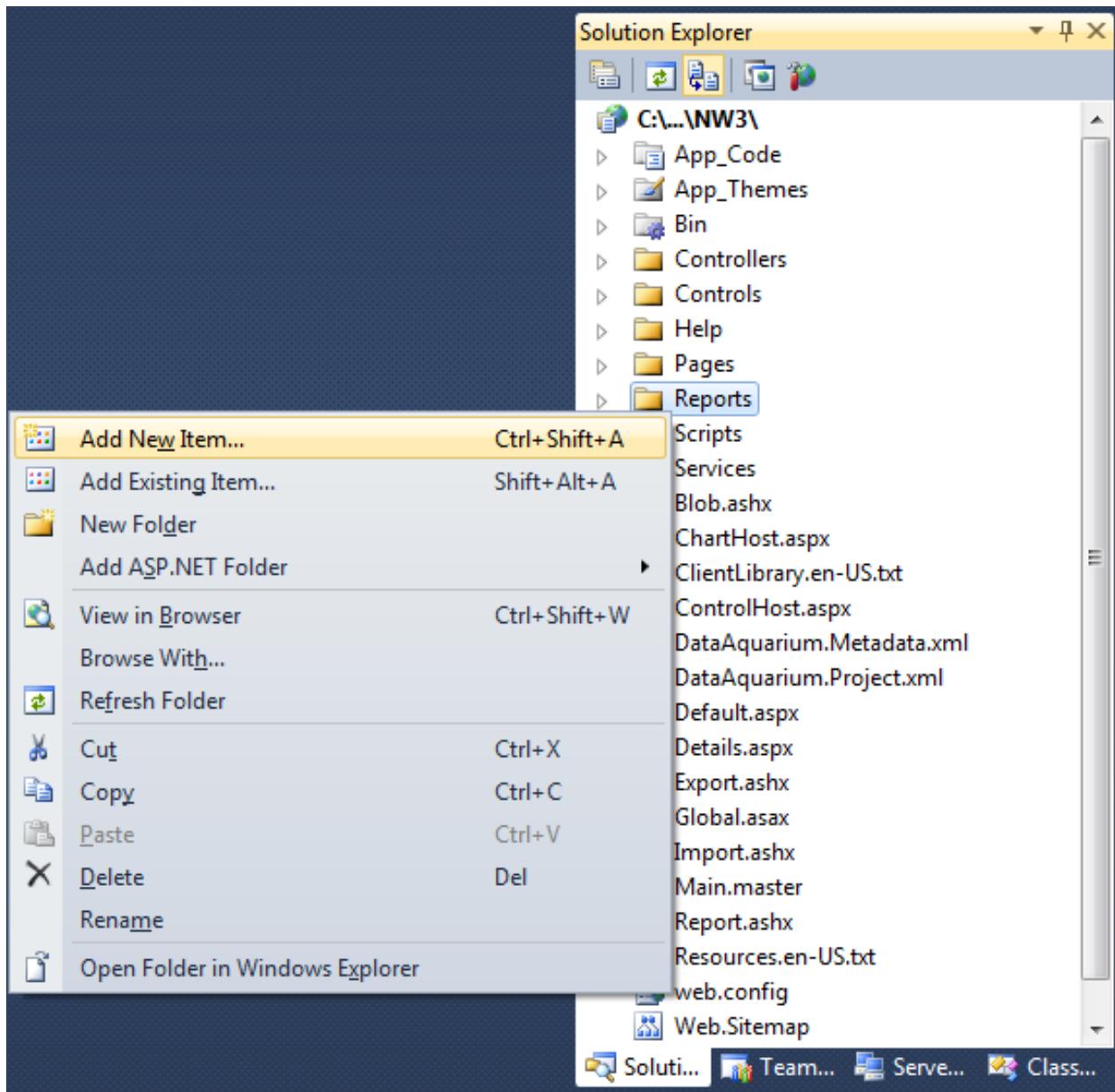# 2011

COOKBOOK

Custom Reports

This article will explain how to create a custom report from your database data, independent of your *Code On Time* application.
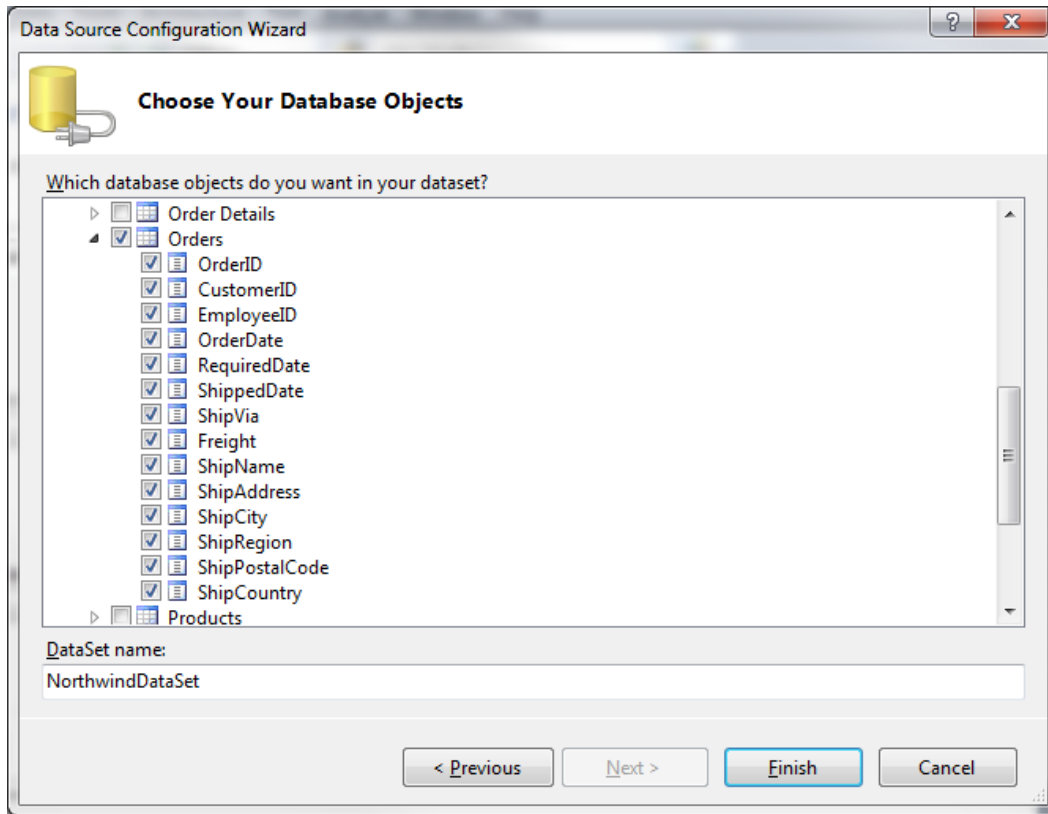
Custom Reports

For this example, we have a *Web Site Factory* application based on the *Northwind* sample database. We would like to create a custom report that displays *Orders* arranged first by *CustomerID*, and then by *OrderID*.

Open your project in *Visual Studio* by pressing *File | Open Web Site*. In the *Solution Explorer*, find the *Reports* folder. Right click and press *Add New Item*.

Select *Report Wizard*, and call the file *Orders*.

