

Convert your Microsoft Access application to a Web Application

By [Mariana](#)

13 | 11 | < ≡ >

[Technical Articles](#) | [Thinfinity® jsRO](#) | [Thinfinity® VirtualUI™](#) | [Tutorial](#) | [VirtualUI Tutorials](#)

July 3, 2018

Microsoft Access is a database management system (DBMS) from [Microsoft](#) that combines the relational Microsoft Jet Database Engine with a graphical user interface and software-development tools. It is a member of the [Microsoft Office](#) suite of applications.

Lots of our clients organize their business or even sell solutions around this great tool. But in times of cloud computing, web and mobile devices, the reach and usage of these Windows Desktop-based tools declines. Users require web-based applications, don't they?

[Thinfinity VirtualUI](#) can [take your software to the web](#), and now, your MS Access apps too!

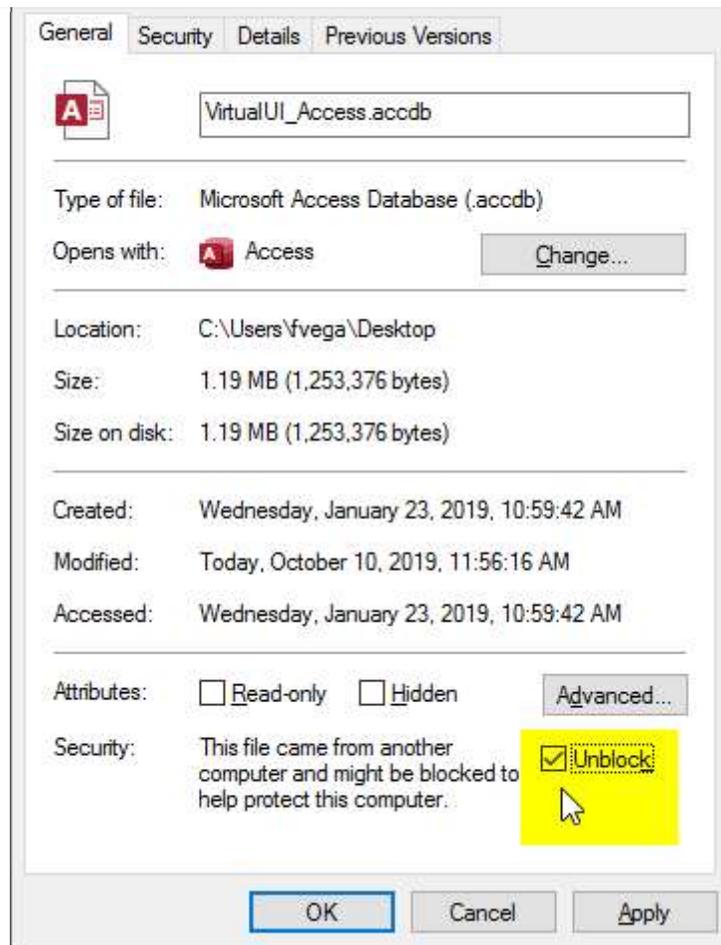
Turn your MS Access application to a Web App

Ready to start? First check that you're running the latest version of [Thinfinity VirtualUI](#). Then download an example for web-enabling Microsoft Access and in the download link below:

https://www.cybelesoft.com/support/files/DemosVUI/VirtualUI_Access.zip

(On a side note, you may need to this in order for the demo to work .

