

Osprey Approach: Sorting and Totalling Groups

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The latest version is always online at
<https://support.ospreyapproach.com/?p=46775>



Sometimes, you might wish to subtotal based on groups of matters, and sort that subtotal descending. A good example might be a Top Clients report which totals up the bills raised or paid by client, and sorts descending so your top client is on page 1.

Grouping your report and adding a Total field

To add a total field to a report, you must first decide whether this will be a grand total for the whole report, or a sub total for a fee earner/work type/client etc.

To add a group total, we first need to tell the report writer which field it is going to group by. The below shows a simple bills paid report:

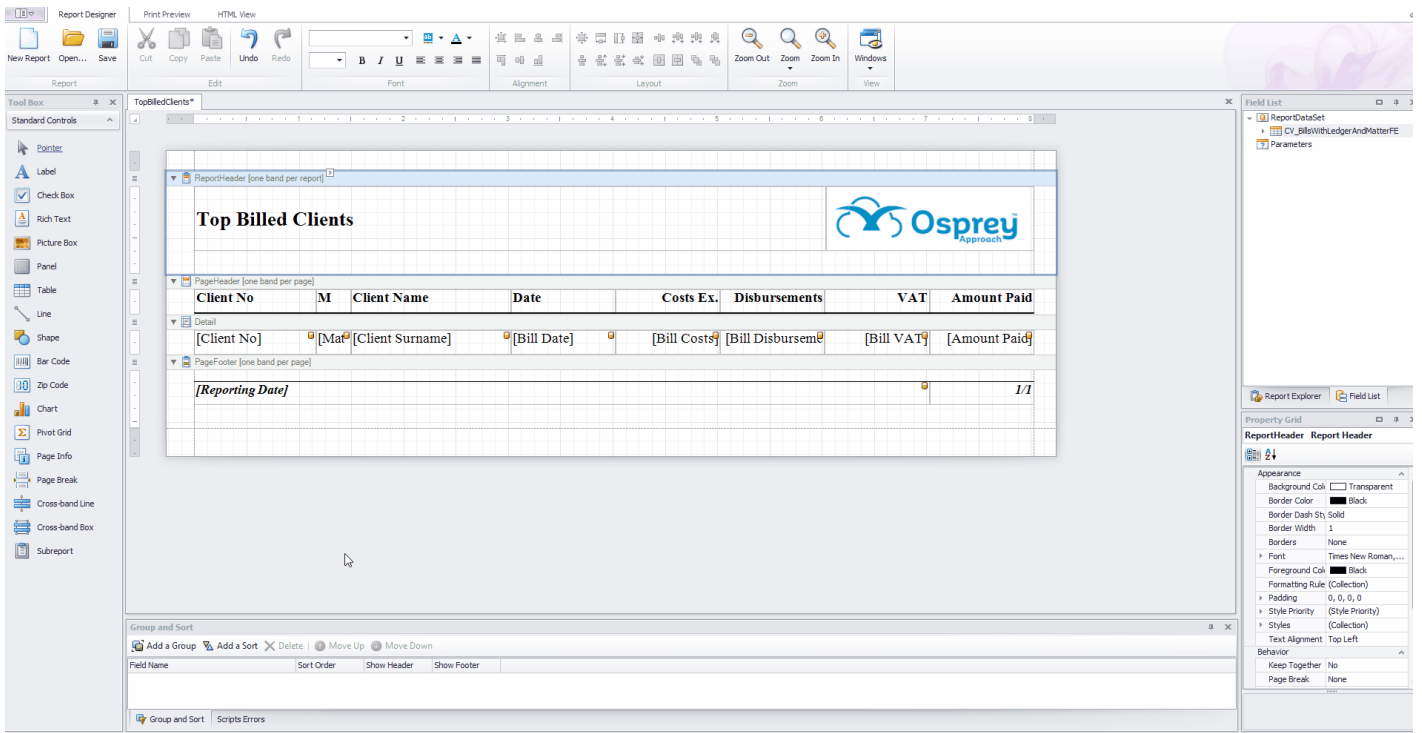
The screenshot shows the report writer interface for a report titled "Top Billed Clients". The interface includes a ReportHeader band with the title and the Osprey Approach logo. Below this is a PageHeader band with a table structure. The table has columns: Client No, M, Client Name, Date, Costs Ex., Disbursements, VAT, and Amount Paid. Below the PageHeader is a Detail band with fields: [Client No], [Mat], [Client Surname], [Bill Date], [Bill Costs], [Bill Disbursement], [Bill VAT], and [Amount Paid]. At the bottom is a PageFooter band with the field [Reporting Date] and a page number 1/1.

