

---

## Use of Outer Joins in Voyager Prepackaged Access Reports

- **Product:** Voyager
  - **Relevant for Installation Type:** Multi-Tenant Direct, Dedicated-Direct, Local, TotalCare
- 

### Question

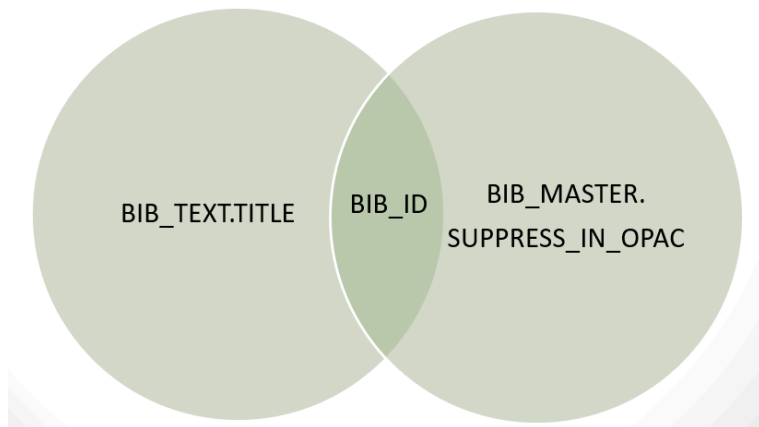
Use of Outer Joins in Voyager Prepackaged Access Reports

### Answer

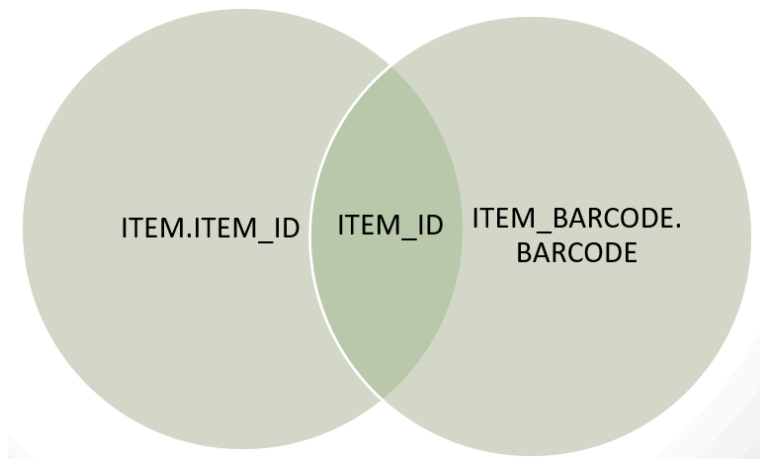
In Access, "Joins" combine rows from two or more tables by linking on a common field.

There are "Inner Joins" and "Outer Joins".

Inner Joins are also called "Simple Joins" and return only those records that have a match in *both* tables:

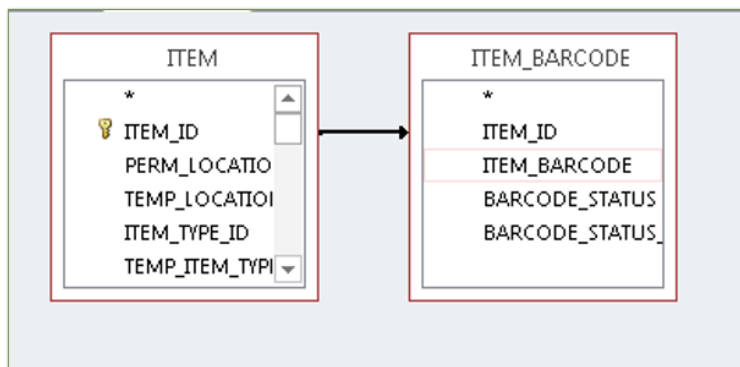


An Outer Join returns records from the left, right, or both tables (depending on the type of join), *even if there is no matching record in the other table*:



You use an Outer Join to avoid dropping records when two tables do not have matching values.

The following example is a Left Outer Join between the ITEM and the ITEM\_BARCODE tables. It *will not exclude unbarcoded items from the result set*:

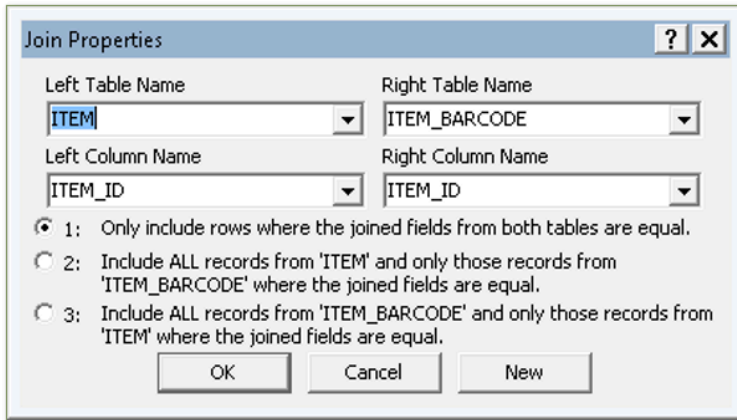


If you do not use an Outer Join in these cases:

- Unbarcoded items will not be returned by a query that uses the ITEM\_BARCODE table.
- E-resource MFHDs without items will not be returned in a query that uses the ITEM table.
- BIBs without subject heading subdivisions will not be returned in a query that uses the BIB\_SUBDIVISION table.

To create a join in MS Access:

1. In the Query Design View, draw a line between fields in two tables
2. Right-click on the join to open "Join Properties"
3. In most Outer Join cases you will select the second option (left join)



---

### Note

Constructing custom SQL queries by request and troubleshooting unexpected results from customer-created SQL queries falls outside the scope of Support. The above has been posted for informational purposes. [Voyager-L](#) and [Developer Network](#) are useful resources for finding helpful custom SQL or obtaining assistance from peers in troubleshooting custom queries.

---

- **Article last edited:** 08-Jun-2021