

Activating WinFormsGen

Note: You need internet connection to activate WinFormsGen. You can install one (1) license of WinFormsGen for up to 2 computers you own or use for work. You need one (1) license per developer and the license cannot be shared with other developers.

The first time you open WinFormsGen Professional Plus edition you will be presented with an activation form right after the Splash screen as shown in Figure 1. You will not be shown the activation form when using the Express edition.

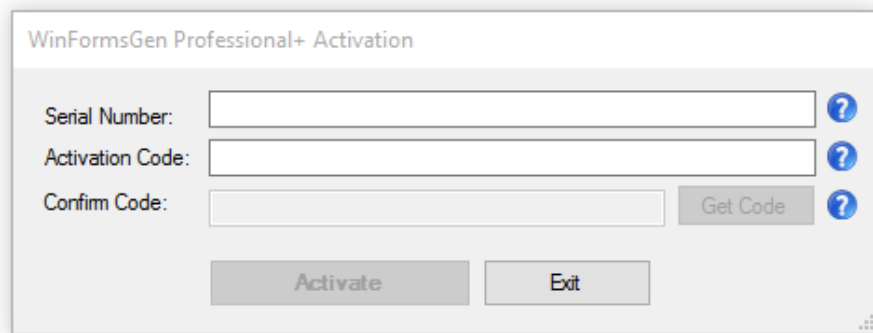
The image shows a software activation window titled "WinFormsGen Professional+ Activation". It contains three text input fields: "Serial Number:", "Activation Code:", and "Confirm Code:". To the right of each field is a blue question mark icon. Below the "Confirm Code" field is a "Get Code" button. At the bottom of the window are two buttons: "Activate" and "Exit".

Figure 1 Activation Form

Enter the *Serial Number* and *Activation Code* we provided you in the respective text boxes. The *Serial Number* and *Activation Code* contains dashes "-", make sure to include these dashes when entering them. Then click the *Get Code* button to get the *Confirm Code*. See Figure 2.

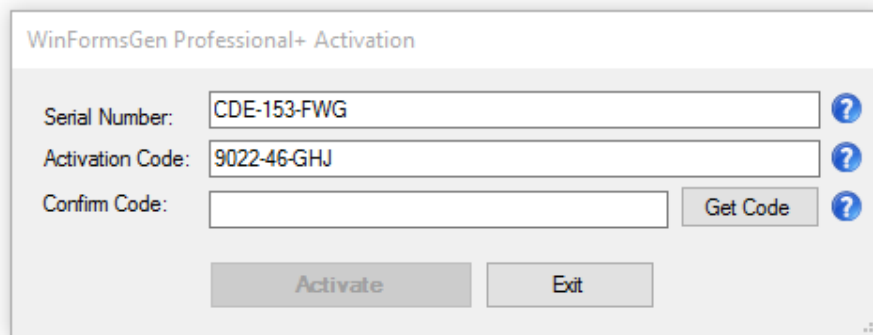
The image shows the same activation window as Figure 1, but with the "Serial Number" field containing "CDE-153-FWG" and the "Activation Code" field containing "9022-46-GHJ". The "Confirm Code" field is empty. The "Get Code" button is still present.

Figure 2

The *Confirm Code* will be sent via email to the original purchaser's email address we have on file. When the *Confirm Code* is sent, a pop up message will show as seen in Figure 3. Click the OK button.

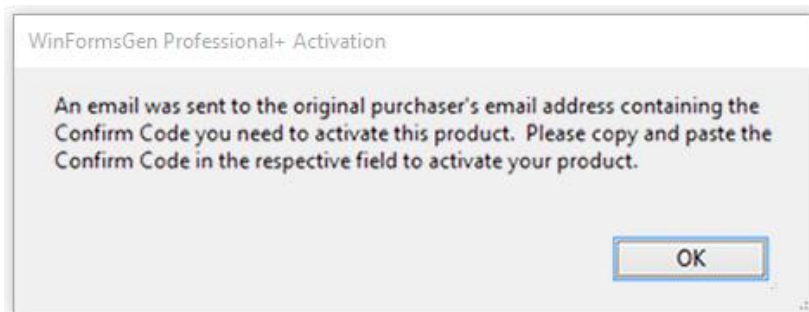
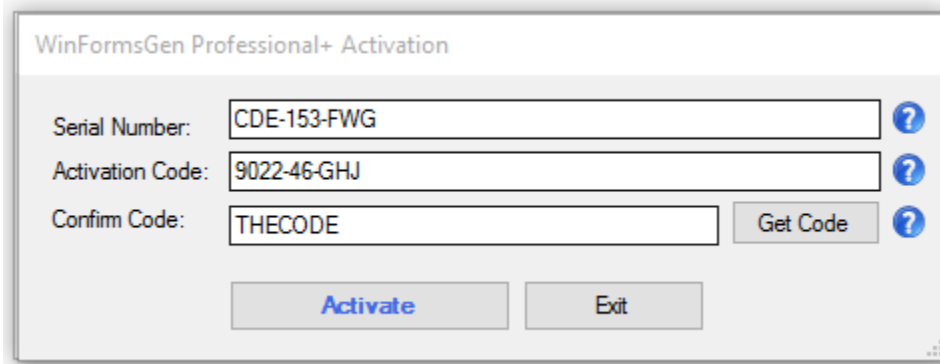
The image shows a small pop-up message box with a light gray background. The text inside reads: "An email was sent to the original purchaser's email address containing the Confirm Code you need to activate this product. Please copy and paste the Confirm Code in the respective field to activate your product." At the bottom right of the box is an "OK" button.