When run, as it has no totals, the report looks like this:

Top Billed Clients							
Client No	M	Client Name	Date	Costs Ex.	Disbursements	VAT	Amount Paid
BE0001	1	Bennett	01/06/2021	£500.00	£81.66	£116.34	£250.00
BE0001	2	Bennett	01/03/2022	£1270.00	£2.00	£254.40	£1050.00
BE0001	2	Bennett	16/03/2022	£0.00	£20.83	£4.17	£0.00
BE0001	2	Bennett	26/03/2022	£500.00	£0.00	£100.00	£0.00
BE0001	3	Bennett	08/03/2022	£1500.00	£3.00	£300.60	£0.00
BO0001	1	Bosworth Industries	10/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£1800.00
BO0001	2	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00
BO0001	2	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2022	£895.00	£0.00	£179.00	£0.00
BO0001	3	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00
BO0001	4	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00

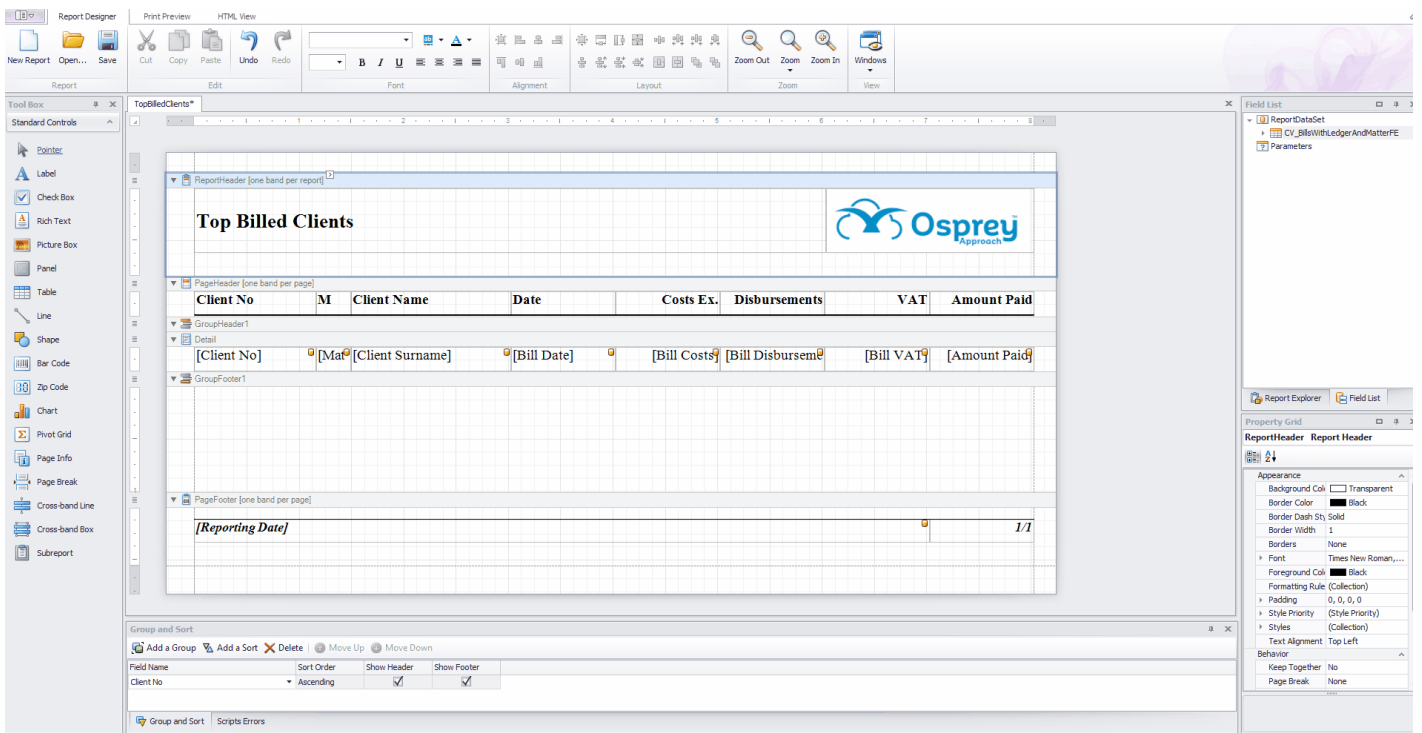
We can group the report by client, add subtotals, and order the report descending, so that the top billed client appears on the first page.

