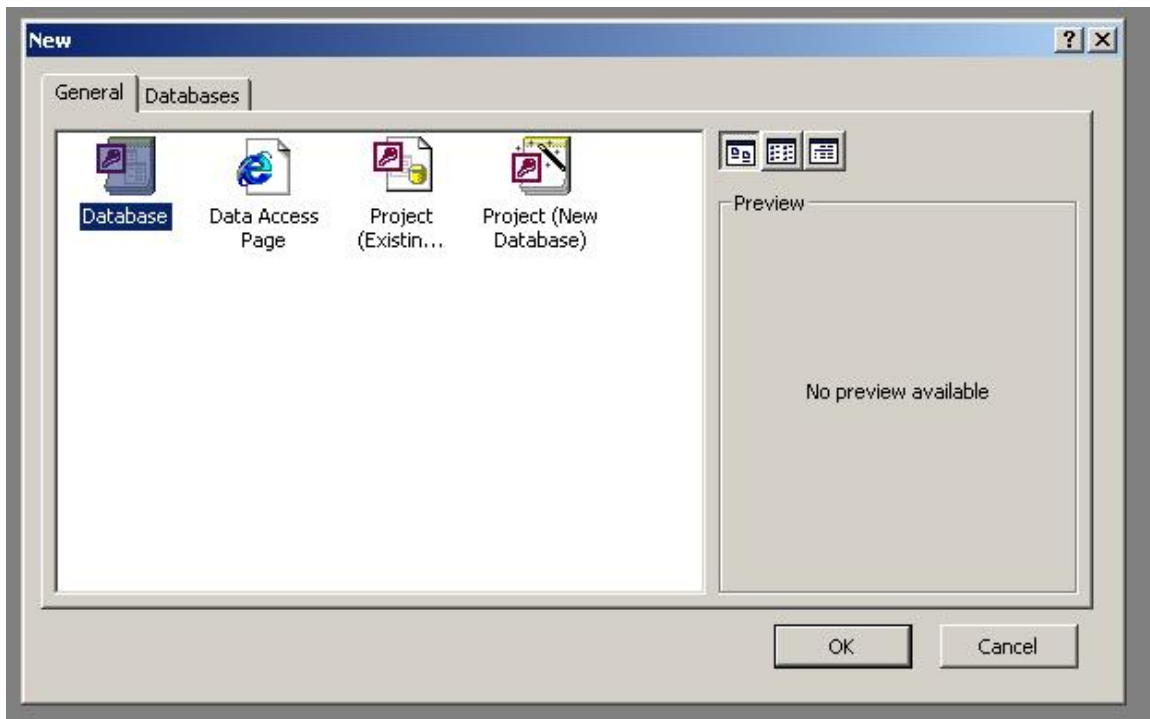
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Email:

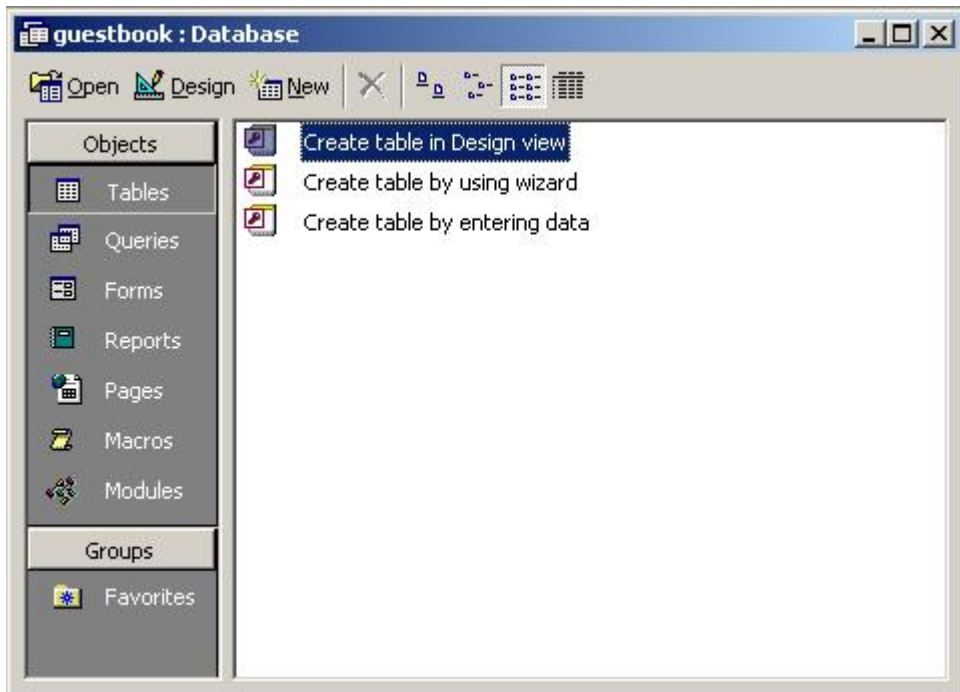
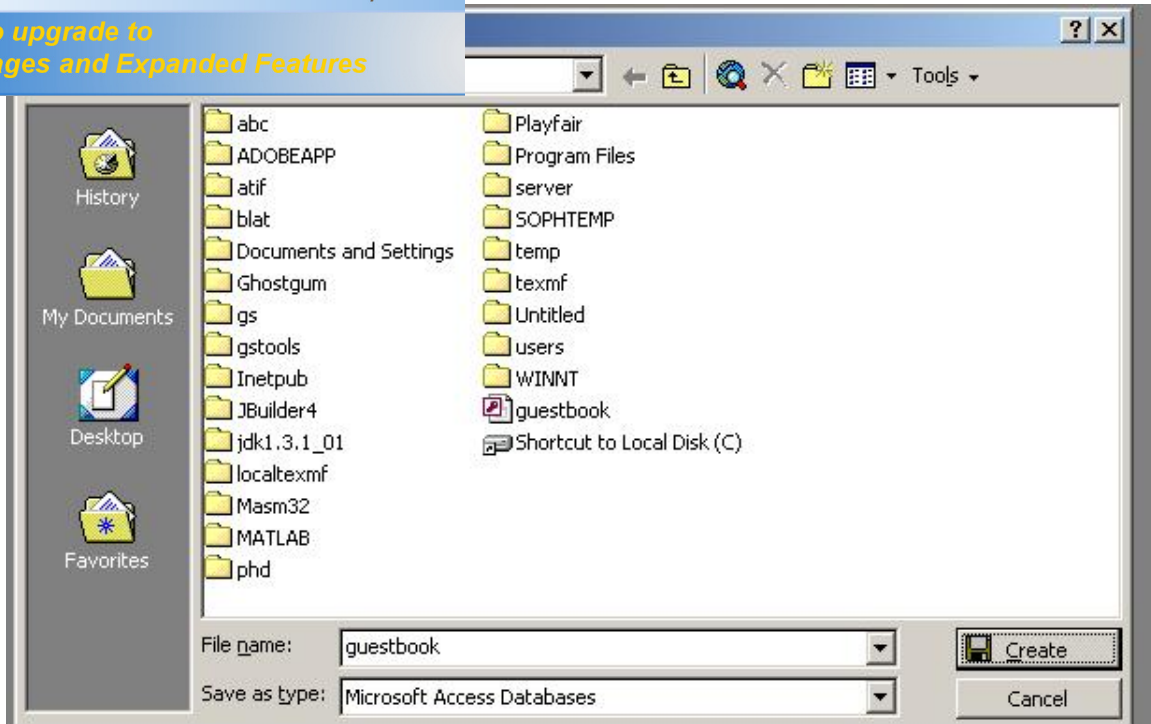
Comments:

