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1 What's New

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 4.0

- Added a graphical interface for configuring the driver on macOS and Linux
- Added support for URL-style connection strings that use the inet4 and inet6 protocols
- Improved compatibility with DBeaver
- Improved compatibility with FileMaker
- Improved compatibility with FileMaker Pro
- Improved compatibility with SSIS in Visual Studio
- Improved compatibility with Node.js
- Improved compatibility with Tableau
- Improved compatibility with Vectorworks

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 3.6

- Fixed connection timeout setting before opening connection
- Added support for Firebird 5
- Now passwords are stored in an encrypted form in the DSN record
- Added Read Only mode for connection
- Improved compatibility with ETL Informatica PowerCenter
- Improved compatibility with Altova Mapforce
- Improved compatibility with FileMaker Server for Linux and macOS

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 3.5

- Added support for setting SQL Dialect
- Improved compatibility with SSIS in Visual Studio
- Improved compatibility with 4D in macOS

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 3.4

- Added support for SQL_ATTR_MAX_ROWS attribute
- Improved compatibility with Visual Basic in Visual Studio

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 3.3

- Added support for macOS 13 Ventura
- Improved compatibility with Tableau Prep Builder
- Improved compatibility with Crystal Reports
- Reduced number of metadata calls

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 3.2

- Added support for Windows 11
- Added support for Firebird 4
- Improved compatibility with FICO Mosel
- Improved compatibility with FileMaker
- Improved compatibility with JMP on macOS
- Improved support for an ODBC installer on Windows 2000

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 3.1

- MSI installer for deploying through GPO is added

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 3.0

- Compatibility with macOS Big Sur is improved
- Compatibility with Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio is improved
- Minor performance improvements
- Compatibility with Power Pivot is improved
- Compatibility with Visual Basic is improve
- Compatibility with RStudio is improved
- Support for connection pooling is improved
- Improved compatibility with sandboxed applications for macOS

- Now ODBC driver activation does not require administrator privileges
- Now ODBC driver for macOS is distributed as a PKG package
- Now ODBC driver for Linux is distributed as DEB and RPM packages
- Possibility to force the ODBC 2.x behavior is added

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 2.4

- Possibility to return String Types as Ansi or Unicode is added
- Compatibility with MS Access is improved
- Compatibility with Omnis Studio is improved
- Compatibility with Power Pivot is improved
- Compatibility with DBeaver is improved

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 2.3

- Performance of batch operations is significantly improved

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 2.2

- Compatibility with SAS JMP is improved
- Compatibility with MS Power Query is improved
- OUTER JOIN macros in SQL queries are supported
- DateTime macros in SQL queries are supported
- Scalar function macros in SQL queries are supported
- The ForceUsingDefaultPort connection parameter is added

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 2.1

- Compatibility with MS Visual Studio
- Compatibility with MS FoxPro is improved
- Compatibility with MapInfo is improved
- Compatibility with Libre Office is improved
- Compatibility with Qlik is improved

- Compatibility with Delphi & C++Builder is improved
- MS Access linked tables support is improved

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 2.0

- Linux is supported
- macOS is supported
- Support for stored procedures and functions is improved
- Backward compatibility of SQLExecDirect with ODBC 2.x is improved
- Compatibility with MS Excel is improved
- Compatibility with ODBC 2.x is improved
- Bug with Trial expiration in Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio is fixed

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 1.2

- Compatibility with Microsoft Visual Studio is improved
- Compatibility with Microsoft Office is improved
- Compatibility with Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio is improved
- Compatibility with Crystal Reports is improved
- Compatibility with ClikView is improved
- Compatibility with Microsoft Power BI Desktop is improved
- Compatibility with Microsoft Visual FoxPro is improved

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 1.1

- Performance is improved

New features in ODBC Driver for Firebird 1.0

- First release of ODBC Driver for Firebird
- Windows 32-bit is supported
- Windows 64-bit is supported

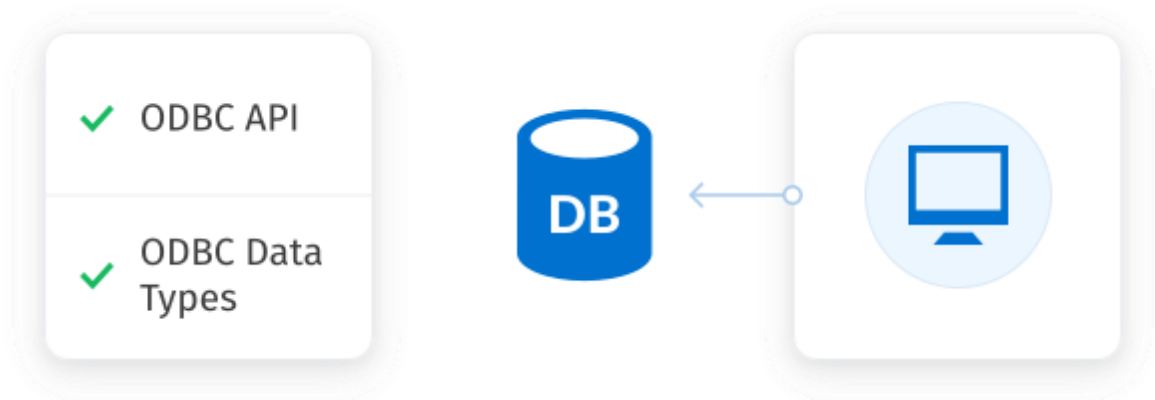
2 General Information

1. [Overview](#)
2. [Features](#)
3. [Compatibility](#)
4. [Requirements](#)
5. [Licensing](#)
6. [Getting Support](#)

2.1 Overview

Overview

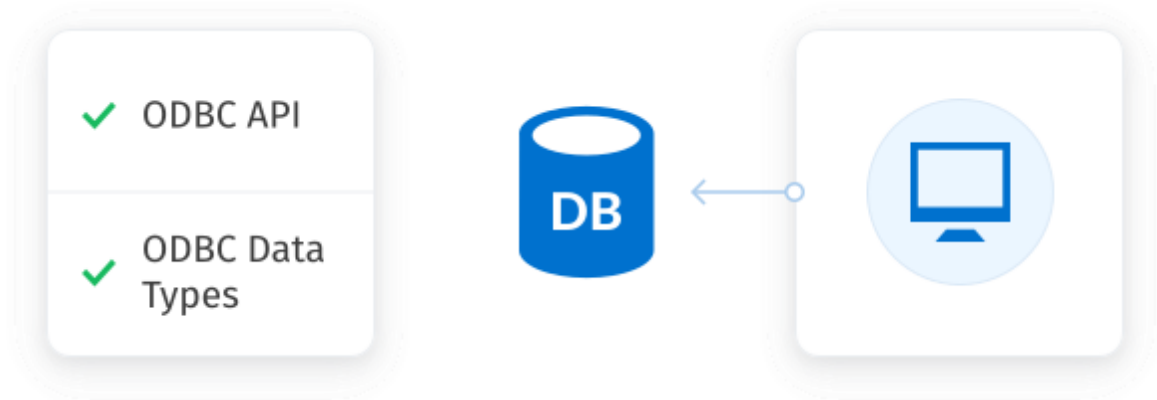
Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird is a high-performance connectivity solution with enterprise-level [features](#) for accessing Firebird databases from ODBC-compliant reporting, analytics, BI, and ETL tools on both 32-bit and 64-bit Windows, macOS, and Linux. Our ODBC driver fully supports standard ODBC API functions and data types and enables easy and secure access to live Firebird data from anywhere.



Compatibility

ODBC Driver for Firebird supports Firebird 5.x, 4.x, 3.x, 2.x, and 1.x versions.

2.2 Features

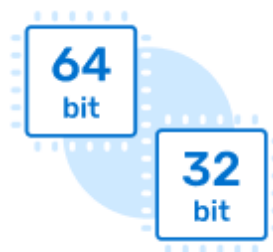


ODBC Conformance

Our ODBC driver provides full support for common ODBC interface:

- ODBC Data Types support
- ODBC API Functions support

In addition, we provide support for Advanced Connection String parameters. Thus allowing any desktop and web applications to connect to Firebird from various environments and platforms, that support ODBC.



Development Platforms Variety

ODBC Driver for Firebird doesn't limit your choice of the development platform and environment. The driver installations are available for various operational systems and platforms. The current version supports Windows, macOS, Linux, both 32-bit and 64-bit. So

you can develop both 32-bit and 64-bit cross-platform applications.



Database Compatibility

ODBC Driver for Firebird supports Firebird 5.x/4.x/3.x/2.x/1.x versions



High Performance

All our products are designed to help you write high-performance, lightweight data access layers, therefore they use advanced data access algorithms and techniques of optimization.



Support

Visit our [Support](#) page to get instant help from knowledgeable and experienced professionals,

a quick resolution of your problems, and nightly builds with hotfixes.

2.3 Compatibility

Firebird Compatibility

ODBC Driver for Firebird supports the following database servers:

Firebird Servers	Support
Firebird 5.x	✓
Firebird 4.x	✓
Firebird 3.x	✓
Firebird 2.x	✓
Firebird 1.x	✓

Note: Firebird 1.5 requires a UDF containing the RTRIM function for proper operation.

Supported Platforms

- Windows 32-bit and 64-bit (including Windows Terminal Server)
- macOS 32-bit and 64-bit
- Linux, 32-bit and 64-bit

Compatibility with Third-Party Tools

Application Development Tools

Adobe ColdFusion	✓
Embarcadero Delphi & C++Builder <small>UniDAC, FireDAC, dbGo (ADO), BDE and dbExpress</small>	✓
FileMaker	✓
Lazarus	✓

Microsoft Visual FoxPro	✓
Microsoft Visual Studio Server Explorer and ADO.NET ODBC Provider	✓
Omnis Studio	✓
PHP	✓
PowerBASIC	✓
Python	✓

Database Management

Aqua Data Studio	✓
dbForge Studio	✓
dBeaver	✓
EMS SQL Management Studio	✓
Informatica Cloud	✓
RazorSQL	✓
SQL Server Data Tools	✓
SQL Server Management Studio	✓
SQL Server Reporting Services	✓

BI & Analytics Software

Alteryx	✓
DBExtra	✓
Dundas BI	✓
IBM SPSS Statistics	✓

MicroStrategy	✓
Power BI	✓
Qlik Sense	✓
QlikView	✓
RStudio	✓
SAP Crystal Reports	✓
SAS JMP	✓
Tableau	✓
TARGIT	✓
TIBCO Spotfire	✓

Office Software Suites

LibreOffice	✓
Microsoft Access	✓
Microsoft Excel	✓
OpenOffice	✓
StarOffice	✓

2.4 Requirements

The following requirements must be met for ODBC Driver for Firebird:

- The Firebird client library is available on your system.
- Only one version of ODBC Driver for Firebird is installed on your system.

2.5 Licensing

ODBC Driver License Agreement

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INTRODUCTION

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This Agreement contains the total agreement between the two parties and supersedes any

other agreements, written, oral, expressed, or implied.

2.6 Getting Support

This document lists several ways you can find help with using ODBC Driver for Firebird describes the Priority Support program.

Support Options

There are a number of resources for finding help on installing and using ODBC Driver for Firebird:

- You can find out more about ODBC Driver for Firebird installation or licensing by consulting [Installation](#) and [License](#) articles of this manual respectively.
- You can get community assistance and technical support on the [Community Forum](#).
- You can get advanced technical assistance by ODBC Driver for Firebird developers through the ODBC Driver for Firebird Priority Support program.

Subscriptions

The [ODBC Driver for Firebird](#) Subscription program is an annual maintenance and support service for ODBC Driver for Firebird users.

Users with a valid ODBC Driver for Firebird Subscription get the following benefits:

- Product support through the ODBC Driver for Firebird Priority Support program
- Access to new versions of ODBC Driver for Firebird when they are released
- Access to all ODBC Driver for Firebird updates and bug fixes
- Notifications about new product versions

Priority Support

ODBC Driver for Firebird Priority Support is an advanced product support service for getting expedited individual assistance with ODBC Driver for Firebird-related questions from the ODBC Driver for Firebird developers themselves. Priority Support is carried out over email and has a two business day response policy. Priority Support is available for users with an active ODBC Driver for Firebird Subscription.

To get help through the ODBC Driver for Firebird Priority Support program, please send an email to support@devart.com describing the problem you are having. Make sure to include the following information in your message:

Your ODBC Driver for Firebird Registration number.

- Full ODBC Driver for Firebird edition name and version number. You can find the version number in DLL version information.
- Versions of the Firebird server and client you are using.
- A detailed problem description.
- If possible, ODBC Administrator Log, scripts for creating and filling in database objects, and the application using ODBC Driver for Firebird.

If you have any questions regarding licensing or subscriptions, please see the FAQ or contact sales@devart.com.

3 Using ODBC Driver

1. [Installation](#)
2. [Product Activation](#)
3. [Connecting to Firebird](#)
4. [Connection String Parameters](#)
5. [Sandboxed Apps on macOS](#)
6. [Using with iODBC](#)
7. [Enabling ODBC Tracing](#)
8. [Supported Data Types](#)
9. [Supported ODBC API Functions](#)

3.1 Installation

ODBC Driver for Firebird currently supports the following platforms: Windows, macOS, and Linux, both 32-bit and 64-bit.

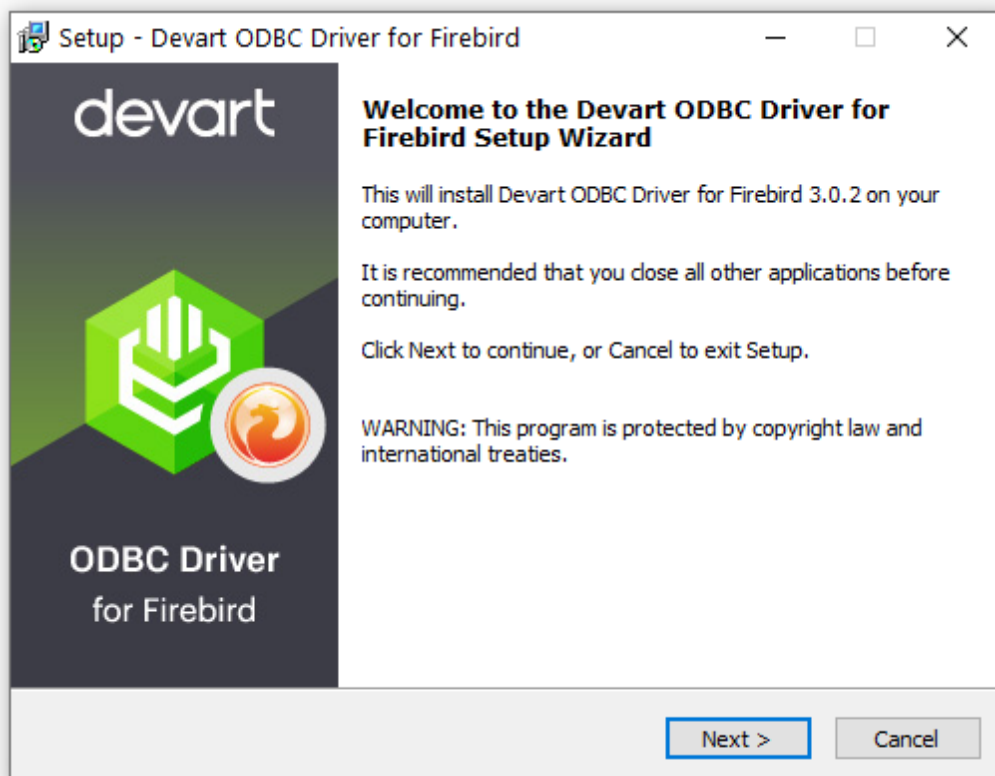
See how to install Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird:

- [Windows](#)
- [Windows Silent](#)
- [macOS](#)
- [Linux DEB](#)
- [Linux RPM](#)

3.1.1 Windows

Installation

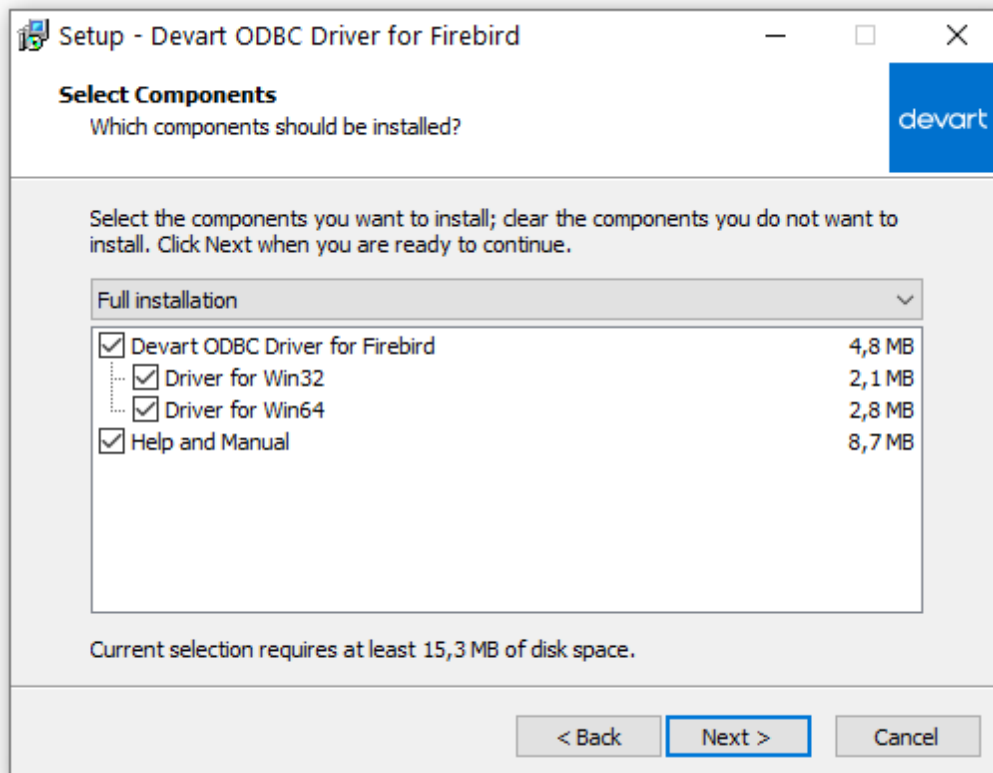
1. [Download](#) and run the installer.
2. Follow the instructions in the wizard.



3. If you already have the specified installation folder on the PC or another driver version is installed, you will get a warning. Click **Yes** to overwrite the old files with the current

installation, but it is recommended to completely uninstall the previous driver version first, and then install the new one.

4. On the **Select Components** page, you can choose whether to install the **64-bit** version of the driver. Clear the checkbox if you do not need a 64-bit installation. There is also a checkbox on this page that allows you to choose whether to install Help and Manual.

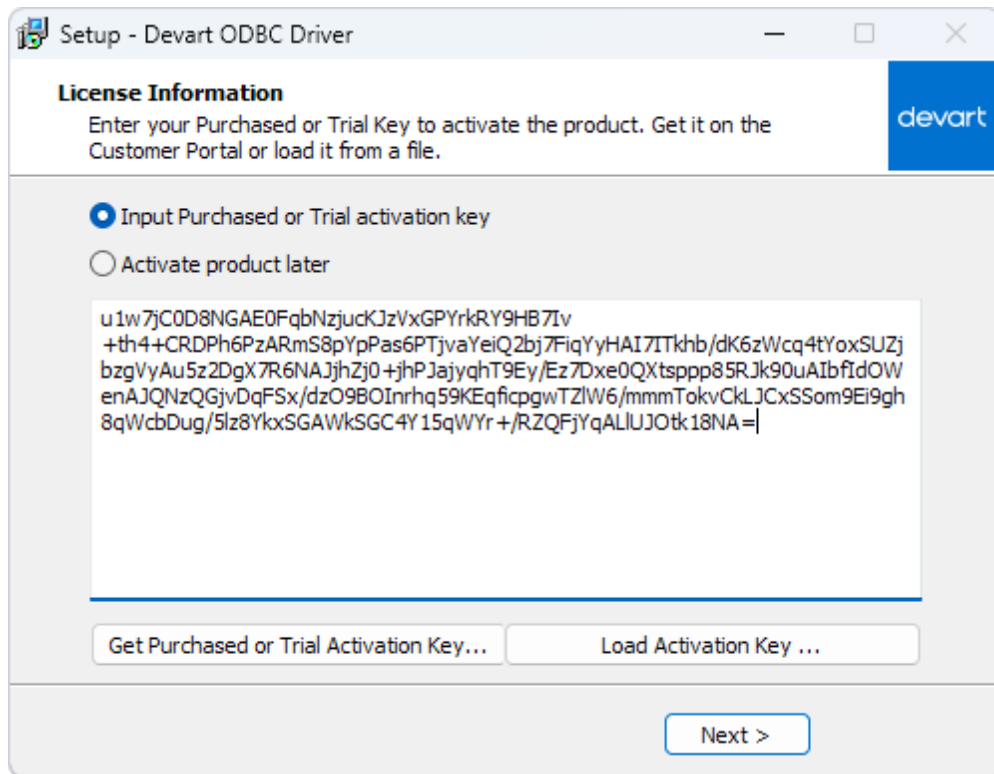


5. On the **License Information** page, select when you want to activate the driver:
 - **Immediately after installation:** Select **Input Purchased or Trial activation key** and enter your key in the provided box, or click **Load Activation Key** and select the file containing your key.
 - **Any other time:** Select **Activate product later**.

You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

You can find your activation key in the registration email or your Customer Portal account.

To open the Customer Portal, click **Get Purchased or Trial Activation Key**.



6. Click **Next** to complete the installation.

7. Click **Finish** to exit Setup.

8. After the installation is completed, you need to [configure the driver](#).

See also:

- [Installation on macOS](#)
- [Install Linux DEB package](#)
- [Install Linux RPM package](#)

3.1.2 Windows Silent

Silent Installation with OEM license on Windows

1. Run the Command Prompt as an administrator.
2. Use the following command-lines to perform the driver silent/very silent installation:

```
DevartODBCFirebird.exe /SILENT /ActivationKey=y1c7nmgdu2341aszxcvONGurjfhxm9
```

```
DevartODBCFirebird.exe /VERYSILENT /ActivationKey=ekhdh765mh09ukr237gfHRtri1
```

Note: The installation is performed by entering a license key.

```
DevartODBCFirebird.exe /SILENT /ActivationFile=d:\lic.key
```

```
DevartODBCFirebird.exe /VERYSILENT /ActivationFile=d:\lic.key
```

Note: The installation is performed by specifying the path to a license key file with any name.

When /SILENT is used, the installation progress is displayed, but no user interaction is required during installation.

When /VERYSILENT is used, the installation wizard dialog is hidden and the installation process is performed without user interference.

3.1.3 macOS

Prerequisites

ODBC Driver for Firebird works under the control of an ODBC driver manager. ODBC driver manager is not distributed along with our driver and must be installed separately.

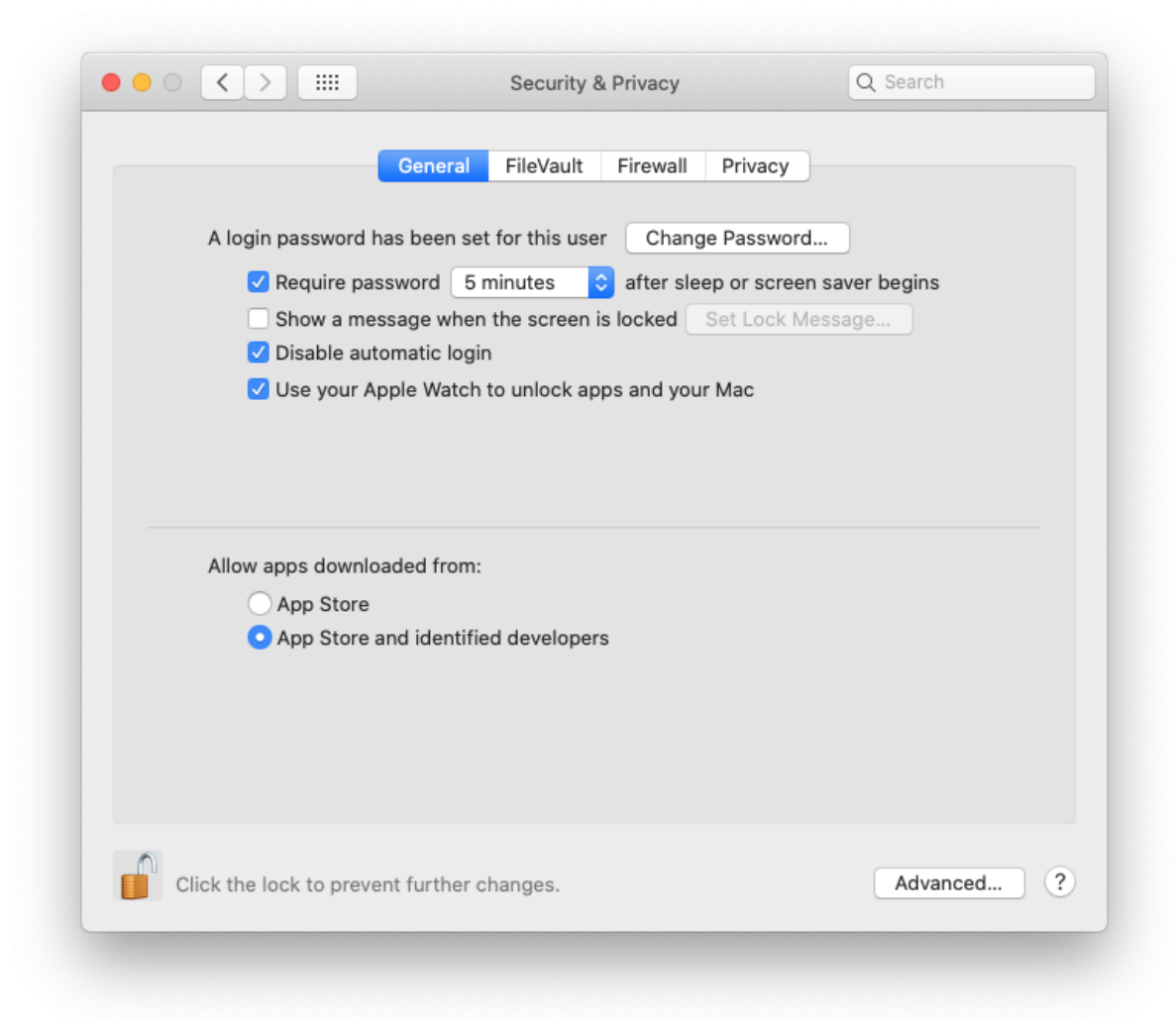
[ODBC Driver for Firebird](#) is compatible with [iODBC](#) driver manager.

In case when using other ODBC driver managers, ODBC Driver for Firebird will be installed, but it will require manual modification of the configuration files of these managers.

Installing ODBC Driver for Firebird

1. Go to Security & Privacy settings in the System Preferences.
2. Enable the *App Store and identified developers* option in the **Allows apps downloaded**

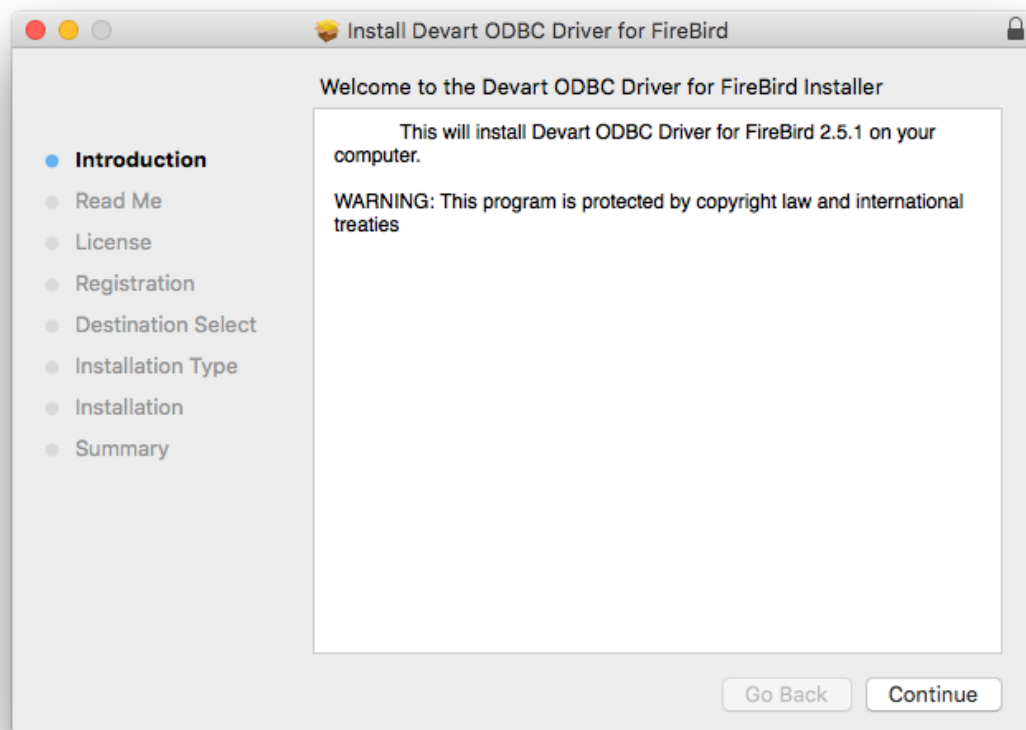
from section.



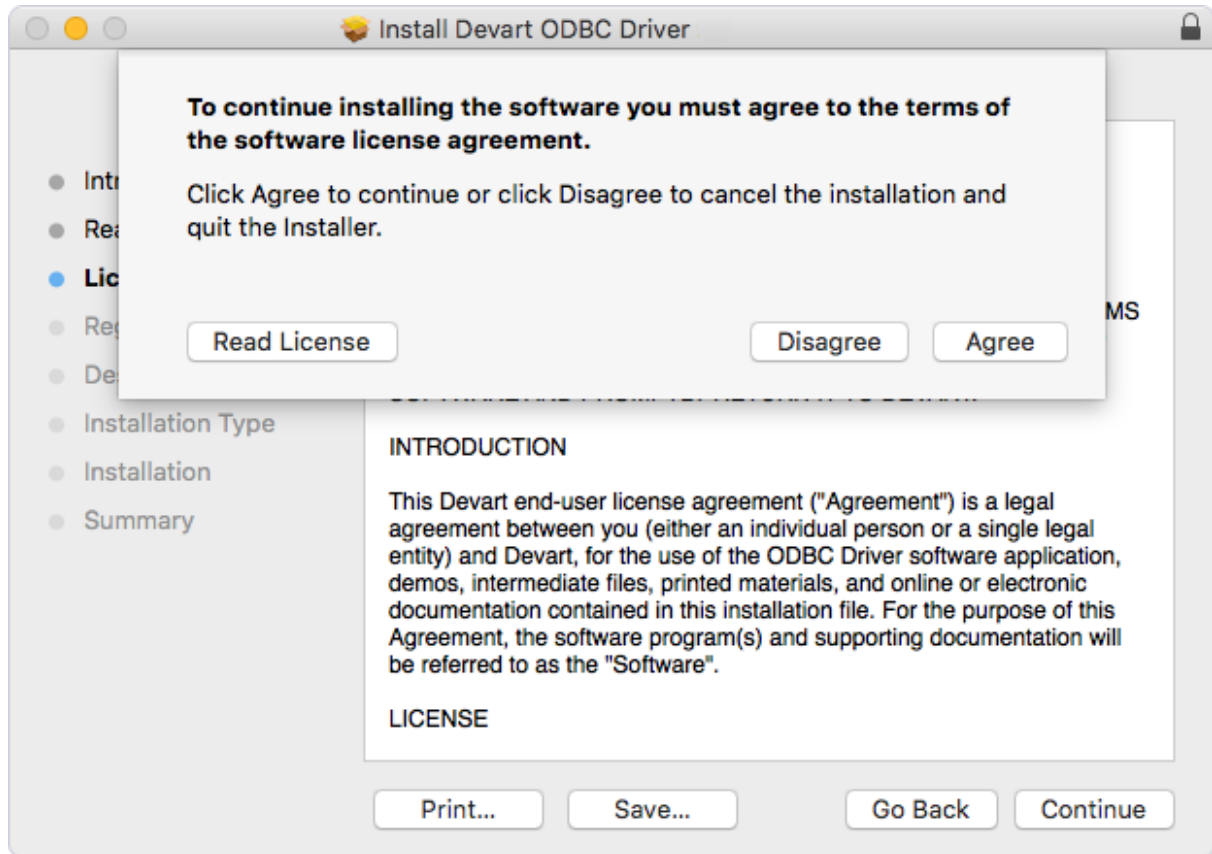
If the options in **Allow apps downloaded from** section are grayed out, click the lock icon and enter your administrator password to proceed with the installation.

3. [Download](#) the PKG file from the Devart website.

4. Run the downloaded file, click **Allow** to proceed with the installation.

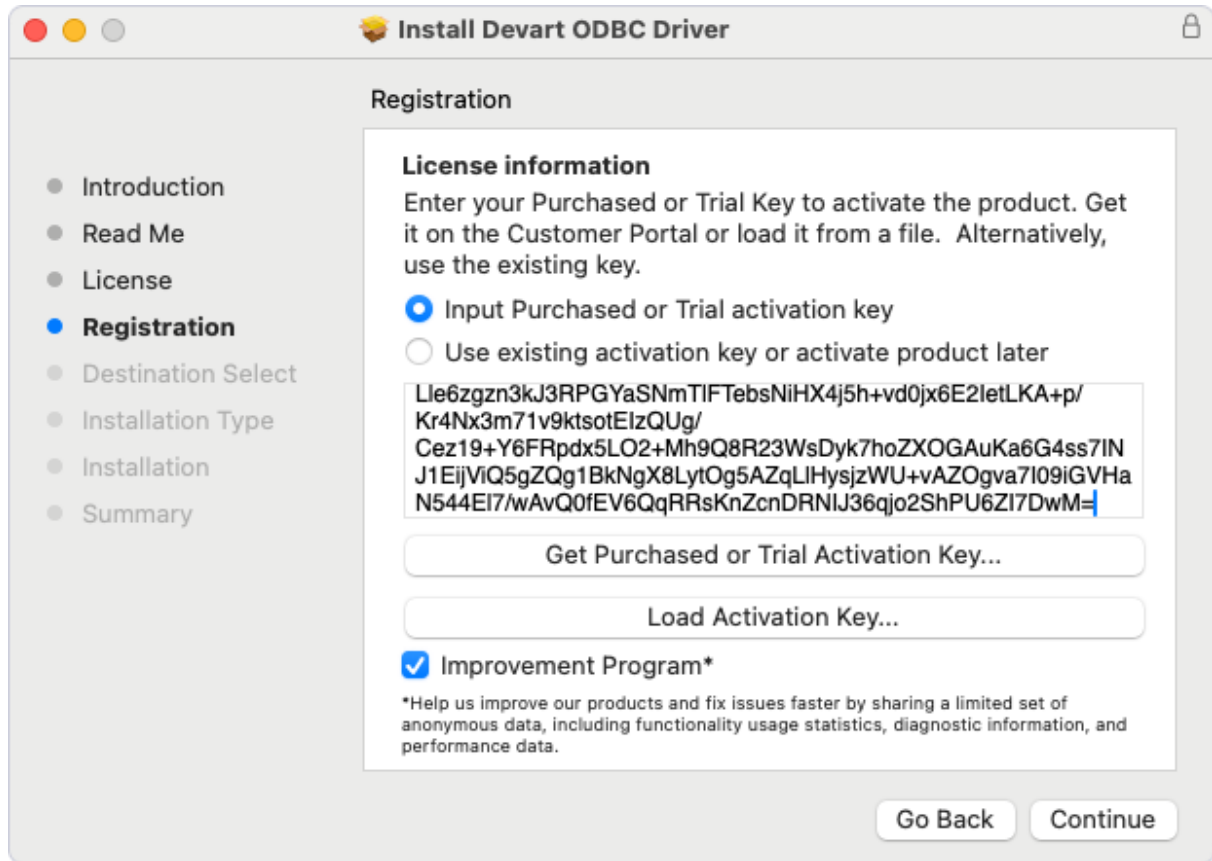


5. After reading the license agreement, click **Agree**.

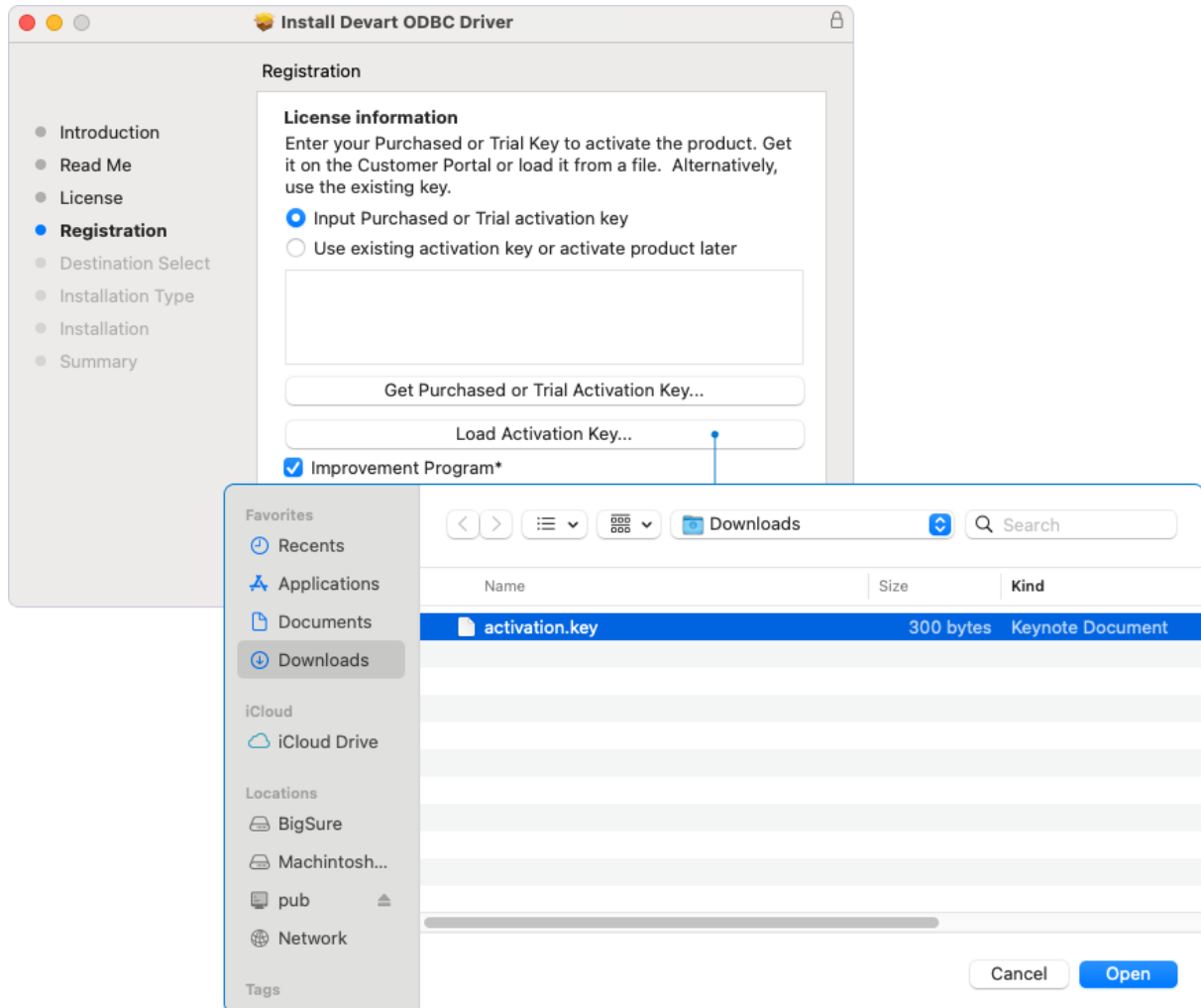


6. On the **Registration** page, specify your activation key using one of the following methods:

- Enter an activation key:
 1. Select **Input Purchased or Trial activation key**.
 2. Enter your activation key.



- Load an activation key file:
 1. Click **Load Activation Key**.
 2. Navigate to the location of the activation file.
 3. Click **Open**.

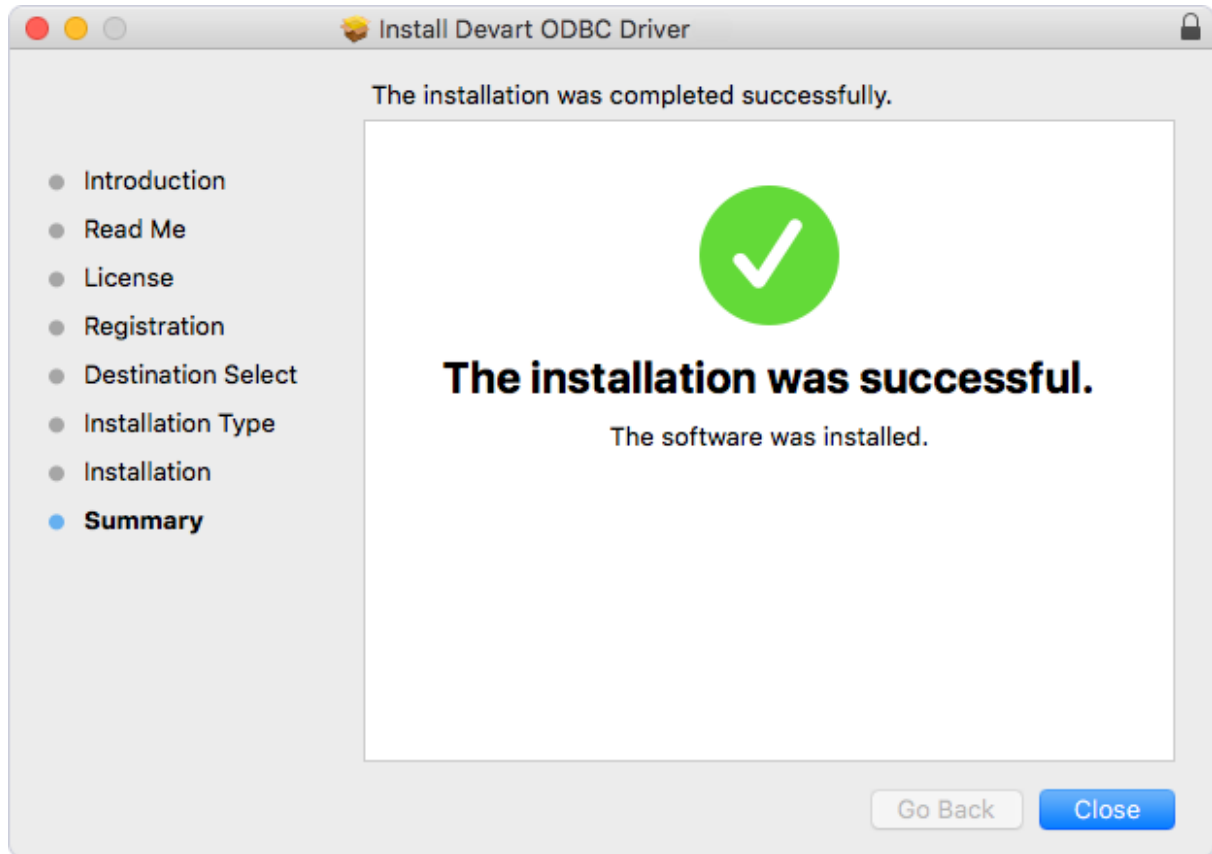


You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

You can find your activation key in the registration email or your Customer Portal account. To open the Customer Portal, click **Get Purchased or Trial Activation Key**.

If you're reinstalling the driver or don't want to activate the driver right now, select **Use existing activation key or activate product later**.

7. To complete the installation click **Continue**, then click **Install**.



To activate the driver, perform the steps described in the [Product Activation](#) article.

See also:

- [Installation on Windows](#)
- [Install Linux DEB package](#)
- [Install Linux RPM package](#)

3.1.4 Linux DEB

Prerequisites

[ODBC Driver for Firebird](#) works under the control of an ODBC driver manager. ODBC driver manager is not distributed along with our driver and must be installed separately.

ODBC Driver for Firebird is compatible with [unixODBC](#) driver manager. Depending on your

Linux distribution, you can install the unixODBC driver manager using one of the following commands:

- For Ubuntu 23 and later versions:

```
sudo apt-get install libodbcinst2 libodbc2 odbcinst unixodbc
```

- For other distributions, including Ubuntu 22 and earlier versions:

```
sudo apt-get install odbcinst1debian2 libodbc1 odbcinst unixodbc
```

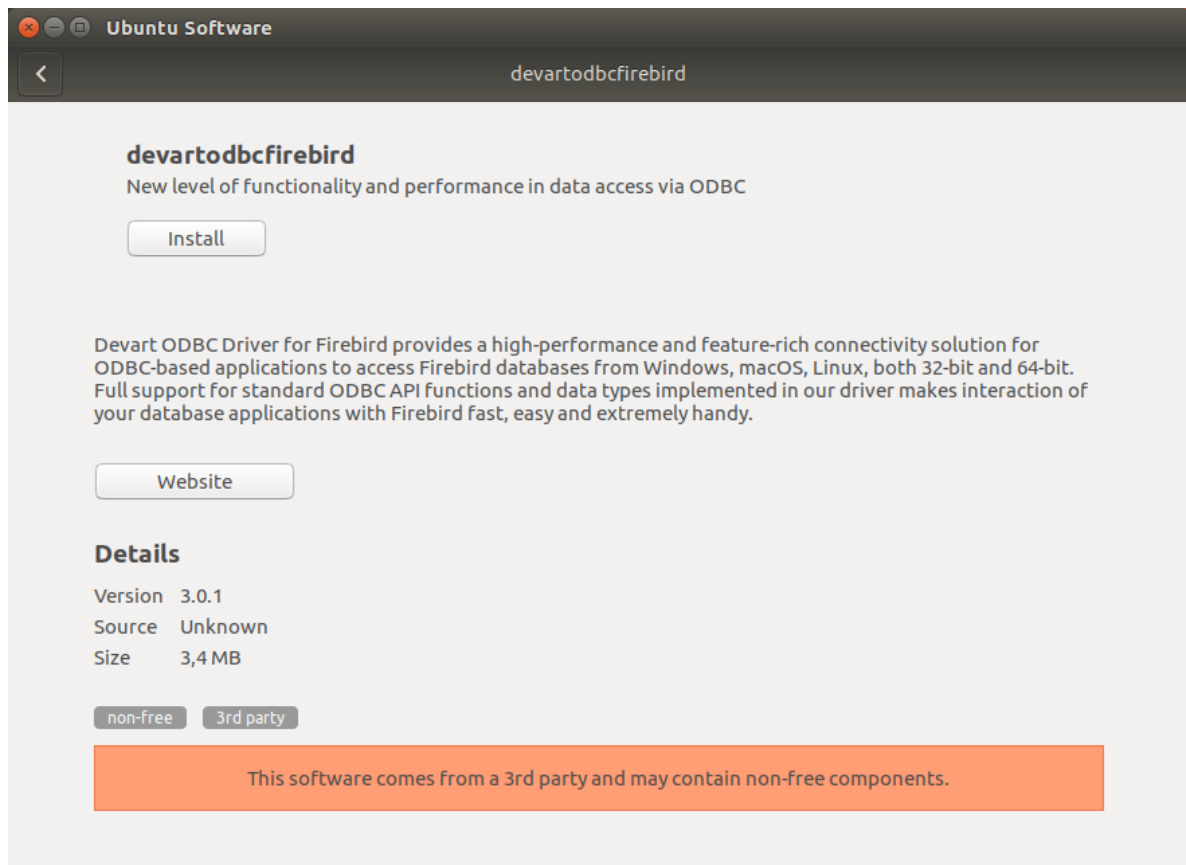
If you are using other ODBC driver managers, ODBC Driver for Firebird will be installed, but it will require manual modification of the configuration files of these managers.

