

ORACLE DESIGNER FORMS GENERATION TUTORIAL
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```
PROMPT Creating Table 'FOLLOW_UP'
CREATE TABLE FOLLOW_UP )
CUSTOMER_NO NUMBER(5,0) NOT NULL
, YEAR NUMBER(4,0) NOT NULL
, PAYMENT1 NUMBER(7,3)
, PAYMENT2 NUMBER(7,3)
, PAYMENT3 NUMBER(7,3)
, PAYMENT4 NUMBER(7,3)
, PAY_STATUS1 NUMBER(1,0)
, PAY_STATUS2 NUMBER(1,0)
, PAY_STATUS3 NUMBER(1,0)
, PAY_STATUS4 NUMBER(1,0)
, DATE1 DATE
, DATE2 DATE
, DATE3 DATE
, DATE4 DATE
, COMMENTS VARCHAR2(200)
, STATUS NUMBER(1,0) NOT NULL)
/

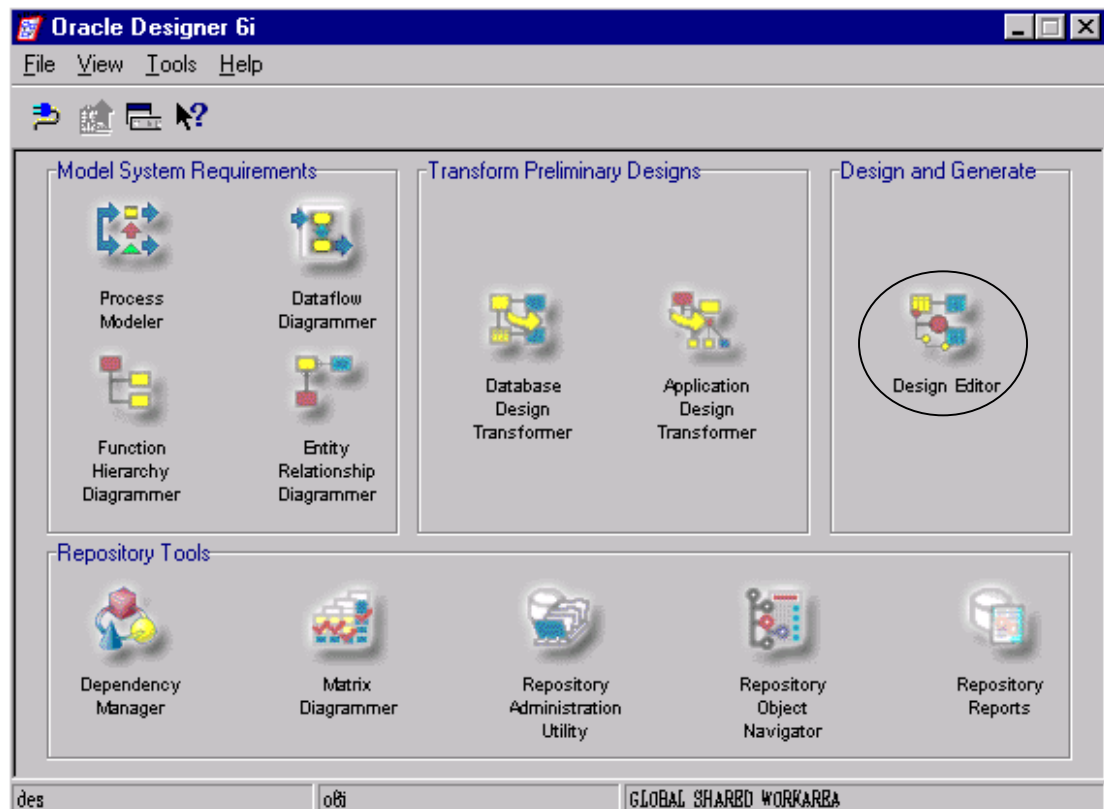
--C:\ammar\designer\tables_dll.con
--
--Generated for Oracle 8.1 on Thu Nov 15 18:45:47 2001 by Server
Generator 6.5.40.3.0

PROMPT Creating Primary Key on 'FOLLOW_UP'
ALTER TABLE FOLLOW_UP
ADD CONSTRAINT FOLLOW_UP_PK PRIMARY KEY
CUSTOMER_NO (year)
```

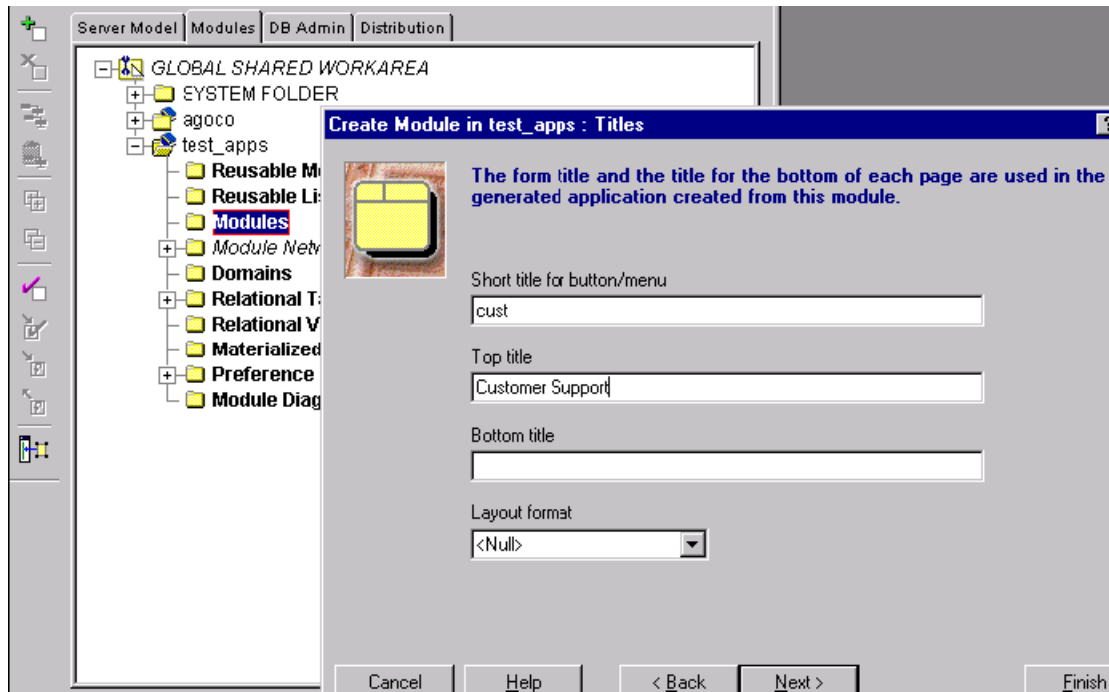
Build your First Form using Desinger

DEFAULT STEPS TO BUILD YOUR FIRST FORMS

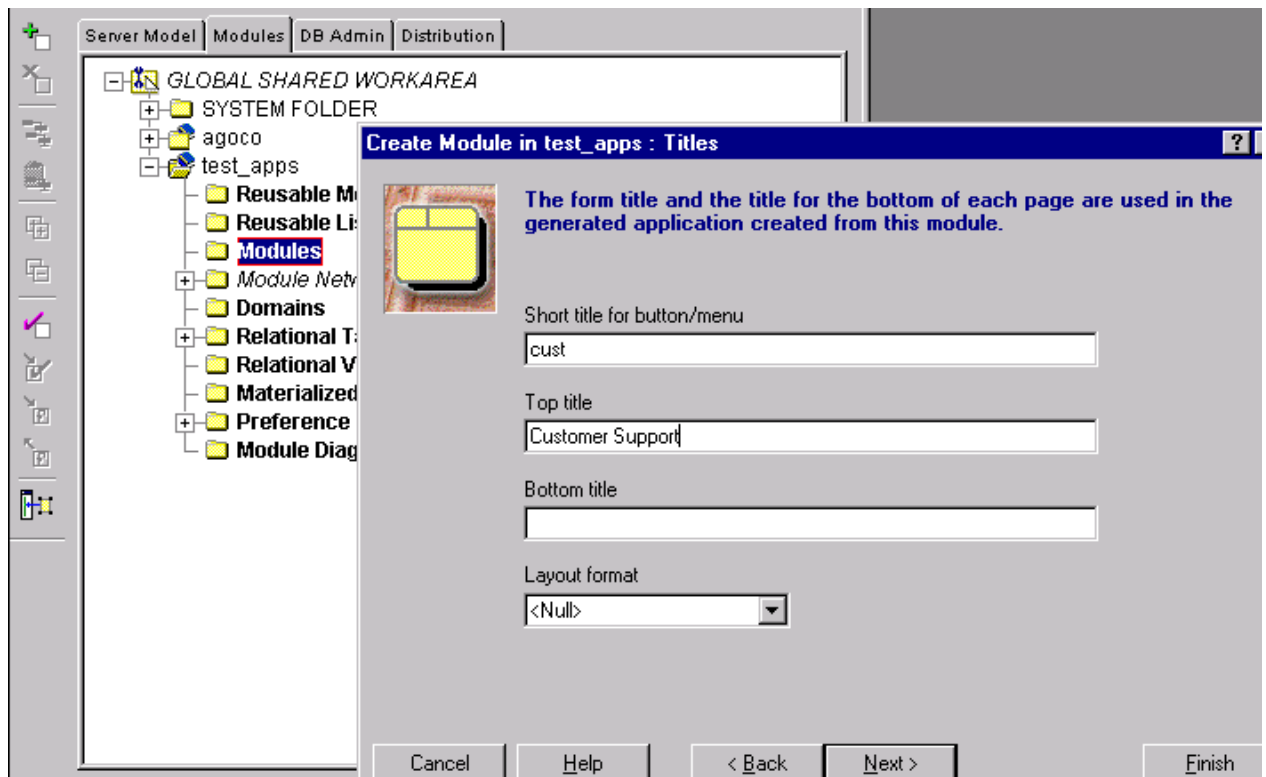
1-Open the Design Editor



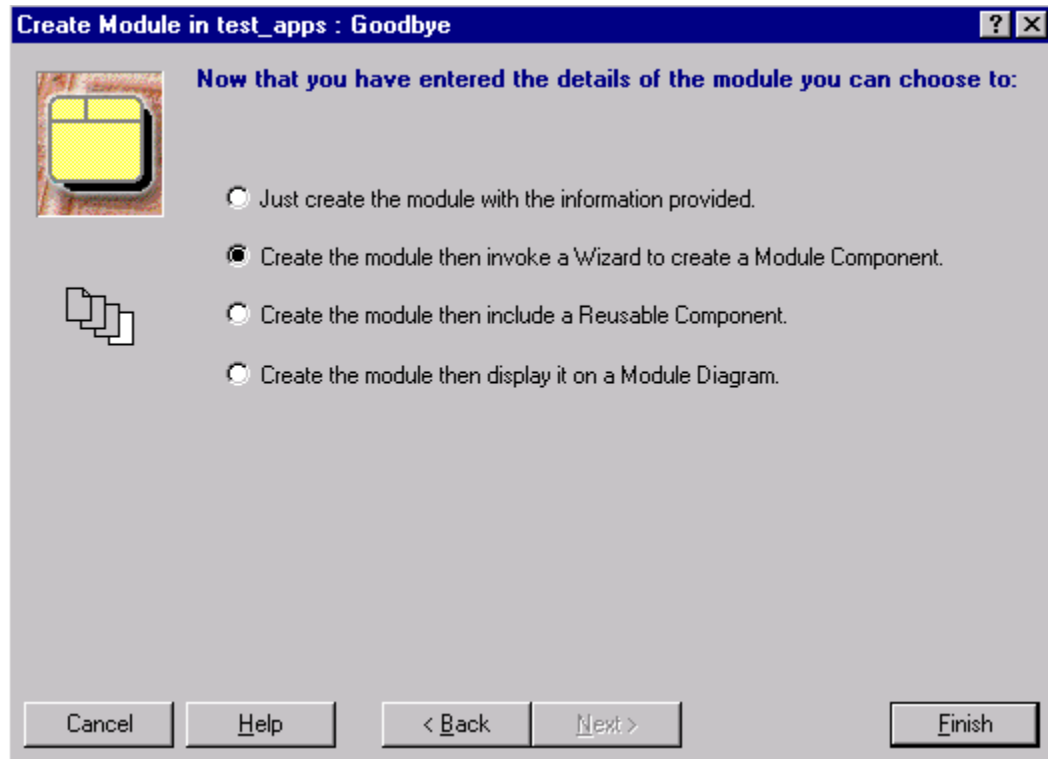
2- Go to Modules TAB, double click the Modules node on the navigator and then fill the Create Module window that appears as shown below



3- Press Next > and the following windows appears. Fill it as shown

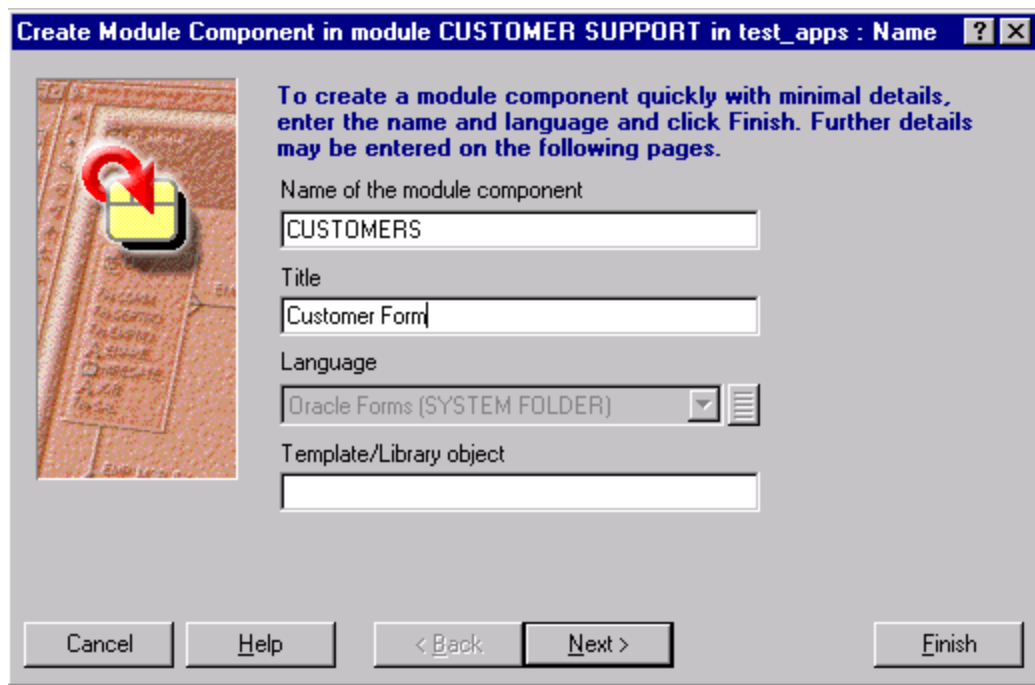


4- Press Next> four times until the following screen appears



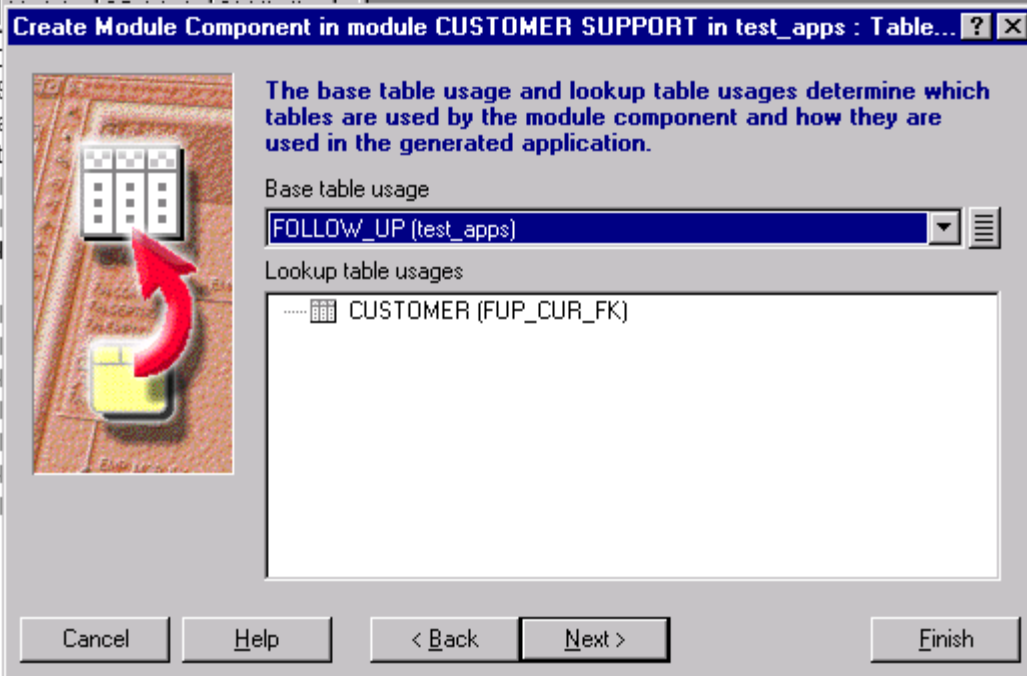
Where you choose the second option and press Finish

- 5- The following Window appears which is called Module Component. Module Component is equivalent to a Block in Oracle Forms terminology. Therefore, you should expect the next screen in the wizard to ask you about the Base Table name



Fill in the information as shown above. And Press Next

6- Choose FOLLOW_UP as the Base Table usage as shown in screen below and Press Next>



Create Module Component in module CUSTOMER SUPPORT in test_apps : Table...

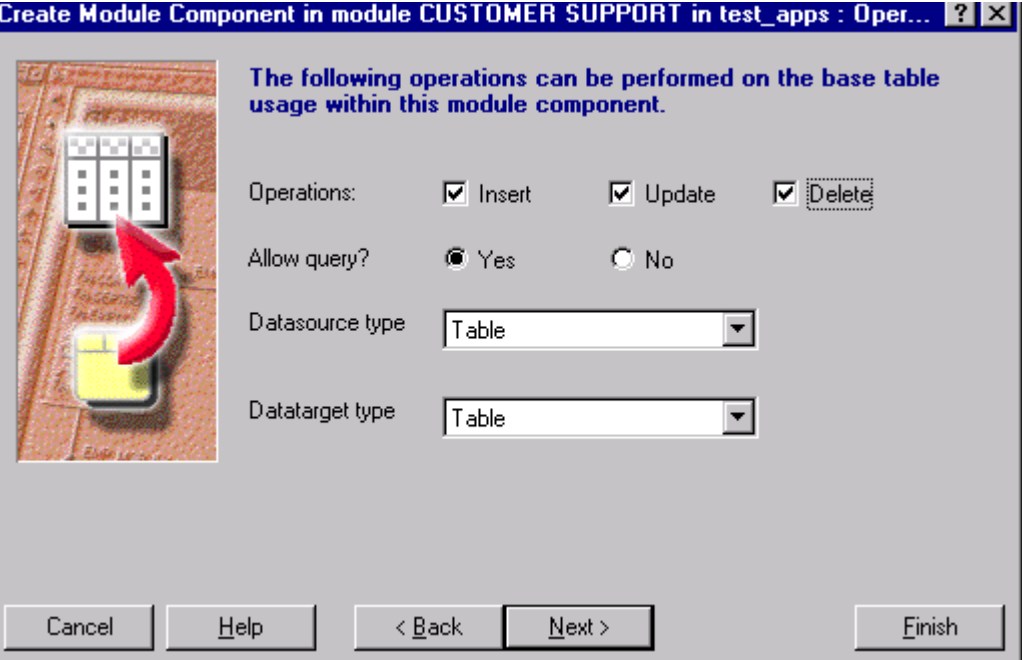
The base table usage and lookup table usages determine which tables are used by the module component and how they are used in the generated application.

Base table usage
FOLLOW_UP (test_apps)

Lookup table usages
CUSTOMER (FUP_CUR_FK)

Buttons: Cancel, Help, < Back, Next >, Finish

7- Fill in the operations as shown below, which are the operation that the form should allow the user to perform.



Create Module Component in module CUSTOMER SUPPORT in test_apps : Oper...

The following operations can be performed on the base table usage within this module component.

Operations: ☒ Insert ☒ Update ☒ Delete

Allow query? ☒ Yes ☐ No

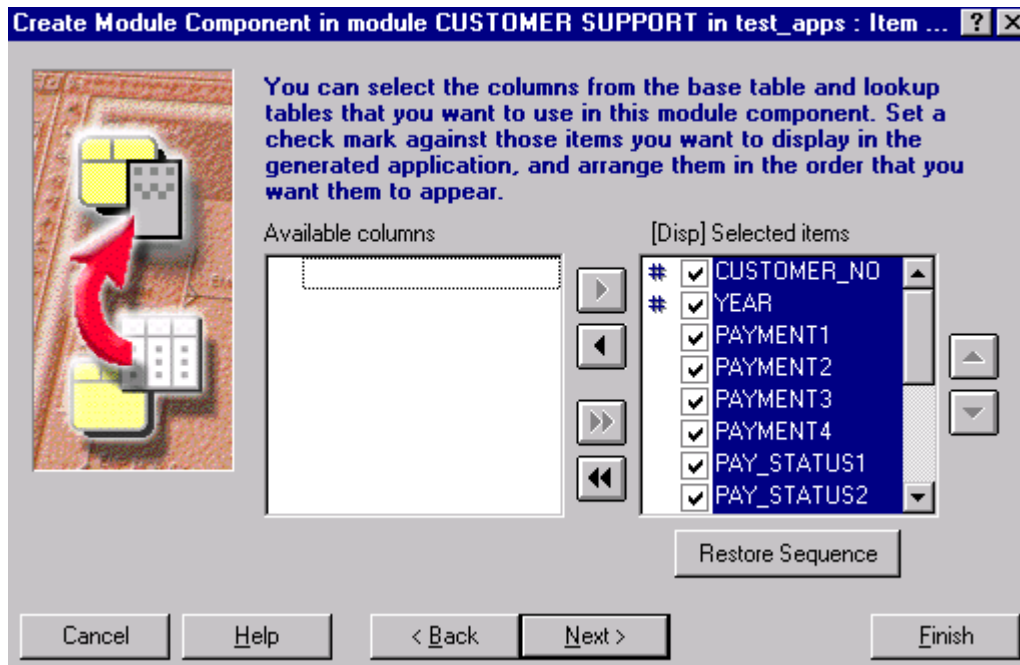
Datasource type
Table

Datatarget type
Table

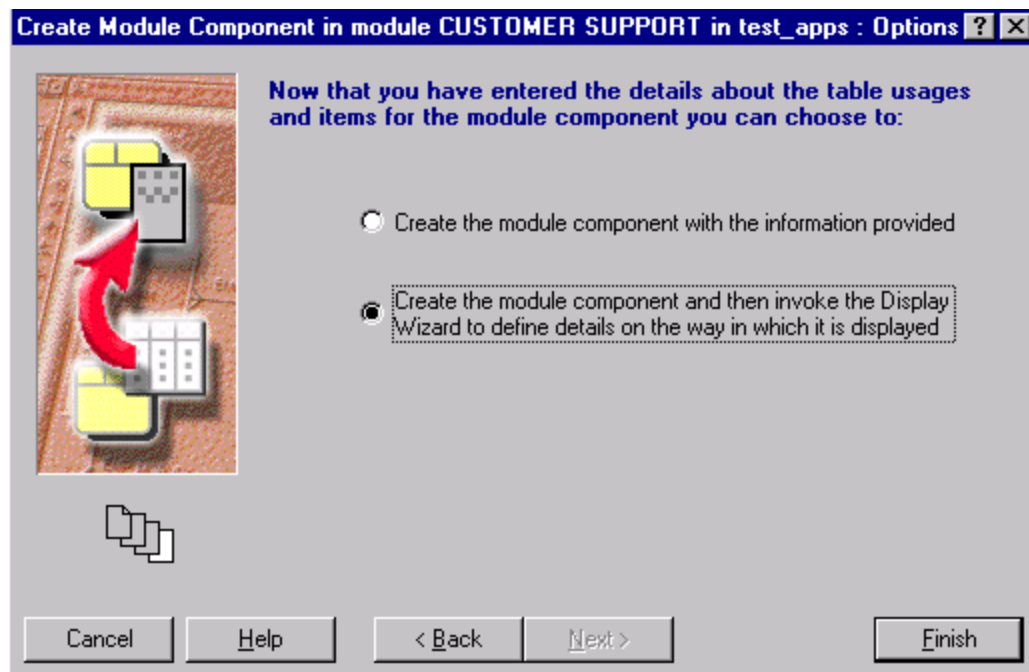
Buttons: Cancel, Help, < Back, Next >, Finish

Then Press Next >

8- The following screen asks you to choose the items to be displayed on your form, choose all of them as shown below

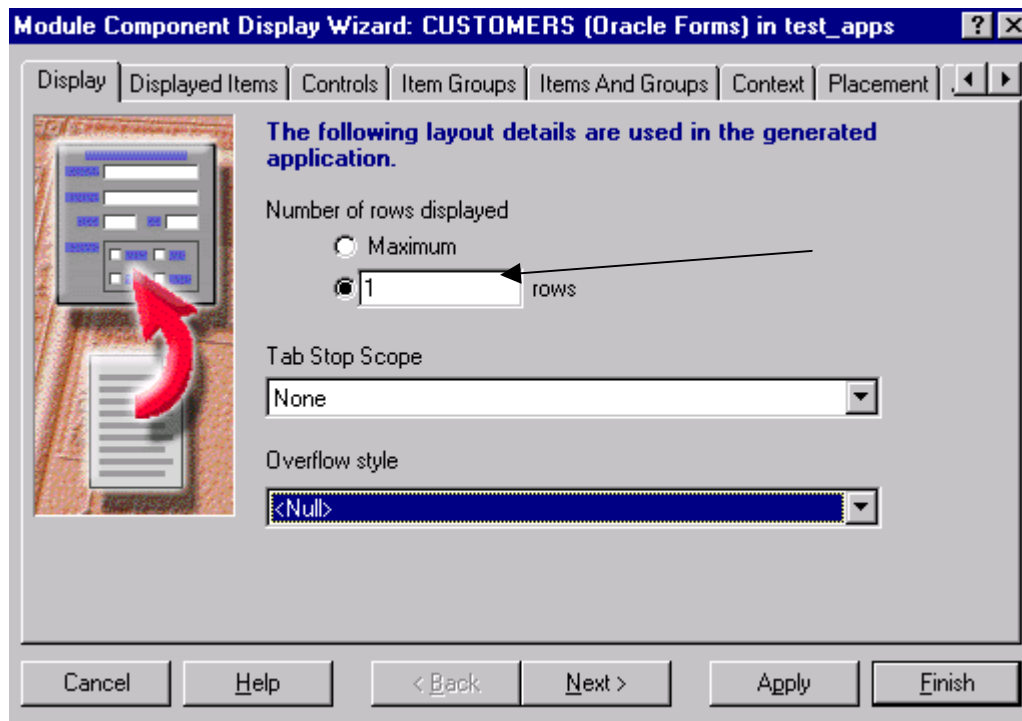


9- Press Next> five times and the following screen appears.

