

Innovation first

REPORT DESIGNER GUIDE

 ADVANCE
BIM DESIGNERS

2019



Advance BIM Designers

Report Designer Guide



This document has been very carefully prepared in the hope to meet your expectations and to answer all your questions regarding the Advance BIM Designers Report Designer. This document only contains a brief description of the software functions and may only be used as a guide for using the software. In case of any discrepancy between the information given in this guide and the information given in the software, consider the software as your main reference.

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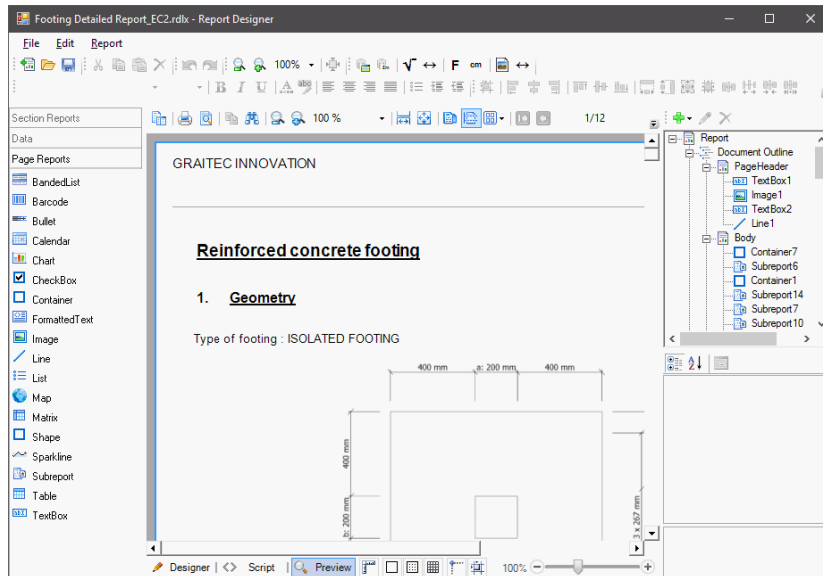
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Advance BIM Designers Report Designer



Report Designer:

- Introduction
- Accessing the Advance BIM Designers Report Designer
- Report Designer Components
- Tools for Template Editing

Template editing:

- Modifying the content of the list
- Editing the borders of a field
- Inserting an image

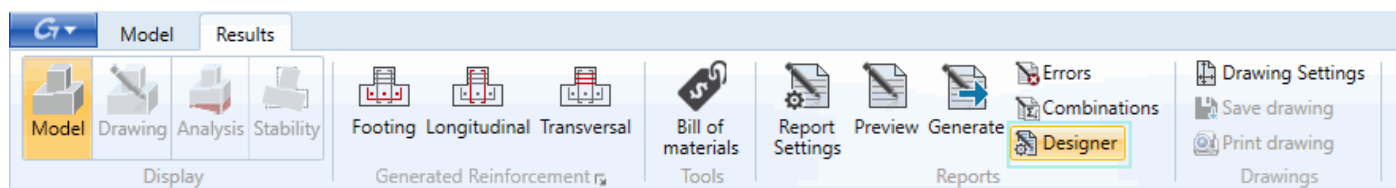
Introduction

Advance BIM Designers has a powerful module for generating a variety of reports such as design assumptions, bill of quantities, loads and combinations, etc. The preset templates for these reports are available in the **Report Designer**.

This tutorial describes the **Report Designer** components and explains how to customize the templates' content and format.

