

## Using a Query to Select Records

You have been learning how to write instructions in a database language. These instructions have told the database which fields you want printed (LIST) and which records you want to see (FOR). This method of interacting with a computer is called a Command Language Interface.

You are probably much more used to interacting with the computer using a Graphic User Interface. This uses icons and pictures to let you tell the computer what to do. You can use a Graphic User Interface to tell a database which fields and records you would like to see.

Click this button to see the result of the Query (shown below)

This box shows the list of fieldnames

Fieldnames can be dragged from the box onto the grid below

The condition is put on this line

If this box is ticked then the field will be printed

This query does the same job as the command:  
LIST StockNumber, Description, NumberInStock FOR Supplier Equals "Hewlett Packard"

The result of the query is shown below. The fields that were ticked on the query grid have been printed. The records that are shown all have "Hewlett Packard" in the Supplier field.

Notice that, since the Supplier field did not have the Show box ticked, it has not been printed.

StockNumber	Description	NumberInStock
6309	Laser Printer	1
0110	Colour Inkjet Printer	5
1025	Flatbed Scanner	2
8977	CD-Writer	3
6566	Tape Drive	0
*		

# Complete the Grid

Complete the query grid to show the query that would be needed to produce the following information. Then write down the Command Language instruction – using LIST and FOR that would do the same job as the query.

All the questions are about the stock file. The list of filenames is given in the table. Notice that since, in a real database, fieldnames do not usually have spaces in them the spaces have been removed from the fieldnames that we have been using up to now.

StockFile
StockNumber
Description
Price
Supplier
NumberInStock
MinimumQuantity
Re-orderQuantity

(1) A list giving the StockNumber, Description and NumberInStock for all items supplied by Philips

Field										
Sort										
Show										
Criteria										

LIST \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_

(2) A list giving the Description, MinimumQuantity and price of all items that cost more than £250

Field									
Sort									
Show									
Criteria									

LIST \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_

(3) A list giving the StockNumber, Description, NumberInStock and MinimumQuantity for all items that need re-ordering

Field									
Sort									
Show									
Criteria									
or									

LIST \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_

(4) A list giving the Description and Re-order Quantity for all items supplied by Hewlett Packard that need reordering.

Field									
Sort									
Show									
Criteria									

LIST \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ FOR \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_