Figure 3 Confirm Code Sent

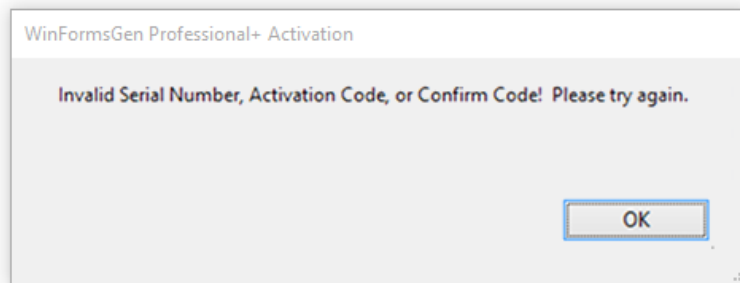
Enter the *Confirm Code* in the respective box and then click the *Activate* button.



The image shows a dialog box titled "WinFormsGen Professional+ Activation". It contains three text input fields: "Serial Number:" with the value "CDE-153-FWG", "Activation Code:" with the value "9022-46-GHJ", and "Confirm Code:" with the value "THECODE". To the right of each field is a blue question mark icon. Below the "Confirm Code" field is a "Get Code" button. At the bottom of the dialog are two buttons: "Activate" and "Exit".

Figure 4 Enter Confirm Code

If you enter an invalid *Serial Number*, *Activation Code*, or *Confirm Code* a warning pops up. When this happens, click the *Ok* button (See Figure 5), then re-enter the *Serial Number*, *Activation Code*, and *Confirm Code* Again.



The image shows a warning dialog box titled "WinFormsGen Professional+ Activation". The main text inside the dialog reads "Invalid Serial Number, Activation Code, or Confirm Code! Please try again." At the bottom right of the dialog is an "OK" button.

Figure 5 Invalid Serial Number, Activation Code, or Confirm Code

If you enter a valid *Serial Number*, *Activation Code* and *Confirm Code*, you will be presented with the main window of the application, see Figure 6. You will only see the activation form once. After that, you will always go straight to the main window.

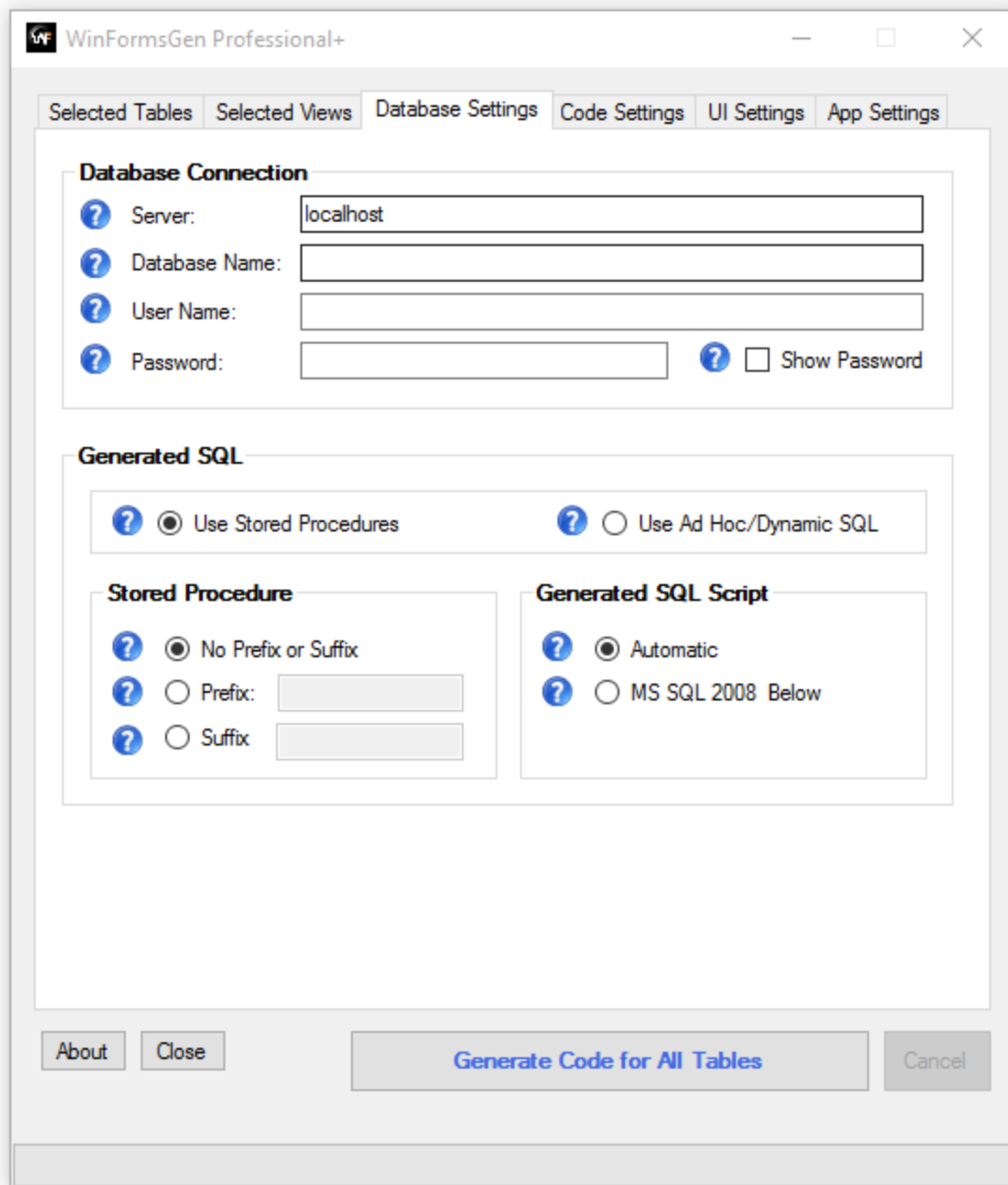


Figure 6 Main Window

A Simple Interface

To keep WinFormsGen simple, there's only one main interface as shown in Figure 5. The main window consists of six (6) tabs.