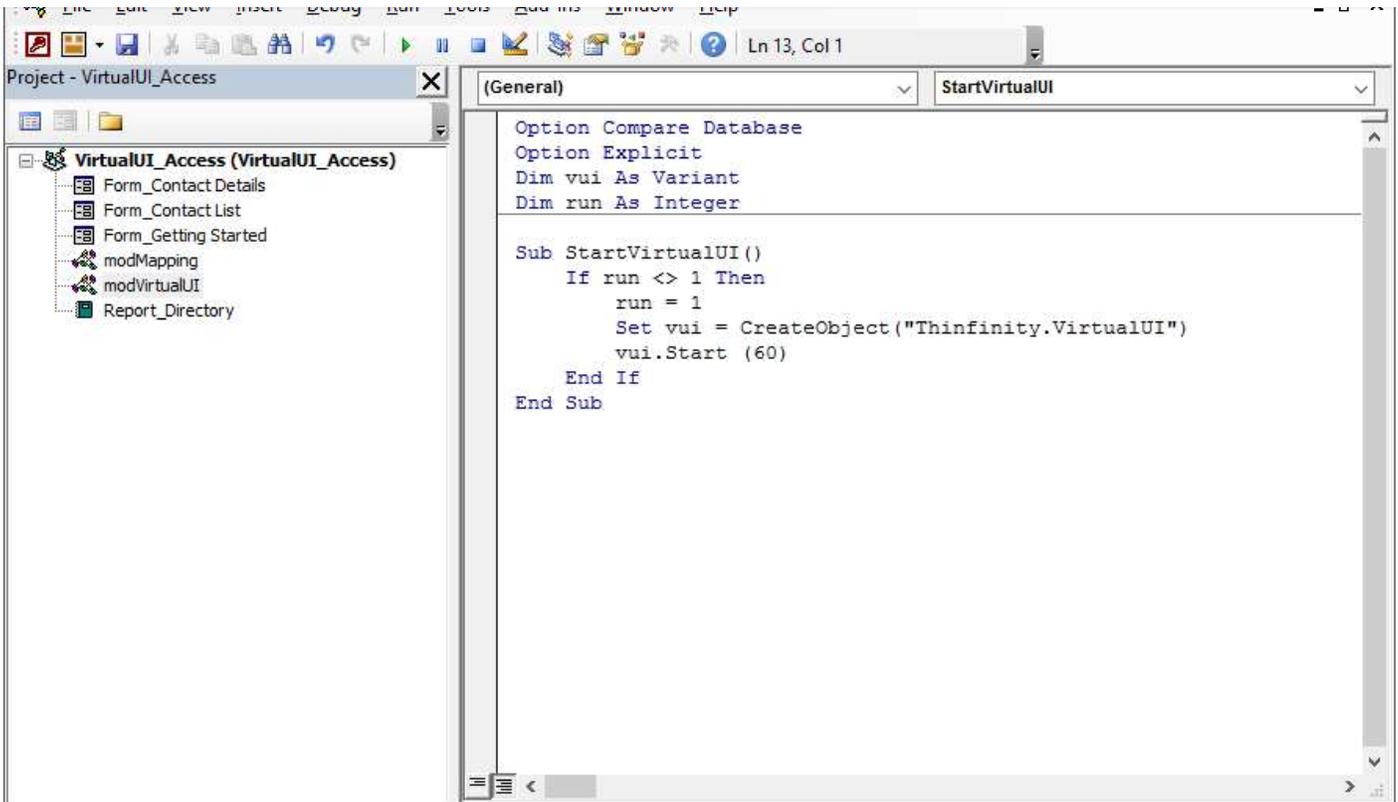
After you unzip the file, right click the VirtualUI_Access.accdb file, and click on "Properties". Check the "Unblock" checkbox, and click "Apply".



Let's review the example given on the ZIP file:

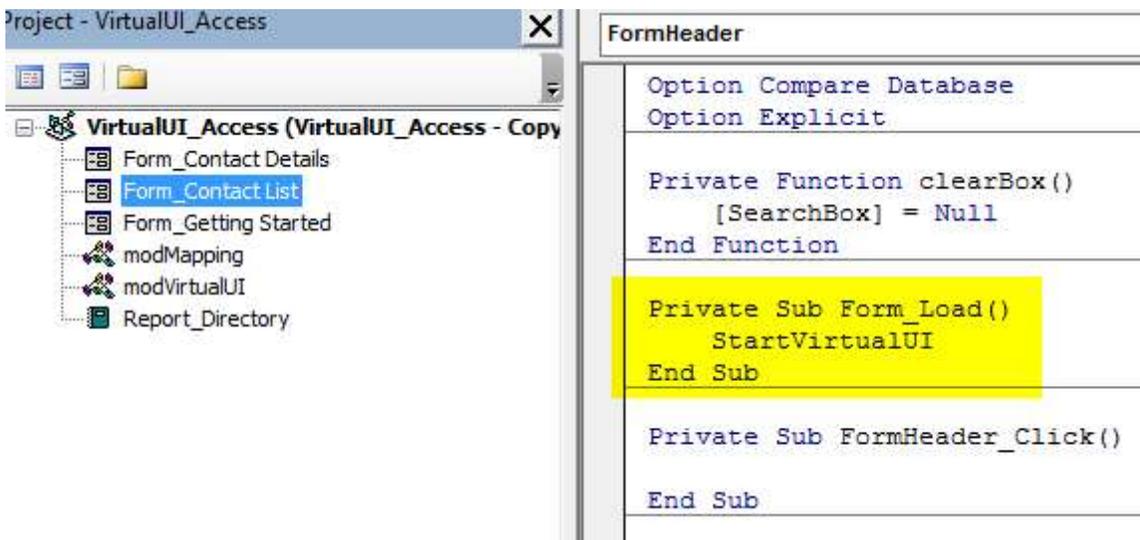
There are two things that you should take a look at from this demo:

1. the "modVirtualUI" module
2. Adding the VirtualUIStart method to your Main Form.



Now, we need to add the “StartVirtualUI” method to the Main Form of our Database.

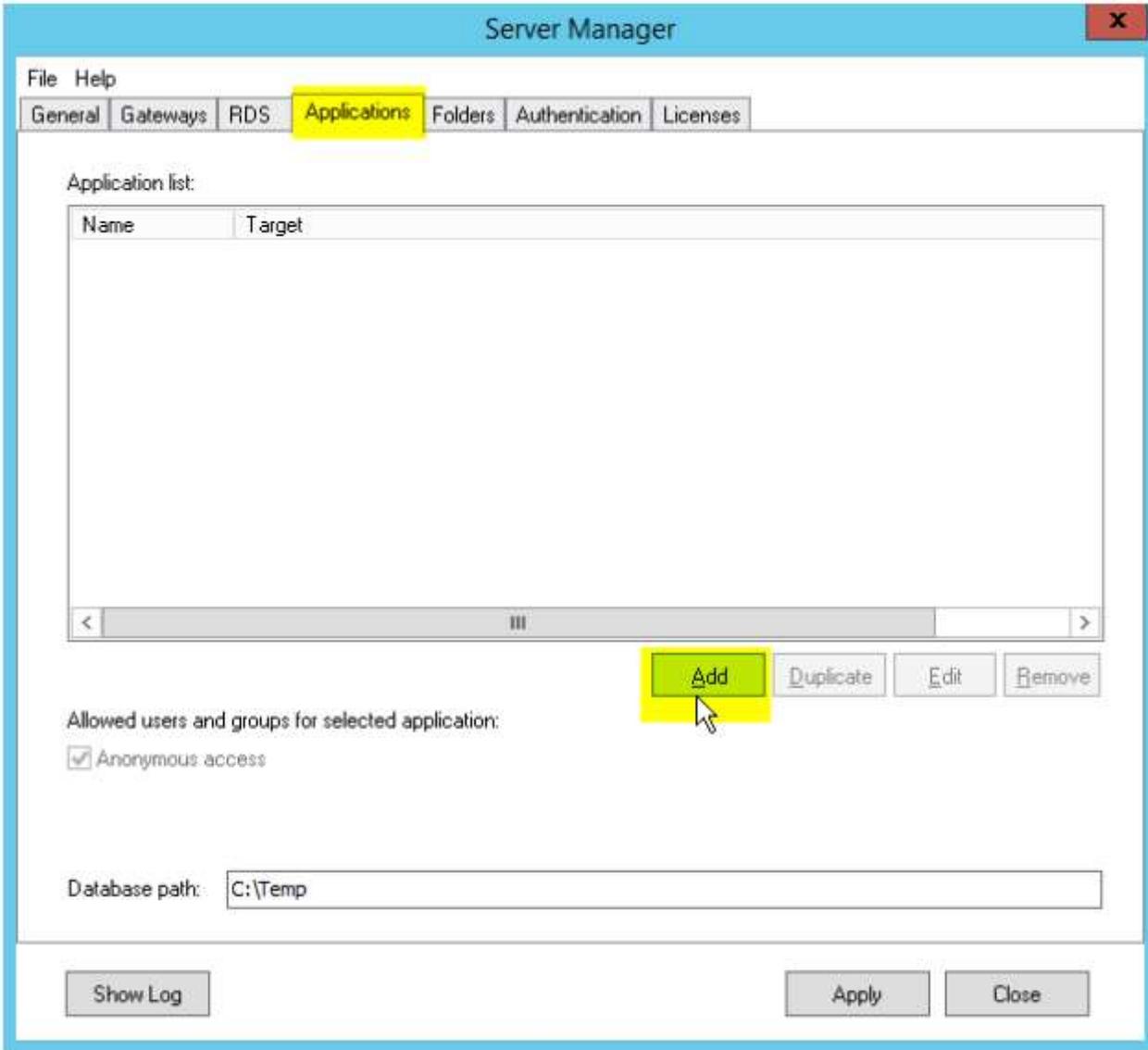
Note: “StartVirtualUI” should be one of the first things Microsoft Access loads when it starts up, so it should be inside the main module of the database.



