



Help for SoundX

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Description

This control provides Soundex and Metaphone algorithms. Soundex and Metaphone convert words or names to codes that represent how they sound. This can be really useful in a database application where users need to find names they may not know how to spell exactly.

SoundX generates Soundex and Metaphone codes from words supplied to it. You can use these codes to make database searching easier for your users.

To generate the code, simply set the Word property with the word or name you want a code back for. When you do this, SoundX generates the codes for all three of the algorithms (Soundex, Extended Soundex, and Metaphone). All you have to do is read the appropriate property: [Soundex](#), [ExtSoundex](#), or [Metaphone](#).

File Name

SOUNDX1.VBX

Object Type

SoundX

Remarks

When the Enabled property is set to True (default), SoundX automatically starts sending menu event notification messages when the user selects menu items at run-time.

SoundX should be placed on all forms where its functionality is required (including MDI forms and children). SoundX can be placed directly on an MDI form.

About the Soundex Algorithm

Soundex is an algorithm developed and patented by Margaret Odell and Robert Russell in the early part of this century (U.S. Patent 1,261,167 (1918) and 1,435,663 (1922)). Don't worry about the patents, they've long since expired.

Many articles have been written about it, but the best description I've seen so far is by Donald Knuth in *The Art of Computer Programming, Vol. 3*.

Soundex converts a word or name to a code comprised of a letter followed by three digits. Some redundancy is taken out of the word (such as stripping vowels, consonant doubles, etc.). The first letter is preserved and the code is generated from what remains.

About the Extended Soundex Algorithm

This is a minor change to the basic Soundex algorithm. In this algorithm, the first letter is treated like all the rest of the letters (i.e., if it's a vowel, it's stripped, if it's part of a consonant double, the second is stripped (as in LLAMA), etc.).

This code is purely numeric. This can result in faster database scans to pick out like-sounding words or names.

About the Metaphone Algorithm

Quite frankly, I don't know where Metaphone came from. I got some source code from a friend a few years ago in my E-mail with the comment attached to it: Try this, it's cool!

Well, I thought so, that's why it has been included in SoundX. Metaphone does a better job than Soundex and Extended Soundex when it comes to representing like-sounding names. Its drawback is that Metaphone is comprised purely of letters. In other words, it takes up more storage and, in a large

database, this can be costly.

This implementation only returns the first four (4) characters of the Metaphone string generated. The code will generate more than that, but after some experimentation, this seemed like an ideal compromise between accuracy and storage space.

Distribution Note When you develop and distribute an application that uses SoundX, you should install the file SOUNDX1.VBX into the users Windows SYSTEM directory. SoundX has version information built into it. So, during installation, you should ensure that you are not overwriting a newer version of SoundX.

Properties

All of the properties that apply to this control are in this table. Properties that have special meaning for this control or that only apply to this control are marked with an asterisk (*).

<u>Align</u>	<u>Name</u>
<u>Enabled</u>	<u>*Soundex</u>
<u>*ExtSoundex</u>	<u>Tag</u>
<u>Left</u>	<u>Top</u>
<u>*Metaphone</u>	<u>*Word</u>

Enabled is the default value for the control.

ExtSoundex Property

[See Also](#)

[Example](#)

Description

Extended Soundex representation of the [Word](#) property.

Usage

*[form.]**[control.]***ExtSoundex**

Remarks

When the [Word](#) property is set, this property is generated. This property is the Extended Soundex equivalent of the [Word](#) property. This property is read-only.

Data Type

String

See Also

Properties:

[Metaphone](#)

[Soundex](#)

[Word](#)



ExtSoundex Property Example

In this example, the program will take a word entered by the user and display the extended Soundex equivalent. To try this example, paste the code into the Declarations section of a form that contains a text box, a label, and a SoundX control. Press F5. Then, try various words in the text box.

```
Sub Edit1_Change ()  
    SoundX1.Word = Edit1.Text  
    Label1.Caption = SoundX1.ExtSoundex  
End Sub
```

Metaphone Property

[See Also](#)

[Example](#)

Description

Metaphone representation of the [Word](#) property.

Usage

*[form.]**[control.]***Metaphone**

Remarks

When the [Word](#) property is set, this property is generated. This property is the Metaphone equivalent of the [Word](#) property. This property is read-only.

Data Type

String

See Also

Properties:

[ExtSoundex](#)

[Soundex](#)

[Word](#)



Metaphone Property Example

In this example, the program will take a word entered by the user and display the Metaphone equivalent. To try this example, paste the code into the Declarations section of a form that contains a text box, a label, and a SoundX control. Press F5. Then, try various words in the text box.

```
Sub Edit1_Change ()  
    SoundX1.Word = Edit1.Text  
    Label1.Caption = SoundX1.Metaphone  
End Sub
```

Soundex Property

[See Also](#)

[Example](#)

Description

Soundex representation of the [Word](#) property.