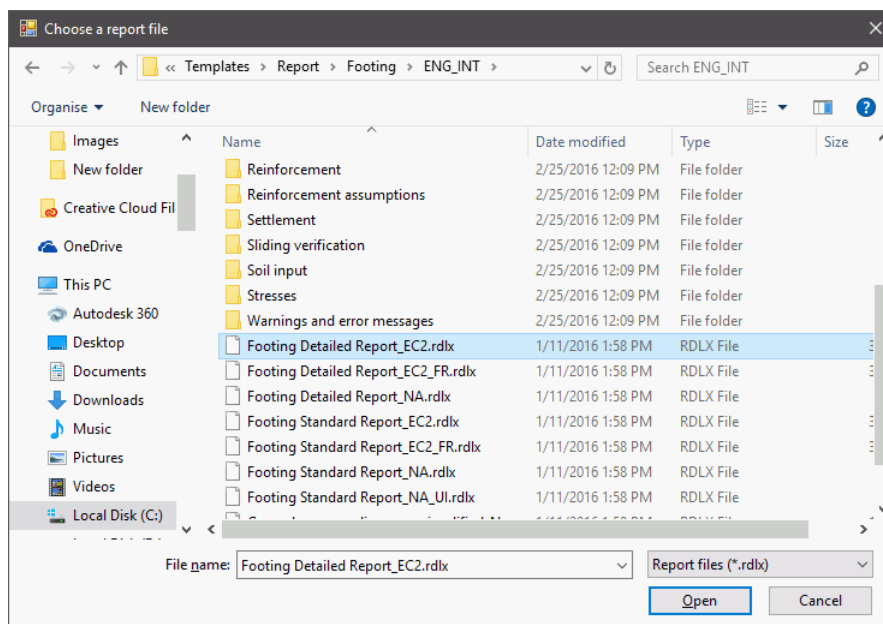
Accessing the Advance BIM Designers Report Designer

The Report Designer for the Advance BIM Designers can be accessed from the ribbon of a standalone BIM Designer, in the **Reports** panel of the **Results** tab.



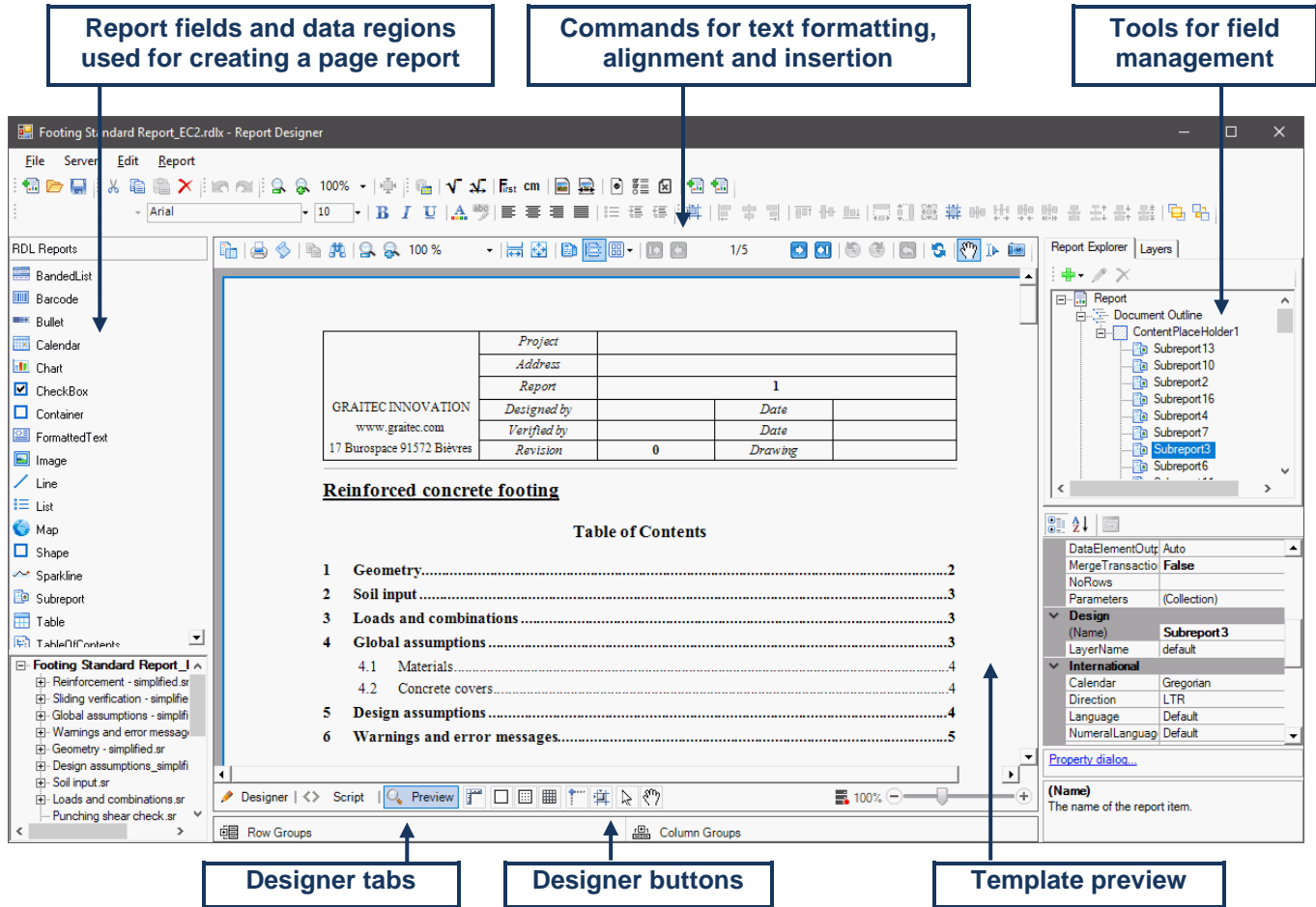
Applying the command opens the Report Designer tool, which allows users to create a custom report from scratch.

