**Access Blog Post From Jay McCormick**

For: JANUARY 2015

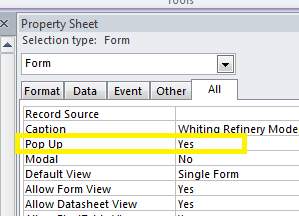
**Title**: How To Make Your Access Application Open Like A Customer Software Application

**Level of Difficulty**: Easy

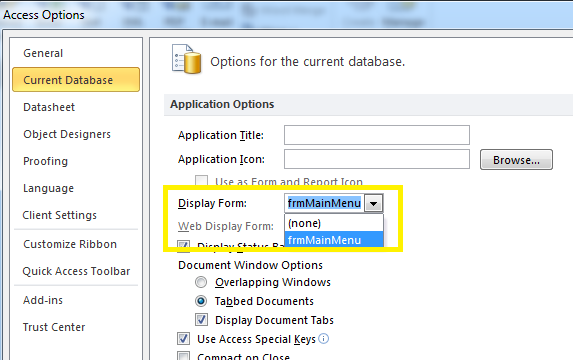
**Applies to:** Access 2000+

**Overview**: Sometimes when we create a full blown application, utility, departmental tool, or other application, we want to only see the opening form pop up on the screen, and leave the full access application window at the bottom of the toolbar. So the effect, from the double-click of the icon, is to only see your application, and not MS Access. This is easier to achieve than you may think, here are the simple steps:

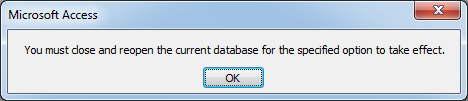
1. Open the form you intend to use as the main form in design view. In the attached exmple database **OpenAccessFormOnly.accdb**, I have a same main menu form entitled **frmMainMenu**. Be sure to set the form property PopUp = True.



1. In the backstage view, open the database options window, and choose the ‘current database’ tab. In the “Display Form:” option, drop the list down and select the form you intend to use as the startup form. In my example I have selected the form **frmMainMenu.**

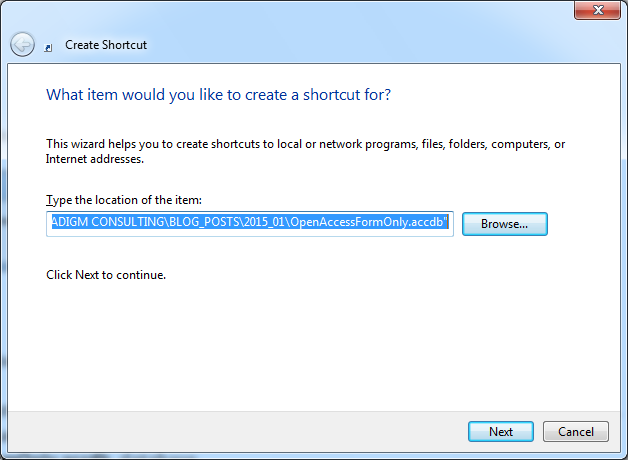


1. Click “OK” to close the database options dialog box.
2. You will see this message box appear

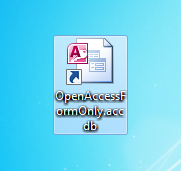


Click ‘ok’.

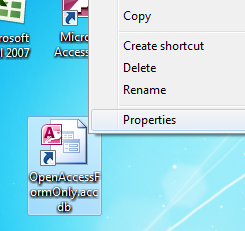
1. Close the database.
2. Go to your dekstop, right mouse click in any blank area, and choose ‘New’ then ‘Shortcut’. Browse to the .accdb file you just created. In this example, I choose the **OpenAccessFormOnly.accdb** database.



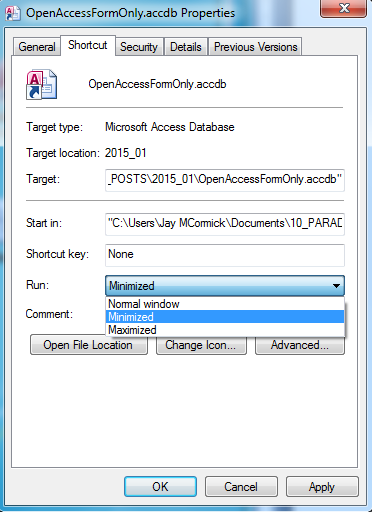
Then click ‘next’ and ‘finish’ if necessary, creating the icon on your desktop.



1. Right mouse click on the shortcut you just created and choose ‘Properties’



1. This second dialog appears as below. Choose the ‘shortcut’ tab and notice a drop down option called ‘Run’. Drop this down and choose ‘Minimized’ as shown in the below grapic.



1. Click ‘Apply’ then click ‘OK’.
2. Double-click your icon and voila! You’ll see **ONLY** the main form appear, with Access minimized at the bottom of the screen.