



**VB Programming Using Standard Controls**



**VB Programming Using Custom & Third-Party Controls**



**Optimization, Memory Management, & General VB Programming**



**Advanced VB Programming -- Networks, APIs, DLLs, Graphics**



**Data Access & VB Database Programming**



**VB Design Environment**



**Running VB Applications**



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**VB Setup, Installation, CDK, Help Compiler, DDE, & OLE**

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



























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## How to Trap VB Form Lost Focus with GetActiveWindow API

Article ID: Q69792

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The LostFocus event in Microsoft Visual Basic is useful when transferring control within an application, and you can use the form deactivate and activate events in versions 2.0 and 3.0 to see if the entire form has lost the focus. However, in version 1.0, no global routine exists to check for the entire form losing the focus. To check whether your version 1.0 application has lost the focus, periodically check the Windows API function GetActiveWindow in a Visual Basic timer event, as explained below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The only way that version 1.0 provides a check for loss of focus on a form or control is by triggering the LostFocus event. A form does support a LostFocus event; however, a form will only get focus if there are no controls on that form. Focus goes to the controls on a form, and when you click any other visible form, the control's LostFocus procedure will be called. A control's LostFocus procedure will also be called when another control on the form is activated. To perform a routine that occurs only when the form loses focus requires careful management of what generated a LostFocus event on each control (such as setting a flag if another control's Click event was called).

For a simpler method to check if a whole form has lost the focus, you can call the Windows API function GetActiveWindow, located in USER.EXE (a DLL provided with Windows 3.0). The GetActiveWindow API call returns the window handle of the currently active window, which is the new window that you last clicked anywhere in Microsoft Windows. In a timer event procedure for the form, call GetActiveWindow and compare the handle of the currently active Window with the handle of the form window (Form1.hWND). If the handle differs, you know the form has lost the focus. The following program example demonstrates this technique:

### Program Example

-----

This single-form example will print "Lost Focus" on the form when you click a different window (such as when you click another program running in Windows).

In Visual Basic, draw one timer control (Timer1) and one command button (Command1) on a single form (Form1).

From the VB.EXE Code menu, choose View Code, and enter the following

code for Form1, using (general) from the Object box, and (declarations) from the Procedure box:

```
Declare Function GetActiveWindow Lib "User" () As Integer
Dim FOCUS As Integer
Const TRUE = -1
Const FALSE = 0
```

From the Object box, choose Timer1, and from the Procedure box, choose Timer, and then put the following code in the Timer1\_Timer procedure:

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()
    If FOCUS = TRUE Then
        ' Compare the handle of the currently active Window with the handle
        ' of the Form1 window:
        If GetActiveWindow() <> Form1.hWND Then
            'Do form's lost-focus routines here.
            Print "Lost Focus"
            FOCUS = FALSE
        End If
    End If
End Sub
```

You must set FOCUS=TRUE in the Click event procedure of every control on the form, as follows:

From the Object box, choose Command1, and from the Procedure box, choose Click, then put the following code in the Command1\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    FOCUS = TRUE
End Sub
```

Double-click Form1 (at design time) and enter the following code for the Form\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    FOCUS = TRUE
    Timer1.Interval = 10
End Sub
```

You can now run the program.

Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," Charles Petzold. Microsoft Press, 1990.

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1," version 3.0.

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Set Tab Stops in a List Box in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q71067

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Visual Basic does not have any intrinsic function for creating multicolumn list boxes. To create multicolumn list boxes, you must call several Windows API functions to set tab stops within the control. The tab stops create the multicolumn effect.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To create the multicolumn effect in list boxes, call these Windows API functions: GetFocus, SendMessage, and SetFocus.

The GetFocus function requires no parameters. This function will return an integer value that represents the handle to the control. Use GetFocus to get the handle to the control that currently has focus upon entry to the event-handler procedure. After you store the handle to the control that currently has focus, set the focus to the desired list box.

After you set the focus to the list box, you must send a message to the window's message queue that will reset the tab stops of the list box. Using the argument LB\_SETTABSTOPS as the second parameter to SendMessage will set the desired tab stops for the multicolumn effect based on other arguments to the function. The SendMessage function requires the following parameters to set tab stops:

```
SendMessage (hWnd%,LB_SETTABSTOPS, wParam%, lParam)
```

where

wParam%	is an integer that specifies the number of tab stops.
lParam	is a long pointer to the first member of an array of integers containing the tab stop position in dialog units. (A dialog unit is a horizontal or vertical distance. One horizontal dialog unit is equal to 1/4 of the current dialog base-width unit. The dialog base units are computed based on the height and the width of the current system font. The GetDialogBaseUnits function returns the current dialog base units in pixels.) The tab stops must be sorted in increasing order; back tabs are not

allowed.

After setting the tab stops with the SendMessage function, calling PutFocus with the saved handle will return the focus to the control that had the focus before the procedure call. PutFocus is the Alias for the Windows API SetFocus function. The Windows API SetFocus needs to be redefined using the "Alias" keyword because SetFocus is a reserved word within Visual Basic.

#### Example Code to Create Multicolumn List Box

-----

For example, to create a multicolumn list box in Visual Basic, create a list box named List1 on Form1. Declare the following Windows API functions at the module level or in the Global section of your code as follows:

```
' Enter each Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function GetFocus Lib "user" () As Integer
Declare Function SendMessage Lib "user" (ByVal hwnd As Integer,
    ByVal wMsg As Integer, ByVal wp As Integer, lp As Any) As Long
Declare Function PutFocus Lib "user" Alias "SetFocus"
    (ByVal hWnd%) As Integer
```

Also declare the following constants:

```
Const WM_USER = &H400
Const LB_SETTABSTOPS = WM_USER + 19
```

Include the following code within a SUB procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Static tabs(3) As Integer

    hOldWnd% = GetFocus()    'Remember who had the focus.
    Form1.Show    'Showing the form avoids "Illegal Function Call" on the
                  'List1.SetFocus statement below.
    list1.SetFocus    'Set the focus to the list box.
    lbhWnd% = GetFocus()    'Get the handle to the list box.

    'Set up the array of defined tab stops.
    tabs(1) = 10
    tabs(2) = 50
    tabs(3) = 90

    'Send a message to the message queue.
    retVal& = SendMessage(lbhWnd%, LB_SETTABSTOPS, 3, tabs(1))

    'Restore the handle to whoever had it.
    R% = PutFocus(hOldWnd%)

    'Place some elements into the list box:
    list1.AddItem "Name" + Chr$(9) + "Rank" + Chr$(9) + "Serial#"
    list1.AddItem "J. Doe" + Chr$(9) + "O-3" + Chr$(9) + "1234"
    list1.AddItem "J. Blow" + Chr$(9) + "E-1" + Chr$(9) + "5678"
    list1.AddItem "F. Smith" + Chr$(9) + "O-6" + Chr$(9) + "0192"
End Sub
```

Reference(s) :

"Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," Charles Petzold, Microsoft Press, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1,"  
version 3.0

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software  
Development Kit

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Create Scrollable Viewports in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q71068

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can create scrollable viewports in Visual Basic by using standard Basic calls. The viewports can include bitmaps, graphics, or other controls.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

To create a scrollable picture with clipping, you must have two picture controls. The first picture control is called the stationary parent picture control. Within the parent picture control, you need to create a movable child picture control.

It is the child picture control that will be moved within the parent picture control. Moving the child picture within the parent picture control creates the clipping effect. During run time when you move the child picture, it will be clipped by the boundaries of the parent picture.

To create these two picture controls, do the following:

1. Choose the picture box control from the Toolbox window in Visual Basic.
2. Draw a picture on the form. This is the parent picture.
3. Again choose the picture box control from the Toolbox window.
4. Draw the second picture on top of and within the boundaries of the first picture control. This is the child picture.

The sample application below shows how to create a scrollable bitmap within a viewport. Perform the sequence above to create a parent/child picture control. Add a horizontal scroll bar and a vertical scroll bar to the form.

Make sure that the path to your bitmap is correct. Several of the properties are set during run time, which could have been set during design time as well.

Moving the thumb of the two scroll bars will move the child picture

within the parent picture. The handle (upper-left corner of the picture) to the child picture will be located either at (0,0) of the parent picture or to the left and/or right of the parent picture. Because the clipping region is that of the parent picture, the child picture will appear to move across the parent picture viewport.

Add the following code to the appropriate event procedures:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Const PIXEL = 3
    Add the following constant only in Visual Basic 1.0:
    ' Const TRUE = -1
    Const NONE = 0

    ' Set design properties, included here for simplicity.
    Form1.ScaleMode = PIXEL
    Picture1.ScaleMode = PIXEL

    ' AutoSize is set to TRUE so that the boundaries of
    ' Picture2 are expanded to the size of the actual bitmap.
    Picture2.AutoSize = TRUE

    ' Get rid of annoying borders.
    Picture1.BorderStyle = NONE
    Picture2.BorderStyle = NONE

    ' Load the picture that you want to display.
    Picture2.Picture = LoadPicture("c:\win\party.bmp")

    ' Initialize location of both pictures.
    Picture1.Move 0, 0, ScaleWidth - VScroll1.Width, _
    ScaleHeight - HScroll1.Height
    Picture2.Move 0, 0

    ' Position the horizontal scroll bar.
    HScroll1.Top = Picture1.Height
    HScroll1.Left = 0
    HScroll1.Width = Picture1.Width

    ' Position the vertical scroll bar.
    VScroll1.Top = 0
    VScroll1.Left = Picture1.Width
    VScroll1.Height = Picture1.Height

    ' Set the Max value for the scroll bars.
    HScroll1.Max = Picture2.Width - Picture1.Width
    VScroll1.Max = Picture2.Height - Picture1.Height

    ' Determine if child picture will fill up screen.
    ' If so, then there is no need to use scroll bars.

    VScroll1.Enabled = (Picture1.Height < Picture2.Height)
    HScroll1.Enabled = (Picture1.Width < Picture2.Width)
End Sub

Sub HScroll1_Change ()
    ' Picture2.Left is set to the negative of the value because
```

```
' as you scroll the scroll bar to the right, the display  
' should move to the Left, showing more of the right  
' of the display, and vice-versa when scrolling to the  
' left.
```

```
Picture2.Left = -HScroll1.Value
```

```
End Sub
```

```
Sub VScroll1_Change ()
```

```
' Picture2.Top is set to the negative of the value because  
' as you scroll the scroll bar down, the display  
' should move up, showing more of the bottom  
' of the display, and vice-versa when scrolling up.
```

```
Picture2.Top = -VScroll1.Value
```

```
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## Why Output Might Not Display from VB Form\_Load Procedure

Article ID: Q71101

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Any graphics or output done within a Form\_Load procedure will not display on the form unless you first make the form visible with the Form1.Show method or if you set the form's AutoRedraw property to be true (non-zero).

### MORE INFORMATION

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When the Form\_Load procedure executes (at the beginning of the program), by default the form is not yet displayed. Therefore, during the Form\_Load event, no graphics are displayed to the nonexistent form unless you first Show the form (at run time) or set the form's AutoRedraw property (at design time or run time).

A better approach to drawing graphics to the form is to have the graphics drawn to the form during a Sub Form\_Paint procedure. This allows the Form.AutoRedraw property to be set to FALSE, increasing the speed performance of your program. Visual Basic does not have to refresh the screen image of your form as it does when a form is overlapped with another window. You (as the programmer) are responsible for refreshing the form, and Sub Form\_Paint is the most logical place to handle this situation.

Listed below are three examples of drawing graphics to your form. The first example shows how the graphics fail to be displayed to the form when drawn from within a Form\_Load event procedure. The second example shows how you could draw a circle to the form, but the Form.AutoRedraw property must be set to TRUE for the circle to be retained in the event the form needs to be refreshed. The third example is the best approach; it is the fastest and most efficient of the three.

For each example below, add the following Function procedure as a code procedure to Form1.

```
Function Minimum! (n1!, n2!)
    If n1! < n2! Then
        Minimum! = n1!
    Else
        Minimum! = n2!
    End If
End Function
```

#### Example 1

-----

No graphic is displayed to the form in the following:

```
Sub Form_Load
    Row = Form1.ScaleHeight / 2
    Col = Form1.ScaleWidth / 2
    Radius = Minimum(Row, Col) ' Function that returns smaller number.
    Form1.Circle (Col, Row), Radius
End Sub
```

#### Example 2

-----

This example will work, but the AutoRedraw property of Form1 must be TRUE for the screen to refresh properly:

```
Sub Form_Load
    Form1.Show
    Form1.AutoRedraw = -1
    Row = Form1.ScaleHeight / 2
    Col = Form1.ScaleWidth / 2
    Radius = Minimum(Row, Col) ' Function that returns smaller number.
    Form1.Circle (Col, Row), Radius
End Sub
```

#### Example 3

-----

This is the best example. AutoRedraw should be set to FALSE for better speed and efficiency.

```
Sub Form_Paint
    Row = Form1.ScaleHeight / 2
    Col = Form1.ScaleWidth / 2
    Radius = Minimum(Row, Col) ' Function that returns smaller number.
    Form1.Circle (Col, Row), Radius
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Create Pop-up Menus on a Visual Basic Form

Article ID: Q71279

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows can call the Windows API function TrackPopupMenu to display a specified menu at the location on the screen where the user clicks with the mouse.

This information applies only to versions 1.0 and 2.0 because the new PopupMenu command was introduced in Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The TrackPopupMenu function displays a "floating" pop-up menu at the specified location and tracks the selection of items on the pop-up menu. A floating pop-up menu can appear anywhere on the screen. The hMenu parameter specifies the handle of the menu to be displayed; the application obtains this handle by calling GetSubMenu to retrieve the handle of a pop-up menu associated with an existing menu item.

TrackPopupMenu is defined as follows:

```
TrackPopupMenu (hMenu%,wFlags%, X%, Y%, rRes%, hwnd%, lpRes&)
```

where:

```
hMenu%   - Identifies the pop-up menu to be displayed.
wFlags%   - Is not used and must be set to zero.
x%        - Specifies the horizontal position in screen coordinates
             of the left side of the menu on the screen.
y%        - Specifies the vertical position in screen coordinates
             of the top of the menu on the screen.
nRes%     - Is reserved and must be set to zero.
hwnd%     - Identifies the window that owns the pop-up menu.
lpRes&    - Is reserved and must be set to NULL.
```

The supporting Windows API functions needed to support the arguments to TrackPopupMenu are:

#### 1. GetMenu (hwnd%)

```
hwnd%     - Identifies the window whose menu is to be examined.
```

GetMenu returns a value that identifies the menu. The return value

is NULL if the given window has no menu. The return value is undefined if the window is a child window.

## 2. GetSubMenu(hMenu%, nPos%)

hMenu% - Identifies the menu.  
nPos% - Specifies the position in the given menu of the pop-up menu. Position values start at zero for the first menu item.

GetSubMenu returns a value that identifies the given pop-up menu. The return value is NULL if no pop-up menu exists at the given position.

To create a pop-up menu within Visual Basic for Windows, define a menu system with the Menu Design window. The following is an example of a menu system:

Caption	Name	Indented
File	M_File	No
New	M_New	Once
Open	M_Open	Once
Close	M_Close	Once
Exit	M_Exit	Once
Help	M_Help	No

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, set the CtlName Property for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

Within the general-declaration section of your Code window, declare the following:

```
' Enter each Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function TrackPopupMenu% Lib "user" (ByVal hMenu%, ByVal wFlags%,
    ByVal X%, ByVal Y%, ByVal r2%, ByVal hwnd%, ByVal r1&)
Declare Function GetMenu% Lib "user" (ByVal hwnd%)
Declare Function GetSubMenu% Lib "user" (ByVal hMenu%, ByVal nPos%)
```

Place the following code in the form's MouseUp event procedure:

```
Sub Form1_MouseUp (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As Single,
    Y As Single)
    ' The above Sub statement must be concatenated onto one line.
    Const PIXEL = 3
    Const TWIP = 1
    ScaleMode = PIXEL
    InPixels = ScaleWidth
    ScaleMode = TWIP
    IX = (X + Left) \ (ScaleWidth \ InPixels)
    ' Enter the following IY statement on one, single line:
    IY = (Y + (Top + (Height - ScaleHeight -
        (Width - ScaleWidth)))) \ (ScaleWidth \ InPixels)
    hMenu% = GetMenu(hwnd)
    hSubMenu% = GetSubMenu(hMenu%, Button - 1)
    R = TrackPopupMenu(hSubMenu%, 0, IX, IY, 0, hwnd, 0)
End Sub
```

When you run the program, clicking anywhere in Form1 to display the first menu on your menu bar at that location.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 pop up popup

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Create Rubber-Band Lines/Boxes in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q71488

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Creating rubber bands within Visual Basic can be done using the DrawMode property. Rubber bands are lines that stretch as you move the mouse cursor from a specified point to a new location. This can be very useful in graphics programs and when defining sections of the screen for clipping routines.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The theory of drawing a rubber-band box is as follows:

1. Draw a line from the initial point to the location of the mouse cursor using:

```
[form].DrawMode = 6. {INVERT}
```

2. Move the mouse cursor.
3. Save the DrawMode.
4. Set the [form].DrawMode to 6. {INVERT}
5. Draw the same line that was drawn in step 1. This will restore the image underneath the line.
6. Set the [form].DrawMode back to the initial DrawMode saved in step 3.
7. Repeat the cycle again.

DrawMode equal to INVERT allows the line to be created using the inverse of the background color. This allows the line to be always displayed on all colors.

The sample below will demonstrate the rubber-band line and the rubber-band box. Clicking the command buttons will allow the user to select between rubber-band line or a rubber-band box. The user will also be able to select a solid line or a dashed line.

Create and set the following controls and properties:

Control Name	Caption	Picture
-----		

Form1	Form1	c:\windows\chess.bmp
Command1	RubberBand	
Command2	RubberBox	
Command3	Dotted	
Command4	Solid	

In the general section of your code, define the following constants:

```

Const INVERSE = 6      '*Characteristic of DrawMode property(XOR).
Const SOLID = 0        '*Characteristic of DrawStyle property.
Const DOT = 2          '*Characteristic of DrawStyle property.
Const TRUE = -1
Const FALSE = 0
Dim DrawBox As Integer '*Boolean-whether drawing Box or Line
Dim OldX, OldY, StartX, StartY As Single '* Mouse locations

```

In the appropriate procedures, add the following code:

```

Sub Form_MouseDown (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
                    Single, Y As Single)
    '* Store the initial start of the line to draw.
    StartX = X
    StartY = Y

    '* Make the last location equal the starting location
    OldX = StartX
    OldY = StartY
End Sub

Sub Form_MouseMove (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
                    Single, Y As Single)
    '* If the button is depressed then...
    If Button Then
        '* Erase the previous line.
        Call DrawLine(StartX, StartY, OldX, OldY)

        '* Draw the new line.
        Call DrawLine(StartX, StartY, X, Y)

        '* Save the coordinates for the next call.
        OldX = X
        OldY = Y
    End If
End Sub

Sub DrawLine (X1, Y1, X2, Y2 As Single)
    '* Save the current mode so that you can reset it on
    '* exit from this sub routine. Not needed in the sample
    '* but would need it if you are not sure what the
    '* DrawMode was on entry to this procedure.
    SavedMode% = DrawMode

    '* Set to XOR
    DrawMode = INVERSE

    '*Draw a box or line
    If DrawBox Then

```

```

        Line (X1, Y1)-(X2, Y2), , B
    Else
        Line (X1, Y1)-(X2, Y2)
    End If

    '* Reset the DrawMode
    DrawMode = SavedMode%
End Sub

Sub Form_MouseUp (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As Single,
                  Y As Single)
    '* Stop drawing lines/boxes.
    StartEvent = FALSE
End Sub

Sub Command2_Click ()
    '* Boolean value to determine whether to draw a line or box.
    DrawBox = TRUE
End Sub

Sub Command1_Click ()
    '* Boolean value to determine whether to draw a line or box.
    DrawBox = FALSE
End Sub

Sub Command3_Click ()
    '* Create a dotted line
    Form1.DrawStyle = DOT
End Sub

Sub Command4_Click ()
    '* Create a solid line.
    Form1.DrawStyle = SOLID
End Sub

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00
KBCategory:
KBSubcategory: APrgGrap PrgCtrlsStd

```



## Determining Number of Lines in VB Text Box; SendMessage API

Article ID: Q72719

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

To determine the number of lines of text within a text box control, call the Windows API function SendMessage with EM\_GETLINECOUNT(&H40A) as the wParam argument.

Calling SendMessage with the following parameters will return the amount of lines of text within a text box:

```
hWnd%   - Handle to the text box.
wParam% - EM_GETLINECOUNT(&H40A)
lParam% - 0
```

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

For example, to determine the amount of lines within a text box, perform the following steps:

1. Create a form with a text box and a command button. Change the MultiLine property of the text box to TRUE.
2. Declare the API SendMessage function in the global-declarations section of your code window (the Declare statement must be on just one line):

```
Declare Function SendMessage% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%,
                                           ByVal wParam%,
                                           ByVal lParam%,
                                           ByVal lParam%)
```

3. In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, you will need to declare another API routine to get the handle of the text box. Declare this routine also in your global declarations section of your code window. The returned value will become the hWnd% argument to the SendMessage function. For example:

```
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
```

4. Within the click event of your button, add the following code:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Const EM_GETLINECOUNT = &H40A ' Defined within Windows SDK
                                     ' file, WINDOWS.H.

    ' Command button has focus, give focus to text box.
    Text1.SetFocus

    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows get the handle of the text box.
    ' hWd% = GetFocus()

    ' Print the amount of lines to the immediate window.
    Debug.Print SendMessage(Text1.hWnd, EM_GETLINECOUNT, 0, 0)
    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows use hWd% instead of Text1.hWnd.
End Sub

```

5. Run the program. Add several lines of text to the text box. Click the command button to see the number of lines printed out to the immediate window.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Scroll VB Text Box Programmatically and Specify Lines

Article ID: Q73371

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

By making a call to the Windows API function `SendMessage`, you can scroll text a specified number of lines or columns within a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows text box. By using `SendMessage`, you can also scroll text programmatically, without user interaction. This technique extends Visual Basic for Windows' scrolling functionality beyond the built-in statements and methods. The sample program below shows how to scroll text vertically and horizontally a specified number of lines.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Note that Visual Basic for Windows itself does not offer a statement for scrolling text a specified number of lines vertically or horizontally within a text box. You can scroll text vertically or horizontally by actively clicking the vertical and horizontal scroll bars for the text box at run time; however, you do not have any control over how many lines or columns are scrolled for each click of the scroll bar. Text always scrolls one line or one column per click the scroll bar. Furthermore, no built-in Visual Basic for Windows method can scroll text without user interaction. To work around these limitations, you can call the Windows API function `SendMessage`, as explained below.

### Example

-----

To scroll the text a specified number of lines within a text box requires a call to the Windows API function `SendMessage` using the constant `EM_LINESCROLL`. You can invoke the `SendMessage` function from Visual Basic for Windows as follows:

```
r& = SendMessage& (hWd%, EM_LINESCROLL, wParam%, lParam&)
```

<code>hWd%</code>	The window handle of the text box.
<code>wParam%</code>	Parameter not used.
<code>lParam%</code>	The low-order 2 bytes specify the number of vertical lines to scroll. The high-order 2 bytes specify the number of horizontal columns to scroll. A positive value for <code>lParam&amp;</code> causes text to scroll upward or to the left. A negative value causes text to scroll downward or to the right.

r&            Indicates the number of lines actually scrolled.

The SendMessage API function requires the window handle (hWd% above) of the text box. To get the window handle of the text box, you must first set the focus on the text box using the SetFocus method from Visual Basic. Once the focus has been set, call the GetFocus API function to get the window handle for the text box. Below is an example of how to get the window handle of a text box.

```
' The following appears in the general declarations section of
' the form:
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "USER" ()

' Assume the following appears in the click event procedure of a
' command button called Scroll.
Sub Command_Scroll_Click ()
    OldhWnd% = Screen.ActiveControl.Hwnd
    ' Store the window handle of the control that currently
    ' has the focus.

    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows use the following line:
    ' OldhWnd% = GetFocus ()

    Text1.SetFocus
    hWd% = GetFocus()
End Sub
```

To scroll text horizontally, the text box must have a horizontal scroll bar, and the width of the text must be wider than the text box width. Calling SendMessage to scroll text vertically does not require a vertical scroll bar, but the length of text within the text box should exceed the text box height.

Below are the steps necessary to create a text box that will scroll five vertical lines or five horizontal columns each time you click the command buttons labeled "Vertical" and "Horizontal":

1. From the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N).
2. Double-click Form1 to bring up the code window.
3. Add the following API declaration to the General Declarations section of Form1. Note that you must put all Declare statements on a separate and single line. Also note that SetFocus is aliased as PutFocus because there already exists a SetFocus method within Visual Basic for Windows.

```
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" () ' For Visual Basic 1.0 only.
Declare Function PutFocus% Lib "user" Alias "SetFocus" (ByVal
                                                    hWd%)
Declare Function SendMessage& Lib "user" (ByVal hWd%,
                                           ByVal wMsg%,
                                           ByVal wParam%,
                                           ByVal lParam&)
```

4. Create a text box called Text1 on Form1. Set the MultiLine property to True and the ScrollBars property to Horizontal (1).

5. Create a command button called Command1 and change the Caption to "Vertical".
6. Create a another command button called Command2 and change the Caption to "Horizontal".
7. From the General Declarations section of Form1, create a procedure to initialize some text in the text box as follows:

```
Sub InitializeTextBox ()
    Text1.Text = ""
    For i% = 1 To 50
        Text1.Text = Text1.Text + "This is line " + Str$(i%)

        ' Add 15 words to a line of text.
        For j% = 1 to 10
            Text1.Text = Text1.Text + " Word "+ Str$(j%)
        Next j%

        ' Force a carriage return (CR) and linefeed (LF).
        Text1.Text = Text1.Text + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)

        x% = DoEvents()
    Next i%
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Call InitializeTextBox
End Sub
```

9. Create the actual scroll procedure within the General Declarations section of Form1 as follows:

```
' The following two lines must appear on a single line:
Function ScrollText& (TextBox As Control, vLines As Integer, hLines
    As Integer)
    Const EM_LINESCROLL = &H406

    ' Place the number of horizontal columns to scroll in the high-
    ' order 2 bytes of Lines&. The vertical lines to scroll is
    ' placed in the low-order 2 bytes.
    Lines& = CInt(&H10000 * hLines) + vLines

    ' Get the window handle of the control that currently has the
    ' focus, Command1 or Command2.
    SavedWnd% = Screen.ActiveControl.Hwnd
    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 use the following line instead of the one
    ' used above.
    ' SavedWnd% = GetFocus%()

    ' Set the focus to the passed control (text control).
    TextBox.SetFocus

    ' For Visual Basic 1.0, get the handle to current focus (text
```

```

' control).
' TextWnd% = GetFocus%()

' Scroll the lines.
Success& = SendMessage(TextBox.HWnd, EM_LINESCROLL, 0, Lines&)
' For Visual Basic 1.0 use the following line instead of the one
' used above.
' Success& = SendMessage(TextWnd%, EM_LINESCROLL, 0, Lines&)

' Restore the focus to the original control, Command1 or
' Command2.
r% = PutFocus% (SavedWnd%)

' Return the number of lines actually scrolled.
ScrollText& = Success&

```

End Function

10. Add the following code to the click event procedure of Command1 labeled "Vertical":

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    ' Scroll text 5 vertical lines upward.
    Num& = ScrollText&(Text1, 5, 0)
End Sub

```

11. Add the following code to the click event procedure of Command2 labeled "Horizontal":

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    ' Scroll text 5 horizontal columns to the left.
    Num& = ScrollText&(Text1, 0, 5)
End Sub

```

12. Run the program. Click the command buttons to scroll the text five lines or columns at a time.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgWindow

## Overlapping Controls Not Supported in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q73651

---

The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Overlapping Visual Basic controls may not respond as expected to mouse events. For example, the bottom control will receive the mouse event even when it appears that you have selected the top control. The use of overlapping Controls is not supported in Visual Basic version 1.0, however, in versions 2.0 and 3.0, overlapping Controls are supported.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Although the Visual Basic design editor allows you to overlap controls, when you run the application the region of the controls that overlap may not function as you would expect.

For example, if two Command buttons, Command1 and Command2, overlap so that Command1 is partially on top of Command2, when you select Command1 within the region of overlap you would expect a Click event to be issued for Command1. However, the Click event may occur on Command2 even though it is underneath Command1 in the overlapping region.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Access Key Causes Different Event Order than Mouse Click**  
**Article ID: Q74905**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

In Visual Basic, events may be generated in a different order if you choose a control (such as a button, a check box, or an option box) using an access key rather than with the mouse. The events that occur in a different order are Click, LostFocus, and GotFocus.

WORKAROUND

=====

By inserting the DoEvents statement as the very first statement in the Click event handler, you can cause the LostFocus and GotFocus events to be handled before the body of the Click event handler.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design. It is not a bug in Visual Basic.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can create an access key at design time by changing the Caption property of a control to include an ampersand (&). The access key is the character after the ampersand, and at run time you press ALT+character to choose the control. (See page 120 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Programmer's Guide" version 1.0. manual.)

When you press an access key (ALT+character) to choose a control, the Click event is generated before the LostFocus and GotFocus event; however, when you choose a control by clicking the mouse, the LostFocus and GotFocus events are generated before the Click event.

The example below shows this different order of events. The example uses command buttons, but also applies to Check and Option boxes:

1. Open a new form and create two command buttons.
2. Enter the code as shown further below.
3. Change the Caption property of Command2 to "Command&2"
4. Run the program.



5. a. When Command1 has the focus and you click Command2, the following events are generated in the following order:

Command1\_LostFocus  
Command2\_GotFocus  
Command2\_Click

- b. When Command1 has the focus and you press the access key, ALT+2, the following events are generated in the following order:

Command2\_Click  
Command1\_LostFocus  
Command2\_GotFocus

Sample Code:

-----

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    Print "Command1_click"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command1_LostFocus ()  
    Print "Command1_lostfocus"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command1_GotFocus ()  
    Print "Command1_gotfocus"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command2_Click ()  
    Print "Command2_click"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command2_LostFocus ()  
    Print "Command2_lostfocus"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command2_GotFocus ()  
    Print "Command2_gotfocus"  
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 vbmsdos

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd EnvRun

## Carriage Return+Linefeed to Wrap Lines in Text Box Control

Article ID: Q74906

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Under Microsoft Windows, version 3.0, using the carriage return character, Chr\$(13), alone to create a line wrap to the next line in a Visual Basic text box control will cause the character following the carriage return to be removed from a multiline text box. Under Microsoft Windows, version 3.1, it will cause a pipe character '|' to be displayed in the place of the Chr\$(13).

To correctly wrap to the next line, you must instead use both a carriage return and a linefeed, Chr\$(10). This requirement is by design.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The correct method to create a line wrap is to use a carriage return character followed by a linefeed character, Chr\$(13) + Chr\$(10). The Windows text box expects to find this sequence and assumes that the character following the carriage return is a linefeed, thus removing the following character as if it were a linefeed.

The following steps show the results of using just the carriage return, and the results of using both carriage return and linefeed characters in a text box.

1. In a new project, click the text box icon from the Toolbox (second tool down in the right column).
2. Click anywhere on the form and drag diagonally to create a text box large enough to hold more than one line of text.
3. From the Properties bar (below the main menu) scroll down to Multiline, then choose the Settings box for that Multiline property (also on the Properties bar below the menu) and choose True. The text box can now accommodate several lines of text.
4. Double-click anywhere in the form outside of the text box to bring up the Form\_click code window (or use the F7 function key).
5. On the line below Sub Form\_click (), type the following:

```
Text1.text = "Hello" + Chr$(13) + "World"
```

6. Press F5 to run the newly created application, then click anywhere in the form outside the text box. The following text will appear.

For Windows, version 3.0:

```
Hello  
orld
```

Note that the W of "World" is missing.

For Windows, version 3.1:

```
Hello|World
```

7. To obtain the desired result, you must add a linefeed following the carriage return character, as follows:

```
Text1.text = "Hello" + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10) + "World"
```

This statement will display the expected result of:

```
Hello  
World
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**BUG: Italic and Large Fonts Display Poorly in Text Boxes**  
**Article ID: Q76555**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

Italic letters of any size are incorrectly truncated when typed in a text box. Also, if you use the BACKSPACE key to delete characters that are in italic text or large fonts, pieces of characters remain after the deletion.

CAUSE

=====

This problem is caused by Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1, not by Visual Basic.

WORKAROUND

=====

To work around this problem, you can use the Refresh method during the text box change event to correctly update the screen. However, this will also cause some visible flickering as you type characters into the text box.

To correct the appearance of the characters in the text box, add the following code to the text box's Change event.

```
Sub Text1_Change ()  
    Text1.Refresh  
End Sub
```

This code forces the text box to update the visual display every time a change is made, so it corrects the problem but generates a flicker of the text box.

STATUS

=====

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a problem in Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1. We are researching this problem and will post new information here in the Microsoft Knowledge Base as it becomes available.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

- 
1. Place a large text box on a blank form.
  2. Set the text box `FontSize` property to any size above 12 points, or set the `FontItalic` property to `True`.
  3. From the Run menu, choose Start.
  4. Type anything in the text box.
  5. Press the `BACKSPACE` key.

Note: If the font size is large, the font will be displayed correctly until the characters are removed with the `BACKSPACE` key. Italic characters will be displayed incorrectly when entered into the text box, and backspacing will truncate the deleted characters.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: `PrgCtrlsStd`

## **VB Procedure Form\_Load Not Executed when Unload Not Used**

**Article ID: Q76629**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Code inside a Form\_Load event procedure will not execute under the circumstances described below. The example below helps clarify the behavior of the Load event procedure.

A Load event procedure will only execute when a form is loaded, either with the Load statement or an implicit load. An implicit load is caused when a form is currently not loaded, and a property or method accesses the form or associated control.

This behavior is by design in Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Below is a demonstration of this behavior:

1. From the File menu, choose New Project.
2. From the File menu, choose New Form.
3. Place a command button on each form. Place command button 1 on form 1 and command button 2 on form 2.
4. Place the following code in the event procedure Command1\_Click in form 1:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    Form1.MousePointer = 11 'Hourglass pointer  
    Form2.Show  
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code in the event procedure Form\_Load in form 1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Form1.MousePointer = 0 'Default pointer  
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code in the event procedure Command2\_Click in form 2:

```
Sub Command2_Click ()
```

```

    Form2.MousePointer = 11 'Hourglass pointer
    Form1.Show
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code in the event procedure Form\_Load in form 2:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    Form2.MousePointer = 0 'Default pointer
End Sub

```

8. Run the program with the F5 key. You will see Form1 load up with the Command1 button on it. If you click the Command1 button, you will see the mouse cursor change to an hourglass until Form2 is loaded. With Form2 loaded, you can see that the mouse cursor is back to the default arrow. Click the Command2 button and see the mouse cursor change back to an hourglass until Form1 is loaded.

This is where the behavior starts; the hourglass continues to be displayed instead of going back to the default arrow. This is because the code Form1.MousePointer = 0 in the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1 is not being executed. You can continue by clicking the Command1 button again to go to Form2 and the hourglass continues to be displayed.

The easiest way to work around this behavior is to add an Unload statement after each .Show statement, as shown below:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Form1.MousePointer = 11
    Form2.Show
    Unload Form1 'new line of code to be added
End Sub

Sub Command2_Click ()
    Form2.MousePointer = 0
    Form1.Show
    Unload Form2 'new line of code to be added
End Sub

```

Note: This method may slow the painting of forms at run-time, but this method will guarantee that the Form\_Load event procedure is executed when the Show method is executed.

Another workaround is to place the code

```

.MousePointer = 0 statements

```

into the Form\_Paint event procedures. Note that this method will only work when one form is being painted over another. Use the Cut and Paste routines from the Edit menu of Visual Basic. Cut the following line of code

```

Form1.MousePointer = 0

```

from the event procedure Form\_Load in Form1 and paste the code into the Form1 Form\_Paint event procedure. Repeat the same Cut and Paste task in Form2, placing the code

```
Form2.MousePointer = 0
```

in the Form2 Form\_Paint event procedure.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## **VB Forms with Menus Cannot Have Fixed Double BorderStyle**

**Article ID: Q76630**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Because of Windows version 3.0 and 3.1 limitations, forms with menus cannot have the BorderStyle property set to Fixed Double. To have menus, a form's BorderStyle property must be either None, Fixed Single, or Sizable.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. In the Menu Design window, create a menu on Form1.
3. Set the BorderStyle of Form1 to Fixed Double.
4. Run the program.

Note that the border style is fixed single.

Because of a Windows problem with menus on forms with fixed double borders, Visual Basic does not paint the menus correctly. For this reason, Visual Basic does not allow this particular combination of a menu on a form with a fixed double border.

For more information on this limitation, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

visual basic and menu and caption and bar

Additional reference words: 1.00 3.00 3.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd Envtdes

**PRB: Long String Assigned to Multiline Text Box Seems to Hang**  
**Article ID: Q76635**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

=====

On some computers, when you assign a long text string to a multiline text box, it takes a long time (1 to 2 minutes) to update. This may give the impression that Visual Basic is hung, when in fact it is not.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Windows has a problem inserting line breaks in multiline text boxes. The amount of time needed to complete the process grows exponentially as the length of the string increases.

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. In Visual Basic, place a text box (Text1) on a new form, and change the MultiLine property of Text1 to True.
2. Place the following statement in the Form\_Click event procedure:  
  
    text1.text=string\$(32767,"X")
3. From the Run menu, choose Start.
4. Click the form.

The application may now take up to two minutes to respond to any other events because it is still executing the text1.text assignment.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **DEL Key Behavior Depends on Text Box MultiLine Property**

**Article ID: Q77737**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Pressing the DEL key in a multiline text box generates a KeyPress event for that text box with an ASCII code of 8 for the key. In a standard text box, no KeyPress event is generated for the DEL key. This behavior is inherent to Windows and is not specific to Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Place a text box on a form.
2. Set the MultiLine property for the text box to True.
3. Add the following code to the text box KeyPress event:

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (keyAscii as Integer)
    debug.print keyAscii ' This will print the generated ASCII
                        ' code to VB's Immediate window.
End Sub
```

4. Execute the program and press the DEL key while the focus is on the text box. An "8" will be printed in the Immediate window.

If the text box's MultiLine property is set to false, no KeyPress event occurs and nothing is printed to the Immediate window when you press the DEL key. This behavior is standard for Windows multiline text boxes.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Clipboard.SetData Gives Invalid Format Message with Icon**  
**Article ID: Q78073**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

If you use a the Visual Basic LoadPicture function to load an icon file (.ICO) into a picture control, and then attempt to copy that picture control's picture to the Clipboard by using the SetData method, the following error message is displayed regardless of the format specified in SetData method:

Invalid Clipboard Format

This error also occurs if you attempt to load an icon file directly onto the Clipboard by using this code:

```
Clipboard.SetData LoadPicture("c:\vb\icons\arrows\arw01rt.ico")
```

CAUSE

=====

The Microsoft Windows Clipboard in Windows has no CF\_ICON format, so the Clipboard cannot be assigned Icons.

WORKAROUND

=====

To work around the problem, set the picture control's AutoRedraw property to True (-1) and use the Picture control's Image property in the SetData method rather than the Picture control's picture property.

```
'*** This code will fail with the error "Invalid Clipboard Format" ***  
Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture("c:\vb\icons\arrows\arw01rt.ico")  
Clipboard.SetData Picture1.Picture, 2
```

```
'*** This code will avoid the error ***  
Picture1.AutoRedraw = -1  
Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture("c:\vb\icons\arrows\arw01rt.ico")  
Clipboard.SetData Picture1.Image, 2
```

```
'*** This code will also work ***  
Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture("c:\vb\icons\arrows\arw01rt.ico")  
Picture1.Picture = Picture1.Image  
Clipboard.SetData Picture1.Picture, 2
```

STATUS

=====

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a limitation of the Microsoft Windows Clipboard.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Disabling the ENTER Key BEEP in a Visual Basic Text Box

Article ID: Q78305

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

In a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows text box, the ENTER key causes a warning beep to sound only if the MultiLine property is set to False (the default) and the Warning Beep option is selected in the Sound dialog box of the Windows Control panel. To disable the beep, in the KeyPress event procedure for the text box, set the value of KeyAscii (which is a parameter passed to KeyPress) equal to zero (0) when the user presses the ENTER key.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Specifically, use an IF statement to trap the ENTER key and the set KeyAscii to zero (0). Setting the value to zero before the event procedure ends prevents Windows from detecting that the ENTER key was pressed and prevents the warning beep. This behavior is by design and is due to the fact that a non-multiline text box is a Windows default class of edit box.

### Example

-----

The following code will prevent the beep.

' (Set Multiline property to False).

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii as Integer)
    If KeyAscii=13 Then
        KeyAscii=0
    End If
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 return 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Scope of Line Labels/Numbers in Visual Basic for Windows

Article ID: Q78335

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Line labels (and line numbers) do not follow the same scoping rules as variables and constants in Visual Basic for Windows. Line labels must be unique within each module and form. However, you can only transfer control to a line label or line number within the current Sub or Function.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

When you attempt to define the same line label twice within a module or form, you receive the error message "Duplicate label". This message means that the label is already defined in another procedure within the current module.

When you use a GOTO or GOSUB statement that names a line label defined in another procedure, you receive the error message "Label not defined." This message means that the label is not defined in the current Sub or Function.

For more information about line labels, see the description of the GOTO and GOSUB statements in the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Language Reference" or in the Visual Basic for Windows online Help system.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Make a Push Button with a Bitmap in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q78478

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Command buttons in Visual Basic for Windows are limited to a single line of text and one background color (gray). The 3D command button shipped in the Professional Editions of Visual Basic version 2.0 and 3.0 for Windows does have the capability of displaying bitmaps within a command button in Visual Basic for Windows. However, there is no way to alter the background or border colors to change its appearance. You can create the look and feel of a command button by using a picture control and manipulating the DrawMode in conjunction with the Line method. Using a picture control also allows you to display the "command button" in any color with multiple lines of caption text.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The technique (demonstrated further below) simulates the effect of pressing a command button by using the Line method with the BF option (Box Fill) in invert mode each time a MouseUp or MouseDown event occurs for the picture control. To add multiline text to the "button," either print to the picture box or add the text permanently to the bitmap.

The steps to create a customized "command button" are as follows:

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows, or choose New Project from the File menu (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 will be created by default.
2. Put a picture control (Picture1) on Form1.
3. Set the properties for Picture1 as given in the chart below:

Property	Value
-----	-----
AutoRedraw	True
AutoSize	True
BorderStyle	0-None
DrawMode	6-Invert

4. Assign the Picture property of Picture1 to the bitmap of your



choice. For example, choose ARW01DN.ICO from the ARROWS subdirectory of the ICONS directory shipped with Visual Basic for Windows. This is a good example of a bitmap with a three dimensional appearance.

5. Enter the following code in the Picture1\_DblClick event procedure of Picture1:

```
Sub Picture1_DblClick ()  
    Picture1.Line (0, 0)-(Picture1.width, Picture1.height), , BF  
End Sub
```

Note: This code is necessary to avoid getting the bitmap stuck in an inverted state because of Mouse messages being processed out of order or from piling up due to fast clicking.

6. Enter the following code in the Picture1\_MouseDown event procedure of Picture1:

```
Sub Picture1_MouseDown (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As  
    Single, Y As Single) ' Append to above line  
    Picture1.Line (0, 0)-(Picture1.width, Picture1.height), , BF  
End Sub
```

7. Enter the following code in the Picture1\_MouseUp event procedure of Picture1:

```
Sub Picture1_MouseUp (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer,  
    X As Single, Y As Single) ' Append to above line.  
    Picture1.Line (0, 0)-(Picture1.width, Picture1.height), , BF  
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the Picture1\_KeyUp event procedure for Picture1:

```
Sub Picture1_KeyUp (KeyCode As Integer, Shift As Integer)  
    '* Check to see if the ENTER key was pressed. If so, restore  
    '* the picture image.  
    If KeyCode = 13 Then  
        Picture1.Line (0, 0)-(Picture1.width, Picture1.height), , BF  
    End If  
End Sub
```

9. Add the following code to the Picture1\_KeyDown event procedure for Picture1:

```
Sub Picture1_KeyDown (KeyCode As Integer, Shift As Integer)  
    '* Check to see if the ENTER key was pressed. If so, invert  
    '* the picture image.  
    If KeyCode = 13 Then  
        Picture1.Line (0, 0)-(Picture1.width, Picture1.height), , BF  
    End If  
End Sub
```

10. From the Run menu, choose Start. Click the picture box. The image of the picture should be inverted while the mouse button is down, giving the visual effect of a button press.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **No New Timer Events During Visual Basic Timer Event Processing**

**Article ID: Q78599**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Timer controls can be used to automatically generate an event at predefined intervals. This interval is specified in milliseconds, and can range from 0 to 65535 inclusive.

