Windows | Windows 95
Windows 98
Windows NT

NetObjects Fusion™ 4.0

Building Business Web Sites

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Welcome to NetObjects Fusion 4.0

NetObjects Fusion™ 4.0 is a powerful Web site-building tool that helps you design and build full-featured, professional Web sites—without knowing HTML, the HyperText Markup Language used to display pages on the Web. When you preview or publish a site, NetObjects Fusion automatically generates the HTML code your Web browser needs to display pages.

What's In This Guide

This guide contains lessons with step-by-step instructions that provide the quickest path to learning how to build Web sites with NetObjects Fusion 4.0. You'll learn how to publish for the Web, and how to add e-applications and build e-commerce into your Web sites.

This tutorial assumes you have installed NetObjects Fusion 4.0, and that you are familiar with your Microsoft® Windows® operating system and the basic concepts of the World Wide Web.

The lessons in this guide ask you to imagine yourself designing a Web site for commercial use, and show you how to use some of NetObjects Fusion's many features to add content to the site. The *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* describes the complete set of NetObjects Fusion's powerful features.

Follow the steps in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes," to learn the basics of building a Web site with NetObjects Fusion 4.0.

- To do any of the remaining lessons, you must build the site described in Chapter 1.
- You can follow the steps in some or all of the remaining chapters in any order you choose, after building the site in Chapter 1.

Chapter 2, "Touring NetObjects Fusion," shows you how to use the toolbars, palettes, and other development aids in NetObjects Fusion's five views. The first two chapters are especially recommended if you are using the product for the first time.

The remaining lessons show you how to work with many of NetObjects Fusion's new features, and are recommended for those new to the product and those upgrading from previous versions.

If you are upgrading from a previous version of NetObjects Fusion, read Chapter 16, "If You Are Upgrading...," to learn about the many features you'll enjoy when building sites with this new, more powerful version of NetObjects Fusion. If you created sites using previous versions of NetObjects Fusion read this chapter to learn how to migrate your sites to NetObjects Fusion 4.0.

This guide presents all keyboard key names, user interface elements, file names, path names, extensions, HTML tags, and URLs (Universal Resource Locators) in **boldface**. Example names that you should replace with actual names appear in **boldface *italics***.

To learn more about NetObjects Fusion, see your *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide*, check online Help, or visit the NetObjects Web site at **www.netobjects.com**.

About the Sample Sites

NetObjects Fusion 4.0 ships with sample sites for you to explore to see how various features are implemented. These sites are in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites** folder. You can create a new site based on one of these site templates and experiment inside it, without changing the original template.

Instructions for opening a template appear in Chapter 10, "Viewing Sample Sites."

Each chapter contains a "Where to Go From Here" section. Some of these refer you to the sample sites for more examples of the feature described in the chapter.

Building a Site in 10 Minutes

You're the Web site designer for the Sports Jacques sports equipment company. To compete with other sporting goods companies, Sports Jacques wants a Web site that reflects its personality and taste, shows off its products, and provides a channel for customer feedback. You're going to use NetObjects Fusion 4.0 to build the site.

This chapter shows you how to:

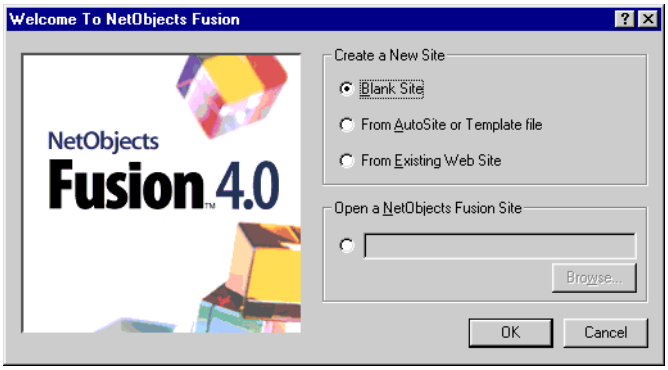
- **Start NetObjects Fusion**
- **Create a new blank site**
- **Add pages**
- **Add a site section**
- **Add text**
- **Add a picture**
- **Set the SiteStyle**
- **Move the MasterBorder and Layout margins**
- **Use highlighted and rollover buttons**
- **Preview a site**
- **Save a site**

Creating a New Blank Site

You start with a new blank site.

1. From the Windows **Start** menu, select **Programs**, **NetObjects, NetObjects Fusion 4.0**, or double-click the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 icon on the desktop.

   The **Welcome To NetObjects Fusion** dialog appears.

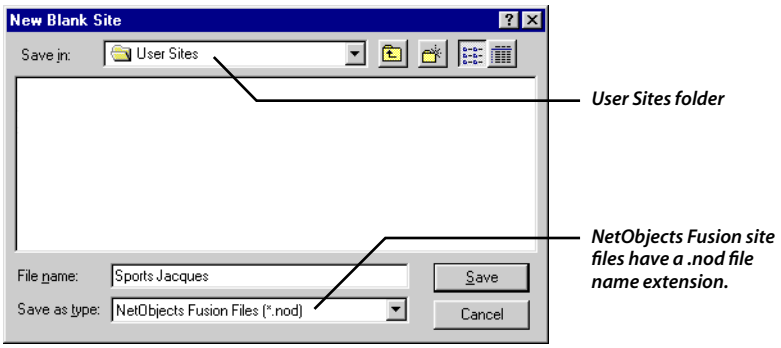


   This is where you choose whether to create a new site or open an existing site.

2. Select **Blank Site**, then click **OK** to display the **New Blank Site** dialog.

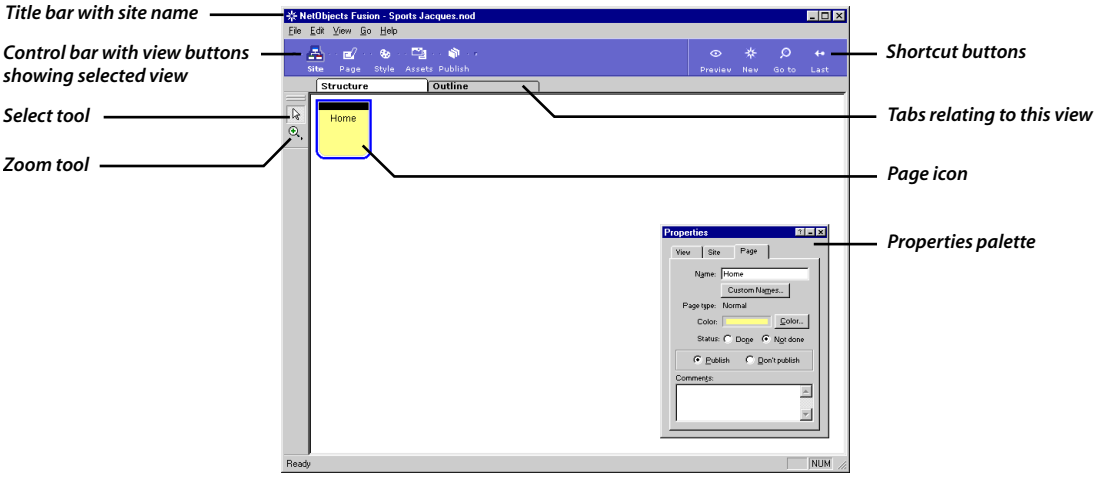
NetObjects Fusion will "Open to most recently used file at startup" if you set this option in the Preferences dialog.

   If NetObjects Fusion opens a site, from the **File** menu choose **New Site**, **Blank Site** to display the **New Blank Site** dialog.



   This is where you name your site file. NetObjects Fusion automatically saves your site in a folder with the same name as the site, inside the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites** folder.

3. In the **File name** field, type **Sports Jacques**, then click **Save.**



If file types are turned off in the Windows Explorer Options dialog, the .nod file extension does not appear.

Notice that NetObjects Fusion automatically appends **.nod** to the site's name to indicate a NetObjects database file.

You use NetObjects Fusion's five views to develop your site. The control bar shows that Site view is selected. This is where you develop your site's structure.

A page icon represents each page in the site. Your new site has one page—the default **Home** page. The blue border shows it is selected.

The **Properties** palette shows the name of the selected object, in this case, the Home page.

For information on any **Properties** palette option, right-click the option label, then click the **What's This?** pop-up.

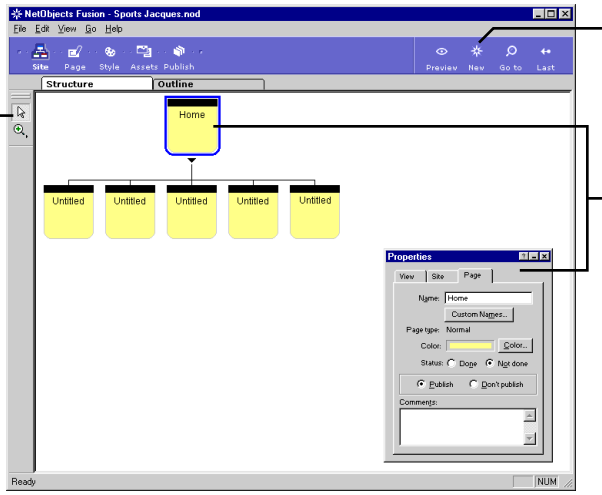
Adding Pages

In Site view you add pages. NetObjects Fusion automatically adds new pages under the selected page.

You add a page for each of five main categories, and a three-page section under the calendar of events category.

1. With the Home page selected, click the **New** button on the control bar five times, to add five pages.

NetObjects Fusion adds five pages under the Home page, and names each page **Untitled**.



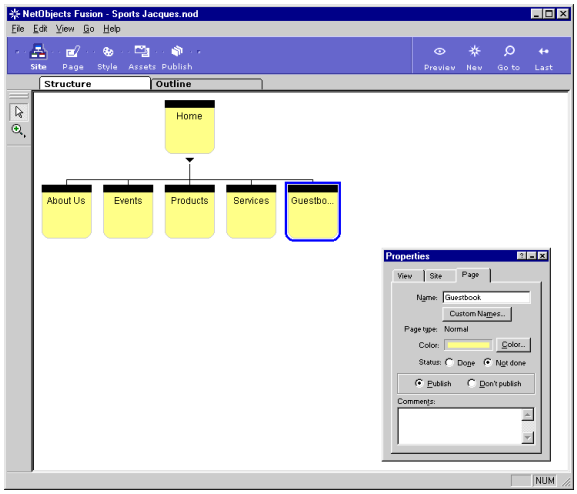
Tool Tip showing

The toolbar on the left shows the **Select** tool is selected.

You can hold the pointer over a tool for a few moments to see a ToolTip. ToolTips tell you the name of each tool in a toolbar.

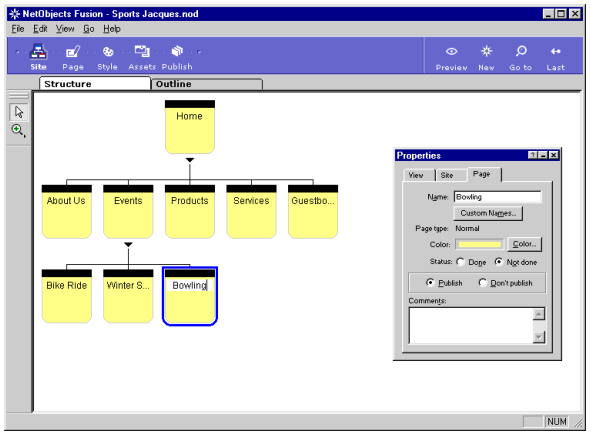
2. On the leftmost page, click **Untitled** to select the page name.
3. Type **About Us**, then press the **Tab** key to select the next page name.
4. Name the remaining four pages **Events**, **Products**, **Services**, and **Guestbook**.
5. Press the **Enter** key to view the final page name on the **Page** tab of the **Properties** palette.

   NetObjects Fusion shows as many characters as will fit on the page icon.



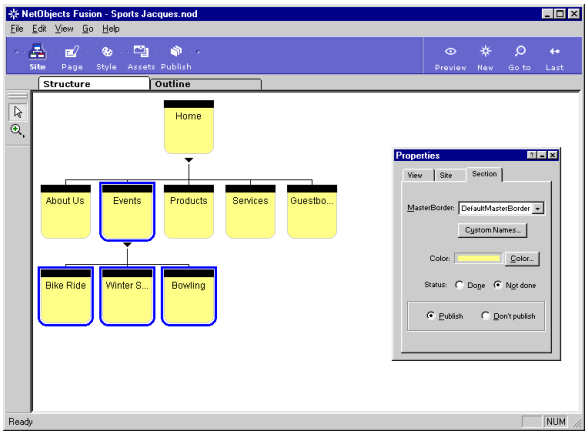
Now you are going to add a section to the site to advertise company and community events.

6. Click the **Events** page to select it.
7. Click the **New** button three times to add three pages under the Events page.
8. Name the three pages **Bike Ride**, **Winter Sale**, and **Bowling**.



9. Click the **Events** page to select it.
10. Choose **Select Section** from the **Edit** menu.

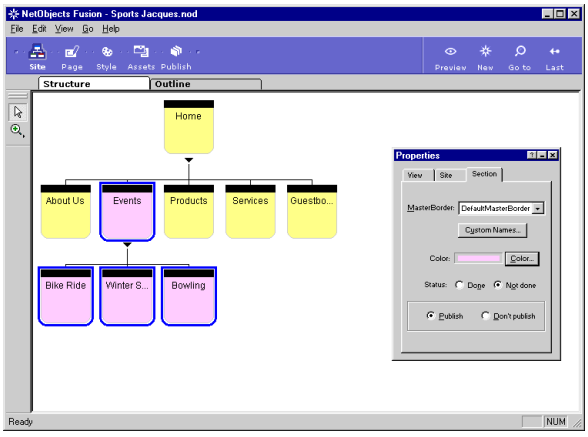
Blue borders surround the page icons to show the selected section. NetObjects Fusion lets you perform certain actions on site sections, such as publishing a section only.



The **Properties** palette shows the **Section** tab.

You can assign a unique color to the section to distinguish it from other pages. You might want to use this type of color coding to indicate pages you still need to work on, for example.

11. Click the **Color** button, select pink from the **Color Picker** dialog, then click **OK**.

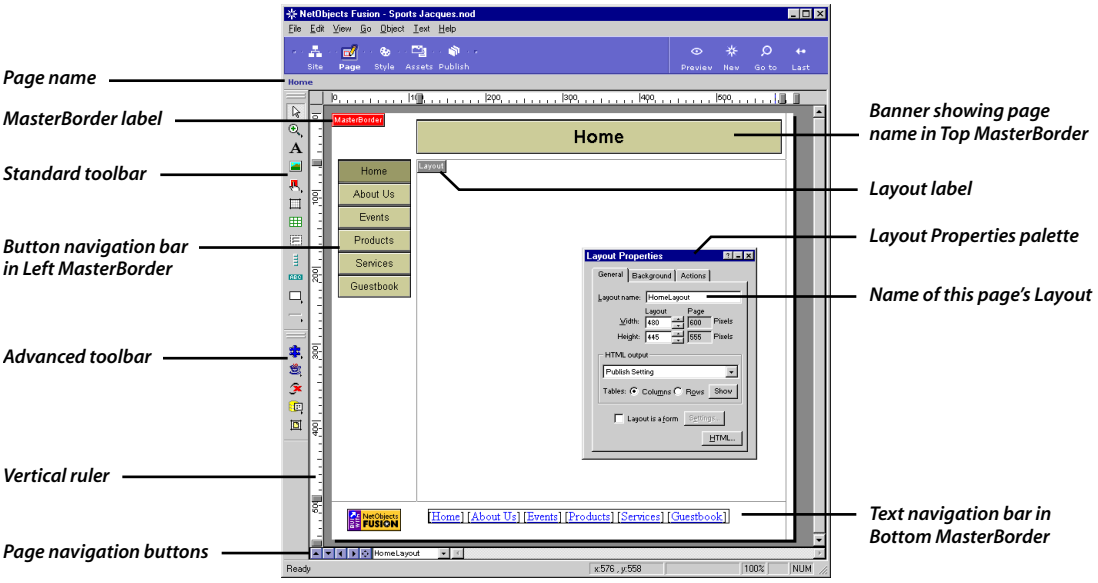


12. Double-click the **Home** page icon to open the Home page in Page view.

Looking at Page View

Page view is where you design and add content to your pages.

- Choose **Grid** from the **View** menu to turn off the default grid.



The **Home** page opens in Page view. By default NetObjects Fusion displays the **Standard** and **Advanced** toolbars docked in the left window border, and the **Properties** palette showing properties of the selected item.

You can drag toolbars away from the window border onto the workspace. You can drag the title bars of toolbars and properties palettes to move them, so yours might appear in a different place on the screen from what you see here.

The MasterBorder works like a header and footer, but on all four sides of the Layout.

Page view is divided into two areas: **MasterBorder** and **Layout**. The MasterBorder is the top, bottom, left, and right margins of the page. The MasterBorder typically contains objects that repeat across many pages, such as navigation bars and banners. Later you will learn how to create and assign a MasterBorder to a range of pages to give them a consistent look. The Layout typically includes the page's unique content.

To select the MasterBorder or Layout area, simply click inside it. When the MasterBorder is selected, its label is red; when the Layout is selected, its label is blue. The **Properties** palette always shows properties of the selected item.

The DefaultMasterBorder includes a banner in the top margin, a button navigation bar in the left margin, and one text navigation bar and the "Built with NetObjects Fusion" logo in the bottom margin. By default, navigation bars contain the names of all pages in the first level of the site, plus the name of the Home page.

Adding Text to the Page

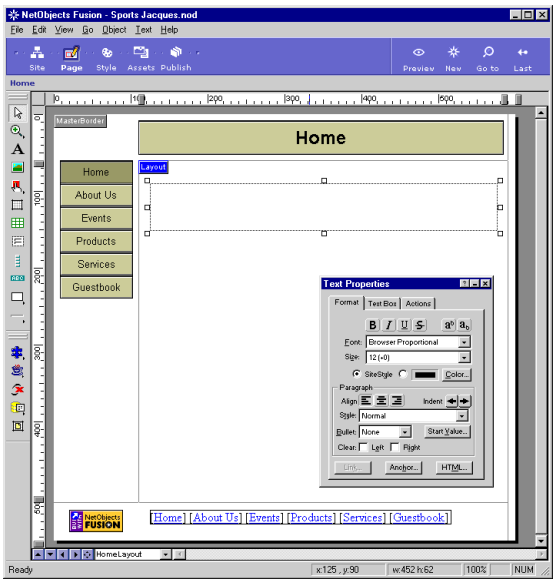
You begin by adding a welcome message to the Home page.

Text tool

1. From the **Standard** toolbar, select the **Text** tool.
2. Drag a text box starting in the top left of the Layout area.

   Don't worry about the height of the box. As you type, the text box grows to accommodate the text, if needed.

You can drag the Properties palette to move it, if necessary.



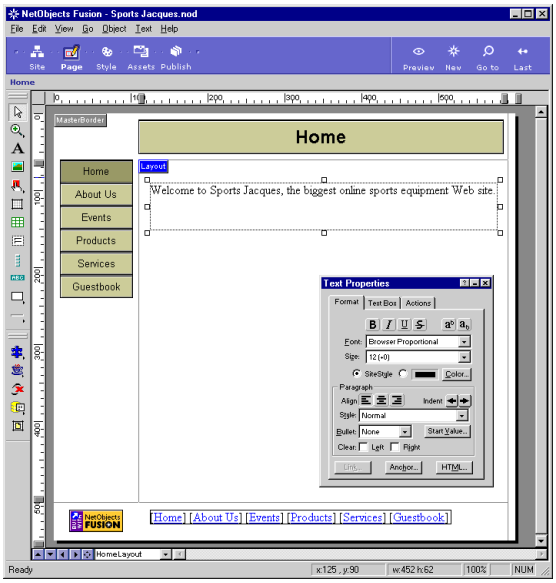
Later you will learn how to change the default banner and navigation bar to a different style.

The text box appears with hollow handles and contains a blinking insertion point. The pointer changes to an I-beam when you move it over the text box, indicating that you can type text.

You can select Undo from the Edit menu to undo any action since the last time you changed views.

3. Type the following text:

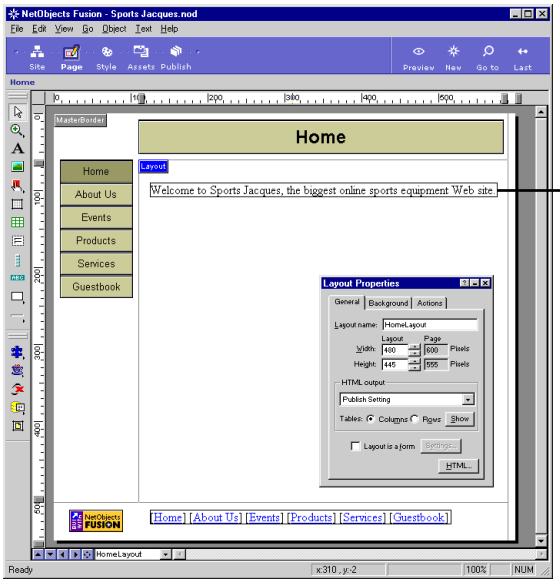
   Welcome to Sports Jacques, the biggest online sports equipment Web site.



   While editing text, the **Text Properties** palette displays the **Format** tab, with options such as **Font**, **Size**, and **Color** that you can use to format selected text.

4. Click outside the text box.

   The text box automatically adjusts to the size of the text, and the hollow handles disappear.



If necessary, to turn on object outlines, select Object Outlines from the View menu.

An outline surrounds the text.

5. Click once anywhere on the text box to select it.

   Solid handles surround the text object to show it is selected.

   When the text object has solid handles, you cannot edit the text, but you can move, resize, or delete the text box.

6. If necessary, drag the text box to center it under the banner.

7. Double-click inside the text box so the hollow handles reappear.

8. Drag through the text to select it.

   The **Text Properties** palette displays the **Format** tab.

Bold icon

9. Click the **Bold** icon.

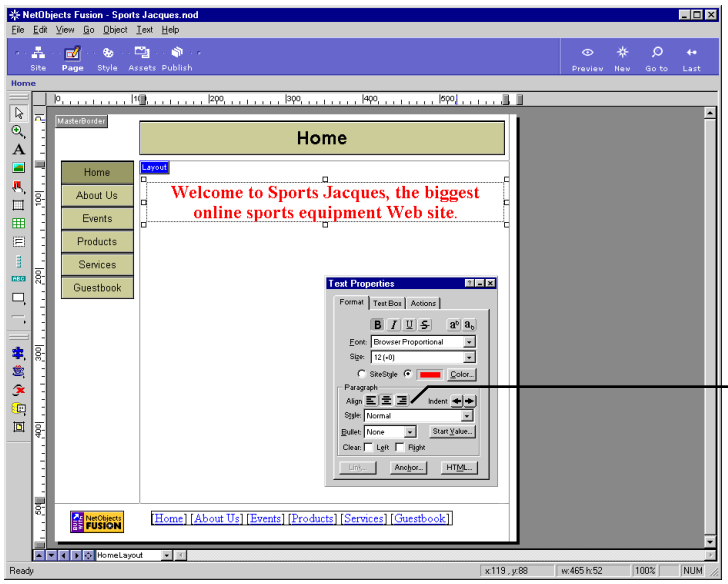
10. In the **Size** field of the **Format** tab, select 18 (+2).

    The text box enlarges to accommodate the text.

11. Again on the **Format** tab, click the **Color** button, select red from the **Color Picker** dialog, then click **OK**.

Align Center icon

12. In the **Paragraph** section of the **Format** tab, click the **Align Center** icon.

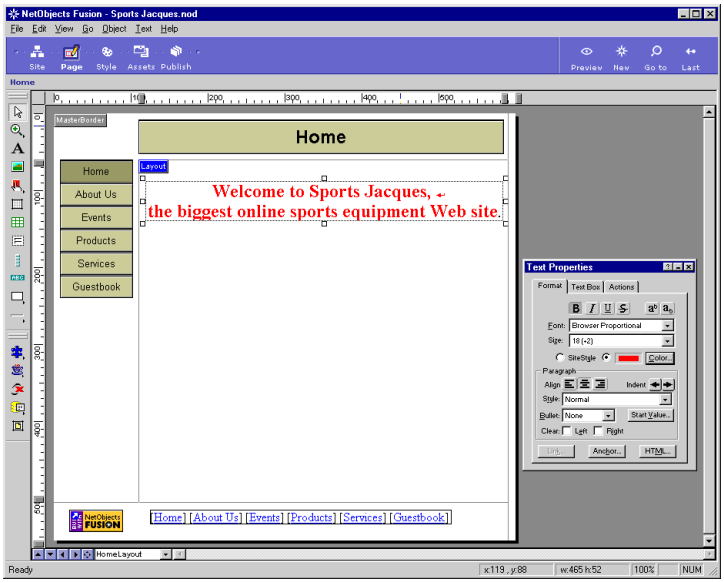


Align icons in Paragraph section of Format tab

The text changes accordingly, but is not arranged exactly the way you want it.

13. Click to place the cursor before the "**t**" in **the**, then hold down the **Shift** key while you press **Enter**.

Shift-Enter inserts a single line instead of the double line inserted by the **Enter** key, and causes this text to wrap in a more attractive arrangement.



14. If necessary, drag a handle to make the box wide enough to accommodate the text on two lines.

15. Click outside the text box.

Adding a Picture

The Sports Jacques art department created a graphic with labels for each section of the site, so you decide to use this graphic on the Home page.

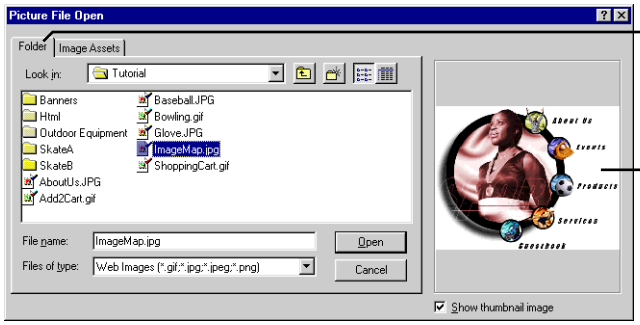
Picture tool

1. From the **Standard** toolbar, select the **Picture** tool.

2. Place the pointer under the text in the Layout area and drag a box.

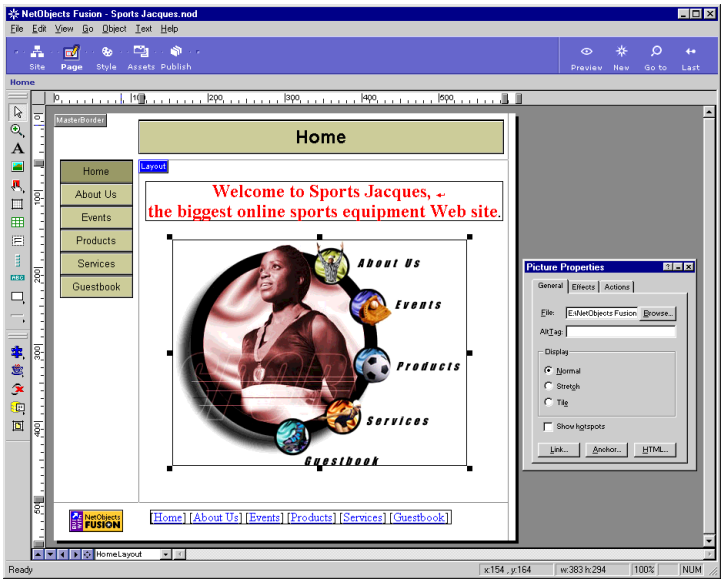
   The size of the box doesn't matter; NetObjects Fusion automatically adjusts the box to fit the picture after you place it.

   The **Picture File Open** dialog appears so you can locate the image you want to place in the picture box.



3. With the **Folder** tab selected, navigate to Sports Jacques' artwork in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder, select **ImageMap.jpg**, then click **Open**.

   The Sports Jacques picture appears selected in the Layout area.



4. Drag the picture to center it under the text.
5. Choose **Save Site** from the **File** menu to save the site.
6. Click the picture to select it.

   When the picture is selected, the properties palette shows **Picture Properties**. You can crop and size pictures by dragging their handles.

Ctrl-drag copies the picture. If you accidentally drag the picture instead of the handle, select Undo Copy Object from the Edit menu, or right-click the copy and select Delete Object from the shortcut menu.

When the **Display** setting is **Normal**, you can drag the handles to crop the picture. When the **Display** setting is **Stretch**, you can drag the handles to resize the picture. Press **Ctrl** to maintain the aspect ratio while you drag a *handle* to resize.

To restore the picture to its original size and shape, right-click it and select **Restore Original Size** from the shortcut menu.

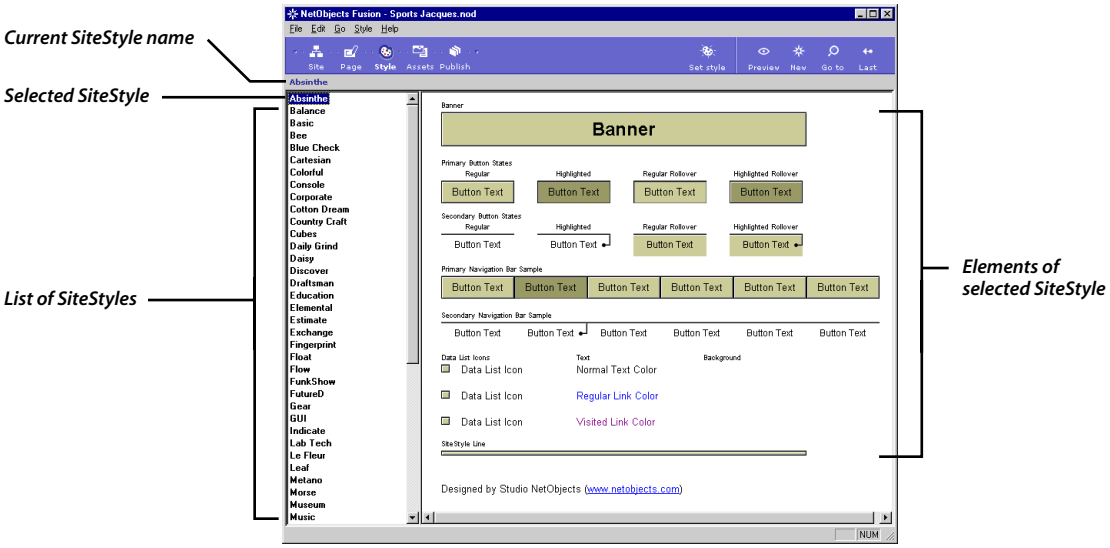
Setting the SiteStyle

A SiteStyle™ is a set of graphic elements used throughout your site to provide a consistent look. SiteStyle elements include the banner and buttons for navigation bars, as well as a type of bullet, a line, and colors for linked text.

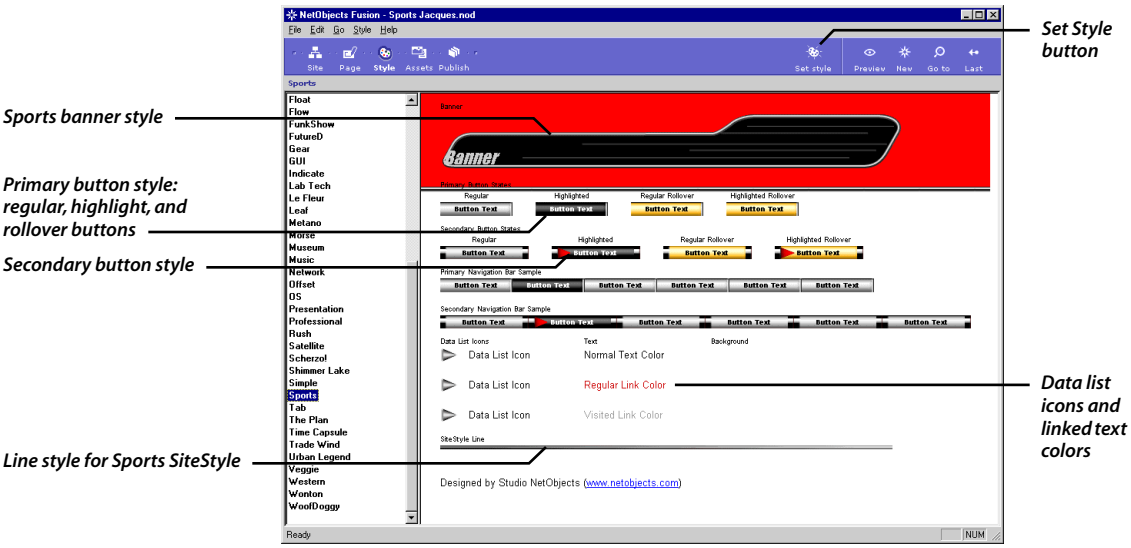
The default SiteStyle doesn't reflect your company's image. Fortunately, the **Sports** SiteStyle is available.

1. Click the **Style** button on the control bar to go to Style view.

   Style view displays the elements of the currently selected SiteStyle, which is the default **Absinthe** SiteStyle.



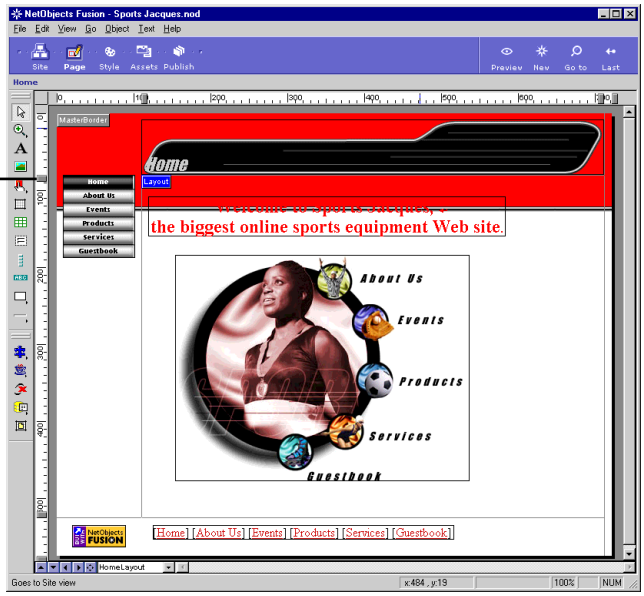
2. Scroll down and select **Sports** in the list of SiteStyles.



3. Click the **Set style** button on the control bar.
4. Click **OK** to close the confirmation message.
5. Click the **Page** button in the control bar.

   The Home page appears in Page view, displaying the banner and button navigation bar in the Sports SiteStyle.

Handle for top MasterBorder margin



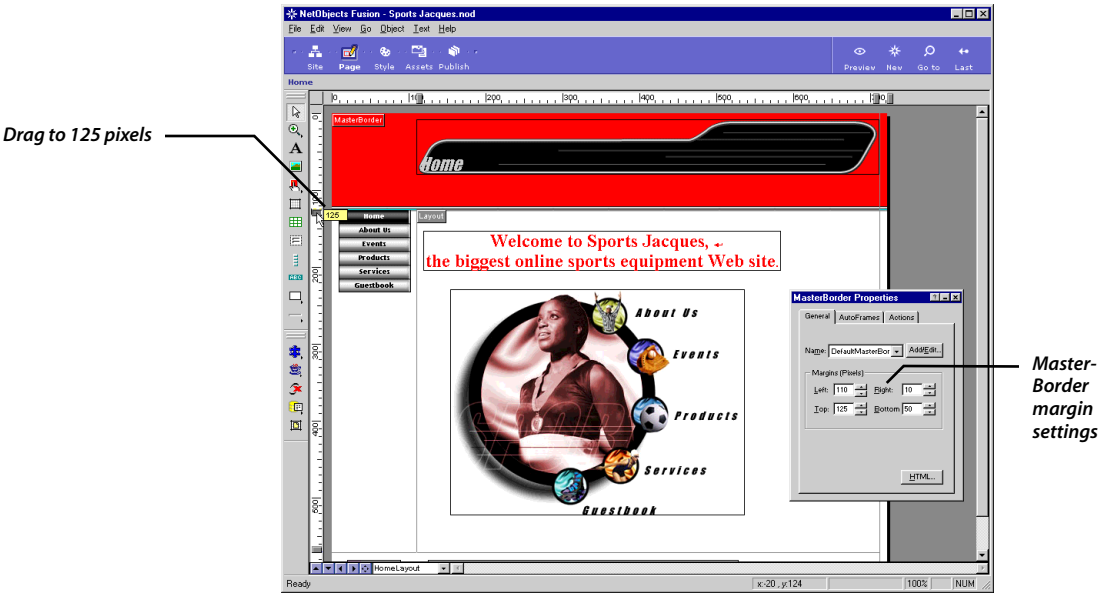
The SiteStyle has a two-tone background. The upper part of the background is red, and it extends below the top MasterBorder margin.

6. Drag the handle for the top MasterBorder margin downward until the ToolTip says **125** pixels, and the margin guide is even with the bottom of the red part of the background.

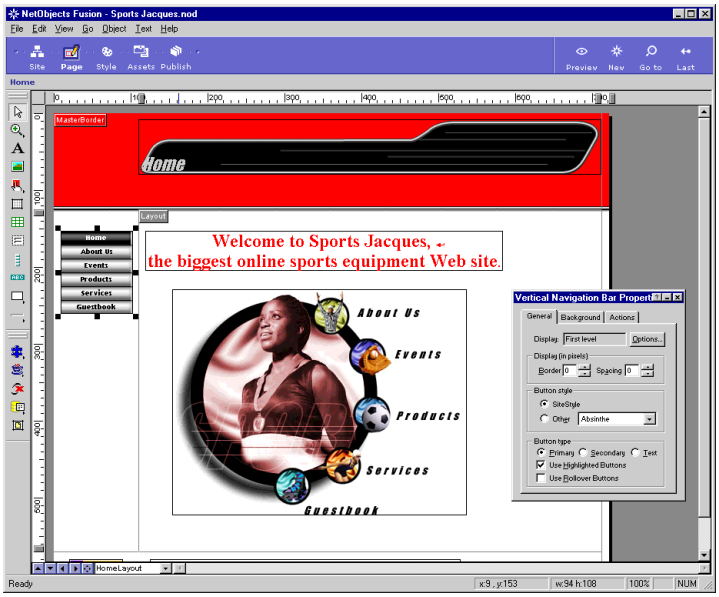
   All the objects under the top margin move down when you release the mouse button. The Layout and the objects in it move completely onto the white part of the SiteStyle background.

7. Click inside the MasterBorder to display the **MasterBorder Properties**.

   Notice that the **Top Margin** field of the **General MasterBorder Properties** now shows **125** pixels as the top margin depth. The **Left**, **Right**, **Top**, and **Bottom** margin fields show the number of pixels in each margin.



8. Drag the button navigation bar downward until it is even with the top of the text box.

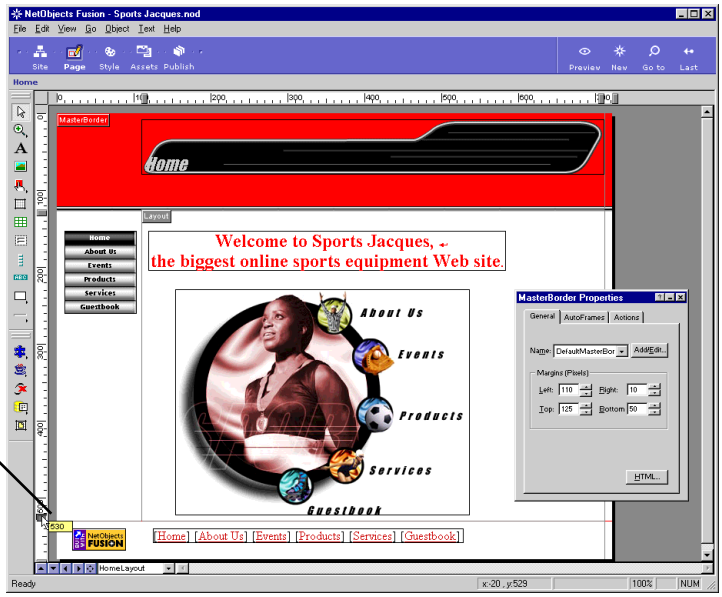


9. With the button navigation bar selected, the **Properties** palette shows **Vertical Navigation Bar Properties**.

10. On the **General** tab, in the **Button type** section, select **Use Rollover Buttons**.

    - **Rollover** buttons change to the rollover button shown in Style view as site visitors pass the pointer over them in a Web browser.
    - **Highlighted** buttons, selected by default, show the highlighted button style for the page being viewed in a browser.
    - This button navigation bar is using the **Primary** button style as specified in the Sports SiteStyle.

11. Drag the handle for the bottom of the Layout upward, until the ToolTip says **530** pixels, and the Layout margin is close to the bottom of the image.



In Chapter 3, "Designing the Home Page," you'll learn how to edit SiteStyle elements.

Previewing Your Site

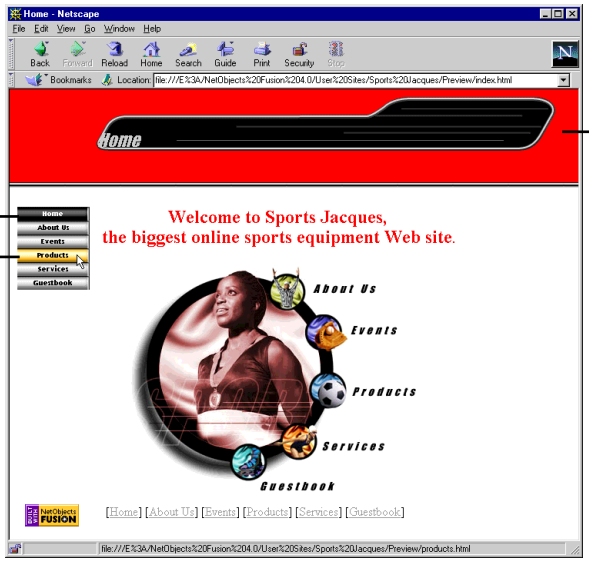
You must have a Web browser installed on your computer to preview your site.

You accomplished a lot in a short time, and you want to see how your site looks in a Web browser. NetObjects Fusion helps you check your work by previewing it in a browser as you develop your site.

- To preview your site, click the **Preview** button on the control bar.

  The **Previewing Site** dialog appears showing progress messages as NetObjects Fusion generates HTML for your pages.

  NetObjects Fusion launches your Web browser and displays the page from which you started the preview.



Later you will learn how to select a different browser for previewing. Because of NetObjects Fusion's "Everywhere HTML" feature, your site looks the same in the most popular browsers, regardless of platform or version.

The other pages have no content yet, but you can click the navigation buttons to view the pages and their style elements.

Notice that all the MasterBorder margins are the same as the Home page. This is because, as shown in the **MasterBorder Properties** palette, all pages are currently assigned the **DefaultMasterBorder**.

When you are done previewing, you can minimize or close the browser, or simply make NetObjects Fusion the active window again.

Saving Your Site and Exiting

If you decide to take a break and continue building the site later, save your site and exit NetObjects Fusion.

- To save your site manually at any time, select **Save Site** from the **File** menu.
- To exit NetObjects Fusion, select **Exit** from the **File** menu.
- To continue the lessons now, simply save your site and do not exit the program.

To view the Preferences dialog, select Preferences from the Edit menu.

The **Backup** tab of the **Preferences** dialog contains an option to **Compact database upon exit**. When this option is selected NetObjects Fusion automatically compresses the site to occupy less disk space, and verifies the integrity of your site file.

Where To Go From Here

You have just seen how easy it is to create a site for publishing on the Web with NetObjects Fusion. Chapter 2, "Touring NetObjects Fusion 4.0," shows you how to open your site and acquaints you with NetObjects Fusion's five views, its toolbars, properties palettes, and other basic elements of the program. Familiarity with the basic parts of NetObjects Fusion will help you immediately begin using its features to enhance your Web sites.

Touring NetObjects Fusion

This chapter takes you on a tour through NetObjects Fusion's five views and provides an overview of what you can do in each view.

To see the items in this tour you must have followed the steps in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes," to create the Sports Jacques site you'll open and explore.

This chapter gives you information about:

- **Opening your site**
- **Site view**
- **Standard toolbar**
- **Properties palette**
- **Site view menus**
- **Setting preferences**
- **Outline view**
- **Page view**
- **Page view menus**
- **Layout properties**
- **MasterBorder properties**
- **Rulers and guides**
- **Site navigation window**
- **Links**
- **Style view**
- **Assets view**
- **Publish View**

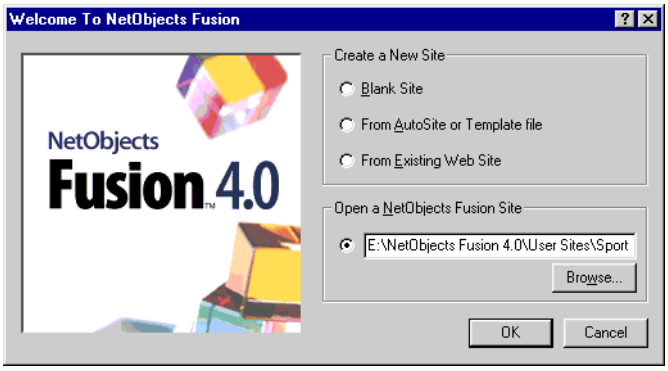
Opening Your Site

You are ready to start NetObjects Fusion and continue developing your site.

1. Start NetObjects Fusion 4.0.

   Note: If NetObjects Fusion is already started, you can choose **Sports Jacques.nod** from the list of four most recently opened sites on the **File** menu. If the site is not on the list, choose **Open** from the **File** menu, then go directly to step 3. If the Sports Jacques site is already open, go directly to the next section, "Site View."

   NetObjects Fusion displays the **Welcome To NetObjects Fusion** dialog.

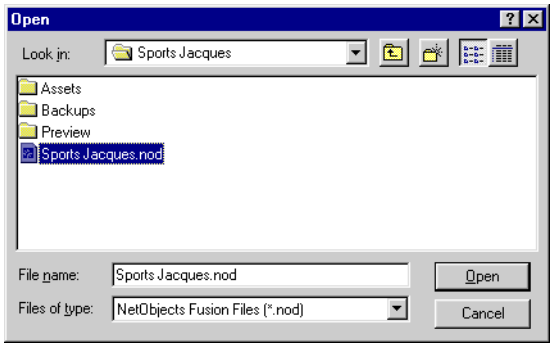


2. Click **Open a NetObjects Fusion Site**.

   The text box shows the path to the last saved site.

3. If necessary, click the **Browse** button and navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\ Sports Jacques** folder, then select the file **Sports Jacques.nod**.

If your system is set to hide file name extensions, the site name will not show the .nod extension.



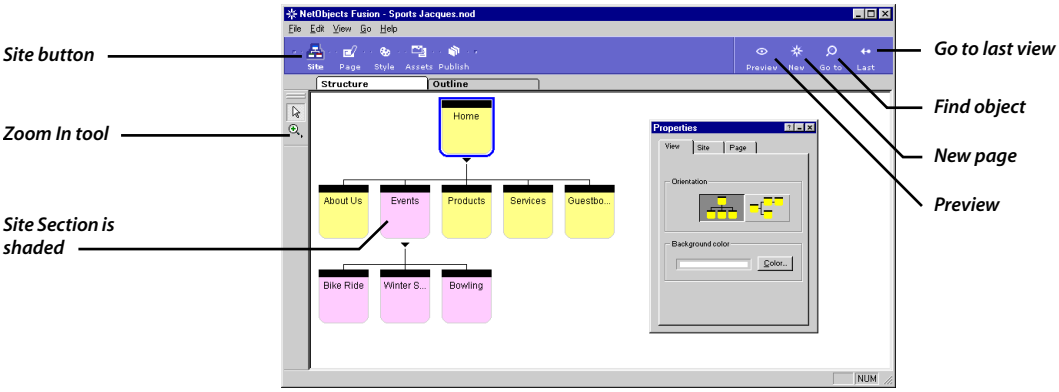
4. If necessary, click **Open** in the **Open** dialog, then click **OK**.

   The Sports Jacques site opens to the last view where you worked.

Site button

Site View

- Click the **Site** button on the control bar to go to Site view.



Select Print from the File menu to print the SiteStructure starting with the selected page.

Site view is where you build and edit the structure of your site.

The control bar contains icons for each of NetObjects Fusion's five views, plus buttons to preview, create a new page, search for any named object, and go to the last view.

Standard Toolbar

By default the **Standard** toolbar is docked when you first start NetObjects Fusion.

You can use the **Zoom In** tool to enlarge the size of the page icons. Press the tool and select the **Zoom Out** tool from the flyout to reduce the size of the page icons.

You can drag any NetObjects Fusion toolbar by its double bar to undock it. Once undocked, you can drag the title bar to move the toolbar, double-click the title bar to dock it, or click the Close box to close it. To view the toolbar again, choose **Standard Tools** from the **View** menu.

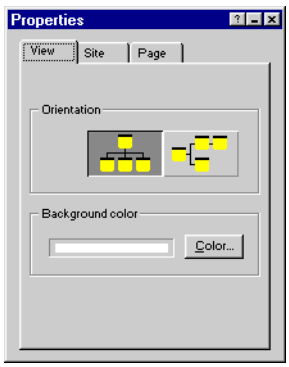
The next time you start NetObjects Fusion, the toolbar appears where it was when you exited the program.

Properties Palette

By default the **Properties** palette is open when you start NetObjects Fusion. You can drag the title bar to move it, double-click the title bar to minimize it, and click the Close box to close it. When closed, you can view it again by choosing **Properties Palette** from the **View** menu.

Like the toolbar, the **Properties** palette appears where you leave it when you exit and restart the program.

Press the F3 Function key to show and hide the Properties palette.



To learn about any option on the **Properties** palette, either:

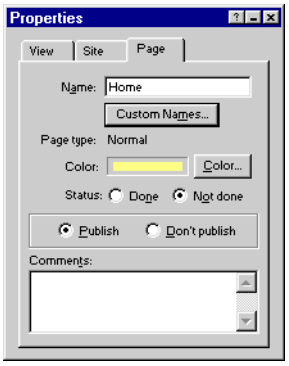
- Click the question mark icon, then click an option label.
- Right-click an option label, then click the **What's This?** pop-up.

The **Properties** palette changes to give you information on the object you select.

In Site view, the **View** tab of the **Properties** palette shows the orientation of the page icons. Here you can click the vertical icon to see the page icons arranged vertically, or choose a different background color for the window.

The **Site** tab of the **Properties** palette shows the site name, dates, number of pages, and the author name, if you type it in the **Author name** field.

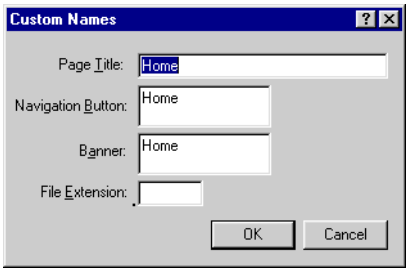
The **Page** tab is where you set properties for the selected page.



The **Name** field shows the page's name. You can use the **Page** tab to change the page's name, set page status, and add comments.

By default the page name appears on the banner and navigation button for the page in Page view. To set a custom name for the banner or button, click the **Custom Names** button and type a new name in the **Banner** or **Navigation Button** field. You can also open this dialog using the **Custom Names** command on the Page view **Edit** menu.

To type a two-line button or banner name, press Enter after the first line.



To restore the original name you must retype it in the **Custom Names** dialog.

Menus

The menus change depending on the view. The commands available in Site view are generally available in other views, in addition to other commands.

Site wizards are available only if you selected these components during installation.

- The **File** menu contains commands to open and save sites, launch site wizards, import and export sites and templates, and print your site's structure.
- The **Edit** menu contains commands to delete, copy, select a site section, create a new page, edit custom names, and set preferences.
- The **View** menu contains commands to show and hide the toolbars and palettes.
- The **Go** menu contains commands to show all views, search for a named object, go to a particular page, go to the last view, select from a list of recent pages, and preview.

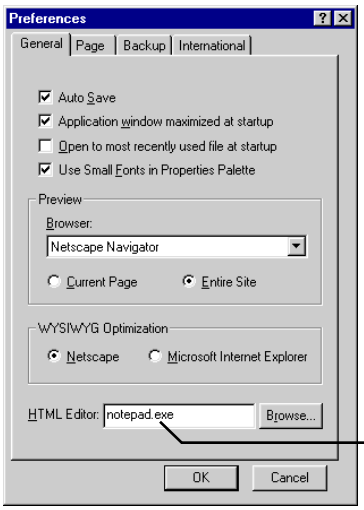
You must be online to use some of the commands on the Help menu.

- The **Help** menu contains commands to launch the NetObjects Fusion Help system, register online, go to various pages on the NetObjects Web site, and visit the eFuse Magazine Web site, an online magazine dedicated to helping you build your Web site. You can also obtain version number and copyright information.

Setting Preferences

1. Choose **Preferences** from the **Edit** menu.

   The **Preferences** dialog appears showing the **General** tab.



If you installed Allaire HomeSite, it will appear as your default HTML Editor.

The **General** tab contains settings for the site.

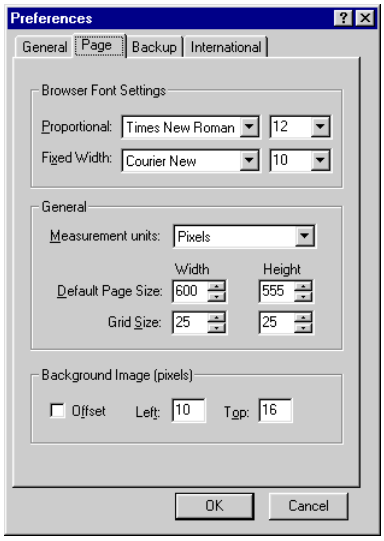
- When **Auto Save** is selected, NetObjects Fusion saves your site each time you change the page or view, open a different site, or exit.
- In the **Preview** section you select the default browser to launch when previewing your site.
- NetObjects Fusion launches the editor specified in the **HTML Editor** field when you double-click a referenced HTML file in Page view.

This way, if you need to, you can close your site without saving changes. When you create your own sites, if you do not want to save manually, select this option.

2. Click the **Auto Save** check box to clear it.

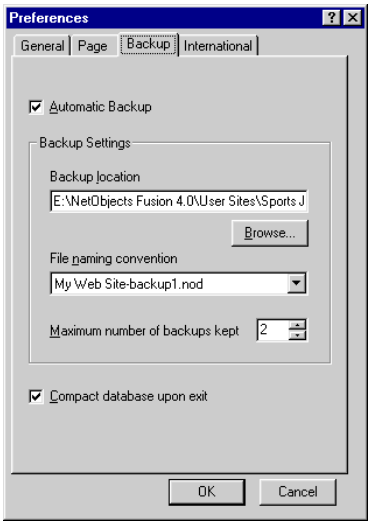
   For the remainder of this tutorial you can save your site manually using the **Save Site** command on the **File** menu.