To group by Client No, click the Add a Group button at the bottom of the report writer, select Client No, and ensure that Header and Footer are both ticked. If you're not using the header, you can resize it to save space:



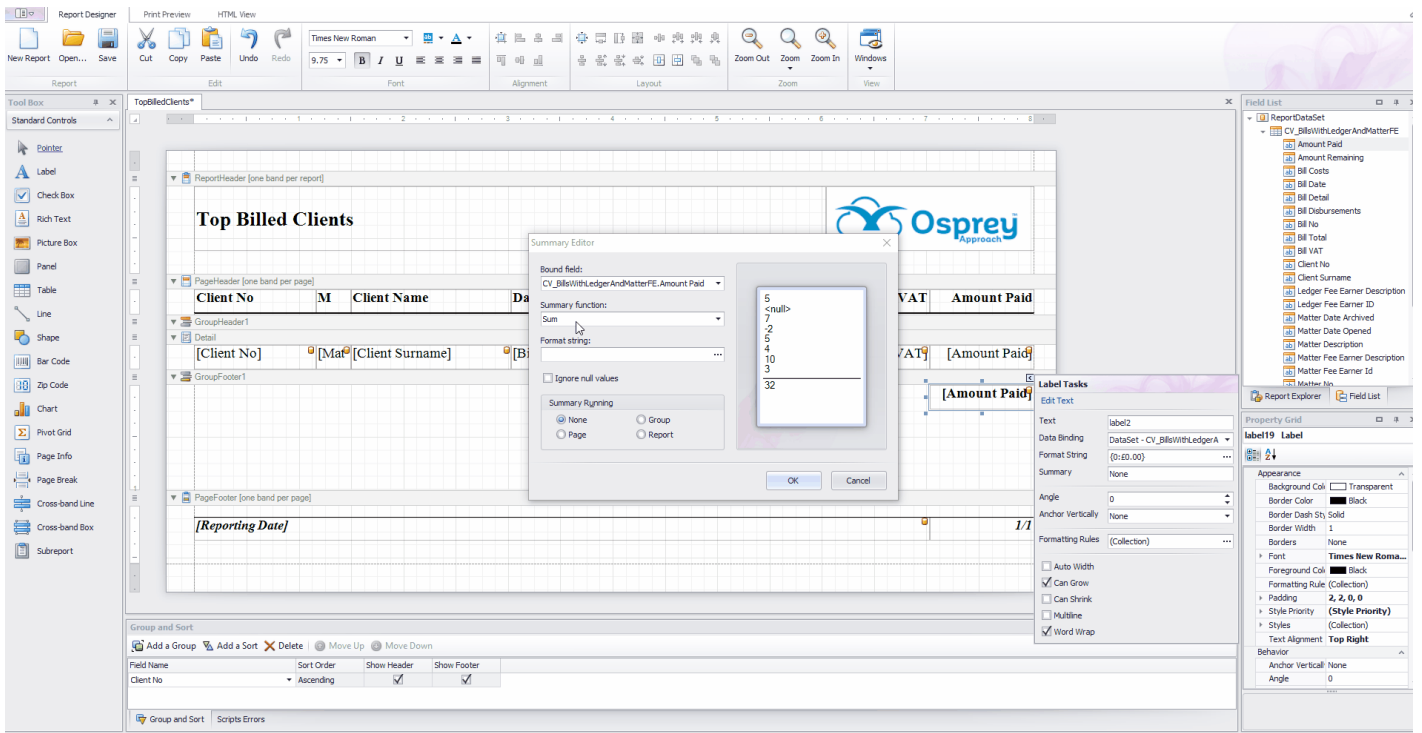
[CLICK TO ENLARGE](#)

