

# JDBC-ODBC Bridge Driver Alternatives

Java has included a JDBC/ODBC Bridge driver as a transitional solution for accessing ODBC data sources, but it has always been considered a very limited driver and the recommendation has always been to use a pure JDBC driver instead. Starting with Java 8, the bridge driver is no longer provided.

For most databases, you can find JDBC drivers from the database vendor or a third party. Try searching the net for the name of your database plus "JDBC driver".

If you cannot find a JDBC driver for a database that can be accessed via ODBC, you find a few alternatives here. Note that we have no relationship with any of the organizations behind these driver and have not thoroughly tested any of the drivers with DbVisualizer. In other words, please make sure that the driver works for you before committing to one.

## The UCanAccess Driver for MS Access

This is an Open Source driver specifically for Microsoft Access databases, not for ODBC data sources in general. You can download it here:

<http://ucanaccess.sourceforge.net/site.html>

To use it, you also need to download the following Open Source JAR files:

jackcess-2.0.8.jar from

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/jackcess/files/>

commons-lang-2.6-bin.zip (unzip to find JAR file) from

[http://commons.apache.org/proper/commons-lang/download\\_lang.cgi](http://commons.apache.org/proper/commons-lang/download_lang.cgi)

commons-logging-1.2-bin.zip (unzip to find JAR file) from

[http://commons.apache.org/proper/commons-logging/download\\_logging.cgi](http://commons.apache.org/proper/commons-logging/download_logging.cgi)

hsqldb-2.3.2.zip (unzip to find JAR file) from

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/hsqldb/files/>

apache-log4j-2.1-bin.zip (unzip to find JAR file; you only need log4j-1.2-api-2.1.jar) from

<http://logging.apache.org/log4j/2.x/download.html>

poi-3.11-20141221.zip (unzip to find JAR file) from

<http://poi.apache.org/download.html>

Then start DbVisualizer and open **Tools->Driver Manager** and

1. Create a new Driver and name it UCanAccess,
2. Load all the JAR files in the User Specified tab in the order listed above,
3. Close the Driver Manager,
4. Open the Object View tab for your MS Access connection and set the Driver to UCanAccess,
5. Enter the JDBC URL in this format:  
`jdbc:ucanaccess://<absolute_path_to_the_ms_access_file>`
6. Open the Properties tab for the connection and select the **Delimited Identifiers** category,
7. Change the **Begin Identifier** to [ and the **End Identifier** to ] and click Apply,
8. Switch back to the Connection tab and click Connect.

## Easysoft JDBC-ODBC Bridge Driver

This is a commercial JDBC-ODBC Bridge Driver, available here:

[http://www.easysoft.com/products/data\\_access/jdbc\\_odbc\\_bridge/](http://www.easysoft.com/products/data_access/jdbc_odbc_bridge/)

To install it, please follow the instructions in [Installing a JDBC Driver](#).

## The Java 7 JDBC-ODBC Bridge Driver

Even though [Java 7 is not supported by Oracle after April 2015](#), you can still continue to use Java 7 and its JDBC-ODBC Bridge Driver if there are no other alternatives. But again, we strongly recommend that you find another driver for your database.