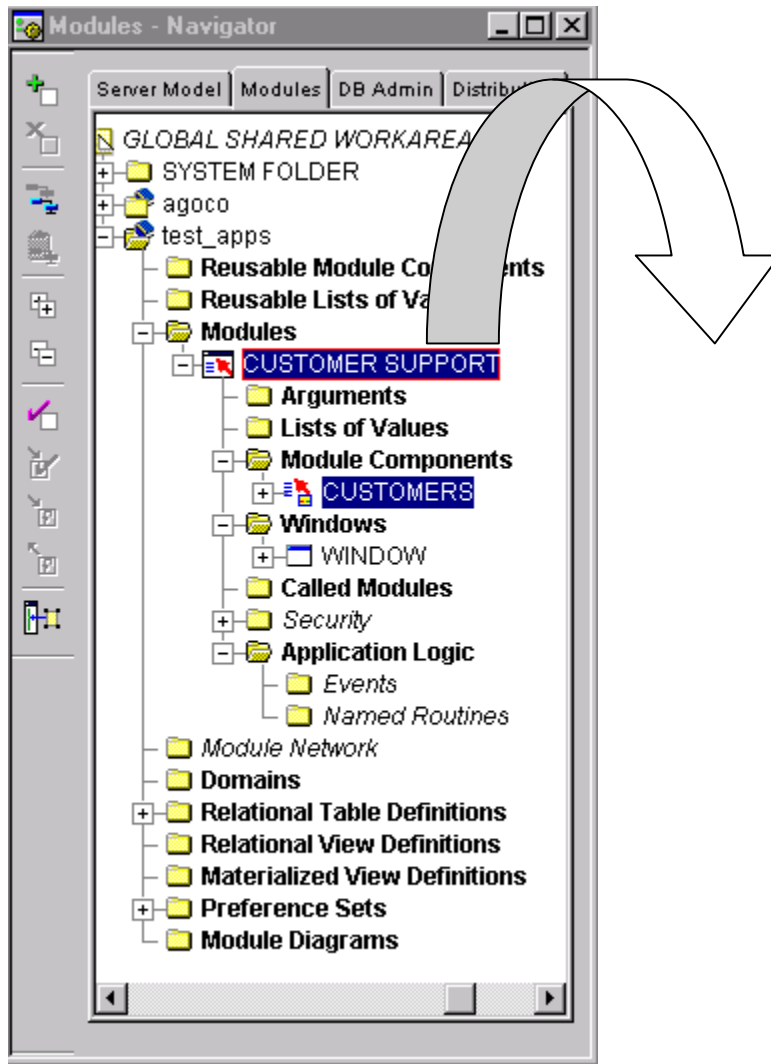


Choose the second option to start the Display Wizard and press Finish

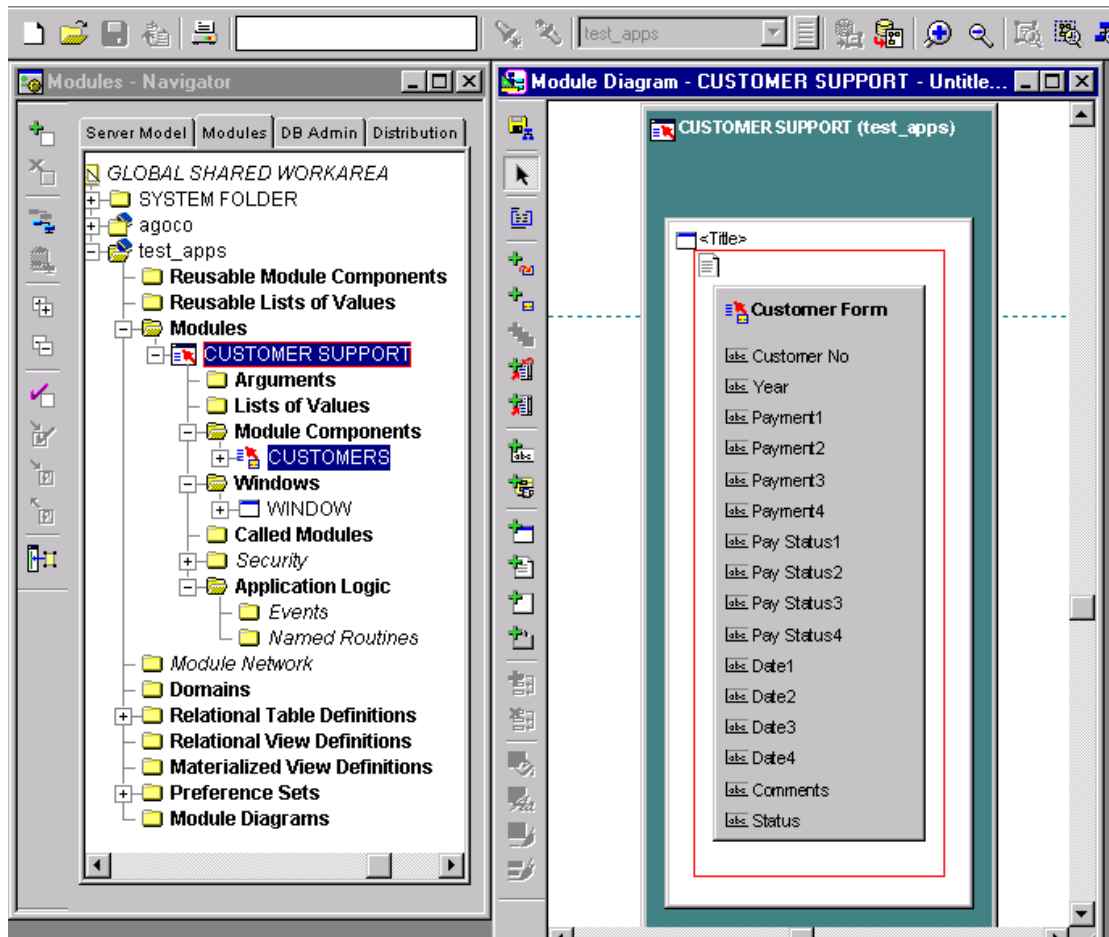
10- The Display Wizard contains many tabs. Initially we will make one change on the first Tab which the display tab shown below. In this Tab change the number of rows display to 1 and press Finish.



11- when you finish the module navigator looks like the following



Now, use the mouse to drag the High-lighted CUSTOMER SUPPORT module and drop it in the gray area to the right of the navigator. The following screen appears after the successful drag and drop. This screen is known as **MODULE DIAGRAM - DISPLAY VIEW**, Please remember this name



12 Now, have finished all the necessary steps to build a form. Now you need to generate the form. You can generate the form through different means, the easiest it to use the generate icon on the top tool bar shown below



13- After you press Generate, the Generate Form window appears (see below)

Generate Form

Module

Generate Option

☐ Ignore User Application Logic ☐ Include Module Network

☐ Generate Associated Menus ☐ Generate Attached Libraries

Preserve Layout

☒ No ☐ Yes

Source Form Name

Standards

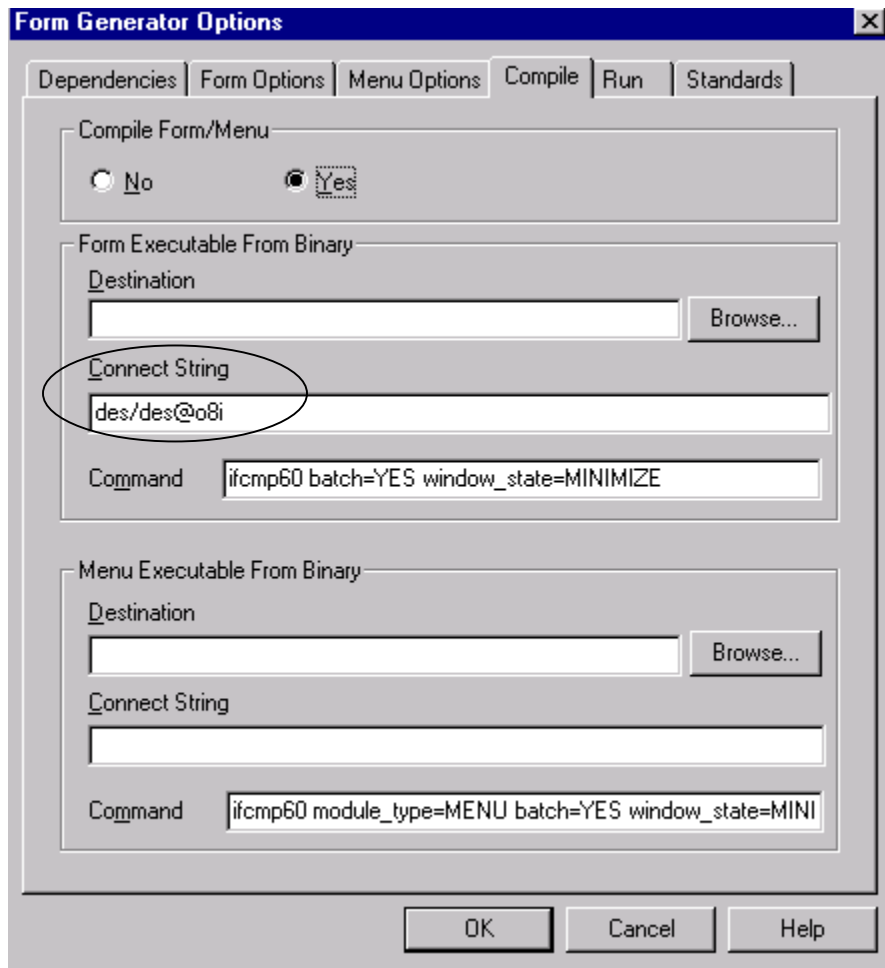
Object Library Name

Template Name

Post Generation

☒ Commit ☐ Revert ☐ Browse/Edit mode

Press the Options button and choose the Compile tab. Inside the tab, fill the Connect String information as shown below



The image shows a 'Form Generator Options' dialog box with several tabs: Dependencies, Form Options, Menu Options, Compile, Run, and Standards. The 'Form Options' tab is active. It contains two main sections: 'Form Executable From Binary' and 'Menu Executable From Binary'. In the 'Form Executable From Binary' section, the 'Compile Form/Menu' radio buttons have 'Yes' selected. The 'Destination' field is empty with a 'Browse...' button. The 'Connect String' field contains 'des/des@o8i' and is circled in red. The 'Command' field contains 'ifcmp60 batch=YES window_state=MINIMIZE'. The 'Menu Executable From Binary' section has empty fields for 'Destination', 'Connect String', and 'Command' (which contains 'ifcmp60 module_type=MENU batch=YES window_state=MINI'). At the bottom are 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons.

Form Generator Options

Dependencies | Form Options | Menu Options | Compile | Run | Standards

Compile Form/Menu

☐ No ☒ Yes

Form Executable From Binary

Destination

Browse...

Connect String

des/des@o8i

Command

ifcmp60 batch=YES window_state=MINIMIZE

Menu Executable From Binary

Destination

Browse...

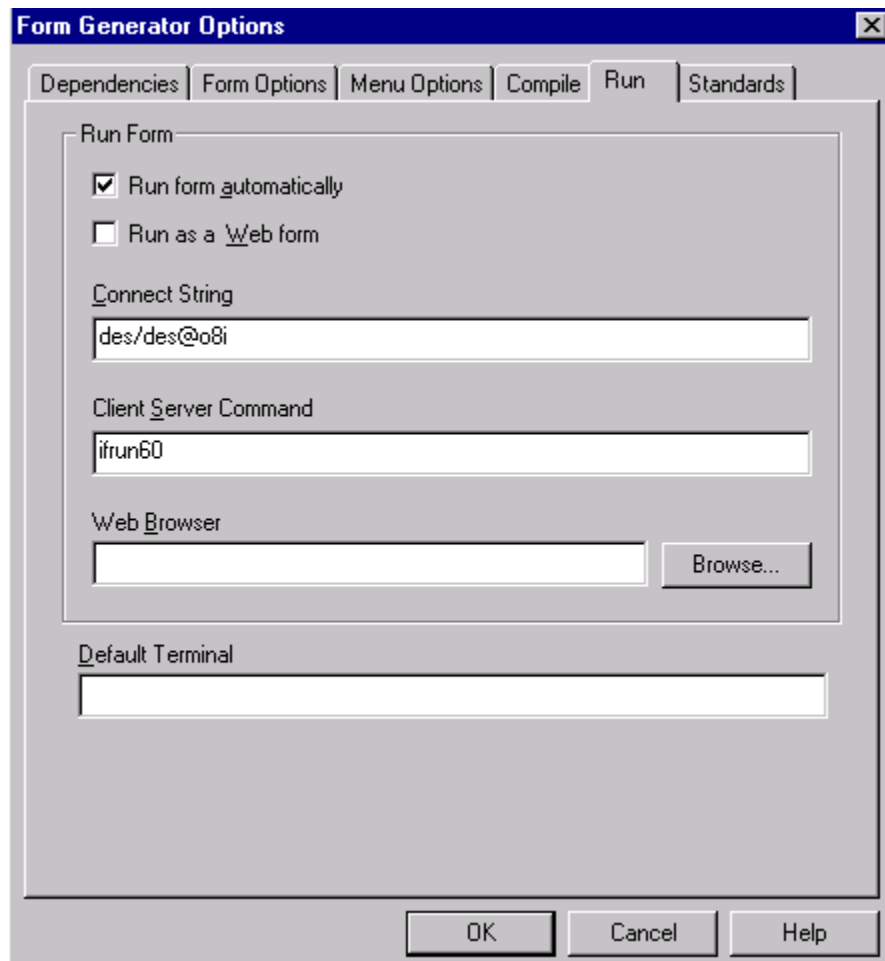
Connect String

Command

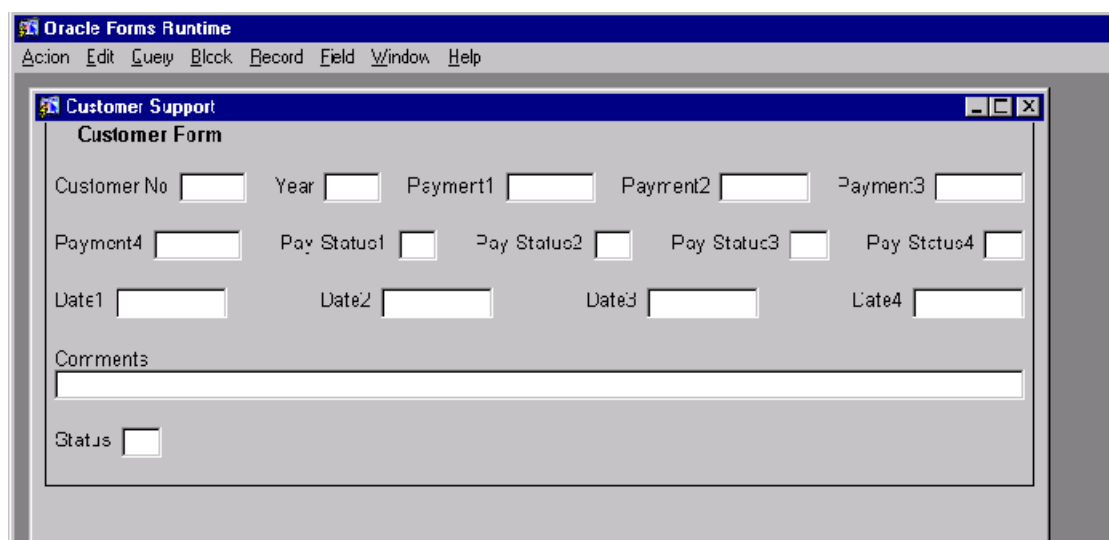
ifcmp60 module_type=MENU batch=YES window_state=MINI

OK Cancel Help

14- Go to the Run Tab and also supply the Connect String information. Also make sure that the Run form automatically check box is checked, and the Run as Web form is unchecked as shown below



15- Press Ok, and you will be in the Generate Window again, then press Start



This does not look like a nice form,

We want It to look like the following

Oracle Forms Runtime

Action Edit Query Block Record Field Window Help

PALCO SUPPORT CONTRACTS

Customer Profile / P A L C O - J O R D A N

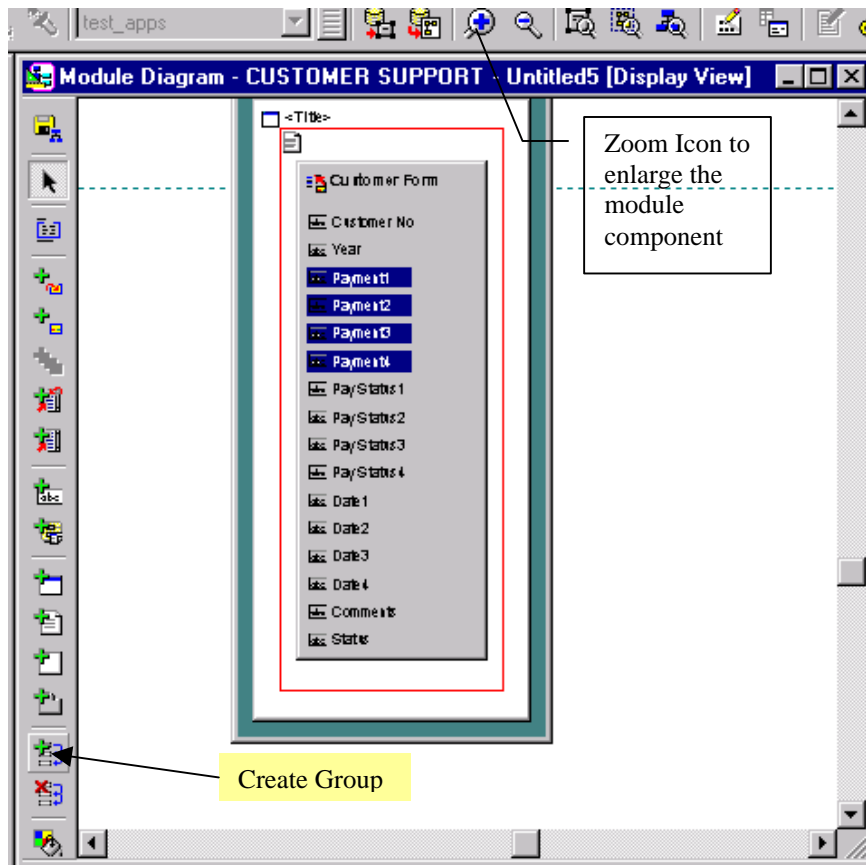
Customer No Year Status

Payment	Payment Status	Payment Date
Payment1 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status1 <input type="text"/>	Date1 <input type="text"/>
Payment2 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status2 <input type="text"/>	Date2 <input type="text"/>
Payment3 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status3 <input type="text"/>	Date3 <input type="text"/>
Payment4 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status4 <input type="text"/>	Date4 <input type="text"/>

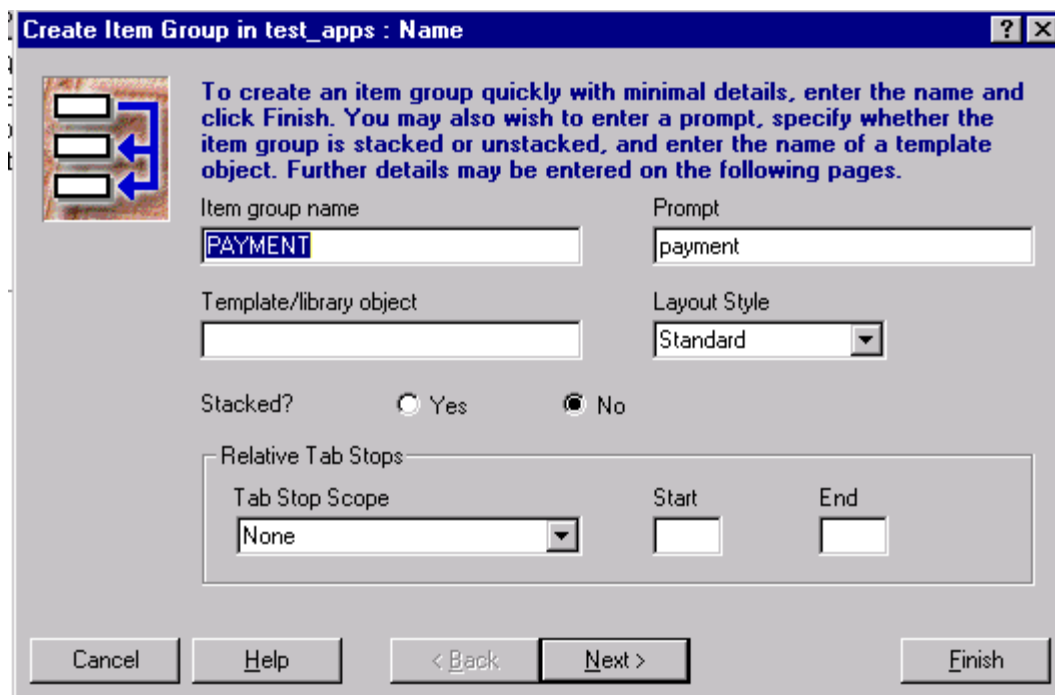
Comments

Let us investigate step by step approach to make sure that we make the layout look like that one shown above.

