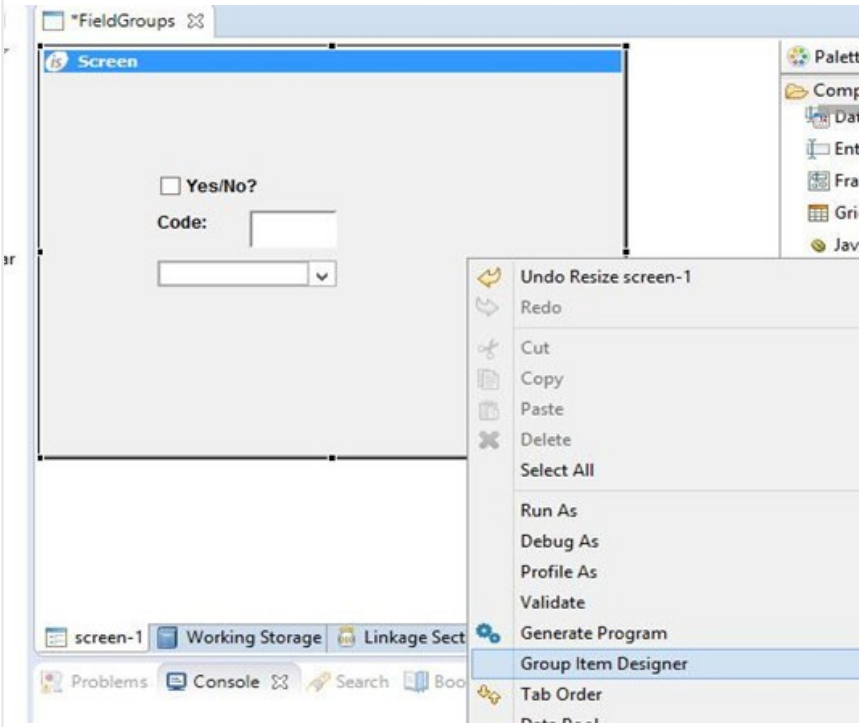
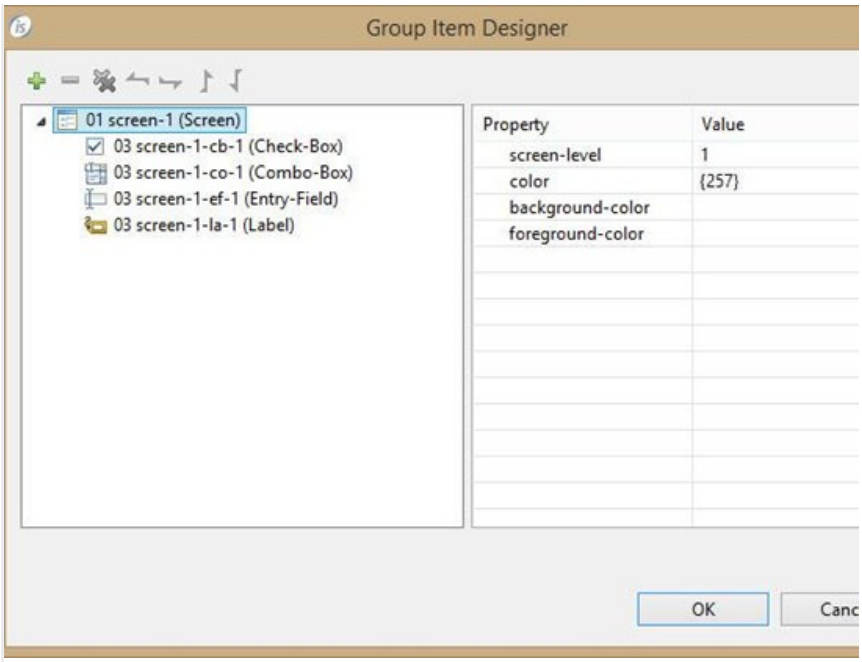
How to create groups of fields in the IDE Screen Painter that share the same screen area but are displayed at different times