Installation

Let's consider how to install Devart ODBC Driver on Linux from a DEB package, for example, on Ubuntu. There are two ways to install the driver: manually using the GUI or via the command line.

GUI installation

1. [Download](#) the DEB package of the required bitness from the Devart website.
2. Navigate to the folder with the downloaded package ("Downloads" by default) and double-click it.
3. In the opened dialog, click **Install**.



If the installation is successfully completed, the **Install** button changes to **Remove**.

To activate the driver, perform the steps described in the [Product Activation](#) article.

You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

Command-line installation

1. [Download](#) the DEB package from the Devart website.

By default, the required package will be downloaded into the ~/Downloads folder (or the selected one).

2. Run the 'Terminal' program.

3. Navigate to the folder with the downloaded package (if you downloaded the package to a folder other than ~/Downloads, specify the path to that folder as the cd command parameter):

```
cd ~/Downloads/
```

```
test@ubuntu:~$ cd ~/Downloads/  
test@ubuntu:~/Downloads$
```

4. To install the devartodbcfirebird_i386.deb on a 32-bit system, use the following command:

```
sudo dpkg -i devartodbcfirebird_i386.deb
```

```
test@ubuntu:~$ cd ~/Downloads/  
test@ubuntu:~/Downloads$ sudo dpkg -i devartodbcfirebird_i386.deb
```

5. To install the devartodbcfirebird_amd64.deb on a 64-bit system, use the following command:

```
sudo dpkg -i devartodbcfirebird_amd64.deb
```

```
test@ubuntu:~$ cd ~/Downloads/  
test@ubuntu:~/Downloads$ sudo dpkg -i devartodbcfirebird_amd64.deb
```

The driver is installed successfully.

```
test@ubuntu:~/Downloads$ sudo dpkg -i devartodbcfirebird_i386.deb  
Selecting previously unselected package devartodbcfirebird.  
(Reading database ... 238038 files and directories currently installed.)  
Preparing to unpack devartodbcfirebird_i386.deb ...  
Unpacking devartodbcfirebird (3.0.1) ...  
Setting up devartodbcfirebird (3.0.1) ...  
test@ubuntu:~/Downloads$
```

To activate the driver, perform the steps described in the [Product Activation](#) article.

You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

See also:

- [Install Linux RPM package](#)
- [Installation on Windows](#)

- [Installation on macOS](#)

3.1.5 Linux RPM

Prerequisites

[ODBC Driver for Firebird](#) works under the control of an ODBC driver manager. ODBC driver manager is not distributed along with our driver and must be installed separately.

ODBC Driver for Firebird is compatible with [unixODBC](#) driver manager.

If you are using other ODBC driver managers, ODBC Driver for Firebird will be installed, but it will require manual modification of the configuration files of these managers.

Installation

Let's consider how to install Devart ODBC Driver on Linux from an RPM package, for example, on CentOS. To install the driver, download the .rpm package and install it via the command line. See the detailed description of these steps below.

1. [Download](#) the RPM package from the Devart website.

By default, the required package will be downloaded to the ~/Downloads folder (or the selected one).

2. Run the 'Konsole' program.

3. Navigate to the folder with the downloaded RPM package (if you downloaded the package to a folder other than ~/Downloads, you need to specify the path to that folder as the cd command parameter):

```
cd ~/Downloads/
```

```
[test@centos7x64 ~]$ cd ~/Downloads/  
[test@centos7x64 Downloads]$ █
```

4. To install the devart-odbc-firebird.i386.rpm on a 32-bit system, use the following command:

```
sudo rpm -ivh devart-odbc-firebird.i386.rpm
```

```
[test@localhost ~]$ sudo rpm -ivh devart-odbc-firebird.i386.rpm
```

To install the devart-odbc-firebird.x86_64.rpm on a 64-bit system, use the following command:

```
sudo rpm -ivh devart-odbc-firebird.x86_64.rpm
```

```
[test@centos7x64 ~]$ cd ~/Downloads/  
[test@centos7x64 Downloads]$ sudo rpm -ivh devart-odbc-firebird.x86_64.rpm
```

The driver is installed successfully.

```
[test@centos7x64 ~]$ cd ~/Downloads/  
[test@centos7x64 Downloads]$ sudo rpm -ivh devart-odbc-firebird.x86_64.rpm  
[sudo] password for test:  
Preparing... ##### [100%]  
Updating / installing..  
  1:devart-odbc-firebird-3.0.1-1 ##### [100%]  
[test@centos7x64 Downloads]$ █
```

To activate the driver, perform the steps described in the [Product Activation](#) article.

You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

See also:

- [Install Linux DEB package](#)
- [Installation on Windows](#)
- [Installation on macOS](#)

3.2 Remote Installation

One of the key advantages of Group Policy is the ability to deploy software remotely using MSI files. This section explains how to use Group Policy to remotely install the ODBC Driver for Firebird on client computers.

The information is organized into the following sections:

- [Creating the MST File Using Orca](#)
- [Remote Deployment and Activation](#)
- [Upgrading Driver Version and License Key](#)

3.2.1 Package Transformation

Creating the MST File Using Orca

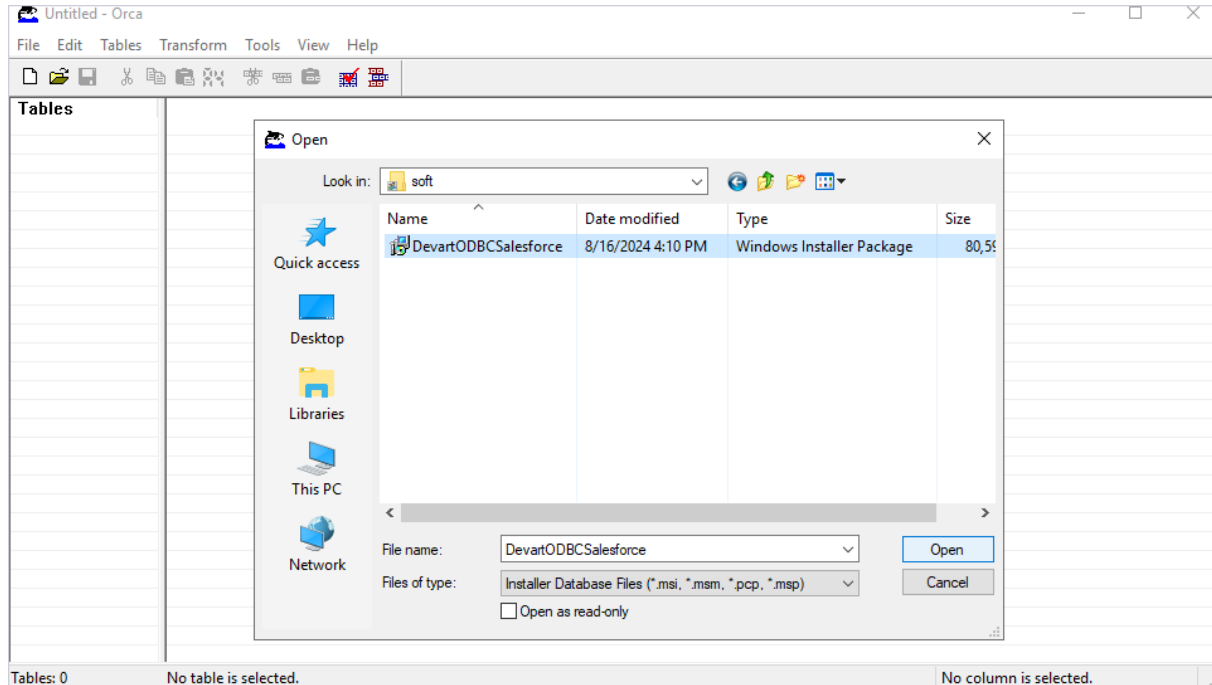
To customize the installation of the ODBC Driver for Firebird, you first need to edit the Windows Installer Package (MSI) by creating an MST file. This will allow for customized installation of an original Windows Installer (MSI) Package.

An MST file, or Windows Installer Setup Transform file, contains program configuration settings. In our case, the MST file for the ODBC Driver for Firebird will include the correct license information. This MST file is used together with the original MSI package in the Group Policy software distribution system.

There are many tools available for customizing MSI file settings, so you can choose the one that best suits your needs. In this example, we'll be using **Orca**, which is available as part of the Windows SDK Components for Windows Installer Developers. For more information about Orca, visit the official [Microsoft website](#).

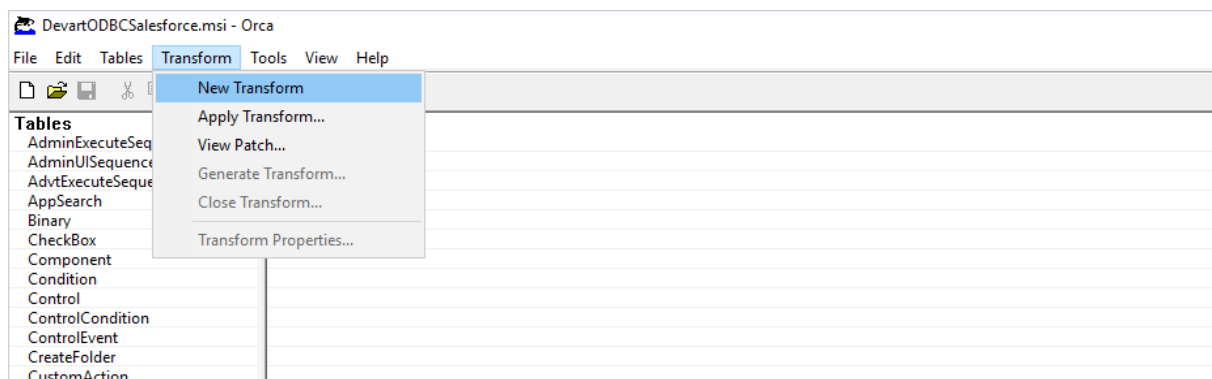
To start the process of MST file generation using the Orca editor, follow the steps below:

1. Launch the Orca application, then open the required MSI file by selecting **Open** in the **File** menu or click the **Open** icon on the toolbar below.

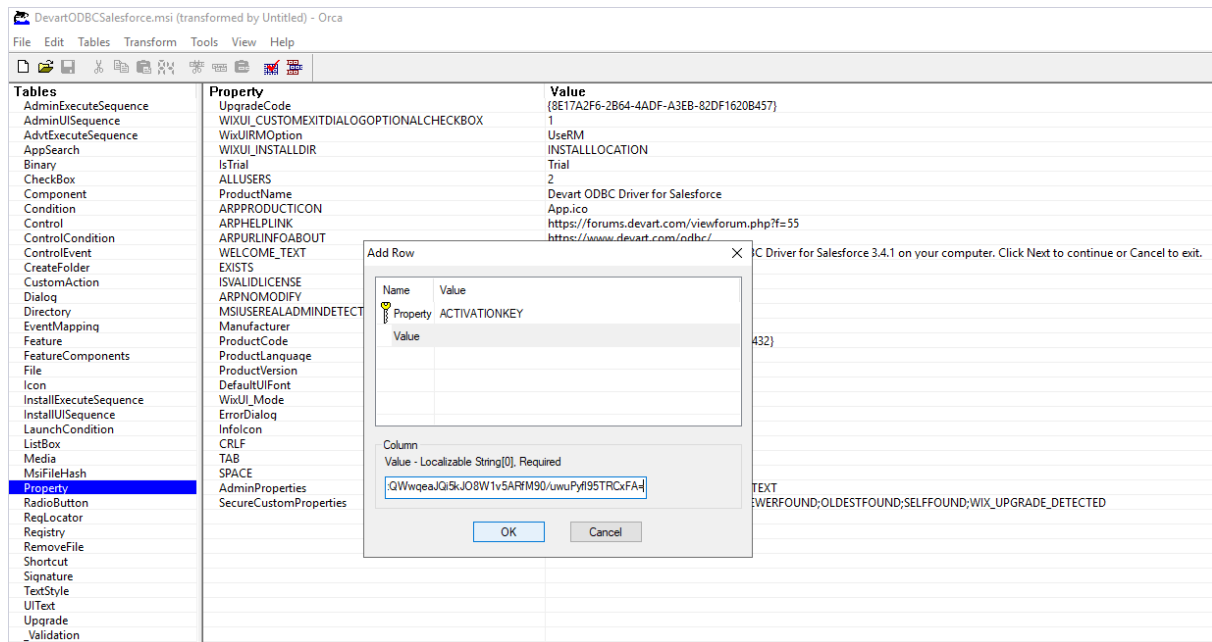


The MSI file for the ODBC Driver for Salesforce is taken as an example to illustrate the Group Policy installation process. Use the same steps described in this section when installing the ODBC Driver for Firebird.

2. As a result, the **Tables** menu on the left side of the main application window will display the properties of the selected MSI file.
3. Next, navigate **Transform -> New Transform**.



4. To proceed, select **Property** from the **Tables** menu, then double-click any empty row on the right side of the application window.

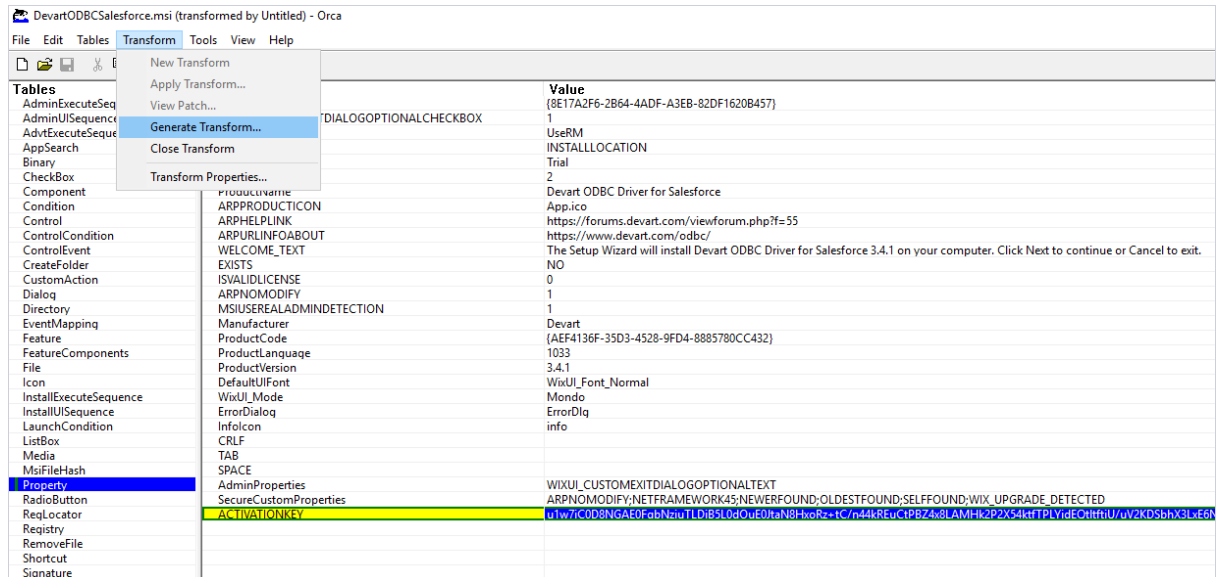


In the **Add Row** dialog that opens, make the following settings and press **OK** to apply the changes:

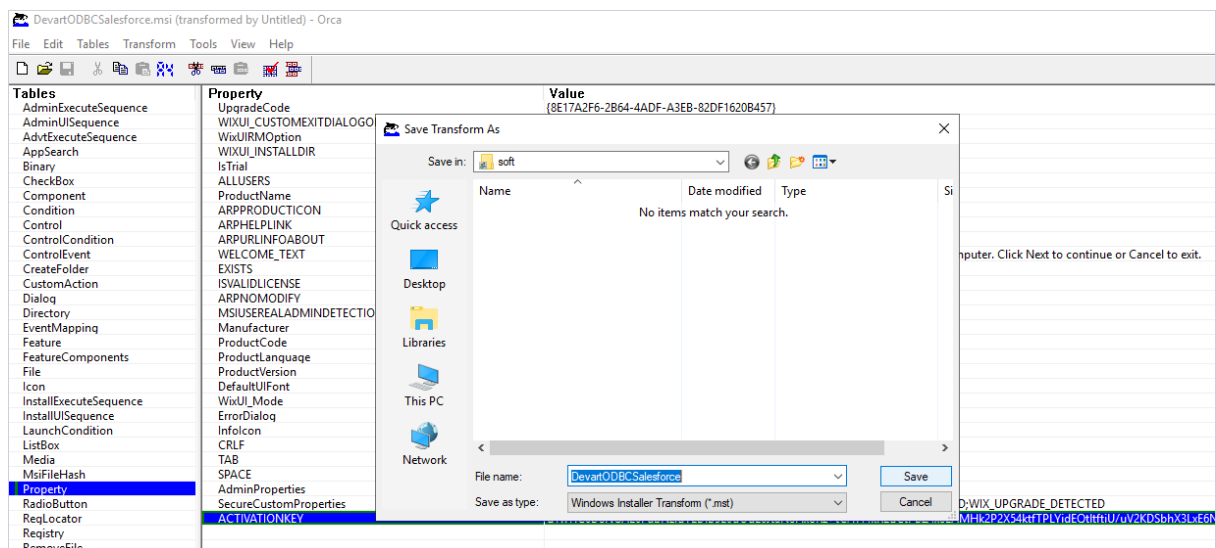
- **Property** - enter **ACTIVATIONKEY** with capital letters only.
- **Value** - enter the valid OEM license key for the ODBC Driver for Firebird.

As shown in the following screen, a new property, **ACTIVATIONKEY**, has been added, with the license key displayed in the value column next to it.

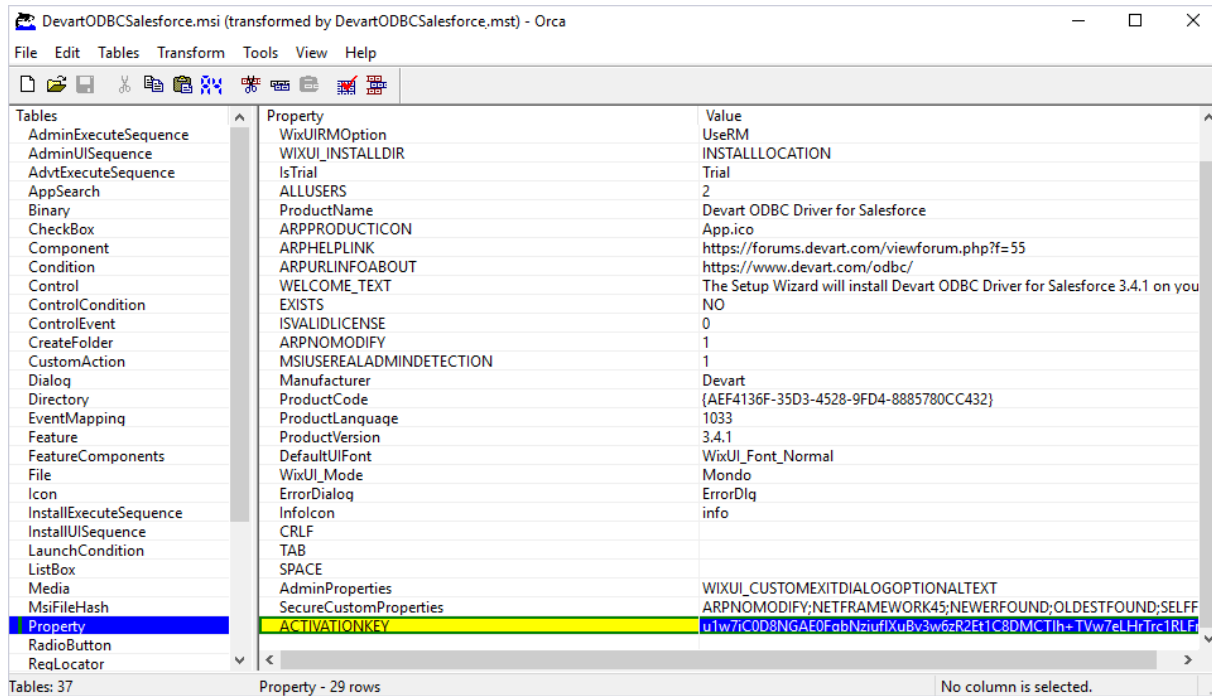
5. Once the configuration changes have been made, select **Transform -> Generate Transform**.



6. In the **Save Transform As** dialog that appears, enter a suitable name for the new MST file and click **Save** to apply your settings.



7. If successful, the encryption message *DevartODBCSalesforce.msi (transformed by DevartODBCSalesforce.mst)* - Orca will be displayed at the top of the Orca application window.



In case of a positive outcome, the newly created MST file will be located in the folder you specified, alongside the MSI file.

3.2.2 Deployment and Activation

Installing and Activating Software Remotely

Group Policy automated-program installation is specifically designed for deploying Windows Installer packages (MSI files). Therefore, when deploying the ODBC Driver for Firebird using Group Policy, be sure to use the corresponding MSI file for the ODBC Driver for Firebird.

Prerequisites: Locating the MSI Installation File

Prior to making configuration settings in the Group Policy, you'll need to create a distribution folder:

1. Create a shared network folder on the publishing server.
2. Set the appropriate sharing permissions on this folder to allow read access to the driver installation package for all domain users.

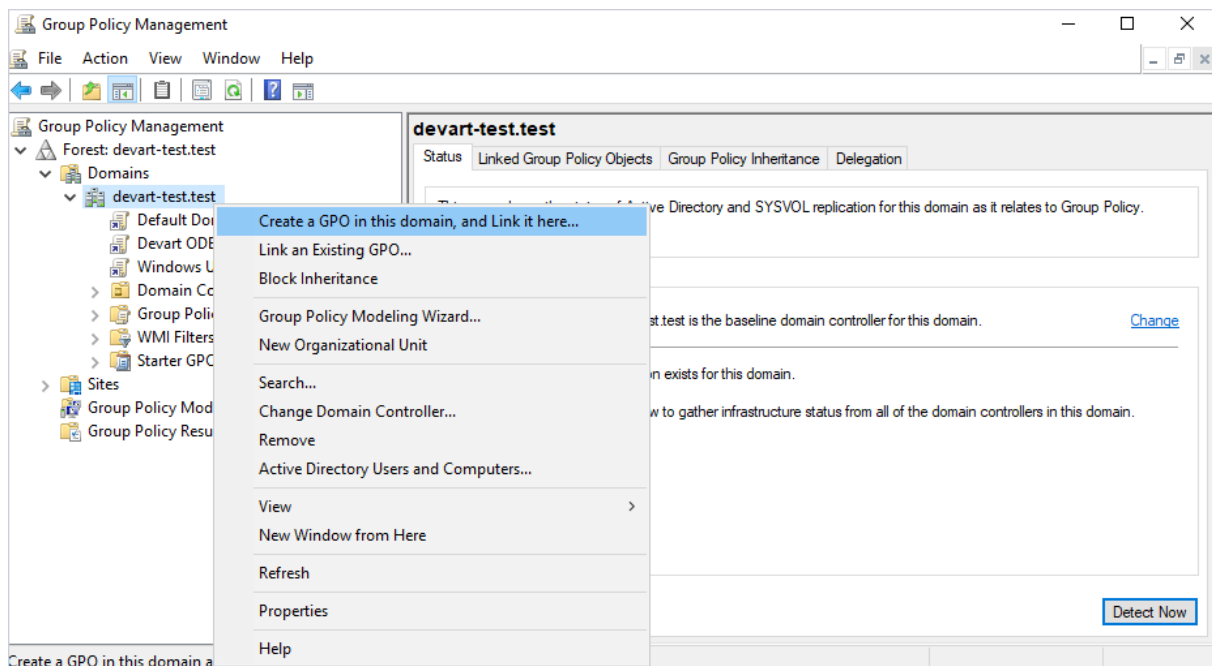
3. Download the ODBC Driver for Firebird MSI file, and place it in the network folder.

The MSI file for the ODBC Driver for Salesforce is taken as an example to illustrate the Group Policy installation process. Use the same steps described in this section when installing the ODBC Driver for Firebird.

Further in this section, you'll find more detailed information on how to deploy and activate the ODBC Driver for Firebird on remote client computers using Group Policy.

Server-Side Actions

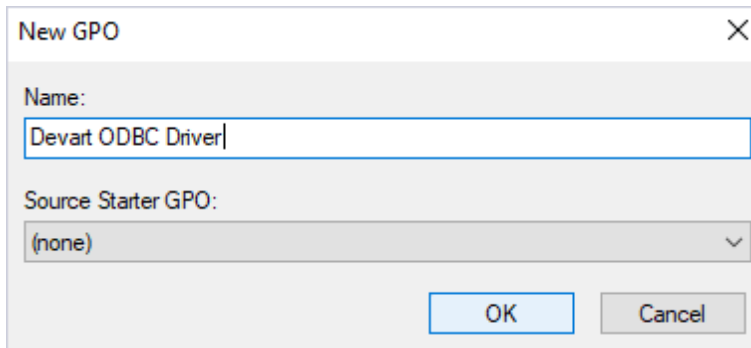
1. Open the **Group Policy Management** desktop application.
2. In the **Group Policy Management** window, navigate to the desired forest node, then expand the appropriate option under the **Domains** node. For this example, we'll select **devart-test.test**. Right-click the Domains node, and from the context menu, select **Create a GPO in this domain, and Link it here**.



3. You can now create a New Group Policy Object. In the **New GPO** dialog enter a name for

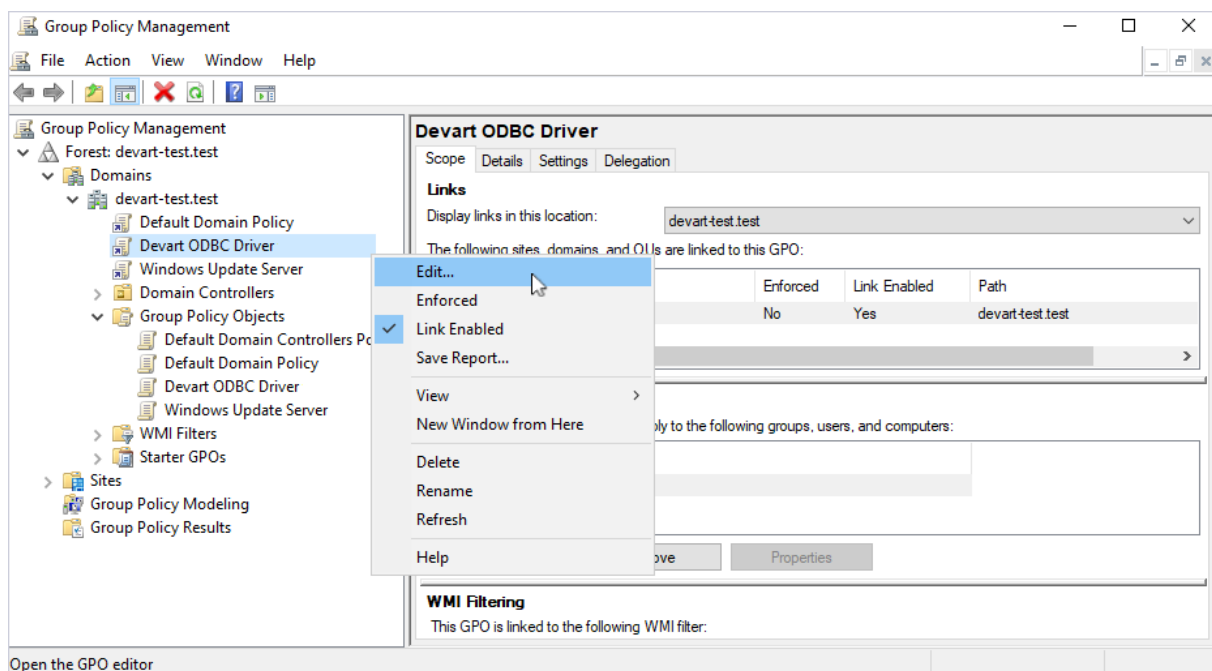
the new object and click **OK**. The new GPO will then appear within the **Group Policy Management** container.

For example, let's create a GPO named after the ODBC driver name.

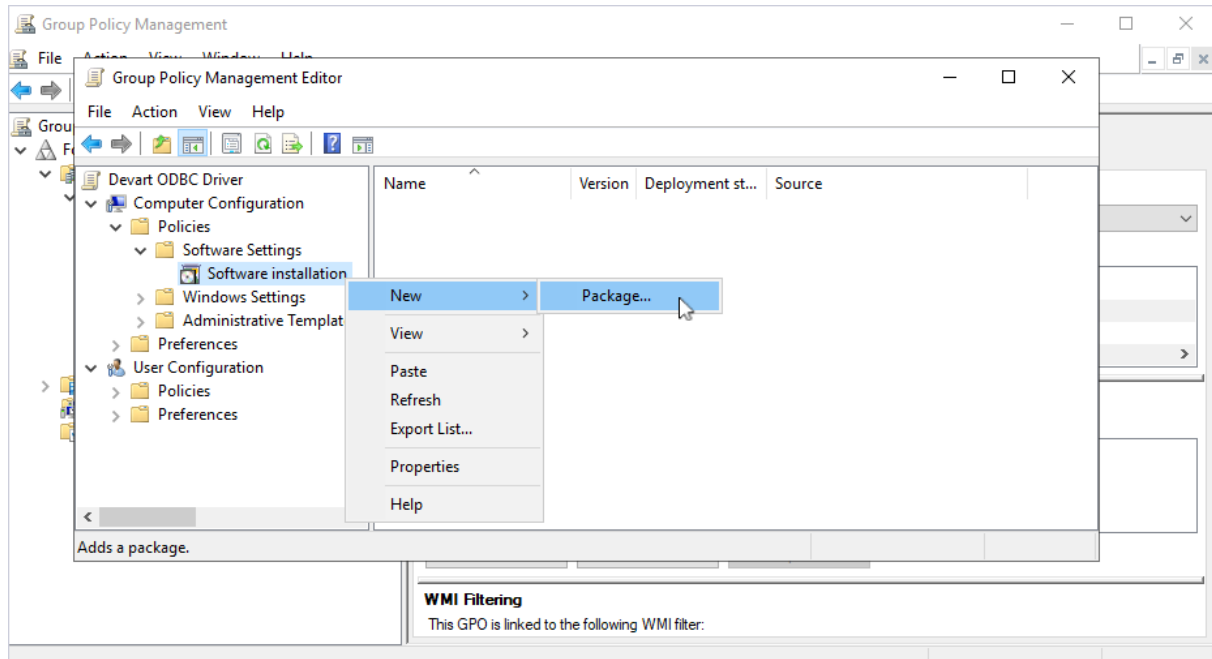


Keep in mind that each ODBC Driver for Firebird Windows installation package corresponds to one Group Policy Object (GPO), which is important for managing future software upgrades. To install multiple drivers using Group Policy, you need to create a separate GPO for each driver you want to deploy.

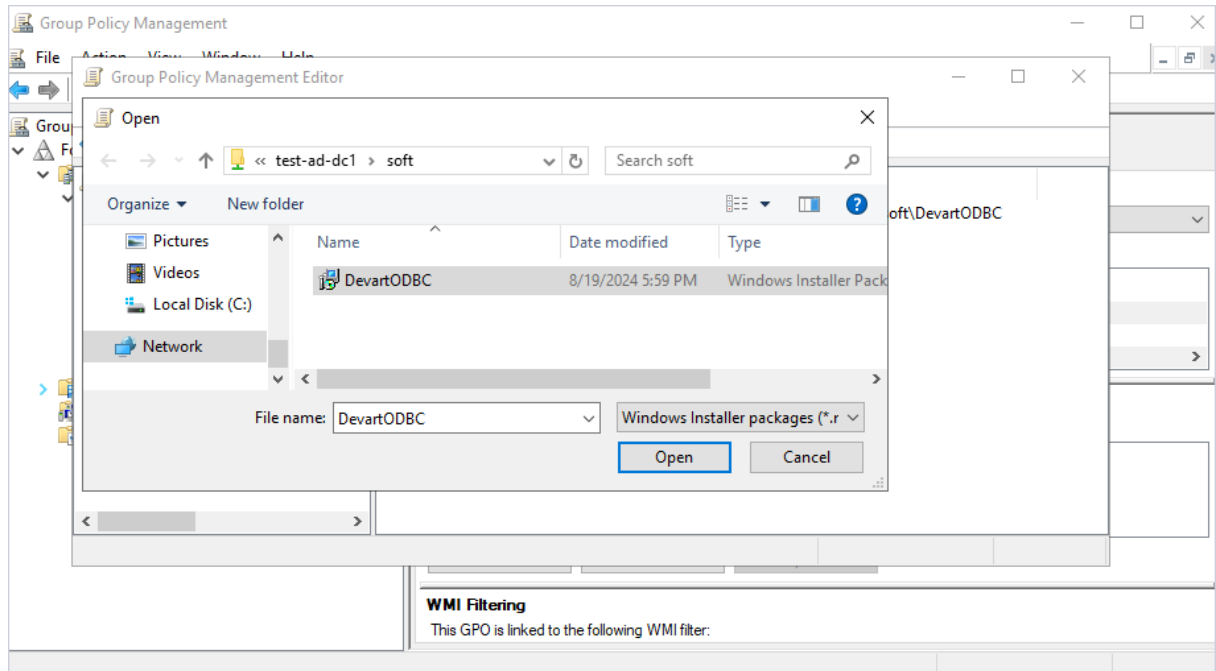
4. Right-click the new object and select **Edit** from the context menu.



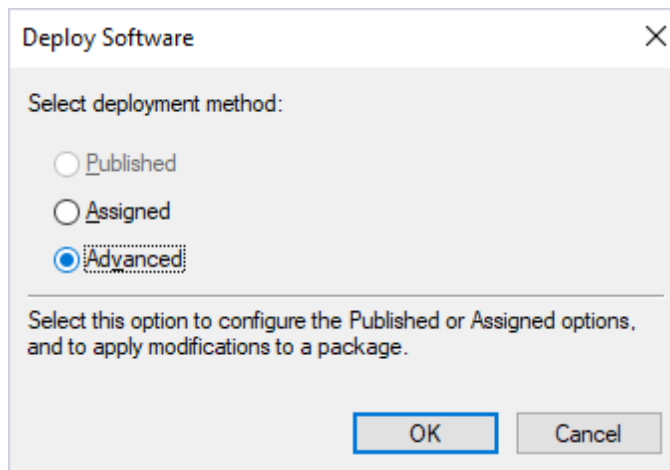
5. In the left pane of the **Group Policy Management Editor**, navigate to **Computer Configuration --> Policies --> Software Settings --> Software installation**. Your current deployment package will appear in the right pane. Right-click **Software installation**, then select **New --> Package**.



6. In the **Group Policy Management Editor** dialog that opens, select the desired MSI installation file and click **Open**.

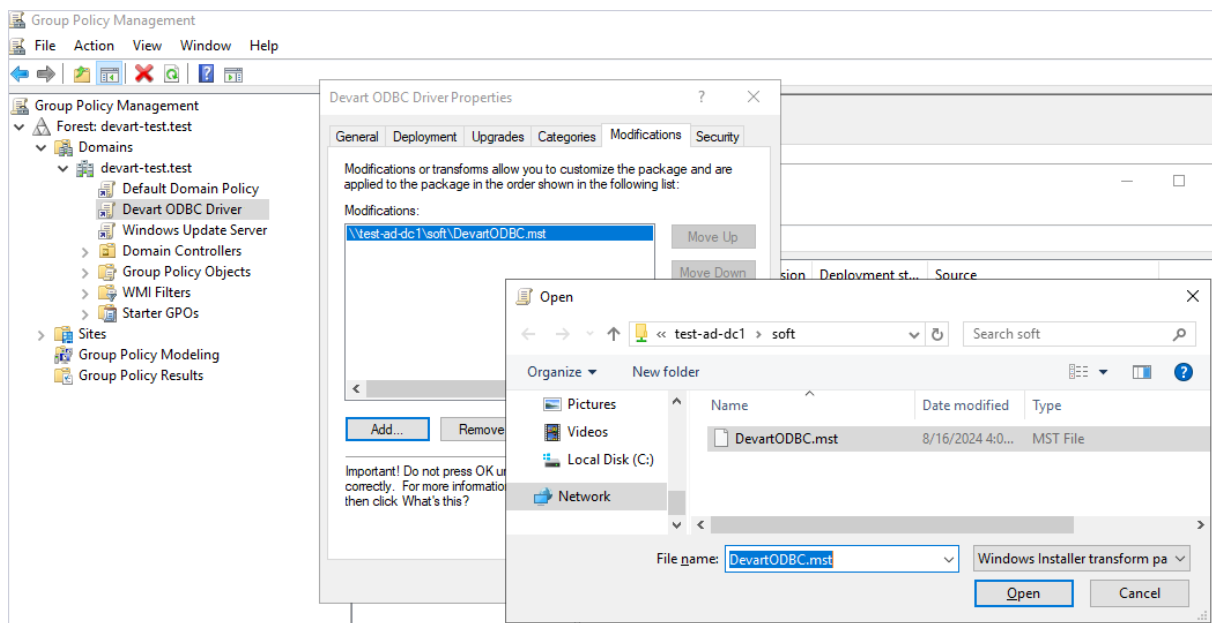


7. In the **Deploy Software** dialog, select **Advanced** to specify the software deployment method. The **Advanced** deployment method allows you to make necessary modifications to the MSI file, such as [creating the MST file in Orca](#).

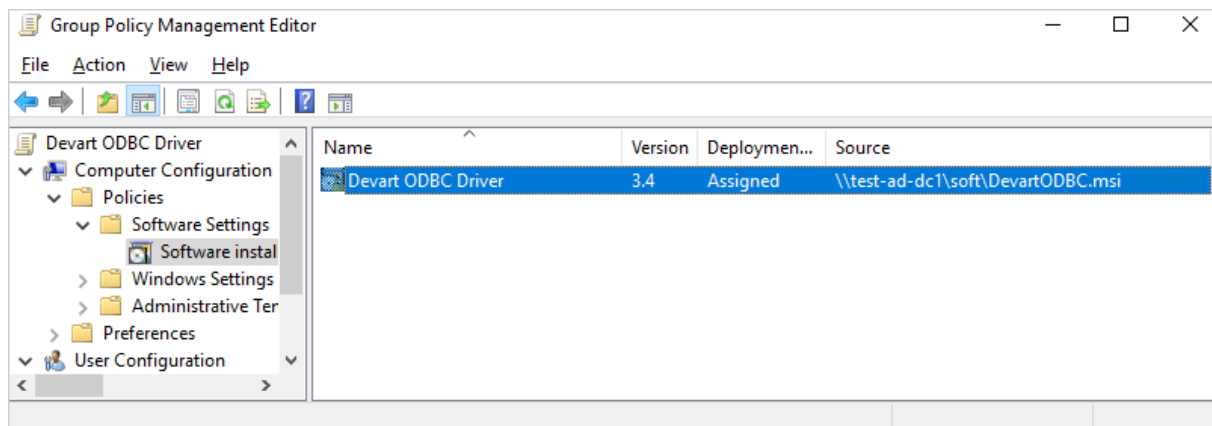


8. In the **Properties** dialog of the installation package that opens, go to the **Modifications** tab and select **Add**. Browse for the corresponding MST file, select it, and click **Open** to apply

the settings.



9. If configured correctly, the **Group Policy Management Editor** window should look as follows:

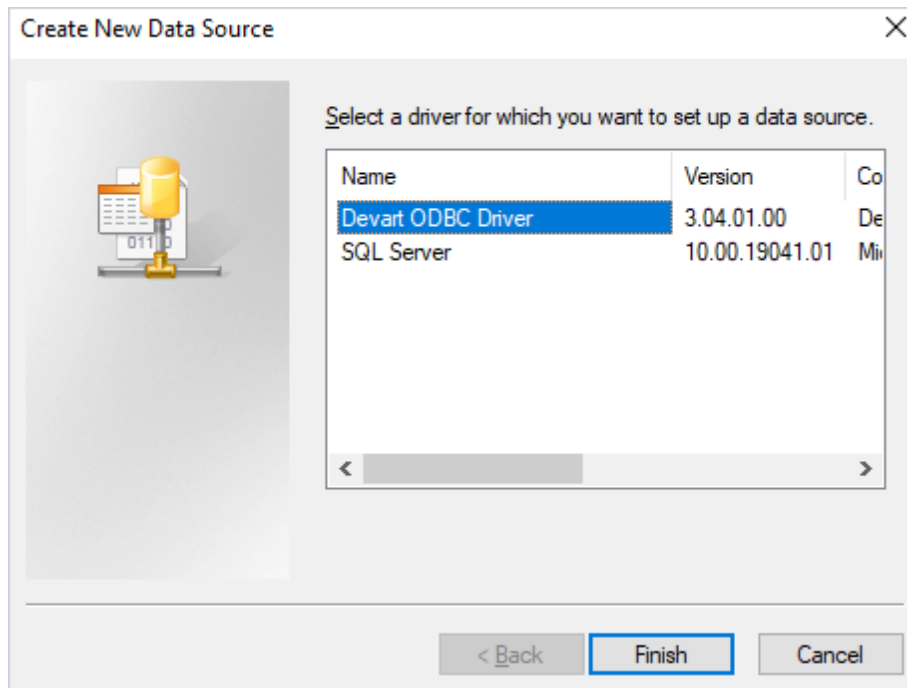


Client-Side Actions

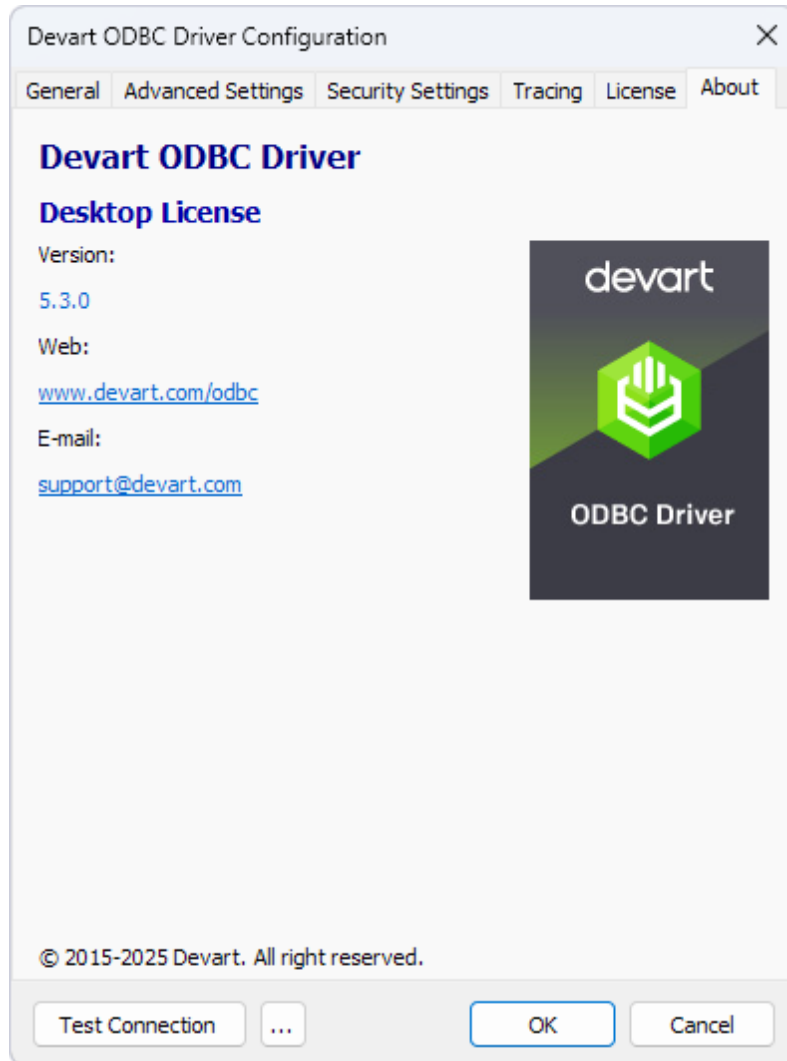
For the ODBC Driver for Firebird to be successfully installed on remote client machines, all domain users must restart their computers after logging in for the first time.

In case of successful deployment, the ODBC driver will be installed on the client's computer.

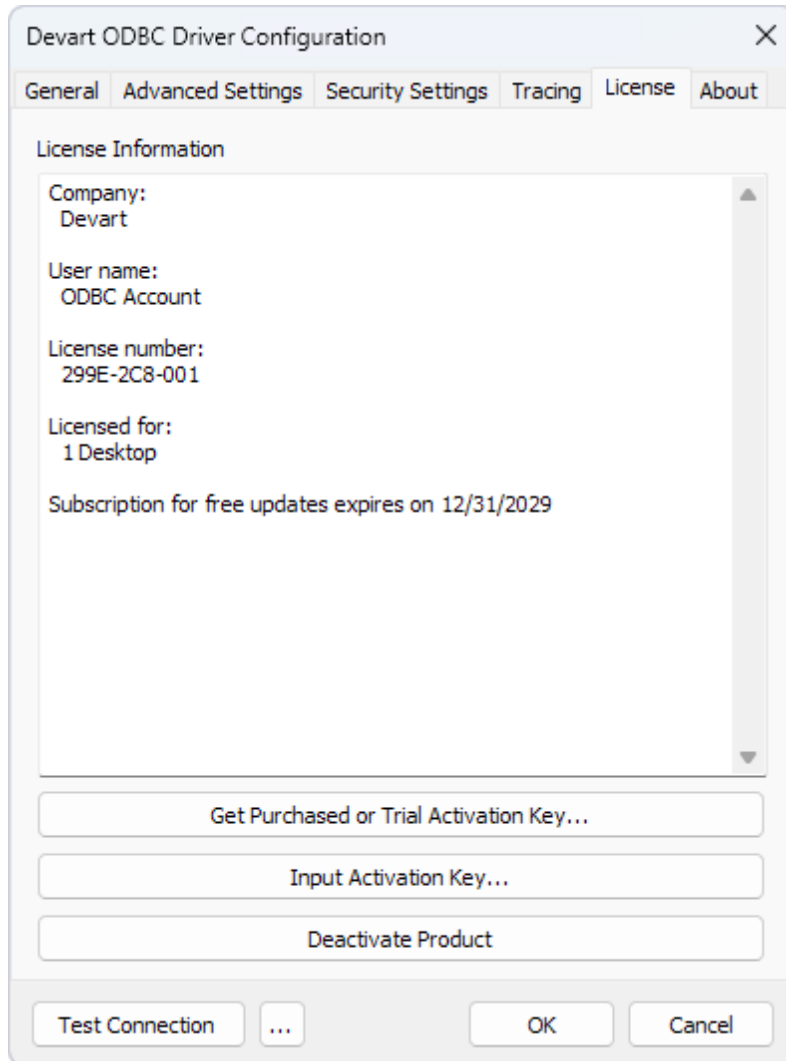
To verify, open the [ODBC Data Source Administrator](#) on the client's machine and add the deployed ODBC driver.