1. Group the Payments items in one group, and the Payment status in other group and the Payment Date in a third group and the Customer, Year , status in a fourth group. To group items together, go the Module Diagram - Display view and highlight the payment1, payment2, payment3 and payment4 items (If the module component is small in size, use the magnifying glass in the upper tool bar to zoom it to a comfortable size). After Selecting the four mentioned items use the CREATE GROUP icon on the toolbar on the left. The diagram below shows the Module Diagram and the four payment items selected.

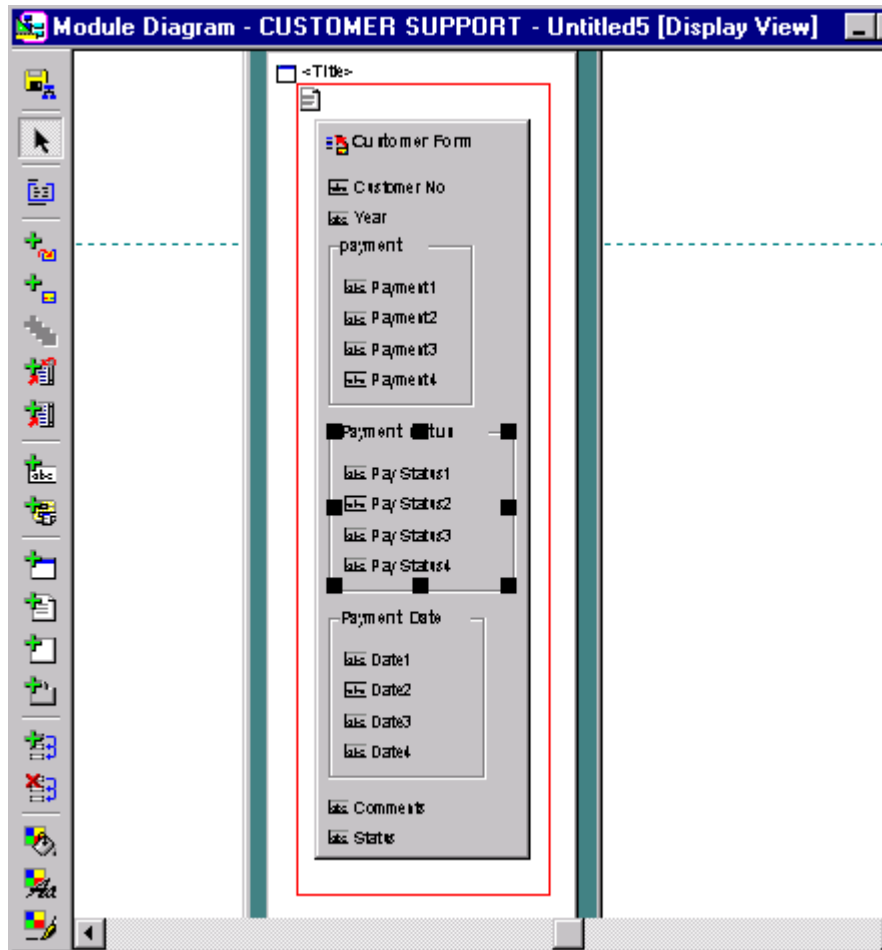


2. Pressing the Create Group icon will invoke the following window



Fill in the Item group name and Prompt as shown above and press Finish

3. Repeat the same for Payment status and Payment Dates, and your Module Diagram should appear as follows:-



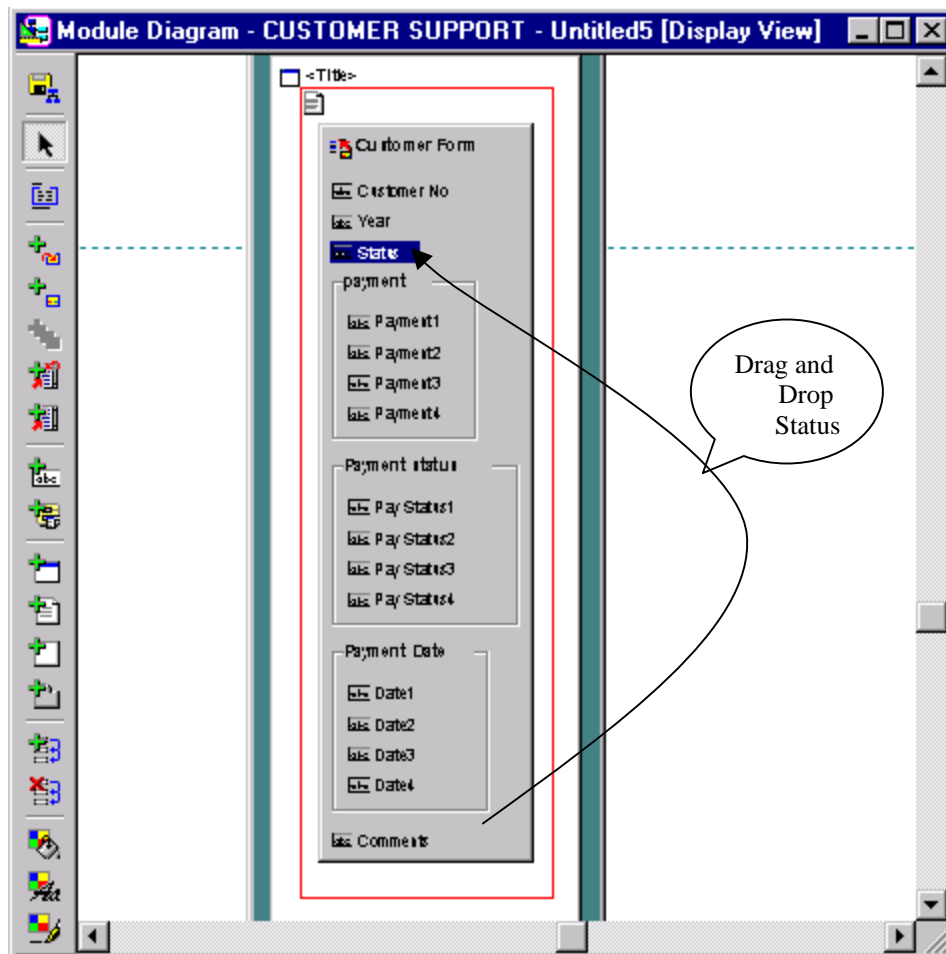
4. Generate the module to test the output, which should appear as follows:

The generated form displays the following fields:

- Customer No:
- Year:
- payment:
 - Payment1:
 - Payment2:
 - Payment3:
 - Payment4:
- Payment status:
 - Pay Status1:
 - Pay Status2:
 - Pay Status3:
 - Pay Status4:
- Payment Date:
 - Date1:
 - Date2:
 - Date3:
 - Date4:
- Comments:
- Status:

5. Note that the Status item appears as the last item in the form. Since we want grouped with the Customer No and the Year, we want it to appear next to them. This can be achieved in the Module Diagram - Display View. The sequence by which the items appear on the Display View is the same sequence that is used by

the generator to order the items of the final form. Since we want Status item to appear after the Year field, we must drag the Status item in the Display View of the Module Diagram and drop it after the Year item as shown below.



Generate to see the new output:-

6. Group Customer No, Year and Status as explained in the first step and generate to see the output

Customer Support

Customer Form

Customer No
 Year
 Status

payment
 Payment1
 Payment2
 Payment3
 Payment4

Payment status
 Pay Status1
 Pay Status2
 Pay Status3
 Pay Status4

Payment Date
 Date1
 Date2
 Date3
 Date4

Comments

The problem with the above is that the Customer No, Year and Status appeared in Vertical grouped formation, We need them to appear Horizontally. This can be done by double clicking the group in the Display View of the Module Diagram so that the property dialogue of the group appears. Choose the Advanced Tab and in the orientation field choose Horizontal.

Edit Item Group GENERAL in test_apps

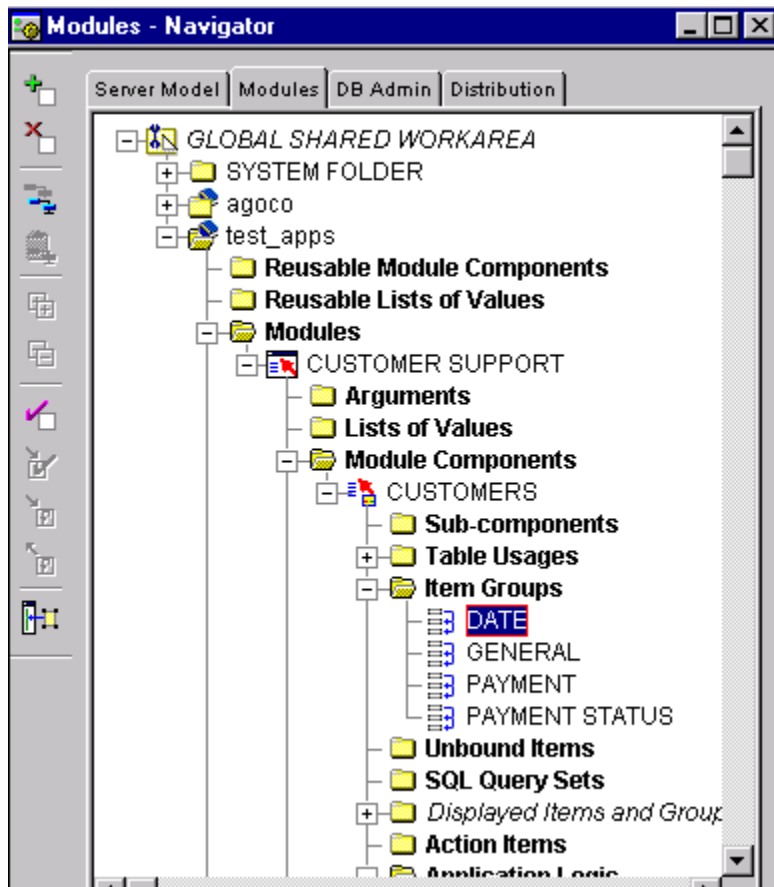
Name Items Advanced

The properties on this page are those that are not represented elsewhere on this property dialog. Enter new values for the properties if you do not want to use the default values.

Parent Item Group	
Display	
Orientation	Horizontal
Help	Horizontal
User/Help Text	Vertical
Documentation	
Description	
Notes	

Cancel Help < Back Next > Apply Finish

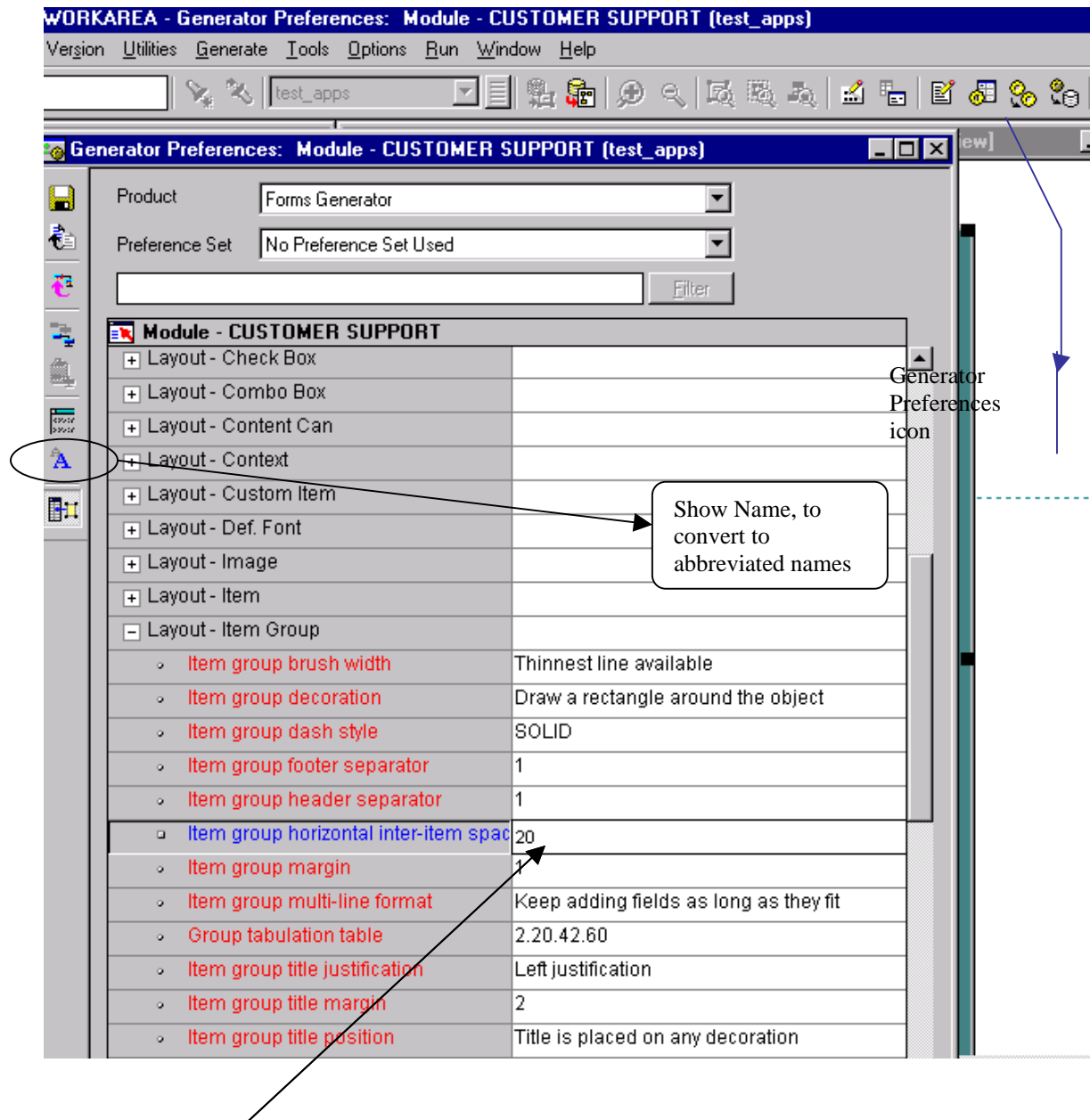
By the way you can also select the group from the modules navigator as shown below



7. Generate again to test the about

8. Comparing the Form shown above with the our final requirement, it is clear that Payment and Payment status groups should appear in below the first group next to Payment Date group. To accomplish this, the First group must be widened to push Payment and Payment status group and force them to go the next line. To do this, one idea can be to make more spaces between the Customer No, Year and Status Items. To accomplish this, the concept of preferences (or properties) should be used. The preferences are a set of properties

that affect the way things appear on the Form. To display the Generator Preferences Window, Select the Module in the Module Diagram and Click the Generator Preferences Icons on the toolbar on the top; and when the window appears, expand the Layout -item group node as show below



Change the Item group horizontal inter-item space to 10. Many times, in Oracle Documents and other references, you will notice that people use abbreviations for preference names. This preference is abbreviated GRPHIS. The above screen can display the abbreviated names if you wish. Pressing the Show Name Icon of the Left Toolbar can do accomplish this task. This icon in the blue icon with Capital A (Circled on the diagram). The following diagram shows the Generator Preference Window after the Show Name is pressed to display the abbreviated names.

Module - CUSTOMER SUPPORT	
+ Layout - Check Box	
+ Layout - Combo Box	
+ Layout - Content Can	
+ Layout - Context	
+ Layout - Custom Item	
+ Layout - Def. Font	
+ Layout - Image	
+ Layout - Item	
- Layout - Item Group	
o GRPBWD	0
o GRPDEC	RECTANGLE
o GRPDST	SOLID
o GRPFTS	1
o GRPHDS	1
o GRPHIS	20
o GRPMAR	1
o GRPMLF	WRAP
o GRPTAB	2.20.42.60
o GRPTLJ	LEFT
o GRPTLM	2
o GRPTLR	SUBSCRIPTION

9. After you make a change on the preferences you must save your change. Save your preference window and generate to see the effect of GRPHIS on your form.

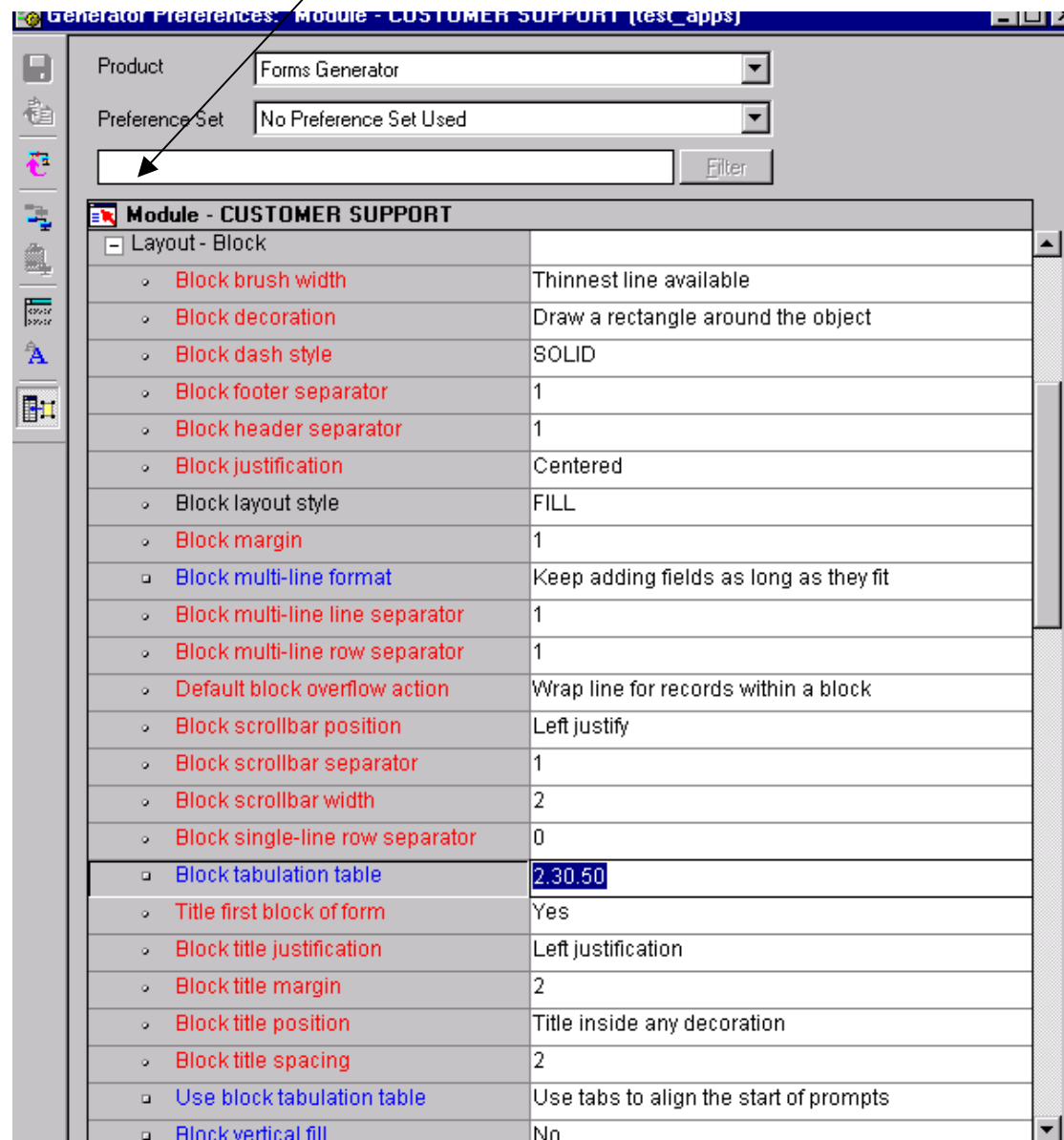
Customer Support
Customer Form

Customer No Year Status

payment	Payment status	Payment Date
Payment1 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status1 <input type="text"/>	Date1 <input type="text"/>
Payment2 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status2 <input type="text"/>	Date2 <input type="text"/>
Payment3 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status3 <input type="text"/>	Date3 <input type="text"/>
Payment4 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status4 <input type="text"/>	Date4 <input type="text"/>

Comments

The space between the Payment group, the Payment Status and the Payment Date is a bit too much. To reduce the space, we will expand the Layout - Block preference node and adjust the *BLOCK TABULATION TABLE* preference or (*BLKTAB*). This preference controls the Tab Stops



- Change the *BLOCK TABULATION TABLE* (*BLKTAB*) 2.30.50 as shown above. Also change *USE BLOCK TABULATION TABLE* (also known as *BLKTUU*) to Use tabs to align the start of prompts as shown above. After you generate and take a look at the generated form, we will spend some time explaining the *BLKTAB*

Customer Support

Customer Form

Customer No Year Status

payment

Payment1
 Payment2
 Payment3
 Payment4

Payment status

Pay Status1
 Pay Status2
 Pay Status3
 Pay Status4

Payment Date

Date1
 Date2
 Date3
 Date4

Comments

Not exactly what we wanted. We would like the Payment Date item group to be on the same line as the other two groups.

Let us first discuss *BLOCK TABULATION TABLE* preference or (*BLKTAB*).

Absolute tab stops are specified in character cells from the left hand edge of the block using *BLKTAB*. The starts and ends of items and their prompts can be placed at absolute tab stops using the settings of *USE BLOCK TABULATION TABLE* preference (*BLKUTT*). The example below shows Tab Stops

Customer Support

Customer Form

Customer No Year Status

payment

Payment1
 Payment2
 Payment3
 Payment4

Payment status

Pay Status1
 Pay Status2
 Pay Status3
 Pay Status4

Payment Date

Date1
 Date2
 Date3
 Date4

Comments

Clearly tab stops are used to control the position and alignment of object on the form.

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE: Block tabulation will not work if the *USE BLOCK TABULATION TABLE* preference (*BLKUTT*) is not set.

What is then the Use block tabulation table (*BLKUTT*):-

This is a setting to let you basically give meaning for the *Block Tabulation Table*. For example when you say that the *BLKTAB* is 10.20.35.50. Do you mean that 10 is the position of the start of the prompt or the end of the prompt. The following table explains the different setting of this preference

Name	Meaning
ED	Use the tab stops to align the end of the items.
EP	Use the tab stops to align the end of the post-prompts (if there is no post-prompt, then the effect is the same as for ED.)
SD	Use the tab stops to align the start of the items.
SP	Use the tab stops to align the start of the prompts.
SS	Align the start of the prompts and align the start of the items
EE	Align the end of the prompts and align the end of the items
SE1	Align the start of the prompts and align the end of the items
SE2	Align the start of the prompts and align the end of the items

Can we now explain why the item groups did not appear on the same line?

The setting we used were

Name	Meaning
BLKTAB	2.30.50
BLKUTT	SP (the tab stops to align the start of the prompts.)

11. Change the setting to and generate

Name	Meaning
BLKTAB	2.30.53
BLKUTT	SP (the tab stops to align the start of the prompts.)

(Remember: Every time, you change preferences, you must save the preferences Windows)

In the previous setting the value for the first tab is 2 which is Ok and the value of the second tab is 30 which is also Ok, however, the value was not Ok, because the space needed by Payment status item group extends beyond 50 and therefore the third item group (Payment Date) does not know what to do and apparently it decides to place itself on the next line.

12. To experiment with Tab Stops, please change the setting as shown in the table below

Name	Meaning
BLKTAB	2.30.50.60
BLKUTT	SP (the tab stops to align the start of the prompts.)