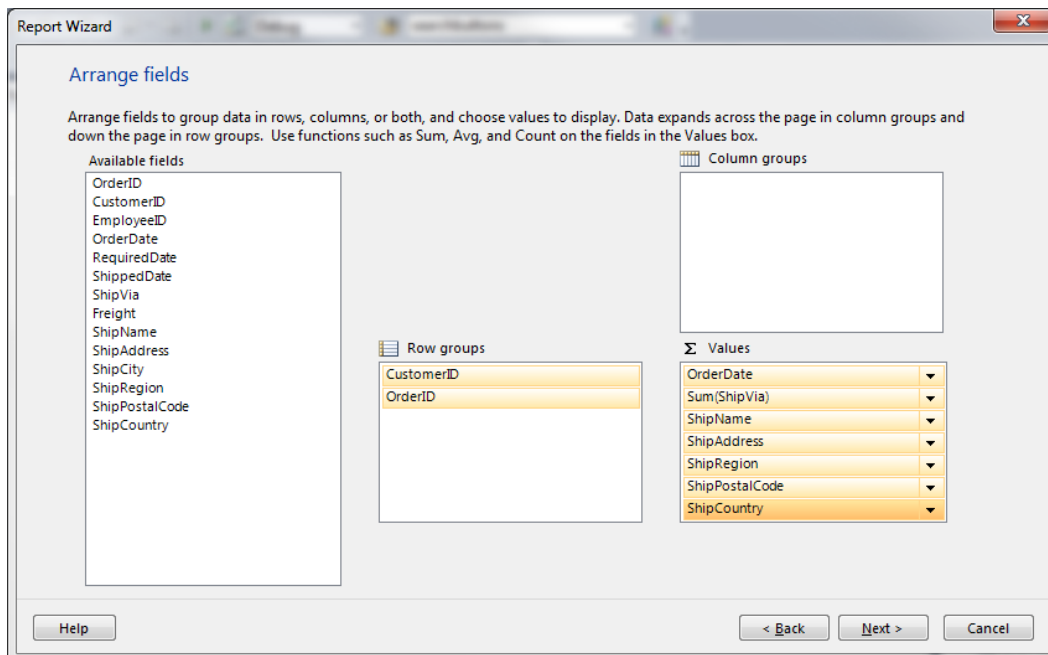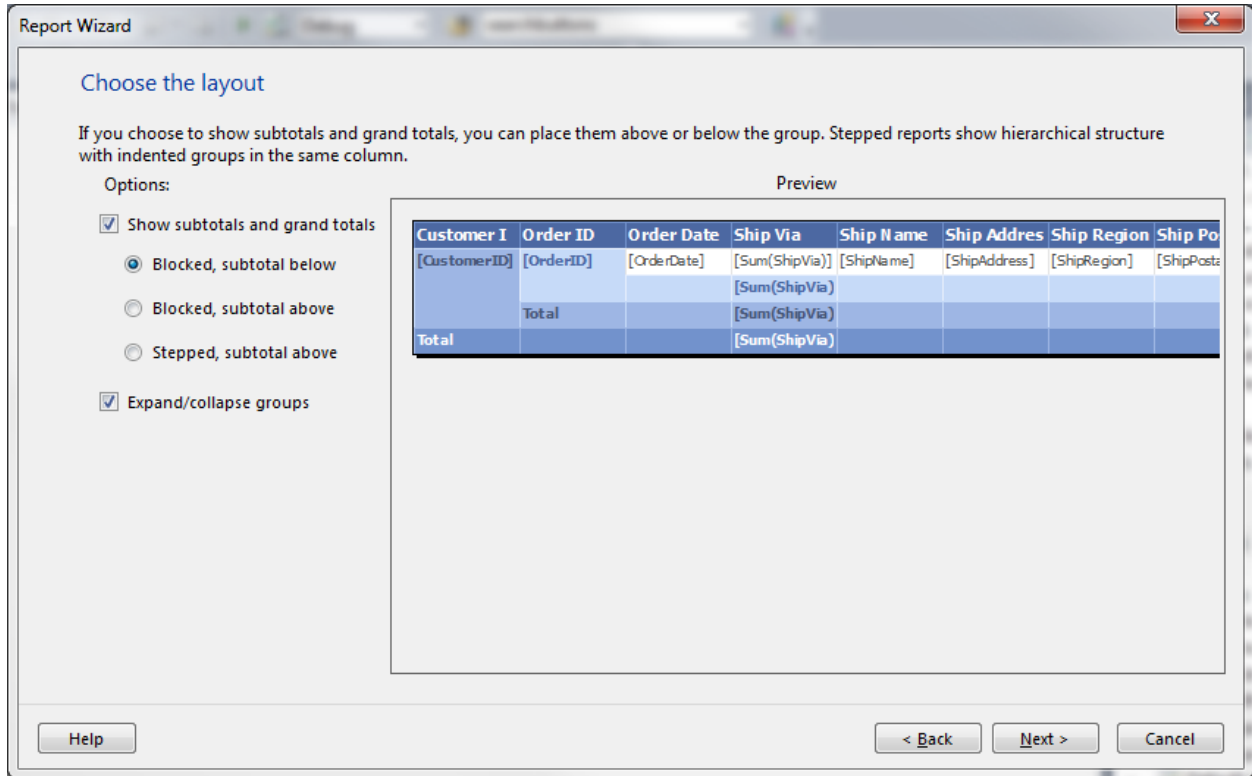Press *Add*, and the *Report Wizard* will load. Create a Data source by pressing *New…*