All information on the deployed driver is accessible upon clicking the **About** tab.



Similarly, the valid license key will be automatically activated after the successful installation of the ODBC Driver for Firebird.



See Also

- [Creating the MST File Using Orca](#)
- [Activating on Windows - ODBC Driver for Firebird](#)
- [License Information - ODBC Driver for Firebird](#)

3.2.3 Software Upgrade

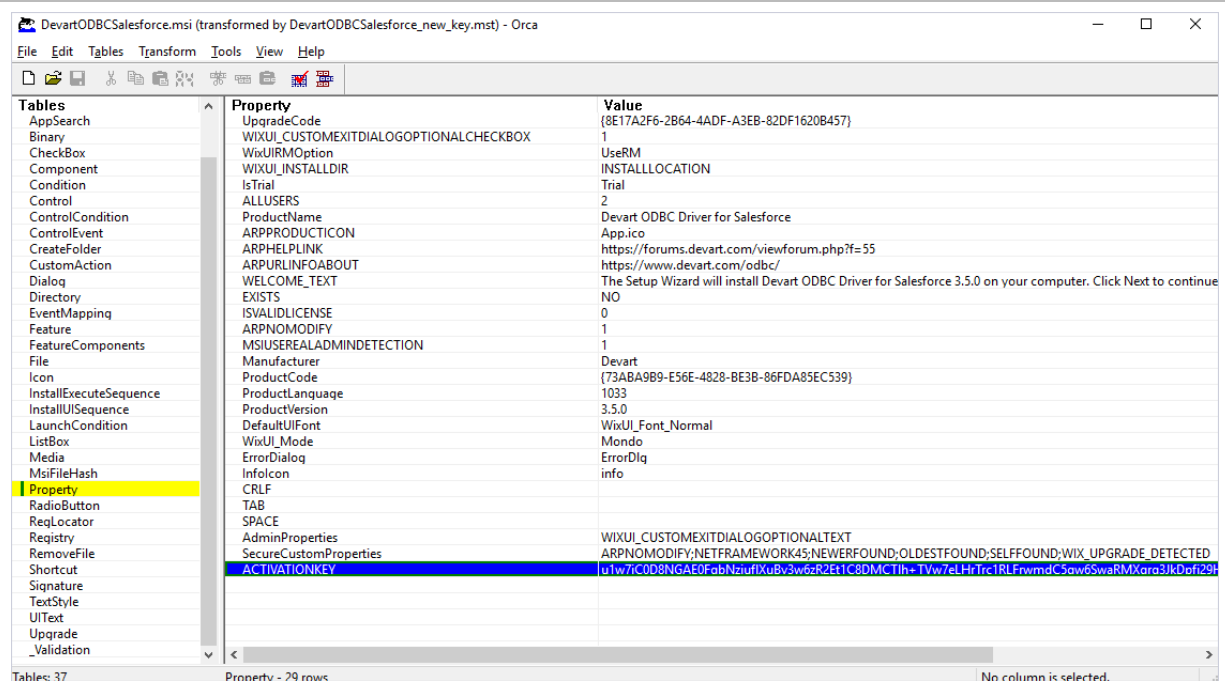
Automatic Software Update Using Group Policy

If the ODBC Driver for Firebird was initially deployed through Group Policy, it can be easily updated to a newer version. Follow the steps below to update both the ODBC Driver for

Firebird and the license to newer versions on all remote computers in the domain.

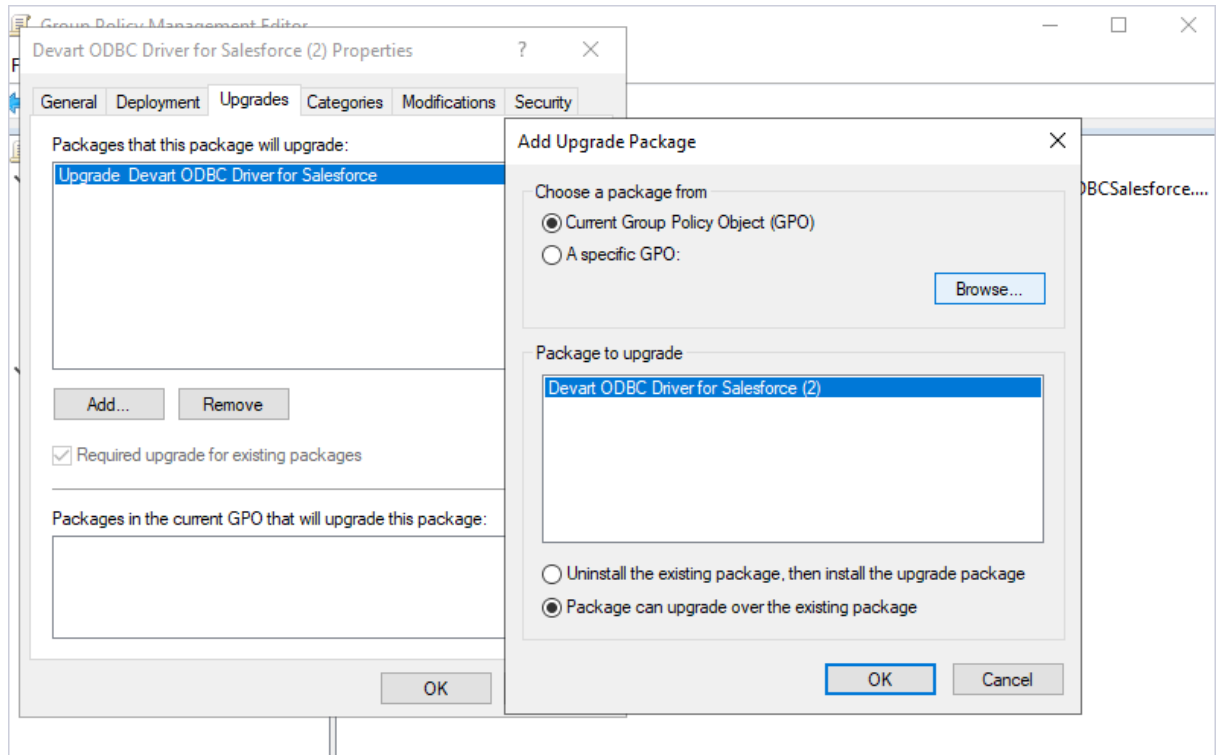
1. Download the ODBC Driver for Firebird installation MSI file of a newer version and place it in the [shared network folder](#).
2. [Create a new MST file](#) with a new license key using Orca.

If your license is still valid, there's no need to create a new MST file. Use the current MST file instead.



The MSI file for the ODBC Driver for Salesforce is taken as an example to illustrate the Group Policy installation process. Use the same steps described in this section when installing the ODBC Driver for Firebird.

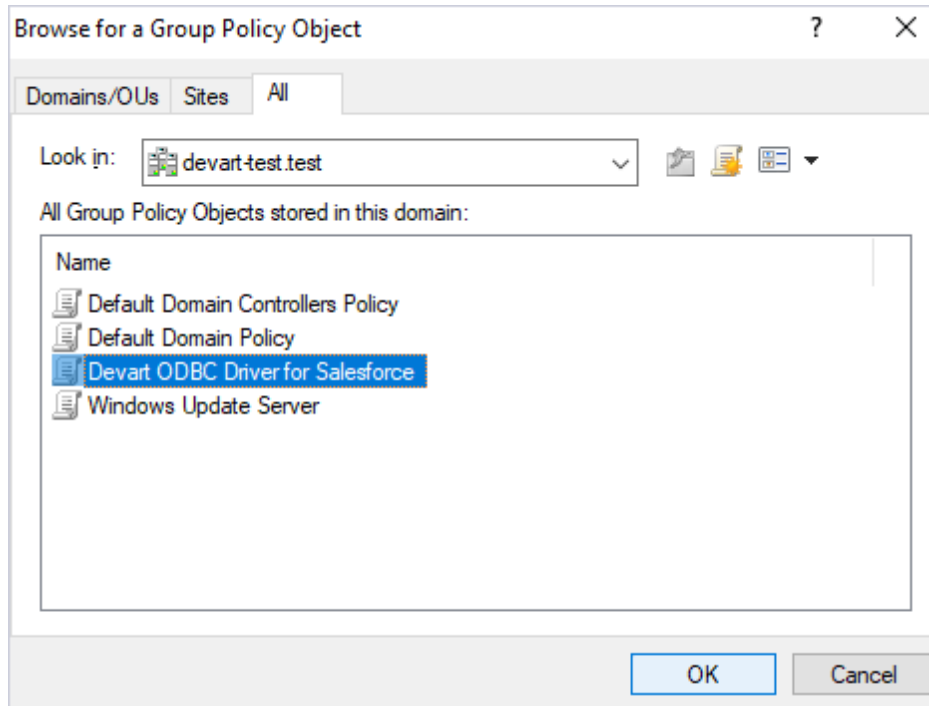
3. Follow the same workflow as outlined in [Step 4 to Step 7](#) of the [ODBC Driver for Firebird Remote Deployment and Activation](#) section.
4. In the **Properties** dialog that appears after selecting the **Advanced** deployment method, go to the **Upgrades** tab and click **Add**.



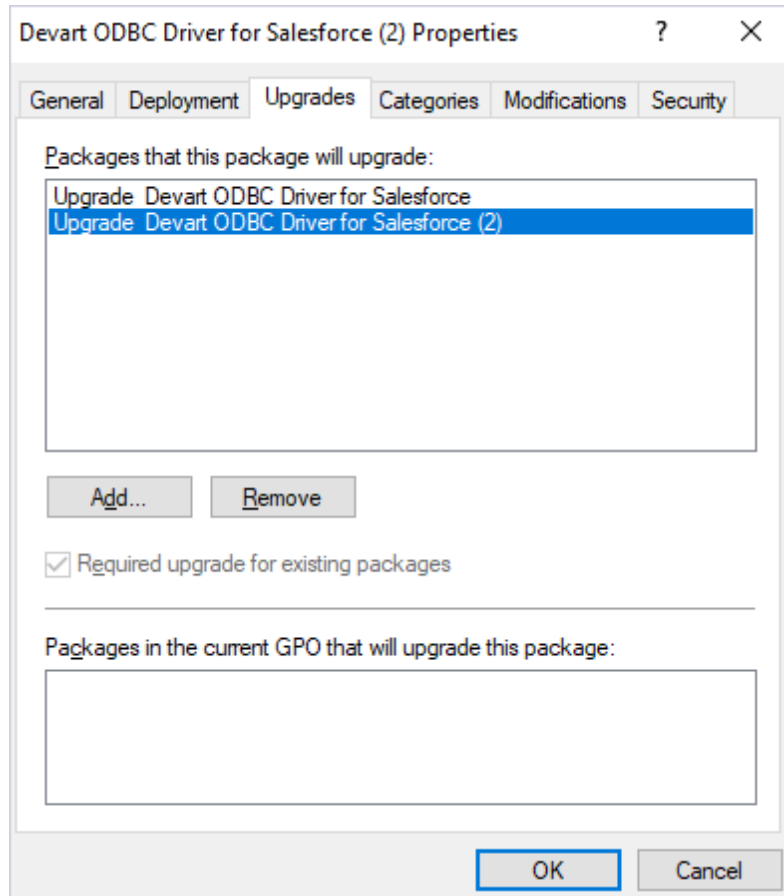
Make sure to select the following check boxes while adding the package:

- **Current Group Policy Object**
- **Package can upgrade over the existing package**

5. Browse for the corresponding GPO object and click **OK** to apply the settings.

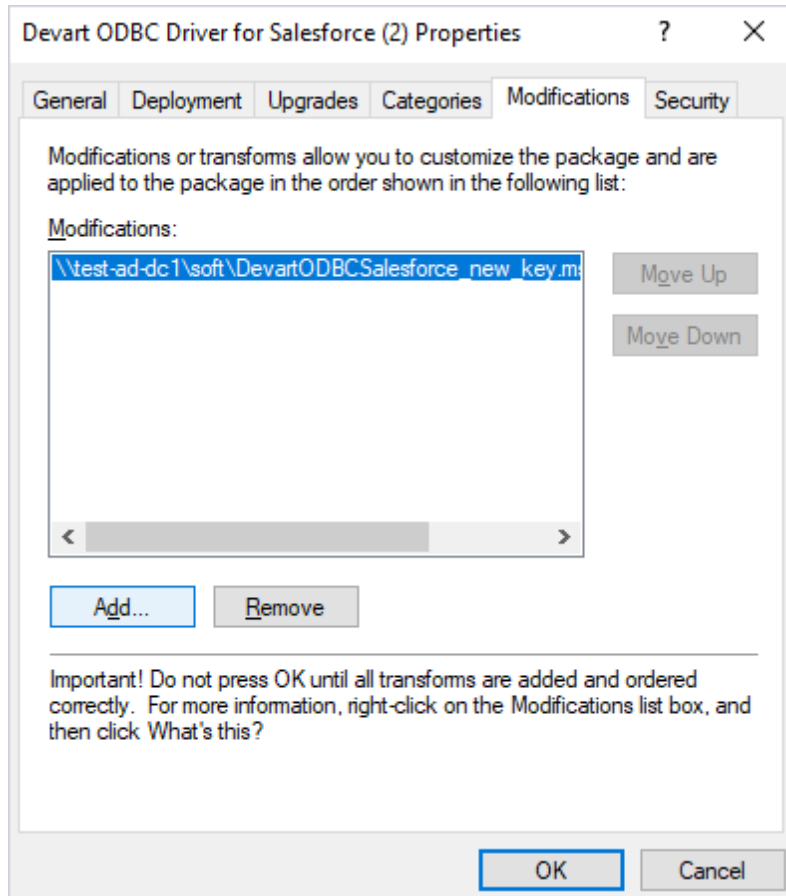


6. Now the **Upgrades** tab of the **Properties** dialog will list a new package with a newer version.

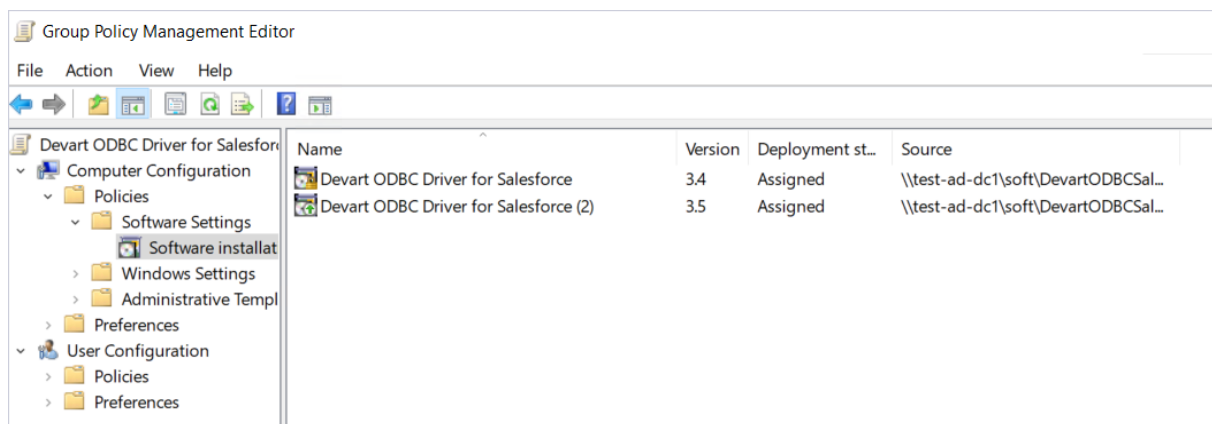


7. Go to the **Modifications** tab in the same properties dialog, click **Add** and browse to the MST file.

We have already created a new MST file with a new license key in [Step 2](#).



8. In case of a positive outcome both the old and new versions of the driver package will be displayed in the Group Policy Management Editor.



Once the GPO configuration on the server is complete, the ODBC Driver for Firebird will

automatically update to the latest version each time a client computer restarts.

Client-Side Actions

To update the ODBC Driver for Firebird to a newer version on remote client machines, all domain users must restart their computers after their first login.

If successful, both the driver and the license key will be automatically updated to the new version on remote computers. For detailed instructions on how to view the technical details of the ODBC Driver for Firebird after upgrading, refer to [Client-Side Actions](#).

See Also

- [Creating the MST File Using Orca](#)
- [Remote Deployment and Activation - ODBC Driver for Microsoft Access](#)
- [Activating on Windows - ODBC Driver for Firebird](#)
- [License Information - ODBC Driver for Firebird](#)

3.3 Product Activation

See how to activate Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird:

- [Obtaining Activation Key](#)
- [Activation on Windows](#)
- [Activation on macOS](#)
- [Activation on Linux](#)
- Where to see the license information

3.3.1 Obtaining Activation Key

Follow these steps to obtain your product activation key:

- **From the Customer Portal:**
 1. Open the [Customer Portal](#) and sign in.
 2. On the **Product licenses** page, select the driver.
 3. Click **Copy to clipboard** to copy the activation key.

The screenshot shows the 'CUSTOMER PORTAL' interface for the 'ODBC Driver'. The left sidebar contains navigation links: Products, Tickets, Quotes, Profile, and Administration. The main content area is titled 'Product licenses / License details' and features an 'Export license details' button. A table lists license information:

LicenseID	Owner	Assigned	Type
> 375E-422F-001	email@example.com	NOT ASSIGNED	Single

Below the table, the 'Activation key:' is displayed as a long alphanumeric string. A 'Copy to clipboard' button is provided. The 'Assign this license to:' section includes a text input field for 'Enter user email to assign them this license' and an 'Assign' button.

- **From the registration email:**

1. Locate the registration email you received from Devart after installing the driver. This email contains a Purchased or Trial activation key.
2. Copy the activation key.

See also:

- [Activation on Windows](#)
- [Activation on macOS](#)
- [Activation on Linux](#)

3.3.2 Activation on Windows

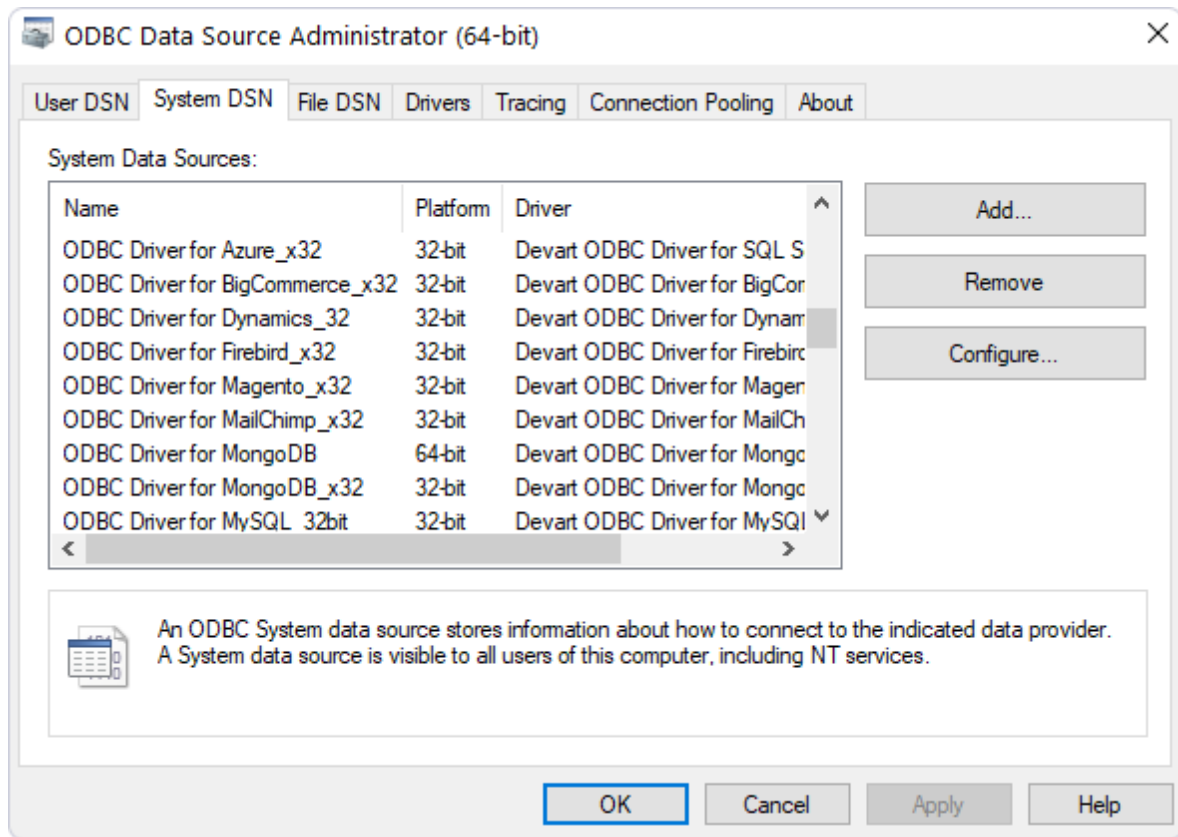
Driver Activation After Installation

To activate your installed driver, perform the following steps.

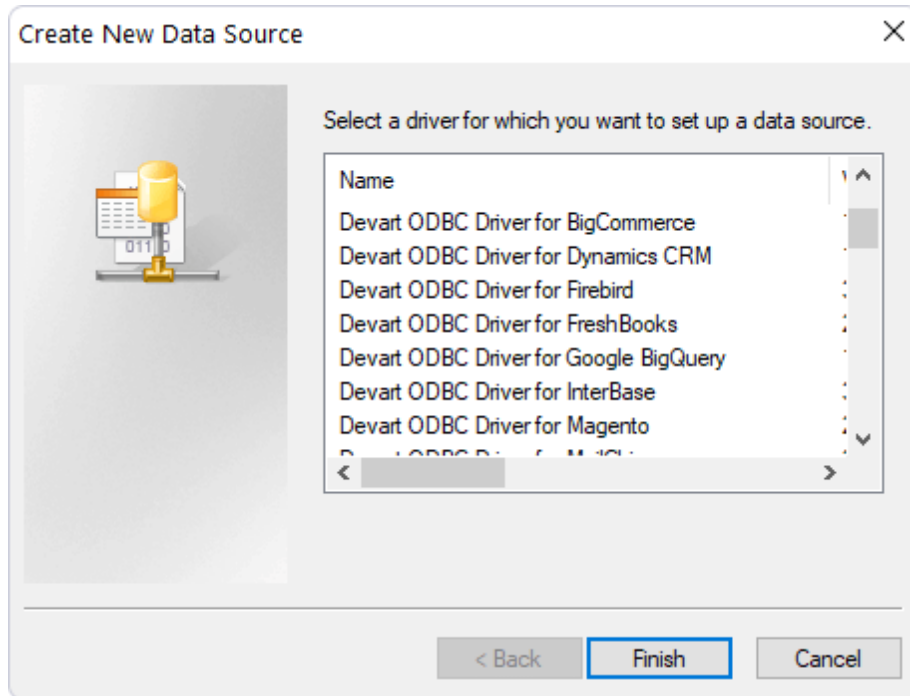
You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

1. Open the ODBC Data Source Administrator.

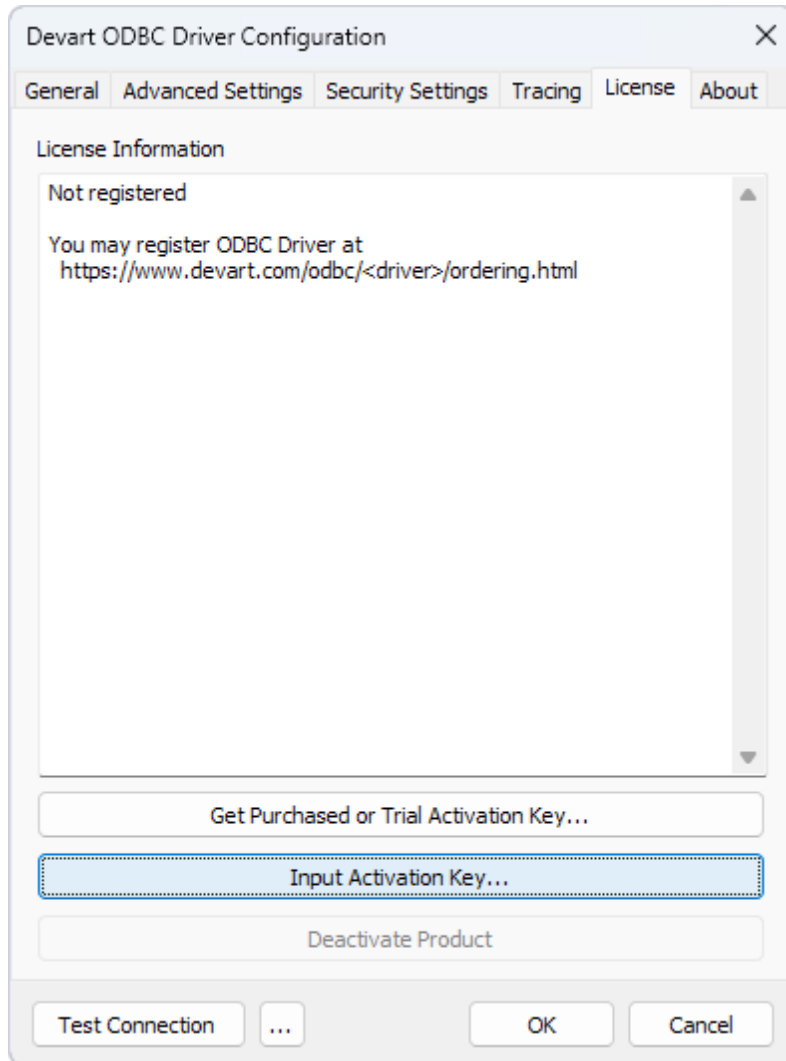
2. On the **System DSN** tab, click **Add**.



3. In the **Create New Data Source** dialog, select the installed driver, then click **Finish**.



4. In the configuration dialog, navigate to the **License** tab, and click **Input Activation Key**.

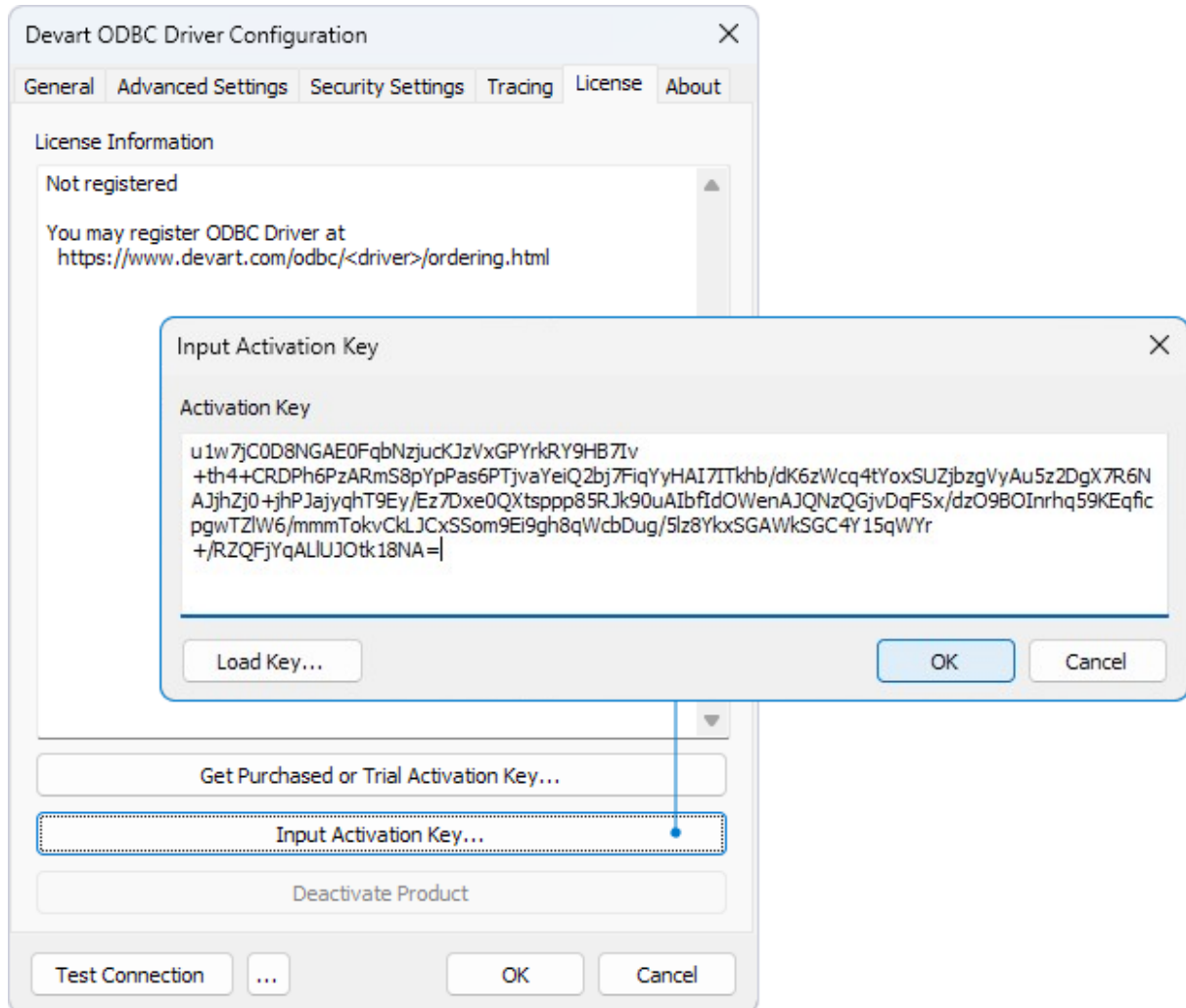


5. Here, you can activate the driver using one of the following methods:

- **Enter an activation key:** Paste your activation key into the corresponding box.
- **Load an activation file:** Click **Load Key** and select the file that contains the activation key.

You can find your activation key in the registration email or your Customer Portal account.

To open the Customer Portal, click **Get Purchased or Trial Activation Key**.



6. Click **OK**.

3.3.3 Activation on macOS

Driver Activation After Installation

If you didn't activate Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird during installation, you can activate it later using one of two methods:

- Online via a console application (for Perpetual and Subscription licenses).
- Offline with an activation file (only for Perpetual licenses).

You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

Activate Online via a Console Application

To activate the driver over the internet using a console application, follow these steps (this method works for both Perpetual and Subscription licenses):

1. In the console, go to the folder where the driver was installed. The default installation path

is `/Library/ODBC/Devart/Firebird`.

2. Optional: To open the Customer Portal in your browser and locate your activation key, run the following command:

```
./firebirdodbcactivator -g
```

Alternatively, you can find your activation key in the registration email.

3. Run the activation command with superuser privilege, providing either the driver activation key or the path of the file with the key:

- To activate using the activation key:

```
sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -a <activation_key>
```

Replace `<activation_key>` with the driver activation key.

- To activate using a file:

```
sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -a <file_path>
```

Replace `<file_path>` with the full path of the file containing the driver activation key.

When the process is complete, the driver is activated, and the License Summary is displayed in the console.

Activate Offline With an Activation File

To activate the driver offline (only for Perpetual licenses), follow these steps:

1. Go to the folder where the driver was installed. The default installation path is `/Library/`

`ODBC/Devart/Firebird`.

2. In that folder, create a file with the `activation.key` name.

3. Copy the activation key from the registration email or your Customer Portal account and paste it into the created file.
4. Save the file.

The driver gets activated.

See also:

- [Activation on Windows](#)
- [Activation on Linux](#)

3.3.4 Activation on Linux

Driver Activation After Installation

If you didn't activate Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird during installation, you can activate it later using one of two methods:

- Online via a console application (for Perpetual and Subscription licenses).
- Offline with an activation file (only for Perpetual licenses).

You need to activate the driver even for the trial version.

Activate Online via a Console Application

To activate the driver over the internet using a console application, follow these steps (this method works for both Perpetual and Subscription licenses):

1. In the console, go to the folder where the driver was installed. The default installation path is:
 - For the DEB package: `/usr/share/devart/odbcfirebird`
 - For the RPM package: `/usr/local/devart/odbcfirebird`
2. Optional: To open the Customer Portal in your browser and locate your activation key, run the following command:

```
./firebirdodbcactivator -g
```

Alternatively, you can find your activation key in the registration email.

3. Run the activation command with superuser privilege, providing either the driver activation key or the path of the file with the key:

- To activate using the activation key:

```
sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -a <activation_key>
```

Replace `<activation_key>` with the driver activation key.

- To activate using a file:

```
sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -a <file_path>
```

Replace `<file_path>` with the full path of the file containing the driver activation key.

When the process is complete, the driver is activated, and the License Summary is displayed in the console.

Activate Offline With an Activation File

To activate the driver offline (only for Perpetual licenses), follow these steps:

1. Go to the folder where the driver was installed. The default installation path is:
 - For the DEB package: `/usr/share/devart/odbcfirebird`
 - For the RPM package: `/usr/local/devart/odbcfirebird`
2. In that folder, create a file with the `activation.key` name.
3. Copy the activation key from the registration email or your Customer Portal account and paste it into the created file.
4. Save the file.

The driver gets activated.

See also:

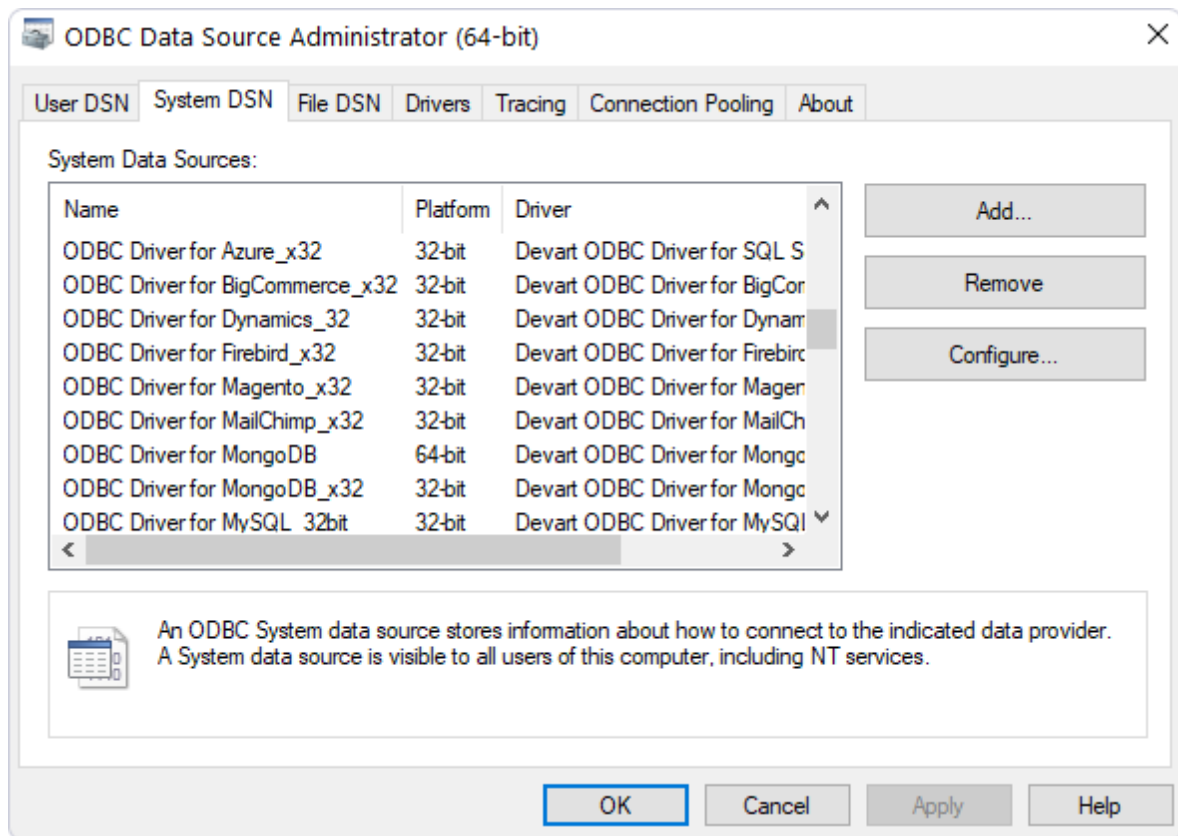
- [Activation on Windows](#)

- [Activation on macOS](#)

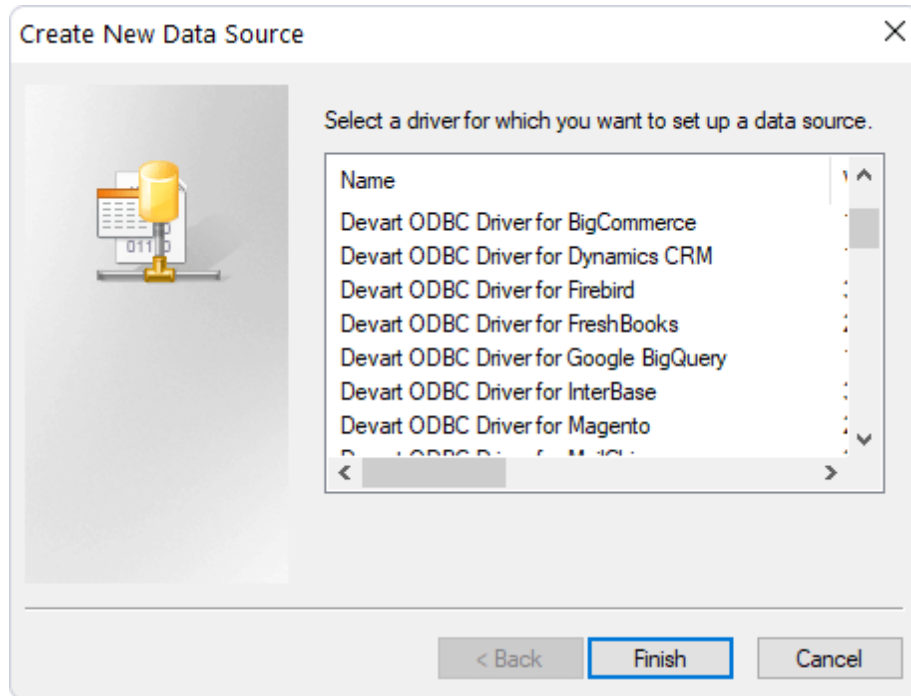
3.3.5 Where to See the License Information?

To see the license information of your installed driver, do the following:

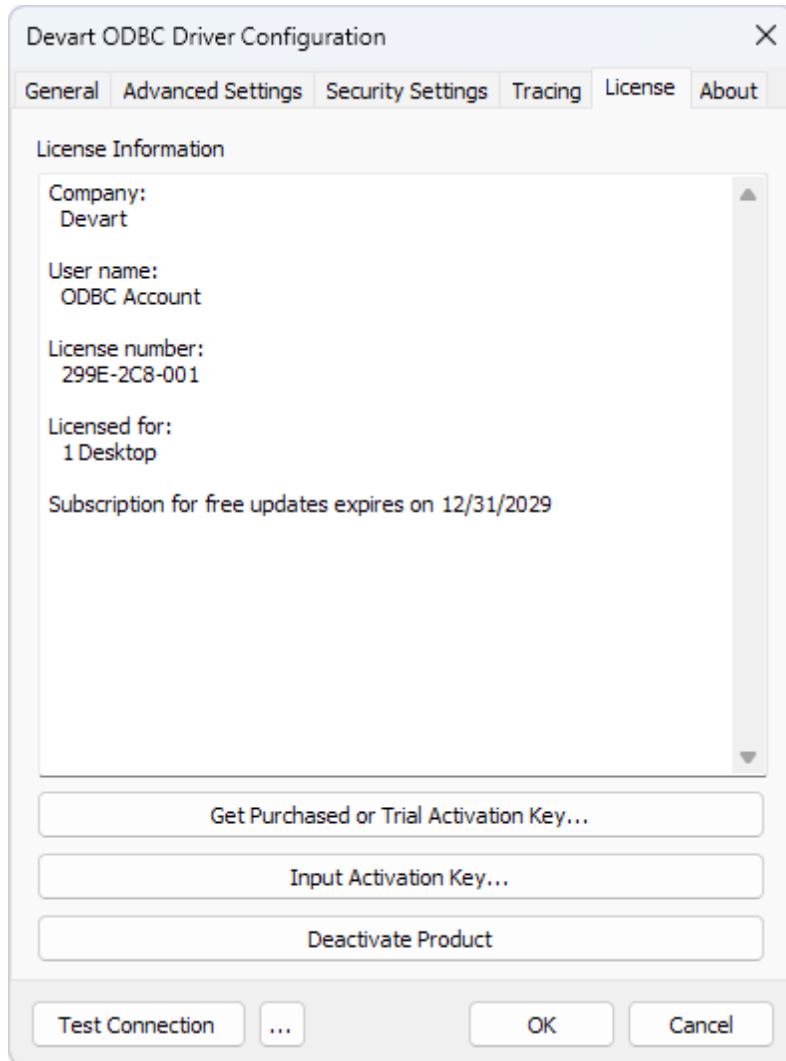
1. Open the ODBC Data Source Administrator.
2. On the **System DSN** tab, click **Add**.



3. Select the driver, then click **Finish**.



4. In the configuration dialogue, navigate to the **License** tab to view the license details.



3.4 Connecting to Firebird

See how to connect to the ODBC Driver for Firebird:

- [Windows DSN Configuration](#)
- [macOS DSN Configuration](#)
- [Linux DSN Configuration](#)

3.4.1 Windows

Windows DSN Configuration

After installing the driver, create a DSN for Firebird in the ODBC Data Source Administrator.

1. Open the ODBC Data Source Administrator.

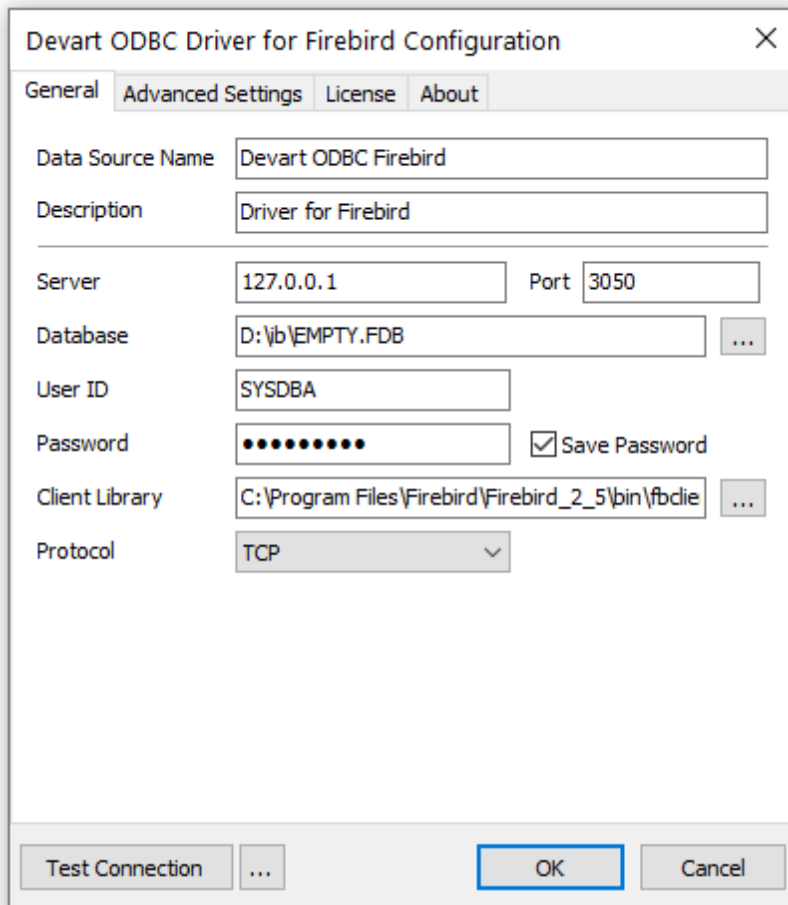
- Type `ODBC Data Sources` in the Windows search box and choose the application that matches the bitness of the third-party application (32-bit or 64-bit). You can also open **ODBC Data Sources** from **Control Panel > Administrative Tools**. Note that before Windows 8, the icon was named **Data Sources (ODBC)**.
- Alternatively, you can run `C:\Windows\SysWOW64\odbcad32.exe` to create a 32-bit DSN or `C:\Windows\System32\odbcad32.exe` to create a 64-bit DSN.

2. Select the **User DSN** or **System DSN** tab. Most applications work with both types, yet some applications require a specific type of DSN.

3. Click **Add**. The **Create New Data Source** dialog will appear.

4. Select **Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird** and click **Finish**. The driver setup dialog will open.

5. Enter the connection information in the appropriate fields.



6. You can test the connectivity by clicking **Test Connection**.

7. Click **OK** to save the DSN.

See Also

[Connection Options](#)

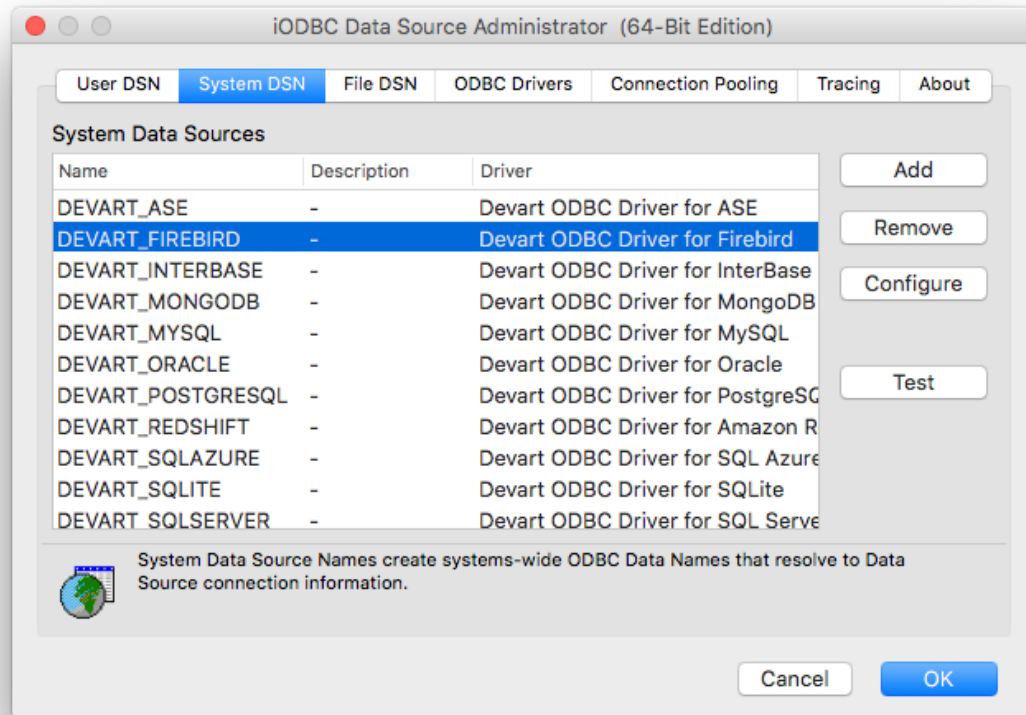
3.4.2 Mac

macOS DSN Configuration

After the driver is [installed](#), DSN with the name DEVART_FIREBIRD is created. You can use it to test a [connection with FIREBIRD](#) server. For this, perform the following steps:

1. Run the iODBC utility of the required bitness. Find the DEVART_FIREBIRD section and

click the Configure button:



2. In the appeared dialog, specify the required connection settings and click OK.

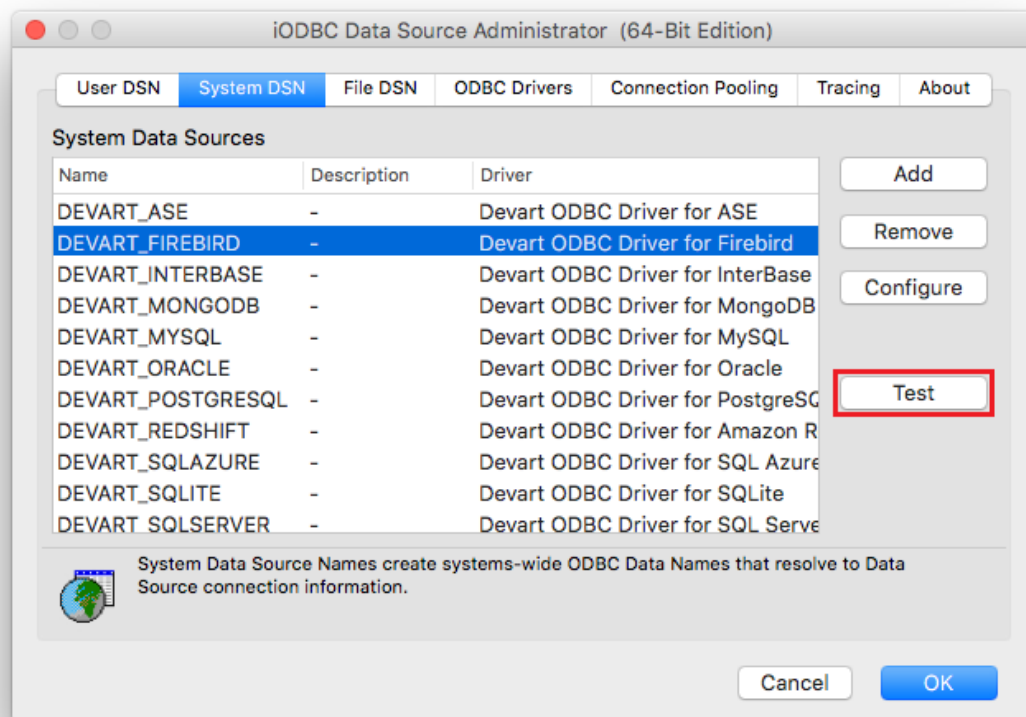
Setup of DEVART_FIREBIRD

Data Source Name (DSN)

Comment

Keyword	Value
Data Source	127.0.0.1
Database	/Users/test/Documents/fdb.fdb
Port	3050
User ID	svsdba
Password	*****

3. Now click the Test button to establish a test connection to your data source.



Using Client Library with SIP enabled

When SIP is enabled on your machine, put the client library file in either of these directories and specify the path to the client library in the **Client Library** connection parameter.