To edit / adapt an already existing report, go to **File > Open**. This opens the **Choose a report file** dialog box, where you can select a report from the existing templates.



Tools for Template Editing

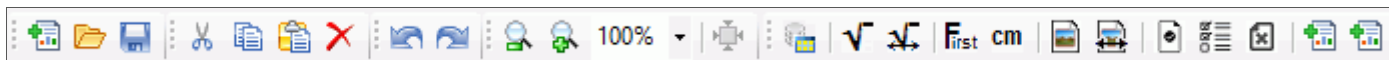
After loading a report, you will be able to edit it using the tools and commands available in the Report Designer.



Note: The reports can be printed or exported in PDF, DOC, or RTF file format.


















Standard commands

The toolbars in the upper right corner of the Report Designer contain some of the most frequently used commands from the **File** and **Edit** menus.



	Create New Report: create a new Section / Page Based Report.
	Open: select a predefined report and open it in the Report Designer.
	Save: save modifications to the edited template.
	Cut: cuts the current selection from the report. The button is inactive if nothing is selected.
	Copy: copies the current selection from the report. The button is inactive if nothing is selected.
	Paste: pastes the copied selection. The button is inactive if nothing was copied.
	Delete: deletes the current selection.
	Undo: cancels the last action.
	Redo: redoes the previously undone action
	Zoom Out: zooms the selection out.
	Zoom In: zooms the selection in.
	Displays the zoom percentage.
	Actual Size: zooms to the actual size of the report.
	Import Fields: opens the Import Data Fields dialog window, where you can select and add more fields to a report.
	Format Equation: opens the Equation Editor tool, where equations can be written and added to the report. This command only works if an image box is selected.
	Resize Equation: resizes an equation image, so it would fit the assigned space.
	Make unit scale visible in all equations: updates all equations to make the unit scale visible (if the report contains any).
	Replace SUM with FIRST (Ctrl+SHIFT+F): replaces the SUM function with the FIRST function.
	Units Editor: opens the Report Units Format dialog, where you can set measurement units for the selected box.
	Insert Custom Image: opens the Insert Report picture dialog box, which allows you to create and insert a model picture (geometry or diagram).
	Update Image Size Format: resizes an inserted image so that it fits the assigned space.
	Verify items position for current report: verifies the position of all items in the current report and creates and modifies the positions of items that overlap. Explanatory reports are created in each folder containing overlapping items that have been modified.
	Verify items position for all reports in TreeView: behaves similar to the previous command, checking the position of all overlapping items from all the reports in TreeView.
	Delete all generated intersected files: deletes all files generated with the previous two commands.
	Copy current parameters in subreports: opens a “Copy parameter” dialog, where you can select which parameters to copy from the current report to subreports.
	Create a parameter that will set how the units are formatted: opens a “Copy parameter” dialog where you can create a parameter that initializes how units are formatted.