Leave the default connection string, and press *Next*. Under *Tables*, check the checkbox next to *Orders*.
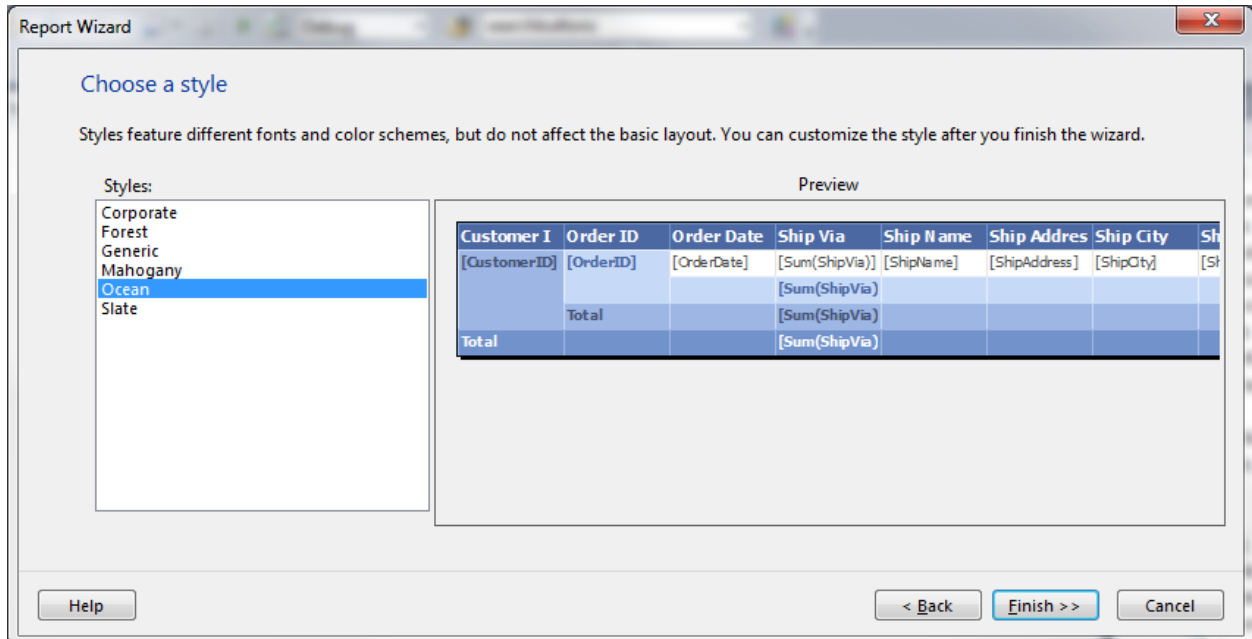