- /Applications
- /Library
- /usr/local

If you place the client library in either of the following directories when SIP is enabled, the driver will not be able to access the library due to protection for these parts of the system by SIP.

- /System
- /usr

- /bin
- /sbin
- /var
- Apps that are pre-installed with OS X

If you would like to disable SIP on your system, follow the [instructions](#). Read more about System Integrity Protection in macOS [documentation](#).

See Also

[Connection Options](#)

3.4.3 Linux

Linux DSN Configuration

After the linux ([DEB](#) or [RPM](#)) driver is installed, a DSN with the name DEVART_FIREBIRD is created. You can use it to test the [connection with the FIREBIRD](#) server. For this, perform the following steps:

1. Open the odbc.ini file located in the /etc folder. Find the DEVART_FIREBIRD section and specify the required connection settings:

User ID=<your Firebird user name>
Password=<your Firebird password>
Server=<your Firebird server address>
Port=<your Firebird port>
Database=<your Firebird database name>
Client Library=<path to the used Firebird client library>

2. Run the UnixODBC Test Command utility and test a connection using the following command:

```
isql -v DEVART_FIREBIRD
```

```
test@ubuntu:~$ isql -v DEVART_FIREBIRD
+-----+
| Connected!
|
| sql-statement
| help [tablename]
| quit
|
+-----+
SQL>
```

See Also

[Connection Options](#)

3.5 Connection String Parameters

Firebird ODBC Connection String Parameters

The following table lists the connection string parameters for Firebird.

Parameter	Description
ClientLibrary	The full path to the Firebird client library - for example, D:\fbclient.dll
Database	The full path to the database to connect to.
Password	The password of the Firebird user.
Port	The port number for the connection. The default port number is 3050.
Protocol	The network protocol for the connection to the Firebird server. Possible values: TCP

	<p>Uses TCP/IP to connect to the server.</p> <p>NetBEUI</p> <p>Uses NetBEUI named pipe for connection</p> <p>SPX</p> <p>Uses the SPX protocol for connection</p>
Server	Serves to supply the server name for login.
User ID	Used to supply a unique User ID for login.
Advanced Settings	
AllowNullStringsInMetadata	Some parameters don't accept null values when retrieving metadata. If a third-party tool passes a null value to such a parameter, the driver returns an error. These options ensure compatibility with such third-party tools.
EmptyStringsAsNullInMetadata	
Charset	Used to set the character set that the driver uses to read and write character data.
Connection Options	The option for passing additional connection parameters separated by comma to the Firebird server.
Force Using Default Value	<p>If the default port (3050) is used in the DSN settings, it will be cut out of the connection string for compatibility with certain versions of Firebird. That said, other versions of Firebird won't work correctly if the default port is not explicitly specified in the connection string. The Force Using Default Port option forces the driver to keep the default port in the connection string.</p> <p>The default value is False.</p>
ODBC Behavior	<p>Sets the behavior corresponding to the ODBC specification version expected by a third-party tool. The behavior of the ODBC driver can be changed by calling the SQLSetEnvAttr function to set the SQL_ATTR_ODBC_VERSION environment attribute. Some third-party tools expect the driver to exhibit ODBC 2.x behavior, but forget to call SQLSetEnvAttr with the needed version, or pass an incorrect value. In this case, the behavior can be explicitly set in the connection string.</p>

	<p>0 The default value. ODBC behavior is determined by a third-party tool.</p> <p>2 ODBC 2.x behavior is explicitly set.</p> <p>3 ODBC 3.x behavior is explicitly set.</p>
ReadOnly	Used to prevent data from being modified, if set to True. The default value is False.
RegionalNumberSettings	Enables the use of local regional settings when converting numbers to strings.
RegionalDateSettings	Enables the use of local regional settings when converting dates and times to strings.
Role	Used to specify the role that has been granted to the user.
String Types	<p>Sets the string value types returned by the driver as Default, ANSI, or Unicode.</p> <p>Default The driver defines the string types.</p> <p>Ansi All string types are returned as SQL_CHAR, SQL_VARCHAR, and SQL_LONGVARCHAR.</p> <p>Unicode All string types are returned as SQL_WCHAR, SQL_WVARCHAR, and SQL_WLONGVARCHAR.</p> <p>Note: Set the parameter to Ansi or Unicode if your third-party tool supports only ANSI or Unicode strings.</p>
Use Unicode	Enables or disable Unicode support. The default value is True.
WireCompression	Enables or disables compression of data over the wire at global or individual database level. Use Connection Options to pass this connection parameter, for example WireCompression=True. Disabled by

	default. Note: You should place <code>zlib1.dll</code> in the same location as <code>fbclient.dll</code> .
SQLDialect	Specifies the SQL dialect to be used when executing queries.
Downgrade SQLDialect	Enables compatibility with an older version of the SQL dialect.

Sample Firebird ODBC Connection String

```
DRIVER={Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird};Data  
Source=127.0.0.1;User ID=sysdba;Password=masterkey;Client  
Library=D:\fbclient.dll;Database=D:\mydb.fdb
```

3.6 Sandboxed Apps on macOS

Sandboxed Apps on macOS

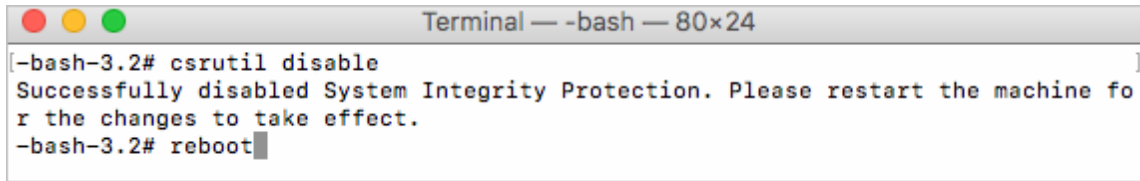
Sandboxed applications don't have permission to access iODBC Driver Manager on macOS. This is caused by the System Integrity Protection (SIP) technology on macOS which protects your files and folders from potentially malicious software by locking the application. When accessing a data source from an application like Excel through the [ODBC driver for Firebird](#), you may get an error message saying that the driver is unable to create a file.

Note: All third-party applications distributed through the Mac App Store are sandboxed.

Disabling System Integrity Protection (SIP) on macOS

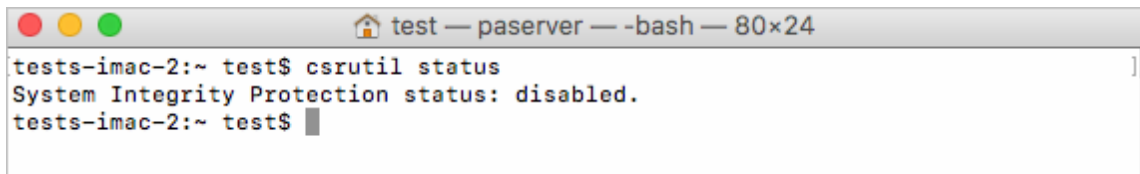
To resolve the issue, you should turn off SIP on your computer:

1. Restart your computer in **Recovery mode** (hold down **Command + R** until you see the Apple logo).
2. Select **Utilities > Terminal**.
3. In the Terminal window, enter `csrutil disable`.



```
Terminal — -bash — 80x24
[-bash-3.2# csrutil disable
Successfully disabled System Integrity Protection. Please restart the machine fo
r the changes to take effect.
-bash-3.2# reboot]
```

4. Restart your computer.
5. Enter `csrutil status` to check the status of SIP.



```
test — paserver — -bash — 80x24
tests-imac-2:~ test$ csrutil status
System Integrity Protection status: disabled.
tests-imac-2:~ test$
```

Enable SIP after you finish working with an ODBC data source. To turn on SIP, enter `csrutil enable` and restart your computer.

3.7 Using with iODBC

Using the Driver with iODBC

Among known issues with iODBC driver manager is incorrect handling of the following ODBC data types:

- SQL_WCHAR
- SQL_WVARCHAR
- SQL_WLONGVARCHAR

For this reason, we recommend using the following data types instead:

- SQL_CHAR
- SQL_VARCHAR
- SQL_LONGVARCHAR

If you have to work with the SQL_WCHAR, SQL_WVARCHAR, and SQL_WLONGVARCHAR data types, we recommend that you use the unixODBC driver manager rather than iODBC.

3.8 Enabling ODBC Tracing

Creating an ODBC Trace Log on Windows

When you start or stop tracing in the 64-bit ODBC Administrator, the tracing is also enabled or disabled in the 32-bit ODBC Administrator, and vice versa.

If the ODBC client application you need to trace runs under Local System account or any other user login than your own, select `Machine-Wide tracing for all user identities`. For example, this option may be necessary for SSMS.

To generate a trace file using ODBC Source Administrator on Windows, follow the steps below.

1. Type `ODBC Data Sources` in the Windows 10 search box (in earlier versions of Windows, open `Control Panel > Administrative Tools`) and choose the application of the needed bitness.
2. Select the `Tracing` tab.
3. If necessary, change the default `Log File Path`. Make sure that the path is writable by the application, then click `Apply`.
4. Click `Start Tracing Now`.
5. Restart all application processes.
6. Click `Test Connection` in the DSN settings to make sure the driver is able to connect.
7. Reproduce the issue.
8. Click `Stop Tracing Now` on the `Tracing` tab.
9. Send us the obtained log file (for example, `devart.log`).

Creating an ODBC Trace Log on macOS

To enable the trace option on macOS, use the `Tracing` tab within ODBC Administrator.

1. Open the ODBC Administrator.
2. Select the `Tracing` tab.
3. If necessary, change the default `Log file path`.
4. Select `All the time` in the `When to trace` option.

Creating an ODBC Trace Log on Linux

To trace the ODBC calls on Linux, set the `Trace` and `TraceFile` keyword/value pairs in the `[ODBC]` section of the `/etc/odbcinst.ini` file, for example:

```
[ODBC]
Trace=Yes
TraceFile=/home/test/devart.log
```

Make sure to disable logging after obtaining a log file since it affects the read/write speed.

3.9 Usage Statistics

Usage Statistics

ODBC Driver for Firebird can collect anonymous usage statistics. This data helps us improve product quality, resolve issues faster, and better understand how our products are used.

The collected data is anonymous and does not include personal information. The amount of transmitted data is minimal and is used only for diagnostic and product improvement purposes.

Collected Data

The driver collects the following data:

- Product name and version.
- Name of the process (application) using the driver.
- License information: license type, license number, and license status.
- Operating system name and version, number of processor cores.
- An anonymous user identifier.

The user identifier is an internal ID generated only for statistical purposes. It is not the operating system user name and cannot be used to identify the actual user.

- An anonymous hardware identifier.

The hardware identifier is an internal ID generated only for statistical purposes. It does not contain any data that can identify specific hardware.

- Database server name and version.
- Names of connection parameters used to connect to the database server.

Only parameter names are collected. We do not collect parameter values such as database name, user name, or password.

- Connection result: success, or a numeric error code if the connection fails.

Only the numeric error codes are collected. We do not collect full error messages, which might contain sensitive data (for example, database or user names).

Default Settings

Usage statistics is enabled by default when you install the driver.

To disable usage statistics, follow the instructions for your operating system:

- [Enable or Disable Usage Statistics on Windows](#)
- [Enable or Disable Usage Statistics on macOS](#)
- [Enable or Disable Usage Statistics on Linux](#)

3.9.1 Enable or Disable on Windows

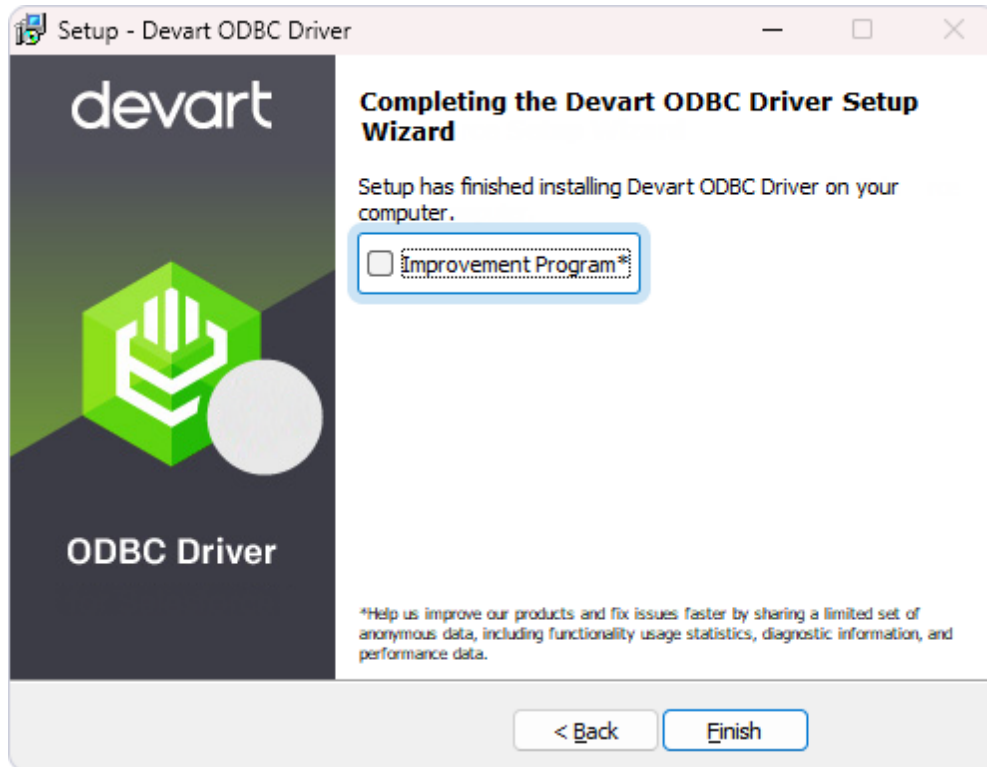
Enable or Disable Usage Statistics on Windows

Usage statistics is enabled by default when you install the driver. You can disable it in one of the following ways:

- **During installation:** In the installation wizard or from the command line.
- **After installation:** By editing the Windows Registry.

Disable Usage Statistics in the Installation Wizard

To disable usage statistics in the installation wizard, clear the **Improvement Program** checkbox on the last page of the wizard. The checkbox is selected by default.



Disable Usage Statistics From the Command Line

When you install the driver from the command line, you can disable usage statistics by adding the `/NOUSAGESTATISTICS` parameter to the command.

Silent and Very Silent Mode

To disable statistics during silent or very silent installation with the EXE installer, run one of the following commands:

```
DevartODBCFirebird.exe /NOUSAGESTATISTICS /SILENT
```

```
DevartODBCFirebird.exe /NOUSAGESTATISTICS /VERYSILENT
```

Quiet Mode

To disable statistics during quiet installation with the MSI installer, run the following command as an administrator:

```
msiexec /i DevartODBCFirebird.msi /q NOUSAGESTATISTICS=true
```

Change Usage Statistics Settings in the Windows Registry

To enable or disable usage statistics for an installed driver, edit the Windows Registry as

follows:

1. Open the Registry Editor. To do this, press **Win+R**, type `regedit` in the **Run** dialog, and press **Enter**.
2. Depending on your driver version, navigate to one of the following keys:
 - 64-bit driver: `HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\ODBC\ODBCINST.INI\Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird`
 - 32-bit driver: `HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\WOW6432Node\ODBC\ODBCINST.INI\Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird`
3. Set the value of the `UsageStatistics` parameter to `False` to disable statistics, or `True` to enable statistics.

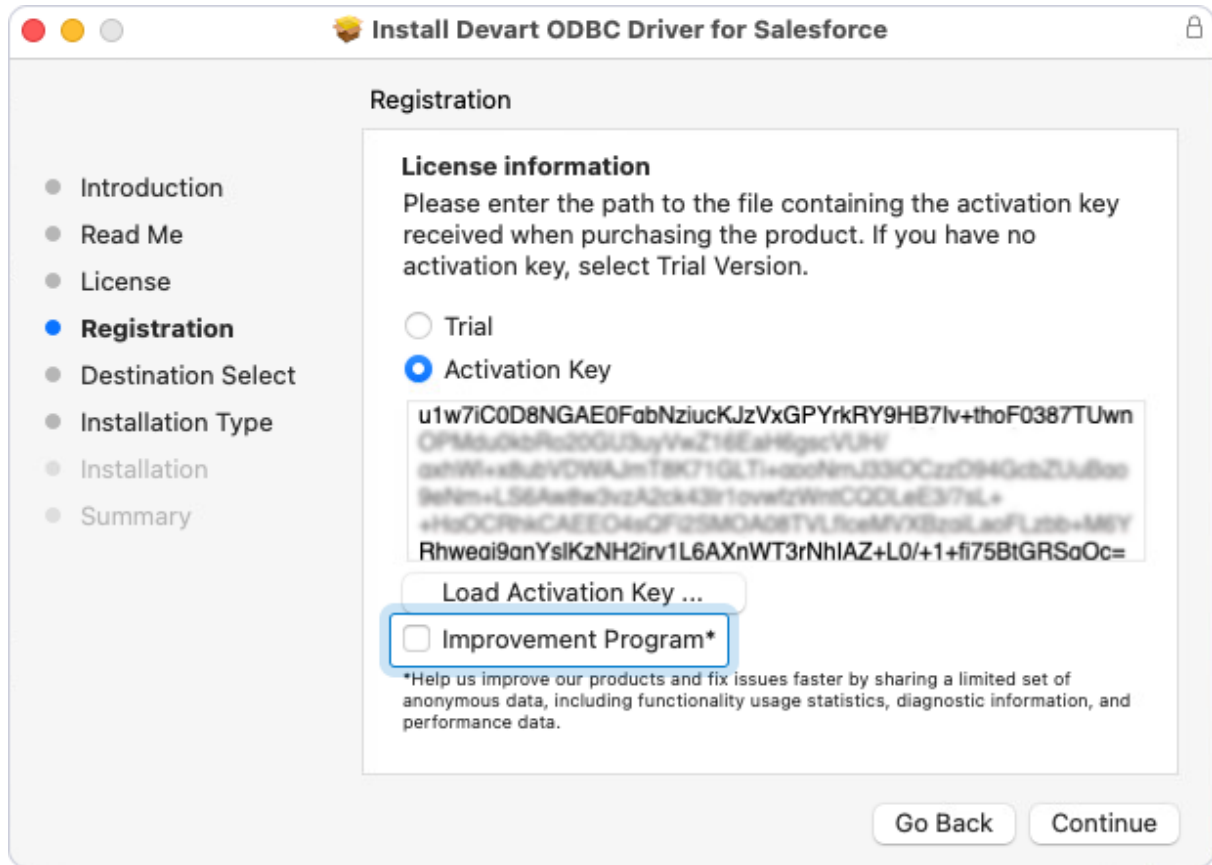
3.9.2 Enable or Disable on macOS

Enable or Disable Usage Statistics on macOS

Usage statistics is enabled by default when you install the driver. You can disable it in the installation wizard or later using a console application.

Disable Usage Statistics in the Installation Wizard

To disable usage statistics in the installation wizard, on the **Registration** page, clear the **Improvement Program** checkbox.



Enable or Disable Usage Statistics in a Console Application

To enable or disable usage statistics using a console application:

1. In the console, go to the folder where the driver was installed. The default installation path for the driver is `/Library/ODBC/Devart/Firebird`.
2. Run the activation command with superuser privileges using the `-u` option. Set the value to `false` to disable usage statistics or `true` to enable it.
 - To disable usage statistics: `sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -u false`
 - To enable usage statistics: `sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -u true`

3.9.3 Enable or Disable on Linux

Enable or Disable Usage Statistics on Linux

Usage statistics is enabled by default when you install the driver. The graphical installer

doesn't provide an option to disable usage statistics. You can disable statistics during package installation or after installation using a console application.

Disable Usage Statistics During Package Installation

To disable usage statistics when installing a DEB or RPM package, set the `NOUSAGESTATISTICS` environment variable to `true`.

DEB Package

To disable usage statistics when installing a DEB package, run the following command:

```
sudo NOUSAGESTATISTICS=true dpkg -i devartodbcfirebird.deb
```

RPM Package

To disable usage statistics when installing an RPM package, run the following command:

```
sudo NOUSAGESTATISTICS=true rpm -ivh devartodbcfirebird.rpm
```

Enable or Disable Usage Statistics After Installation

To enable or disable usage statistics for an installed driver, use a console application.

1. In the console, go to the folder where the driver was installed. The default installation path is:

- DEB package: `/usr/share/devart/odbcfirebird`
- RPM package: `/usr/local/devart/odbcfirebird`

2. Run the activation command with superuser privileges using the `-u` option. Set the value to `false` to disable usage statistics or `true` to enable it.

- To disable usage statistics:

```
sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -u false -i /etc
```

- To enable usage statistics:

```
sudo ./firebirdodbcactivator -u true -i /etc
```

3.10 Supported Data Types

Data Type Mapping

The Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird supports all Firebird data types.

The following table describes how the Firebird data types are mapped to the ODBC data types.

Firebird Data Types	ODBC Data Types
INT64	SQL_INTEGER
TIMESTAMP	SQL_TYPE_TIMESTAMP
DECIMAL	SQL_DECIMAL
FLOAT	SQL_REAL
BLOB	SQL_LONGVARBINARY
INTEGER	SQL_INTEGER
DECIMAL(18, 4)	SQL_DECIMAL
CHAR(x) CHARACTER SET UNICODE_FSS	SQL_VARCHAR
BLOB SUB_TYPE TEXT	SQL_LONGVARCHAR
NUMERIC	SQL_NUMERIC
VARCHAR(x) CHARACTER SET UNICODE_FSS	SQL_VARCHAR
DOUBLE	SQL_DOUBLE
SMALLINT	SQL_SMALLINT
DECIMAL(10, 4)	SQL_DECIMAL
CHAR	SQL_CHAR
VARCHAR	SQL_CHAR
CHAR(38)	SQL_CHAR

3.11 Supported ODBC API Functions

Supported ODBC Functions

The SQLGetInfo function returns information about the driver and data source. To find out whether a specific function is supported in the driver, call SQLGetFunctions.

For more information about the ODBC interface, see the [ODBC Programmer's Reference](#).

ODBC Driver for Firebird supports all deprecated functions for backward compatibility.

The following table lists the currently supported ODBC functions.

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLAllocHandle	✓	ISO 92	Obtains an environment, connection, statement, or descriptor handle.
SQLConnect	✓	ISO 92	Connects to a specific driver by data source name, user ID, and password.
SQLDriverConnect	✓	ODBC	Connects to a specific driver by connection string or requests that the Driver Manager and driver display connection dialog boxes for the user.
SQLAllocEnv	✓	Deprecated	Obtains an environment handle allocated from driver.
SQLAllocConnect	✓	Deprecated	Obtains a connection handle

ODBC API Calls for Obtaining Information about a Driver

and Data Source

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLDataSources	✓	ISO 92	Returns the list of available data sources, handled by the Driver Manager
SQLDrivers	✓	ODBC	Returns the list of installed drivers and their attributes, handles by Driver Manager
SQLGetInfo	✓	ISO 92	Returns information about a specific driver and data source.
SQLGetFunctions	✓	ISO 92	Returns the functions supported by the driver.
SQLGetTypeInfo	✓	ISO 92	Returns information about supported data types.

ODBC API Calls for Setting and Retrieving Driver Attributes

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLSetConnectAttr	✓	ISO 92	Sets a connection attribute.
SQLGetConnectAttr	✓	ISO 92	Returns the value of a connection

			attribute.
SQLSetConnectOption	✓	Deprecated	Sets a connection option
SQLGetConnectOption	✓	Deprecated	Returns the value of a connection option
SQLSetEnvAttr	✓	ISO 92	Sets an environment attribute.
SQLGetEnvAttr	✓	ISO 92	Returns the value of an environment attribute.
SQLSetStmtAttr	✓	ISO 92	Sets a statement attribute.
SQLGetStmtAttr	✓	ISO 92	Returns the value of a statement attribute.
SQLSetStmtOption	✓	Deprecated	Sets a statement option
SQLGetStmtOption	✓	Deprecated	Returns the value of a statement option

ODBC API Calls for Preparing SQL Requests

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLAllocStmt	✓	Deprecated	Allocates a statement handle
SQLPrepare	✓	ISO 92	Prepares an SQL statement for later execution.
SQLBindParameter	✓	ODBC	Assigns storage for a parameter in an SQL statement.

SQLGetCursorName	✓	ISO 92	Returns the cursor name associated with a statement handle.
SQLSetCursorName	✓	ISO 92	Specifies a cursor name.
SQLSetScrollOptions	✓	ODBC	Sets options that control cursor behavior.

ODBC API Calls for Submitting Requests

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLExecute	✓	ISO 92	Executes a prepared statement.
SQLExecDirect	✓	ISO 92	Executes a statement
SQLNativeSql	✓	ODBC	Returns the text of an SQL statement as translated by the driver.
SQLDescribeParam	✓	ODBC	Returns the description for a specific parameter in a statement.
SQLNumParams	✓	ISO 92	Returns the number of parameters in a statement.
SQLParamData	✓	ISO 92	Used in conjunction with SQLPutData to

			supply parameter data at execution time. (Useful for long data values.)
SQLPutData	✓	ISO 92	Sends part or all of a data value for a parameter. (Useful for long data values.)

ODBC API Calls for Retrieving Results and Information about Results

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLRowCount	✓	ISO 92	Returns the number of rows affected by an insert, update, or delete request.
SQLNumResultCols	✓	ISO 92	Returns the number of columns in the result set.
SQLDescribeCol	✓	ISO 92	Describes a column in the result set.
SQLColAttribute	✓	ISO 92	Describes attributes of a column in the result set.
SQLColAttributes	✓	Deprecated	Describes attributes of a column in the result set.
SQLFetch	✓	ISO 92	Returns multiple result rows.

SQLFetchScroll	✓	ISO 92	Returns scrollable result rows.
SQLExtendedFetch	✓	Deprecated	Returns scrollable result rows.
SQLSetPos	✓	ODBC	Positions a cursor within a fetched block of data and enables an application to refresh data in the rowset or to update or delete data in the result set.
SQLBulkOperations	✓	ODBC	Performs bulk insertions and bulk bookmark operations, including update, delete, and fetch by bookmark.

ODBC API Calls for Retrieving Error or Diagnostic Information

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLError	✓	Deprecated	Returns additional error or status information
SQLGetDiagField	✓	ISO 92	Returns additional diagnostic information (a single field of the

			diagnostic data structure).
SQLGetDiagRec	✓	ISO 92	Returns additional diagnostic information (multiple fields of the diagnostic data structure).

ODBC API Calls for Obtaining Information About Database Objects (Catalog Functions)

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLColumnPrivileges	✓	ODBC	Returns a list of columns and associated privileges for one or more tables.
SQLColumns	✓	X/Open	Returns the list of column names in specified tables.
SQLForeignKeys	✓	ODBC	Returns a list of column names that make up foreign keys, if they exist for a specified table.
SQLPrimaryKeys	✓	ODBC	Returns the list of column names that make up the primary key for a table.

SQLProcedureColumns	✓	ODBC	Returns the list of input and output parameters, as well as the columns that constitute the result set for the specified procedures.
SQLProcedures	✓	ODBC	Returns the list of procedure names stored in a specific data source.
SQLSpecialColumns	✓	X/Open	Returns information about the optimal set of columns that uniquely identifies a row in a specified table, or the columns that are automatically updated when any value in the row is updated by a transaction.
SQLStatistics	✓	ISO 92	Returns statistics about a single table and the list of indexes associated with the table.
SQLTablePrivileges	✓	ODBC	Returns a list of

			tables and the privileges associated with each table.
SQLTables	✓	X/Open	Returns the list of table names stored in a specific data source.

ODBC API Calls for Performing Transactions

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLTransact	✓	Deprecated	Commits or rolls back a transaction
SQLEndTran	✓	ISO 92	Commits or rolls back a transaction.

ODBC API Calls for Terminating a Statement

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLFreeStmt	✓	ISO 92	Ends statement processing, discards pending results, and, optionally, frees all resources associated with the statement handle.
SQLCloseCursor	✓	ISO 92	Closes a cursor that has been opened on a statement handle.
SQLCancel	✓	ISO 92	Cancels an SQL

			statement.
--	--	--	------------

ODBC API Calls for Terminating a Connection

Function Name	Support	Standard	Purpose
SQLDisconnect	✓	ISO 92	Closes the connection.
SQLFreeHandle	✓	ISO 92	Releases an environment, connection, statement, or descriptor handle.
SQLFreeConnect	✓	Deprecated	Releases connection handle.
SQLFreeEnv	✓	Deprecated	Releases an environment handle.

4 Using in Third-Party Tools

This section discusses how to use ODBC Driver for Firebird with ODBC-compliant tools.

- [DBeaver](#)
- [DBExtra](#)
- [Denodo](#)
- [Informatica PowerCenter](#)
- [Microsoft Access](#)
- [Microsoft Excel](#)
- [Microsoft Visual Studio](#)
- [OpenOffice and LibreOffice](#)
- [Oracle Database Link](#)

- [PHP](#)
- [Power BI](#)
- [Python](#)
- [QlikView](#)
- [SQL Server Management Studio](#)
- [SSIS](#)
- [Tableau](#)

4.1 Using in DBeaver

This section describes how to connect DBeaver to Firebird using Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird.

- [Connect DBeaver Community to Firebird through ODBC](#)
- [Connect DBeaver Enterprise to Firebird through ODBC](#)

4.1.1 Connect DBeaver Community to Firebird through ODBC

DBeaver Community and DBeaver Enterprise let users connect to Firebird via ODBC, enabling SQL-based querying, reporting, and data management.

If you need basic ODBC connectivity to Firebird and are comfortable with manual configuration using a generic ODBC Connection, choose DBeaver Community—a free, open-source database management tool.

If you require a simplified connection setup with built-in ODBC support, enhanced security, and performance features, you may try DBeaver Enterprise. For more information on connecting to Firebird data from DBeaver Enterprise, see [Connect DBeaver Enterprise to Firebird through ODBC](#).

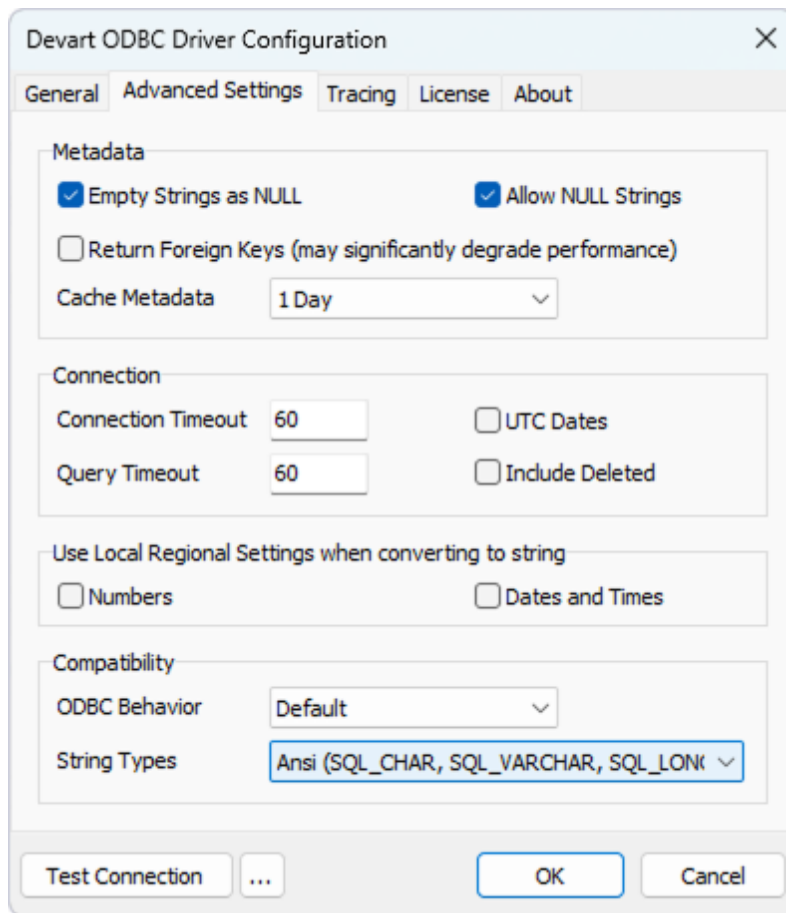
Initial configuration

1. Download `jdbc-odbc-bridge-jre7.jar` and `x64/JdbcOdbc.dll` from [Github](#).
2. Download the **Microsoft Visual C++ 2010 Service Pack 1 Redistributable Package** from the [Microsoft website](#).

The built-in legacy ODBC driver was removed in DBeaver Community Edition 23.1. If you're using an earlier version of DBeaver Community, skip steps 1 and 2.

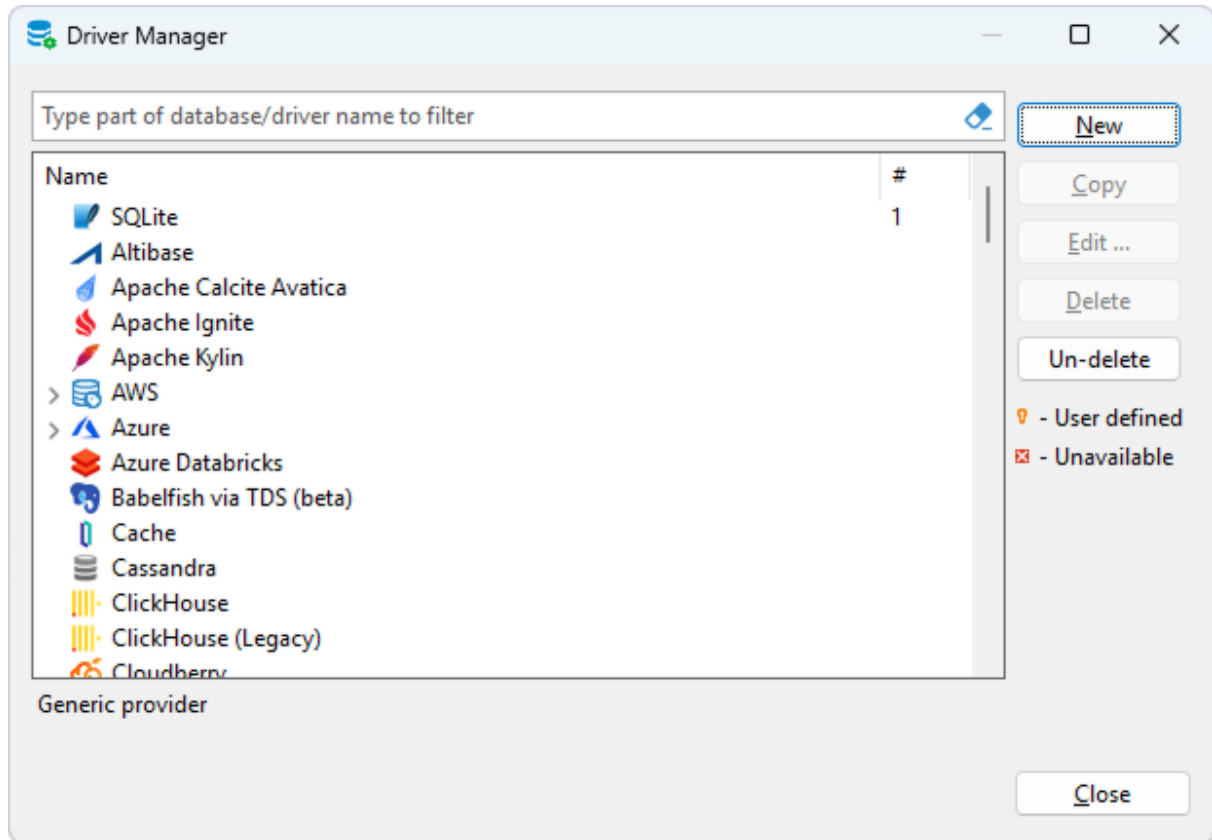
3. Configure an ODBC data source. For more information, see [Windows DSN Configuration](#).
4. On the **Advanced Settings** tab of the DSN configuration window, select **Ansi** from the **String Types**.

This option is required for the proper display of the SQL_WVARCAHAR data type in DBeaver. It also ensures that all string types will be returned as **SQL_CHAR**, **SQL_VARCHAR**, and **SQL_LONGVARCHAR**.



Connect to Firebird

1. In DBeaver, select **Database > Driver Manager**.
2. Click **New**.



3. Configure the following properties for a new driver:

- In the **Driver Name** field, enter *ODBC*.
- In the **Class Name** field, enter *sun.jdbc.odbc.JdbcOdbcDriver*
- In the **URL Template** field, select *jdbc:odbc:{database}*.

Create new driver

Settings Libraries Default properties Advanced parameters

Driver Name: ODBC Driver Type: Generic

Class Name: sun.jdbc.odbc.JdbcOdbcDriver

URL Template: jdbc:odbc:{database}

Default Port: Default Database:

Default User:

☐ Embedded ☐ Propagate driver properties ☐ No authentication ☐ Allow Empty Password

☐ Use legacy JDBC instantiation ☒ Thread safe driver

Description

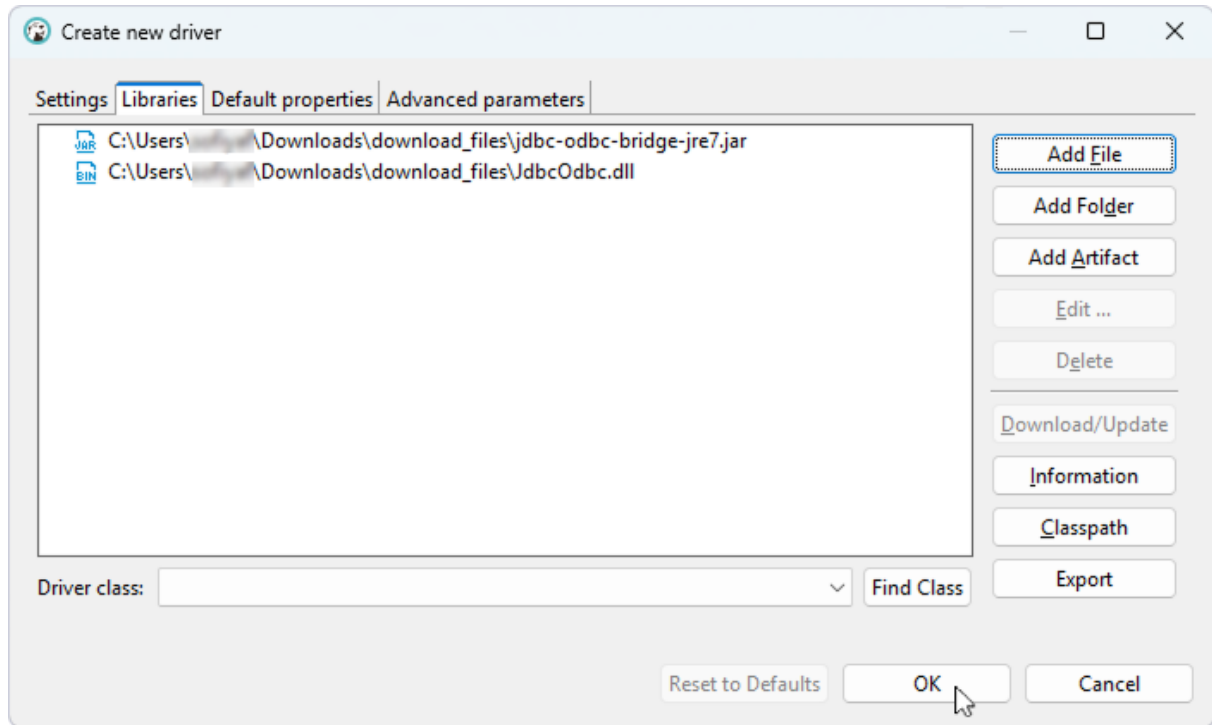
ID: 55052241-1D12-5734-4177-5C2F49673070

Description:

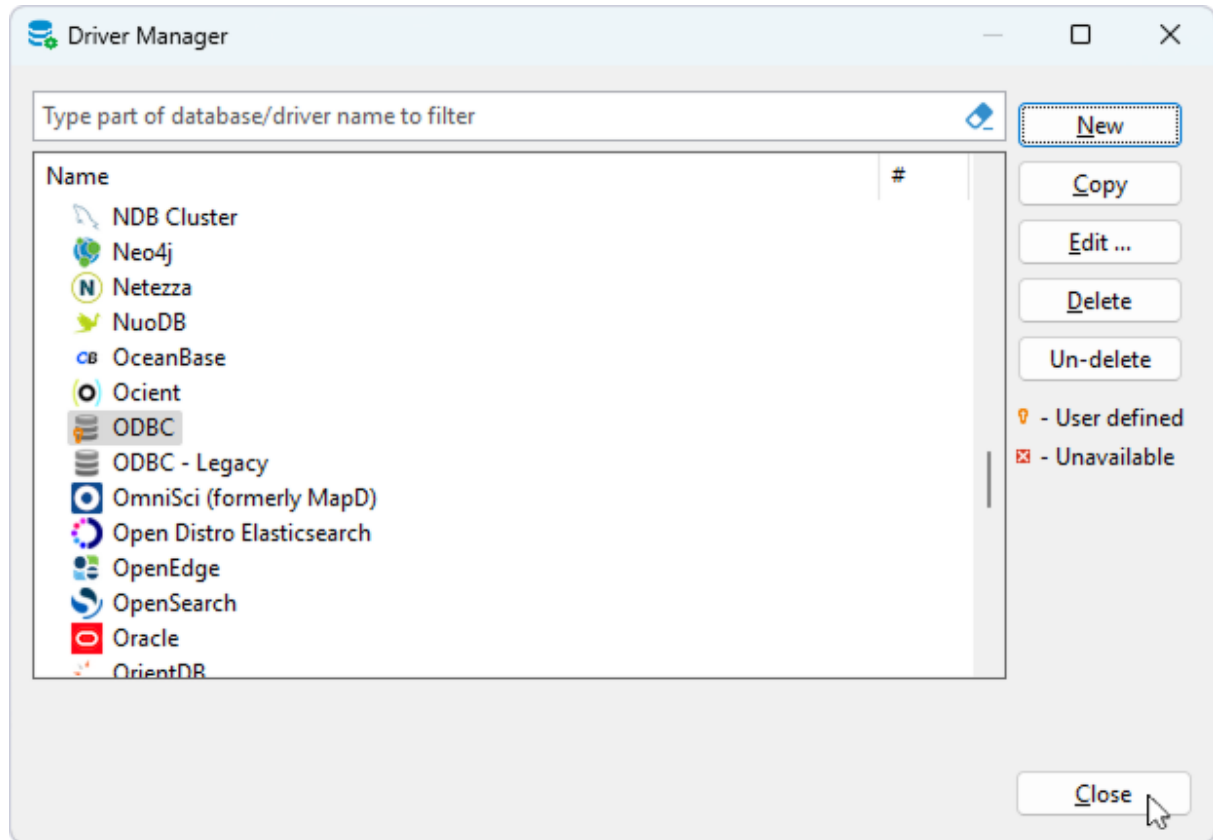
Reset to Defaults OK Cancel

4. On the **Libraries** tab, click **Add File**.

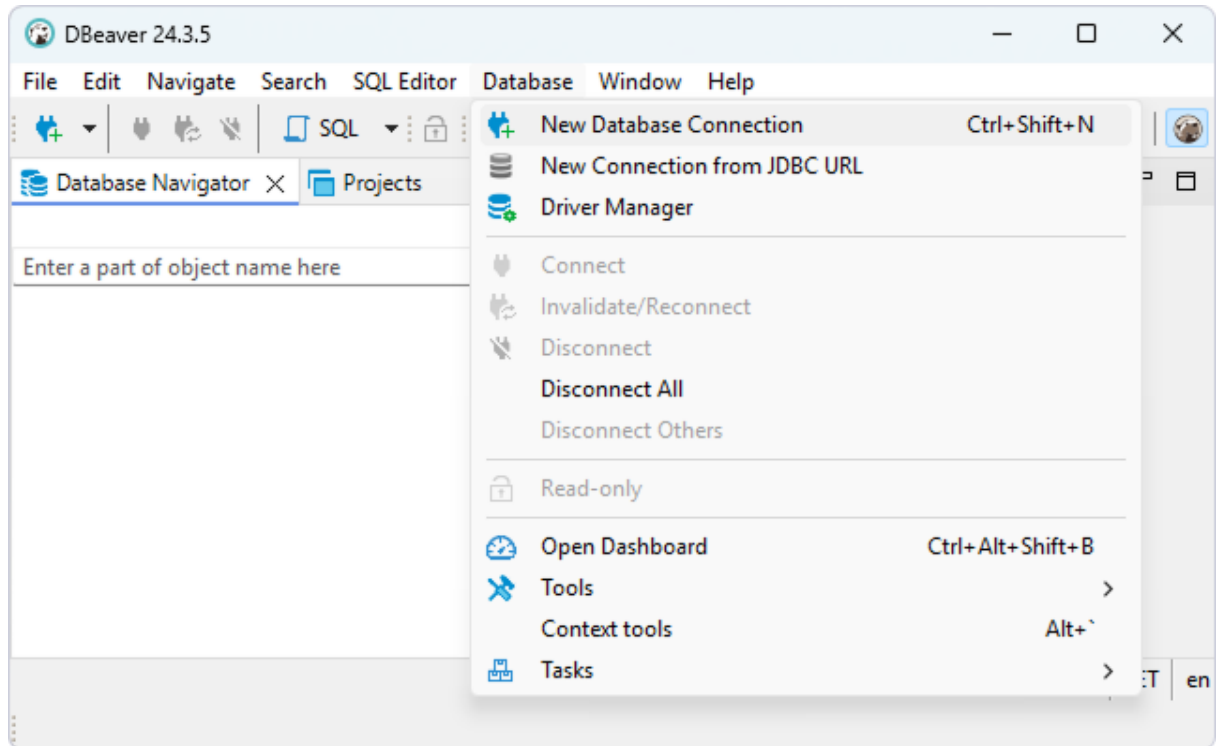
5. Select the `jdbc-odbc-bridge-jre7.jar`, then click **OK**. After that, select `JdbcOdbc.dll`, then click **OK**.