3. Click the **Page** tab.



   The **Page** tab shows the default fonts to display in the browser, the default measurement unit, the default page width and height for new pages you add, and the default placement for a background image if your pages contain one.

4. Click the **Backup** tab.



By default NetObjects Fusion automatically creates a backup of your site file under the location and name specified.

By default NetObjects Fusion compacts your site file when you exit the site.

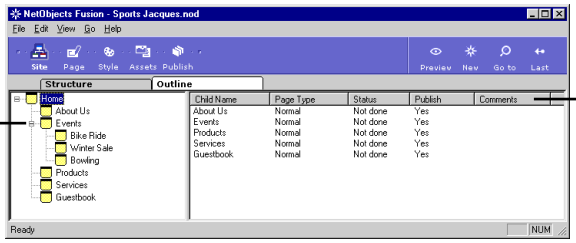
The **International** tab contains format settings for the date and time, decimal notation, spelling dictionary, language sort order, and character set to use for imported HTML.

5. Click **OK**.
6. Save your site to register the **Auto Save** change.

Outline View

1. Click the **Outline** tab under the control bar.

   The site structure appears in Outline view, showing the status of the selected page, or of each page under the selected page.



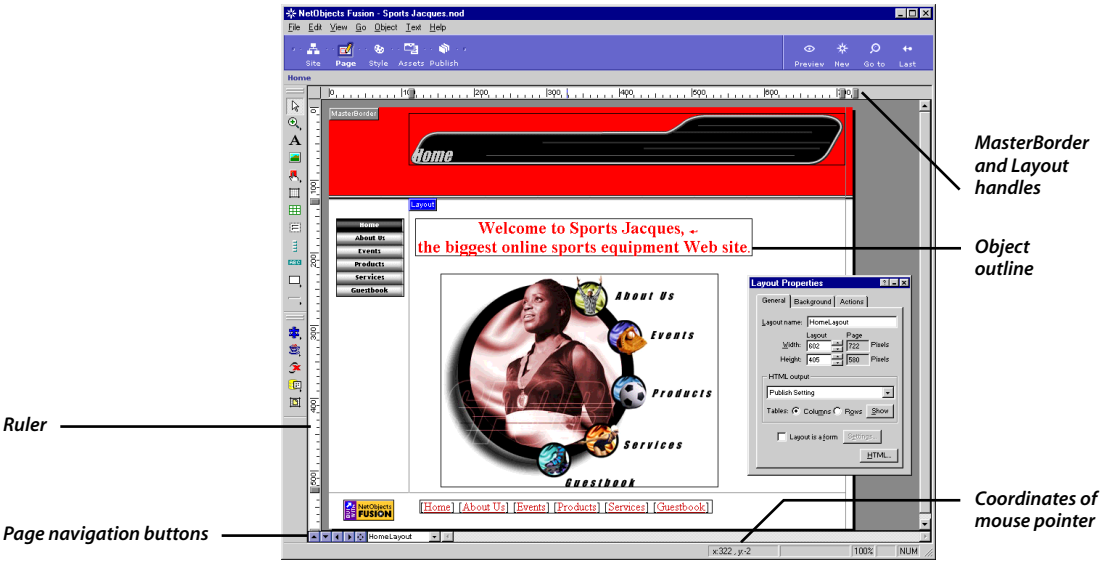
- To expand and collapse the view, click the plus or minus sign next to a page.
- To sort by column, click the column heading.
- To restore the original order, click the Home page icon.

2. Click the **Structure** tab to return to Structure view.
   - To collapse this view, click the triangle under a page.
   - To expand this view, click the plus sign under a page.

Page View

Page view is where you design your layout, add content, and set up MasterBorders.

- Select the **Home** page icon, then click the **Page** button on the control bar to go to Page view.

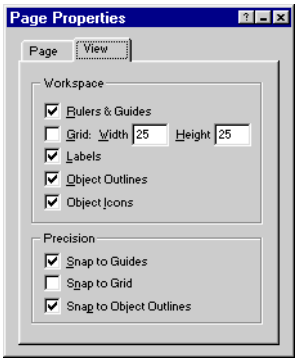


Page View Menus

In Page view, the **File** menu includes commands to import or reference an HTML page.

Page view's **Edit** menu contains the **Undo** command that you can use to undo most actions since you last switched the page or view. It includes commands to select the next and previous object, Layout, MasterBorder, and page, as well as commands to find and replace text and check spelling. The **Edit** menu also contains the **Custom Names** command that you use to set custom banner and button names.

- Choose **Page View Options** from the **View** menu, or press the **F12** key, to display the **Page Properties** palette.



  - The **View** tab contains options to show and hide rulers and guides, grid, labels, object outlines, and object icons, as well as options to set the snap on guides, grid, and object outlines. It also includes an option to set the grid width and height.
  - The **Page** tab is similar to the **Page Properties** tab in Site view, where you set properties such as the page name, custom banner and button name, and page status.

The **View** menu contains commands to show and hide Page view's toolbars, Properties palette, Object Tree, MasterBorder, page labels, object outlines, object icons, rulers, guides, and the grid. Use this menu to control snapping to guides, grid, and object outline, and to change the zoom factor.

Use the **Go** menu to go to each NetObjects Fusion view, the next, previous, parent, and child page, and follow a selected link to its destination.

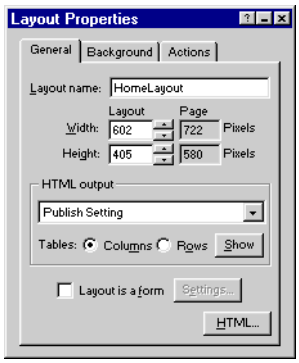
Use the **Object** menu to perform actions on selected objects, such as aligning, arranging, sizing, showing, hiding, linking, and adding HTML scripts. You can use this menu to manipulate tables and open selected files in an external editor, such as a paint program.

Use the **Text** menu to show non-printing text such as paragraph and line break characters, edit text styles, and insert objects, HTML, symbols, and fields into selected text.

Layout Properties

- Click the Layout to select it, so the Layout label turns blue and the **Layout Properties** appear.

  The **Layout Properties** contains three tabs.



  The **General** tab contains the layout name, which by default is the same as the page name. This tab also contains the layout width and height, which you can change, and shows you the resulting page width and height, which adjusts automatically. The page width or height is the sum of the Layout plus the MasterBorder dimension. Changing the Layout size does not change the MasterBorder size; it changes the page size.

  You can use the **HTML output** section to specify the HTML standard you want to use to publish this Layout, if it is different from the **Publish Setting** selected for the whole site in Publish view.

  - **Regular Tables** supports the lowest common denominator of browsers. These pages achieve the least layout accuracy but the greatest browser compatibility.

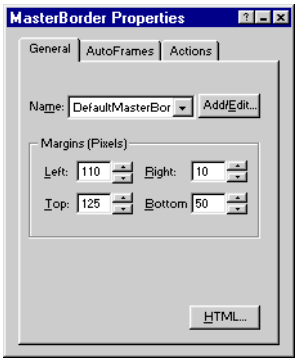
- **Nested Tables** supports Netscape Navigator™ 2.01 and above and Microsoft Internet Explorer 2.1 and above. These pages achieve the highest level of layout accuracy across all browsers.
- **CSSP + Layers** supports Netscape Navigator 4.0 and above, and Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 and above. This option is suggested when using NetObjects Fusion's actions feature, and is required for layered or overlapping objects. This option achieves the highest level of layout accuracy across 4.x browsers and above.
- **Layers** produces code specific to Netscape Navigator 4.x and above.
- **CSSP** produces code specific to Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.x and above.

The **Background** tab is where you select the color, picture, or sound for the Layout background.

The **Actions** tab is where you can assign an action, such as a transition or motion, to the Layout when it is displayed in the browser.

MasterBorder Properties

- Click in the MasterBorder so the MasterBorder label is red and the **MasterBorder Properties** appear.



The **General** tab contains the name of the MasterBorder assigned to the current page, and a button to add and edit MasterBorders.

This tab also shows the size of the **Left**, **Right**, **Top**, and **Bottom** MasterBorder margins, which you can change here. Changing these dimensions can change the page size, but does not change the Layout size.

The **AutoFrames** tab is where you turn on frames for each MasterBorder margin, and the **Actions** tab is where you assign actions to the MasterBorder.

Rulers, Handles, and Guides

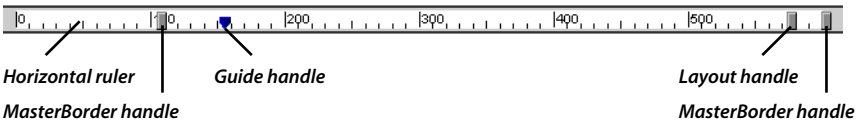
The rulers appear in the unit of measurement set on the **Page** tab of the **Preferences** dialog, accessed from the **Edit** menu. The default is pixels. The horizontal top ruler shows the page width, which is 600 pixels when set to the default. The vertical side ruler shows the page height, which is 555 pixels when set to the default.

Do not drag Layout or MasterBorder handles at this time.

Each ruler contains two MasterBorder handles, one at either end, and one Layout handle between them.

You can create and drag guide handles if you want.

You can click the ruler where you want to create a new guide. Guides are a different shape from MasterBorder and Layout handles.



- MasterBorder and Layout handles change the MasterBorder margin and Layout size.
- Guides help you check the alignment of objects.

Guides are color-coded:

- When the MasterBorder is selected, guides you create are red and appear for all pages with the current MasterBorder.
- When the Layout is selected, guides you create are blue, and appear only on the current page.

Drag guides to move them:

- To move a guide, drag its handle.
- To delete a guide, drag its handle off the ruler.

Use MasterBorder and Layout handles to change margins and Layout width:

- To change the MasterBorder margin, drag one of the MasterBorder handles.
- To change the Layout width, drag the Layout handle.

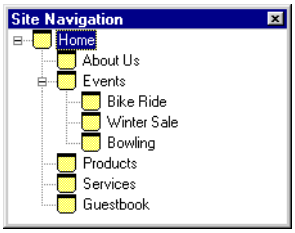
Use the **Undo** command on the **Edit** menu to restore margin positions.

Note: You cannot drag a margin handle if the margin or Layout will become too small to accommodate an object inside it, such as a banner or button navigation bar.

Site Navigation Window

Site Navigation Window button

- Click the blue **Site Navigation Window** button at the bottom of the Page view window to open the **Site Navigation** window.



You can double-click a page in this window to display it.

Site Navigation buttons

You can use the other page navigation buttons to move up, down, left, and right one level or page in the site hierarchy.

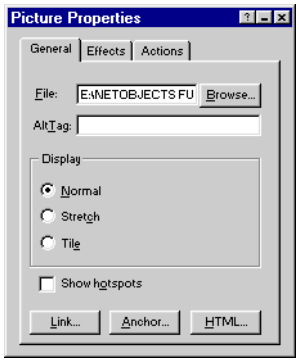
Links

1. Select the "Built with NetObjects Fusion" logo in the bottom MasterBorder of the Home page.

Link icon

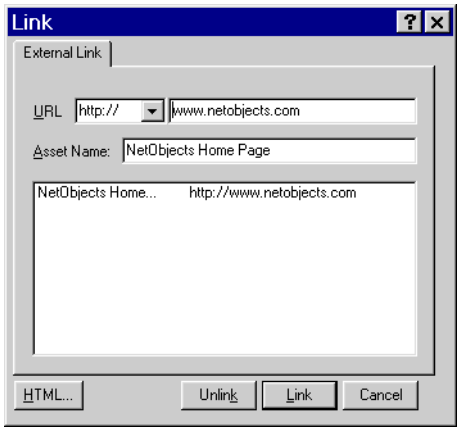
Notice the small blue and white symbol in this image. This is the **Link** icon; it means this image has a link associated with it. This and other object icons are visible when **Object Icons** is selected on the **View** menu.

When you select the image, the **Picture Properties** appear.



2. On the **General** tab, click the **Link** button.

   The **Link** dialog appears, displaying the **External Link** tab.



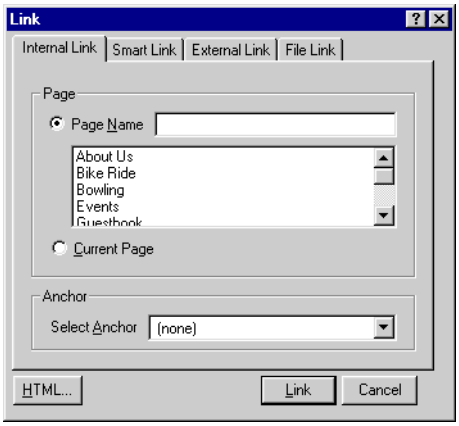
   The information on this tab tells you that when site visitors click this NetObjects Fusion logo, their browser will take them to a URL external to your site—in this case the NetObjects Home page at **www.netobjects.com**.

3. Click **Cancel**.

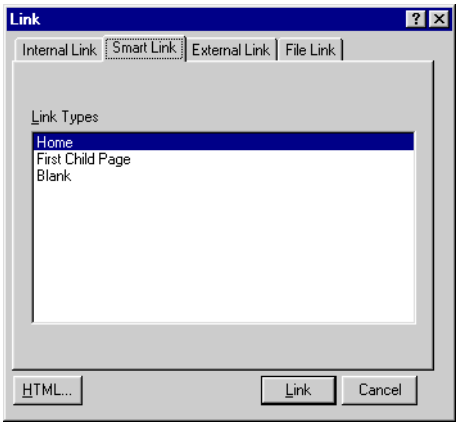
4. Select the **Imagemap.jpg** picture.

5. Click the **Link** button.

   Because this picture has no assigned link, the **Link** dialog shows all the available linking options.



An internal link is a link to a page in your site.



A smart link is a link relative to the current page, such as up a level, next page, and previous page. When Home is the current page these choices are limited.

The **File Link** tab is where you enter the path and file name of a file to download into the browser window when the site visitor clicks the link.

6. Click **Cancel** to exit the dialog.

Style View

Style button

- Click the **Style** button to go to Style view.

If you followed the steps in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes," you have already seen how to view and assign NetObjects SiteStyles in Style view.

You can also create your own SiteStyles and edit existing SiteStyles in this view.

The **Style** menu contains commands to create a new style, add and remove styles, update the list of SiteStyles, and edit style elements.

In Style view, the control bar contains the **Set Style** button, which you use to assign the style you are viewing to your site.

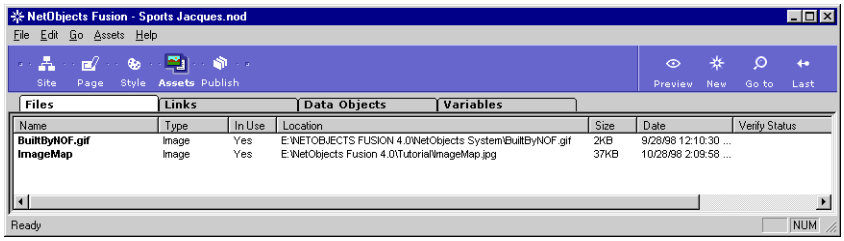
Assets View

Asset button

Assets view is where you manage all the assets in your site. Assets are any file you place in your site, such as files containing, images, sounds, movies, and so on.

1. Click the **Assets** button on the control bar.

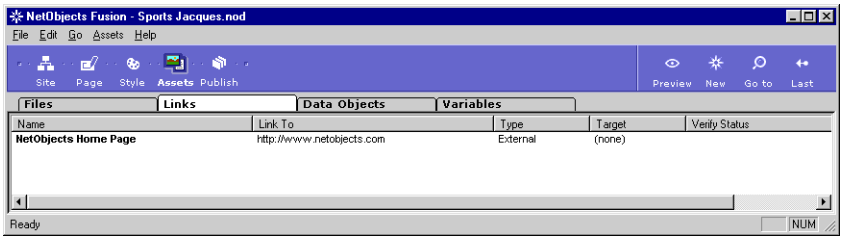
   Assets view appears with the **Files** tab selected.



   The Files view shows all file assets known to the site. The columns in this view tell you the asset's file name, its type, whether it is currently in use, its path, size, and creation date. The **Verify Status** column reports the results of the **Verify All File Assets** command on the **Assets** menu, and tells you whether the asset is actually in the location specified by the path.

   You can click a column heading to sort by that heading, and drag column dividers to change the column widths.

2. Click the **Links** tab.



The Links view lists all the links currently registered in the site.

Although the button and text navigation bars contain links, these are managed internally by NetObjects Fusion and are not listed here.

The only link currently assigned in this site is the external link, **NetObjects Home Page**, which you examined when you selected the "Built with NetObjects Fusion" logo in "Links" on page 2-14.

The **Data Objects** and **Variables** tabs show data objects and variables used in the site. The default entries are a data object named **Sample** and a variable named **Address**.

The **Assets** menu varies slightly depending on the selected tab. Generally it contains commands to add a new asset, delete all unused file assets, open an asset, and verify all assets.

Publish View

Publish view is where you set up publishing parameters and select whether to publish locally to your computer as a test platform, or remotely to a Web server.

With NetObjects Fusion you can specify the directory structure you want to publish to your Web server. This structure will be created in the special Publish directory when you publish.

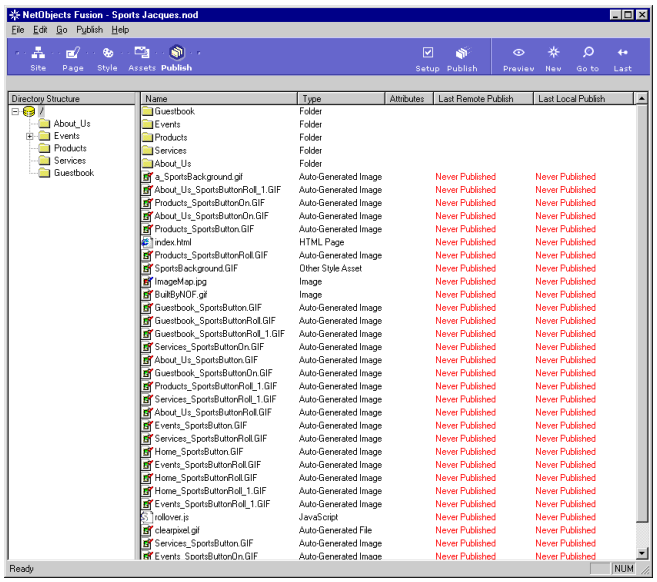
You can also specify the HTML output option you want to use. NetObjects Fusion can output HTML suitable for any version of Web browser.

The Publish view control bar contains **Setup** and **Publish** buttons, which open dialogs where you set up publishing parameters and select your Web server for publishing.

These buttons open the same dialogs as the **Publish Setup** and **Publish Site** commands on the **Publish** menu.

Publish button

1. Click the **Publish** button to go to Publish view.



The Publish view window shows the directory structure that will be uploaded to your server in the left pane, and descriptive information in the right.

This view shows publishing by page (**By Site Section** option), where all the **.html** and asset files for a given page are in a directory of the same name, and the **index.html** file, and all banners, buttons, and other NetObjects Fusion files are in the root.

The columns show the file name of the asset or **.html** file, its type, attributes, and publishing status. Files labeled **Auto-Generated Image** are the banner and button images containing page names that are automatically generated by NetObjects Fusion.

You can also choose to publish to a flat directory structure, where all assets and files are in one directory, or by asset type, where assets are in one directory and **.html** files are in another. Finally, you can create your own custom directory structure.

NetObjects Fusion 4.0 lets you publish the entire site, just a selected section, or even just a single page.

The **Publish** menu contains the **Publish Setup** and **Publish Site** commands, which duplicate the control bar buttons, as well as commands to create a new folder, delete a folder, and rename an item.

To take a closer look at the publishing options, click the **Setup** or the **Publish** button on the control bar, look through the dialog, then click the **Cancel** button.

Where To Go From Here

This completes your tour of NetObjects Fusion 4.0. Now you understand how site development flows from view to view, and generally what you do in each view. You also understand how to set options for your personal preferences.

All of the concepts in this chapter are explained in detail in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* and in the online Help system.

Continue to the next lesson, Chapter 3, "Designing the Home Page," and the remaining lessons, to learn how to put NetObjects Fusion to work for you.

Designing the Home Page

Now that you've developed a basic site structure and are familiar with some basic NetObjects Fusion 4.0 features, you want to enhance the Home page.

To complete the lessons in this chapter, you must first follow the steps in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes," to create the Sports Jacques site.

This lesson shows you how to:

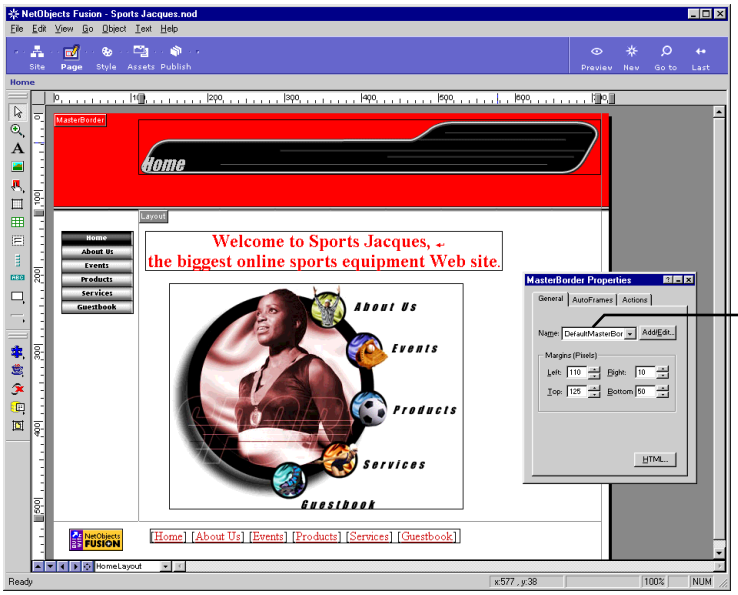
- **Create a new MasterBorder**
- **Create a graphic with linked hotspots**
- **Edit the SiteStyle banner**

Creating a New MasterBorder

You want to use your art department's graphic as a navigation aid on the Home page instead of the button navigation bar. You are going to add hotspots to the text labels on the graphic and link them to the appropriate pages.

Because the hotspots provide navigation aids for the page, you can remove the button bar from the Home page and keep it on all the other pages. To accomplish this you create a special MasterBorder for the Home page and remove its button navigation bar.

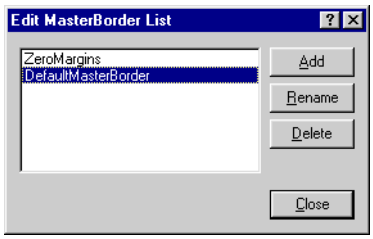
1. Open the **Sports Jacques.nod** site.
2. Navigate to the Home page in Page view.
3. Click in an empty area of the MasterBorder, so the **MasterBorder Properties** palette appears.



The **Name** field shows the MasterBorder assigned to this page—**DefaultMasterBorder**. This field lists all MasterBorders in the open site.

NetObjects Fusion also provides a **ZeroMargins** MasterBorder, which sets all margins to zero, if you want to create pages with no borders.

4. On the **General** tab of the **MasterBorder Properties** palette, click the **Add/Edit** button.

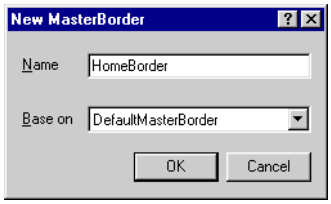


5. In the **Edit MasterBorder List** dialog, click the **Add** button.

6. In the **Name** field of the **New MasterBorder** dialog, type

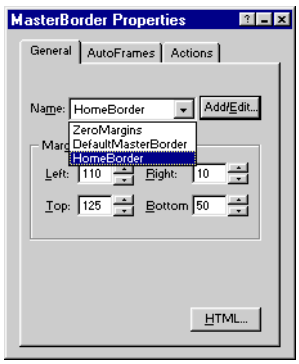
   HomeBorder

   Leave it based on **DefaultMasterBorder**.

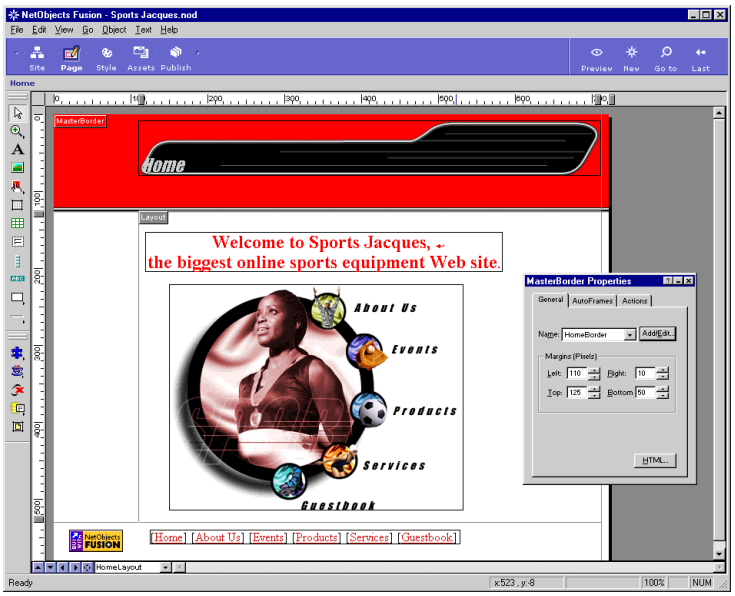


7. Click **OK**.

   The new MasterBorder name appears on the Properties palette, and the **Name** drop-down list now shows three MasterBorders.



8. Select the navigation bar in the Left MasterBorder, then press the **Delete** key.



This removes the navigation bar from the MasterBorder named **HomeBorder**, which is assigned only to the Home page. The other pages still use the **DefaultMasterBorder**, thereby retaining the button navigation bar.

9. Save your site.

Creating an ImageMap

An imagemap is a graphic with linked areas known as hotspots. Now you are ready to add the hotspots to the graphic to turn it into an imagemap.

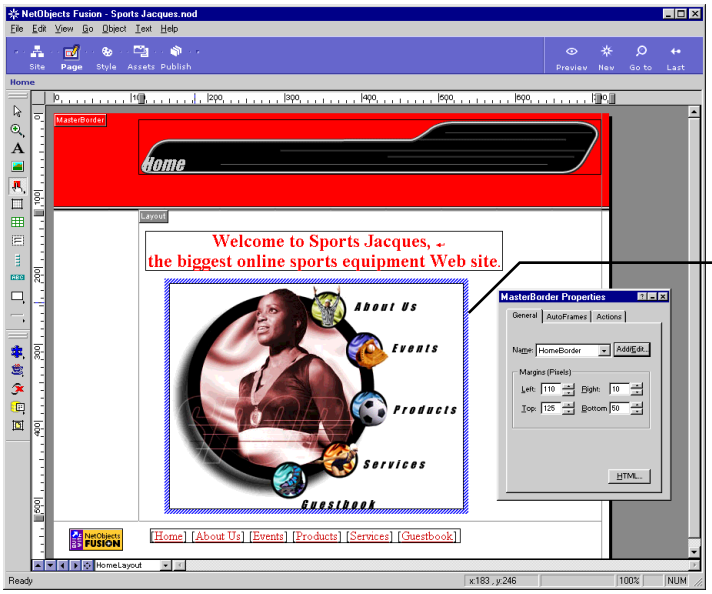
Hotspot Rectangle tool

1. On the **Standard** toolbar, click the **Hotspot: Rectangle** tool.

   If the **Rectangle** tool is not showing, press the **Hotspot** tool then select **Rectangle** from the flyout.

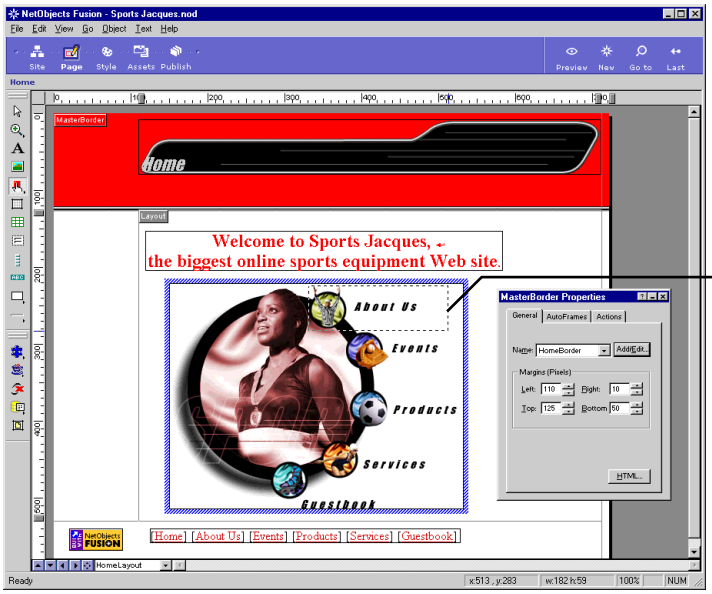
2. Move the pointer over the picture.

   A wide border surrounds the picture, which shows it is selected for adding hotspots.



Wide border shows picture is selected for adding hotspots

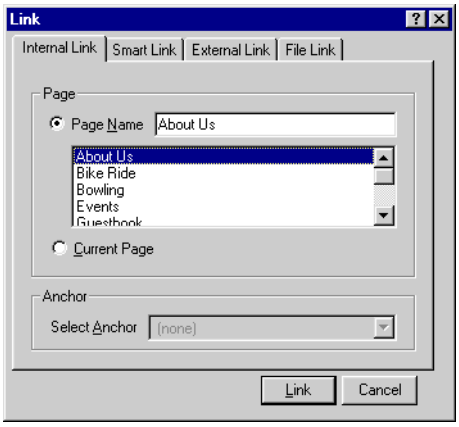
3. With the wide border showing, drag a box over the **About Us** section of the picture and its graphic.



Drawing a hotspot

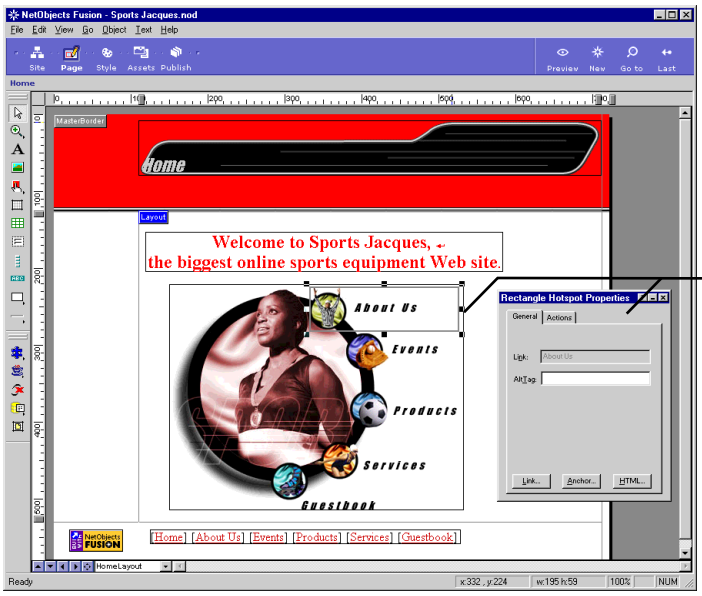
The **Link** dialog appears showing the **Internal Link** tab.

4. In the **Page** section, click **About Us**.



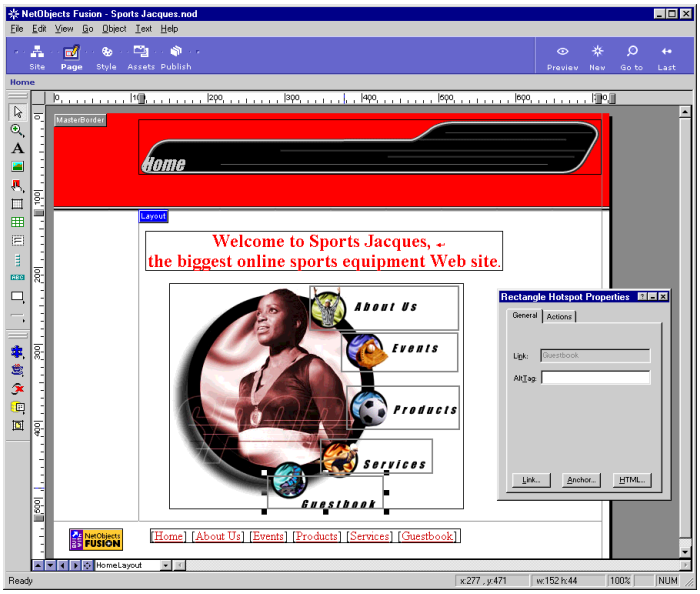
5. Click the **Link** button.

The rectangular hotspot appears selected on the picture, and the Properties palette shows **Rectangle Hotspot Properties**.



6. Place the pointer over a handle and notice that when the pointer changes to a double-sided arrow, you can drag the handle of the hotspot to adjust its size. You'll want to do this to avoid overlapping hotspots.
7. Double-click the **Rectangle Hotspot** tool to prevent it from reverting to the **Select** tool.
8. Drag a rectangle around **Events** and its graphic.

   The **Link** dialog appears again, showing the **Internal Link** tab.
9. In the **Page** section, scroll if necessary, select the **Events** page, then click **Link**.
10. In the same way, draw hotspot rectangles around **Products** and link it to the **Products** page, and around **Services** and link it to the **Services** page.
11. Draw the last hotspot rectangle around **Guestbook** and link it to the **Guestbook** page.



Select tool

12. Click the **Select** tool.
    - To select just the picture, drag a large marquee around it, or click its outline.
    - When the picture is selected, the **Picture Properties** palette shows the **General** tab.
    - To select just a hotspot, click it.

To turn off hotspot outlines, clear the Show Hotspots check box on the General tab of the Picture Properties palette.

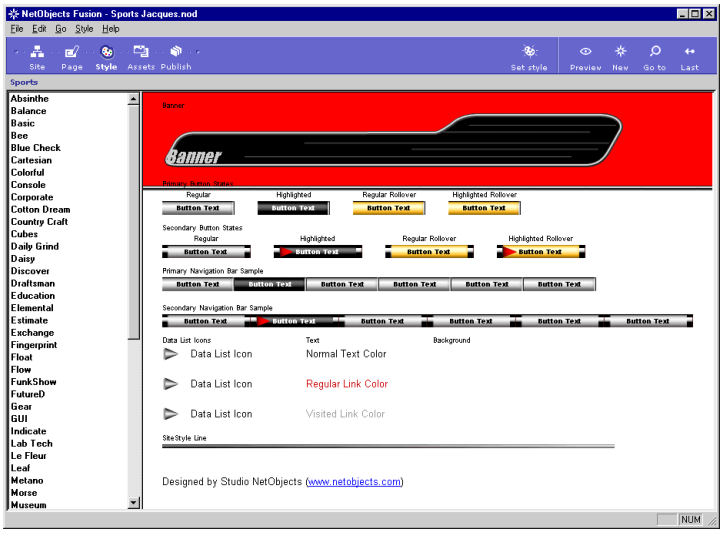
13. Adjust the hotspots so that none are overlapping.
14. Save your site.
15. Preview the site, and click the hotspots on the Home page to test the internal links.

Changing the Banner Style

Your art department created a custom banner containing the Sports Jacques logo to replace the plain black banner. You decide to change the SiteStyle's banner image so the new banner will appear on every page. You do this in Style view, by replacing the default banner with the custom banner.

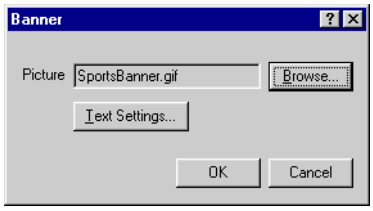
Style button

1. Click the **Style** button on the control bar to go to Style view.



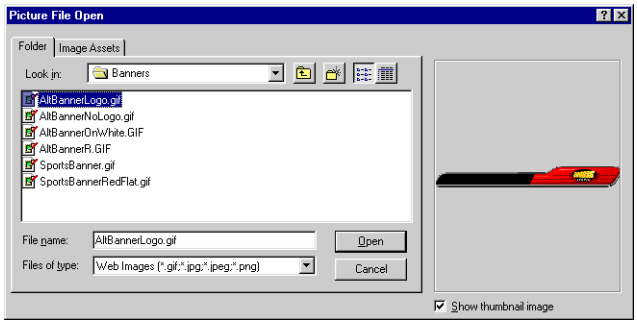
2. Double-click the banner image.

   The **Banner** dialog appears, showing the name of the current banner in the **Picture** field.



3. Click the **Browse** button.

   In the **Folder** tab of the **Picture File Open** dialog, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Styles\Sports\Banners** folder.

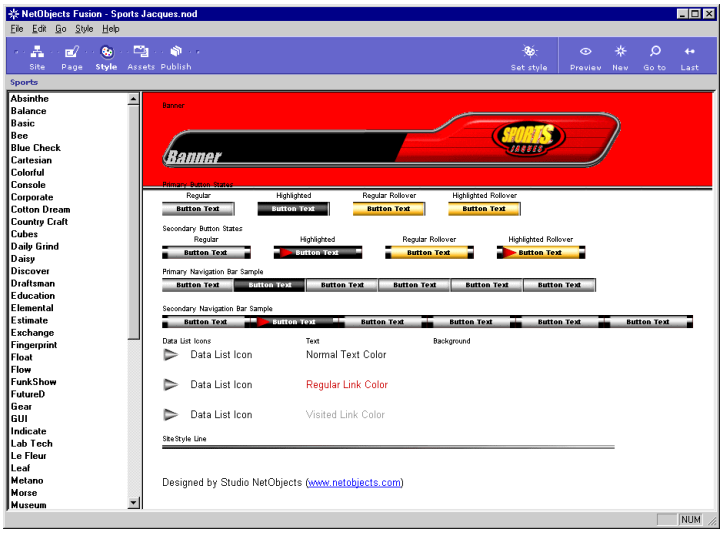


4. Select **AltBannerLogo.gif**, then click **Open**.

5. In the **Banner** dialog, click **OK**.

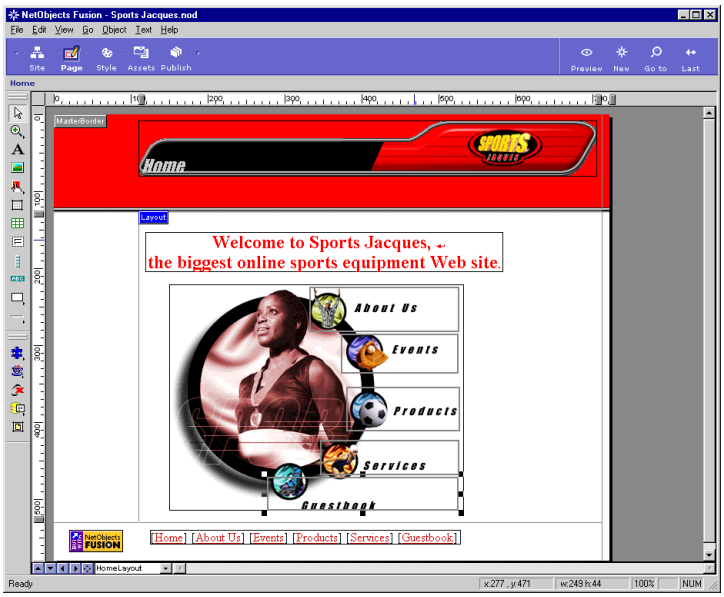
   The alternate banner showing the Sports Jacques logo replaces the default banner for the Sports SiteStyle.

   When you change an image associated with a SiteStyle, the changed image will appear in all sites using this SiteStyle.

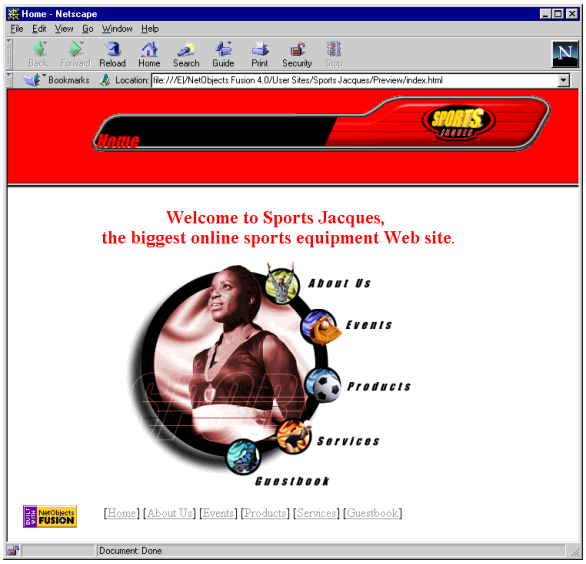


Page button

6. Click the **Page** button on the control bar to go to Page view.



7. Save and preview your site.



Where To Go From Here

You have just learned more about using MasterBorders and imagemaps as navigation aids when publishing Web pages. You also learned how to edit a NetObjects Fusion SiteStyle.

To learn more about SiteStyles, see "Using SiteStyles" in Chapter 16 of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in the NetObjects Fusion online Help system.

To learn more about MasterBorders, see Chapter 8, "Adding Navigation Aids," in this guide, or Chapter 10, "Managing MasterBorders," and Chapter 17, "Creating Navigation Bars and Banners," in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in the NetObjects Fusion online Help system.

The next lesson, Chapter 4, "Placing Pictures in Text," shows you how to drag a Rich Text Format (**.RTF**) file onto the Layout, add a picture inside its text box, and wrap the text around the picture.

Placing Pictures in Text

Sports Jacques wants you to provide some background information on the About Us page. You have a Rich Text Format (**rtf**) file containing this information so you are going to start with that. With NetObjects Fusion you can put any object inside text, so you decide to add a picture and align the text around it.

To follow the steps in this lesson, you must have created the Sports Jacques site described in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes."

This chapter shows you how to:

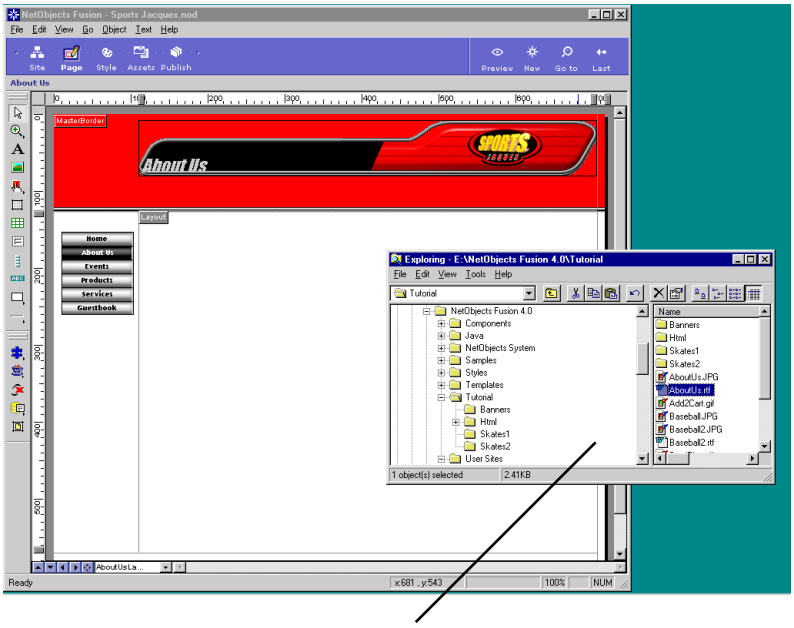
- **Drag and drop an .rtf file onto the Layout area**
- **Add a picture inside a text box**
- **Align text around a picture**
- **Move a picture inside a text box**
- **Work with the text box**

Placing an RTF File in a Layout

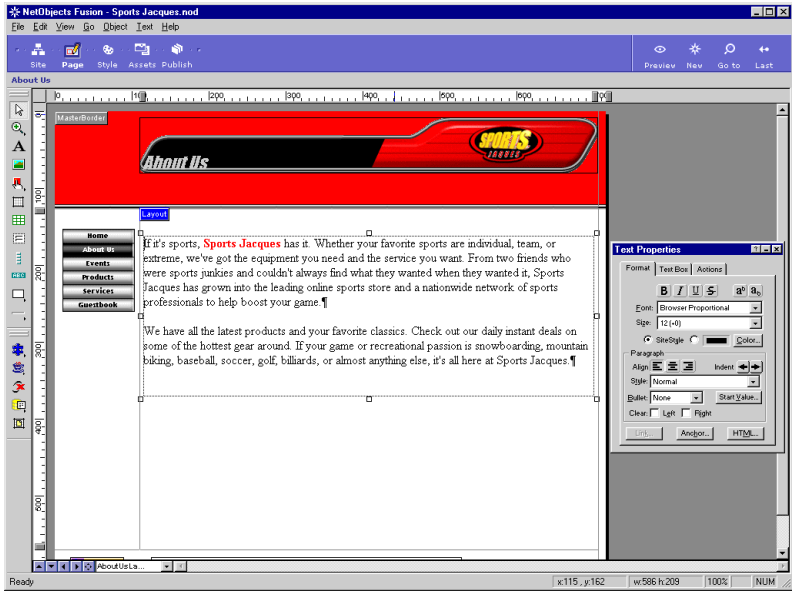
In NetObjects Fusion, a text box can be a container object. You can add and arrange other objects inside it. When you move the text box, the objects remain in their positions in the box. This makes it easy to arrange other objects around the text box on the page.

Dragging an **.rtf** file onto the Layout area creates a text box, just as if you had used the **Text** tool to draw a text box, and typed and formatted text inside it.

1. Open the **Sports Jacques.nod** site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\Sports Jacques** folder.
2. Navigate to the **About Us** page in Page view.
3. Launch **Windows Explorer** and arrange the windows so you can see the file **AboutUs.rtf** in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder.



4. Drag **AboutUs.rtf** from **Windows Explorer** onto the Layout area of the About Us page, releasing the mouse about one-half inch down from the top left corner of the Layout.



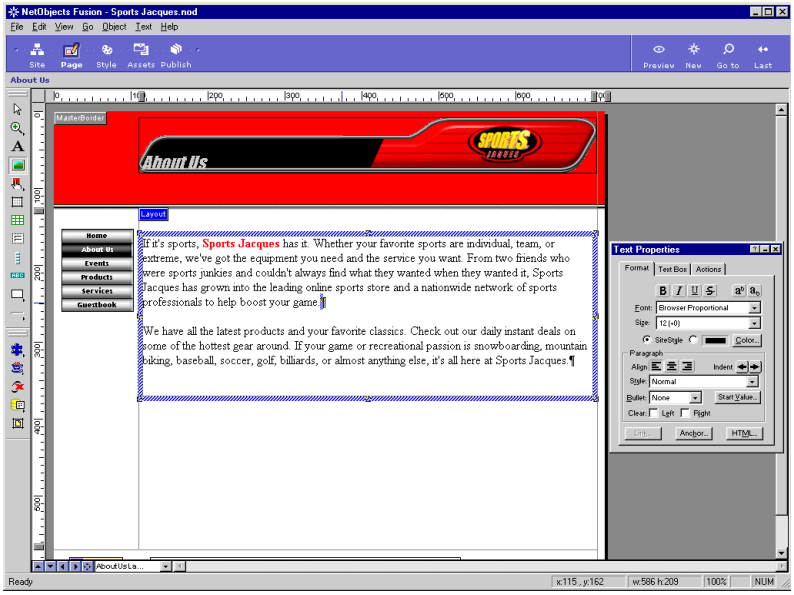
A copy of the **.rtf** file appears inside a text box in the Layout area. The text is selected and the properties palette shows the **Format** tab of the **Text Properties**.

5. Save your site.

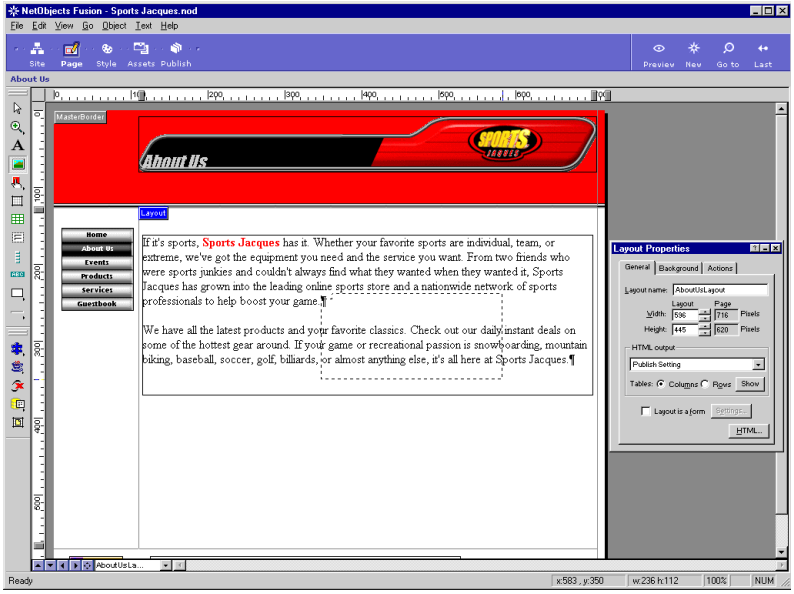
Adding a Picture Inside a Text Box

1. Select the **Picture** tool from the **Standard** toolbar.

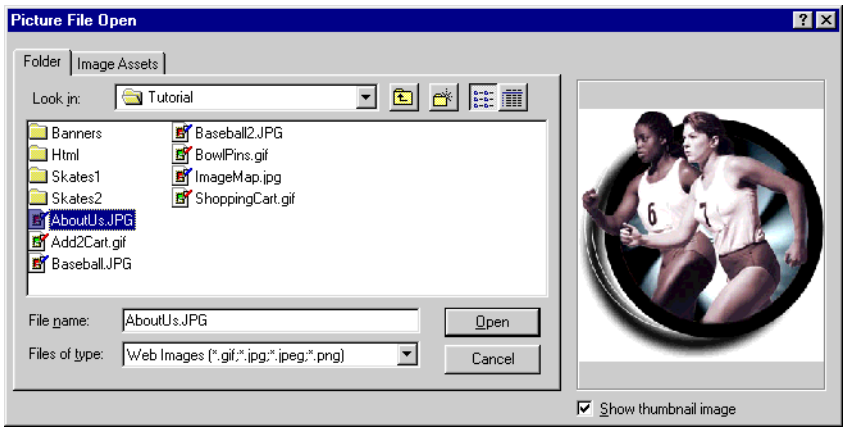
   The pointer changes to a crosshair. When you move it over the text box, the text box outline changes to a wide blue border. The crosshair pointer carries a wide blue insertion point with it.



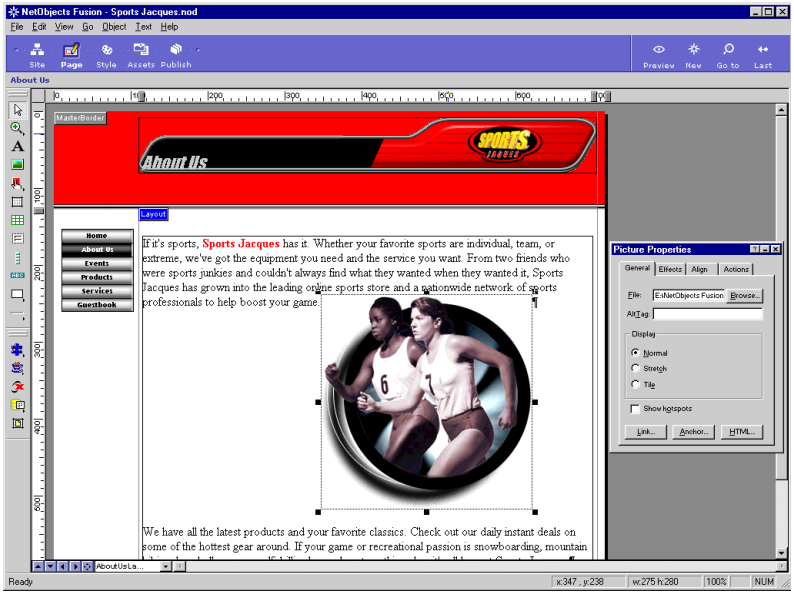
2. Place the wide blue insertion point just after the last word in the first paragraph, and draw a picture box.



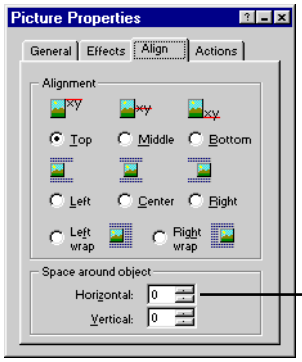
3. In the **Picture File Open** dialog that appears, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder, select **AboutUs.jpg**, then click **Open**.



The picture appears with its upper left corner at the location where you began drawing the box. The picture is selected, and the **Picture Properties** palette appears.



4. On the **Picture Properties** palette, click the **Align** tab.



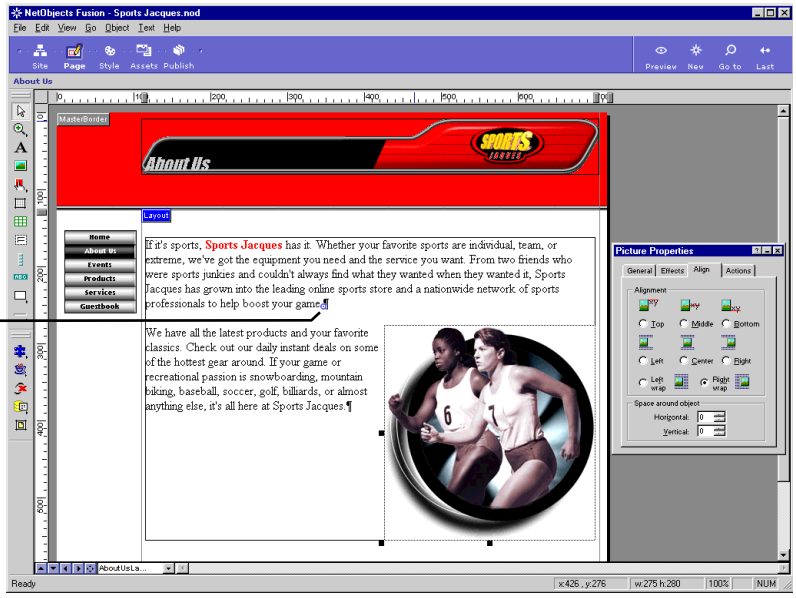
Specify a number of pixels to pad the object

The icons on the **Align** tab show you how the text aligns itself in relation to the picture.