Timer event processing will not be interrupted by new timer events. This is because of the way that Windows notifies an application that a timer event has occurred. Instead of interrupting the application, Windows places a WM\_TIMER message in its message queue. If there is already a WM\_TIMER message in the queue from the same timer, the new message will be consolidated with the old one.

After the application has completed processing the current timer event, it checks its message queue for any new messages. This queue may have new WM\_TIMER messages to process. There is no way to tell if any WM\_TIMER messages have been consolidated.

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **Parameter Mismatch Error When Pass Properties by Reference**

**Article ID: Q79597**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Control property values in Visual Basic are stored in a formatted form whose location is periodically changed as part of Windows memory management. The values are accessed by handles, not addresses. Although the values behave like their prescribed types when used directly, they cannot be passed by reference to a SUB or FUNCTION. Any attempt to do so will generate a "PARAMETER MISMATCH" error.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Passing by reference, the default parameter passing method in Visual Basic, places the address of the variable on the stack. The SUB or FUNCTION then accesses the address on the stack and uses it to refer to that variable. Sending a control property as a parameter to a SUB or FUNCTION will place its handle on the stack instead of an address. Because the handle uses a different form than an address, the SUB or FUNCTION accesses a value that it is not expecting, and will generate a "PARAMETER MISMATCH" error.

As a workaround, pass the property by value instead of by reference. To pass by value, place a set of parentheses around the property variable in the SUB or FUNCTION call. This syntax will place the actual value of the property on the stack and tell the SUB or FUNCTION to treat it as such. Because an actual memory location is not transferred to the SUB or FUNCTION, any changes to the value of the property are localized to that SUB or FUNCTION.

Another workaround is to assign the property value to a temporary variable. The temporary variable has an actual address and can be passed to a SUB or FUNCTION in the usual manner. Because an actual address is sent, any change to the temporary variable will be permanent. In order for the actual property variable to reflect this change, the value of the temporary variable must be assigned to the property variable upon return from the SUB or FUNCTION.

### Example

-----

Create a project with one form (Form1), two command buttons (Command1 and Command2), and one text box (Text1). Add the two command Click events as follows:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
```

```

    Text1.text = "passed by value"
    CALL Mysub ((Text1.text))
    ' Notice Text1.text did not change.
End Sub

Sub Command2_Click()
    Text1.text = "passed temporary variable"
    temp$ = Text1.text
    CALL Mysub (temp$)
    Text1.text = temp$
    ' Notice Text1.text did change when assigned to temp$.
End Sub

```

In the General section of Form1, add the following:

```

Sub Mysub(A$)
    A$ = "Changed"
End Sub

```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **Double-Clicking the Control Box Causes MouseUp Event in VB**

**Article ID: Q79599**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Double-clicking the control box of a form to close it will cause a MouseUp event on an enabled form or control if it is lying beneath the control box. This is a standard behavior inherent to Windows, and is not an error in Visual Basic.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can prevent the above behavior in several ways:

- Set a global flag in the MouseDown event and check the flag in the MouseUp event. If the flag is set, perform the event and set the flag to FALSE. If the flag is not set, exit the MouseUp event.
- Set a global flag in the overlapping form's Form\_Unload event, and then test this flag in the underlying form or control's MouseUp event.
- Restrict the placement or movement of a form so that its control box does not appear above an enabled form or control.
- Avoid coding the MouseUp event of any enabled form or control over which a control box may appear.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Place Animated Graphics on a Minimized Form in VB

Article ID: Q79601

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can place animated graphics onto a minimized form in Visual Basic. Normally, when a form is minimized, the form is replaced with an icon that had been previously set using the Icon property of that form. This icon is an actual bitmap that cannot be manipulated. Using the method below, the icon can be replaced with a set of graphics methods that will draw to the minimized form.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To place animated graphics onto a minimized form, you must use a timer event. This will allow the program to continue its animation when the form is minimized. A minimized form is just like a non-minimized form, except its size is decreased and certain rules apply. The following guidelines should be followed when creating animated graphics on a form:

- The AutoRedraw property must be set to 0 (False).
- The user must place routines in the Paint event procedure to handle cases when the Paint event occurs in the maximized form. In the minimized form, a Paint event never occurs, and you must depend upon the timer event to refresh the icon representing the minimized form.
- The user must handle the painting of the background because a minimized form has no background, only foreground.
- Adjust your animation to the size of the minimized form by using either the Scale method or the ScaleWidth and ScaleHeight property.

The following example creates an animated icon that displays random circles every 500 milliseconds:

1. From the File menu, choose New Project.
2. Remove the icon from the Icon property. (You can do this by selecting the Icon property and pressing the DELETE key.)
3. Place a new timer control on the form.
4. Change the timer interval to 500.
5. Type the following code into the new timer event:

```

Static prevx!, prevy!
If windowstate = 1 Then           'Checks to see if form is
                                   'minimized.
    form1.Scale (0, 0)-(100, 100) 'Sets the max height and
                                   'width of the form.
    fillcolor = QBColor(0)
    Circle (prevx!, prevy!), scalewidth / 10, QBColor(0)
    fillstyle = 0
    fillcolor = QBColor(1)
    prevx! = Int(Rnd(1) * scalewidth) + 1
    prevy! = Int(Rnd(1) * scaleheight) + 1
    Circle (prevx!, prevy!), scalewidth / 10, QBColor(1)
End If

```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start.

7. Minimize the form by choosing Minimize from the control box menu,  
or click the minimize arrow (the minimize arrow is the down arrow)  
on the form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## How to Convert Units to Pixels for DrawWidth in VB

Article ID: Q79604

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The DrawWidth property controls line thickness for the graphics methods Circle, Line, and PSet. You can only set DrawWidth in units of pixels. Pixel size and density vary among video and printer devices.

This article describes how to set DrawWidth to the number of pixels to correspond with measurements in units other than pixels.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following steps describe how to calculate DrawWidth from units other than pixels, referred to as "target units."

1. Determine the form (or printer) width in target units by setting the ScaleMode property to one of the values listed below and then retrieving the ScaleWidth property.

#### ScaleMode Settings

-----

- 0 -- user-defined
- 1 -- twips
- 2 -- points
- 4 -- characters
- 5 -- inches
- 6 -- millimeters
- 7 -- centimeters

For example:

```
Form1.ScaleMode = 7 ' centimeters
cm = Form1.ScaleWidth
```

2. Determine the form (or printer) width in pixels by setting the ScaleMode property to 3 (PIXELS in CONSTANT.TXT) and then retrieving the ScaleWidth property.

For example:

```
Form1.ScaleMode = 3
pixel = Form1.ScaleWidth
```

3. Calculate the ratio of pixels per target unit by dividing the form (or printer) width in target units by the form (or printer) width in pixels.

For example:

```
pixel_per_cm = pixel / cm
```

4. Set DrawWidth to the number of target units multiplied by the ratio of pixels per target unit.

For example:

```
Form1.DrawWidth = 5 * pixel_per_cm ' 5cm thick lines
```

The following code example demonstrates how to calculate the DrawWidth property in inches, for a form and the printer:

```
*** In the global module: ***
```

```
' ScaleMode (form, picture box, Printer)
Global Const TWIPS = 1
Global Const POINTS = 2 ' 20 twips
Global Const PIXELS = 3
Global Const CHARACTERS = 4 ' x: 120 twips, y: 240 twips
Global Const INCHES = 5 ' 1440 twips
Global Const MILLIMETERS = 6 ' 5669 twips
Global Const CENTIMETERS = 7 ' 566.9 twips
```

```
' *** In the form: ***
```

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Dim ptr_inch As Integer ' printer width in inches
    Dim ptr_pixel As Long ' printer width in pixels
    Dim ptr_dpi As Single ' printer dots (pixels) per inch
    Dim scn_inch As Integer ' screen width in inches
    Dim scn_pixel As Long ' screen width in pixels
    Dim scn_dpi As Single ' screen dots (pixels) per inch

    ' Determine printer pixels-per-inch ratio
    save% = Printer.ScaleMode
    Printer.ScaleMode = INCHES: ptr_inch = Printer.ScaleWidth
    Printer.ScaleMode = PIXELS: ptr_pixel = Printer.ScaleWidth
    Printer.ScaleMode = save%
    ptr_dpi = ptr_pixel / ptr_inch

    ' Determine form (screen) pixels-per-inch ratio
    save% = Form1.ScaleMode
    Form1.ScaleMode = INCHES: scn_inch = Form1.ScaleWidth
    Form1.ScaleMode = PIXELS: scn_pixel = Form1.ScaleWidth
    Form1.ScaleMode = save%
    scn_dpi = scn_pixel / scn_inch

    ' Set printer and form DrawWidth to 0.25 inches
    ' and draw a 0.25 inch thick line
    Printer.DrawWidth = .25 * ptr_dpi
    Form1.DrawWidth = .25 * scn_dpi
```

```
Printer.Line (0, 0)-(Form1.ScaleWidth, Form1.ScaleHeight)
Form1.Line (0, 0)-(Form1.ScaleWidth, Form1.ScaleHeight)

' Set printer.DrawWidth to match screen pixel size
' and draw a 5 screen-pixel thick line
Form1.DrawWidth = 5
Printer.DrawWidth = Form1.DrawWidth * ptr_dpi / scn_dpi
Form1.Line (0, Form1.ScaleHeight)-(Form1.ScaleWidth, 0)
Printer.Line (0, Form1.ScaleHeight)-(Form1.ScaleWidth, 0)

Printer.EndDoc
```

End Sub

When run, the above sample program will cause two lines in the form of an X to be printed to the form and printer simultaneously. The width of the thicker diagonal line should be 0.25 inches wide on the printed page. The other diagonal line represents a line five pixels wide.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Move Controls Between Forms in VB for Windows

Article ID: Q79884

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows does not support the actual movement of controls between forms. Attempting to change the parent/child relationship of a control from one form to another can result in unpredictable behavior.

However, by creating a control array of the same control type on each form, and by creating a subroutine or function in a Visual Basic for Windows module, you can simulate the movement of a control from one form to another. An example of how to do this is listed below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

This example uses the Windows API functions `GetFocus` and `GetParent` to determine the origin of the control dropped onto a form. For more information on `GetFocus` and `GetParent`, query separately on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

`GetFocus`  
`GetParent`

The following steps demonstrate how to simulate the movement of controls between two forms. Note that you can improve this example by Loading and Unloading the controls as they are needed.

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 will be created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose New Form (press ALT, F, F). Form2 will be created.
3. From the File menu, choose New Module (press ALT, F, M). Module1 will be created.
4. Create the following controls for both Form1 and Form2:

Control	Name	Property Setting
-----	-----	-----

```

Command button    Command1()    Index = 0
Command button    Command2      Caption = "Enable Drag"

```

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, set the CtlName Property for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

5. Add the following code to the Module1 (or GLOBAL.BAS in Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows):

```

' Windows API function declarations.
Declare Function GetFocus Lib "USER" () As Integer
Declare Function GetParent Lib "USER" (ByVal hWnd As Integer) As Integer

```

6. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1:

```

Dim EnableDrag As Integer

```

7. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()

    ' Move the form to the left half of the screen.
    Move 0, Top, Screen.Width \ 2
    Form2.Show
    EnableDrag = 0
    Command1(0).Top = 0
    Command1(0).Left = 100

    For i% = 1 To 4                                ' Load Control Array.
        Load Command1(i%)
        Command1(i%).Left = Command1(i% - 1).Left
        Command1(i%).Top = Command1(i% - 1).Top + Command1(i% - 1).Height
    Next i%

    For i% = 0 To 4                                ' Define Control Properties.
        Command1(i%).Caption = "Button" + Str$(i%)
        Command1(i%).Visible = -1
    Next i%
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Command1_Click (Index As Integer)
    Button_Clicked Command1(Index)          ' Call Routine in MODULE1.BAS.
End Sub

```

9. Add the following code to the Command2\_Click event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    If EnableDrag = 0 Then                        ' Toggle DragMode.
        EnableDrag = 1
        Command2.Caption = "Disable Drag"
    Else
        EnableDrag = 0
    End If
End Sub

```

```

        Command2.Caption = "Enable Drag"
    End If

    For i% = 0 To 4                                ' Set DragMode for Controls.
        Command1(i%).DragMode = EnableDrag
    Next i%
End Sub

10. Add the following code to the Form_DragDrop event procedure of
    Form1:

Sub Form_DragDrop (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)
    Source.SetFocus                                ' Get Parent of Source Control.
    CtrlHnd% = GetFocus()
    Parent% = GetParent(CtrlHnd%)

    If Parent% <> Form1.hWnd Then                  ' If Parent is other Form.
        Index% = Source.Index
        Command1(Index%).Caption = Source.Caption
        Command1(Index%).Left = Source.Left
        Command1(Index%).Top = Source.Top
        Command1(Index%).Width = Source.Width
        Command1(Index%).Height = Source.Height
        Command1(Index%).Visible = -1
        Source.Visible = 0
    End If
End Sub

11. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of
    Form2:

Dim EnableDrag As Integer

12. Add the following code to the Form_Load event procedure of Form2:

Sub Form_Load ()
    ' Move the form to the right half of the screen.
    Move Screen.Width \ 2, Top, Screen.Width \ 2

    EnableDrag = 0
    Command1(0).Visible = 0
    For i% = 1 To 4                                ' Load Control Array.
        Load Command1(i%)
        Command1(i%).Top = Command1(i% - 1).Top + Command1(i% - 1).Height
        Command1(i%).Visible = 0
    Next i%
End Sub

13. Add the following code to the Command1_Click event procedure of
    Form2:

Sub Command1_Click (Index As Integer)
    Button_Clicked Command1(Index)
End Sub

14. Add the following code to the Command2_Click event procedure of
    Form2:

```

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    If EnableDrag = 0 Then
        EnableDrag = 1
        Command2.Caption = "Disable Drag"
    Else
        EnableDrag = 0
        Command2.Caption = "Enable Drag"
    End If

    For i% = 0 To 4
        Command1(i%).DragMode = EnableDrag
    Next i%
End Sub

```

15. Add the following code to the Form\_DragDrop event procedure of Form2:

```

Sub Form_DragDrop (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)
    Source.SetFocus          ' Determine Parent of Source.
    CtrlHnd% = GetFocus()
    Parent% = GetParent(CtrlHnd%)
    If Parent% <> Form2.hWnd Then
        Index% = Source.Index
        Command1(Index%).Caption = Source.Caption
        Command1(Index%).Left = Source.Left
        Command1(Index%).Top = Source.Top
        Command1(Index%).Width = Source.Width
        Command1(Index%).Height = Source.Height
        Command1(Index%).Visible = -1
        Source.Visible = 0
    End If
End Sub

```

16. Add the following code to Module1:

```

Sub Button_Clicked (Source As Control) ' Generic Click routine.
    MsgBox "Button" + Str$(Source.Index) + " Clicked!!!"
End Sub

```

17. From the Run menu, choose Start (press ALT, R, S) to run the program.

To drag controls from one form to the other, choose the Enable Drag button. Once this button has been activated on a form, you can drag any of the command buttons from one form to the other. The drag mode can be disabled by choosing the Disable Drag button. When drag mode has been disabled, clicking any of the command buttons on the form will cause a message box to be displayed.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
 KBCategory:  
 KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Draw a Line or Box on a Form Using a Label in Ver 1.0

Article ID: Q80285

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Visual Basic version 1.0 Help topic "Drawing a Line or Box on a Form" contains incorrect information regarding how to use a label control to draw a line or box on a form. This article corrects and supplements that information.

To draw a line or box on a form in Visual Basic version 2.0, use the Shape control instead of a Label control.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can use the label tool in the Toolbox in VB.EXE to draw simple lines or solid (filled-in) boxes on forms. By using a label instead of the Line method, you can see the line or box in design mode and you can easily animate the line or box with the Move method.

To draw a line or box with a label control, do the following:

1. Place a label on a form.
2. Set the Caption property to null.
3. Set the BackColor property to black, or some other color.
4. Size the label. To make a line, set either the Height or Width property to the minimum value (1 pixel).

To find the incorrect Help topic, search Visual Basic version 1.0 Help for "line." The topic states the following:

To add color, set the BackColor property to the color you want.

Do not set the BorderStyle property to -1 (True) as it states in Help.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## How to Drop Item into Specified Location in VB List Box

Article ID: Q80187

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can drag an item and drop it into a list box by using the Visual Basic TextHeight method and the Windows API SendMessage() function to calculate where to drop the item.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

There is no standard way to determine in which position you are dropping an item into a Visual Basic list box when you are performing a drag and drop operation. You must calculate the position using the TextHeight method and the Windows API SendMessage() function with the constant LB\_GETTOPINDEX.

Using TextHeight, determine the height of each row of a list box. Divide this by the Y value that is passed as an argument in the List\_DragDrop event procedure to determine how many lines from the top of the list box that the Drag.Icon is located over. The SendMessage constant LB\_GETTOPINDEX gives you the index of the first visible item in the list box. Adding these two numbers shows you the index location for the insertion point -- the spot where you want to insert the item in the list box.

### Step-by-Step Example to Demonstrate Dropping Items into List box

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a Picture control (Picture1) to Form1 and set its DragMode property to Automatic. Then add a List box (List1) to Form1 and set its DragMode property to Manual.
3. Add the following code to the global module:

```
'===== Global.Bas =====  
'NOTE: Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:  
Declare Function SendMessage& Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd%, ByVal wParam%,  
    ByVal lParam%, lParam As Any)  
Declare Function GetFocus Lib "User" () As Integer  
Global Const LB_GETTOPINDEX = &H400 + 15
```

3. Add the following code to the DragDrop event procedure of List1:

```
'===== Form1.frm =====
```

```
Sub List1_DragDrop (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)
```

```
    'get the first visible index in the list box
    List1.SetFocus
    ListHwnd = GetFocus()
    TopI& = SendMessage(ListHwnd, LB_GETTOPINDEX, 0&, 0&)
    ColumnHeight = TextHeight("A ")
    InsertI& = Y \ ColumnHeight
    If InsertI& <= List1.ListCount Then
        ' Enter the following two lines on one, single line:
        List1.AddItem "This is inserted @" + Format$(InsertI&
            + TopI&, "0"), InsertI& + TopI&
    Else
        List1.AddItem "This is inserted"
    End If
```

```
End Sub
```

4. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.

Drag and drop the picture box over the list box and an item should be added to the list box. An item will be added to the list box each time you drag and drop the picture box over the list box.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **Form Global (Static) Data Is Preserved After Form Unload**

Article ID: Q80287

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article lists documentation errors for Visual Basic version 1.0 manuals and provides additional information about static data, arrays and variables.

If you have version 2.0, see page 394 of the Language Reference for more information on the Static statement.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Visual Basic version 1.0 Documentation Errors

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The information on page 226 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Programmer's Guide" version 1.0 manual in the section titled "Unloading Forms" implies that all data in a form is lost after the form is unloaded using the Unload statement. However, this does not apply to these types of data:

- Any variable or array that is dimensioned in the general Declarations section of the form.
- Any static variable or array that has been declared within a Sub or Function procedure.
- Any local variable or array that has been allocated in a static Sub or Function procedure.

The following statement on page 226 of the "Visual Basic: Programmer's Guide" is incorrect:

Any data stored in the form is lost unless you have saved it to a file.

This statement should be changed to read as follows:

Any data stored in the form, with the exception of static variables and arrays, is lost unless you have saved it to a file. The values of static arrays and variables are preserved after the form is unloaded.

#### More Information on Static Data

-----

Static data stored in a form consists of the following:

- Arrays or variables dimensioned in the general Declarations section of a form.

- Variables or arrays declared in a Sub or Function procedure using the Static keyword.
- All local variables and arrays allocated in a Sub or Function procedure where the procedure name is preceded by the keyword Static.

All static data is allocated in a global area of memory managed by Visual Basic. Unloading the form does not cause this memory to be deallocated; rather, the data is preserved by Visual Basic until the program terminates. Although the data is maintained after the form is unloaded, you cannot access this data from any other form or module. You must reload the form to access the data.

#### Static Variables and Arrays Are Not Deallocated

---

To demonstrate how static variables and arrays allocated from a form do not get deallocated, do the following:

1. Start Visual Basic or if Visual Basic is already running, choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1.
3. Change the caption of Command1 to "Show Form Global Vars" (without the quotation marks).
4. Add the following statements to the general Declarations section of Form1:

```
Dim varX As Integer
Dim arrayX(10) As String
```

5. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure of Command1:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()

    Static StaticX

    StaticX = 1           'Initialize the form global variables.
    varX = 10
    For i = 0 To 10
        arrayX(i) = Format$(i, "#0")
    Next i

    Unload Form1
    Form1.Show           'Reload and show form.
                        'Values of varX and arrayX will still be
                        'preserved.

    Print StaticX        'Print the values to the form.
    Print varX
    For i = 0 To 10
        Print arrayX(i)
    Next i

End Sub
```

6. Run the program (F5) and choose the Command1 "Show Form Global

Vars" button.

7. The values of StaticX, varX, and arrayX will print, even though the form has been unloaded.

There is no way to cause static data in the general Declarations section to be deallocated when the form is unloaded. For example, the Erase statement will not cause memory to be deallocated for arrays dimensioned in the general Declarations section.

To deallocate arrays, you must use the ReDim statement to dynamically allocate the array when needed. To unload variables, use local variables instead of static variables. If you use local variables instead of static variables, the local variables are deallocated upon exit from the procedure in which they were allocated.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **PRB: End Task from Windows Task List Doesn't Invoke VB Unload**

**Article ID: Q80292**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### **SYMPTOMS**

=====

Terminating a Visual Basic program from the Windows Task List (by choosing the End Task button) does not generate a Visual Basic Unload event in version 1.0 but does generate a Form\_Unload in versions 2.0 and 3.0. Therefore, any code attached to the Form\_Unload event procedure executes in versions 2.0 and 3.0 but not in version 1.0 when the program terminates.

### **RESOLUTION**

=====

This behavior is by design. The version 1.0 design is different from the versions 2.0 and 3.0 designs. In versions 2.0 and 3.0, the form\_unload event executes when the program is closed from the task list. In version 1.0, Form\_Unload does not execute when the program is closed from the task list.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

=====

If a Visual Basic program has code in an Form\_Unload event procedure, and you exit the program by choosing Close from the system menu, the Unload event occurs and the code in the Form\_Unload event procedure executes.

If instead, you exit the program from the Windows Task List, the Unload event occurs only in Visual Basic version 2.0, not in 1.0. The code in the Form\_Unload event procedure executes only when the Unload event occurs.

### **Steps to Reproduce Behavior**

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a command button (Command1) on Form1.
3. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure for Command1:  
  

```
Sub Command1_Click()  
    Unload Form1  
End Sub
```
4. Add the following code to the Form1\_Unload event procedure:

```
Sub Form1_Unload(Cancel as integer)
    If MsgBox("Continue to unload the form?",1) = 2 Then
        cancel = -1
    Else
        cancel = 0
    End If
End Sub
```

5. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File (ALT, F, K). Enter a filename for the .EXE program and choose the OK button.
6. From the Windows Program Manager File menu, choose Run (ALT, F, R), and enter the name of the .EXE file created in step 5.

While the program is running, exit by double-clicking the system menu or by pressing the command button. You will see the message box appear and you will be able to abort unloading the form if you choose the Cancel button.

Now try running the program (step 6 above) and bring up the Windows Task List by pressing CTRL+ESC. If you select the name of the program from the Task List and then choose the End Task button, your program will terminate without the message box ever being displayed in Visual Basic version 1.0.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Rotate a Bitmap in VB for Windows

Article ID: Q80406

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic Programming System for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article contains a program example that uses Visual Basic for Windows statements and functions to rotate a bitmap.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Steps to Create Example Program

-----

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 will be created by default.
2. Place two picture boxes named Picture1 and Picture2 on Form1. Assign a bitmap to the Picture property of Picture1.
3. Set the ScaleMode property of both picture boxes to 3 - Pixel.
4. Set the AutoSize property of Picture1 to True (-1).
5. Set the AutoRedraw property of Picture1 and Picture2 to True (-1).
6. Place a command button named Command1 on Form1.
7. Enter the following code in the Command1\_Click event procedure:

```
' Example of how to call bmp_rotate.  
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    Const Pi = 3.14159265359  
  
    For angle = Pi / 6 To 2 * Pi Step Pi / 6  
        picture2.Cls  
        Call bmp_rotate(picture1, picture2, angle)  
    Next  
End Sub
```

8. Enter the following code in the general Declarations section:

```
' bmp_rotate(pic1, pic2, theta)  
' Rotate the image in a picture box.  
'   pic1 is the picture box with the bitmap to rotate  
'   pic2 is the picture box to receive the rotated bitmap  
'   theta is the angle of rotation
```



```

'
Sub bmp_rotate (pic1 As Control, pic2 As Control, ByVal theta!)
    Const Pi = 3.14159265359
    Dim c1x As Integer ' Center of pic1.
    Dim c1y As Integer ' "
    Dim c2x As Integer ' Center of pic2.
    Dim c2y As Integer ' "
    Dim a As Single ' Angle of c2 to p2.
    Dim r As Integer ' Radius from c2 to p2.
    Dim p1x As Integer ' Position on pic1.
    Dim p1y As Integer ' "
    Dim p2x As Integer ' Position on pic2.
    Dim p2y As Integer ' "
    Dim n As Integer ' Max width or height of pic2.

    ' Compute the centers.
    c1x = pic1.scalewidth / 2
    c1y = pic1.scaleheight / 2
    c2x = pic2.scalewidth / 2
    c2y = pic2.scaleheight / 2

    ' Compute the image size.
    n = pic2.scalewidth
    If n < pic2.scaleheight Then n = pic2.scaleheight
    n = n / 2 - 1
    ' For each pixel position on pic2.
    For p2x = 0 To n
        For p2y = 0 To n
            ' Compute polar coordinate of p2.
            If p2x = 0 Then
                a = Pi / 2
            Else
                a = Atn(p2y / p2x)
            End If
            r = Sqr(1& * p2x * p2x + 1& * p2y * p2y)

            ' Compute rotated position of p1.
            p1x = r * Cos(a + theta)
            p1y = r * Sin(a + theta)

            ' Copy pixels, 4 quadrants at once.
            c0& = pic1.Point(c1x + p1x, c1y + p1y)
            c1& = pic1.Point(c1x - p1x, c1y - p1y)
            c2& = pic1.Point(c1x + p1y, c1y - p1x)
            c3& = pic1.Point(c1x - p1y, c1y + p1x)
            If c0& <> -1 Then pic2.PSet (c2x + p2x, c2y + p2y), c0&
            If c1& <> -1 Then pic2.PSet (c2x - p2x, c2y - p2y), c1&
            If c2& <> -1 Then pic2.PSet (c2x + p2y, c2y - p2x), c2&
            If c3& <> -1 Then pic2.PSet (c2x - p2y, c2y + p2x), c3&
        Next
        ' Allow pending Windows messages to be processed.
        t% = DoEvents()
    Next
End Sub

```

9. Assign a bitmap image to the Picture1 Picture property.

10. To start the program, press F5, then click the Command1 button. The program rotates the image of Picture1 by 30 degrees and places the rotated image in Picture2. It continues to draw the image rotated at successive multiples of 30 degrees until it has rotated the picture by 360 degrees.

To save the new bitmap created in Picture2, you can use the following statement:

```
SavePicture Picture2.Image, "filename.bmp"
```

Additional reference words: 1.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Clear VB Picture Property at Run Time Using LoadPicture

Article ID: Q80488

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

During execution of a Visual Basic program, you can clear the Picture property of a form or picture control by using the LoadPicture function. Calling LoadPicture with no parameters and assigning the result to the Picture property of a form or control will clear the Picture property.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is documented in the Visual Basic Help menu under the LoadPicture function.

### Code Example

-----

To clear the picture property at run time, do the following:

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. Make a picture box called Picture1.
3. Assign a bitmap or icon the picture1.picture property.
4. Add the following code to the form1.click event by double-clicking the form:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    picture1.picture = LoadPicture()  
End Sub
```

5. Run the program.

6. Click the form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgGrap

## How to Print Multiline Text Box Using Windows API Functions

Article ID: Q80867

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Printing the Text property of a multiline text box while maintaining the line structure requires attention to word wrapping and carriage return/line feeds. The programmer can either track the number of characters and lines in code or use Windows API functions to manipulate the Text property. This article demonstrates these techniques in a Visual Basic example.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The example below demonstrates how to use the API function SendMessage() to track the number of lines in a multiline text box and to select and print the lines the way they appear -- with line breaks or word wrapping intact. This code will work without modification even if the form and controls are resized at run time. The actual position of word wrapping will change.

For more information about API functions relating to text boxes, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

API and text and box and manipulate

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Create a form and place a label, text box, and command button on it.
2. Set the following properties at design time:

Control	Property	Setting
-----		
Text box	TabIndex	0 (zero, or first in tab order)
Text box	MultiLine	True
Label	AutoSize	True
Label	Name	aGetLineCount

3. Add the following code to the Global module:

```
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function SendMessage% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%, ByVal wMsg%,
    ByVal wParam%, ByVal lParam As Any)
Global Buffer As String
```

```

Global resizing As Integer
Global Const EM_GETLINE = &H400 + 20
Global Const EM_GETLINECOUNT = &H400 + 10
Global Const MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE = 80 ' Scale this to size of text box

```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Load procedure:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    ' Size form relative to screen dimensions.
    ' Could define all in move command but recursive definition causes
    ' extra paints.
    form1.width = screen.width * .8
    form1.height = screen.height * .6
    ' Enter the following form1.Move method on one, single line:
    form1.Move screen.width\2-form1.width\2,
               screen.height\2-form1.height\2
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code to the Form\_Resize procedure:

```

Sub Form_Resize ()
    resizing = -1 ' Global flag for fGetLineCount function call
    ' Dynamically scale and position the controls in the form.
    ' This code also is executed on first show of form.
    Text1.Move 0, 0, form1.width, form1.height \ 2
    Text1.SelStart = Text1.SelStart ' To avoid UAE -see Q80669
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    command1.Move form1.width\2-command1.width\2,
                 form1.height-form1.height\4
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    aGetLineCount.Move form1.width \ 2 - command1.width \ 2,
                      Text1.height
    X% = fGetLineCount() ' Update to reflect change in text box size
    resizing = 0
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    '* Pop up an inputbox$ to allow user to specify which line
    '* in the text box to print or print all lines.
    '* Also check bounds so that a valid line number is printed
    OK = 0 ' Zero the Do Loop flag
    NL$ = Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)
    prompt$ = "Which line would you like to print?"
    prompt1$ = prompt$ + NL$ + "Enter -1 for all"
    prompt2$ = "Too many lines" + NL$ + "Try again!" + NL$ + prompt1$
    prompt$ = prompt1$
    Do
        response$ = InputBox$(prompt$, "Printing", "-1")
        If response$ = "" Then Exit Sub ' if user hits cancel then exit
        If Val(response$) > fGetLineCount() Then
            prompt$ = prompt2$
        Else
            OK = -1 ' Line chosen is in valid range so exit DO
        End If
    Loop Until OK

```

```

If Val(response$) = -1 Then ' Print all lines
    ndx& = fGetLineCount&()
    For N& = 1 To ndx&
        Buffer = fGetLine(N& - 1)
        printer.Print Buffer ' or print to the screen
    Next N&
Else ' Print a line
    Buffer = fGetLine(Val(response$) - 1)
    printer.Print Buffer ' or print to the screen
End If
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the general Declarations section of the form's code:

```

Function fGetLine$ (LineNumber As Long)
    ' This function fills the buffer with a line of text
    ' specified by LineNumber from the text box control.
    ' The first line starts at zero.
    byteLo% = MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE And (255) '[changed 5/15/92]
    byteHi% = Int(MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE / 256) '[changed 5/15/92]
    Buffer$ = chr$(byteLo%) + chr$(byteHi%)+Space$(MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE-2)
    ' [Above line changed 5/15/92 to correct problem.]
    text1.SetFocus 'Set focus for API function GetFocus to return handle
    x% = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETLINE, LineNumber, Buffer)
    fGetLine$ = Buffer
End Function

```

```

Function fGetLineCount& ()
    ' This function will return the number of lines
    ' currently in the text box control.
    ' Setfocus method illegal while in resize event
    ' so use global flag to see if called from there
    ' (or use setfocus prior to this function call in general case).
    If Not resizing Then
        Text1.SetFocus ' Set focus for following function GetFocus
        resizing = 0
    End If
    lcount% = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETLINECOUNT, 0&, 0&)
    aGetLineCount.caption = "GetLineCount = " + Str$(lcount%)
    fGetLineCount& = lcount%
End Function

```

7. Add the following code to the Text1\_Change event:

```

Sub Text1_Change ()
    X% = fGetLineCount() '* Update label to reflect current line
End Sub

```

8. Save the project. Then run the application.
9. Enter text into the text box and either let it wrap or use the ENTER key to arrange lines.
10. Choose the button or TAB and press ENTER.
11. Choose the default (which prints all lines) or enter the line

desired. If you choose Cancel, nothing will print.

12. Resize the form and repeat steps 9 to 11 above. The text will appear on the printed page as you saw it in the text box. Modify the example to print to the screen, write to a file, and so forth.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Windows Programmer's Reference Book and Online Resource"  
(Visual Basic Add-on kit number 1-55615-413-5)

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 textbox

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgWindow

**PRB: GotFocus Event Fails If MsgBox Invoked in LostFocus Event**  
**Article ID: Q85856**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

Invoking a message box from a control's LostFocus event will prevent the GotFocus event of the next selected control from executing.

CAUSE

=====

This happens because the GotFocus event is not executed. Removing the message box from the control's LostFocus will allow the GotFocus event to execute as expected.

WORKAROUND

=====

To work around the problem, set a flag in the control's LostFocus event procedure. Then call a generic test routine from the next control's GotFocus event, as demonstrated in the following example:

1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Create the following controls and properties for Form1:

Control	CtlName (Name in 2.0 or 3.0)	Property Setting
-----		
Text Box	Text1	TabIndex = 0
Text Box	Text2	TabIndex = 1

3. Add the following code to the general Declarations section of Form1:

```
Dim Text1LostFocus As Integer
Sub CheckLostFocus()
    If Text1LostFocus Then
        MsgBox "Text1 has Lost the Focus"
        Text1LostFocus = 0
    End If
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Text1\_LostFocus event procedure:

```
Sub Text1_LostFocus ()
    Text1LostFocus = -1
```



End Sub

5. Add the following code to the Text2\_GotFocus event procedure:

```
Sub Text1_GotFocus ()
    Call CheckLostFocus
    MsgBox "Text2 has Received the Focus"
End Sub
```

6. Press F5 to run the program.

Now, both message boxes should appear as expected when the focus is changed by using the TAB key or by clicking the Text2 box.

STATUS  
=====

This behavior is by design. It is a limitation of Visual Basic's MsgBox statement.

MORE INFORMATION  
=====

Steps to Reproduce Behavior  
-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Create the following controls and properties for Form1:

Control	CtlName (Name in 2.0)	Property Setting
Text Box	Text1	TabIndex = 0
Text Box	Text2	TabIndex = 1

3. Add the following code to the Text1\_LostFocus event procedure:

```
Sub Text1_LostFocus ()
    MsgBox "Text1 has Lost the Focus"
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Text2\_GotFocus event procedure:

```
Sub Text2_GotFocus ()
    MsgBox "Text2 has Received the Focus"
End Sub
```

5. Press F5 to run the program.

Notice that when you click the second text box (Text2), the message box specified in the GotFocus event fails to display. This also occurs if you try to tab between text boxes or set up labels and quick keys.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Common Dialog Custom Control: FilterIndex Can Be Negative

Article ID: Q80934

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The FilterIndex property of the Common Dialog custom control (COMMDLG.DLL) can be any long integer value, including negative numbers and 0 (zero).

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Normally, the smallest value to which you would set the FilterIndex property is 1, because the first filter is defined as 1. If you use a number less than 1, such as 0 or any negative number (within the range of a long integer), you will get the same result as if you set it equal to 1.

Likewise, if you use a number greater than the total number of filters, the FilterIndex property will function as if you set it to the last of the filters.

For example, if you have three filters and you set FilterIndex to -2, it will function as if you set FilterIndex to 1. If you set FilterIndex to 23, it will function as if you set FilterIndex to 3.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Common Dialog Control: Pipe (|) Optional in Filter Property

Article ID: Q80935

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The pipe character (|), which is placed at the end of each selection in the Filter property of the Common Dialog custom control, is optional on the last item in the string.

This information applies to the Common Dialog custom control supplied with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows and with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Filter is a property of the Common Dialog custom control (COMMDLG.DLL). The Filter property is assigned a string that contains sets of "description" and "filter". Each set represents one entry in the List Files of Type list box.

Each of these items in the string are followed by a pipe character (|). The last item in the list need not be followed by a pipe, although it is allowed.

The syntax for using the Filter property is as follows:

```
CommonDialog.Filter[= desc1$|filter1$|desc2$|filter2$]
```

Either of the following code examples will work:

```
CMDialog1.Filter = "Text Files (*.txt)|*.txt"
```

-or-

```
CMDialog1.Filter = "Text Files (*.txt)|*.txt|"
```

The Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Toolkit documentation uses both of these methods in its code examples.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Use More than One Type of Font in Picture Box

Article ID: Q81220

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The text box control in Visual Basic for Windows displays the entire text box with either the FontUnderline, FontBold, FontItalic, or FontStrikethru fonts, but with only one font at a time. This behavior is by design.

However, you may want to display a box with all four fonts at the same time with separate words displayed in different fonts. Below is an example of displaying the fonts FontBold, FontItalic, FontStrikethru, and FontUnderline fonts in a picture box control in Visual Basic for Windows to work around the limitation in text boxes.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The example below is one way of simulating a text box's contents in a variety of fonts.

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a picture box on Form1, and double-click the picture box to open the Code window. Add the following code to the Click event. Notice that the font properties are a Boolean type (that is, -1 = True and 0 = False).

```
Sub Picture1_Click ( )
```

```
    '** The word "Hello, " will be in FontBold.  
    temp$ = "Hello, "  
    Picture1.FontBold = -1  
    Picture1.FontItalic = 0  
    Picture1.FontStrikethru = 0  
    Picture1.FontUnderline = 0  
    Picture1.Print temp$
```

```
    '** Need to program the next location to print in FontItalic.  
    Picture1.Currentx = 500  
    Picture1.Currenty = 0
```

```

Picture1.FontBold = 0
Picture1.FontItalic = -1
Picture1.FontStrikethru = 0
Picture1.FontUnderline = 0
temp$ = " there!"
Picture1.Print temp$

'*** Need to program location to print in FontStrikethru.
Picture1.Currentx = 1100
Picture1.Currenty = 0
Picture1.FontBold = 0
Picture1.FontItalic = 0
Picture1.FontUnderline = 0
Picture1.FontStrikethru = -1
temp$ = "This"
Picture1.Print temp$

'*** Need to program location to print in FontUnderline.
Picture1.Currentx = 0
Picture1.Currenty = 200
Picture1.FontBold = 0
Picture1.FontItalic = 0
Picture1.FontStrikethru = 0
Picture1.FontUnderline = -1
temp$ = "is a test."
Picture1.Print temp$

```

End Sub

Notice that the CurrentX and CurrentY properties are used to place the text at a certain location in the picture box. This example is rather simple, but its purpose is to give you an idea on how to simulate a text box in Visual Basic for Windows to be more flexible with a mix of the different types of fonts available.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
 KBCategory:  
 KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Visual Basic SendKeys Statement Is Case Sensitive

Article ID: Q81466

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The SendKeys statement in Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows is case sensitive with regards to the keystrokes sent. Sending an uppercase letter may be interpreted by the receiving application differently than the lowercase version of a letter.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following line of code sends an ALT+F key combination to the application that currently has the focus:

```
SendKeys "%(F) "
```

Note that this is different than ALT+f:

```
SendKeys "%(f) "
```

This can be a problem because some applications distinguish between an uppercase F and lower case f when sent by the SendKeys statement.

For example, Microsoft Word versions 1.0b and earlier for Windows (WINWORD.EXE) do not distinguish the difference. However, Microsoft Word version 2.0 for Windows does distinguish the lowercase f sent by SendKeys.

When SendKeys (from Visual Basic for Windows) sends the ALT+F key combination, WINWORD.EXE version 2.0 interprets the keystroke as ALT+Shift+f, at which Word for Windows will simply beep. However, SendKeys using ALT+f will correctly activate the File menu.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **Task List Switch to VB Application Fails After ALT+F4 Close**

**Article ID: Q81469**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Selecting the Close command from the Control menu (ALT+F4) to quit a Visual Basic for Windows application will not necessarily unload any other forms that have been loaded. If other forms have been loaded but are not visible, the application may still be running under Windows. If this is the case, the Windows Task List will still contain the name of the application. Attempting to switch to the application from the Windows Task List will be unsuccessful.