Step 2> Create a database to insert data.

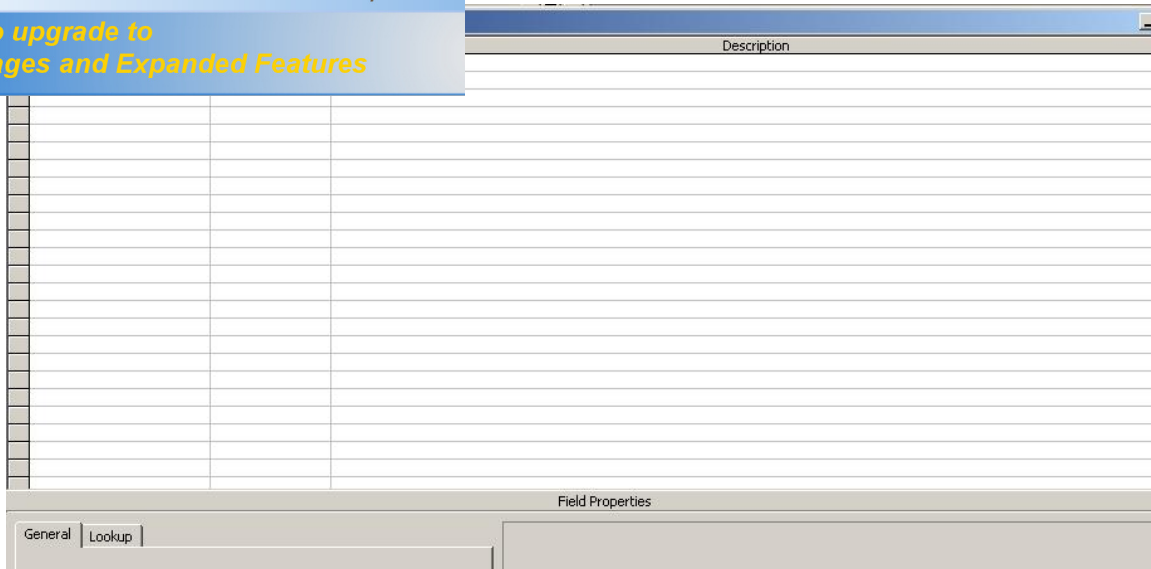
Go to Start, Programs, and Open the Microsoft Access. Go to File and Click New.



Click on Database, and Create and Save database into your folder with name
øguestbookø