In this case, the default alignment is **Top**, which aligns the text at the insertion point with the top of the picture. This option does not wrap text, so the rest of the text is below the picture.

5. On the **Align** tab, select **Right wrap**.

   The text wraps around the picture, and the Picture In Text icon appears.



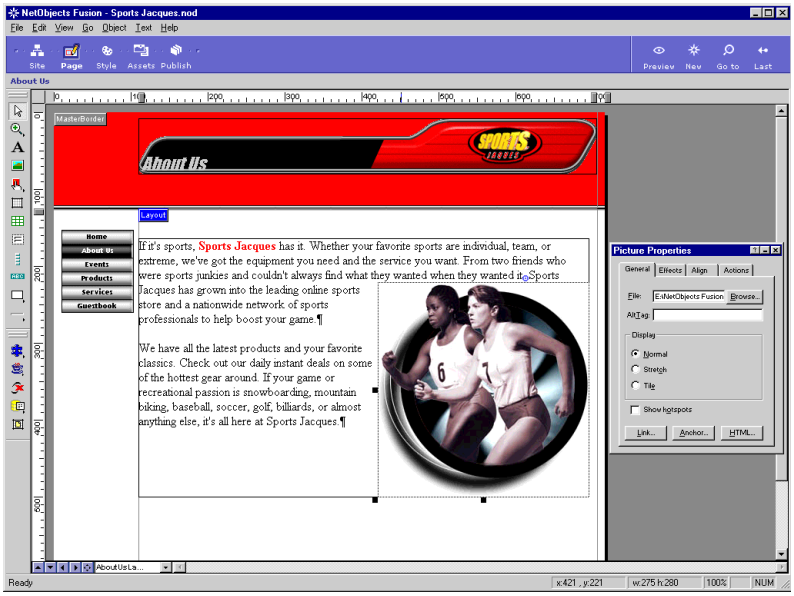
Blue and white icon denotes insertion point for picture in text box

This alignment is good, but you would like the picture to be more integrated with the text. You decide to move the picture upward.

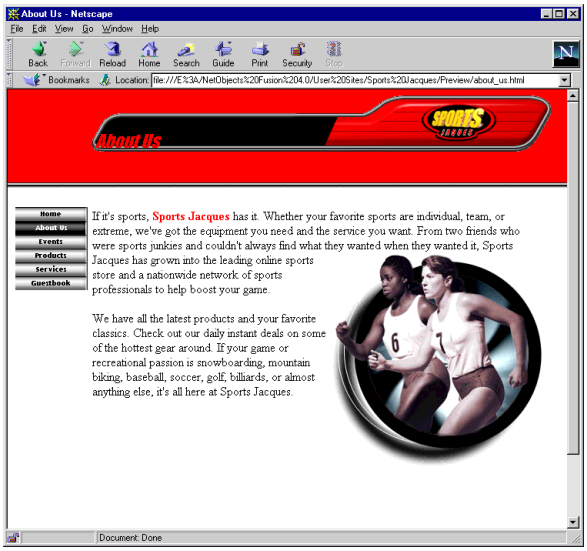
6. Make sure the picture is selected, so at least some of its handles show.
7. Move the pointer over the picture and press the mouse button, so you can see the wide blue border around the text box, and start dragging slowly upward.

   As you drag, the picture remains where it is, and the pointer again displays the wide blue insertion point.
8. When the wide blue insertion point is just after the comma following "...when they wanted it," release the mouse button.

   The picture moves upward into the top paragraph of text. The **Alignment** option is still set to **Right wrap**, and now the picture is where you want it.



9. Select the text box, so it has solid handles and the **Text Box** tab of the **Text Properties** palette is showing.
10. Drag the text box so the top of it is even with the top of the button navigation bar.
11. Save your site and preview it.



Where To Go From Here

You have just learned another way to use text boxes in page layouts, how to insert objects into a text box, and how to align text around these objects.

For more information on text boxes, see "Working with Text Boxes" in Chapter 9 of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* and in the NetObjects online Help system.

When you use text boxes to lay out pages NetObjects Fusion generates lean HTML. When you use the **Size Layout to Text** option, NetObjects Fusion generates the leanest code because it eliminates HTML tables in the Layout portion of the page. For more information on HTML output options, see "Controlling Published Output" in Chapter 7 of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* and in the NetObjects online Help system.

For more examples of objects in text, look at the About Us and Guestbook pages in the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site template. Sample sites are in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites** folder. For instructions on opening templates, see Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

The next lesson, Chapter 5, "Creating Dynamic Pages," shows you how to add actions to objects to make them perform various functions.

Creating Dynamic Pages

Sports Jacques wants you to create some activity on the Products page. Because many of your site visitors are using the 4.x or greater versions of browsers, you can take advantage of Dynamic HTML and its support of animation and interactivity.

To view objects in motion, your site visitors must use a browser that supports Dynamic HTML, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 and above or Netscape Navigator 4.0 and above.

You want to use Dynamic HTML to bring your page to life for these visitors, but you also want to make sure that site visitors using older browsers can experience the page.

With NetObjects Fusion you can choose from five different HTML output options to support various browsers. You can assign one publishing method to the whole site, and then select a different method for individual pages, or portions of pages.

To enable visitors using earlier versions of browsers, such as Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.x and Netscape Navigator 3.x, to view pages containing actions, it is best to use the **Nested Tables** HTML output option. Then these site visitors see your page with its objects in their resting states.

To follow the steps in this lesson, you must have built the Sports Jacques site described in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes."

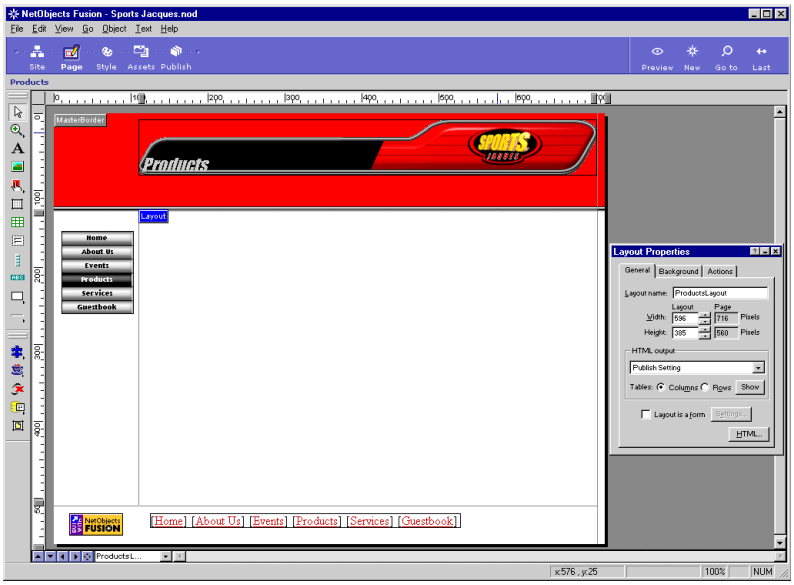
This lesson shows you how to:

- **Add pictures**
- **Add and size text**
- **Use the Object Tree**
- **Add actions to objects**
- **Set the HTML output option**
- **Add a background sound**

Adding Objects

First you add all the objects intended as targets of DHTML actions.

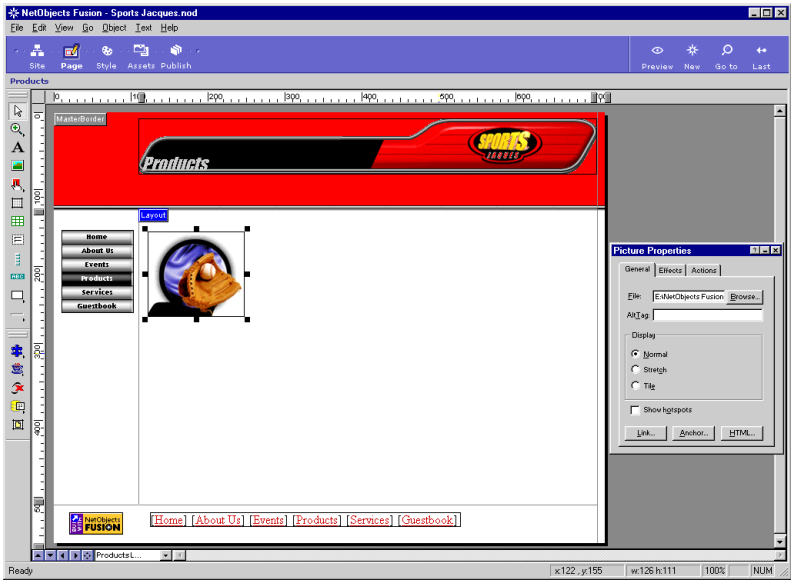
1. Open the **Sports Jacques.nod** site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\Sports Jacques** folder.
2. Navigate to the **Products** page in Page view.



3. Select the **Picture** tool and draw a box in the top left of the Layout.

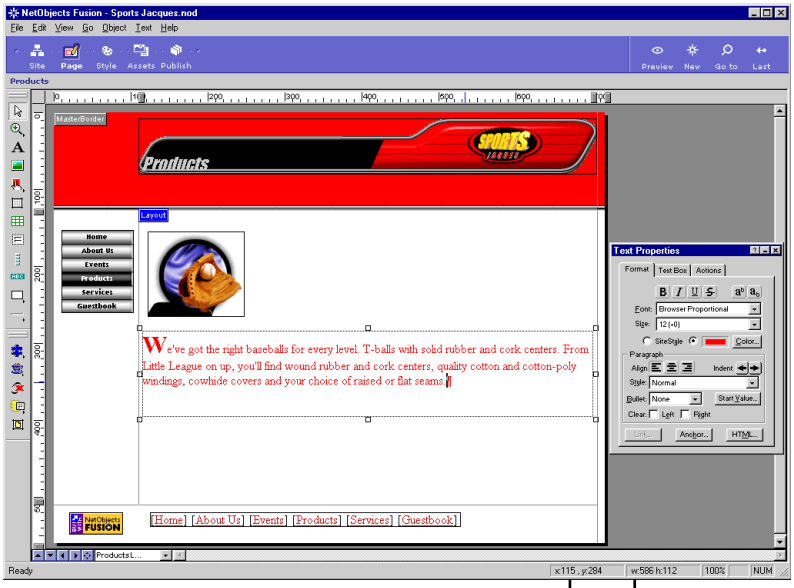
   The **Picture File Open** dialog appears, showing the **Folder** tab.

4. Navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder, select **Glove.jpg**, then click **Open**.



5. If necessary, drag the Glove image until it is positioned like the one shown here.
6. Launch **Windows Explorer** and arrange its window so you can see both the file **Baseball.rtf** in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder and the Layout area of the Products page.
7. Drag the file **Baseball.rtf** from **Windows Explorer** onto the left side of the Layout, under the Baseball picture.

   The text appears selected in the Layout, with the hollow handles indicating you can edit it. The **Text Properties** shows the **Format** tab.



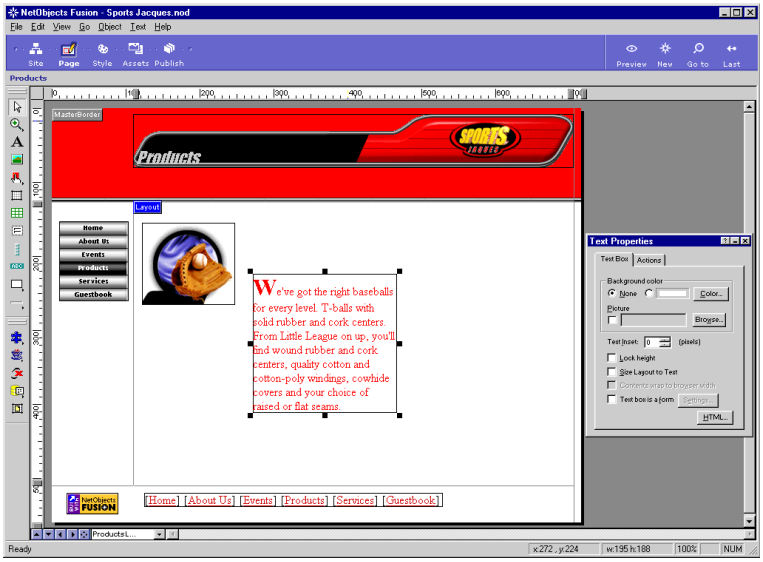
8. Place the pointer over the lower right corner of the text box, until it changes to a double-sided arrow, then drag toward the left until the text box is approximately 200 pixels square.

   You can see the width and height of the text box in the bottom right window border as you drag. This box shows the width and height in the unit of measure selected on the **Page** tab of the **Preferences** dialog.

9. Delete the final paragraph marker at the end of the text, which shortens the text box.

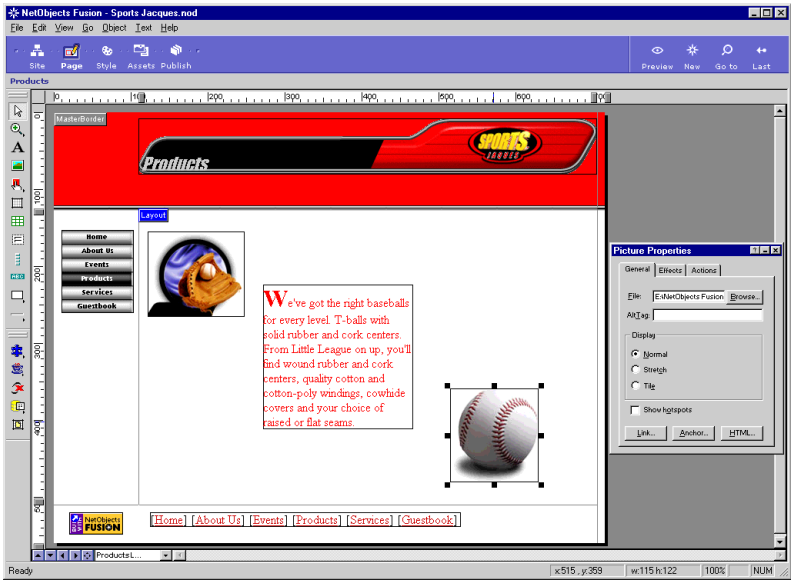
10. Click outside the text box, then click the text box once to select it, so the handles are solid and the **Text Properties** shows the **Text Box** tab.

11. With the text box selected, drag it toward the center of the Layout, as shown in the following picture.



12. Using the **Picture** tool, draw a box in the lower right of the Layout.

13. In the **Picture File Open** dialog, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder, select **Baseball.jpg**, then click **Open**.

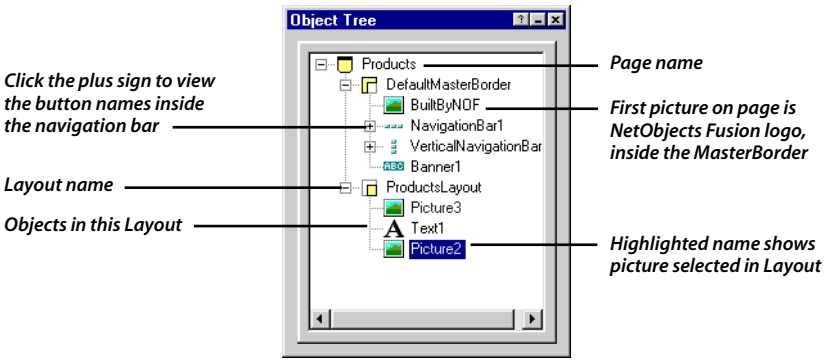


14. If necessary, drag the picture so it is positioned like the one shown here.

15. Save your site.

Using the Object Tree

1. From the **View** menu, select **Object Tree**.



   The **Object Tree** shows the hierarchy of all objects on the current page, using an outline view much like Windows Explorer.

   The MasterBorder section, labeled **DefaultMasterBorder** in the **Object Tree**, shows all objects in the MasterBorder. The Layout section, labeled **ProductsLayout**, shows all objects in the Layout.

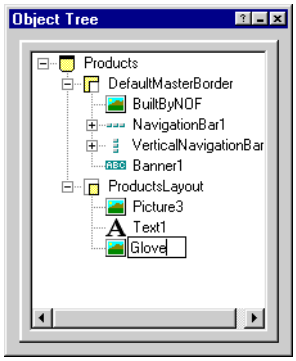
2. In the Layout, select the picture of the glove.

   The **Object Tree** highlights the name of the selected object so you can identify it.

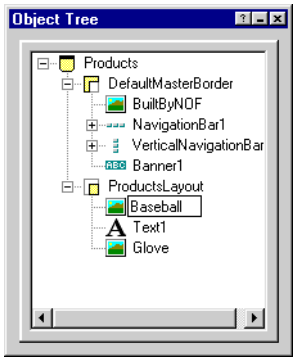
   If this is the second picture you placed in this Layout, it appears under **ProductsLayout** as **Picture2**. (**Picture1** is the BuiltByNOF logo in the **DefaultMasterBorder**.)

3. In the **Object Tree**, click **Picture2**, or the name associated with the baseball glove, to select its text.

4. Type **Glove** to give the object a descriptive name.



5. Click **Picture3**, or the name associated with the baseball picture, to select it; click again to enter Edit mode, then rename the picture **Baseball**.



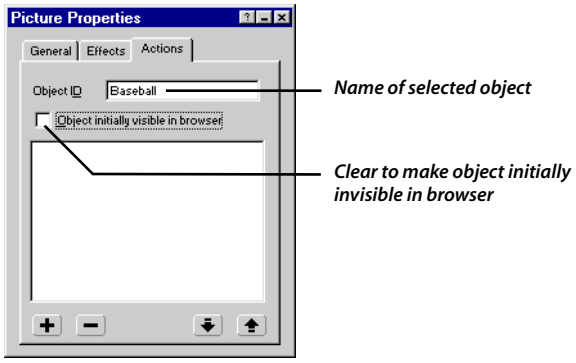
6. Save your site.

Adding Actions to Objects

Now you can add DHTML actions to animate objects on the page.

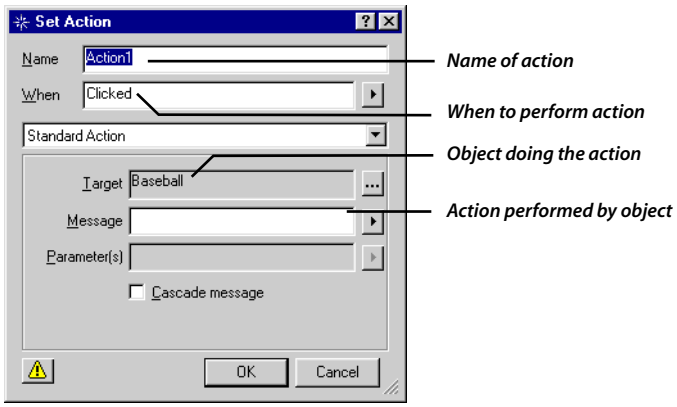
1. Select the Baseball picture in the Layout, and arrange the screen so you can see the **Picture Properties**.
2. With the Baseball picture selected, click the **Actions** tab on the **Picture Properties** palette.
3. Clear the **Object initially visible in browser** check box.

   This means that when this page is loaded the object will not be visible.



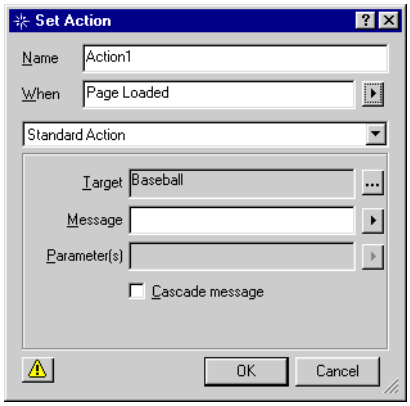
4. Click the Plus (+) button at the bottom left.

   The **Set Action** dialog appears.



   The **Name** field shows the default action name, **Action1**.

5. In the **When** field, click the arrow to display the menu, point to **Page**, then select **Page Loaded**.



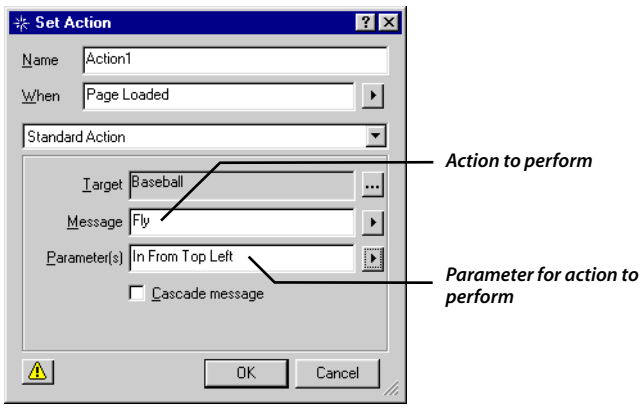
This means that **Action1** will happen when the browser loads this page.

In the **Action** section, the **Target** field shows the action will happen to the object named **Baseball**, which was selected when you began formulating this action, and is therefore the default target.

6. In the **Message** field, select **Motion**, **Fly** from the menu.

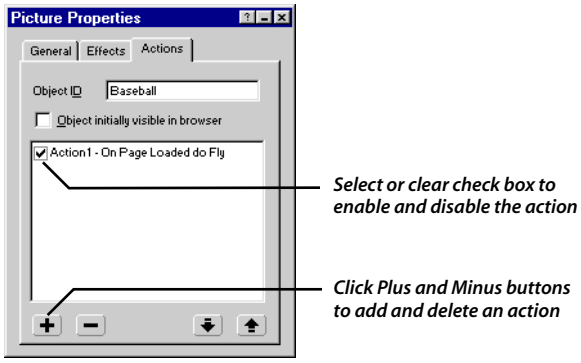
   When you select an option from the message list, the appropriate parameters become available.

7. In the **Parameters** field, select **In From Top Left** from the menu.



8. Click **OK**.

The **Actions** tab for the Baseball picture now shows the action you created, described in a few words.



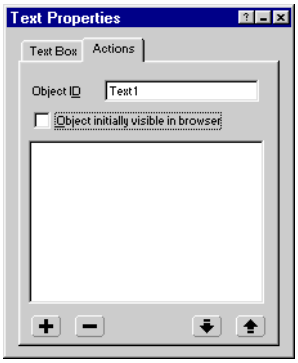
The check mark next to the action enables it.

The Action icon, a right-pointing triangle in a small pink circle, appears on the Baseball picture, indicating an action is assigned to it.

Action icon

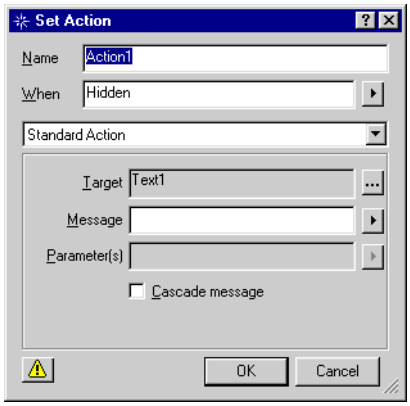
To view object icons, select Object Icons from the View menu.

9. Select the text box in the Layout.
10. With the text box selected, on the **Text Properties** palette, click the **Actions** tab.

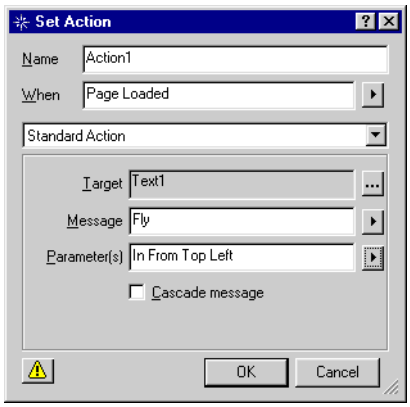


11. Clear the **Object initially visible in browser** check box.
12. Click the Plus (+) button at the bottom left.

    The **Set Action** dialog appears.

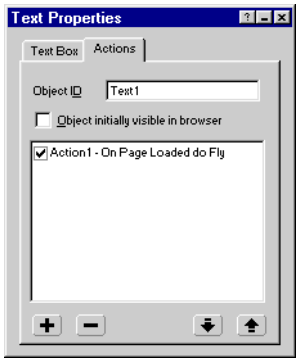


13. In the **When** field, select **Page**, **Page Loaded** from the menu.
14. In the **Message** field, select **Motion**, **Fly** from the menu.
15. In the **Parameters** field, select **In From Top Left** from the menu.



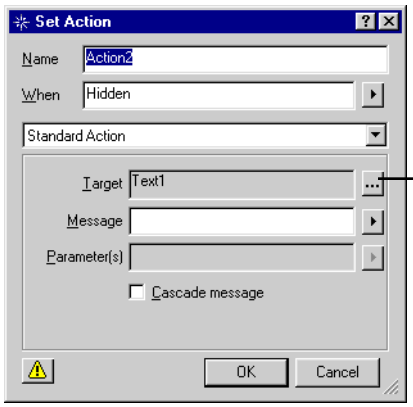
16. Click **OK**.

    The **Actions** tab for the text box shows a description of the action you created, and the Action icon appears in the text box.



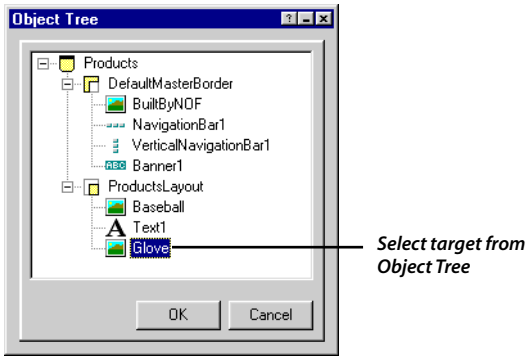
17. Click the Plus (+) button again.

    The **Set Action** dialog appears, showing **Action2** in the **Name** field.



18. In the **When** field, select **Motion**, **Motion Ended**.

19. In the **Target** field, click the **Browse** button to display the **Object Tree**.



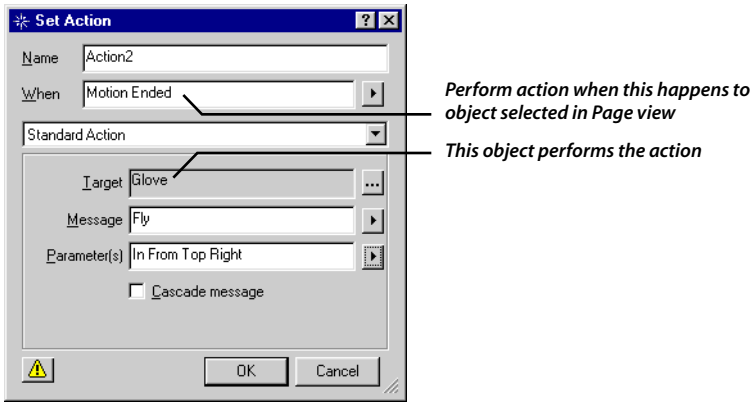
20. In the **Object Tree**, select the **Glove** picture, then click **OK**.

Glove appears in the **Target** field of the **Set Action** dialog.

The target of the action is the Glove picture. When the text box stops moving, the Glove picture does something.

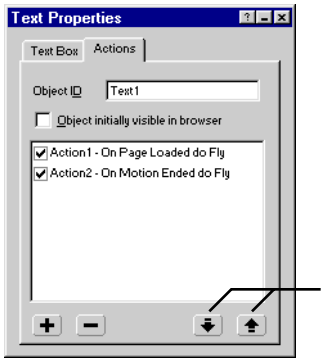
21. In the **Message** field, select **Motion**, **Fly**.

22. In the **Parameters** field, select **In From Top Right**.



23. Click **OK**.

Now two actions are listed in the **Actions** tab for **Text Properties**.



24. Select the **Glove** picture.
25. On the **Picture Properties** palette, click the **Actions** tab.
26. Clear the **Object initially visible in browser** check box.
27. Save your site.

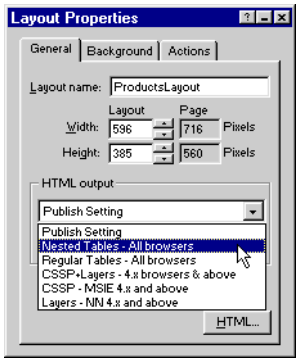
Setting the HTML Output Option

The default HTML output option for an entire site is **Nested Tables**. You can see this setting in Publish view, in the **HTML Output** tab of the **Publish Setup** dialog.

If the HTML Output option for the site is set to a different option, you can override it and manually set the HTML output option for the **Products** page Layout.

1. Click the Layout area of the **Products** page to select it.
2. On the **Layout Properties** palette, in the **HTML output** section, select **Nested Tables - All browsers** from the drop-down list.

For more information on HTML output options see Chapter 7, "Controlling Published Output," in your NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide.



Note: If a page contains overlapping objects, you must set the HTML output option to CSSP and Layers - 4.x browsers & above, and use a 4.0 or higher browser version to properly display the layered objects.

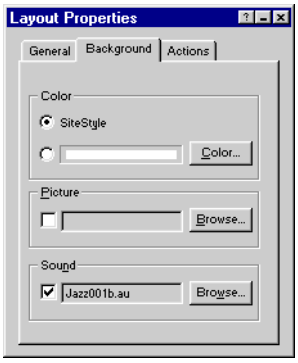
Adding a Background Sound

You decide to add a background sound to this page.

1. On the **Layout Properties**, click the **Background** tab.
2. In the **Sound** section, select the **Sound** check box.
3. In the **Background Sound** dialog that appears, click the **Browse** button.

   The **Open** dialog appears, showing the **Folder** and **Audio Assets** tabs.
4. In the **Folder** tab, in the files of type section, select **AU/ULAW** files.
5. In the **Folder** tab, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder, select the file **Jazz001b.au**, then click **Open**.

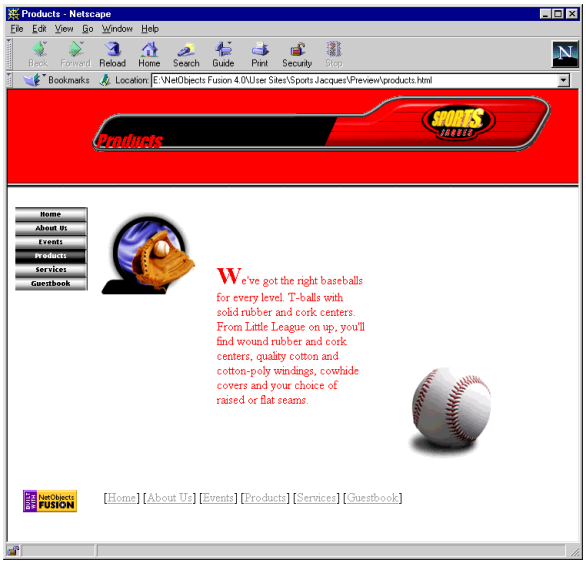
   The path and file name appears in the **Background Sound** dialog.
6. Click **OK**.



7. Save your site.

Previewing the Products Page

1. Preview the site.
   - If you are using a 4.x browser, you see the objects moving.
   - If you are using a 3.x browser, you see the objects in their at rest states.
   - If you last launched a 3.x browser, you can launch a 4.x or greater browser from the Windows **Start** menu. The next and subsequent times you preview, NetObjects Fusion will launch the most recently used browser of the type selected in the **Preferences** dialog.



To view the whole action sequence again without previewing, reload the page.

Where To Go From Here

You have just implemented an e-application by creating cross-platform Dynamic HTML.

For more information about actions, see "Building Dynamic Pages," in Chapter 21 of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* and in the NetObjects Fusion online Help system.

For more examples of actions, look at the Home page in the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site and explore the **DHTML Presentation.nft** sample site. Sample sites are in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites** folder. For instructions on opening sample sites, see Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

The next lesson, Chapter 6, "Creating a Calendar of Events," shows you how to use NetObjects Fusion's table features to create a calendar and add links to it.

Creating a Calendar of Events

The Sports Jacques Web site contains an Events page to keep people updated on company and community events.

You are going to use NetObjects Fusion's table features to create a calendar on this page, with links to pages containing various flyers and announcements.

To follow the steps in this lesson you must have built the Sports Jacques site in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes."

This chapter shows you how to:

- **Create a table**
- **Format the table**
- **Add text to the table**
- **Add links to the text**

Creating a Table

You are going to create a table that is 7 rows by 7 columns, and place calendar information for the month of December inside it.

1. Open your **Sports Jacques.nod** site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\Sports Jacques** folder.

2. Navigate to the Events page in Page view.

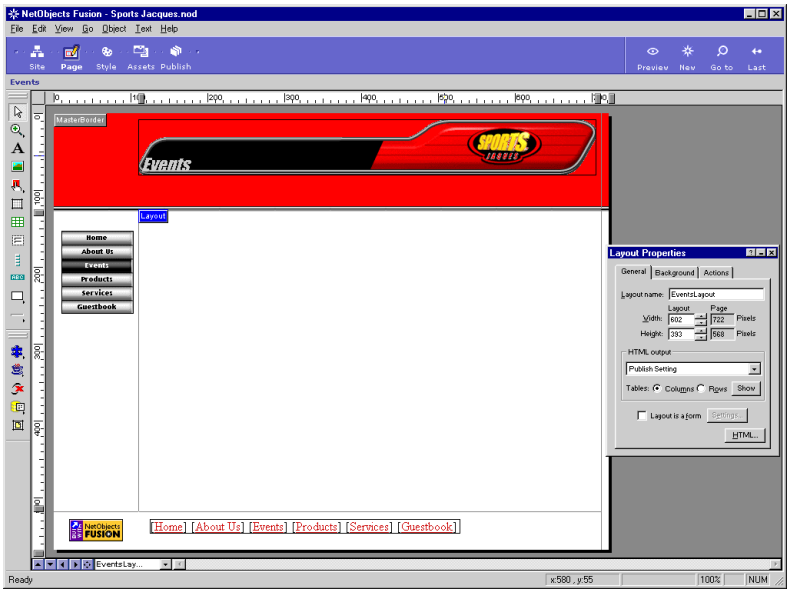
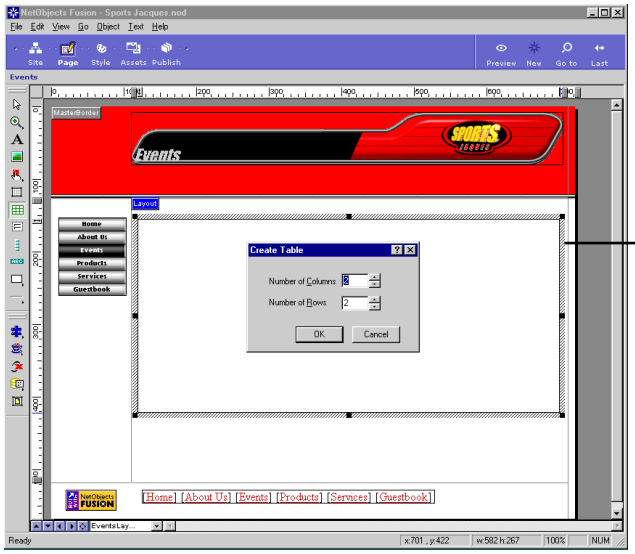


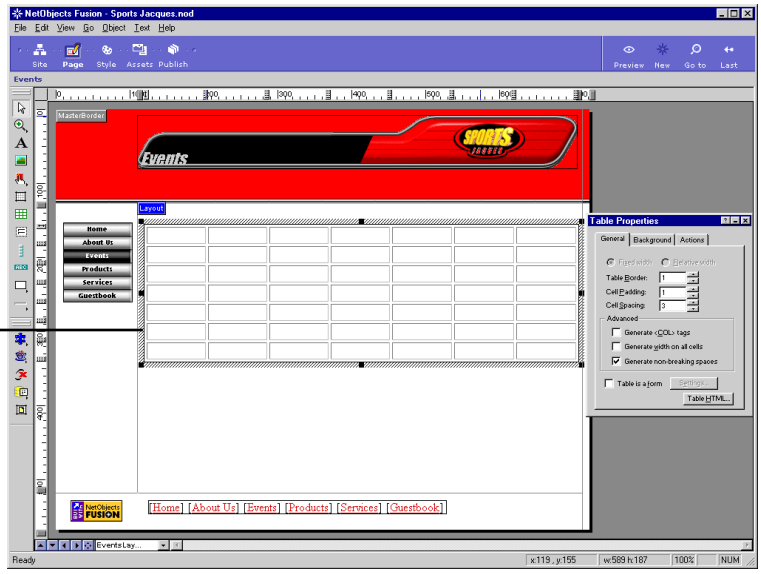
Table tool

3. Select the **Table** tool and draw a wide box in the upper part of the Layout.



The **Create Table** dialog appears.

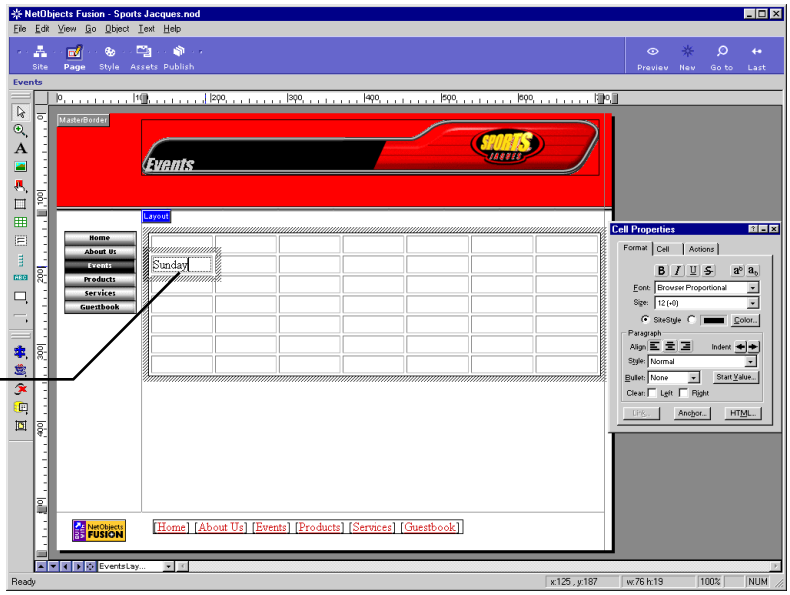
4. In the **Number of Columns** field, type **7**.
5. In the **Number of Rows** field, type **7**, then click **OK**.



The table appears selected in the Layout, and the properties palette shows **Table Properties**.

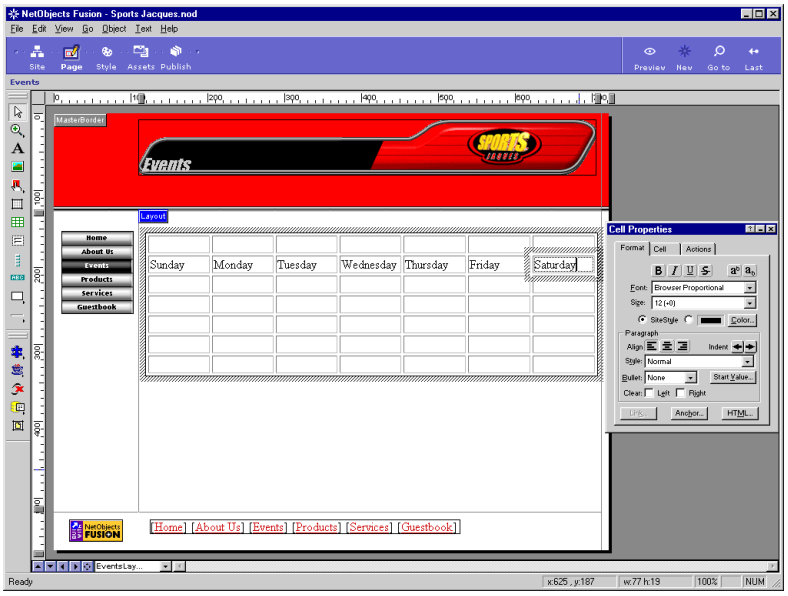
Adding Text to the Table

1. Double-click inside the first column, second row.
2. The cell becomes selected, and the properties palette shows **Cell Properties**.
3. Type **Sunday** inside the cell.



Cell selected for text editing

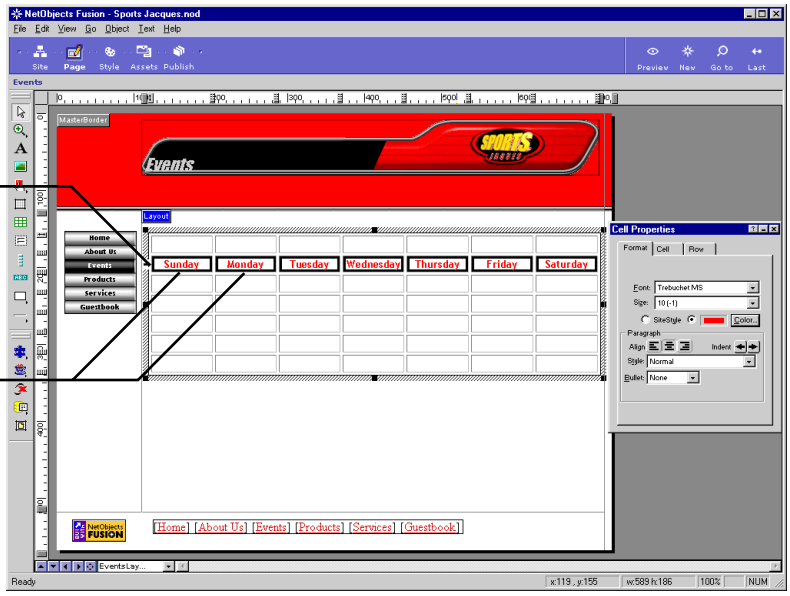
4. Press the **Tab** key to select the next cell, then type **Monday** inside it.
5. Type **Tuesday**, **Wednesday**, **Thursday**, **Friday**, and **Saturday** inside the remaining cells in Row 2.



6. Click the table once to select it.
7. Place the pointer on the left table border next to Row 2, until it changes into a solid one-sided arrow pointing at the row.
8. Click to select the row, so each cell in the row is outlined by a solid black border.
9. On the **Cell Properties**, click the **Format** tab.
10. On the **Format** tab, click the Bold icon, so all the text changes to bold.

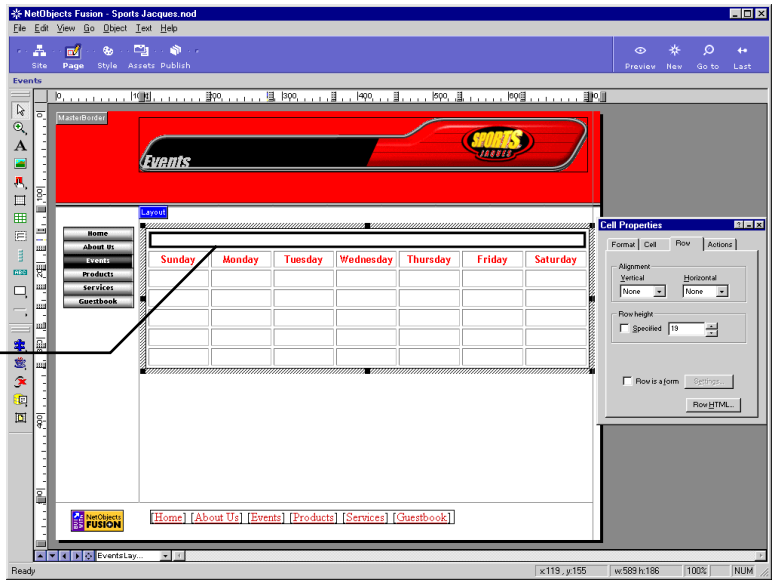
Bold icon

11. In the **Size** drop-down menu, select **10** (**-1**).
12. In the **Font** drop-down menu, select **Trebuchet MS**.
13. Click the **Color** button, select red, then click **OK**.
14. In the **Paragraph** section, click the **Align center** icon.



15. Select the top row in the table.

16. From the **Object** menu, select **Table**, **Merge Cells**.

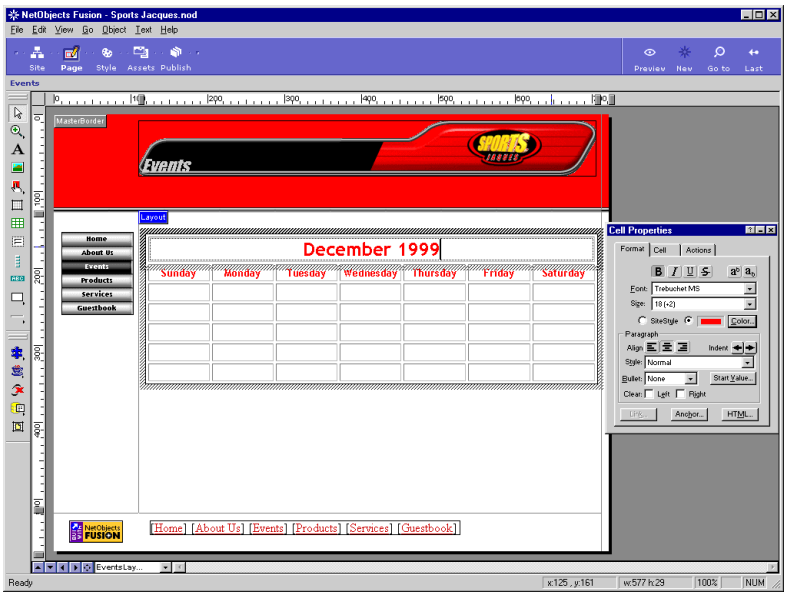


17. In the merged cell, type **December 1999**.

18. Drag through the text to select it.

19. On the **Format** tab of the **Cell Properties**, set the text to bold, **Trebuchet MS**, **18** (**+2**), red, and centered.

    The cell expands automatically to accommodate the larger text.



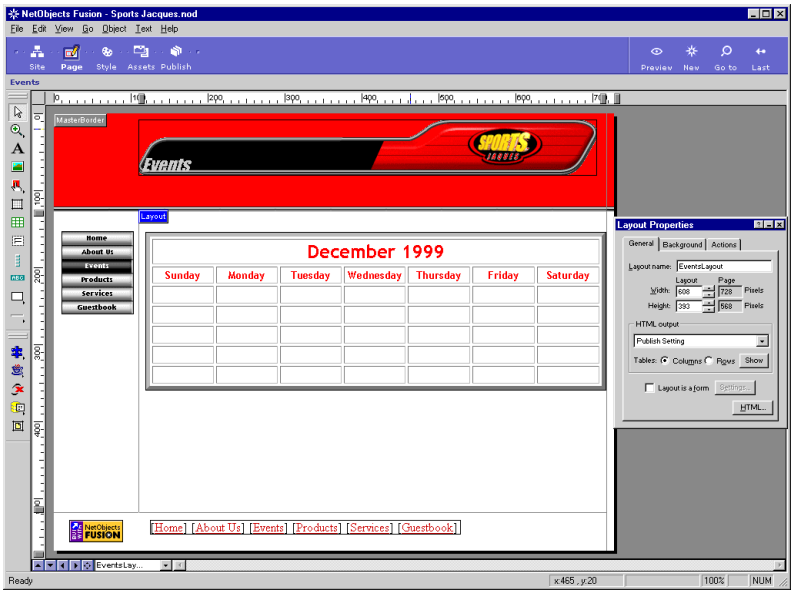
20. Click the table border once to select it.

    The **Table Properties** shows the **General** tab.

21. In the **Table Border** field, type **6**, then click outside the table to deselect it.

    The table border appears and is 6 pixels wide.

    If you set the table border to a number greater than 6 pixels, the right Layout margin automatically widens to accommodate the larger table.



22. Save your site.

The next sections show you how to add text links to the table cells.

Adding Links to the Table

You already know of three events in December that require links to other pages. The three events are: Bowling on Thursday, December 2, the annual winter sale on Saturday, December 11, and a bike ride on Sunday, December 19.

You must place the calendar dates in at least those cells so you can add the links.

1. December 1999 begins on a Wednesday, so in Row 3 under **Wednesday**, click the cell and type the number **1** inside it.

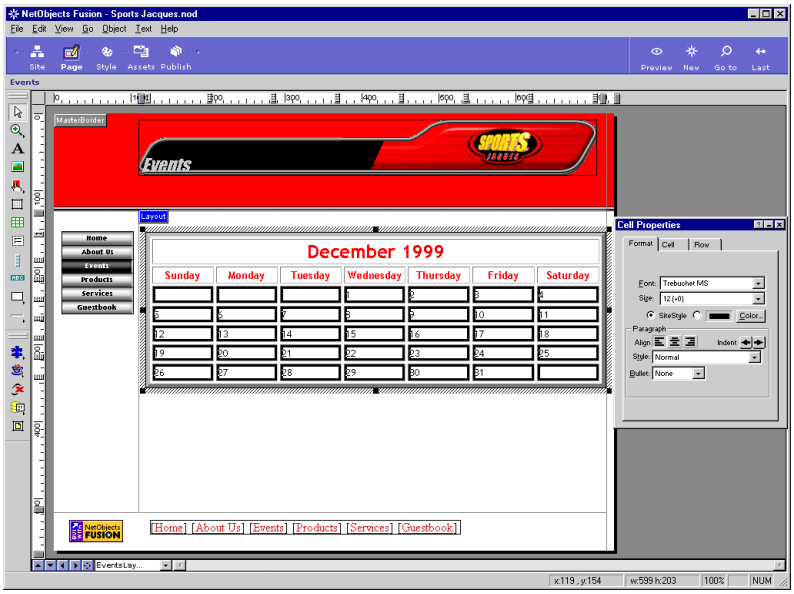
2. Select the cell for Thursday, December 2 and type **2** inside it. (Row 3, Column 5)

3. Locate the cells for December 11 and 19 and type the appropriate dates inside them.

It is easier to press the Tab key to move from cell to cell than to click inside each cell.

4. Add the remainder of the dates if you wish, by tabbing from cell to cell.

5. Select the table, then place the pointer on the left border and drag down until all the rows under the weekday names are selected.

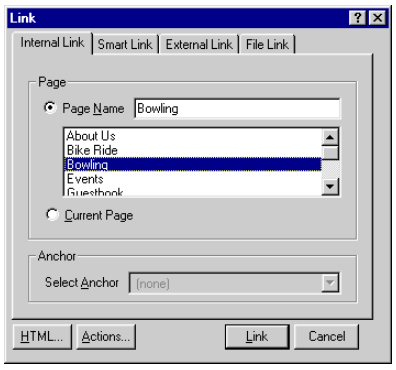


6. On the **Format** tab of the **Table Properties**, select **Trebuchet MS** from the **Font** drop-down list, and select **10 (-1)** from the **Size** drop-down list.

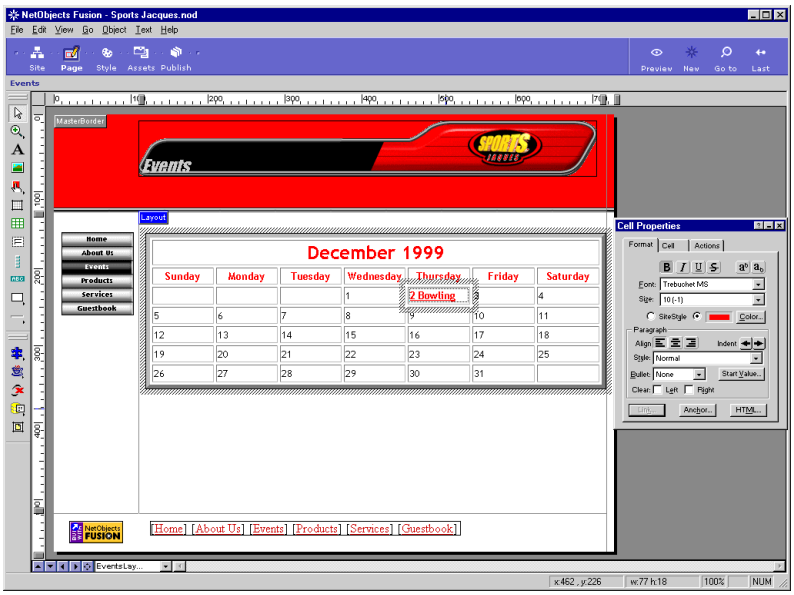
   NetObjects Fusion automatically sizes all the cells appropriately and changes all the cell contents to your selected font.

7. Double-click the cell for December 2 and type **Bowling** after the **2**.

8. Drag through **Bowling** to select it, make the text bold, then click the **Link** button on the **Cell Properties Format** tab.



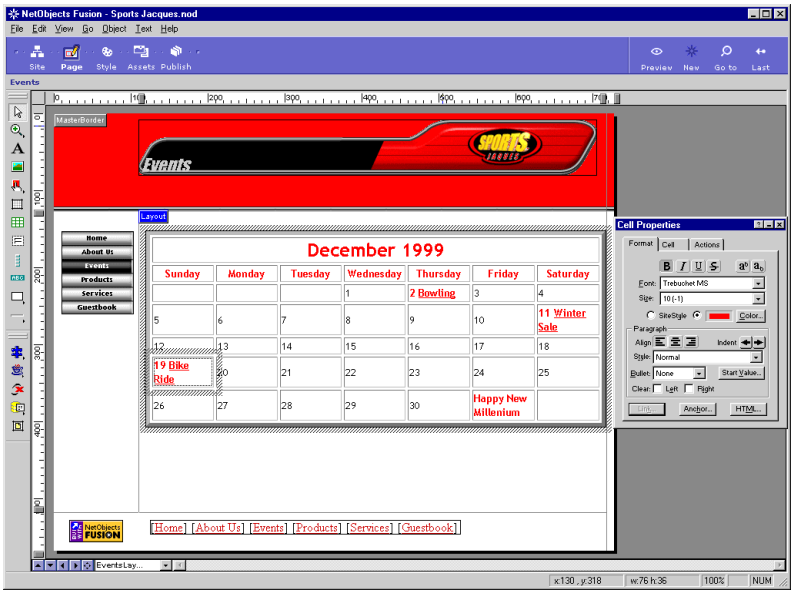
9. On the **Internal Link** tab select the **Bowling** page, then click **Link**.



10. Inside the December 11 cell, type **Winter Sale**, make the text bold, then link it to the Winter Sale page.

    The linked text changes to the regular link color specified in the SiteStyle.

11. Inside the December 19 cell, type **Bike Ride**, make the text bold, then link it to the Bike Ride page.



Notice that some of the text extended to a second line, making some rows of cells deeper than others.

