

# QlikView QVD File Overview



A QVD (QlikView Data) file is a file containing a table of data that QlikView has extracted from one or more data sources. QVD is a native QlikView format and can only be written to and read by QlikView. They are created with the scripting that is included in the QVW files.

These files are extremely compressed and highly optimized for very fast loading into QlikView documents (QVWs). They provide numerous benefits to all deployments, but particularly for larger deployments where development is rapid and breadth of solution is wide for QlikView. Several detailed documents and architectures exist that highlight the use of QVDs. While the use of QVD files is optional in a QlikView deployment, the benefits of using them make them very popular.

## Benefits:

- Single Source of Truth – QVDs promote re-use of common data sets which helps create a single source of truth for your QlikView deployment
- Resource Flexibility – developing a QVD layer can be primarily an I.T. responsibility, allowing the interface design to be handled by Business teams and less technical resources
- Development Flexibility – QVDs are offline components and allow developers to develop, test and validate data offline from databases
- Development Speed – having a library of QVDs built allows a developer or designer to very quickly identify, load and test data sets that might otherwise take database and SQL skills to get
- Delivery Flexibility – QVDs can easily be aggregated, segmented or otherwise modified to meet the specific needs of dashboards. This is much easier than re-writing queries.
- Incremental Loads – very large datasets benefit greatly from incremental (delta) loads. QVDs accommodate any type of incremental load, saving time and resources each day
- Very Fast Data Loads – once created, a QVD file can be loaded into a QlikView document as rates of 10-100 times faster than the original query speed.