If you want the application to terminate as a result of unloading a particular form, place an End statement in the Form\_Unload event procedure for the form, or use the Unload statement to unload all forms that are loaded. This will cause all forms (visible and invisible) to be unloaded, and the application to terminate.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Even if the form that is closed is the designated startup form in your application, it will not automatically unload previously loaded forms. Therefore, the application can in fact still be running and appear in the Windows Task List. You can terminate the application by selecting the End Task button in the Windows Task List, but you will not be able to switch to the task.

Below are the steps necessary to cause an application to terminate when a particular form is closed from the Control menu (ALT+F4).

With the application loaded in VB.EXE (the Visual Basic for Windows development environment), do the following:

1. Double-click the form to open the Code window.
2. Add an End statement to the Form\_Unload event procedure for the form. For example:

```
Sub Form_Unload (Cancel As Integer)

    ' Your code goes here.
```

End ' This unloads all the forms and terminates the application.

End Sub

Adding an End statement to the Unload event procedure of a form will not cause the Unload event procedures for the other forms to be called. To cause the Unload event procedures for the other forms to be called, use the Unload statement to explicitly unload each form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## Overflow Error Plotting Points Far Outside Bounds of Control

Article ID: Q81953

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Visual Basic for Windows may give an Overflow error when you plot points on a form or picture box if a point's coordinates far exceed the borders and scale of the form or control. The point at which overflow occurs depends on the ScaleMode property value and the points plotted. In the case of ScaleMode = 0 (User Defined Scale), the size of the form or picture box and the scale chosen are also determinants.

A workaround is to trap the error and use a RESUME NEXT statement to exit the error handler. The example below contains the necessary code to trap the Overflow error.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Before Visual Basic for Windows can plot a point, it must first convert the coordinates into their absolute location in twips. If, after the conversion, one or both coordinates are greater than 32,767 or less than -32,768, an Overflow error is generated. The following chart lists the ScaleModes, their equivalence in twips, and the values that will cause a coordinate (z) to overflow:

ScaleMode	Equivalents in Twips (Tp)	Overflow Point (z)
-----	-----	-----
0 (User defined)	User defined	User defined (see example)
1 (Twips)	1 twip = 1 twip	(z < -32768) or (z > 32767)
2 (Point)	1 point = 20 twips	(z < -1638) or (z > 1638)
3 (Pixel)	System dependent	System dependent
4 (Character)	x-axis=120 twips/char y-axis=240 twips/char	(x < -273) or (x > 273) (y < -136) or (y > 136)
5 (Inch)	1 Inch = 1440 twips	(z < -22) or (z > 22)
6 (Millimeter)	1 mm = 56.7 twips	(z < -577) or (z > 577)
7 (Centimeter)	1 cm = 567 twips	(z < -57) or (z > 57)

The example below can be used to determine the value that generates the Overflow error for ScaleMode 0 or 3.

### Example

-----

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Add the following controls to Form1:

Control	Name (use CtlName in Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows)
Text box	Text1
Command button	Command1

3. Set the MultiLine property for Text1 to True. With ScaleMode = 0 only, the overflow value is dependent upon the size of the picture box or form. If you are testing the overflow value with ScaleMode = 0, you must size the form appropriately.

4. Add the following code to the Form1 Form\_Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Command1.Caption = "Find Ranges"

    '* Change ScaleMode to see different results.
    Form1.ScaleMode = 3 ' PIXEL.
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    CR$ = Chr$(13) + Chr$(10) ' Carriage return.

    X = FindValue("X")
    Y = FindValue("Y")

    Text1.Text = "Valid value when..."
    Text1.Text = Text1.Text + CR$ + "-" + Str$(X) + " < X < " + Str$(X)
    Text1.Text = Text1.Text + CR$ + "-" + Str$(Y) + " < Y < " + Str$(Y)
End Sub
```

6. Add the following general purpose function to the general Declarations section:

```
Function FindValue (Which$)
    On Error GoTo rlhandler

    HiValue = 100000
    LoValue = 0
    Errored = FALSE
    ' Do binary select.
    Do
        NewCheck = Value
        If Errored Then
            Value = HiValue - (HiValue - LoValue) \ 2
        Else
            Value = LoValue + (HiValue - LoValue) \ 2
        End If

        If Which$ = "X" Then
```

```

        Form1.PSet (Value, 0)
    Else
        Form1.PSet (0, Value)
    End If

    If ErrorNum = 6 Then
        HiValue = Value
        ErrorNum = 0
    Else
        LoValue = Value
    End If
    Loop Until NewCheck = Value
    FindValue = Value

Exit Function

rlhandler:
' Err = 6 is OverFlow error.
If Err = 6 Then
    ErrorNum = Err
Else
    Form1.Print Err
End If
Resume Next

End Function

```

7. In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, add the following to the general declarations section of Form1:

```

Const FALSE = 0
Const TRUE = -1

```

8. From the Run menu, choose Start (or press the F5 key), and click the Command1 button to calculate the point at which the X and Y coordinates generate an Overflow error.

When the above Click event is triggered, Visual Basic for Windows will try to set a point on the form. Past the border, Visual Basic for Windows is plotting points that exceed the visual scope of the control. Once the program traps the Overflow error, the text box will display the valid range of coordinates you can use that will not generate the Overflow error.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
 KBCategory:  
 KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: MDI Child: Child Window May Adopt Image of Other Control**  
**Article ID: Q81956**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

When an MDI Child custom control is placed on a form, no other non-MDI Child control(s) should be placed on the same form. If a non-MDI Child control is placed directly on the parent form, the MDI child window may appear to adopt, or "pick up," the control when the MDI child window is minimized then maximized (so that it covers the control on the form once maximized or sized).

RESOLUTION

=====

This article does not apply to later versions of Visual Basic. The MDI Child custom control shipped only with version 1.0. Multiple-document interface (MDI) forms are built into Visual Basic version 2.0 and later, making the MDI custom control obsolete.

When using the MDI Child custom control, you should only place controls directly on the child windows you create. The "Microsoft Visual Basic Custom Control Reference" states on page 184 that no controls should be placed on the form (parent window) when using MDI child windows.

STATUS

=====

The problem described in this article does not occur in Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem in Visual Basic Version 1.0

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the MDICHILD.VBX custom control file. The MDI Child tool appears in the toolbox.
3. Place an MDI Child control on Form1.
4. Place another control (for example, a command button) directly on

the form outside the MDI child window.

5. Press F5 to run the application.
6. Move the MDI child window so that it is covering the command button by clicking and dragging the title bar.
7. Click the Minimize button (the down arrow) on the MDI child window to minimize it.
8. Double-click the icon of the minimized MDI child window to restore it.
9. The MDI child window will now appear to have a command button on it.

The MDI child window does not actually have a fully functional copy of the control that was placed directly on the form--it has only an image of the control (in this example, a command button).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **'Text' Property is Read-Only Error as Set Combo Box Text Prop**

**Article ID: Q84056**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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If you assign a value to the Text property of a combo box with Style=2 (Dropdown list), you will receive a

'Text' property is read-only

error message. To assign a default value to a combo box with the Style property set to 2, you need to set the ListIndex property of the combo box. If you assign a value to the Text property of a combo box with Style set to 0 (Dropdown Combo) or 1 (Simple Combo), you will not get the above error message.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

A combo box combines the features of a text box and a list box. The user can make a selection by selecting an item from its list or by entering text in the text box portion of the combo box at the top of the combo box.

If the Style property is set to 0 (Dropdown Combo) or 1 (Simple Combo), the user can select an item in the list or enter text in the text portion of the combo box. The text entered may or may not be an item in the list. A default value for the combo box can be set either by assigning a value to the ListIndex property or by assigning a value to the Text property of the combo box.

However, if the Style property is set to 2 (Dropdown List), the user can only select an item from the list. The user cannot enter text directly in the text portion of the combo box. Therefore, a default item for the combo box can be set by assigning a value to the ListIndex property. The Text property of a combo box with Style set to 2 (Dropdown List) is read-only.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Visual Basic: Language Reference," version 1.0, page 311

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Close VB Combo Box with ENTER key

Article ID: Q84474

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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If you open a combo box and then use the ARROW keys to scroll through it, pressing the ENTER key will not close the combo box like a mouse click will. This is normal behavior. The following example demonstrates how to make a combo box close when the ENTER key is pressed.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following program makes use of the Windows API SendMessage function to send the combo box the message to close. This is done only after the ENTER key is detected in the KeyPress event for the combo box.

Two Windows API Declare statements must be added to your application. These can be added either in the GLOBAL.BAS module, or in the general Declarations section of the form containing the combo box.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following two declarations to the global module or the General Declarations for Form1:

```
Declare Function SendMessage% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%, ByVal  
                                           wParam%, ByVal lParam%)  
Declare Function GetFocus Lib "user" () As Integer
```

(Note that the first Declare statement must be on just one line, not split across two lines as it is here.)

3. Place a combo box on Form1.
4. Under the KeyPress event for the combo box, place the following code:

```

If KeyAscii = 13 Then
    Const WM_USER = &h400
    Const CB_SHOWDROPDOWN = WM_USER + 15

    Combo1.SetFocus
    BoxwHND% = GetFocus()
    r% = SendMessage(BoxwHND%, CB_SHOWDROPDOWN, 0, 0)
    KeyAscii = 0
End If

```

5. Place a command button on Form1.

6. In the Click event for Command1, place the following code:

```

' This will add some data to the combo box.
for i =1 to 10
    Combo1.AddItem STR$(i)
Next i

```

7. Press the F5 key to run the application.

8. Choose the Command1 button to fill the combo box.

9. Open the combo box with the mouse, and scroll down with the ARROW keys.  
Pressing the ENTER key will close the Combo Box.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## How to Make ENTER Key Move Focus Like TAB Key for VB Controls

Article ID: Q85562

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can cause the ENTER key to move the focus to the control with the next higher TabIndex property value, as the TAB key does.

However, using the Enter key to move the focus does not follow recommended Windows application design guidelines. The Enter key should be used to process the default command or to process entered information, not to move the focus.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can detect when the user presses ENTER from the KeyPress event procedure by checking to see if the KeyAscii parameter is the character code for ENTER (13). Then you can move the focus to the next control in the TabIndex order with SendKeys "{tab}". You can move the focus to the previous control with SendKeys "+{tab}".

This technique works with most kinds of controls. It does not work with command button controls, because command buttons do not receive the KeyPress event when you press ENTER.

### Steps to Create Example Program

-----

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add two text boxes (Text1 and Text2) to Form1.
3. Enter the following code in the Text1 KeyPress procedure:

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
    If KeyAscii = 13 Then ' The ENTER key.
        SendKeys "{tab}" ' Set focus to next control.
        KeyAscii = 0      ' Ignore this key.
    End If
End Sub
```

4. Enter the following code in the Text2 KeyPress procedure:

```
Sub Text2_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
```

```
    If KeyAscii = 13 Then ' The ENTER key.  
        SendKeys "{tab}" ' Set focus to next control.  
        KeyAscii = 0      ' Ignore this key.  
    End If  
End Sub
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program. When you press ENTER, the focus moves between the two controls.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 return key

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Can TAB in Error if Value of Option Button Set to False**  
**Article ID: Q85990**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

=====

SYMPTOMS

Setting the Value of an option button to False (0) also sets its TabStop property to False. If you set the Value property of an option button to False without setting the Value property of another option button to True (-1), Visual Basic will allow the user to tab over the other option buttons because all the TabStops are set to False.

This is an invalid state for a group of option buttons. One of the option buttons should always be selected (that is, its Value property should be set to True, which also sets the TabStop property to True).

CAUSE

By default, the TabStop property of option buttons is set to True. Once an option button is selected at run time, the Value property for the other option buttons not selected is set to False, which also sets the TabStop property to False. If you just change the Value property of one option button to False, and do not set the Value property of another option button to True, none of the other option buttons will have their TabStop property set to True, and these option buttons will be skipped when the user presses the TAB key to move through controls at run time.

WORKAROUND

To avoid this problem, ensure that one of the options in an option group is always selected.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a command button (Command1), two option buttons (Option1 and Option2) and another command button (Command2) on Form1.
3. Set the Value property of Option1 to True.
4. Add the following code to the Command1 Click procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
```

```
        Const FALSE = 0
        Option1.Value = FALSE
    End Sub
```

Note that you do not need to setup a Const FALSE = 0 in Visual Basic version 2.0 because FALSE is already a keyword in version 2.0.

5. Press F5 to run the program.

If you do not click Command1, you can TAB through Option1. However, you will TAB over both option buttons if you click Command1.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Programmatically Display or Hide a VB Combo Box List

Article ID: Q85991

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The list of a Visual Basic drop-down combo box (Style=0 or 2) is usually opened and closed by using a mouse. However, you can also open and close the list of a combo box programmatically by using the Windows SendMessage function as described below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The CB\_SHOWDROPDOWN constant can be used with the SendMessage function to programmatically open or close the list of a Visual Basic drop-down combo box of Style=0 or Style=2 (Style=1 always has the list displayed). The following steps demonstrate how to open the list of a drop-down combo box:

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a combo box (Combo1) and a command button (Command1) on Form1.
3. Add the following declarations and constants to the general Declarations section of Form1:

```
Declare Function GetFocus Lib "User" () as Integer
Declare Function GetParent Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd as Integer)
                                as Integer
Declare Function SendMessage Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd as Integer,
                                ByVal wParam as Integer,
                                ByVal lParam as Any) as
                                Long

' Each Declare above must be on one line.
Global Const WM_USER = &H400
Global Const CB_SHOWDROPDOWN = WM_USER + 15
```

4. Add the following code to the Form1 Load event procedure to put some items in the combo box:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Combo1.AddItem "apple"
    Combo1.AddItem "orange"
```

```
        Combo1.AddItem "banana"  
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    Combo1.SetFocus  
    cbhWnd% = GetFocus ()  
    cblisthWnd% = GetParent (cbhWnd%)  
    cbFunc% = -1          'cbFunc% = -1 displays the list  
                        'cbFunc% = 0 hide the list  
    retval& = SendMessage (cblisthWnd%, CB_SHOWDROPDOWN,  
                           cbFunc%, 0&)  
End Sub
```

6. Press F5 to run the program. Click Command1 to display the list of the combo box.

If Style=2 for the combo box, there is no need to use the GetParent function. Use the return value of the GetFocus (cbhWnd% in the above example) call as the first parameter of the SendMessage function.

(Note: The list of a combo box with Style=0 or 2 will close whenever the combo box loses focus.)

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Example to Evaluate Basic Numeric Expressions

Article ID: Q86688

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article contains an example program that evaluates a numeric expression contained in a string, mimicking the operators, built-in functions, and order of evaluation used by Microsoft Basic language products. This article also explains the operator precedence rules in detail.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The example program listed below recognizes the following operators and subexpressions, listed by precedence from highest to lowest:

- Constants, function calls, parentheses
- Exponentiation ^
- Unary minus -
- Multiplication and division \*, /
- Integer division \
- Integer modulus MOD
- Addition and subtraction +, -
- Relational operators =, <>, <, >, <=, >=
- NOT
- AND
- OR
- XOR
- EQV
- IMP

The precedence of unary minus "-" and operator "NOT" indicate the highest possible precedence of their operand. Unary minus and "NOT" may occur in an expression of any precedence. The following expressions illustrate the precedence rules for unary minus and "NOT".

Expression	Value
-----	-----
-1 ^ 2	-1
-(1 ^ 2)	-1
(-1) ^ 2	1
2 ^ -2	.25
NOT 0 = 1	-1

```

NOT (0 = 1)      -1
(NOT 0) = 1      0
NOT 0 AND 1      1
(NOT 0) AND 1    1
NOT (0 AND 1)    -1

```

The example program listed below accepts number constants written as decimal numbers with an optional fraction. For example, it accepts "123" and "123.4". It is possible to modify the program to recognize hexadecimal, scientific notation, or other formats.

This example program also recognizes the following functions: ABS, ATN, COS, EXP, FIX, INT, LOG, RND, SNG, SIN, SQR, and TAN.

#### Steps to Create Example Program

---

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 will be created by default.
2. Add a text box (Text1) and a command button (Command1) to Form1.
3. Set the Text property for Text1 to the null string (empty).
4. Enter the following code in the Command1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim n As Double

    If e_eval(Text1.Text, n) Then
        MsgBox Format$(n)
    End If
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code in the general Declarations section of Form1:

```

' To run this program in Visual Basic for MS-DOS, change the
' following Dim statements to DIM SHARED.
'
Dim e_input As String      ' Expression input string.
Dim e_tok As String        ' Current token kind.
Dim e_spelling As String   ' Current token spelling.
Dim e_error As Integer     ' Tells if syntax error occurred.

' e_eval
' Evaluate a string containing an infix numeric expression.
' If successful, return true and place result in <value>.
' This is the top-level function in the expression evaluator.
Function e_eval (ByVal s As String, value As Double) As Integer
    ' Initialize.
    e_error = 0
    e_input = s
    Call e_nxt

    ' Evaluate.
    value = e_prs(1)

```



```

' Check for unrecognized input.
If e_tok <> "" And Not e_error Then
    MsgBox "syntax error, token = '" + e_spelling + "'"
    e_error = -1
End If

e_eval = Not e_error
End Function

' e_prs
' Parse an expression, allowing operators of a specified
' precedence or higher. The lowest precedence is 1.
' This function gets tokens with e_nxt and recursively
' applies operator precedence rules.
Function e_prs (p As Integer) As Double
    Dim n As Double ' Return value.
    Dim fun As String ' Function name.

    ' Parse expression that begins with a token (precedence 12).
    If e_tok = "num" Then
        ' number.
        n = Val(e_spelling)
        Call e_nxt
    ElseIf e_tok = "-" Then
        ' unary minus.
        Call e_nxt
        n = -e_prs(11) ' Operand precedence 11.
    ElseIf e_tok = "not" Then
        ' logical NOT.
        Call e_nxt
        n = Not e_prs(6) ' Operand precedence 6.
    ElseIf e_tok = "(" Then
        ' parentheses.
        Call e_nxt
        n = e_prs(1)
        Call e_match(")")
    ElseIf e_tok = "id" Then
        ' Function call.
        fun = e_spelling
        Call e_nxt
        Call e_match("(")
        n = e_prs(1)
        Call e_match(")")
        n = e_function(fun, n)
    Else
        If Not e_error Then
            MsgBox "syntax error, token = '" + e_spelling + "'"
            e_error = -1
        End If
    End If

    ' Parse binary operators.
Do While Not e_error
    If 0 Then ' To allow ElseIf .
    ElseIf p <= 11 And e_tok = "^" Then Call e_nxt: n = n ^ e_prs(12)
    ElseIf p <= 10 And e_tok = "*" Then Call e_nxt: n = n * e_prs(11)

```

```

ElseIf p <= 10 And e_tok = "/" Then Call e_nxt: n = n / e_prs(11)
ElseIf p <= 9 And e_tok = "\" Then Call e_nxt: n = n \ e_prs(10)
ElseIf p <= 8 And e_tok = "mod" Then Call e_nxt: n = n Mod e_prs(9)
ElseIf p <= 7 And e_tok = "+" Then Call e_nxt: n = n + e_prs(8)
ElseIf p <= 7 And e_tok = "-" Then Call e_nxt: n = n - e_prs(8)
ElseIf p <= 6 And e_tok = "=" Then Call e_nxt: n = n = e_prs(7)
ElseIf p <= 6 And e_tok = "<" Then Call e_nxt: n = n < e_prs(7)
ElseIf p <= 6 And e_tok = ">" Then Call e_nxt: n = n > e_prs(7)
ElseIf p <= 6 And e_tok = "<>" Then Call e_nxt: n = n <> e_prs(7)
ElseIf p <= 6 And e_tok = "<=" Then Call e_nxt: n = n <= e_prs(7)
ElseIf p <= 6 And e_tok = ">=" Then Call e_nxt: n = n >= e_prs(7)
ElseIf p <= 5 And e_tok = "and" Then Call e_nxt: n = n And e_prs(6)
ElseIf p <= 4 And e_tok = "or" Then Call e_nxt: n = n Or e_prs(5)
ElseIf p <= 3 And e_tok = "xor" Then Call e_nxt: n = n Xor e_prs(4)
ElseIf p <= 2 And e_tok = "eqv" Then Call e_nxt: n = n Eqv e_prs(3)
ElseIf p <= 1 And e_tok = "imp" Then Call e_nxt: n = n Imp e_prs(2)
Else
    Exit Do
End If
Loop

e_prs = n
End Function

' e_function.
' Evaluate a function. This is a helper function to simplify
' e_prs.
Function e_function (fun As String, arg As Double) As Double
    Dim n As Double

    Select Case LCase$(fun)
        Case "abs": n = Abs(arg)
        Case "atn": n = Atn(arg)
        Case "cos": n = Cos(arg)
        Case "exp": n = Exp(arg)
        Case "fix": n = Fix(arg)
        Case "int": n = Int(arg)
        Case "log": n = Log(arg)
        Case "rnd": n = Rnd(arg)
        Case "sgn": n = Sgn(arg)
        Case "sin": n = Sin(arg)
        Case "sqr": n = Sqr(arg)
        Case "tan": n = Tan(arg)
        Case Else
            If Not e_error Then
                MsgBox "undefined function '" + fun + "'"
                e_error = -1
            End If
        End Select

    e_function = n
End Function

' e_nxt
' Get the next token into e_tok and e_spelling and remove the
' token from e_input.
' This function groups the input into "words" like numbers,

```

```

' operators and function names.
Sub e_nxt ()
    Dim is_keyword As Integer
    Dim c As String ' Current input character.

    e_tok = ""
    e_spelling = ""

    ' Skip whitespace.
    Do
        c = Left$(e_input, 1)
        e_input = Mid$(e_input, 2)
    Loop While c = " " Or c = Chr$(9) Or c = Chr$(13) Or c = Chr$(10)

    Select Case LCase$(c)

        ' Number constant. Modify this to support hexadecimal, etc.
        Case "0" To "9", "."
            e_tok = "num"
            Do
                e_spelling = e_spelling + c
                c = Left$(e_input, 1)
                e_input = Mid$(e_input, 2)
            Loop While (c >= "0" And c <= "9") Or c = "."
            e_input = c + e_input

        ' Identifier or keyword.
        Case "a" To "z", "_"
            e_tok = "id"
            Do
                e_spelling = e_spelling + c
                c = LCase$(Left$(e_input, 1))
                e_input = Mid$(e_input, 2)
                is_id% = (c >= "a" And c <= "z")
                is_id% = is_id% Or c = "_" Or (c >= "0" And c <= "9")
            Loop While is_id%
            e_input = c + e_input

        ' Check for keyword.
        is_keyword = -1
        Select Case LCase$(e_spelling)
            Case "and"
            Case "eqv"
            Case "imp"
            Case "mod"
            Case "not"
            Case "or"
            Case "xor"
            Case Else: is_keyword = 0
        End Select
        If is_keyword Then
            e_tok = LCase$(e_spelling)
        End If

        ' Check for <=, >=, <>.
        Case "<", ">"
            e_tok = c

```

```

        c = Left$(e_input, 1)
        If c = "=" Or c = ">" Then
            e_tok = e_tok + c
            e_input = Mid$(e_input, 2)
        End If

        ' Single character token.
        Case Else
            e_tok = c
        End Select

        If e_spelling = "" Then
            e_spelling = e_tok
        End If
    End Sub

    ' e_match
    ' Check the current token and skip past it.
    ' This function helps with syntax checking.
    Sub e_match (token As String)
        If Not e_error And e_tok <> token Then
            MsgBox "expected " + token + ", got '" + e_spelling + "'"
            e_error = -1
        End If
        Call e_nxt
    End Sub

```

6. Press F5 to run the program. Type an expression into Text1 such as "1+2\*3^4". Click Command1.

The program displays the result, 163 in this case.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Use Path Property to Change File and Directory List Boxes

Article ID: Q86279

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Using the ChDir or ChDrive statement to change the current directory or drive does not change the listing of a file list box or a directory list box. However, the list changes if you run the program a second time in the VB.EXE environment. To change the contents of a file list box or a directory list box properly, you have to set its Path property instead.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Reproduce Behavior:

-----

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a label (Label1), a file list box (File1), and a directory list box (Dir1) on to Form1.
3. In the Form\_Load event procedure, add the following code:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    ChDir "C:\DOS"
    Label1.Caption = CurDir$
End Sub
```
4. Press F5 to run the program. The label will display "C:\DOS", but the files listed are still those from the directory where Visual Basic was started.
5. From the Run menu, choose End. Press F5 to run the program again. This time, the files listed are from the C:\DOS subdirectory.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Visual Basic Can Load RLE4 and RLE8 Bitmap Format Files

Article ID: Q86283

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Microsoft Visual Basic can load icons (.ICO), Windows metafiles (.WMF), Windows bitmap files (.BMP), and Windows compressed bitmap files (.RLE), both RLE4 and RLE8.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can load an .RLE bitmap file as you would any other bitmap. For example, at design time you can set the Picture property of a picture box or form to an .RLE file. You can also use the LoadPicture function at run time to load the .RLE file into a picture box or form.

Although Visual Basic can load these image formats, the SavePicture statement can only save images in the regular Windows bitmap (.BMP) or Windows icon (.ICO) file format.

To save an image as an icon (.ICO), you must first load it as an icon. You can change the image using graphics methods such as Line and PSet, and then save the Picture property of the picture box or form as an icon (.ICO). Otherwise, you can only save images as Windows bitmap files (.BMP).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Right Align Top-Level Menus in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q86772

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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It is possible to right align top-level menu items by including a CHR\$(8) (backspace) as the first character of the caption for the left-most menu that you want to appear on the right side of the menu bar. This can only be done at run-time.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Step-by-Step Example

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1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the Window menu, choose Menu Design Window.
3. Create a menu item with One as both caption and control name.
4. Choose the Next button, and repeat step 3 with using Two as the name.
5. Choose Done to exit the Menu Design Window. You now have two top-level menus.
6. Add the following code to the Form1 Form\_Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Two.Caption = Chr$(8) + Two.Caption  
End Sub
```

7. Press F5 to run the program.

The Two menu item appears on the right side of the menu bar. If you also add the backspace to the One menu caption, both menus will be right-aligned.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Unable to Display Uppercase W in Small Text Box

Article ID: Q87770

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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### SYMPTOMS

An uppercase W character may fail to display in the smallest possible size text box on a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows form with the default FontSize (8.25) and FontName (Helv or Helvetica) selected. All other uppercase letters display correctly.

### CAUSE

Because the uppercase letter W is the widest of the uppercase letters in the Helv 8.25 font, and it is slightly wider than the width of the smallest possible Visual Basic text box, there is not enough room to display the letter. Therefore, nothing appears in the text box.

### RESOLUTION

This situation is a limitation of the text box control in Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows. Avoid the problem by using a different font for the text box or by increasing the size of the text box.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

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1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the smallest possible text box to display the letter T in the word Text1 of the text box to Form1.
3. Press F5 to run the example. Activate the CAPS LOCK key and type an uppercase W.

In Windows version 3.0, the letter W does not appear in the text box. Instead, a space appears as if you had pressed the SPACEBAR.

In Windows version 3.1, the letter W appears not to be entered. It appears as if it is ignored.

For further testing, try other uppercase letters. There should be no problem with displaying other uppercase letters.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:



KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **PRB: SendKeys May Return Illegal Function Call Error**

**Article ID: Q87773**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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### SYMPTOMS

The SendKeys statement reports the error "Illegal function call" when its argument contains an incorrectly formatted string. This article describes specific circumstances that cause this error, and contains a code example that shows how to send any string with SendKeys.

### CAUSE

The following characters have special meaning to the SendKeys statement:

+ ^ % ~ ( ) [ ] { }

The SendKeys statement reports an "Illegal function call" error if its argument contains one of the following, not enclosed in braces:

- An unmatched parenthesis ( ) or bracket { }
- A bracket [ ]
- Braces containing an undefined character sequence, such as {abc}

### RESOLUTION

To prevent the SendKeys statement from interpreting a character, enclose the character in braces { }. For example, to send the string

The interest rate is 5% (annually).

Use the following SendKeys syntax:

SendKeys "The interest rate is 5{%} {(}annually{)})."

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Step-by-Step Example

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The following example demonstrates how to use the SendKeys statement to send strings that would normally cause an "Illegal function call" error:

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a text box (Text1) on Form1.

3. Place a command button (Command1) on Form1.

4. Enter the following code:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Text1.SetFocus
    SendKeys sendkeys_prepare("1+2^5% ")
    SendKeys sendkeys_prepare("[] ")
    SendKeys sendkeys_prepare("{abc}")
End Sub

' The following function puts braces {} around characters that
' are special to the SendKeys statement.
Function sendkeys_prepare (in As String) As String
    For i% = 1 To Len(in)
        ' Get the next character into c$.
        c$ = Mid$(in, i%, 1)
        ' If c$ is one of the special characters.
        If InStr("+^%~()[]{}", c$) Then
            out$ = out$ + "{" + c$ + "}"
        Else
            out$ = out$ + c$
        End If
    Next
    sendkeys_prepare = out$
End Function
```

5. Press F5 to run the program. Click Command1. Some example text containing characters special to SendKeys appear in Text1.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Visual Basic: Language Reference," version 1.0, pages 283-284

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: SetFocus During Form Load May Cause Illegal Function Call**  
**Article ID: Q88477**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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SYMPTOMS

Using the SetFocus method to set the focus to a specific control on a form during the form load event procedure may result in an "Illegal Function Call" error.

CAUSE

This error occurs because the form that the control is on is not yet visible.

RESOLUTION

To prevent this error from occurring, execute Form.Show before executing the SetFocus method.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

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1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a text box (Text1) on Form1.
3. Add the following code to the Form\_Load procedure for Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Text1.SetFocus  
End Sub
```

4. Press F5 to run the application. The line of code in the load event will be highlighted with the error "Illegal Function Call."
5. If you show the form before executing SetFocus, the program will run as expected.

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Form1.Show  
    Text1.SetFocus  
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **PRB: DropDown Combo Box May Display Partial String**

**Article ID: Q89219**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SYMPTOMS

=====

If the Visual Basic for Windows Combo Box Style is set to "0 - Dropdown Combo," you may see only the rightmost portion (right-aligned string) of the text displayed in the text box portion of the combo box at run time.

This problem only occurs if the combo box is too narrow to display the entire string.

### WORKAROUND

=====

To work around the problem, set the combo box Style property to "2 - Dropdown List" to change the Style property displays to the left part of the string.

Another alternative is to design the combo box with a wider dimension by increasing the width to greater than 1440 twips (the equivalent of one inch). For example, if you set the Width property to 4320 twips, the width increases to approximately three inches -- a size of combo box that would hold the entire string in the example shown in the More Information section below.

### STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Demonstrate Behavior

- 
1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
  2. Add a one-inch wide combo box (that is, the width is equal to 1440 twips by default for a combo box) to Form1.
  3. Double-click the form or press F7 to open the Form\_Click event procedure. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    Combo1.AddItem "12345678900000000000" '** 10 zeros  
End Sub
```

4. Press F5 to run the example, or from the Run menu, choose Start.
5. Click the form a couple of times.
6. Select the down arrow on the combo box, and click one of the entries. You should see the entry being placed in the text box portion of the combo box, but instead the entry only displays zeros. The digits 1 through 9 are not displayed.
7. If you change the Style property of the combo box to "2 - Dropdown List," and try the example, the left-aligned string displays in the combo box.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Click Event Invoked When Option Button Receives Focus**  
**Article ID: Q88792**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

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When an option button or group of option buttons is initially placed on a form in Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, the buttons will remain unselected until the focus is shifted to one of the option buttons. This can cause unexpected results, because shifting the focus to one of the option buttons will invoke a Click event for that option button.

WORKAROUND

=====

To work around this feature, you must manually, in design mode, set the Value property for one of the option buttons to True.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

In a group of option buttons, one of the buttons should be selected unless the option buttons apply to only certain selected objects on the current form. In this case, the option buttons, when initially displayed, would not be selected.

Visual Basic for Windows will allow option buttons to be placed on a form without selecting any of the option buttons. If you desire to create a group of option buttons with none of them selected, there is no way to prevent a Click event from being invoked when the focus is shifted to one of them. A problem may occur when an unselected option button is first in the tab order. The option button will automatically get selected when the form is shown. In all cases, to prevent the Click event from occurring, in design mode, you must set the Value property of one of the option buttons to True.

The following steps demonstrate this feature, as well as a way to work around this feature:

Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----



1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Set the AutoRedraw property for Form1 to True. This prevents any text printed to the screen from being overwritten when Windows redraws the form.
3. Create one or more option buttons on Form1.
4. In the Click event procedure for the first option button, insert the following code:

```
PRINT "Option Button Clicked"
```

5. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.

Note that the Click event is invoked when the form is shown and the focus is given to the first option button. To work around this problem, after creating the option buttons in step 2, set the Value property of one of the option buttons to True.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Detect when the Active Form Changes in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q88909

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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A program can detect when the active form changes by monitoring Screen.ActiveForm with a timer control. You generally cannot use the Form\_GotFocus event to detect when the active form changes because GotFocus only occurs on forms that contain no active controls.

### MORE INFORMATION

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To determine when the user activates a new form, put a timer on one of your active forms that continuously checks to see if a property on Screen.ActiveForm changes. For example, Screen.ActiveForm.Caption gives the caption of the current form. If each form has a unique caption, Screen.ActiveForm.Caption changes as the active form changes.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose New Form to create Form2.
3. Add a timer (Timer1) to Form1 and set its Interval to 100.
4. Enter the following code into the Timer1\_Timer event procedure:

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()
    Static last_caption As String
    If Screen.ActiveForm.Caption <> last_caption Then
        MsgBox Screen.ActiveForm.Caption + " activated"
        last_caption = Screen.ActiveForm.Caption
    End If
End Sub
```

5. Enter the following code into the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Form2.Show
End Sub
```

6. Press F5 to run the program. When you run the program and each time you activate a new form, a message box displays the caption of the newly activated form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 VBMSDOS

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Determine Which Option Button is Selected in VB

Article ID: Q88910

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article describes a suggested method for determining which one of a group of option buttons is selected.

### MORE INFORMATION

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You can do the following to determine which option button is selected:

1. Make the group of option buttons a control array.
2. In the Click event handler for the control array, save the index of the selected option button into a global variable.
3. When you want to know which option button is selected, check the global variable.

An alternative method to check which option button was selected is to examine the Value property of each option button in a sequence of If-Then statements, or in a Select Case statement.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a command button (Command1) and option button (Option1) on Form1.
3. With Option1 selected, from the Edit menu, choose Copy.
4. From the Edit menu, choose Paste. A dialog box asks you if you want to create a control array. Choose Yes.
5. Change the Caption property of the two option buttons to "option 1" and "option 2".
6. Enter the following code into the general Declarations section of Form1:  
  
Dim option\_index As Integer
7. Enter the following code into the Option1 control array Click event procedure:

```
Sub Option1_Click (Index As Integer)
    option_index = Index
End Sub
```

8. Enter the following code into the Command1 Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    MsgBox Option1(option_index).Caption
End Sub
```

9. Press F5 to run the program. When you click Command1, a dialog box displays the caption of the selected option button.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Make a Spreadsheet-Style Grid that Allows Editing

Article ID: Q88912

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.00
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Grid custom control does not provide any text editing capability. However, you can create a spreadsheet-style grid that allows editing by using a picture box and a text box.

### MORE INFORMATION

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We do not recommend creating a spreadsheet-style grid with a large matrix of text box controls because doing so will slow down your program, and use excessive system resources.

An efficient way to create a grid is to draw vertical and horizontal lines to represent the cells of the grid. Use a single text box to allow editing of the active cell. Check for MouseDown events to move the text box to the currently active cell position, and use the Print method to draw text in a cell when the text box moves away from the cell. Then, store the grid cell values in a two dimensional array, indexed by the column and row.

Code can be added to allow for highlighting areas, using ARROW keys to move between cells, and so on.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a picture (Picture1) on Form1, and set its properties as follows:

Property	Value
-----	
AutoRedraw	True
ScaleMode	3 - Pixel
Height	2000
Width	3000

3. Place a text box (Text1) in Picture1 by clicking the text box tool. The mouse pointer turns to cross-hairs. Click and drag inside Picture1 to place a gray rectangle appears in Picture1.
4. Add the following code to the general Declarations section of Form1:

```

' Maximum grid size.
Const grid_col_max = 10
Const grid_row_max = 20

' Current grid size.
Dim grid_cols As Integer
Dim grid_rows As Integer

' Current cell position.
Dim grid_col As Integer
Dim grid_row As Integer

' Grid string contents.
Dim grid_text(grid_col_max, grid_row_max) As String

' Grid line positions.
Dim grid_line_col(grid_col_max) As Integer
Dim grid_line_row(grid_col_max) As Integer

' grid_edit_move.
'   Moves the grid edit text box to a new position.
'
Sub grid_edit_move (col As Integer, row As Integer)
    Dim x1 As Integer ' Picture box positions.
    Dim y1 As Integer
    Dim x2 As Integer
    Dim y2 As Integer

    ' Save text box contents to grid array.
    grid_text(grid_col, grid_row) = Text1.Text

    ' Clear current cell.
    x1 = grid_line_col(grid_col) + 1
    y1 = grid_line_row(grid_row) + 1
    x2 = grid_line_col(grid_col + 1) - 1
    y2 = grid_line_row(grid_row + 1) - 1
    Picture1.Line (x1, y1)-(x2, y2), Picture1.BackColor, BF

    ' Print text box contents to current cell.
    Picture1.CurrentX = x1 + 3
    Picture1.CurrentY = y1 + 3
    Picture1.Print Text1.Text

    ' Set new grid current cell.
    grid_col = col
    grid_row = row

    ' Move text box to new cell.
    x1 = grid_line_col(grid_col)
    y1 = grid_line_row(grid_row)
    w! = grid_line_col(grid_col + 1) - x1
    h! = grid_line_row(grid_row + 1) - y1
    Text1.Move x1 + 1, y1 + 1, w! - 1, h! - 1

    ' Copy contents of new cell to text box.
    Text1.Text = grid_text(grid_col, grid_row)

```

End Sub

5. Add the following code to form Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    ' Set grid size.
    grid_cols = 4
    grid_rows = 6

    ' Remove border.
    Picture1.BorderStyle = 0

    ' Set column widths and row heights.
    Dim i As Integer
    Dim d As Integer
    d = 0
    For i = 0 To UBound(grid_line_col)
        grid_line_col(i) = d
        d = d + 40
    Next
    d = 0
    For i = 0 To UBound(grid_line_row)
        grid_line_row(i) = d
        d = d + 20
    Next

    ' Draw grid lines.
    For i = 0 To grid_cols
        x2% = grid_line_col(i)
        y2% = grid_line_row(grid_rows)
        Picture1.Line (grid_line_col(i), 0)-(x2%, y2%)
    Next
    For i = 0 To grid_rows
        x2% = grid_line_col(grid_cols)
        y2% = grid_line_row(i)
        Picture1.Line (0, grid_line_row(i))-(x2%, y2%)
    Next

    Call grid_edit_move(0, 0)
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Picture1 GotFocus event procedure:

```
Sub Picture1_GotFocus ()
    Text1.SetFocus
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Picture1 MouseDown event procedure:

```
' The following line should appear on one line.
Sub Picture1_MouseDown (Button As Integer, shift As Integer,
    x As Single, y As Single)
    Dim col As Integer
    Dim row As Integer
    Dim i As Integer

    ' Find the cell clicked in.
```



```

col = grid_col
row = grid_row
For i = 0 To grid_cols - 1
    If x>=grid_line_col(i) And x<grid_line_col(i+1) Then
        col = i
        Exit For
    End If
Next
For i = 0 To grid_rows - 1
    If y>=grid_line_row(i) And y<grid_line_row(i+1) Then
        row = i
        Exit For
    End If
Next

' Move the text box there.
Call grid_edit_move(col, row)
End Sub

```

8. Press F5 to run the program. Click a cell and edit the text.

This example is very limited in functionality. Text can be edited in each cell but you must click a cell to move to that particular cell. This article shows a method of creating a grid without tying up a large amount of system resources. Feel free to add code to increase its functionality.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 optimize

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd PrgCtrlsCus

## Visual Basic 3.0 Programming Questions & Answers

Article ID: Q92550

---

The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

1. Q. I use the picture control to group other controls. However when I select the picture control, the other controls do not remain on top of the picture control. How can I correct this problem?  
  
A. This problem occurs if you place the controls on the form in the same place as the picture control but not in the picture control itself. To group the controls in a picture control, you must first select the Picture control and then draw the desired control within the Picture control. For more information, please see Chapter 3 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Programmer's Guide."
2. Q. How can I make calls from Visual Basic to the functions in the Windows Application Programming Interface (API) or other dynamic link libraries (DLLs)?  
  
A. To call a subroutine or function from one of the Windows APIs or any other DLL, you need to first provide a Declare statement for that subroutine or function in your Visual Basic application. The exact syntax for the declaration for each Windows API function can be found in the WIN31API.HLP help file included with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic. For more information, please see Chapter 24 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Programmer's Guide."
3. Q. Is there a reference available that lists the correct Visual Basic declarations for the Multimedia API functions?  
  
A. Yes, the file is called WINMMSYS.TXT. It comes with the Professional edition of Visual Basic. You can find it in the \VB\WINAPI directory.
4. Q. Is there a reference available that lists the correct Visual Basic declarations for the Windows for Workgroups API functions?  
  
A. No, at this time such a file is not available from Microsoft. However, you can obtain a copy of the Windows for Workgroups SDK from the WINEXT forum on CompuServe.
5. Q. I followed the examples in the manuals and in the help file on how to use Domain functions such as DSum and DCount, but I keep receiving this error:

Reference to undefined function or array.

Why?

- A. The examples provided for the Domain Aggregate functions are incorrect. These functions must be used within an SQL Statement just as SQL Aggregate functions such as Sum and Count are used. Please look at the SQL Aggregate examples to see how to use these functions within an SQL Statement. For more information, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

DOMAIN and FUNCTION and SQL

6. Q. I want to sort the records referenced by the Data Control in my application. I tried to use the Index Property as described in the example in the manual and in the help file, but I receive the following error message:

Property 'Index' not found

Why?

- A. The examples provided in the Index Property are incorrect. The Index property does not apply to the Data Control. To sort the records referenced by the Data Control, use the ORDER BY Clause within an SQL Statement in the RecordSource property of the Data Control.
7. Q. Is there a better way than the Print Form method to print Forms and Controls in a program?
- A. Yes, it is possible to print forms and/or controls and specify the printed size by using various Windows API function calls. This process is documented in Microsoft Knowledge Base article Q85978. You can also find this article in the top 10 Microsoft Knowledge Base articles that are in the Visual Basic help file. To view these articles, select "Technical Support" from the Contents screen in the Visual Basic help file. Then select "Knowledge Base Articles on Visual Basic."