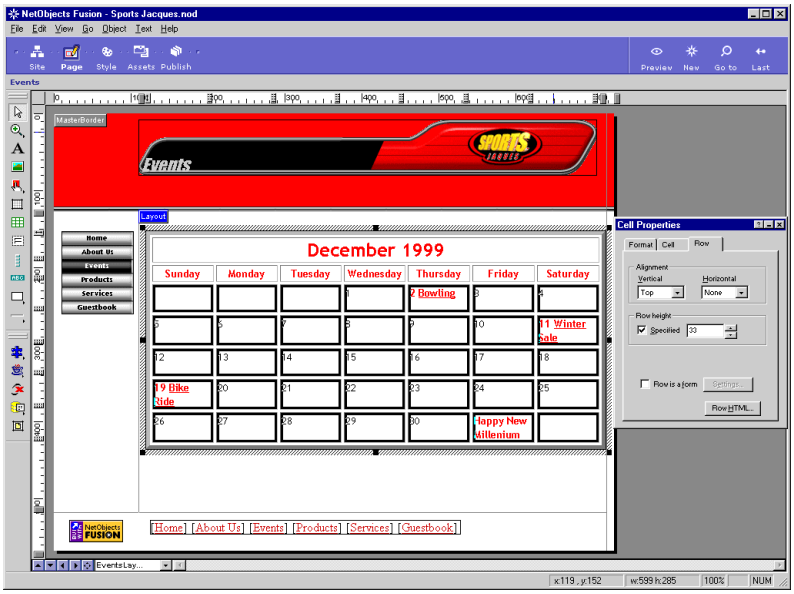
12. Again select all the rows containing dates.

    The **Cell Properties** palette shows the **Row** tab.

13. In the **Row height** section, select the **Specified** check box.

14. In the number field, type **33**.

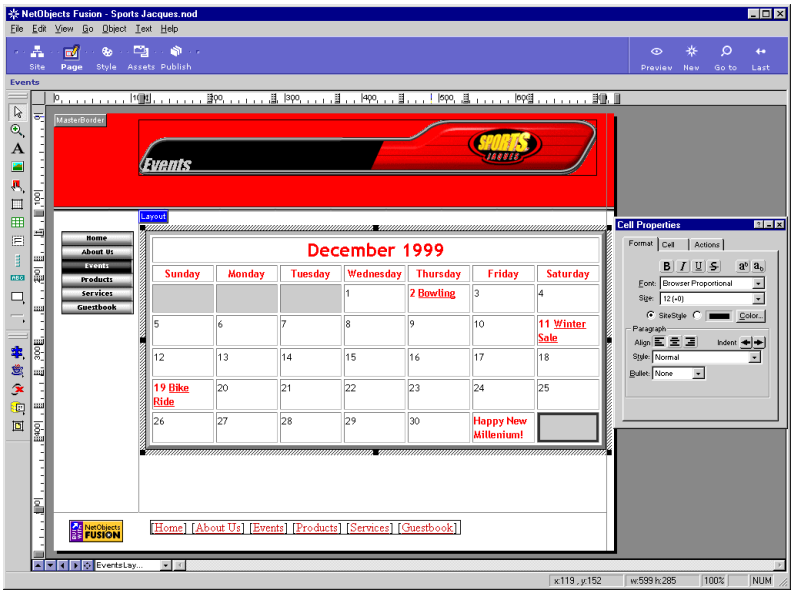
15. In the **Vertical** field of the **Alignment** section, select **Top** from the drop-down list.



Now all cells are the same height, and text is aligned at the top of each cell.

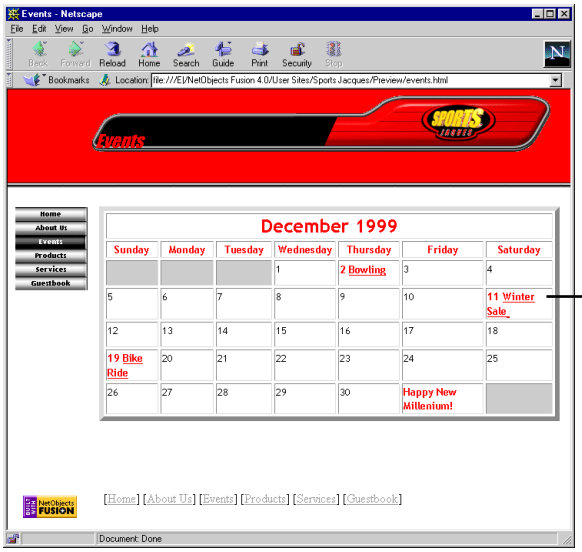
16. In the empty cell under Sunday, click once to select the cell, then hold down the mouse button until you see a big plus sign.
17. Drag through the three empty cells Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday, to select them.
18. On the **Cells** tab of the **Cell Properties** palette, click the **Color** button, select gray, then click **OK**.

    Gray shading fills the three empty cells.
19. Select the last cell of the table and color it gray.



20. Save your site.

21. Preview and test the links in your calendar.



After visiting a text link, the color changes to the visited link color specified in the SiteStyle

Where To Go From Here

You have just used NetObjects Fusion's table features to develop tabular information with hypertext links for publishing to the Web.

For more information on tables, see "Adding Tables" in Chapter 14 of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide,* or in the NetObjects online Help system.

For more examples of tables, see the Events, May, Guestbook, and Order Form pages in the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site. Sample sites are in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites** folder. For information of opening sample sites, see Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

The next lesson, Chapter 7, "Working with HTML Files," shows you how to convert an existing HTML file into NetObjects Fusion format, and how to reference and edit an HTML file that is external to NetObjects Fusion.

Working with HTML Files

Sports Jacques frequently posts community events on its Web site. A biking club is having an event and wants to include its flyer in the Sports Jacques monthly calendar. This flyer is in HTML format. You will simply reference this file from your site rather than importing it and formatting it. This file will remain external to your site.

Sports Jacques is having its annual winter clearance sale. The advertising department created an ad page in HTML format and gave it to you to publish on the Web site. You will import this HTML file into your Sports Jacques site, which converts the HTML into NetObjects Fusion format, so you can edit the page in Page view as usual.

To follow the steps in this lesson you must have built the Sports Jacques site in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes."

This chapter shows you how to:

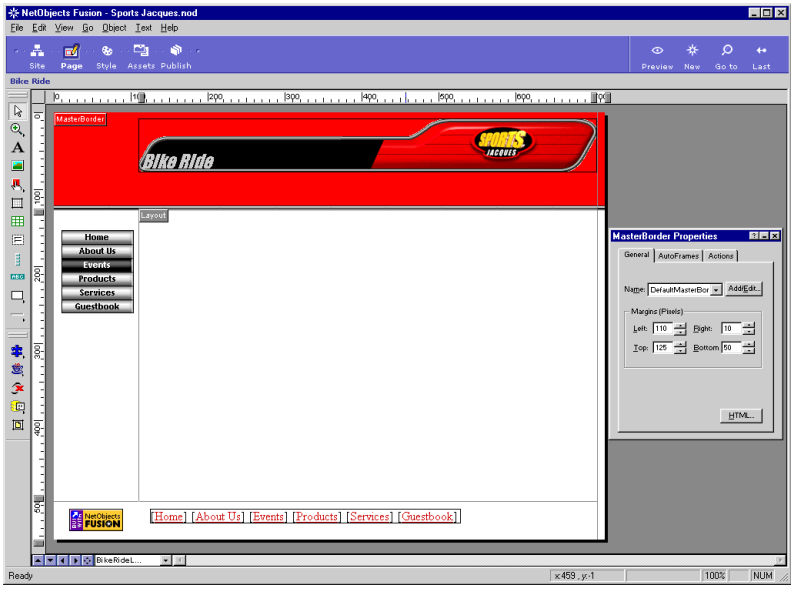
- **Reference an external HTML file**
- **Import an HTML file**
- **Edit the imported HTML page**

Referencing External HTML

A community biking club is having a bike ride and wants to post a flyer in the monthly calendar on the Sports Jacques Web site. The club's social director shows you the flyer and provides you with an HTML file for it.

You see that it has a yellow background, no navigation buttons, and looks completely different from your site. Rather than import the HTML into your site and edit the MasterBorders and background, you decide to reference it externally just as it is, then delete it at the end of the month.

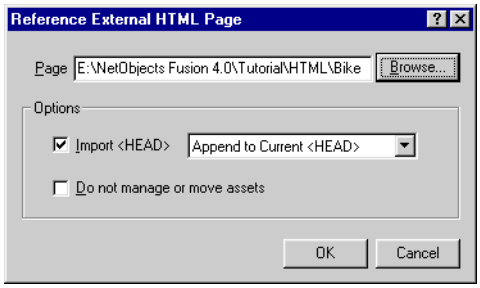
1. Open the **Sports Jacques.nod** site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\Sports Jacques** folder.
2. Navigate to the Bike Ride page in Page view.



3. Choose **Reference External HTML Page** from the **File** menu.

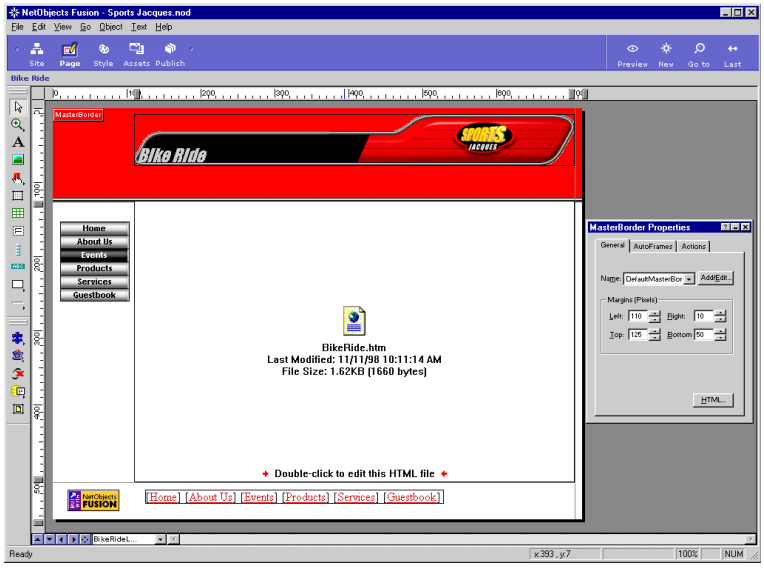
   The **Reference External HTML Page** dialog appears.

4. Click the **Browse** button, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\Html** folder, select **BikeRide.htm**, then click **Open**.



- You import the head when your HTML file has scripts, meta tags, or other contents between the <HEAD> and </HEAD> tags that you want to retain when NetObjects Fusion publishes the page.
- One HTML head is allowed per page. If you have another HTML file on the page, you can select the **Append to Current <HEAD>** option to include the contents of both heads in one, or you can select the **Replace Current <HEAD>** option in the drop-down list to use only the contents of the page you are referencing.
- NetObjects Fusion automatically locates and manages the assets referenced by this HTML file.

5. Click **OK**.

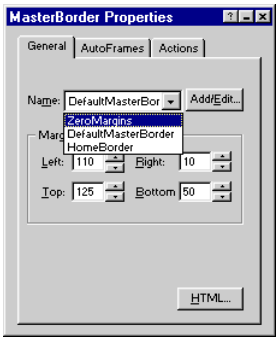


In the Layout area, NetObjects Fusion displays a message showing the name of the referenced HTML file, the date and time it was last modified, and its size.

6. Click the MasterBorder, and on the **MasterBorder Properties** notice the page is set to **DefaultMasterBorder**.

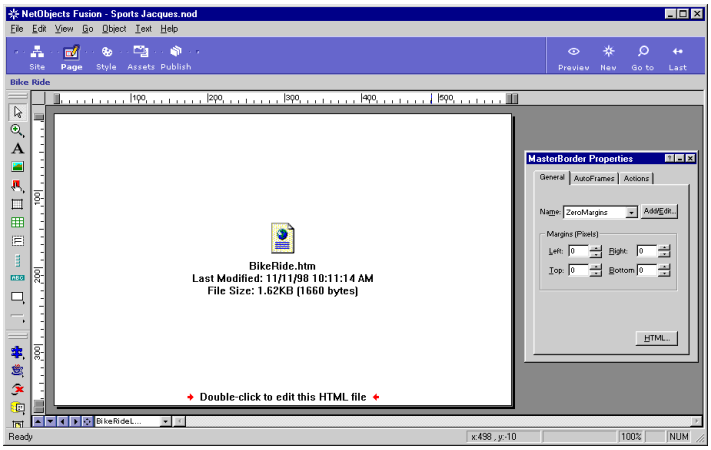
   Because you do not want the **DefaultMasterBorder** included on the Bike Ride flyer, you will use the built-in MasterBorder called **ZeroMargins**. NetObjects Fusion provides this MasterBorder, which is the same as setting the **Left**, **Right**, **Top**, and **Bottom** MasterBorder margins to zero.

7. On the **General** tab of the **MasterBorder Properties**, select **ZeroMargins** from the **Name** drop-down list.



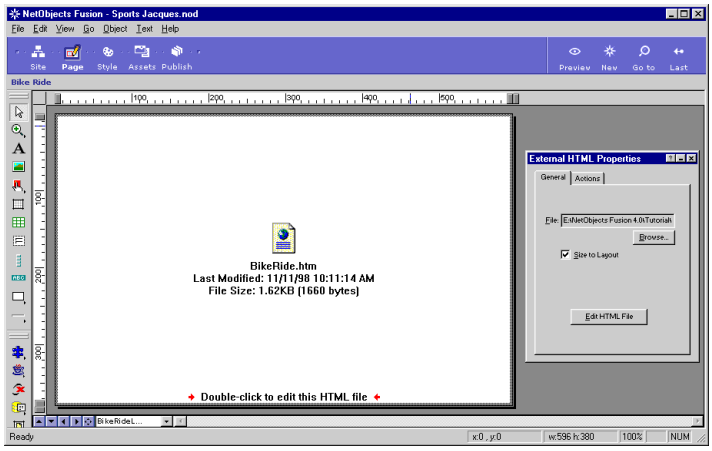
The application window changes to show the Layout only, and the **Margins** section of the **MasterBorder Properties** shows all the margins set to zero.

The ZeroMargins MasterBorder generates the leanest HTML because it eliminates all HTML tables associated with the banner and navigation bars in the MasterBorders.



8. Click the Layout area to select this external HTML object.

   A border surrounds the object and the **External HTML Properties** palette appears.



9. On the **External HTML Properties** palette, click the **Size to Layout** check box to clear it.

   Object handles appear around the object. When the **Size to Layout** option is cleared, you can drag the handles of the external HTML object to change its size in Page view.

   When you make the external HTML object smaller than the Layout, the Layout background shows on the page and in the browser. In some cases you might want to do this.

10. Select the **Size to Layout** check box again.

    You can double-click anywhere on the object to launch the HTML editor specified on the **General** tab of the **Preferences** dialog.

    In this way you can edit and save the HTML file after placing it in NetObjects Fusion, and the browser displays the edited version.

11. Save and preview your site.

Importing an HTML File

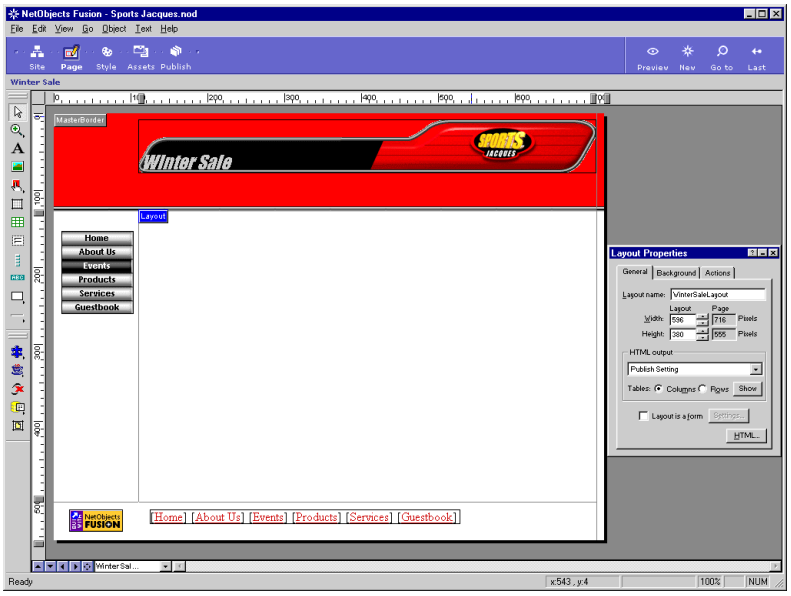
The Sports Jacques advertising department has created a Winter Sale ad in HTML format. You are going to import the file into your Sports Jacques site to inform site visitors about this sale.

When you import the file, it is converted into NetObjects Fusion format so you can make subsequent changes by editing in Page view.

Site Navigation Window button

1. In Page view, click the **Site Navigation** button at the bottom of the window, and in the **Site Navigation** window, double-click the **Winter Sale** page.

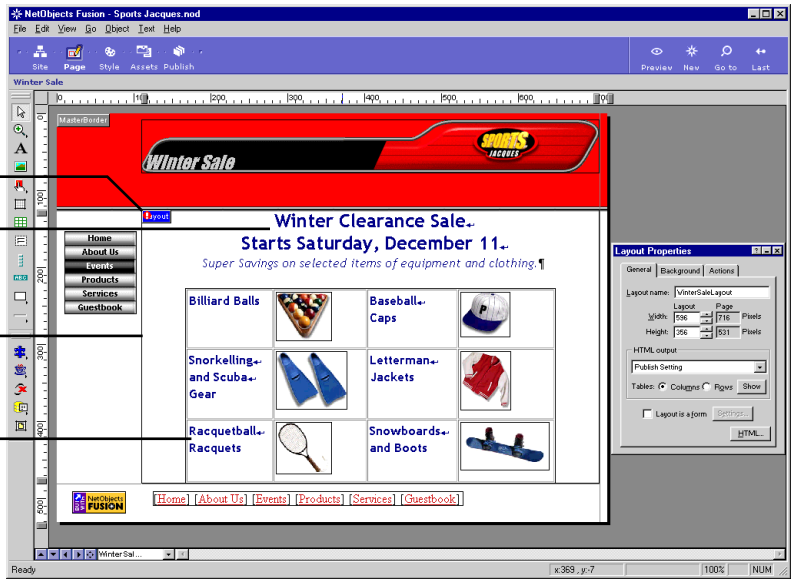
2. On the Winter Sale page, click the Layout to select it.



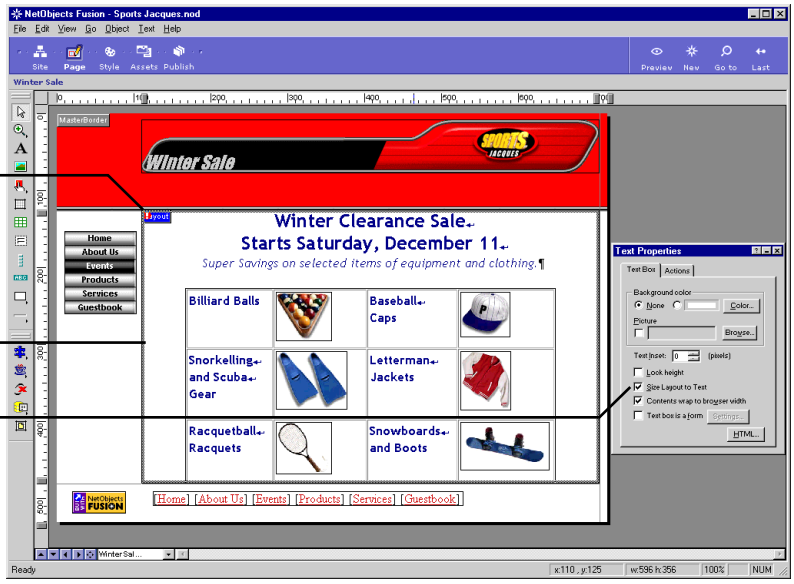
3. Choose **Import Page** from the **File** menu.
4. In the **File Open** dialog that appears, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\Html** folder.
5. Select **SportSale.htm**, then click **Open**.

   NetObjects Fusion imports the HTML file with its contents into a text box in the Layout.

   Initially the text box and Layout are the same size.



6. Click in the Layout area, but not in the table, to view the selected text box and **Text Properties**.



On the **Text Box** tab of the **Text Properties** palette:

- **Lock height** sets the minimum height for the text box in the browser.
- **Size Layout to Text** prevents resizing the text box, makes the Layout the exact size of the text box, and generates lean HTML code.

Hold the pointer over the red warning icon to view the message about zero margins.

- **Contents wrap to browser width** allows the contents of a text box to wrap to the browser's width. This option requires that the Layout is sized to the text so that no objects are outside the text box. It also requires that the page has no MasterBorders, in other words, all the MasterBorder margins are set to zero, or the ZeroMargins MasterBorder is selected.
- **Text box is a form** lets you place form objects inside a text box.

7. This page has a MasterBorder, so clear the **Contents wrap to browser width** check box.

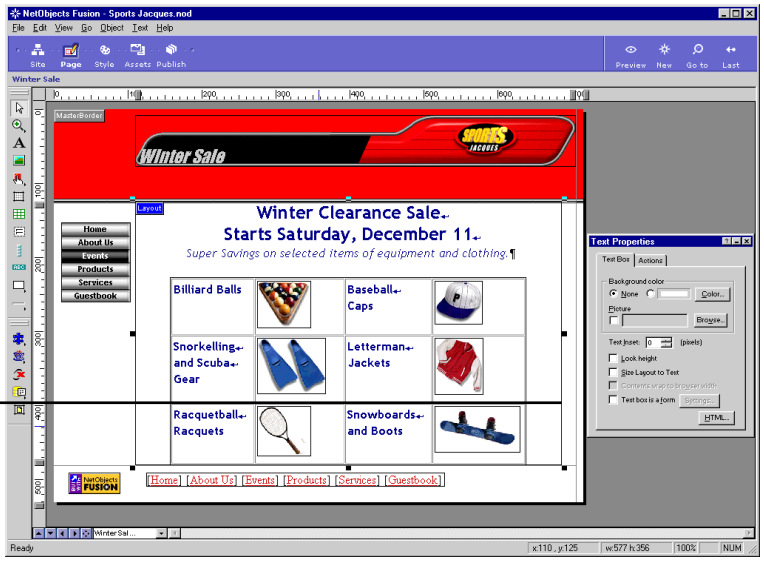
   The red warning icon disappears.

8. Clear the **Size Layout to Text** option.

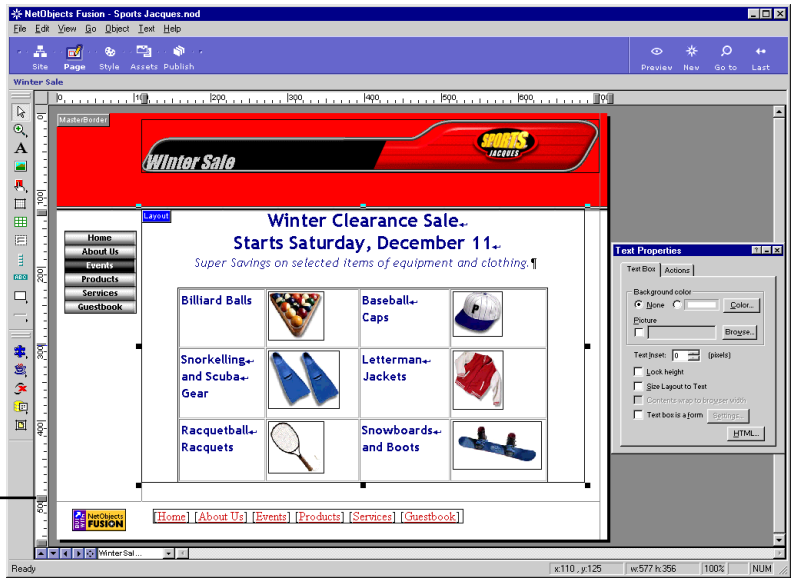
   The Layout margins separate from the text box and the text box becomes selected.

9. Drag the right edge of the text box toward the left slightly, to separate it from the right Layout margin.

Right edge of text box



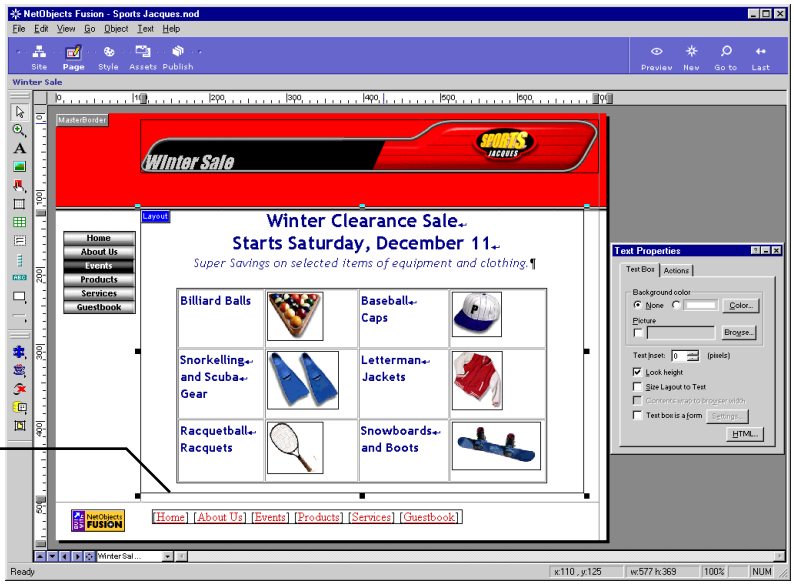
10. Drag the handle for the bottom Layout margin down slightly to separate it from the bottom of the text box.



Handle for bottom Layout margin

11. On the **Text Box** tab of the **Text Properties** palette, select the **Lock Height** option.

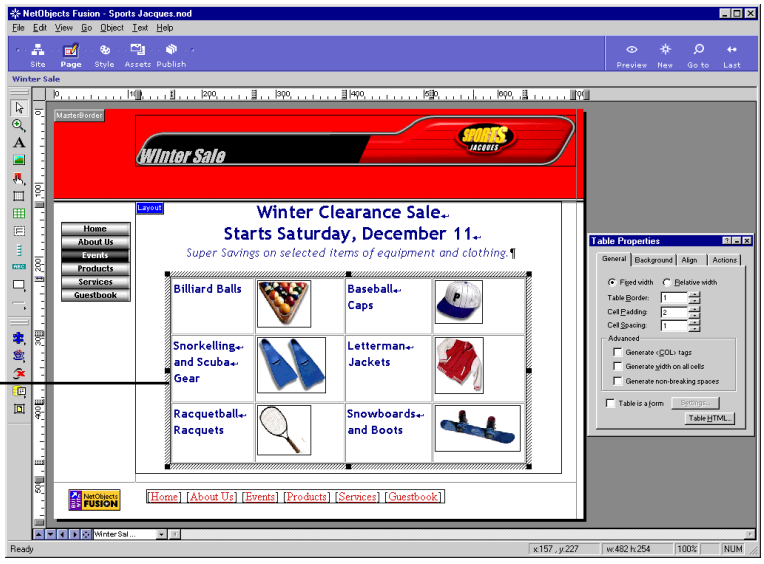
12. Drag the bottom border of the text box downward slightly, to separate it from the table it contains.



Drag the bottom of the text box away from the table

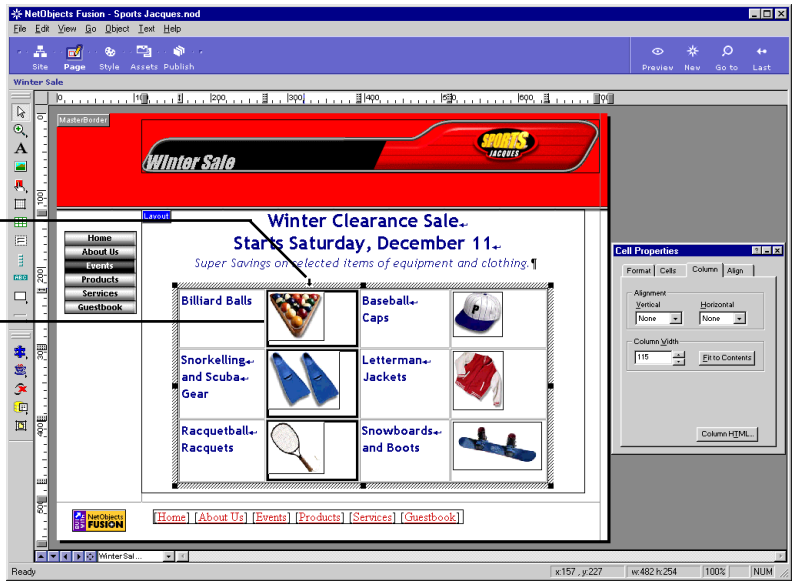
You can edit inside this text box just as you would any other NetObjects Fusion text box; you can crop and re-size graphics and edit the table as well.

13. Select the table inside the text box so the **Table Properties** are showing.



Selected table with General tab of Table Properties showing

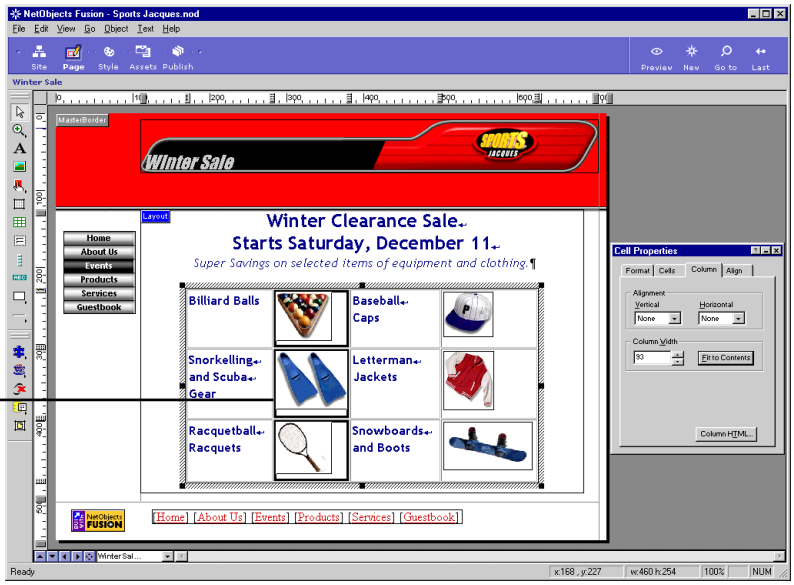
14. Place the pointer over the second column containing pictures, until it changes to a solid black downward-pointing arrow, then click to select the column.



The **Cell Properties** shows the **Column** tab.

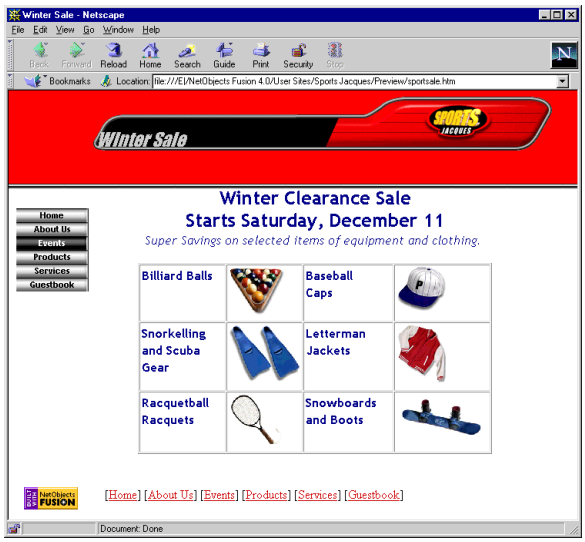
15. In the **Column Width** section click the **Fit to Contents** button.

The column width reduces to the width of the widest picture, making the whole table a bit more narrow.



Cells sized to fit contents

16. Save and preview your site.



Where To Go From Here

You have just learned how to reference an HTML file and edit the original from Page view, and how to import and convert HTML files into NetObjects Fusion format, where you can edit the file in Page view without changing the origianl file. You also learned more about editing tables in NetObjects Fusion.

For more information on HTML files, see Chapter 22, "Referencing and Editing External HTML," and Chapter 26, "Working with HTML Directly," in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in the NetObjects Fusion online Help system.

The next lesson, Chapter 8, "Adding Navigation Aids," shows you how to work with MasterBorders and site sections.

Adding Navigation Aids

The Winter Sale page is in a site section on the second level of the site. Sports Jacques wants to add a button bar to allow navigation between pages on this second level.

As sites grow, providing easy navigation for site visitors becomes more complex. You can use NetObjects Fusion's MasterBorders and the settings for button and text navigation bars to solve these problems. The navigation bar settings let you provide automatic links to home, current, parent, and child levels of the site.

For illustration purposes, this chapter uses the Events, Bike Ride, and Winter Sale pages developed in previous lessons. However, you can still follow the steps in this lesson even if you did not develop the content on those pages.

To follow the steps in this lesson you must have built the Sports Jacques site in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes."

This chapter shows you how to:

- **Create a new MasterBorder**
- **Assign a MasterBorder to a section**
- **Add a button navigation bar**
- **Assign navigation bar properties**

Creating a New MasterBorder

The button navigation bar in the **DefaultMasterBorder** shows the pages in the first level of the site. The Events page has three child pages comprising a second level of the site.

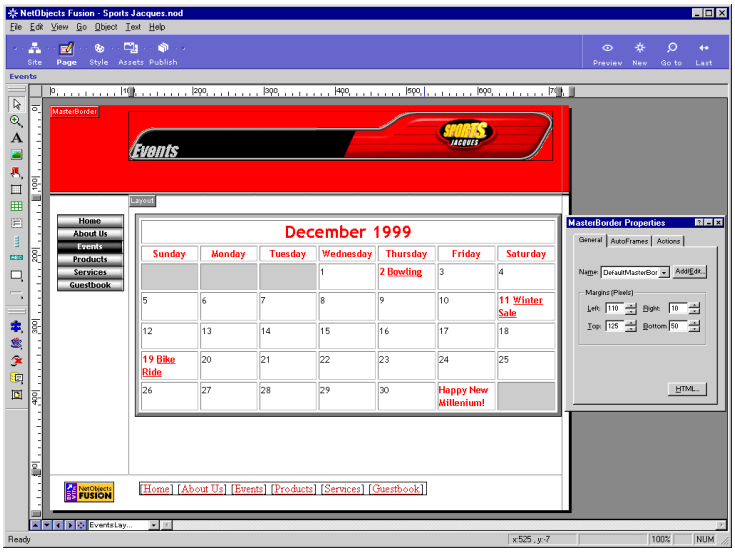
However, there is no direct way to navigate between the pages on the second level of the site, without first going up a level, then down a level.

To solve this problem, you create a new MasterBorder for the section, and set its button navigation bar to show pages on the current level.

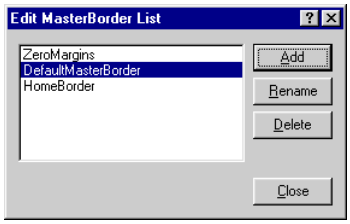
1. Open the **SportsJacques.nod** site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\Sports Jacques** folder.
2. Navigate to the **Events** page in Page view.

If necessary, select Properties from the View menu to show the properties palette.

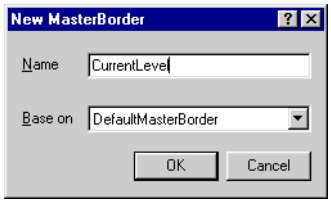
3. Click inside the MasterBorder to select it, so the **MasterBorder Properties** appear.



4. On the **MasterBorder Properties** palette, click the **Add/Edit** button.



5. In the **Edit MasterBorder List** dialog, click the **Add** button.

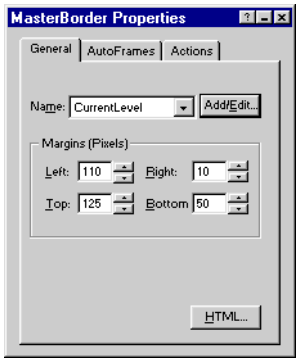


6. In the **New MasterBorder** dialog, type **CurrentLevel**.

   Leave the new MasterBorder based on **DefaultMasterBorder**.

7. Click **OK.**

   On the **MasterBorder Properties** palette, **CurrentLevel** appears automatically in the **Name** field of the **General** tab.



   At this point the **CurrentLevel** border is still the same as the **DefaultMasterBorder** it was based on.

Navigation Bar tool

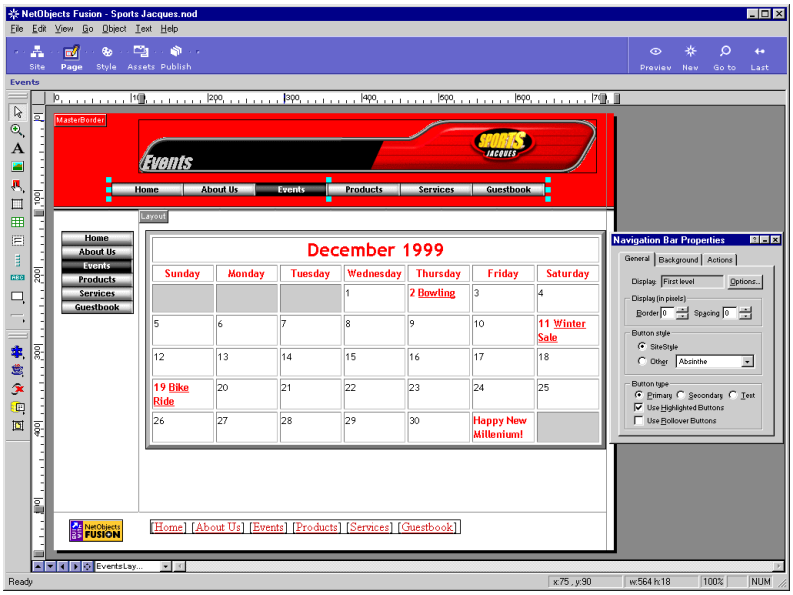
If a vertical banner appears, select Undo from the Edit menu and start over.

8. Click the **Navigation Bar** tool.

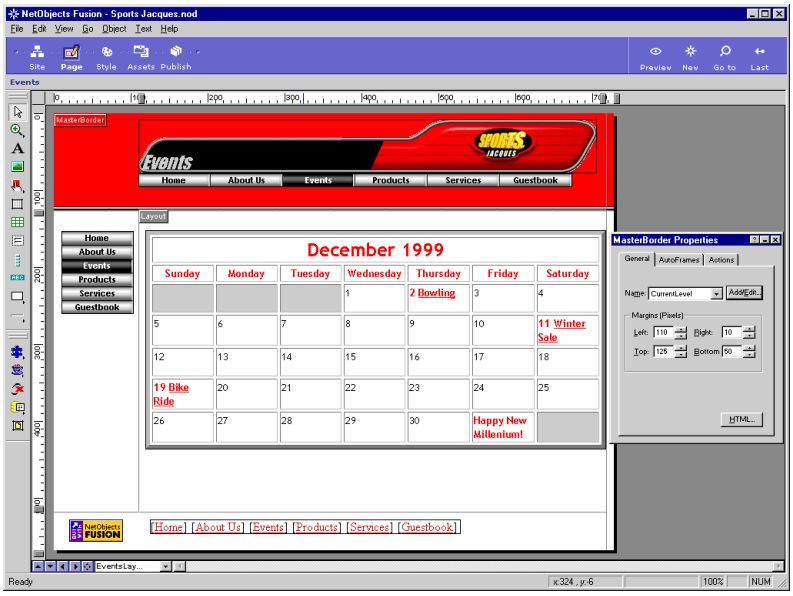
The pointer changes to a crosshair.

9. Place the crosshair in the top MasterBorder, on the left side, under the banner, and click, or you can draw a horizontal rectangle.

A horizontal button navigation bar appears under the banner.



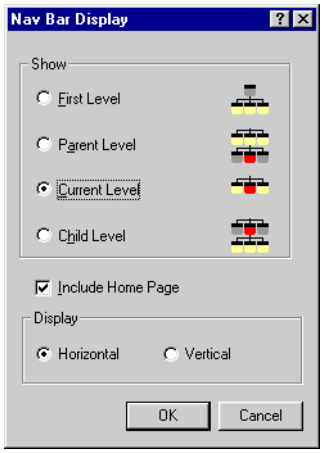
10. Drag the button bar until it is flush with the banner and centered under it.



11. If necessary, click the horizontal button bar to select it.

12. On the **General** tab of the **Navigation Bar Properties**, click the **Options** button.

13. In the **Nav Bar Display** dialog, select **Current Level**.



14. Click **OK**.

The horizontal button navigation bar looks the same, because for the Events page, the first level is the same as the current level.

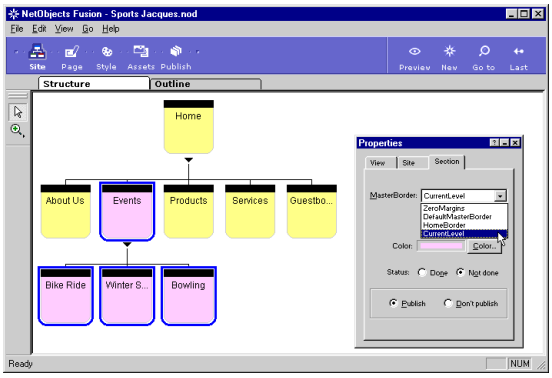
Assigning a MasterBorder to a Section

1. Click the **Site** button on the control bar to go to Site view.
2. Press the **Shift** key while you click the **Events** page, or choose **Select Section** from the **Edit** menu.

   The **Properties** palette displays the **Section** tab.

   Because pages in a section can contain different MasterBorders, this tab shows the MasterBorder assigned to the selected page. To assign a MasterBorder to a whole section, you must select the MasterBorder here.
3. In the **MasterBorder** field, click the arrow to display the drop-down list, then select **CurrentLevel**.

Note: Although it is already selected for the page, you must select it again to apply it to the section.



Now all the pages in the section are assigned the **CurrentLevel** MasterBorder.

Viewing Section MasterBorders

You are going to view the results of assigning the **CurrentLevel** MasterBorder to the section.

1. Double-click the **Events** page to view it in Page view.

   The Events page looks the same as when you finished creating the **CurrentLevel** MasterBorder on it.

   This page now has two button navigation bars showing the same page links, which is unnecessary, so you reassign the **DefaultMasterBorder** to this page.

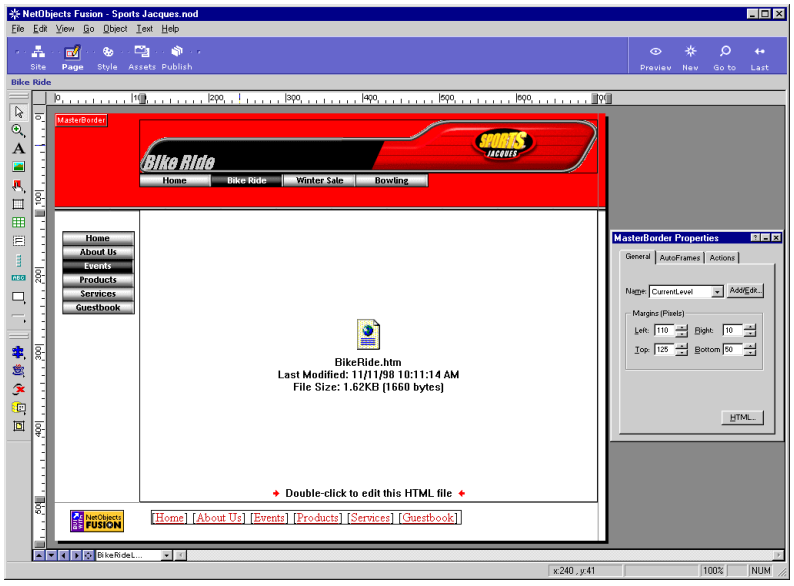
2. Select the MasterBorder, and on the **General** tab of the **MasterBorder Properties**, select **DefaultMasterBorder** from the **Name** field.

   The **Events** page once again has the same MasterBorder as all other pages on the first level of your site.

> **Note:** You could keep the horizontal navigation bar, create a new MasterBorder for this page, such as ChildBorder, and set Options on the Navigation Bar Properties to Child Level. This would be essential if your calendar did not contain links to the child pages. Do this if you did not create the calendar in Chapter 6, "Creating a Calendar of Events."

If you followed the steps in "Referencing External HTML" on page 7-2, you referenced an external HTML file on this page and set the MasterBorder to ZeroMargins, which causes the MasterBorder to disappear.

3. Navigate to the Bike Ride page in Page view.



Setting this page to **CurrentLevel** has caused the MasterBorder to reappear.

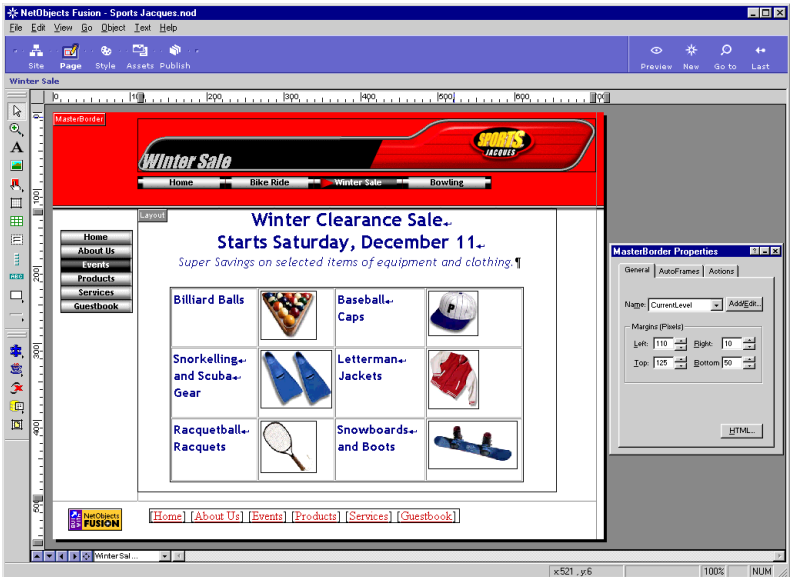
To preview the current page only, hold down the Ctrl key while you click the Preview button.

✧ To view the effect in a browser, preview the page.

✧ If you referenced the external HTML file in Chapter 7 and want to restore the page to no borders, click the MasterBorder, then select **ZeroMargins** from the **Name** field on the **General** tab of the **MasterBorder Properties**.

✧ When there are no navigation aids on a page, the site visitor must use the browser's **Back** button to view other pages.

4. Navigate to the Winter Sale page in Page view.

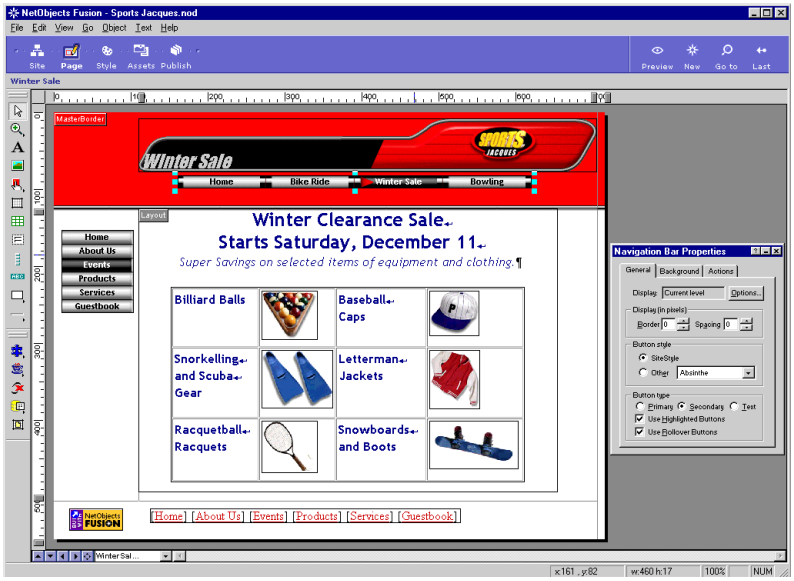


The button navigation bar shows pages on the current level, giving site visitors a convenient way to view them.

The vertical button navigation bar in the left MasterBorder provides a convenient link to all pages on the first level.

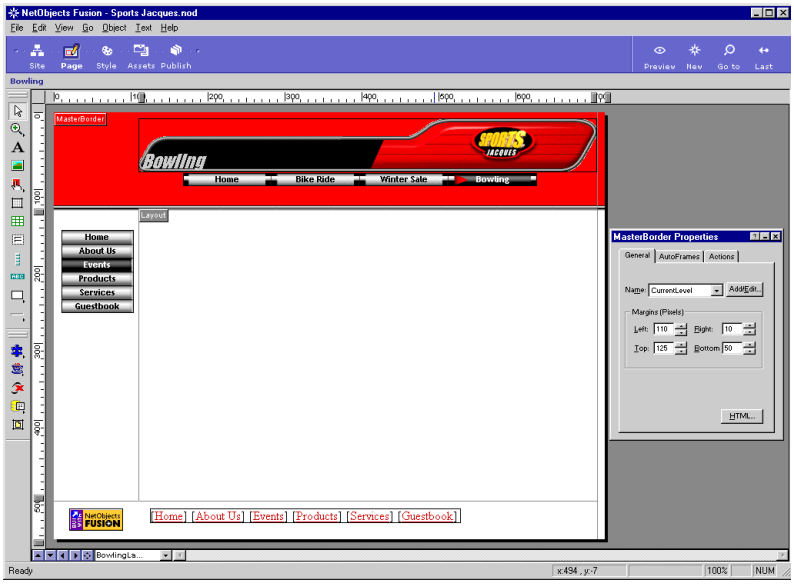
5. Select the horizontal button navigation bar.
6. On the **General** tab of the **Navigation Bar Properties**, in the **Button type** section, select the **Secondary** option.

   The buttons change to the secondary button style shown in Style view.
7. Select the **Use Rollover Buttons** check box.
8. Drag the button bar to center it under the banner.



9. Navigate to the Bowling page.

Aha. This page is just right.



10. Save and preview your site, being sure to test the navigation links on the second level.

Remember that when there are no navigation aids on a page, the site visitor must use the browser's **Back** button to move to a different page.

Where To Go From Here

You have just learned more about using MasterBorders and button navigation bars to provide your site visitors with convenient navigation aids on multiple levels of the site. You also learned how to assign a MasterBorder to a site section.

For more examples of the use of MasterBorders in sites and site sections, see the sample sites in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites** folder. For information on opening sample sites, see Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

The next lesson, Chapter 9, "Adding a Rotating Ad Banner,"shows you how to include a rotating advertisement banner with links to other sites and pages.

Adding a Rotating Ad Banner

Sports Jacques wants to place advertisement banners on the Winter Sale page, and link the banners to other sites and pages. You can use the NetObjects Fusion rotating Ad Banner component to easily accomplish this. A component is a pre-built mini-application that adds interactivity to your site without custom programming or scripting. With the Ad Banner component you can assign links and transition effects to images.

To follow the steps in this lesson you must have built the Sports Jacques site in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes."

For illustration purposes this chapter uses the Winter Sale page developed in Chapter 7, "Working with HTML Files." The page also contains a horizontal button navigation bar added in Chapter 8, "Adding Navigation Aids." However, you can still follow the steps in this chapter even if you did not import the HTML file or create the button navigation bar.

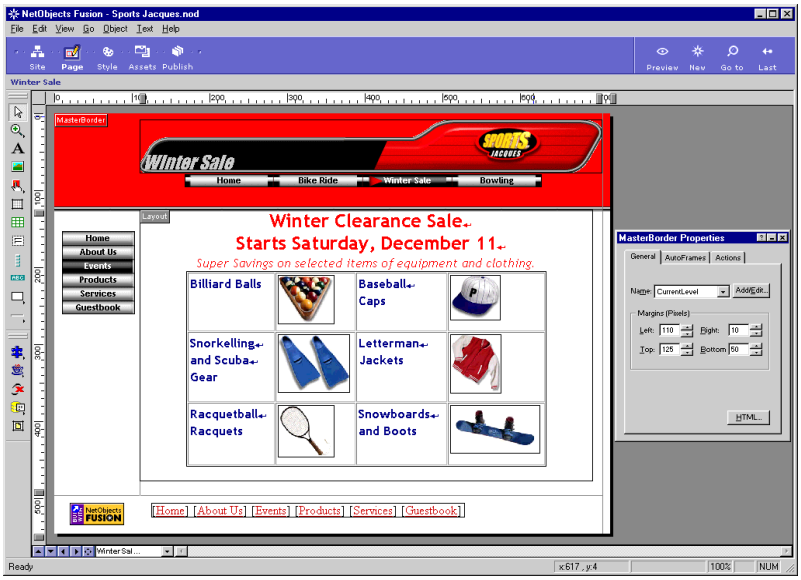
This chapter shows you how to:

- **Create a new MasterBorder**
- **Assign a MasterBorder to a page**
- **Place an Ad Banner Component**
- **Set properties for the component**
- **Publish your site locally**

Placing a Rotating Ad Banner Component

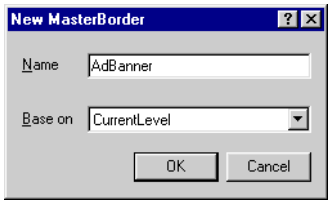
You are going to use the NetObjects Fusion rotating Ad Banner component to place a series of advertisement banners on the Winter Sale page. Each banner will link to another site or page when the site visitor clicks it.

1. Open the **Sports Jacques.nod** site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\Sports Jacques** folder.
2. Navigate to the Winter Sale page in Page view and select the MasterBorder.



You want the rotating banner to appear only on this page, so you are going to make a MasterBorder to accommodate it.

3. On the **General** tab of the **MasterBorder Properties**, click the **Add/Edit** button.
4. In the **Edit MasterBorder List** dialog, click the **Add** button.
5. In the **New MasterBorder** dialog, type **AdBanner** in the **Name** field.

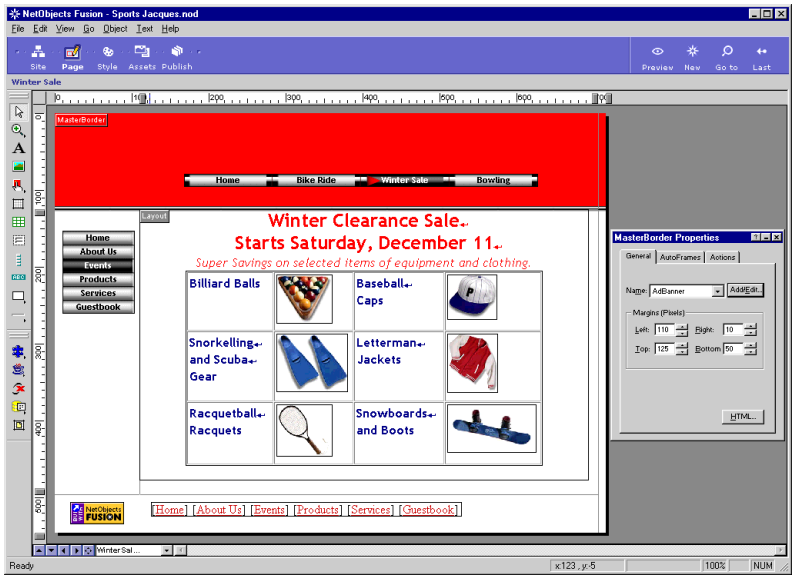


6. Leave it based on **CurrentLevel**, then click **OK**.

   If you did not make the CurrentLevel MasterBorder in "Creating a New MasterBorder" on page 8-2, leave it based on the DefaultMasterBorder.