In this case, the Main Form is Form_Contact List . Right below the “Form_Load()” method, we are adding the call to “StartVirtualUI”

After you commit these changes, save the Access Database.





In this new window, we'll configure the Access Database to be published. Below you'll see an example of how it's done:





Name: MSACCESS

Virtual Path: MSACCESS

Home Page:

Access Key: wcmez4haLB0mNaBqHE2aWyfK4-a\$3paZ

Icon:  Application Web Link

Default application Visible

General | Credentials | Permissions | Restrictions

Program path and file name: C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\root\Office16\MSACCESS.EXE

Arguments: C:\Temp\VirtualUI_Access.accdb Allow browser arguments

Start in the following folder: C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\root\Office16\

Resolution: Fit to browser window

Browser rules file:

Reconnection timeout: 5 seconds

Let me

explain the following fields:

“Name”: The name you want the Web Application to display.

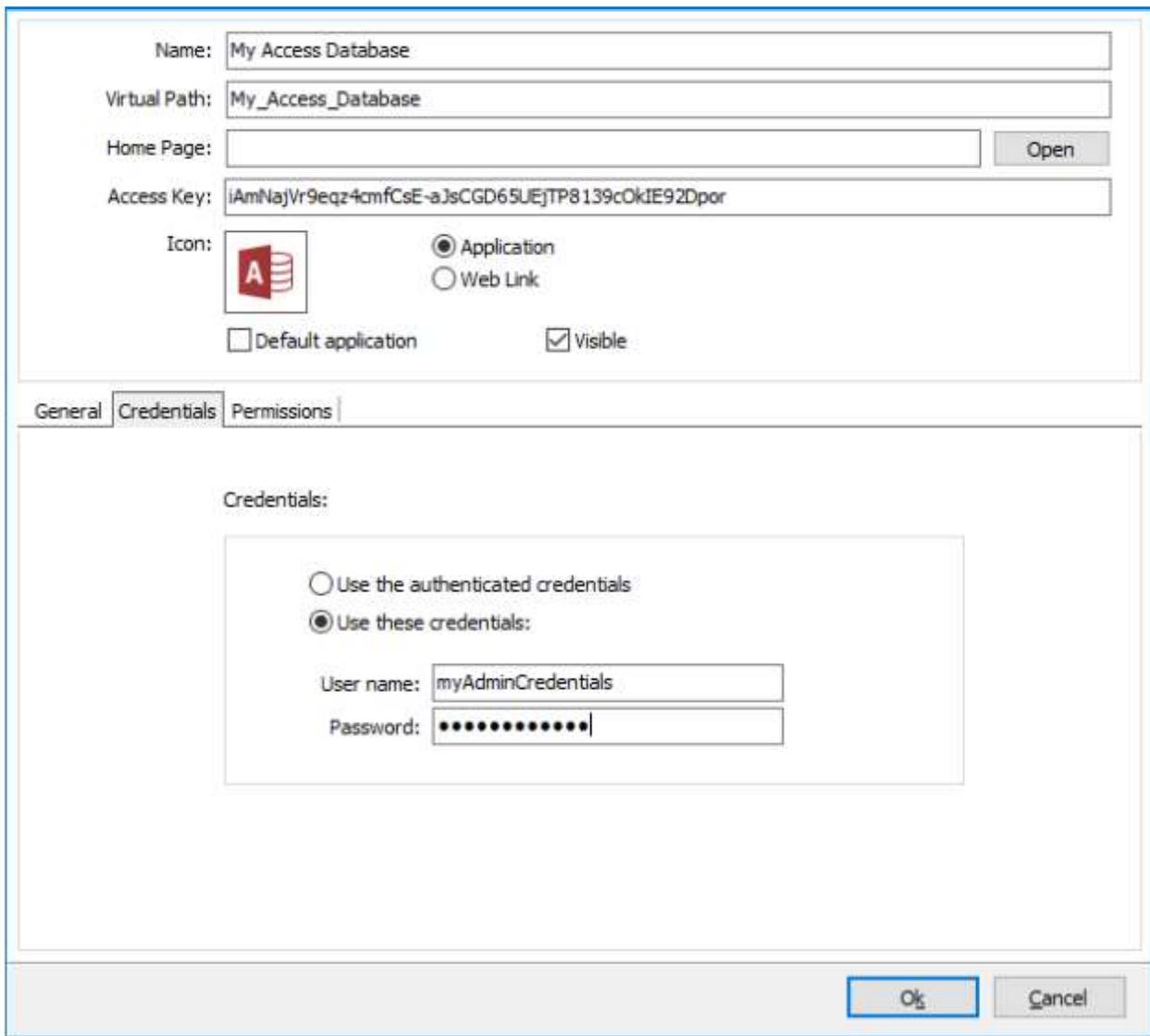
“Program path and file name”: In this case, we are using Office 16, so you’ll have to look for the MSACCESS.exe in the Program Files folder.