Additional reference words: 3.00 ivrfax fasttips

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgOther TlsCDK

## **Name Property Cannot Be Set When Using Implicit Property**

**Article ID: Q93214**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

On Page 126 of the Visual Basic Programmer's Guide, it incorrectly states that all controls have an implicit property you can use for storing or retrieving values. Some controls supplied with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic for Windows use the Name property as their implicit property, which you cannot use at run-time.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following controls from the Visual Basic Professional Edition use the Name property as their implicit property:

- Common dialog
- MAPI session
- MAPI message
- Spin button

Attempting to access the implicit property of these controls results in one of the following errors:

- 'Name' property cannot be read at run time
- 'Name' property cannot be set at run time

You access the implicit property of a control (also known as the "value of a control" or the "default value of a control") by writing the control name with no property. For example, with a text box named Text1, you can write the following statement to assign a value to the Text property:

```
Text1 = "hello world"
```

The following list shows the implicit properties for all the controls in both the Standard and Professional Editions:

Standard Control	Implicit Property
-----	-----
Check box	Value
Combo box	Text
Command button	Value
Directory list box	Path
Drive list box	Drive
File list box	FileName
Frame	Caption
Grid	Text

Image	Picture
Label	Caption
Line	Visible
List box	Text
Menu	Enabled
OLE client	Action
Option button	Value
Picture box	Picture
Scroll bar vertical	Value
Scroll bar horizontal	Value
Shape	Shape
Text box	Text
Timer	Enabled

Professional Control	Implicit Property
----------------------	-------------------

3D check box	Value
3D command button	Value
3D frame	Caption
3D group push button	Value
3D option button	Value
3D panel	Caption
Animated button	Value
Common dialog	Name (not usable)
Communications	Input
Gauge	Value
Graph	QuickData
Key status	Value
MAPI session	Name (not usable)
MAPI message	Name (not usable)
Masked edit	Text
Multimedia MCI	Command
Pen BEdit	Text
Pen HEdit	Text
Pen ink on bitmap	Picture
Pen on-screen keyboard	Visible
Picture clip	Picture
Spin button	Name (not usable)

Additional reference words: 2.00 docerr

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsDoc PrgCtrlsStd PrgCtrlsCus

## **Making Enter Key in Directory List Box Act Like Double-Click**

**Article ID: Q93215**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

When you double-click an item in a directory list box control, it opens the directory and displays its subdirectories.

The directory list box control ignores the Enter key by default. To cause a directory list box to treat the Enter key the same way as a double-click, set the Path property to List(ListIndex) from within the KeyPress event handler.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following code shows how to cause a directory list box to open the selected directory when the user presses the ENTER key. This code causes a Change event, just as when you double-click an item.

```
Sub Dir1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
    If KeyAscii = 13 Then
        Dir1.Path = Dir1.List(Dir1.ListIndex)
    End If
End Sub
```

If your form contains a command button with the Default property set to True, pressing the ENTER key clicks the command button instead of firing the KeyPress event. In this case, set the Path property to List(ListIndex) from within the button Click event handler. For example:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dir1.Path = Dir1.List(Dir1.ListIndex)
End Sub
```

Additional reference(s):

Chapter 18, "Using the File-System Controls" of the "Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Programmer's Guide"

Chapter 10, "Using the File-System Controls" of the "Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS Programmer's Guide"

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Change the Size of the Text Cursor in a Text Box

Article ID: Q94318

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Although there is no property that will allow you to change the appearance of the text cursor (text caret) in a Visual Basic text box, you can use the Windows API call `CreateCaret()` function to do so.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### API Calls

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In the example below, API calls change the size of the text cursor. The `CreateCaret()` function creates a new shape for the system caret and assigns ownership of the caret to the given window. The caret shape can be a line, block, or bitmap. Here's the syntax:

```
Void CreateCaret(hwnd, hbmp,nwidth,nheight)
```

```
HWND hwnd      - handle of owner window
HBITMAP hbmp    - handle of bitmap for caret shape
int nwidth      - caret width
int nheight     - caret height
```

The `ShowCaret()` function shows the caret on the screen at the caret's current position. Once shown, the caret begins flashing automatically.

```
Void ShowCaret(hwnd)
```

```
HWND hwnd      - handle of window with caret
```

The `GetFocus()` function retrieves the handle of the window that currently has the input focus.

```
HWND GetFocus(void)
```

#### Example Code

-----

To see these API calls in action do the following:

1. Start Visual Basic or start a new project (ALT, F, N).
2. Add two text boxes to Form1.

3. Add the following declarations to the General Declarations section of Form1. Note that you must enter each declaration on a single line even though, for readability, the first declaration is shown on two lines:

```
Declare Sub CreateCaret Lib "user" (ByVal w%, ByVal x%,  
    ByVal y%, ByVal z%)  
Declare Function showcaret% Lib "user" (ByVal x%)  
Declare Function getfocus% Lib "user" ()
```

4. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```
Sub Text1_GotFocus ()  
    h% = getfocus%()           ' get the handle to the text box  
    Call createcaret(h%, 0, 3, 24) ' create new caret size  
    x% = showcaret%(h%)        ' show the new caret  
End Sub
```

5. Run the program.

You will see that while the focus is on Text1 the size of the text caret in the text box appears larger than normal.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## Explanation of the Control Box Menu

Article ID: Q94936

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article describes how to cause the control box menu to drop down and retract as well as how to use the Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1 Size and Move options with Visual Basic for MS-DOS.

In Windows, the control box in the upper left corner of a window has a drop-down menu that appears when you click the control box. The drop-down menu contains items such as Move, Size, Minimize, and Maximize. Depending on the position of the mouse, when you hold down the mouse button, the drop-down menu either remains down or retracts to its original position.

### MORE INFORMATION

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If you click a window's control box, the menu remains down. To create the same effect in Visual Basic for Windows, press ALT+SPACE on the keyboard. In Visual Basic for MS-DOS, press ALT+- (the ALT and minus keys).

If you simply depress the mouse button over the control box instead of clicking the control box, the resulting behavior depends on where you release the mouse button:

- If the button is released over a grayed item, the menu remains dropped to indicate that the selection is not currently active.
- If the button is released outside of the menu or control box, the menu is dismissed and no action is taken
- If the button is released over an enabled menu item, then the menu is dismissed and the appropriate action is invoked.

The purpose of the Size and Move menu commands located in the control box on a window (form) can be confusing. They provide a way to move or size a window by using the keyboard. When you click the control box and choose either Move or Size, the outline of the window is displayed to indicate that you can now move or size the window by using the arrow keys on the keyboard. You must use the arrow keys; if you try to drag the outline with the mouse, you will cancel out the Move or Size operation and resume normal mouse operations. Once you have sized or moved the window to the correct position while it still has an outline, you can lock the window

into its new position by pressing the ENTER key.

Additional reference words: B\_VBmsdos

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Validating Text Box Data Causes Extra LostFocus Events

Article ID: Q96846

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Using the LostFocus event to validate data in a text box can cause excess LostFocus events after the data is determined invalid and focus is set back to the text box. Setting the focus back to the text box, as is the custom when data is invalid, causes a LostFocus event to occur in the control that just received the focus. If that control is also validating data in its LostFocus event and no data (or invalid data) is entered, that control could set the focus back to itself, triggering a LostFocus event in the text box.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To work around the problem, you need to handle the intended LostFocus event and ignore those generated as a side-effect of handling invalid data. Using a Dim Shared variable in Visual Basic for Windows or Visual Basic for MS-DOS, you can use the LostFocus event to validate text box data. A Dim Shared variable holding either the TabIndex of the next control to be validated or a flag indicating that any control can be validated next, allows you to ignore unintended LostFocus events in other controls.

The example below demonstrates how to use a Dim Shared variable to validate Text box data in the LostFocus event. The example gives step-by-step instructions for Visual Basic for Windows, but you can use the exact same code and controls in Visual Basic for MS-DOS without modification.

### Steps to Create Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add two text boxes (Text1 and Text1) to Form1.
3. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1. (In Visual Basic for MS-DOS, add the code to the form-level code.)

```
Dim Shared Focus As Integer
```

```
Function IsValid (t1 As TextBox) As Integer  
    If t1.Text = "" Then
```

```

        IsValid = False
    Else
        ' add other data restrictions here
        IsValid = True
    End If
End Function

```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    Focus = -1
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code to the Text1\_LostFocus event procedure:

```

Sub Text1_LostFocus ()
    If Not IsValid(Text1) And (Focus = -1 Or Focus = Text1.TabIndex) Then
        MsgBox "Text in Text1 invalid"
        Focus = Text1.TabIndex
        Text1.SetFocus
    Else
        Focus = -1
    End If
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the Text2\_LostFocus event procedure:

```

Sub Text2_LostFocus ()
    If Not IsValid(Text2) And (Focus = -1 Or Focus = Text2.TabIndex) Then
        MsgBox "Text in Text2 invalid"
        Focus = Text2.TabIndex
        Text2.SetFocus
    Else
        Focus = -1
    End If
End Sub

```

7. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program. Text boxes Text1 and Text2 both contain the default text, their Name property.
8. Delete the text in Text1.
9. Press the Tab key to move the focus to Text2. The Text1\_LostFocus event detects that there is no text in the text box, displays a message box stating that the text in the Text1 box is invalid, and sets the focus back to the Text1 box.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 b\_vbmsdos

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Use the Forms Collection to Unload All MDI Child Forms

Article ID: Q97620

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can use Visual Basic code to close all MDI children by using the forms collection. The forms collection contains references to all forms -- the MDI parent form, MDI children forms, and non-MDI forms. To unload or close all MDI forms, loop through the forms collection testing the value of the MDIChild property on each form. If the MDIChild property is true, unload the form.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Create Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Change the MDIChild property of Form1 to True.
3. From the File menu, choose New MDI Form (Alt+F+I). This creates the MDIForm1 MDI parent form.
4. From the Window menu, choose Menu Design (ALT+W+M), and create the following menu with two menu items on MDIForm1:

Caption	Name	Indent
File	mFile	no
New	mNew	once
Close All	mCloseAll	once

-----

5. Add the following code to the general declarations section of MDIForm1.

```
Dim ChildCount As Integer
```

6. Add the following code to the mNew event handler.

```
Sub mNew_Click ()  
    Dim newWindow As New Form1  
    ChildCount = ChildCount + 1  
    newWindow.Caption = "Child " & Str$(ChildCount)  
    newWindow.Show  
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the mCloseAll\_Click event handler.

```
Sub mCloseAll_Click ()
    i = 1
    Do While i < Forms.Count
        If forms(i).MDIChild Then
            ' *** Do not increment i% since a form was unloaded
            Unload forms(i)
        Else
            ' Form isn't an MDI child so go to the next form
            i = i + 1
        End If
    Loop
    ChildCount = 0
End Sub
```

8. From the Options menu, choose Project. Make MDIForm1 the Start Up Form.

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.

10. From the File menu on MDIForm1, choose New. Repeat this several times.

11. From the File menu on MDIForm1, choose Close All to unload all the MDI children.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Trap Keystrokes in the Form Instead of Form's Controls

Article ID: Q99688

---

The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.00 and 3.00
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

To trap all keystrokes at the form level instead of passing them to the form's controls, set the form's KeyPreview property to True and use KeyAscii=0 in the Form\_KeyPress event. This prevents keystrokes from going to the form's controls.

Note that KeyCode=0 in the Form\_KeyDown event won't prevent keystrokes going to the form's controls. This behavior is by design.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

A form's KeyPreview property determines whether form keyboard events are invoked before control keyboard events. The keyboard events are KeyDown, KeyUp, and KeyPress.

You can use the KeyPreview property to create a keyboard-handling procedure for a form. For example, when an application uses function keys, it's likely that you'll want to process the keystrokes at the form level rather than writing code for each control that might receive keystroke events. If a form has no visible and enabled controls, it automatically receives all keyboard events.

To handle keyboard events only at the form level and not allow controls to receive keyboard events, set KeyAscii to 0 in the form's KeyPress event.

### Using Form\_KeyPress Versus Form\_KeyDown to Prevent Text Box Input

---

This example demonstrates the difference between Form\_KeyPress and Form\_KeyDown to attempt to trap and prevent all keyboard input for a text box.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Set the KeyPreview property of Form1 to True.
3. Add a text box (Text1) to Form1.
4. Add the following code to the Form\_KeyDown event of Form1:

```
KeyCode = 0
```

5. From the Run menu, choose Start or press F5.

The Text1 box still accepts input, which you may not have expected. This behavior is by design.

To prevent the Text1 box from accepting input, add `KeyAscii = 0` to the `Form_KeyPress` event of `Form1`. This traps and disables all input to all the controls on the form, as desired. The `Form_KeyPress` event enables you to handle the keystrokes the way you want.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## Non-Menu Keys Disabled When Menu Pulled Down

Article ID: Q99811

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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When a Visual Basic menu is pulled down, all non-menu keystrokes are disabled and keystrokes cannot be detected. This behavior is by design. When a menu is down, all keystrokes just beep or do nothing, except for the keystrokes that control the menu.

You cannot determine which menu item the user chose, until after the user clicks the menu item or presses ENTER. The Click event for the menu item will then give you the chosen menu item.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Access Keys Give a User Keyboard Access to Menu Items

-----  
To give a user keyboard access to a menu item, insert an ampersand (&) immediately in front of a letter in the Caption by using the Menu Design Window. At run time, this letter (called the access key) is underlined. The user can change the focus to a menu or command by pressing ALT plus the letter (access key).

You can use an access key such as ALT+F to give focus quickly to a menu, command, or control by using the keyboard as an alternative to the mouse.

Unlike shortcut keys (such as F10 or CTRL+T, which are also assigned in the Menu Design Window), access keys do not execute commands when pressed, until the ENTER key is pressed. If you open a menu with an access key, then all non-menu keystrokes are disabled until you press a menu-control key such as ENTER, ESC, or ALT.

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----  
To trap all keystrokes in the form instead of the form's controls, you can set the form's KeyPreview property to True. However, because menu controls disable non-menu key presses when the menu is down, you won't be able to preview or trap keys that are pressed when the menu is down, as this example demonstrates:

1. Set the KeyPreview property to True for Form1.

2. Using the Menu Design window, add a Main menu with two submenus:

```
Mainmenu
  Submenu1
  Submenu2
```

3. In the KeyPress event for the form, print trapped key values as follows:

```
Sub Form_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
  Print Str$(KeyAscii)
End Sub
```

4. Run the program. Press any alphanumeric key, and its ASCII value will be trapped by Form\_KeyPress and be printed.
5. Click the Mainmenu menu to drop it down. While the menu is down, non-menu key strokes cause the computer to either beep or do nothing. For example, pressing the x key causes the computer to beep; pressing the F1 key causes the computer to do nothing; but pressing the s key toggles the menu selection between Submenu1 and Submenu2 because both begin with the letter s.
6. Press ESC, ALT, ENTER, or click the menu to make the menu go away and reenale trapping of keystrokes.

While the menu is down, the Form\_KeyPress event detects no keys.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **If Invoked by Access Key, Click Event Handled Before LostFocus**

**Article ID: Q99875**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Below is an example showing that the Click and LostFocus events occur in different order depending upon whether you cause the click event with the mouse or the keyboard (with an access key). This behavior is by design.

When the focus changes between controls, the Click event can occur before the LostFocus event in some situations. This is mainly because certain events (including GotFocus, LostFocus, and clicking the button with the mouse) are posted to a message queue and other events, such as ALT+V from the keyboard, are issued directly.

To force the code for the LostFocus event to always execute before the Click event code, place a DoEvents statement at the beginning of the Click event code.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

- 
1. Draw a text box (Text1) and a command button (Command1) on the default Form1.
  2. Set the Caption property of Command1 to &Valid. The &V sets up the ALT+V as a way to execute the Command1 button from the keyboard.
  3. Add a Beep statement to the Text1\_LostFocus event procedure.
  4. Add an End statement to the Command1\_Click event procedure.
  5. Press F5 to run the program. The focus starts by default on the Text1 box. Click the Command1 button, and notice that the LostFocus event occurs and you hear a Beep before the program ends.
  6. Press F5 to run the program again. The focus starts by default on the Text1 box. Type ALT+V to activate the Command1 button. Notice that the program ends with no LostFocus event (no beep).

The difference in behavior is not a bug. It is by design.

In order make the Text1\_LostFocus event occur first, place a DoEvents

statement (or function) at the beginning of the Click event code for the Command1 button.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 B\_VBMSDOS

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## Using UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW Keys to Move the Focus

Article ID: Q100413

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Standard and Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can trap for the UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW extended keyboard keys in some Visual Basic controls by placing code in the KeyDown event procedure. The code uses KeyCode values to trap the UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW keys. You cannot, however, trap the keys in all Visual Basic controls because some controls already have built-in functionality for the UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW keys, so there is no KeyDown event generated.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The information in this article is provided to show that it is possible to trap the UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW keys, however Microsoft does not recommend that you implement it because the UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW keys have standard, predefined behavior on some controls. Microsoft recommends that you use the standard method for using the keyboard to move the focus; that is, use the TAB and SHIFT+TAB keys or use the access keys.

### Step-by-Step Example for Moving the Focus Using UP ARROW and DOWN ARROW

- 
1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running.
  2. Add a Picture box and two Text boxes to Form1.
  3. In the Picture1\_KeyDown event procedure, add this code:

```
Sub Picture1_KeyDown(KeyCode AS INTEGER, Shift AS INTEGER)
    IF KeyCode = 38 Then      '* 38 = up arrow key
        Text2.SetFocus
        Text2.SelStart = 0    '* set the cursor to the start
    END IF

    IF KeyCode = 40 Then      '* 40 = down arrow key
        Text1.SetFocus
        Text1.SelStart = 0    '* set the cursor to the start
    END IF
END SUB
```

4. In the Text1\_KeyDown event procedure, add this code:

```

Sub Text1_KeyDown(KeyCode AS INTEGER, Shift AS INTEGER)
  If KeyCode = 38 Then      '* 38 = UP ARROW key
    Picture1.SetFocus
  End If

  If KeyCode = 40 Then      '* 40 = DOWN ARROW key
    Text2.SetFocus
    Text2.SelStart = 0      '* set the cursor to the start
  End If
End Sub

```

5. In the Text2\_KeyDown event procedure, add this code:

```

Sub Text2_KeyDown(KeyCode AS INTEGER, Shift AS INTEGER)
  If KeyCode = 38 Then      '* 38 = UP ARROW key
    Text1.SetFocus
    Text1.SelStart = 0      '* set the cursor to the start
  End If

  If KeyCode = 40 Then      '* 40 = DOWN ARROW key
    Picture1.SetFocus
  End If
End Sub

```

6. Choose Start from the Run menu or press F5 to run the example.  
Press the UP ARROW or DOWN ARROW key to see the focus move to a different control.

If you use the LEFT ARROW or RIGHT ARROW keys, you can scroll in a Text box, but these keys are ignored in the Picture box in this example.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 B\_VBmsdos 1.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Can't Use ActiveForm to Reference Data Control in VB 3.0**  
**Article ID: Q101252**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

SYMPTOMS

=====

Using the ActiveForm Property of the Screen control or an MDI Parent form to reference a Data control causes a "Type Mismatch" error in Visual Basic.

CAUSE

=====

This behavior is by design. This is not a bug in Visual Basic. The Visual Basic environment does not know in advance that the Active form will actually contain a Data control, so it generates a "Type mismatch" error.

WORKAROUND

=====

To avoid the error message, use global objects to reference the local controls. The "More Information" section below demonstrates one method for doing this.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Correct Problem

-----

This example shows how to correct the problem. First, create the problem by following the steps listed in "Steps to Reproduce Problem." Then correct the problem with these steps:

1. Add the following code to the Form\_Activate Event:

```
Sub Form_Activate ()  
    Set CurrentDS = Data1.Recordset  
End Sub
```

2. Change two lines of code into comments by adding a single quotation mark to the beginning of the line. Change the Set CurrentDS statement in the Set\_CurrentDS Sub in Module1 to a comment, and do the same to the Call Set\_CurrentDS statement in the Form\_Click event of Form1.

## Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a data control (Data1) to Form1.
3. Set the DatabaseName Property of Data1 to BIBLIO.MDB.
4. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.
5. Add the following code to the General section of Module1:

```
Global CurrentDS As DynaSet
```

6. Add the following code to Module1:

```
Sub Set_CurrentDS ()  
    Set CurrentDS = Screen.ActiveForm.Data1.Recordset  
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    Call Set_CurrentDS  
End Sub
```

8. From the Run menu, choose start (ALT, R, S) or press the F5 key.

A "Type mismatch" error will occur on the Set statement.

Additional reference words: 3.00 errmsg

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataIISAM PrgCtrlsStd



## How to Move Controls at Run Time By Using Drag and Drop

Article ID: Q103062

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can move controls at run time by using manual dragging with the Drag method. Automatic dragging (DragMode = 1) does not work well for repositioning controls at run time.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The key points to remember when using drag and drop to move controls at run time are:

- In the MouseDown event, save the X and Y parameters. This position is relative to the upper left corner of the control to drag. Note that the MouseDown event only occurs when DragMode is set to Manual (0).
- In the DragDrop event, move the control to the position of the mouse pointer adjusted by the position saved in MouseDown.

### Example Program

-----

The following example program demonstrates how to reposition a picture box at run time. Place the pieces of the program in the appropriate event procedures.

```
Dim Save_X As Single
Dim Save_Y As Single
```

' Enter the following Sub as one, single line:

```
Sub Picture1_MouseDown (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
    Single, Y As Single)
    Save_X = X          ' save mouse position (relative to this control)
    Save_Y = Y
    Picture1.Drag 1     ' begin dragging
End Sub
```

' Enter the following Sub as one, single line:

```
Sub Picture1_MouseUp (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
    Single, Y As Single)
    Picture1.Drag 2     ' end dragging, do DragDrop event
End Sub
```

```
Sub Form_DragDrop (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)
```

```
' Move the control to the position of the mouse pointer.
' Adjust it by the distance the mouse pointer to the upper
' left corner of the control.
Source.Move X - Save_X, Y - Save_Y
End Sub

Sub Picture1_DragDrop (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)
' This handles the case when the control is dropped on itself
' as would happen if it was only moved a small amount.
' This is similar to Form_DragDrop except that the X and Y
' parameters are relative to this control, not the form.
Source.Move Picture1.Left + X - Save_X, Picture1.Top + Y - Save_Y
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 runtime run-time  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Invalid picture Error When Try to Bind Picture Control**  
**Article ID: Q103115**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

If you try to bind a picture control to a Microsoft Access database field that contains an OLE object such as a PaintBrush bitmap, you will correctly receive the error "Invalid picture."

CAUSE

=====

This error occurs because the picture control can only bind to a bitmap, metafile, or icon stored in the database field -- not to an OLE object.

RESOLUTION

=====

Using the method described below, you can simulate the binding of a picture control to a PaintBrush OLE (or bitmap) object.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

If you use Microsoft Access to store a PaintBrush picture in an OLE field, there is no way to bind any control provided with Visual Basic version 3.0 to the OLE field. Ideally you could bind the MSOLE2 control to the data control, but no features were added to the MSOLE2 control to allow you to bind to a database field.

From Visual Basic, you can use a bound picture control to store and retrieve bitmaps, metafiles, and icons directly in a long binary or OLE database field. However, Microsoft Access will not be able to display the bitmap, metafile, or icon that you've stored.

Step-by-Step Example

-----

The following example demonstrate how you can create an application that retrieves and displays a bitmap from an OLE field containing a PaintBrush object. To get it to work, you need to have the NWIND.MDB sample database provided with Microsoft Access.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.

3. Add a picture control (Picture1) to Form1.
4. Add a data control (Data1) to Form1.
5. Set the Data1.Databasename property to NWIND.MDB and include the full path to this file. This file is a sample database that ships with Microsoft Access versions 1.0 and 1.1. Look for it in your Microsoft Access directory -- for example, C:\ACCESS.
6. Set the Data1.RecordSource property to Employees.
7. Add the following code to the Data1\_Reposition event procedure in Form1:

```

'*****
'* Title
'*     Data1_Reposition ()
'*
'* Description
'*     Each time the data control is being repositioned to a new
'*     record, the bitmap contained in the "Photo" is displayed
'*     in Picture1. Therefore, it simulates binding the picture
'*     control to an OLE field containing a Microsoft Paint Brush
'*     picture object.
'*
'*     The code requires a field named Photo, and it requires that
'*     the embedded OLE object be a Microsoft Paint Brush picture.
'*****
Sub Data1_Reposition ()

    Screen.MousePointer = 11

    'Make sure this is the current record:
    If Not (Data1.Recordset.EOF And Data1.Recordset.BOF) Then

        'Change Photo to the name of the OLE field
        'for the record set you are using:
        DisplayOleBitmap Picture1, Data1.Recordset("Photo")

    End If

    Screen.MousePointer = 0

End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to Module1:

```

'*****
'* OLEACCES.BAS
'*
'* general-declarations section
'*****
Option Explicit

Global Const LENGTH_FOR_SIZE = 4
Global Const OBJECT_SIGNATURE = &H1C15
Global Const OBJECT_HEADER_SIZE = 20

```

```

Global Const CHECKSUM_SIGNITURE = &HFE05AD00
Global Const CHECKSUM_STRING_SIZE = 4

'PT : Window sizing information for object
'    Used in OBJECTHEADER type
Type PT
    Width As Integer
    Height As Integer
End Type

'OBJECTHEADER : Contains relevant information about object
'
Type OBJECTHEADER
    Signature As Integer           'Type signature (0x1c15)
    HeaderSize As Integer          'Size of header (sizeof(struct
                                'OBJECTHEADER) + cchName +
                                'cchClass)
    ObjectType As Long             'OLE Object type code (OT_STATIC,
                                'OT_LINKED, OT_EMBEDDED)
    NameLen As Integer             'Count of characters in object
                                'name (CchSz(szName) + 1)
    ClassLen As Integer            'Count of characters in class
                                'name (CchSz(szClass) + 1)
    NameOffset As Integer          'Offset of object name in
                                'structure (sizeof(OBJECTHEADER))
    ClassOffset As Integer         'Offset of class name in
                                'structure (ibName + cchName)
    ObjectSize As PT               'Original size of object (see
                                'code below for value)
    OleInfo As String * 256
End Type

Type OLEHEADER
    OleVersion As Long
    Format As Long
    OleInfo As String * 512
End Type

'Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function GetTempFileName Lib "Kernel" (ByVal cDriveLetter
    As Integer, ByVal lpPrefixString As String, ByVal wUnique As
    Integer, ByVal lpTempFileName As String) As Integer

'Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Sub hmemcpy Lib "Kernel" (dest As Any, source As Any,
    ByVal bytes As Long)

'*****
'* Title
'*     DisplayOleBitmap
'*
'* Description
'*     Causes the OLE bitmap in the given data field to be
'*     copied to a temporary file. The bitmap is then
'*     displayed in the given picture.
'*
'* Parameters

```

```

'*      ctlPict          Picture control in which to display the
'*                        bitmap image
'*      OleField         Database field containing the OLE
'*                        embedded Microsoft Paint Brush bitmap
'*****
Sub DisplayOleBitmap (ctlPict As Control, OleField As Field)

    Const DT_LONGBINARy = 11

    Dim r As Integer
    Dim Handle As Integer
    Dim OleFileName As String

    If OleField.Type = DT_LONGBINARy Then

        OleFileName = CopyOleBitmapToFile(OleField)

        If OleFileName <> "" Then

            'Display the bitmap:
            ctlPict.Picture = LoadPicture(OleFileName)

            'Delete the temporary file:
            Kill OleFileName

        End If

    End If

End Sub

'*****
'* Title
'*      CopyOleBitmapToFile
'*
'* Description
'*      Copies the bitmap contained in a OLE field to a file.
'*****
Function CopyOleBitmapToFile (OleField As Field) As String

    Const BUFFER_SIZE = 8192

    Dim tempFileName As String
    Dim Handle As Integer
    Dim Buffer As String

    Dim BytesNeeded As Long

    Dim Buffers As Long
    Dim Remainder As Long

    Dim OLEHEADER As OBJECTHEADER
    Dim sOleHeader As String

    Dim ObjectOffset As Long
    Dim BitmapOffset As Long
    Dim BitmapHeaderOffset As Integer

```

```

Dim r As Integer
Dim i As Long

tempFileName = ""
If OleField.FieldSize() > OBJECT_HEADER_SIZE Then

    'Get the Microsoft Access OLE header:
    sOleHeader = OleField.GetChunk(0, OBJECT_HEADER_SIZE)
    hmemcpy OLEHEADER, ByVal sOleHeader, OBJECT_HEADER_SIZE

    'Calculate the offset where the OLE object starts:
    ObjectOffset = OLEHEADER.HeaderSize + 1

    'Get enough bytes after the OLE header so that we get the
    'bitmap header
    Buffer = OleField.GetChunk(ObjectOffset, 512)

    'Make sure the class of the object is a Paint Brush object
    If Mid(Buffer, 12, 6) = "PBrush" Then

        BitmapHeaderOffset = InStr(Buffer, "BM")

        If BitmapHeaderOffset > 0 Then

            'Calculate the beginning of the bitmap:
            BitmapOffset = ObjectOffset + BitmapHeaderOffset - 1

            'Calculate the size of the bitmap:
            'Enter the following BytesNeeded statement as a single line:
            BytesNeeded = OleField.FieldSize() - OBJECT_HEADER_SIZE -
                BitmapHeaderOffset - CHECKSUM_STRING_SIZE + 1

            'Calculate the number of buffers needed to copy
            'the OLE object based on the bitmap size:
            Buffers = BytesNeeded \ BUFFER_SIZE
            Remainder = BytesNeeded Mod BUFFER_SIZE

            'Get a unique, temp filename:
            tempFileName = Space(255)
            r = GetTempFileName(0, "", -1, tempFileName)

            'Copy the bitmap to the temporary file chunk by chunk:
            Handle = FreeFile
            Open tempFileName For Binary As #Handle

            For i = 0 To Buffers - 1
                'Enter the following Buffer statement as a single line:
                Buffer = OleField.GetChunk(BitmapOffset + i *
                    BUFFER_SIZE, BUFFER_SIZE)
                Put #Handle, , Buffer
            Next

            'Copy the remaining chunk of the bitmap to the file:
            'Enter the following Buffer statement as a single line:
            Buffer = OleField.GetChunk(BitmapOffset + Buffers *
                BUFFER_SIZE, Remainder)

```

```
        Put #Handle, , Buffer

        Close #Handle

    End If

End If

End If

CopyOleBitmapToFile = Trim(tempFileName)

End Function
```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press the F5 key to run the program.

You should see the photo of the first employee displayed in the picture box. By clicking the directional arrows on the data control, you can view the other employee photos.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd



## How to Prevent Multiple Instances of a VB Application

Article ID: Q102480

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article describes how to avoid loading a second instance of an application when the user already has one instance running. It also sets the focus to the first instance of the Visual Basic .EXE application when you attempt to start a second instance of the same application.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

With Microsoft Windows applications, you usually want only one instance of each application running at the same time. If, for example, you try to start the Windows File Manager when an instance is already running, the first instance of File Manager is activated and its window is opened. By using the following example, you can achieve the same effect with a Visual Basic application.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. On the startup form (Form1), put the following code in the Form\_Load event:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    If App.PrevInstance Then
        SaveTitle$ = App.Title
        App.Title = "... duplicate instance."
        Form1.Caption = "... duplicate instance."
        AppActivate SaveTitle$
        SendKeys "% R", True
    End
End If
End Sub
```

2. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File.
3. Exit Visual Basic for Windows.
4. Start your program through Program Manager or double-click the .EXE file name under Windows File Manager.
5. Minimize the program you started in step 4.
6. Attempt to start another instance of the program by repeating step 4.

When you try to launch a second instance of the program, the Visual Basic application executes the following logic:

1. It checks the App object property PrevInstance to see if there is a previous instance of an application with the same App.Title property.
2. If there is, the new instance of the program saves its App.Title property to a local string to be used to activate the first instance of the same name.
3. Then it changes its own name to avoid an ambiguous reference in the AppActivate call.
4. Next, it performs AppActivate which causes the first instance of the application to be the current window.
5. Now that the first instance of the application has the focus, the second instance uses SendKeys to send the equivalent keystrokes to restore the first instance's window state.
6. Finally, the second instance of the application Ends itself leaving the first instance with the focus.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory: Prg

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Out of Stack Space When One Modal Form Shows Another**  
**Article ID: Q103461**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

Any of the following error messages can occur when two or more forms in a program repeatedly show each other modally (SHOW 1).

- Out of stack space.
- Out of memory.
- Out of overlay stack space.

CAUSE

=====

This can happen even if you unload the form, which in turn shows the next form. A form is not actually unloaded by the Unload statement until all its event procedures return (End Sub or Exit Sub). Showing a form modally suspends execution and, like a procedure call, maintains information on the stack. Further explanation is given in the MORE INFORMATION section below.

WORKAROUNDS

=====

- Show the forms non-modally (SHOW 0). It is acceptable practice to have forms show each other non-modally.
- Do not have modal forms call each other continually. Instead, have an initial form call all the other forms. Think of this initial form (probably your startup form) as your foundation with all other forms called from the foundation.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following example gives an Out of stack space error message. Remove the apostrophe from (uncomment) the MsgBox statements in Visual Basic for MS-DOS to see the amount of remaining stack space.

```
' Form1:
Sub Form_Click ()
    ' MsgBox STR$(FRE(-2))
    Unload Form1
    Form2.Show 1
End Sub
```

```

' Form2:
Sub Form_Click ()
    ' MsgBox STR$(FRE(-2))
    Unload Form2
    Form1.Show 1
End Sub

```

When a function or a subroutine is called, the variables in the calling procedure get pushed onto the stack. This way these values are preserved. When the function or subroutine ends on an End Function, End Sub, or Exit Sub statement, these variables get popped off the stack, and program execution returns to the statement that follows the call. Only then are the variables once again usable.

If a subroutine or function calls another function, program execution is halted within that subroutine or function, and the stack used is not cleared up until an End Function, End Sub, or Exit Sub is encountered. This is why you should not have two subroutines repeatedly call each other with no stopping condition.

The behavior of event procedures within forms is similar to subroutines in that when a form is shown, information is pushed onto the stack, and when forms are unloaded, information is popped off the stack. Modal forms halt program execution of all other events. However, a form is not actually unloaded by the Unload statement until all of its event procedures return with an End Sub or Exit Sub. When a modal form displays a second modal form, the second modal form puts a hold on program execution, so the first modal form cannot proceed to the rest of its code, thus making it impossible to ever reach the End Sub or Exit Sub statement. This is why you should not have modal forms show each other repeatedly.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 B\_VBMSDOS  
 KBCategory:  
 KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## How to Program Two List Boxes to Scroll Together

Article ID: Q103809

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can give two list boxes the ability to scroll together in unison. In other words, you can program your Visual Basic application so that when the user scrolls the List1 box, the contents of the List2 box will scroll in the same direction automatically -- without using the List2 scroll bar.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The example below uses two list boxes, side by side, to demonstrate this technique to simulate the appearance of two list boxes scrolling together.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add two list boxes, one timer control, and one command button to Form1. For the best visual effect, place the list boxes side by side with the List1 box on the left.
3. Add the following code to the (general) (declarations) section of Form1:

```
DefInt A-Z
```

4. Add the following code to the Form Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    'Initialize two list boxes with the alphabet  
    For i = 1 To 26  
        list1.AddItem Chr$(i + 64)  
    Next i  
    For i = 1 To 26  
        list2.AddItem Chr$(i + 64)  
    Next i  
    Timer1.Interval = 1  
    Timer1.Enabled = True  
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Command1 Click event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
```

```
End  
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Timer1\_Timer event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()  
    Static PrevTI_List1  
    'Get the index for the first item in the visible list  
    TopIndex_List1 = list1.TopIndex  
    'See if the top index has changed  
    If TopIndex_List1 <> PrevTI_List1 Then  
        'Set the top index of List2 equal to List1 so that the list boxes  
        'scroll to the same relative position  
        list2.TopIndex = TopIndex_List1  
        'Keep track of the current top index  
        PrevTI_List1 = TopIndex_List1  
    End If  
    'Select the item in the same relative position in both list boxes  
    If list1.ListIndex <> list2.ListIndex Then  
        list2.ListIndex = list1.ListIndex  
    End If  
End Sub
```

7. Press the F5 key to run the program. Select a letter in the List1 box. Then try the scroll bar of the List1 box. You should see the same letter highlighted in the List2 box when you select a letter from the List1 box. Then when you try the scroll bar of the List1 box, you should see the List2 box scroll in unison with the List1 box.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd

## **VB Grid Custom Control Refreshes on All Cell Change Events**

**Article ID: Q84584**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Grid custom control (GRID.VBX) will refresh (update the control's contents) on all change events occurring to cells in the grid. So, for example, when entering text into a cell in the grid, a refresh of the grid occurs after every letter of a word is entered. This behavior is by design.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

It is normal behavior for the Grid control to refresh whenever a change occurs to a cell contained in it. This is desirable behavior, because it ensures that current information is always displayed in the grid.

However, slowdowns due to the refreshing time can be a problem. If a grid is large enough, it can take a significant amount of time to refresh it. If there is a large number of data items to enter, the wait is compounded. There is no way to toggle the refresh of the grid when text is entered into a cell--it always occurs. However, there are methods to minimize the number of change events that occur to the grid, thus minimizing the wait. Two of these methods are shown below.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT F N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRID.VBX custom control file. The Grid tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Add a Grid control to default Form1 by double-clicking its icon in the Toolbox. Also add a text box control in the same manner.
4. Set the following properties for Grid1: Cols = 10, Rows = 20. Size the grid so that you can see all the columns and rows. Also, set the Text property of Text1 to "" (blank).
5. Add the following code:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    Form1.Show          ' This code fills the grid with ASCII values
    For columns = 0 To 9 ' to show the effect of refreshing Grid1.
        For rows = 0 To 9
            Grid1.Row = rows
            Grid1.Col = columns
            Grid1.Text = Chr$(63 + rows + columns)
        Next rows
    Next columns
    Text1.SetFocus
End Sub

Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
    Grid1.Text = Text1.Text ' This sets the contents of Grid1.Text to
End Sub                  ' what is entered into Text1.

```

6. Press the F5 key to run the program.

Enter some text into Text1. Notice how every entry on the keyboard causes the grid to update. You can tell this is occurring by the flickering of the contents of Grid1 on every key press.

If direct entry of data into a cell is desired, a slight modification to the code above significantly reduces the number of times the grid refreshes. The code below allows entry of text into a text box, and the contents are transferred to a cell in the grid when the user presses the ENTER key. To demonstrate this behavior, change the code in the Text1\_KeyPress event to the following:

```

Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
    If KeyAscii = 13 Then ' Did the user press the ENTER key?
        Grid1.Text = Text1.Text ' Yes - assign Text1.Text to Grid1.Text.
        KeyAscii = 0           ' Suppresses the default "beep" sound.
        Text1.Text = ""        ' Clear the text box for the next entry.
    End If
End Sub

```

This change filters the input somewhat by only updating Grid1.Text when the user presses the ENTER key. (If you want to change it to some other value, use a different KeyAscii value.) The benefit of this method is that an update only occurs whenever the user presses the ENTER key, not on every key press event.

Yet another alternative is to first store the data entered in the text box into an array. Then, when data entry is complete, transfer the contents of the array to the grid. This forces all changes to the grid to be done in one refresh, thus reducing the total waiting time required for the grid to refresh. To accomplish this, do the following:

7. Add a command button to Form1. Set the Caption property to "Place array items into grid".
8. Add the following code to the general Declarations section of Form1:

```

Dim Words$(100)
Dim GridNum As Integer

```



' (Add the following to the Command1 Click event procedure:)

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    For y = 0 To (GridNum - 1)
        Grid1.Row = Int(19 * Rnd + 1) ' Sets the row & column to a random
        Grid1.Col = Int(9 * Rnd + 1) ' place in the grid, and prints the
        Grid1.Text = Words$(y)      ' item there.
    Next y
    Erase Words$                    ' Clears the array.
    GridNum = 0                     ' Resets the array item counter.
    Text1.SetFocus                  ' Sets the focus back to the text box.
End Sub
```

9. Replace the code in the Text1\_KeyPress event of Form1 with the following:

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
    If KeyAscii = 13 Then
        Words$(GridNum) = Text1.Text ' Transfers contents of Text1.Text
                                     ' to a string array.

        Text1.Text = ""
        GridNum = GridNum + 1 ' Increments the array item counter to
                              ' prepare for the next word to be
                              ' entered.

        Debug.Print GridNum ' Prints the current record number in
                              ' the immediate window. (optional)

        KeyAscii = 0
    End If
End Sub
```

10. Press the F5 key to run the program. Enter a few words, and press the ENTER key after each word. Notice that the grid does not refresh after the ENTER key is pressed. The items are being placed into an array with each press of the ENTER key. When you are finished, choose Command1 to place the new items in the grid. The grid will refresh only once now, as the new items are randomly placed in the grid.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## VB Custom Controls Support only Certain Picture Formats

Article ID: Q80779

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Load Picture dialog box for the 3-D Command Button, 3-D Group Push Button, Gauge, and Picture Clip custom controls include the extensions for picture formats that are invalid formats for these controls.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The 3-D Command Button, 3-D Group Push Button, Gauge, and Picture Clip custom controls use the same dialog box that Visual Basic uses to assign pictures to certain properties. However, not all .BMP, .ICO, and .WMF files are valid picture formats for the properties of these controls.

The following table lists the valid formats for the picture properties of custom controls and the error messages displayed if an invalid picture format is used:

Control	Property	Valid Formats	Error Message if Invalid Format
3-D Command Button	Picture	.BMP, .ICO	"Only Picture Formats '.BMP' and '.ICO' supported."
3-D Group Push Button	PictureUp, PictureDn, PictureDisabled	.BMP	"Only Picture Format '.BMP' supported."
Gauge	Picture	.BMP, .ICO	"Invalid Picture."
Picture Clip	Picture	.BMP	"Only Picture Format '.BMP' supported."

For additional information on Visual Basic version 2.0 custom controls, review the Professional Features manual.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus APrgGrap

**PRB: Grid Custom Control: Surprising Results when FillStyle=1**  
**Article ID: Q80849**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic Programming System for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

When the Grid custom control has its FillStyle property set to 1 (repeat), assignments to the Text and Picture properties store a value in all the cells within the selected region (determined by SelStartCol, SelStartRow, SelEndCol, and SelEndRow). However, the value returned from Text and Picture comes from the current cell (determined by the Col and Row properties).

This behavior can produce surprising results when the current cell is located outside the selected region.

When FillStyle is 0 (single), the Text and Picture properties store to the current cell and retrieve from the current cell.

RESOLUTION

=====

To cause the Text property to return the same value assigned when FillStyle=1, set the current cell location to a cell inside the selected region. For example, use this code:

```
Grid1.Text = "hello"
Grid1.Col = Grid1.SelColStart
Grid1.Row = Grid1.SelRowStart
' Length of Text is 5
MsgBox "Len(Text)=" + Format$(Len(Grid1.Text))
```

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

The CellSelected property returns True (-1) if the current cell is within the grid's selected region; otherwise, CellSelected returns False (0).

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or if Visual Basic is already running, choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File, and select GRID.VBX. The Grid tool will appear in the Toolbox.
3. Select the Grid tool from the Toolbox, and place a grid (Grid1) on Form1.
4. On the Properties bar (Properties window in Visual Basic version 2.0), set the grid properties Cols and Rows each to 4. In Visual Basic 2.0, you will need to press the F4 key to display the Properties Window, so you can set the Cols and Rows properties.
5. Size the grid so that you can see all the cells.
6. Double-click the form to bring up the Code window. In the Procedure box, select Load. Enter the following code:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Grid1.FillStyle = 1      ' Repeat.

    ' Set selected region.
    Grid1.SelStartCol = 2
    Grid1.SelStartRow = 2
    Grid1.SelEndCol = 3
    Grid1.SelEndRow = 3

    ' Set current cell, outside of selected region.
    Grid1.Col = 1
    Grid1.Row = 1

    ' Assign to Text.
    Grid1.Text = "hello"

    ' Length of Text is 0, not 5.
    Show
    MsgBox "Len(Text)=" + Format$(Len(Grid1.Text))
End Sub
```

7. Press the F5 key to run the program.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **PRB: Grid Control's Cell Blank When Using Str\$**

**Article ID: Q80904**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SYMPTOMS

=====

With the Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic Grid control, when you use the Str\$ function to store numeric values in a grid cell, the cell appears blank if it is not wide enough to completely display the value.