   The **General** tab shows that **AdBanner** is now the MasterBorder assigned to the Winter Sale page.

7. Right-click the Sports Jacques banner, then select **Delete Object** from the shortcut menu.



8. From the **View** menu choose **Toolbars**, **Component Tools**, **NetObjects Fusion Components**.

   The **NetObjects Fusion Components** toolbar appears.

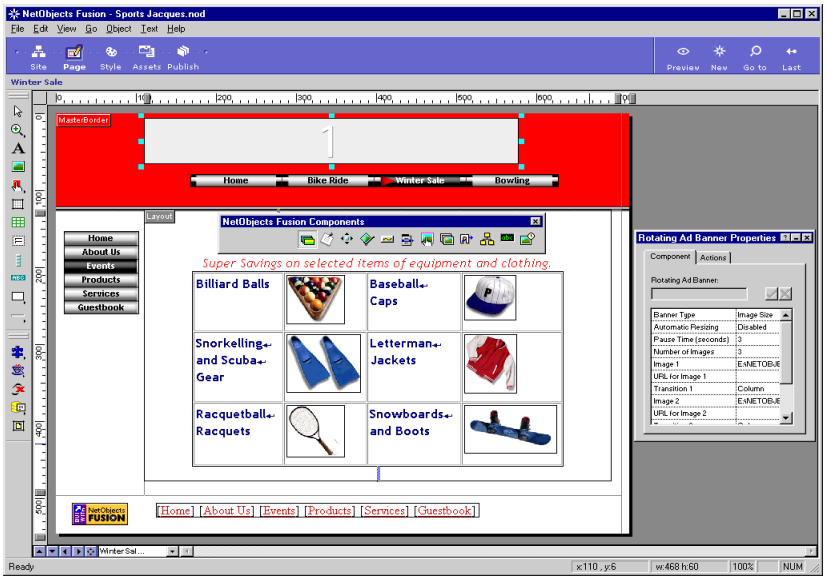
Ad Banner tool

If you misplace the Ad Banner, select Undo from the Edit menu and start over.

9. Click the **Ad Banner** tool.

10. Starting in the upper left of the top MasterBorder, draw a small rectangle. The size doesn't matter. NetObjects Fusion automatically sizes the box to the image.

    NetObjects Fusion automatically places a picture placeholder where you drag, and selects it.



    The properties palette shows **Rotating Ad Banner Properties**.

11. Save your site.

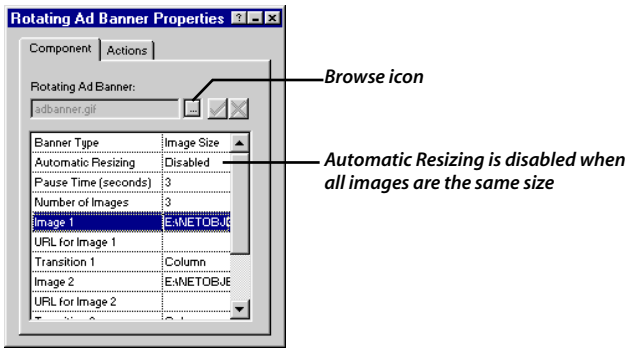
Setting Rotating Ad Banner Properties

You can specify whether the ad banner is the size of the image, a standard banner size, or a custom image size. You can specify the pause time in seconds between banner transitions, and the total number of images to appear in the ad banner.

For each image you can specify the image filename, target URL of the link, and transition effect.

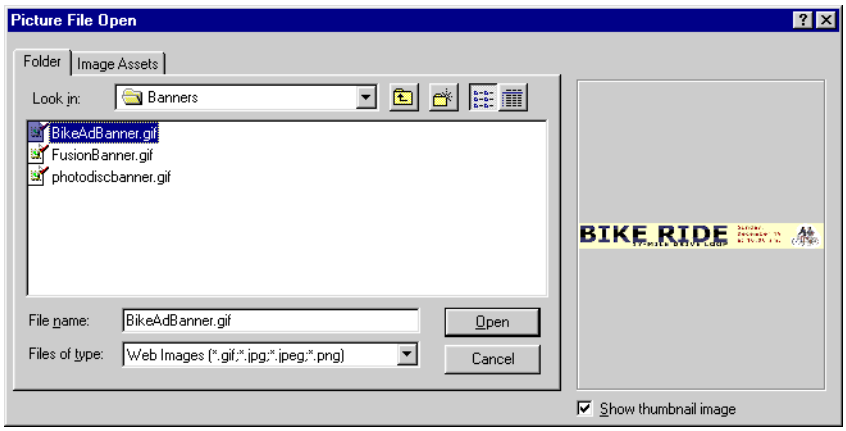
1. On the **Component** tab of the **Rotating Ad Banner Properties**, select the **Image 1** property in the left column.

   The right column shows the name of the default ad banner placeholder, **adbanner1.gif**.



Browse icon

2. Click the Browse icon at the top of the **Rotating Ad Banner Properties** to display the **Picture File Open** dialog.



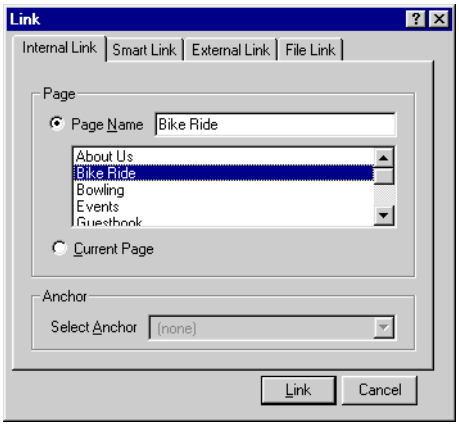
3. In the **Folders** tab, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\Banners** folder, select **BikeAdBanner.gif**, then click **Open**.

   The placeholder image changes to the Bike Ride banner.

4. Drag the Bike Ride banner to center it over the horizontal button bar.

5. On the **Component** tab of the **Rotating Ad Banner Properties**, double-click the **URL for Image 1** property.

6. In the **Link** dialog that appears, select the **Bike Ride** page on the **Internal Link** tab, then click **Link**.

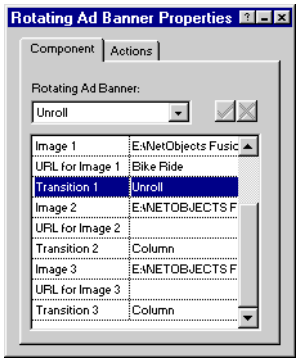


When a site visitor clicks the Bike Ride banner, the browser will display the Bike Ride page.

7. On the **Component** tab, select **Transition 1**.

You can drag the column divider in the properties palette to widen a column.

8. In the drop-down list at the top, select the **Unroll** transition.



9. Double-click the **Image 2** field in the left column of the **Component** tab.

To maximize compatibility with browsers, it is best if all the banners are the same size.

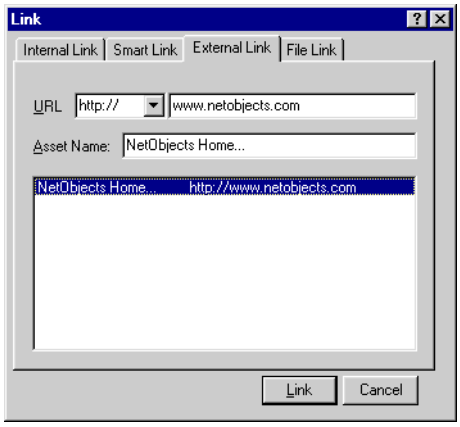
10. From the **Folder** tab of the **Picture File Open** dialog, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\Banners** folder, select **FusionBanner.gif**, then click **Open**.

    The Fusion Banner now appears in the banner location.

11. On the **Component** tab, double-click the **URL for Image 2** field.

12. In the **Link** dialog that appears, click the **External Link** tab.

13. Select **NetObjects Home... http://www.netobjects.com**

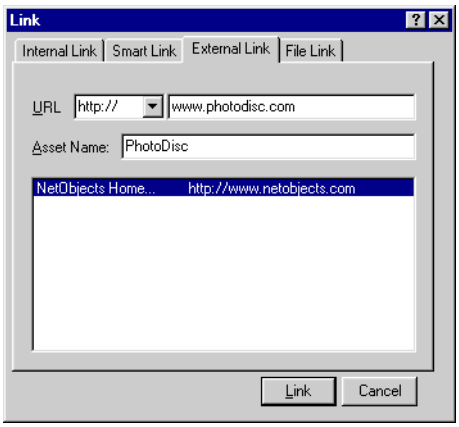


14. Click **Link**.

When an online site visitor clicks this banner, the browser will connect to the NetObjects Fusion home page.

15. Leave **Transition 2** set to the default **Column**.
16. On the properties palette, scroll down until you see the properties for **Image 3**.
17. Double-click the **Image 3** field.
18. On the **Folder** tab of the **Picture File Open** dialog, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\Banners** folder, select **photodiscbanner.gif**, then click **Open**.

    The PhotoDisc banner appears in the banner location.
19. Double-click the **URL for Image 3** field.
20. In the **Link** dialog, click the **External Link** tab.
21. In the **URL** field next to **http://** type **www.photodisc.com**.
22. In the **Asset Name** field type **PhotoDisc**



23. Click **Link**.

    The next time you view the **External Link** tab, both URLs will be listed there.
24. On the **Components** tab, select **Transition 3**, then select the **Tear** transition from the drop-down list at the top.
25. Save your site.

    Components do not display when previewing. You must publish locally or remotely to view components.

Publishing Your Site

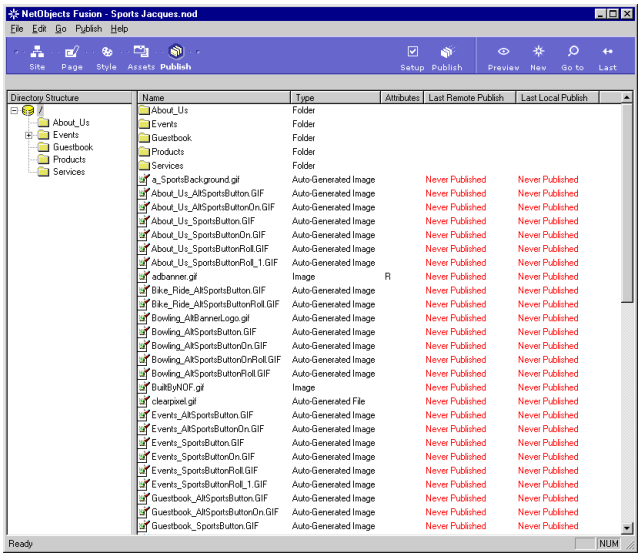
Previewing creates a simplified version of the files and paths required for your site to facilitate quickly viewing it in the browser.

Publishing locally creates an exact replica of the files and paths that you transfer to your ISP server when you publish remotely.

When previewing your site, placeholders appear instead of NetObjects components. You must publish the site, at least locally, to view components.

Publish view button

1. Click the **Publish** button on the control bar to change to Publish view.

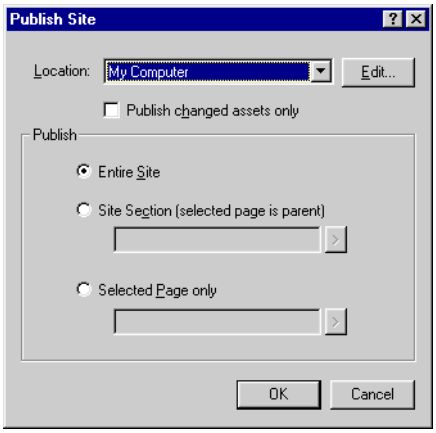


Publish button

2. On the right side of the control bar, click the **Publish** button.

   The **Publish Site** dialog appears.

3. In the **Location** field, select **My Computer** from the drop-down list if it is not already selected.



Note: If you did not follow the steps to create a calendar with links to the Winter Sale page in Chapter 6, "Creating a Calendar of Events," you must select the **Selected Page only** option. Otherwise you will be unable to navigate to the Winter Sale page after publishing.

4. Click **OK**.

When you publish the entire site, the browser always displays the Home page, unlike previewing, where the browser displays the current page.

NetObjects Fusion displays the **Publishing Site** dialog, showing status while copying files to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites\Sports Jacques\Publish** directory. It launches the browser specified in the **Preferences** dialog, and displays the Sports Jacques Home page.

5. Click the Events page to view the Calendar of Events.
6. Click the **Winter Sale** link in the December calendar.

   If you did not create the calendar, click the Winter Sale button on the horizontal navigation bar that you added under the banner in Chapter 8, "Adding Navigation Aids."

   The browser starts the Java applet required to display to rotating banner, and the banner changes every 3 seconds as specified in the **Rotating Ad Banner Properties**.

   Note the transition effects you assigned between each banner.
7. Click the Bike Ride banner to view its link target, the Bike Ride page.

8. Click the **Back** button on the browser to return from the Bike Ride page, if you removed its MasterBorder.

   ✧ If you are not online and click one of the remote links, the browser will display a message telling you it cannot connect.

   ✧ If you are online and click one of the remote links, the browser will connect to the page that is specified as the link target.

Where To Go From Here

You have just implemented an e-application by using a NetObjects Fusion component in your site. For more information about NetObjects Fusion components, see "Using NetObjects Fusion Components" in Chapter 24 of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in the NetObjects Fusion online Help system.

The next lesson, Chapter 10, "Adding a Java Bean," shows you how to use a Java Bean to add an e-application and interactivity to your site.

Adding a Java Bean

Experienced Web developers will want to implement some functions as Java Beans.

A Java Bean is a type of Java applet that is developed to be a component or building block in a larger application. NetObjects Fusion provides several Java Beans you can use as examples or as starting points for building your own.

This chapter shows you how use NetObjects Fusion to add one of the built-in Java Bean components to your site.

Sports Jacques is sponsoring a charity bowling event that will take place at the same time in five cities around the world. The company wants you to design a page where site visitors can learn the date and time the event begins in each of the five cities.

To follow the steps in this chapter, you must have built the Sports Jacques site in Chapter 1, "Building a Site in 10 Minutes."

Note: You must use Netscape Navigator 4.06 and greater or Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 and greater to view the Java Bean component in the browser.

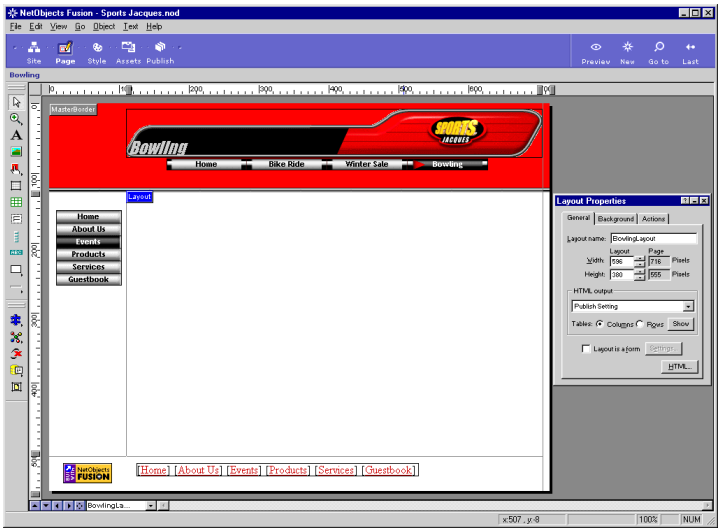
This chapter shows you how to:

- **Add text to the Layout**
- **Add a Java Bean**
- **Set Java Bean properties**
- **Add an animated GIF**
- **Add a custom banner name**

Adding Text

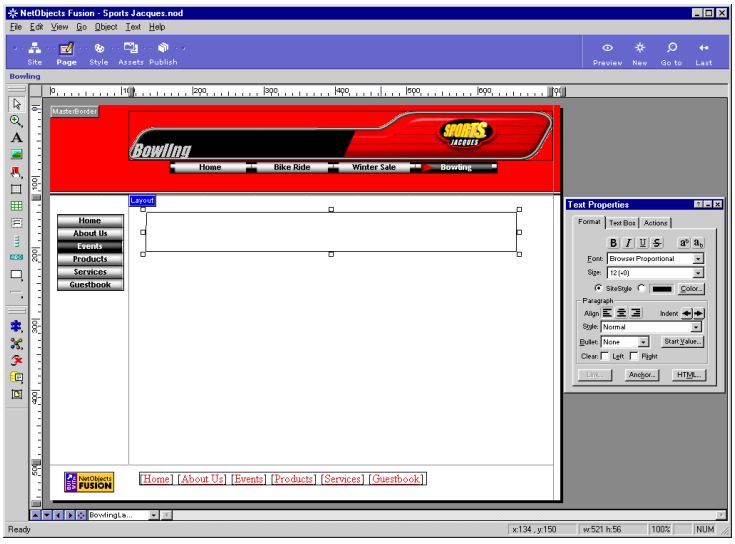
You add a line of text to the top of the Layout to introduce your Java Bean.

1. Open the **Sports Jacques.nod** site and navigate to the **Bowling** page in Page view.



Text tool

2. Select the **Text** tool and draw a box in the top of the Layout.



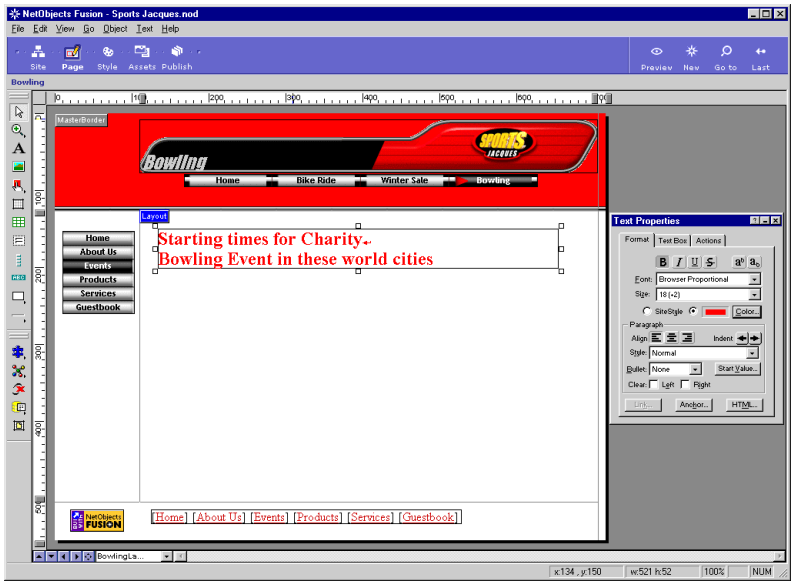
3. Type the following text:

   Starting times for Charity Bowling Event in these world cities

4. Select the text and, on the **Format** tab of the **Text Properties**, set the following properties:

Bold icon

   - Set the font to Bold.
   - Set the font size to **18** (**+2**).
   - Set the color to red.
   - Type **Shift-Enter** after the word **Charity**.



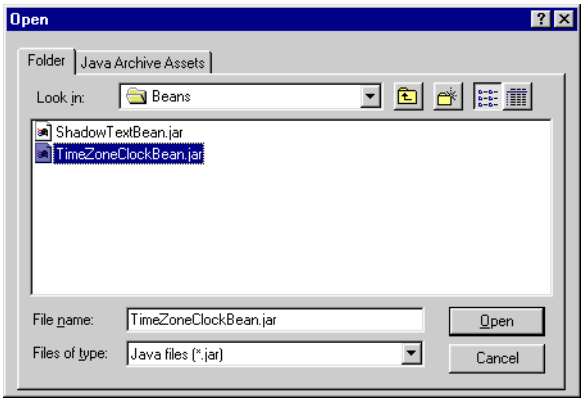
5. Save your site.

Adding a Java Bean

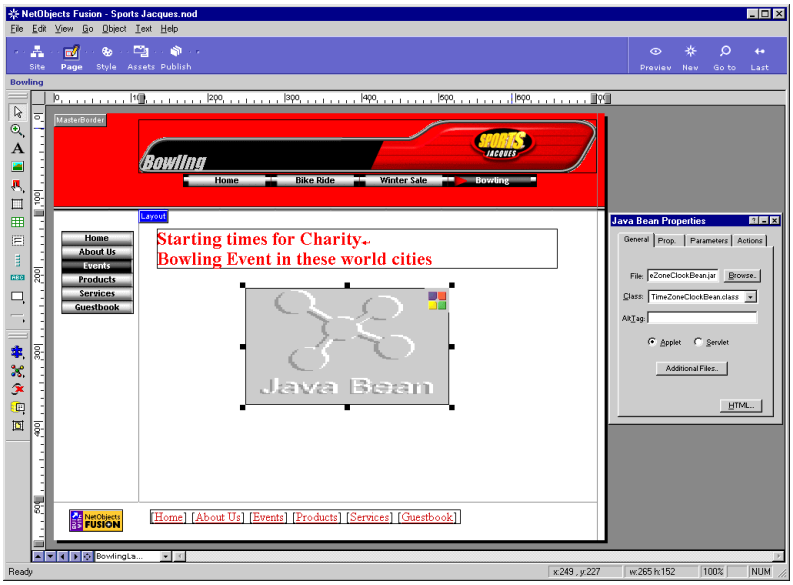
Java Bean tool

1. From the Advanced toolbar on the left window border, select the **Java Bean** tool from the Java flyout.
2. Draw a rectangle about 200 pixels high by 300 pixels wide (approximately 2 inches by 3 inches), in the center of the Layout.

3. In the **Open** dialog that appears, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Java\Beans** folder, select the **TimeZoneClockBean.jar** Java Bean file, then click **Open**.



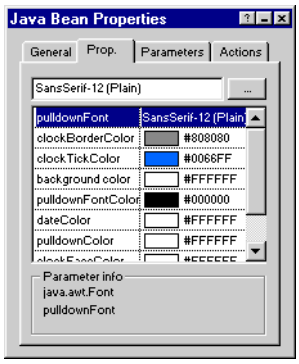
The Java Bean placeholder appears in the Layout, and the properties palette shows **Java Bean Properties**.



The icon in the upper right corner of the Java Bean placeholder is specified by the developer, in this case NetObjects. Developers who write their own Java Beans can specify an icon to display in their bean placeholder.

- ✧ The **General** tab of the **Java Bean Properties** palette shows the file name of the Java Bean in the **File** field, and the name of its class file in the **Class** field.
- ✧ The **Applet** option button indicates this Java Bean is an applet that the browser launches on the local computer, and not a servlet that runs on the Web server.

4. Click the **Prop.** tab.



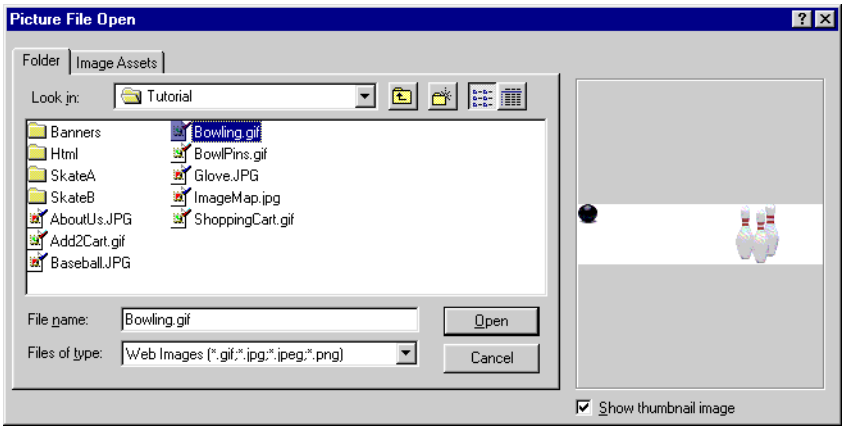
5. Double-click the **pulldownColor** parameter, select pale yellow from the **Color Picker** dialog, then click **OK**.
6. Double-click the **clockFaceColor** parameter, select pale yellow from the **Color Picker** dialog, then click **OK**.
7. Save your site.

   To view the Java Bean you need to publish your site locally or remotely.

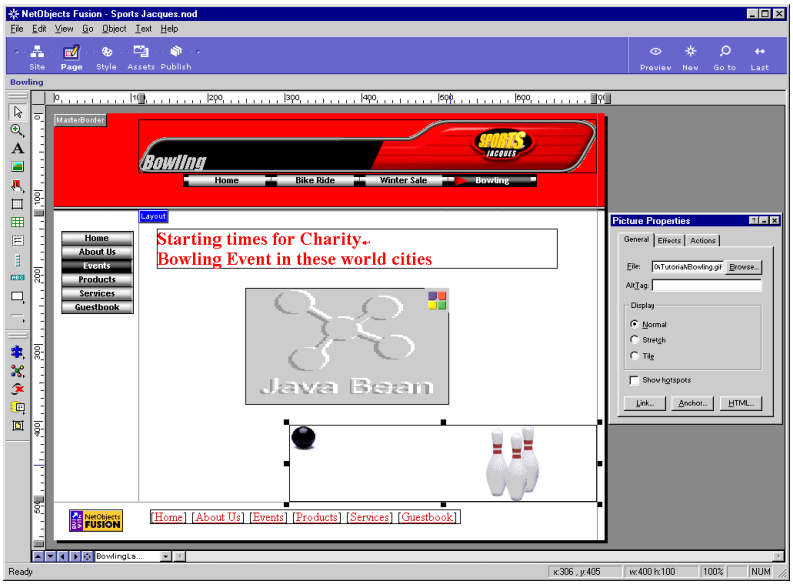
Adding an Animated Gif

Picture tool

1. Select the **Picture** tool and, starting in the lower left of the Layout, draw a box below the Java Bean placeholder.
2. In the **Folder** tab of the **Picture File Open** dialog, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder and select the **Bowling.gif** file, then click **Open**.



3. Drag the bowling picture to the right until it is flush with the right Layout margin.

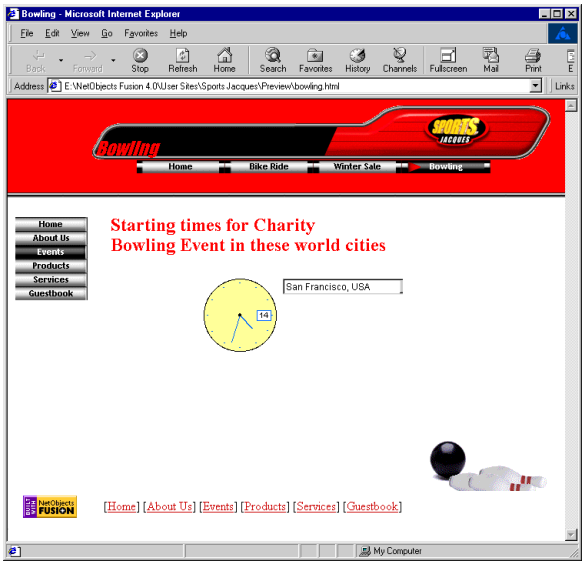


You must use Netscape Navigator 4.6 or greater or Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.0 or greater to view the Java Bean. in a browser.

4. Save and publish your site.

   For instructions on publishing locally, see "Publishing Your Site Locally" on page 11-4.

If any part of the Java Bean component is clipped, return to Page view, select the Java Bean placeholder, drag a handle to make it larger, then publish again.



5. In the browser, select a city from the city drop-down list.

The clock changes to show the current time and date in that city. Notice the date change when you select a city on the other side of the International Date Line.

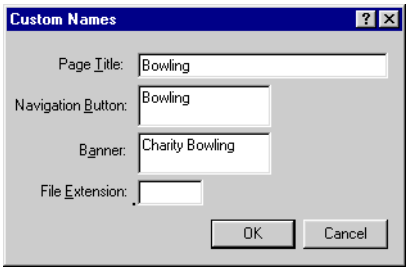
Changing the Banner Name

Sports Jacques wants the name of the page to be Charity Bowling. You know that name will be too long for the navigation button. With NetObjects Fusion you can easily change the name on only a banner or button.

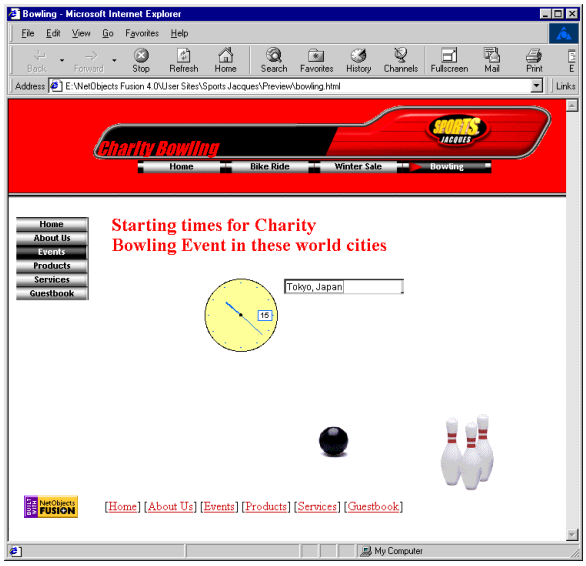
1. Display the Bowling page in Page view, then press the **F11** function key to display **Page Properties**.

The **Name** field of the **Page** tab shows that **Bowling** is the banner name.

2. Click the **Custom Names** button.
3. In the **Banner** field, type **Charity Bowling**, then click **OK**.



4. Save and publish your site.



Where To Go From Here

You can create your own Java Beans using NetObjects Bean Builder, a separate NetObjects product. See Chapter 20, "Inserting a Java Bean Component," in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* for more information about Java Beans, their properties and parameters, and how to include your own Java Beans for use with the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 Java Bean tool.

The next lesson, Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites," shows you how to open the sample site templates that come with NetObjects Fusion 4.0. This chapter also shows you how to publish your site locally so you can test internal NetObjects components or third-party components. You must publish your site to view the pages you'll create in the next part of this guide.

Viewing Sample Sites

NetObjects Fusion 4.0 is distributed with sample sites that demonstrate various features of the product. Open and view the sample sites to gain more insight into the power of NetObjects Fusion.

NetObjects Fusion installs the sample sites when you select the **Typical** option in **NetObjects Fusion Selection** dialog in the Installer, or when you select the **Sample Files** check box using the **Custom Install** option.

The sample sites are in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites** folder. Each site is stored in a template file of type **.nft** that you can easily view.

With a template or **.nft** file, all the assets a site requires are stored in one folder, so the site can be transferred to another computer successfully. Anyone running NetObjects Fusion 4.0 on any computer can open a NetObjects Fusion 4.0 template file.

The sample site **DHTML Presentation.nft** showcases NetObjects Fusion message-based actions. The sample site **Sports Jacques.nft** showcases many of the new features in NetObjects Fusion 4.0.

In the first part of this tutorial you created the **Sports Jacques.nod** site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites** folder. That site is similar to the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site.

In the second part of this tutorial you will open a copy of the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site, give it a different name, and modify it to learn how to use third-party components to build e-commerce into your site.

This chapter shows you how to:

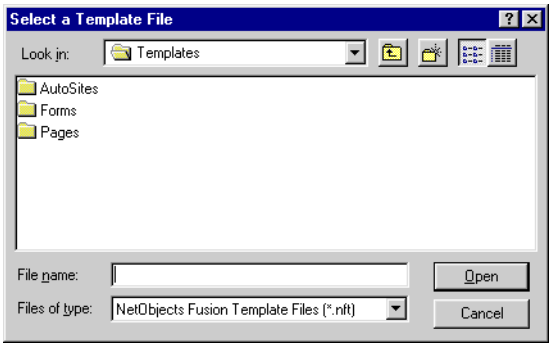
- **Base a new site on a template**
- **Publish your site locally**

Basing a New Site on a Template

Instead of opening the template, which opens the file for editing, it is best to open a new site based on one of these templates, which opens and saves a copy of the template.

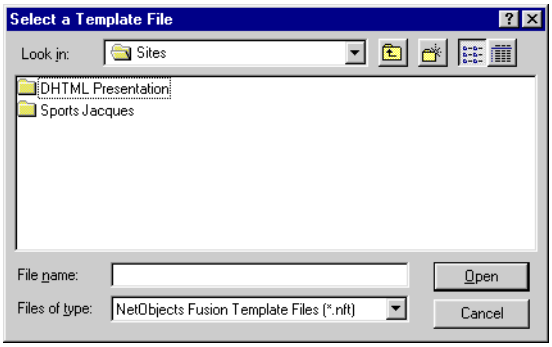
1. From the **File** menu, choose **New Site**, **From Template**.

   The **Select a Template File** dialog appears, automatically set to the NetObjects **Fusion 4.0\Templates** folder.



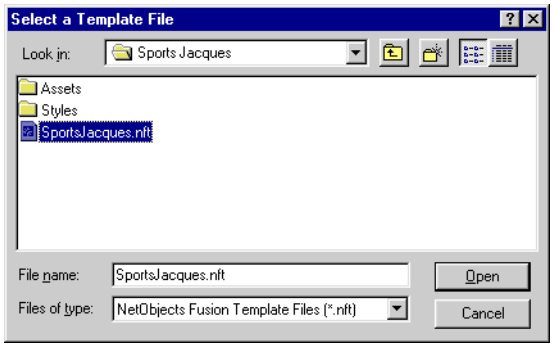
You must go up one folder to the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 folder to locate the Samples\Sites folder.

2. Navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites** folder.



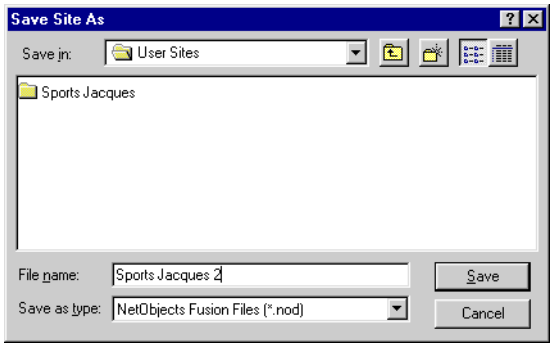
3. Open one of the site folders, such as **Sports Jacques**.

If you plan to do the lesson in the following chapter, open the Sports Jacques.nft template and name it Sports Jacques 2.

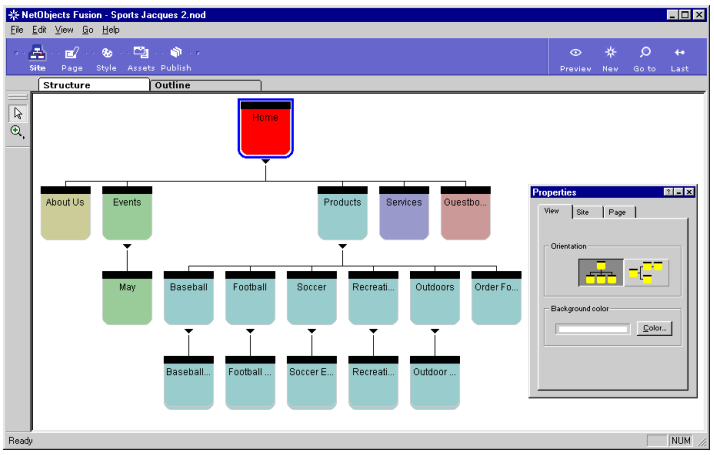


4. Select the site's **.nft** file, such as **Sports Jacques.nft**.
5. Click **Open**.

   The **Save Site As** dialog opens to the **User Sites** folder, so you can name the copy you will save there.
6. Type a name, such as **Sports Jacques 2**, then click **Save**.



The site opens showing Site view.



You can open the pages and look at them in Page view, check the other views, and preview the site to view it in a browser.

Many of the lessons in the next part of this tutorial use your copy of the opened Sports Jacques sample site template.

Publishing Your Site Locally

You can view most elements of your site in a browser by simply previewing. However, you must publish your site, at least locally, to view components and Java Beans in a browser.

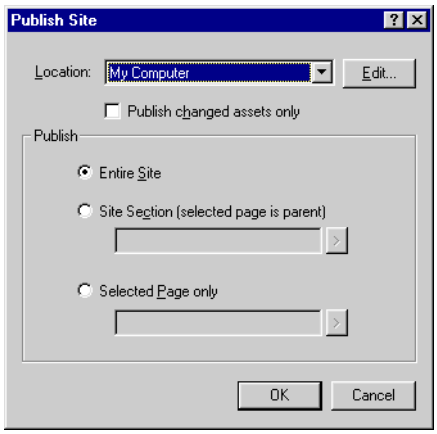
- Previewing creates a simplified version of the files and paths required to quickly view your site in a browser.
- Publishing locally creates an exact replica of the files and paths that you transfer to your ISP server when you publish remotely.

Publish view button

1. Click the **Publish** button on the control bar to go to Publish view.
2. On the right side of the control bar, click the **Publish** button.

   The **Publish Site** dialog appears.

3. In the **Location** field, select **My Computer** from the drop-down list.



4. Click **OK**.

   When you publish the entire site, the browser always displays the Home page, unlike previewing, where the browser displays the current page.

   NetObjects Fusion displays the **Publishing Site** dialog, showing status while copying files. It launches the browser specified in the **Preferences** dialog, and displays the site or section specified in the **Publish Site** dialog.

Where To Go From Here

You have just leaned how to base a NetObjects Fusion site on a site template, which is an **.nft** file.

In the next part of this tutorial you modify **Sports Jacques 2**, which is your copy of the **Sports Jacques** sample site template, to learn how to build e-commerce applications into your site.

The following lessons show you how to add an online store to a product catalog, animate a product catalog, and access databases dynamically.

Linking an iCat Commerce Cart to an Online Catalog

To build the dynamic store described in this chapter, you must install the iCat Commerce Online components from your NetObjects Fusion 4.0 CD-ROM.

You can use NetObjects Fusion Components for iCat Commerce Online to turn a static online catalog into a dynamic retail store that automatically processes purchases and sends you completed orders ready for fulfillment. The catalog becomes your store's front showroom, which you build and design in NetObjects Fusion. Its checkout line, where shoppers fill a shopping cart, provide payment and shipping information, and place final orders, are secure pages hosted by iCat.

Building a dynamic store requires no programming. Instead, you follow simple instructions at the iCat Web site to set up a *Commerce Cart*—the iCat support for your store—with products you want to sell. You then place components in NetObjects Fusion that add buttons linking shoppers in your catalog, to your iCat pages.

In this chapter, you'll stock an iCat Commerce Cart with sports equipment and link it to the Sports Jacques online catalog—a sample site that's included with NetObjects Fusion. The chapter shows you:

- **How iCat Commerce Online components work**
- **Linking a Commerce Cart to your site**
- **Publishing and testing your online catalog**
- **Working with the iCat demo site**
- **Upgrading, and hosting multiple stores**
- **Where to go from here**

Windows 98 and NT 4.0 each come with a Web server you can use, or you can download Personal Web Server from www.microsoft.com.

To complete the lesson in this chapter, you should be familiar with NetObjects Fusion basics, including creating sites from templates. You also need access to a local Web server, or the ability to publish to a remote ISP.

How iCat Commerce Online Components Work

The iCat Commerce Online Help Desk documentation at the iCat Web site provides complete instructions for setting up a Commerce Cart.

To sell products from your NetObjects Fusion site using iCat Commerce Online, you first must go to the iCat Web site at **www.icat.com** and set up a Commerce Cart. Stock the cart with information about each product you plan to sell, including a name, price, and unique ID. You can also select whether an item is taxable, provide Item Options for shoppers to choose from such as color or size, display an item's weight or dimensions, and so on.

When you finish, iCat emails you a summary of your account. You also receive a store URL and item IDs, which you'll use to link the Commerce Cart with your Web site. You then open your site in NetObjects Fusion and add these iCat Commerce Online buttons:

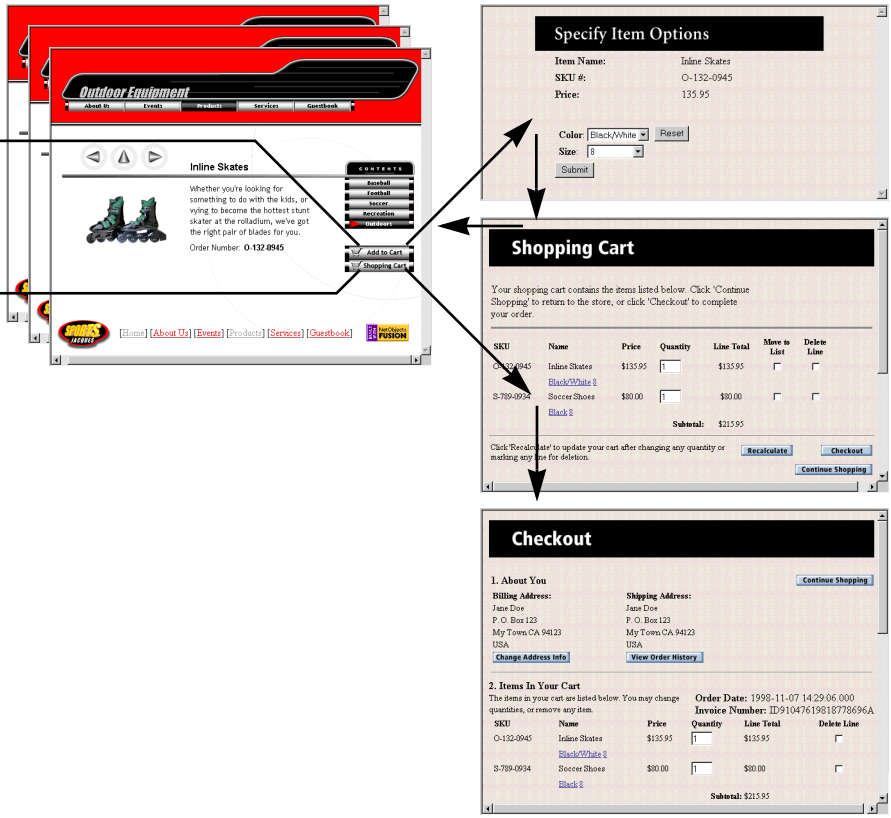
- On each product page, you place an Add to Cart button that shoppers click to add the product to their shopping cart. The button takes them first to an iCat page where they select any Item Options you defined when setting up your Commerce Cart. Shoppers then open the iCat Shopping Cart page where they can see the subtotal. From there, they can return to your Web site's catalog for more shopping.
- Also on each product page, you place a shopping cart button that takes shoppers directly to the Shopping Cart page, without adding a product to it. From there, they can open pages to enter payment and shipping information, specify a shipping preference such as two day air, see the total, and submit the order.

The iCat Affiliate Program offers services including a commission for shoppers who visit iCat from your catalog and purchase their own Commerce Cart or Web Store. For details, visit www.icat.com/partners/become/icoaffiliate.htm.

- In at least one place on your site, you must also place a Built by iCat button; or if you've joined the iCat Affiliate program, add an iCat Affiliate button, instead. The button you use acts as a link to the iCat corporate Web site. It's also necessary for making connections between your site and Commerce Cart.

Clicking Add to Cart opens an iCat page for selecting Item Options like color and size. Shoppers then view the shopping cart and return to your site

Clicking a shopping cart button opens the shopping cart without adding to it. People can then register as shoppers and place their final order



When shoppers place an order, a page opens summarizing their account, which they can print as a receipt. You then receive an email with all the information you need to fill and ship the order.

Linking a Commerce Cart to Your Site

Business has been good at the Sports Jacques online catalog lately, so you've decided to automate the purchasing process. In this lesson, you'll set up an iCat Commerce Cart containing a few Sports Jacques products. You'll then add buttons to the catalog in NetObjects Fusion that link it to the Commerce Cart, that let site visitors add products to their shopping cart, and that let them open their cart for placing final orders.

Setting up a Sample Commerce Cart

While setting up a Commerce Cart, click the button that opens the iCat Commerce Online Help Desk, which provides complete instructions on creating, stocking, and cleaning up or deleting your cart.

Before adding buttons to your site, go to **www.iCat.com** and follow instructions there to set up a Commerce Cart. Be sure to:

- Select the option for creating a Commerce Cart, not a Web Store.
- Select NetObjects Fusion as your preferred HTML editor.
- Give your cart a name you can be sure is unique—you can't complete setup if you choose a name that's already in use.

Caution: You need a valid credit card to create a Commerce Cart, and you'll be charged if you don't delete the cart within 30 days. After completing this lesson, be sure to either clean up this cart and restock it with products to sell from your own store, or delete the cart to avoid charges. For details, see the iCat Commerce Online Help Desk.

Set up your Commerce Cart with three products, using this information:

	Product 1	**Product 2**	**Product 3**
Name	Inline Skates	Scuba fins	Snowboard
Unique ID	O-132-0945	O-421-004	O-533-0900
Price	135.95	80.00	239.95
Color	Black/White Maroon	Blue Green	Pale green Purple
Size	7, 8, 9, 10, 11	7, 8, 9, 10, 11	

When you're done, iCat emails you a summary of your account—you'll need this information to modify or delete your cart when you're done with this lesson. iCat also displays the URL and item IDs you need to complete the lesson. Before continuing, print this information so you can refer to it easily. Or, you can have it emailed, in which case you should keep the email handy.

Adding a Built by iCat Button

Need details on creating a site from a template? See Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

1. Create a new NetObjects Fusion site from the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites\Sports Jacques** folder. Name the site **Sports Jacques 2.nod**.
2. In Site view, double-click the Products page.

   The Products page opens.

Built with iCat technology tool

3. From the **View**, **Toolbars**, **Component Tools** menu, choose **iCat E-Commerce Components**.

   The **iCat E-Commerce Components** toolbar opens.
4. Select the **Built with iCat technology** tool and draw a box on the page.

   A Built by iCat button appears.

If you completed Chapter 3, "Designing the Home Page," where you chose a new banner for the Sports site style, your banner will look slightly different than the one shown here

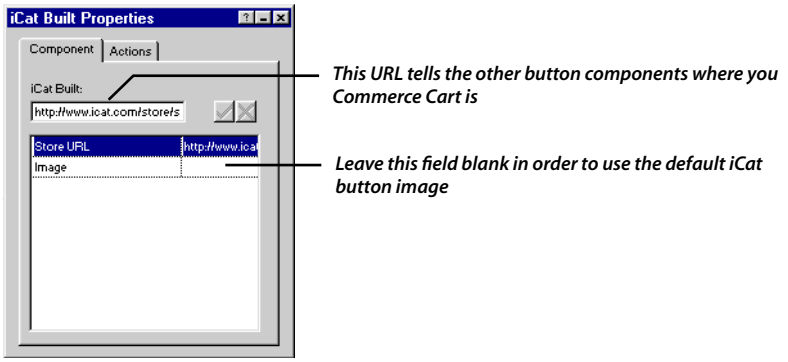
This button links shoppers to the iCat corporate Web site and must appear at least once in your site

5. Refer to the View Cart Links page you printed from the iCat Web site, or to the Email Links message you received in your email application, and note your Commerce Cart's Store URL.

   This is listed following an **A HREF** tag, as in **http://www.icat.com/store/*YourCartName***, where ***YourCartName*** is a unique name assigned by iCat.

For additional details about setting component properties when you add buttons to your own site, link to www.icat.com/ico/NetObjects4.pdf.

6. Select the Built by iCat button. On the **iCat Built Properties** palette, select **Store URL**. Then in the field at the top of the palette, enter the complete URL exactly as shown in your printout or email message—begin with **http://** and don't include the **A HREF** tag.



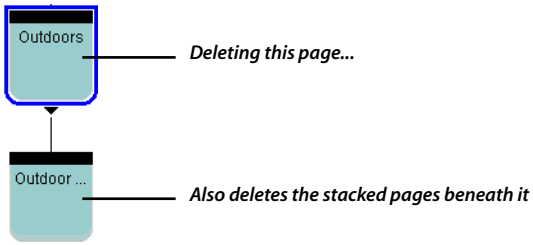
Tailoring the Sample Site

You can't put uniquely configured buttons on stacked pages. For more information, see Chapter 25, "Data Publishing" in the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User's Guide.

You're going to place Commerce Cart buttons for three products in the Outdoors section of the Sports Jacques site. Currently, these products reside on stacked pages, where objects placed on one page appear on the other pages in the stack.

Because each product requires a unique Add to Cart button, you need to replace the stacked pages with pages where you can configure products individually. You then need to link the new pages to your site.

1. In Site view, select the Outdoors page and press **Delete** to remove it and its children pages from the site.

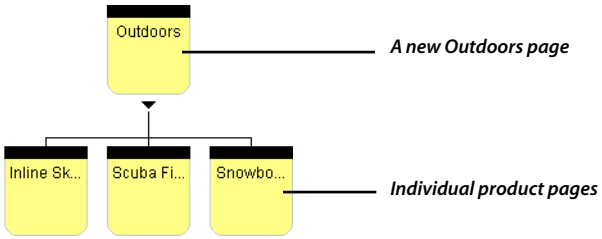


2. Select the Products page, and from the **File** menu, choose **Insert Template**.

   The **Insert Template** dialog opens.

3. Navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\Outdoor Equipment** folder, select the **Outdoor Equipment.nft** file, and click **Open**.

   The template adds four new pages under the Products page.



   Now you must link the Products page to the new Outdoors page.

4. Double-click the Products page.

   The Products page contains an image and text banner that should link to the Outdoors page.

You can learn more about links in "Links" on page 2-14.

5. Select the swimmer and create a link to the Outdoors page.

   Click **Link** on the **Picture Properties** palette. On the **Internal Link** tab of the **Link** dialog, select Outdoors under **Page Name**. Click **Link** when you're done.

6. Select the Outdoors text banner beneath the swimmer and link it to the Outdoors page in the same way.

The swimmer and text banner on the Products page are individual objects that each must be linked to the new Outdoors page

Finally, you must link the Outdoors page to the Products page.

A smart link points to a page relative to the current page, such as up to the parent page, or to the next or previous page on the current level.

7. Go back to Site view and double-click the Outdoors page to open it in Page view.

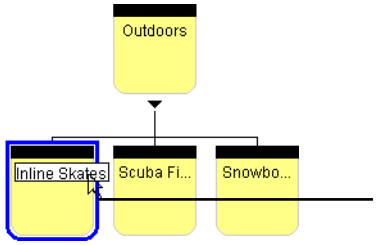
8. Select the large button at the right of the page and create a smart link pointing up to the parent page.

   Click **Link** on the **Picture Properties** palette. On the **Smart Link** tab of the **Link** dialog, select Up under **Link Types**. Click **Link** when you're done.

This button on the Outdoors page must link up to the Products page

Adding Buttons to Product Pages

1. In Site view, double-click the Inline Skates page.

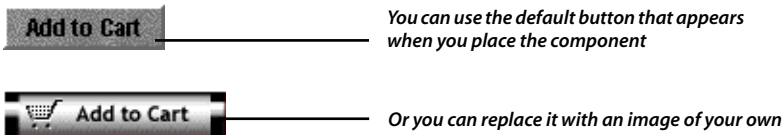


You can point to a page label to see its full name

iCat Buy Now tool

2. Select the **iCat Buy Now** tool from the **iCat E-Commerce Components** toolbar, and draw a box in the Layout area.

   An Add to Cart button appears. This button doesn't match the Sports Jacques site style, so in a moment, you'll give it a look that does.



3. Refer to your printed View Cart Links page, or to your Email Links message, and note the ID given for the inline skates.

   This is a single number, like 2.

4. Back in NetObjects Fusion, select the Add to Cart button. On the **iCat Buy Now Properties** palette, select **Item ID**. Then type the ID from the printout or email, in the field at the top of the palette.

   The ID tells the iCat Commerce Cart which product to add to the cart when the button is clicked.

Browse button

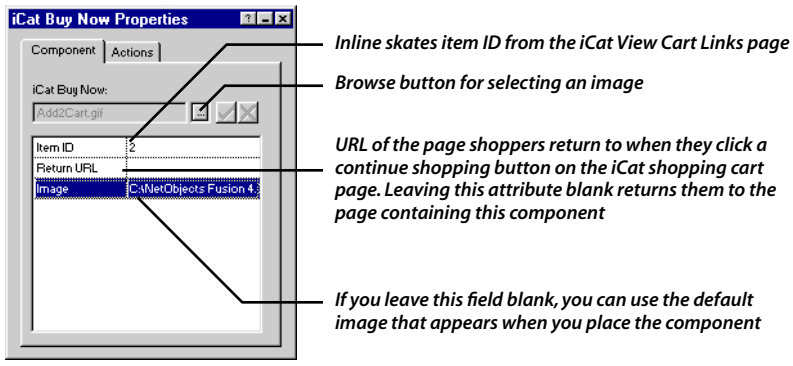
5. Select **Image** on the palette and click the browse button that appears.

   The **Picture File Open** dialog opens.

6. On the **Folder** tab, navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder, and open the **Add2Cart.gif** file.

   The button changes to match the Sports Jacques site style. Drag the button to position it a little below the Outdoors button at the right of the page.

For catalogs that use frames, you have to specify a complete http return URL to get shoppers back to your site. For more information, link to www.icat.com/ico/NetObjects4.pdf.



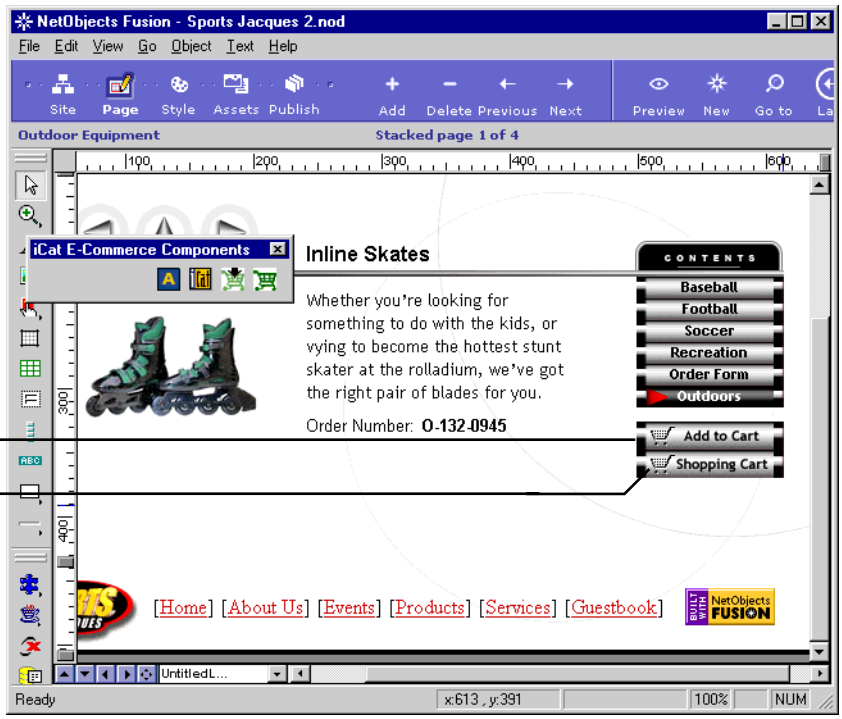
iCat Shopping Cart tool

7. Select the **iCat Shopping Cart** tool and draw a box in the Layout area.

   A shopping cart button appears. Again, you can use it as is, or give it a look that matches the Sports Jacques site style.