Report fields and data regions

	BandedList
	Barcode
	Bullet
	Calendar
	Chart
	CheckBox
	Container
	FormattedText
	Image
	Line
	List
	Map
	Matrix
	Shape
	Sparkline
	Subreport
	Table
	TextBox

BandedList adds a collection of free-form bands.

Barcode inserts a scannable barcode.

Bullet adds a linear gauge that is a good alternative to using a dashboard for data visualization.

Calendar inserts a calendar displaying date-based data/events in a calendar format in your report.

Chart adds a graphic data region which allows you to display data in a variety of chart styles.

CheckBox creates a check box inside the template preview.

Container is a graphical element that is used as a container for other items.

FormattedText displays data, and allows you to format selected areas of text within the field.

Image allows you to specify any image file to display from an external source.

Line inserts a line which visually marks boundaries or highlights specific areas of a report.

List adds a freeform data region in which you can place other report fields.

Map shows your data against a geographical background.

Matrix inserts a data region with dynamic numbers of rows and columns.

Shape adds a rectangle, rounded rectangle, or elliptical shape in the template preview.

Sparkline displays a data trend over time in a graph.

Subreport displays data from a separate report that you specify.





Table inserts a table (with three columns and three rows by default).

TextBox creates a text box area.

Commands for text formatting

Style	A dropdown list of selectable styles for formatting text in fields such as Label, TextBox, CheckBox and ReportInfo (available only in section reports).
Font	Sets the typeface of all the text in a field.
Font Size	Sets the font size of all the text in a field.
Fore Color	Opens a Choose Color dialog to set the text color of fields.
Back Color	Opens a Choose Color dialog to set the background color of fields.
Bold, Italic, Underline	Apply or remove Bold / Italic / Underline formatting for the entire text of the field.
Text alignment commands	Help align the text to the left/center/right/justified in the field area.
Bullets	Adds or removes bullets from the selected text inside a RichTextBox field in a section report.
Indent/Outdent	Increases/Decreases the indent of selected text in the RichTextBox field area in a section report.

Commands for alignment, resizing and spacing

Alignment commands	
	Align to Grid Snaps the top left of the selected field to the closest gridline.
	Align Lefts Aligns the selected fields with their left border coinciding with the left border of the primary field. The vertical space separating the fields remains the same.
	Align Rights Aligns the selected fields with their right border coinciding with the right border of the primary field. The vertical space separating the fields remains the same.
	Align Tops Aligns the selected fields with their top border coinciding with the top border of the primary field. The horizontal space separating the fields remains the same.

	Align Middles Aligns the selected fields vertically to the middle with respect to the primary field. The horizontal space separating the fields remains the same.
	Align Bottoms Aligns the selected fields with their bottom border coinciding with bottom border of the primary field. The horizontal space separating the fields remains the same.
Resizing commands	
	Make Same Width Resizes the width of the selected fields to the width of the primary field.
	Make Same Height Resizes the height of the selected fields to the height of the primary field.
	Make Same Size Resizes the size (width and height) of the selected fields to the size of the primary field.
	Size to Grid Snaps the selected field to the closest gridline by resizing the field on all four sides.
Spacing commands	
	Make Horizontal Spacing Equal Creates equal space between the selected fields with respect to the primary field, using the outermost edges of the fields as end points.
	Increase Horizontal Spacing Increases the horizontal spacing by one grid unit with respect to the primary field.
	Decrease Horizontal Spacing Decreases the horizontal spacing by one grid unit with respect to the primary field.
	Remove Horizontal Spacing Removes the horizontal space so that the selected fields move to the nearest edge of the top-left field.
	Make Vertical Spacing Equal Creates equal space between the selected fields with respect to the primary field, using the top and bottom edges of the field as the end points.
	Increase Vertical Spacing Increases the vertical spacing by one grid unit with respect to the primary field.
	Decrease Vertical Spacing Decreases the vertical spacing by one grid unit with respect to the primary field.
	Remove Vertical Spacing Removes the vertical spacing so that the selected fields move to the nearest edge of the top-left field.
Z-order alignment commands	
	Bring to Front Moves the selected fields to the front of all other fields on the report.
	Send to Back Moves the selected fields behind all other fields on the report.