1. **Selected Tables:** WinFormsGen generates code from all the tables in your database by default. You can choose to generate from selected tables only from the Code Settings tab, and then select just the tables to generate from on this tab.
2. **Selected Views:** You can choose to generate from selected views only from the Code Settings tab, and then select just the views to generate from on this tab.

3. **Database Settings:** This is where you enter the database you want to generate code from and whether you want to generate stored procedures or dynamic SQL. This is probably going to be your most used tab.
4. **Code Settings:** You'll find a selection here on where to generate your objects from: all tables, all views, selected tables, or selected views. This is also where you set the windows form application name, the root directory where you want the windows form application to be generated, the namespace for your code, and most of all the language (either C# or VB.NET) you want the generated code to be in.
5. **UI Settings:** You can customize your own settings for the generated WinForms here. You can also select which WinForms to generate and the WinForm's filename prefix to use for each WinForms.
6. **App Settings:** These are application settings. Almost all generated code/WinForms are overwritten every time you use WinFormsGen. However, you can choose not to overwrite some key files from here. You can also reset all settings to its original default from here.

That seems like a lot of features, you're probably asking "where's the One Click feature?" Since WinFormsGen remembers the last settings you used such as, e.g. server, database name, directory, namespace, language etc., the next time you open WinFormsGen, you can just click the Generate... button, that simple.

A Quick Tour

Let's learn how to generate Windows Forms, middle-tier, and data-tier codes using WinFormsGen. **We're going to use Microsoft's Northwind database for this demo. Please Google and download it.** Or you can use your own database; just follow the steps shown below.

1. Click the "Generate Code for All Tables" button. Notice that an error pops up showing us the required fields to fill. See Figure 7.

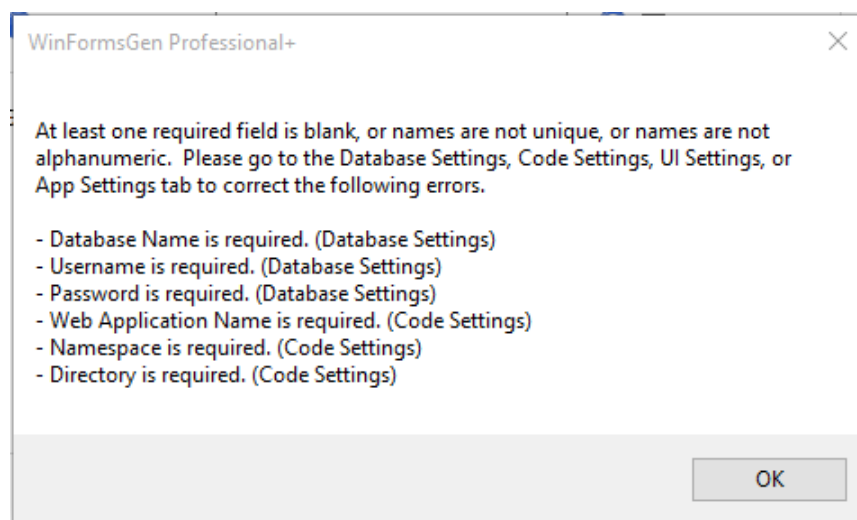


Figure 7 Error Message

2. Click the OK button to close the pop up. Go to the *Database Settings* tab and start filling the required fields. Do the same in the *Code Settings* tab. See Figures 8 and 9.