Now, click on Create table in Design View, it should appear like this,

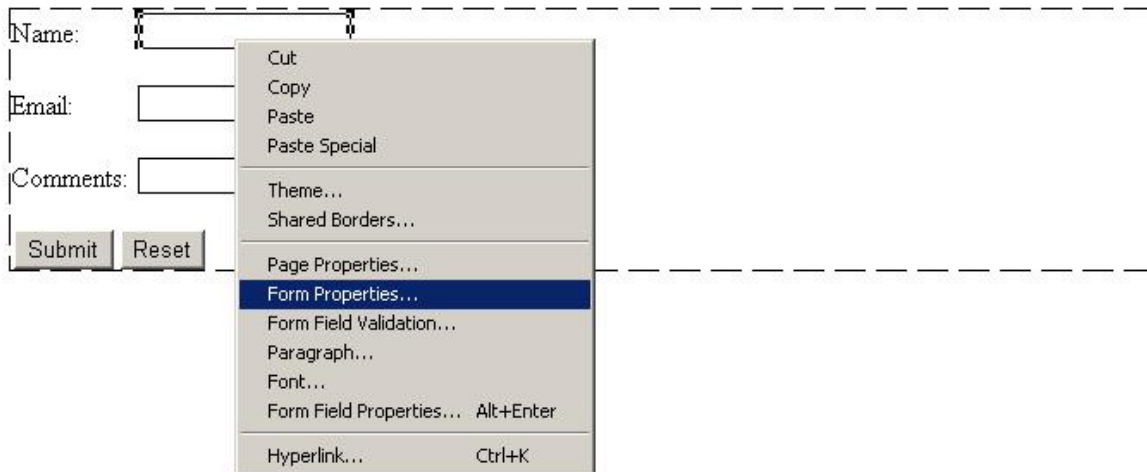


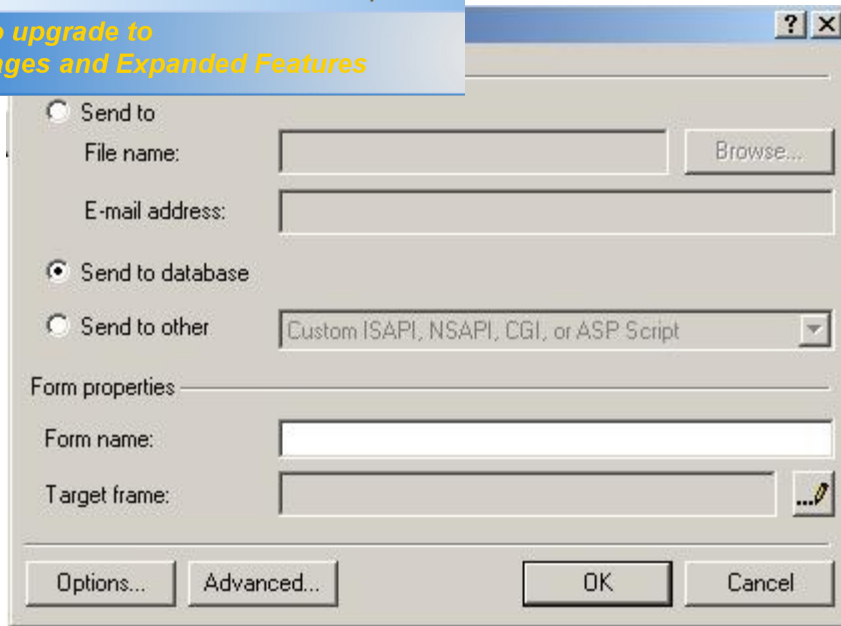
Now, write name, email and comments in the field name and data type for all three fields should be text.

Now close the Window and save the table as "data". The table "data" with database name "guestbook" is ready.

Step 3> Configuring the form and insert data in the database

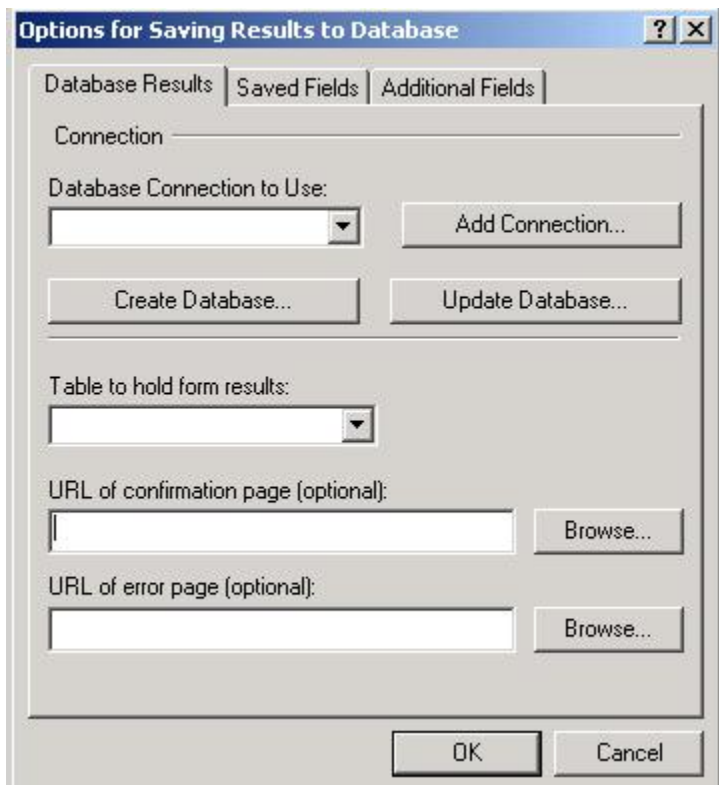
Now again go to Microsoft FrontPage, By right clicking any form field, button or area inside the form, you can access the "form properties" when you open this you will need to select "send to database".





