Open Database Connectivity Standard (ODBC) is an open standard application programming interface (API) used to access one or more databases from a single application.

In order to set up a connection via ODBC between an application and a database, you will need three things:

- An ODBC compliant application (in our case 4th Dimension).
- An ODBC compliant database (ORACLE, MS SQL or even a 4D database).
- An ODBC driver for that particular database (in our case 4D v11 ODBC Driver).

An ODBC connection involves an application, a driver manager or a configuration tool (such as ODBC Administrator), a driver for the database or database management system (DBMS) and a database.

More information about ODBC can be found at the following addresses:

http://www.iodbc.org/

Installing the 4D v11 ODBC Driver

The new 4D v11 ODBC Driver for 4D Server exists for both Mac and PC platforms. It is based on ODBC Driver Manager 3.5 and does not require any external libraries: everything is inside.
In order to install the 4D v11 ODBC Driver on Macintosh, you will first need to:

1. Run the 4D v11 SQL Setup.
   - If you choose “4D Developer Standard,” “4D Developer Professional,” “4D SQL Desktop” or “4D Web Application Server,” the 4D v11 ODBC Driver Installer is automatically installed in the “Applications/4D v11 SQL/<Offer Name>/Complements” folder where <Offer Name> corresponds to the name of the offer chosen (e.g. “4D Developer Standard”).
   - If you choose the Custom installation, then you will need to check the “4D ODBC Driver Installer” check box. The 4D v11 Driver Installer will be installed in the “Applications/4D v11 SQL/Custom/Complements” folder.

2. Run the 4D v11 ODBC Driver Installer.
   If there is already a previous version of the driver installed on the target machine, the 4D v11 ODBC Driver Installer will automatically upgrade it to the newer version. If there is a newer version of the driver already installed on the machine and you want to downgrade to an older one, you must first uninstall the more recent version before installing the older one.

   After running the ODBC Driver Installer, the driver is installed in the “Library/ODBC/” folder, which contains the following files:

   - 4D ODBC-Drawer.bundle (the driver itself) and other drivers you may have installed.
   - odbcinst.ini (the file containing information about the driver and used by the ODBC Administrator).

   In order to connect databases with applications that are compliant with ODBC, you need to define a Data Source Name (DSN).
To add a DSN, you have to launch the ODBC Administrator located in the "Applications/Utilities/" folder:

By clicking the "Drivers" tab, you can check that the 4D v11 ODBC Driver is correctly installed.

Note Under Mac, in order to work with Microsoft Excel with any external data sources, you will need to install the OpenLink framework.

To add a DSN using the 4D v11 ODBC Driver, you have to carry out the following steps:

1 Click on the following tab:
   - "User DSN" (this makes the data source available only to the user currently logged on to this computer).
2 Click the **Add** button and choose the 4D v11 ODBC Driver from the list of configured drivers:

![ODBC Administrator](image1)

3 **Click OK.**

The 4D v11 ODBC Driver’s own configuration panel appears:

![4D v11 ODBC Driver Configuration](image2)
4 Click **OK** to save any changes before you close the configuration panel window.

**Note** You may encounter the following anomalies when creating a DSN via the Mac OS X ODBC Administrator:

- When you create a new DSN, you may not see it right away and may need to quit and restart the Mac OS X Administrator in order for it to appear.
- Even if you add a new ODBC User data source, the ODBC Driver will create it as a System DSN.

These anomalies are both due to bugs in the Mac OS X ODBC Administrator and have nothing to do with the 4D v11 ODBC Driver or Installer.

**Uninstalling on Macintosh Platforms**

To uninstall the 4D v11 ODBC Driver, you must use the ODBC Administrator, which can be found in the Application Utilities folder.

Launch the ODBC Administrator and click on the Drivers tab:

![ODBC Administrator](image)

In order to make further changes, be sure that you have adequate rights by taking a look at the padlock in the bottom left of the dialog box. If it is locked, you will need to unlock it by entering the Administrator password.
To remove the 4D v11 ODBC Driver, just select it in the list of installed drivers and press the **Remove** button. You will be asked to confirm this removal:

![Delete Driver](image1)

Then you will be asked if you want to also remove all the information regarding the DSN associated with the ODBC driver:

![Delete Driver](image2)

If you intend to install a new ODBC driver, you can click on **Cancel** to keep the old DSN information.

