

Introduction and Features

Welcome to ImpExp!

Welcome to ImpExp, the professional ASCII import/export tool for Oracle. This program allows you to export and import delimited ASCII files. It is optimized for high performance and unlimited (or very nearly so) data size. This help file is designed to help you get the most out of your Benthic Software purchase.

Important Note:

Remember that you may be using a database which is being accessed by others. Speak to your database administrator before using any database tools. You must understand how data locks, run-away queries, data contention, and other considerations will affect you and other users.

Features:

- High speed ASCII import and export.
- Choice of field and record delimiters as well as field text qualifiers (quotes around text.)
- Choice of how often commits occur.
- Choice of how many rows to transmit at once.
- Can export tables or sql queries.
- Full error logs and status information.
- Can be minimized while running.
- Multiple instances of ImpExp can run concurrently.



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for it to take effect.

Login window

This window is where you login to Oracle. When you login, Benthic Software programs dynamically link to the Oracle libraries needed to connect to your database.

You must supply the following information to login to Oracle:

Username:

This is the username supplied by your DBA. Example: SCOTT

Password:

This is the password supplied by your DBA. It will display as asterisks *. Example: TIGER

Database:

Ask your DBA for the connect string necessary for your database. Generally this will be a database alias setup using SQLNet EasyConfig or Net8 Assistant.

Here are some examples:

benthic	{ Alias created with EasyConfig, etc. }
t:myserver:orcl	{ A SQLNet 1.x database connect string }
beq-local	{ The default local connection for Oracle8 and above }
2:	{ Personal Oracle or local Oracle7 server }

Save This Password:

Checking the Save checkbox will cause your password to be save as an encrypted string so that you don't have to enter it again. **SECURITY ALERT!! Although the Save password option this is very convenient, please discuss security issues with your DBA before you decide to use it.**

More >> (Less <<):

Clicking the LoginList button shows or hides the "Quick Loginlist." This is a list of all of the logins that have ever been made on this machine from any Benthic Software product. Click on an entry to copy the username, password (if you chose to save it in the past) and database into the appropriate fields or double-click an entry to quickly login to that account (if the password was saved.)

Options...:

Click the Options button to see the [Login Options Window](#).

Hints:

Right click the Quick Loginlist to see options to remove entries or clear the list.

Login Options Window

The Login Options Window is where options related to the login window and SQLNet/Net8 troubleshooting are set.

This window contains the following settings:

Set focus to username field on startup:

Sets the focus to the username field when the login window is opened.

Never save passwords:

When checked the option disables the Save This Password option and passwords will never be saved to the registry.

Clear all login information:

Check this option and click 'Ok' to clear all stored login information.

OCI DLL Name:

If login fails and indicates that the registry settings are incorrect or that the oci linking file can't be found, you can use this field to hardcode the correct oci dll. Look in your ORACLE_HOME\bin directory for a file named oraxxx.dll and set this field to that name (i.e. ora805.dll)

Main window

The Main Window consists of the following parts:

Choice of three tab pages:

Click a tab to go to the corresponding page.

Welcome & Options:

The Options area includes all of the general Import/Export Options.

Import to Oracle:

Use this page to load delimited ASCII files into an Oracle table.

Export from Oracle:

Use this page to save an Oracle table or query to a delimited ASCII file.

Options

The Options Window is where most program options are set. Changed options can be just for the current session or can be made the default. The options are:

Delimiter Options:

Field Delimiter: This is the character(s) that separate the fields.

Field Qualifier: This is the type of quote character that can be used around field text.

Record Delimiter: This is the character(s) that separate records.

Default Date format:

This is the date format that will be used by default.

Transfer Array Size:

This is the number of records that get sent to Oracle at once. Note that this number of records must be able to fit into your computer's memory. 20 is a good choice unless your records are large (in which case lower the number.) If your records contain a long field, this setting will be ignored and records will be transferred one at a time.

Commit Size:

The number of records that will be inserted before a commit occurs.

Save Defaults:

This button will save your current option settings to be used every time you start ImpExp. Note that this will also save the Import and Export settings (such as Header Line choice.)

Import to Oracle

The import page has the following controls/options:

Source File:

This is the file to read from.

Destination Table:

This is the table to insert data into.

Delete existing data checkbox:

If this box is checked, **all of the data currently in the table will be deleted**. This is done using the TRUNCATE command which will not work on tables that have foreign keys (you will be notified that this is the case.) If your table can't be truncated, you will have to delete the data using Golden. Remember that deleting large amounts of data can overload Oracle's redo logs, so you may have to delete the table in piecemeal fashion with commits.

Ignore first line in file checkbox:

Check this box if you want to ignore the first line of the import file. This is useful if the file was not created by ImpExp (via an export) and contains a 'header' line. Note that if you check this and the first line is actually a record, it will not be imported.

Start Button:

Click this button to start the import after you have entered the other options. Note that during the import, the only control that is active is the Cancel button. Clicking 'Start' will bring up the [Import Column List Editor](#).

Cancel Button:

Click this button to abort a currently running import. Note that some records may already have been committed.

Status & Log:

This will display status and error information for the currently running import.

Percent done meter:

This meter displays the percent complete for the current import.

Export from Oracle

The export page has the following controls/options:

Table:

Choosing a table creates a default query in the SQL Query edit field. Note that you do not have to choose a table, you can just type or paste an sql query into the sql query field. Also, you are not limited to the tables that appear in the list.

SQL Query:

This field must contain a valid SQL query. You can fill it in automatically by selecting a table, or type or paste in a sql query.

Destination File:

This is the ascii file to write to. It will be overwritten if it already exists.

Header line choices:

No Header Line:

The first line of the file will be data.

ImpExp Header:

The first line of the file will contain data to be used for Importing back to Oracle by ImpExp

Simple Header:

The first line of the file will be the field names from the query delimited like the rest of the file.

Start Button:

Click this button to start the export after you have entered the other options. Note that during the export, the only control that is active is the Cancel button.

Cancel Button:

Click this button to abort a currently running export.

Log:

This will display status and error information for the currently running export.

Import Column List Editor

This window allows you to match up columns in your input file with columns in your table. The columns of the import table are shown in the list on the left and a sample of the columns in the import source file are shown on the right. You may reorder or delete columns in the right side table column list to match the data columns that are in the source file. You may also individually set the import date format for each date column or choose the 'All' button next to the date format entry field to set the current date format for all date columns.

To ignore columns in the source file while importing:

Click the "Add Ignore Column" button (see pointer below) to insert -- IGNORE -- into the column list. Then just drag the IGNORE item to the correct position in the columns. The column list on the left side must have the same number of items as columns in the source file so you need IGNORE items for each column that you want to skip in the source file.