Now, in the footer, copy in the field you want to total, and when selected, click the > button in the top right corner. Click the ... button alongside Summary.



[CLICK TO ENLARGE](#)

Now, select the type of summary you require, and select the Group radio button as this is a Group subtotal. In the example below, as we're grouping by Client No, we're totalling the Amount Paid for each client. Once we save this we will see that the field has changed from [Amount Paid] to SUM([Amount Paid]):



CLICK TO ENLARGE

When run, the report now has subtotals of Amount Paid per client:

Top Billed Clients							
Osprey Approach							
Client No	M	Client Name	Date	Costs Ex.	Disbursements	VAT	Amount Paid
BE0001	1	Bennett	01/06/2021	£500.00	£81.66	£116.34	£250.00
BE0001	2	Bennett	01/03/2022	£1270.00	£2.00	£254.40	£1050.00
BE0001	2	Bennett	16/03/2022	£0.00	£20.83	£4.17	£0.00
BE0001	2	Bennett	26/03/2022	£500.00	£0.00	£100.00	£0.00
BE0001	3	Bennett	08/03/2022	£1500.00	£3.00	£300.60	£0.00
							£1300.00
BO0001	1	Bosworth Industries	10/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£1800.00
BO0001	2	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00
BO0001	2	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2022	£895.00	£0.00	£179.00	£0.00
BO0001	3	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00
BO0001	4	Bosworth Industries	26/04/2021	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00
							£1800.00

If you wish, you can also add a Grand Total for the report. Repeat the steps above, but putting the totalling field into the Report Footer band, and selecting the Report radio button in the Summary section:

The screenshot shows the Report Designer interface. The report is titled "Top Billed Clients" and features the Osprey logo. The table has columns: Client No, M, Client Name, Date, Costs Ex., Disbursements, VAT, and Amount Paid. The 'Group and Sort' pane at the bottom indicates that the 'Client No' field is sorted in ascending order. The 'Field List' on the right shows various data fields available for the report.