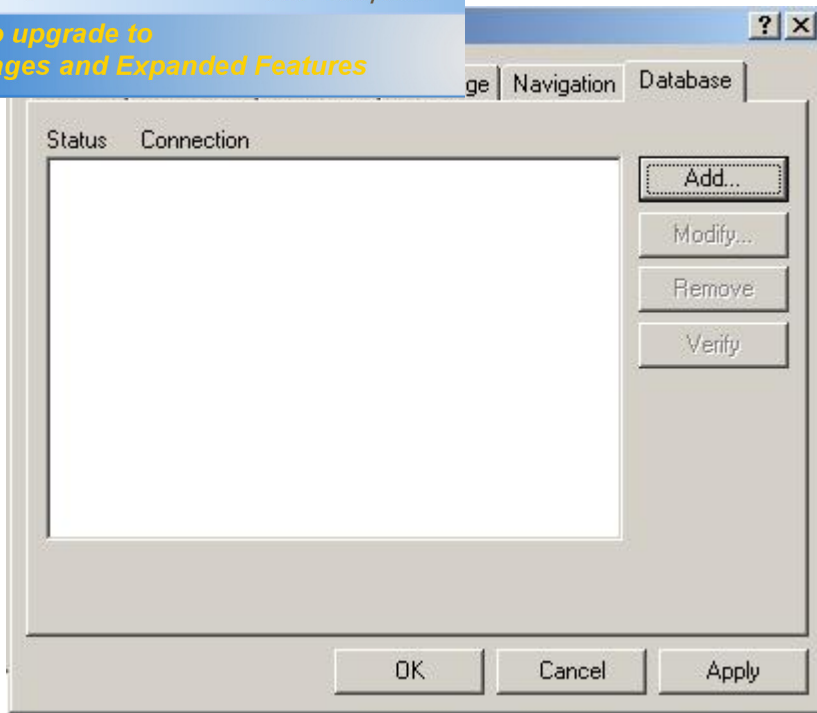
Send to File name: Browse...
E-mail address:
Send to database
Send to other Custom ISAPI, NSAPI, CGI, or ASP Script
Form properties
Form name:
Target frame: ...
Options... Advanced... OK Cancel

Now you'll select the "options..." button and you will get the following dialogue box:

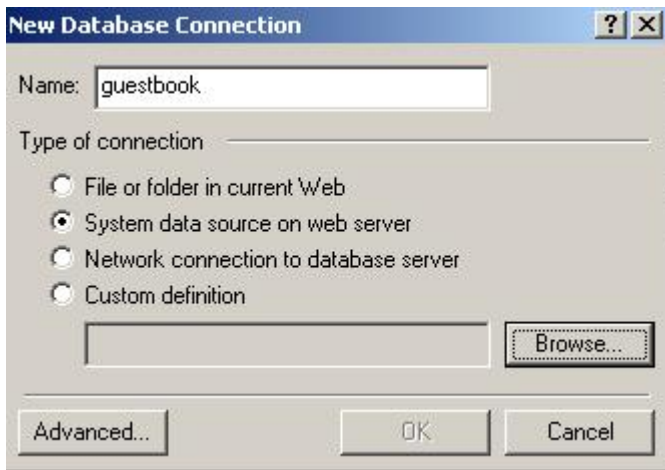


Options for Saving Results to Database
Database Results | Saved Fields | Additional Fields
Connection
Database Connection to Use: Add Connection...
Create Database... Update Database...
Table to hold form results:
URL of confirmation page (optional): Browse...
URL of error page (optional): Browse...
OK Cancel

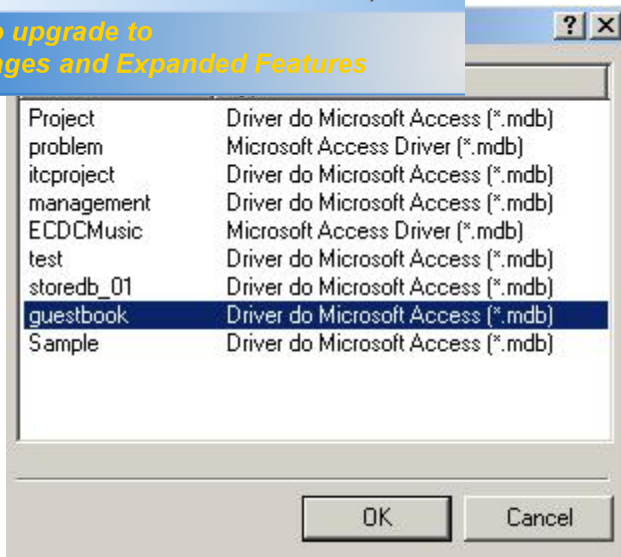
Select "Add connection" and it should appear like this



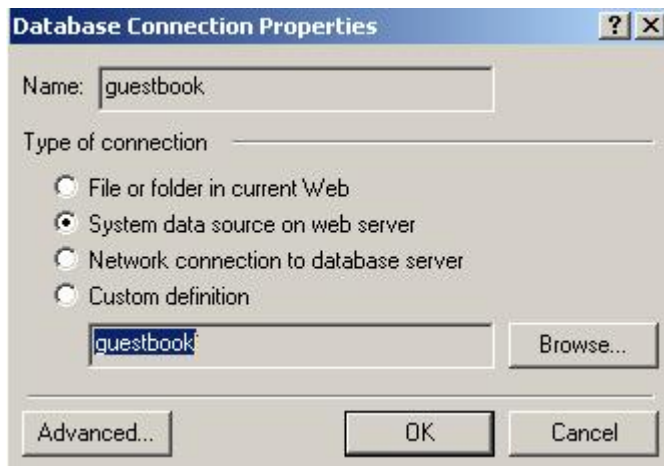
Select "Add", write "guestbook" in the Name column and also select "System data source on Web Server" and browse