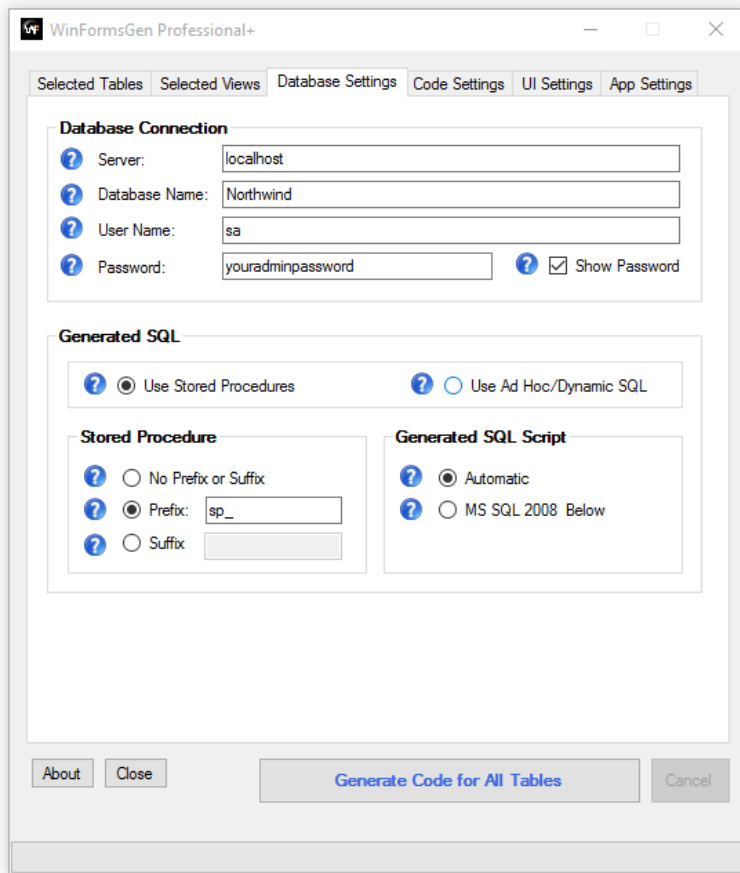


Figure 8 Database Settings Tab

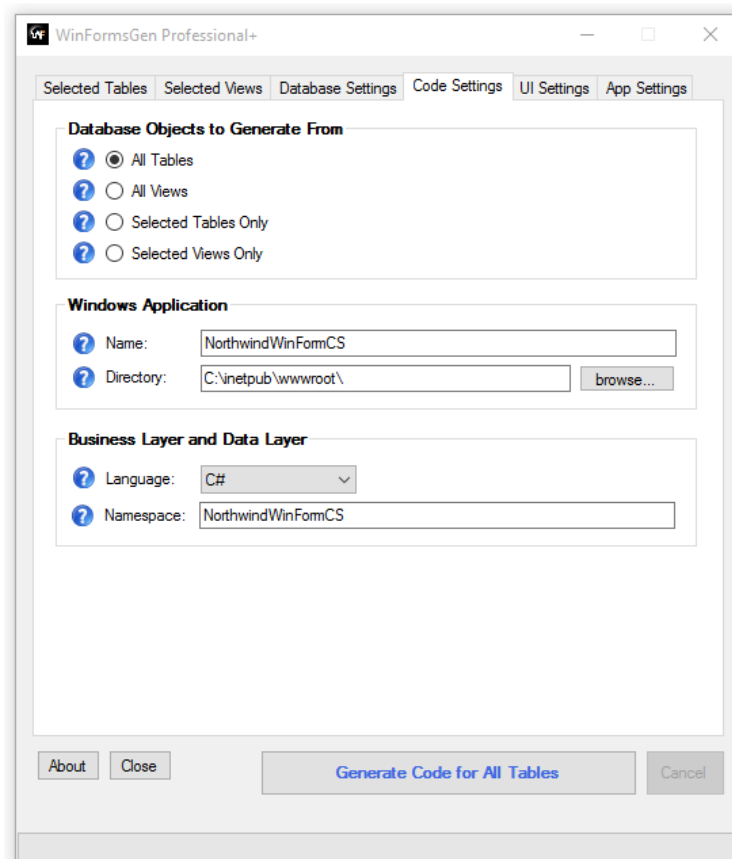



Figure 9 Code Settings Tab

- You can see the descriptions of each of these fields in the *Complete Guide* tutorial. For now, simply hover over the *Question Mark* image  if you need information from the respective fields.
- Click the “*Generate Code for All Tables*” button. WinFormsGen will start generating objects. See Figure 10.

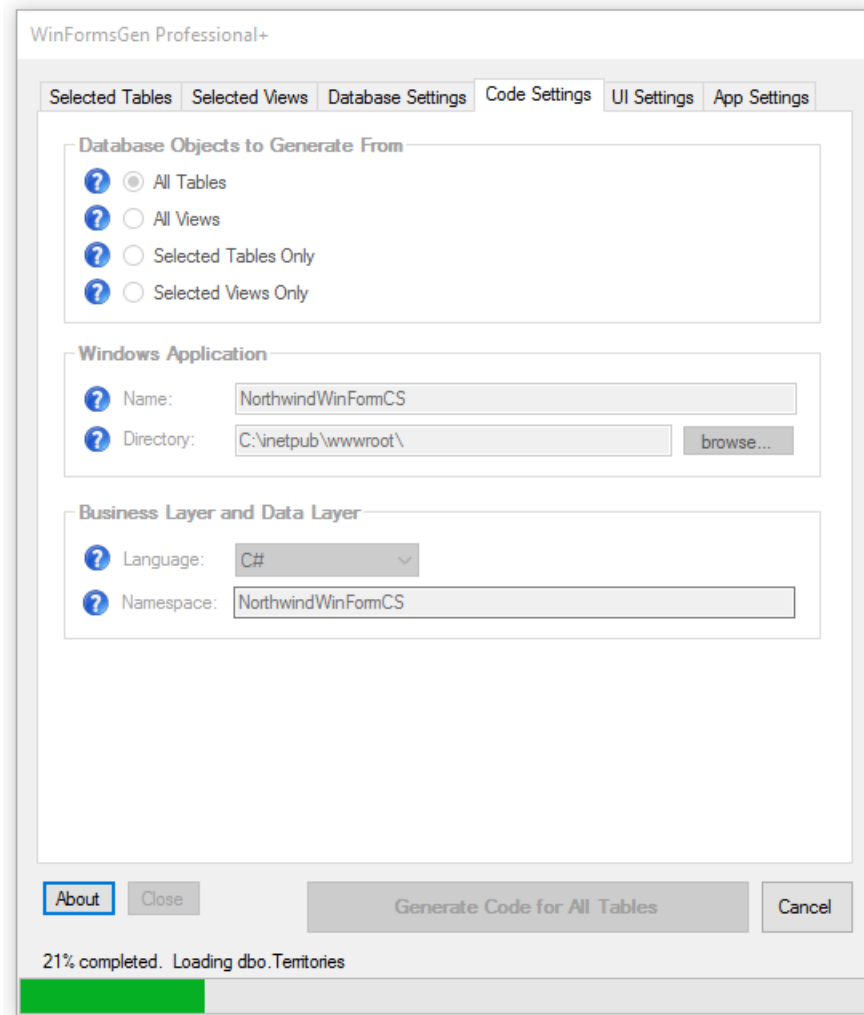


Figure 10 Generating Code

- Wait for a few seconds. When WinFormsGen is done generating objects, a message pops up. See Figure 11.

