

# Connector Prerequisites

## IDE Integration / Classpath

The definitions for the required Yellowfin classes are available in the following libraries from a standard Yellowfin installation. These are located in the **/app server/webapps/ROOT/WEB-INF/lib/** directory of the installation.

- i4-core.jar
- i4-mi.jar

These are dependencies that are required to compile a connector plugin for Yellowfin. Referencing these libraries in an IDE will also allow for code completion and function lookups while editing.

## Java Version

Yellowfin has backwards compatibility to Java 7. Any connectors made for public consumption should be compiled with Java 7, unless a connector's dependencies force the use of a newer Java implementation. The plugin loader will display an error reporting that the version of Java is not sufficient if the loaded .jar file is compiled with a newer version than what is in use by Yellowfin.

## Connector Functional Restrictions

There are several functional restrictions when using Third-Party Connectors compared to the features available for relational SQL sources.

Limitations to Third-Party Connector reports could include the following:

- Drill down functionality is unavailable.
- Multiple DataSets cannot be joined.
- Grouped value functionality is unavailable.
- Complex connector filter logic is unavailable. Multiple connector-level filters are all applied with logical ANDs. Bracketing and logical ORs cannot be used to change filter logic on a report. Application-level filters do not have these restrictions.

Many of these features can be enabled with Yellowfin's Report From Report functionality, which allows for the creation of a view based on a third-party connector report results. Reports written against this view will have access to all report-level functionality available to relational sources.

**Previous topic:** [Custom connector overview](#)

**Next topic:** [Define connector metadata](#)