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OpenDatabase

The **OpenDatabase** method returns a **Database** object that establishes a link with an external database represented by a database document ("*.odb" file). tags: **Methods**

The returned object allows data retrieval and update in the targeted database.

Applies to ...

Object	Description
Application	Root class. When present, its name must be " Application " but the object name is optional.

Syntax

```
Set database = [Application.]OpenDatabase (connectionstring, [username], [password],
[readonly])
```

Argument	Optional	Type	Description
connectionstring		string	Either - the name under which the targeted database is <i>registered</i> - or the URL of the ".odb" file referring to the targeted database.
username	Y	string	The connection parameters to the effective database, if any.
password	Y		
readonly	Y	Boolean	If True updates of the database data will be forbidden. Default = False

Remarks

- The resulting **Database** object must be kept by the program in a Basic variable with a scope that is compatible with the duration of the operations done on the database. F.i. a **Global**, a **Static** or a module-level **Public** variable sometimes fit best for that purpose.
- After use the database should be closed with the **Close** method.

Error messages

Connection to the database is not active

See also

[Close \(method\)](#)
[Database](#)
[CurrentDb](#)
[OpenConnection](#)

Standalone Forms

Example

List all table names of an external database

```
Public oDatabase As Object

Sub ScanTables()

Dim oTable As Object, oField As Object, i As Integer
    Set oDatabase = Application.OpenDatabase("/home/somedir/TT NorthWind.odb",,,)
    With oDatabase
        For i = 0 To .TableDefs.Count - 1
            Set oTable = .TableDefs(i)
            DebugPrint oTable.Name
        Next i
    End With
    oDatabase.mClose()

End Sub
```

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