8. Select **Image** on the **iCat Shopping Cart Properties** palette. Then click the browse button and open the **ShoppingCart.gif** file.

   The shopping cart button assumes the look of the Sports Jacques site style. Drag it directly below the Add to Cart button. Your page should now look like this.



This button sends shoppers to your iCat shopping cart page and adds the skates to their cart

This button opens the shopping cart without adding anything to it, so shoppers can place their final order

Now you need to repeat the same process to put Add to Cart and shopping cart buttons on the other product pages in your catalog. In this lesson, you'll add them to the Scuba Fins and Snowboards pages.

Next page button

9. Click the **Next page** button at the bottom left of the window to open the next page under Outdoors.

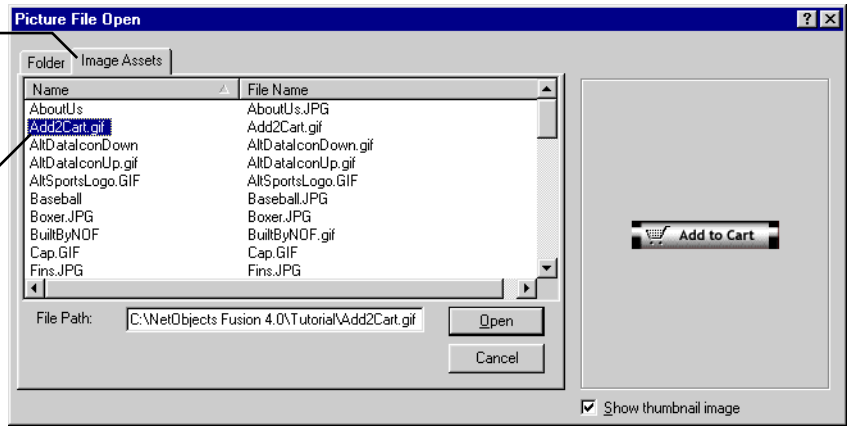
   The Scuba Fins page opens.

10. Place an **iCat Buy Now** component on page.

    On the **iCat Buy Now Properties** palette, enter the scuba fins item ID from the View Cart Links page or Email Links message, and replace the default image with the **Add2Cart.gif** image. This time, select the image from the **Image Assets** tab in the **Picture File Open** dialog, instead of from the **Folder** tab.

Select images you already used elsewhere in your site from this tab to reuse the existing file instead of adding a duplicate one to your site assets

Select this image



As on the Inline Skates page, drag the button below the Outdoors button.

11. Place an **iCat Shopping Cart** component, replacing its default image with the **ShoppingCart.gif** image.

    Again, select the image from the **Image Assets** tab. Then drag the button directly below the Add to Cart button.

12. Click the **Next page** button again to open the Snowboards page. Place **iCat Buy Now** and **iCat Shopping Cart** components just as before, entering the snowboards' item ID on the **iCat Buy Now Properties** palette.

    Remember to replace the default button images with the **Add2Cart.gif** and **ShoppingCart.gif** images, selecting each one from the **Image Assets** tab.

    Now that shoppers are using iCat Commerce Online to place orders, you should delete your old order form and all links to it.

13. In Site view, select the Order Form page and press **Delete** to delete the page.

    When you next open a product page, you'll notice that the Order Form button is gone.

You can learn more about navigation bars in Chapter 8, "Adding Navigation Aids."

This navigation bar contains links to pages under the Products page

Deleting the Order Form page from Site view removes this link from each product page's navigation bar

Publishing Your Site

For information on publishing to a remote ISP, see Chapter 28, "Publishing, Your Site" of the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User's Guide.

To test your dynamic store, you need to publish the site to a Web server—you can't preview, or publish to your site's folder in **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites**. Here are instructions for publishing to a server that's on your computer or that you can browse to over a local network.

1. In Publish view, click **Publish** on the control bar.

   The **Publish** dialog opens.

2. Select **MyComputer** from the **Location** drop-down list and click **Edit**.

   The **Location Properties** dialog opens.

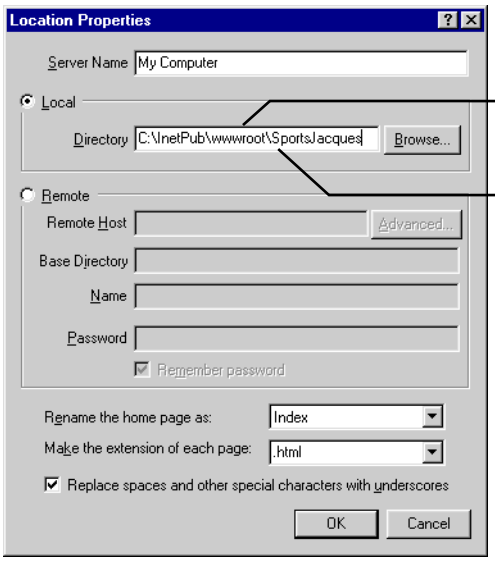
3. Select the **Local** option. Then click **Browse**.

   The **Browse for Folder** dialog opens.

4. Navigate to your local Web server and select its root folder. Click **OK** when you're done.

   On Windows NT 4.0, for example, this root folder is typically **InetPub.wwwroot**.

5. Create a folder for staging your site by typing **SportsJacques** at the end of the path in the **Directory** field. Then click **OK**.



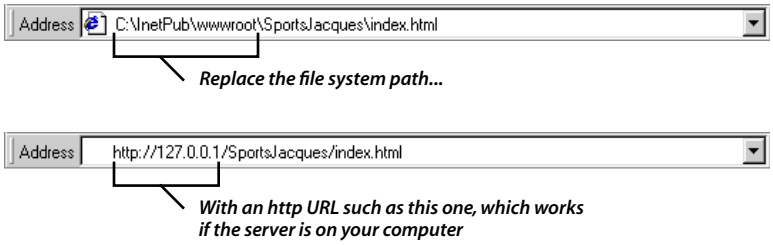
6. Click **OK** in the **Publish Site** dialog to publish the site.

   After a few moments, the site appears in your Web browser. Notice that the browser is using the file system path to your site as an address.

If you're publishing to a remote ISP, you have to open your browser and navigate to the page yourself. Ask your ISP for the URL to use.

7. Replace the path with an http URL by selecting the path up to, but not including, the **SportsJacques** test folder you just created, and replacing the selection with **http://*localserver***.

   If the Web server is on your computer, ***localserver*** can be **localhost** or the corresponding IP address **127.0.0.1**. If the server is on another computer in a local network, ***localserver*** is the name or IP address of that computer.



8. Refresh your browser so it's using the http URL.

You're now ready to do some shopping.

Test Driving Your Commerce Cart

1. In your Web browser, navigate to the Inline Skates page of the Sports Jacques catalog.
2. Click the **Add to Cart** button.

   An iCat page opens displaying the name, price, and unique ID for the skates—information you entered when creating the cart. It also has Item Options for selecting a skate color and size.
3. Select a color and size, and submit your choices.

   The iCat shopping cart opens showing a subtotal for the skates.
4. Click the continue shopping button to return to the Inline Skates page in the Sports Jacques site.
5. Add the scuba fins and snowboard to your shopping cart in the same way. Then when you're ready to place an order, click the **Shopping Cart** button on any of the three Sports Jacques catalog pages.

   The iCat shopping cart opens showing the same contents as before.
6. Click the checkout button. Then follow instructions that appear to register as a new shopper, and enter shipping and billing information.
7. Instead of placing the order, return to **www.icat.com** and open the Commerce Cart you created for this lesson. Then, either clean up the cart and add products of your own to sell, or delete the cart altogether.

   Remember that you can find the user name and password you'll need to open your Commerce Cart on the email summarizing your iCat account, which you received after creating the cart.

Convert your sample Commerce Cart to carry real products, or delete it so you're not charged. To find out how, open your cart at the iCat site and consult the Help Desk.

Working with the iCat Demo Site

You can try out a completed e-commerce catalog by opening another sample site, provided by iCat:

1. Open a new blank site in NetObjects Fusion.
2. Choose **File**, **Launch Site Wizard**.
3. Select **iCatECommerceDemo** in the **Select Site Wizard** dialog, and click OK.

   A site opens containing a product catalog with iCat components already configured to work with a sample Commerce Cart at iCat. Select components in NetObjects Fusion to see their properties, and publish the site to a Web server to try it out.

   A document also appears with additional important information about working with iCat Commerce Online components. You can also get to the latest version of this document by linking to **www.icat.com/ico/NetObjects4.pdf**.

Upgrading and Hosting Multiple Stores

If you've already created an iCat-enabled site in NetObjects Fusion 3.0, you can open and work with that site in NetObjects Fusion 4.0, without recreating components or changing component attributes—your site will continue to link to your Commerce Cart as before.

You can also host more than one iCat Commerce Cart. Just be sure that:

- Each cart links to a separate NetObjects Fusion site
- Each cart has a unique name
- Each NetObjects Fusion site file has a unique name
- The store URL in each site's iCat Built or iCat Affiliate component links properly to its corresponding cart

Where To Go From Here

In this lesson, you began converting a static online catalog into a dynamic retail store. In doing so, you saw what's involved in creating a Commerce Cart and linking it with a NetObjects Fusion site.

Your iCat Commerce Cart can stock several thousand items, plus you can receive sales, customer, and tracking reports. For details, visit www.iCat.com.

You're now ready to go to **www.icat.com**, purchase a Commerce Cart stocked with your merchandise, and link it to your own NetObjects Fusion store. Remember to refer to the *iCat Commerce Online Help Desk* for complete instructions on creating and working with a Commerce Cart. Also, link to **www.icat.com/ico/NetObjects4.pdf** for the latest information on working with iCat Commerce Online components.

If you want, you can use an existing iCat-enabled site file, such as the Sports Jacques site you configured in this lesson or the iCat demo site, as a template for your store:

1. Rename the existing NetObjects Fusion site file.
2. Open the site in NetObjects Fusion.
3. Select the iCat Built or iCat Affiliate component, and manually change the **Store URL** attribute on the properties palette to point to your store's Commerce Cart.
4. Select each product's Add to Cart button and edit the Item ID to match the appropriate ID for your cart.

For information about the iCat Affiliate program, visit **www.icat.com/partners/become/icoaffiliate.htm**.

And finally, if you have any problems with component placement or manipulation in NetObjects Fusion, contact NetObjects Technical Support at **www.netobjects.com/support**. For problems with Commerce Cart functions, contact iCat Technical Support at **www.icatcorp.com/support**.

Making an Online Store Interactive with HotMedia

To build the animation described in this chapter, you must install the IBM HotMedia components from your NetObjects Fusion 4.0 CD-ROM.

You can add interactive animations to your online store or commerce site using the NetObjects Fusion Components for IBM HotMedia. With HotMedia, Web site visitors don't just watch an animation. They can spin a product image around to see it from all sides. They can flip quickly between animations to compare different product styles without loading separate pages. And they can even click hot spots within an animation—say to link from a scrolling ad banner to a page for making a purchase. Plus, they can zoom in on details, pan across images, and more.

Using IBM HotMedia requires no programming or special server configuration. Instead, you use a graphical tool to assemble standard pictures into a single animation file, which you then place on a NetObjects Fusion page. Best of all, site visitors aren't distracted by having to download any special plug-ins; the animation file you place on your site automatically downloads necessary software for them—quickly enough that they'll hardly notice a delay.

In this chapter, you'll build your own product animation and use it to replace a static image in the sample Sports Jacques online catalog included with NetObjects Fusion. Before you begin, you should be familiar with NetObjects Fusion basics, including creating sites from templates and publishing a site locally.

This chapter shows you:

- **How IBM HotMedia components work**
- **Creating and placing a two-track animation**
- **Where to go from here**

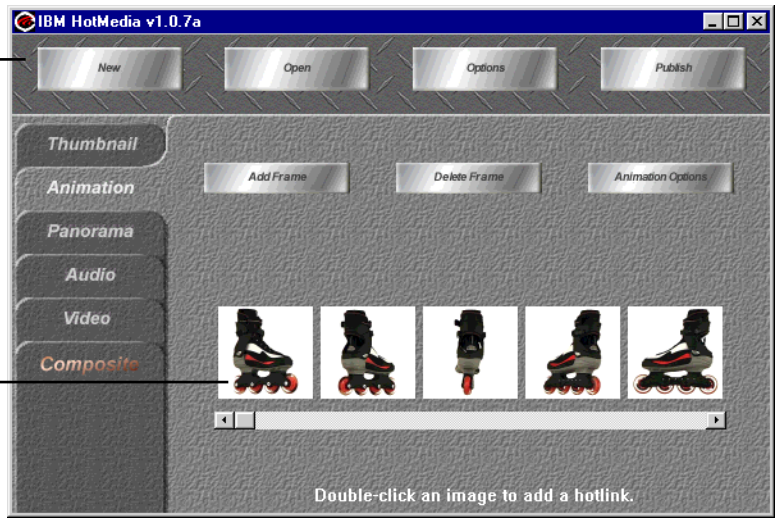
Site visitors need a Java-enabled Web browser to view your animations.

How IBM HotMedia Components Work

To build an animation, you use the **IBM HotMedia** application to assemble individual pictures into a single animation file. You then place the file in your site where you want the animation to appear.

Open this application from NetObjects Fusion by placing the HotMedia Assembly component anywhere on a page

Each frame in an animation is a standard JPEG or GIF picture



For explanations of all the effects you can apply to an animation, open the index.html file from your NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Components\IBMHotMedia\docs folder.

You can tailor your animation with a variety of effects:

- HotMedia player software can download to site visitors' browsers either automatically when the page loads, or when people click the first frame of an animation. The initial frame can be a static image, it can scroll within the animation's boundaries, or it can be an animated GIF.
- Once the player software loads, the animation can begin playing automatically: once through, in a continuous loop, or from start to finish and then back again. Site visitors can click to stop and restart. At any time, they can also drag in either direction to control the animation themselves.
- Site visitors can also drag up or down with the right mouse button to zoom in or out to a scale you specify. You can also specify a region within a frame to scale, for example, to show a blown-up detail in a product diagram.

- Any part of one or more frames in the animation can be a link that either launches another animation or goes to a new page. Clicking a product animation, for example, might take site visitors to a page where they can buy the product.
- You can build multi-track animation files to let site visitors switch quickly between two or more different animations just by moving the mouse.

After creating an animation file, you use the **IBM HotMedia Player** component to place the animation on a NetObjects Fusion page. When site visitors enable the animation, either by loading the page or clicking the initial frame, the component downloads the player software they need to view the animation, and runs it on their browser. When they close their browser, this software is completely removed.

Site visitors can drag across this animation of an inline skate to see the skate from all sides—without having to download any plug-ins

Creating and Placing a Two-Track Animation

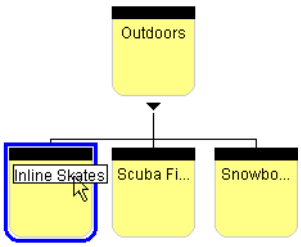
To extend the appeal of the Sports Jacques catalog to people who buy only what they can pick up and handle, you're going to replace static product images with animations that online shoppers can manipulate to see merchandise from all sides. They'll also be able to compare items quickly without loading new pages.

In this lesson, you'll create an animation of an inline skate and add it to the Outdoor Equipment section of the Sports Jacques site. Site visitors will be able to spin the skate around, drag down to replace the animation with a track showing another model of skate, and drag up with the right-mouse button to zoom in and see either skate close up.

Creating an Animation

Need details on creating a site from a template? See Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

1. Create a new NetObjects Fusion site from the **Outdoor Equipment.nft** template in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\Outdoor Equipment** folder. Name the site **Sports Jacques HM.nod**.
2. In Site view, double-click the Inline Skates page.



   A catalog page opens showing a pair of inline skates.
3. From the **View**, **Toolbars**, **Component Tools** menu, choose **IBM HotMedia**.

   The **IBM HotMedia** toolbar appears.

HotMedia Assembly tool

4. Select the **HotMedia Assembly** tool and draw a box anywhere on the page.

   The **IBM HotMedia** application appears.
5. On the **Thumbnail** tab, click **Open Thumbnail**.

   An **Open** dialog appears.

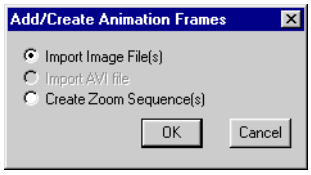
6. Navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial\SkateA** folder, select the **SkateA1.jpg** file, and click **Open**.

   An inline skate appears.

7. Click the **Animation** tab. Then click the **Add Frame** button.

   The **Add/Create Animation Frames** dialog opens.

8. Make sure **Import Image Files** is selected, and click **OK**.

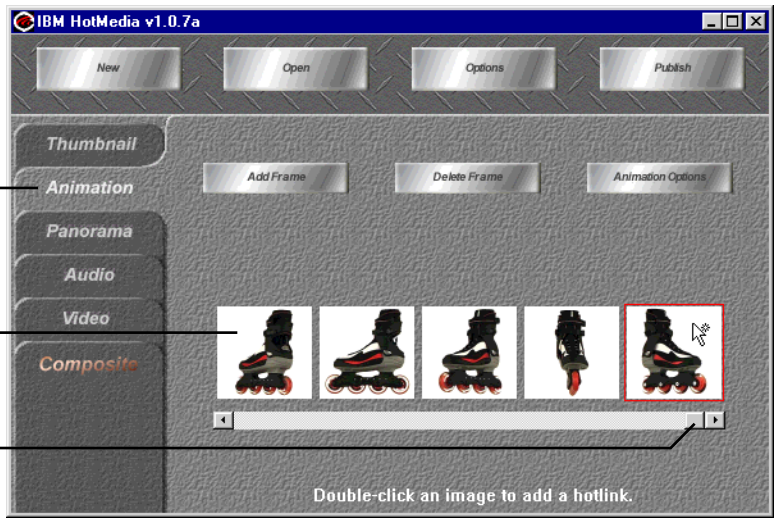


   An **Open** dialog appears.

9. Select all the images in the **SkateA** folder in reverse order, by clicking **SkateA8.jpg**, then **Shift**+clicking **SkateA1.jpg**. Then click **Open**.

   The images appear in sequence, with the thumbnail image as the first frame.

10. Scroll to the far right frame and select it.



11. Click **Add Frame** again. In the dialog that opens, make sure **Import Image Files** is selected and click **OK**.

    An **Open** dialog appears.

12. Navigate to the **Tutorial\SkateB** folder and open all the images there in reverse order, from **SkateB8.jpg** to **SkateB1.jpg**.

    Again, click **SkateB8.jpg** first, then **Shift**+click **SkateB1.jpg**.

    Frames showing the other model of skate appear in sequence, following the frame you selected.

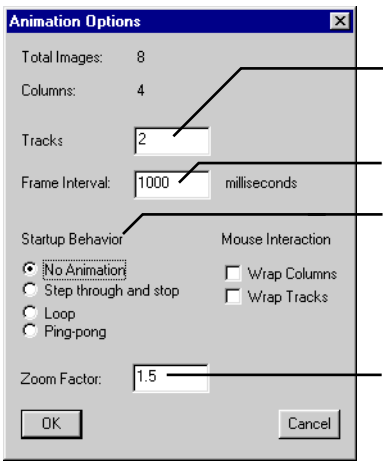
13. Click **Animation Options**.

    The **Animation Options** dialog opens.

14. Under **Startup Behavior**, select **No Animation**.

    When the player software loads onto the site visitor's browser, site visitors can spin the skate themselves, but the animation won't play automatically.

15. In the **Tracks** field, type **2**. Leave the other settings as shown in the illustration and click **OK**.



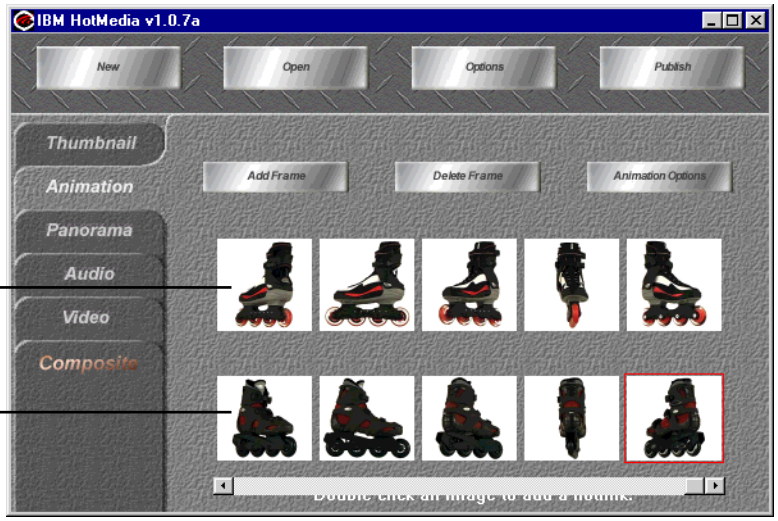
The number of tracks determines how many animations site visitors can flip between; in this case, how many skate styles you want to compare

The rate at which each frame is displayed when the animation plays automatically

Options for how the animation plays once player software is downloaded to the site visitor's browser

The degree to which site visitors can zoom individual frames

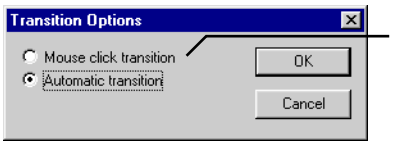
The frames are divided into two parallel animations.



Creating two tracks puts the first half of your frame sequence—showing one style of skate—in track 1

The remaining frames showing the other skate style go in track 2

16. Click the **Composite** tab. Then click the **Transition Options** button. In the dialog that opens, select **Automatic transition**, and click **OK**.



Options for when player software downloads to the site visitor's browser, enabling the animation

When site visitors load the page, the player software downloads, too. That way they can begin dragging the skate without having to click it first.

17. Click **Publish** at the top right of the window.

A **Save** dialog opens, prompting you to save the animation as a HotMedia file with the extension **.mvr**.

Save the HotMedia file anywhere in your file system. Later, when you reference the file from your site and publish, NetObjects Fusion copies the file to your server along with other site assets.

18. Name the file **Skate.mvr**, and save it in the **NetObjects 4.0\Tutorial** folder. Click **Save** when you're done.

The **Save** dialog opens again, this time prompting you to save a **Skate.htm** file.

19. Click **Save** again. Then close the **IBM HotMedia** application.

A dialog asks if you want to quit the application. Click **Yes**.

Placing the Animation on Your Page

1. Back in Page view, select the inline skates picture, and press **Delete** to delete it.

You no longer need this static image.

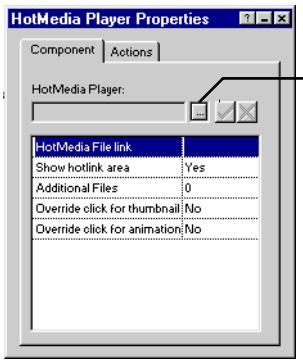
IBM HotMedia Player tool

2. Select the **IBM HotMedia Player** tool and draw a box in the Layout area where the picture was.

A box appears on the page.

Browse icon

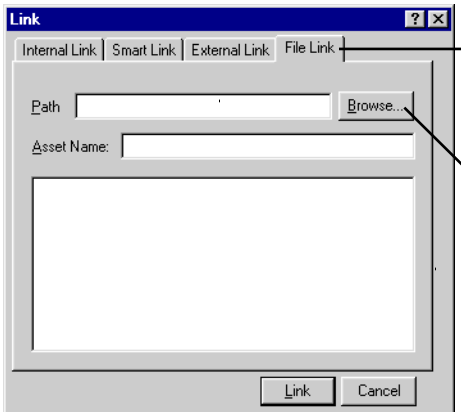
3. On the **HotMedia Player Properties** palette, select **HotMedia File link**. Then click the browse icon that appears next to the field at the top of the palette.



Clicking HotMedia File link makes a browse icon appear

The **Link** dialog opens.

4. Click the **File Link** tab. Then click **Browse**.



Click this tab to associate the HotMedia Player component with the Skate.mvr file

Click here to select the file

The **Open** dialog appears.

5. Navigate to the **Tutorial** folder, select the **Skate.mvr** file you created earlier, and click **Open**. Then click **Link** to close the **Link** dialog.

   The box that appeared when you placed the **IBM HotMedia Player** component sizes to fit your thumbnail image, which is too large for its spot on the page.

6. Hold down the **Control** key and drag a corner selection handle to size and position the box where you want the animation to appear.

The box marks the size and position of the animation on the published page

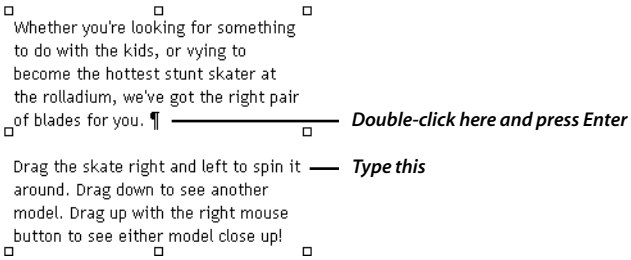
Control + dragging a corner handle resizes the animation proportionately

Telling Site Visitors about the Animation

To enjoy your animation, site visitors need to know how to interact with it.

You can drag a selection marquee around the two text boxes to select and drag them both at the same time.

1. On the Inline Skates page, select the **Order Number:** and **0-132-0945** text boxes, and drag them an inch or so down the page.
2. In the text box containing the product description, double-click after **you.** Then press **Enter** to begin a new paragraph, and type these instructions.



3. Save your site.

Publishing Locally to Test Your Animation

See "Publishing Your Site Locally" on page 11-4 for more information on publishing locally.

1. In Publish view, click **Publish** on the control bar. Then in the **Publish Site** dialog, select **My Computer** from the **Location** drop-down list, and click **OK**.
2. In your Web browser, navigate to the Inline Skates page.

   Notice that because you selected **No Animation** in the **Animation Options** dialog, the animation doesn't play automatically—you have to drag it yourself. But because you selected **Automatic transition** in the **Transition Options** dialog, the player software downloads to your browser when the page loads, so you can begin dragging the skate right away without having to click it first.

If you completed Chapter 3, "Designing the Home Page," where you chose a new banner for the Sports site style, your banner will look slightly different than the one shown here

Drag left or right to spin the skate around

Drag down to replace the skate in track 1 with the other model in track 2. Drag up again to see the first skate

Drag up with the right mouse button to scale either skate larger. Drag down to return it to its original size

Where To Go From Here

The lesson in this chapter showcases only a few examples of how you can add interactivity to animations using IBM HotMedia. In addition, you can add hot links within an animation, scale a detail within an image, provide automatic panning and scrolling, and more.

For information about all these features as well as several examples, see the online HotMedia documentation—navigate in your file system to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Components\IBMHotMedia\docs** folder, and open the **index.html** file to get started. For the latest version of this documentation, or if you have other questions or problems using HotMedia, visit **www.software.ibm.com/netmedia/docs.html**.

If you have any problems with component placement or manipulation in NetObjects Fusion, contact NetObjects Technical support at **www.netobjects.com/support**.

You can find additional HotMedia animation files on the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 CD-ROM—click **CD Extras** and browse to the **Content\Images\Einzig** folder.

For news about upcoming or new HotMedia features, visit **www.software.ibm.com/net.media**.

Publishing Dynamically from a Database using ASP

To build the application described in this chapter, you must install the Connector for ASP components from your NetObjects Fusion 4.0 CD-ROM.

You can use NetObjects Fusion Connector for Active Server Pages (ASP) to let your Web site visitors view and instantly update live business data in a Microsoft Access or other ODBC-compliant database. Customers can change their own contact information in your customer database, search a database for a particular product price, or list the latest prices of all products. What one visitor changes, another can see instantly, without having to wait while you re-publish.

You do all this by placing Connector for ASP components in NetObjects Fusion that publish data, via a Microsoft Web server, between your Web site and any ASP-compliant database. You don't need to write your own JScript or VBScript; the components generate this code for you. You should have some knowledge of relational databases and simple SQL SELECT queries to work with components directly. Otherwise, you can use wizards to build several types of applications without this experience.

In this chapter, you'll build an application where customers at the Sports Jacques Web site drill down through a series of database views for information about products carried by your distributors. The chapter shows you:

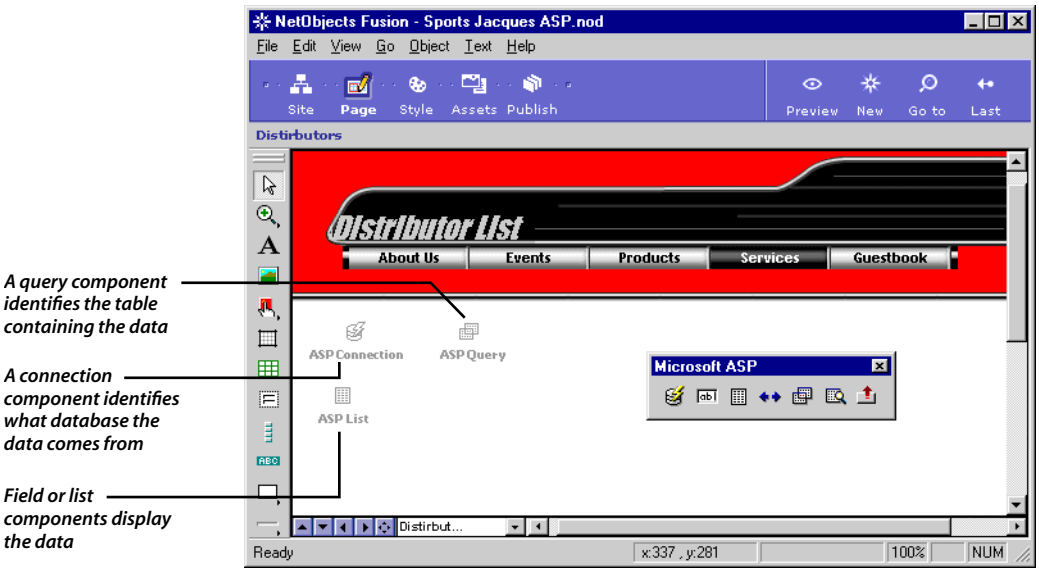
- **How Connector for ASP works**
- **Installing the sample data source**
- **Building a data retrieval application**
- **Publishing and testing your application**
- **Where to go from here**

Windows 98 and NT 4.0 come with a Web server you can use. Otherwise, you can download Personal Web Server from www.microsoft.com or publish to a remote ISP.

To complete the lesson in this chapter, you should already be familiar with basic NetObjects Fusion concepts including creating sites from templates. You also need a Microsoft IIS, or Personal Web Server version 3.0 or later. Plus, you need Microsoft ODBC drivers installed on your local computer.

How Connector for ASP Works

You build ASP applications by placing components on one or more pages that display data from a database. Each page needs at least three components:



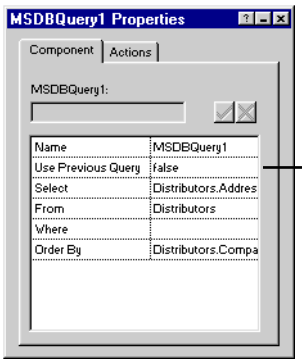
A query component identifies the table containing the data

A connection component identifies what database the data comes from

Field or list components display the data

You can also can place components that allow site visitors to search for data, navigate forward and backward through results, and update, add, or delete records.

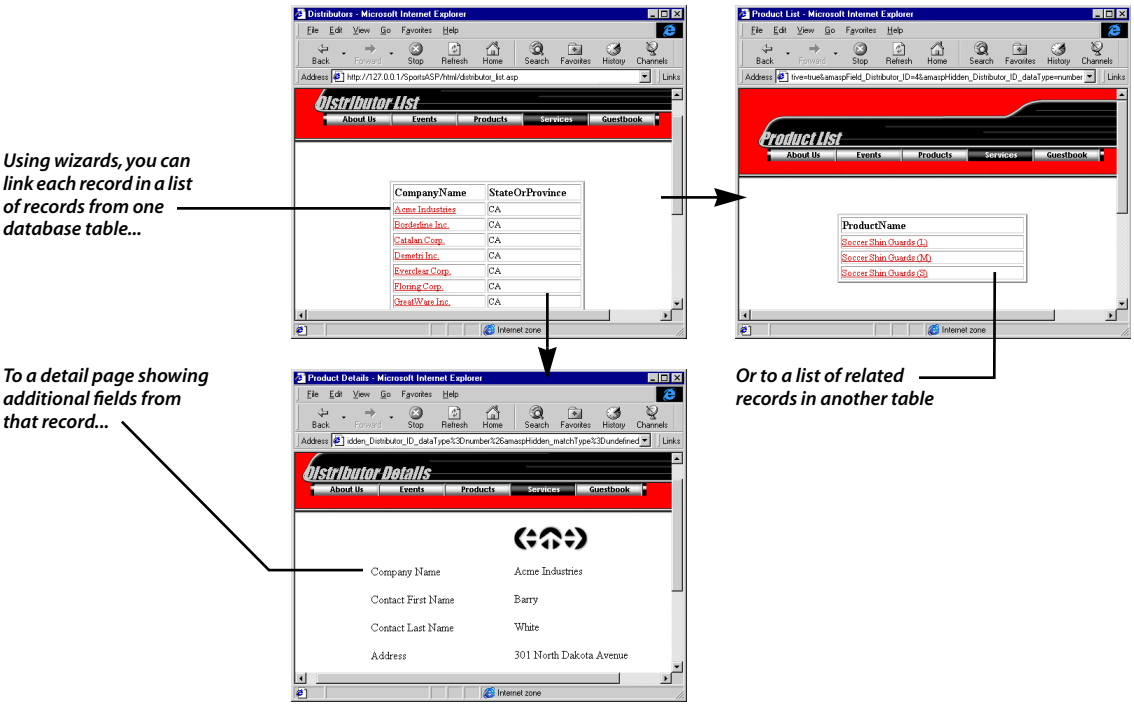
If you're familiar with relational databases and some SQL, you can work with components directly by setting attributes in properties palettes.



Component properties closely mimic attributes in SQL statements

If you're not familiar with SQL or relational databases, you can use wizards to build pages that:

- List details of a particular record, for example, to display the name, price, and description of a particular product.
- List all records in a database table, for example, to display names of all available products.
- Link each record in a list either to details about that record, so that clicking a product name displays a price and description, or to a related list from another table, say to display all stores where the product is available.



Installing the Sample Database

Before building your database application, you have to register the sample **Sports.mdb** database included with NetObjects Fusion, as an ODBC data source on your computer. If you're testing the application by publishing to a separate computer, follow these steps to register the database on that machine, too.

1. Open the **Control Panel** from the **Windows Start**, **Settings** menu and double-click the **ODBC** or **ODBC (32 Bit)** icon.

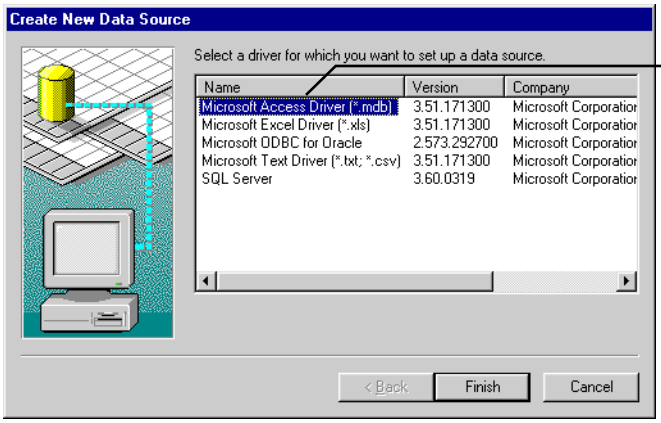
If you don't see this icon in the Control Panel window, download and install the Microsoft ODBC drivers from www.microsoft.com

   The **ODBC Data Source Administrator** opens.

2. Click the **System DSN** tab. Then click **Add**.

   The **Create New Data Source** wizard opens.

3. Select Microsoft Access Driver and click **Finish**.

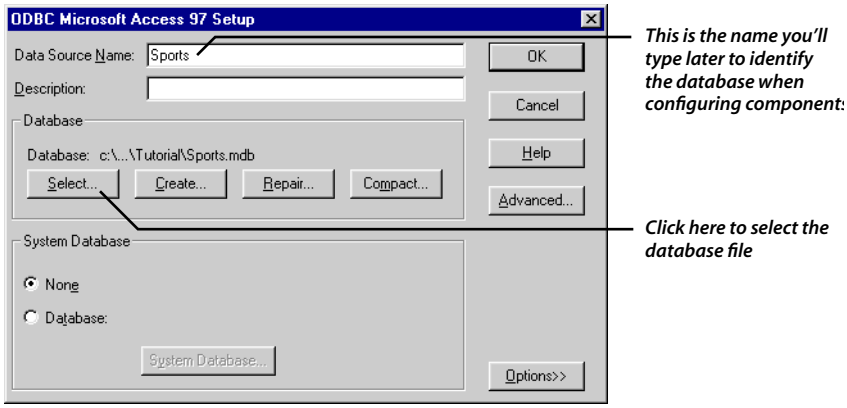


Using the sample database requires this driver

   The **ODBC Setup** dialog opens.

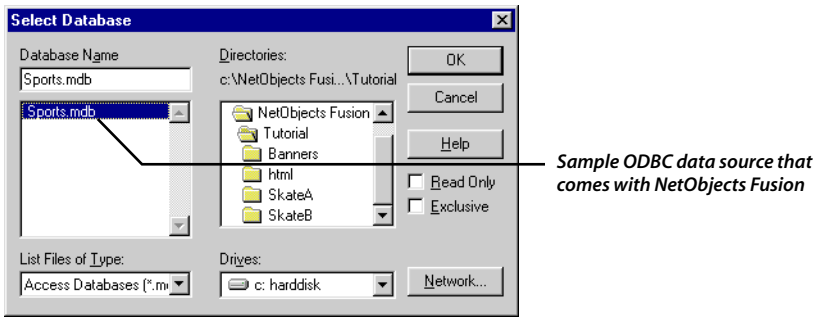
4. Type **Sports** in the **Data Source Name** field. Then under **Database**, click **Select**.

If you're registering this database on two computers, be sure to give it the exact same name on each machine.



The **Select Database** dialog opens.

5. Navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder and select the **Sports.mdb** file.



6. Click **OK** to close the **Select Database**, **ODBC Setup**, and **Data Source Administrator** dialogs.

You're now ready to build your application.

Building a Data Retrieval Application

Your customers have requested that you keep current information about distributors of Sports Jacques products on your Web site. So you're going to create an application consisting of pages that display data directly from the company database, where site visitors can select a distributor name to see a list of products it carries, and then select a product name to see details such as a description and price.

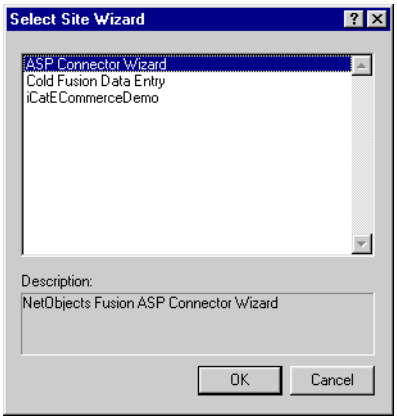
In this lesson, you'll use wizards to build these pages and connect them to the sample **Sports.mdb** database included with NetObjects Fusion. You'll then add buttons that let site visitors navigate easily through information they retrieve.

Need details on creating a site from a template? See Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

1. Create a new NetObjects Fusion site from the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site in your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites\Sports Jacques** folder. Name the site **Sports Jacques ASP.nod**.
2. In Site view, select the Services page.

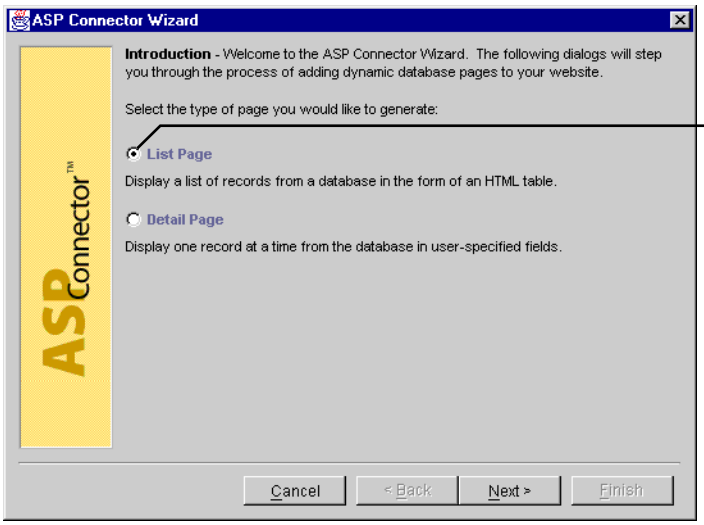
   This will be the parent of the pages in your application.
3. From the **File** menu, choose **Launch Site Wizard**.

   The **Select Site Wizard** dialog opens.
4. Select ASP Connector Wizard and click **OK**.



   The **ASP Connector Wizard** opens, asking whether the first page it creates should display a list of records, or details of just one record.

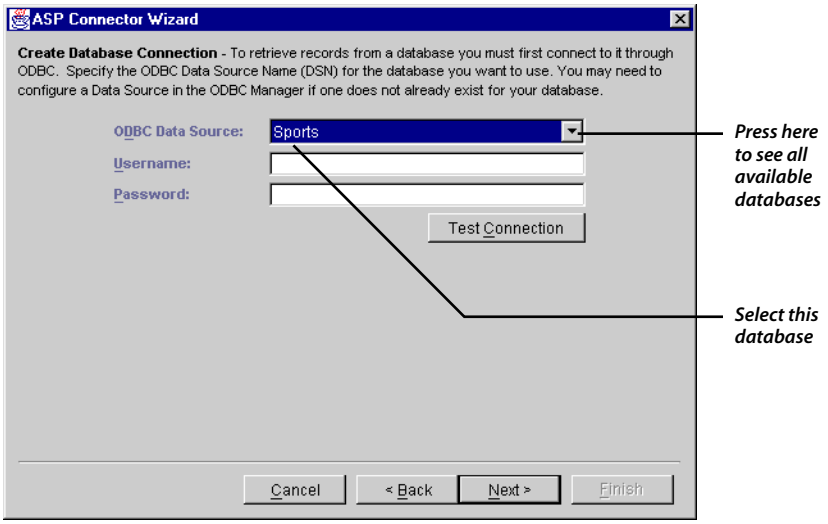
5. Select List Page and click **Next**.



The wizard asks which database contains the information you want to display.

6. Select Sports from the **ODBC Data Source** drop-down list. Then click **Next** to continue.

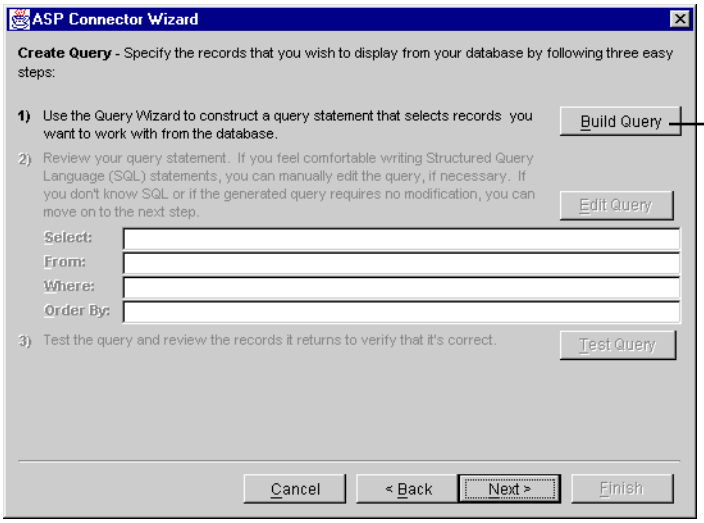
If the Sports database isn't in the ODBC Data Source drop-down list, you must register it in the ODBC Data Source Administrator. See "Installing the Sample Database" in this chapter.



Building a Query for the Distributor List

The **ASP Connector Wizard** asks you to build a query that retrieves information from the Sports database to display on your list page.

1. Click **Build Query**.



   The **Query Wizard** opens, asking what information to retrieve.

2. Select Distributors from the **Tables** drop-down list.

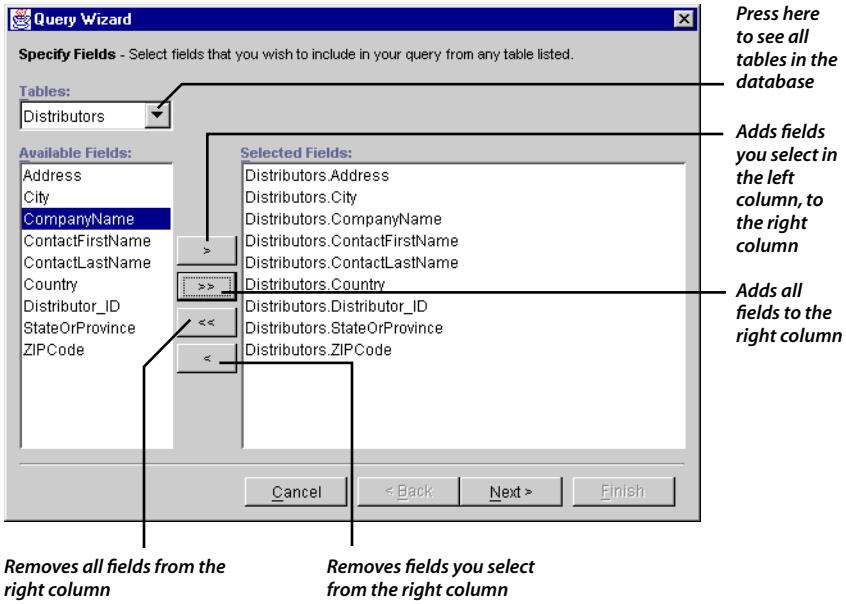
   The fields in this table are listed under **Available Fields**.

Right double-arrow button

3. Click the **right double-arrow** button to list all fields under **Selected Fields** at the right. Then click **Next**.

   The query will retrieve information from all fields in the table. Later, you'll choose which fields to display on the published page.

Fields you include in a query are available when you later use the query to tell a component what to display. If you make all fields available, you can change your mind about what to display, or use the same query again with some other component.



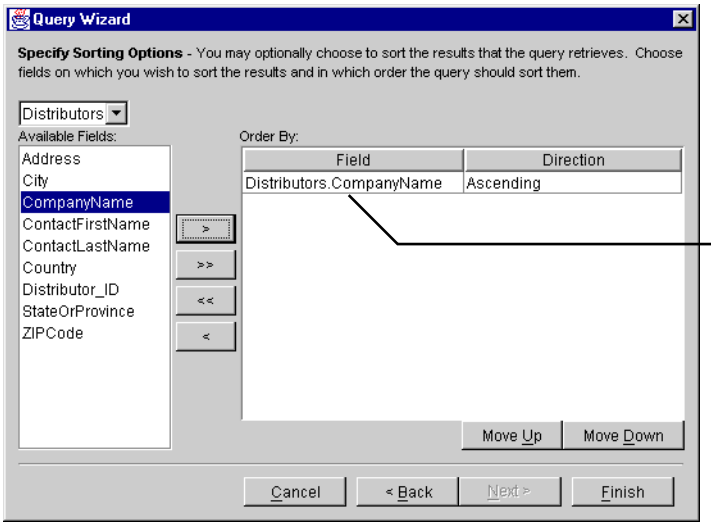
The **Query Wizard** asks whether you want to filter records so the query retrieves only those containing specific values, such as a particular Zip code. You're going to show all records, so you can skip this step.

4. Click **Next** to continue.

   You're now asked how to sort records that are retrieved. Your choice determines their order on the published page.

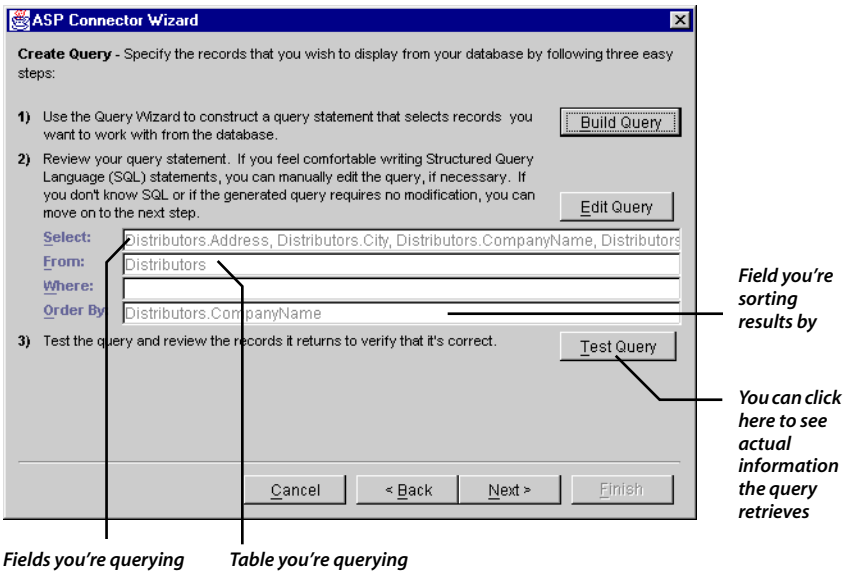
Right arrow button

5. Select CompanyName, and click the **right arrow** button to list it under **Order By** at the right. Then click **Finish**.



The **ASP Connector Wizard** reappears, displaying a summary of your query.

6. Review the query and click **Next** to continue.



Creating the Distributor List Page

Now that you've built a query that retrieves information for your list page, the **ASP Connector Wizard** prompts you to create the page itself.

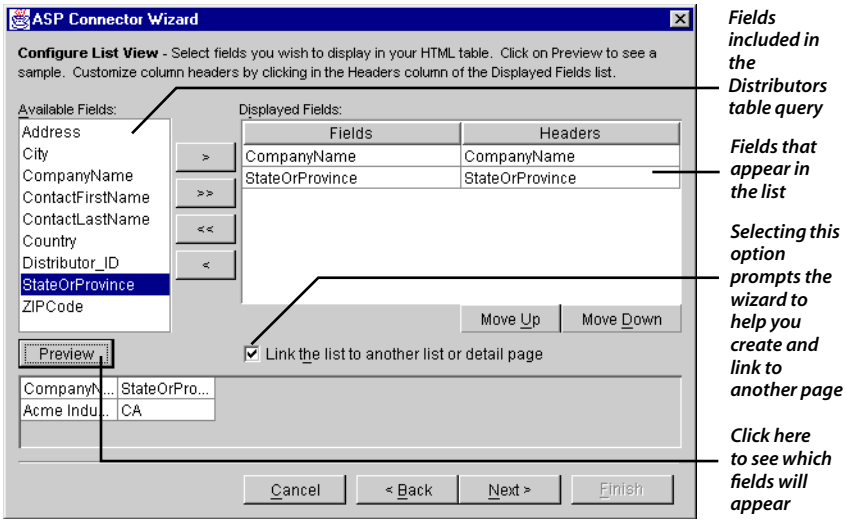
1. Select CompanyName under **Available Fields**. Then click the **right arrow** button to list it under **Displayed Fields** at the right. Do the same for the StateOrProvince field.

   To keep the page simple, these are the only two fields you're going to display.

2. Select **Link the list to another list or detail page**.

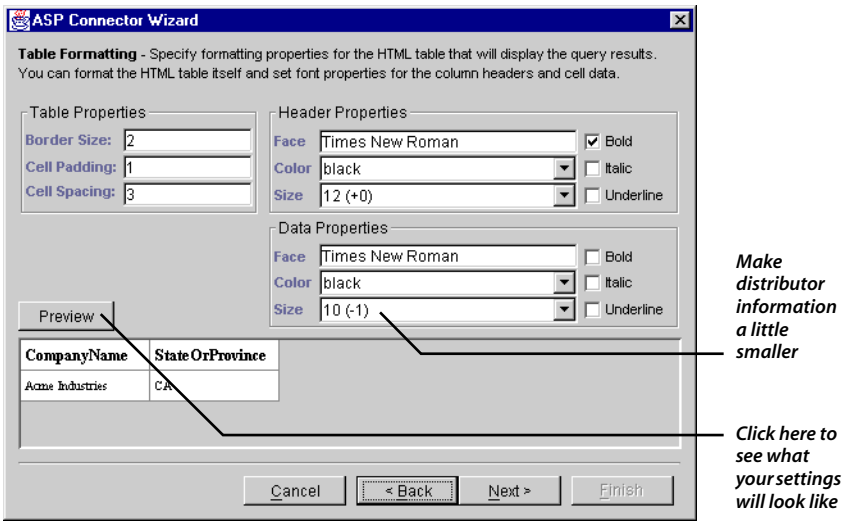
   This tells the wizard you want to create a link for each distributor that site visitors can click to open another page—in this case, one listing products the distributor carries.

3. Click **Next**.



The wizard gives you a chance to set text sizes and fonts.

4. Under **Data Properties**, select 10 (-1) from the **Size** drop-down list.



5. Click **Next** to continue.

   Because you selected to link the distributor list to another page, the wizard asks what type of page, and what text should act as the link.