Note that, the previous setting 2.30.50 which pushed the third group to the next line is used again, but another tab stop was added at line 60. And the form looks like:

Customer Support

Customer Form

Customer No Year Status

payment	Payment status	Payment Date
Payment1 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status1 <input type="text"/>	Date1 <input type="text"/>
Payment2 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status2 <input type="text"/>	Date2 <input type="text"/>
Payment3 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status3 <input type="text"/>	Date3 <input type="text"/>
Payment4 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status4 <input type="text"/>	Date4 <input type="text"/>

Comments

Looks good. This means that the Forms Generator utility will use the next available tab stop after skipping one due to insufficient space. As shown before tab stop (50) cannot be used because the second item group (Payment Status) overwrites position 50. However since our BLKTAB is (2.30.50.60), the Forms Generator used the next available tab stop which is (60), rather than placing it on the next line.

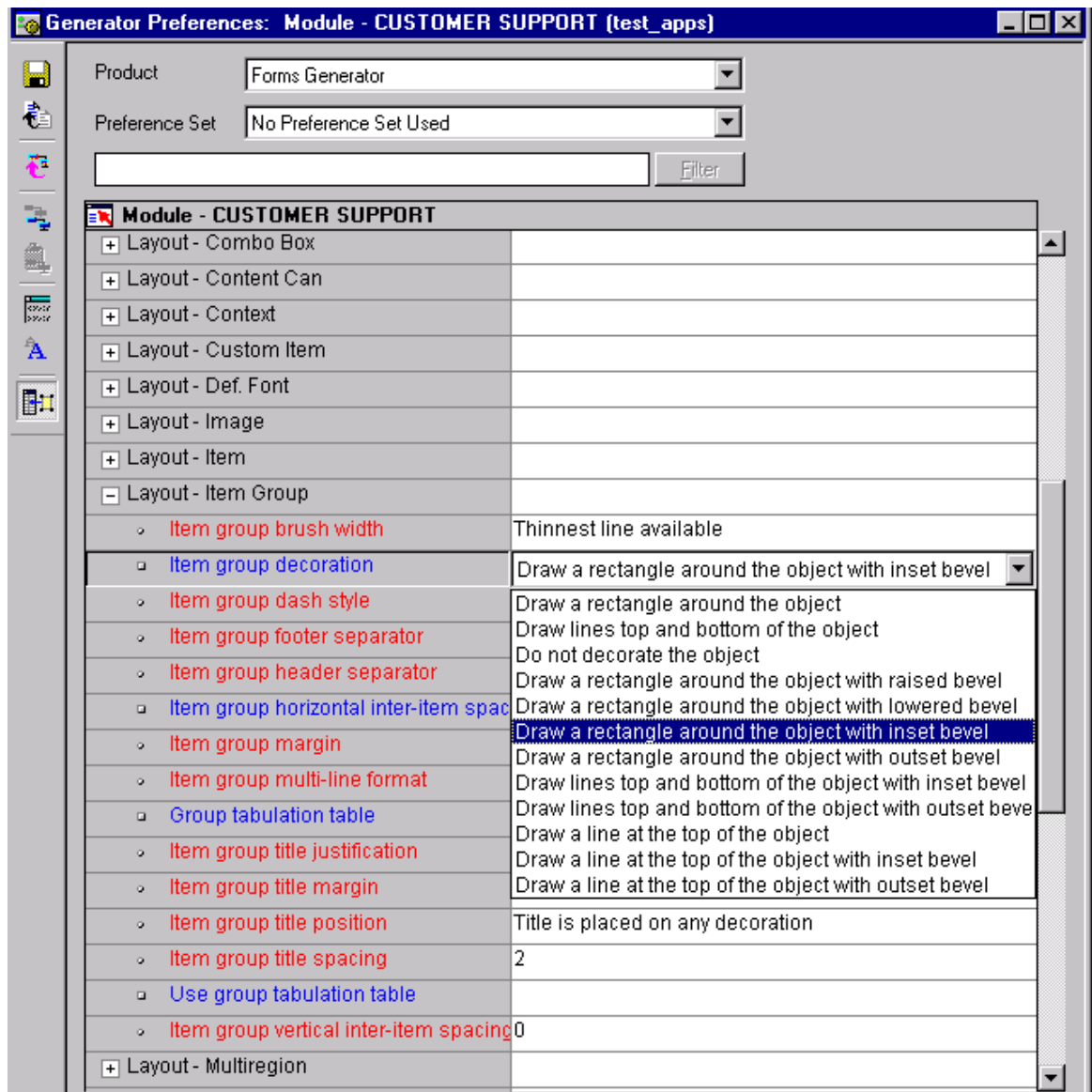
Note: The following is extracted from Oracle Help

If BLKUTT is set to one of ED, EP, SD, or SP. . .

The gap between prompt and item is specified by the preference ITMPIG. The gap between an item and the next prompt, specified by the preference ITMIPG, is the minimum gap between the item and the prompt. If the gap is greater than the distance to the next absolute tab stop, the next absolute tab stop after that is used .

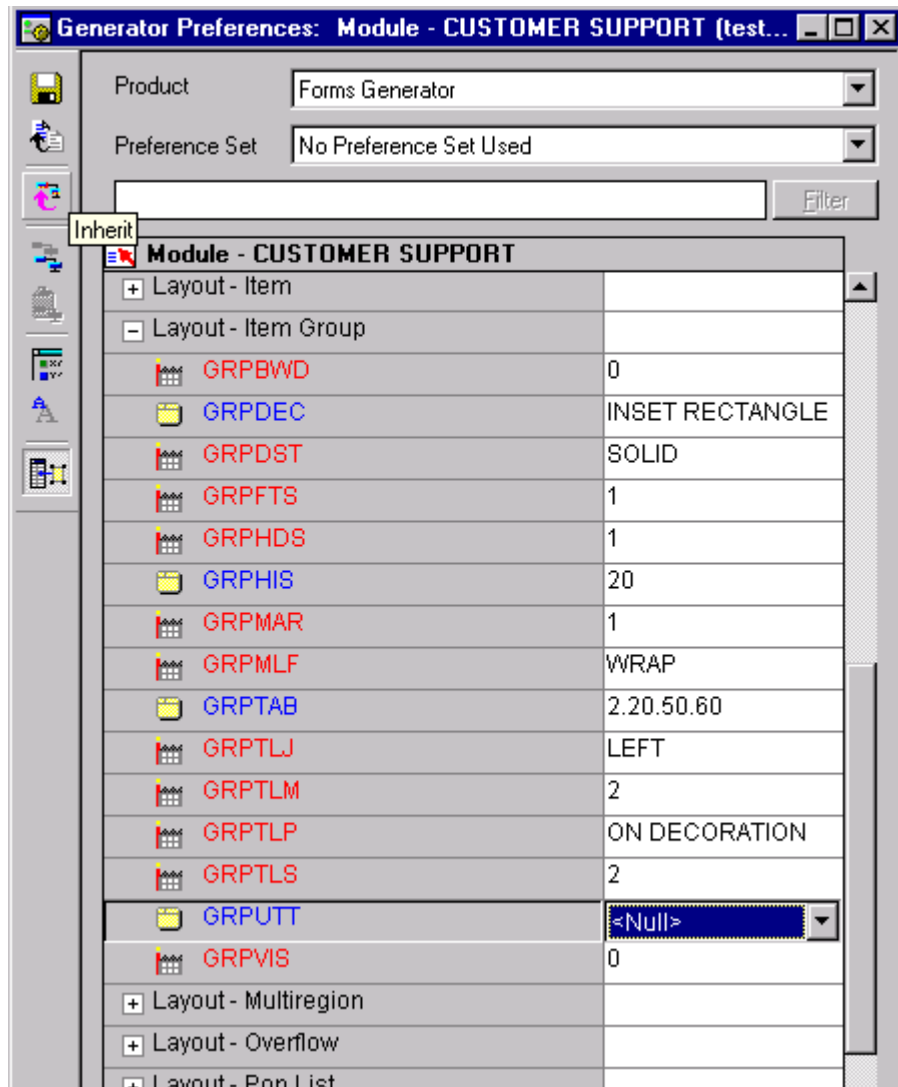
At this stage, it is helpful that you further experiment with Tab Setting to feel comfortable with alignment items on the form. Also refer to Online Help.

13. Now, we need to change the borders around the Item Groups. This can be easily done with the LAYOUT ITEM GROUP set of preferences. In the Generator Preferences Navigator (Invoked by pressing the Generate Preferences icon on the top Toolbar) expand the LAYOUT ITEM GROUP and the *ITEM GROUP DECORATION (GRPDEC)* preference to "Draw a rectangle around the object with insert bevel" also abbreviated as 'INSET RECTANGLE' as shown below. Since this setting is done at the module level it will change the decoration of all item groups

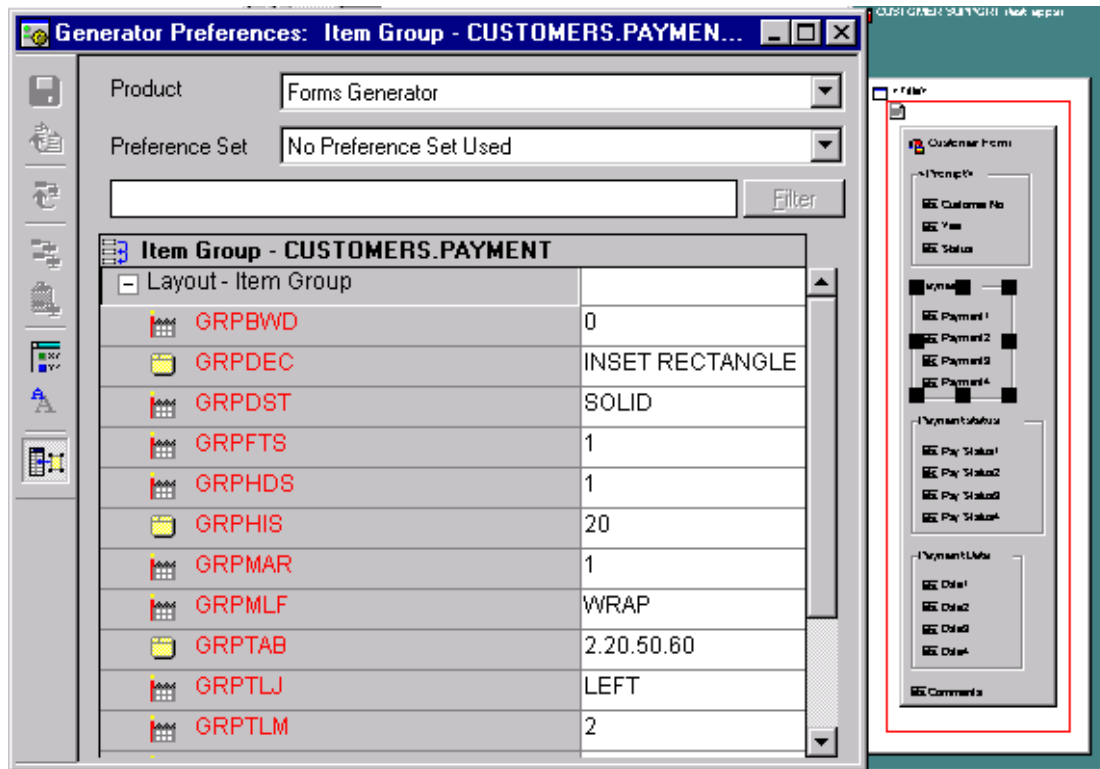


Or after pressing the Show Description Icon, the same screen is displayed with the abbreviated preferences and meaning, as shown below

Interesting Note: Some preferences are shown in red and others are shown in blue. Why?
 The red preferences are set to the defaults while the blue ones have been changed. To set any blue preference back to the default, select the preference and press the Inherit icon on the left toolbar, which is shown below



If you want to change only one of the Item Groups decoration preferences, you have to select it individually on the Module Diagram and invoke the Generate Preference icon. As the diagram shown below illustrates it Generator Preference Navigator displayed on node, namely, the Layout - Item Group for the selected Item Group and in our case it is called CUSTOMERS.PAYMENT (also shown on the diagram below)



Generate and read the comments on the form displayed below

Customer Support
Customer Form

Customer No Year Status

payment

Payment1
Payment2
Payment3
Payment4

Payment status

Pay Status1
Pay Status2
Pay Status3
Pay Status4

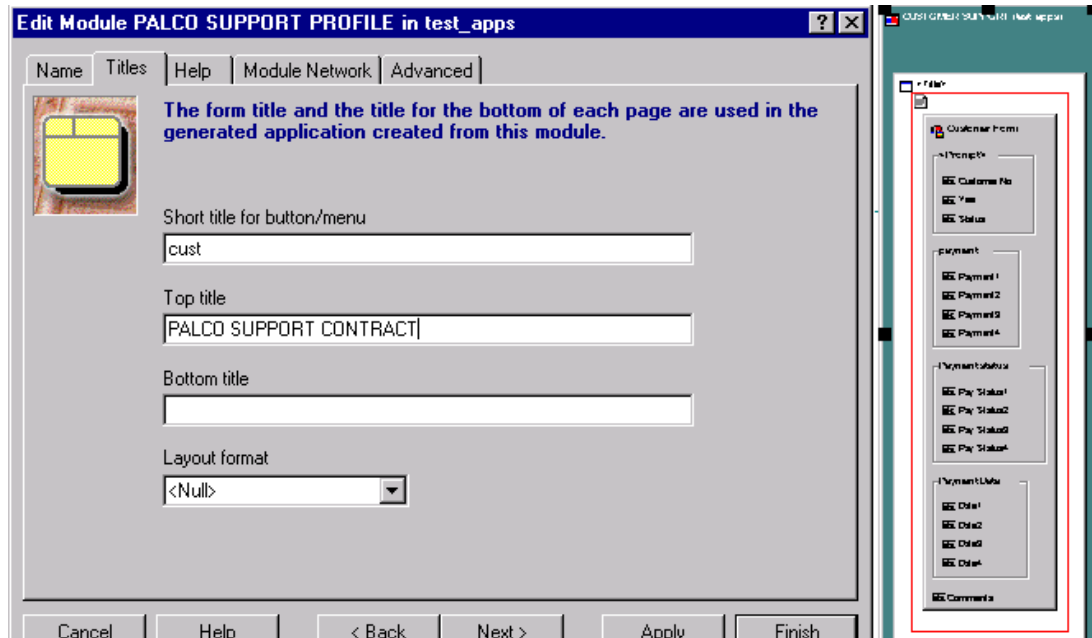
Payment Date

Date1
Date2
Date3
Date4

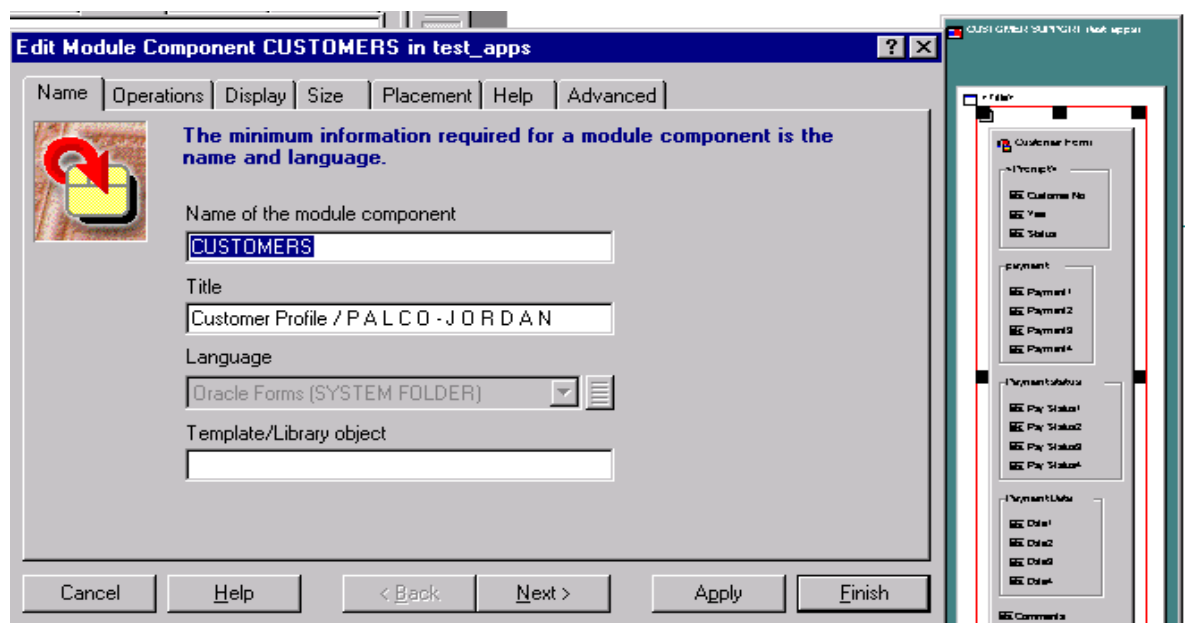
Comments

We still need to change the Module title from "Customer Support" to "PALCO SUPPORT CONTRACT" and the block form "Customer Form" to Customer Profile / PALCO - JORDAN POBOX 17187 TEL 962-6-5826602 www.palco.com.jo. Also we need to change the Box decoration around the block to RAISED BEVEL and also move the whole block few spaces from the top of the screen

14. To change the Module title, Select the Module (The green background) on the Module Diagram and double click it to invoke its properties. The diagram below shows the clicked module side by side with its property sheet. As indicated in the diagram below, change the top title in the Titles Tab to PALCO SUPPORT CONTRACT and press Finish



15. To change the block title, select the Module Component and invoke its property sheet. The module component is the red rectangle on the module diagram. Again fill the title as shown below and press Finish. (notice that the red rectangle is selected). It can also be selected by locating it on the Module - Navigator .



and the output looks like the following

Oracle Forms Runtime

Action Edit Query Block Record Field Window Help

PALCO SUPPORT CONTRACT

Customer Profile / P A L C O - J O R D A N

Customer No Year Status

payment	Payment status	Payment Date
Payment1 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status1 <input type="text"/>	Date1 <input type="text"/>
Payment2 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status2 <input type="text"/>	Date2 <input type="text"/>
Payment3 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status3 <input type="text"/>	Date3 <input type="text"/>
Payment4 <input type="text"/>	Pay Status4 <input type="text"/>	Date4 <input type="text"/>

Comments

Finally we need to change the block bevel of the block border to Raised and shift the entire frame of the block down a bit

16. In the Layout - Block preferences, change the *BLOCK DECORATION* (*BLKDEC*) to Draw a rectangle around the object with raised bevel or abbreviated as *RAISED RECTANGLE*
17. In the Layout - Content Can (Content Canvas), change the setting for the *CONTENT CANVAS HEADER SEPARTOR* (*PAGHDS*) preference to 2

+ Layout- Check Box	
+ Layout- Combo Box	
- Layout- Content Can	
o Company name	
o Auto-query mode off message	Auto-query mode off
o Auto-query mode on message	
o Content canvas relative block indenta	0
o Content canvas height	22
o Content canvas context depth	1
o Content canvas width	80
o Content canvas footer separator	0
o Content canvas header separator	2
o Content canvas inter-block separator	0
o Content canvas margin	1
o Generate block stubs on content can	No
o Title first block on content canvas	Yes

While the preference Content canvas header separator is selected press F1 and read the online help on this preference. It is explained well in the online help, you can use F1 key to understand all the preferences.

Generate and enjoy you first real form based on the Oracle Designer Form Generator technologies.

TAB PAGES

Generating stacked item groups as native Oracle Forms tab canvas pages

Form Generator places stacked item groups on different tab pages of a generated tab canvas when both the following conditions are met:

- CANNTC is set to Yes
- two or more repository item groups in a module component have their Stacked property set to Yes

Each item group's Prompt property is used as the label for the tab page on which the items in that item group appear. Form Generator lays out any other items in the module component before and after the tab canvas.

Edit Item Group PAYMENT in test_apps

Name | Items | Advanced

The minimum information required for an item group is the name. You may also wish to enter the prompt, specify whether the item group is stacked or unstacked, and enter the name of a template object.

Item group name: PAYMENT

Prompt: payment

Template/library object:

Layout Style: Standard

Stacked? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Relative Tab Stops

Tab Stop Scope: None

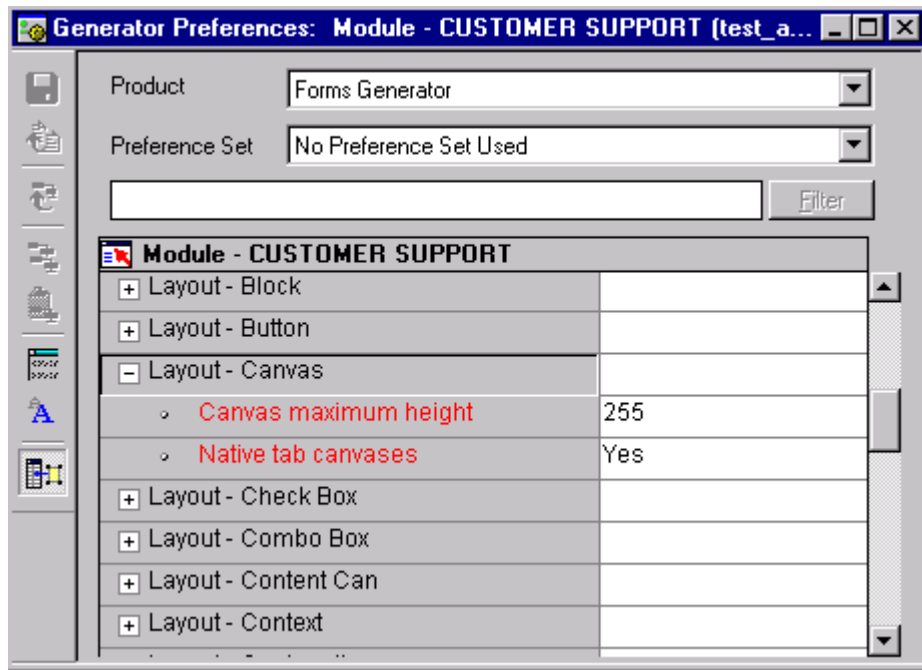
Start:

End:

Buttons: Cancel, Help, < Back, Next >, Apply, Finish

Do the same for the three item groups , namely the Payment, Payment Status and Payment Dates

Make sure that the Preference *NATIVE TAB CANVASES (CANNTC)* is set to YES. This is found in Layout - Canvas Preferences node as shown below



Generate and the form looks like the following

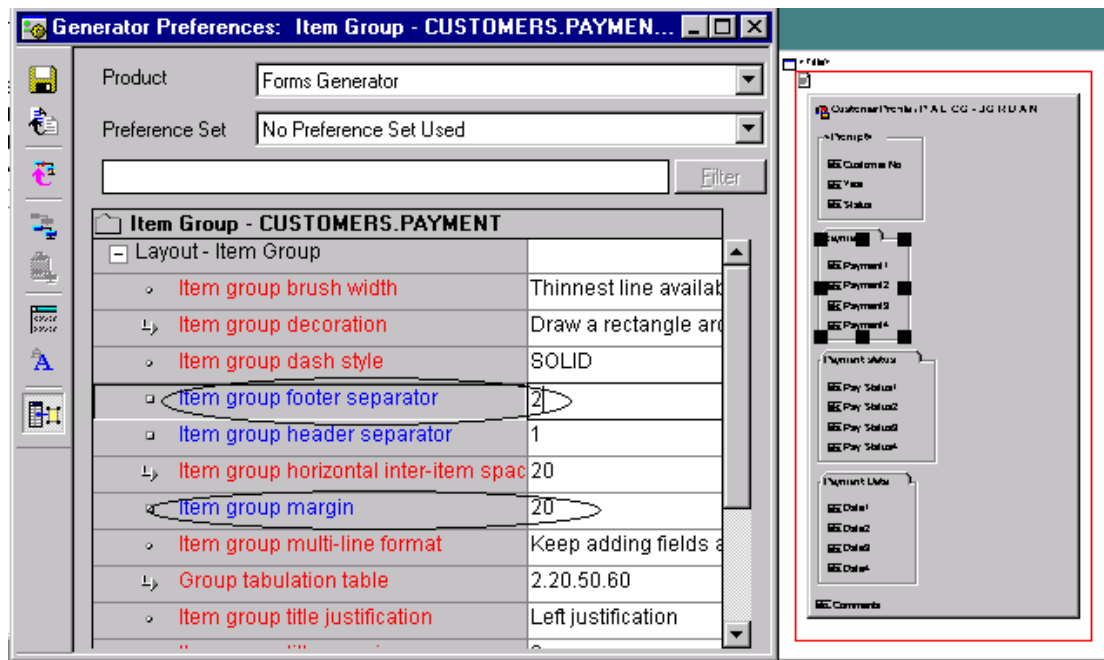
Why is the Tab Canvas so small?

