



The Friendly Qlik App Development Checklist

Checklist

The checklist provides a foundational guide to key areas of friendly Qlik app development, such as data modeling and performance tuning.

It's applicable to general app dev and can be easily used for day-to-day management.

This checklist looks at three main areas and how to improve them:

- Scripts
- Data models
- User Interfaces

Read [the companion tutorial](#) for more info on how to use this list optimally.

Now, let's get building.

Script best practices

- First tab holds information section
- Use of Include files/hidden script for all ODBC connections
- All file references using preferred relative naming
- Business names for UI fields
- Security script in Include file
- Turn Generate Logfile option on
- UPPER() function used on Section Access fields
- Service Accts added to Section Access, as needed
- Use numeric flags where possible
- Naming standards used for columns, tables, variables
- Script is well commented-changes date flagged
- Subject areas each have tab in script
- All code blocks with comment sections

Data model performance

- Synthetic keys removed from data model
- Ambiguous loops removed from data model
- Correct granularity of data
- Remove system keys/timestamps from data model
- Remove unneeded snowflaked tables (consolidate)
- Use Autonumber to replace large concatenated keys
- Use integers to join tables where possible
- Remove link tables from very large data models
- Break concatenated dim. fields into distinct fields
- Unused fields removed from data model
- All QVD reads optimized

Interface performance

Minimize count distinct functions

Minimize nested ifs

Minimize string comparisons

Avoid "Show Frequency" feature on large data

Avoid IF statements in calculated chart dimensions

Avoid built-in time functions in UI (inmonth, etc...)

Minimize open objects on sheet

Minimize set analysis against large fact tables

Minimize pivot charts in very large apps

Avoid AGGR function when possible

Naming conventions

Field	Name	Example
Variables	Starts with a "v"	vCurrentYear
Key Fields	Starts with a "%"	%CustomerKey
Flag Fields	Starts with a "_"	_YTDFlag
Cycle Group	Starts with a "<"	<ProductCycle
Drilldown Group	Starts with a ">"	>GeoDrillDown
Key Field Separator	Separated by "_"	Company&'_'&Nbr as Key
Temp Fields & Tables	Start With "tmp_"	tmp_daily_trans

Steps to performance tuning an application

Action	Explanation
Reduce Rows	Eliminate unneeded data volume (rows) from apps (how far back does the app really need to store data?)
Reduce Columns	Find unused fields in the data model - use Qlik's DocumentAnalyze App against your app to do this, then copy the "DROP FIELD" statements that are generated for the unused fields and place these into a new tab in YOUR application, as the VERY LAST tab in the script.
Increase efficiency	Use Set Analysis, instead of IF statements, wherever possible, for better performance in Measures.
Reduce data model complexity	Collapse snowflake tables to attain a more pure star schema
Reduce App complexity	Reduce number of tabs/objects in the application, where appropriate
Reduce App complexity	Reduce the number of open charts down to 1 on tabs where this is possible and appropriate
Follow Best Practices	Follow checklist items above in all areas
Reduce or Eliminate iterations of application	Remove all unneeded iteration of application before moving to production

Let's get to work today, together.

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