


Four database managers advance in ease of use, XML handling, better interfaces

	Access 2003	FileMaker Pro 6	Alpha Five Version 5	Paradox II
Vendor	Microsoft Corp. Redmond, Wash. tel. 252-227-7013 www.microsoft.com	FileMaker Inc. Santa Clara, Calif. tel. 408-987-7000 www.filemaker.com	Alpha Software Inc. Burlington, Mass. tel. 781-229-4500 www.alphasoftware.com	Corel Corp. Ottawa tel. 561-733-6200 www.corel.com
Full XML and XSL support	Yes	Yes	XML export only	XML export only
HTML generator	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Extra templates downloadable	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Mac OS-compatible	No	Yes	No	No
Automatic update	Yes	No	No	Yes
Pros	+ Editable XML + Easy to use + Affordable standalone version	+ Mac OS-compatible + Easy to use + Inexpensive	+ Easy to use + XBasic programming language	+ Automatic update feature
Cons		- Outdated interface	-No HTML capability - Outdated interface	- Ambiguous interface
Real-life requirements	Windows 2000 or higher version; 300-MHz Pentium III with at least 256M of RAM	Win 2000 or higher version, or Mac OS X; 300-MHz Pentium III with at least 256M of RAM	Win 98 or higher version; 300-MHz Pentium III with at least 128M of RAM	Win 2000 or higher version; 300-MHz Pentium III with at least 256M of RAM
List price	\$499 in Office suite, \$200 standalone	\$299	\$349	Sold only in \$300 WordPerfect Office suite
Overall grade	