isCOBOL IDE

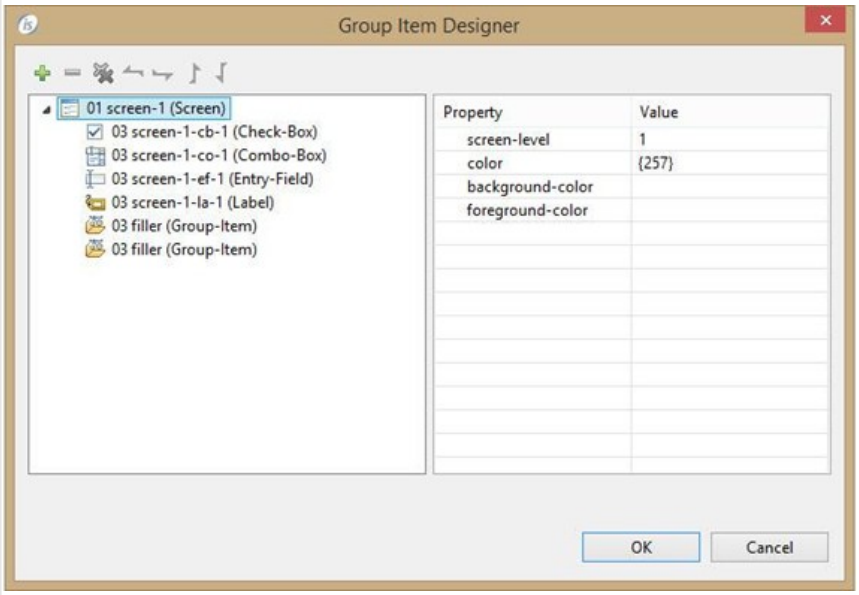
Suppose you have four GUI controls as shown in the following screen. You want the “Code” label and its entry field to appear alone at one point, and the “Yes/No?” checkbox with the combo box to appear separately at another time, without displaying the label and entry field. Here are the steps to accomplish this in the IDE:

1) Right click on an empty area of the painted screen and select the "Group Item Designer" menu option to get the Group Item Designer:

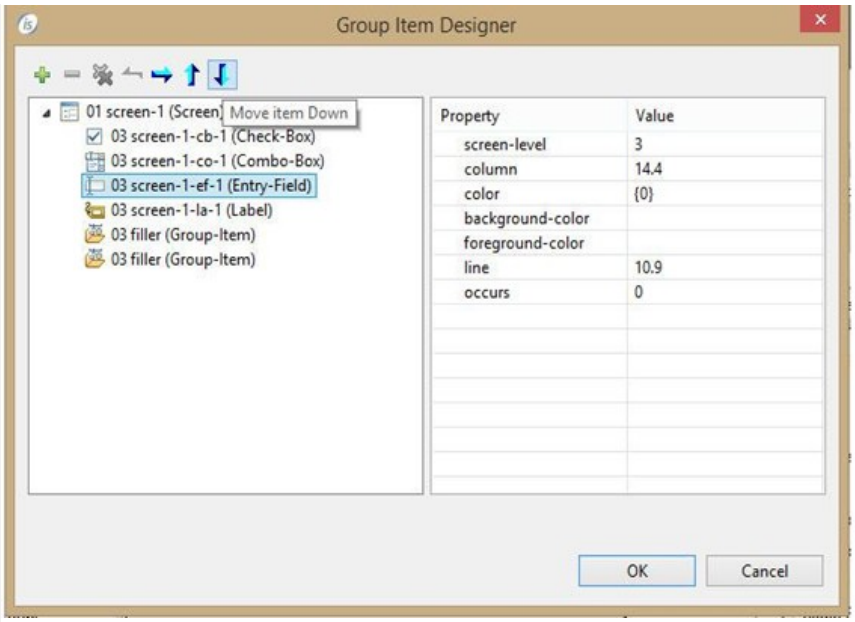




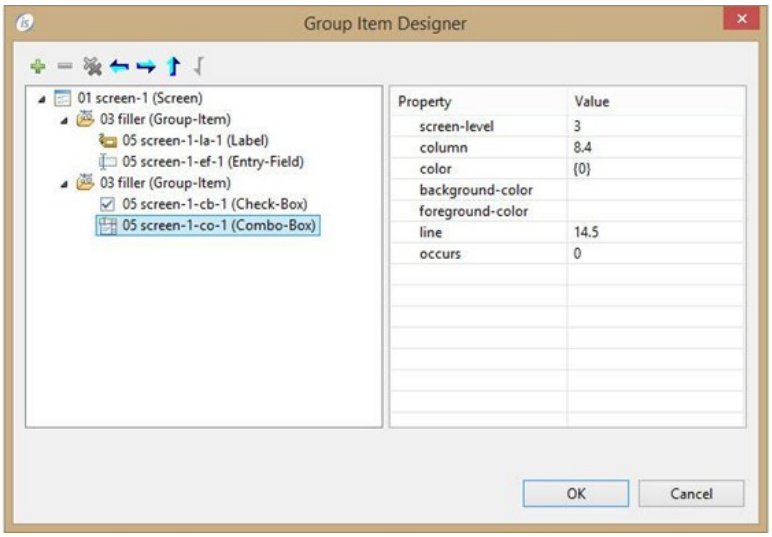
2) Click on the "+" button to create a new group. Do it twice to create 2 groups for this case.



