

Forms Design Tools -Format Tab

This ribbon is used to change the formatting of forms in Access. There are three tabs within this ribbon that can be used to perform different tasks in relation to the form. The table below lists and describes the tabs, groups, and buttons available on the Format Tab. This tab is available in both Layout View and Design View.



Groups/Buttons	Description
Selection Group	
Select Object	Click this button to select an object. A list of the objects in the form will appear. An orange border will appear around the selected object.
Select All	Use this button to select all the objects in the form. Orange borders will appear around each of the objects.
Font Group	
Font Type	To change the type of font for a selected control in a form, click this button.
Font Size	Click this button to change the size of the font for selected fields within a form.
Format Painter	This button is used to copy formatting from one field to another one in a form.
Bold	Click this button to apply bold formatting to selected fields in a form.
Italics	This button is used to italicize selected fields within a form.
Underline	To underline selected fields in a form, click this button.
Font Color	Use this button to select a different color for the font. A gallery of different colors will appear.
Background Color	Use this button to change the background for a selected field within a form. A gallery of different color options will appear.
Align Left	To align text in a field to the left, click this button. All the entries in the selected field will be aligned to the left.
Center	Click this button to center text in a form field. All the entries in the selected field will be centered.
Align Right	Use this button to align text on the right side of a selected field in a form. All the entries in the field will be aligned to the right.
Number Group	
Format	Use this button to specify how numbers are to be formatted in a field.
Apply Currency Format	When this button is clicked, formatting with dollar signs and decimal points will be applied to the field. The number of decimal places can be specified by clicking either the Increase or Decrease Decimal buttons.

Groups/Buttons	Description
Apply Percent Format	Click this button to change the formatting for a number field to percentage. When the percentage is applied, the number of decimal places can also be specified.
Apply Comma Number Format	To specify a comma for thousands in a number field, click this button. The number of decimal places can be specified.
Increase Decimals	This button is used to specify the number of decimal places that should be displayed in a number field.
Decrease Decimals	Use this button to decrease the number of decimal places in a number field.
Background Group	
Background Image	To apply a background image to the form, click this button. Click the browse button to open the Insert Picture window.
Alternate Row Color	To apply an alternate color to each row in a form, click this button. The form must be formatted as a datasheet. A gallery of different color options will appear.
Conditional Formatting Group	
Quick Styles	This button is used to apply a visual style to a selected control.
Change Shape	To change the shape of a selected control, click this button.
Conditional Formatting	Click this button to open the conditional formatting window. In this window, special formatting can be specified for entries in a field that meet specified criteria.
Shape Fill	Use this button to fill the selected control with a solid color or a gradient.
Shape Outline	To change the outline color of a selected shape, click this button.
Shape Effects	Click this button to apply visual effects to the selected shape such as bevel, shadow, soft edges, and glow.