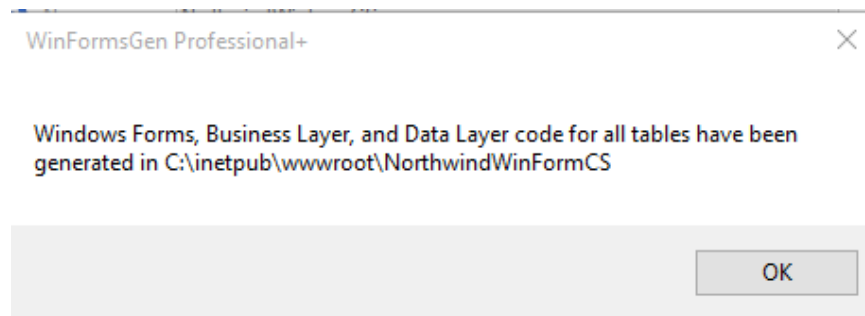


Figure 11 Done Generating Objects

- Click the *OK* button to close the message. Then close WinFormsGen by clicking the *Close* button.

7. We're not going to go into any details on how to operate MS SQL Server Management Studio, but if you want to see the generated Stored Procedures, fire up MS SQL Server Management Studio, versions 2000, 2005, 2008, 2012, or 2014 then click on the *Stored Procedures* node of your respective database, for this example the *Northwind* database, you will see a list of generated stored procedures. See Figure 12.

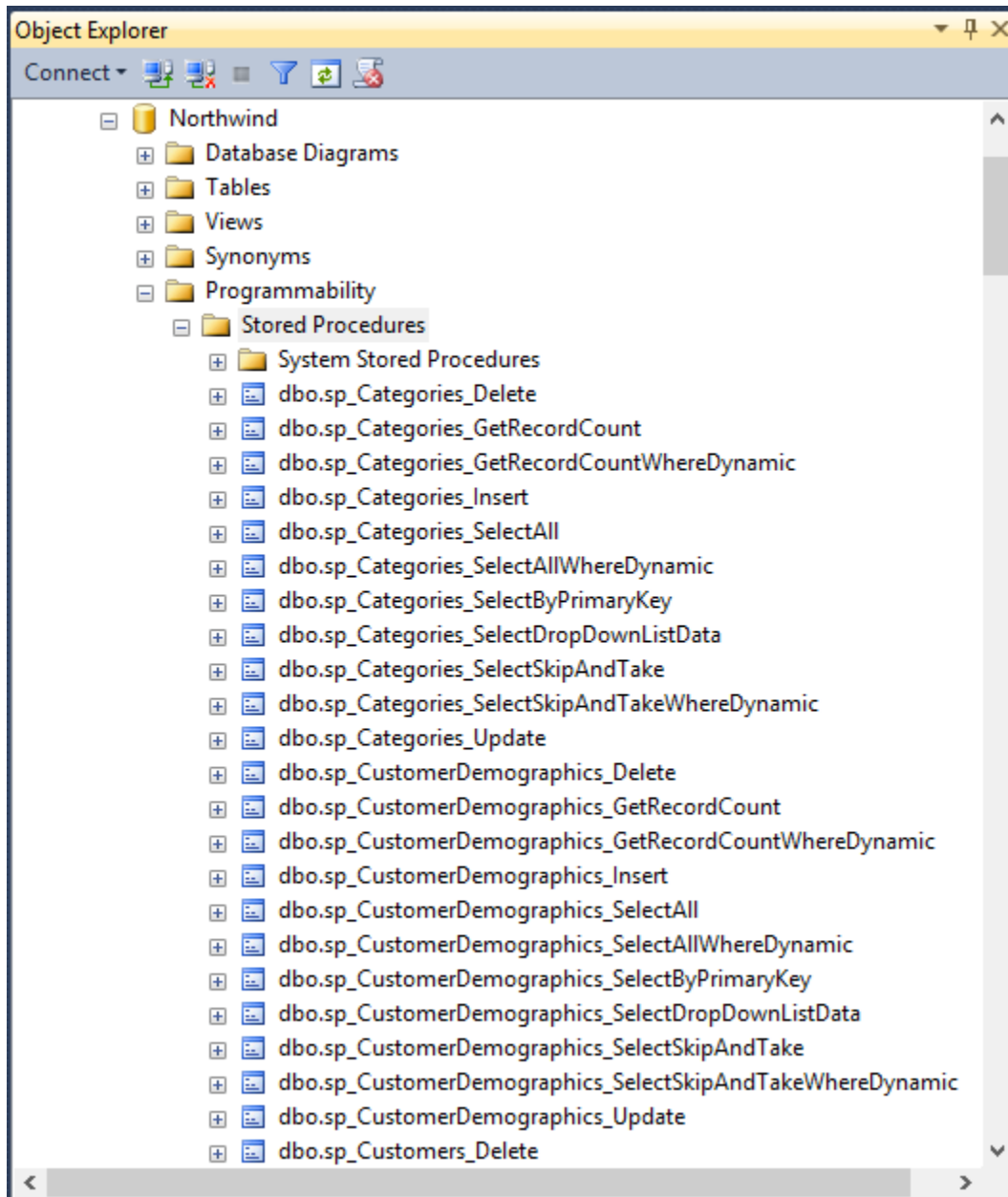


Figure 12 Generated Stored Procedures

8. To view the generated windows application, simply go to the directory you specified from the *Code Settings* tab of WinFormsGen. You will see a list like the one shown in Figure 13.