### CAUSE

=====

This behavior occurs because of word wrapping. The Str\$ function returns a string that begins with a space character. When this string does not fit in a grid cell, it wraps to the next line, breaking on the leading space so that no text remains on the first line of the cell.

### WORKAROUND

=====

To avoid the problem, use Format\$ instead of Str\$, or Ltrim\$ with Str\$. To work around the problem, change the assignment to Grid1.Text to one of the following:

```
Grid1.Text = Format$(123456)
```

-or-

```
Grid1.Text = Ltrim$(Str$(123456))
```

This will eliminate the leading space, and the information in the cell will be displayed up to the width of the cell. You can also increase the width of the cell to allow all characters to be visible.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or, if Visual Basic is already running, choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File, and select GRID.VBX to add the Grid tool. The Grid tool appears in the Toolbox.

3. Place a grid named Grid1 on Form1.
4. Set the grid properties Cols and Rows each to 4.
5. Size the grid so that you can see all the cells.
6. Enter the following code. To enter the code, double-click Grid1, select Click in the Procedure box, and enter the code into the code template.

```
Sub Grid1_Click ()  
    Grid1.Text = Str$(123456)  
    Debug.Print Grid1.Text  
End Sub
```

7. Press F5 to run the program.
8. Each time you click a cell in Grid1, this code prints "123456" in the Immediate window, but the cell remains blank.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB Grid Custom Control: Text Limited to 255 Characters**

**Article ID: Q80906**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Text property for the Grid custom control can hold a string of up to 255 characters. If you assign a string longer than 255 characters to the grid Text property, the string is truncated.

This behavior is by design in Visual Basic. This behavior is similar to a text box control with the MultiLine property set to FALSE (0).

This information applies to Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **PRB: Grid Custom Control: LeftCol/TopRow Valid Values**

**Article ID: Q80911**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### **SYMPTOMS**

=====

The LeftCol and TopRow grid properties control the position of the scrollable region of a Grid custom control. When you attempt to set the LeftCol or TopRow grid properties to display the lower right region of a grid, you may receive the error "Invalid Column Value" (30010) or "Invalid Row Value" (30009), respectively.

### **WORKAROUND**

=====

The example given below in the More Information section shows how to determine the range of values that do not give errors.

### **STATUS**

=====

This behavior is by design.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

=====

A program can determine the maximum values allowed for LeftCol and TopRow by setting these properties to each valid column and row number, respectively, and then determining if the assignment caused an error. The example code below shows how to use this method.

The minimum values allowed for LeftCol and TopRow are always given by the values of the Grid custom control properties FixedCols and FixedRows, respectively.

### **Step-by-Step Example**

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File, and select the GRID.VBX custom control file. The Grid tool will appear in the Toolbox.
3. Select the Grid tool from the Toolbox, and add a grid (Grid1) to Form1.
4. Size the Grid and choose values for the Cols and Rows properties of



the Grid.

5. Place a command button (Command1) on Form1.

6. Enter the following code in the Command1\_Click event procedure:

```
' Example of how to call Grid_Scroll_Range to determine the
' range of values for Grid properties LeftCol and TopRow.
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim msg As String           ' message string
    Dim max_LeftCol As Single   ' maximum LeftCol
    Dim max_TopRow As Single    ' maximum TopRow

    Call grid_scroll_range(grid1, max_LeftCol, max_TopRow)

    msg = "Valid Grid.LeftCol: "
    msg = msg + Format$(grid1.FixedCols) + ".."
    msg = msg + Format$(max_LeftCol) + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)
    msg = msg + "Valid Grid.TopRow: "
    msg = msg + Format$(grid1.FixedRows) + ".."
    msg = msg + Format$(max_TopRow)

    MsgBox msg
End Sub
```

7. Enter the following code in the general Declarations section:

```
' grid_scroll_range
'   Determines the maximum values allowable for grid LeftCol
'   and TopRow. Minimum values are FixedCols and FixedRows.
'   Parameters:
'       grid      -- a Grid control
'       LftMax    -- return value, maximum LeftCol value
'       TopMax    -- return value, maximum TopRow value
'
Sub grid_scroll_range (grid As Control, LftMax!, TopMax!)
    Dim save As Integer      ' for restoring grid properties

    ' Calculate LftMax
    ' Try each column number to see if it causes a run-time
    ' error. Go in reverse order to minimize the number of
    ' tries to the number of columns displayed in the grid.
    save = grid.LeftCol
    On Error Resume Next
    For LftMax = grid.Cols - 1 To grid.FixedCols + 1 Step -1
        Err = 0
        grid.LeftCol = LftMax
        If Err = 0 Then
            Exit For
        End If
    Next
    grid.LeftCol = save

    ' Calculate TopMax
    ' Try each row number to see if it causes a run-time
    ' error. Go in reverse order to minimize the number of
    ' tries to the number of rows displayed in the grid.
```

```
    save = grid.TopRow
    On Error Resume Next
    For TopMax = grid.Rows - 1 To grid.FixedRows + 1 Step -1
        Err = 0
        grid.TopRow = TopMax
        If Err = 0 Then
            Exit For
        End If
    Next
    grid.TopRow = save
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

### 3-D Group Push Button: AutoSize Takes Effect Only on PictureUp

Article ID: Q80938

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

#### SUMMARY

=====

The 3-D Group Push Button (THREED.VBX) custom control will not automatically size itself to the bitmap assigned to the PictureDown property. When the AutoSize property is set to "2 - Adjust Button Size to Picture," the 3-D Group Push Button custom control will automatically size itself to the bitmap assigned to the PictureUp property. This behavior is by design.

This information applies to Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows.

#### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Visual Basic 3-D Group Push Button custom control can have a bitmap assigned to the button when it is in the down position, and another bitmap when the button is in the up position (the PictureUp and PictureDown properties are set to different .BMP files at design time). However, the 3-D Group Push Button control will not automatically size itself to the size of the picture assigned to the PictureDown property even if the AutoSize property is set to "2 - Adjust Button Size to Picture."

When the AutoSize property is set to "2 - Adjust Button Size to Picture," the 3-D Group Push Button custom control will automatically size itself to the bitmap assigned to the PictureUp property. This means that the button will size itself to the picture it is supposed to display only when it is in the up position. If there is a bitmap assigned to the PictureDown property and this picture is bigger than the 3-D Group Push Button control, this picture will appear clipped when the button is pressed.

The following steps demonstrate how the 3-D Group Push Button custom control does not size itself to the bitmap assigned to the PictureDown property even when the AutoSize property for the control is set to "2 - Adjust Button Size to Picture."

#### Example

-----

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the THREEED.VBX custom control file.
3. Click the Toolbox to select the 3-D Group Push Button control.
4. Click and drag on the form to place a 3-D Group Push Button control.
5. Change the AutoSize property in the Properties Bar to "2 - Adjust Button Size to Picture" (this is the default setting).
6. Change the PictureDown property in the Properties Bar by choosing a bitmap file from the Properties list box. Note that "(none)" is first displayed, because no picture is assigned by default. You can click the button with three dots on the right of the Properties list box to choose a bitmap file.
7. From the Run menu, choose Start to run the application.
8. Click the 3-D Group Push Button to push it into the down position.

The picture that is assigned to the PictureDown property is displayed. If the picture happens to be larger than the 3-D Group Push Button control, the picture will appear clipped. If the picture chosen was smaller, the background of the 3-D Group Push Button control will show. In either case, the 3-D Group Push Button control did not resize itself to the picture once the button was pressed.

If you assign a picture to the PictureUp property of the 3-D Group Push Button control, the button will automatically size itself to this picture. Nonetheless, the 3-D Group Push Button control will not size itself to the picture assigned to the PictureDown property once the button is pressed.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB Graph Control Displays Maximum of 80 Characters Per Title**

**Article ID: Q81450**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Graph custom control has an 80 character maximum limit on all displayed strings such as labels and legends. However, the combined length of the actual string may be longer than 80 characters.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The Graph custom control can display strings by using several different properties. For example, the BottomTitle and LeftTitle properties may be set from the Properties bar in the programming environment.

The following example sets the BottomTitle property of a Graph to 90 characters:

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRAPH.VBX custom control file. The Graph tool will appear in the toolbox.
3. Select the Graph icon on the toolbox and place it on Form1, and expand it to the largest size possible.
4. Double-click the Graph control to open the Code window for the Click event.
5. Add the following code to the Click event:

```
Graph1.BottomTitle = String$(79, "i") + "*"
Debug.Print Len(Graph1.BottomTitle)
Graph1.DrawMode = 2           ' Update Graph.
```

6. Run the program and click on the graph control. If your Graph is expanded to the largest possible size, you should be able to see the string of 80 characters.

7. Change the code as follows:

```
Graph1.BottomTitle = String$(80, "i") + "*"
Debug.Print Len(Graph1.BottomTitle)
Graph1.DrawMode = 2           ' Update Graph.
```

You should not be able to see the last character, the asterisk (\*).

In this example, 80 characters at most will show on the screen even though you set the BottomTitle property to a larger character string. The actual BottomTitle property, however, contains more characters. Whether or not the actual strings are displayed also depends on other factors, such as the width and height of the control, or the strings that are placed in the other properties of the control.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB.EXE Error: License File for Custom Control Not Found**

**Article ID: Q81458**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

If you distribute the source code (.FRM) of a program that uses a custom control, you must also distribute the necessary custom control files for that control (.VBX, .DLL, and/or .EXE support files).

If a user has not purchased the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic versions 2.0 or 3.0 for Windows, or the Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows, and the user receives a program containing an .FRM file written with the Professional Edition or Professional Toolkit, then the Visual Basic for Windows programming environment (VB.EXE) will not be able to load the program, and will display the following error message:

License file for custom control not found. You do not have an appropriate license to use this custom control in the design environment.

Note that anyone who acquires a program in the form of an executable (.EXE) file that uses the custom controls from versions 2.0 or 3.0 of the Professional Edition of Visual Basic for Windows, or from version 1.0 of the Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic for Windows, will be able to run that program with no error.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The licensing file, VB.LIC is installed by the SETUP.EXE program included in the Professional Edition of Visual Basic for Windows, or the SETUP.EXE included in the Visual Basic for Windows Professional Toolkit. This licensing file is installed into the Windows' \SYSTEM subdirectory. You are NOT allowed to distribute this file with any application that you develop and distribute.

A custom control's startup code checks to see if this VB.LIC licensing file exists when the control is loaded into the environment. If the file does not exist, or is corrupt, the control aborts the loading process and displays the following Alter message box:

License file for custom control not found. You do not have an appropriate license to use this custom control in the design environment.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus



## How to Use HORZ1.BMP with Professional Toolkit Gauge Control

Article ID: Q81459

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article contains a program example of using the Visual Basic for Windows Gauge custom control (GAUGE.VBX) with the HORZ1.BMP bitmap file.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Note: The GAUGE.VBX custom control file can be found in the \Windows\System subdirectory. The HORZ1.BMP bitmap file can be found in the \BITMAPS\GUAGE subdirectory that was created during installation.

### Example Program

-----

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GAUGE.VBX custom control file. The Gauge tool will appear in the toolbox.
3. Create the following controls for Form1:

Control	Name	Property Setting
Timer	Timer1	Interval = 1
Gauge	Gauge1	Picture = "Horz1.BMP" Max = 50 InnerBottom = 16 InnerLeft = 38 InnerRight = 2 InnerTop = 14 ForeColor = &HFF&

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, set the CtlName Property for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

4. Add the following line to the General Declarations section:

```
Dim YoYo As Integer
```

5. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Form1.Caption = "YoYo Gauge Demo"  
    Gauge1.Value = Gauge1.Min  
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Timer1\_Timer event procedure:

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()  
    If Gauge1.Value = Gauge1.Max Then YoYo = -1  
    If Gauge1.Value = Gauge1.Min Then YoYo = 1  
    Gauge1.Value = Gauge1.Value + YoYo  
End Sub
```

When run, this program example will alternately fill and empty the gauge control's fill area, as controlled by the Timer event procedure.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## HOME Key in VB.EXE Moves to Beginning of Code, Not Column 1

Article ID: Q81465

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SYMPTOM

=====

Pressing the HOME key while in the Code window in the VB.EXE environment will move the insertion point (cursor) to the beginning of the code on a line instead of to the first column of the line

### STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design even though it does differ from most other Windows-based products.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

If the insertion point is on a line of code indented with spaces, and you press HOME, the insertion point will not be moved to the beginning of the line, but will instead move to the beginning of the code.

In many Windows-based applications, including Microsoft Word for Windows, Notepad, and Write, pressing the HOME key moves the insertion point to the beginning of the line, not to the beginning of the characters on the line.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Double-click Form1 to open the Code window.
3. In the Form1\_Click event, press TAB to indent the next statement, and add the following code:

```
Print "Hello"
```

4. Press the HOME key. The insertion point moves to the P in Print.
5. Press the HOME key again.

You might expect the insertion point will move to the beginning of the line, but it remains on the P.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**PRB: Animated Button Control: Refresh Won't Redraw Border**  
**Article ID: Q81471**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

When two Animated Button (ANIBUTTON.VBX) custom controls are overlapped and the BorderStyle is set to 1 - Single, then when one of the controls is refreshed, the border of that control is not redrawn.

WORKAROUND

=====

To work around this behavior, set the BorderStyle property to 0 - None for the controls. Avoid using overlapped controls.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design. However, it does not apply to Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 because these later versions support overlapping controls.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

The standard picture control shows the same behavior when overlapped. Either using the Refresh method or causing an implicit refresh by clicking the control being overlapped will demonstrate the behavior.

Note that Visual Basic versions 1.0 and 2.0 do not support overlapping controls. If you want to overlap controls, set BorderStyle to 0 - None.

Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files list box, select the ANIBUTTON.VBX custom control file. The Animated Button tool will appear in the toolbox.
3. Add two Animated Button controls to the form with one overlapping the other, and set the BorderStyle property for both to 1 - Single.
4. From the VB.EXE Run menu, choose Start, then choose Break.

5. In the Immediate window, enter `Anibutton1.Refresh` or `Anibutton2.Refresh`, depending on which control is overlapped by the other.

The formerly overlapped border is not redrawn when the control is repainted.

Alternatively, in run mode, click the overlapped control; the result is the same.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: `PrgCtrlsCus`

**BUG: Graph Custom Control Text Disappears in EGA Video Mode**  
**Article ID: Q81949**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

When using the Visual Basic Graph custom control in an EGA video mode with the Graph control Background property value set to dark gray and the Foreground property value set to light gray, the text on the graph will disappear.

CAUSE

=====

This is a known problem with Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1. This is not a problem with the Graph custom control or with Visual Basic.

STATUS

=====

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a problem with Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1. We are researching this problem and will post new information here in the Microsoft Knowledge Base as it becomes available.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Windows defines dark gray as the color created when red=128, blue=128, and green=128. Windows defines light gray as the color created when red=192, blue=192, and green=192.

Windows, when given light gray text on a dark gray background in EGA video mode, alters the value of the text color to dark gray, which is the closest representation it can make in that video mode. The subsequent dark gray text on a dark gray background makes it appear as though the text has disappeared.

The Visual Basic Graph custom control allows you to set the background and foreground colors to 16 predefined colors. Colors 7 and 8 are light gray and dark gray, respectively. Graph uses Windows values for dark gray and light gray, and so displays the same video problems as Windows itself.

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Set the video mode of Windows to EGA.
2. Re-enter Windows if necessary and start Visual Basic.
3. In the Visual Basic environment with the VB Graph custom control loaded, create a form (Form1).
4. Add a Graph custom control (Graph1).
5. Set Graph1.DrawMode=2 (draw).
6. Set Graph1.Background=8 (dark gray) and Graph1.Foreground=7 (light gray).

The text disappears, leaving colored bars on a dark gray background.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus



## **VB Key Status: Autosize Property Affects Height and Width**

**Article ID: Q81952**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

In the products listed above, you can use the Key Status control (KEYSTAT.VBX) to show and set the current status of the CAPS LOCK, NUM LOCK, SCROLL LOCK, and INSERT keys. One of the features of the Key Status control is its ability to size itself (the Autosize property) to its original dimensions.

If the Autosize property is set to True (the default setting), the control's Height and Width properties will remain at, or be reset to its predetermined values. The size of the control cannot be changed if Autosize is set to True. If the Autosize property is set to False, the Height and Width properties can be changed to reflect the desired control size. Autosize can be set at both design time and run time.

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB Graph Control: ThisPoint, ThisSet Reset to 1 at Run Time**

**Article ID: Q82155**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Graph version 1.2 custom control in the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic versions 2.0 or 3.0 for Windows, and in the Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, allows you to set the values of the ThisPoint and ThisSet properties at design time to aid in the development of your graphs. However, when you run the project, the Graph custom control resets the property values of ThisPoint and ThisSet to 1.

This behavior is a design feature of the Graph custom control to help avoid logic errors in your code. If your program requires ThisPoint and ThisSet to be a value other than 1 upon execution of the project, you will need to specifically set these property values in the program's code.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The example below demonstrates that ThisPoint and ThisSet are reset to 1 at run time.

### Example

-----

1. With Visual Basic for Windows running and Graph loaded, create a form (Form1).
2. On Form1 create a graph control (Graph1).
3. Change the following properties:

Control	Property	Value
-----	-----	-----
Command1	Caption	Show values
Graph1	Top	2000
Graph1	NumSet	2
Graph1	ThisPoint	2
Graph1	ThisSet	2

4. Add the following code to the Command1 button Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    Form1.Print "Graph1.ThisPoint = "; Graph1.ThisPoint  
    Form1.Print "Graph1.ThisSet = "; Graph1.ThisSet  
End Sub
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program.

When you run the program and click the Command1 button, the program will display the current values of Graph1.ThisPoint and Graph1.ThisSet. These values should have changed from 2 to 1.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB AniButton Control: Cannot Resize if PictDrawMode=Autosize**

**Article ID: Q82159**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Resizing an Animated Button custom control by setting the Width or Height property at run time will not work if the PictDrawMode property is set to Autosize (1). This is by design. When the PictDrawMode property is in autosize mode, the size is determined by the size of the images loaded, not by the design time setting of Width or Height nor the run time setting of those values.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

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1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the Files menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the ANIBUTTON.VBX custom control file. The Animated Button tool appears in the toolbox.
3. Add the following code to the Form\_Load procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Form1.BackColor = &HFFFFFF00 ' To make the size of the control more  
                                ' visible.  
    AniButton1.Move Form1.Width \ 4, 0, 1600, 1600  
    AniButton1.TextPosition = 3 ' Put caption at top for clarity.  
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    AniButton1.Caption = "This is a very very long caption"  
    AniButton1.PictDrawMode = 1 ' Autosize control.  
    'AniButton1.PictDrawMode = 0 ' As Defined.  
    'AniButton1.PictDrawMode = 2 ' Stretches image to fit.  
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_DoubleClick event:

```
Sub Form_DblClick ()  
    Print AniButton1.Width  
    AniButton1.Width = 400  
    Print AniButton1.Width  
    Print AniButton1.PictDrawMode  
End Sub
```

5. Run the project with the PictDrawMode setting of 0 uncommented and the other two commented out.
6. Click once to see the effect of changing the mode. Then double-click the form to see the changes due to changing the Width property. Because the caption is the largest object in an unloaded Animated Button, the autosize adjusts to it.
7. Access the Frame property and load a bitmap into the first frame and an icon in the second, or vice versa.
8. Repeat steps 5 and 6. Notice that the larger object (the bitmap) causes the control to resize to it.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus APrgGrap

**PRB: Can't Change Minimized/Maximized MDIChild's Position/Size**  
**Article ID: Q82878**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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SYMPTOMS

When a MDI Child custom control is minimized (reduced to an icon), attempting to change its position or size at run time by setting the Top, Left, Height, or Width property will generate the following Visual Basic error message:

Cannot Change MDIChild Position Or Size While Minimized Or Maximized.

This valid error message will also be generated if the MDI child window is maximized and you attempt to change the size of position of the MDI child.

RESOLUTION

This article does not apply to later versions of Visual Basic. The MDI Child custom control shipped only with version 1.0. Multiple-document interface (MDI) forms are built into Visual Basic version 2.0 and later, making the MDI custom control obsolete.

You cannot change the position or size of a Visual Basic version 1.0 MDI child window when it is minimized or maximized. These properties can be set at run time in code or at design time for any MDI child window that is not maximized or minimized to an icon.

However, you can set the properties in Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows. You do not get an error. Note though that MDI is different in Visual Basic version 2.0 because it is built in to both the Standard and Professional Editions rather than being a separate custom control, as it is in Visual Basic version 1.0.

MORE INFORMATION

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The following steps demonstrate that an error message is generated in Visual Basic version 1.0 when you attempt to change (at run time in code) the Left property of an MDI child window that has been either reduced to an icon or maximized (to the full size of the parent form).

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the MDICHILD.VBX custom control file. The MDI Child tool appears in the toolbox.
3. Place an MDI Child window control on Form1.
4. Double-click the form outside the MDI child window to open the Code window.
5. Add the following code to the Form1 Click event:  

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    MDIChild1.Left = 0  
End Sub
```
6. Press F5 to run the application.
7. Click the Control-menu box (in the upper left corner) of the MDI child window, and choose Minimize.
8. Click directly on the form.

The following error message dialog box is generated:

Cannot Change MDIChild Position Or Size While Minimized Or Maximized

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus APrgGrap

## How to Size VB MDI Child Custom Control Client Area in VB 1.0

Article ID: Q83753

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article does not apply to later versions of Visual Basic. The MDI Child custom control shipped only with version 1.0. Multiple-document interface (MDI) forms are built into Visual Basic version 2.0 and later, making the MDI custom control obsolete.

Normally, if you want to set a Visual Basic control's internal area (between its borders and caption bar), you would use the ScaleWidth and ScaleHeight properties. As with all custom controls, Multiple Document Interface (MDI) controls do not have ScaleWidth and ScaleHeight properties. This can pose a problem when you want to size the MDI control around another control. The problem occurs because you cannot set an MDI control's internal height and width to specific sizes during run time using ScaleWidth and ScaleHeight.

To size the MDI Child control correctly, you must use a Windows API call, and you must also know the relationship between pixels and twips.

### MORE INFORMATION

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To size an MDI Child control so that a Grid control fits perfectly inside of it, you may first be tempted to set the Width and Height properties of the MDI Child control to that of the Grid Width and Height. However, simply setting the child's Width to the MDI Width will not take into account the Width and Height values of the MDI child caption bar and the frame borders. To take into account the MDI child caption and border dimensions, use the Windows API function GetSystemMetrics(). Because the GetSystemMetrics() returns values in pixel, and custom controls only work with twips, you must convert these values from pixels to twips when sizing the control.

### Step-by-Step Example

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1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRID.VBX custom control file. The Grid tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the MDICHILD.VBX custom control file. The MDI Child tool appears in the Toolbox.



4. Place an MDI Child control on Form1.
5. Inside the MDI Child control, add a Grid child control.
6. Set the Left and Top properties of the Grid control to 0.
7. Add the following code to your project:

```
'Place this in either the general Declarations for the form
'or in GLOBAL.BAS.
Declare Function GetSystemMetrics% Lib "user" (ByVal nIndex%)

'Add this to the Form1 Click event:
Sub Form_Click ()
    Const TWIP = 1
    Const PIXEL = 3
    Const SM_CYMENU = 15
    Const SM_CXFRAME = 32
    Const SM_CYFRAME = 33

    'GetSystemMetrics returns values in PIXEL.
    'Get the width of caption bar, and borders.
    MenuSize% = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CYMENU)
    XBorder% = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CXFRAME)
    YBorder% = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CYFRAME)

    'Get the width of Grid in TWIPS
    Form1.ScaleMode = TWIP
    TwipGridWidth = Grid1.Width
    TwipGridHeight = Grid1.Height

    'Use this as a conversion from twips to pixels
    TwipMeasurement = Form1.ScaleWidth
    Form1.ScaleMode = PIXEL
    PixelMeasurement = Form1.ScaleWidth
    TwipToPixel = PixelMeasurement / TwipMeasurement

    'Determine the MDI's client area
    MDIClientWidth = TwipGridWidth * TwipToPixel
    MDIClientHeight = TwipGridHeight * TwipToPixel

    'Size the MDI child to include the client area with the two
    'borders on each side plus the height of the caption bar.
    MDIChild1.Width = MDIClientWidth + 2 * XBorder%
    MDIChild1.Height = MDIClientHeight + MenuSize% + 2 * YBorder%

End Sub
```

8. Press F5 to run the program.
9. Click Form1.

Note that the MDI Child control should size so that the Grid fits perfectly inside the control.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**"Device Is Not Open or Is Not Known" Running VB MCITEST Sample**  
**Article ID: Q83756**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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If you run the MCITEST sample program included with the Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Edition programming system version 2.0 for Windows; or the Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows, and receive the following error message:

The device is not open or is not known

it is possible that you have not installed the multimedia movie player driver that is on Disk 1 of the Professional Edition, or Professional Toolkit. These drivers are not automatically installed because of their large sizes. If you need these files, you must install them using the Windows Control Panel.

MORE INFORMATION

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The drivers needed to run the animation portion of the MCITEST are MCIMMP.DRV and MMP.DLL. These files are archived on Disk 1 of the Visual Basic for Windows Professional Edition or Professional Toolkit. To install these drivers, you must use the Windows 3.1 Control Panel. If you have Multimedia Extensions for Windows 3.0, you must rename the following files on Disk 1 before installing using the Control Panel:

MCIMMP.DR_	to	MCIMMP.DRV
MMP.DL_	to	MMP.DLL

To install the drivers, do the following:

1. Run Control Panel from the Windows Program Manager either by clicking on the icon or by choosing Run from the File menu.
2. In the Control Panel, double-click the Drivers icon.
3. In the Drivers dialog box, choose the Add button.
4. In the Add dialog box, select Unlisted or Updated Driver and choose the OK button.
5. In the Install Driver dialog box, specify the drive containing Disk

1 of the Visual Basic for Windows Professional Edition or Professional Toolkit, and choose the OK button.

6. In the Add Unlisted or Updated Driver dialog box, select the "[MCI] Multimedia Movie Player" driver and choose the OK button.

The driver is now installed. You should now be able to run the animation portion of the MCITEST program.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **"Cannot Find MMSYSTEM.DLL" Loading VB MCI.VBX in Windows 3.0**

**Article ID: Q83758**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows comes with a custom control that gives you easy access to writing applications for multimedia. Without Windows 3.1 or Multimedia Extensions for Windows 3.0, you will not be able to load the MCI.VBX custom control file into the Visual Basic programming environment.

If you try to load MCI.VBX into Windows 3.0 without Multimedia Extensions, you will receive the following error message:

Cannot find MMSYSTEM.DLL, Please insert in drive A:

For more information about Multimedia Extensions for Windows 3.0, contact your local subsidiary, or call Microsoft End User Sales and Service at (800) 426-9400. A better solution is to upgrade to Windows version 3.1.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**PRB: MDI Child Custom Control: ScaleMode Defaults to Twips**  
**Article ID: Q83905**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

The MDI Child custom control (MDICHILD.VBX) does not have a ScaleMode property. Therefore, child controls of an MDI Child control will default to twips, regardless of whether the child control has a ScaleMode property. To confirm this, you can check the Height and Width properties of the child controls.

CAUSE

=====

Some controls in Visual Basic have a ScaleMode property (for example, picture box), while other controls do not (for example, text boxes, label controls, and command buttons).

A child control (a control placed within other controls) takes many of its properties from the parent control. In addition, the default ScaleMode for Visual Basic is twips. Because the MDI Child control does not have its own ScaleMode property, it takes the default Visual Basic ScaleMode (twips). As a result, whenever you make a control a child of an MDI Child control, it uses twips as the ScaleMode for its dimensions (for example, Height and Width properties). However, if you place a control on a control that is already a child and whose ScaleMode is set to pixels, it will use pixels as the default ScaleMode. The example below illustrates this.

WORKAROUND

=====

You can work around the problem by placing a control that has a ScaleMode property (such as a picture control) inside the MDI Child custom control, change its ScaleMode to something else (for example, pixels), then place subsequent controls inside it rather than in the MDI Child custom control.

RESOLUTION

=====

This article does not apply to later versions of Visual Basic. The MDI Child custom control shipped only with version 1.0. Multiple-document interface (MDI) forms are built into Visual Basic version 2.0 and later, making the MDI custom control obsolete.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

#### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the MDICHILD.VBX custom control file. The MDI Child tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Place an MDI Child control (MDIChild1) on Form1.
4. Size the MDI control for a larger viewable area.
5. Place a picture control in the MDI control. To do this, click the picture control tool in the Toolbox. Place the mouse cursor in the MDI control. Notice that the cursor changes to a cross hair when you move it over Form1. Place the cross hair in MDIChild1, and size the picture control accordingly.

Notice that the Height and Width properties of MDIChild1 and Picture1 are in twips.

6. Click Form1 to give it the focus. Set the ScaleMode property to 3 - Pixel.

Notice that the Height and Width properties of MDIChild1 are now expressed in pixels, while the Height and Width properties of the Picture control inside MDIChild1 are still expressed in twips.

If you change the ScaleMode of Picture1 to 3 - Pixel and place a command button control in Picture1, the Height and Width properties of Command1 will be expressed in pixels. The workaround above uses this method to work around the MDI Child control's limitation.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 MDIChild MDI Child

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB Graph Custom Control: DataReset Property Resets to 0 (Zero)**

**Article ID: Q84058**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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When you assign a value to the DataReset property of the Graph version 1.2 custom control, the value of DataReset always resets to 0 - None. This is by design. Although DataReset is listed in the Properties box, it also has characteristics of a method. A value assigned to DataReset is transient, which means that it causes a one-time action and then resets to 0 - None.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

In Visual Basic for Windows, a property is an attribute of the control that you can set to define one of the object's characteristics. DataReset is a property because you can set its value which, depending on that value, defines one or more of the Graph control's characteristics. Because it defines a Graph's characteristics by resetting the chosen property array to its default values, DataReset is found in the Properties list box.

A method in Visual Basic for Windows behaves similarly to a statement in that it always acts on an object. DataReset can also be considered a method because it does perform an action on the graph. Namely, it resets the chosen property array to its default values. DataReset performs the assigned action as soon as its value does not equal 0. If it retained its assigned value, it would continually generate an endless loop and lock the system. To prevent this from occurring, it is automatically reset to 0 - None upon the first execution of its call.

The example below demonstrates the behavior of DataReset.

### Example

-----

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRAPH.VBX custom control file. The Graph tool will appear in the Toolbox.



3. Add a Graph control (Graph1) to Form1.
4. In the Properties list box, select the DataReset property. The value that appears in the Settings box will be 0 - None.
5. Change the value of DataReset to a number between 1 and 9. The values 1-9 refer to Graph property arrays that can be reset by using the DataReset property.
6. Graph1 will update to display the default values in the property array you chose in step 5.
7. In the Properties list box, select DataReset. The value of DataReset is 0 - None. It did not retain the value from step 5.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## How to Use VB Graph Control to Graph Data from Grid Control

Article ID: Q84063

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article contains an example of how to use a Graph custom control to graph the data contained in a Grid custom control.

In order to use either the Grid or the Graph control, you must add them to the Toolbox in the Visual Basic for Windows environment (in VB.EXE). You do this by selecting Add File from the File menu. From here select the Graph.VBX file, and then repeat the process for Grid.VBX. Graph.VBX and Grid.VBX should be found in your Windows\System directory.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

To create the example, do the following:

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRAPH.VBX custom control file. The Graph tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Repeat step 2 for the GRID.VBX custom control file.
4. Add a Grid control (Grid1), a Graph control (Graph1), and a command button (Command1) to Form1.
5. In the Load event for Form1, add the following code:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    ' This Sub will do all the configuration for the Grid.  
    ConfigureGrid  
    ' This Sub will do all the configuration for the Graph.  
    ConfigureGraph  
End Sub
```

6. Create the following subroutine in the general Declarations section of Form1 to make it callable from anywhere in the form:

```

Sub ConfigureGrid ()

    ' Set the number of cols and rows for the grid.
    Grid1.Rows = 11
    Grid1.Cols = 4

    ' Set the alignment for the fixed col to centered.
    Grid1.FixedAlignment(0) = 2

    ' Set the alignment for the variable cols to centered.
    Grid1.ColAlignment(1) = 2
    Grid1.ColAlignment(2) = 2
    Grid1.ColAlignment(3) = 2

    Grid1.ScrollBars = 0

    ' Add the row labels.
    Grid1.Col = 0
    For i = 1 To 10
        Grid1.Row = i
        Grid1.Text = Str$(i)
    Next i

    ' Add the Col labels.
    Grid1.Row = 0
    Grid1.Col = 1
    Grid1.Text = "May"
    Grid1.Col = 2
    Grid1.Text = "June"
    Grid1.Col = 3
    Grid1.Text = "July"

    ' Set the starting cell on the Grid.
    Grid1.Row = 1
    Grid1.Col = 1
End Sub

```

7. Create the following subroutine in the general Declarations section of Form1 to make it callable from anywhere on the form:

```

Sub ConfigureGraph ()
    ' Set the Graph to auto increment.
    Graph1.AutoInc = 1
    Graph1.BottomTitle = "Months"
    Graph1.GraphCaption = "Graph Caption"
    ' Set the number of data groupings.
    Graph1.NumPoints = 10
    ' Set the number of data points per group.
    Graph1.NumSets = 3
End Sub

```

8. Place the following line of code into the KeyPress event for Grid1:

```

Sub Grid1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)
    ' This adds each keystroke to the data in the current cell.
    Grid1.Text = Grid1.Text + Chr$(KeyAscii)

```

End Sub

9. For the Click event of Command1, enter the following code:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
' This Sub graphs the data in the Grid using the Graph control.
' Set the graph to the first point.
    Graph1.ThisSet = 1
    Graph1.ThisPoint = 1
' Load the GraphData array with all the values from the Grid,
' in order.
    For i = 1 To 3
        For j = 1 To 10
            Grid1.Row = j
            Grid1.Col = i
            Graph1.GraphData = Val(Grid1.Text)
        Next j
    Next i

' This actually graphs the array to the Graph control.
    Graph1.DrawMode = 2
End Sub
```

This example will give you a grid with three columns (Months) and 10 rows. After you enter the data into the columns, choose the command button (with the mouse or keys). The data will be taken from the grid and graphed as a line graph.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**PENCNTRL.VBX Err: Requires Microsoft Windows for Pen Computing**  
**Article ID: Q83800**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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The Microsoft Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0 for Windows, and Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows, includes a custom control that gives you easy access to writing applications for Microsoft Windows for Pen Computing. Without Microsoft Windows for Pen Computing, PENCNTRL.VBX cannot be loaded into the Visual Basic for Windows programming environment.

If you try to load the PENCNTRL.VBX custom control without having installed Microsoft Windows for Pen Computing, the process will abort with the following message box:

This program requires Microsoft Windows for Pen Computing

MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

For more information about Microsoft Windows for Pen Computing, call Microsoft End User Sales and Service at (800) 426-9400. If calling from outside the United States, contact your local Microsoft subsidiary.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**PRB: MDI Child Cannot Be Maximized/Minimized While Invisible**  
**Article ID: Q83803**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

If you try to set an MDI Child custom control WindowState property to Maximized (2) or Minimized (1) while its Visible property is set to False (invisible), you will receive one of the following errors:

MDIChild cannot be maximized while invisible

-or-

MDIChild cannot be minimized while invisible

RESOLUTION

=====

An MDI Child control with a WindowState property set to Maximized (2) or Minimized (1) will revert to Normal (0) if the control's Visible property is set to False. You must determine if you want the MDI Child control WindowState property set to Maximized when you make the MDI Child visible.

This article does not apply to later versions of Visual Basic. The MDI Child custom control shipped only with version 1.0. Multiple-document interface (MDI) forms are built into Visual Basic version 2.0 and later, making the MDI custom control obsolete.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## How to Read Flag Property of VB Common Dialog Custom Controls

Article ID: Q84068

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Flags property of a Common Dialog control can be read by examining individual bit values of the Flag property and comparing them with the predefined constant values in CONSTANT.TXT (or CONST2.TXT for Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows). This applies to the following Visual Basic for Windows Common Dialogs:

- File Open Dialog
- File Save Dialog
- Color Dialog
- Choose Font Dialog
- Print Dialog

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The Flags property can be set at design time or run time.

To set the value of the Flags property, assign it a value. This is most commonly done using a predefined constant (found in CONSTANT.TXT or CONST2.TXT). For example, to set the PRINTTOFILE flag on the Print Dialog box, use the following code:

```
CMDialog1.Flags = PD_PRINTTOFILE
```

To set more than one flag, OR the two flags (the pipe [|] character acts the same as the OR statement):

```
CMDialog1.Flags = PD_PRINTTOFILE | PD_SHOWHELP
```

The settings of the Flags property can also be changed at run time by the user making various selections in the dialog box. When a selection is made, or the status of a check box or option button is changed, the Flags property reflects this change. You can then read the value of the Flags property and determine if a specific flag has been set.

For example, in the above sample code, two flags are set in the Flags property. The value of PD\_PRINTTOFILE = &H00000020& and the value of PD\_SHOWHELP = &H00000800&.

The binary equivalent of the two is the following:

```
PD_PRINTTOFILE = 0000000000000000000000000100000
PD_SHOWHELP    = 000000000000000000000000100000000000
```

Thus the value:

```
Flags          = 000000000000000000000000100000100000
```

Note how each flag setting has its own bit setting within the Flags property.

To determine if a specific flag is set, you only need to AND the flag with the Flags property. If the result is 0, then the flag is not set; if the result is the same as the flag value, then the flag is set.

For example:

```
Form1.Print (CMDialog1.Flags AND PD_PRINTTOFILE)
```

The output is decimal 32. Thus, broken down:

```
Flags          = 000000000000000000000000100000100000
                  AND
PD_PRINTTOFILE = 0000000000000000000000000100000
-----
Result         = 0000000000000000000000000100000
```

Thus, the flag for PRINTTOFILE is one of the flags that are set in the Flags property:

```
If (CMDialog1.Flags AND PD_PRINTTOFILE) Then
    ' Code for printing to file goes here.
Else
    ' Code for printing to printer goes here.
End If
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus



## How to Create Column and Row Labels in VB Grid Custom Control

Article ID: Q84113

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The example program below demonstrates how you can display labels in the top row and left column of the Grid custom control at run time. It is not possible to assign labels in a grid at design time.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The example program below assigns labels to a grid from the Form\_Load event procedure. It puts numbers down the left, labeling the first non-fixed row as "1". It puts letters across the top, labeling the first 26 non-fixed columns as "A" through "Z" then subsequent columns with "AA", "AB", and so on.

### Steps to Create Example Program

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1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRID.VBX. The Grid tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Select the Grid tool from the Toolbox, and place a grid (Grid1) on Form1.
4. On the Properties bar, set the Grid Cols and Rows properties to 30.
5. Double-click the form to open the Code window. In the Procedure box, select Load. Enter the following code:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Dim i As Integer

    ' Make sure grid has at least one fixed column and row.
    If Grid1.FixedCols < 1 Or Grid1.FixedRows < 1 Then
        Stop
    End If
```

```

' Put letters across top.
For i = 0 To Grid1.Cols - 2
    Grid1.Col = i + 1
    Grid1.Row = 0
    Grid1.Text = Chr$(i Mod 26 + Asc("A"))
    ' If more than 26 columns, use double letter labels.
    If i + Asc("A") > Asc("Z") Then
        Grid1.Text = Chr$(i \ 26 - 1 + Asc("A")) + Grid1.text
    End If
    Grid1.FixedAlignment(Grid1.Col) = 2 ' Centered.
Next

' Put numbers down left edge.
For i = 1 To Grid1.Rows - 1
    Grid1.Col = 0
    Grid1.Row = i
    Grid1.Text = Format$(i)
Next
Grid1.FixedAlignment(0) = 2 ' Centered.
End Sub

```

6. Press the F5 key to run the program.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB MCI Control Does Not Support PC Speaker Driver**

**Article ID: Q84268**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The MCI custom does not support playing wave (.WAV) sound files through a PC speaker driver such as SPEAKER.DRV. The MCI custom control (and the Windows Media Player application) uses the MCI sound drivers, which do not support the PC speaker. The Windows default sounds and the Sound Recorder application are the only way to play sounds through the SPEAKER.DRV PC speaker driver.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The MCI control manages the recording and playback of multimedia files on Media Control Interface (MCI) devices, such as audio boards, MIDI sequencers, CD-ROM drives, audio CD players, video disc players, and videotape recorders and players.

Although the MCI control will not allow you to play .WAV files through the PC speaker, you can use the Object Linked and Embedding (OLE) Client custom control provided with the Professional Edition of the Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, or with the Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Professional Toolkit to create and play a linked Sound Recorder object from your Visual Basic for Windows program. The following is an example of this behavior. (Note that you must have the appropriate Windows sound drivers loaded in order to run this program):

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the OLECLIEN.VBX custom control file. The OLE Client tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Double-click the OLE Client control on the tool bar to create an OLE Client control on your form.
4. Double-click the form to open the Code window, and enter the following code in the Form\_Click event:

```
OLEClient1.Class = "SoundRec"
OLEClient1.Protocol = "StdFileEditing"
OLEClient1.SourceDoc = "C:\windows\chimes.wav"    ' Name of .WAV file.
OLEClient1.SourceItem = "LINK"
OLEClient1.ServerType = 0        ' Linked object.

