

# Alias

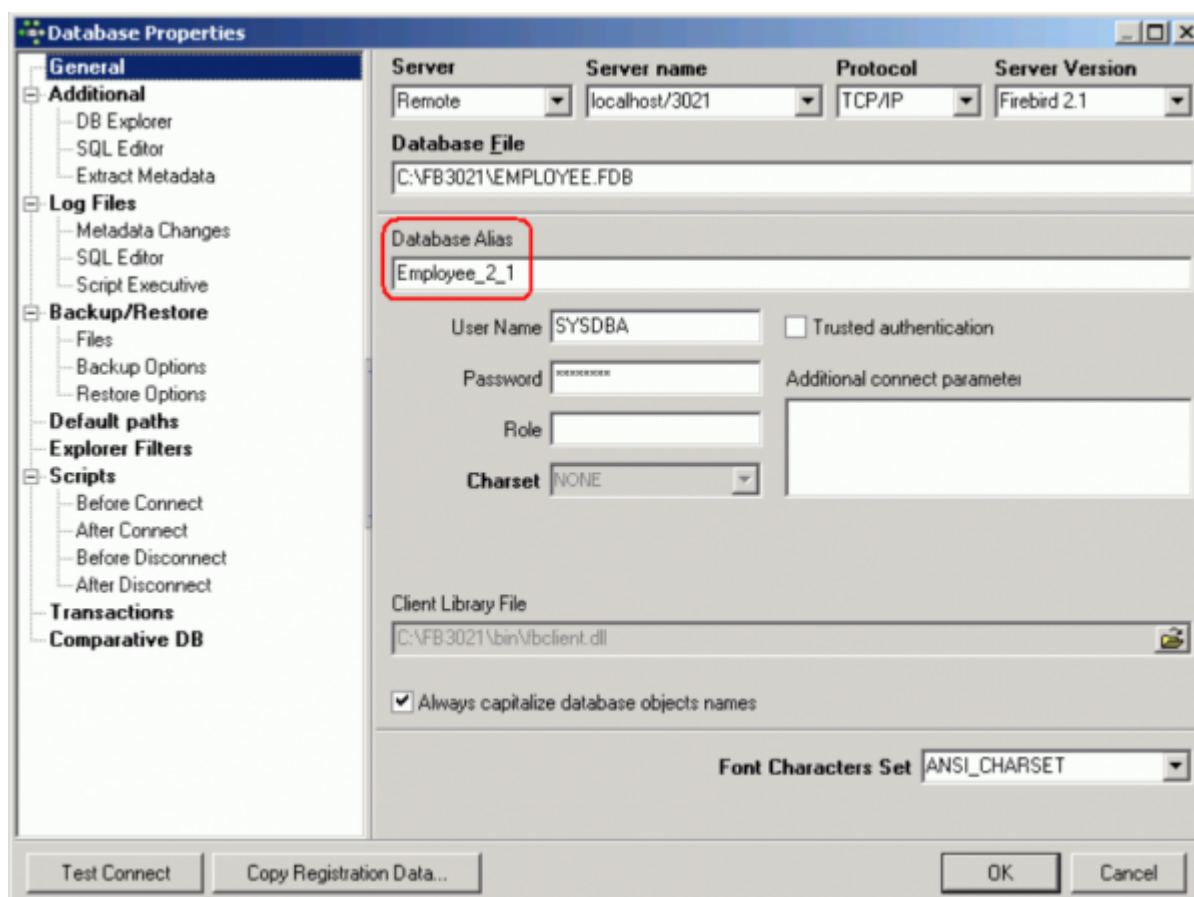
An alias is a pseudonym.

## Database alias

A [database alias](#) is a name chosen by the developer for day-to-day use, as a logical and preferable alternative to the usually formally named `gdb` or `fdb` file, which is often named in accordance to internal company norms.

The alias indicates the location of the database [tables](#). If the [database](#) is stored on a server, the alias also specifies the necessary [connection parameters](#).

It is also used in SQL language to simplify input (saves repeatedly typing the same long database object and field names).



Please refer to the [Configuring Firebird](#) chapter, [Alias, files and paths](#) for detailed information about Firebird database aliases.

# Object alias

When you're writing a select it can become very tiresome repeatedly writing out the full names of commonly used objects correctly. It's helpful to abbreviate such objects, also reducing the amount of frequent typing errors. This is possible by defining an object alias. For example, if you wish to define an alias for the product table, type

```
select from product p
```

That way the server knows that whenever you type a p in this SQL, you are referring to the **product** table. IBExpert also recognizes the **p** as an alias and automatically offers me a list of all fields in the **product** table. By holding down the [Ctrl] key multiple fields can be selected, e.g. **title** and **actor**. By pressing the [Enter] key both fields are automatically inserted into the SQL with the alias prefix p.

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