Displays List Reference

Manage the list of available displays.

Displays List (Reference) provides a centralized interface for managing all displays in the solution, with DataGrid and CardView options for creating, organizing, and accessing display configurations.

Display List provides:

- Centralized display management
- Multiple view modes (Grid/Card)
- Display creation wizard
- Quick access to editor
- Build status monitoring
- Security configuration

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Access via **Displays** **List** for complete display inventory and management.

List Interface

View Modes

- **Grid View** - Tabular display with sortable columns
- **Card View** - Visual preview thumbnails. The thumbnail shown for each display is generated when the display is saved — edits made in Draw are not reflected in the preview until the display is saved.
- Toggle using buttons in top-right toolbar

Navigation Bar

Use the breadcrumb navigation in top-right to quickly switch between:

- **List** (current)
- **Draw**
- **Layouts**
- **Client Settings**

No need to use left-side tree navigation when working within Displays section.

Navigating to Draw Editor

Multiple methods to open a display for editing:

Method	Action	Notes
Double-click Preview	Click preview image	Safest - always opens editor
Pen Icon	Select row, click pen in toolbar	Opens selected display
Draw Shortcut	Top toolbar Draw button	Opens with selected display
Double-click Name/Description	Click editable field	?? Enters cell edit mode, not navigation

Solution Explorer Toggle

When Draw opens:

- Left panel auto-collapses for more drawing space
- Click ? (three bars) icon to expand/collapse Solution Explorer
- Useful when frequently switching between List and Draw

Creating Displays

From Display List

1. Navigate to **Displays List**
2. Click **+ Add New** button
3. Configure in dialog:
    - **Name** - Display identifier
    - **Description** - Purpose documentation
    - **Rendering Engine** - Target platform
    - **Template** - Starting layout from library
4. Click **OK**

Template Library

- Use predefined templates for consistency
- Canvas or Dashboard base types
- Industry-specific starting points

Special Pages

MainPage (ID 0)

- **Cannot be deleted** - Always exists
- **Cannot be renamed** - ID 0 is the fixed Solution Center preview / home anchor. Because display references are by internal ID, a rename technically succeeds and the build stays green - but it silently detaches the preview anchor and orphans the canonical home name. Never rename MainPage.
- **Solution Center preview** - Shows as project thumbnail
- **Best practices**:
    - Small apps: Use as main workspace
    - Large apps: build your main workspace as a separate page and point the Startup layout's Content region at it - but leave MainPage in place (a static placard is enough) so it still renders the Solution Center thumbnail. Do not rename MainPage onto the workspace page.

Predefined Pages

Page	Purpose	Called By	Notes
SelectPage	Display picker	FileOpen (dev mode)	Customizable
LogonPage	Login screen	Security menu (dev mode)	Can be deleted

These affect Rich Client development mode menus only.

Display Properties

Core Properties

Property	Description	Where to Edit
Name	Display identifier	List (direct edit)
Engine	Rendering platform	List (dropdown)
PanelType	Canvas or Dashboard	Creation only
Mode	Page/Popup/Dialog	Draw Display Settings
Size	Display dimensions	Draw Display Settings

OnResize	Resize behavior of the display as the client area changes. One of: **StretchFill** (fills the viewport, may distort — backgrounds and decorative full-bleed art only); **StretchUniform** (scales preserving aspect ratio — process diagrams, P&IDs, mimics); **Responsive** (elements reposition and resize individually — data displays, forms, and docked Header / Footer / Menu regions, paired with **LockedWidth** / **LockedHeight**); **ResizeChildren** (all elements scale proportionally as one unit — viewer and text pages); **NoAction** (fixed size, may clip — popups, dialogs, forms). See Responsive Design and RESS for the full decision tree and worked examples.	Draw Display Settings
LockedWidth	Boolean, default **false**. Pins a docked **Menu** / **SubMenu** rail to its native pixel Width under **OnResize=Responsive**, so the rail keeps its design Width instead of stretching horizontally with the Layout. Applies to the display assigned to the corresponding Layout region.	Draw Display Settings
LockedHeight	Boolean, default **false**. Pins a docked **Header** / **Footer** band to its native pixel Height under **OnResize=Responsive**, so the band keeps its design thickness instead of stretching vertically with the Layout. Applies to the display assigned to the corresponding Layout region.	Draw Display Settings

Note: the per-element align locks (**IsWidthAlign** / **IsHeightAlign** / **IsLeftAlign** / **IsTopAlign**) are properties of individual drawing elements, not DisplaysList row properties. They are set per element in the Properties panel and are honored only when the display's OnResize is Responsive — see Display Settings Reference and the control reference pages.