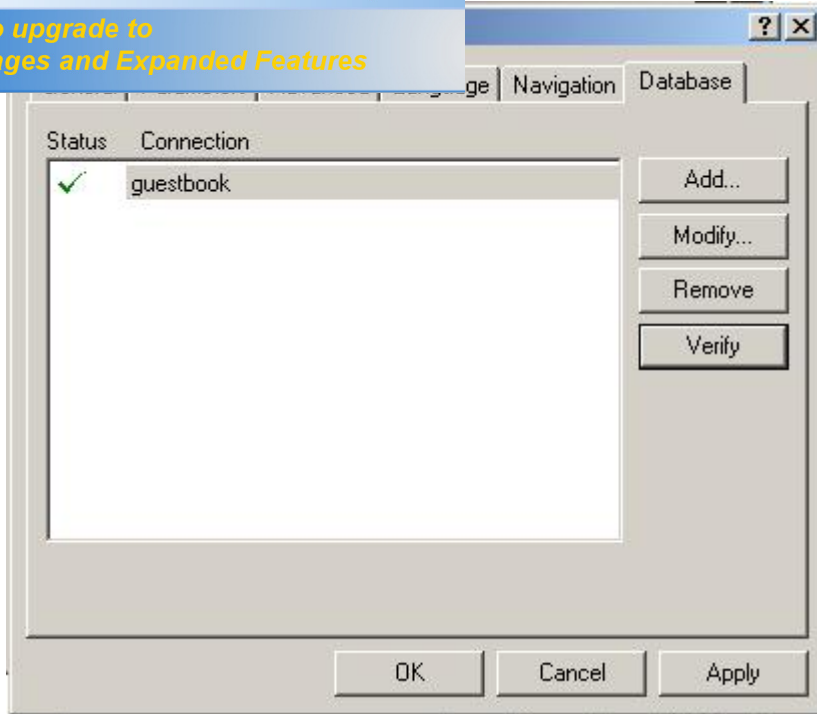
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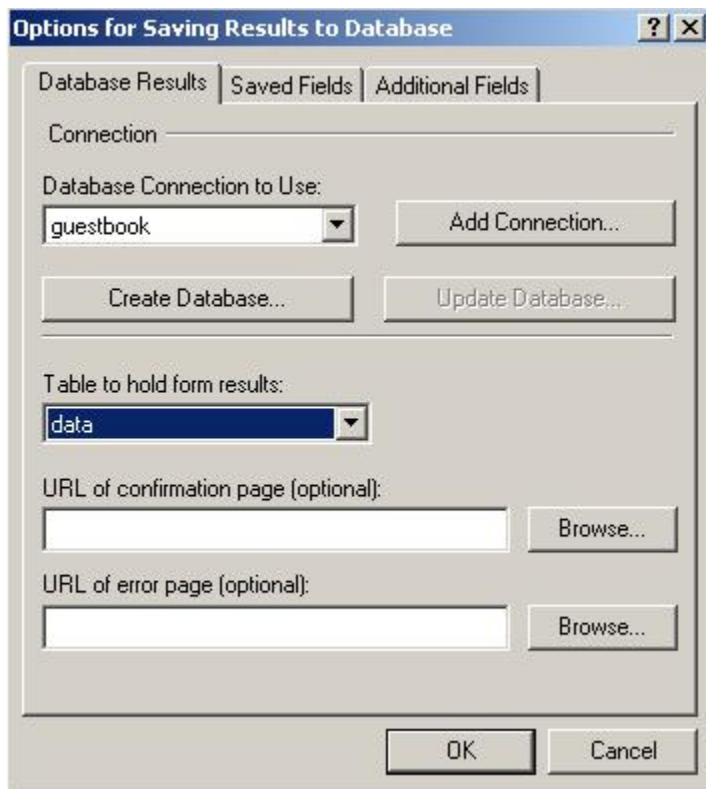
Select "guestbook" and Press "OK", it should appear like this,



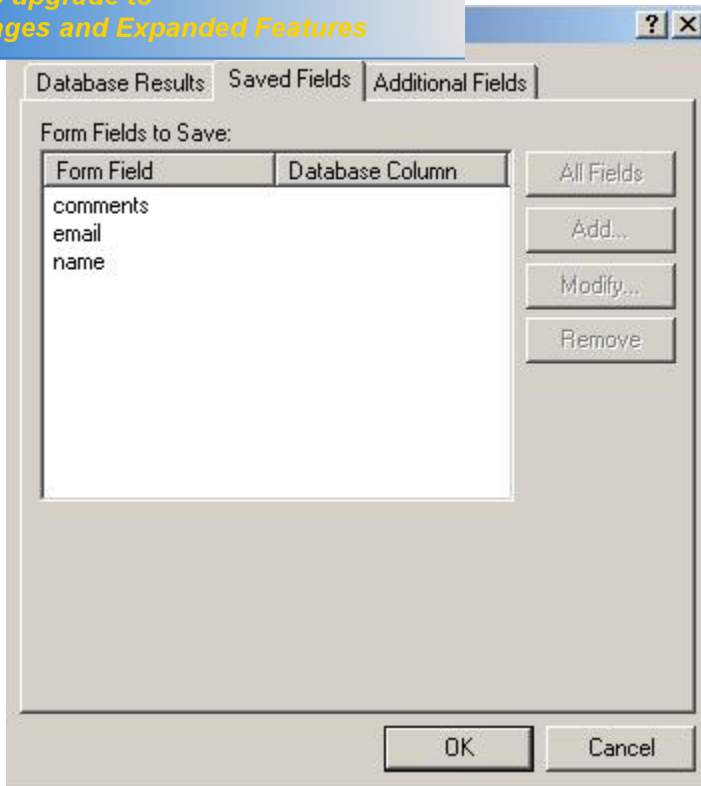
Press, "OK" again, Press Verify.