Press *Finish* to add the data source, and press *Next* to move to the *Arrange Fields* page. Drag *CustomerID* and *OrderID* under *Row Groups*, in that order. Under *Values*, drag *OrderDate*, *ShipVia*, *ShipName*, *ShipAddress*, *ShipRegion*, *ShipPostalCode*, and *ShipCountry*.
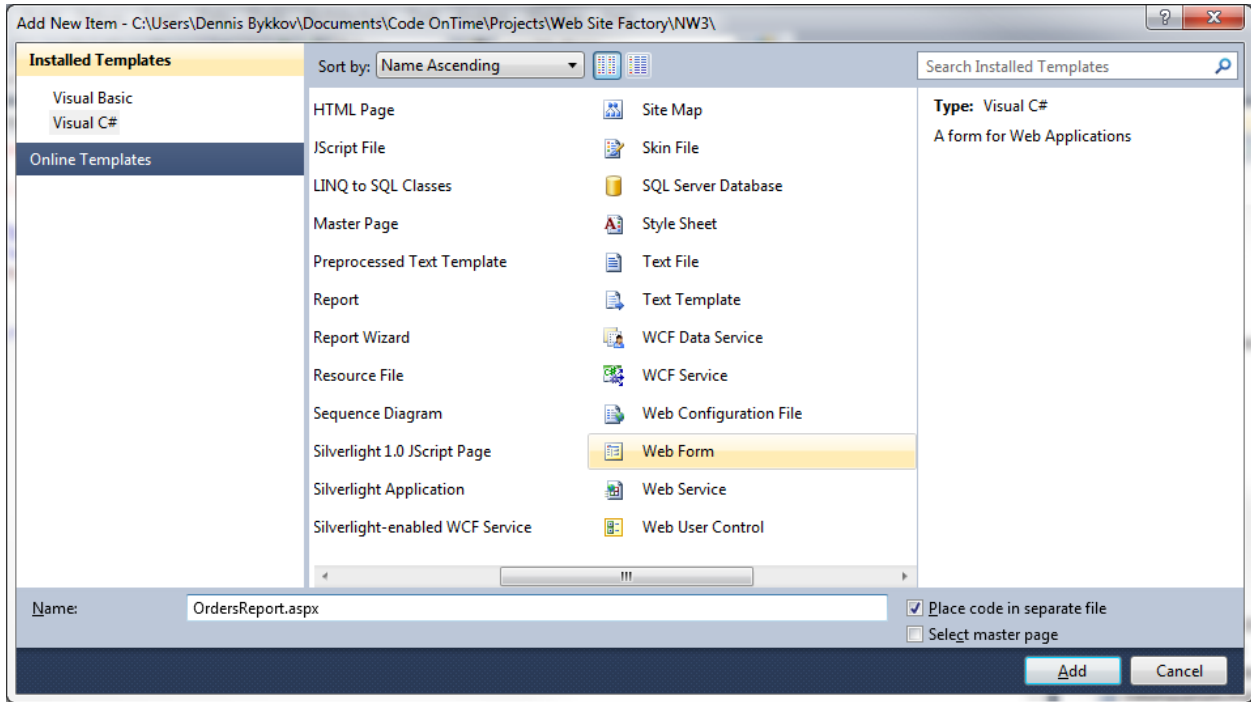
Press *Next*, and you can choose which layout you want. For our example, we left all options default and pressed *Next*.
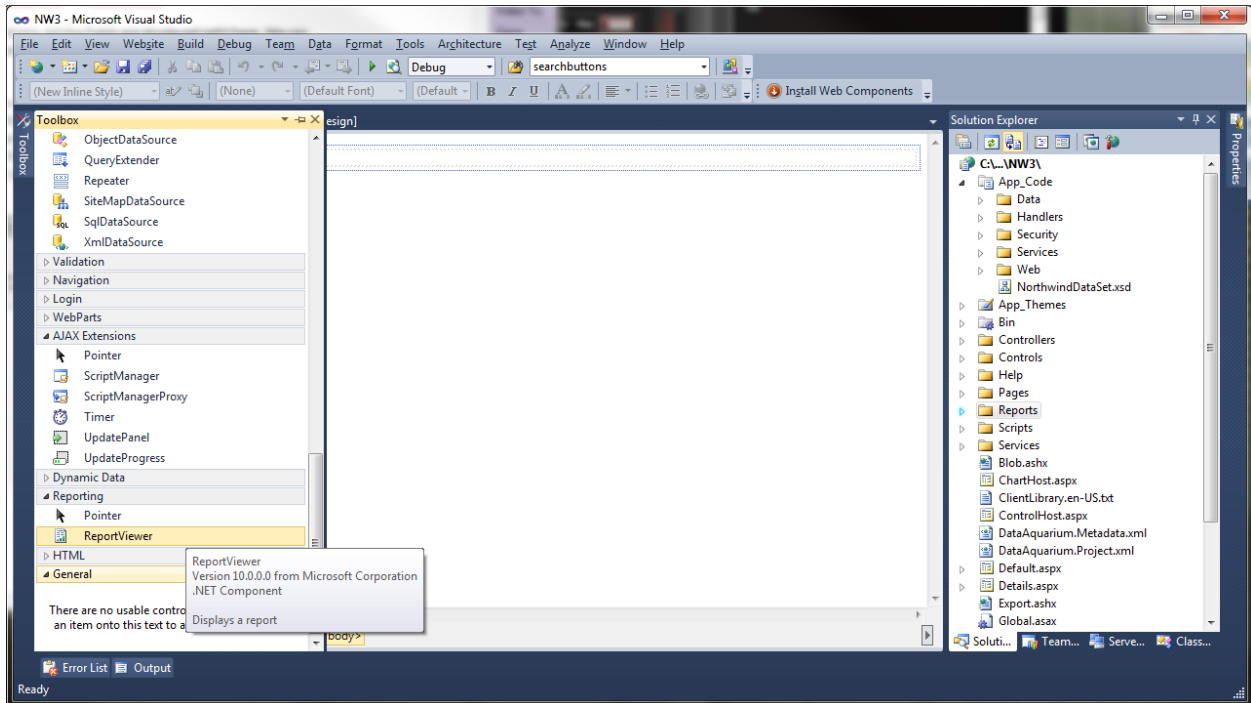