Usage

[*form.*][*control.*] **Soundex**

Remarks

When the [Word](#) property is set, this property is generated. This property is the Soundex equivalent of the [Word](#) property. This property is read-only.

Data Type

String

See Also

Properties:

[ExtSoundex](#)

[Metaphone](#)

[Word](#)



Soundex Property Example

In this example, the program will take a word entered by the user and display the Soundex equivalent. To try this example, paste the code into the Declarations section of a form that contains a text box, a label, and a SoundX control. Press F5. Then, try various words in the text box.

```
Sub Edit1_Change ()  
    SoundX1.Word = Edit1.Text  
    Label1.Caption = SoundX1.Soundex  
End Sub
```

Word Property

[See Also](#)

[Example](#)

Description

Seed word for [Soundex](#), [ExtSoundex](#), and [Metaphone](#) properties.

Usage

[form.][control.] **Word** [= *word\$*]

Remarks

When this property is set, SoundX uses the appropriate algorithms to generate the [Soundex](#), [ExtSoundex](#), and [Metaphone](#) properties.

Data Type

String

See Also

Properties:

[ExtSoundex](#)

[Metaphone](#)

[Soundex](#)



Word Property Example

In this example, the program will take a word entered by the user and display the Soundex, Extended Soundex, and Metaphone equivalents. To try this example, paste the code into the Declarations section of a form that contains a text box, a wide label, and a SoundX control. Press F5. Then, try various words in the text box.

```
Sub Edit1_Change ()
    Dim S As String

    SoundX1.Word = Edit1.Text
    S = "Soundex:" & SoundX1.Soundex
    S = S & "    ExtSoundex:" & SoundX1.ExtSoundex
    S = S & "    Metaphone:" & SoundX1.Metaphone
    Label1.Caption = S
End Sub
```

Registration Information

Credits

SoundX was written by James Shields. Inquiries can be sent to 71231,2066 on CompuServe, or mabry@halcyon.com on Internet. If you must send something via U.S. Mail, the address is:

Mabry Software
Post Office Box 31926
Seattle, WA 98103-1926

Registration

You can register this program by sending \$10 (\$12 for international orders) and your address. CompuServe members may register by sending \$5 and their account number (the registered version will be E-mailed to you). CompuServe members may also register this package by going to the SWREG forum. SoundX is registered there. MenuEvs registration ID number is 1272.

For your convenience, an order form has been provided that you can print out directly from help.

Source Code and Registration

Source code (which includes a registered copy) to this control is available for \$25 (\$30 for international orders). With source code you get a registered version of the control. If you are a CompuServe member, you may get the source code in the Software Registration forum (GO SWREG) for \$20. It's registration number is 1273.

Credit Card Orders

You can order this program with Mastercard, Visa, American Express, or Discover from Public (software) Library by calling 800-2422-PsL or 713-524-6394 or by FAX to 713-524-6398 or by CompuServe E-mail to 71355,470. You can also mail credit card orders to PsL at Post Office Box 35705; Houston, TX 77235-5705. THESE NUMBERS ARE FOR CREDIT CARDS ONLY.

SoundX's ID number for this service is 11102. This is good for both the normal registered version, and the source code version.

Any questions about the status of the shipment of the order, refunds, registration options, product details, technical support, volume discounts, dealer pricing, site licenses, etc., must be directed to Mabry Software at 206-634-1443 or FAX at 206-632-0272.

To ensure that you get the latest version, PsL will notify us the day of your order and we will ship the product directly to you.

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SoundX Order Form

Use the Print Topic.. command from the File menu to print this order form.

Mail this form to: Mabry Software
Post Office Box 31926
Seattle, WA 98103-1926
Phone: 206-634-1443
Fax: 206-632-0272
BBS: WinDev BBS 206-634-0783
CompuServe: 71231,2066
Internet: mabry@halcyon.com

Where did you get this copy of SoundX?

Ship to:

Phone:

Fax:

E-Mail:

Disk Size: (circle one) 3½ 5¼

qty ordered _____

REGISTRATION

\$10 each, postpaid (check or money order in hard currency). Foreign addresses add \$2.00 shipping. No additional shipping charges to Canada or Mexico.

qty ordered _____

SOURCE CODE AND REGISTRATION

\$25 each, postpaid (check or money order in hard currency). Foreign addresses add \$5.00 shipping. No additional shipping charges to Canada or Mexico.

Getting Custom Controls Written

If you or your organization would like to have custom controls written, you can contact me at the following:

James Shields
Mabry Software
Post Office Box 31926
Seattle, WA 98103-1926
Phone: 206-634-1443
Fax: 206-632-0272
BBS: WinDev BBS 206-634-0783
CompuServe: 71231,2066
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