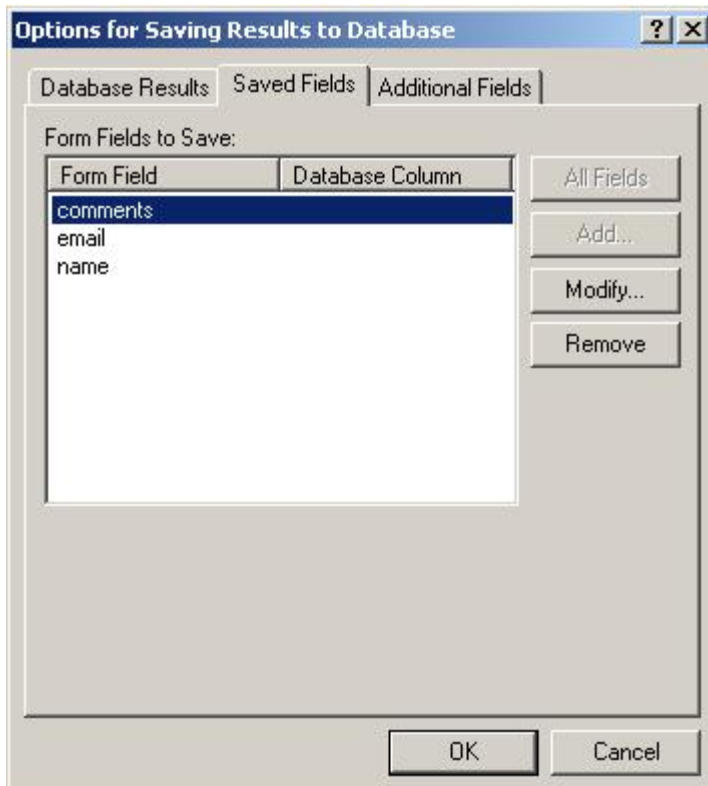
Press **Apply** and then **OK**. Now you have window like this



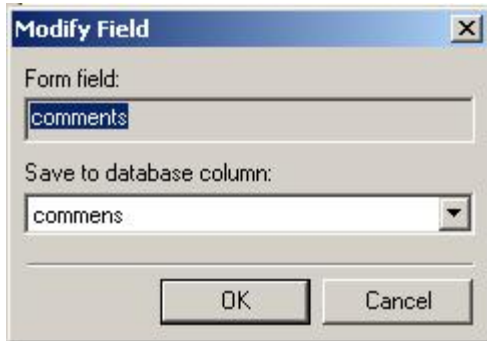
Now Press the **Saved Fields** at the top of the window



Now, select any Form Field e.g. comments

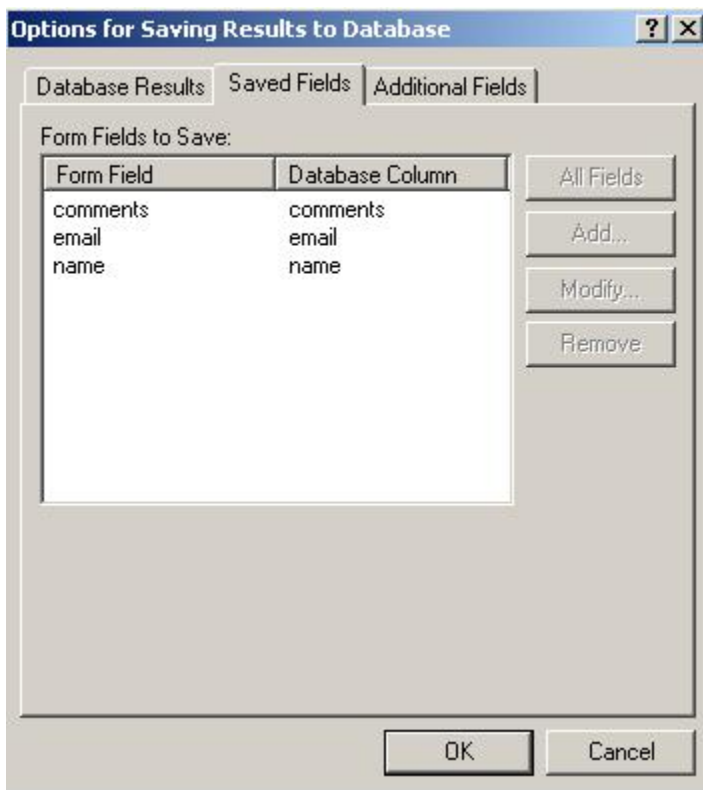


column, same as that of Form Field.



The "Modify Field" dialog box has a title bar with a close button. It contains two text input fields: "Form field:" with the text "comments" and "Save to database column:" with a dropdown menu showing "commens". At the bottom are "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

Continue the same for the rest of Form Fields.