“Arguments”: Two things to take into consideration.

“C:\Apps VirtualUI\VirtualUI_Access.accdb”: This is the path of the database you want to load when Access starts.

“/x StartVirtualUI”: This is the name of the macro that calls the “vui.Start”.

Under the “Credentials” tab, configure a user that has read and write permission on both the Program Files folder (where Access is) and where the database is located:



The screenshot shows the configuration dialog for a Microsoft Access web app. The 'General' tab is active, and the 'Credentials' sub-tab is selected. The 'Name' field is 'My Access Database' and the 'Virtual Path' is 'My_Access_Database'. The 'Access Key' is a long alphanumeric string. The 'Icon' is set to the Microsoft Access icon, and the 'Application' radio button is selected. The 'Visible' checkbox is checked. The 'Credentials' section has the 'Use these credentials' radio button selected, with 'User name' set to 'myAdminCredentials' and 'Password' masked with dots. The 'OK' button is highlighted.

Name: My Access Database

Virtual Path: My_Access_Database

Home Page:

Access Key: iAmNajVr9eqz4cmfCsE-aJsCGD65UEjTP8 139cOkIE92Dpor

Icon:  Application
 Web Link

Default application Visible

General | **Credentials** | Permissions

Credentials:

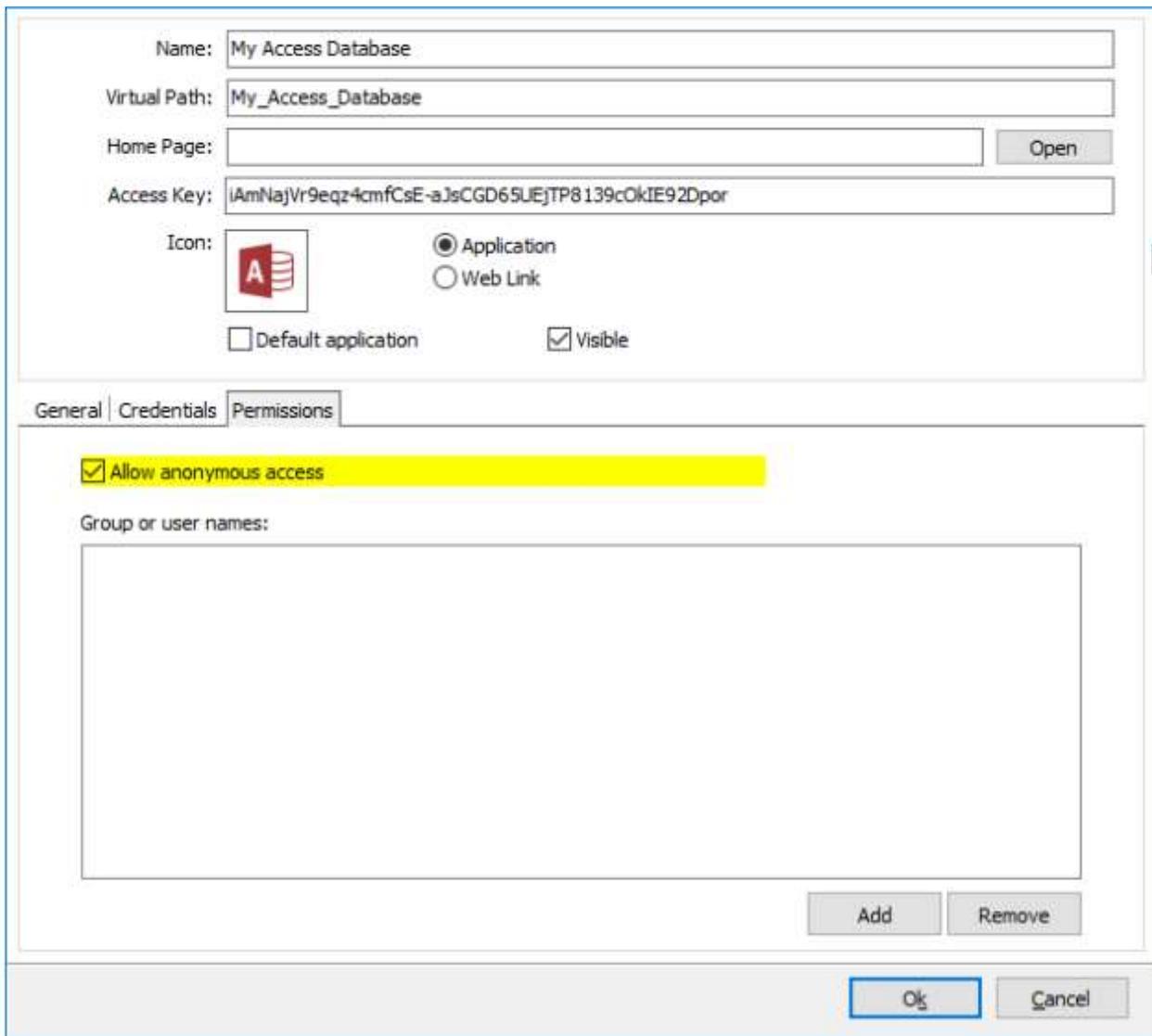
Use the authenticated credentials

Use these credentials:

User name: myAdminCredentials