Designer tabs

Designer	This tab is used to design your report layout visually.
Script	This tab opens the script editor, where you can provide VB.NET or C# functionality to the reports without compiling the .vb or .cs files.
Preview	This tab allows you to view your report without the need to actually run your project.


Designer buttons

Dimension Lines	Dimension lines appear during a drag operation, and run from the borders of the report field or data region being moved or resized to the edges of the report designer surface.
Hide Grid	You can click this button to hide the grid and design your report on a blank page.
Show Dots	Click this button to have dots appear on the design surface in between the grid lines to guide you when placing report fields.
Show Lines	Click this button to have faint grey lines appear on the design surface in between the grid lines to guide when placing report fields.
Snap Lines	Aligns the field you are dragging with other fields on the report design surface.
Snap to Grid	Aligns the field you are dragging with grid lines on the report design surface.
Select Mode	In Select mode, when you click items on the report designer surface, you select them.
Pan Mode	In this mode, you cannot select, edit, or delete a control from the design surface.

Template editing

Template blocks contain fields that can be edited for content and format. A field is an area inside the block that can have a user text or attribute tag.

1. Click a field to modify its properties.

2. Select the Categorized presentation: 

The field properties are divided into six categories:

Appearance	
Alignment	Left
BackColor	<input type="checkbox"/> Transparent
ClassName	Normal
Font	
Font	Arial, 10pt
ForeColor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Black
FormatString	
Style	
VerticalAlignment	Top
WrapMode	WordWrap
Behavior	
CanGrow	True
CanShrink	False
MultiLine	True
RightToLeft	False
Visible	True
Data	
DataField	
Tag	
Design	
(Name)	Report Info 1
Layout	
Location	0.354, 0.76 in
Size	1, 0.2 in
Summary	
SummaryGroup	
SummaryRunning	None

[Property dialog...](#)

(Name)

Indicates the name in code used to identify the object.

At the bottom of the editing categories, the properties of the selected field are explained through a **contextual description** window.

Appearance

This property is used to edit the field content for alignment, font, color and style.

Behavior

This property is used to adjust the field content regarding the field dimension.

- **True:** if the field content is longer than the field dimension, then the content in the report is shown in multi-lines to fit inside the field.
- **False:** only part of the content is shown if it is longer than the field dimension.

Data

This property describes the content and the text format.

Design

This property is used for field identification.

Layout

This property identifies the field location and size in the report.

- **Location** provides the field coordinates (X, Y) at the top-left corner.
- **Size** provides the field dimensions.

If two fields have to be aligned horizontally, for example, their X coordinates should be equal. Therefore, the field location is very important to have a correct presentation of the report.

Summary

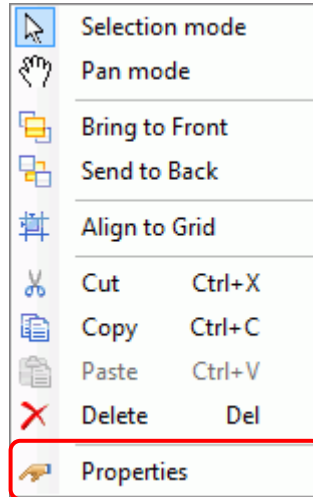
This property sets function type and parameters for the selected field.

Property dialog... opens the **Property dialog** window, where you can edit the properties of the selected field.

