

About InfoMaker

InfoMaker is a reporting tool

InfoMaker is a powerful and easy-to-use reporting tool that lets you query databases and create sophisticated and effective custom reports of data. When optional painters are installed, it also lets you work with data in a database.

InfoMaker is a personal data assistant

InfoMaker lets you work with data in many ways—always with no programming required.

InfoMaker provides built-in connectivity to a broad range of desktop and server-based databases. Some versions of InfoMaker also include the powerful SQL Anywhere database management system (DBMS) that enables you to create your own databases and use the built-in EAS Demo DB (a Sybase SQL Anywhere database) to create reports and other InfoMaker objects.

For information about supported DBMSs, see [Connecting to Your Database](#).

When you work in InfoMaker, you work in a graphical environment—and working with data in this environment means you do not need to understand SQL, the standard programming language for talking to databases. InfoMaker creates all SQL statements behind the scenes as you build your reports and other objects graphically.

What you create in InfoMaker

In InfoMaker, you can create the following objects:

- Reports to view data
- Forms to view and change data
- Queries to automatically retrieve data for reports or forms
- Pipelines to pipe data from one database (or DBMS) to another
- Applications to bundle reports and forms and distribute them to users

You can see many examples of the objects you create in InfoMaker in this chapter.

Painters

In InfoMaker, you do your work in painters. A painter is an object editor you use to create and work with objects of a particular type. For example, in the Report painter, you create and work with reports, and in the Data Pipeline painter, you create and work with data pipelines.