Because, The Forms Generator considered the size of the largest Item Groups. Therefore, if find a way to make the Item Group takes more space, we can succeed in making its canvas wider.

Invoke the preferences of Layout - Item group for one of the item groups and change the following preferences

```
ITEM GROUP MARGIN (GRPMAR) = 20
ITEM GROUP FOOTER SEPERATION (GRPFTS) 20
```

As shown below



GRPMAR: Use this preference to specify the size of both left and right group margins.

GRPFTS: Use this preference to specify the vertical space to leave at the bottom of the item group between the last line of generated items and any decoration.

Generate

Oracle Forms Runtime

Action Edit Query Block Record Field Window Help

PALCO SUPPORT CONTRACT

Customer Profile / PALCO - JORDAN

Customer No Year Status

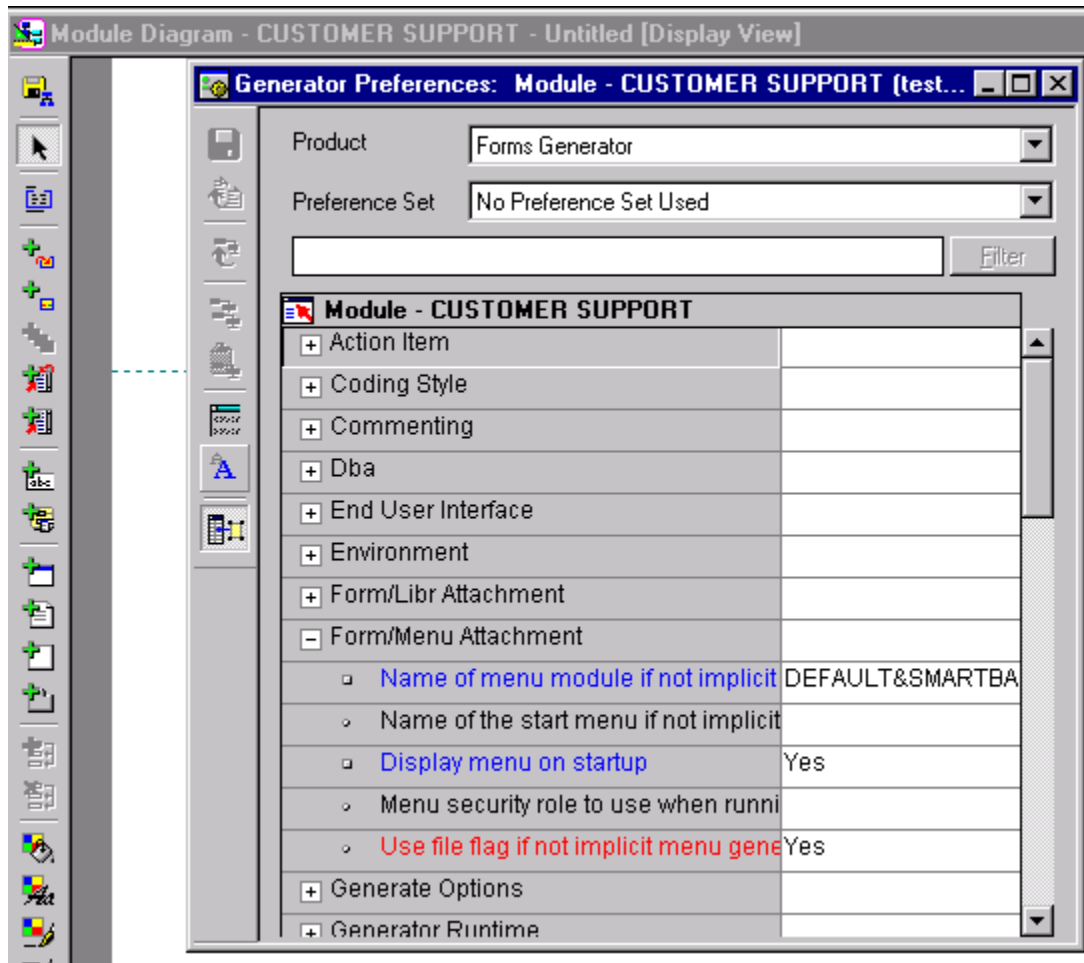
payment | Payment status | Payment Date

Date1
Date2
Date3
Date4

Comments

But where is the Toolbar associated with the Menu?

Invoke the Generator Preferences and expand the Form/Menu Attachment. Change the preference *NAME OF MENU MODULE IF NOT IMPLICIT (FMNDMA)* to *DEFAULT&SMARTBAR* as shown below



Generate and the default smartbar will appear

TAB PAGES

Example 1: Second block placed on new tab canvas page

In this example, the first and second blocks are placed on different tab canvas pages.

Module component	Placement property	Window property	Rows Displayed	Title
Dept	New Tab Canvas Page	Window1	6	List of Departments
Emp	New Tab Canvas Page	Window1	1	Employee Details

Data view



Generated as



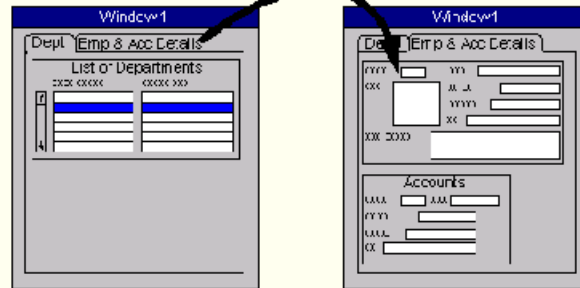
Example 2: Second and third blocks placed on same tab canvas page

In this example, the first and second blocks are placed on different tab canvas pages. The third block is placed on the same tab canvas page as the second block.

Module component	Placement property	Window property	Rows Displayed	Title
Dep.	New Tab Canvas Page	Window1	6	List of Departments
Emp	New Tab Canvas Page	Window1	1	Emp & Acc Details
Acc	Same Tab Canvas Page	Window1	1	Accounts

Data view

Generated as



- Create two or more module components in the Design Editor. How
- .2 Set the Placement property of the first module component to be generated onto a tab page to New Tab Canvas Page.
- .3 Set the Placement property of any subsequent module components you want generated onto the same tab page to Same Tab Canvas Page.
- .4 Set the Placement property of the next module component to be generated onto a new tab page to New Tab Canvas Page.

Form Generator will only generate a tab canvas if at least two module components within the same content canvas have their Placement properties set to New Tab Canvas Page.

- .5 Continue setting the Placement properties of module components as required.
- .6 Set CANNTC to Yes.
- .7 Set the Title property for the module components as required.

The Title property of the first block on each tab canvas page is used as the label for that tab canvas page. If you do not set the Title property, Form Generator uses the block's Name property. If necessary, you can use POPTFB/PAGTFB to prevent the block title appearing on both the label and on the tab canvas page itself .

- .8 Set other repository properties for the module components as appropriate.

The object libraries supplied with Form Generator already contain suitable objects from which to subclass or copy properties of both the generated tab canvas and generated tab canvas pages. If you are not using one of the supplied object libraries, we recommend you add suitable objects to one of the object libraries you are using as described in the next two steps.

- .9 (recommended) Create a tab canvas in an object library called CGSO\$CANVAS_TAB and set the properties you want Form Generator to copy or subclass when generating the tab canvas. If you are using spreadtable blocks, refer to Aligning the context items on tab canvases with items on spreadtable blocks .

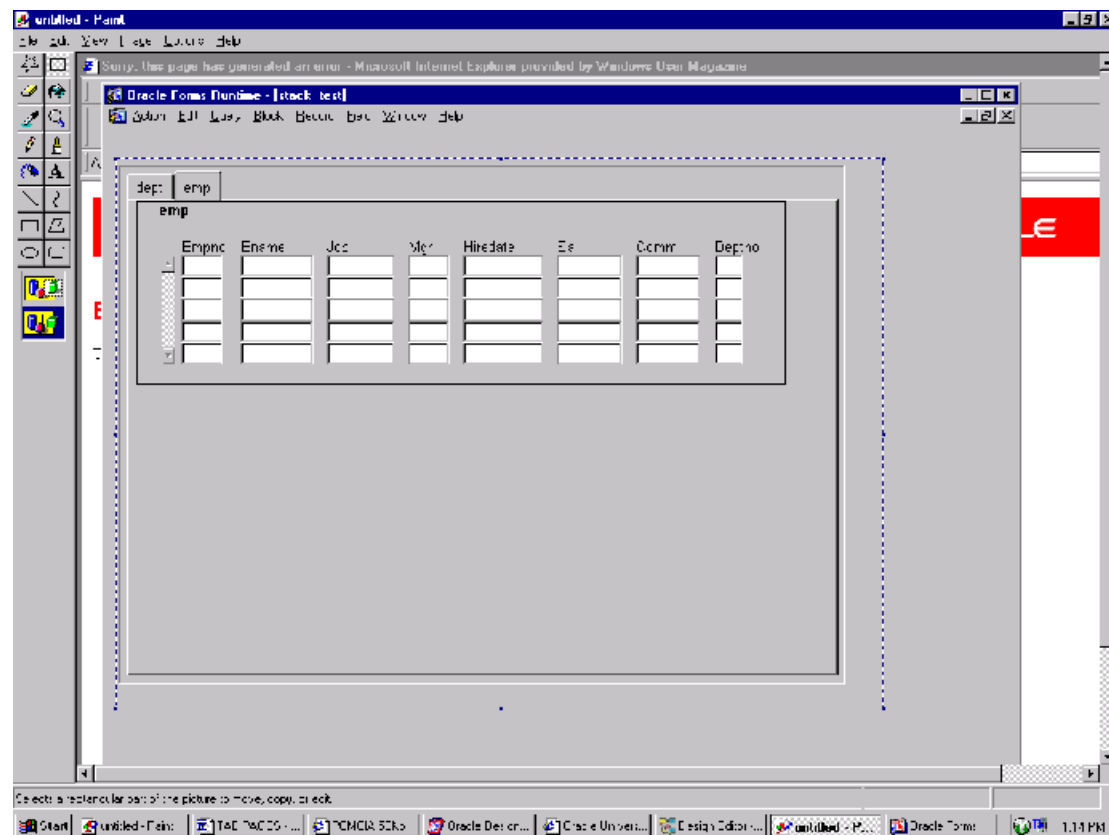
.10)recommended) Create a tab canvas page in the object library and set the properties you want Form Generator to copy or subclass in one of the following ways:

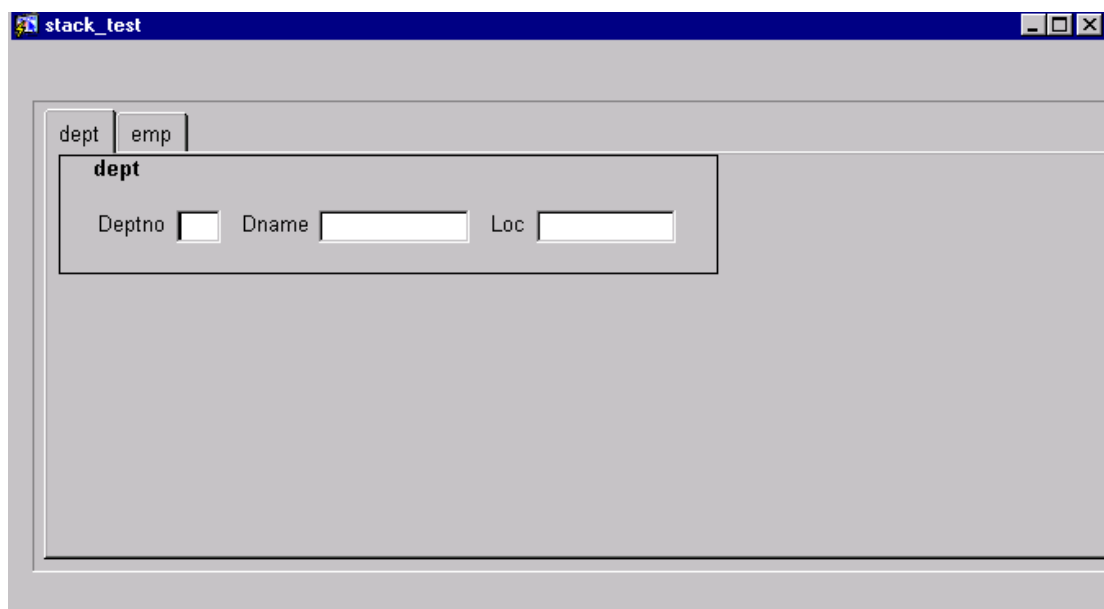
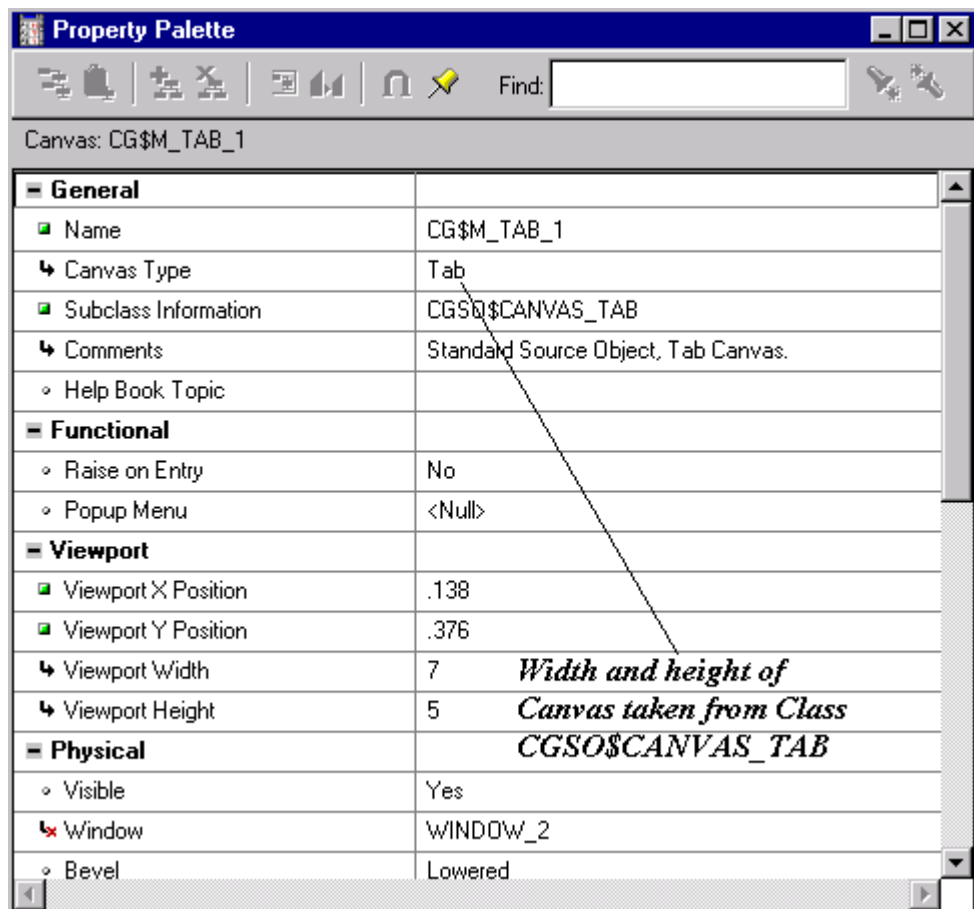
- by creating a tab canvas page in the object library called CGSO\$TAB_PAGE
- by specifying a tab canvas page in the object library for Form Generator to use when generating the tab canvas page, using the Placement Template/Library Obj property of the module component

For more information about copying or subclassing objects from an object library, refer to Using object libraries.

.11)Optional) Use preferences to specify further properties of blocks generated onto tab canvases and tab pages.

For a list of preferences to use, refer to Layout Preferences - Block.





How did the size of the Canvas change

Generate Form

Module:

Generate Option

▼

☐ Ignore User Application Logic ☐ Include Module Network

☐ Generate Associated Menus ☐ Generate Attached Libraries

Preserve Layout

☒ No ☐ Yes

Source Form Name

Standards

Object Library Name

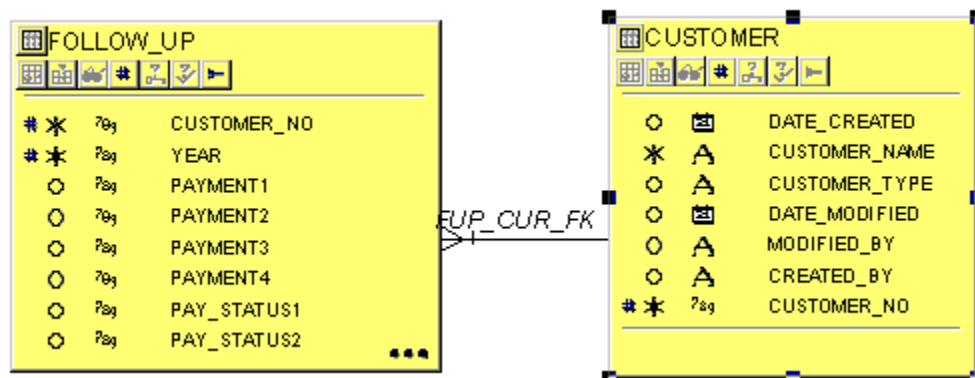
Template Name

Post Generation

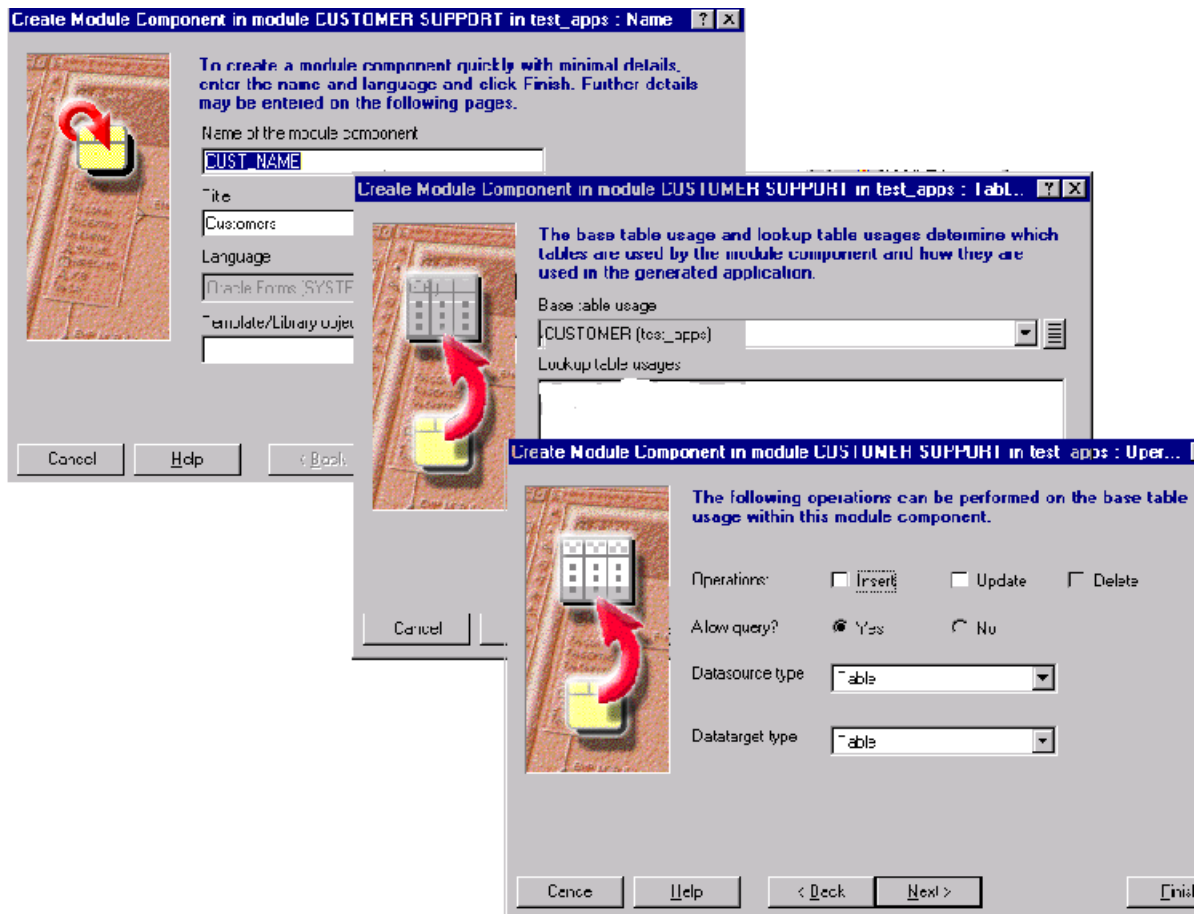
In the generate Form, Find the object Library used.
Open using Oracle Forms
Open the object library show below (ofgwebol.olb)
Drag and drop CGSO\$CANVAS_TAB to a new form
Modify View port width and View port height as needed then drag &
drop again to the object Library.
Save the object library and regenerate

Where is the customer name?