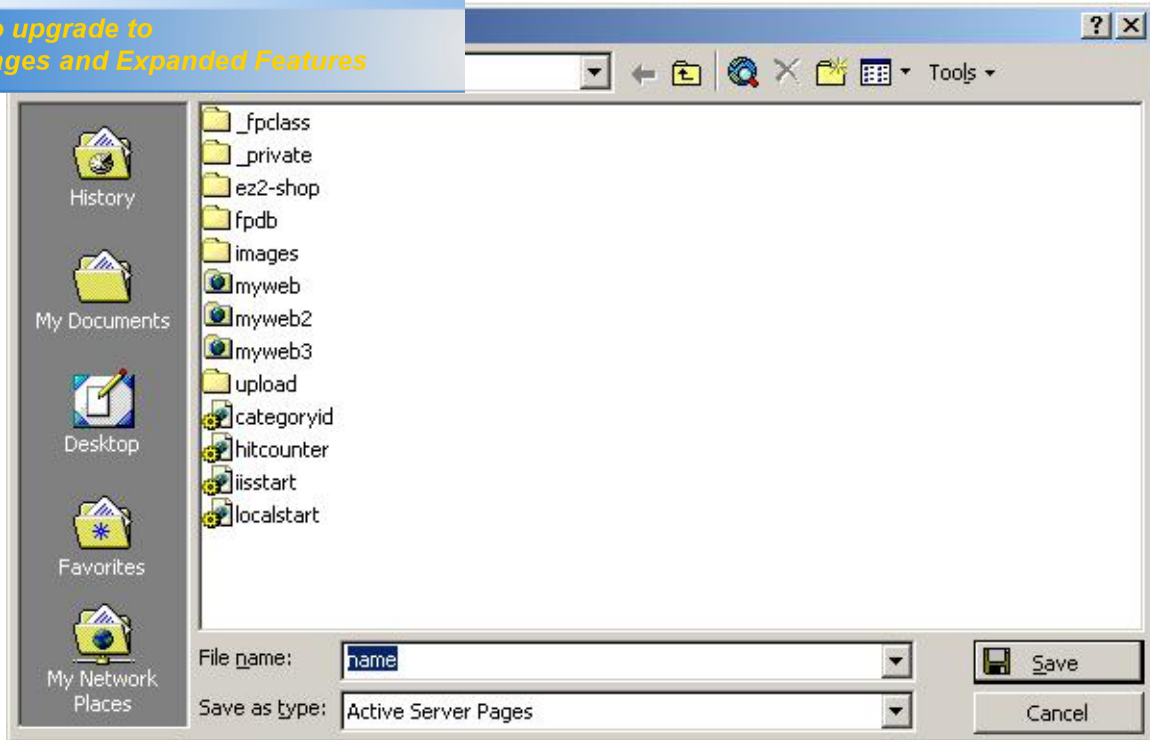


The "Options for Saving Results to Database" dialog box has three tabs: "Database Results", "Saved Fields", and "Additional Fields". The "Saved Fields" tab is active. It contains a table with the following data:

Form Field	Database Column
comments	comments
email	email
name	name

To the right of the table are buttons for "All Fields", "Add...", "Modify...", and "Remove". At the bottom are "OK" and "Cancel" buttons.

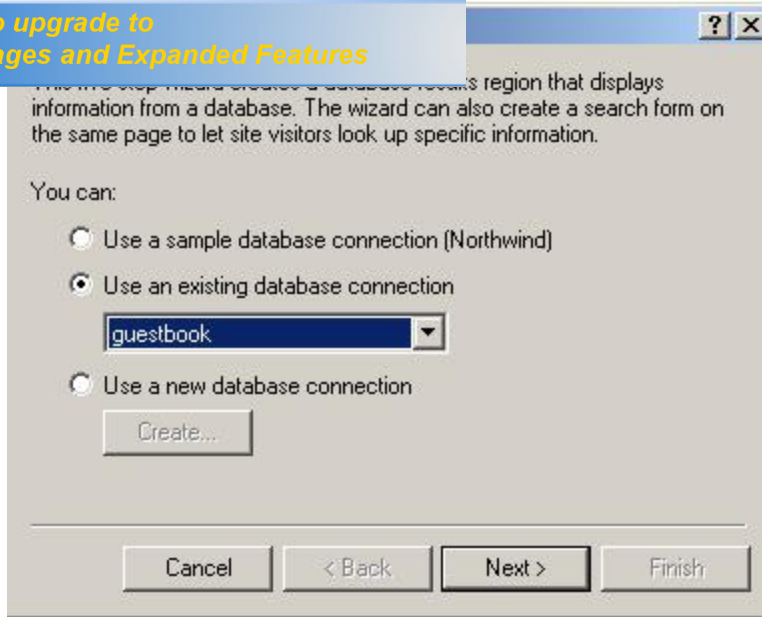
From here you will "OK" your dialogue boxes and save your page. You will be prompted to save the page with an ".asp" extension. This is necessary for everything to work right.



Step 4: Read the data.

Open a new page and from your menu select: INSERT | DATABASE | RESULTS. This will yield a series of dialogue boxes that setup the criteria, sort order, and formatting for your results. You will want to play around with these options and configure them your specific needs, but for this tutorial we will illustrate the following and their resulting asp page. If you are on a slow connection you may want to get some coffee because there will be a lot of gif loading in the next couple of pages. Here we go....

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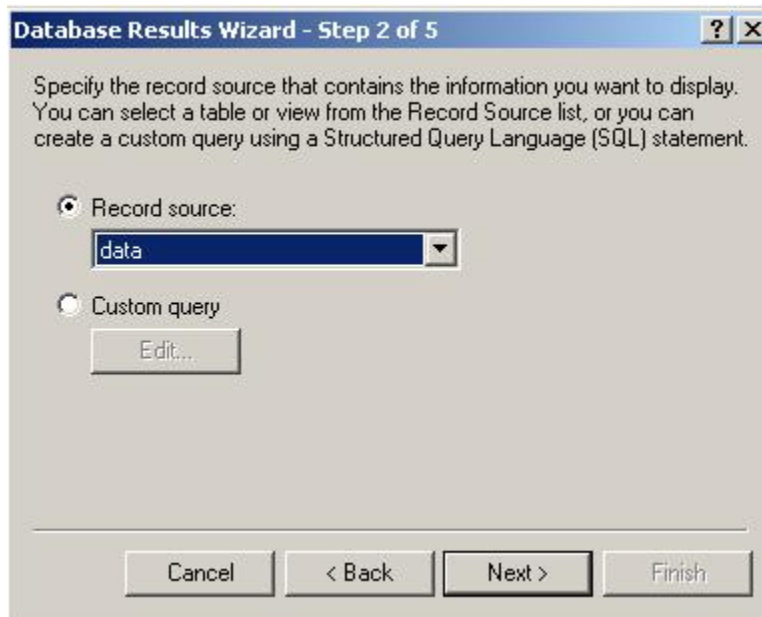
This wizard creates a database results region that displays information from a database. The wizard can also create a search form on the same page to let site visitors look up specific information.