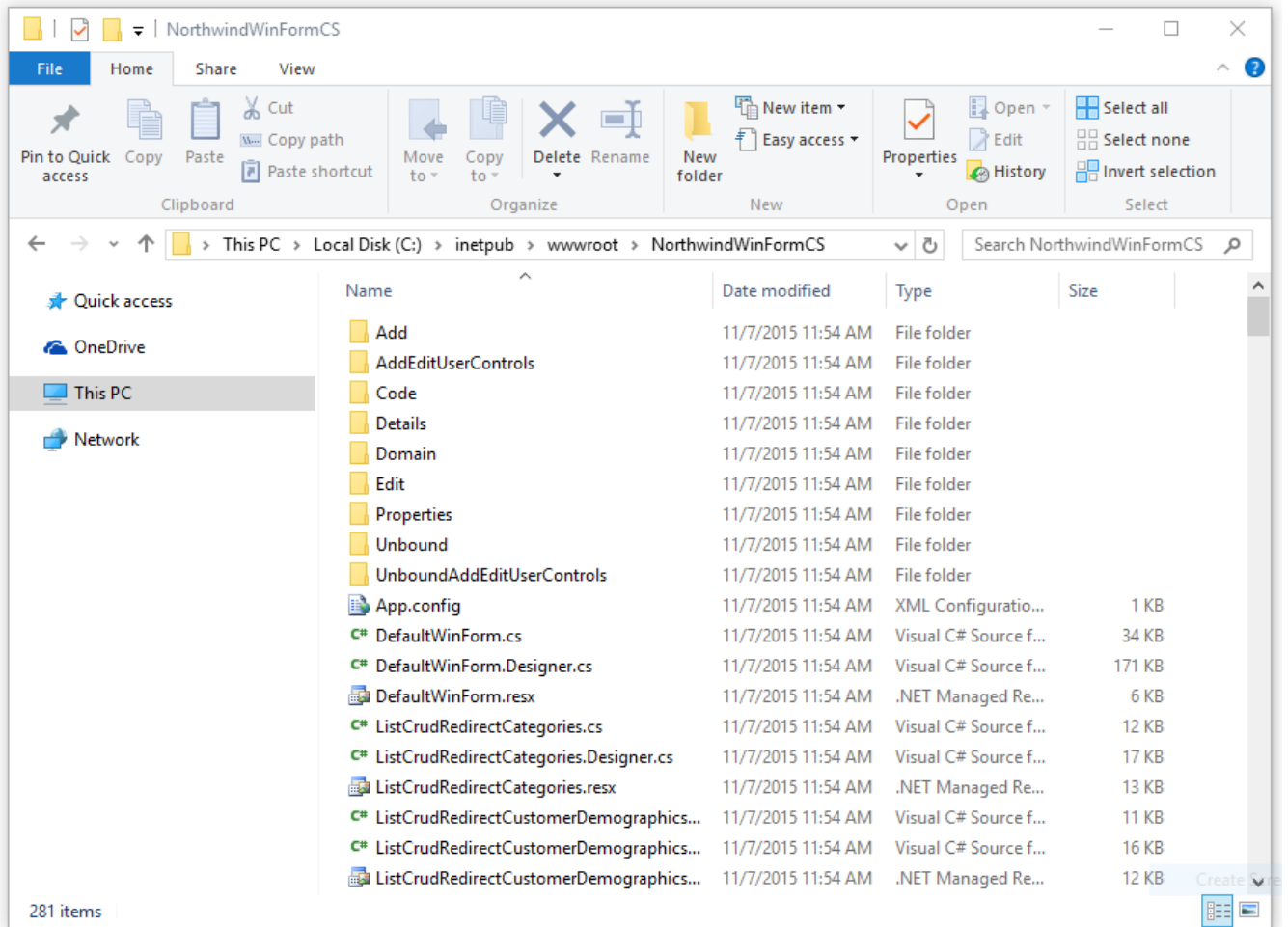


Figure 13 Generated Windows Form application

9. To see the generated windows form project in action, fire up Visual Studio 2013/2015. From the *File* menu click *Open Project* as shown in Figure 14.