The customer name can be found in the Customers Table. Therefore, we need to lookup the customer name from the customers table

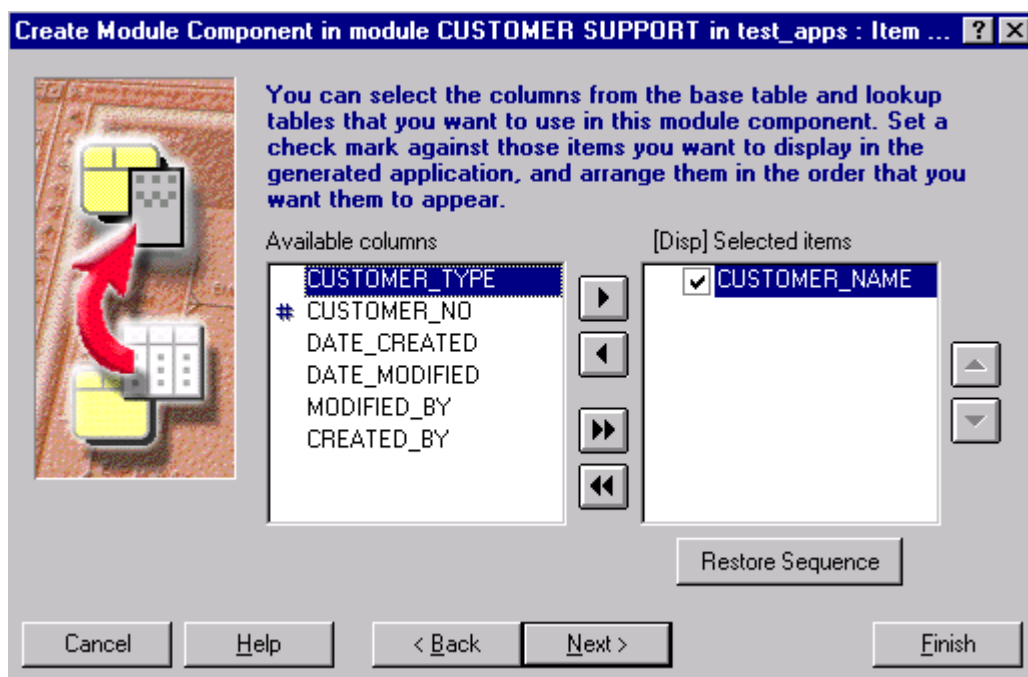


- 1- Create another Module Component:- The best way to create an additional module component is from the Modules – Navigator, Expand the Modules folder, select the Module Components folder and Press the Create Icon (the Green plus sign located in the toolbar on the left)
- 2- Go through the wizard, fill the three pages as shown below



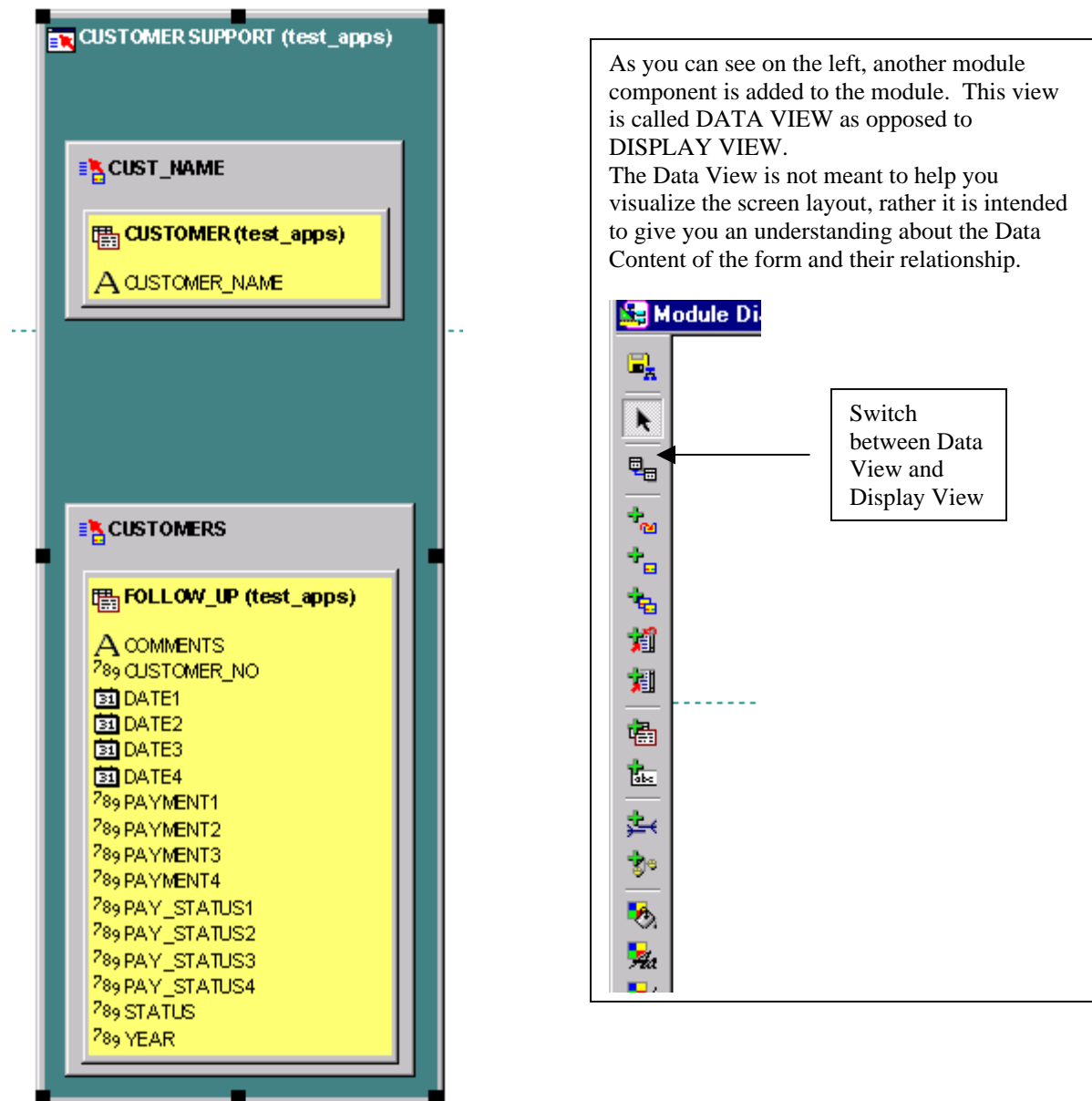
Note: In the last page, we left the Insert, Update and Delete operations unchecked. This is logical because what we want from this module component is to display the customer name only. The user is expected to enter the customer number and the customer name will be displayed and therefore, there we should allow the user to Insert or Update this field.

4- Press Next and the following screen appears



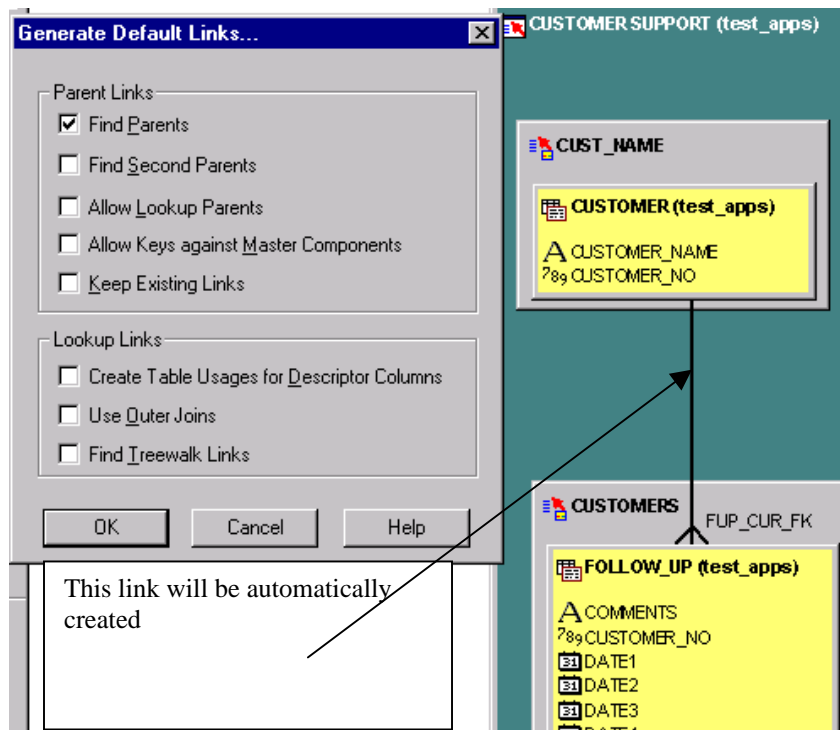
This screen allows you to select the items that you want to display in the form. We only want to show the CUSTOMER NAME.

5- Press Finish and the following screen should appear in the Module Diagram

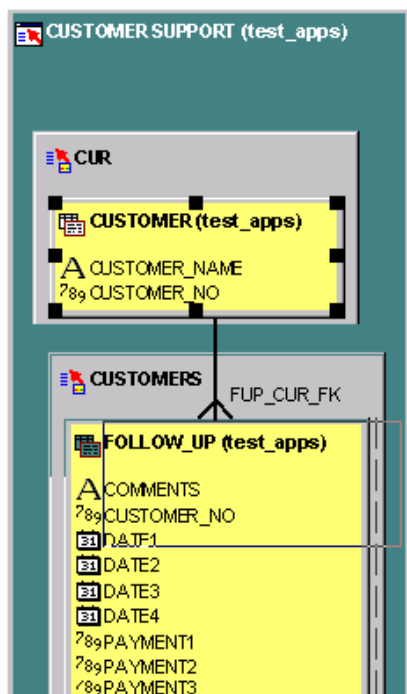


6- The two module components (or Blocks as they are called in Oracle Forms) are not linked by any relationship. Designer can find a default link for you if there is a foreign key between the two table. What you have to do is to select the module (The green object) and from the menu choose UTILITIES → Default Links

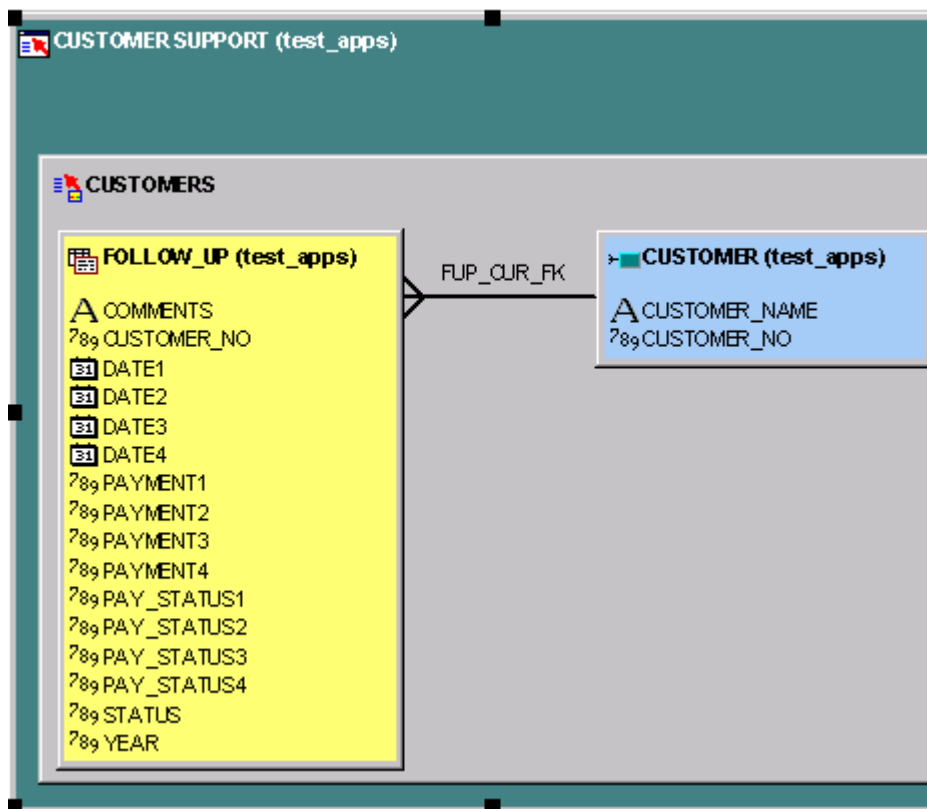
The Generate Default Link window appears, you then must check the Find Parents Checkbox. Oracle designer will automatically generate default links that associate the tables as shown below:



This Data View represents Master Details layout. It is necessary to convert it to Lookup Data View. The customer module component can be thought of as a lookup component for the Follow-up component. To convert to lookup formation, select the customer module component (The Yellow rectangle) and drag it down on top of the Follow_up component until you see a dashed line to the right of the follow_up rectangle. The diagram below shows the dashed line clearly as a result of the drag operation



Finish the drag and drop operation, and if it is successful, the following diagram appears



in the diagram below, part of the screen is shown, where the user has entered a customer number and the customer name has been automatically fetched (looked up)

The screenshot shows a web application window titled 'Customer Profile / PALCO - JORDAN'. The form contains the following fields and controls:

- Customer No:** A text input field containing the value '1'.
- Year:** A text input field.
- Status:** A dropdown menu.
- Customer Name:** A text input field displaying 'Ammar Sajdi / PALCO - REALSOFT'.
- Payment Section:** A table with three columns: 'payment', 'Payment status', and 'Payment Date'.

payment	Payment status	Payment Date
Payment1		
Payment2		

The following table summarizes the Customer number and Customer Name attributes that are necessary to produce the look up functionality shown above

Item Name	Displayed	Input Allowed	Update Allowed	Display type
-----------	-----------	---------------	----------------	--------------

- Move the Customer Name in the Display View using drag and drop after customer number.
- Set preferences that are shown in blue for the first item group

Generator Preferences: Item Group - CUSTOMERS.GENERAL (test_apps)

Product: Forms Generator
 Preference Set: No Preference Set Used

Item Group - CUSTOMERS.GENERAL

- Layout - Item Group
 - Item group brush width: Thinnest line available
 - Item group decoration: Draw a rectangle around the object with ins
 - Item group dash style: SOLID
 - Item group footer separator: 1
 - Item group header separator: 1
 - Item group horizontal inter-item space: 0
 - Item group margin: 1
 - Item group multi-line format: 2 fields per line
 - Group tabulation table: 15.40
 - Item group title justification: Left justification
 - Item group title margin: 2
 - Item group title position: Title is placed on any decoration
 - Item group title spacing: 2
 - Use group tabulation table: Use tabs to align the start of the display
 - Item group vertical inter-item spacing: 0

To summarize the changes

Preference Description	Abbreviation	values
Item group horizontal inter-item space	GRPHIS	0
Item group multi-line format	GRPMLF	2 fields
Group tabulation table	GRPTAB	15.40
Use group tabulation table	GRBUTT	Use tabs to align the start of the display

The above preferences say that we want only two fields per line and that the tabulation table will be used in such a way that the first tab will be used to position the start of the displayed item. In our case, the first item will be displayed at position (15 cells from left of the form). Likewise, the second item will be displayed at position 40. Of course the prompts should appear before the displayed items themselves.

The output is

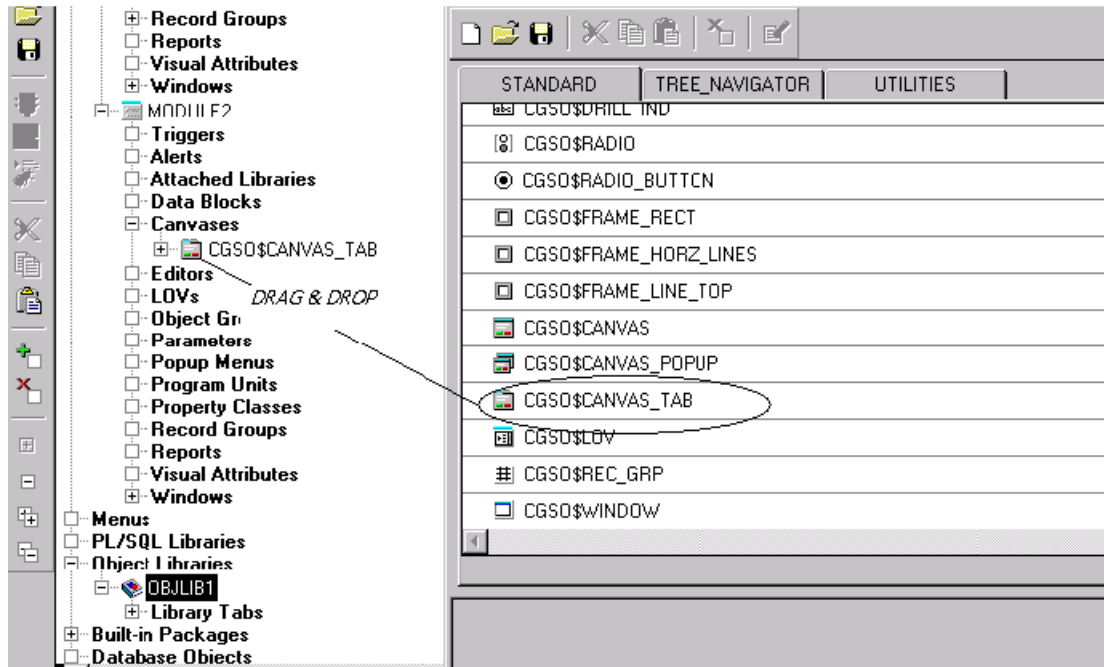
Customer Profile / PALCO - JORDAN

Customer No 1 Customer Name Ammar Sajdi / PALCO - REALSOFT
Year Status

payment Payment status Payment Date

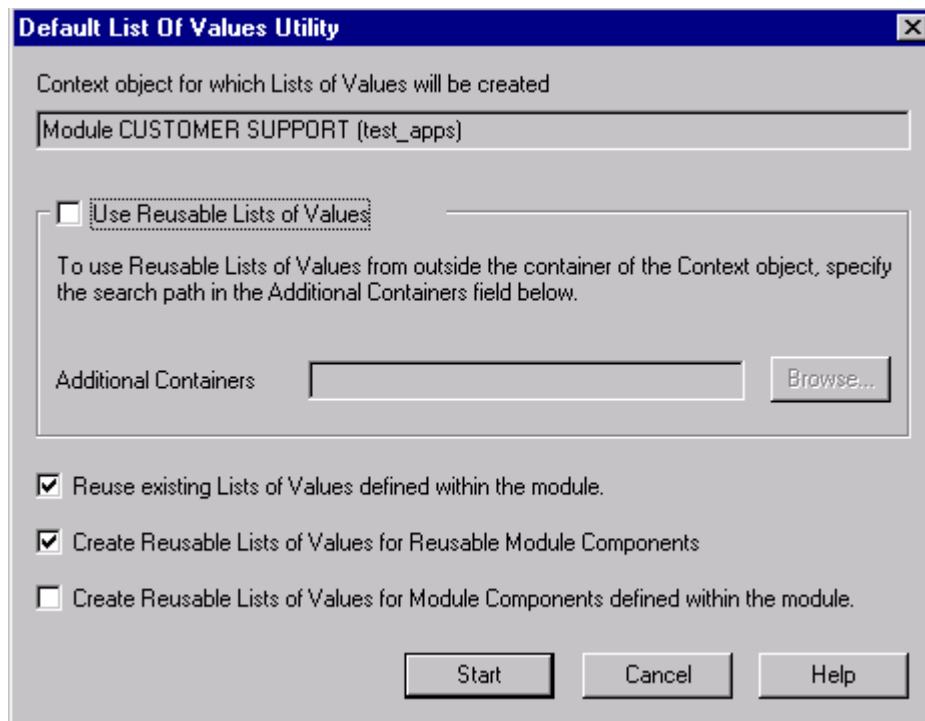
Payment1
Payment2
Payment3
Payment4

Comments



But Where is the LOV on the customer number

Menu → Utilities → Default List of Values



Running Default List of Values utility...

Attempting to bind a List of Values to Module Component Table Usage CUSTOMERS.CUR within Module CUSTOMER SUPPORT.

Creating List of Values CUR_LOV in Module CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Creating Module Component Table Usage CUR in List of Values CUR_LOV

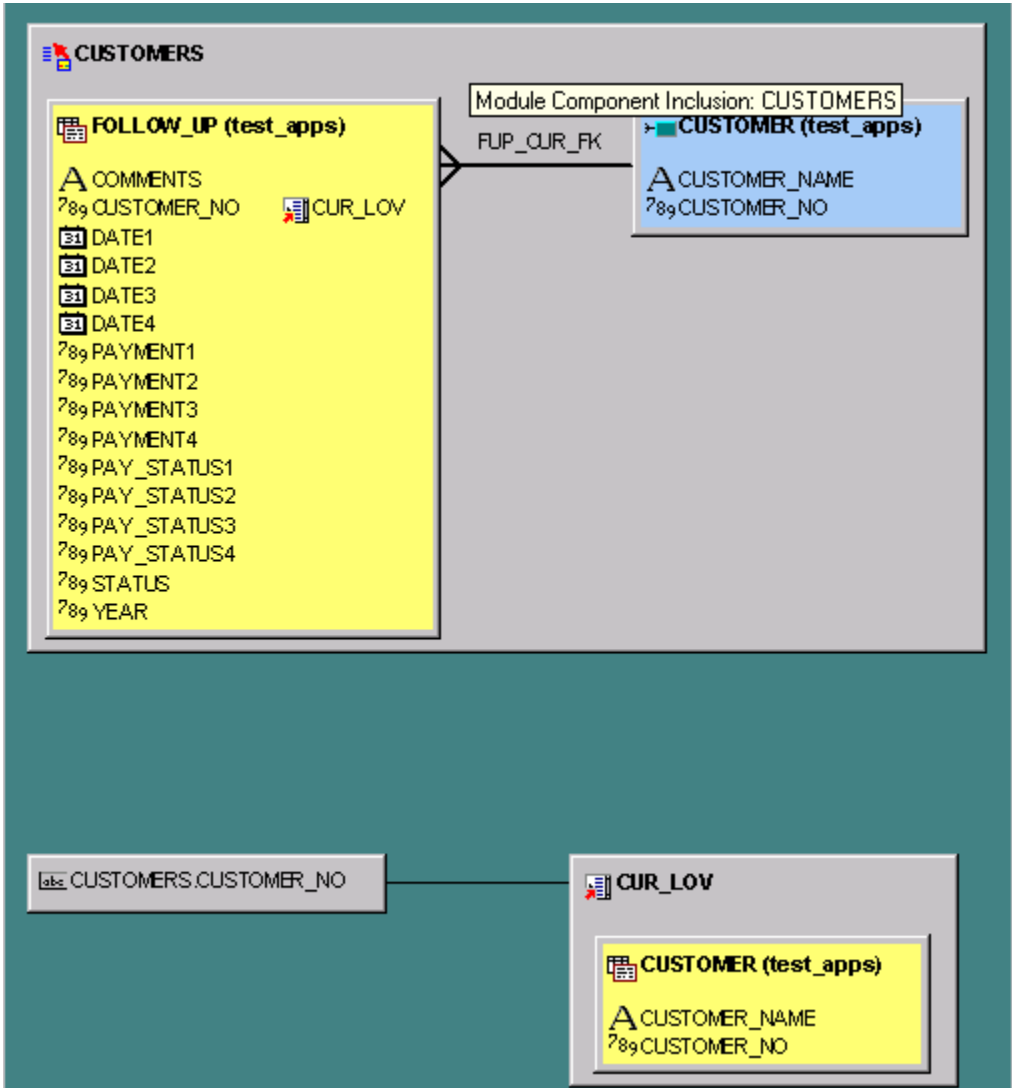
Creating Bound Item CUSTOMER_NO2 in Module Component Table Usage CUR_LOV.CUR

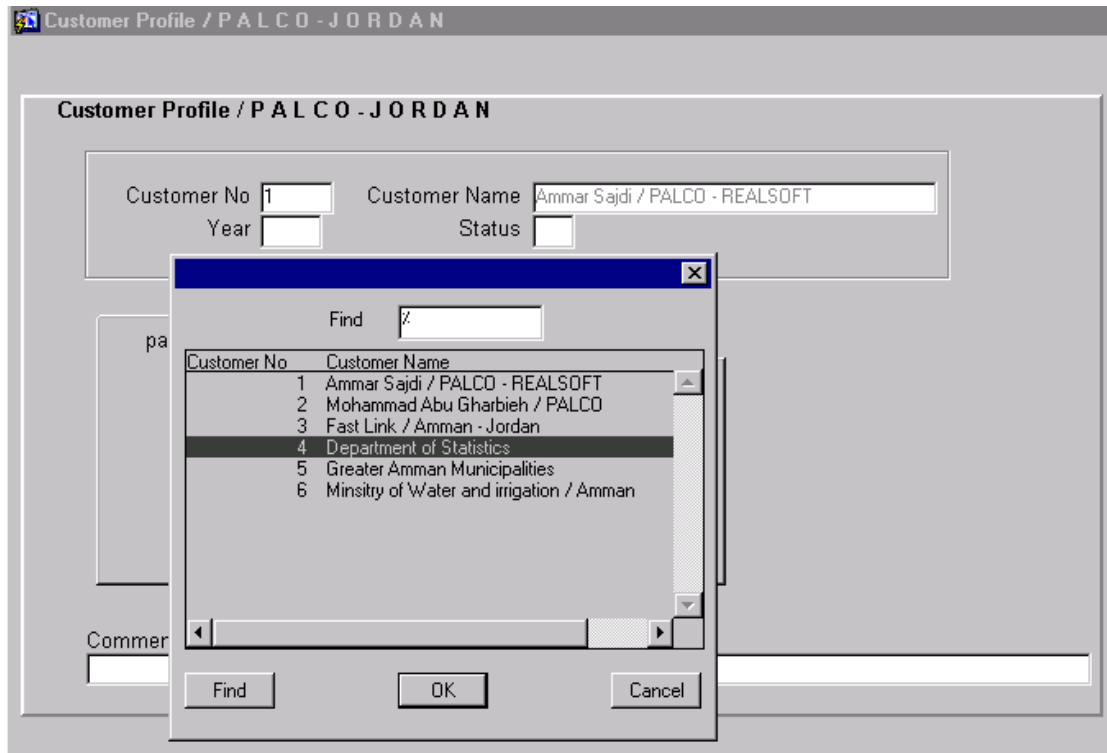
Creating Bound Item CUSTOMER_NAME in Module Component Table Usage CUR_LOV.CUR

List of Values CUR_LOV has been associated with Bound Item CUSTOMER_NO within CUSTOMERS.CUR.