CLICK TO ENLARGE

Sorting the Totals

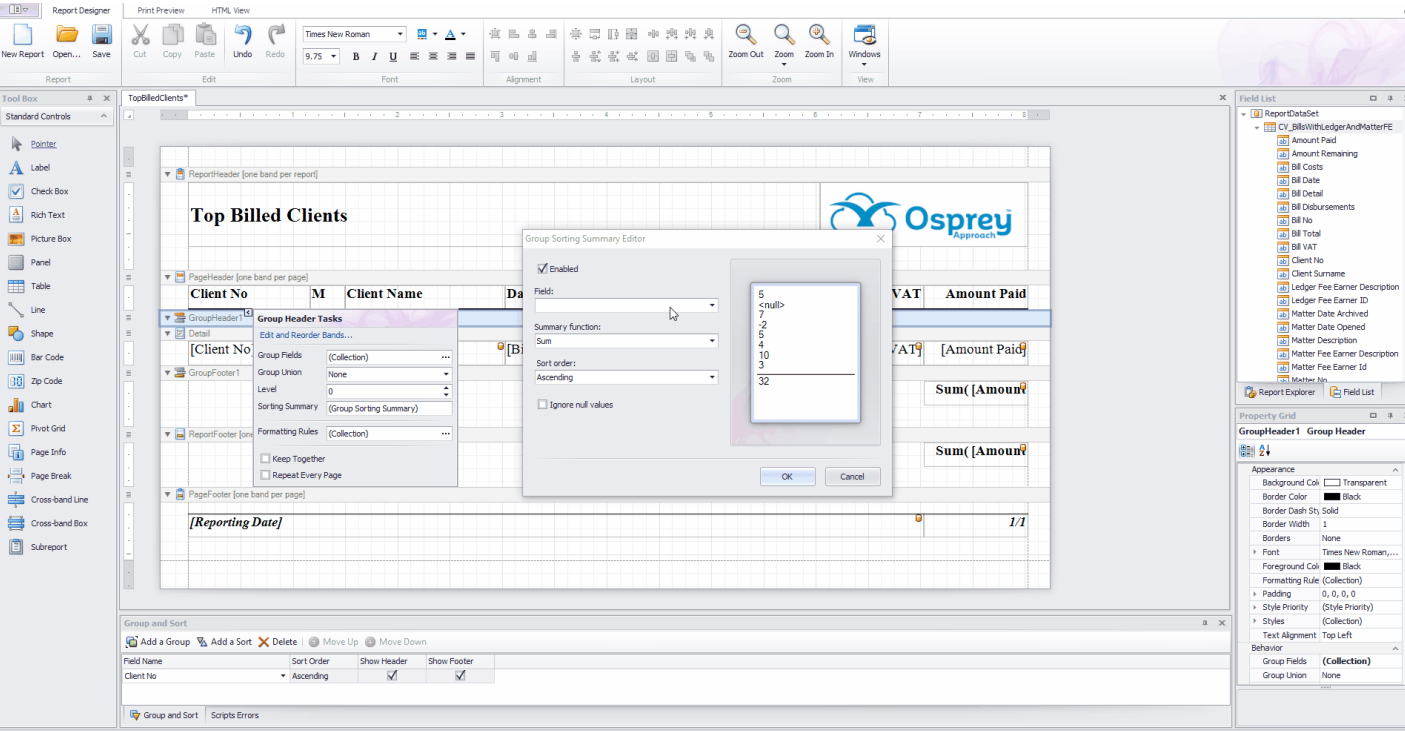
Now that you have totals on your report, you can order the group according to the group totals. In the example below, we will order the report so that the highest bill paying clients will appear on page 1 of the report.

Select the Group Header band for the group which contains the total you want to sort by, locate and click the little chevron > button near the left hand edge. Select the ... button on Group Sorting Summary, and click Enable.

This screenshot shows the same report as the previous one, but with the 'Group Header1' band selected. The 'Group and Sort' pane at the bottom now shows the 'Group Fields' section with 'Group Union' selected, indicating that the report is sorted by the total amount paid. The 'Field List' on the right remains the same.

CLICK TO ENLARGE

Now, in the Field box, select the field you want to use for the values to sort. In the Summary Function box, select the type of summary you want to use (this would be Count for a simple count of matters, or Sum to calculate the total of a monetary field for example). In the Sort Order box, choose Ascending or Descending. Click OK.