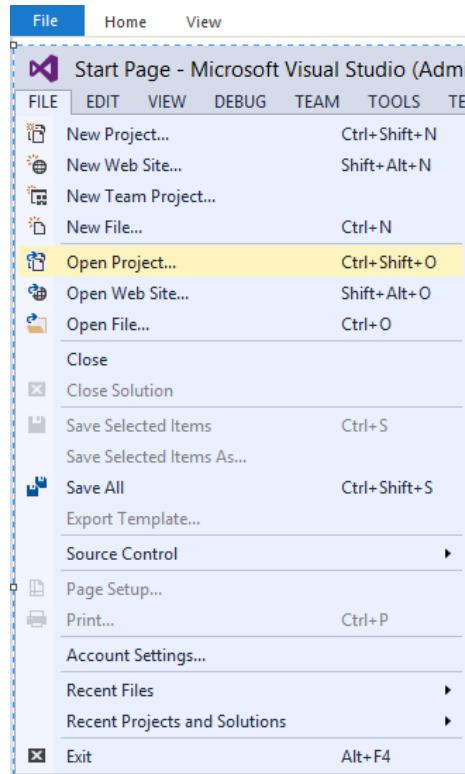


Figure 14 Visual Studio 2013, Open Project

10. Go to the windows form app directory, and then click the Solution File (.sln). See Figure 15.

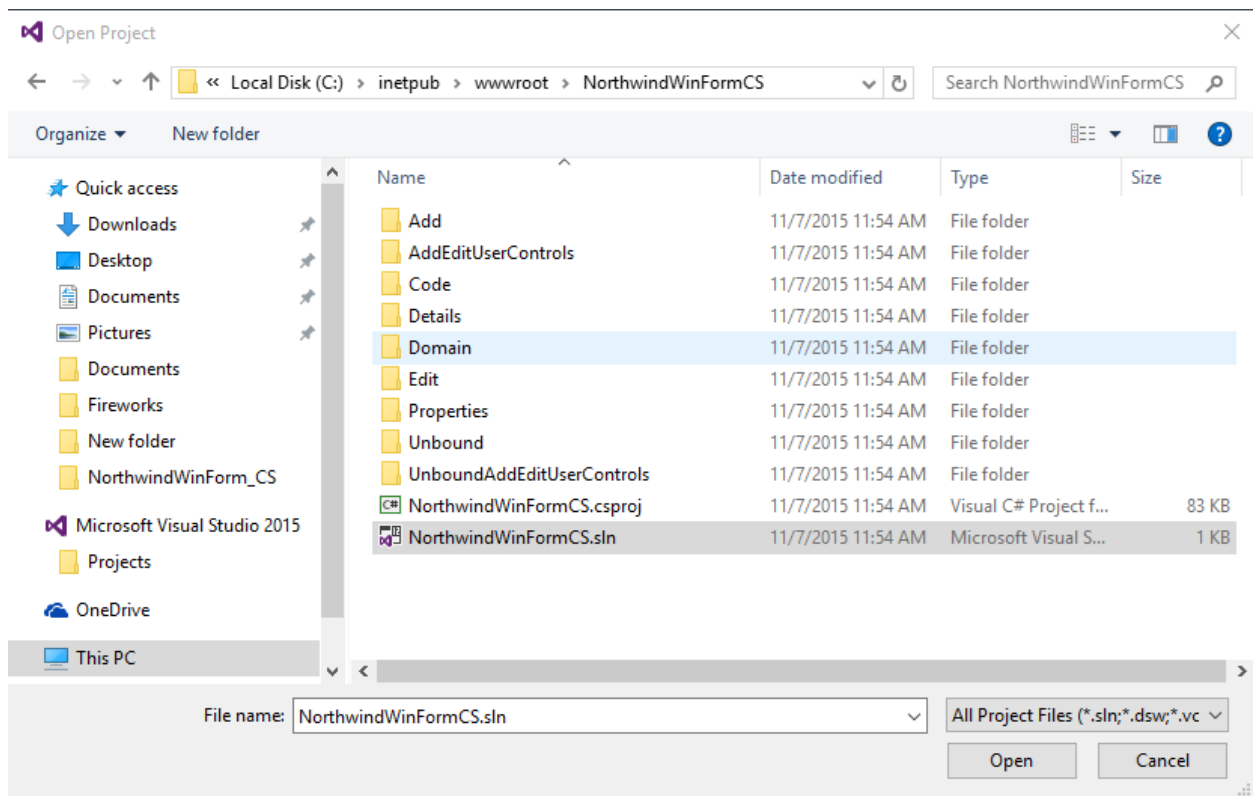


Figure 15 Generated Windows Form Application

11. Run Visual Studio by pressing F5. You will see a list of all the generated Windows Form Objects (WinForms). See Figure 16. You can click any link to preview the functionality of each of the generated winform. However, we're not going to discuss this in this tutorial. Please see the *Complete Guide* tutorial for more information.

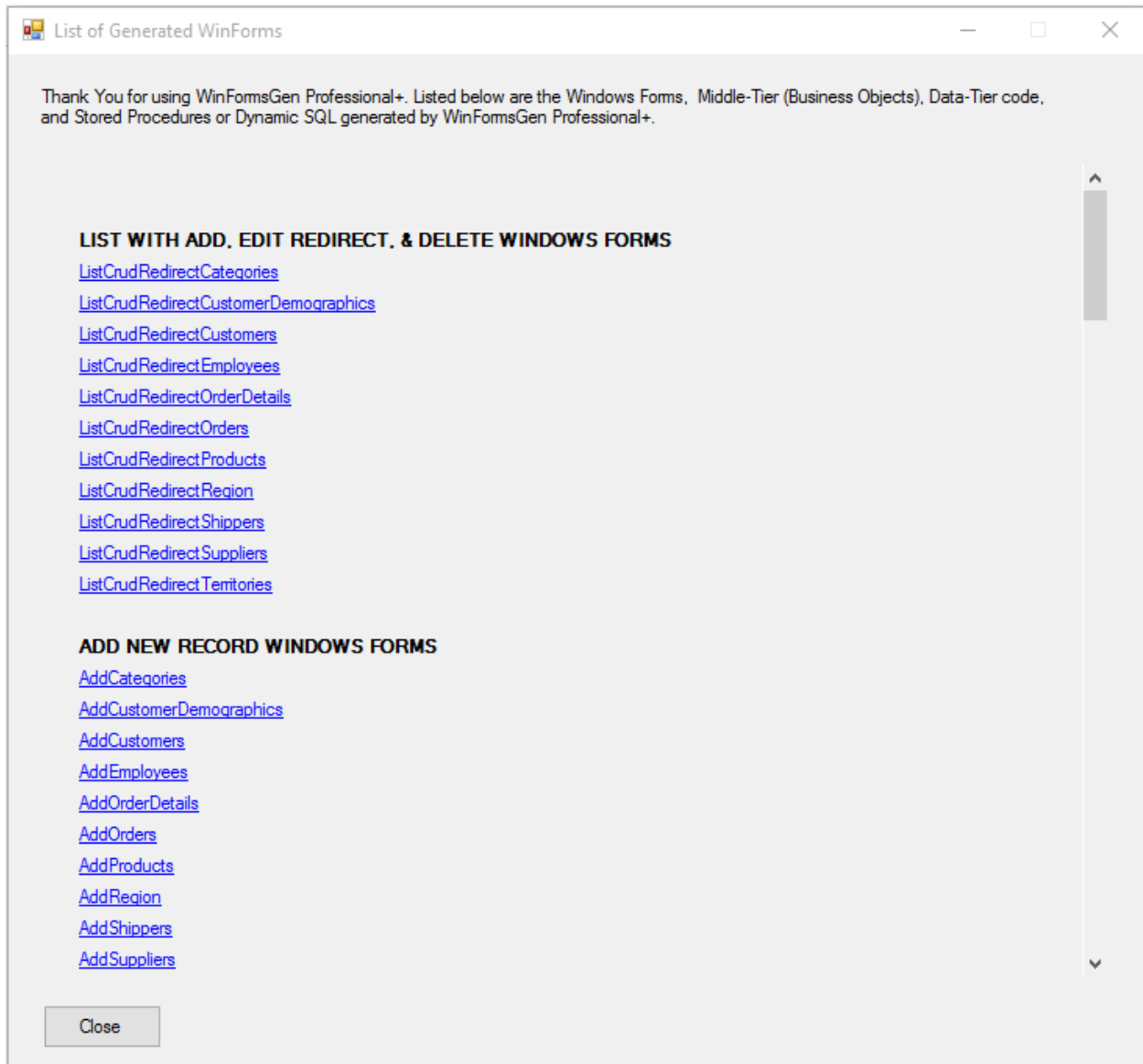


Figure 16 List of Generated Windows Forms

12. When you click any of the links you are redirected to that specific page as seen in Figure 17. Play around to see the functionality of each winform.