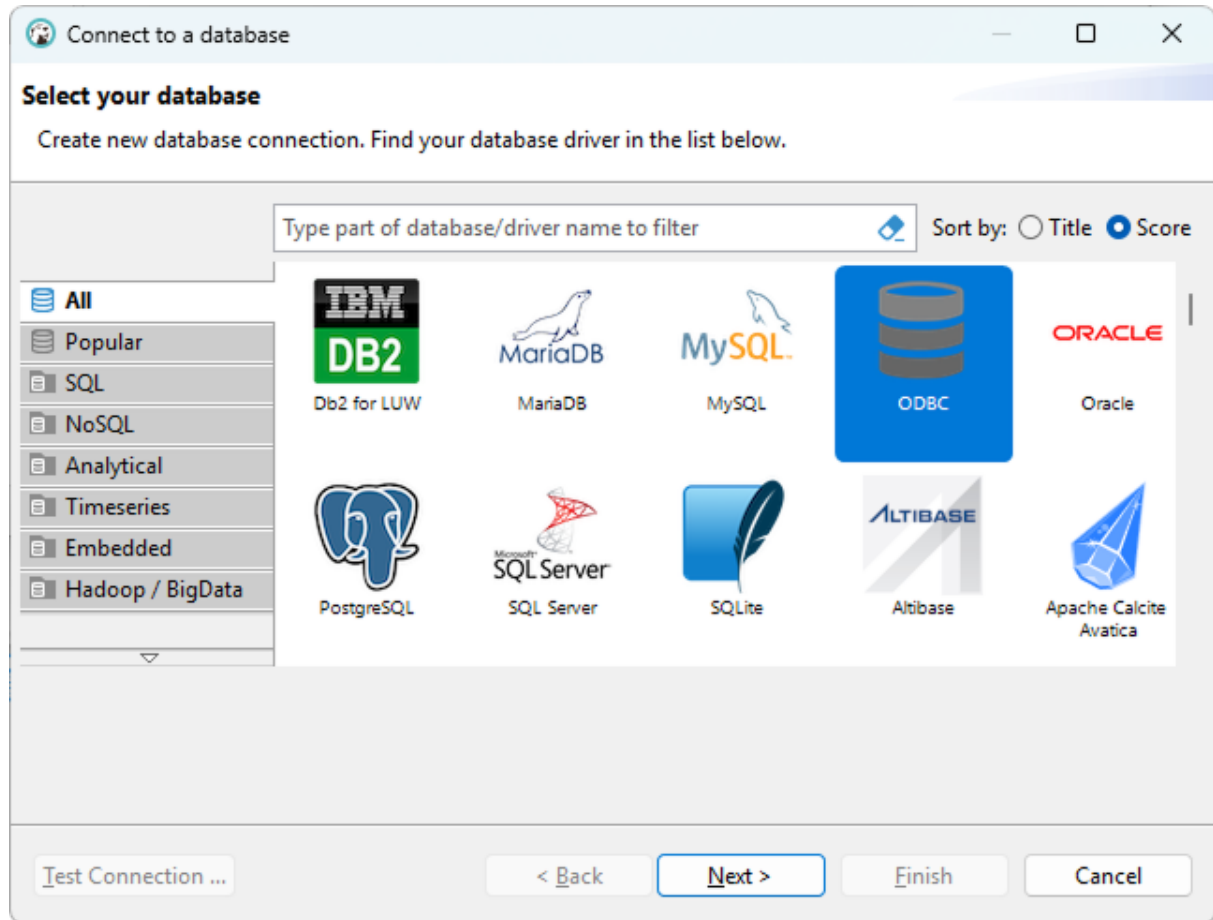
6. Once a new ODBC driver appears on the list, click **Close**.



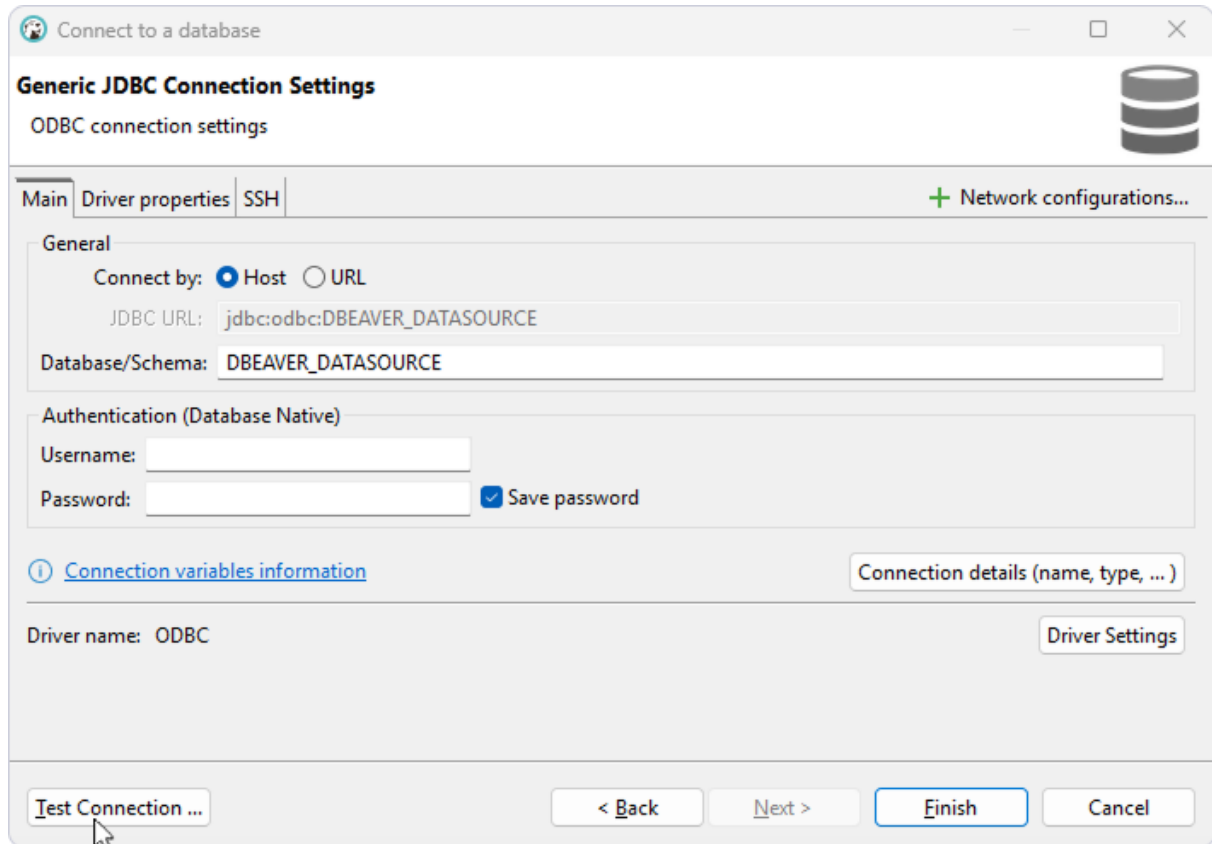
7. Select **Database** > **New Database Connection**.



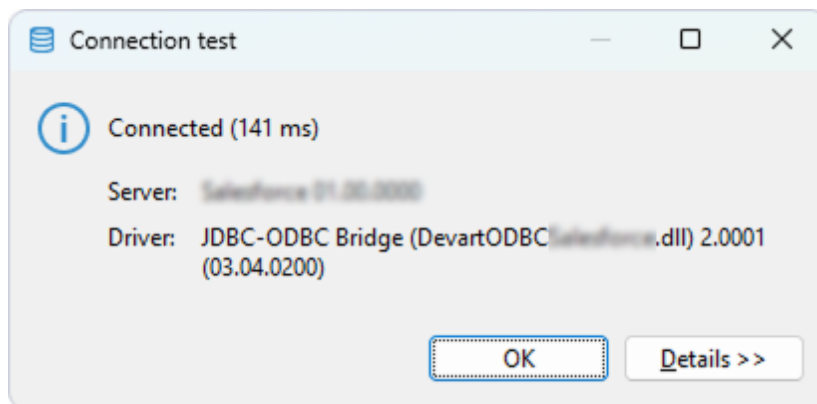
8. Select the **ODBC** driver, then click **Next**.



9. In the **Database/Schema** field, specify the name of your DSN.



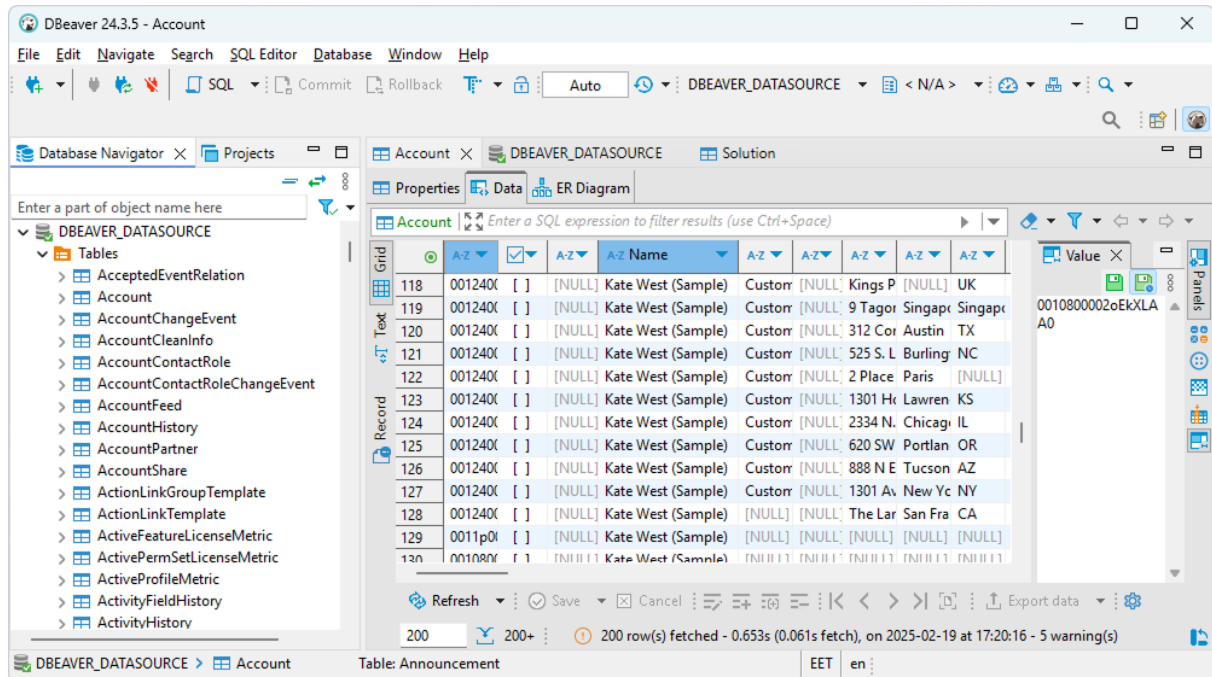
10. Optional: Select **Test Connection** to verify the connection settings.



11. Click **Finish**.

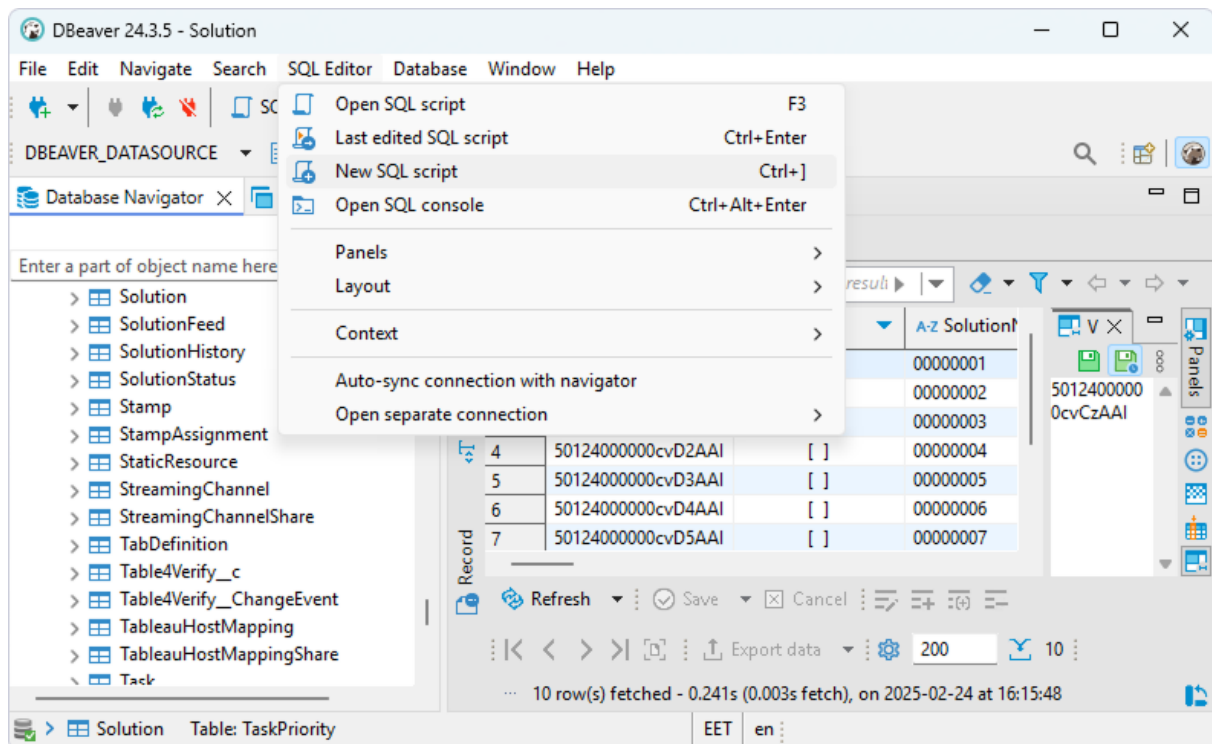
The database appears on the left pane.

12. To view the data stored in a table, expand the database structure and click the needed table.

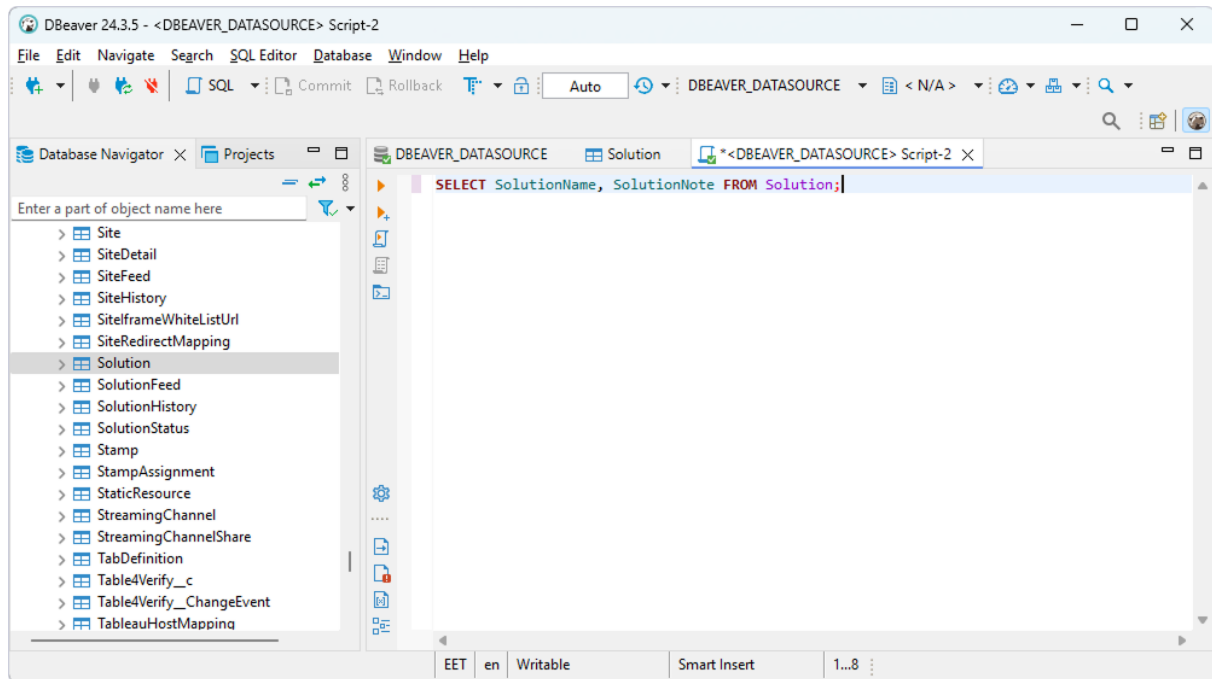


Query Firebird data

1. Select **SQL Editor** > **New SQL script**.

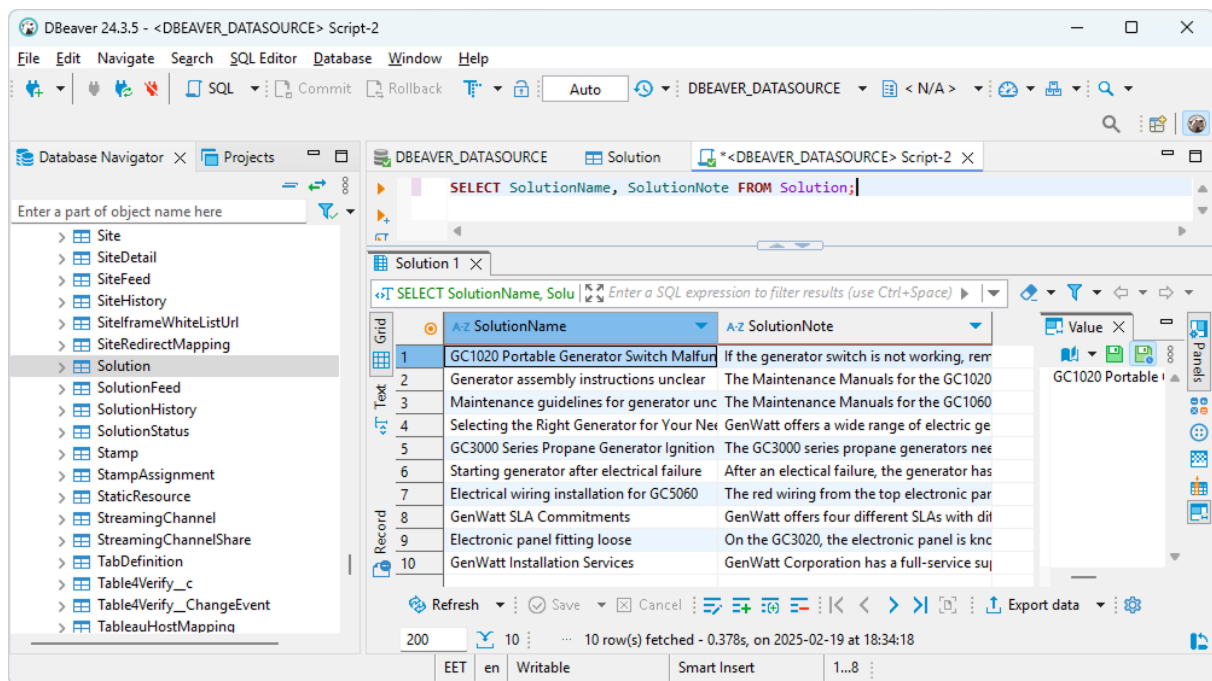


2. Enter your query.



3. Select **SQL Editor** > **Execute SQL query**.

The query results are displayed in the main window.



4.1.2 Connect DBeaver Enterprise to Firebird through ODBC

DBeaver Enterprise and DBeaver Community let users connect to Firebird via ODBC, enabling SQL-based querying, reporting, and data management.

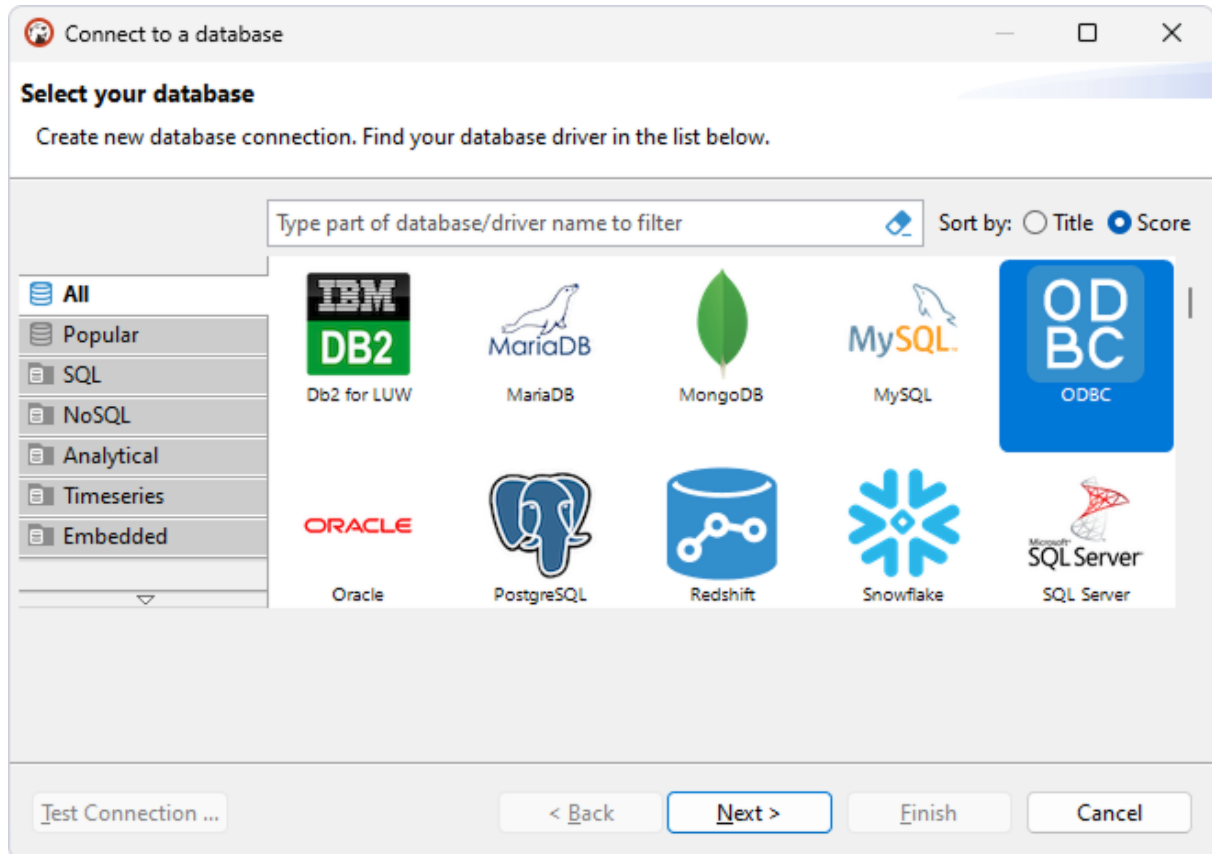
If you require a simplified connection setup with built-in ODBC support, enhanced security, and performance features, you may try DBeaver Enterprise.

If you need basic ODBC connectivity to Firebird and are comfortable with manual configuration using a generic ODBC connection, choose DBeaver Community—a free, open-source database management tool. For more information on connecting to Firebird data from DBeaver Community, see [Connect DBeaver Community to Firebird through ODBC](#).

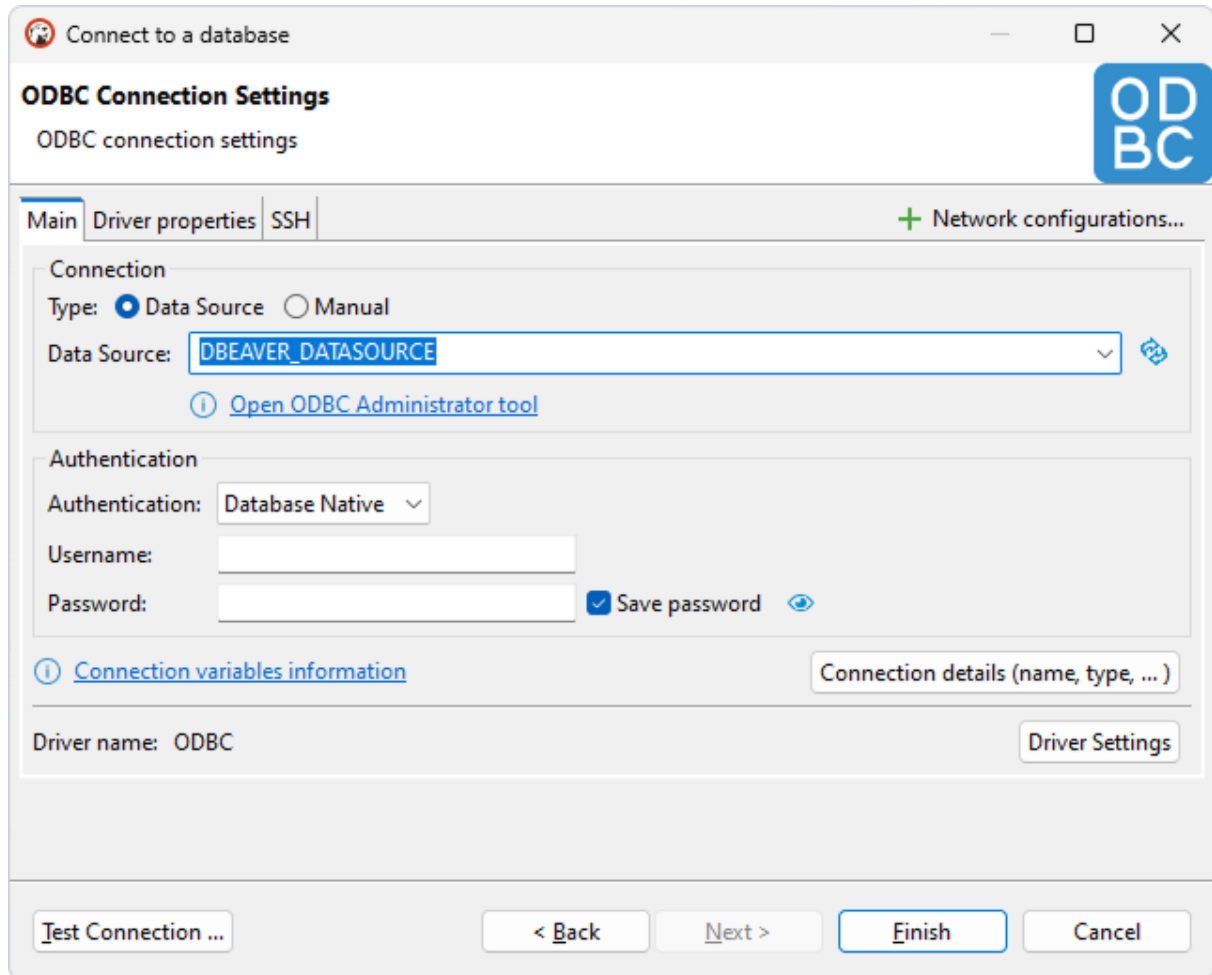
Connect to Firebird

To connect to the Firebird database from DBeaver Enterprise:

1. Select **Database > New Database Connection**.
2. Select the **ODBC** driver and click **Next**.



3. In the **Database Source** field, specify the name of your DSN.



The image shows the 'Connect to a database' dialog box, specifically the 'ODBC Connection Settings' tab. The 'Main' tab is selected, showing options for 'Connection' and 'Authentication'. Under 'Connection', 'Type' is set to 'Data Source' (selected with a radio button) and 'Data Source' is set to 'DBEAVER_DATASOURCE'. A link 'Open ODBC Administrator tool' is visible. Under 'Authentication', 'Authentication' is set to 'Database Native'. There are input fields for 'Username' and 'Password', with a 'Save password' checkbox checked. A 'Test Connection ...' button is at the bottom left. Navigation buttons '< Back', 'Next >', 'Finish', and 'Cancel' are at the bottom right. A 'Driver name: ODBC' label and a 'Driver Settings' button are also present.

Connect to a database

ODBC Connection Settings

ODBC connection settings

Main | Driver properties | SSH | + Network configurations...

Connection

Type: ☒ Data Source ☐ Manual

Data Source: DBEAVER_DATASOURCE

[Open ODBC Administrator tool](#)

Authentication

Authentication: Database Native

Username:

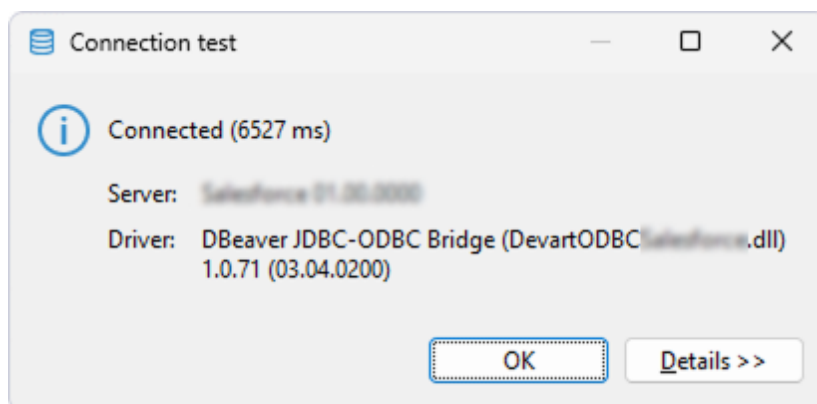
Password: ☒ Save password [Show/Hide](#)

[Connection variables information](#) Connection details (name, type, ...)

Driver name: ODBC Driver Settings

Test Connection ... < Back Next > Finish Cancel

4. Optional: Select **Test Connection** to verify the connection settings.



The image shows the 'Connection test' dialog box. It displays a status message 'Connected (6527 ms)' with an information icon. Below this, it shows 'Server: Salesforce 01.00.0000' and 'Driver: DBeaver JDBC-ODBC Bridge (DevartODBCSalesforce.dll) 1.0.71 (03.04.0200)'. At the bottom, there are 'OK' and 'Details >>' buttons.

Connection test

Connected (6527 ms)

Server: Salesforce 01.00.0000

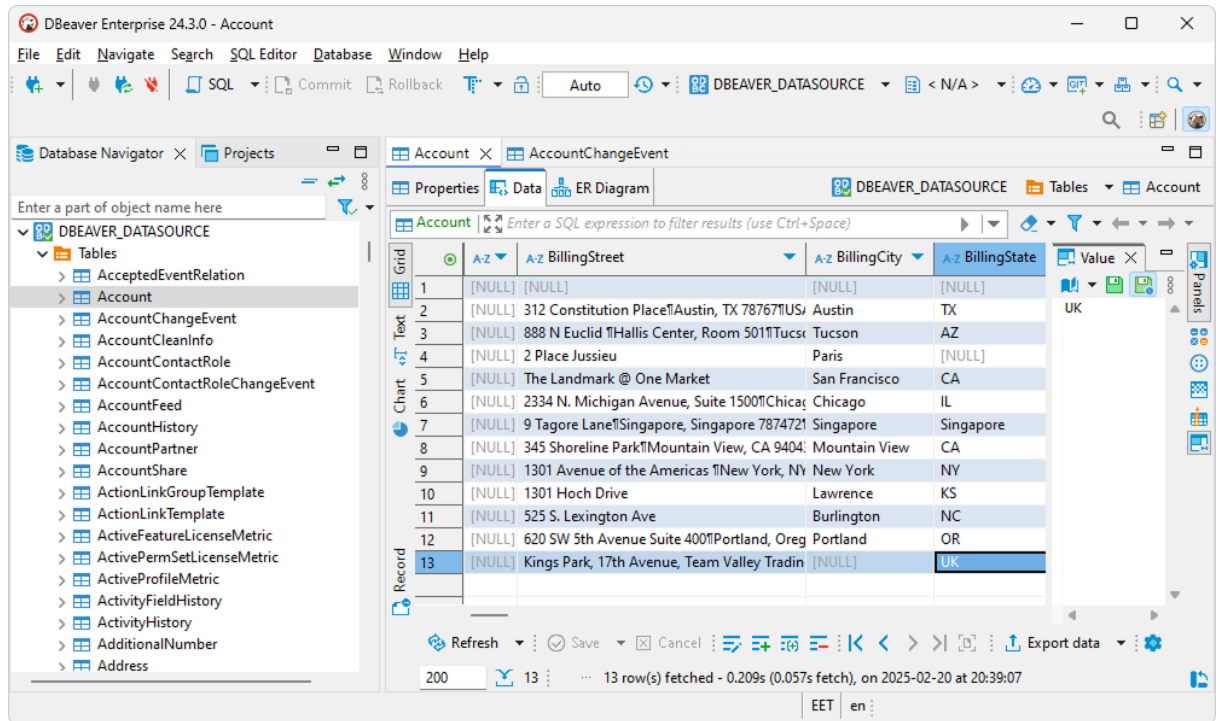
Driver: DBeaver JDBC-ODBC Bridge (DevartODBCSalesforce.dll) 1.0.71 (03.04.0200)

OK Details >>

5. Click **Finish**.

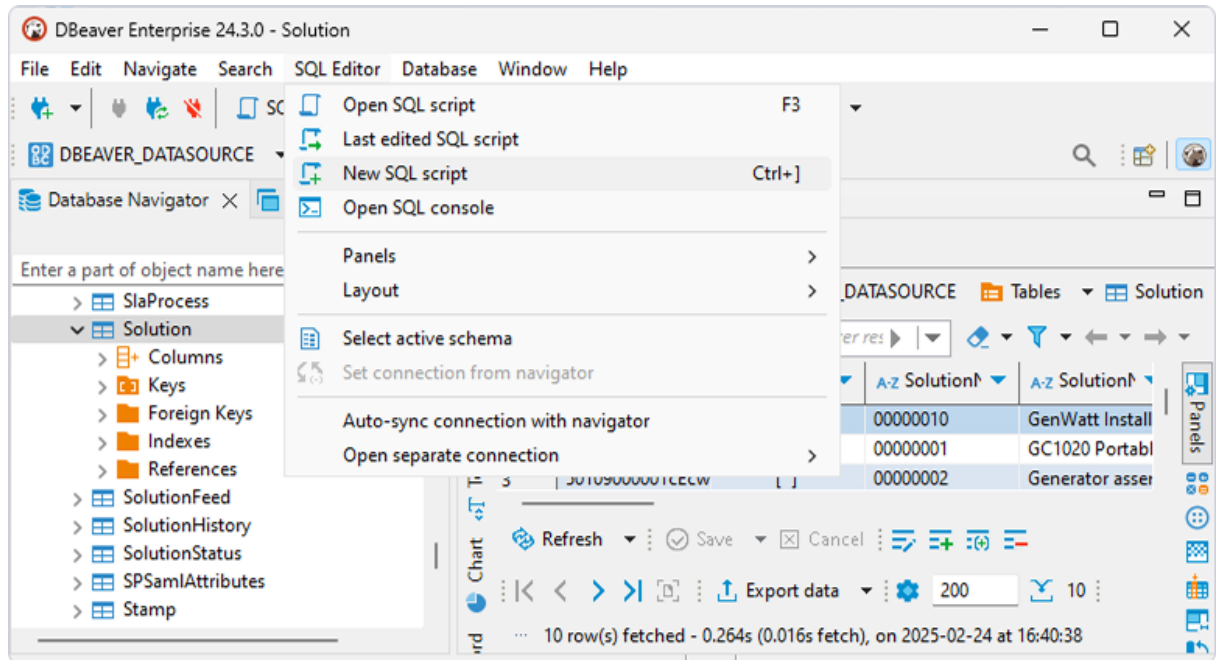
The database appears on the left pane.

6. To view the data stored in a table, expand the database structure and click the needed table.

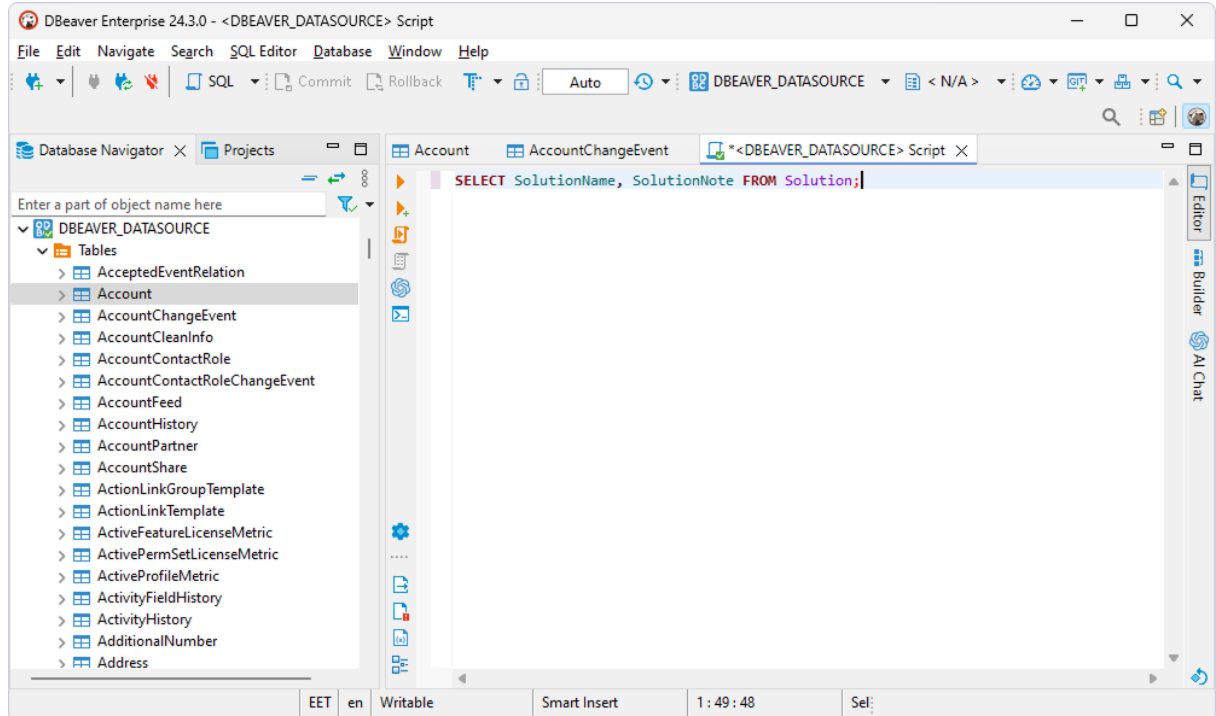


Query Firebird data

1. Select **SQL Editor** > **New SQL script**.

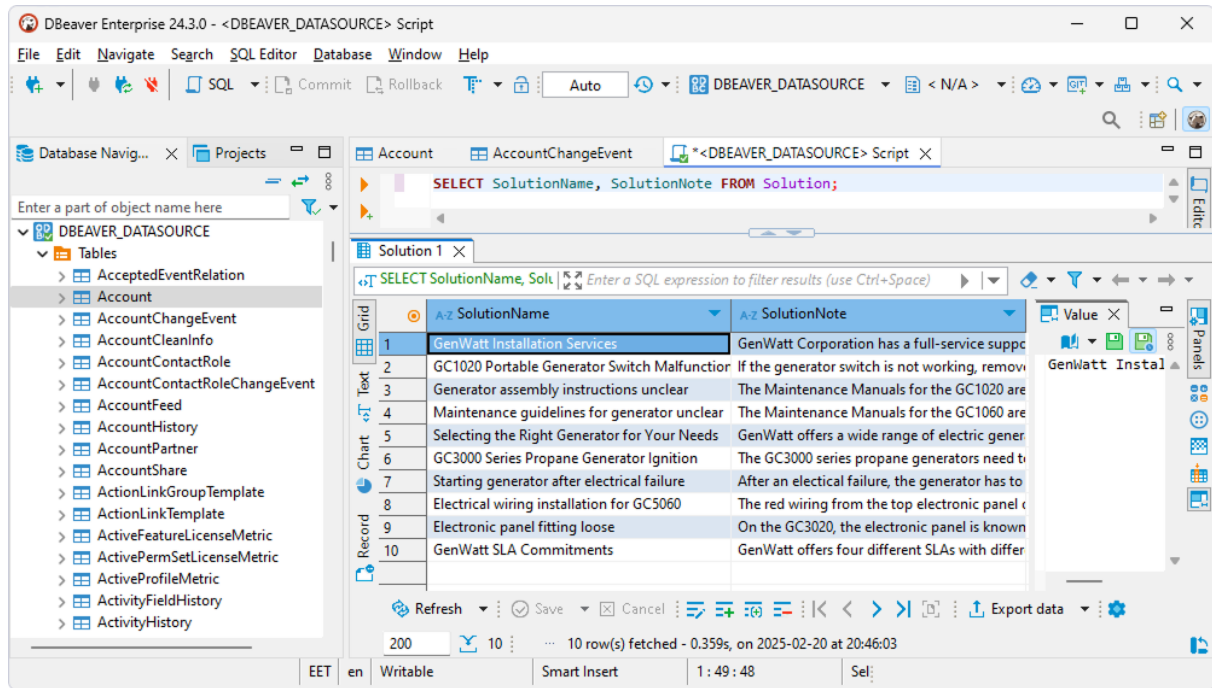


2. Enter your query.



3. Select **SQL Editor** > **Execute SQL query**.

The query results are displayed in the main window.

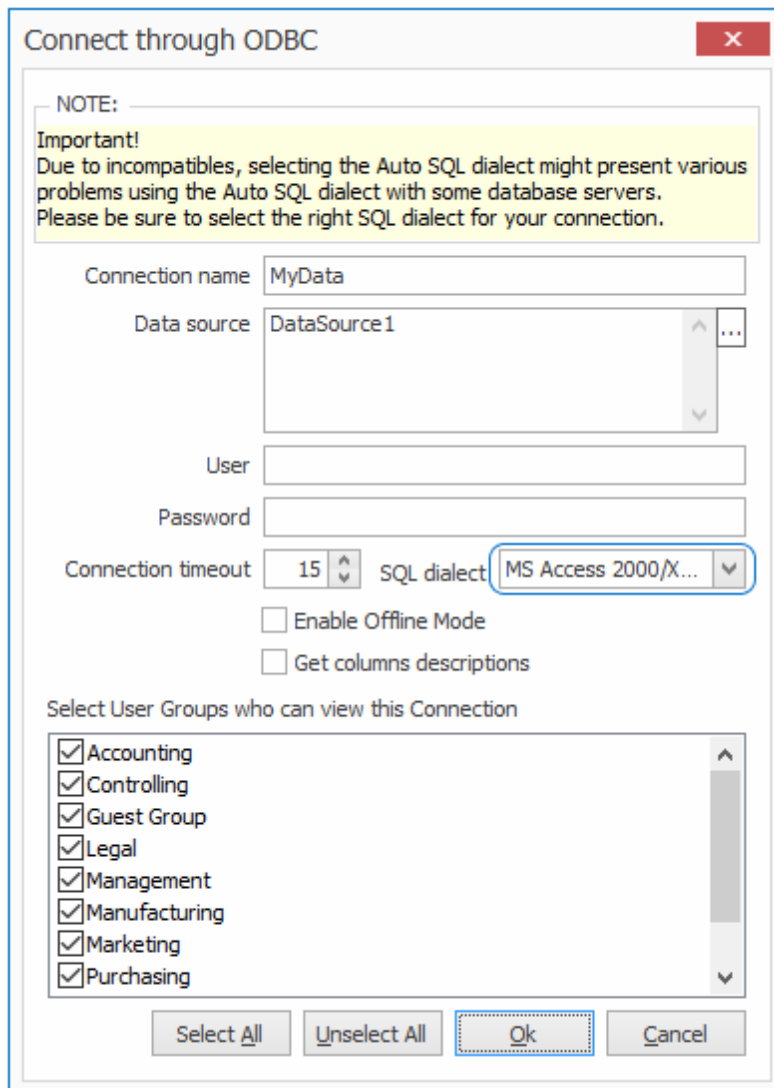


4.2 Using in DBxtra

Troubleshooting Firebird ODBC Connection in DBxtra

This page explains how to troubleshoot your ODBC connection to Firebird in DBxtra.

Due to incompatibilities between DBxtra and Firebird, leaving the `SQL dialect` property to its default might present various issues. To resolve compatibility issues, set the property to `MS Access 2000/XP/2003` or `ANSI SQL/2003` for DBxtra version 11.0.1 or newer, and to `ANSI SQL/2003` for versions prior to 11.0.1.



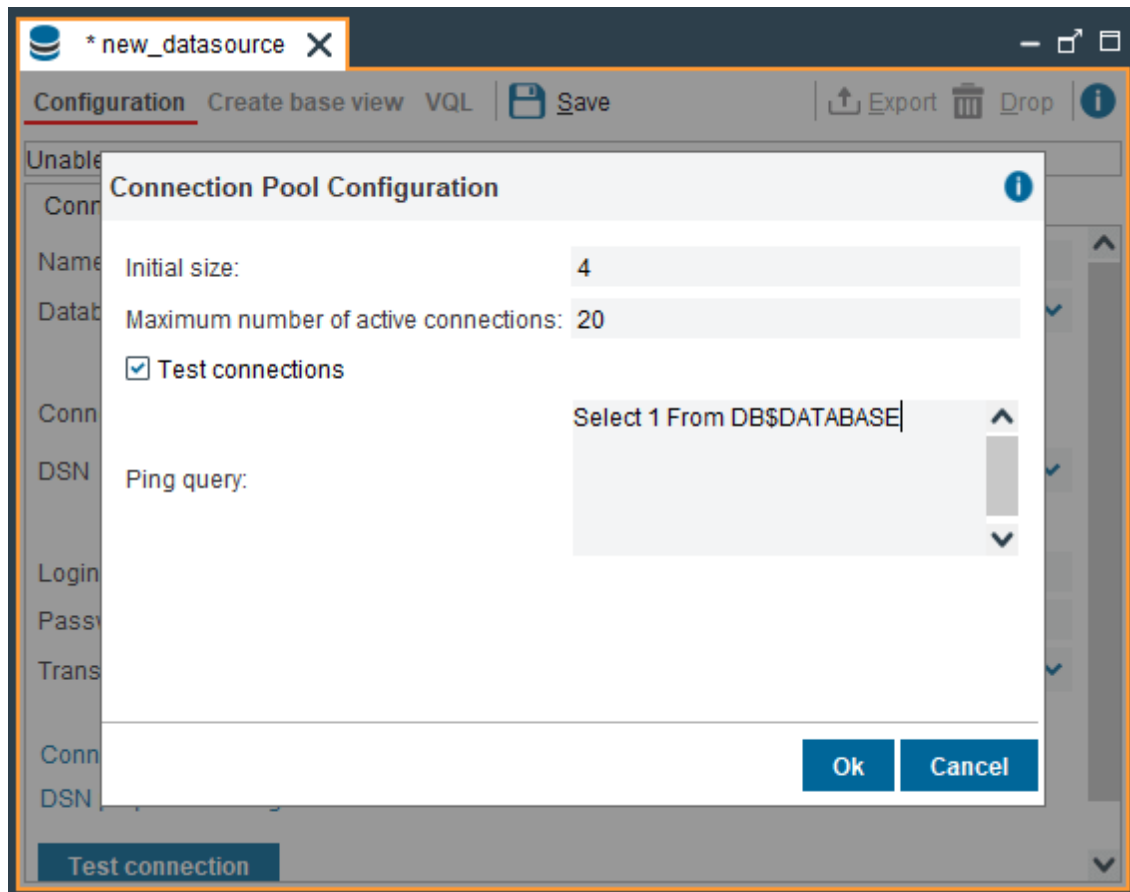
4.3 Using in Denodo

Troubleshooting ODBC Connection in Denodo

When you attempt to access Firebird from Denodo with default settings, you may get an *'Unexpected error creating a connection: Unable to validate object Received exception with message 'Unable to validate object'.* To resolve the error:

1. Select **File > New > Data Source > ODBC** in Virtual DataPort Administration Tool.
2. Click **Connection Pool configuration**.