This page allows you to select a style. Keep the default and press *Finish*.
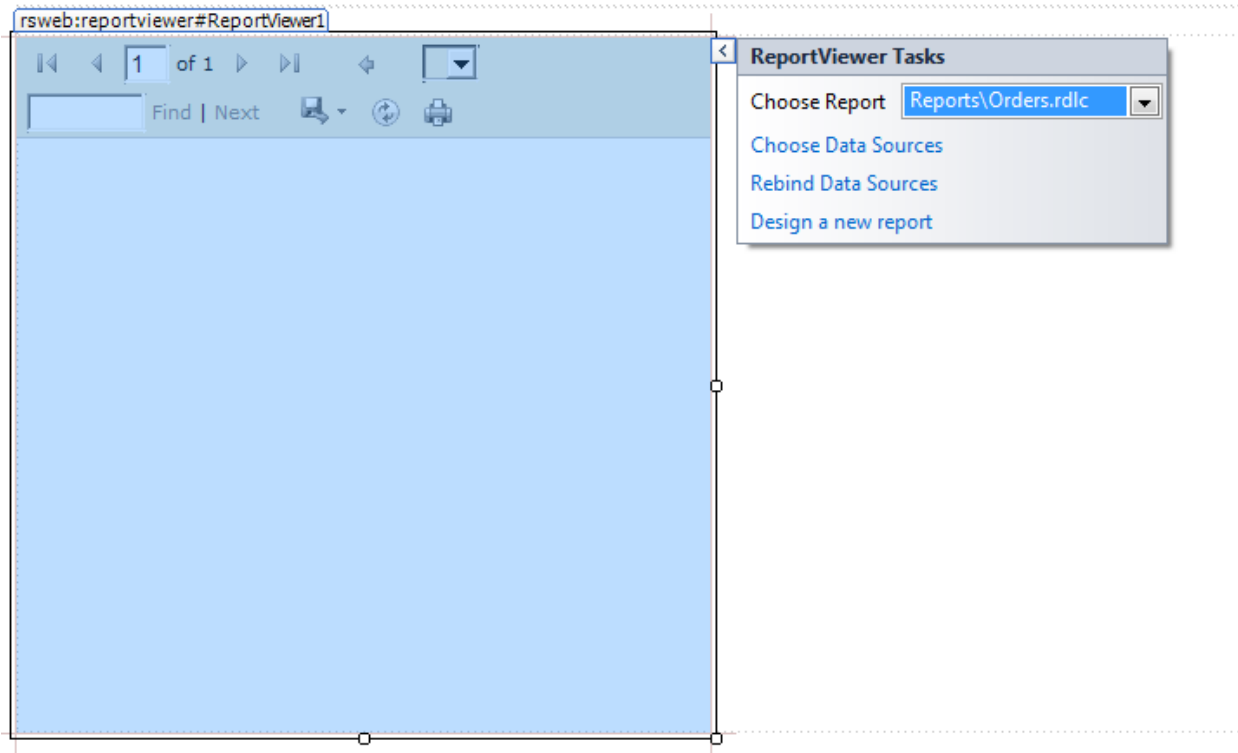
Next, a dedicated page must be created to display the report. Right click on the *Reports* folder and press *Add New Item*. Select *Web Form*, call it *OrdersReport*, and press *Add*.
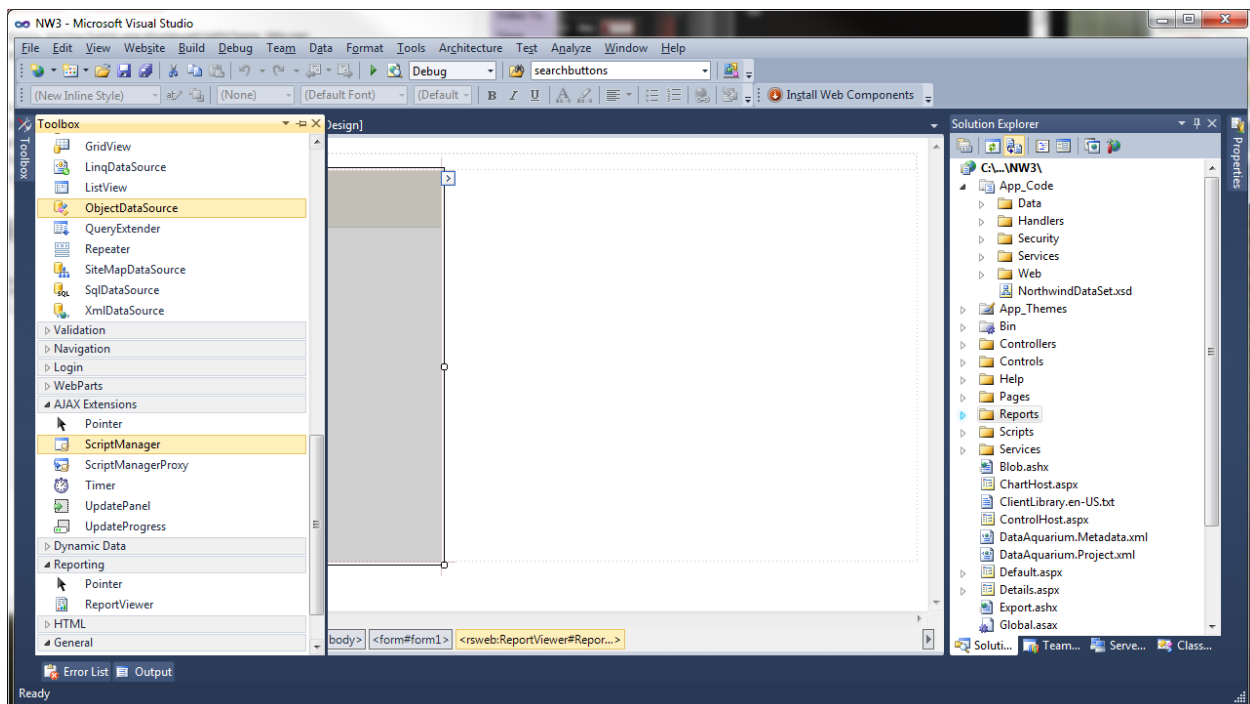