Product ID	Product Name	Supplier ID	Category ID	Quantity Per Uni	Unit Price	Units In Stock	Units On Order	Reorder Level	Discontinued
1	Chai	1	1	10 boxes x 20 bags	18.02	39	0	12	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Chang	1	1	24 - 12 oz bottles	15.00	17	40	25	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Aniseed Syrup	1	2	12 - 550 ml bottles	10.00	13	70	25	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Chef Anton™'s Ca...	2	2	48 - 6 oz jars	21.00	3	4	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Chef Anton™'s ...	2	2	36 boxes	21.35	0	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Grandma's Boyse...	3	2	12 - 8 oz jars	25.00	120	0	25	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Uncle Bob's Orga...	3	2	12 - 1 lb pkgs.	30.00	15	0	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	Northwoods Cran...	3	2	12 - 12 oz jars	40.00	6	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Mishi Kobe Niku	4	6	18 - 500 g pkgs.	97.00	29	0	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10	Ikura	4	8	12 - 200 ml jars	31.00	31	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Queso Cabrales	5	4	1 kg pkg.	21.00	22	30	30	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Queso Mancheg...	5	4	10 - 500 g pkgs.	38.00	86	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	Konbu	6	8	2 kg box	6.00	24	0	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	Tofu	6	7	40 - 100 g pkgs.	23.25	35	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
15	Genen Shouyu	6	2	24 - 250 ml bottles	15.50	39	0	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
16	Pavlova	7	3	32 - 500 g boxes	17.45	29	0	10	<input type="checkbox"/>
17	Alice Mutton	7	6	20 - 1 kg tins	39.00	0	0	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Camarvon Tigers	7	8	16 kg pkg.	62.50	42	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>
19	Teatime Chocolat...	8	3	10 boxes x 12 pie...	9.20	25	0	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
20	Sir Rodney's Mar...	8	3	30 gift boxes	81.00	40	0	0	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 17 Sample Generated WinForm

13. Close the windows form and go back to Visual Studio 2013/2015. The generated middle-tier and data-tier classes can be found under the *Code* folder. Please see Figure 18.

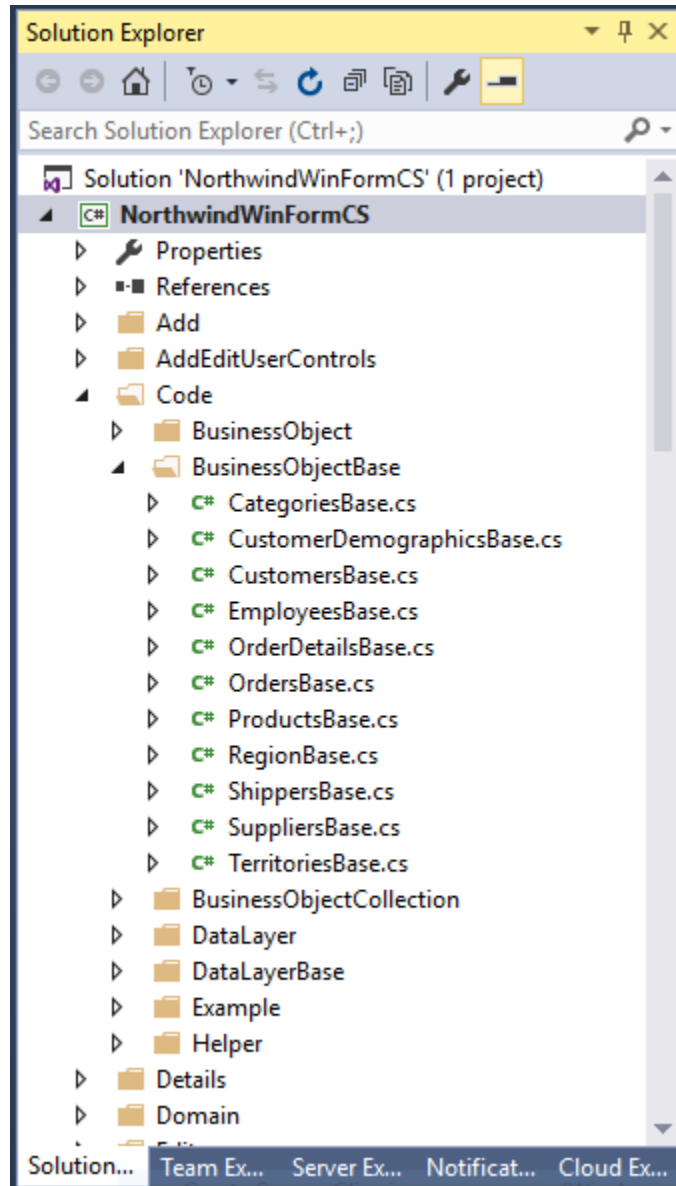


Figure 18 Middle-Tier and Data-Tier Classes Under Infrastructure Folder

Note: Some features shown here are not available in the Express Edition.

End of tutorial.