3. In **Ping query**, change `Select 1` to `Select 1 From DB$DATABASE`, then click **Ok**.



4.4 Using in Informatica PowerCenter

You can access Firebird data from Informatica PowerCenter on Windows and Linux.

- [Connect Informatica PowerCenter to Firebird on Windows](#)
- [Connect Informatica PowerCenter to Firebird on Linux](#)

4.4.1 Connect to Informatica PowerCenter on Windows

You can connect Informatica PowerCenter to Firebird through an ODBC driver on Windows to unify and manage data across these systems.

Prerequisites

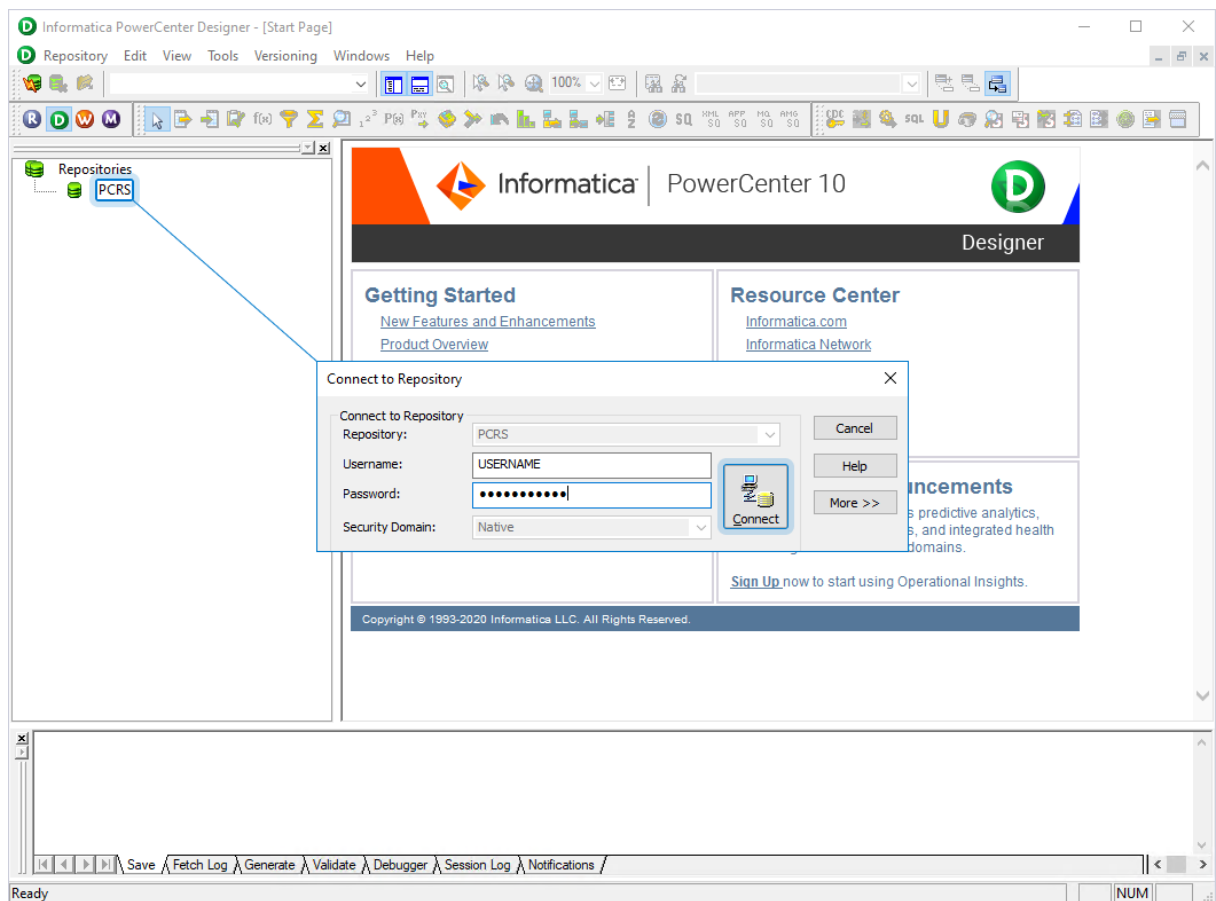
- Configure the Informatica services.
- Install the PowerCenter Client tools.

- Create a repository folder in PowerCenter Repository Manager.
- Install Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird. For instructions, see [Installation](#).
- Configure a data source name (DSN). For instructions, see [Windows DSN Configuration](#).

Add a data source in Informatica PowerCenter

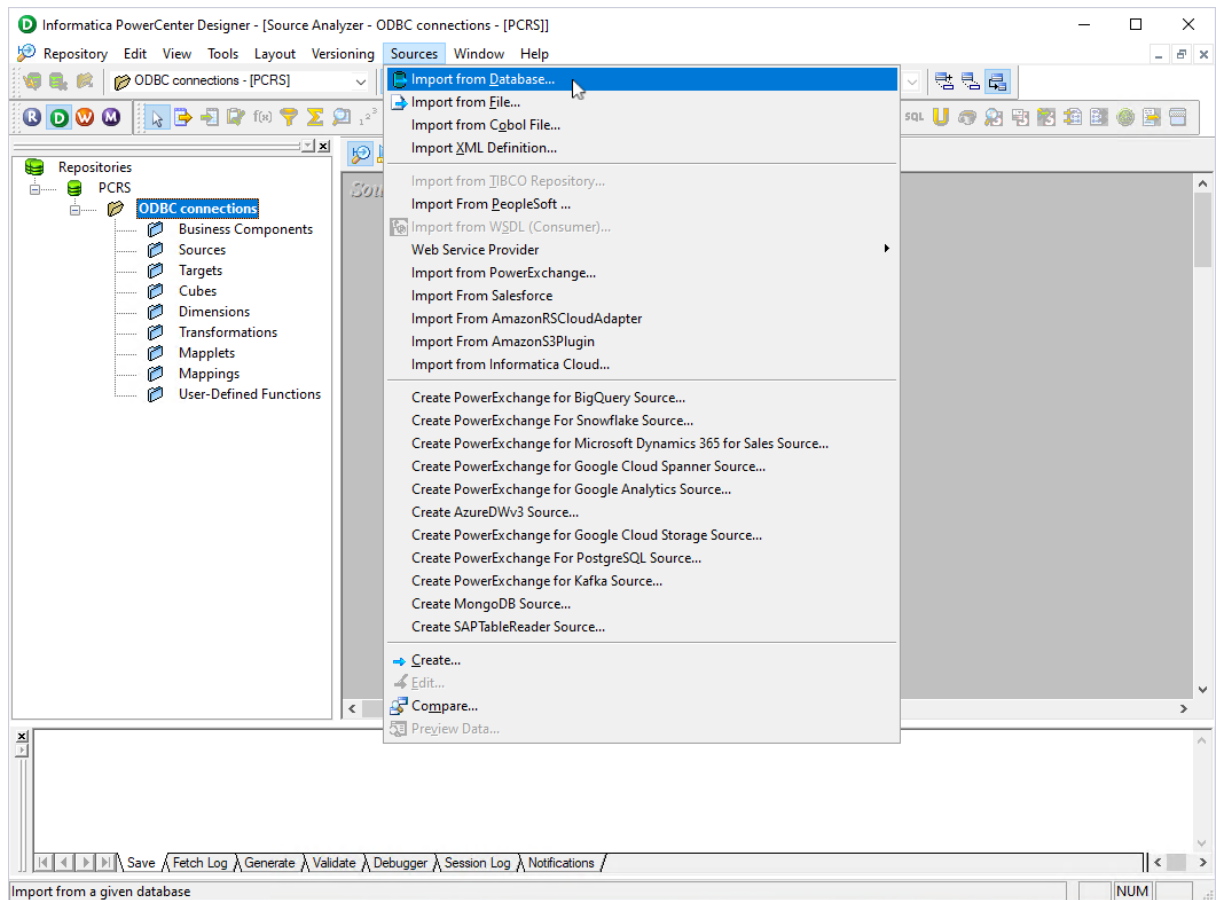
Before you proceed, make sure PowerCenter Designer isn't running.

1. Open the `C:\Informatica\10.4.1\clients\PowerCenterClient\client\bin\powmart.ini` file in a text editor.
2. In the [ODBCDLL] section, add `Firebird=PMODBC.DLL`, then save the changes.
3. Open **PowerCenter Designer**.
4. Double-click the repository name (in this example, **PCRS**), enter your Informatica credentials, then click **Connect**.



5. Double-click the repository folder (in this example, **ODBC connections**), then select

Sources > Import from Database.



The Import Tables dialog opens.

6. From the **ODBC data source** menu, select the needed DSN.
7. In the **Username** and **Password** fields, enter your Firebird credentials.
8. Under **Show owners**, select **All**.
9. Click **Connect**.

Import Tables

Connect to Database

ODBC data source: PRE-CONFIGURED_DSN (Devart ODBC Driver for I ...

☐ Use Kerberos Authentication

Username: USERNAME

Owner name: <ALL>

Password:

Select tables

Show owners: Default All

Search for tables named: Search

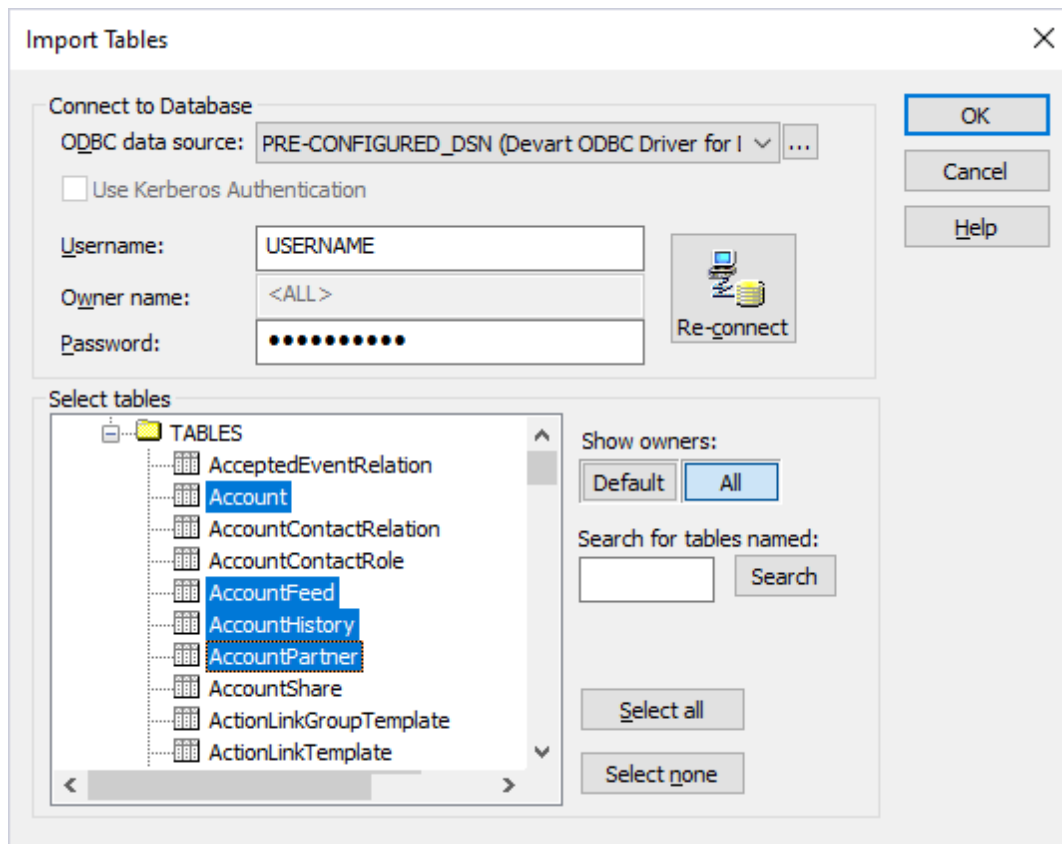
Select all

Select none

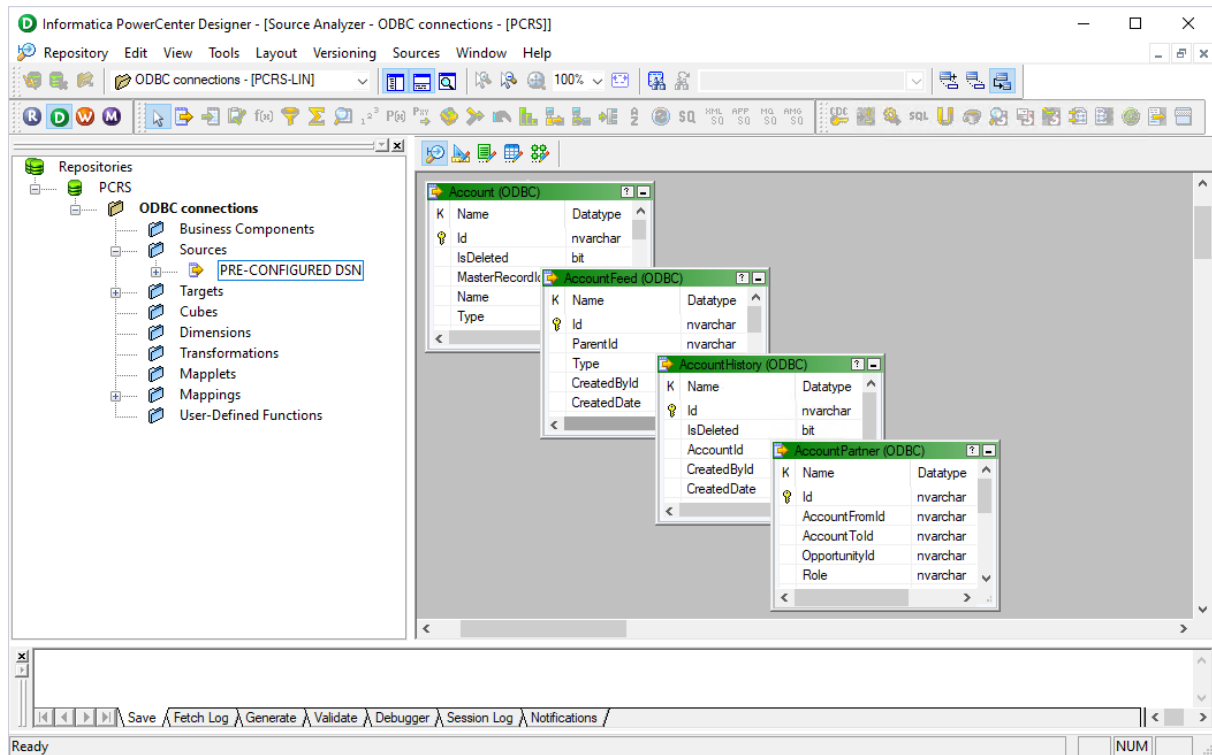
OK Cancel Help

10. In the **Select tables** section, expand the tree and select the tables you want to import.

11. Click **OK**.



The table schemas appear in the Source Analyzer, and the data source is added to the **Sources** subfolder of the repository folder. You can now create mappings and work with Firebird data in Informatica PowerCenter.



4.4.2 Connect to Informatica PowerCenter on Linux

You can set up and verify a connection between Informatica PowerCenter and Firebird through an ODBC driver on Linux.

Prerequisites

- Configure the Informatica services.
- Install Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird. For instructions, see [Installation](#).
- Configure a data source name (DSN). For instructions, see [Linux DSN Configuration](#).

Connect to Firebird

1. Navigate to the directory where the `ssgodbcc.linux64` utility is located.

```
cd /opt/informatica/tools/debugtools/ssgodbcc/linux64
```

2. Run the `ssgodbcc.linux64` utility to verify the connection to Firebird.

```
./ssgodbcc.linux64 -d <your_dsn> -v
```

3. Run a SQL query to retrieve data.

```
SELECT Id,Name FROM <table>;
```

```
[ ~]$ cd /opt/informatica/tools/debugtools/ssgodb/linux64
[ ~]$ ./ssgodb linux64 -d -v
./ssgodb linux64: /lib64/libodbc.so: no version information available (required by ./ssgodb linux64)
Connected
ODBC version = -03.52-
DBMS name = -value force -
DBMS version = -01.00.0000-
Driver name = --
Driver version = -03.04.0200-
Driver ODBC version = -03.51-

Enter SQL string: SELECT Id,Name FROM Account;
Id
Name
001KB000008RHMWYA4
Acme (Sample)
001KB000008RHMXYA4
Global Media (Sample)
```

4.5 Using in Microsoft Access

Connecting Microsoft Access to Firebird Using an ODBC Driver

This article explains how to connect Microsoft Access to Firebird through the standard ODBC interface. Microsoft Access is a database management system that combines the relational database engine with a graphical user interface. Access can be used as a substitution for spreadsheet applications like Excel to organize, store, and retrieve large amounts of related data that can be difficult to manage in spreadsheets.

In Microsoft Access, you can connect to your Firebird data either by importing it or creating a table that links to the data. Devart ODBC drivers support all modern versions of Access. It is assumed that you have already installed and configured a DSN for ODBC driver for Firebird. For the purpose of this article, we tested an [ODBC connection to Firebird](#) through our ODBC drivers in Microsoft Access 2003, Microsoft Access 2007, Microsoft Access 2010, Microsoft Access 2013, Microsoft Access 2016, Microsoft Access 2019. The following steps describe how to use Microsoft Access 2019 to import or link to your data in Firebird.

Importing Firebird Data Into Microsoft Access Through an ODBC Connection

1. Open your Microsoft Access database.
2. Select the **External Data** tab in the ribbon.
3. Expand the **New Data Source** drop-down and select **From Other Sources**, then select

ODBC Database.

4. In the **Get External Data - ODBC Database** dialog box, select **Import the source data into a new table in the current database**, and click **OK**.
5. In the **Select Data Source** dialog box, select the **Machine Data Source** tab.
6. Select the DSN that you have configured for Firebird and click **OK**.
7. In the **Import Objects** dialog box, select the tables that you want to import, and click **OK**.
8. If the database objects have been successfully imported, you should see the corresponding message in the dialog box. If you want to save the import steps to quickly repeat the process without using the wizard at a later time, select the **Save import steps** checkbox. Click **Close**.
9. The imported tables should appear in the **Tables** navigation pane on the left.
10. Double-click on the needed table to display its contents.

Linking to Firebird Data in Microsoft Access Through an ODBC Connection

1. Open your Microsoft Access database.
2. Select the **External Data** tab in the ribbon.
3. Expand the **New Data Source** drop-down and select **From Other Sources**, then select **ODBC Database**.
4. In the **Get External Data - ODBC Database** dialog box, select **Link to the data source by creating a linked table**.
5. In the **Select Data Source** dialog box, select the **Machine Data Source** tab.
6. Select the DSN that you have configured for Firebird and click **OK**.
7. In the **Link Tables** dialog box, select the table or tables that you want to link to, and click **OK**.
8. The **Select Unique Record Identifier** dialog box will prompt you to choose a field or fields that uniquely identify each record in the table. To avoid inconsistencies, it is recommended to select the primary key in the Firebird table as the unique record identifier. You are linking multiple tables, you will be prompted to select unique record identifiers for each of the selected tables.

9. The linked tables should appear in the **Tables** navigation pane on the left.

10. Double-click on the needed table to display its contents.

4.6 Using in Microsoft Excel

Connecting to Firebird from Microsoft Excel using ODBC Driver for Firebird

You can use Microsoft Excel to access data from a Firebird database using ODBC connector. With ODBC Driver, you can import the data directly into an Excel Spreadsheet and present it as a table. Make sure that you use matching Excel and ODBC Driver, e.g. if you have installed a 64-bit ODBC Driver, you will need to use the 64-bit version of Excel.

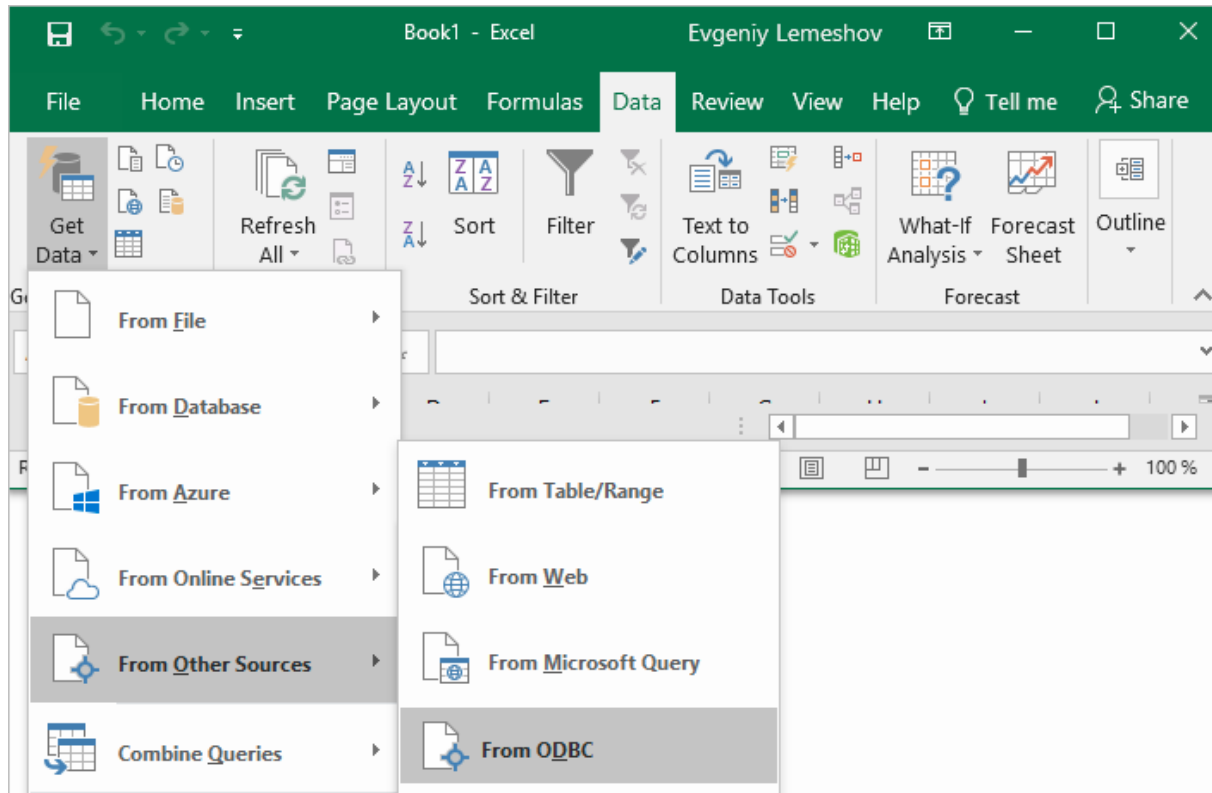
When working with Microsoft Excel, there are different ways of retrieving data from various data sources using our ODBC drivers.

- [Connecting Excel to Firebird with Get & Transform \(Power Query\)](#)
- [Connecting Excel to Firebird with Data Connection Wizard \(Legacy Wizard\)](#)
- [Connecting Excel to Firebird with the Query Wizard](#)
- [Connecting Excel to Firebird with Microsoft Query](#)
- [Connecting Excel to Firebird with PowerPivot](#)

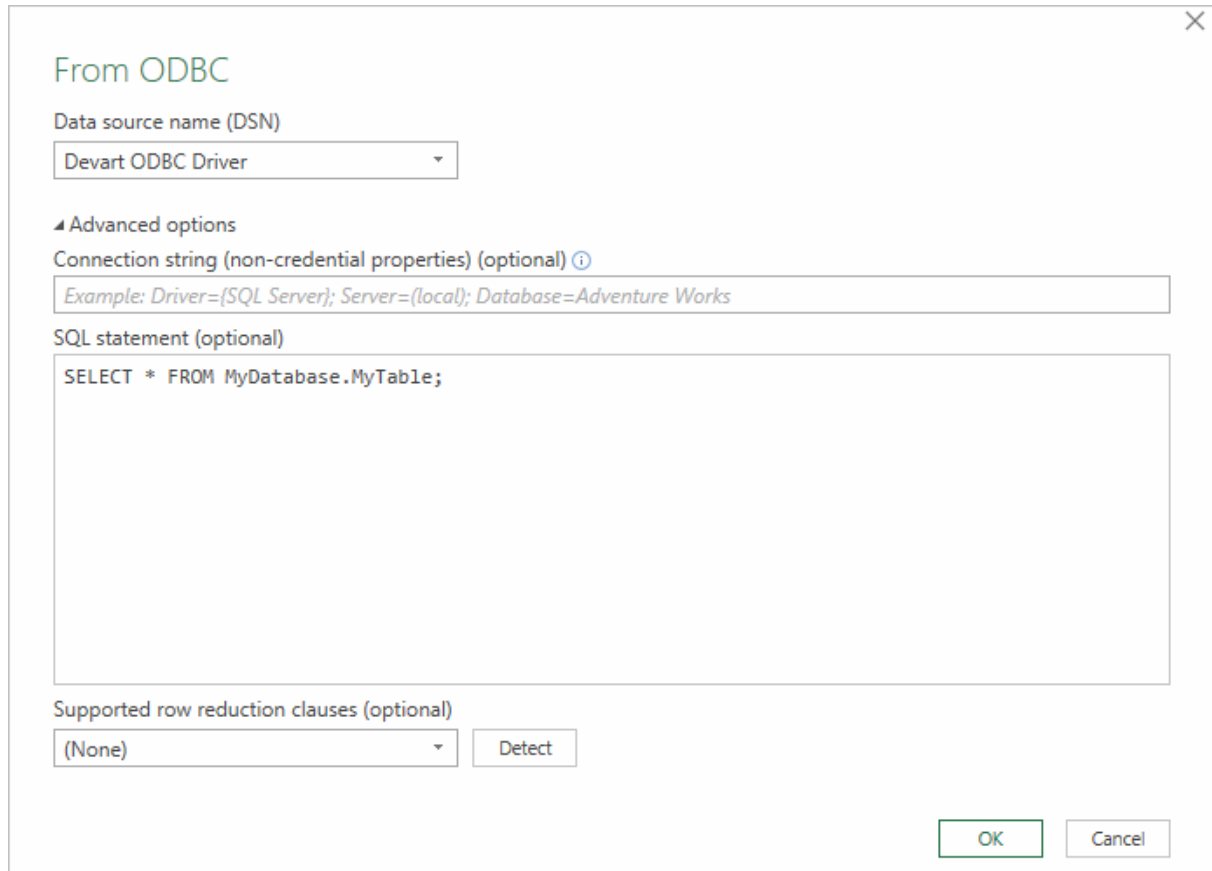
Connecting Excel to Firebird with Get & Transform (Power Query)

You can use Get & Transform (Power Query) to connect to Firebird from Excel with ODBC. This method assumes that you've installed an ODBC driver for Firebird.

1. Click the **Data** in Excel, then expand the **Get Data** drop-down list. Click **From Other Sources** > **From ODBC**.



2. In the **From ODBC** dialog, choose your data source name (DSN). If you haven't configured your ODBC driver yet, you can expand the **Advanced Options** dialog box and enter the connection string for your data source (without credentials, which are defined in the credentials dialog box in the next step). Additionally, you can enter an SQL statement that will be executed right after establishing a connection to the data source. Click **OK**.



From ODBC

Data source name (DSN)
Devart ODBC Driver

Advanced options

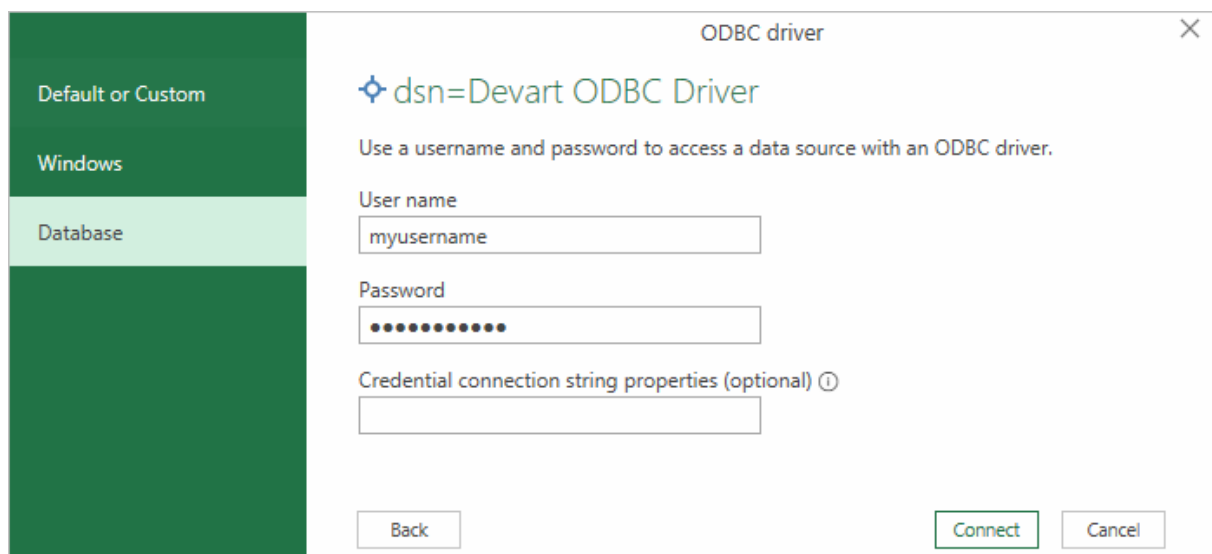
Connection string (non-credential properties) (optional) ⓘ
Example: Driver={SQL Server}; Server={local}; Database=Adventure Works

SQL statement (optional)
SELECT * FROM MyDatabase.MyTable;

Supported row reduction clauses (optional)
(None) Detect

OK Cancel

3. If you're using a database username or password, select **Database** and enter your credentials in the dialog box, then click **Connect**.



ODBC driver

Default or Custom

Windows

Database

dsn=Devart ODBC Driver

Use a username and password to access a data source with an ODBC driver.

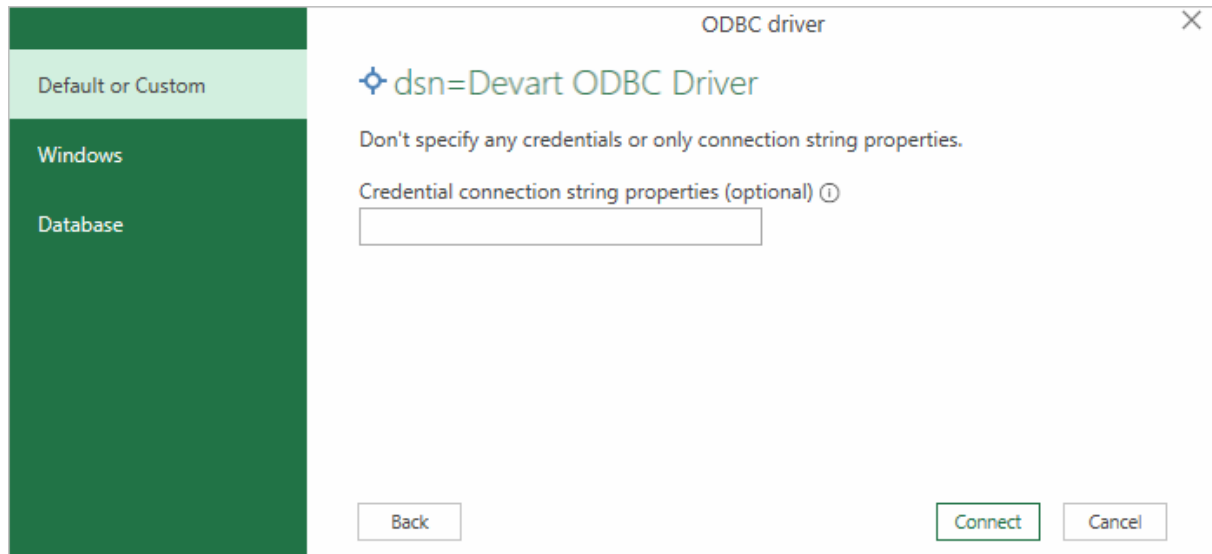
User name
myusername

Password
.....

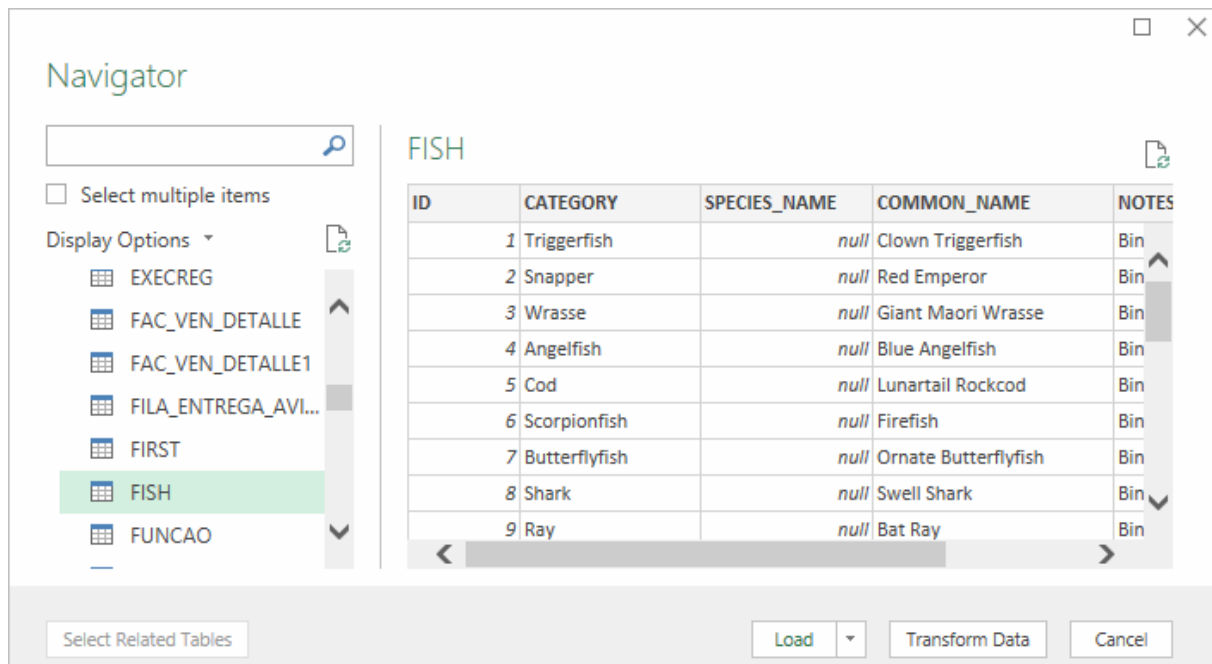
Credential connection string properties (optional) ⓘ

Back Connect Cancel

If your database is not password-protected or you've already specified your credentials in the ODBC data source settings, select **Default or Custom** and press **Connect**



4. In the window that appears, select the table you want to retrieve data from, and click **Load**.



The data from the table will be displayed in an Excel spreadsheet where you can further work with it.

ID	CATEGORY	SPECIES_NAME	COMMON_NAME
1	Triggerfish	Clown Triggerfish	
2	Snapper	Red Emperor	
3	Wrasse	Giant Maori Wrasse	
4	Angelfish	Blue Angelfish	
5	Cod	Lunartail Rockcod	
6	Scorpionfish	Firefish	
7	Butterflyfish	Ornate Butterflyfish	
8	Shark	Swell Shark	
9	Ray	Bat Ray	

Connecting Excel to Firebird with Data Connection Wizard (Legacy Wizard)

You can use this option to connect to OLE DB or ODBC external data source that has already been defined.

1. In Excel, go to the **Data** tab. Click **From Other Sources**, and then click **From Data Connection Wizard**.
2. In the opened dialog, select **ODBC DSN** and click **Next** to continue.
3. Now select a data source you want to connect to, and click **Next**.
4. To connect to the table containing the required data, select its name and click **Next** to enter and save information about your new file or click **Finish**.
5. In the **Import data** dialog, you can select the way your data will be viewed in Excel and the place where to put it in the worksheet, and click **OK**.
6. The required data is now displayed in the existing Excel worksheet.

Connecting Excel to Firebird with the Query Wizard

You can use this option to create a simple query for retrieving data from Firebird to Excel via

ODBC driver.

1. Open Excel, in the main menu, click the **Data** tab.
2. Click the **From Other Sources** dropdown menu, and then click **From Microsoft Query**.
3. In the appeared dialog, you can choose the data source you want to connect to.
4. After a successful connection, you can select the data you want to be displayed in Excel and click **Next**.
5. The next two steps allow filtering and sorting the data. Click **Next** to skip these procedures.
6. If you plan to further use the query, you can save it by clicking the **Save** button on the right.
7. Select **Return Data To Microsoft Excel** and click **Finish**.
8. In the **Import data** dialog, you can select the way your data will be viewed in Excel and the place where to put it in the worksheet, and click **OK**.
9. The required data is successfully imported to Excel.

Connecting Excel to Firebird with Microsoft Query

You can use this option to create a more complex query for retrieving Firebird data to Excel via ODBC driver.

1. Start Excel, click the **Data** tab.
2. In the appeared ribbon, click **From Other Sources**, and then click **From Microsoft Query**.
3. In the next dialog, choose the data source you want to connect to (e.g., using data source name - Devart ODBC Firebird). Uncheck **Use the Query Wizard to Create/Edit Queries** and click **OK**.
4. Now you can select the tables you want to add to your query. When you finish, just click the **Add** button.
5. In the graphical editor, you can filter rows or columns of data, sort data, join multiple tables, create a parameter query, etc.

Connecting Excel to Firebird with PowerPivot

You can use PowerPivot - an Excel add-in to perform data analysis and create complex data models. To load the required data, do the following:

1. In Excel, click the **PowerPivot** tab, then click **Manage** to go to the PowerPivot window.

2. In the opened window, click **From Other Sources**.
3. When the **Table Import Wizard** opens, select **Others (OLEDB/ODBC)** and click **Next**.
4. In the **Specify a Connection String** window, click the **Build** button.
5. In the **Data Link Properties** dialog, specify the data source you want to connect (e.g., using data source name - Devart ODBC Firebird), and then click **Next**.
6. Now you should choose how to import the data (either select a table from the list or write a query to specify the data to be imported).
7. When the Import operation succeeded, click the **Close** button. The retrieved data is inserted in the active worksheet.

4.7 Using in Microsoft Visual Studio

Importing Firebird Data into Visual Studio Through an ODBC Connection

A Visual Studio is a powerful tool containing features that allow editing, debugging, and compiling the code and creating applications that can be connected to any databases product and services on a local machine and network, and any type of cloud (private, public, or hybrid). To connect Visual Studio to a data source such as Firebird, you can use an appropriate ODBC driver.

This guide describes how to connect to Firebird and retrieve data importing them to Visual Studio with an ODBC driver. It is assumed that you have already installed and configured a DSN for ODBC driver for Firebird.

1. Run Visual Studio Desktop and click **Tool** and select **Connect to Database**.
2. In the **Add connection** dialog box, select the **Microsoft ODBC Data Source** as a data source.
3. In the **Data source specification** point expand the **Data Source Name (DSN)** drop-down list and select the previously configured DSN for Firebird. Alternatively, you can connect to the database by entering the DSN in a **Use connection string** field. To check whether your connection is successful, click **Test connection**. Click **OK**.
4. If your data source is password-protected, Visual Studio will prompt you for user credentials. Type your **Username** and **Password** in the respective fields and click **OK**.

5. In the Server Explorer you can see the database structure. Choose **Tables**, right-click the table you want to view the data of and select **Retrieve Data**. You can also preview the contents of the database objects by clicking on them.

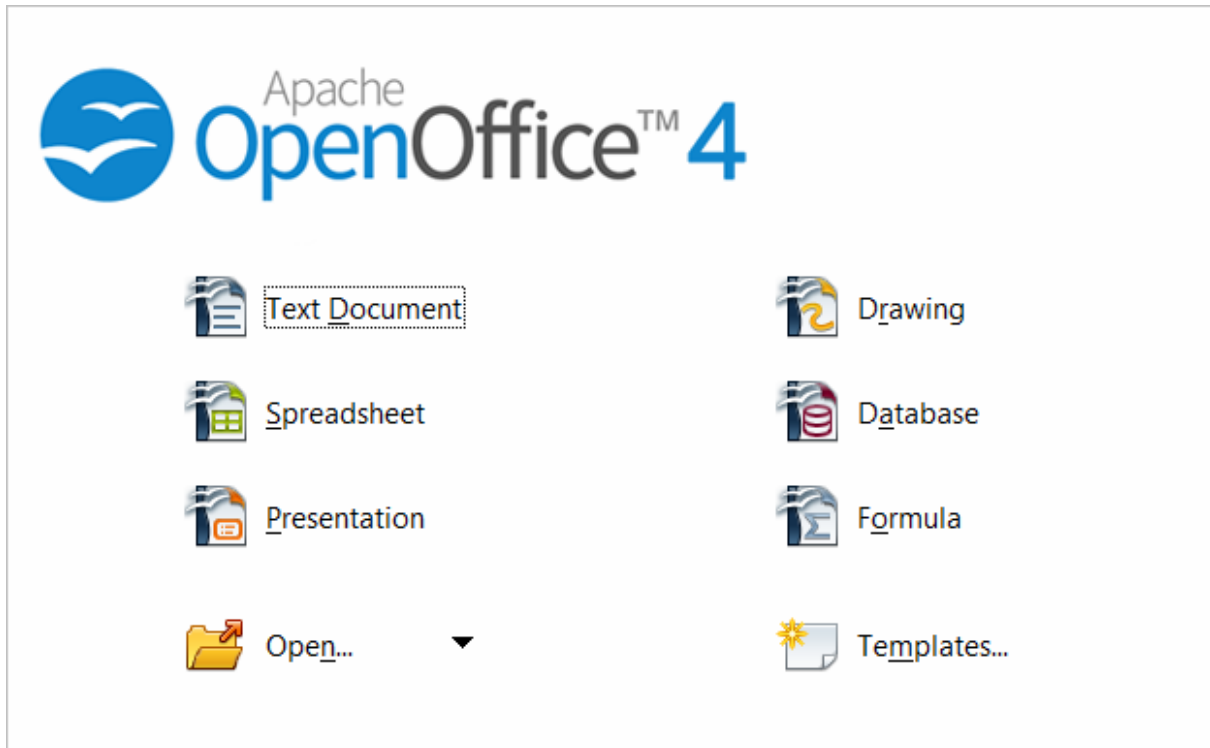
4.8 Using in OpenOffice and LibreOffice

Connecting to Firebird from OpenOffice and LibreOffice using ODBC Driver for Firebird

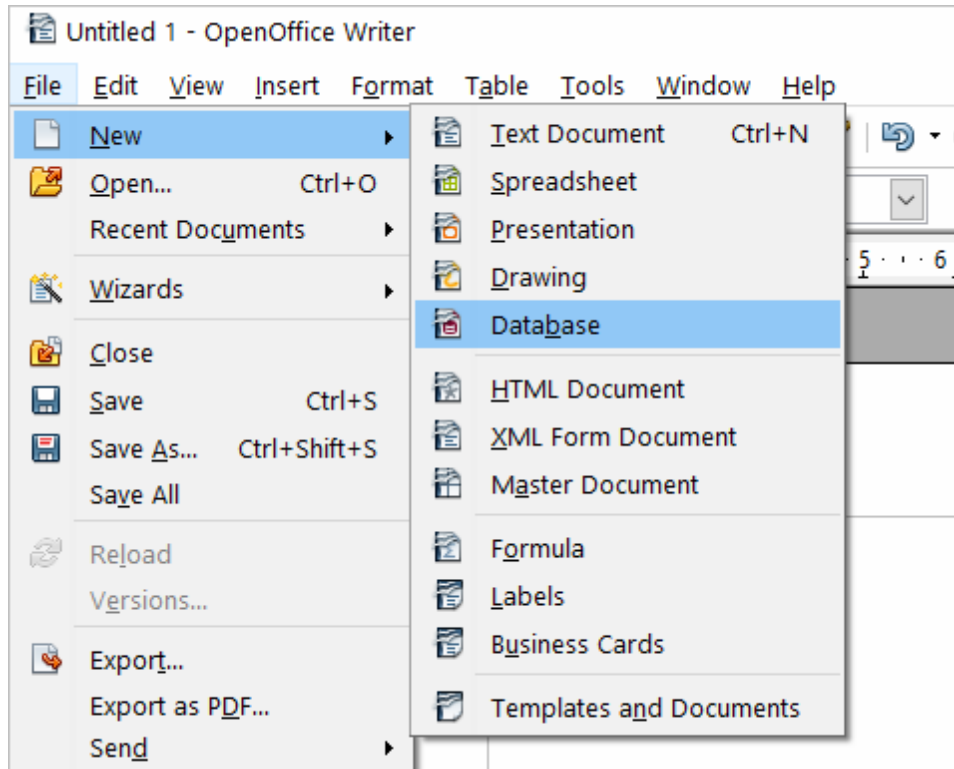
The article describes how to use Apache OpenOffice and LibreOffice to access ODBC data sources using the respective driver. You can access Firebird data from Open Office Base or LibreOffice Base — desktop database management systems. Note that the Windows version of OpenOffice is 32-bit, and you may get the error “The specified DSN contains an architecture mismatch between the Driver and Application” when trying to access a data source through a 64-bit ODBC Driver. To get rid of the error message, set up the 32-bit version of the driver.