Changes have been saved to the Repository.

Default List of Values utility completed.

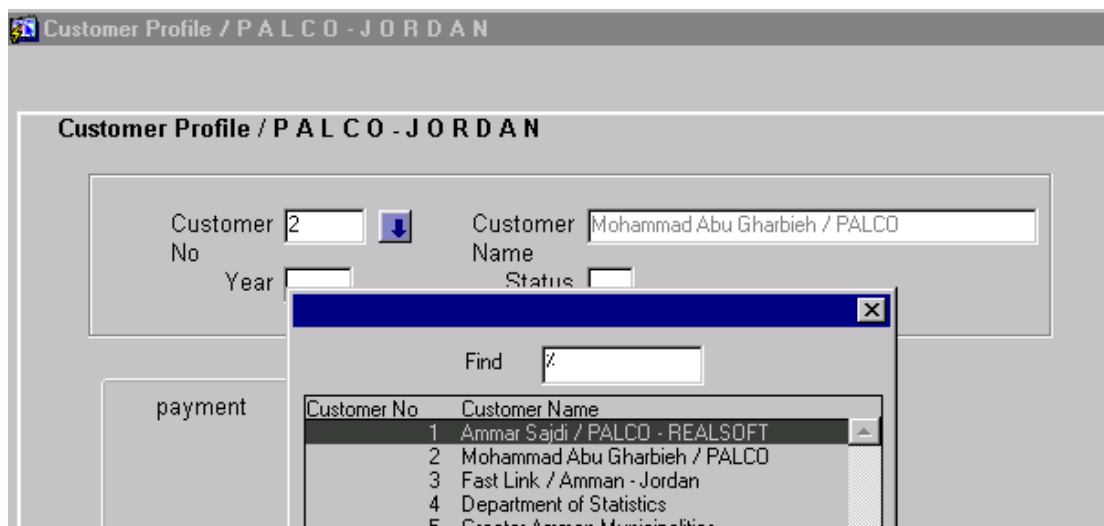
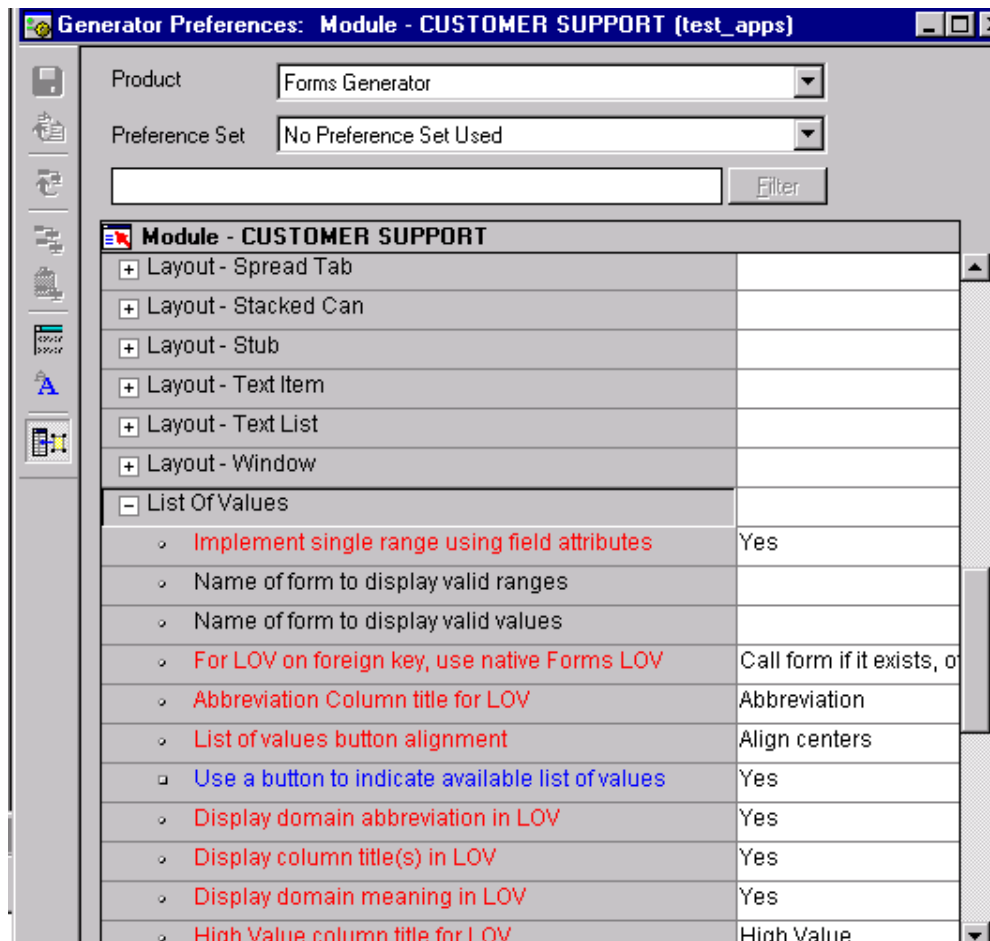




We want to add a push button next to the column with associated LOV to indicate the availability of LOV.

In the Generator Preferences, Expand the List of Values Folder and change the setting for the *USE BUTTON TO INDICATE AVAILABLE LIST OF VALUES (LOVBUT)* to YES. (shown in Blue) in the diagram below. As mentioned below, blue settings are those that are changed from default values.

Generate and Run



We do not want a List of Values rather, we would like to hide the customer number, and let the customers appear as a pop list in the customer name field. I.e, we want it to look as shown on the diagram below

The screenshot shows a web-based form for a customer profile. The title bar reads 'Customer Profile / PALCO - JORDAN'. The main form area has a title 'Customer Profile / PALCO - JORDAN'. It includes a 'Year' input field, a 'Customer Name' dropdown menu with a list of names, and a 'Status' dropdown menu with a list of statuses. Below these are four 'Payment' input fields labeled 'Payment1' through 'Payment4'. At the bottom is a 'Comments' text area.

The setting below makes sense, if you hide the primary key (Customer number), then how can you enter value for this column. Well set the lookup value (The customer name) to displayed and Input allowed and change the display type to PopList, then the form generator will understand that you want to fill the Primary key values using the poplist foreign key.

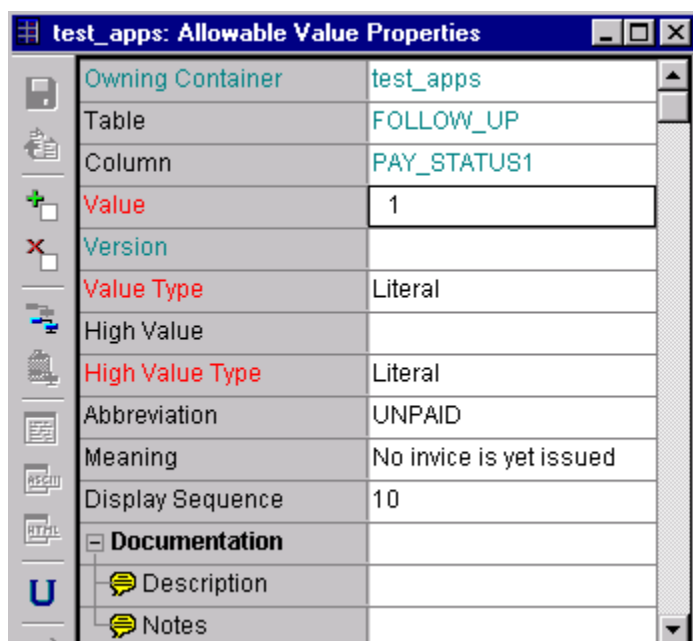
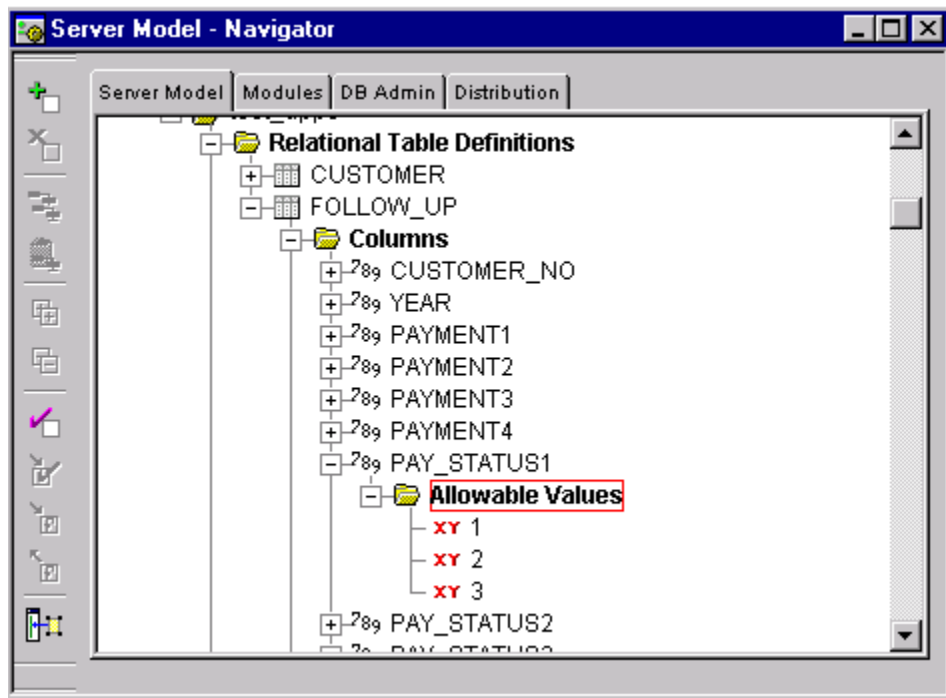
TABLE_USAGE.Column name	Displayed	Input Allowed	Update Allowed	Display type
FOLLOW_UP.Customer_no	No	No	No	TEXT
CUSTOMER.Customer_Name	Yes	Yes		Pop List

Why did not the customer name position appear in the beginning of the line?

The reason is due to the Group Tab cell positions. Remember that the tab setting for this Item Group was set to 15.40 and the Use Tabulation Table preference was set to use tab to align the start of the display. 15 cells is not enough space for the Customer name prompt + gap between the prompt and the beginning of the display. To alleviate this problem give more space for the first tab, let us change


Pop-Lists and allowable values

There are many fields that represent STUAS values. It is better that we provide Pop-List of allowable values for the user to choose from.



Edit Bound Item PAY_STATUS1 in test_apps [?] [X]

Column | Operations | Definition | **Display** | Help | Advanced

 **You can determine how the item is displayed in the generated application.**

Prompt: Show meaning

Display type:

Width: Height:

Alignment:

Format mask: ☐ Context item?

Relative Tab Stops

Start: End: ☐ Align Prompt?

Cancel Help < Back Next > Apply Finish

Customer Profile / P A L C O - J O R D A N

Customer Name:

payment | Payment status | Payment Date

Pay Status1:

Edit Bound Item PAY_STATUS1 in test_apps

Column Operations Definition **Display** Help Advanced

You can determine how the item is displayed in the generated application.

Prompt: Pay Status1

Display type: Pop list

Width: 5 Height:

Alignment: <Null>

Format mask:

Show meaning: Abbreviation only

Context item? ☐

Relative Tab Stops: Start: End: Align Prompt? ☐

Cancel Help < Back Next > Apply Finish

Customer Profile / PALCO - JORDAN

Customer Name: Fast Link / Amman - Jordan

Year: Status:

payment Payment status Payment Date

Pay Status1: UNPAID

Pay: UNPAID

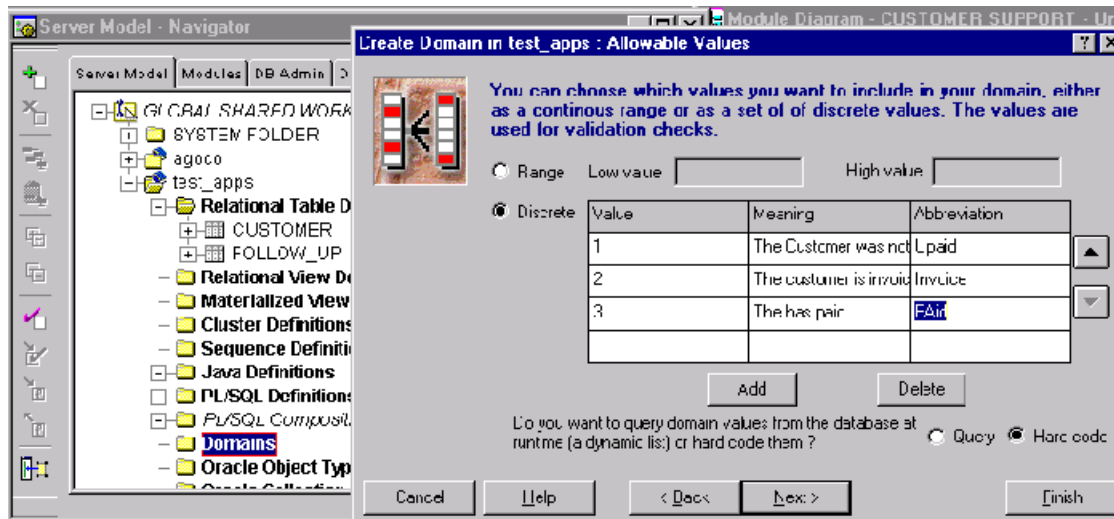
Pay: invoiced

Pay: paid

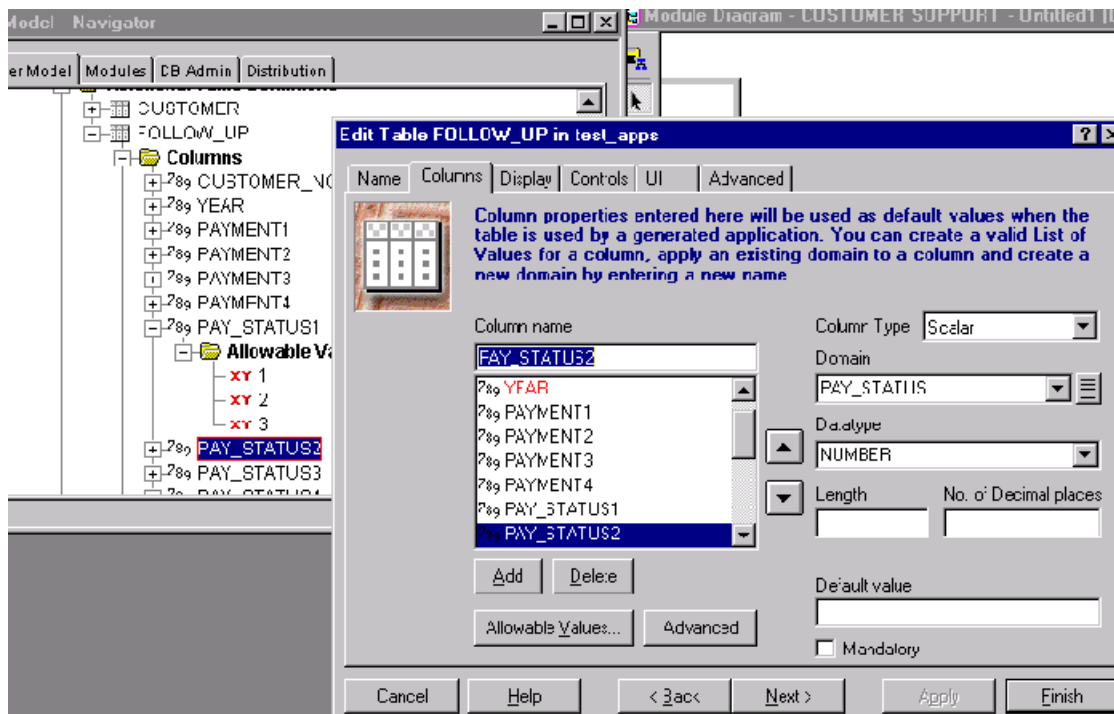
Comments:

Do we need to repeat the same for every field?

No, because that is what domains are created for. To create a domain, Switch the navigator to the Server Model and locate the Domains folder and create a domain. The domain wizard will appear and will guide you through the step. You must give it a name and then give the data type of the domain. In our case the data type should be number. Then you have to fill the allowable value as shown below



Assign the domain to the Pays_status items. This can be done by locating the item in Server Model Navigator, then invoking and finally choosing the domain in the Domain pop list as shown below

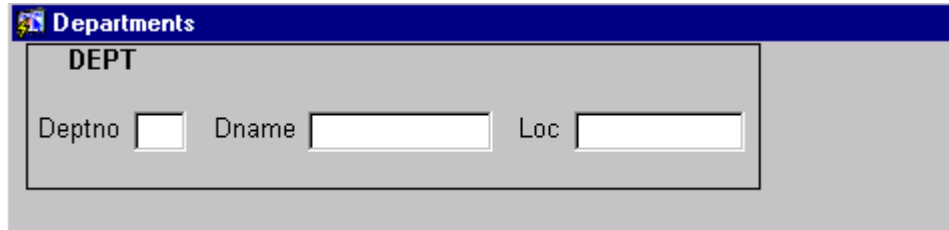


Note: You still need to go to the Items (Pay_status2, Pay_status3, etc..) and make sure that the Item type is Pop List and that Show meaning is set to abbreviation as was shown with Pay_status1 diagrammatically above.

Classical Dept / Emp Master Details

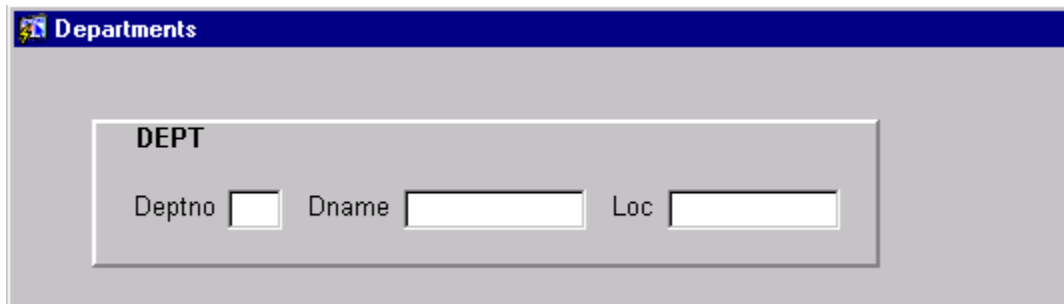
Design a new module based on the Dept Table

By default it will look like the following



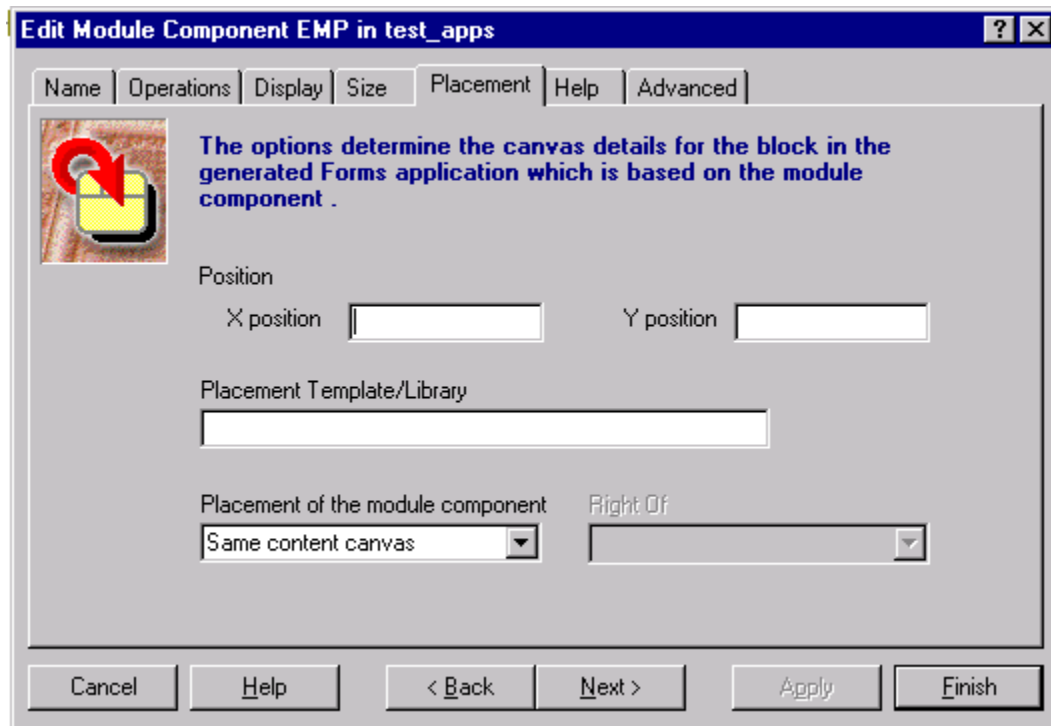
The screenshot shows a window titled 'Departments' with a blue header bar. Inside the window, there is a light gray rectangular area containing the text 'DEPT' in bold. Below this, there are three input fields: 'Deptno' followed by a small text box, 'Dname' followed by a larger text box, and 'Loc' followed by a small text box.

What Preferences are not to change the screen to look like the following

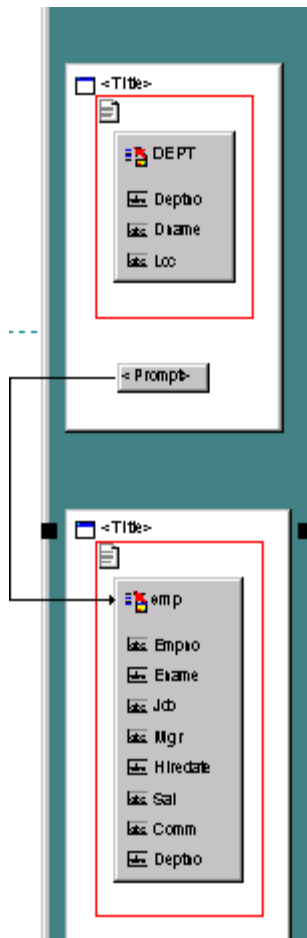


This screenshot shows the same 'Departments' window, but with a more decorative layout. The light gray content area is now enclosed in a white rectangular box with a raised bevel effect. The text 'DEPT' and the three input fields ('Deptno', 'Dname', 'Loc') are still present in the same positions.

Category	Preference Description	Abb	value
Layout – Block	Block decoration	BLKDEC	Draw rectangle around the block with raised bevel
Layout – Content Can	Content Canvas header separator	PAGHDS	2
Layout – Content Can	Content Canvas margin	PAGMAR	5



I do not know why they appeared in different windows



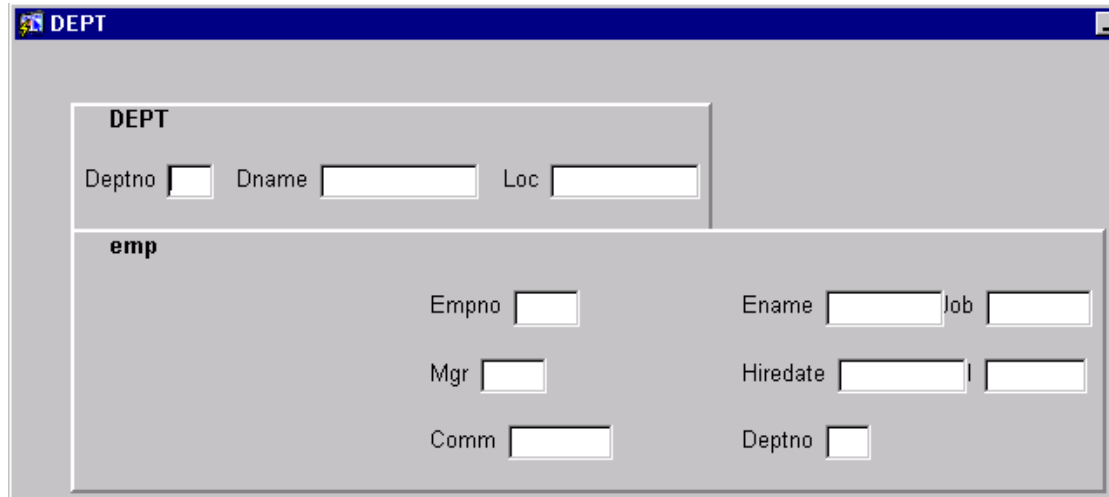
Drag upper window to encompass the lower one

The diagram shows a form structure with two panels. The top panel is titled "<Title>" and contains a sub-panel labeled "DEPT" with fields for "Deptno", "Dname", and "Loc". The bottom panel is labeled "emp" and contains fields for "Empno", "Ename", "Job", "Mgr", "Hiredate", "Sal", "Comm", and "Deptno". A red rectangle highlights the "DEPT" panel and the "emp" panel. A dashed blue line points from the "DEPT" panel to the "emp" panel.

