

Introduction

Springbase is a complete platform for software development and delivery in your web browser. This guide gives you an overview of the major features of Springbase.

The Main Menu

When you log in to Springbase, you'll see your company's main menu. This screen shows all the applications in your account. When you first log in, your account will have one sample application installed.

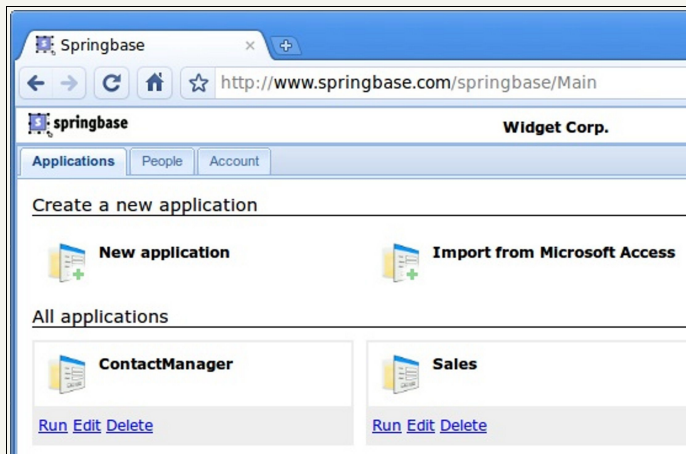


Fig. 1: The Springbase main menu

Running applications

To run an application from the main menu, click the Run link beneath the application. Users can also go directly to an application, bypassing the Main Menu, using the application's URL (see "Your application's settings" in this guide for more).

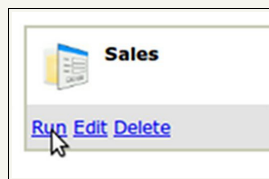


Fig. 2: Running an application

Creating a new application

Click the New Application link on the Main Menu to create a new, empty application. The application editor will open. Now you can begin adding objects to your application using the Application menu at the top left.

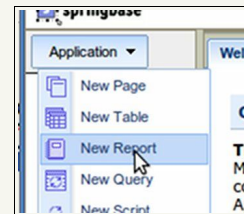


Fig. 3: The Application menu

Using the application editor

The application editor is your main workspace for developing applications. The Application button at the top left allows you to create, rename, and delete objects like tables and pages.

When you're working on a particular object, a special editor for that type of object opens in the center area. You can have many objects open at once in separate tabs.

Importing tabular data

In the application editor, click the Application menu, then Import Data.

A dialog appears prompting you to upload your CSV file. CSV files can be exported from most spreadsheet software, including Excel.

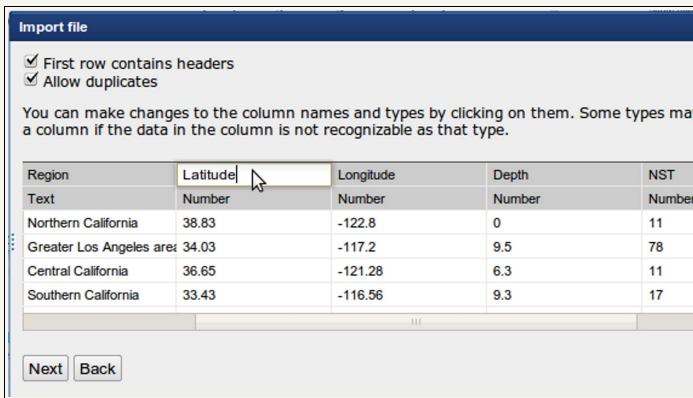


Fig. 4: Importing data from a CSV file

You can change the name and data type of a column by clicking on it.

For assistance getting your data into Springbase, contact our support team.

Creating a page

Pages are the way users interact with your application. To create a page, select New Page from the Application menu.

To make your page interactive, you'll need to add controls to it. The control toolbox is a drop-down menu at the top of the page editor. Select a type of control here, then click and drag to draw it on the page canvas.

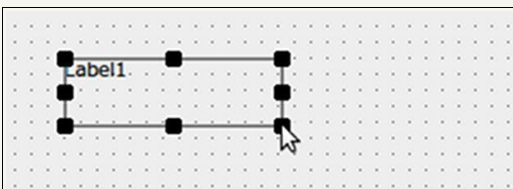


Fig. 5: Drawing a control on a page

Now that your control is drawn on the page, you can select it by clicking on it. You can resize it by dragging the handles at its edges, or move it by dragging the middle.

Select a control, and its properties appear in

a list to the right. You can click here to change a property. For example, try drawing a Label control on your page, then changing its Text property to "Hello world."