To connect to an ODBC data source from OpenOffice or LibreOffice using our [driver for Firebird](#), perform the steps below:

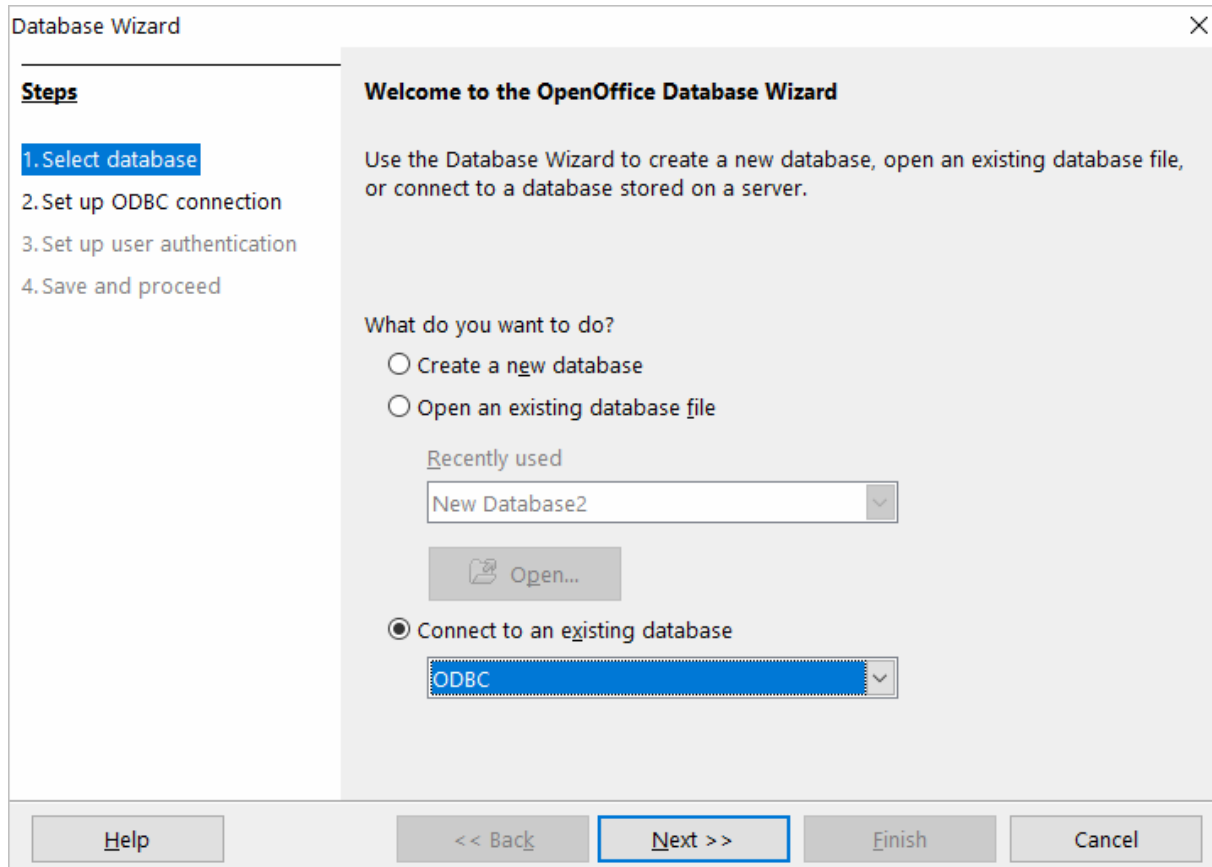
1. Start OpenOffice or LibreOffice, click **Database** to open the **Database Wizard**.



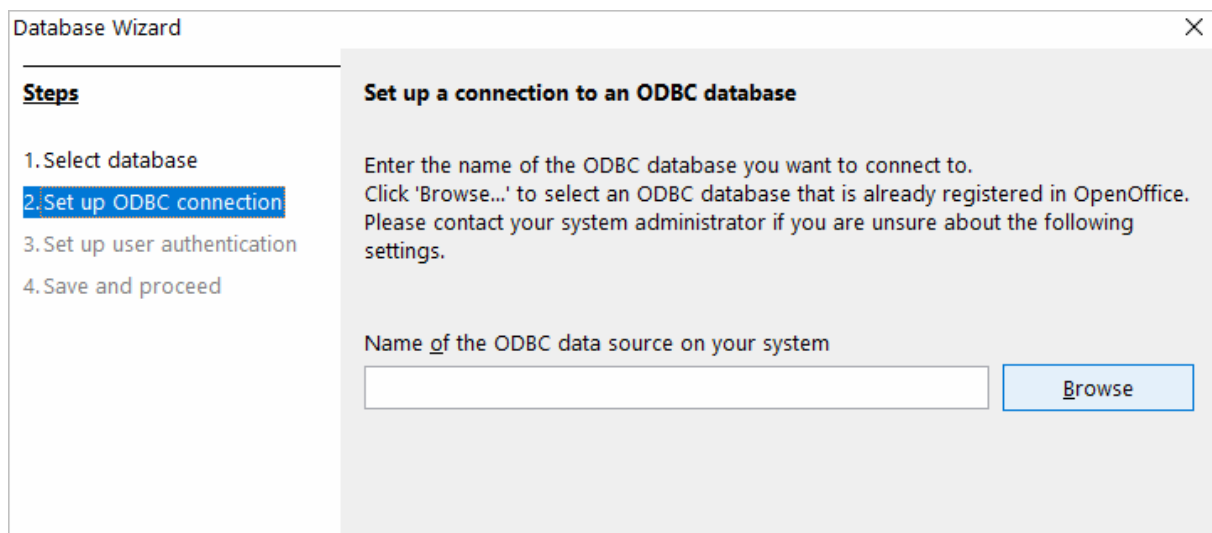
Alternatively, you can launch the **Database Wizard** from OpenOffice or LibreOffice Calc, Writer or any other tool by choosing **File > New > Database**.

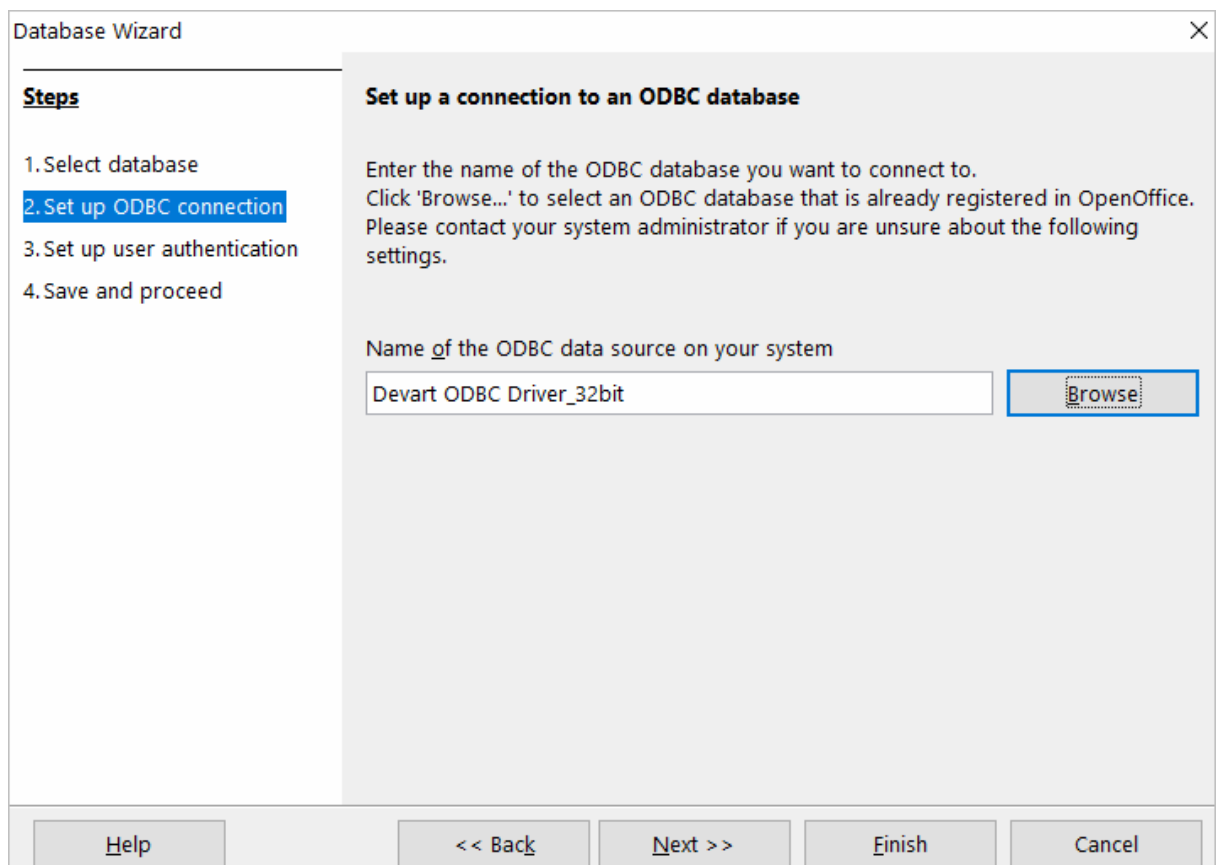
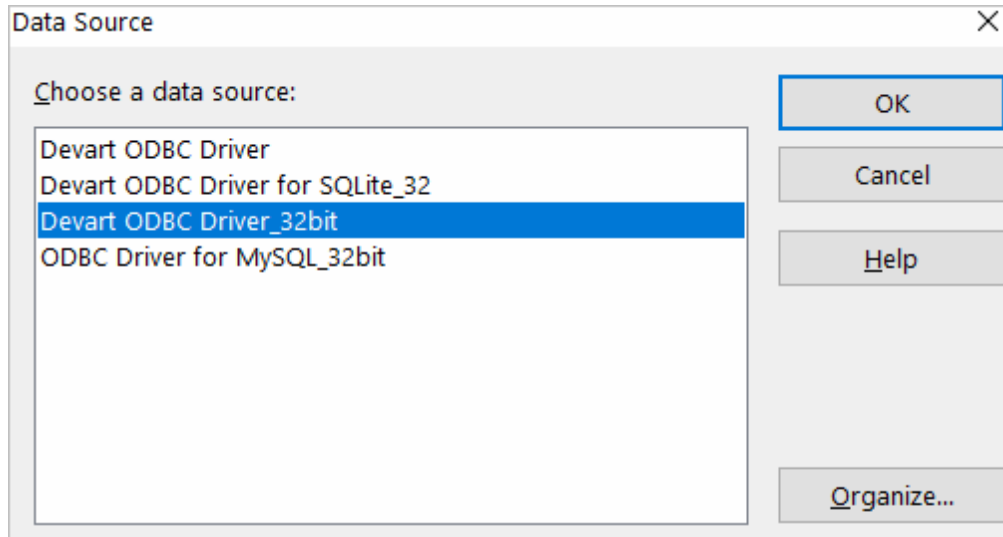


2. In the **Database Wizard dialog box**, click **Connect to an existing database**, select **ODBC** from the drop-down list, and click **Next**.



3. Specify the name of the data source you want to connect to. You can either type the name of your data source into the field, e.g. **ODBC Driver for Firebird**, or you can click **Browse**, double-click the data source you need, and then click **Next**.



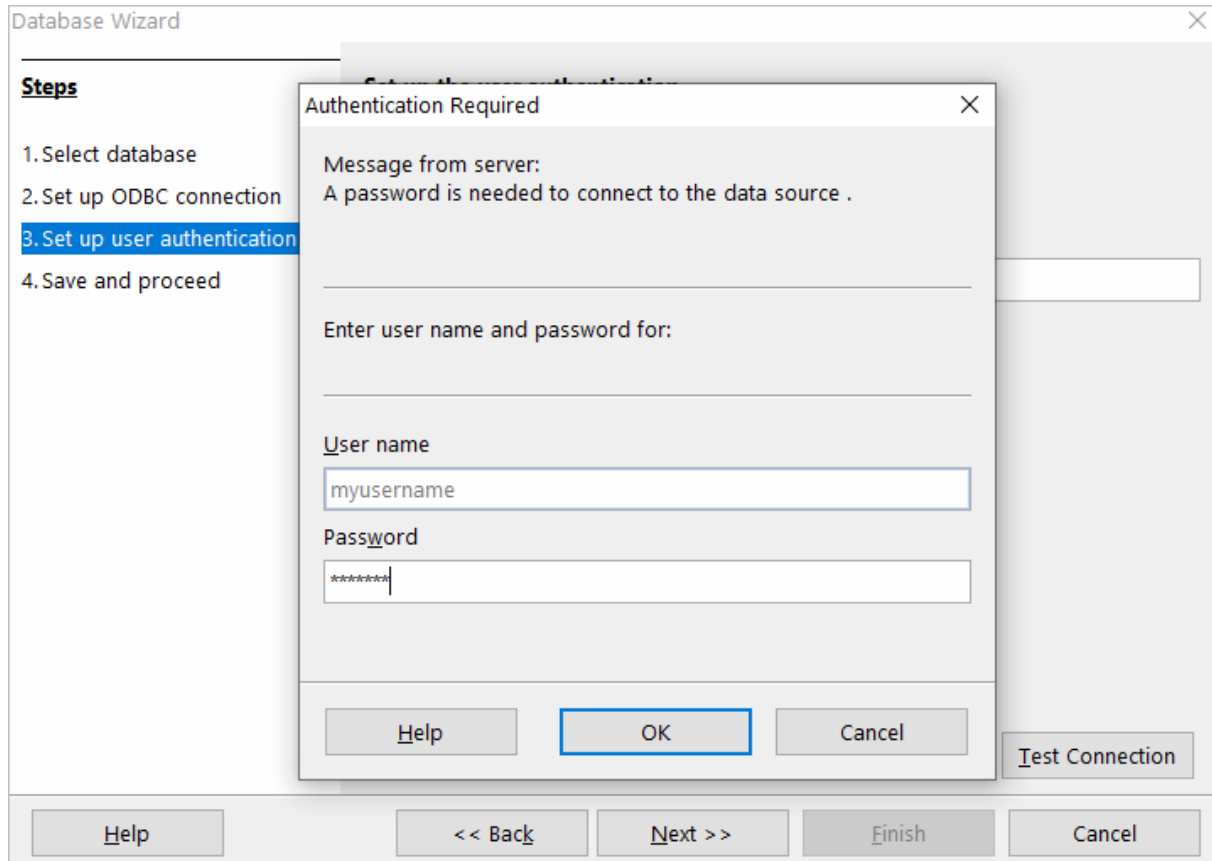


4. If your database requires a user name, type it into the **User name** field. If you are connecting to a password protected database, check the **Password required** field. Alternatively, you can specify these parameters in the data source settings of your ODBC

Driver for Firebird and leave these fields empty in **Database Wizard**.

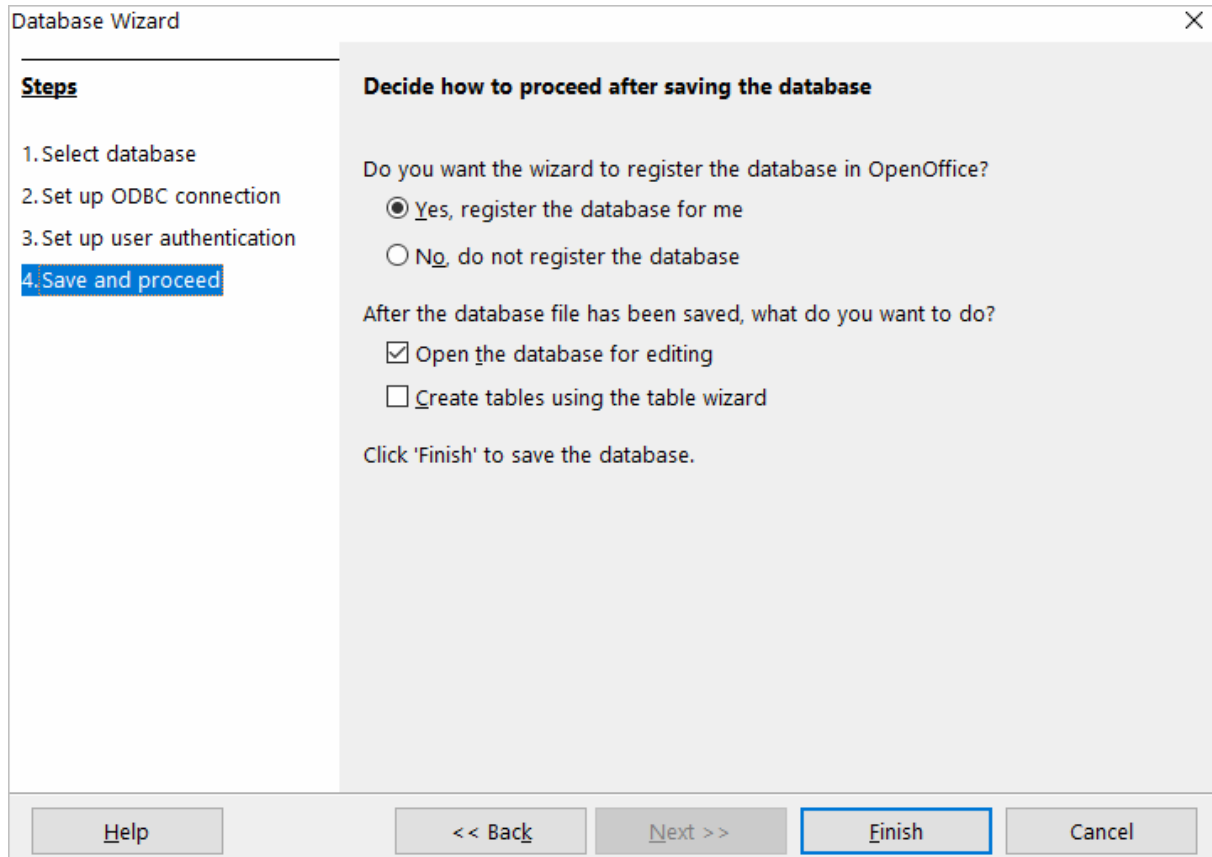
The screenshot shows the 'Database Wizard' dialog box with the title bar 'Database Wizard' and a close button (X). On the left, a 'Steps' list contains four items: '1. Select database', '2. Set up ODBC connection', '3. Set up user authentication' (highlighted with a blue background), and '4. Save and proceed'. The main area is titled 'Set up the user authentication' and contains the text 'Some databases require you to enter a user name.' Below this, there is a 'User name' label and a text input field containing 'myusername'. A checkbox labeled 'Password required' is checked. At the bottom right of the main area is a 'Test Connection' button. The bottom of the dialog features a row of five buttons: 'Help', '<< Back', 'Next >>' (highlighted with a blue border), 'Finish', and 'Cancel'.

To test the connection to your data source, click **Test Connection**, input your credentials and click **OK**.

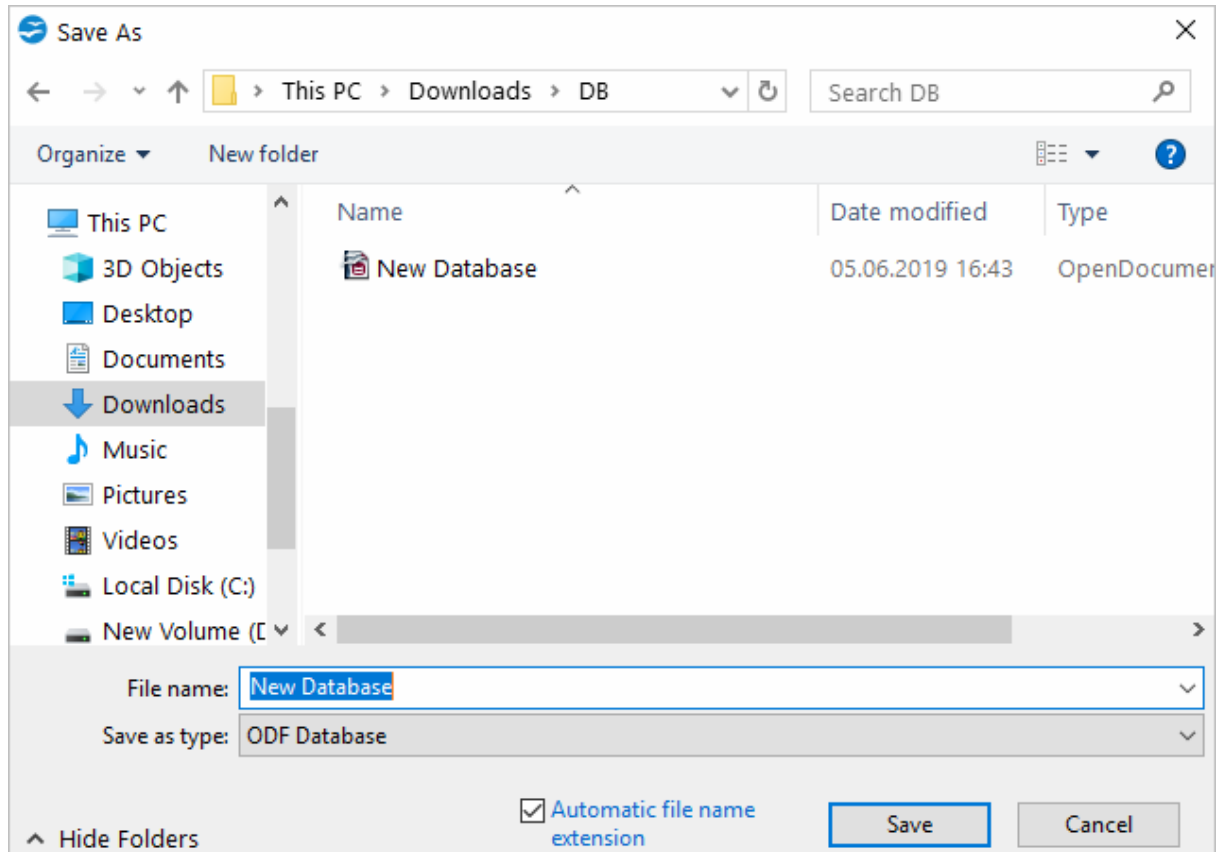


If you have entered valid credentials, you will see a success message. Click **Next** to proceed to the final step.

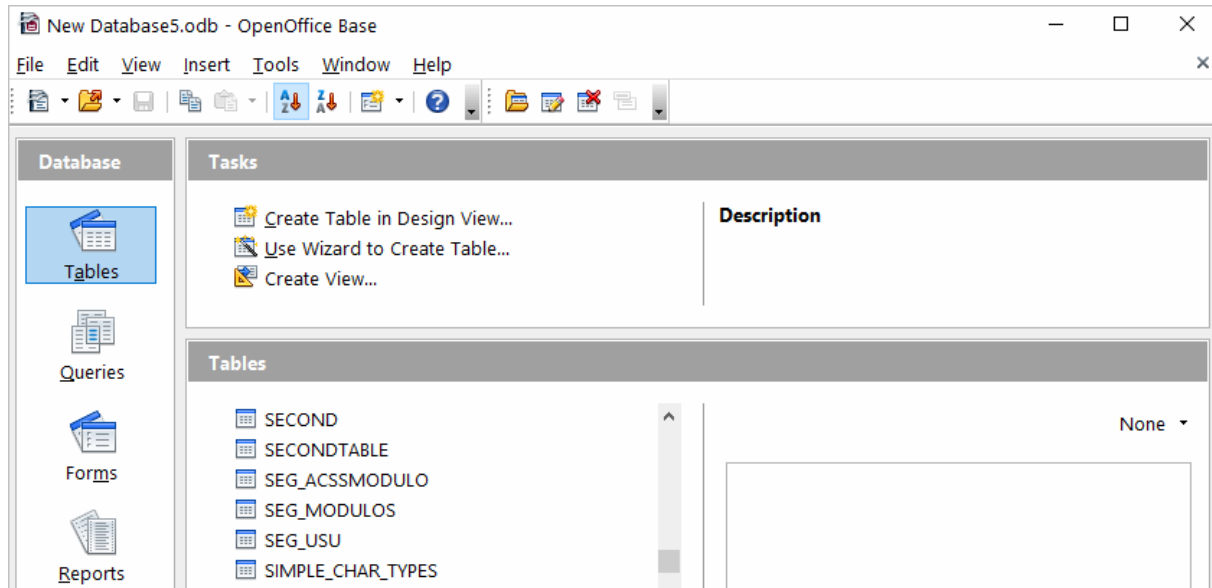
5. You can keep the default selection in this dialog box and click **Finish**.



You will be prompted to give a name to your new database and select the directory where you want to store it.



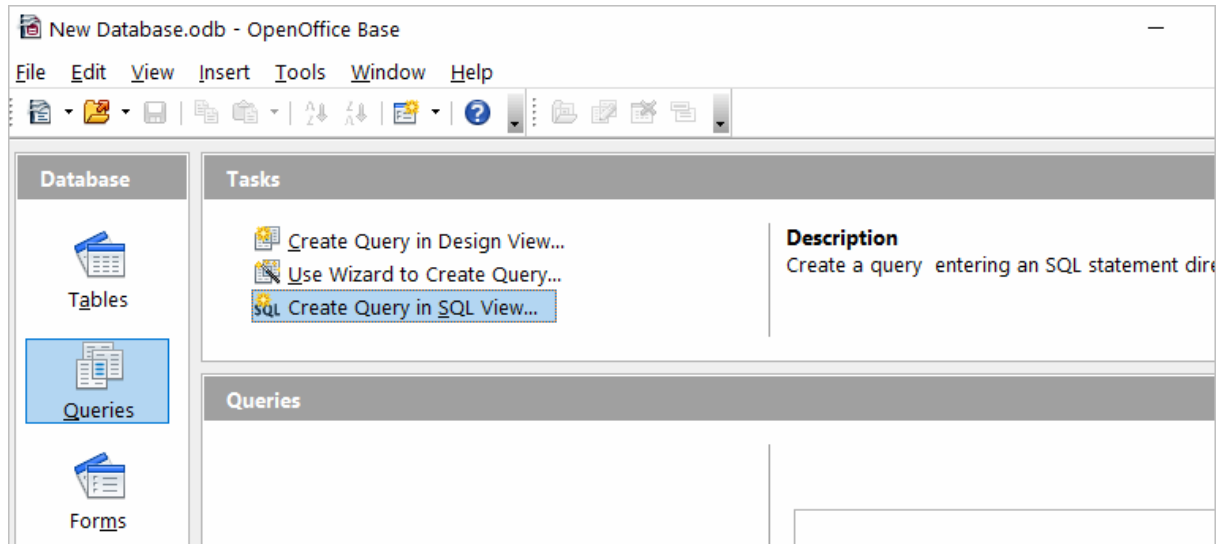
6. When the database opens, you will see the list of tables from your data source displayed in OpenOffice or LibreOffice Base workspace. To view the data from a specific table, double-click the table name.



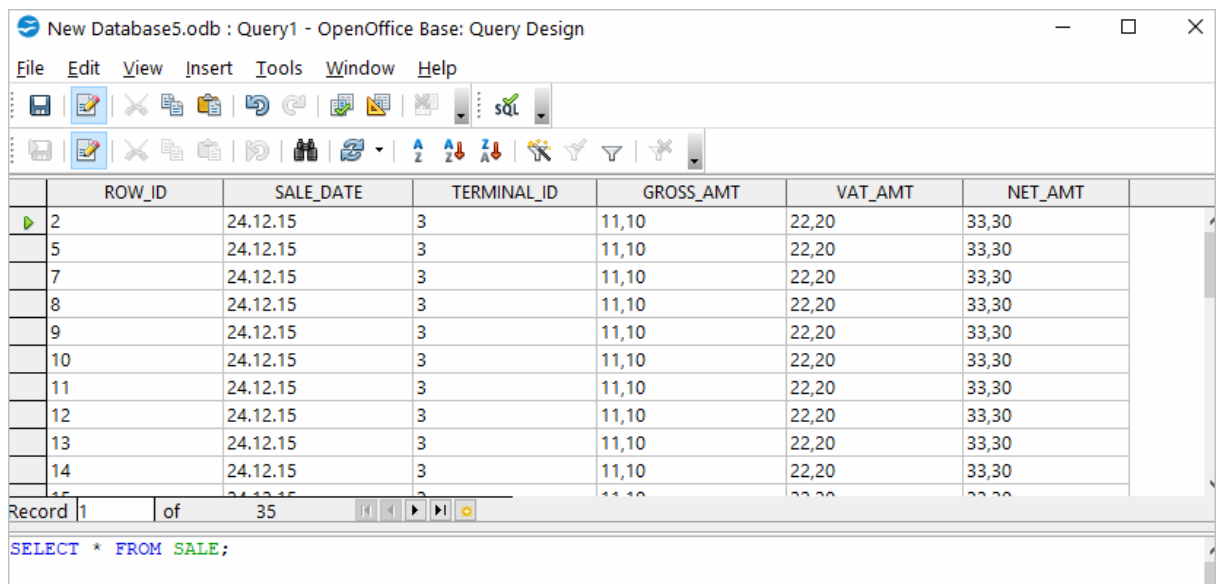
The screenshot shows the 'Table Data View' window for 'SALE - New Database52'. The window title is 'SALE - New Database52 - OpenOffice Base: Table Data View'. It features a menu bar and a toolbar. The data is presented in a table with the following columns: ROW_ID, SALE_DATE, TERMINAL_ID, GROSS_AMT, VAT_AMT, and NET_AMT. The data consists of 17 rows, all with a SALE_DATE of 24.12.15 and a TERMINAL_ID of 3. The GROSS_AMT is 11,10, VAT_AMT is 22,20, and NET_AMT is 33,30 for all rows.

ROW_ID	SALE_DATE	TERMINAL_ID	GROSS_AMT	VAT_AMT	NET_AMT
2	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
5	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
7	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
8	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
9	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
10	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
11	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
12	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
13	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
14	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
15	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
16	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30
17	24.12.15	3	11,10	22,20	33,30

7. To create an SQL query, click **Queries** in the **Database** pane, then click **Create Query in SQL View...**



Enter your query in the query text box and click **Run Query (F5)**. The data will be fetched from the database and displayed in Open Office or LibreOffice, respectively.



4.9 Using in Oracle DBLink

Configuring Oracle Database Gateway for ODBC

This article explains how to configure Oracle Database Gateway for ODBC. If your data is stored in a non-Oracle database system or cloud application, and you need to access it from

an Oracle Database server, you can create a database link to an Oracle Database Gateway for ODBC. The gateway works with an ODBC driver to access non-Oracle systems or other, remote Oracle servers. Any ODBC-compatible data source can be accessed using the gateway and the appropriate ODBC driver. The driver must be installed on the same machine as the gateway. The non-Oracle system can run on the same machine as the Oracle server or on a different machine. The gateway can be installed on the machine running the non-Oracle system, the machine running the Oracle database or on a third machine as a standalone.

Configure the Initialization File

After installing the gateway and the [ODBC driver for Firebird](#), create an initialization file for your Oracle Database Gateway for ODBC. The sample file `initdg4odbc.ora` is stored in the `ORACLE_HOME\hs\admin` directory. To create an initialization file for the gateway, copy the sample initialization file and rename it. The name must be prefixed with `init` — for example, `initFirebird.ora`. You need a separate initialization file for each ODBC data source. After creating the file, set the `HS_FDS_CONNECT_INFO` parameter to the system DSN that you created earlier, for example:

```
HS_FDS_CONNECT_INFO=Firebird
```

Configure Oracle Net Listener

After configuring the gateway, you need to configure Oracle Net Listener to communicate with the Oracle database. Information about the gateway must be added to the `listener.ora` configuration file which is located in the `ORACLE_HOME\NETWORK\ADMIN\` directory. The following example is the address on which the Oracle Net Listener listens (`HOST` is the address of the machine on which the gateway is installed):

```
LISTENER =  
  (DESCRIPTION_LIST =  
    (DESCRIPTION =  
      (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = TCP)(HOST = localhost)(PORT = 1521))  
    )  
  )
```

Add an entry to the `listener.ora` file to start the gateway in response to connection requests. The SID of the gateway (`SID_NAME`) must be the same in `listener.ora` and `tnsnames.ora`. `ORACLE_HOME` is the Oracle home directory where the gateway resides. To apply the new settings, stop and restart the Oracle Net Listener service.

```
SID_LIST_LISTENER=
```

```
(SID_LIST=
  (SID_DESC=
    (SID_NAME=Firebird)
    (ORACLE_HOME=D:\ORACLE_HOME)
    (PROGRAM=dg4odbc)
  )
)
```

Configure Oracle for Gateway Access

Add a connect descriptor for the gateway to the `tnsnames.ora` file, which is located in `ORACLE_HOME\NETWORK\ADMIN` directory. The `SID` must match the value specified in the `listener.ora` file.

```
Firebird =
  (DESCRIPTION =
    (ADDRESS = (PROTOCOL = tcp)(HOST = localhost)(PORT = 1521))
    (CONNECT_DATA =
      (SID = Firebird)
    )
    (HS = OK)
  )
```

Create Database Links

To access an ODBC data source, you must create a database link using a database tool like SQL Plus or dbForge Studio for Oracle: connect to your database server and execute the `CREATE DATABASE LINK` statement, as follows:

```
CREATE DATABASE LINK dblink CONNECT TO "username" IDENTIFIED BY "password"
```

`dblink` is the complete database link name. `tns_name_entry` is the Oracle Net connect descriptor specified in the `tnsnames.ora` file.

When you create the database link in [dbForge Studio for Oracle](#), you can see your newly created link in Database Links on the left panel. After creating the database link, you can run a query against the ODBC data source using the following syntax:

```
SELECT * FROM table_name@"dblink_name"
```

See also

[Configuring Oracle Database Gateway for ODBC](#)

4.10 Using in PHP

Connecting to Firebird from PHP using ODBC Driver for

Firebird

PHP is one of the most popular programming languages for website development. ODBC drivers are connectors that make PHP development database agnostic — your software written in PHP will function with any vendor's database management system. You can use functions like `odbc_exec()` to prepare and execute SQL statements against any databases like MySQL, SQLite, PostgreSQL, etc.

PHP-based projects usually require a data storage, whether a traditional database or a cloud-based database. You can establish a connection to them using ODBC interface. With our ODBC drivers, you can access various data sources and retrieve tables and fields from a database.

Below is a sample PHP script for accessing Firebird via ODBC. The script [connects to Firebird database](#) and fetches all records from a table:

Step 1: Connect to ODBC data source

The `odbc_connect()` function is used to connect to an ODBC data source. Note that the function takes three mandatory parameters: the data source name, username and password. If your database is not password-protected or doesn't require a username, leave these parameters empty. In the following example, a connection is established using the `odbc_connect()` function in PHP.

```
<?php
    $user = "myusername";
    $password = "mypassword";
    $ODBCConnection = odbc_connect("DRIVER={Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird}
```

Step 2: Execute an SQL statement

If connection is successful, the `odbc_exec()` function is used to execute a SELECT statement against the `dept` table in the `autotest` database.

```
$SQLQuery = "SELECT * FROM autotest.dept";
    $RecordSet = odbc_exec($ODBCConnection, $SQLQuery);
```

Step 3: Print the result set

The `odbc_fetch_row()` function is used to return records from the result set. While `odbc_fetch_row()` returns rows, the `odbc_result_set()` function prints a set of result in HTML table. After all rows from the result set have been printed, the `odbc_close()` function closes the connection.

```
$result = odbc_result_all($RecordSet, "border=1");  
odbc_close($ODBCConnection);  
?>
```

You can modify this script by specifying general settings for each Devart ODBC driver to use any of them with your PHP projects.

4.11 Using in Power BI

Importing Firebird Data into Power BI Through an ODBC Connection

Power BI is a popular business intelligence solution that is comprised of services, apps, and connectors that allow you to pull raw data from various sources and create meaningful reports. To connect Power BI to a data source such as Firebird, you can use a corresponding ODBC driver.

This tutorial explores how to connect to Firebird and import data into Power BI Desktop using an ODBC driver. It is assumed that you have already installed and configured a DSN for ODBC driver for Firebird.

1. Run Power BI Desktop and click **Get Data**.
2. Select the **Other** category in the **Get Data** dialog box, then select **ODBC**. Click **Connect** to confirm the choice.
3. In the **From ODBC** dialog box, expand the **Data Source Name (DSN)** drop-down list and select the previously configured DSN for Firebird
4. If you would like to enter a SQL statement to narrow down the returned results, click the **Advanced options** arrow, which expands the dialog box, and type or paste your SQL statement.
5. Click **OK**. If your data source is password-protected, Power BI will prompt you for user credentials. Type your **Username** and **Password** in the respective fields and click.
6. Now you should see the data structures in your data source. You can preview the contents of the database objects by clicking on them.
7. To load the Firebird data into Power BI for analysis, select the needed table and click **Load**.

4.12 Using in Python

Installing the ODBC Driver for Firebird

One of the most convenient methods to connect to an external database or access cloud data from Python is via ODBC. Devart has developed a range of ODBC Drivers for Python to work with databases and cloud services.

If you don't have Python installed on your machine, go to the Python official website, download the appropriate installer and run it. You will also need to install the **pyodbc** module — the easiest way to do that is by using the `pip install pyodbc` command in the Python interactive mode. Next, you need to [download the ODBC Driver](#) for Firebird. To use the ODBC driver as a translation layer between the application and the database, you need to configure it by following the installation [instructions](#).

Connecting to Firebird from Python using ODBC Driver for Firebird

Here's an example to show you how to [connect to Firebird](#) via Devart ODBC Driver in Python. First we import the pyodbc module, then create a connection to the database, insert a new row and read the contents of the EMP table while printing each row to the Python interactive console. To execute the script, you can type the code directly in the interactive console or add the code to a file with the .py extension and run the file from the command prompt.

Step 1: Connect

```
import pyodbc
cnxn = pyodbc.connect('DRIVER={Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird};Server=myserver')
```

Step 2: Insert a row

Here's a simple example of how to execute an *insert* statement to test the connection to the database. The script inserts a new record to the EMP table.

```
cursor = cnxn.cursor()
cursor.execute("INSERT INTO EMP (EMPNO, ENAME, JOB, MGR) VALUES (535, 'Scott', 'Analyst', 4141)");
```

Step 3: Execute query

The `cursor.execute()` function retrieves rows from the *select* query on a dataset. The `cursor.fetchone()` function iterates over the result set returned by `cursor.execute()` while the

print() function prints out all records from the table to the console.

```
cursor = cnxn.cursor()
cursor.execute("SELECT * FROM EMP")
row = cursor.fetchone()
while row:
    print (row)
    row = cursor.fetchone()
cursor.close()
cnxn.close()
```

4.13 Using in QlikView

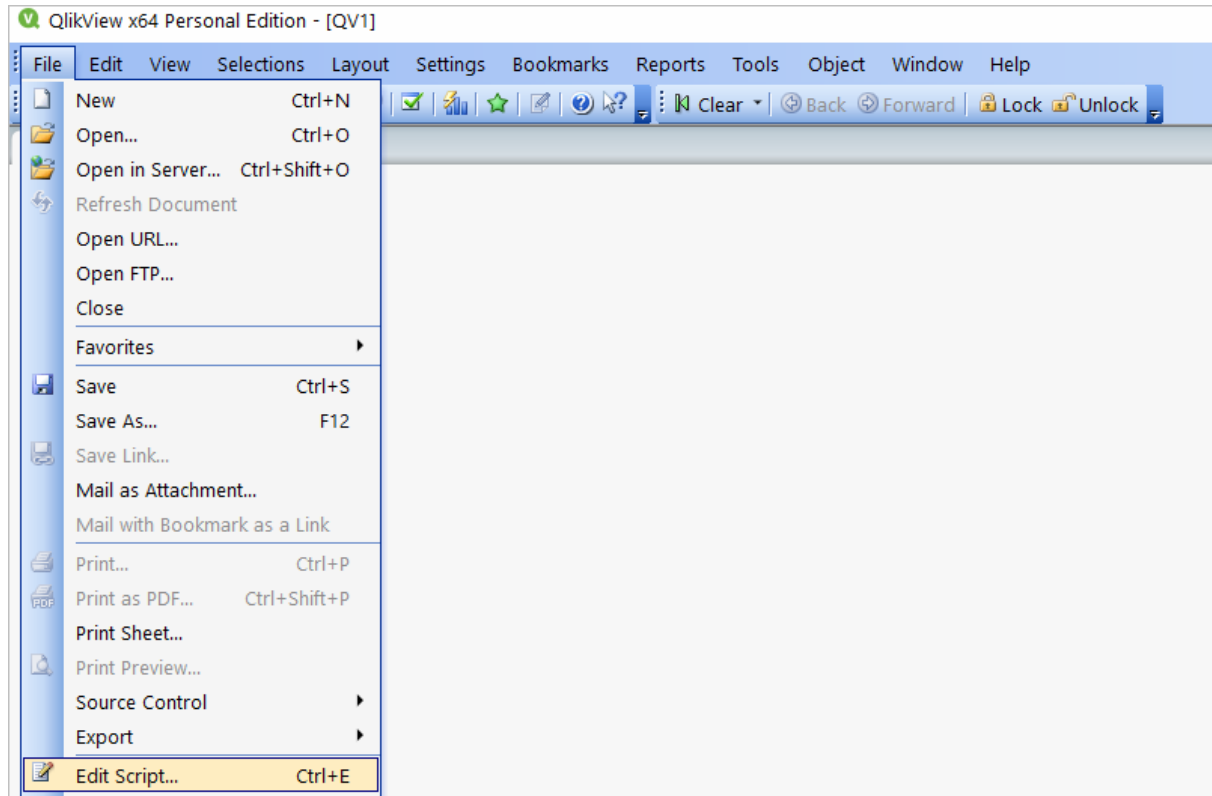
Connecting to Firebird from QlikView using ODBC Driver for Firebird

This tutorial describes how to connect and configure QlikView to retrieve data from Firebird for further analysis. QlikView is a data visualization tool that connects and pulls data from different popular databases like MySQL, MongoDB, Oracle, SQL Server, Postgres, etc. to present it in a single view. The business intelligence platform identifies relationships in your data and discovers patterns and opportunities to support your decision making.

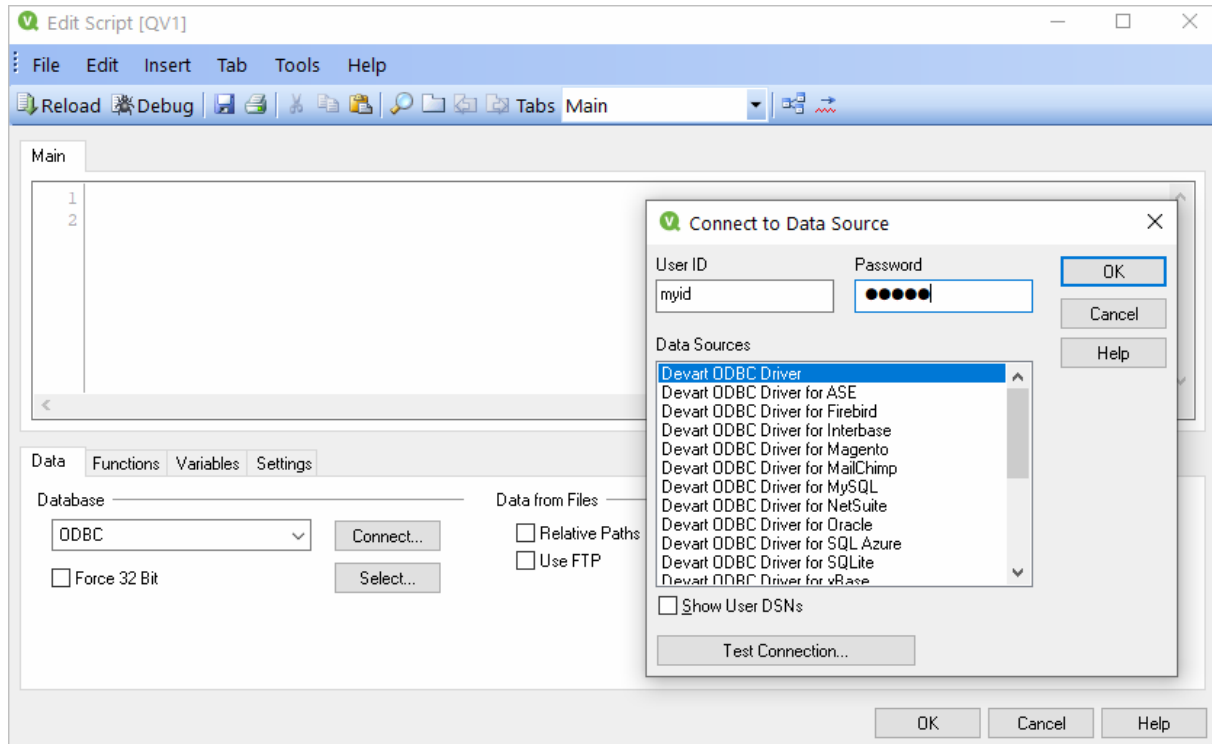
QlikView supports the ODBC connectivity interface for communication with external data sources. An ODBC data source must be configured for the database you want to access. You can create an ODBC connection using a DSN during the ODBC driver installation or later.

To connect to an ODBC data source from QlikView using our driver for Firebird, perform the steps below:

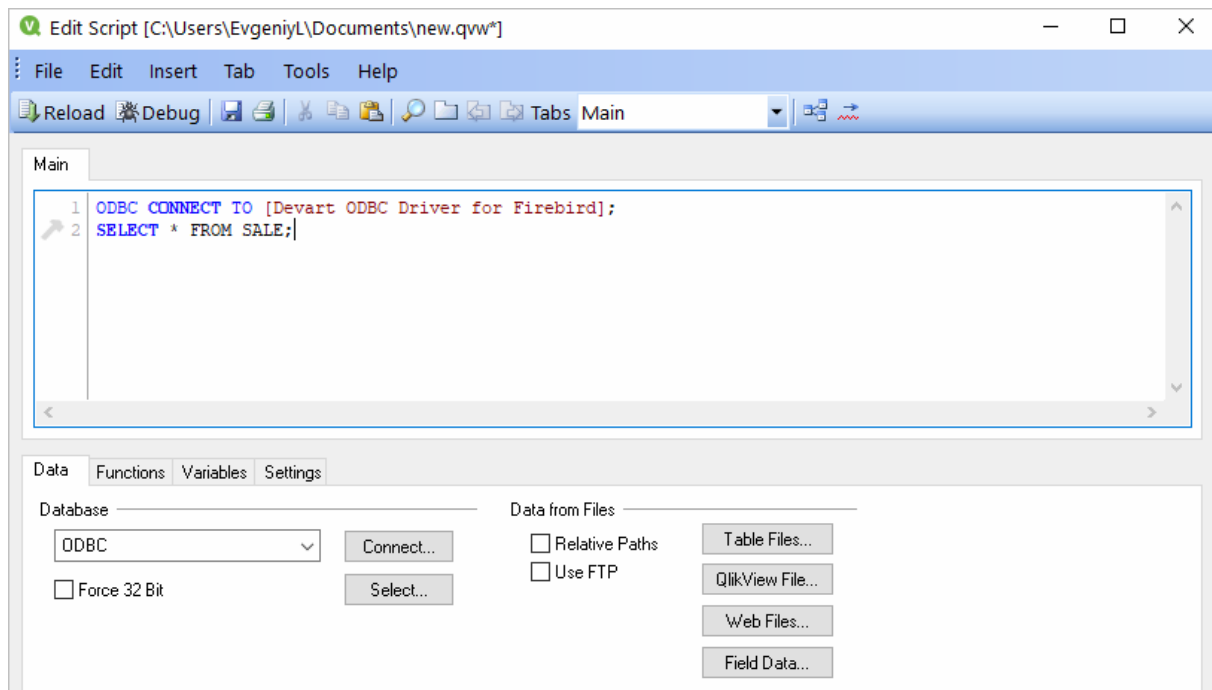
1. Open the QlikView client application and click **File > New**. Close the **Getting Started** wizard and open **File > Edit Script (CTRL+E)**.