Switch to *Design* view, and drag a *ReportViewer* onto the page from the *Toolbox*.
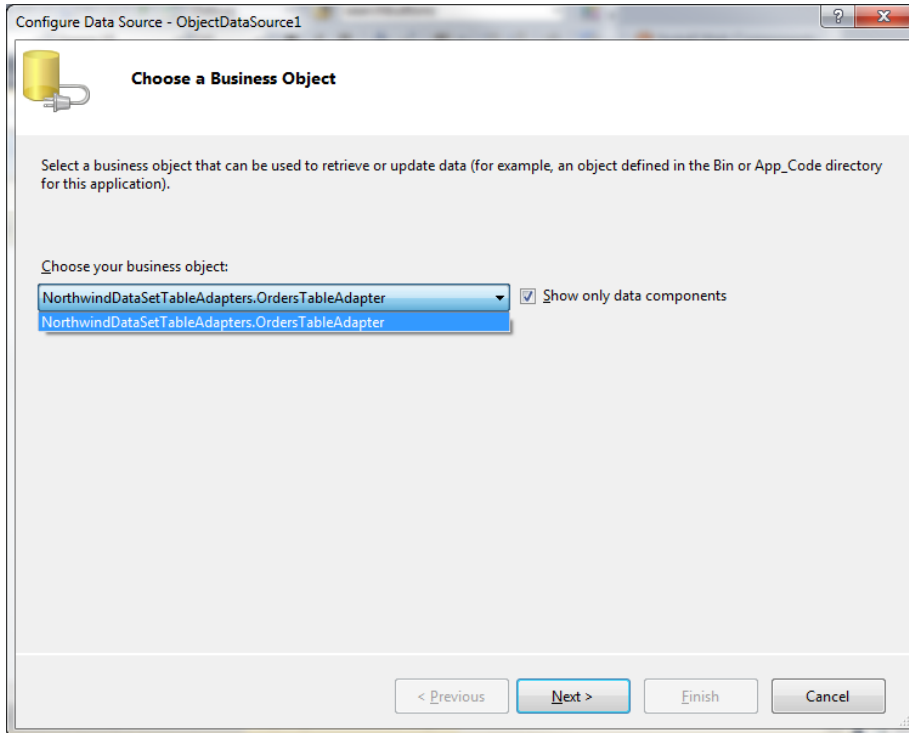
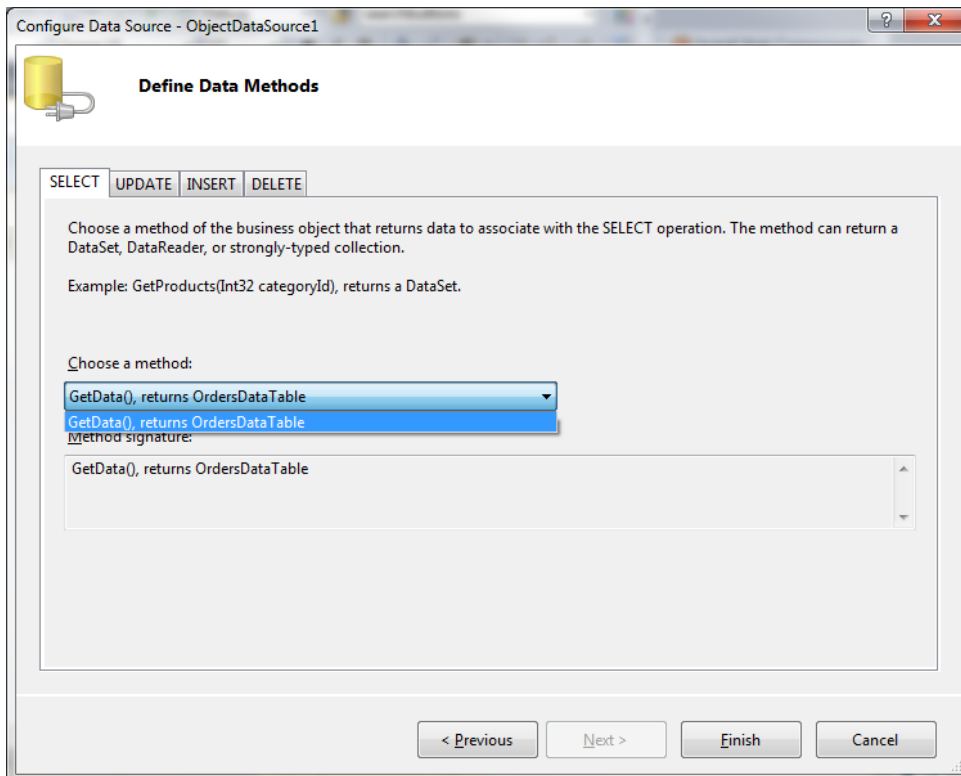Select the report you just created under *Report* dropdown.