The form look like

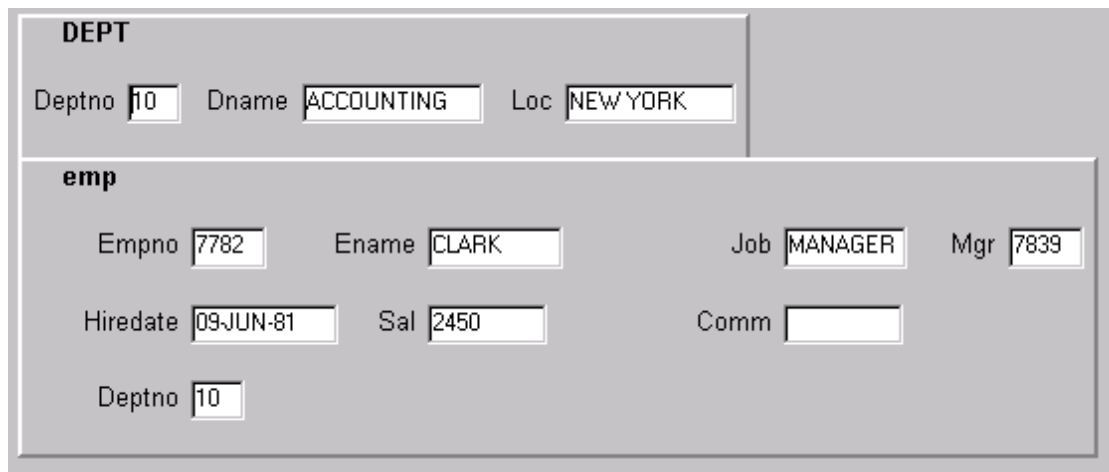
The screenshot shows a form titled "DEPT" with two sections. The top section is labeled "DEPT" and contains three text boxes: "Deptno" with the value "10", "Dname" with the value "ACCOUNTING", and "Loc" with the value "NEW YORK". The bottom section is labeled "emp" and contains seven text boxes: "Empno" with the value "7782", "Ename" with the value "CLARK", "Job" with the value "MANAGER", "Mgr" with the value "7839", "Hiredate" with the value "09-JUN-81", "Sal" with the value "2450", and "Comm" with an empty box. There is also a "Deptno" text box with the value "10" at the bottom right of the "emp" section.

12.30.42.57.74 and BLTUTT SS



The screenshot shows a window titled "DEPT" with a blue header bar. Inside, there are two main sections. The top section, labeled "DEPT", contains three input fields: "Deptno", "Dname", and "Loc". The bottom section, labeled "emp", contains six input fields arranged in two columns: "Empno", "Ename", "Job", "Mgr", "Hiredate", and "Comm". A "Deptno" field is also present at the bottom right of the "emp" section.

just change the BLKTUU to SD



The screenshot shows the same "DEPT" window, but now with data entered into the input fields. In the "DEPT" section, "Deptno" is 10, "Dname" is ACCOUNTING, and "Loc" is NEW YORK. In the "emp" section, "Empno" is 7782, "Ename" is CLARK, "Job" is MANAGER, "Mgr" is 7839, "Hiredate" is 09-JUN-81, "Sal" is 2450, "Comm" is empty, and the "Deptno" field at the bottom right is 10.

Why? Still do not know

I changed the setting to 2.20.42.60 and through several testing I made, I noticed that the first tab and third tab are completely ignored, only the second tab and the fourth are used, and used to align the start of the prompt only and the display is ignored. See the diagram below


DEPT		
Deptno <input type="text"/>	Dname <input type="text"/>	Loc <input type="text"/>

emp	
Empno <input type="text"/>	Ename <input type="text"/>
Job <input type="text"/>	Mgr <input type="text"/>
Hiredate <input type="text"/>	Sal <input type="text"/>
Comm <input type="text"/>	Deptno <input type="text"/>

We want to leave some space between block frames

Change the preference of the module as follows

Category	Preference Description	Abb	Value
Layout – Content Can	Content Canvas inter – block separator	PAGIBS	2

 DEPT

DEPT		
Deptno <input type="text"/>	Dname <input type="text"/>	Loc <input type="text"/>

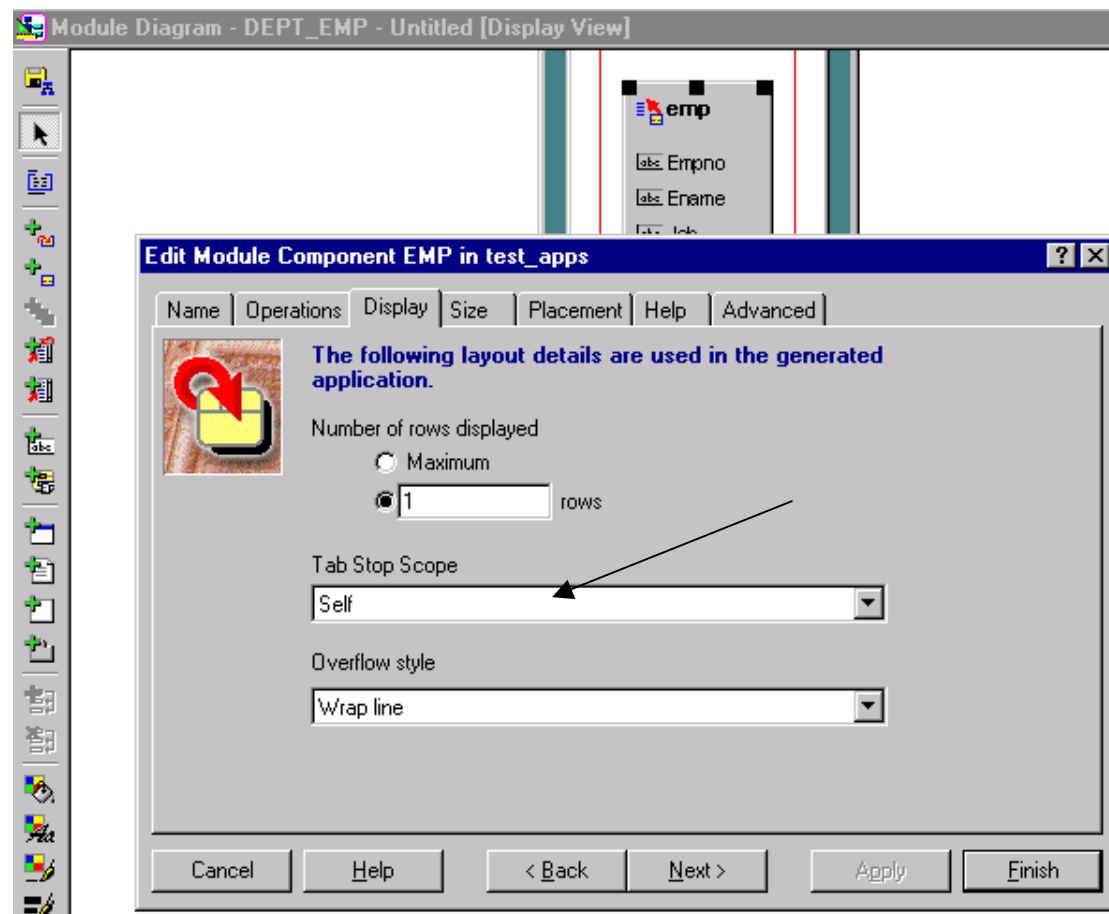
emp	
Empno <input type="text"/>	Ename <input type="text"/>
Job <input type="text"/>	Mgr <input type="text"/>
Hiredate <input type="text"/>	Sal <input type="text"/>
Comm <input type="text"/>	Deptno <input type="text"/>

Relative Tabs

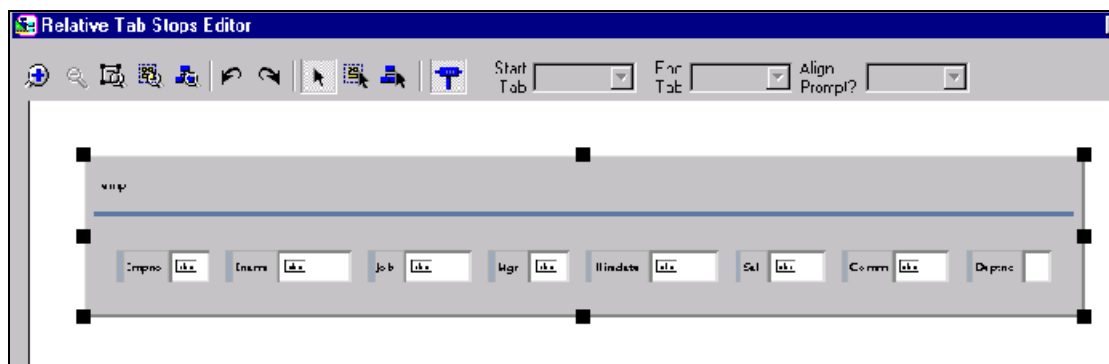
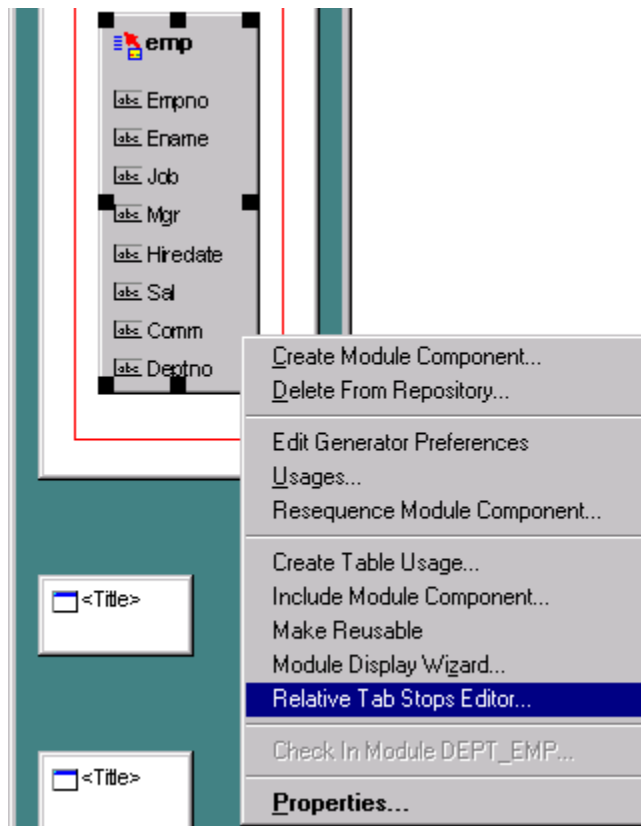
If you specify relative tab stops, during generation Form Generator horizontally positions items/item groups so that any items/item groups with the same relative tab values are vertically aligned below one another. The Start Tab Stop property and the End Tab Stop property determine whether it is the left hand edge, the right hand edge, or both edges of the item/item group that are aligned.

In general, Form Generator only uses relative tab stops if relative tab stops have been defined and the Tab Stop Scope property of an item group or module component is set to Self or Parent. Note that Form Generator also uses relative tab stops to position items in an item group with its Tab Stop Scope property set to None if the object that contains the item group (i.e. a module component or another item group) has its Tab Stop Scope property set to Self or Parent. In this case, Form Generator positions items as if the item group's Tab Stop Scope property was set to Self.

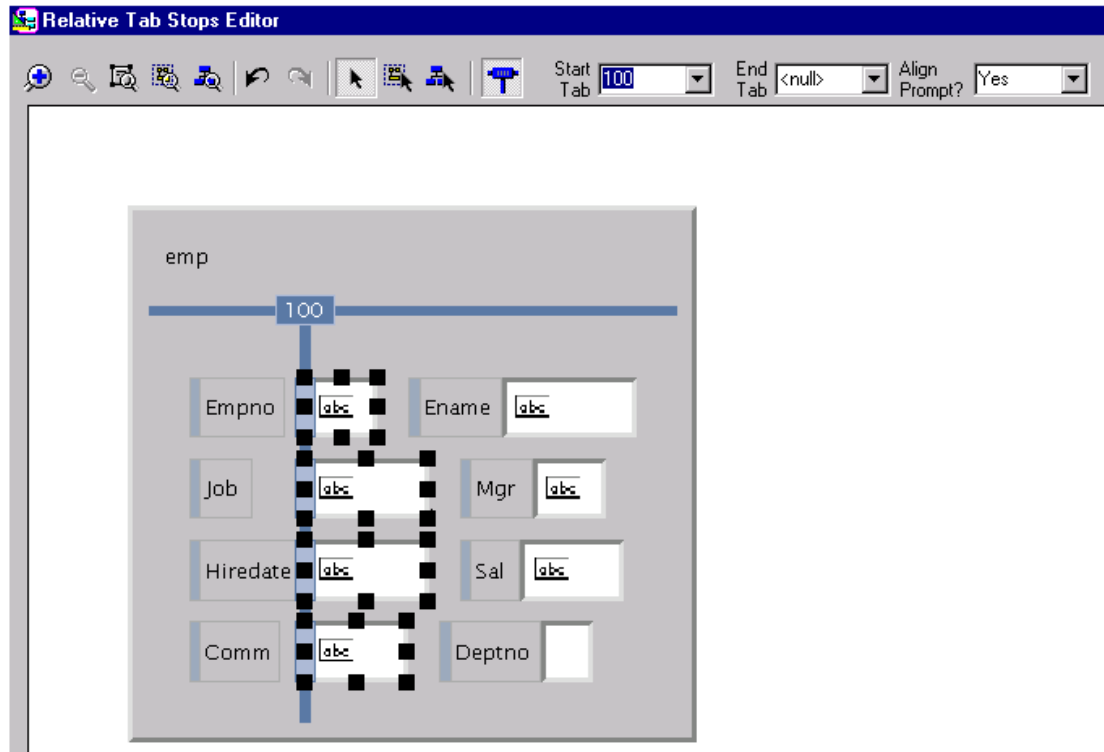
Items are always sequenced (for navigation purposes) according to the value of their Usage Sequence property. Relative tab stops are sequenced in their numeric order. If the relative tab setting of the next item in the usage sequence is lower than the relative tab setting of the previous item, Form Generator places the next item on a new line and aligns it appropriately.



Click the Right Mouse button over the EMP component, then choose Relative Tab Stops Editor from the popup menu as shown below

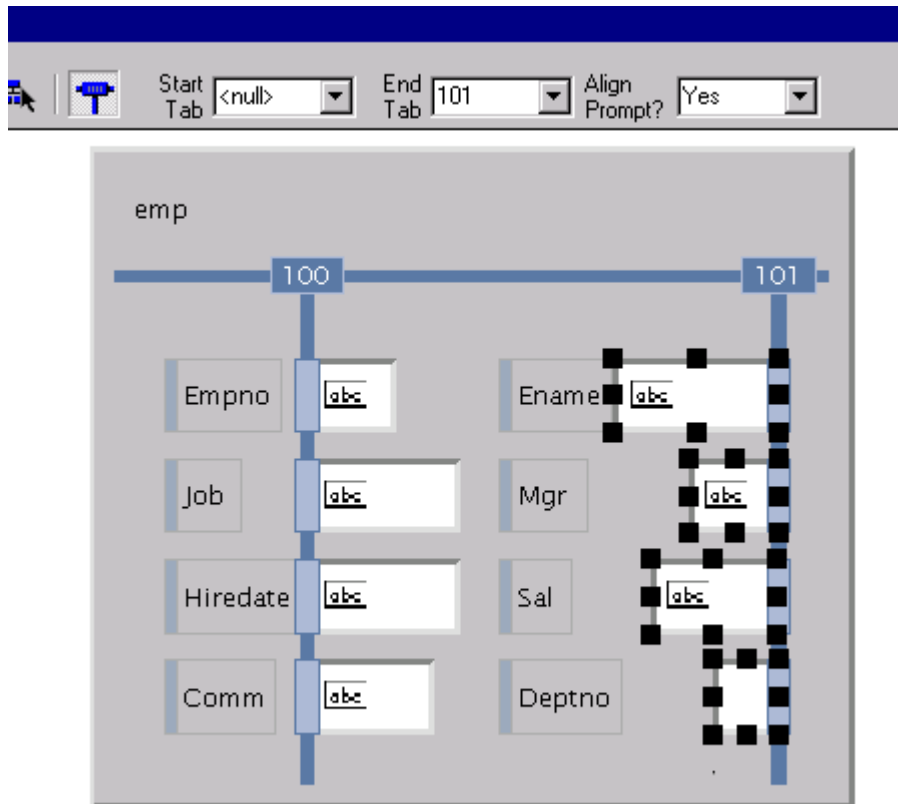


With the mouse select empno, job, hiredate,comm., then locate the Start Tab on the top toolbar and select 100. Go to the Align Prompt popup list and select Yes, and the following diagram reflects the settings

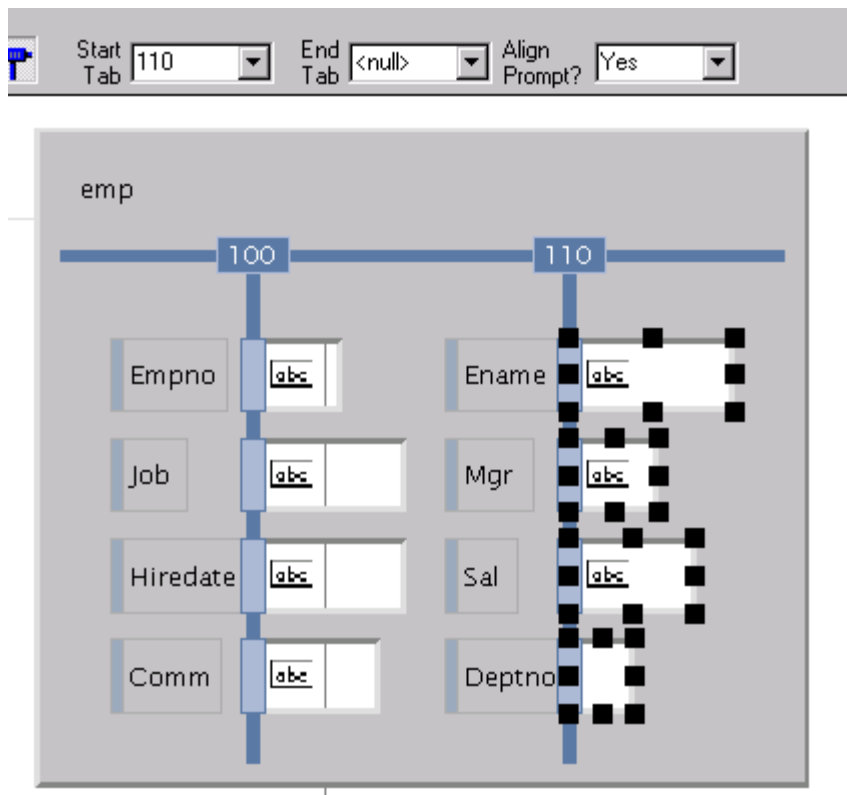


Likewise, Select the remaining fields (Ename, Mgr, Sal, Deptno), also define the Start Tab for these column. The value of the Start Tab should be any value larger than 100. choose for example 110. The exact number is not important because it is relative position that this topic talks about.

If you choose End Tab instead, you will be aligning the End of the Displayed item and the start of the item. The following shows how the layout looks like if the End Tab is chosen



However, we want the Display items to be displayed at the start and not at the end. Therefore, we need to set the End Tab value back to Null, and Set the Start Tab to 110 for the selected items, and layout will look like



Generate:

DEPT

Deptno Dname Loc

emp

Empno Ename

Job Mgr

Hiredate Sal

Comm Deptno

the Emp record spans multiple record, we say that each emp record spans multiple lines. This is fine but we do not want vertical space between the items that span multiple records. If we want the emp block to look like the following

DEPT

Deptno Dname Loc

emp

Empno Ename

Job Mgr

Hiredate Sal

Comm Deptno

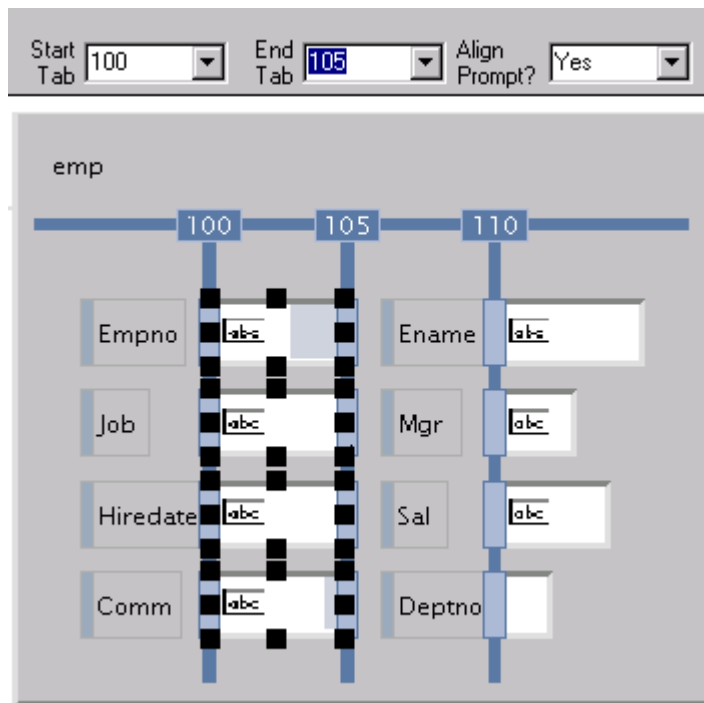
Modify the Block Layout preference of the Emp module Component as follows

Category	Preference Description	Abb	Value
Layout - Block	Block multiline separator	BLKMLL	0

To the layout look more symmetrical, can you make the field size of all vertical items the same

Can be accomplished using the Relative Stop editor.

Select all vertically aligned items that appear on the left hand side of the layout and modify the End Tab setting to 105. This way all items' end should be 105 and therefore, smaller items will expand, and their size will be equivalent to the largest item in the group. This is shown below



Repeat the same to the group on the right (Ename, Mgr, Sal, Deptno). In this case set the End Tab equal to 120 (or any value larger than their Start Tab which is currently 110)

Generate :- Looks good

How about giving more space between Horizontal items (ie between Empno and Ename)

DEPT

Deptno Dname Loc

emp

Empno Ename
 Job Mgr
 Hiredate Sal
 Comm Deptno

The preference that affects this setting can be found in the Layout – Item. There is one preference that specifies the gap between the item and prompt. Since the prompt is before the item and the preference says Item/Prompt then it affects the gap between the end of the current item and the prompt of the next item

Category	Preference Description	Abb	Value
Layout - Item	Item/prompt gap	ITMIPG	10

Let us have the field of the employee block start after leaving a gap of 15 spaces. This cannot be controlled by relative Tab stop, because relative tab stops controls positions of items and relative to each others.

DEPT

Deptno Dname Loc

emp

Empno Ename
 Job Mgr
 Hiredate Sal
 Comm Deptno

For this setting, we use another preferences that we can set using Layout block preferences

Category	Preference Description	Abb	Value
Layout - Block	Block margin	BLKMAR	15

Note the default unit for the Value is character cells. However you can specify the value in other units by leaving a space and write symbol of the unit you wish to use. For example 15 cm or 100 pixel.

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