CLICK TO ENLARGE

The report will now total up the Amount Paid for each client, showing us the highest paying client at the start of the report:

Date	Costs Ex.	Disbursements	VAT	Amount Paid
28/02/2021	£8500.00	£0.00	£1700.00	£10200.00
				£10200.00
30/09/2021	£583.33	£0.00	£116.67	£700.00
04/12/2020	£800.00	£0.00	£160.00	£960.00
22/03/2022	£187.50	£100.00	£57.50	£0.00
10/04/2021	£500.00	£0.00	£100.00	£600.00
02/07/2021	£1016.67	£139.57	£231.25	£1387.49
26/04/2022	£850.00	£0.00	£170.00	£0.00
04/12/2020	£59.00	£0.00	£11.80	£0.00
26/04/2022	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00
04/12/2020	£227.00	£0.00	£45.40	£0.00
01/11/2021	£1080.00	£453.58	£306.72	£147.60
10/05/2022	£1500.00	£0.00	£300.00	£0.00
18/10/2021	£1000.00	£0.00	£200.00	£0.00
06/12/2021	£0.00	£250.00	£50.00	£276.00
06/01/2022	£230.00	£0.00	£46.00	£276.00
06/12/2021	£230.00	£0.00	£46.00	£276.00
07/03/2022	£480.00	£0.00	£96.00	£0.00
07/04/2022	£480.00	£0.00	£96.00	£576.00
25/03/2022	£500.00	£102.50	£120.50	£723.00
26/01/2022	£100.00	£0.00	£20.00	£0.00
26/03/2022	£0.00	£271.65	£4.34	£0.00
				£5922.09
30/11/2020	£250.58	£0.00	£50.12	£300.70
01/06/2021	£0.00	£350.00	£70.00	£420.00
22/03/2022	£880.94	£443.33	£264.86	£1589.13
14/09/2021	£500.00	£500.00	£200.00	£0.00
08/02/2022	£249.83	£125.00	£74.97	£449.80
08/02/2022	£273.75	£0.00	£54.75	£328.50
26/03/2022	£203.93	£0.00	£40.79	£244.72
				£3332.85


Displaying the Totals Only

You can also choose to hide the detail line so that only the group totals for a report are shown. To do this, select the Detail band on your report, and from the Report Explorer in the bottom right hand corner, set Visible to No:

TopBilledClients*

ReportHeader [one band per report]

Top Billed Clients



PageHeader [one band per page]

Client No	M	Client Name	Date	Costs Ex.	Disbursements	VAT	Amount Paid
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GroupHeader1

Detail

[Client No]	[M]	[Client Surname]	[Bill Date]	[Bill Cos]	[Bill Disburse]	[Bill VA]	[Amount Paid]
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GroupFooter1

[Client Surname]	Sum([Amou
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ReportFooter [one band per report]

Sum([Amou

PageFooter [one band per page]

[Reporting Date]	1/1
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Field List

ReportDataSet

CV_BillsWithLedgerAndMatterFE

Amount Paid

Amount Remaining

Bill Costs

Bill Date

Bill Detail

Bill Disbursements

Bill No

Bill Total

Bill VAT

Client No

Client Surname

Ledger Fee Earner Description

Ledger Fee Earner ID

Matter Date Archived

Matter Date Opened

Matter Description

Matter Fee Earner Description

Report Explorer

Field List

Property Grid

Detail Detail

Style Priority (Style Priority)

Styles (Collection)

Text Alignment Top Left

Behavior

Keep Together No

Multi-Column Op (Multi-Column Opti...

Page Break None


Visible No

Data

Sort Fields (Collection)

Tag

Only your totals will be displayed now, in descending order:

Top Billed Clients							
							
Client No	M	Client Name	Date	Costs Ex.	Disbursements	VAT	Amount Paid
		CLIENT SUSPENSE					£10200.00
		Broom					£5922.09
		Johnson					£3332.85
		Chan					£3084.00
		Bosworth Industries					£1800.00
		Bennett					£1300.00
		Duty					£424.32
		Court Duty Solicitor LAA claims					£355.42
		Sylar					£329.39

More Report Writer Links