In any case, you can remove the DSN entry later by clicking on the System DSN tab, selecting the DSN in the list and clicking on **Remove**:

![ODBC Administrator](image3)
Installing the 4D v11 ODBC Driver

You will then have to remove the following files manually:

/Library/4D ODBC-Driver.bundle
/Library/Frameworks/OpenSSL.framework

On a PC Platform

In order to install the 4D v11 ODBC Driver on Windows, you simply need to run the 4D v11 SQL Installer:

- If you choose the “Complete” installation, the driver is automatically installed regardless of the offer you choose.
- If you choose the ‘Custom” installation, then you will need to check the “ODBC Driver” check box.

If there is already a previous version of the driver installed on the target machine, the 4D v11 ODBC Driver Installer will automatically upgrade it to the newer version. If there is a newer version of the driver already installed on the machine and you want to down grade to an older one, you must first uninstall the more recent version before installing the older one.

So that you can install the 4D ODBC Driver without running the 4D v11 SQL Installer each time, a 4D ODBC Driver Installer is placed in the “Complements” folder, inside the folder of the offer installed. For example, if you installed the “4D Developer Standard” offer then you can find the standalone 4D ODBC Driver installer (named “4D ODBC Driver Installer.exe) at the following location:

C:\Program Files\4D\4D v11 SQL\4D Developer Standard\Complements\4D ODBC Driver Installer.exe

After running the ODBC Driver Installer, you need to define a DSN in order to connect to the desired database.
To add a DSN, you have to launch the ODBC Data Source Administrator by selecting Start/Control Panel/ Administrative Tools/Data Sources (ODBC). By clicking the “Drivers” tab, you can check that the 4D v11 ODBC Driver is correctly installed:

To add a DSN using the 4D v11 ODBC Driver, you have to carry out the following steps:

1 **Click on one of the following tabs:**
   - “User DSN” (if you want to make this data source available only to the user currently logged on to this computer. This data source can only be used on the current machine).
   - OR
   - “System DSN” (if you want to make this data source available to all users from this computer, including NT services).
2 Click the Add button and choose the 4D v11 ODBC Driver from the list of configured drivers:

![Image of Add button and 4D v11 ODBC Driver]

3 Click Finish.

The 4D v11 ODBC Driver’s own configuration panel appears:

![Image of 4D v11 ODBC Driver configuration panel]
4 Click OK to save any changes before you close the configuration panel window.

**Note** In order to have a full and clear installation, you must not move or rename the installed files after running the 4D v11 ODBC Driver Installer.

### Uninstalling on PC Platforms

If you intend to completely remove the 4D v11 ODBC Driver, you must first remove all the Data Source Names created for this driver. This can be done from the ODBC Data Source Administrator:

![ODBC Data Source Administrator](image)

If you only intend to upgrade the 4D v11 ODBC Driver, you do not need to remove the attached DSNs.
To remove the 4D v11 ODBC Driver, simply launch the 4D v11 ODBC Installer and choose the Remove option; the installer will take care of the rest:

![4D ODBC Driver Installer Wizard](image)

**Configuring the Data Source**

The fields of these dialog boxes need to be filled in with the following information:

- **Data Source Name:**
  Enter a unique name for this Data Source.
  Default: "".
  This field is mandatory.

- **Description:**
  Enter a short description of this Data Source.
  Default: "".
  This field is optional.

- **Server:**
  Enter the 4D network location as: <IP or Name>.
Examples:
"localhost"  The 4D application is located on the local machine.
"PC-1"     The 4D application is located on the PC-1 machine,
           published on port 1919 (default port).
"148.1.2.3"  The 4D application has the IP address 148.1.2.3.
           Default: "localhost".
This field is mandatory.

■ Port:
Enter the 4D access port.
Default: "1919".
This field is optional.

■ SSL checkbox:
Checking this option enables connection to the 4D SQL server if the
"Enable SSL" option has been set on the SQL/Configuration page of
the Preferences.

■ User:
Enter the user name used to test the connection with 4D.
Default: "".
This field is optional.

■ Password:
Enter the password used (in conjunction with the user name) to test
the connection with 4D.
Default: "".
This field is optional.

■ Connection:
Enter the timeout in seconds to be used (0 means no timeout) after you
log in for the driver to connect to a socket on the server:port address.
Default: "".
This field is optional.
Using SSL

Certificate and Key
Generating certificates follows the same procedure as for the 4D Web Server (see the “Using SSL Protocol” command of the 4D Language Reference manual).

You will obtain two keys: cert.pem and Key.pem. These two files must be put into the Resources/SQL folder of the database.

The certificate files and key only concern the server. It is imperative not to copy them onto any client machines.

Server
On the server side, the use of SSL is set in the 4D Preferences:
This setting only takes effect on startup of the database. Once you have modified its state (SSL enabled or not) and validated the changes, you will then need to restart your database in order for these changes to be taken into account.

