BusinessObjects WebI: Display user response to an optional query prompt

Did you know that you can set a prompt in a BusinessObjects Webl query as "optional"? That means whoever runs the report has the option to leave the prompt blank, so that all prompt values will be selected.

You can create a formula to display the user response to a prompt in a report. If the prompt is optional, you can also create a formula that displays "ALL" when you leave the prompt blank. Here's how.

Make a Prompt Optional

1. To make a prompt optional, click the Prompt properties box in the Query panel.

Query	Filters
And	DeptID Equal to _ 175000
ring.	Fund Code In list _ Enter value(s) for F

2. In the Prompt dialog box, turn on the **Optional prompt** checkbox. Click **OK**.

🕌 Prompt	×
Prompt text: Enter value(s) for Fund Code:	
🚱 Prompt Properties:	
✓ Prompt with List of Values	Select only from list
✓ Keep last values selected	✓ Optional prompt
Set default values	
	OK Cancel Help

Create a Variable to Display User Response to a Prompt

3. In the Query panel, go to the prompt you want and copy the exact prompt text by highlighting the text and pressing CTRL + C to copy it.



5. Open the Variable Editor.

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:	Variable Editor	

- 6. Give the variable a name.
- 7. Navigate to **UserResponse** in the Functions list and double-click it.
- 8. Click inside the parentheses. Press CTRL +V to copy the prompt text. Enclose the text in double quotes. Click OK.

🏄 Variable Edite	or	×
Variable Definition	on	
Nama	Fund Carls Have Research	
Name:	Fund Code User Response	
Qualification:	Dimension	•
Turner	luelmeum	
Type.		
Formula:		
=UserRespons	e("Enter value(s) for Fund Code:")	✓
		×
Data	Functions Operators	
🖃 👰 Klaffke	e trick Dpper -	<u> </u>
De De	ptID URLEncode ; nd Code User Response UserResponse /	
	Var 🖵 (
-Description	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
string UserR	esponse(object data_provider [optional];	
Returns the us	er's response to a prompt.	
	② Mo	re on this function.

Create a Formula to Display "ALL" If the Prompt is Ignored

- Create a blank cell from the Templates tab (navigate to Free-Standing Cells > Formula and Text Cells > Blank Cell and drag the cell into your report).
- 2. Verify that the Formula toolbar 📫 displays.
- 3. Click in the blank cell to select it. Click the text field area of the the Formula Editor.



4. Type the following formula in the text field:

```
="YOUR TEXT HERE: "+If([VARIABLE NAME]="";"ALL";[VARIABLE])
```

Specific example:

="Fund Code: "+If([Fund Code User Response]="";"ALL";[Fund Code User Response])

Text (enclosed in		
double quotes,		
joined with plus		
sign)		

This part says "If there is no user response to the variable (double quotes with nothing in between), then display 'ALL'. Otherwise, display the user response."

The result when you ignore the prompt:



The result when you select value(s) for the prompt:



Note: You can always use the Variable button on Formula toolbar to turn the formula into a variable. If you plan to share the report with others, they are probably less likely to accidently modify a variable than a formula.

Additional Resources

For a detailed step-by-step procedure on creating a prompt, see <u>WebI Edit Mode: Create Prompts in a</u> <u>Query</u>. For a detailed guide to formulas in WebI, see <u>Using Functions</u>, Formulas, and Calculations in <u>Web Intelligence</u>.