You can:

- Use a sample database connection (Northwind)
- Use an existing database connection
guestbook
- Use a new database connection
Create...

Cancel < Back Next > Finish

By default FrontPage will select the database connection that you already have set up.



Specify the record source that contains the information you want to display. You can select a table or view from the Record Source list, or you can create a custom query using a Structured Query Language (SQL) statement.

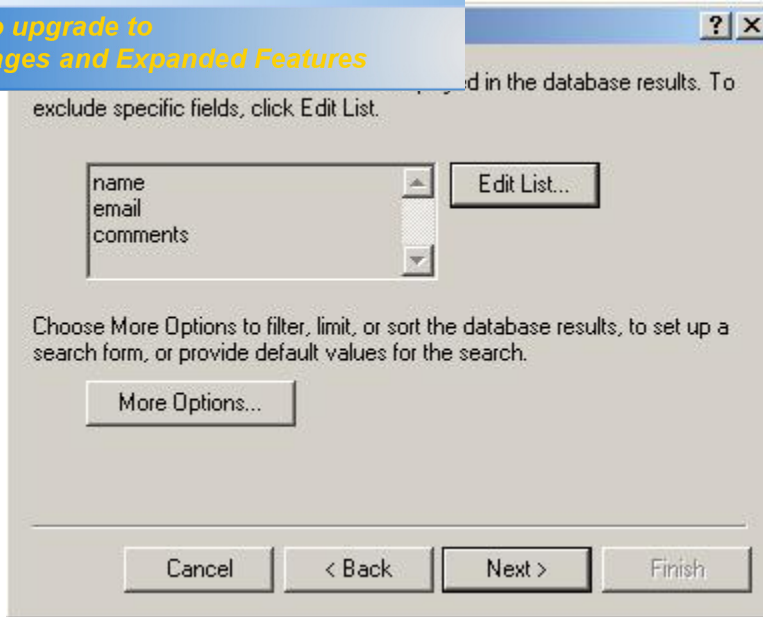
Record source:
data

Custom query
Edit...

Cancel < Back Next > Finish

It will select the table in the database that contains the data your form entered.

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exclude specific fields, click Edit List.

name
email
comments

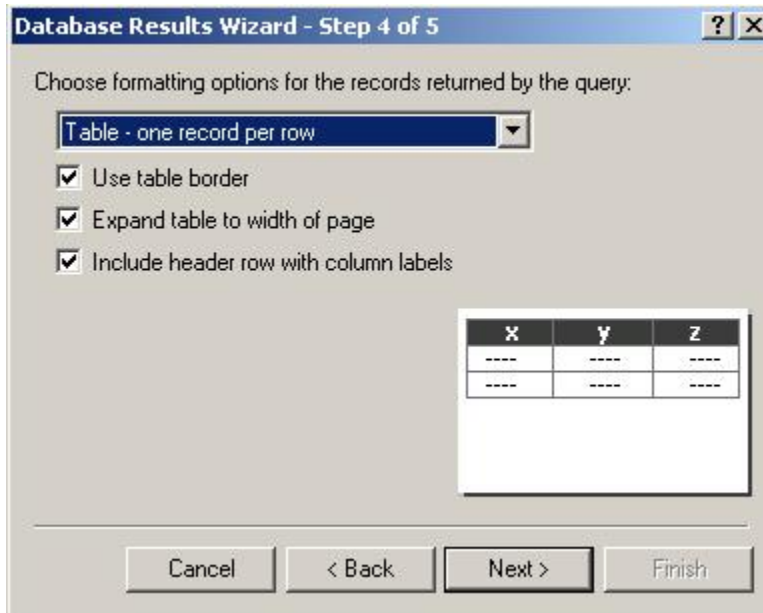
Edit List...

Choose More Options to filter, limit, or sort the database results, to set up a search form, or provide default values for the search.

More Options...

Cancel < Back Next > Finish

Press %Next+



Database Results Wizard - Step 4 of 5

Choose formatting options for the records returned by the query:

Table - one record per row

Use table border
 Expand table to width of page
 Include header row with column labels

x	y	z
----	----	----
----	----	----

Cancel < Back Next > Finish

Select the formatting. There are a lot of options to fit various applications. we will use the default.

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...her, or display them in smaller

groups that users can step through.

Display all records together
 Split records into groups:
 records per group

Would you like the wizard to add a search form to the page? A search form lets visitors specify criteria for finding specific records in your database using the fields you previously selected.

Add search form

This will group the records into groups of 5, if you want you can select "display together" but if your database someday has thousands of results this will result in slow performance if it has to retrieve them all at once.

name	email	comments
This is the start of a Database Results region. The region will not work unless the page has a file extension of ".asp". The page must be fetched from a web server with a web browser to display correctly, the current web is stored on your local disk or network.		
<<name>>	<<email>>	<<comments>>
This is the end of a Database Results region.		
<input type="button" value=" <"/> <input type="button" value="<"/> <input type="button" value=">"/> <input type="button" value="> "/> [1/5]		

FrontPage will now display a table that will look similar to this.