After making changes to your page, you'll see an asterisk (*) appear next to its name in the tab. Be sure to save your changes using the Save button in the page editor.

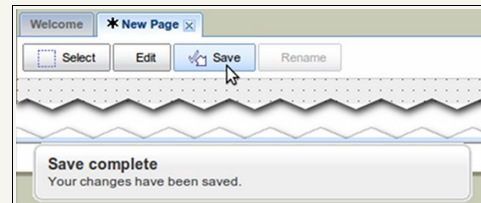


Fig. 6: Saving a page

Connecting pages to data

You can make your page display records from your tables. Just click the page background to select the page itself, then set the Data Source property for the page to one of your tables or queries.

When your page is linked to data, it will repeat once for each row of data in the data source. You can set the page's Display Mode property to Single Record, with only one record visible at a time, or to List Mode, with multiple records arranged vertically.

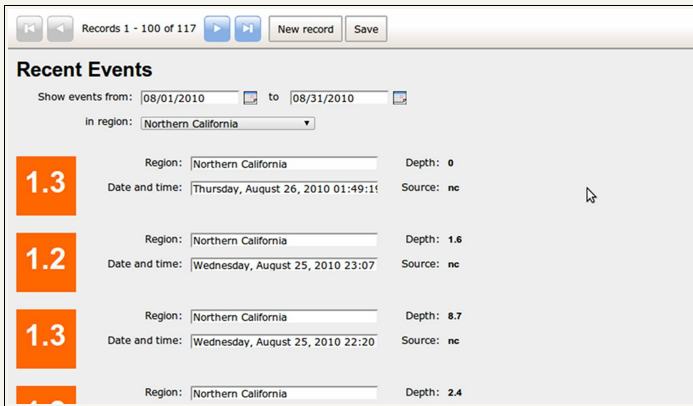


Fig. 7: An application running in List Mode

Your page is now connected to a row of data, so now all you need to do is connect your controls to the individual columns. For example, if you set your page's Data Source to an Employees table and then set a Label control's Data Source property to the "Full Name" column, then the Label will display each employee's full name as the user navigates through the records.

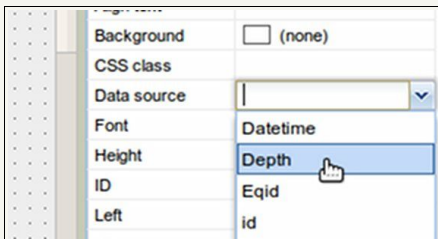


Fig. 8: Setting a control's Data Source property

Respond to events on your page

To make your application interactive, you should set up event handlers for certain control events. For example, you may have a button on your page that responds to a Click event when the user clicks it.

In the part of the screen where you see the selected control's properties, you'll see another tab for Events. Click this tab and see a list of all events the control offers. To create a handler for an event, click to the

right of the event name and choose New Script.

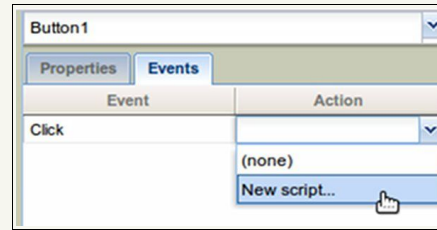


Fig. 9: Creating an event handler script

You create a script out of a sequence of steps that occur in the specified order. For complex actions, you may write server-side JavaScript code using the Run JavaScript action. Refer to our online help and the JavaScript API documentation for more, or contact our support team with any questions.

After modifying a script, you need to save changes both to the script step and to the entire page.

Working with tables

If you have data in a CSV file, see the section above titled "Importing tabular data" to import the data into a new table. If you don't have a CSV file, click Application → New Table to create an empty table.

The table editor allows you to change your table's structure—the names and types of its columns—as well as edit the data it contains. To edit data, just click on a cell and type. To add a new row, just type into the empty last row.

	Id	Src	Eqid	Version	
	926	nc	71460575	2	2010-09-26 00:00:00
	927	ak	10088651	2	2010-09-26 00:00:00
	928	us	2010brb8	6	2010-09-26 00:00:00
	929	ak	10087220	2	2010-09-26 00:00:00
	930	ak	10088649	2	2010-09-26 00:00:00
+			103		

Fig. 10: Entering data into a new row

To modify a column, just click the column header.

	Id	Src	Eqid	Version	Datetime
1				2	2010-10-03 00:00:00.000
2				2	2010-10-03 00:00:00.000
3				7	2010-10-03 00:00:00.000
4	ci		14852388	2	2010-10-03 00:00:00.000
5	nc		71463545	0	2010-10-03 00:00:00.000

Fig. 11: Modifying a table column

To add columns, use the Add Column... link to the right of the last column, or use the Edit menu.