Engine Types

Engine	Target	Auto-Promotion
Portable	WPF & HTML5	Default target
WPF Only	Windows clients	Can auto-upgrade to Portable
HTML5 Only	Web browsers	Requires JavaScript/web features

System automatically promotes WPF to Portable when compatible during upgrades.

Navigation Flag

- **Navigate** checkbox - Used by DisplaySelection control
- Filters which displays appear in navigation lists
- Can be used in custom navigation logic

Build Status

What Gets Compiled

- CodeBehind scripts
- Expressions in graphical objects
- Dynamic bindings

Status Indicators

Status	Meaning	Action
Success	No errors	Ready to run
Errors	Compilation failed	Check BuildMessage
Warning	Non-critical issues	Review messages

To fix errors:

1. Check **BuildMessage** column for details
2. Open in **Draw CodeBehind** tab
3. Review expressions in visual elements

Security Settings

Property	Controls	Default
EditSecurity	Who can modify in Designer	Engineering

RunSecurity	Who can view in Runtime	All Users

Organization

Categories

Group displays logically:

- Process Areas
- Equipment Types
- User Roles
- Functional Groups

Levels

Hierarchy indication:

- Top Level - Main screens
- Mid Level - Area displays
- Detail Level - Equipment views

Important Behaviors

Safe Renaming

- All references use internal **ID**, not name
- Rename displays anytime without breaking configuration
- Runtime continues working with new names
- **Exception - reserved pages (MainPage / ID 0).** Because refs are by ID, renaming MainPage also "succeeds" and builds green - but it detaches the Solution Center preview anchor and orphans the canonical home name. Never rename MainPage; see Special Pages above.

Development Tips

- Use WPF Rich Client for testing even when targeting web (faster)
- Development mode includes File/Security menus
- WebAssembly ensures consistent behavior across platforms

Display Preview

The preview thumbnail shown in Card View and in the display selector is generated each time the display is saved. Edits made in the Draw editor are not reflected in the preview until the display is explicitly saved — if you edit a display and want the updated thumbnail to appear, save the display first.

Lock Management

Lock States

- **Unlocked** - Available for edit
- **Locked** - Being edited by user
- **LockOwner** - Shows current editor

Managing Locks

csharp

```
// Check lock status
bool isLocked = Display.IsLocked;
string owner = Display.LockOwner;

// Force unlock (admin only)
Display.ForceUnlock();
```

Best Practices

1. **Start with MainPage** - Use for initial development
2. **Use Templates** - Consistent starting points

3. **Name Meaningfully** - Include area/function
4. **Set Navigate Flag** - Control navigation visibility
5. **Monitor Build Status** - Fix errors promptly
6. **Use Portable Engine** - Maximize compatibility
7. **Configure Security** - Set appropriate access

Troubleshooting

Build Errors:

- Check BuildMessage column for specifics
- Open in Draw editor
- Review CodeBehind tab
- Check expressions in elements

Display Not Opening:

- Verify RunSecurity permissions
- Check build status is Success
- Review client type compatibility
- Test with different user account

Navigation Issues:

- Use Preview column for double-click
- Check if display is locked
- Verify Navigate flag if using DisplaySelection
- Try pen icon or Draw shortcut

Metadata Tracking

Field	Purpose	Auto-Updated
ID	Internal reference	Yes
VersionID	Change tracking	Yes
DateCreated	Creation audit	Yes
DateModified	Last change	Yes

All internal references use ID, making renaming safe at any time for user-created displays (see the MainPage exception above).

In this section...