6. Select **Connect your List to Another List Page**.

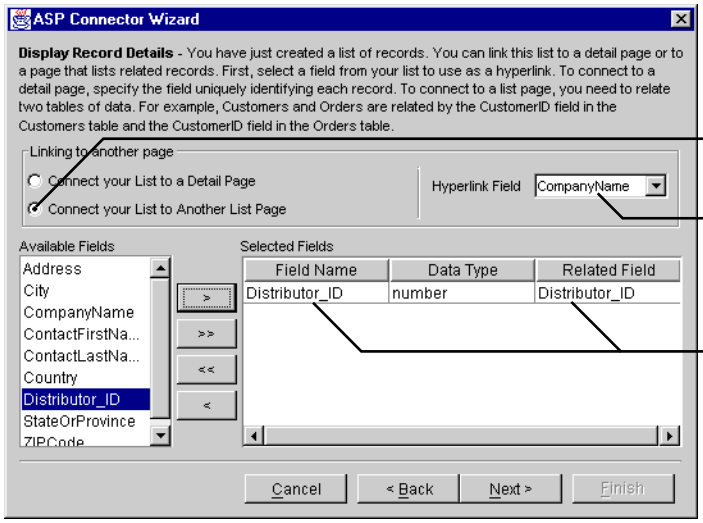
7. Choose CompanyName from the **Hyperlink Field** drop-down list.

   Site visitors will click a distributor's company name to open a second page, which you'll soon configure to list records from the Products table that are associated with the distributor.

   To make this relation, the wizard also needs to know which field that's common to both tables being accessed—in this case the Distributors and Products tables—contains data that uniquely identifies each distributor.

8. Select Distributor_ID under **Available Fields**. Then click the **right arrow** button to list it under **Selected Fields** at the right.

Database tables typically have one or more fields that don't contain data you want to display, but that uniquely identify each record in the table. These key fields eliminate confusion, for example, if two distributors have the same name.



9. Click **Next** to continue.

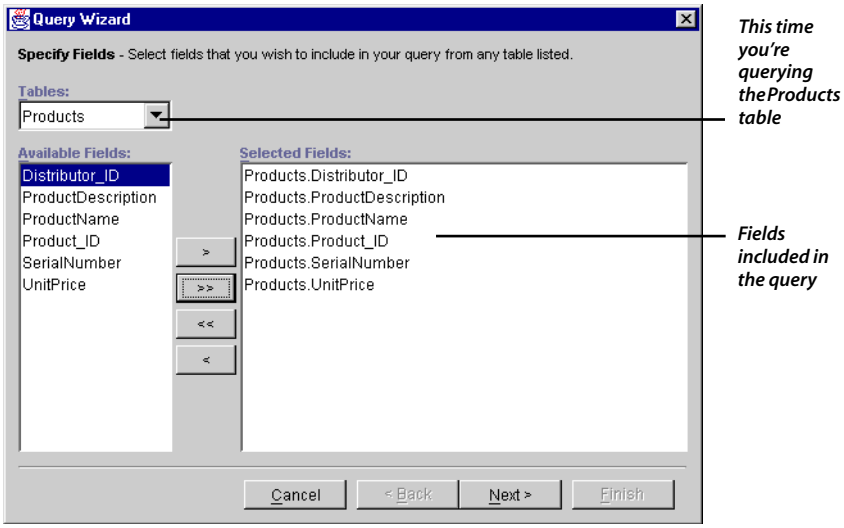
Building a Query for the Product List

Because you linked the first list page to another list page, the **ASP Connector Wizard** asks you to build a query to retrieve information for the second page.

1. Click **Build Query**.

   The **Query Wizard** opens, asking you what information to retrieve.

2. Select Products from the **Tables** drop-down list. Then click the **right double arrow** button to include all fields from the table in the query. Click **Next** to continue.

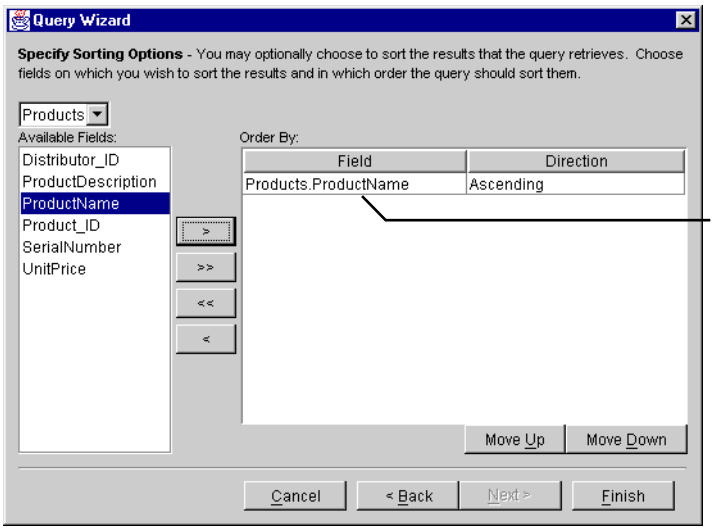


The **Query Wizard** asks if you want to filter records by retrieving only those containing specific values. You're going to show all records, so skip this step.

3. Click **Next**.

Now you're asked how you want records sorted.

4. Select ProductName and click the **right arrow** button. Then click **Finish**.



The **ASP Connector Wizard** reappears, summarizing your second query.

5. Review the query and click **Next** to continue.

Creating the Product List Page

Now that you've built a query for the second list page, you need to create the page itself. As before, the **ASP Connector Wizard** begins by asking which fields to display.

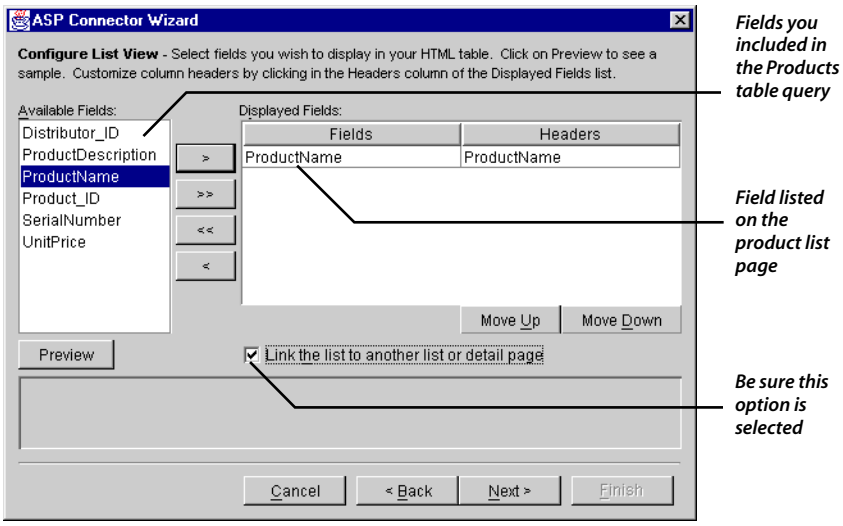
1. Select ProductName under **Available Fields** and click the **right arrow** button to list it under **Displayed Fields** at the right.

   The product list page will display only product names.

2. Select **Link the list to another list or detail page**.

   This tells the wizard you want to create a link for each product that site visitors can click to open another page—in this case, one listing details about the product.

3. Click **Next**.



The wizard gives you a chance to set text sizes and fonts.

4. Under **Data Properties**, select 10 (-1) from the **Size** drop-down list. Click **Next** to continue.

   Because you chose to link the product list to another page, the wizard wants to know what type of page and what text should be the link.

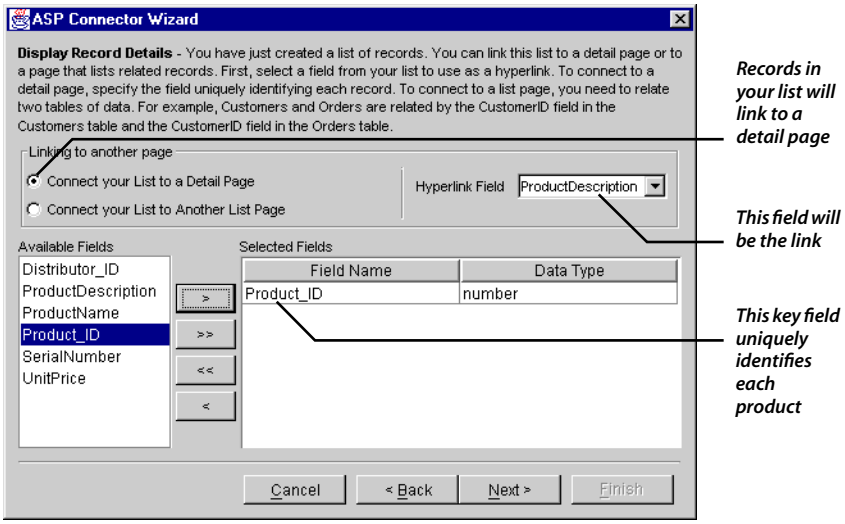
5. Select **Connect your List to a Detail Page**.

6. Choose ProductName from the **Hyperlink Field** drop-down list.

   When site visitors click a name in the product list, a page displays other fields from that product's record.

   To be sure it displays the right information, the wizard also needs to know which field in the Products table uniquely identifies each record.

7. Select Product_ID under **Available Fields**. Then click the **right arrow** button to list it under **Selected Fields** at the right.

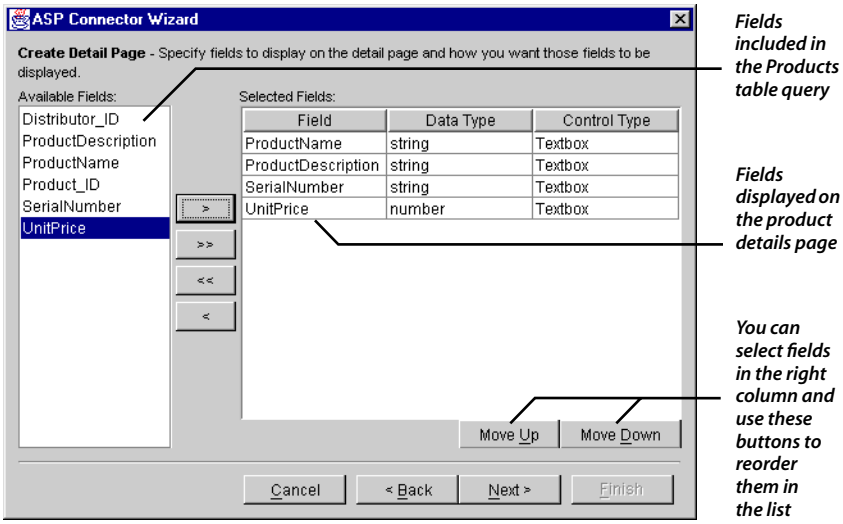


8. Click **Next** to continue.

Creating the Product Details Page

Finally, the wizard asks which fields to display on the product details page.

1. Use the arrow buttons to list all fields except Distributor_ID and Product_ID under **Selected Fields**. Order fields as shown here. Click Next when you're done.



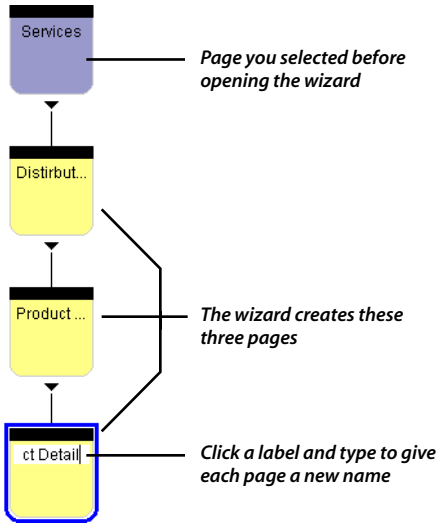
   That's it! The **ASP Connector Wizard** reports that it will create three pages: One lists the name of each distributor in the Distributors table, the next lists the names of all products a distributor carries, and the third displays details about a product.

2. Click **Finish** to close the wizard and create the pages.

Linking Site Visitors to the Application

Three pages appear under Services in Site view. Initially they're named **List Page 1**, **List Page 2**, and **Details Page 1**.

1. Rename the pages **Distributor List**, **Product List**, and **Product Details** by clicking each existing page label and typing a new one.



Before looking at these pages, you need to give site visitors a way to get to them.

2. Double-click the Services page to open it in Page view.

Text tool

3. Select the **Text** tool from the **Standard** toolbar and draw a text box in the lower-left of the Layout area, above the Sports Jacques logo.

4. In the box, type **Meet our distributors!**

For more information about links, see "Links" on page 2-14.

5. Select the text and create a link to the Distributor List page (the one you just renamed).

   Click **Link** on the **Text Properties** palette. On the **Internal Link** tab of the **Link** dialog, select Distributor List under **Page Name**. Click **Link** when you're done.

Link this text to the Distributors page

Formatting the List Pages in NetObjects Fusion

Child page button

1. Click the **Child page** button at the lower left of the window to open the Distributor List page in Page view.

   There are three components on the page. You can select them one at a time to see their attributes on the properties palette. Notice that these match choices you made in the wizards.

2. Position the list component in the center of the page, and make it wide enough to accommodate each distributor's name.

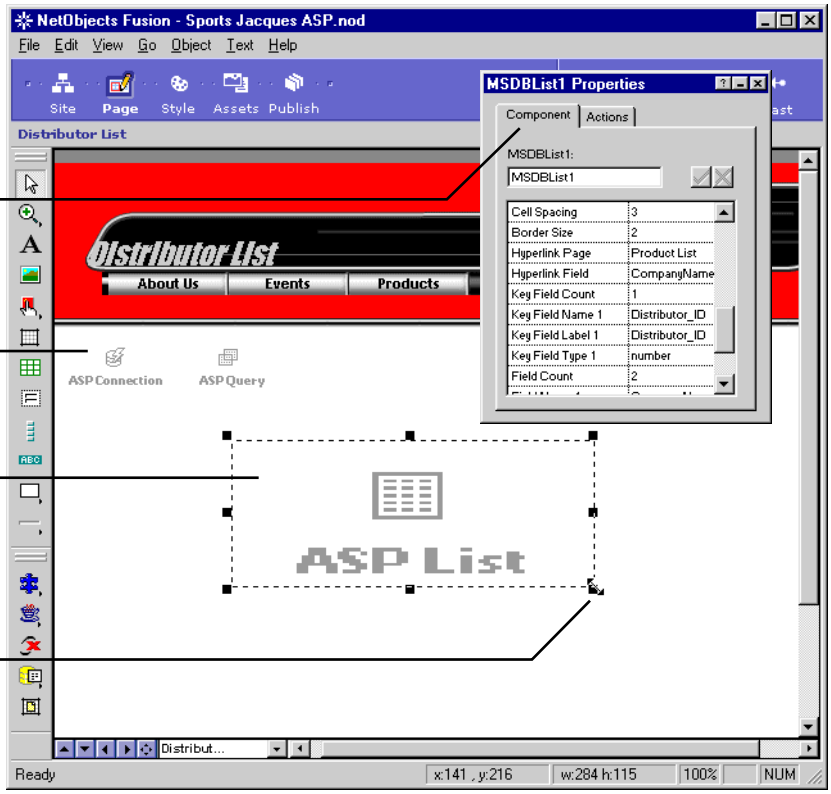
   Your page should now look like this:

The list component's attributes match choices you made in the wizards—the hyperlink field is set to CompanyName, the page it targets is Product List, the key field is Distributor_ID, and so on

These components insert code in the page but aren't visible in people's Web browsers

This component marks where the distributor list will appear

Drag here to make the list wider. Published text wraps within this width but expands downward to accommodate all database entries



3. Click the **Child page** button to open the Product List page. Then resize and position the list component on that page in the same way.

Formatting the Details Page

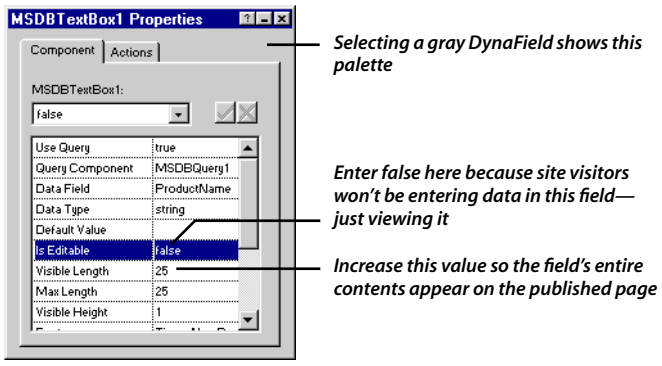
1. Click the **Child page** button again to open the Product Details page.

   The page contains connection and query components. It also contains a form consisting of standard text labels, and gray DynaFields that when published display text retrieved from the database. The form is a bit off center, the DynaFields should be wider, and the labels need editing.

2. Select all the form elements—DynaFields and labels—by dragging a marquee around them—don't include the other components. Drag the selection to the center of the page.

3. For each DynaField, select the field. Then on the **properties** palette:

   - ✧ Select **Is Editable** and select false from the drop-down list at the top of the palette.
   - ✧ Select **Visible Length** and enter **25** at the top of the palette.



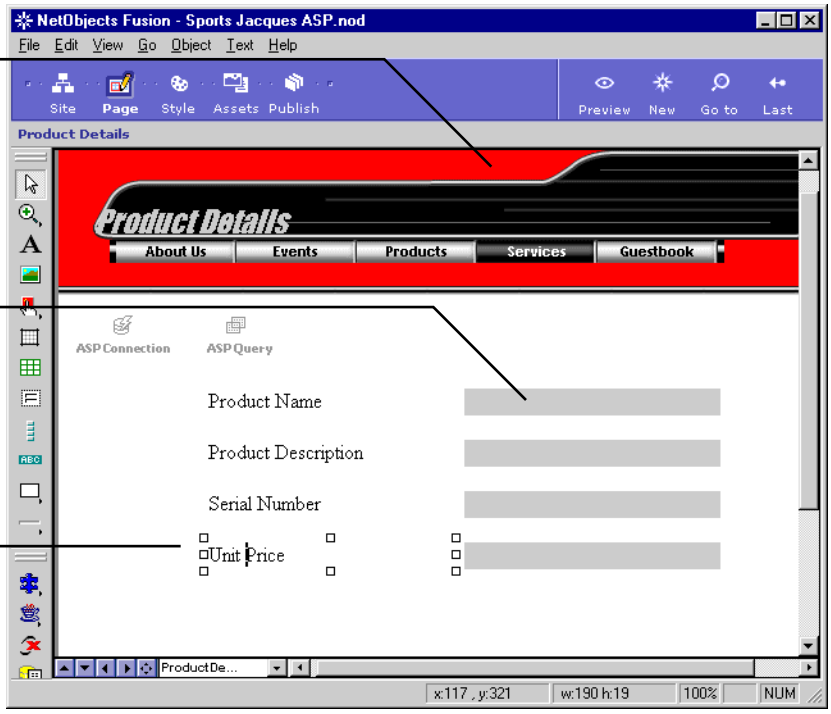
4. Finally, edit the labels to put spaces between words.

   Your page should now look like this:

If you completed Chapter 3, "Designing the Home Page," where you chose a new banner for the Sports site style, your banner will look slightly different than the one shown here

DynaFields for each database field you chose to display on this page

Standard text box labels, which you can double-click in to edit however you want



Placing Navigation Buttons on the Detail Page

So site visitors can quickly review product descriptions and prices for a particular distributor, you're going to add buttons to the Product Details page that people can click to page through product records sequentially, without having to go back to the Product List page.

1. From the **View**, **Toolbars**, **Component Tools** menu, select **Microsoft ASP**.

   The **Microsoft ASP** toolbar opens.

ASP Database Record Navigator tool

2. Select the **ASP Database Record Navigator** tool and draw a box to the right of the query component, above the dynamic text boxes.

   A gray box appears, representing three navigation buttons that will appear on the published page. One button will navigate to the next record in the Products table, one will show the previous record, and the third will return site visitors to the Product List page.

The box marks where three navigation buttons will appear on the published page

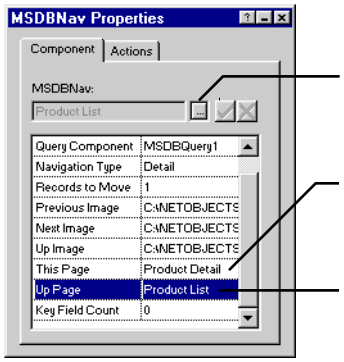
Browse button

3. Select the box. On the **MSDBNav Properties** palette, select **This Page**, and click the browse button that appears next to the field at the top of the palette.

   The **Link** dialog opens.

4. On the **Internal** tab of the **Link** dialog, select the Product Details page. Then click **Link**.

5. Select the **Up Page** attribute on the **MSDBNav Properties** palette and do the same thing to select the Product List page from the **Link** dialog.



Clicking This Page or Up Page makes a browse button appear

You have to tell the navigation component which page it's on

The up navigation button will link site visitors to this page

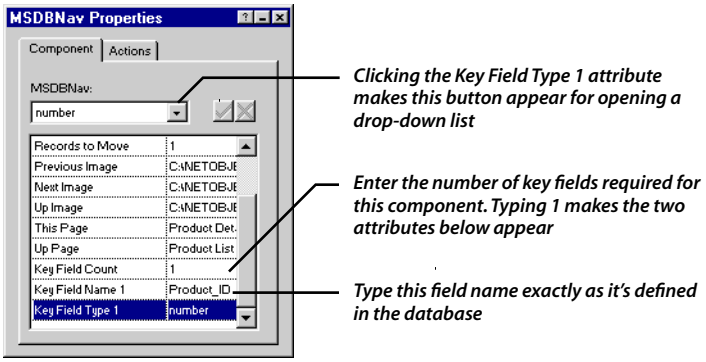
Finally, you have to specify the key field that identifies each product's record.

6. Select the **Key Field Count** attribute and type **1** at the top of the palette.

   This is the number of key fields needed to identify individual records the component will navigate. Because it's navigating only within the Products table, it needs only one key field.

7. Select **Key Field Name 1** and type **Product_ID**. Then select **Key Field Type 1** and choose number from the drop-down list at the top of the palette.

This identifies both the key field and the type of information it contains—in this case, a numerical value as opposed to a text string, date, or boolean value.



You're now ready to test the application.

Publishing and Testing Your Application

To test your application, you must publish the site to a Web server that supports Microsoft Active Server Pages. You also must publish by asset type, and make the folder that will contain your HTML files executable.

Note: If you're not publishing to your local computer, you must register the Sports.mdb database on both your local and publish machines, in each case giving the data source the exact same name. See "Installing the Sample Database" in this chapter.

Before You Publish

1. Create a folder named **SportsASP** in your Web server's root folder.

   This is where you'll test your ASP application.

2. Create a folder named **HTML** in the **SportsASP** folder.

If you're publishing to a remote ISP, have your ISP create a folder that contains an executable HTML folder for staging your site.

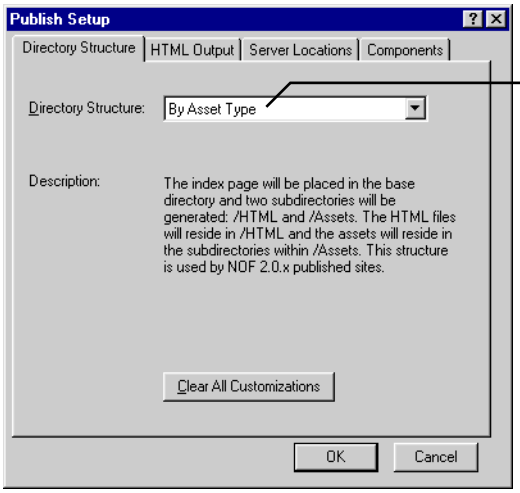
3. Make your test folder executable.

   If you're publishing to a Microsoft IIS Web server, use the Microsoft Management Console to make the **HTML** folder executable.

   If you're publishing to Personal Web Server on your own computer, use the Advanced settings in the Personal Web Server application to create a virtual

directory for the **SportsASP** folder. Name the folder **SportsASP** and select the Executable option.

4. Back in NetObjects Fusion's Publish view, click **Setup** on the control bar.
5. The **Publish Setup** dialog opens.
6. Choose By Asset Type from the **Directory Structure** drop-down list.



Publish by asset type so all pages containing Connector for ASP components end up in the executable HTML folder you created

Publishing Your Site

For information on publishing to a remote ISP, see Chapter 28, "Publishing," of the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User's Guide..

Here are instructions for publishing to a server that's on your computer or that you can browse to over a local network.

1. In Publish view, click **Publish** on the control bar.

   The **Publish** dialog opens.

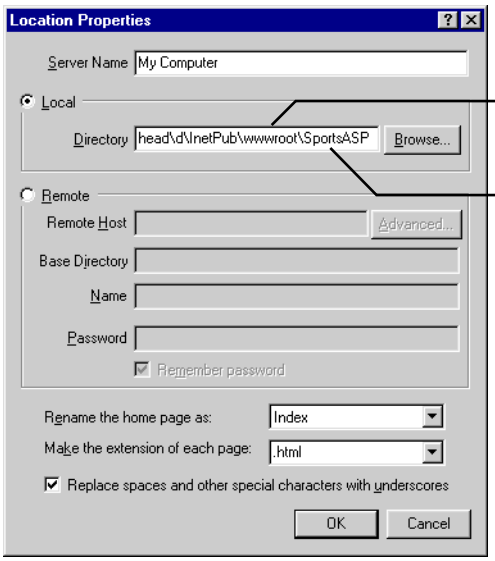
2. Select **MyComputer** from the **Location** drop-down list and click **Edit**.

   The **Location Properties** dialog opens.

3. Select the **Local** option. Then click **Browse**.

   The **Browse for Folder** dialog opens.

4. Navigate to your local Web server and select the **SportsASP** folder you created. Click **OK** when you're done.



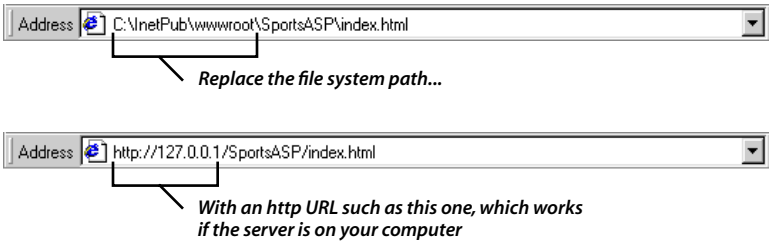
5. Click **OK** in the **Publish Site** dialog to publish the site.

   After a few moments, the site appears in your Web browser. Notice that the browser is using the file system path to your site as an address.

If you're publishing to a remote ISP, you have to open your browser and navigate to the page yourself. Ask your ISP for the URL to use.

6. Replace the path with an http URL by selecting the path up to, but not including, the **SportsASP** folder you created, and replacing the selection with **http://*localserver***.

   If the Web server is on your computer, ***localserver*** can be **localhost** or the corresponding IP address **127.0.0.1**. If the server is on another computer in a local network, ***localserver*** is the name or IP address of that computer.



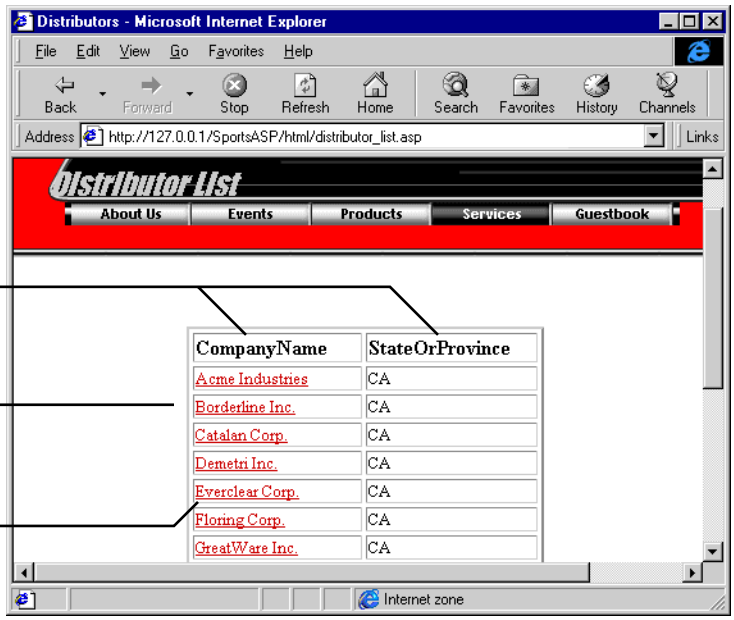
7. Refresh your browser so it's using the http URL.

You're now ready to try out the application.

Testing Your Application

1. Open the Services page and click the **Meet our distributors** link you created.

   The Distributor List page opens, listing the company name and state of each distributor in the Sports database.



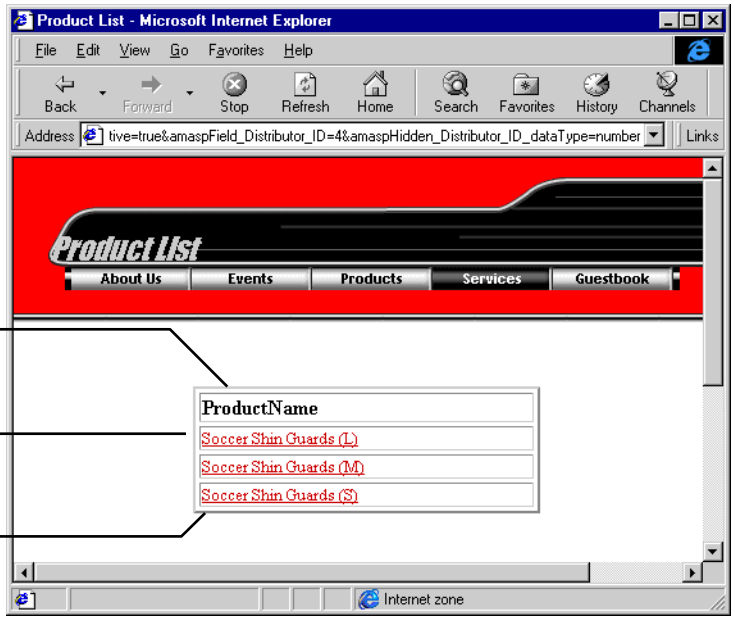
Fields you chose to display when creating the Distributor List page

Entries from each record in the Distributors table of the Sports database

Hyperlink field you selected in the wizard when you linked this page to the Product List page

2. Click the **Demetri Inc.** link.

   The Product List page opens, listing each product Demetri Inc. carries.

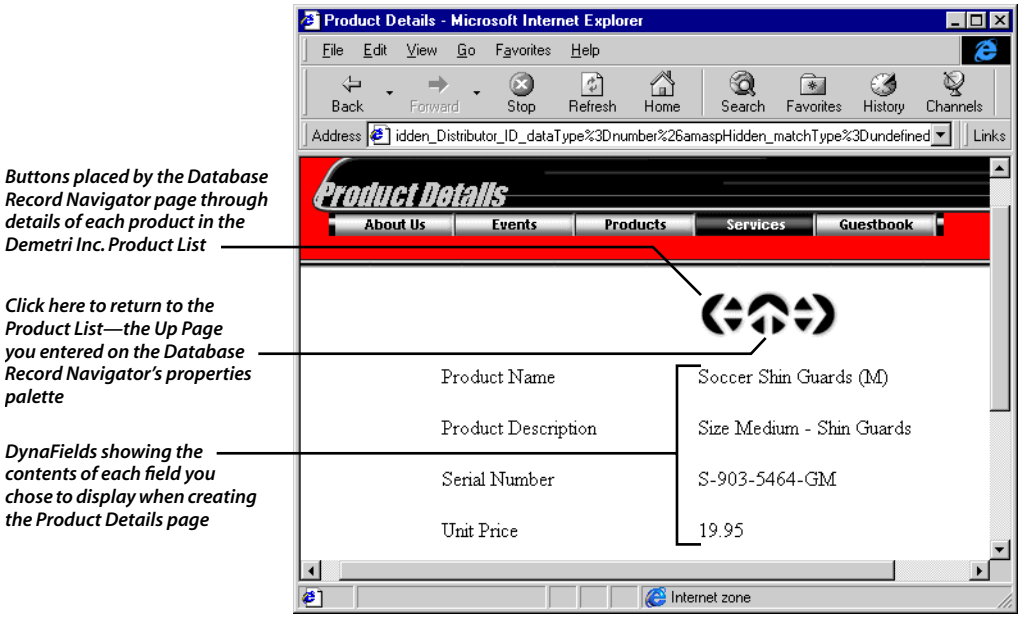


3. Click the first product—**Soccer Shin Guards (L)**.

   The Product Details page opens, showing more information about the product. The page also contains **up** and **right arrow** navigation buttons.

4. Click the **right arrow** button.

   The page shows details about the next Demetri, Inc. product. The page also contains an additional **left arrow** button for paging back to the previous product.



5. Click the **up arrow** to return to the Product List page.

Where To Go From Here

In this chapter, you got a good idea of the kind of data retrieval application you can build using the ASP Connector Wizard. There's much more you can do, however, by working with Connector for ASP components directly.

You can allow site visitors to search your database or update it directly. You can provide navigation for list views, so site visitors can page through long lists of records a group at a time, like you page through search results on the Internet. You can include details and lists on the same page, for example, so that selecting a master record displays both details about that record and a list of related records from another table. You can set the font, size, and color of text, create your own button images, format the look of tables, and more.

For a complete description of all Connector for ASP components, see the online *NetObjects Fusion Connector for Active Server Pages User's Guide*; get to this document by opening **ASPUserGuide.pdf** from your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Components\ASP\docs** folder. The same folder also contains the *JScript Object Structures* document, which outlines the components' programmatic structure for developers who want to fully understand or modify them. And it has two documents outlining known limitations and problems when working with these components.

If, after referring to the online documents you still have problems or questions, contact NetObjects Technical support at **www.netobjects.com/support**.

Building a ColdFusion Data Entry Application

To build the application described in this chapter, you must install the Connector for Allaire ColdFusion components from your NetObjects Fusion 4.0 CD-ROM.

You can use NetObjects Fusion Connector for Allaire ColdFusion components to provide live connectivity between your Web site and an ODBC database. Not only can you build pages where site visitors view, update, and conduct searches of your business data, but you can send automatic email replies, use browser cookies to greet regular visitors by name, and do much more.

You do all this in NetObjects Fusion by placing components that request data from a database via a ColdFusion server, and pass it to your Web site, email server, or search index. You don't need to write CGI scripts, learn ColdFusion tags, or in many cases even know SQL—the components can generate this code for you. But experienced developers can enter code directly, if they prefer.

In this chapter, you'll build a data entry application for sporting goods distributors to register themselves at the Sports Jacques extranet. This chapter shows you:

- **How Connector for Allaire ColdFusion works**
- **Installing the sample database**
- **Building a data entry application**
- **Publishing to a test server**
- **Where to go from here**

If you don't want to install a local Web server, you can publish to an ISP that hosts a ColdFusion server. For a directory of such ISP's, visit www.allaire.com.

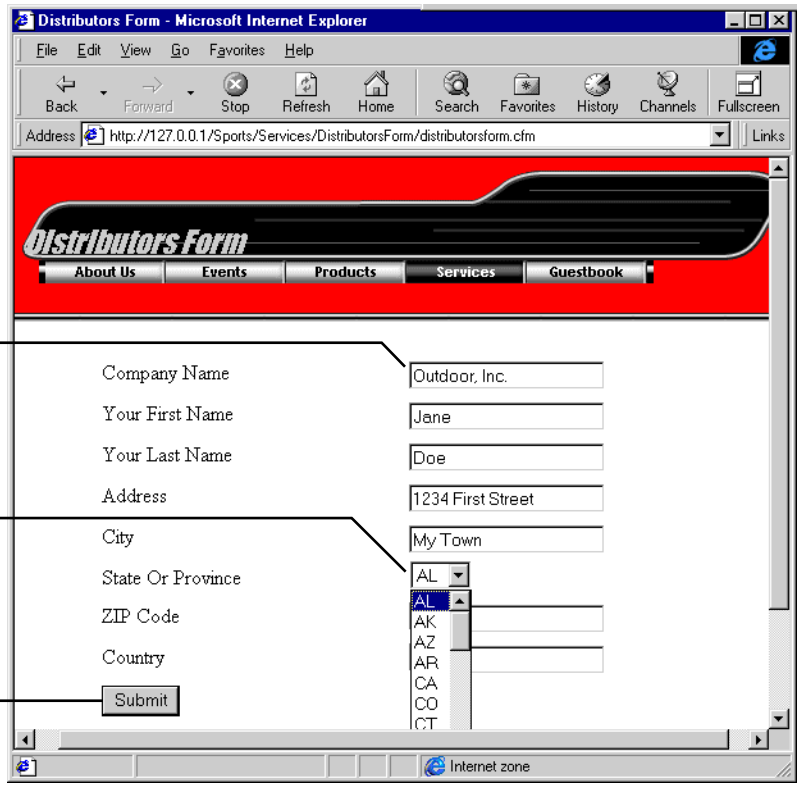
To complete the lesson in this chapter, you should be familiar with basic NetObjects Fusion concepts including creating sites from templates. You also need access to a local Web server with ColdFusion Server version 3.1 or later installed on it—Windows 98 and NT 4.0 each come with a Web server you can use, or you can download Personal Web Server from **www.microsoft.com**. You can install a trial version of ColdFusion Server 4.0 from the NetObjects Fusion CD-ROM.

You also need Microsoft ODBC drivers installed on your local computer.

How Connector for Allaire ColdFusion Works

You build a ColdFusion application in NetObjects Fusion by placing components that publish data dynamically from a database. Or, you can build a data entry application by answering questions and making selections in a wizard, which places and configures components for you.

Some components add visible objects to the page, like a text field, drop-down list, or table, which you can then associate with one or more database fields—to either display data from the database, or enter data into it. Typing in a text field, for example, can update a customer's name in the database.



Here, a site visitor's typing is submitted as a new record in a database; each text field is associated with a database field

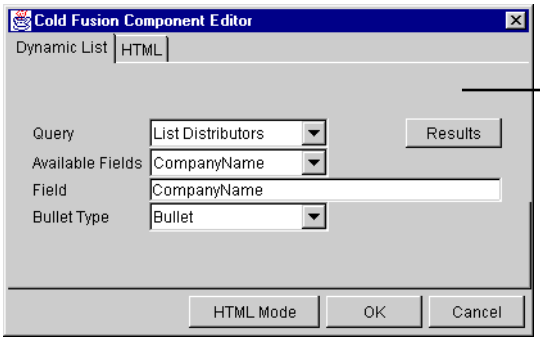
Choices in this drop-down list are updated dynamically to correspond to entries in a database table

This button sends input to a ColdFusion page that has code for entering input into the database

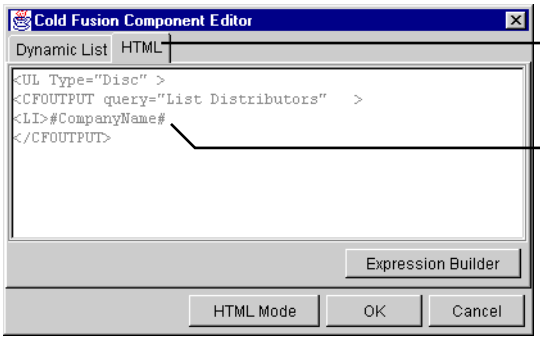
For details on all the ColdFusion components, see the Allaire Connector for ColdFusion User's Guide, as described in "Where To Go From Here" in this chapter.

Other *nonvisual* components don't appear in people's browsers but work behind the scenes to execute interactions between visible objects and a back-end service—for example, by querying a database, adding or updating records, or sending email.

You configure components and build SQL statements in graphic dialogs. Connector for Allaire ColdFusion then inserts code in the published page that adds an object or hidden functionality. Nonvisual components insert ColdFusion Markup Language (CFML)—code with an HTML-like tag syntax that interacts with the ColdFusion server on your Web server. Components that add visible objects insert a combination of HTML and JavaScript to create the object, and CFML to link it to back-end data.



Properties of a dynamic list component



Clicking here displays the HTML the component generates

CMFL tag that queries a database's CompanyName field for entries to display in a list. Notice that these attributes match properties in the dialog

When you publish your site, the CFML generated by the components runs on the ColdFusion server, making necessary connections with your database.

To build applications such as the one in this lesson, you need only to understand the structure of your database. To make the most of these components, however, it's helpful to be familiar with relational databases in general, and to know some basic SQL.

Installing the Sample Database

Before building your database application, you have to register the sample **Sports.mdb** database included with NetObjects Fusion, as an ODBC data source on your computer. If you're testing the application by publishing to a separate computer, follow these steps to register the database on that machine, too.

1. Open the **Control Panel** from the Windows **Start**, **Settings** menu and double-click the **ODBC** or **ODBC (32 Bit)** icon.

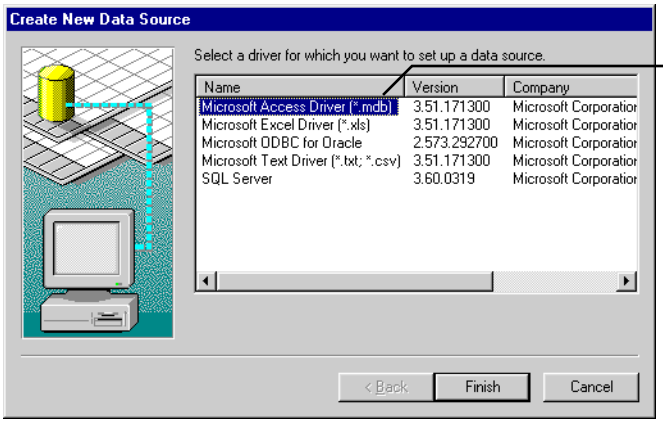
If you don't see this icon in the Control Panel window, download and install the Microsoft ODBC drivers from www.microsoft.com

   The **ODBC Data Source Administrator** opens.

2. Click the **System DSN** tab. Then click **Add**.

   The **Create New Data Source** wizard opens.

3. Select Microsoft Access Driver and click **Finish**.

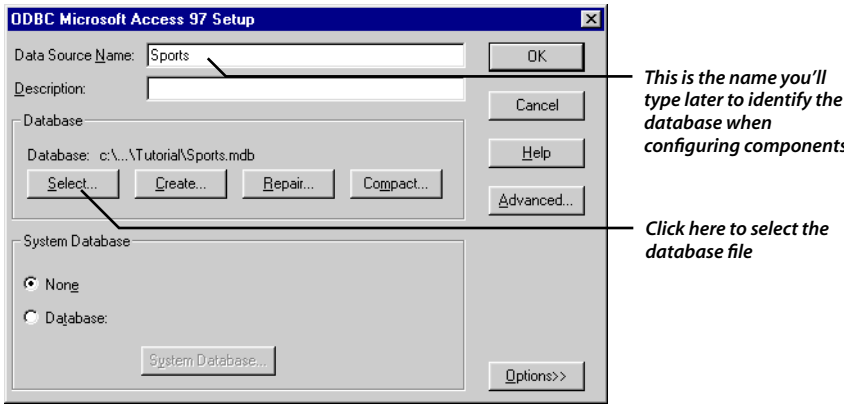


Using the sample database requires this driver

   The **ODBC Setup** dialog opens.

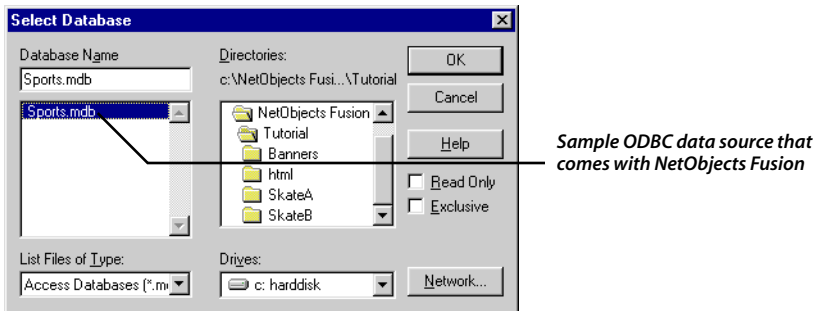
4. Type **Sports** in the **Data Source Name** field. Then under **Database**, click **Select**.

If you're registering this database on two computers, be sure to give it the exact same name on each machine.



The **Select Database** dialog opens.

5. Navigate to the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Tutorial** folder and select the **Sports.mdb** file.



6. Click **OK** to close the **Select Database**, **ODBC Setup**, and **Data Source Administrator** dialogs.

You're now ready to build your application.

Building a Data Entry Application

The Sports Jacques staff needs relief from administrative overhead, so you've decided to create a form where site visitors who carry Sports Jacques products can register themselves as distributors in your company database. After submitting the form, visitors see a page of results listing all distributors currently in the database, including themselves. The page even thanks them by name for their entry.

In this lesson, you'll use a wizard to create the form and the code that sends form input to database. You'll then place components to build queries for displaying distributor names and for dynamically populating a drop-down list. Finally, you'll use a dynamic text field to insert the site visitor's name in a thank-you message.

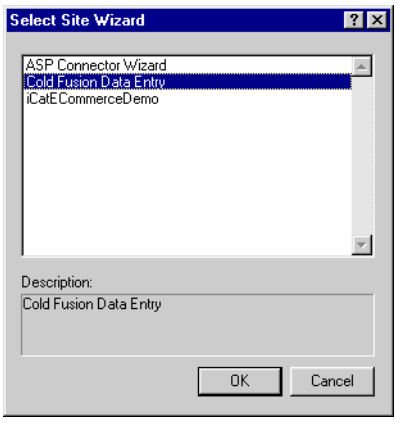
Building the Form

Need details on creating a site from a template? See Chapter 11, "Viewing Sample Sites."

1. Create a new NetObjects Fusion site from the **Sports Jacques.nft** sample site in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites\Sports Jacques** folder. Name the site **Sports Jacques CF.nod**.
2. In Site view, select the Services page.

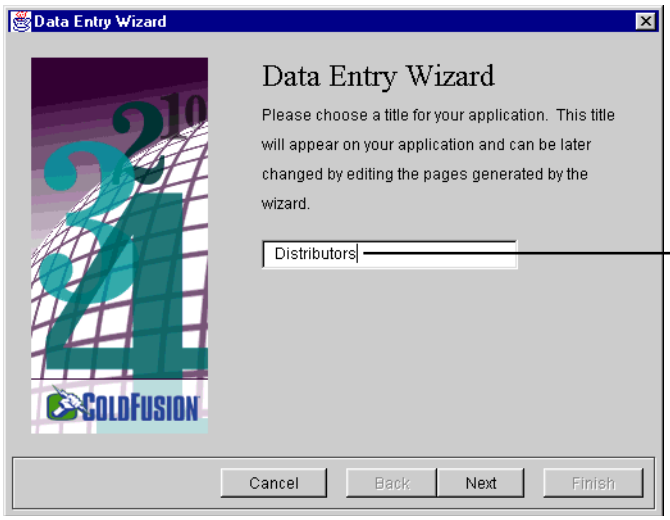
   This will be the parent of pages the wizard creates.
3. From the **File** menu, choose **Launch Site Wizard**.

   The **Select Site Wizard** dialog opens.
4. Select **Cold Fusion Data Entry** and click **OK**.



   The **Data Entry Wizard** opens, asking you to name the form.

5. Type **Distributors** and click **Next**.

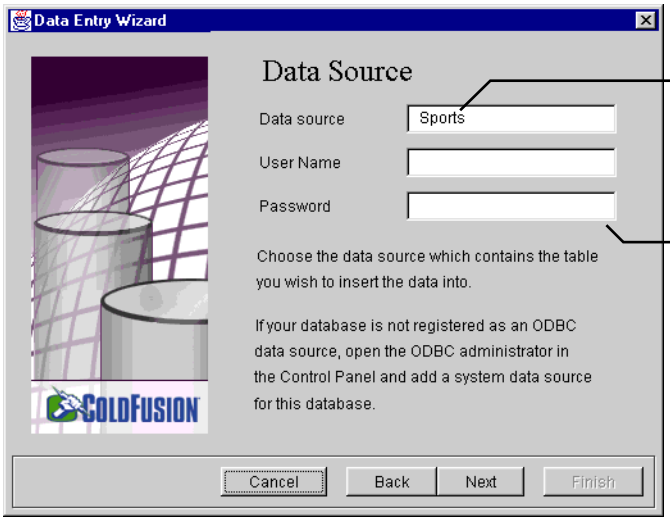


The name you type here appears in the banner of pages the wizard creates. You can edit these banners later

The wizard asks which database you want distributors to update.

6. Type **Sports** in the **Data source** field, and click **Next**.

If the wizard doesn't accept your data source, you either mistyped its name, in which case you can type it again, or the source isn't registered. See "Installing the Sample Database" on page 15-4 for instructions on registering it.

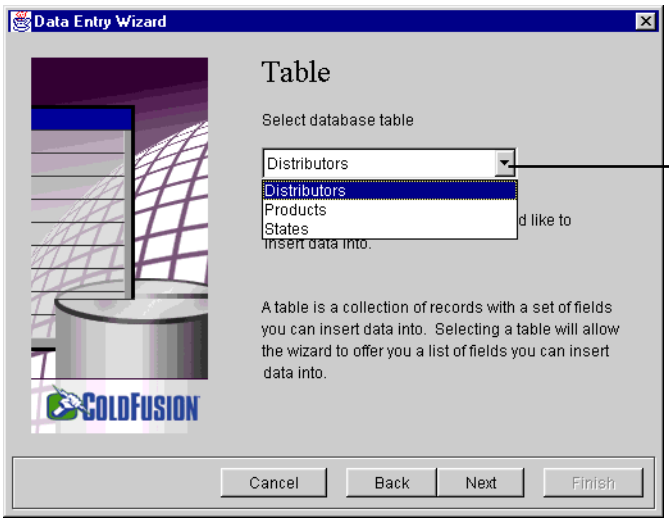


Type this name exactly as you did in the ODBC Data Source Administrator when you registered the database

For many data sources, you also must enter a user name and password, but not for this one

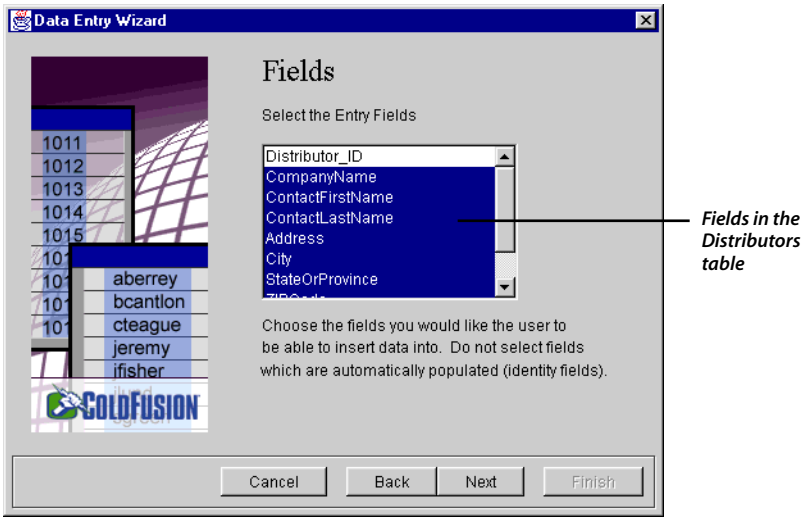
The wizard asks you to select the database table where you want form input entered.

7. Select the Distributors table and click **Next**.



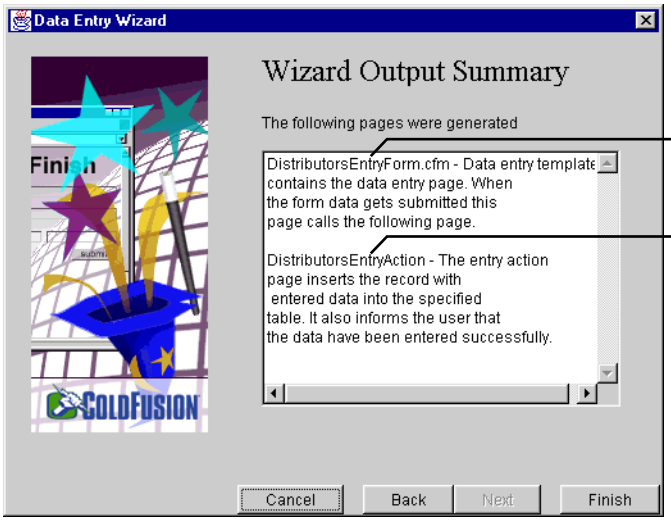
Next, the wizard wants to know which fields to include in the form.

8. Select all fields but Distributor_ID, by clicking each field. Then click **Next**.



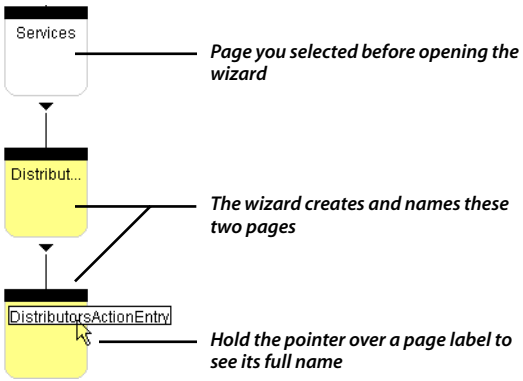
The wizard creates two pages.

ColdFusion pages have a .cfm extension that tells the ColdFusion server to process the page. You can work with .cfm pages, adding text and other objects, just like any other NetObjects Fusion page.



9. Click **Finish**.

The wizard asks you to wait a few moments, then informs you that it has created your pages. In this case, it adds two pages under Services titled **DistributorsForm** and **DistributorsActionEntry**.



Before looking at these pages, you must give site visitors a way to get to the form.

10. Double-click the Services page to open it in Page view.

Text tool

11. Select the **Text** tool from the **Standard** toolbar, and draw a text box below the **Finder's Service** text, above the Sports Jacques logo.

12. In the box, type **Distributors register here!**

If you need a refresher on links, see "Links" on page 2-14.

13. Select the text and create a link to the DistributorsForm page.

    Click **Link** on the **Text Properties** palette. On the **Internal Link** tab of the **Link** dialog, select DistributorsForm under **Page Name**. Click **Link** when you're done.

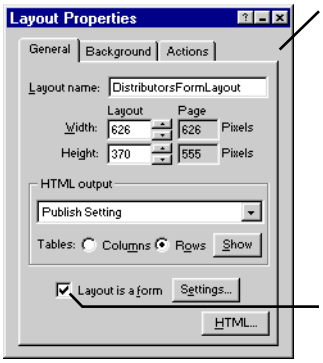
Link this text to the DistributorsForm page

Completing the Form in Page View

Child page button

1. Click the **Child page** button at the lower left of the window to open the DistributorsForm page in Page view.

   The page contains a form consisting of text labels, CF Input Text components, and a Submit button. Click anywhere in the Layout area and notice on the **Layout Properties** palette that the wizard set the Layout to be a form.