OLEClient1.Action = 1        ' Create object from source file.
OLEClient1.Action = 7        ' Activate Sound Recorder - plays sound.
OLEClient1.Action = 10       ' Delete the object.
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program.

The specified .WAV file should be played each time you click the form.

For more information on SPEAKER.DRV, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

SPEAKER.DRV and WDL AND windows AND 3.10

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 MCI.VBX

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB MCI Control Does Not Support Recording of MIDI Data**

**Article ID: Q84473**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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The Multimedia Device control called MCI (MCI.VBX), consists of a set of high level, device-independent commands that control audio and visual peripherals. However, the MCI control cannot record standard MIDI (Musical Instrument Data Interface) input. This is a limitation of the MCI control, not of Visual Basic for Windows.

Below is an example of using the MCI control to play back a MIDI file.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The MCI custom control can play back MIDI files if you have the necessary hardware and software installed. Typically, you need a sound board that supports MIDI and Windows, version 3.1 to use the MCI control to play back MIDI files. Windows 3.1 or (Windows 3.0 with Multimedia Extensions version 1.0) supplies MIDI drivers for several well-known hardware add-on boards that support MIDI.

The following is an example of using the MCI control to play back a MIDI file called TEST.MID.

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the MCI.VBX custom control file. The MCI tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    MMControl1.PlayVisible = -1
    MMControl1.StopVisible = -1
    MMControl1.FileName = "c:\midi\bach.mid"
    MMControl1.Wait = -1
    MMControl1.DeviceType = "sequencer"
    MMControl1.Command = "open"
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to your Form\_Unload event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Unload (Cancel As Integer)
    MMControl1.Command = "close"
End Sub
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program. Click the play arrow of the MCI control to play the MIDI file.

Note: An MIDI file may play, but may not be audible due to MIDI configuration issues such as the MIDI channel and instrument.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **VB Graph: Use XPosData to Plot Fractional X-Axis Values**

**Article ID: Q85264**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can use the Graph custom control (GRAPH.VBX) XPosData property to give independent X-axis values for graphs. That is, the graph is not forced to plot on the X-axis, and has the ability to plot fractional data points between X-axis values. This property can be used with all graphs types except pie.

### MORE INFORMATION

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By default, graphs use a dependent X-axis scale. This means data points plotted conform to the whole-number increments shown on the X-axis. To plot fractional X-axis values, use the XPosData property. The XPosData values are set for each data point, allowing fractional X-axis plotted values to appear in the graph. XPosData sets the X coordinate, and GraphData sets the Y coordinate. The example below demonstrates this by plotting three different data points on a scatter graph:

### Example

-----

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRAPH.VBX custom control file. The GRAPH tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Place a Graph (Graph1) on Form1 by double-clicking the Graph tool in the Toolbox.
4. In the Properties box, set the following properties for Graph1:
  - AutoInc = 0 (Off)
  - GraphType = 9 (Scatter)
  - NumPoints = 3
  - SymbolData = 3 (Solid triangle - up)
5. Add the following code to Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
```

```
Graph1.ThisPoint = 1    'This indicates which datapoint to work on
Graph1.GraphData = 10   'This sets the Y-axis value for this point
Graph1.XPosData = .2    'This sets the X-axis value for this point
```

```
Graph1.ThisPoint = 2
Graph1.GraphData = 5
Graph1.XPosData = 1.3
```

```
Graph1.ThisPoint = 3
Graph1.GraphData = 3
Graph1.XPosData = 2.4
```

```
End Sub
```

6. Press F5 to run the code.

This example, when run, plots three data points in (X,Y) format. In this case, XPosData is used to provide non-integer X-axis values. The three triangles are plotted using the following coordinates:

(.2, 10), (1.3, 5), (2.4, 3)

XPosData works for other graph types too, except pie, for which X-axis data has no meaning. To try this example with another graph type, change the GraphType property of Grid1 to "4 - 3D Bar". Notice how the bars orient against the X-axis when you run the code.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus



## Toolkit 3-D Control (THREED.VBX) Default Property Values

Article ID: Q87766

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The 3-D Check Box, 3-D Command Button, 3-D Frame, 3-D Group Push Button, 3-D Option Button, and 3-D Panel custom controls retain custom properties from the control drawn before them. When the properties are customized for a particular 3-D control, they become the default properties for subsequent 3-D controls of the same type.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The example below demonstrates that the properties of THREED controls are retained from one control to the next.

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Load the THREED.VBX file into Form1 in Visual Basic.
2. Add a 3-D Command Button.
3. Select the BevelWidth property from the property bar. The default value is 2.
4. Set the BevelWidth to a value of 4.
5. Add a second 3-D Command Button.
6. Select the BevelWidth property from the property bar. The default value will now be 4.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 three dimension 3d

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## Using a Linked Sound Recorder Object with OLECLIEN.VBX

Article ID: Q87768

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The following program demonstrates the use of the Microsoft Visual Basic OLECLIEN.VBX custom control to create a linked Sound Recorder object.

The following OLEClient property settings are required to create a Sound OLE object:

Setting	Definition
-----	
Class	- "SoundRec"
SourceDoc	- The full path of the "wave" file to use (for example: C:\WINDOWS\CHIMES.WAV)
SourceItem	- The type of sound file object. "Wave" is the only sound format supported by the Windows operating system version 3.1 Sound Recorder.

Note: Sound Recorder does not come with Microsoft Windows version 3.0. You must have Windows version 3.1 to use this example. You must also have a computer capable of playing wave audio sounds (.WAV files). If you do not have a sound board, you can obtain a Windows sound driver for your PC Speaker. For information on obtaining this driver, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

win31 and driver and speak.exe

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following program demonstrates how to create a linked Sound Recorder object in Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows by using the OLECLIEN.VBX custom control:

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the OLECLIEN.VBX custom control file. The OLE Client tool appears in the Toolbox.

3. Place a command button and an OLEClient control on Form1.
4. Enter the following code:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    OLEClient1.Class = "SoundRec"
    OLEClient1.Protocol = "StdFileEditing"
    OLEClient1.SourceDoc = "c:\windows\chimes.wav"

    ' Source Item for Sound Recorder is 'Wave', but
    ' Sound Recorder does not check this property so
    ' any value will do.
    OLEClient1.SourceItem = "Wave"

    OLEClient1.ServerType = 0 ' Linked.
    OLEClient1.Action = 1     ' CreateFromFile.
    Command1.Enabled = 0
End Sub

Sub OleClient1_DblClick ()
    OLEClient1.Action = 7 ' Activate (open for editing).
End Sub

Sub Form_Unload (Cancel As Integer)
    OLEClient1.Action = 9 ' Close (terminate connection).
End Sub
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program. Choose the Command button to create the OLE object. Double clicking the OLEClient control starts Sound Recorder and plays the OLE sound.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic: Custom Control Reference," pages 196-232

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**PRB: THREED Check Box Is Not Grayed Out When Value = 2 in VB**  
**Article ID: Q87771**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

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If the Value property of a THREED Check Box is set to 2, the check box is not made unavailable (grayed out), as you might expect. Instead, an X is displayed in the THREED Check Box. If the Value property of a standard Visual Basic for Windows check box is set to 2, the check box is made unavailable.

CAUSE

=====

There is no disabled state for a THREED check box. The value property of a THREED check box can only be true or false (0 or 1) whereas the standard check box can have a value of 0, 1, or 2.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

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Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the THREED.VBX custom control file.
3. Place one THREED Check Box, one standard check box, and three command buttons on Form1.
4. Enter the following code in the appropriate event procedures:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Command1.Caption = "Value = 0"  
    Command2.Caption = "Value = 1"  
    Command3.Caption = "Value = 2"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    Check1.Value = 0  
    Check3D1.Value = 0  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command2_Click ()  
    Check1.Value = 1  
    Check3D1.Value = 1  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command3_Click ()  
    Check1.Value = 2  
    Check3D1.Value = 2  
End Sub
```

5. Press F5 to run the program. First, click the Value = 0 button. Then click the Value = 1 button. Finally, click the Value = 2 button. When you click the Value = 2 button, the standard check box is disabled (grayed) but the THREED check box is not.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 grey greyed 3d

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## How to Clear All or Part of Grid in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q88911

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.00
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can clear all or part of a grid by first selecting the region to clear using the SelStartCol, SelStartRow, SelEndCol, and SelEndRow properties, and then clearing the region by assigning a null string to the Clip property.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The example below demonstrates how to clear all the non-fixed cells of a grid.

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File, and select GRID.VBX. The Grid tool appears in the Toolbox. (This step is automatic in version 2.0.)
3. Place a grid (Grid1) on Form1.
4. Set the Grid1 property Cols to 4, and Rows to 4. Size the grid so that you can see all the cells.
5. Enter the following code into the Form1 Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    ' Load some data into the grid.  
    For i% = Grid1.FixedCols To Grid1.Cols - 1  
        For j% = Grid1.FixedRows To Grid1.Rows - 1  
            Grid1.Col = i%  
            Grid1.Row = j%  
            Grid1.Text = Format$(i% + j%)  
        Next  
    Next  
End Sub
```

6. Enter the following code into the Form1 Click event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    ' Select all non-fixed grid cells.
```

```

Grid1.SelStartCol = Grid1.FixedCols
Grid1.SelStartRow = Grid1.FixedRows
Grid1.SelEndCol = Grid1.Cols - 1
Grid1.SelEndRow = Grid1.Rows - 1

' Clear the cells.
Grid1.Clip = ""

' Clean up the grid.
Grid1.Col = Grid1.FixedCols
Grid1.Row = Grid1.FixedRows
Grid1.SelEndCol = Grid1.SelStartCol
Grid1.SelEndRow = Grid1.SelStartRow
End Sub

```

7. Press F5 to run the program. The grid appears with numbers in the cells. Click Form1. The grid is cleared.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## How to Make a Spreadsheet-Style Grid that Allows Editing

Article ID: Q88912

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.00
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Grid custom control does not provide any text editing capability. However, you can create a spreadsheet-style grid that allows editing by using a picture box and a text box.

### MORE INFORMATION

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We do not recommend creating a spreadsheet-style grid with a large matrix of text box controls because doing so will slow down your program, and use excessive system resources.

An efficient way to create a grid is to draw vertical and horizontal lines to represent the cells of the grid. Use a single text box to allow editing of the active cell. Check for MouseDown events to move the text box to the currently active cell position, and use the Print method to draw text in a cell when the text box moves away from the cell. Then, store the grid cell values in a two dimensional array, indexed by the column and row.

Code can be added to allow for highlighting areas, using ARROW keys to move between cells, and so on.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a picture (Picture1) on Form1, and set its properties as follows:

Property	Value
-----	
AutoRedraw	True
ScaleMode	3 - Pixel
Height	2000
Width	3000

3. Place a text box (Text1) in Picture1 by clicking the text box tool. The mouse pointer turns to cross-hairs. Click and drag inside Picture1 to place a gray rectangle appears in Picture1.
4. Add the following code to the general Declarations section of Form1:



```

' Maximum grid size.
Const grid_col_max = 10
Const grid_row_max = 20

' Current grid size.
Dim grid_cols As Integer
Dim grid_rows As Integer

' Current cell position.
Dim grid_col As Integer
Dim grid_row As Integer

' Grid string contents.
Dim grid_text(grid_col_max, grid_row_max) As String

' Grid line positions.
Dim grid_line_col(grid_col_max) As Integer
Dim grid_line_row(grid_col_max) As Integer

' grid_edit_move.
'   Moves the grid edit text box to a new position.
'
Sub grid_edit_move (col As Integer, row As Integer)
    Dim x1 As Integer ' Picture box positions.
    Dim y1 As Integer
    Dim x2 As Integer
    Dim y2 As Integer

    ' Save text box contents to grid array.
    grid_text(grid_col, grid_row) = Text1.Text

    ' Clear current cell.
    x1 = grid_line_col(grid_col) + 1
    y1 = grid_line_row(grid_row) + 1
    x2 = grid_line_col(grid_col + 1) - 1
    y2 = grid_line_row(grid_row + 1) - 1
    Picture1.Line (x1, y1)-(x2, y2), Picture1.BackColor, BF

    ' Print text box contents to current cell.
    Picture1.CurrentX = x1 + 3
    Picture1.CurrentY = y1 + 3
    Picture1.Print Text1.Text

    ' Set new grid current cell.
    grid_col = col
    grid_row = row

    ' Move text box to new cell.
    x1 = grid_line_col(grid_col)
    y1 = grid_line_row(grid_row)
    w! = grid_line_col(grid_col + 1) - x1
    h! = grid_line_row(grid_row + 1) - y1
    Text1.Move x1 + 1, y1 + 1, w! - 1, h! - 1

    ' Copy contents of new cell to text box.
    Text1.Text = grid_text(grid_col, grid_row)

```

End Sub

5. Add the following code to form Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    ' Set grid size.
    grid_cols = 4
    grid_rows = 6

    ' Remove border.
    Picture1.BorderStyle = 0

    ' Set column widths and row heights.
    Dim i As Integer
    Dim d As Integer
    d = 0
    For i = 0 To UBound(grid_line_col)
        grid_line_col(i) = d
        d = d + 40
    Next
    d = 0
    For i = 0 To UBound(grid_line_row)
        grid_line_row(i) = d
        d = d + 20
    Next

    ' Draw grid lines.
    For i = 0 To grid_cols
        x2% = grid_line_col(i)
        y2% = grid_line_row(grid_rows)
        Picture1.Line (grid_line_col(i), 0)-(x2%, y2%)
    Next
    For i = 0 To grid_rows
        x2% = grid_line_col(grid_cols)
        y2% = grid_line_row(i)
        Picture1.Line (0, grid_line_row(i))-(x2%, y2%)
    Next

    Call grid_edit_move(0, 0)
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Picture1 GotFocus event procedure:

```
Sub Picture1_GotFocus ()
    Text1.SetFocus
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Picture1 MouseDown event procedure:

```
' The following line should appear on one line.
Sub Picture1_MouseDown (Button As Integer, shift As Integer,
    x As Single, y As Single)
    Dim col As Integer
    Dim row As Integer
    Dim i As Integer

    ' Find the cell clicked in.
```

```

col = grid_col
row = grid_row
For i = 0 To grid_cols - 1
    If x>=grid_line_col(i) And x<grid_line_col(i+1) Then
        col = i
        Exit For
    End If
Next
For i = 0 To grid_rows - 1
    If y>=grid_line_row(i) And y<grid_line_row(i+1) Then
        row = i
        Exit For
    End If
Next

' Move the text box there.
Call grid_edit_move(col, row)
End Sub

```

8. Press F5 to run the program. Click a cell and edit the text.

This example is very limited in functionality. Text can be edited in each cell but you must click a cell to move to that particular cell. This article shows a method of creating a grid without tying up a large amount of system resources. Feel free to add code to increase its functionality.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 optimize

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd PrgCtrlsCus

**Create .MMM Movie Files with Macromedia Director for Macintosh**  
**Article ID: Q94186**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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Microsoft does not provide any product that can create .MMM movie files (multimedia animation files for use with the MCI.VBX control).

You can use Macromedia Director for Macintosh to create multimedia animation and use Macromedia Windows Player to convert the animation to a file in MMM movie file format.

MORE INFORMATION

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For more information, contact the following company:

Macromedia (previously Macromind), Inc.  
600 Townsend St  
San Francisco CA 94103  
(800)288-4797

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Multimedia Development Kit Programmer's Reference" and  
"Microsoft Multimedia Development Kit Programmer's Workbook"

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## Masked Edit Control, Mask Property Clarification

Article ID: Q93129

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article clarifies the description of the Masked Edit Control's Mask property given in "Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Features" on pages 233-234, and in the help file CTRLREF.HLP.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Example Mask Settings

-----

The description of the Mask property includes the following statement:

..., the following standard, predefined input masks are available at design time.

The statement is followed by a list of possible Mask settings such as:

##-???-## Medium date (US). Example: 20-May-92

The settings listed are example settings. The Masked Edit control does not handle these particular settings specially, either at design time or run time. In this sense, they are neither standard nor predefined as the description states.

For instance, the setting ##-???-## does not restrict the user to valid dates. This setting only requires two digits, three letters, and two more digits. So, for example, an input of 99ZZZ99 is valid with this setting.

#### Mask Character Place Holder "&"

-----

The description of the place holder "&" is given as:

& Character placeholder. The valid value for the placeholder is any symbol or alphanumeric character.

This means that "&" is a place holder for any printable character.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **Name Property Cannot Be Set When Using Implicit Property**

**Article ID: Q93214**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

On Page 126 of the Visual Basic Programmer's Guide, it incorrectly states that all controls have an implicit property you can use for storing or retrieving values. Some controls supplied with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic for Windows use the Name property as their implicit property, which you cannot use at run-time.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following controls from the Visual Basic Professional Edition use the Name property as their implicit property:

- Common dialog
- MAPI session
- MAPI message
- Spin button

Attempting to access the implicit property of these controls results in one of the following errors:

- 'Name' property cannot be read at run time
- 'Name' property cannot be set at run time

You access the implicit property of a control (also known as the "value of a control" or the "default value of a control") by writing the control name with no property. For example, with a text box named Text1, you can write the following statement to assign a value to the Text property:

```
Text1 = "hello world"
```

The following list shows the implicit properties for all the controls in both the Standard and Professional Editions:

Standard Control	Implicit Property
-----	-----
Check box	Value
Combo box	Text
Command button	Value
Directory list box	Path
Drive list box	Drive
File list box	FileName
Frame	Caption
Grid	Text

Image	Picture
Label	Caption
Line	Visible
List box	Text
Menu	Enabled
OLE client	Action
Option button	Value
Picture box	Picture
Scroll bar vertical	Value
Scroll bar horizontal	Value
Shape	Shape
Text box	Text
Timer	Enabled

Professional Control	Implicit Property
----------------------	-------------------

3D check box	Value
3D command button	Value
3D frame	Caption
3D group push button	Value
3D option button	Value
3D panel	Caption
Animated button	Value
Common dialog	Name (not usable)
Communications	Input
Gauge	Value
Graph	QuickData
Key status	Value
MAPI session	Name (not usable)
MAPI message	Name (not usable)
Masked edit	Text
Multimedia MCI	Command
Pen BEdit	Text
Pen HEdit	Text
Pen ink on bitmap	Picture
Pen on-screen keyboard	Visible
Picture clip	Picture
Spin button	Name (not usable)

Additional reference words: 2.00 docerr

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsDoc PrgCtrlsStd PrgCtrlsCus

## New Features Added to Graph Control in Versions 2.0 and 3.0

Article ID: Q93322

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

In Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0, the Graph Control now includes most of the major features that were requested with the Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Toolkit for Windows, version 1.0.

For example, in versions 2.0 and 3.0, the user has control over the labeling of the X axis and the minimum and maximum range of the Y axis. More information on the Graph Control is included in the "Professional Features" manual provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0.

New features of the Graph Control include the following:

### New Properties

-----

FontSize	'Standard FontSize property.
FontStyle	'Standard FontStyle property.
FontUse	'Other font properties are applied against.
HelpContextID	'Help file topic ID.
hWnd	'Window handle.
IndexStyle	'Enhanced usage of ThisSet and ThisPoint.
LabelEvery	'Frequency of labels on the X axis.
TickEvery	'Tick interval on X axis.
Ticks	'Check if X or Y axis ticks are displayed.
YAxisMax	'Maximum range of Y axis.
YAxisMin	'Minimum range of Y axis.
YAxisPos	'Position of Y axis, right or left.
YAxisStyle	'Auto or manual.
YAxisTicks	'Number of ticks on Y axis.

### New Events

-----

Events are the same as the Graph Control included with the Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Toolkit for Windows, version 1.0.

### New Methods

-----

ZOrder	'Standard ZOrder method.
--------	--------------------------

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 z-order

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus



## **MaxFileSize Property Range in CMDDIALOG.VBX Can Be 1 to 2048**

**Article ID: Q95765**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 2.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

The MaxFileSize property for the file open and file save common dialog boxes has a range of 1 to 2048 bytes not 1 to 32767 bytes.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The 1 to 2048 bytes is an internal limit of the Windows COMMDLG.DLL.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## **Set DrawMode to 2 Or 3 to Update Changes to Graph at Run Time**

**Article ID: Q96450**

---

The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### **SUMMARY**

=====

Changing properties of the graph control at run time does not update the control until DrawMode is set to 2 (Draw) or 3 (Blit).

### **MORE INFORMATION**

=====

The DrawMode property documentation states that at design time, when you change a property value, the graph is automatically redrawn to show the effect of the change. At run time, the graph is only redrawn when you set DrawMode to 2 or 3. This allows you to change as many property values as you want before displaying the graph. However, when the form containing a graph is first displayed, the graph is automatically displayed according to the current DrawMode value.

For more information, see the "Microsoft Visual Basic Programming System for Windows Professional Edition Professional Features," version 2.0, "Custom Control Reference," pages 149-150.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## Maximum Length of Name Property Depends on Events Supported

Article ID: Q96151

-----

The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The maximum length of the Name (CtlName in version 1.0) property for controls varies from control to control depending on the character length of its longest event name. Event procedures names are limited to a length of 40 characters including the control's Name property, the underscore, and the event name. Therefore, the longer the event name, the shorter the Name property can be.

In Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0, the Label, Picture Box, and Text Box controls add support for the LinkNotify event, which is one character longer than any event supported in version 1.0 for these controls. The maximum length of the Name property for these controls is therefore one character fewer in versions 2.0 and 3.0. A table showing the maximum length of the Name property for all of the standard controls in Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0 is listed below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Name property of forms are not dependent on the events supported because the property is not used in the name of form event procedures. Event procedures for forms all begin with Form and therefore can be up to the 40-character maximum in length.

#### Maximum length of Name properties for Version 2.0 and 3.0 controls

-----

Control	Name Length Limit
Check Box	30
Combo Box	30
Command Button	30
Directory List Box	30
Drive List Box	30
File List Box	26
Frame	31
Grid	27
Image	30
Label	29
Line	39
List Box	30
Menu	34
OLE Client	30

Option Button	30
Picture Box	25
Scroll Bars	30
Shape	39
Text Box	29
Timer	34

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## How to Right-Align Standard Numbers in a Masked Edit Field

Article ID: Q97141

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Masked edit control does not provide a method to right align numbers. Ordinary right-align methods and the Format\$ function do not work because the Masked edit control uses the underscore character to represent blanks in the text property. For example, if 300 is entered in a Masked edit field with a mask of ####, the text property would contain "\_\_300" instead of " 300."

However, you can use the technique described in this article to right align a Masked edit field using a standard number mask and format. This is done in three steps:

1. Create a string of underscore characters that matches the length of the mask in the Masked edit control.
2. Concatenate the text entered in the Masked edit control to the end of the underscore string. This result is a string longer than the mask of the Masked edit control.
3. Use the Right\$ function to remove the extra underscore characters from the beginning of the string.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following example demonstrates this process:

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. Add the MSMASKED.VBX control to the project.
3. Create the following controls on Form1, and assign the indicated properties:

Default Name	Caption	Mask	Format
-----			
MaskedEdit1	(Not applicable)	####	####
Command1	Right Align		

4. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```
' Ensure that the string is not already right-aligned.  
If InStr((Len(MaskedEdit1.Text)), MaskedEdit1.Text, "_") =
```

```
Len(MaskedEdit1.Text) Then

' The first String$ function creates the underscore string. The
' Format$ trims the text property of the MaskedEdit control.
' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
MaskedEdit1.text = Right$(String$(Len(MaskedEdit1.Text), "_") &
    Format$(Val(MaskedEdit1.Text)), Len(MaskedEdit1.Text))

End If
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program.

6. Enter two numbers into the Masked edit field, and click the Right Align button. Notice that the numbers are right-aligned in the field.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 justify

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## Playing an .AVI File with the MCITEST Example

Article ID: Q98769

---

The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.00 and 3.00
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article shows how to modify the multimedia sample project MCITEST.MAK to load and play Microsoft Video for Windows files (.AVI files). To apply the information in this article, you must have Video for Windows drivers correctly installed and a valid .AVI file available.

More Information:

1. Open the project VB\SAMPLES\MCI\MCITEST.MAK.
2. Select MCITEST.FRM in the Project Window. From the View menu, choose Code. In the Object combo box, select AI\_ANIMATION to display the AI\_ANIMATION\_Click event handler.

3. Modify the common dialog Filter to display .AVI files:

```
change:  OpenFileDialog1.Filter = "Movie File (*.mmm)|*.mmm"
to:      OpenFileDialog1.Filter = "Movie File (*.avi)|*.avi"
```

Modify the DeviceType to access the AVI drivers:

```
change:  Animate.MMControl1.DeviceType = "MMMovie"
to:      Animate.MMControl1.DeviceType = "AVIVideo"
```

4. Select ANIMATE.FRM in the Project Window. From the View menu, choose Code. In the Object combo box, select AI\_OPEN to display the AI\_OPEN\_Click event handler.
5. Modify the DeviceType to access the AVI drivers. Scroll down by pages to find the location for this change.

```
change:  Animate.MMControl1.DeviceType = "MMMovie"
to:      Animate.MMControl1.DeviceType = "AVIVideo"
```

6. Save the work, and run the application.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 mci control multimedia multi media

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**PRB: Some ATI Video Drivers Hang When Using MSOUTLIN.VBX**  
**Article ID: Q100194**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

If you use an OutLine control in a Visual Basic project and you are using an ATI Mach 32 video driver this could cause your computer to hang (stop responding to input).

CAUSE

=====

This is a problem with the ATI video driver not a problem with Visual Basic. The m32-86.drv and Mach32.drv drivers have been reported to cause this problem.

RESOLUTION

=====

An updated driver may solve the problem. To contact ATI Technologies concerning an updated driver call the following number.

ATI Technologies Inc. (416) 756-0711 ATI technical support

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun PrgCtrlsCus



## **International and U.S. Support for Crystal Reports**

**Article ID: Q100368**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft supports setup and installation for the Crystal Reports product shipped with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. For other Crystal Reports support, please contact Crystal Services, not Microsoft.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following lists international and U.S. telephone numbers you can call to get technical support for Crystal Reports. Also listed is the CompuServe ID and mailing address for Crystal Reports support.

#### Canada/US

Crystal Services  
Suite 2200 - 1050 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6E 3S7

Phone: 604-669-8379 (8:00am - 5:00pm pacific time)  
Fax: 604-681-7163  
BBS: 604-681-9516

Product support via CompuServe:  
Send CompuServe mail to : 71035,2430

#### England

Company: Contemporary Software  
Phone: 273-483-979  
Fax: 273-486-224

#### Netherlands

Company: Microscope  
Phone 10-456-3799  
Fax 10-456-5549

#### Australia

Company: Sourceware  
Phone: 2-427-7999  
Fax: 2-427-7255  
"Ask for Tony Johnson"

For a complete list of Crystal Reports support offerings see the last three pages (PSS 1 - PSS 3) of the "Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Features Book 2" manual

Additional reference words: 3.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: RefsProd PrgCtrlsCus

## How to Fill (Populate) a Grid with Database Data -- 4 Methods

Article ID: Q103437

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
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### SUMMARY

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This article gives you four separate examples demonstrating how to use Visual Basic to fill a grid control with data coming from database tables.

- The first example uses a data control to fill the grid.
- The second example uses a Dynaset object to fill the grid.
- The third example uses a Snapshot object to fill the grid.
- The fourth example uses a Table object to fill the grid.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Example One

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add one Data1 control, one Grid control, one Command button and two Text boxes to Form1.
3. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control Name	Property	New Value	Comment
Data1	DatabaseName	BIBLIO.MDB	Provide the full path to this file, which should be in the Visual Basic directory -- C:\VB
Data1	RecordSource	Authors	
Data1	Visible	False	
Text1	DataSource	Data1	
Text1	DataField	AU_ID	
Text1	Visible	False	
Text2	DataSource	Data1	
Text2	DataField	Author	
Text2	Visible	False	
Grid1	Cols	3	
Grid1	Rows	50	
Command1	Caption	Press to Load Grid	

4. Place the following code in the Form1 Load event procedure:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    'Initialize the colwidths for the grid and supply headers
    Show
    grid1.ColWidth(1) = 3000      'For Author name
    grid1.ColWidth(2) = 1000     'For Author ID
    grid1.Col = 1
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Author Name"    'Header for Author Name
    grid1.Col = 2
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Author ID"     'Header for Author ID
End Sub

```

5. Place the following code in the Command1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    ' The routine to load data into grid
    Dim counter%
    counter% = 1                      'Start counter at Row=1
    Do Until data1.Recordset.EOF
        grid1.Col = 1
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = data1.Recordset(1) 'Load the Author Name
        grid1.Col = 2
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = data1.Recordset(0) 'Load the Author ID
        counter% = counter% + 1
        data1.Recordset.MoveNext
    Loop
    data1.Recordset.Close
End Sub

```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. Click the Command1 button.

#### Example Two

- 
1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
  2. Add one Grid control and one Command button to Form1.
  3. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control Name	Property	New Value
-----		
Grid1	Cols	3
Grid1	Rows	50
Command1	Caption	Press to Load Grid

4. Place the following code in the Form1 Load event procedure:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    'Initialize the colwidths for the grid and supply headers
    Show

```

```

grid1.ColWidth(1) = 3000      'For Author name
grid1.ColWidth(2) = 1000     'For Author ID
grid1.Col = 1
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Author Name"    'Header for Author Name
grid1.Col = 2
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Author ID"      'Header for Author ID
End Sub

```

5. Place the following code in the Command1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    ' The routine to load data into grid
    Dim db as Database
    Dim ds as Dynaset
    Dim counter%
    Set db = OpenDatabase("BIBLIO.MDB")
    Set ds = db.CreateDynaset("Authors")
    counter% = 1                'Start counter at Row=1
    Do Until ds.EOF
        grid1.Col = 1
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = ds(1)      'Load the Author Name
        grid1.Col = 2
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = ds(0)      'Load the Author ID
        counter% = counter% + 1
        ds.MoveNext
    Loop
    ds.Close
    db.Close
End Sub

```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. Click the Command1 button.

### Example Three

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add one Grid control and one Command button to Form1.
3. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control Name	Property	New Value
Grid1	Cols	3
Grid1	Rows	50
Command1	Caption	Press to Load Grid

4. Place the following code in the Form1 Load event procedure:

```

Sub Form_Load ()

```

```

'Initialize the colwidths for the grid and supply headers
Show
grid1.ColWidth(1) = 3000      'For Author name
grid1.ColWidth(2) = 1000     'For Author ID
grid1.Col = 1
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Author Name"    'Header for Author Name
grid1.Col = 2
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Author ID"      'Header for Author ID
End Sub

```

5. Place the following code in the Command1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
' The routine to load data into grid
Dim db as Database
Dim Snap1 as Snapshot
Dim counter%
Set db = OpenDatabase("BIBLIO.MDB")
Set Snap1 = db.CreateSnapshot("Authors")
counter% = 1      'Start counter at Row=1
Do Until Snap1.EOF
    grid1.Col = 1
    grid1.Row = counter%
    grid1.Text = Snap1(1)      'Load the Author Name
    grid1.Col = 2
    grid1.Row = counter%
    grid1.Text = Snap1(0)      'Load the Author ID
    counter% = counter% + 1
    Snap1.MoveNext
Loop
Snap1.Close
db.Close
End Sub

```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. Click the Command1 button.

#### Example Four

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add one Grid control and one Command button to Form1.
3. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control Name	Property	New Value
-----		
Grid1	Cols	3
Grid1	Rows	50
Command1	Caption	Press to Load Grid

4. Place the following code in the Form1 Load event procedure:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    'Initialize the colwidths for the grid and supply headers
    Show
    grid1.ColWidth(1) = 3000      'For Author name
    grid1.ColWidth(2) = 1000     'For Author ID
    grid1.Col = 1
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Author Name"    'Header for Author Name
    grid1.Col = 2
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Author ID"     'Header for Author ID
End Sub

```

5. Place the following code in the Command1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    ' The routine to load data into grid
    Dim db as Database
    Dim t as Table
    Dim counter%
    Set db = OpenDatabase("BIBLIO.MDB")
    Set t = db.Opentable("Authors")
    counter% = 1      'Start counter at Row=1
    Do Until t.EOF
        grid1.Col = 1
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = t(1)      'Load the Author Name
        grid1.Col = 2
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = t(0)     'Load the Author ID
        counter% = counter% + 1
        t.MoveNext
    Loop
    t.Close
    db.Close
End Sub

```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. Click the Command1 button.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## Error Listing for MCI.VBX Control

Article ID: Q103647

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

Below is a listing of the error codes and numbers that are related to the MCI.VBX control. This listing is presently missing from Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows, but it can be found in the MMSYSTEMS.H file from the Windows version 3.1 Software Development Kit and it can be found in the WINMMSYS.TXT file.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

MCI Errors Defined	MCI Error Number
-----	
#define MCIERR_BASE	256
#define MCIERR_INVALID_DEVICE_ID	257
#define MCIERR_UNRECOGNIZED_KEYWORD	259
#define MCIERR_UNRECOGNIZED_COMMAND	261
#define MCIERR_HARDWARE	262
#define MCIERR_INVALID_DEVICE_NAME	263
#define MCIERR_OUT_OF_MEMORY	264
#define MCIERR_DEVICE_OPEN	265
#define MCIERR_CANNOT_LOAD_DRIVER	266
#define MCIERR_MISSING_COMMAND_STRING	267
#define MCIERR_PARAM_OVERFLOW	268
#define MCIERR_MISSING_STRING_ARGUMENT	269
#define MCIERR_BAD_INTEGER	270
#define MCIERR_PARSER_INTERNAL	271
#define MCIERR_DRIVER_INTERNAL	272
#define MCIERR_MISSING_PARAMETER	273
#define MCIERR_UNSUPPORTED_FUNCTION	274
#define MCIERR_FILE_NOT_FOUND	275
#define MCIERR_DEVICE_NOT_READY	276
#define MCIERR_INTERNAL	277
#define MCIERR_DRIVER	278
#define MCIERR_CANNOT_USE_ALL	279
#define MCIERR_MULTIPLE	280
#define MCIERR_EXTENSION_NOT_FOUND	281
#define MCIERR_OUTOFRANGE	282
#define MCIERR_FLAGS_NOT_COMPATIBLE	283
#define MCIERR_FILE_NOT_SAVED	286
#define MCIERR_DEVICE_TYPE_REQUIRED	287
#define MCIERR_DEVICE_LOCKED	288
#define MCIERR_DUPLICATE_ALIAS	289



#define MCIERR_BAD_CONSTANT	290
#define MCIERR_MUST_USE_SHAREABLE	291
#define MCIERR_MISSING_DEVICE_NAME	292
#define MCIERR_BAD_TIME_FORMAT	293
#define MCIERR_NO_CLOSING_QUOTE	294
#define MCIERR_DUPLICATE_FLAGS	295
#define MCIERR_INVALID_FILE	296
#define MCIERR_NULL_PARAMETER_BLOCK	297
#define MCIERR_UNNAMED_RESOURCE	298
#define MCIERR_NEW_REQUIRES_ALIAS	299
#define MCIERR_NOTIFY_ON_AUTO_OPEN	300
#define MCIERR_NO_ELEMENT_ALLOWED	301
#define MCIERR_NONAPPLICABLE_FUNCTION	302
#define MCIERR_ILLEGAL_FOR_AUTO_OPEN	303
#define MCIERR_FILENAME_REQUIRED	304
#define MCIERR_EXTRA_CHARACTERS	305
#define MCIERR_DEVICE_NOT_INSTALLED	306
#define MCIERR_GET_CD	307
#define MCIERR_SET_CD	308
#define MCIERR_SET_DRIVE	309
#define MCIERR_DEVICE_LENGTH	310
#define MCIERR_DEVICE_ORD_LENGTH	311
#define MCIERR_NO_INTEGER	312
#define MCIERR_WAVE_OUTPUTSINUSE	320
#define MCIERR_WAVE_SETOUTPUTINUSE	321
#define MCIERR_WAVE_INPUTSINUSE	322
#define MCIERR_WAVE_SETINPUTINUSE	323
#define MCIERR_WAVE_OUTPUTUNSPECIFIED	324
#define MCIERR_WAVE_INPUTUNSPECIFIED	325
#define MCIERR_WAVE_OUTPUTSUNSUITABLE	326
#define MCIERR_WAVE_SETOUTPUTUNSUITABLE	327
#define MCIERR_WAVE_INPUTSUNSUITABLE	328
#define MCIERR_WAVE_SETINPUTUNSUITABLE	329
#define MCIERR_SEQ_DIV_INCOMPATIBLE	336
#define MCIERR_SEQ_PORT_INUSE	337
#define MCIERR_SEQ_PORT_NONEXISTENT	338
#define MCIERR_SEQ_PORT_MAPNODEVICE	339
#define MCIERR_SEQ_PORT_MISCELLANEOUS	340
#define MCIERR_SEQ_TIMER	341
#define MCIERR_SEQ_PORTUNSPECIFIED	342
#define MCIERR_SEQ_NOMIDIPRESENT	343
#define MCIERR_NO_WINDOW	346
#define MCIERR_CREATEWINDOW	347
#define MCIERR_FILE_READ	348
#define MCIERR_FILE_WRITE	349
#define MCIERR_CUSTOM_DRIVER_BASE	512

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

## How to Include Return Receipt Functionality w/ MAPI Control

Article ID: Q104624

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article explains how to install return receipt functionality on a message sent in a Visual Basic application. When a message has return receipt functionality, it means that when the message you sent is opened by the recipient, a message is sent back to you to confirm that the message was opened by the recipient. The returned message typically contains the date, time, and original message subject.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

In Visual Basic, you can send a message by calling the automatic dialog box or by manually programming the message properties.

Using the automatic dialog box, the sender can select the Return Receipt option in the Send Note dialog box.

To manually program Return Receipt functionality, use the following example as a guide:

```
' set up a session associated with the message:
Const SESSION_SIGNON = 1
mapisession1.Action = SESSION_SIGNON
mapimessages1.SessionID = mapisession1.SessionID

' Send the message
Const MESSAGE_SEND = 3
mapimessages1.MsgIndex = -1
mapimessages1.MsgNoteText = "How's it going?"
mapimessages1.MsgOrigAddress = "FredBloggs"
mapimessages1.MsgSubject = "Hi"
mapimessages1.RecipDisplayName = "JoSmith"
mapimessages1.MsgReceiptRequested = True
mapimessages1.Action = MESSAGE_SEND
```

' The compose buffer  
' The message text  
' Sender's alias  
' The message title  
' Recipient's alias  
' Request receipt  
' Send message

Below is the example code that traps whether Request Receipt has been set. Place this code at the point where the user reads the message.

```
If mapimessages1.MsgReceiptRequested Then
    mapimessages1.MsgIndex = -1
    mapimessages1.RecipDisplayName = sender$
receiver
    mapimessages1.MsgSubject = "RECEIVED " + title$
```

' Check Return receipt  
' Compose buffer  
' Set sender to  
' Set message title

```
        mapimessages1.Action = MESSAGE_SEND           ' Send Return Receipt  
End If
```

The variables sender\$ and title\$ contain the alias and the message title of the original message.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus

**PRB: Can't Set Formal Parameter When Setting Object Vars**  
**Article ID: Q105230**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
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SYMPTOMS

=====

Trying to use a Set statement on an object variable that is a formal parameter of a procedure results in this error:

Can't Set Formal Parameter.

CAUSE

=====

Object variables can be parameters of a Sub or Function procedure, but if an object variable is a parameter, its value cannot be changed inside the called procedure.

RESOLUTION

=====

If you make the object variable Global instead of passing it as a parameter, you can use Set statements inside procedures.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Objects as parameters can be thought of as a copy of the structure that defines the object. If Set statements were allowed on these objects, this would change the value inside the routine, but upon returning from the routine the changes would be lost and the object variable would revert back to its original value.

Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start a new project in Visual Basic and add the following procedure to the application:

```
Sub s (tb As Table)
    Set tb = Nothing
End Sub
```

2. Press the F5 key to run the application. The error "Can't Set Formal Parameter" should occur immediately.

Trying to force these objects to be passed by value by setting the ByVal keyword results in this error:

Expected: Integer or Long or Single or Double or Currency or  
String or Variant.

ByVal is allowed with the variable types listed in the error message,  
but it is not allowed with any other variable type.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubCategory: PrgOther

## **VB Out of Stack Space Error w/ LoadPicture in Form\_Paint Event**

**Article ID: Q72675**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0  
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### SUMMARY

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An "Out of stack space" error can occur when you use a LoadPicture method within a Form\_Paint event.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The Visual Basic stack can be exhausted when the LoadPicture method is executed within a [control/form]\_Paint event. The LoadPicture method generates a [control/form]\_Paint event itself, and when performed within a \_Paint event, the program will repeat the cycle until the stack is exhausted.

The following code example demonstrates that the Form\_Paint event is a recursive procedure when a LoadPicture method is included in the \_Paint event code.

After you add the code to your program, run the program and notice how many times the message "Form\_Paint Count :" is displayed within the Immediate Window before you receive the "Out of stack space" error message.

```
Sub Form_Paint ()  
    Static Count  
    Count = Count + 1  
    Debug.Print "Form_Paint Count : "; Count  
    Form1.picture = LoadPicture("c:\windows\chess.bmp")  
End Sub
```

To remedy the situation, move the LoadPicture to another event handler, such as the Form\_Load event. Since these bitmaps are automatically refreshed when needed, you don't have to maintain the picture within a Paint event.

The Visual Basic stack is limited to 16K bytes, and cannot be changed.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap PrgOptMemMgt

## Visual Basic 3.0 General Information Questions & Answers

Article ID: Q92545

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

1. Q. What are the new features in Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows?

A. The following is a list of some of the main new features:

- Microsoft Access version 1.1 database engine provides direct connectivity to Access, FoxPro, dBASE, Paradox, and Btrieve databases.
- Two new controls:
  - Data control provides a visual and semi-automated method to connect to databases.
  - Outline control provides an easy way to create hierarchical list boxes.
- Full ODBC support for SQL, Sybase, and Oracle.
- Three new tools:
  - Crystal Reports report generator.
  - Data Manager for easily generating a database file.
  - Setup Wizard for automating the creation of setup and distribution disks.
- Pop-up menus.
- OLE 2.0 Automation.

For additional information on these and other product features, please call Microsoft Visual Basic startup and installation support at (206) 646-5105.