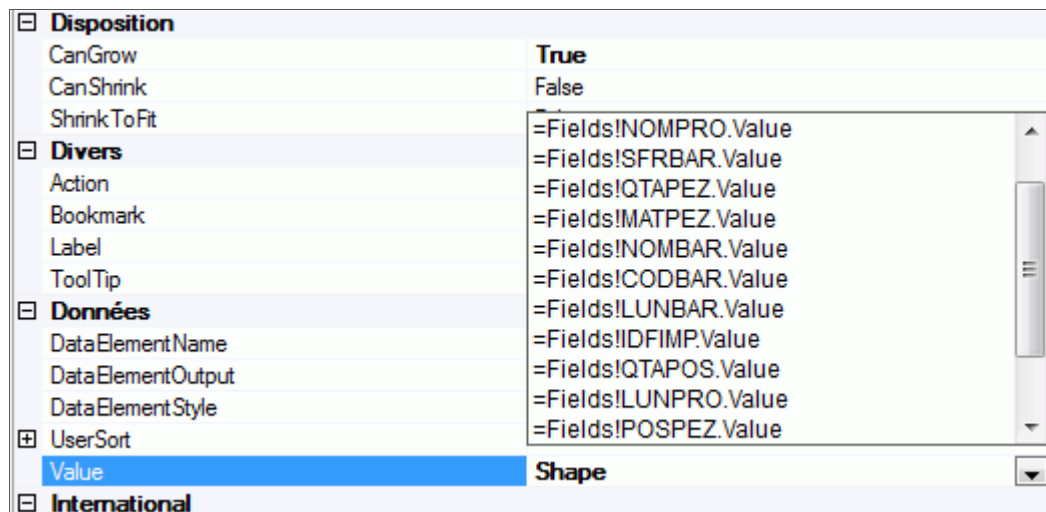
Next, learn how to modify the content of the list, add borders and insert an image.

Modifying the content of the list

1. Select a field in the template.
2. Right click and select **Properties** from the context menu.



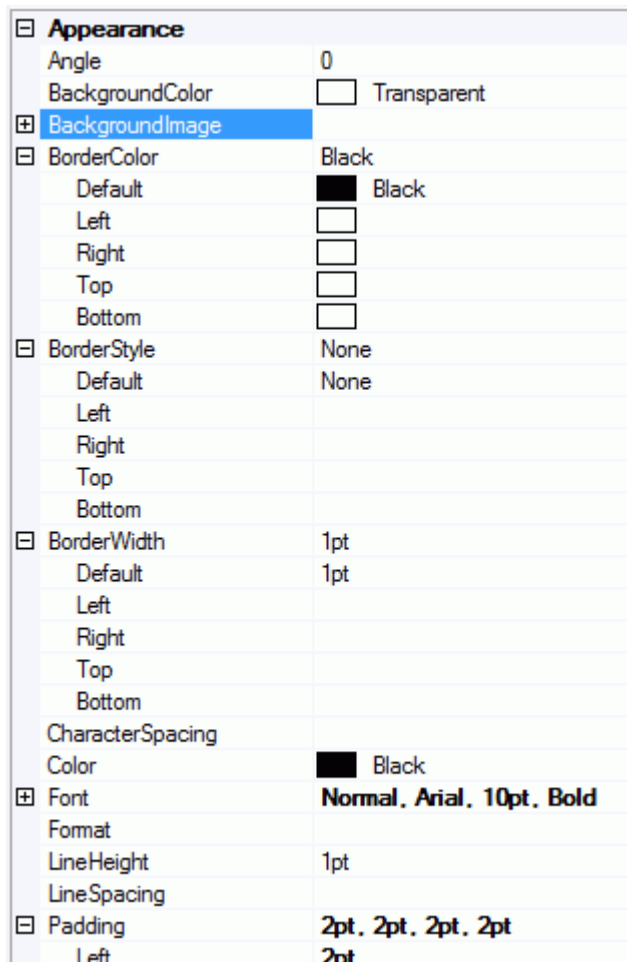
3. Select the suitable field content from the list for the wished value.



Note: The field content can be a user text or an attribute from the list of values taken from the Advance BIM Designers project.



Editing the borders of a field

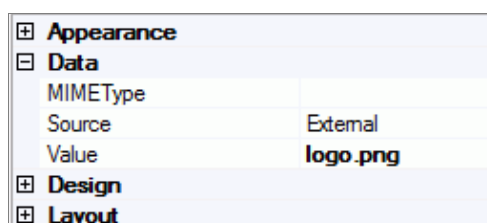
1. Select and define **Borders** from the context menu under the **Appearance** chapter from **Properties**.



2. Select a line style from the **BorderStyle / BorderColor** list.

Inserting an image/logo

1. On the left side panel, click .
2. Select a start and end point in the report to insert the picture field.
3. Select the picture field, then go to the field properties and make the following settings:
 - Adjust the Location field value.
 - In the **Data** category, in the **Image** field, click  to open an image. Select the image file and click **Open**.



The image/logo is inserted.



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