To open this palette, click anywhere in the Layout area

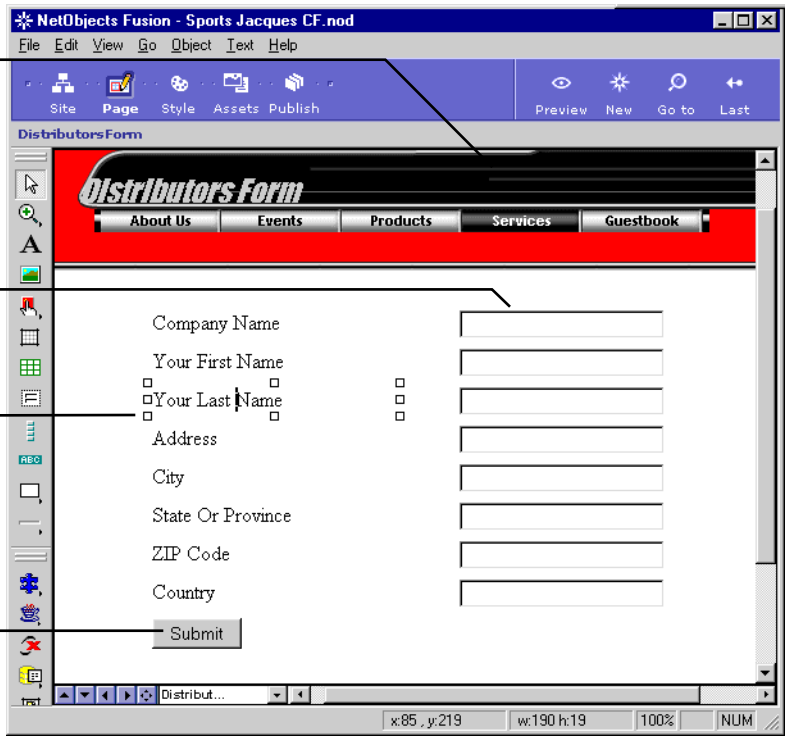
The wizard selected this option when it created the form

   The form is a bit off center, plus the labels could use some editing.

2. Select all the form elements—labels, components, and the button—by dragging a marquee around them (don't drag it around anything else). Then drag the entire selection to the center of the page, so it looks well positioned.

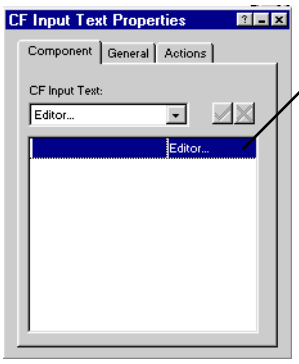
3. Edit the text boxes to put spaces between words, and also to change **ContactFirstName** and **ContactLastName** to **Your First Name** and **Your Last Name**.

   Your page should now look like this:



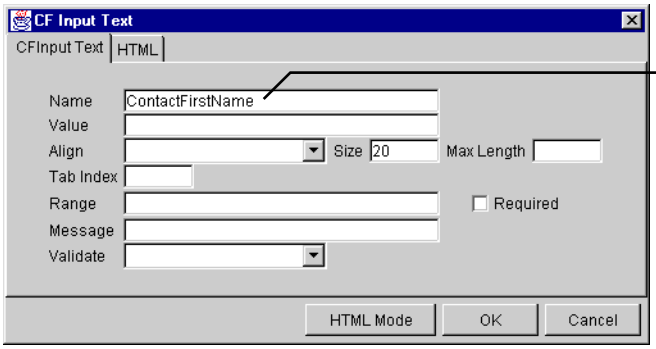
To verify which database field maps to a CF Input Text component, you can look at the component's properties.

4. Select the CF Input Text component next to **Your First Name**, and double-click **Editor** on the **CF Input Text Properties** palette.



Double-click here on this or any other ColdFusion Connector component's properties palette to open a dialog for setting the component's properties

The **CF Input Text** dialog shows the name of the database field.



Text typed in this component is entered in the database's ContactFirstName field (now labeled Your First Name on your page)

5. Click **Cancel** to close the dialog.

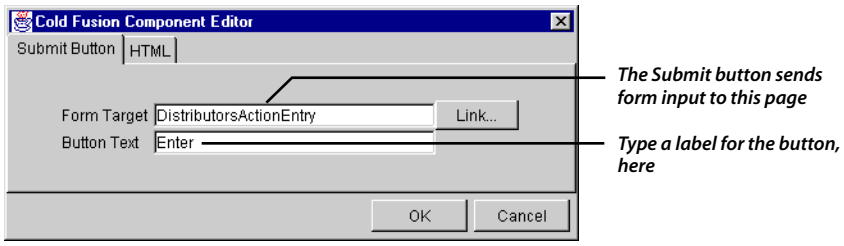
   To get form data into the database, the wizard configures the Submit button to send input to a ColdFusion page that has code for making the connection—in this case, the DistributorsActionEntry page.

6. Select the Submit button and double-click **Editor** on the **Submit Button Properties** palette.

   The **Cold Fusion Component Editor** opens showing the Submit button's properties.

7. Type **Submit** in the **Button Text** field.

Typically, you process a form using a CGI script. In ColdFusion, however, form input goes to a separate page that contains code for processing it.



8. Click OK.

Adding a Dynamic List

To display names of currently registered distributors so site visitors can see their entry after submitting the form, you'll now build a query of the Distributors table, and associate the query with a dynamic list. You'll add this list to the DistributorsActionEntry page.

The query will retrieve information from all fields in the Distributors table. The list will display only one of these fields—the one containing the company's name.

1. Click the **Child page** button at the lower left of the window to open the DistributorsActionEntry page in Page view.

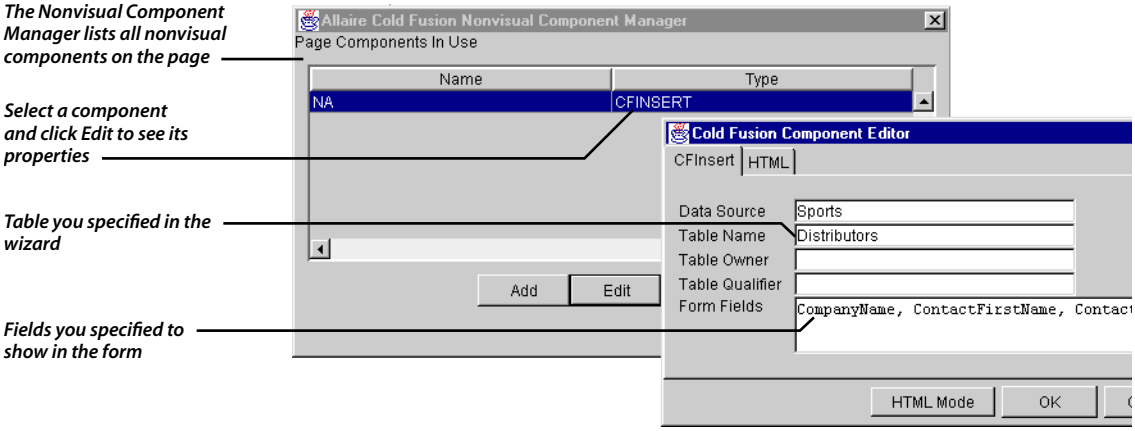
   The page contains an icon representing one or more nonvisual components on the page.

   Nonvisual component icon—one icon per page can represent several components

2. Select the icon and double-click **Editor** on the **Nonvisual Component Properties** palette.

   The **Nonvisual Component Manager** opens, listing a CFINSERT component that was placed on the page by the wizard. This component inserts form input, sent from the DistributorsForm page by the Submit button, into the Sports database.

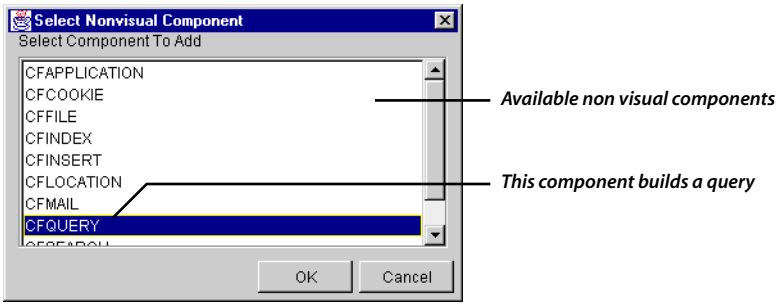
You can see the component's properties by selecting CFINSERT and clicking **Edit** to open the **Cold Fusion Component Editor**. Click **Cancel** to close the editor when you're done looking at it.



3. After closing the **Cold Fusion Component Editor**, click **Add** in the **Nonvisual Component Manager**.

   The **Select Nonvisual Component** dialog opens.

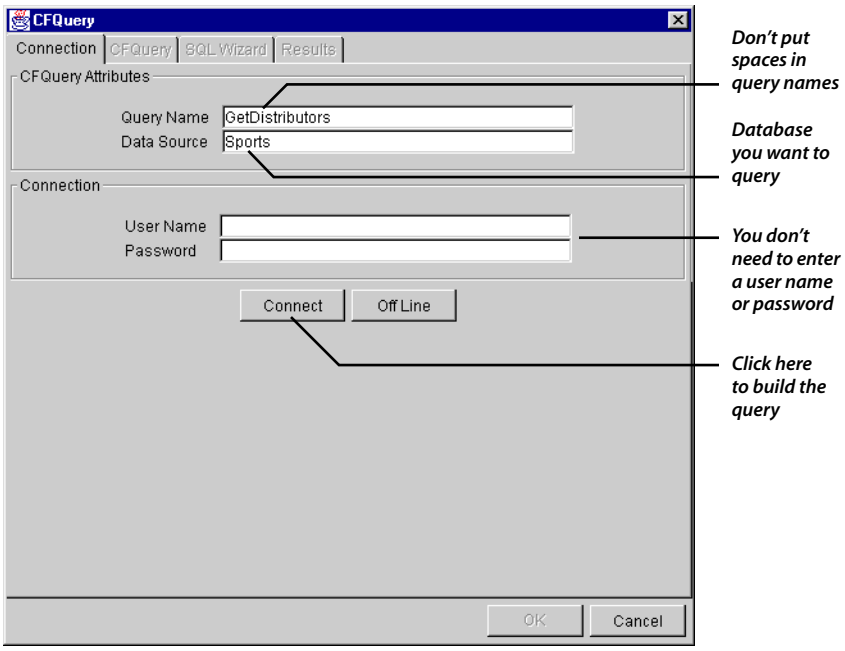
4. Select CFQUERY and click **OK**.



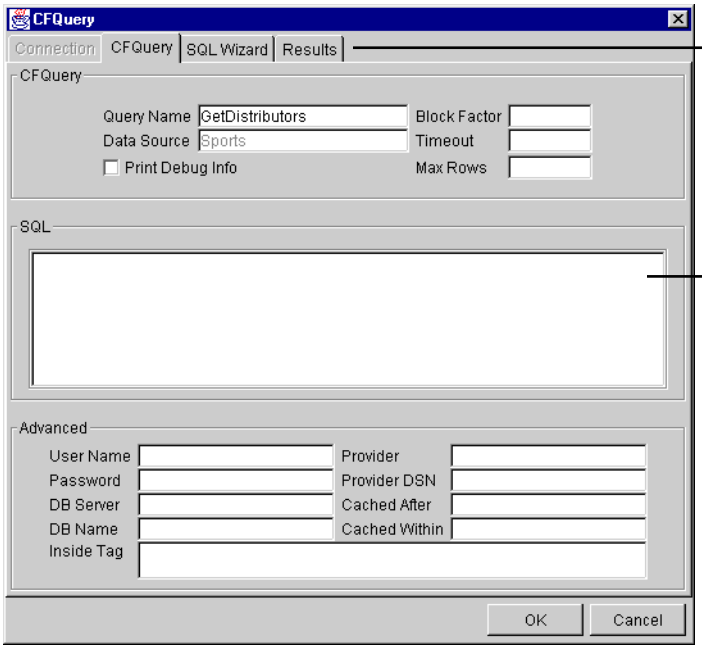
The **CFQuery** dialog opens, displaying the **Connection** tab.

In this lesson, you're connected to your database so you can build a query by selecting from available tables and fields. When you don't have database access, you can click Off Line to build the query by writing SQL yourself, entering table and field names from memory.

5. Type **GetDistributors** (don't include a space) in the **Query Name** field, and type **Sports** in the **Data Source** field. Then click **Connect**.



Three more tabs become available in the dialog—the **CFQuery** tab is initially selected. You can write your own SQL here to build the query, but in this lesson, you'll use a wizard to generate the SQL.



6. Click the **SQL Wizard** tab.

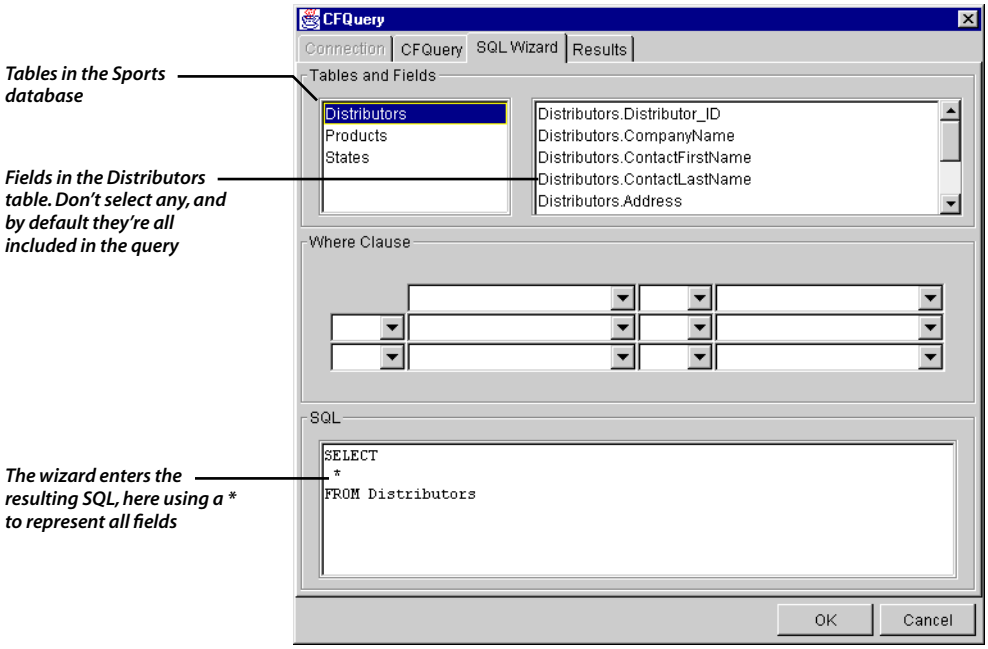
   A list of tables in the Sports database appears.

Fields you include in a query are available when you later use the query to tell a component what to display. If you make all fields available, you can change your mind about what to display or use the same query again with some other component.

7. Select the Distributors table.

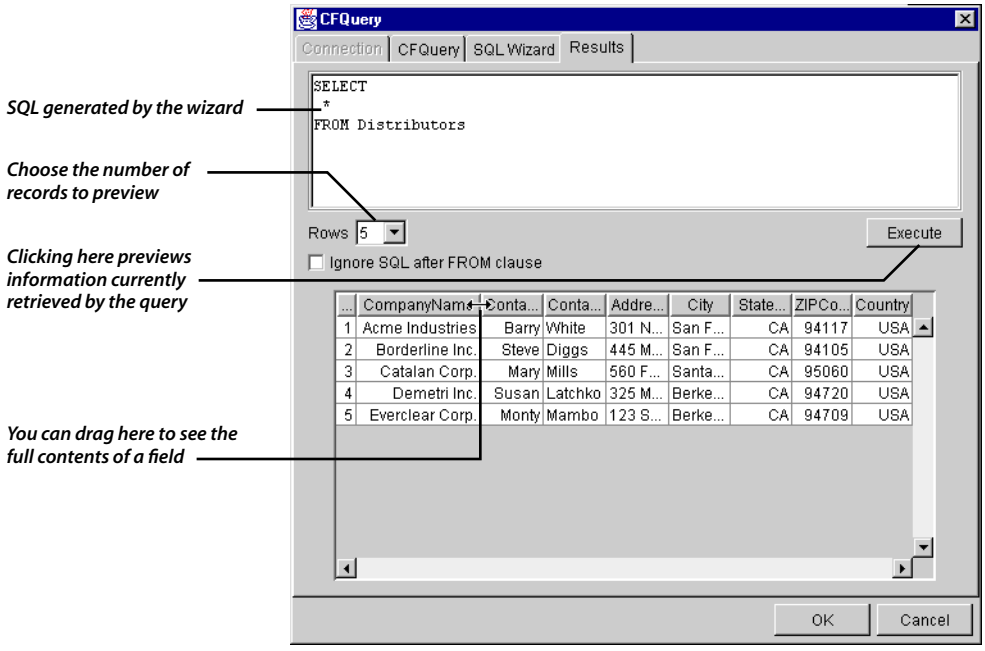
   The fields in the table, which you can now include in the query, appear to the right. By default, all fields are included—the wizard generates SQL for the query using a * to represent all fields.

   You can select specific fields to include only a few, but in this lesson you want to include them all. Later, you'll choose one to display in a dynamic list.



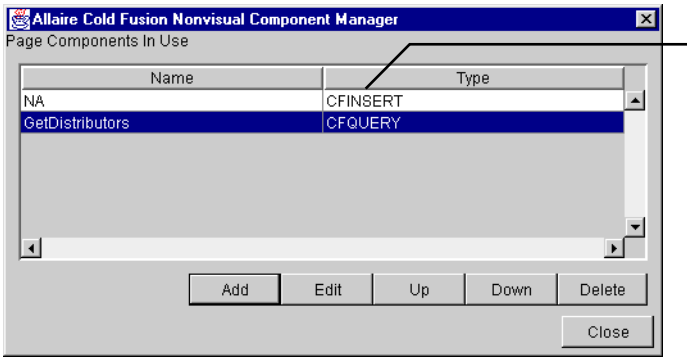
8. Without selecting any fields, click the **Results** tab.
9. Click **Execute**.

   The dialog lists the contents of all fields in the Distributors table.



10. Click **OK** to close the dialog and save the query.

    There are now two nonvisual components on the page.



Components are executed in the order listed. Here, form input precedes the query so query results include each newly entered record

11. Click **Close** in the **Nonvisual Component Manager**.

Dynamic HTML List tool

12. From the **View**, **Toolbars**, **Component Tools** menu, select **Allaire Cold Fusion**.

    The **Allaire Cold Fusion** toolbar opens.

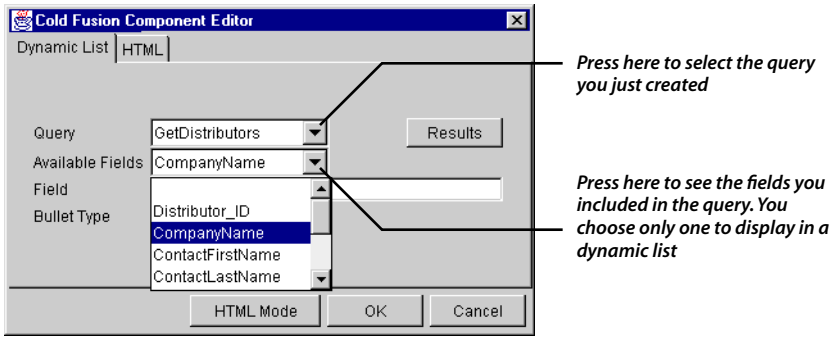
13. Select the **Dynamic HTML List** tool and draw a box in the center of the page.

    A gray box appears, representing the dynamic list.

14. Select the box and double-click **Editor** on the **Dynamic List Properties** palette.

    The **Cold Fusion Component Editor** opens showing the dynamic list's properties.

15. Use the drop-down lists to enter **GetDistributors** in the **Query** field and **CompanyName** in **Available Fields**. Click OK when you're done.



    The dynamic list is labeled with the name of the field whose contents it will display.

16. Resize the list to be wide enough to accommodate each distributor's name.

Published text wraps within the width of the dynamic list, but the list expands downward to accommodate all database entries

Adding a Dynamic Text Field

The wizard placed a text box on the DistributorsActionEntry page with a message thanking site visitors for submitting the form. You'll now personalize this message by inserting a dynamic text field that displays whatever name the person types in the Your First Name field.

1. Select the text box containing the message **Thank you for your submission.**, and drag the box to the center of the page, above the dynamic list.

Dynamic Text tool

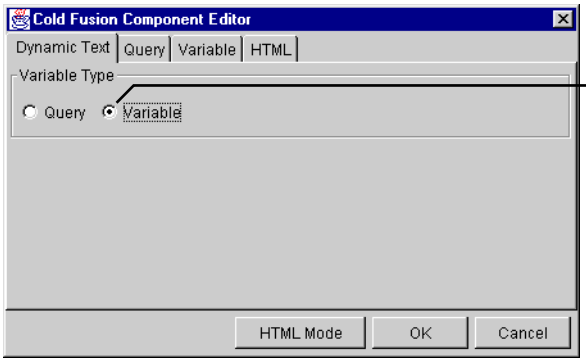
2. Select the **Dynamic Text** tool from the **Allaire Cold Fusion** toolbar, and draw a box on the page.

   A gray box appears representing a dynamic text field.

3. Select the box, and double-click **Editor** on the **Dynamic Text Properties** palette.

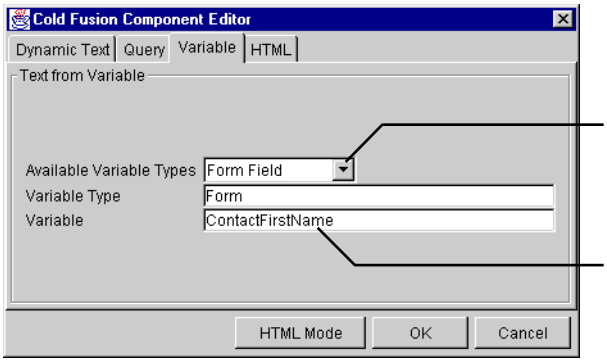
   The **Cold Fusion Component Editor** opens.

4. On the **Dynamic Text** tab, select the **Variable** option. Then click the **Variable** tab.



   Fields appear for specifying what you want the dynamic text field to display.

5. Select **Form Field** from the **Available Variable Types** drop-down list, and type **ContactFirstName** (don't use any spaces) in the **Variable** field.



6. Click **OK** when you're done.

   The dynamic text field will display whatever site visitors enter in the **ContactFirstName** field—in this case, their first name.

7. Drag the dynamic field into the text message and drop it between the words **you** and **for**. Resize the field as necessary so it fits in the surrounding text.

8. Double-click in the message and select the entire message, including the dynamic text field. Then on the **Text Properties** palette, select 18 (+2) from the **Size** drop-down list.

You can't format a freestanding dynamic text field, but you can format it when it's in a standard text box.

Adding a Dynamic Drop-Down List

Instead of having site visitors type the name of their state or province in a field, you want them to choose a valid abbreviation from a drop-down list. The Sports database has a table listing such abbreviations. So now, you'll replace the State Or Province field in the form with a dynamic drop-down list populated with abbreviations from the table.

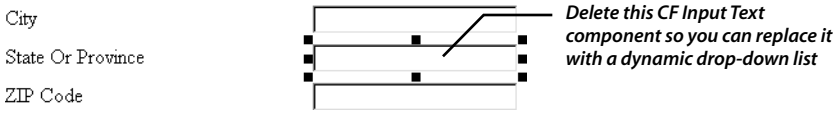
Parent page button

1. Click the **Parent page** button at the lower left of the window to reopen the DistributorsForm page in Page view.

Manage Nonvisual Components tool

2. Select the **Manage Nonvisual Components** tool from the **Allaire Cold Fusion** toolbar, and draw a box in any empty spot in the Layout area.
3. Select the icon and double-click **Editor** on the **Nonvisual Components Properties** palette.

   The **Nonvisual Component Manager** opens.
4. Add a CFQUERY component to build a query of the State field in the States table, just like you did earlier when building a query for the dynamic list:
   a. Click **Add** in the **Nonvisual Component Manager**, select CFQUERY from the available components, and click **OK**.
   b. On the **Connection** tab of the **CFQuery** dialog, type **GetStates** (don't use a space) in the **Query Name** field, type **Sports** in the **Data Source** field, and click **Connect**.
   c. Click the **SQL Wizard** tab, then select the States table.
   d. Click **OK** to save the query and close the dialog.
5. Click **Close** in the **Nonvisual Component Manager**.
6. Back on the DistributorsForm page, select the State Or Province field and press the **Delete** key to delete it.

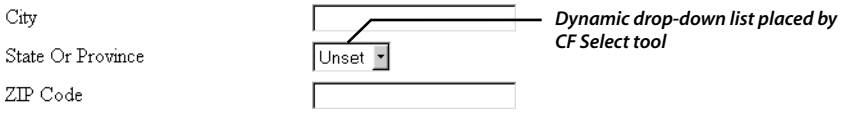


7. From the **View**, **Toolbars**, **Component Tools** menu, choose **Allaire Cold Fusion Forms**.

   The **Allaire Cold Fusion Forms** toolbar opens.

CFSelect tool

8. Select the **CFSelect** tool. Then draw a box on the page and drag the resulting drop-down list next to the State Or Province label.



9. Select the drop-down list, and double-click **Editor** on the **CF Select Properties** palette.

The **Cold Fusion Component Editor** opens showing the dynamic drop-down list's properties.

10. Type **StateOrProvince** (no spaces) in the **Name** field.

Sometimes errors can result from submitting a form with an empty drop-down list. You can avoid such problems by including a selection automatically.

11. Type **AL** in the **Selected** field.

    This loads the form with the first abbreviation in the table already selected.

12. Select the **Required** option, and type **Please choose an abbreviation from the list** in the **Message** field.

13. Select **GetStates** from the **Query** drop-down list.

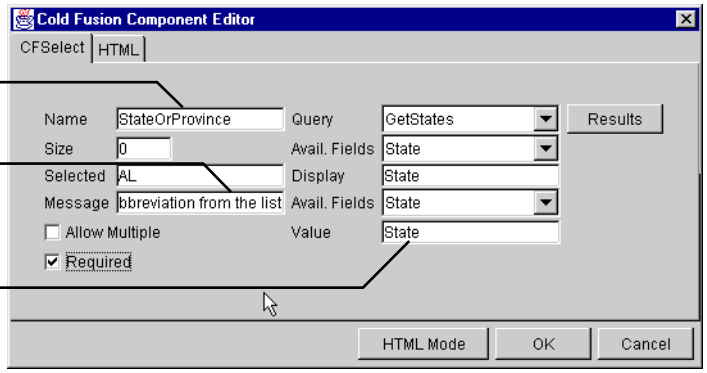
14. Select State from each of the two **Avail. Fields** drop-down lists.

    This automatically enters **State** in the **Display** and **Value** fields.

This name must match the name of the database field in the Distributors table, where data gets entered

Selecting Required displays this message if site visitors don't choose an abbreviation from the list

Display and Value name the database field in the States table where the dynamic list's options come from



15. Click **OK**.

Publishing Your Form

To test the entry form, you must publish your site to a Web server that has ColdFusion installed on it. If you don't already have access to a ColdFusion server, you can install a trial version of Allaire ColdFusion Server 4.0 from your NetObjects Fusion CD-ROM.

Note: If you're not publishing to your local computer, you must register the Sports.mdb database on both your local and publish machines, in each case giving the data source the exact same name. See "Installing the Sample Database" in this chapter.

For information on publishing to a remote ISP, see Chapter 28, "Publishing Your Site," in the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User's Guide.

Here are instructions for publishing to a server that's on your computer, or that you can browse to over a local network.

1. If necessary, install one of the two trial versions of Allaire ColdFusion Server 4.0 from the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 CD-ROM onto your local Web server.

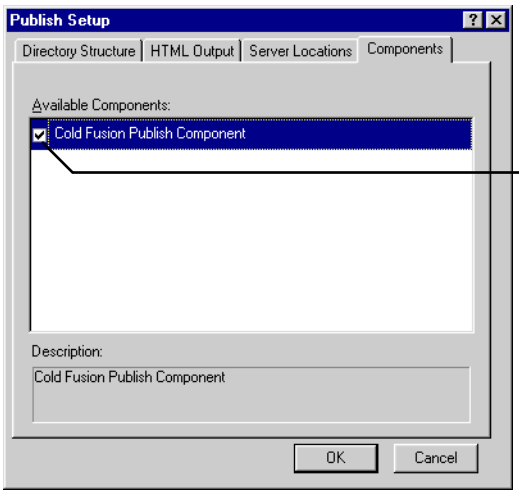
   Install the Single User Edition if you're publishing to a personal test server, such as Microsoft Personal Web Server. Otherwise, install the Professional Edition.

2. In Publish view, click **Setup** on the control bar.

   The **Publish Setup** dialog opens.

3. Click the **Components** tab. Then select the Cold Fusion Publish Component by adding a check mark to the left of the component, and click **OK**.

   The first time you publish the site, you must select the ColdFusion Publish component.



4. Click **Publish** on the control bar.

   The **Publish** dialog appears.

5. Select MyComputer from the **Location** drop-down list and click **Edit**.

   The **Location Properties** dialog opens.

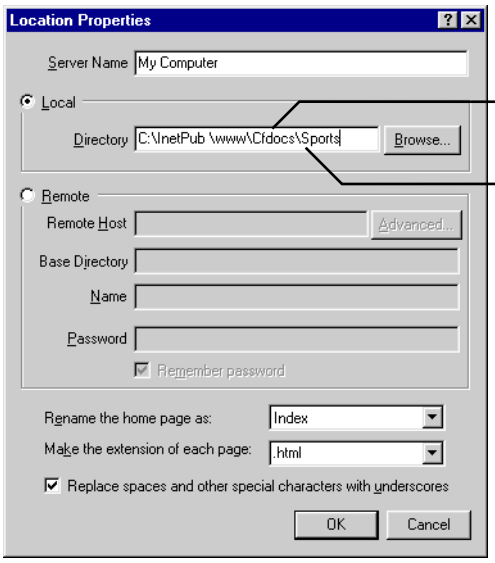
6. Select the **Local** option. Then click **Browse**.

7. The **Browse for Folder** dialog opens.

8. Navigate to your local Web server, for example, **InetPub/wwwroot**, and select the **Cfdocs** folder. Then click **OK**.

If you're publishing to a remote ISP, have your ISP create a folder in Cfdocs for staging your site.

9. Create a folder for staging your site by typing **Sports** after **Cfdocs** in the **Directory** field. Then click **OK**.



The ColdFusion server already created a Cfdocs directory on your Web server

Type here to create a Sports folder for staging your site

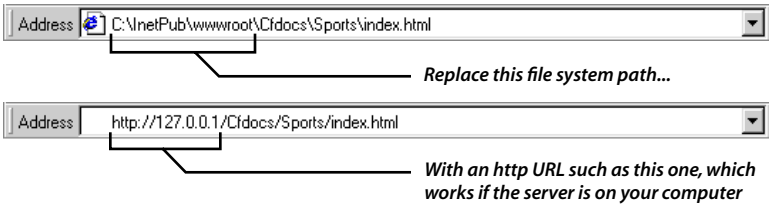
10. Click **OK** in the **Publish Site** dialog to publish the site.

    After a few moments, the site appears in your Web browser. Notice that the browser is using the file system path to your site as an address.

If you're publishing to a remote ISP, you may have to open your browser and navigate to the page yourself. Ask your ISP for the URL to use.

11. Replace the path with an http URL by selecting the path up to, but not including, the **Cfdocs** folder, and replacing the selection with **http://*localserver*.**

    If the Web server is on your computer, ***localserver*** can be **localhost** or the corresponding IP address **127.0.0.1**. If the server is on another computer in a local network, ***localserver*** is the name or IP address of that computer.



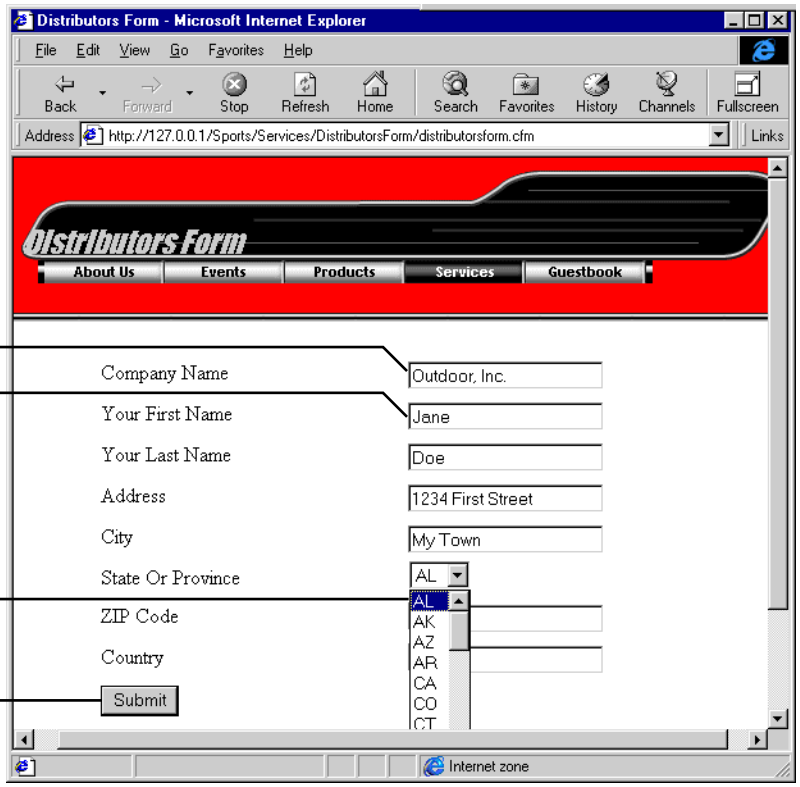
Replace this file system path...

With an http URL such as this one, which works if the server is on your computer

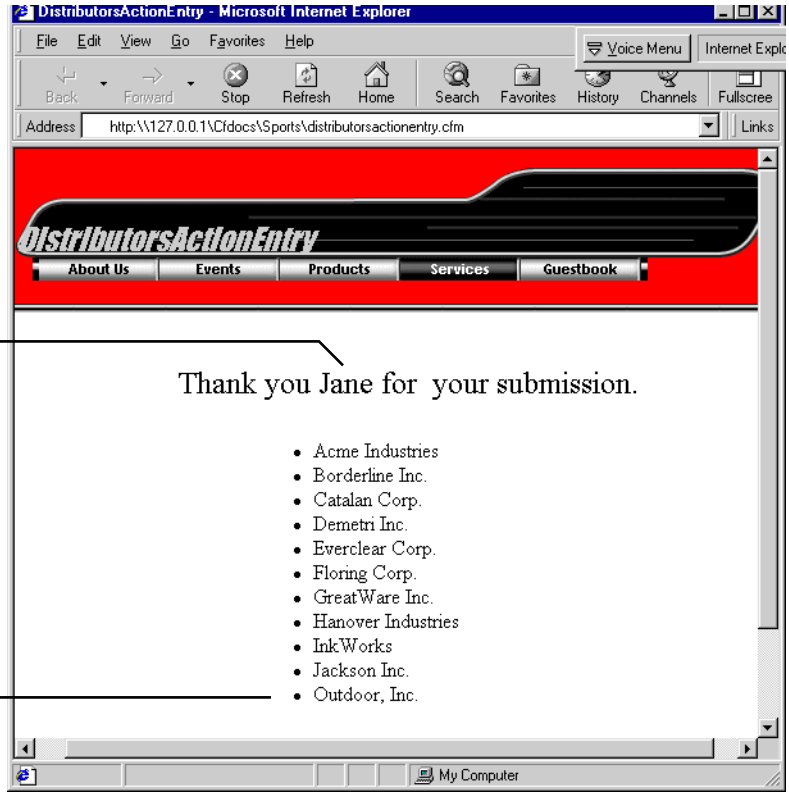
12. Refresh your browser so it's using the http URL.

Submitting the Form

1. In your Web browser, open the Services page and click the **Distributors register here** link.
2. Submit the form, entering **Outdoor, Inc.** in the Company Name field, your name in the **Your First Name** and **Your Last Name** fields, and any address.



Your submission is entered as a new record into the Distributors table of the Sports database. A page opens displaying names of all distributors in the database, including your company name **Outdoor, Inc.** A message also thanks you by name.



Name you just typed in the Your First Name field

Company name you just entered

Where To Go From Here

The lesson in this chapter only hints at the many kinds of applications you can include in your site using Connector for Allaire ColdFusion.

For example, you can add a Verity search engine where site visitors look up documents on your server. You can add cookies to visitors' browsers containing their name, which you can reference when they revisit your site to greet them personally. You can send automatic email replies, or validate form fields, for example, by displaying an error message if people type an incorrect ZIP code. And you can do much more.

For a complete description of all the ColdFusion components, see the online *Allaire ColdFusion Connector User's Guide*.

1. In Page view, choose **Allaire Cold Fusion** from the **View**, **Toolbars**, **Component Tools** menu.

Browser Based Help tool

2. Select the **Browser Based Help** tool from the **Allaire Cold Fusion** toolbar, and draw a box anywhere on the page.

   Your Web browser opens, displaying the documentation.

Also, visit **www.allaire.com** for descriptions of other available services, including specific information about supported databases, and a directory of ISP's that host ColdFusion servers.

If you have any problems with component placement or manipulation in NetObjects Fusion, contact NetObjects Technical support at **www.netobjects.com/support**. For problems or questions with the ColdFusion server or component functionality, visit **forums.allaire.com.**

If You Are Upgrading...

If you are upgrading from an earlier version of NetObjects Fusion, you need to quickly learn what is new in version 4.0 and to determine the best way to upgrade your sites. This chapter contains detailed information to help you move your sites to the new version and it outlines new features and behavior.

This chapter gives you information on:

- **New features, content, and behavior**
- **Determining compatibility**
- **Opening site files from previous versions**
- **Adding your SiteStyles**
- **Editing your Blank Site template to include added styles**
- **Removing previous versions**

What's New in NetObjects Fusion 4.0?

If you're stepping up to NetObjects Fusion 4.0 from NetObjects Fusion 3.0, you'll want to quickly learn what's new in this version. NetObjects Fusion 4.0 has new professionally designed sample sites, all new SiteStyles, new components that let you add complex functionality to your sites, many new features, and behavioral changes based on some of those new features. This chapter gives you a head start in learning what's new in NetObjects Fusion 4.0, and tells you where you can find more details in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.

Sample Sites

NetObjects Fusion comes with professionally designed sample sites. These sites, located in **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Samples\Sites**, are complete sites with real content, designed to showcase features like data objects, object embedding, table layouts, forms, referenced HTML, and DHTML Actions. You can base your own sites on sample sites as described in "Creating a Site from a Template" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.

Component Enhancements

Improvements to NetObjects Fusion internal code lets third party developers develop more powerful NetObjects Fusion components. These components use a NetObjects API (Application Programmers Interface) to take advantage of expanded functionality available to developers, such as setting publishing options and creating sites with dynamic content. The new API also lets developers easily integrate their components into NetObjects Fusion.

Some of these components are included on the NetObjects Fusion 4.0 installation CD; you install them when you install NetObjects Fusion. In Page view, you access them by opening their tool bars by selecting Toolbars, Component Tools from the View menu; in Site view, by selecting Launch Site Wizard from the File menu; and in Publish view, by clicking Setup and then clicking the Components tab.

Site View Improvements

- **Launch Site Wizard:** You can now run installed third party or NetObjects Site Components, such as the iCat E-commerce Wizard, in Site view by selecting Launch Site Wizard from the File menu. If you do not have any third party components installed, no components are available in the Select Site Wizard

dialog. See "Starting with a Site Wizard" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.

- **Page and Section Character Set:** If you need expanded character sets for developing international sites, you can specify the character set for a page or a section of pages in Site view. You can also set the default character set for the entire site in Publish view. See Appendix B, "Working with Character Sets," in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **Importing Templates:** The menu command for importing a template is now named Insert Template instead of Import Template. The functionality is identical.
- **Importing Web sites:** To simplify the process of importing external Web sites, the Import Local Web Site and Import Remote Web Site menu commands are now combined into one menu command. You choose whether the site is remote (on the Web) or local (on your local file system) in the Import Web Site dialog. When you import Web sites, the tables in the Web sites you import are more consistent with those in the original Web site because of improvements in table implementation.

Page View Improvements

- **New table tool**: You can use the table tool to create tables any way you like because it now supports the complete HTML table specification. The table tool now gives you the ability to merge and split cells; to resize cells, rows, and columns by dragging handles in the ruler; to apply attributes and enter custom HTML for cells, rows, or columns. The options available on the Properties palette give you more control over generated HTML for tables. See Chapter 14, "Adding Tables," in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **Java Bean Tool**: The new Java Bean tool lets you place Java Beans on your page and access their parameters. In addition, you can attach actions to Java Beans. See "Inserting a Java Bean Component" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **Go Menu component**: Use the Go Menu component to place a drop-down list on a page whose list items are dynamically linked to other pages, all without having to do JavaScript coding. Your site visitor makes a selection from the drop-down list to go to the linked page. See "Adding a Go Menu" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.

- **Screen Door component**: Simply place the Screen Door component on a page and specify what pages site visitors should see based on their browser version. Site visitors who access the page are automatically redirected to the page you specify. This lets you take advantage of browser-specific features without making your site inaccessible to those who do not have a specific browser. See "Directing Visitors to a Browser-Specific Page" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **Ad Banner component**: The Ad Banner component lets you place a rotating banner to display advertisements or other graphics on your page. You select the images, the transitions, the rotation time, and the URLs, and NetObjects Fusion does the rest—no JavaScript coding required. See "Adding a Rotating Banner" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **Easier asset selection**: When you place objects on the page, an assets tab appears in the Open dialog listing assets of that type that are currently used in the site. You can select items from the list instead of locating the file again on your local file system.
- **Frame behavior**: You have greater control over setting frame parameters. To access frame parameters on the Frame Properties palette, you must click the Frame label in the upper left corner of the frame instead of clicking in the frame area. See "Setting Frame Properties" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **Background options**: You can now apply both an image and a color to a background. Previously, you had to choose either an image or a color. If the image you choose is a transparent .gif, the color you choose shows through the transparent areas of the .gif.
- **RTF conversion**: NetObjects Fusion 4.0 has improved support for pasting or dragging and dropping RTF files, especially in the area of tables. Support for pasting or dragging and dropping Microsoft Word and Excel files is improved also.
- **Additional HTML output methods**: You can tailor HTML for the browser in which you expect your site to be viewed. Choose tables or Cascading Style Sheet Positioning(CSSP) and Layers for cross-browser compatibility. To take advantage of specific Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.x features, choose CSSP as the HTML output method to generate pure CSSP code, or, to take advantage of features in Netscape Communicator 4.x, choose to output HTML using Layers

exclusively. See "Selecting an HTML Output Method" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.

- **Page Character Set**: If you need expanded character sets for developing international sites, you can specify the character set for the page. You can also set the default character set for the entire site in Publish view, or set the character set for a section of pages in Site view. See Appendix B, "Working with Character Sets," in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **International features**: In addition to the ability to specify character sets, you can also specify time, date, and number formats, sorting algorithms, spelling dictionary, and character set guidelines for importing HTML pages. See "Setting International Preferences" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.

Style View Improvements

- **Built-in rollover buttons**: You can set button navigation bars to automatically use rollover button images when your site visitor mouses over buttons. In Style view you can add images for rollovers when you define the style. See "Editing a Navigation Bar" in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* or in online help.
- **New SiteStyle collection**: You can use the more than 50 new professionally designed SiteStyles to give your site a unique look and feel. All new SiteStyles include images for button rollovers. In addition, all SiteStyles from previous versions of NetObjects Fusion are included in the **Extras** folder on the installation CD-ROM.

Publish View Improvements

See online help or Chapter 27, "Publishing Your Site," in the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide* for details about Publish view improvements.

- **Greater control over generated HTML**: Publish view contains options for controlling the look and the content of generated HTML. You have more control over its formatting, which lets you specify how the generated HTML looks. You can also specify information to be included in the HTML, such as custom META tag information and descriptive comments.
- **Incremental publishing**: When you publish, you can specify to publish only a page, a section of pages, or the entire site instead of re-publishing the entire site each time you make a change.

- **Site Character set**: You can set the default character set for the entire site in Publish view. Each new page you add to your site automatically inherits the default character set.
- **Publish Components:** The Components tab in the Publish Setup dialog in Publish view now displays installed third party or NetObjects Publish Components, such as the Cold Fusion Publish Component. You turn each component on or off by clicking its check box. If you do not install any third party components, none are displayed.
- **Passive Mode FTP:** When you publish, you can now specify that files are transferred using passive mode FTP. Passive mode FTP is necessary in some instances to transfer files through a firewall.

Upgrading Your Sites

If you created sites with a previous version of NetObjects Fusion, you can upgrade them to NetObjects Fusion 4.0 by simply opening the site files, or by saving the sites as templates and basing new 4.0 sites on the templates. For the latest information on compatibility, refer to the **Readme.txt** file in your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0** folder.

Determining Site File Compatibility

Site (**.nod**) and template (**.nft**) files created in the versions listed below are compatible with NetObjects Fusion 4.0. Some components and data object information might not appear. If this happens, you must place the components or the data object information again. Tables you placed in earlier versions expand both vertically and horizontally when you view them in 4.0. You might have to reposition objects on the page to accommodate for the larger size of tables.

Versions supported:

- Windows 2.0, 2.01, 2.02, 3.0, 3.01 site files and templates
- Windows 2.02 and 3.01 international site files and templates (except Chinese, Korean, and Japanese)
- Windows TeamFusion Client 1.0 and 3.0 templates only
- Macintosh 2.01 (same as 2.0) 2.02, 3.0 templates only

Versions not supported:

- Windows 2.02 and 3.01 international: Chinese, Korean, and Japanese
- Windows 1.0

- Macintosh 1.0

If you have sites built in versions that are not supported, and you want to use them in NetObjects Fusion 4.0, call NetObjects Customer Service. Check the Contact Us page at **www.netobjects.com** for the customer service phone number appropriate for your location.

Migrating Sites and Assets from Earlier Versions

From NetObjects Fusion 4.0, you can access an older site in two ways: if it is a site file, you can open it directly; if it is a template, you can create a new site based on it. If you open an older file directly, NetObjects Fusion prompts you to open a copy because once you open a file in 4.0, you cannot open it in an earlier version.

This section guides you through the process of moving sites and assets from older versions of NetObjects Fusion to NetObjects Fusion 4.0. The discussion assumes you are familiar with NetObjects Fusion's site files, directory structure, SiteStyles, and templates.

Look at the following upgrading scenarios to find the information you need.

- If your older site file is on the same computer, copy its folder from your old **User Sites** folder to your new **User Sites** folder, and then open the file directly, as described in "Opening Site Files from Earlier Versions" on page 16-8. NetObjects Fusion prompts you to open a copy because once you open a file in 4.0, you cannot open it an earlier version. If your site contains blank pictures, select Verify All File Assets from the Assets menu in Assets view. If it contains blank banners or navigation bars, follow the steps in "Adding Your SiteStyles" on page 16-9.
- If an older site file was created on a different computer, and you want to open it in NetObjects Fusion 4.0 on your computer, you must save it as a template (**.nft**) first. You open the older site file in its original version on the machine where it was created, export it as a template, copy the template folder to your computer, and then base a new site on the template. Saving a site as a template is the only way to move a site from one computer to another without losing asset information. To learn how to create a new site from a template, see "Creating a Site from a Template" of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide*.
- If your site file has exhibited instability problems, try upgrading the site as described in **Recover.txt** located in your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0** folder. Symptoms of instability problems include messages about damaged objects, crashing or

hanging when you change views, and trouble opening, saving, exporting, or compacting site files.

- If you already opened an older site file in 4.0 and the file has since exhibited instability problems, try upgrading the site as described in **Recover.txt** located in your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0** folder.
- If you opened an older site file in 4.0 or created a 4.0 site file from an older template and the style is missing, see "Adding Your SiteStyles" on page 16-9 for information.
- If you want your old styles to be in the style list for all new 4.0 sites, see "Editing Your Blank Site Template to Include All Styles" on page 16-11 to learn how to update your blank site template.
- If you want to use NetObjects TeamFusion Client templates, you must first export the site as a template from TeamFusion Client. Then you can create a new site based on that template; see "Creating a Site from a Template" of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide*. You can also import the template into a site; see "Using Templates to Expand a Site" of the *NetObjects Fusion 4.0 User Guide*.
- If you already upgraded your files and want to remove the previous version of NetObjects Fusion, read "Removing Previous Versions of NetObjects Fusion" on page 16-11 for information.

Opening Site Files from Earlier Versions

The easiest way to upgrade your older site files is to simply open them in Netobjects Fusion 4.0. They are converted to the 4.0 format when you open them. Follow the steps in this section to ensure that the upgrade process goes smoothly.

Note: Earlier versions of NetObjects Fusion cannot read files that have been opened or created in NetObjects Fusion 4.0, so do not upgrade site files if team members who have not upgraded to 4.0 still need to work on the site.

If you experienced any instability problems with a site created in an earlier version of NetObjects Fusion, or have experienced instability problems after you opened an older site file in 4.0, upgrade the site as described in **Recover.txt** located in your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0** folder instead of using the following steps.

To open sites in NetObjects Fusion 4.0:

1. Use Windows Explorer or File Manager to copy the folders of the sites you want to upgrade from your older **User Sites** folder to your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\User Sites** folder.

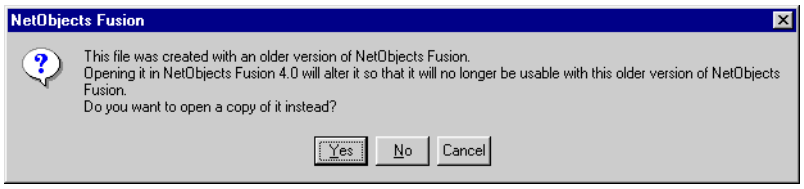
2. Launch NetObjects Fusion 4.0.

   If a Welcome To NetObjects Fusion dialog appears, click Cancel to dismiss it.

3. In Site view, from the File menu, select Open Site, and open the **.nod** file of the site you want to upgrade.

   If you see a message that the backup folder for this site doesn't exist, click OK.

   A dialog appears with a compatibility message. As an extra precaution, open a copy instead of altering the current file.



4. Click Yes and save the copy in the same folder as the original with a new name.

   NetObjects Fusion creates a new **.nod** file. The original **.nod** file remains in the folder as a backup.

5. Repeat the steps above until all the sites you want to use in NetObjects Fusion 4.0 are upgraded.

You can also open backup files created in earlier versions of NetObjects Fusion. Backup files are automatically saved in the **Backup** folder inside your site folder, or inside your site folder with a number or the date as part of the file name. If you want open a backup file that is resides in a **Backup** folder, you should first move the file out of the **Backup** folder into the site folder. This ensures that assets have the correct paths.

Adding Your SiteStyles

The SiteStyles listed in Style view are specific to the active **.nod** file. When you create a new site, the **.nod** file inherits the SiteStyles listed in the template on which the new site is based. NetObjects Fusion always tries to read the style's images from the current **Styles** folder. In NetObjects Fusion 4.0, if you open an older site file or create a site based on an older template, you might see blank banners, buttons or other style elements. If this happens you must add the SiteStyle to your new site.

If you want to add many styles, you can save time by copying the style folders of the SiteStyles you want to add to your new **Styles** folder and then using a command that

synchronizes the style list in the current site with the contents of your Styles folder. At your option, the NetObjects Fusion installer will copy your older SiteStyle folders to the **NetObjects Fusion\Styles** folder.

The instructions below only let you add SiteStyles to the current site file. To make the SiteStyles automatically available in every new blank site you create, you must edit your Blank Site template to include that SiteStyle. For information on editing the Blank Site template, see "Editing Your Blank Site Template to Include All Styles" on page 16-11.

To add one SiteStyle to a site:

1. In NetObjects Fusion 4.0, open the site in which you want to use the new SiteStyle.
2. In Style view, from the Style menu, select Add Style to List.
3. In the Open File dialog, navigate to and select the **.ssf** file of the SiteStyle you want to add.

   A dialog asks if you want to overwrite the previous style.
4. Click Yes.

   The style's folder is copied to the **Style** folder and the SiteStyle appears in the style list. The rollover images for SiteStyles from previous versions are blank–assign new rollover images if you plan to use the rollover feature for navigation bars.

To add multiple SiteStyles to a site:

1. Use Windows Explorer or File Manager to copy the folders of the SiteStyles you want to add to your **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Styles** folder.

   If you chose to copy SiteStyles from an older version during installation, all the style folders from the older version are already in your 4.0 **Styles** folder.
2. In NetObjects Fusion 4.0, open the site in which you want to use the new SiteStyles.
3. In Style view, from the Style menu, select Update Styles List.

   NetObjects Fusion updates the style list to include all SiteStyles currently in the Styles folder. The rollover images for SiteStyles from previous versions are blank–assign new rollover images if you plan to use the rollover feature for navigation bars.

Editing Your Blank Site Template to Include All Styles

Every time you create a new blank site, it is based on the Blank Site template in the **NetObjects Fusion 4.0\Templates\AutoSites** folder. Because every new site inherits the style list from the Blank Site template, you must edit the Blank Site template to permanently update the style list. Even if you chose to copy SiteStyles from an earlier version during installation, those older SiteStyle names do not appear in the style list of new sites.

You can also make other changes to the Blank Site template, such as deleting the navigation bar and banner. Any change you make to the Blank Site template is reflected in every new blank site you create.

To edit your Blank Site template to include all style names:

1. In Windows Explorer or File Manager, make a backup copy of the **Blank Site** folder located in your **NetObjects Fusion 3.0\Templates\AutoSites** folder.
2. In NetObjects Fusion 4.0, from the File menu, select Open Site, and open the **Blank Site.nft** located in the **Blank Site** folder.

   To see **.nft** files in the Open dialog, select All Files (*.*) from the Files of Type drop-down list. If you see a message about the Automatic Backup folder, click OK.
3. Go to Style view and add SiteStyles.

   Follow the procedure described in "Adding Your SiteStyles" on page 16-9 to add styles. If you want, you can make other changes to the Blank Site template also, such as adding new pages or changing the default style.
4. From the File menu, select Save Site.

   NetObjects Fusion 3.0 replaces the default **Blank Site.nft** with a new one that includes the SiteStyles you just added to the style list. Now every new site you create includes the updated list of styles.

Removing Previous Versions of NetObjects Fusion

Use the Add/Remove Programs control panel to uninstall. Remove older versions of NetObjects Fusion only after you verify that all site files, SiteStyles, templates, and other assets that you brought into NetObjects Fusion 4.0 are functioning as you expect. Also, do not remove NetObjects Fusion if you need to share files with colleagues who still use older versions of NetObjects Fusion for Macintosh or Windows. Earlier versions cannot read templates created by NetObjects Fusion 4.0.

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