

OpenCurrentDatabase Method

[See Also](#) [Applies To](#) [Example](#)

You can use the **OpenCurrentDatabase** method to open an existing [Microsoft Access database](#) (.mdb) as the current database.

expression.**OpenCurrentDatabase**(*filepath*, *Exclusive*, *bstrPassword*)

expression Required. An expression that returns one of the objects in the Applies To list.

filepath Required **String**. A [string expression](#) that is the name of an existing database file, including the path name and the file name extension. If your network supports it, you can also specify a network path in the following form:

\\Server \Share\Folder\Filename

Note If you don't supply the filename extension, .mdb is appended to the filename.

Exclusive Optional **Boolean**. Specifies whether you want to open the database in [exclusive](#) mode. The default value is **False**, which specifies that the database should be opened in shared mode.

bstrPassword Optional **String**. The password to open the specified database.

Remarks

You can use this method to open a database from another application that is controlling Microsoft Access through [Automation](#), formerly called OLE Automation. For example, you can use the **OpenCurrentDatabase** method from Microsoft Excel to open the Northwind.mdb sample database in the Microsoft Access window. Once you have created an [instance](#) of Microsoft Access from another application, you must also create a new database or specify a particular database to open. This database opens in the Microsoft Access window.

Note Use the [OpenAccessProject](#) method to open an existing [Microsoft Access project](#) (.adp) as the current database.

If you have already opened a database and wish to open another database in the Microsoft Access window, you can use the [CloseCurrentDatabase](#) method to close the first database before opening another.

Set the **Exclusive** argument to **True** to open the database in exclusive mode. If you omit this argument, the database will open in shared mode.

Note Don't confuse the **OpenCurrentDatabase** method with the ActiveX Data Objects (ADO) [Open](#) method or the Data Access Object (DAO) [OpenDatabase](#) method. The **OpenCurrentDatabase** method opens a database in the Microsoft Access window. The ADO **Open** method returns a **Connection** object variable, and the DAO **OpenDatabase** method returns a **Database** object variable, both of which represent a particular database but don't actually open that database in the Microsoft Access window.

Example

The following example opens a Microsoft Access database from another application through Automation and then opens a form in that database.

You can enter this code in a Visual Basic module in any application that can act as a COM component. For example, you might run the following code from Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Visual Basic, or Microsoft Access.

When the variable pointing to the **Application** object goes out of scope, the instance of Microsoft Access that it represents closes as well. Therefore, you should declare this variable at the module level.

```
' Include the following in Declarations section of module.
Dim appAccess As Access.Application
```

```
Sub DisplayForm()

    Dim strDB as String

    ' Initialize string to database path.
    Const strConPathToSamples = "C:\Program " _
        & "Files\Microsoft Office\Office11\Samples\"

    strDB = strConPathToSamples & "Northwind.mdb"
    ' Create new instance of Microsoft Access.
    Set appAccess = _
        CreateObject("Access.Application")
    ' Open database in Microsoft Access window.
    appAccess.OpenCurrentDatabase strDB
    ' Open Orders form.
    appAccess.DoCmd.OpenForm "Orders"
End Sub
```