Go back to the *Toolbox*, and drag a *ScriptManager* (under AJAX Extensions) and *ObjectDataSource* (under Data).

Press the arrow next to the *ObjectDataSource* and select *Configure Data Source*. Select the business object available, and press *Next*.
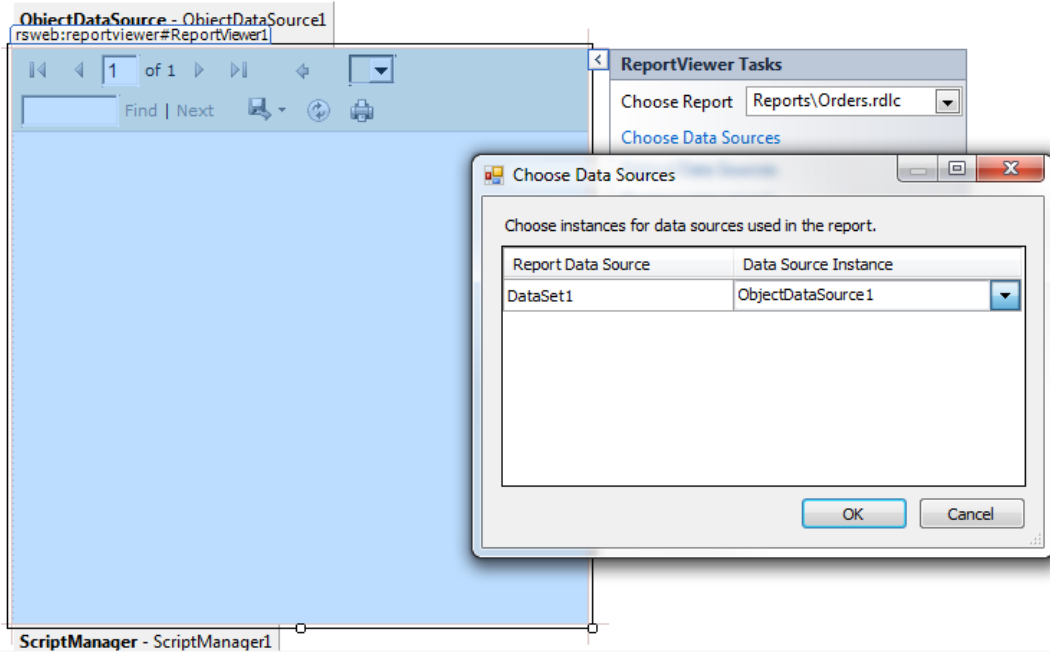

Make sure the *GetData()* method is selected, and press *Finish*.

Access the *ReportViewer Tasks* again, and press *Choose Data Sources*. Under *Data Source Instance*, select *ObjectDataSource1*.

You can resize the *Report Viewer* to better fit the screen. Save the page, and launch the application. Now you have your own custom report, without having to use *Code On Time* facilities. You can place a link in your application to access this page.