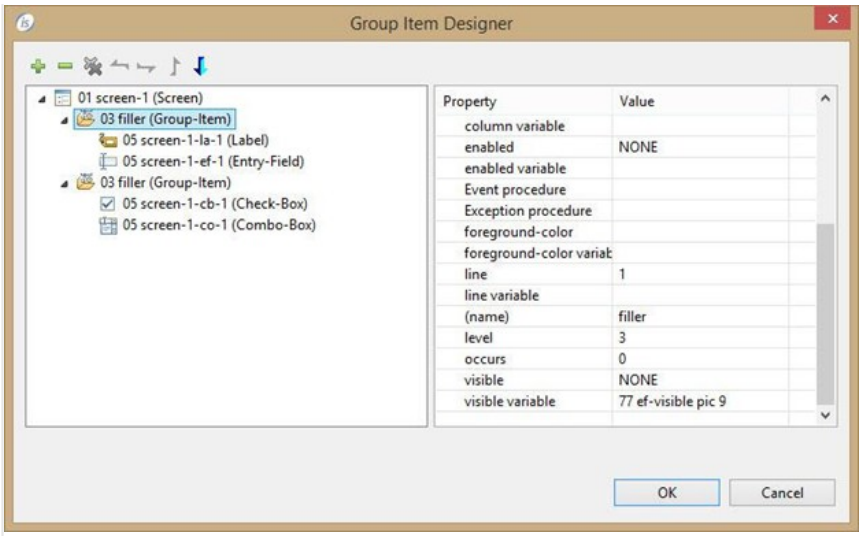
3) Use the down arrow button to move the items down, so they appear below each group you created.

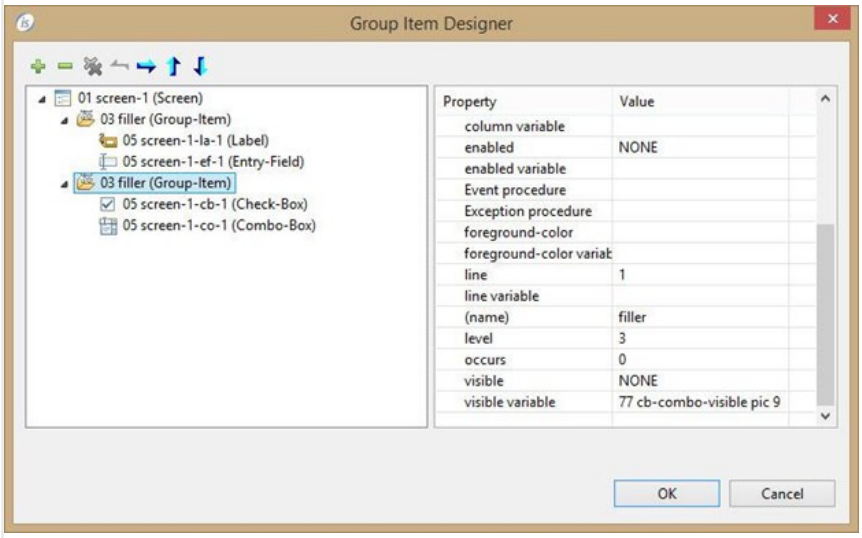


4) Then use the right arrow button on each item to include them on each group



5) Create a visible variable for each group (ef-visible & cb-combo-visible in our case):





6) In your procedural code, when you need one group to disappear, set its VISIBLE property to 0 and set the VISIBLE property of the other group to 1, then refresh the screen. In the following example a separate paragraph is provided for each case, and your code will execute one or the other as needed.

```
Show-entry-field.          Move 0 to cb-combo-visible      Move 1 to ef-visible      Display screen-1.  Show-cb-and-combo.       Move 1 to cb-combo-visible      Move 0 to ef-visible      Display screen-1.
```

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