**ODBC Client**

There are two possibilities depending on whether you use a DSN or a direct connection via SQLDriverConnect.

**Connection via a DSN**

When configuring the DSN, simply check the “SSL” option in the configuration dialog box:

![Connection via a DSN](image)

**Connection without a DSN**

This occurs when you click on the “Connection test” button which leads to a direct connection via SQLDriverConnect using a connection string.

Here is an example of a connection string that uses SSL:

```
DRIVER=“4D v11 ODBC Driver”;SSL=true;SERVER=localhost;PORT=1919;UID=Admin
```

This string provides the same information as provided when configuring a DSN. It consists of key/value pairs.

For more information about SQLDriverConnect, please refer to the following address:


Here is a simple list of keys that can be used in making up the connection string:

- **DRIVER**
  
  Identifies the ODBC Driver used.
  
  Uses the value “4D v11 ODBC Driver”
Using SSL

- **SERVER**
  Indicates the IP address or the name of the 4D SQL server to which you want to connect.
  Default value: “localhost”.

- **PORT**
  Can be used to specify the connection port.
  This port must be the same as the one provided on the SQL/Configuration page of the Preferences (on the server machine).

- **UID**
  Identifies the user name under which you will be connected.

- **PWD**
  Provides the password associated with the user name specified in the UID key.

- **SSL**
  Can either be True or False (False by default). Please refer to the section “Using SSL” on page 13.

- **PhysicalConnectionTimeout**
  An ODBC connection begins by connecting to the TCP/IP network. This value sets the timeout for this step.

- **LoginTimeout**
  Once the driver is connected to the TCP/IP network, it must then be recognized by the 4D SQL server. It thus sends a frame containing the user, password and other information. This timeout sets the maximum time to wait for a reply.
QueryTimeout*

Once an ODBC Driver is connected, it can also execute queries and handle data. This timeout will be applied in this case.

* Timeouts set the length of time to wait before aborting an action. Their values are expressed in seconds, with 0 being no timeout (unlimited wait time).

DSN

Indicates a DSN to be used. In this case, it is not necessary to use the other keys since they will already be defined in the DSN.

For example, if you have set up a DSN named “4DSSL” as follows:

![Configure Data source dialog box](image)

and you then use the following connection string:

```c
SQLDriverConnect(ConnectionHandle,WindowHandle,"DSN=4DSSL; UID=scott;PWD=tiger;SSL=false",SQL_NTS,NULL,0,NULL,SQL_DRIVER_NOPROMP);
```

Even though your DSN has been configured to use an SSL connection, this connection string will attempt a non-secure connection. In this case, you will be connected as the user “scott” with the password “tiger.”
On the other hand, if you use the SQL_DRIVER_PROMPT option, the following dialog box will appear:

![ODBC Driver Manager dialog box](image)

This setting takes effect immediately.

**Crystal Reports® Compatibility**

When using 4D with Crystal Reports®, you may encounter problems when building reports from several different tables at once. This is due to the fact that Crystal Reports® does not know how to handle inner and outer joins with 4D.

In order to avoid this problem, there is a simple procedure you can follow:

1. **Launch the ODBC Driver manager and configure or add a DSN**
   This should be done even if you do not need a DSN.
The following dialog box will appear:

2 Press the “Crystal Reports® Compatibility setup...” button
This button only appears for Crystal Report® users. After the setup has been run the first time, it will no longer appear.
After pressing this button, the following dialog box will appear:

3 Press OK to launch the setup procedure.
As mentioned in the dialog box, you may receive warnings from your anti-virus during this procedure. These warnings should be ignored.

4 Close the ODBC Driver configuration window
You can press OK, Cancel or simply click on the close box.

5 Restart your machine
You will now be able to use Crystal Reports® without any problems.
How it works

As mentioned in the Compatibility setup dialog box, this procedure writes keys in the registry. If you launch the registry editor utility, you will see something similar to this:

```
NoOuterJoinEscSeq=MYODBC3
```

The keys will be updated for Crystal Reports® v10 and v11 as well as their subversions. If you have more than one version installed on your PC, all will be updated.

This is not an overwrite. For example, if you have:

```
NoOuterJoinEscSeq=MYODBC3
```

it will become:

```
NoOuterJoinEscSeq=MYODBC3, ODBC4D
```

The keys will remain updated even if the 4D ODBC Driver is removed from your machine.

If you install another version or subversion of Crystal Reports®, you will need to go through the compatibility setup procedure again. However, only the newly-installed version will be updated.