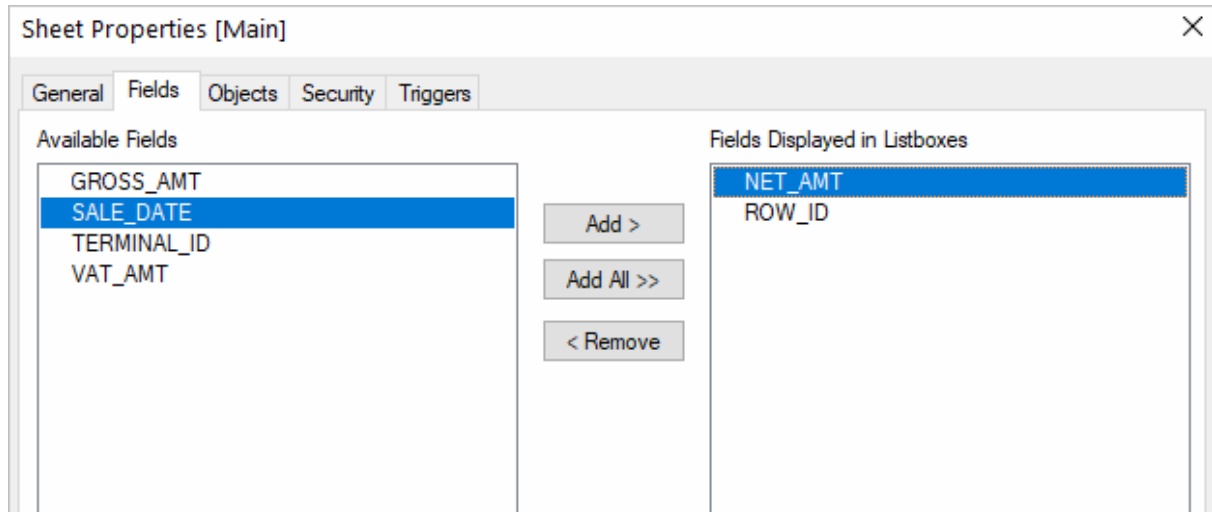


2. In the **Data** tab, choose **ODBC** from the **Database** drop-down and click **Connect**. Select the **Data Source** you created earlier, type in the **User ID** and **Password** if your database is password-protected. You can test the connection by choosing **Test Connection**. The **Connection Test succeeded** message should appear. Click **OK** to connect to your data source.

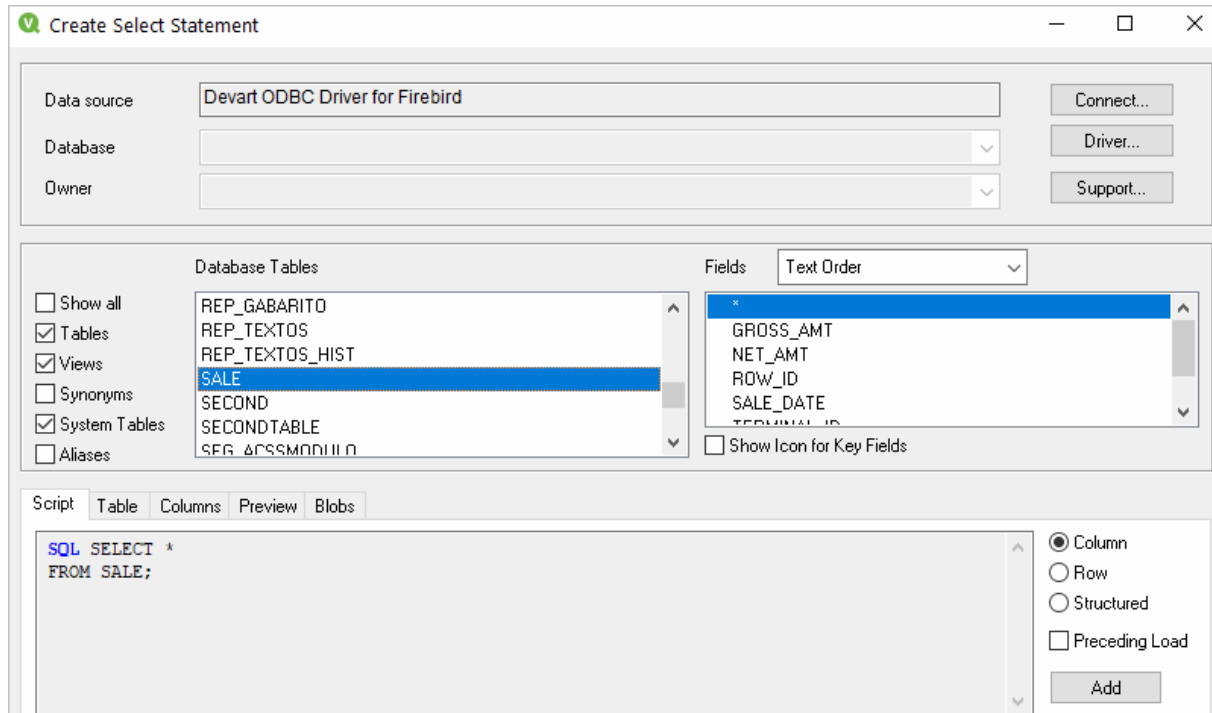


3. To retrieve the data from your data source, you can enter an SQL query and press **F5**. You will be suggested to choose fields to be displayed.

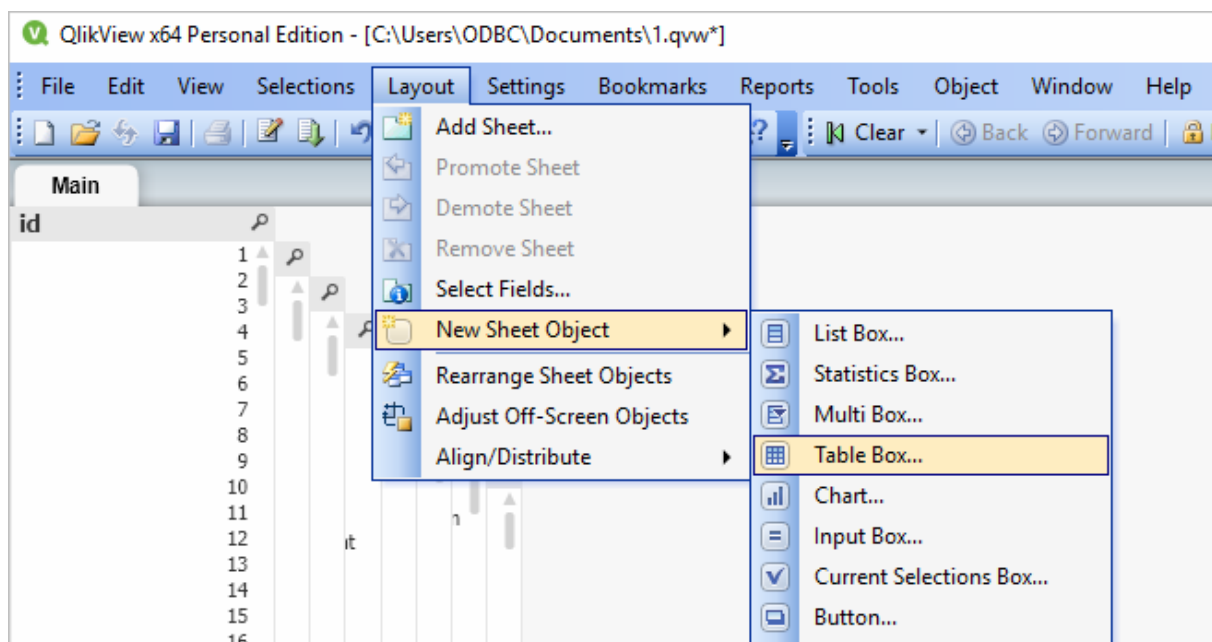


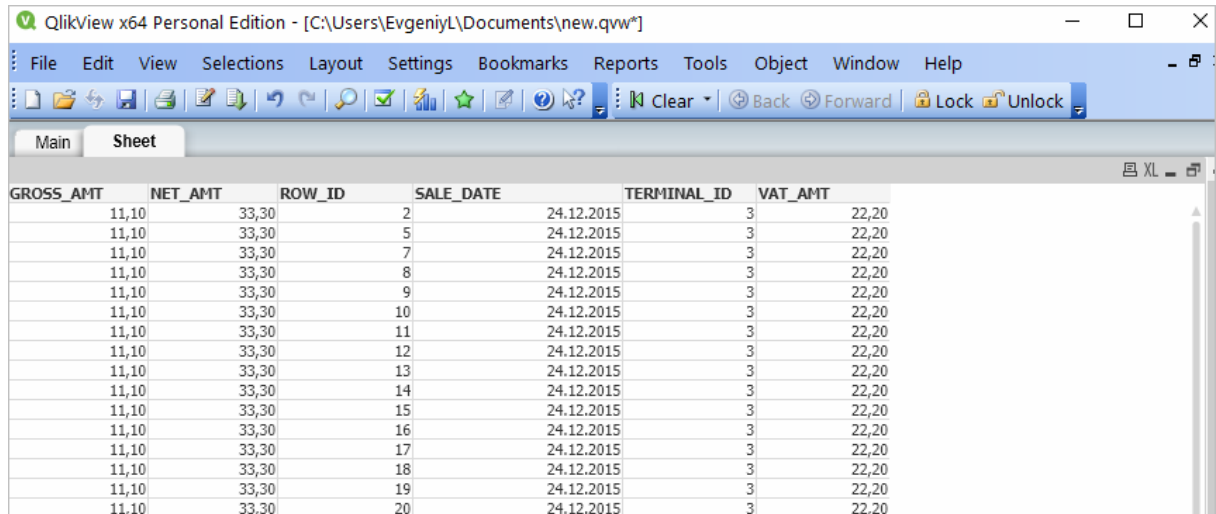


4. Alternatively, you can click **Select**, and QlikView will show you the database structure window where you can compose a SELECT statement for the data to be fetched. You can choose a different database from the database drop-down list. Select the necessary tables and fields. You can retrieve data from multiple tables and fields by selecting them and clicking **Add**. When you are ready with your SELECT statement, click **OK**. You will get back to the main script editor with your SQL statement. Press **F5** to execute the script and select the fields to be displayed in QlikView.



5. Once the data has been fetched, you can choose a table layout to present the data in a table. Choose **Layout > New Sheet Object > Table Box**. Select the fields to be added to the tablebox and click **OK**.





GROSS_AMT	NET_AMT	ROW_ID	SALE_DATE	TERMINAL_ID	VAT_AMT
11,10	33,30	2	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	5	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	7	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	8	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	9	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	10	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	11	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	12	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	13	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	14	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	15	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	16	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	17	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	18	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	19	24.12.2015	3	22,20
11,10	33,30	20	24.12.2015	3	22,20

4.14 Using in SQL Server Management Studio

This section describes how to establish and troubleshoot a connection to Firebird from SQL Server Management Studio using ODBC Driver for Firebird.

- [Creating a Linked Server](#)
- [Troubleshooting in SSMS](#)

4.14.1 Creating a Linked Server

Requirements

In order to avoid incorrect integration with MS SSMS, the working environment must meet the following conditions:

- The data source must be a configured system DSN. Refer to the [Driver Configuration](#) article to learn how to configure a System DSN.
- The driver, studio, and SQL Server must be of the same bitness. For example, if you are using 64-bit SQL Server Management Studio on 64-bit Windows platform, then configure the 64-bit version of the driver using ODBC Administrator launched from %windir%\system32\odbcad32.exe. Otherwise, configure the driver using the 32-bit version of ODBC Administrator - launch it from %windir%\SysWOW64\odbcad32.exe.
- ODBC Driver for Firebird and SQL Server must be installed on the same computer.

- .NET Framework 4.5 must be installed on the computer.

Connecting to Firebird from SQL Server Management Studio using ODBC Driver for Firebird

You can use the Microsoft SQL Server Management Studio to connect your Firebird data to an SQL Server instance. Linked Server is a tool of MS SQL Server that allows to execute distributed queries to refer tables stored on non-SQL Server database in a single query. With linked servers, you can execute commands against different data sources such as Firebird and merge them with your SQL Server database. You can create a linked server with one of these methods: by using the options in the Object Explorer or by executing stored procedures.

Below are major advantages of using SQL Server Linked Servers to connect to Firebird:

1. The ability to connect other database instances on the same or remote server.
2. The ability to run distributed queries on heterogeneous data sources across the organization.
3. The ability to work with diverse data sources in the same way.

How to configure a SQL Server Linked Server to connect to Firebird

You can follow the steps to create a linked server for Firebird in SQL Server Management Studio by using Object Explorer:

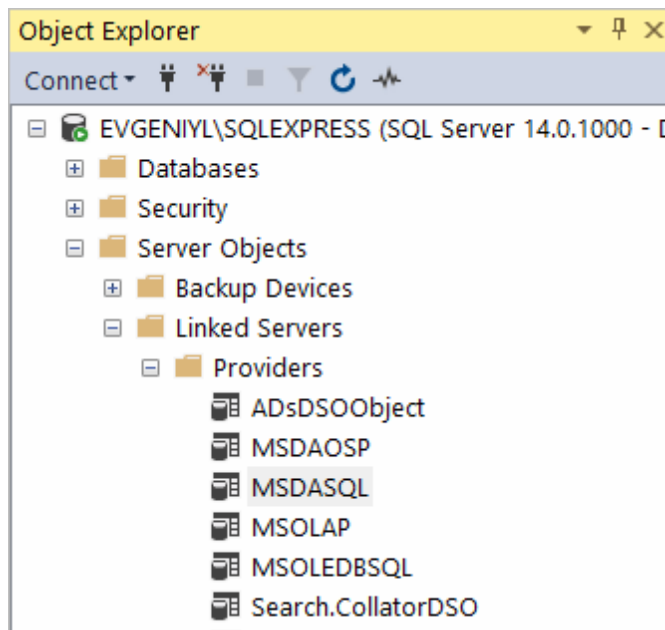
1. Start your Management Studio and choose your SQL Server instance.
2. In the **Object Explorer** pane, expand the **Server Objects**, right-click on **Linked Servers** and then click on **New Linked Server**.
3. Configure your linked server in the dialog box:
 - Give a name for your server in the **Linked server** field.
 - Under **Server type**, select **Other data source**.
 - Choose **Microsoft OLE DB Provider for ODBC Drivers** in the **Provider** drop-down list.
 - In the **Data source** field, enter the name of your DSN, e.g. Devart ODBC Driver for

Firebird. Alternatively, you can input the ODBC Driver connection string in the **Provider** field.

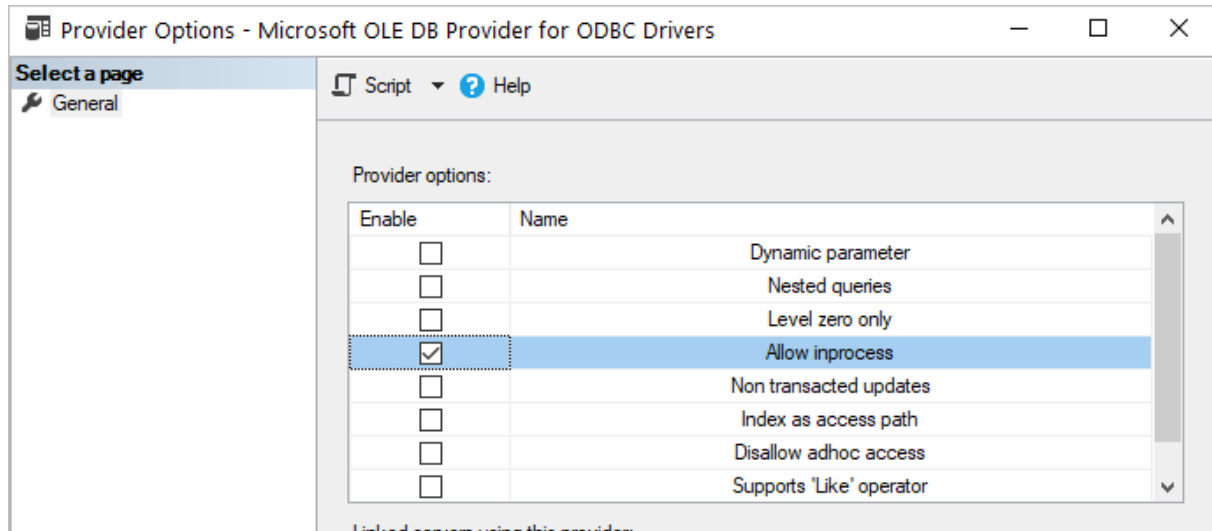
The linked server will appear under the Linked Servers in the Object Explorer Pane. You can now issue distributed queries and access Firebird databases through SQL Server.

Retrieving Data From Firebird

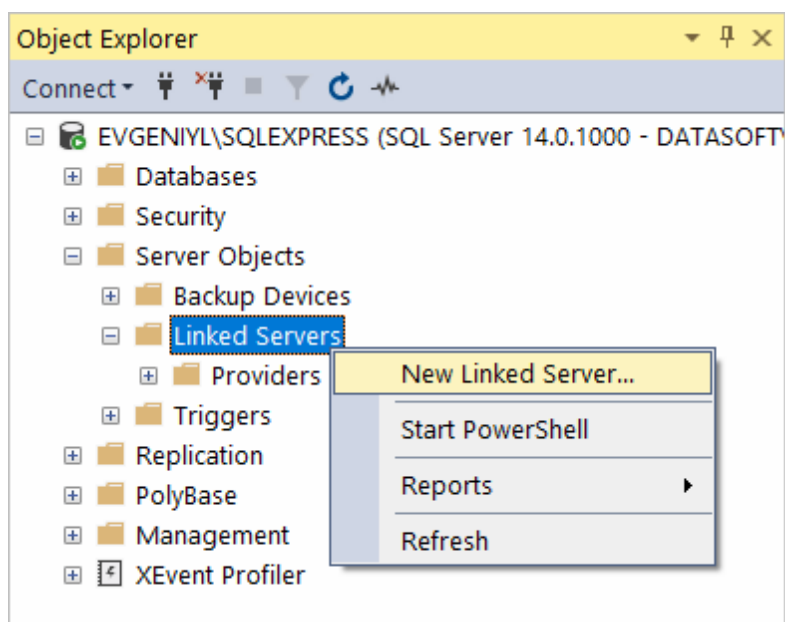
Ensure the **Allow inprocess option** of MSDASQL OLE DB Provider for ODBC Drivers is enabled. For this, find the **MSDASQL** provider in the list of Linked Servers and double-click on it



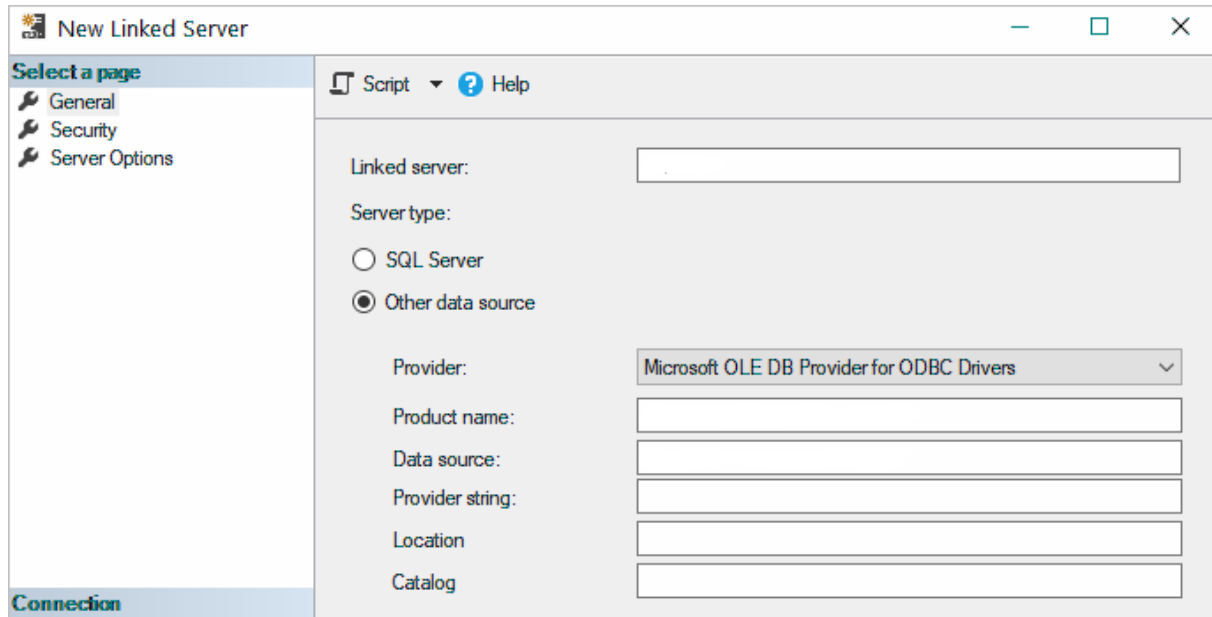
In the appeared **Provider Options** window, enable the **Allow inprocess** checkbox:



Create a new **Linked Server**

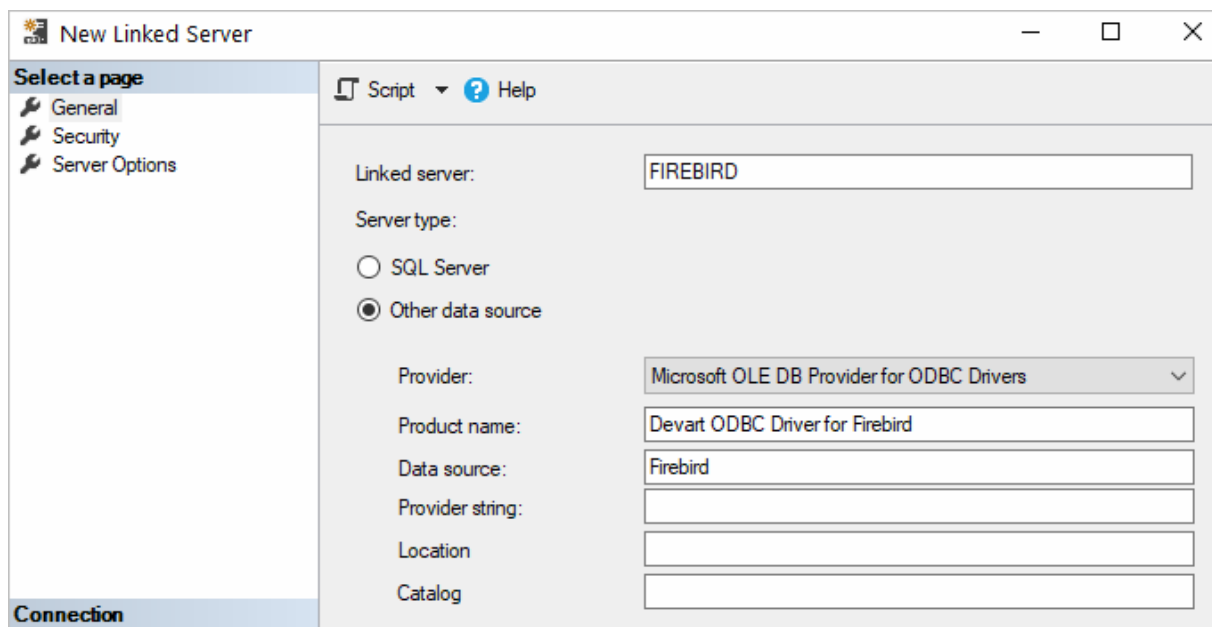


Make sure to select **Microsoft OLE DB Provider for ODBC Drivers**:



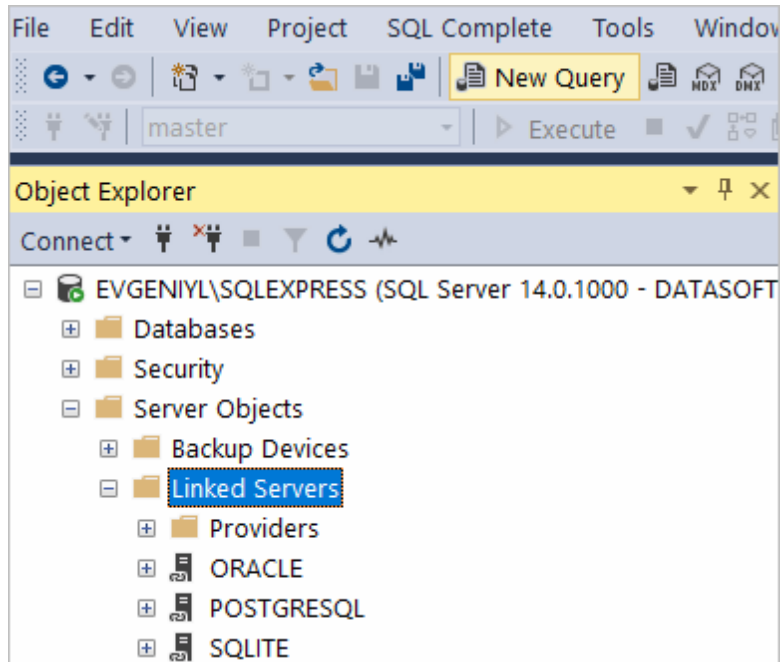
The screenshot shows the 'New Linked Server' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The 'Linked server' field is empty. The 'Server type' section has 'Other data source' selected. The 'Provider' dropdown is set to 'Microsoft OLE DB Provider for ODBC Drivers'. The 'Product name', 'Data source', 'Provider string', 'Location', and 'Catalog' fields are all empty.

Now you need to input the Linked Server name, e.g. FIREBIRD. In the Product Name and Data Source fields you need to indicate the System DSN that you've previously created - more info on System DSN setup can be found [here](#).

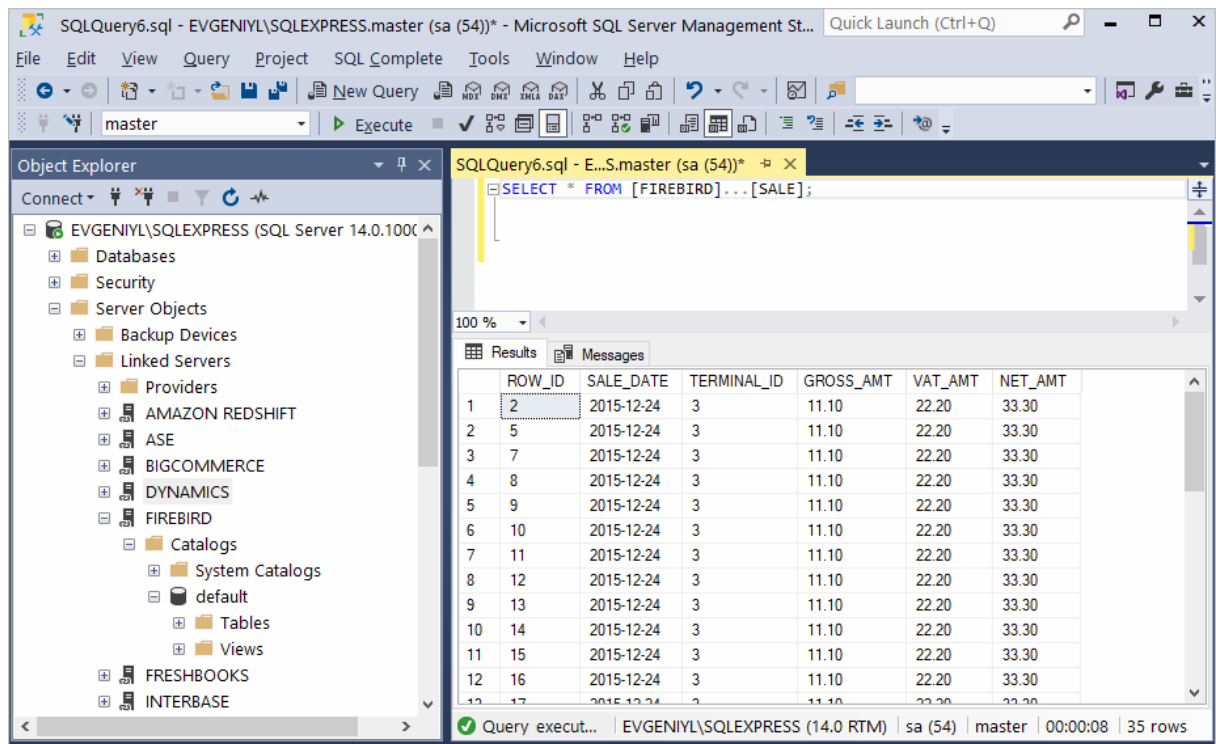


The screenshot shows the 'New Linked Server' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The 'Linked server' field is filled with 'FIREBIRD'. The 'Server type' section has 'Other data source' selected. The 'Provider' dropdown is set to 'Microsoft OLE DB Provider for ODBC Drivers'. The 'Product name' field is filled with 'Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird', the 'Data source' field is filled with 'Firebird', and the 'Provider string', 'Location', and 'Catalog' fields are empty.

The Firebird tables are already available to be fetched. To query the linked server, click **New Query** in the toolbar:



Enter your SQL query in the editor window and click **Execute** to run the query:



As a result, you can see the contents of the selected table retrieved directly from the Firebird

account you are connected to.

See also

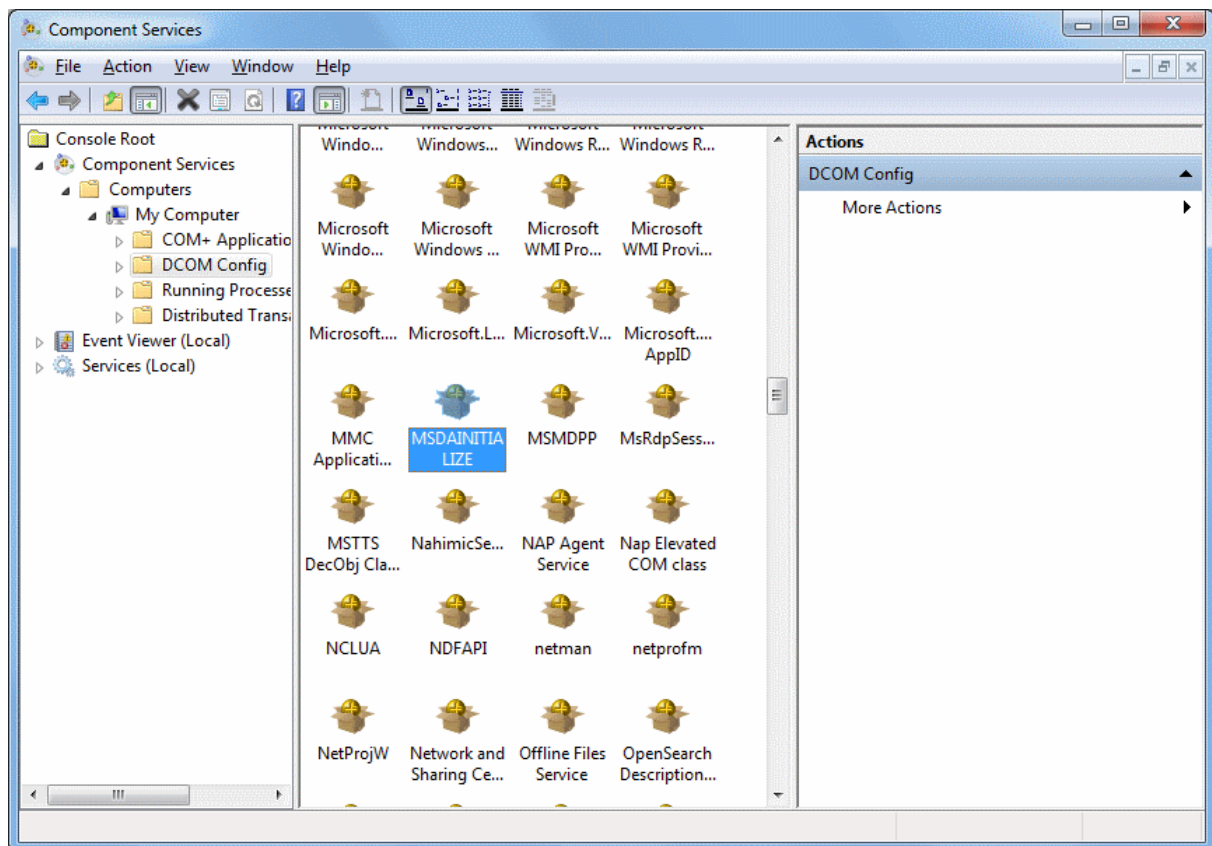
- [Troubleshooting SSMS](#)

4.14.2 Troubleshooting in SSMS

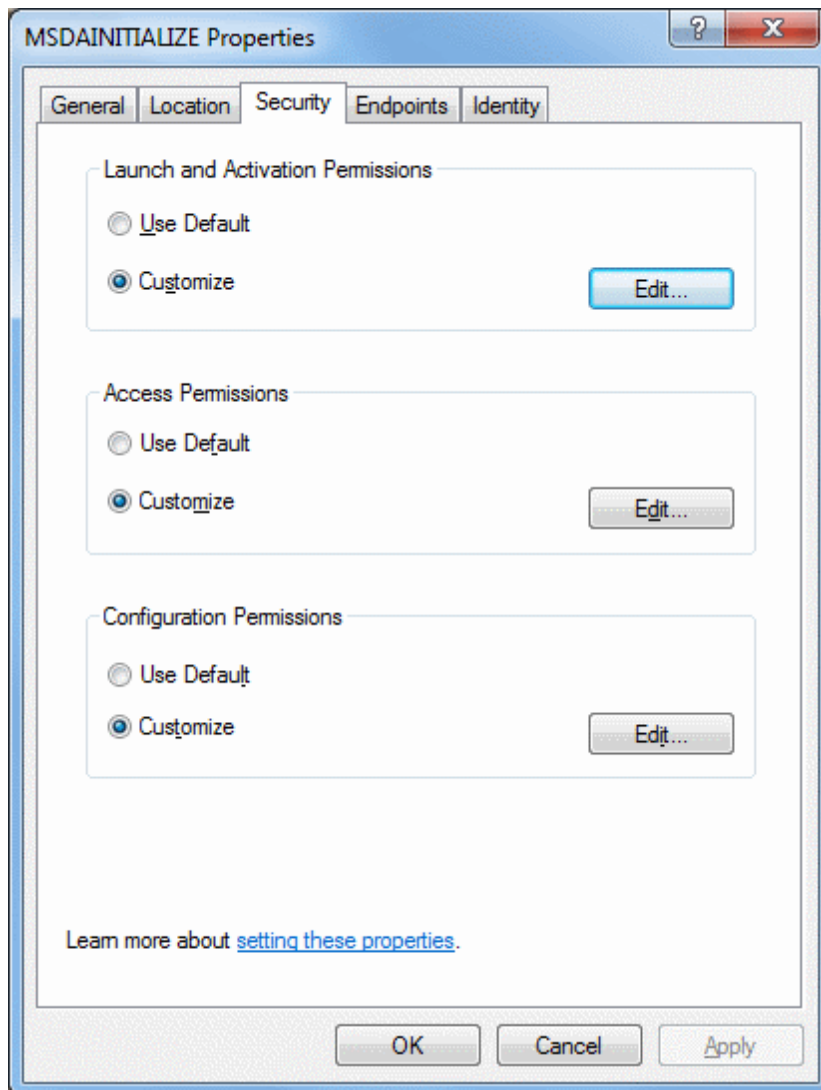
When creating a linked server in SSMS, most errors happen due to security issues with DCOM class MSDAINITIALIZE. We need to alter the DCOM Class MSDAINITIALIZE security settings to make it work.

Following are the steps:

1. Open Component Services (Start>Run>DCOMCNFG)
2. Expand Component Services>Computers>My Computer>DCOM Config
3. From the list of DCOM components on the right side, select **MSDAINITIALIZE** and go to its properties:



4. Go to the Security Tab, Choose 'Customize' and click on the 'Edit' Button:



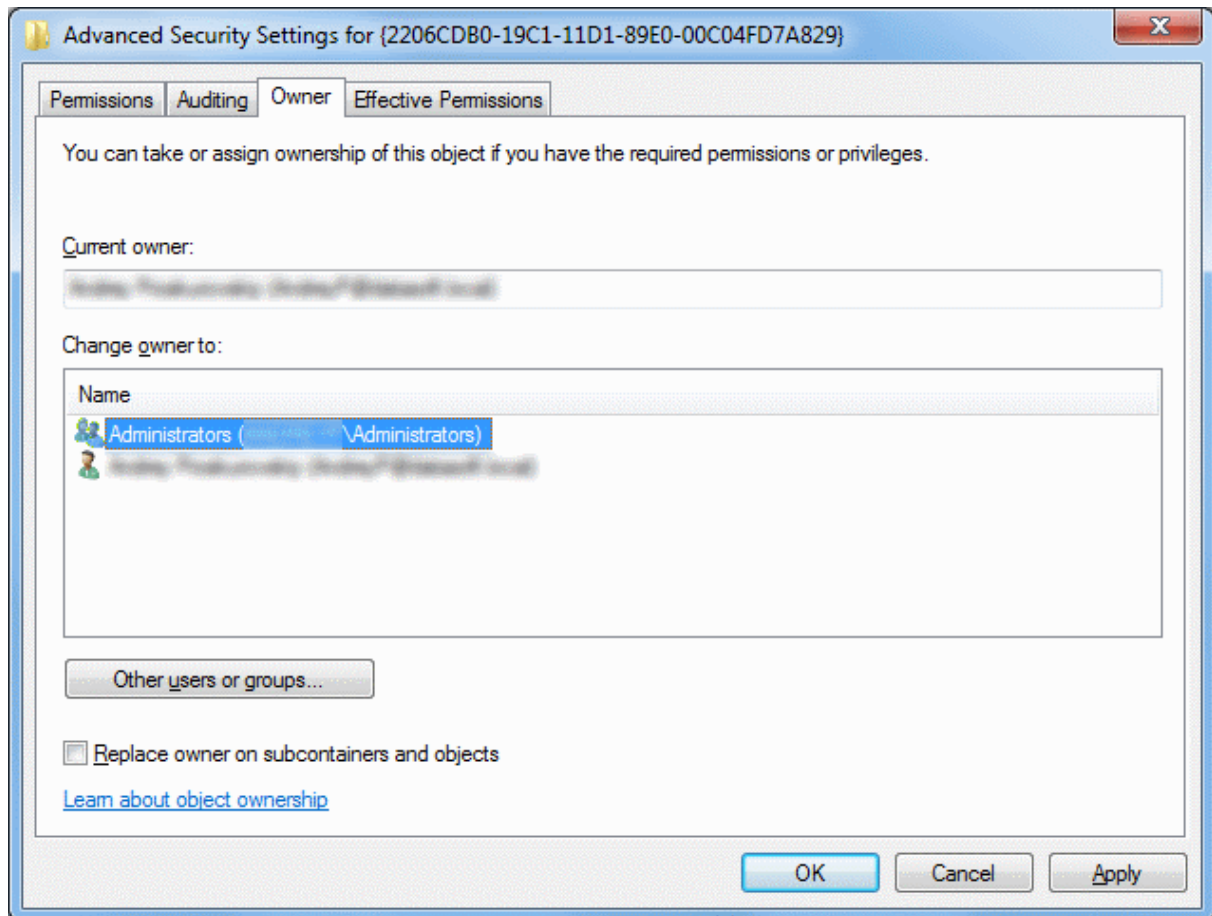
5. Add the Domain User who is accessing the linked server and 'Allow' all the permissions available (Local Launch, Remote Launch, Local Activation, Remote Activation). If you are connecting to SQL server using SQL account, you need to provide this permission to the account under which the SQL service is running.
6. Do this for all the 3 sections in the above screenshot.

To edit the Security settings, we followed the below steps:

1. Start > Run > Regedit
2. Find the Key: HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Classes\AppID\{2206CDB0-19C1-

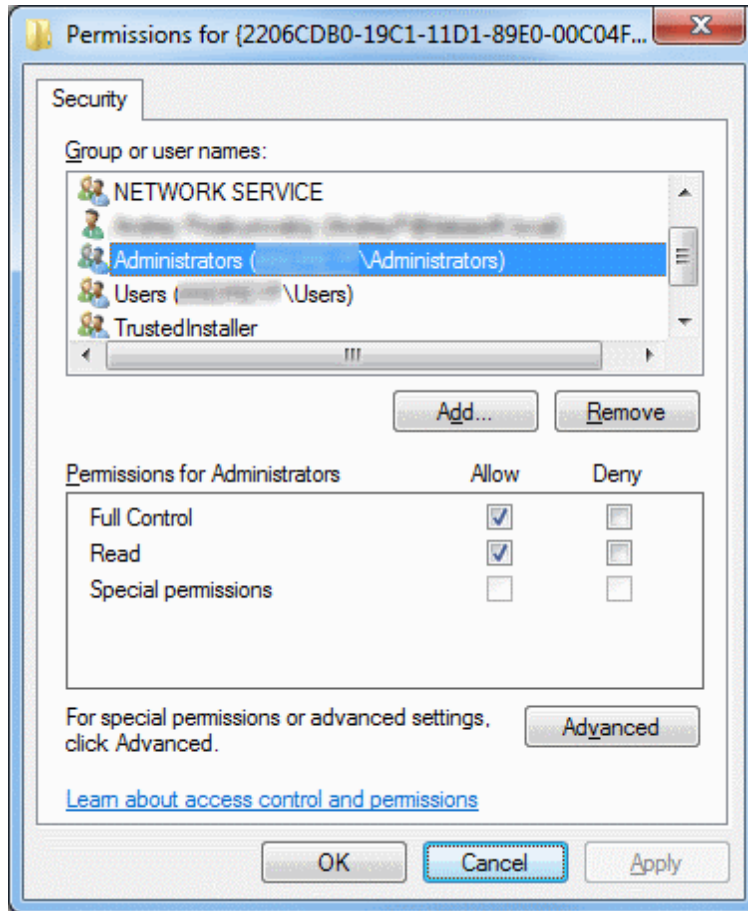
11D1-89E0-00C04FD7A829}

3. Right Click>Permissions>Advanced>Owner Tab:



4. Change the owner to Administrators.

5. Now, grant 'Full Control' to Administrators:



After this you should be able to edit MSDAINITIALIZE security settings.

See also

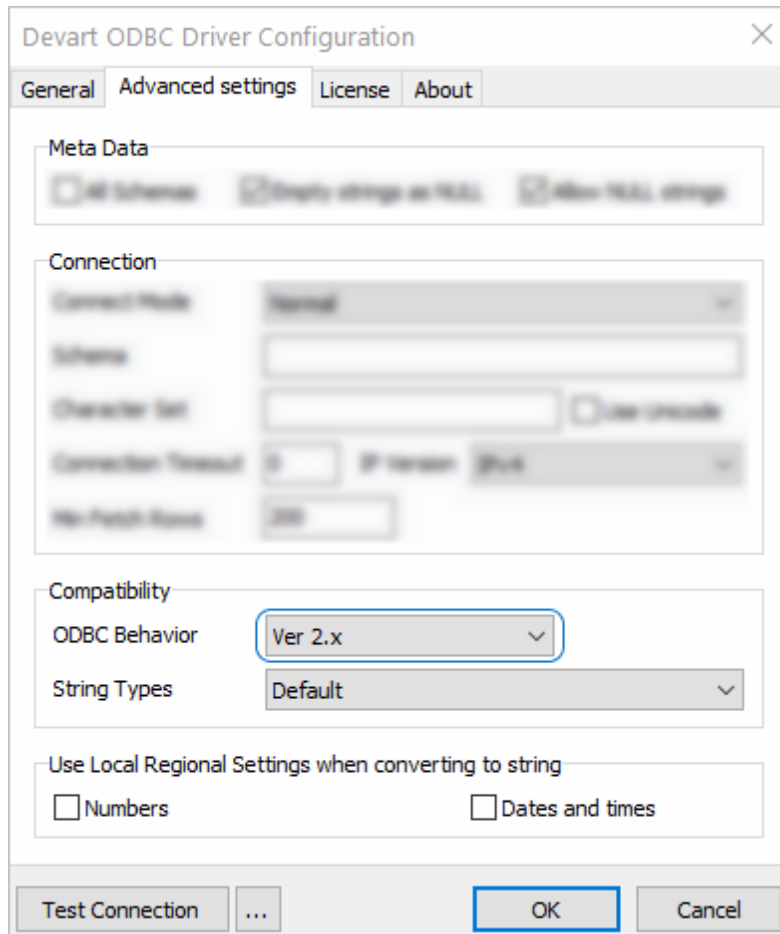
- [Error message when you try to create an instance of an OLE DB provider in SQL Server: "Cannot create an instance of OLE DB provider"](#)

4.15 Using in SSIS

SQL Server Integration Services (SSIS) is a component of SQL Server that is designed to perform various data migration tasks. When using Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird as a translation layer between the data source and SSIS, the driver and SSIS communicate via Microsoft ODBC version 3.x.

Note that when you extract data from an ODBC data source using the `SQLExecDirect` function,

an issue may occur: SSIS expects the ODBC 2.x behavior, while the ODBC driver continues to fetch data from a data source via ODBC version 3.x. To prevent any issues when using `SQLExecDirect`, you should force the ODBC 2.x behavior in the DSN settings: open the **Advanced Settings** tab and select **Ver 2.x** from the **ODBC Behavior** dropdown.



4.16 Using in Tableau

This section describes how to establish and troubleshoot a connection to Firebird from Tableau using ODBC Driver for Firebird.

- [Using in Tableau](#)
- [Troubleshooting in Tableau on macOS](#)

4.16.1 Using in Tableau

Importing Firebird Data Into Tableau Through an ODBC Connection

This article explains to establish an ODBC connection to Firebird from Tableau Desktop. Tableau is a data visualization tool that allows you to pull in raw data, perform analysis on it, and create meaningful reports to get actionable insights. With Tableau Desktop and our suite of [ODBC drivers](#), you can connect to various relational and non-relational databases, both cloud and on-premise.

1. Run Tableau Desktop.
2. On the start page, select **More...** in the **Connect** pane.
3. Choose **Other Databases (ODBC)**.
4. Expand the **DSN** drop-down list and select the DSN that you have created and configured for Firebird. Alternatively, if you have not created a DSN, you can choose the **Driver** option and select Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird from the drop-down.
5. Click **Connect**.
6. After a successful connection, click **Sign in**.
7. Select the needed database and schema in Firebird.
8. You should see the list of all tables you have access to in the connected data source.
9. Drag-and-drop the table name to the area where it says **Drag tables here** to retrieve the data, or click **New Custom SQL** to write a query that will select only specific data from the table.
10. Hit **Update Now** to retrieve and display the data.

4.16.2 Troubleshooting in Tableau on macOS

Troubleshooting ODBC Connection in Tableau on macOS

The iODBC driver manager incorrectly handles the SQL_WCHAR and SQL_WVARCHAR ODBC data types. To work with these data types in Tableau, create a Tableau Datasource Customization (`.tdc`) file in `'Users\[your name]\Documents\My Tableau Repository`

`\Datasources\` — for example, `devart-firebird.tdc`, and add the following capabilities to the file:

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='utf-8' ?>
<connection-customization class='genericodbc' enabled='true' version='1.0'>
  <vendor name='Firebird' />
  <driver name='Devart ODBC Driver for Firebird' />
    <customizations>
      <customization name='CAP_ODBC_BIND_SUPPRESS_WIDE_CHAR' value='yes' />
    </customizations>
</connection-customization>
```