2. Q. What are the system requirements for Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows?

A. To use Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows, you need:

1. Microsoft Windows operating system version 3.0 or higher running in standard or 386 enhanced mode.
2. An IBM PC or compatible computer, or an IBM PS/2 with an 80286 or better microprocessor.
3. 2 Megabytes (MB) of available memory (4 MB or higher recommended)

for the design environment

4. Hard Drive with 32 MB available.
  5. A 5.25-inch or 3.5-inch high-density disk drive.
  6. A Microsoft mouse or compatible pointing device.
  7. EGA or higher resolution monitor.
3. Q. Does Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows work with the new Microsoft Windows NT operating system?
- A. Yes. However, Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows will not take advantage of the 32 bit features of Microsoft Windows NT. Visual Basic runs in the 16 bit emulation layer in Windows NT.
4. Q. Where can I get information on available 3rd-party custom controls or 3rd-party books for use with Microsoft Visual Basic?
- A. Included with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows is a catalog called "Custom Controls and Other Companion Products and Services for Visual Basic for Windows." In addition, you can find this information in an article in the Microsoft Knowledge Base titled "List of Visual Basic Companion Products and Services Available." The item identification number for this article is Q78962. You can have the article faxed to you by calling Microsoft FastTips (800)936-4300.

Additional reference words: 3.00 ivrfax fasttips

KBCategory: Prg

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips



## Comments and Blank Lines Increase Size of VB 1.0 .EXE File

Article ID: Q73697

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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Each line containing blank space or a comment in any code window of a Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0 application adds 2 bytes to the size of the compiled executable file (.EXE).

This behavior does not occur in Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The 2 byte overhead for each line containing blank space or a comment is generated as part of the pseudo-code for the application in the VB.EXE development environment. The program is run in "interpreted mode" based on this pseudo-code. Because an .EXE program is generated based on this pseudo-code (in other words, Visual Basic for Windows does not use a compiler and linker), the 2 byte overhead is copied to the .EXE program. The only workaround for this behavior is to remove comments and blank lines before compiling the Visual Basic for Windows project.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips

## How to Optimize Size and Speed of Visual Basic Applications

Article ID: Q73798

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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This article describes how to optimize Visual Basic applications for size and speed.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Below are guidelines to help increase speed, available resources, available RAM, and available disk space in Visual Basic:

#### Increase Speed

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- Preload forms.
- Store graphics as bitmaps.
- Place debug routines in a separate module.
- Use Dynamic Link Library (DLL) routines.

#### Increase Available Resources

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- Create simulated controls using a graphic object.
- Draw graphics images during run time.

#### Increase Available RAM

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- Use Integer variables whenever possible.
- Create dynamic arrays to free arrays when not needed.
- Drop/unload controls and forms when not needed.
- Use local variables.

#### Increase Disk Space

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- Build controls at load time.
- Minimize header size.
- Delete unnecessary functions and subroutines.
- Delete unused objects and associated methods.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips

## How to Determine Display State of a VB Form, Modal or Modeless

Article ID: Q77316

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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The Show method in the Visual Basic for Windows language can display a form either as modal or modeless. No direct support exists in the language to determine the display state of the form without maintaining global variables that contain the display state of the form. However, the Windows API function GetWindowLong can be used to check the display state of the form.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

When Visual Basic for Windows displays a modal form (.Show 1), all other forms will be modified to contain the Window Style WS\_DISABLED. The Windows API function GetWindowLong can be used to return the Window Style of another form to check for the WS\_DISABLED style.

The following code demonstrates this process:

Add the following to the General Declarations section of Form1 and Form2:

```
DefInt A-Z
Global Const GWL_STYLE = (-16)
Global Const WS_DISABLED = &H80000000
Declare Function GetWindowLong& Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, ByVal nIndex)
```

Form1.Frm

-----

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    ' Flip between "Modeless" and "Modal" display states.
    Static ShowStyle
    Unload form2
    form2.Show ShowStyle
    ShowStyle = (ShowStyle + 1) Mod 2
End Sub
```

Form2.Frm

-----

```
Sub Form_Paint ()
    ' Get the Window Style for Form1.
```

```
WinStyle& = GetWindowLong(Form1.hWnd, GWL_STYLE)
If WinStyle& And WS_DISABLED Then
    ' The WS_DISABLED style is set on "FORM1" when "FORM2"
    ' is displayed with the Modal flag (Show 1).
    Print "Modal      - Show 1"
Else
    ' The WS_DISABLED style is not set on "FORM1" when "FORM2"
    ' is displayed with the Modeless flag (Show or Show 0).
    Print "Modeless - Show"
End If
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow PrgOptTips

## **Example of Sharing a Form Between Projects in VB for Windows**

**Article ID: Q81222**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows allows you to share forms between projects. When you make a change to a shared form in one project, that change will be automatically updated in the other projects that share the form.

A workaround is also available if you want to change a shared form but do not want to update the form in other projects.

Further below is an example of how to use this shared form feature in Visual Basic for Windows, and an example of how to change a shared form without updating it in shared projects.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Below are two examples: the first shows how to update shared forms, and the second demonstrates how to change a shared form without having those changes affect the same form in other projects.

#### Example 1

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1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a couple text boxes and command buttons to Form1 by double-clicking the appropriate tools in the toolbox and placing the controls at certain locations on the form. From the Properties Bar, change the FormName property of Form1 to Test1.
3. From the File menu, choose Save Project As. Save Test1 as TEST1.FRM and save the project as TEST1.MAK.
4. Start a new project by choosing New Project from the File menu.
5. From the File menu, choose Add File, and select TEST1.FRM.
6. Once TEST1.FRM is loaded into the project, delete the command buttons, and replace them with picture boxes.

7. From the File menu, choose Save Project As. Save the project as TEST2.MAK, and save TEST1.FRM with the same name.
8. From the File menu, choose Open Project. In the Files box, select TEST1.MAK.

Notice that the form has been updated to include picture boxes and the command buttons were deleted.

#### Example 2

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(Note that the following steps are very similar to the example above, but with a change in step 5.)

This example demonstrates how to share forms between projects, but with the forms being designed differently.

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a couple text boxes and command buttons to Form1 by double-clicking the appropriate tools in the toolbox and placing the controls at certain locations on the form. From the Properties Bar, change the FormName property of Form1 to Test3.
3. From the File menu, choose Save Project As. Save Test3 as TEST3.FRM and save the project as TEST3.MAK.
4. From the File menu, choose New Project.
5. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select TEST3.FRM. Once the file is loaded, delete the command buttons and replace them with picture boxes.
6. From the File menu, choose Save File As, and save the form as TEST4.FRM.
7. From the File menu, choose Save Project As, and save the project as TEST4.MAK.
8. From the File menu, choose Open Project. In the Files box, select TEST3.MAK.

Notice that the form's controls have NOT been updated with picture boxes.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips

## **Limit of 15 or 31 Timer Controls in Visual Basic for Windows**

**Article ID: Q81455**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Visual Basic timer control is very useful for initiating specific code at certain time intervals. Microsoft Windows version 3.0 allows up to 16 timers, and Microsoft Windows version 3.1 allows up to 32 timers. Windows requires the use of one of the timers for itself, so you can have up to 15 timers in a Visual Basic version 1.0 or 2.0 application in Windows version 3.0 and up to 31 timers in Microsoft Windows version 3.1.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 3.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips

## **Redim: Array Already Dimensioned Msg After Dim w/ Subscripts**

**Article ID: Q83238**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can use the ReDim statement to redimension a dynamic array only if the array has been previously dimensioned with empty parentheses (no subscripts), or if the array has been previously redimensioned with ReDim. If you specified subscripts to originally dimension the array in a Global or Dim statement, or if you previously dimensioned the array using the Static statement in a Sub or Function, redimensioning the array will cause an "Array already dimensioned" error.

### MORE INFORMATION

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You can use the ReDim statement to dimension an array that you have already declared with empty parentheses either in the Global module or in the general Declarations section. You can also use ReDim to redimension arrays that you have dimensioned with ReDim previously from any Sub or Function procedure.

Therefore, if you need to redimension an array in your program after using the array, first dimension the array in the Global module using the Global statement, or in the general Declarations section using Dim with no subscripts. Then use ReDim with the original dimensions. Later on, you can redimension this array again with different subscripts.

This will enable you to change the number of subscripts in each dimension of an array [for example, from x(15, 15) to x(32, 24)]. However, you cannot use ReDim to change the number of dimensions in an array. For example, you cannot redimension an array from two dimensions, such as x(15, 15), to three dimensions, such as x(64, 1, 5).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips



**LONG: List of VB Version 1.0 for Windows Trappable Errors**  
**Article ID: Q87003**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic Programming System for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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This article lists error codes, messages, and explanations of the errors that you can trap at run-time using the On Error statement and the Err function in Microsoft Visual Basic.

MORE INFORMATION

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The following information was taken from the help file VB.HLP.

Trappable Errors

-----

3 Return without GoSub

A Return statement doesn't have a corresponding GoSub statement.

Unlike For...Next, While...Wend, and Sub...End Sub, which are matched at compile time, GoSub and Return are matched at run time.

5 Illegal function call

Possible causes:

- A statement or function has an improper or out-of-range argument. For example:
  - A negative or unreasonably large subscript.
  - A negative number raised to a non-integer power.
  - A negative record number in a Get or Put statement.
  - An I/O function or statement (Loc or LOF, for example) performed on a device that does not support it.
- Strings are concatenated to create a string greater than 65,535 characters in length.
- Invalid method call, such as an inappropriate method argument. See Help on the method for the valid arguments.

6 Overflow

Possible causes:

- The result of an assignment, calculation, or data type conversion is too large to be represented within the range allowed for that type of variable.

- An assignment to a property exceeds the maximum value the property can accept. The assignment may not necessarily be one that you have made in your code. Some methods make automatic assignments to properties. For example, in the course of execution, the Print method changes CurrentX and CurrentY properties. Any attempt to print at an invalid CurrentX or CurrentY results in an Overflow error.

#### 7 Out of memory

More memory was required than is available. To prevent this error you should try the following:

- Close any unneeded applications, documents, or source files that are in memory.
- If you have extremely large modules or procedures, consider breaking them into smaller ones. This doesn't save memory but it can prevent hitting 64K segment boundaries.
- If you are running Windows in standard mode on a 386 or 486 computer, try enhanced mode.
- If you are running Windows in enhanced mode, free up some disk space, or least ensure that some space is available.
- Eliminate terminate-and-stay-resident programs.
- Eliminate unneeded device drivers.
- Reduce the size of your MS-DOS buffers. To do this, reset the "Buffers =" setting in your CONFIG.SYS file and reboot.

#### 9 Subscript out of range

Possible causes:

- Reference to a non-existent array element. The subscript may be larger or smaller than the range of possible subscripts, or the array may not have dimensions assigned at this point in the program.
- You are trying to Dim or ReDim an array to a size greater than 64K (65,535) bytes.

#### 10 Duplicate definition

The specified name is already used at this level of scope. You can use the Find command on the Code menu to help you locate the duplicate name. Before you do this, remove the type declaration character, if there is one, since a conflict occurs if the names are the same and the type declaration characters are different.

Possible causes:

- A new variable or procedure has the same name as an existing variable or procedure.
- A Const statement uses the same name as an existing variable or procedure.
- You declared a fixed array more than once.
- You tried to use Dim or ReDim to declare the dimensions of an already-dimensioned dynamic array without first using Erase to deallocate the array.

#### 11 Division by zero

This error is caused by dividing by zero in an expression.

#### 13 Type mismatch

Possible causes:

- The variable or property is not of the correct type. For example, a variable that requires an integer value cannot accept a string value.
- An If TypeOf statement was used with something other than a control.
- An object that is not a form has been passed to a procedure that is expecting a form as an argument.
- An object that is not a control has been passed to a procedure that is expecting a control as an argument.

#### 14 Out of string space

Possible causes:

- You tried to exceed the 64K string space allowed for all your global and module-level string variables.
- You tried to exceed the 64K string space allowed for all your local (procedure-level) string variables.
- You tried to create a single string array larger than 64K.
- You may have run out of memory, which has prevented a 64K string space from being allocated.

#### 16 String formula too complex

A string expression is too complicated. Strings not assigned to variables (such as those returned by functions) are assigned to temporary locations during string expression evaluation. Having a large number of such strings can cause this error. Try assigning these strings to variables and use the variables in the expression instead.

#### 17 Can't continue

You have made a change to the code that prevents execution from continuing. Choose Restart or End from the Run menu.

#### 19 No Resume

The program encountered the end of the program while the program was executing an error-handling routine. Add a Resume statement to the error-handling routine. If you want to exit the error-handling routine without resuming, use an Exit statement.

#### 20 Resume without error

A Resume statement has been encountered but there is no active error-handling routine because there is no On Error statement.

#### 28 Out of stack space

Possible Causes:

- Too many active Function or Sub calls. Check that both event and general recursive procedures are not nested too deeply and that they terminate properly.
- Any cascading events.
- Local variables require more local variable space than is available. Try declaring some variables at the module level instead. You can also use the Static keyword with Sub or Function to declare the entire procedure, in which case all local variables will be static. Or you can use the Static statement to declare static variables within individual procedures.
- Fixed-length strings use more stack space than variable-length strings. Try redefining some of your fixed-length strings as variable-length strings.
- Too many nested DoEvents.

35 Sub or Function not defined

A Sub or Function procedure is called but is not defined.

Possible causes:

- The specified procedure is not visible to the calling procedure. Procedures in forms cannot be called from procedures outside the form. Use Find on the Code menu to locate the procedure.
- You have declared a dynamic-link library routine, but the routine is not in the specified library.
- You have misspelled the name of your procedure.

48 Error in loading DLL

The specified DLL cannot be loaded. This is usually because the file specified with the Lib clause in the Declare statement is not a valid DLL.

Possible causes:

- The file is not DLL executable.
- The file is not a Windows DLL.
- The file is an old Windows DLL incompatible with Windows protect mode.

51 Internal error

An internal malfunction occurred in Visual Basic. Use the Product Assistance Request form included with your documentation to report to Microsoft the conditions under which the message appeared.

52 Bad file name or number

A statement or command refers to a file with a file number or filename that is not specified in the Open statement or is out of the range of file numbers specified earlier in the program.

### 53 File not found

Possible causes:

- A Kill, Name, or Open statement refers to a file that does not exist.
- An attempt has been made to call a procedure in a DLL and the library filename specified in the Lib clause of the Declare statement cannot be found.

### 54 Bad file mode

Possible causes:

- A Put or Get statement specified a sequential file.
- A Print # statement specified a sequential file opened for input.
- An Input # statement specified a file opened for output or appending.

### 55 File already open

Possible causes:

- A sequential-output-mode Open statement was executed for a file that is already open.
- A Kill statement refers to an open file.

### 57 Device I/O error

An input or output error occurred while your program was using a device such as the printer or disk drive.

### 58 File already exists

The filename specified in a Name statement is identical to a filename that already exists.

### 59 Bad record length

The length of a record variable for a Get or Put statement does not match the length specified in the corresponding Open statement. Because a 2-byte descriptor is always added to a variable-length string Put to a random access file, the variable-length string must at least two characters shorter than the record length specified in the Len clause of the Open statement.

### 61 Disk full

Possible causes:

- There isn't enough room on the disk for the completion of a Print #, Write #, or Close operation.
- There isn't enough room on the disk for Visual Basic to create files it requires for successful operation.

Move some files to another disk, or delete some files.

62 Input past end of file

An Input # statement is reading from a null (empty) file, or from a file in which all data has already been read. To avoid this error, use the EOF function to detect the end-of-file just before the Input # statement.

63 Bad record number

The record number in a Put or Get statement is less than or equal to zero.

64 Bad file name

A filename does not follow MS-DOS naming conventions.

67 Too many files

Possible causes:

- There is a limit to the number of disk files that can be open at one time. This limit is a function of the "Files=" setting in your CONFIG.SYS file. Increase that number and reboot.
- The operating system has a limit to the number of files in the root directory (usually 512). If your program is opening, closing, and/or saving files in the root directory, change your program so it uses a subdirectory.

68 Device unavailable

The device you are trying to access is not online or does not exist.

70 Permission denied

An attempt was made to write to a write-protected disk, or to access a locked file. For example, this error will occur if an Open For Output statement is performed on a write-protected file.

71 Disk not ready

There is no disk in the drive specified, or the drive door is open. Insert a disk in the drive, close the door, and retry the operation.

74 Can't rename with different drive

You cannot use the Name statement to rename a file with a new drive designation. Write the file to another drive and delete the old file with the Kill statement.

75 Path/File access error

During an Open, Mkdir, ChDir, or Rmdir operation, the operating

system could not make a connection between the path and the filename.

Make sure the file specification is formatted correctly. A filename can contain a fully qualified or relative path. A fully qualified path starts with the drive name (if the path is on another drive) and lists the explicit path from the root to the file. Any path that is not fully qualified is relative to the current drive and directory.

This error can also occur while attempting to save a file that would replace an existing read-only file.

#### 76 Path not found

During an Open, Mkdir, ChDir, or Rmdir operation, the operating system was unable to find the specified path. Make sure the path is typed correctly.

#### 260 No timer available

Possible causes:

- There are too many timer controls active. There is a limit of 16 timer controls in the environment.
- There is not enough memory to load a timer control. Try to free some memory by closing some applications.

#### 280 DDE channel not fully closed; awaiting response from foreign application

Your Visual Basic application has terminated one DDE conversation with another application and has attempted to start another, but the other application has not finished handling the termination of the first conversation.

Possible causes:

- The foreign application is waiting for a response from the user. Switch to that application and take an action appropriate to the message it is displaying.
- Your code is not yielding to allow other applications to handle events. Call the DoEvents function and try establishing the link again.

#### 281 No More DDE channels

Too many DDE conversations active at the same time. Terminate some existing DDE conversations by setting LinkMode to 0 (None) before attempting to establish new conversations.

#### 282 No foreign application responded to a DDE initiate

Visual Basic could not find an application and topic corresponding to the application name and topic in the LinkTopic property.

Possible causes:

- The application specified in LinkTopic is not running.
- The application is running, but doesn't recognize the topic of the link.

#### 283 Multiple applications responded to a DDE initiate

At least two running applications responded to the application name and topic you specified in the LinkTopic property. This can happen if several instances of the same application are running and you attempt to initiate a DDE conversation on a topic more than one of them recognize. To establish a DDE conversation, the combination of application and topic must be unique.

#### 284 DDE channel locked

You have attempted to initiate a new DDE conversation or perform a DDE method on a DDE link that another application has not freed. Try calling the DoEvents function before setting LinkTopic to Hot (1) or Cold (2) or before performing a LinkExecute, LinkPoke, LinkRequest, or LinkSend method.

#### 285 Foreign application won't perform DDE method or operation

An application refused to perform the DDE method or operation you attempted.

Possible causes:

- You supplied data or commands that the other application did not recognize. Check the application's documentation to see what data or commands it recognizes.
- The LinkItem property is not set to an item that the other application recognizes as valid for the topic of the conversation. Check the application's documentation to see what items it recognizes.

#### 286 Timeout while waiting for DDE response

The other application in a DDE conversation did not respond in the time specified by the LinkTimeout property.

Possible causes:

- The other application is not responding because it is waiting for a response from the user. Switch to that application and close the dialog box or take an action appropriate to the message it is displaying.
- The LinkTimeout property is set to a value that is too low. Try increasing the value.
- The other application is too busy to respond to DDE messages. Try calling the DoEvents function before performing this DDE operation.

#### 287 User pressed Alt key during DDE operation

You pressed the Alt key while waiting for a DDE operation to be



completed. If DDE operations are taking too long, try setting the LinkTimeout property to a lower value.

#### 288 Destination is busy

The other application in the DDE conversation is busy and cannot perform a DDE operation. Try calling DoEvents and attempt the DDE operation again.

#### 289 Data not provided in DDE operation

Visual Basic has encountered an unexpected error while attempting to perform a DDE operation. The other application informed Visual Basic it was supplying data in a DDE conversation but did not provide it when requested. The other application may not be performing DDE correctly.

#### 290 Data in wrong format

An application in a DDE conversation supplied data in an unexpected format. It may not be performing DDE correctly.

Possible causes:

- The application is supplying data in a format that Visual Basic does not recognize. Try initiating the conversation with a different topic.
- The application is supplying text data to a picture box or picture data to a text box. Try initiating the conversation with a different control.

#### 291 Foreign application quit

The other application in a DDE conversation quit unexpectedly. A DDE operation can't take place unless the other application is running.

#### 292 DDE conversation closed or changed

The other application has closed or changed the DDE conversation unexpectedly. Terminate this conversation and attempt to establish a new conversation with the application.

#### 293 DDE method invoked with no channel open

A DDE method (LinkExecute, LinkPoke, LinkRequest, or LinkSend) was performed on a control that is not involved in a valid DDE conversation.

Possible causes:

- Changing the LinkTopic property terminates an existing DDE conversation but does not automatically establish a new conversation. After changing the LinkTopic property for a control, you must set the LinkMode property to 1 (Hot) or 2 (Cold) before executing a DDE method on this control.
- You executed a DDE method on a control with LinkMode set to 0

(None). Set the LinkMode to 1 (Hot) or 2 (Cold) and try again.

#### 294 Invalid DDE Link format

The other application in a DDE conversation passed data in CF\_LINK format but it is not valid link data.

#### 295 Message queue filled; DDE message lost

Visual Basic cannot keep up with the number of DDE operations attempted.

Possible causes:

- Too many DDE conversations. Try terminating some DDE conversations.
- Too much code in event procedures is executing because of incoming DDE data. Reduce the amount of code being called as a result of DDE changes, or try calling the DoEvents function.

#### 296 PasteLink already performed on this control

You have already performed a Paste Link on this control. To paste a new link, first set the LinkMode property of this control to 0 (None), then use the Paste Link command.

#### 297 Can't set LinkMode; invalid LinkTopic

You've tried to set the LinkMode property but can't because no valid LinkTopic property has been specified.

#### 320 Can't use character device names in filenames: 'item'

From within Visual Basic, you cannot give a file the same name as a character device driver, such as AUX, CON, COM1, COM2, LPT1, LPT2, LPT3, LPT4, or NUL.

#### 321 Invalid file format

The form file is damaged. Try replacing it with an undamaged copy.

#### 340 Control array element 'item' does not exist

You used an index value that does not correspond to an existing element in this control array. Adjust the value or Load a control into the array with an index equal to the value.

#### 341 Invalid object array index

The index for an object array element cannot be greater than 32,767 or less than 0.

#### 342 Not enough room to allocate control array 'item'

There isn't enough memory to create all the elements of a control array. If a control array has discontinuous indexes, such as 0, 2, and 4, Visual Basic will use more memory than if the indexes were

contiguous (0, 1, 2). Check either how you've assigned indexes at design time or how your program assigns indexes as it creates new control array elements, and make them contiguous.

#### 343 Object not an array

A control that is not part of any array was referred to as if it had an index, for example, `Command1(3).Caption` and `Command1.Text`. You can refer to an object as an array element only if it is defined to be part of a control array. See the online Help topic titled "Creating a Control Array."

#### 344 Must specify index for object array

The control referred to is part of a control array. Refer to it using `CtlName(index)`. If you created the control at design time, you can determine the index of the control by selecting it and viewing its `Index` property on the Properties bar.

#### 345 Reached limit: cannot create any more controls on this form

No more than 255 controls are allowed on each form. The total of all menu items and controls on your form would exceed 255 if any more were added.

#### 360 Object already loaded

The control in the control array has already been loaded. If it was loaded during run time, it can be removed with the `Unload` statement.

#### 361 Can't load or unload this object

Possible causes:

- You've attempted to Load or Unload a system object - Screen, Printer, or Clipboard.
- You've attempted to Load or Unload a control that is not an element of an existing control array. For example, `Load CtlArray` will produce this error, while `Load CtlArray(3)` will not. If a control is already loaded, you can make it visible with the `Visible` property.

#### 362 Can't unload controls created at design time

Only control array elements loaded at run time can be unloaded. If a control is created at design time, it cannot later be unloaded, even if it is part of a control array. However, you can hide any control by setting the `Visible` property to `True`.

#### 363 Custom control 'item' not found

The form being loaded contains a custom control that is not part of the current project. Use the `Add File` command on the `File` menu to add the custom control to the project.

#### 364 Object was unloaded

A form was unloaded from its own Form\_Load procedure. The form that was unloaded may have been implicitly loaded. For example, the following will implicitly load Form2:

```
Form2.BackColor = Form1.BackColor
```

#### 365 Unable to unload within this context

In some situations you are not allowed to unload a form or a control on a form. Some examples of when this error occurs include trying to unload a form or control on the form:

- During any Paint event for the form or any control on the form.
- Whenever a Combo Box is pulled down on the form being unloaded or containing the control being unloaded.

#### 380 Invalid property value

An inappropriate value is assigned to a property. To find out what values are valid for a property, see Remarks in the property's Help topic.

#### 381 Invalid property array index

You tried to use an inappropriate property array index value. List Property and Fonts Property index values must be greater than 0 and less than 32,767. For example, List1.List(3) is valid.

#### 382 'item' property can't be set at run time

The following properties can't be set at run time:

```
ActiveControl
ActiveForm
BorderStyle (for form and text box only)
ControlBox
CtlName
FontCount
Fonts
FormName
hDC
hWnd
Image
Index
List
ListCount
MaxButton
MinButton
MultiLine
Parent
ScrollBars
Sorted
Style
Text (for list box and combo box only)
Width (for Screen only)
```

383 'item' property is read-only

The following properties are read-only at both design and run time:

Property	Object
-----	
hDC	Form, picture box, Printer
Height	Combo box (with Style =1), drive, Printer
hWnd	Form
Image	Form, picture box
List	Dir, drive, file
ListCount	Combo box, dir, drive, file, list box
Page	Printer
Parent	Any control
Text	Combo box (with Style = 2), list box
Width	Printer

384 'item' property can't be modified when form is minimized or maximized

The Left, Top, and Height, Width properties cannot be changed on a minimized or maximized form. You can set or return the state of a form with the WindowState property. You can prevent a user from maximizing or minimizing a form by setting the MaxButton or MinButton form properties to False (0).

385 Must specify index when using property array

You must specify an index when using the List property or the Fonts property. Index values must be greater than 0 and less than 32,767. For example, List1.List is invalid because no index is specified. However, List1.List(3) is valid.

386 'item' property not available at run time

The CtlName and FormName properties are not available at runtime.

387 'item' property can't be set on this control

Possible causes:

- The Checked box for a Menu control can't be selected when that control is a parent or top-level menu.
- The separator bar on a menu control can't be set when the control is a parent or top-level menu item.
- The Visible property can't be set to False (0) for the last visible submenu on a parent menu. You can't have a parent menu with no visible submenu items.

388 Can't set Visible property from a parent menu

The Visible property of a submenu item cannot be set from its parent's menu code.

400 Form already displayed; can't show modally

You cannot use the Show method to display a modal form if the form

is already visible. Either Unload or Hide the form before attempting to show it as a modal form. Don't try to display it as a modal form.

401 Can't show non-modal form when a modal form is displayed

You cannot show a non-modal form when a modal form is displayed. Unload or Hide the modal form before attempting to use the Show method on another form.

402 Must close or hide topmost modal form first

The modal form you are trying to close or hide is not on top; you need to Unload or Hide all modal forms that are on top of this one before you can continue. A modal form is a form displayed by the Show method with the style% argument equal to 1.

420 Invalid object reference

The object that is referred to is not loaded.

421 Method not applicable for this object

Object.Method is referred to, but the Method is not appropriate for the object. For example, Command1.AddItem produces this error because the AddItem method is used only with a list box or combo box.

422 Property 'item' not found

Control.property or Control(index).property is referred to, but property is not defined for this control or you may have misspelled the name of the property. To see what properties are defined for this control, see Properties, Events and Methods in Help for complete information on a specific control.

423 Property or control 'item' not found

Form.control or Form.property is referred to, but control or property is not defined for this form or you may have misspelled the name of the control or property. To see what properties are defined for a form, see the Form topic in Help for complete information. To see what controls are on this form, look at the list in the Code window's Object box.

424 Object required

Property.property is referred to; you need to specify object.property, where object is either a form or control.

425 Invalid object use

You've attempted an invalid assignment using a form or control. If you want to assign a value to a property or a property value to a variable, remember to include the property name in the object specification. For example Form1.Command1.Caption = "OK" instead of Form1.Command1 = "OK".

#### 430 No currently active control

Because no control has the focus, the reference to `ActiveControl` has no effect. You can use the `SetFocus` method to set the focus to a specified object.

#### 431 No currently active form

Because no form has the focus, the reference to `ActiveForm` has no effect. You can use the `SetFocus` method to set the focus to a specified object.

#### 460 Invalid Clipboard format

The specified Clipboard format is incompatible with the method being executed. `GetText` and `SetText` can be used only with `CF_TEXT` or `CF_LINK` formats. `GetData` and `SetData` can be used only with `CF_BITMAP`, `CF_METAFILEPICT` (Windows metafile picture), or `CF_DIB` (device independent bitmap) formats.

Note: The Clipboard formats, such as `CF_TEXT`, and `CF_BITMAP`, are global constants that must be set to numerical values found in `CONSTANT.TXT`. If you do not initialize these in your code, Visual Basic treats them as variables and initializes them to zero.

See Also  
`GetFormat`

#### 461 Specified format does not match format of data

In a `GetData` or `SetData` method, the Clipboard format you specified does not match the actual data. For example, you might have specified `CF_BITMAP` for the format, but the data is in the Windows metafile format (`CF_METAFILEPICT`). Make sure you specify the correct format for the data.

Note: The Clipboard formats, such as `CF_TEXT`, and `CF_BITMAP`, are global constants that must be set to numerical values found in `CONSTANT.TXT`. If you do not initialize these in your code, Visual Basic treats them as variables and initializes them to zero.

See also  
`GetFormat`

#### 480 Can't create AutoRedraw image

There isn't enough available memory to create a persistent bitmap for automatic redraw of the form or picture. Make the picture box control or form smaller, or reset the `AutoRedraw` property and perform your own redraw in the `Paint` event procedure.

#### 481 Invalid picture

You attempted to assign something to the `Picture` property of a form or picture box that Visual Basic doesn't recognize as an icon, bitmap, or Windows metafile.

#### 482 Printer error

There is some problem that prevents printing. Some possible causes are:

- You don't have a printer selected from the Windows Control Panel.
- Your printer is not online.
- Your printer is jammed or out of paper.
- You tried to print a form to a printer than can accept only text.

#### 520 Can't empty Clipboard

Another application is using the Clipboard and will not release it to your application.

#### 521 Can't open Clipboard

Another application is using the Clipboard and will not release it to your application.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips



## Differences Between QuickBasic and Visual Basic Statements

Article ID: Q87004

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The following is a list of statements and functions not shared between Microsoft QuickBasic version 4.5 for MS-DOS, Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows, and the Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following table compares reserved words in QuickBasic for MS-DOS to those in Visual Basic for Windows.

Note that in many cases a statement or function is not supported in one language or the other due to a different approach to achieve the same result. A good example of this is the LPRINT statement in QuickBasic. Visual Basic has a Printer object that handles the output to the system printer.

In some cases, a statement or function is not supported because it is a low level MS-DOS operation that conflicts with Windows, or it is a function that is only supported in Windows.

Keyword	QuickBasic 4.5 for MS-DOS	Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows	Visual Basic 2.0 for Windows
-----			
BLOAD	Yes	No	No
BSAVE	Yes	No	No
CALL ABSOLUTE	Yes	No	No
CALLS	Yes	No	No
CCur	No	Yes	Yes
CDbl	No	Yes	Yes
CHAIN	Yes	No	No
ChDrive	No	Yes	Yes
CInt	No	Yes	Yes
CLEAR	Yes	No	No
CLng	No	Yes	Yes
COLOR	Yes	No	No
COM	Yes	No	No
CSng	No	Yes	Yes
CSRLIN	Yes	No	No
CVD	Yes	No	No
CVDMBF	Yes	No	No

CVI	Yes	No	No
CVS	Yes	No	No
CVSMBF	Yes	No	No
DATA	Yes	No	Yes
DateSerial	No	Yes	Yes
DateValue	No	Yes	Yes
Day	No	Yes	Yes
DEF FN	Yes	No	No
DEF SEG	Yes	No	No
Dir\$	No	Yes	Yes
DoEvents	No	Yes	Yes
DRAW	Yes	No	No
ERDEV	Yes	No	No
ERDEV\$	Yes	No	No
Error\$	No	Yes	Yes
FIELD	Yes	No	No
FILES	Yes	No	No
FRE	Yes	No	No
Global	No	Yes	Yes
Hour	No	Yes	Yes
INKEY\$	Yes	No	No
INP	Yes	No	No
InputBox\$	No	Yes	Yes
IOCTL	Yes	No	No
IOCTL\$	Yes	No	No
KEY	Yes	No	No
Load	No	Yes	Yes
LoadPicture	No	Yes	Yes
LOCATE	Yes	No	No
LPOS	Yes	No	No
LPRINT	Yes	No	No
Minute	No	Yes	Yes
MKD\$	Yes	No	No
MKI\$	Yes	No	No
MKL\$	Yes	No	No
MKS\$	Yes	No	No
MKSMBF\$	Yes	No	No
Month	No	Yes	Yes
MsgBox	No	Yes	Yes
Now	No	Yes	Yes
ON COM	Yes	No	No
ON KEY	Yes	No	No
ON PLAY	Yes	No	No
ON STRIG	Yes	No	No
ON TIMER	Yes	No	No
OUT	Yes	No	No

PAINT	Yes	No	No
PALETTE	Yes	No	No
PCOPY	Yes	No	No
PEEK	Yes	No	No
PEN	Yes	No	No
PLAY	Yes	No	No
PMAP	Yes	No	No
POKE	Yes	No	No
POS	Yes	No	No
PRESET	Yes	No	No
QBColor	No	Yes	Yes
RESTORE	Yes	No	No
RGB	No	Yes	Yes
RUN	Yes	No	No
SADD	Yes	No	No
SavePicture	No	Yes	Yes
SCREEN	Yes	No	No
Second	No	Yes	Yes
SendKeys	No	Yes	Yes
SETMEM	Yes	No	No
SLEEP	Yes	No	No
SOUND	Yes	No	No
STICK	Yes	No	No
STRIG	Yes	No	No
SWAP	Yes	No	No
TimeSerial	No	Yes	Yes
TimeValue	No	Yes	Yes
TROFF	Yes	No	No
TRON	Yes	No	No
Unload	No	Yes	Yes
USING\$	Yes	No	No
VARPTR	Yes	No	No
VARPTR\$	Yes	No	No
VARSEG	Yes	No	No
VIEW	Yes	No	No
WAIT	Yes	No	No
WeekDay	No	Yes	Yes
WIDTH	Yes	No	No
WINDOW	Yes	No	No
Year	No	Yes	Yes

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptMemMgt

**PRB: For Loop w/ Integer Counter & Increment <=.5 Causes Hang**  
**Article ID: Q87769**

-----  
This information applies to the following Microsoft Basic products:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft QuickBasic for MS-DOS, versions 4.0, 4.0b, and 4.5
  - Microsoft Basic Professional Development System (PDS) for MS-DOS, versions 7.0 and 7.1
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

If you write a FOR loop with an INTEGER or LONG variable as the FOR loop counter and use a floating point value less than or equal to 0.5 as the FOR loop increment, the loop never terminates. This causes the computer to hang (stop responding to input).

CAUSE

=====

All Basic programs convert floating point values less than 0.5 to the integer value 0.

RESOLUTION

=====

To stop a program that is executing in this type of an endless loop, press CTRL+BREAK.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design. In other words, this is not a problem with the FOR statement; this is the way Basic is designed to operate.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Behavior in Visual Basic for Windows

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event procedure for Form1:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    For j& = .005 To .0062 Step .0001
        total! = total! + j&
    Next j&
    Print total!
```

End Sub

3. Press F5 to run the example.

No value appears on the form. The program is in an endless loop. You cannot access any menus. Press CTRL+BREAK to stop the program.

To change this example program so that the loop terminates, change the type of the counter variable from LONG to SINGLE (change j& to j!).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 4.00 4.00b 4.50 7.00 7.10 b\_quickbas  
b\_basiccom

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptMemMgt

## How to Emulate MKI\$ and CVI in VB Using Windows HMemCpy

Article ID: Q87970

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Visual Basic for Windows does not support the MKx\$ and CVx family of conversion functions found in earlier versions of Microsoft QuickBasic and Basic Professional Development System (PDS) for MS-DOS. However, you can write functions that provide this support using the hmemcpy API routine provided by Windows version 3.1.

This article provides example routines that simulate the MKI\$, MKL\$, MKS\$, MKD\$, CVI, CVL, CVS, and CVD functions.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The MKx\$ functions convert numeric values to strings by placing the ASCII value of each byte that represents the numeric value into a string.

Function	Description
----------	-------------

MKI\$	Converts an integer to a 2-byte string
MKL\$	Converts a long-integer to a 4-byte string
MKS\$	Converts a single precision variable to a 4-byte string
MKD\$	Converts a double-precision variable to an 8-byte string

-----

The CVx functions convert strings created with the MKx\$ functions back into numeric values.

Function	Description
----------	-------------

CVI	Converts a 2-byte string created with MKI\$ to an integer
CVL	Converts a 4-byte string created with MKL\$ to a long integer
CVS	Converts a 4-byte string created with MKS\$ to a single-precision number
CVD	Converts an 8-byte string created with MKD\$ to a double-precision number

-----

The hmemcpy API function can be used to emulate these functions as demonstrated in the example below. Note that the hmemcpy API function is not provided with Windows version 3.0, so the example below requires Windows version 3.1.

The hmemcpy routine copies bytes from a source buffer to a destination buffer. You can use this routine to copy the value of each byte in a numeric value to a corresponding byte in a string to emulate the MKx\$

functions. Similarly, you can use the same technique to copy the bytes from a string to a numeric value, to emulate the CVx functions.

Note that the hmemcpy routine requires the addresses pointing to the actual location of the data to be copied from and written to. Therefore, it is necessary to pass strings by value (ByVal) in order to pass the location of the string data, as opposed to passing the location of the string descriptor. Similarly, it is necessary to initialize the string size by assigning the string to an appropriate number of characters.

To use the following routines in your Visual Basic for Windows application, you must Declare the hmemcpy routine. Add the following code to the general declarations section of the form:

```
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line.
Declare Sub hmemcpy Lib "kernel" (hpvDest As Any, hpvSource As Any,
    ByVal cbCopy As Long)
```

```
Function MKI$ (x As Integer)
    temp$ = Space$(2)
    hmemcpy ByVal temp$, x%, 2
    MKI$ = temp$
End Function
```

```
Function CVI (x As String) As Integer
    If Len(x) <> 2 Then
        MsgBox "Illegal Function Call"
        Stop
    End If
    hmemcpy temp%, ByVal x, 2
    CVI = temp%
End Function
```

```
Function MKL$ (x As Long)
    temp$ = Space$(4)
    hmemcpy ByVal temp$, x&, 4
    MKL$ = temp$
End Function
```

```
Function CVL (x As String) As Long
    If Len(x) <> 4 Then
        MsgBox "Illegal Function Call"
        Stop
    End If
    hmemcpy temp&, ByVal x, 4
    CVL = temp&
End Function
```

```
Function MKS$ (x As Single)
    temp$ = Space$(4)
    hmemcpy ByVal temp$, x!, 4
    MKS$ = temp$
End Function
```

```
Function CVS (x As String) As Single
    If Len(x) <> 4 Then
        MsgBox "Illegal Function Call"
```

```

        Stop
    End If
    hmemcpy temp!, ByVal x, 4
    CVS = temp!
End Function

Function MKD$ (x As Double)
    temp$ = Space$(8)
    hmemcpy ByVal temp$, x, 8
    MKD$ = temp$
End Function

Function CVD (x As String) As Double
    If Len(x) <> 8 Then
        MsgBox "Illegal Function Call"
        Stop
    End If
    hmemcpy temp#, ByVal x, 8
    CVD = temp#
End Function

```

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Windows SDK: Programmer's Reference," Volume 2: Functions,"  
version 3.1

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptMemMgt



## Diagnosing General Protection Fault / UAE in VB for Windows

Article ID: Q90871

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This information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows, versions 3.0 and 3.1
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### SUMMARY

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This article describes steps you can take to determine the cause of and possibly fix a General Protection Fault (GPF) under Windows version 3.1, or an Unrecoverable Application Error (UAE) under Windows version 3.0. The problems listed below can cause a GPF/UAE.

- Calling a dynamic-link library (DLL) or Windows API routine with incorrect parameters
- Using a faulty DLL routine or custom control
- Loading corrupted Visual Basic forms or modules

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To determine if a GPF/UAE is caused by a call to a Windows API routine, a DLL routine, or by a custom control, temporarily remove references to the DLL routine or custom control and re-run the program to see if the GPF/UAE still occurs. You may need to replace such references with statements that simulate return values.

To determine if a GPF/UAE is caused by corrupted code, save the code in your forms and modules as text, then load the code as text. This process cleans the internal representation of the code (P-code).

#### Steps to Clean Code

-----

1. In the Project window, select the form or module to clean.
2. From the Code menu, choose Save Text... and select OK.
3. From the Code menu, choose View Code.
4. From the Code menu, choose Load Text..., select the same file, and click Replace.

To determine if a GPF/UAE is caused by a corrupted form, recreate the form. To recreate a form, add a new form to your project and create new controls and menus to match the old form. Copy the code by saving

code as text from the old form and loading as text into the new form. Finally, remove the old form, and rename the new form.

#### Steps to Recreate Form

-----

1. From the File menu, choose Add Form. Create the same controls and menus on this new form as are on the old form.
2. In the Project window, select the old form or module.
3. From the Code menu, choose Save Text... and select OK.
4. From the File menu, choose Remove File.
5. In the Project window, select the new form.
6. From the Code menu, choose View Code.
7. From the Code menu, choose Load Text..., select the same code text file, and click Replace.
8. Set the new form CtlName property to the old form's value.

You can also clean a project file (.MAK) by starting a new project, then adding all the forms and modules to the new project.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptMemMgt

## How to Break Long Statements into Multiple Lines

Article ID: Q94696

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Basic Professional Development System (PDS) for MS-DOS, version 7.1
  - Microsoft QuickBASIC for MS-DOS, version 4.5
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article describes how to break lengthy control-flow statements such as IF/THEN statements or WHILE loops into multiple shorter statements while retaining their functionality. There is no line continuation character in Basic or Visual Basic. It is useful to break up lines of code so they are easy to view in the edit window without scrolling and are within the compiler's (BC.EXE) line limit of 255 characters.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following examples show how to use temporary variables to break up an IF/THEN statement and a WHILE loop into multiple shorter lines:

The IF/THEN statement is a control-flow statement that branches if a condition is true. A long IF/THEN statement such as:

```
MAX = 3
VALUE = 2
CURRENTVALUE = 1

IF ((VALUE > CURRENTVALUE) OR (VALUE < CURRENTVALUE)) AND (VALUE < MAX)
    THEN 'Combine with previous line -- Should all be on a single line
    PRINT "VALUE is not equal to CURRENTVALUE and less than MAX"
END IF
```

Can be broken down using temporary variables to:

```
MAX = 3
VALUE = 2
CURRENTVALUE = 1

TEMPVAL = (VALUE > CURRENTVALUE) OR (VALUE < CURRENTVALUE)
TEMPVAL = TEMPVAL AND (VALUE < MAX)
IF TEMPVAL THEN
    PRINT "VALUE is not equal to CURRENTVALUE and less than MAX"
END IF
```

These two code fragments are equivalent. They evaluate and execute the PRINT statement under the same conditions.

The following demonstrates the same technique with a WHILE loop:

```
MAX = 10
VALUE = 5
CURRENTVALUE = 1

WHILE ((VALUE > CURRENTVALUE) OR (VALUE < CURRENTVALUE)) AND (
VALUE < MAX) ' This should all be on one line
    MAX = MAX - 1
WEND
PRINT "Out of WHILE Loop"
```

This is the revised version using temporary values:

```
MAX = 10
VALUE = 5
CURRENTVALUE = 1

TEMPVAL = (VALUE > CURRENTVALUE) OR (VALUE < CURRENTVALUE)
TEMPVAL = TEMPVAL AND (VALUE < MAX)
WHILE TEMPVAL
    MAX = MAX - 1
    TEMPVAL = (VALUE > CURRENTVALUE) OR (VALUE < CURRENTVALUE)
    TEMPVAL = TEMPVAL AND (VALUE < MAX)
WEND
PRINT "Out of WHILE Loop"
```

In both code examples, the TEMPVAL variable contains a value of 0 or -1 to signify a logical TRUE or FALSE.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 VBMSDOS QUICKBAS 4.50 BASICCOM 7.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOther

## Basic Products Can Create and Use Non-Standard File Names

Article ID: Q94783

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Basic Professional Development System (PDS) for MS-DOS, version 7.1
  - Microsoft QuickBASIC for MS-DOS, version 4.5
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft Visual Basic and other Basic products can create and use non-standard MS-DOS file names. For example, a file name with an embedded space is a non-standard file name. However, Microsoft doesn't recommend that you use non-standard file names because they can cause problems with other software.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

According to the MS-DOS documentation, file names must:

- Have no more than eight characters.
- Contain only the letters A through Z, the numbers 0 through 9, and the following special characters: underscore (\_), caret (^), dollar sign (\$), tilde (~), exclamation point (!), number sign (#), percent sign (%), ampersand (&), hyphen (-), braces ({}), parentheses (), at sign (@), apostrophe ('), and the accent grave (`). No other special characters are acceptable.
- Not contain spaces, commas, backslashes, or periods except for the period that separates the name from the extension.
- Not be the following reserved filenames: CLOCK\$, CON, AUX, COMn (where n=1-4), LPTn (where n=1-3), NUL, and PRN.

The Basic OPEN command allows you to open a file name that breaks some of these rules. For example, you can open a file that has a space embedded in its name.

The following example creates a file giving it a name that contains a space. Then it writes data to the file, reopens it, and prints the data on the screen:

```
OPEN "A B" FOR OUTPUT AS #1 'There is a space between A and B
PRINT #1, "HELLO THERE"
```

CLOSE #1

OPEN "A B" FOR INPUT AS #1

INPUT #1, A\$

PRINT A\$

CLOSE #1

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 4.50 7.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOther

## Obtaining Date or Serial Result from DateSerial or DateValue

Article ID: Q95510

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

In Visual Basic version 2.0 and 3.0, the DateSerial and DateValue functions return a variant data type of VarType 7 (Date) instead of a date serial number. The date is still stored internally in the serial number format returned by the DateSerial and DateValue functions in Visual Basic version 1.0 and can be obtained by using the CDbl function in versions 2.0 and 3.0.

This is not a bug. This is a special feature of versions 2.0 and 3.0.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The return value for DateSerial and DateValue is a formatted date string in the format MM/DD/YY. If you pass it as an argument to the Print Method, Print # and Write # statements are printed as such. The line of code below prints the date as a formatted date string:

```
Form1.Print DateSerial(1992,1,1)
```

To use the underlying serial number, use the Visual Basic CDbl statement to convert the variant return value to a double precision number. This can be useful for storing dates in a random access file because a double precision variable uses eight 8 bytes and a variant uses 16. The line of code below prints the date in serial number format:

```
Form1.Print CDbl(DateSerial(1992,1,1))
```

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOptTips

## **FileDateTime Doesn't Include Time If File Time Is Midnight**

**Article ID: Q96098**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Passing a file name with a time stamp of midnight to the function FileDateTime, returns a string containing only the date, not the time. This is consistent with the Format/Format\$ function's General Date format, which when passed a DateTime string with a time of midnight returns a string containing only the date.

If your program needs to display a DateTime string with midnight represented by 12:00 AM or 00:00 (in 24-hour format), use the Format(\$) functions to perform the necessary conversion. By using Format\$ or Format with the time format symbols h, m, and s, you can cause the Format(\$) functions to include a time format for midnight.

In the example below, a message box showing both the date and time of VB.EXE, which is midnight for version 2.0, is displayed with a time stamp.