Password: ●●●●●●●●

And under the Permissions tab, for testing purposes, click on “Allow anonymous access”:



The screenshot shows the 'Permissions' tab of the Microsoft Access Web App Configuration dialog box. The 'General' tab is selected, and the 'Permissions' sub-tab is active. The 'Allow anonymous access' checkbox is checked and highlighted in yellow. Below it, the 'Group or user names:' list is empty. The 'Add' and 'Remove' buttons are visible at the bottom right of the list. The 'OK' button is highlighted with a blue border.

Name: My Access Database
Virtual Path: My_Access_Database
Home Page: Open
Access Key: iAmNajVr9eqz4cmfCsE-aJsCGD65UEJTP8139cOkIE92Dpor
Icon:  Application Web Link
 Default application Visible

General | Credentials | **Permissions**

Allow anonymous access

Group or user names:

Add Remove

OK Cancel

Click “OK”, and then click “Apply”.

Open a new browser window and navigate to: <http://127.0.0.1:6580>

You will see the Thinfinity VirtualUI landing page, and your application published on it. Congrats!

Did you know that you can also use VirtualUI to [take WinDev Applications to the web](#)? Take a look at this article to [learn how to run Windev apps on any browser](#).

Have any questions? [Contact us](#) at support@cybelesoft.com or leave a message on this same post.

Configuration

Integration

Virtualization

Windows app to web