Visual SQL Query Builder (10.1.5 draft)

SUPERSEDED draft - retired. See the canonical Visual SQL Query Builder Reference for 10.1.5 documentation.

Legacy Visual SQL Query Builder (10.1.5 draft)

SUPERSEDED - this draft is retired. The 10.1.5 changes tracked in this preview draft shipped and are now documented on the canonical reference page: Visual SQL Query Builder Reference. Use that page for current 10.1.5 documentation. The body below is retained for historical reference only and is not maintained.

In 10.1.5 the Visual Query Builder moves from a separate window into the Data Explorer workspace. The schema tree populates automatically from the configured Dataset DB - no Connect button, no second connection string. The visual canvas, column grid, and live SQL preview remain familiar to anyone who used the 10.1.4 builder.

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What is new in 10.1.5

- **Embedded inside Data Explorer.** The Visual Query Builder lives as a sub-tab of *Data Explorer / SQL Queries*, alongside *Query Execution*. No separate window.
- **Auto-populated schema.** When you click the *Visual Query Builder* sub-tab, the schema tree fills automatically from the Dataset DB selected in the parent *SQL Queries* page. No Connect dialog, no provider picker, no second connection string to maintain.
- **One connection, not two.** The 10.1.4 builder asked for its own database connection separate from the Designer's Dataset DBs. In 10.1.5 the Visual Query Builder reads metadata through FrameworX's own data-access layer, so the DB you already configured in *Datasets / DBs* is the only place a connection is defined.
- **Theme-aware chrome.** Visual Query Builder colors follow the active Designer theme - Light, Dark, and the rest of the FrameworX theme palette - rather than carrying a fixed look.
- **Live SQL preview.** The generated SQL appears in a read-only text pane below the visual canvas. Same real-time behavior as 10.1.4, just laid out vertically inside the embedded tab.

How to open it

1. Open the Designer on your solution.
2. Navigate to **Data Explorer / SQL Queries**.
3. Pick the Dataset DB you want to query in the *Selected Database* area at the top of the page.
4. Click the **Visual Query Builder** sub-tab.

The schema tree on the left populates with the tables and columns of the selected Dataset DB. Drag tables onto the canvas, draw joins between them, and the generated SQL updates live in the read-only pane underneath.

Behavioral changes from 10.1.4

Aspect	10.1.4	10.1.5
Where it runs	Separate window, opened by a button on *Datasets / DBs*	Embedded sub-tab of *Data Explorer / SQL Queries*
Database connection	Visual Query Builder maintains its own connection string and provider picker	Reads metadata from the Dataset DB already configured in the solution
Initial action	Click *Connect*, choose provider, enter data source path	Click the sub-tab; schema appears automatically
Theme	Fixed look, independent of Designer theme	Follows the active Designer theme
SQL output	Generated SQL inside the Visual Query Builder window	Read-only SQL preview pane below the canvas in the embedded tab

The visual canvas, column grid (Visible, Expression, Column Name, Sort Type, Sort Order, Aggregate, Grouping, Criteria, Or), and join semantics are unchanged from 10.1.4 - if you know the older Visual Query Builder, the working surface is the same.

Customizing queries with tag substitution

The 10.1.4 pattern of using Client tags inside SQLStatement and WhereCondition still applies in 10.1.5 unchanged - see the Visual SQL Query Builder Reference for the full description and examples. Nothing about tag substitution, SelectCommand, or the synchronized-property model changed in 10.1.5.

Preview limitations

The 10.1.5 preview build has the following known limitations. They are tracked for the GA release.

- The schema tree initially loads a small fixed sample (Customers, Orders, Products) for end-to-end smoke testing. Real per-Dataset-DB schema discovery using the FrameworX Ado API replaces the sample before GA.
- Some inner builder chrome (the docking panel header strip) keeps a fixed navy palette that does not flip under Dark themes. The query canvas and join lines do follow the theme correctly. The docking panel theming lands in a follow-up update.
- Mid-session theme switches refresh the join-line colors live; some surrounding chrome may need the sub-tab to be reactivated to fully repaint.

In this section...