Slicing data with queries

Queries give you the power to slice and combine your data in just about any way imaginable. Springbase queries are written using the powerful SQL language. For help with SQL, see our online help, or contact our support team.

You can link pages and reports to queries the same way you would to a table. Note that queries are read-only, so users will not be able to modify data in a page linked to a query.

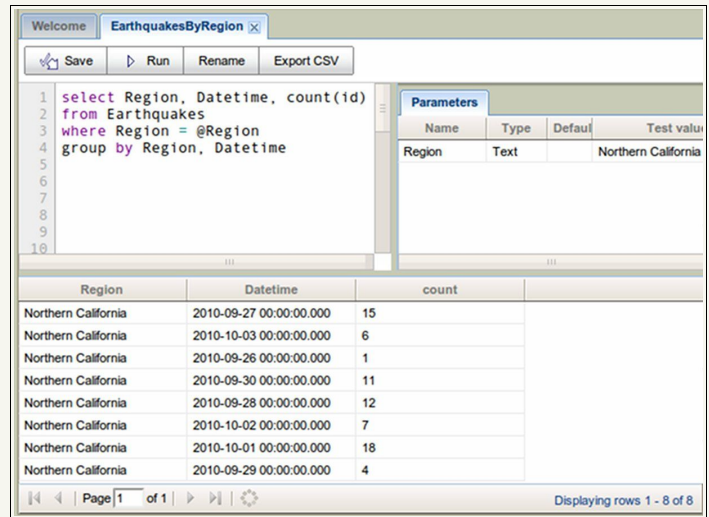


Fig. 12: Querying data using SQL

Create custom reports

You can easily create reports from your data in Springbase. Create a report by choosing New Report from the Application menu. The report designer looks like a spreadsheet, with the added ability to repeat sections filled with data from your tables and queries.

Click and drag to select a set of rows, then choose "Create Repeating Section" in the Report menu. Once you've created a repeating section, click its tab to select it and set its Data Source property. Now you can fill cells in that section with data fields from your data source.

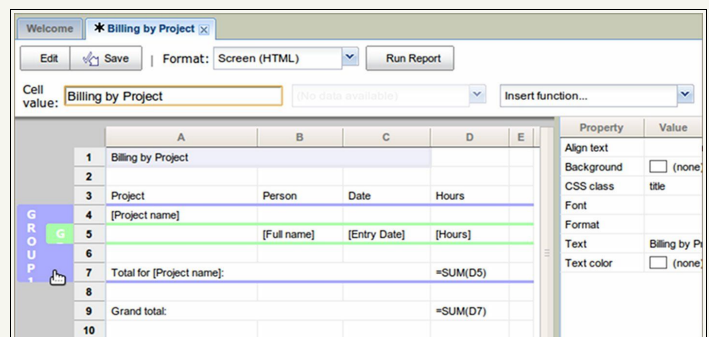


Fig. 13: Designing a report

Report cells can also contain calculations and

other script expressions. See the online help for more details including a full tutorial on creating a report from scratch.

Your application's settings

Click Application → Settings to see the settings for your application, including which page should load at startup, and the direct URL for the application. You can distribute this URL to your users and allow them to bypass the Springbase main menu.

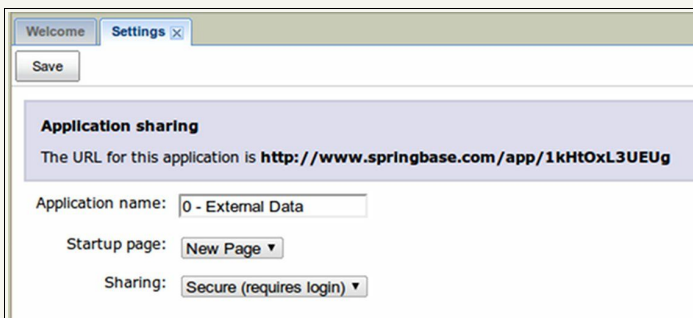


Fig. 14: Application settings and direct URL

Run your application

Click Application → Run to start your application from the development environment. Your application opens in a new browser tab or window.

You can make changes in the application editor and then restart the application (or simply refresh the running application window) and see your changes immediately.

Next steps

We hope this guide has helped you get comfortable with the major features of Springbase. For more detailed information on any of the topics mentioned here, refer to our online help.

Our support team is happy to assist you with any aspect of Springbase, from simple questions all the way to helping you write SQL queries. Contact us using the information at the bottom of the page.

Online help:

<http://www.springbase.com/docs>