```
MsgBox Format$(FileDateTime("VB.EXE"), "mm/dd/yy hh:mm AMPM")
```

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The internal structure of a serial number is a double precision number. The integral portion represents the number of days since December 30, 1899 and the fractional portion represents the time as a fraction of a day. Midnight is the beginning of a day and therefore it's represented by the fraction zero.

For example the serial number for 10/21/92 6:00 AM is represented by:

```
33898.25
```

The date is 33898 days since 12/30/1899. The time is represented as one-fourth of the 24-hour day passed since midnight. One-fourth of 24 is exactly 6, so the time is 6 hours, 0 minutes, 0 seconds.

Using the General Date format for a DateTime string without using a time in Format(\$), automatically returns a formatted string without a time portion. This is by design. Because both midnight and DateTime strings without a time are represented internally as the same number, the General Date format processes the strings identically.

### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----



1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following code to the Form\_Click procedure for Form1:

```
Sub Form_Click
    MsgBox FileDateTime("VB.EXE")
End Sub
```

A message box appears with the date 10/21/92, but the time stamp is not displayed.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOther

**PRB: Using the IIf Function Requires the MSAFINX.DLL**  
**Article ID: Q101580**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional and Standard Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic Programming System for Windows, version 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS  
=====

When you try to use the IIf function in Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows, you receive a "File Not Found" error when you try to run your executable program on a separate computer that does not contain the file MSAFINX.DLL.

CAUSE  
=====

The "File Not Found" error occurs because the IIf function is not included in VBRUN300.DLL file but is located in the MSAFINX.DLL file.

RESOLUTION  
=====

To prevent the error, install the MSAFINX.DLL file on the customer's computer in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM subdirectory.

MORE INFORMATION  
=====

Here is a list of all the financial functions in the MSAFINX.DLL file:

DATEPART	DATEDIFF	DATEADD	DDB	FV
IIF	IPMT	IRR	MIRR	NPER
NPV	PARTITION	PMT	PPMT	PV
RATE	SLN	SYD		

A "File Not Found" error occurs if you use any of the these functions in your program and then use the program on a computer that does not contain the MSAFINX.DLL file.

MORE INFORMATION  
=====

Steps to Reproduce Behavior  
-----

The following steps cause the "File Not Found" error in Visual Basic version 3.00 for Windows.

1. Start Visual Basic (VB.EXE).
2. Add a text box (Text1) and a label (Label1) to Form1.

3. Enter the line of code on page 274 in the Language Reference manual:

```
Sub Label1_Click ( )  
    Label1.Caption = IIf(Val(text1.text) > 1000, "Large", "Small")  
    '*** note you may want to add the Val statement for numbers  
End Sub
```

4. Run the example and enter a number in the Text1 text box. Then click Label1 to see if the example works in the environment.
5. From the File menu, choose Make Exe File... Name the executable IIFTEST.EXE. Save the project as IIFTEST.MAK, and save the form as IIFTEST.FRM.
6. Copy the IIFTEST.EXE and VBRUN300.DLL files to a floppy disk.
7. Take the floppy disk to a computer that does not have Visual Basic version 3.0 installed. Try and run the IIFTEST.EXE file from File Manager on that computer. You should get the "File Not Found" error.
8. If you add the file MSAFINX.DLL to the floppy disk, and then run the IIFTEST.EXE file, no error will occur.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgOther

## **Sum Of VB Strings Can Exceed 64K in Certain Circumstances**

**Article ID: Q104554**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

In all cases, individual variable length strings have a maximum size of 64K worth of characters. However, the sum of the lengths of multiple strings can exceed 64K in the circumstances described in this article.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Visual Basic for Windows goes beyond any previous Microsoft Basic product in its flexibility when dealing with string variables. As documented in the "Microsoft Visual Basic Programmer's Guide," Appendix D: Individual strings always have a maximum size of 64K characters. However, this is not an absolute limit when dealing with multiple strings. The sum of the lengths of multiple strings can exceed 64K in the circumstances described below:

1. Global strings declared at the module level and assigned values elsewhere can each have a value of up to 64K and their total can exceed that. For example, if you have the following module-level declarations:

```
Global a as string
Global b as string
Global c as string
```

you could have the following code in a Sub procedure:

```
a = Space(64000)
b = Space(64000)
c = Space(64000)
```

2. The sum of all module level variable length strings can exceed 64K. For example, if you have the following module-level declarations:

```
Dim a as string
Dim b as string
Dim c as string
```

you could have the following code in a Sub procedure in the same module:

```
a = Space(64000)
b = Space(64000)
c = Space(64000)
```

3. The sum of all local variable-length string variables can exceed 64K, but only across different Sub procedures. The limit within a single Sub procedure is 64K for all local variable-length strings. For example, the following code would work correctly:

```
Sub MySub1()  
    Dim a As String  
    Dim b As String  
    a = Space(32000)  
    b = Space(32000)  
End Sub
```

```
Sub MySub2()  
    Dim a As String  
    Dim b As String  
    a = Space(32000)  
    b = Space(32000)  
End Sub
```

This is true even when more than one of the Sub procedures are currently active such as when MySub1 is called and it calls MySub2. Both are in memory and each has a 64K segment available for local variable-length strings.

The following code would not work. It would respond correctly with an "Out of String Space" error message because it tries to exceed 64K of local variable-length strings.

```
Sub MySub3()  
    Dim a As String  
    Dim b As String  
    Dim c As String  
    a = Space(32000)  
    b = Space(32000)  
    c = Space(32000)  
End Sub
```

4. The variable-length string elements of a user defined type are individually limited to 64K each, but their sum may exceed 64K. For example, if you have the following module-level declarations:

```
Type Test  
    a As String  
    b As String  
    c As String  
End Type  
Dim x as Test
```

you can have the following code in a Sub procedure:

```
x.a = Space(64000)  
x.b = Space(64000)  
x.c = Space(64000)
```

5. Assigning more than 64K to an array of variable-length strings causes an "Out of String Space" error.

For example, if you have the following module-level declaration:

```
Dim MyArray(12) as String
```

The following code in a Sub procedure would cause an error:

```
MyArray(1) = Space(64000)  
MyArray(2) = Space(64000)
```

To solve the problem, dimension the array as type Variant:

```
Dim MyArray(12) as Variant
```

Then the following Sub procedure code will correctly create two 64K variants tagged as strings.

```
MyArray(1) = Space(64000)  
MyArray(2) = Space(64000)
```

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Programmer's Guide," version 3.0, Appendix D, pages 644-647.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory: Prg

KBSubCategory: PrgOther

## How to Retrieve Hidden/System Files Using Dir[\$]() Function

Article ID: Q104685

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article shows by example how to use the Dir[\$]() function in conjunction with the GetAttr() function to retrieve read-only, hidden, or system files.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Dir[\$] functions take a filespec and an attrmask as optional arguments.

If the attrmask argument specifies the volume label, the Dir[\$] functions ignores all other attributes. If the attrmask argument is ATTR\_HIDDEN, ATTR\_SYSTEM, or ATTR\_DIRECTORY, the functions also return the files that do not have any special attributes.

If the filespec argument is used, the functions return files that do not have any hidden, system, or directory attributes and meet the filespec requirements.

To retrieve only read-only, hidden, or system files, use the Dir[\$]() functions in conjunction with the GetAttr() function. The following shows by example how to retrieve only hidden files (files that have the HIDDEN or ATTR\_HIDDEN+ATTR\_ARCHIVE attributes) by using the Dir() function in conjunction with the GetAttr() function.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or begin a new project if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place the following code in the general declarations area for Form1:

```
Const ATTR_NORMAL = 0
Const ATTR_READONLY = 1
Const ATTR_HIDDEN = 2
Const ATTR_SYSTEM = 4
Const ATTR_VOLUME = 8
Const ATTR_DIRECTORY = 16
Const ATTR_ARCHIVE = 32
```

3. Add a List box and a command button to Form1.

4. Add the following code to the command button's click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim filename As String
    Dim attr As Integer
    ' retrieve hidden and normal files
    filename = Dir$("c:\", ATTR_HIDDEN)
    Do Until filename = ""
        attr = GetAttr("c:\" & filename)
        ' if the file has the hidden attribute
        If (attr And ATTR_HIDDEN) Then
            ' select it
            List1.AddItem filename
        End If
        filename = Dir$
    Loop
End Sub
```

5. Run the program and click the command button to see any existing hidden files in the root directory.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 Dir Dir\$ GetAttr  
KBCategory: Prg  
KBSubcategory: PrgOther



## How to Clear a VB List Box with a Windows API Function

Article ID: Q71069

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Customers often ask how to quickly clear the contents of a list box without clearing one item at a time. The following article shows how to instantly clear the contents of a list box by sending the list box a LB\_RESETCONTENT message.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

No single command within Visual Basic will clear out the entries of a list box, but a simple While Loop will, as follows:

```
Do While List1.ListCount > 0
    List1.RemoveItem 0
Loop
```

If you want a single command to clear all list box entries at once, you can use the SendMessage Windows API function. The arguments to SendMessage with the LB\_RESETCONTENT parameter are

```
SendMessage(hWnd%, wMsg%, wParam%, lParam%)
```

where:

hWnd%	Identifies the window that is to receive the message
wMsg%	The message to be sent (&H405)
wParam%	Is not used (NULL)
lParam%	Is not used (NULL)

Specifying wMsg% equal to &H405 removes all strings from the list box and frees any memory allocated for those strings.

To get hWnd%, you must call the Windows API function GetFocus. This method will return the handle to the control that currently has focus, in this case the list box that you want to delete all items from.

The following code demonstrates how to delete entries from a list box:

1. Create a list box called List1 on Form1.
2. Declare the following Windows API functions at the module level or in the Global section of your code as follows:

```

Declare Function SendMessage% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%, _
                                           ByVal wParam%, _
                                           ByVal lParam%)
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
Declare Function PutFocus% Lib "user" Alias "SetFocus" (ByVal hWnd%)

```

(Note: Each Declare statement must be written on one line, leaving out the underscore (\_) line-continuation symbol shown above.)

3. Declare the following constants in the same section:

```

Const WM_USER = &H400
Const LB_RESETCONTENT = WM_USER + 5

```

4. Create a Sub within the (Declarations) section of the Code window with the following code:

```

Sub ClearListBox (Ctrl As Control)
    hWndOld% = GetFocus()
    Ctrl.SetFocus
    x = SendMessage%(GetFocus(), LB_RESETCONTENT, 0, 0)
    Suc% = PutFocus(hWndOld%)
End Sub

```

5. Within an event procedure, call ClearListBox with the name of the list box as a parameter:

```

Sub Form_Click ()
    ClearListBox List1
End Sub

```

6. Place some entries into the list box:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    For i = 1 To 10
        List1.AddItem Format$(i) 'Put something into list box.
    Next
End Sub

```

6. Run the program and click anywhere on Form1. This will clear out the list box.

Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," by Charles Petzold, Microsoft Press, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1" version 3.0

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Emulate QuickBasic's SOUND Statement in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q71102

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The SOUND statement found in Microsoft QuickBasic is not implemented within Microsoft Visual Basic. You can perform sound through a Windows 3.00 API call that is equivalent to the QuickBasic SOUND statement.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The QuickBasic version of the SOUND statement can be executed by calling several Windows 3.0 API function calls. Within Windows, you must open up a VoiceQueue with the OpenSound call routine. Using the function SetVoiceSound, place all of the values corresponding to the desired frequencies and durations. Once the VoiceQueue has the desired frequencies and durations, you start the process by calling StartSound. After the sounds have been played, you must free up the VoiceQueue by calling CloseSound. If you plan on placing a large amount of information into the VoiceQueue, you may need to resize the VoiceQueue buffer by calling the SetVoiceQueueSize function.

After executing the StartSound function, you cannot place any more sound into the VoiceQueue until the VoiceQueue is depleted. Placing more sound into the queue will overwrite any information that was previously in the VoiceQueue. If you are going to place sound into the VoiceQueue after a StartSound statement, you will need to call WaitSoundState with an argument of one. When WaitSoundState returns NULL, the VoiceQueue is empty and processing can continue.

Below is an example of using the Windows API function calls, which will imitate the QuickBasic SOUND statement:

In the general section place the following:

```
Declare Function OpenSound Lib "sound.drv" () As Integer
Declare Function VoiceQueueSize Lib "sound.drv"
    (ByVal nVoice%, ByVal nBytes%) As Integer
Declare Function SetVoiceSound Lib "sound.drv"
    (ByVal nSource%, ByVal Freq%, ByVal nDuration%) As Integer
Declare Function StartSound Lib "sound.drv" () As Integer
Declare Function CloseSound Lib "sound.drv" () As Integer
Declare Function WaitSoundState Lib "sound.drv" (ByVal State%) As Integer
```

Note: All Declare statements above each must be placed on one line.

The SetVoiceSound takes two arguments. The first variable, Freq, is a two WORD parameter. The HIGH WORD will hold the actual frequency in hertz. The LOW WORD will hold the fractional frequency. The formula,  $X * 2 ^ 16$ , will shift the variable "X" into the HIGH WORD location. The second variable, Duration%, is the duration in clock ticks. There are 18.2 tick clicks per second on all Intel computers.

The following simplistic example shows how you can place several frequencies and durations into the VoiceQueue before starting the sound by calling the StartSound function:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Suc% = OpenSound()
    S% = SetVoiceSound(1, 100 * 2 ^ 16, 100)    ' Frequency = 100 hz
    S% = SetVoiceSound(1, 90 * 2 ^ 16, 90)      ' Frequency = 90 hz
    S% = SetVoiceSound(1, 80 * 2 ^ 16, 90)      ' Frequency = 80 hz
    S% = StartSound()
    While (WaitSoundState(1) <> 0): Wend        ' Wait for sound to play.
    Succ% = CloseSound()
End Sub
```

The following is another simple example, which creates a siren sound:

1. Within the general section, place the following Sound procedure:

```
Sub Sound (ByVal Freq as Long, ByVal Duration%)
    Freq = Freq * 2 ^ 16    ' Shift frequency to high byte.
    S% = SetVoiceSound(1, Freq, Duration%)
    S% = StartSound()
    While (WaitSoundState(1) <> 0): Wend
End Sub
```

2. Place the code below into any event procedure. The example below uses the Form\_Click event procedure. Clicking any position on the form will create a police siren.

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Suc% = OpenSound()
    For j& = 440 To 1000 Step 5
        Call Sound(j&, j& / 100)
    Next j&
    For j& = 1000 To 440 Step -5
        Call Sound(j&, j& / 100)
    Next j&
    Succ% = CloseSound()
End Sub
```

Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," Charles Petzold, Microsoft Press, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1," version 3.0

WINSOCK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther



```
Y% = 1
crColor& = RGB(0, 0, 0)
wFillType% = FLOODFILLSURFACE
Suc% = ExtFloodFill(picture1.hDC, X%, Y%, crColor&, wFillType%)
End Sub
```

When you click the push button, the black background will change to the FillColor. The fill area is defined by the color specified by crColor&. Filling continues outward from (X%,Y%) as long as the color is encountered.

Now change the related code to represent the following:

```
crColor& = RGB(255, 0, 0) 'Color to look for.
wFillType% = FLOODFILLBORDER
Suc% = ExtFloodFill(picture1.hDC, X%, Y%, crColor&, wFillType%)
```

Executing the push button will now fill the area until crColor& is encountered. In the first example, the fill was performed while the color was encountered; in the second example, the fill was performed while the color was not encountered. In the last example, everything is changed except the "floating pawn".

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap



## How to Use Windows BitBlt Function in Visual Basic Application

Article ID: Q71104

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Windows GDI.EXE has a function called BitBlt that will move the source device given by the hSrcDC parameter to the destination device given by the hDestDC parameter. This article explains in detail the arguments of the Windows BitBlt function call.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

To use BitBlt within a Visual Basic application, you must Declare the BitBlt function in one of these places:

- Global module if using Visual Basic version 1.0.
- Declaration section of any code module if using Visual Basic version 2.0 or higher.
- Declaration section of a code window for the form.

Use the following Declare statement to declare the Function. Enter the entire Declare statement on one, single line:

```
Declare Function BitBlt Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDestDC%, ByVal X%, ByVal Y%,  
    ByVal nWidth%, ByVal nHeight%, ByVal hSrcDC%, ByVal XSrc%, ByVal YSrc%,  
    ByVal dwRop&) As Integer
```

The following defines each of the formal parameters used in the Declare:

Parameter	Definition
hDestDC	Specifies the device context that is to receive the bitmap.
X,Y	Specifies the logical x-coordinate and y-coordinate of the upper-left corner of the destination rectangle.
nWidth	Specifies the width (in logical units) of the destination rectangle and the source bitmap.
nHeight	Specifies the height (in logical units) of the destination rectangle and the source bitmap.

hSrcDC	Identifies the device context from which the bitmap will be copied. It must be NULL(zero) if the dwRop& parameter specifies a raster operation that does not include a source.
XSrc	Specifies the logical x-coordinate and the y-coordinate of the upper-left corner of the source bitmap.
dwRop	Specifies the raster operation to be performed as defined below.

The following Raster operations are defined using the predefined constants found in the WINDOWS.H file supplied with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK). The value in the parentheses () is the value to assign to the dwRop& variable.

Code/Value (hex)	Description
BLACKNESS (42)	Turn output black.
DSINVERT(550009)	Inverts the destination bitmap.
MERGECOPY(C000CA)	Combines the pattern and the source bitmap using the Boolean AND operation.
MERGEPAINT(BB0226)	Combines the inverted source bitmap with the destination bitmap using the Boolean OR operator.
NOTSRCCOPY(330008)	Copies the inverted source bitmap to the destination.
NOTSRCERASE(1100A6)	Inverts the result of combining the destination and source bitmap using the Boolean OR operator.
PATCOPY(F00021)	Copies the pattern to the destination bitmap.
PATINVERT(5A0049)	Combines the destination bitmap with the pattern using the Boolean XOR operator.
PATPAINT(FB0A09)	Combines the inverted source bitmap with the pattern using the Boolean OR operator. Combines the result of this operation with the destination bitmap using the Boolean OR operator.
SRCAND(8800C6)	Combines pixels of the destination and source bitmap using the Boolean AND operator.
SRCCOPY(CC0020)	Copies the source bitmap to destination bitmap.
SRCERASE(4400328)	Inverts the destination bitmap and combines the results with the source bitmap using the Boolean AND operator.
SRCINVERT(660046)	Combines pixels of the destination and source bitmap using the Boolean XOR operator.
SRCPAINT(EE0086)	Combines pixels of the destination and source

bitmap using the Boolean OR operator.

WHITENESS(FF0062)      Turns all output white.

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----  
Here is an example showing how to copy the contents of a picture control to the contents of another picture control.

1. Define a form (Form1) and place two picture controls (Picture1 and Picture2) on Form1.
2. Display some graphics on Picture1 by loading from a picture file or by pasting from the clipboard at design time. You can load a picture from a file as follows:
  - Select Picture from the Properties list box and click the arrow at the right of the Settings box.
  - Then select the desired picture file such as a .BMP or .ICO file supplied with Microsoft Windows from the dialog box.
3. Add the following code to the Form\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()

    ' Assign information of the destination bitmap. Note that BitBlt
    ' requires coordinates in pixels.
    Const PIXEL = 3
    Picture1.ScaleMode = PIXEL
    Picture2.ScaleMode = PIXEL
    hDestDC% = Picture2.hDC
    X% = 0: Y% = 0
    nWidth% = Picture2.ScaleWidth
    nHeight% = Picture2.ScaleHeight

    ' Assign information of the source bitmap.
    hSrcDC% = Picture1.hDC
    XSrc% = 0: YSrc% = 0

    ' Assign the SRCCOPY constant to the Raster operation.
    dwRop& = &HCC0020

    Suc% = BitBlt(hDestDC%, X%, Y%, nWidth%, nHeight%, _
        hSrcDC%, XSrc%, YSrc%, dwRop&)
End Sub
```

4. Run the program.

Click the form. The contents of the first picture will be displayed on the second picture.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## How to Pass One-Byte Parameters from VB to DLL Routines

Article ID: Q71106

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Calling some routines in dynamic link libraries (DLLs) requires BYTE parameters in the argument list. Visual Basic for Windows possesses no BYTE data type as defined in other languages such as C, which can create DLLs. To pass a BYTE value correctly to an external FUNCTION (in a DLL), which requires a BYTE data type, you must pass an integer data type for the BYTE parameter.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Visual BASIC for Windows has the ability to call external code in the form of dynamic link libraries (DLLs). Some of these libraries require BYTE parameters in the argument list. An example of this is located in the KEYBOARD.DRV FUNCTION as defined below:

```
FUNCTION GetTempFileName (BYTE  cDrive,  
                          LPSTR lpPrefix,  
                          WORD   wUnique,  
                          LPSTR lpTempFileName)
```

GetTempFileName is documented on page 4-217 of the "Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit, Reference - Volume 1." In Visual Basic for Windows, declare the FUNCTION on one line in the main module of your code:

```
DECLARE FUNCTION GetTempFileName LIB "keyboard.drv"  
    (BYVAL A%, BYVAL B$, BYVAL C%, BYVAL D$)
```

Because the architecture of the 80x86 stack is segmented into word boundaries, the smallest type pushed onto the stack will be a word. Therefore, both the BYTE and the integer will be pushed onto the stack in the same manner, and require the same amount of memory. This is the reason you can use an integer data type for a BYTE data type in these types of procedure calls.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Send an HBITMAP to Windows API Function Calls from VB

Article ID: Q71260

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Several Windows API functions require the HBITMAP data type. Visual Basic for Windows does not have a HBITMAP data type. This article explains how to send the equivalent Visual Basic for Windows HBITMAP handle of a picture control to a Windows API function call.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is also included with the Microsoft Knowledge Base Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The HBITMAP data type represents a 16-bit index to GDI's physical drawing object. Several Windows API routines need the HBITMAP data type as an argument. Sending the [picture-control].Picture as an argument is the equivalent in Visual Basic for Windows.

The code sample below demonstrates how to send HBITMAP to the Windows API function ModifyMenu:

```
' Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function SetMenuItemBitmaps% Lib "user" (ByVal hMenu%, ByVal nPos%,
    ByVal wFlag%, ByVal BitmapUnchecked%, ByVal hBitmapChecked%)
```

The SetMenuItemBitmap takes five arguments. The fourth and fifth arguments are HBITMAP data types.

The following code segment will associate the specified bitmap Picture1.Picture in place of the default check mark:

```
X% = SetMenuItemBitmap(hMenu%, menuID%, 0, 0, Picture1.Picture)
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## How to Create a Flashing Title Bar on a Visual Basic Form

Article ID: Q71280

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

When calling a Windows API function call, you can create a flashing window title bar on the present form or any other form for which you know the handle.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Visual Basic for Windows has the ability to flash the title bar on any other form if you can get the handle to that form. The function `FlashWindow` flashes the specified window once. Flashing a window means changing the appearance of its caption bar, as if the window were changing from inactive to active status, or vice versa. (An inactive caption bar changes to an active caption bar; an active caption bar changes to an inactive caption bar.)

Typically, a window is flashed to inform the user that the window requires attention when that window does not currently have the input focus.

The function `FlashWindow` is defined as

```
FlashWindow(hWnd%, bInvert%)
```

where:

- `hWnd%` - Identifies the window to be flashed. The window can be either open or iconic.
- `bInvert%` - Specifies whether the window is to be flashed or returned to its original state. The window is flashed from one state to the other if the `bInvert` parameter is nonzero. If the `bInvert` parameter is zero, the window is returned to its original state (either active or inactive).

`FlashWindow` returns a value that specifies the window's state before the call to the `FlashWindow` function. It is nonzero if the window was active before the call; otherwise, it is zero.

The following section describes how to flash a form while that form

does not have the focus:

1. Create two forms called Form1 and Form2.
2. On Form1, create a timer control and set the Interval Property to 1000. Also set the Enabled Property to FALSE.
3. Within the general-declarations section of Form1, declare the FlashWindow function as follows:

```
' The following Declare statement must appear on one line.  
Declare Function FlashWindow% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%,  
                                           ByVal bInvert%)
```

4. In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, define the following constants in the declarations section:

```
Const TRUE = -1  
Const FALSE = 0
```

5. In the Form\_Load event procedure, add the following code:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    Form2.Show  
End Sub
```

6. In the Sub Timer1\_Timer () procedure of Form1, add the following code:

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()  
    Succ% = FlashWindow(Form1.hWnd, 1)  
End Sub
```

7. In the GotFocus event procedure of Form1, create the following code:

```
Sub Form_GotFocus ()  
    Timer1.Enabled = False  
End Sub
```

8. In the Click event for Form2, add the following code:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    Form1.Timer1.Enabled = True  
End Sub
```

9. Run the program. Form1 will be in the foreground with Form2 in the background. Click anywhere in Form2; Form1's Caption Bar will flash until you click Form1.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow APrgOther

## How to Implement a Bitmap Within a Visual Basic Menu

Article ID: Q71281

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

No command provided by the Visual Basic language can add a bitmap to the menu system. However, you can call several Windows API functions to place a bitmap within the menu system of a Visual Basic program. You may also change the default check mark displayed.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

There are several Windows API functions you can call that will display a bitmap instead of text in the menu system.

Below is a list of the required Windows API functions:

- GetMenu% (hwnd%)

hwnd% - Identifies the window whose menu is to be examined  
Returns: Handle to the menu

- GetSubMenu% (hMenu%, nPos%)

hMenu% - Identifies the menu  
nPos% - Specifies the position (zero-based) in the  
given menu of the pop-up menu  
Returns: Handle to the given pop-up menu

- GetMenuItemID% (hMenu%, nPos%)

hMenu% - Identifies the handle to the pop-up menu that  
contains the item whose ID is being retrieved  
nPos% - Specifies the position (zero-based) of the menu  
whose ID is being retrieved  
Returns: The item ID for the specified item in the pop-  
up menu

- ModifyMenu% (hMenu%, nPos%, wFlags%, wIDNewItem%, lpNewItem%)

hMenu% - Identifies the handle to the pop-up menu that  
contains the item whose ID is being retrieved  
nPos% - Specifies the menu item to be changed. The  
interpretation of the nPos parameter depends  
on the wFlags parameter.  
wFlags% - BF\_BITMAP = &H4



wIDNewItem% - Specifies the command ID of the modified menu item  
 lpNewItem& - 32-bit handle to the bitmap  
 Returns: TRUE (-1) if successful, FALSE (0) if unsuccessful

- SetMenuItemBitmaps% (hMenu%, nPos%, Flags%, hBitmapUnchecked%,  
 hBitmapChecked%)

hMenu% - Identifies menu to be changed  
 nPos% - Command ID of the menu item  
 wFlags% - &H0  
 hBitmapUnchecked% - Handle to "unchecked" bitmap.  
 hBitmapChecked% - Handle to the "check" bitmap.  
 Returns: TRUE (-1) if successful, FALSE (0) if unsuccessful.

There are two different ways to implement bitmaps within Visual Basic: the first method is to use static bitmaps; the other method is to use dynamic bitmaps.

A static bitmap is fixed and does not change during the execution of the program (such as when it is taken from an unchanging .BMP file). A dynamic bitmap changes during execution of your program. You may change dynamic bitmap attributes such as color, size, and text. The sample code below describes how to create both types of menus.

Define a menu system using the Menu Design window. Create a menu system such as the following:

Caption	Control Name	Indented	Index
-----	-----	-----	-----
BitMenu	TopMenu	No	
Sub Menu0	SubMenu	Once	0
Sub Menu1	SubMenu	Once	1
Sub Menu2	SubMenu	Once	2

Create a picture control array with three bitmaps by creating three picture controls with the same control Name using the Properties list box.

Control Name	Caption	Index	FontSize
-----	-----	-----	-----
Picture1		0	N/A
Picture1		1	N/A
Picture1		2	N/A
Picture2		N/A	N/A 'check BMP
Picture3		0	'set Picture3 FontSize all different
Picture3		1	9.75
Picture3		2	18
Command1	Static		
Command2	Dynamic		

For each control index of Picture1, add a valid bitmap to the Picture property. Because these bitmaps will be displayed in the menu, you should use smaller bitmaps. Add a bitmap to the Picture2 Picture property that you want to be your check mark when you select a menu option.

Both types of bitmap implementations will need to have the following

declarations in the declaration or global section of your code:

```
' Enter each Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function GetMenu% Lib "user" (ByVal hwnd%)
Declare Function GetSubMenu% Lib "user" (ByVal hMenu%, ByVal nPos%)
Declare Function GetMenuItemID% Lib "user" (ByVal hMenu%, ByVal nPos%)
Declare Function ModifyMenu% Lib "user" (ByVal hMenu%, ByVal nPosition%,
    ByVal wFlags%, ByVal wIDNewItem%, ByVal lpNewItem&)
Declare Function SetMenuItemBitmaps% Lib "user" (ByVal hMenu%,
    ByVal nPosition%, ByVal wFlags%, ByVal hBitmapUnchecked%,
    ByVal hBitmapChecked%)
Const MF_BITMAP = &H4
Const CLR_MENUBAR = &H80000004 ' Defined for dynamic bitmaps only.
Const TRUE = -1, FALSE = 0
Const Number_of_Menu_Selections = 3
```

The following Sub will also need to be defined to handle the actual redefinition of the "check" bitmap:

```
Sub SubMenu_Click (Index As Integer)
' Uncheck presently checked item, check new item, store
' index
    Static LastSelection%
    SubMenu(LastSelection%).Checked = FALSE
    SubMenu(Index).Checked = TRUE
    LastSelection% = Index
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
' * example to create a static bitmap menu
hMenu% = GetMenu(hwnd)
hSubMenu% = GetSubMenu(hMenu%, 0)
For i% = 0 To Number_of_Menu_Selections - 1
    menuId% = GetMenuItemID(hSubMenu%, i%)
    x% = ModifyMenu(hMenu%, menuId%, MF_BITMAP, menuId%,
        CLng(picture1(i%).Picture))
    x% = SetMenuItemBitmaps(hMenu%, menuId%, 0, 0,
        CLng(picture2.Picture))
Next i%
End Sub
```

'This code sample will change the actual menu bitmaps size,  
'font size, color, and caption. Run the application and  
'select the BitMenu and view the selections. Then click  
'the form and revisit the BitMenu.

```
'-----
Sub Command2_Click ()
' * Example to create a dynamic menu system
hMenu% = GetMenu(hwnd)
hSubMenu% = GetSubMenu(hMenu%, 0)
For i% = 0 To Number_of_Menu_Selections - 1
' * Place some text into the menu.

    SubMenu(i%).Caption = Picture3(i%).FontName +
        Str$(Picture3(i%).FontSize) + " Pnt"

' * 1. Must be AutoRedraw for Image().
```

```

'* 2. Set Backcolor of Picture control to that of the
'*     current system Menu Bar color, so Dynamic bitmaps
'*     will appear as normal menu items when menu bar
'*     color is changed via the control panel
'* 3. See the bitmaps on screen, this could all be done
'*     at design time.

    Picture3(i%).AutoRedraw = TRUE
    Picture3(i%).BackColor = CLR_MENUBAR
'* You can uncomment this
'* Picture3(i%).Visible = FALSE

'* Set the width and height of the Picture controls
'* based on their corresponding Menu items caption,
'* and the Picture controls Font and FontSize.
'* DoEvents() is necessary to make new dimension
'* values to take affect prior to exiting this Sub.

    Picture3(i%).Width = Picture3(i%).TextWidth(SubMenu(i%).Caption)
    Picture3(i%).Height = Picture3(i%).TextHeight(SubMenu(i%).Caption)
    Picture3(i%).Print SubMenu(i%).Caption

'* - Set picture controls backgroup picture (Bitmap) to
'*     its Image.
    Picture3(i%).Picture = Picture3(i%).Image
    x% = DoEvents()
Next i%

    '* Get handle to forms menu.
    hMenu% = GetMenu(Form1.hWnd)

    '* Get handle to the specific menu in top level menu.
    hSubMenu% = GetSubMenu(hMenu%, 0)

    For i% = 0 To Number_of_Menu_Selections - 1

        '* Get ID of sub menu
        menuId% = GetMenuItemID(hSubMenu%, i%)

        '* Replace menu text w/bitmap from corresponding picture
        '* control
        x% = ModifyMenu(hMenu%, menuId%, MF_BITMAP, menuId%,
            CLng(Picture3(i%).Picture)) 'append this to previous line

        '* Replace bitmap for menu check mark with custom check
        '* bitmap
        x% = SetMenuItemBitmaps(hMenu%, menuId%, 0, 0, CLng(Picture2.Picture))
    Next i%
End Sub

```

Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," Charles Petzold, Microsoft Press, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1,"  
version 3.0

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 SDK

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## How to Create Rubber-Band Lines/Boxes in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q71488

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Creating rubber bands within Visual Basic can be done using the DrawMode property. Rubber bands are lines that stretch as you move the mouse cursor from a specified point to a new location. This can be very useful in graphics programs and when defining sections of the screen for clipping routines.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The theory of drawing a rubber-band box is as follows:

1. Draw a line from the initial point to the location of the mouse cursor using:

```
[form].DrawMode = 6. {INVERT}
```

2. Move the mouse cursor.
3. Save the DrawMode.
4. Set the [form].DrawMode to 6. {INVERT}
5. Draw the same line that was drawn in step 1. This will restore the image underneath the line.
6. Set the [form].DrawMode back to the initial DrawMode saved in step 3.
7. Repeat the cycle again.

DrawMode equal to INVERT allows the line to be created using the inverse of the background color. This allows the line to be always displayed on all colors.

The sample below will demonstrate the rubber-band line and the rubber-band box. Clicking the command buttons will allow the user to select between rubber-band line or a rubber-band box. The user will also be able to select a solid line or a dashed line.

Create and set the following controls and properties:

Control Name	Caption	Picture
--------------	---------	---------

-----

Form1	Form1	c:\windows\chess.bmp
Command1	RubberBand	
Command2	RubberBox	
Command3	Dotted	
Command4	Solid	

In the general section of your code, define the following constants:

```

Const INVERSE = 6      '*Characteristic of DrawMode property(XOR).
Const SOLID = 0        '*Characteristic of DrawStyle property.
Const DOT = 2          '*Characteristic of DrawStyle property.
Const TRUE = -1
Const FALSE = 0
Dim DrawBox As Integer '*Boolean-whether drawing Box or Line
Dim OldX, OldY, StartX, StartY As Single '* Mouse locations

```

In the appropriate procedures, add the following code:

```

Sub Form_MouseDown (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
                    Single, Y As Single)
    '* Store the initial start of the line to draw.
    StartX = X
    StartY = Y

    '* Make the last location equal the starting location
    OldX = StartX
    OldY = StartY
End Sub

Sub Form_MouseMove (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
                   Single, Y As Single)
    '* If the button is depressed then...
    If Button Then
        '* Erase the previous line.
        Call DrawLine(StartX, StartY, OldX, OldY)

        '* Draw the new line.
        Call DrawLine(StartX, StartY, X, Y)

        '* Save the coordinates for the next call.
        OldX = X
        OldY = Y
    End If
End Sub

Sub DrawLine (X1, Y1, X2, Y2 As Single)
    '* Save the current mode so that you can reset it on
    '* exit from this sub routine. Not needed in the sample
    '* but would need it if you are not sure what the
    '* DrawMode was on entry to this procedure.
    SavedMode% = DrawMode

    '* Set to XOR
    DrawMode = INVERSE

    '*Draw a box or line
    If DrawBox Then

```

```

        Line (X1, Y1)-(X2, Y2), , B
    Else
        Line (X1, Y1)-(X2, Y2)
    End If

    '* Reset the DrawMode
    DrawMode = SavedMode%
End Sub

Sub Form_MouseUp (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As Single,
                 Y As Single)
    '* Stop drawing lines/boxes.
    StartEvent = FALSE
End Sub

Sub Command2_Click ()
    '* Boolean value to determine whether to draw a line or box.
    DrawBox = TRUE
End Sub

Sub Command1_Click ()
    '* Boolean value to determine whether to draw a line or box.
    DrawBox = FALSE
End Sub

Sub Command3_Click ()
    '* Create a dotted line
    Form1.DrawStyle = DOT
End Sub

Sub Command4_Click ()
    '* Create a solid line.
    Form1.DrawStyle = SOLID
End Sub

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00
KBCategory:
KBSubcategory: APrgGrap PrgCtrlsStd

```

## How to Create Flashing/Rotating Rubber-Band Box in VB

Article ID: Q71489

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Several programs, such as Excel, create a flashing border (which appears to rotate) when selecting items of the windows when using the Edit Copy selection of the menu system. You can create a flashing, rotating border with the DrawMode and DrawStyle properties of a Visual Basic form.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

By drawing a dashed line on the form and then within a timer event creating a solid line on the dashed line with DrawMode set to INVERSE, you can create a special effect of a flashing border that appears to rotate.

You can draw a rotating rubber-band box as follows:

1. Draw a line using:

```
DrawStyle = 2 {Dot}
```

2. Save the [form].DrawMode and the [form].DrawStyle.

3. Set the [form].DrawMode = 6 {Inverse}.

4. Set [form].DrawStyle = 0 {Solid}.

5. Draw the same line as in step 1.

6. Reset the properties saved in step 2.

7. Delay some time interval.

8. Repeat starting at step 2.

The following code demonstrates the rotating (flashing) border. Pressing the mouse button and then dragging the cursor some distance will create a dotted line. Releasing the button will display a rotating rubber-band box.

In VB.EXE, create a form called Form1. On Form1, create a timer control with the name Timer1 and with an interval of 100.



Duplicate the following code within the general declaration section of your code window:

```
Const INVERSE = 6      'Characteristic of DrawStyle property(Inverse).
Const SOLID = 0        'Characteristic of DrawMode property.
Const DOT = 2          'Characteristic of DrawMode property.
Const TRUE = -1
Const FALSE = 0
Dim OldX, OldY, StartX, StartY As Single
```

Add the following code in the appropriate event procedures for Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    '* Must draw a dotted line to create effect. Load a bitmap. Not
        required but shows full extent of line drawing.
    DrawStyle = DOT
End Sub
```

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()
    SavedDrawStyle% = DrawStyle

    '* Solid is need to create the inverse of the dashed line.
    DrawStyle = SOLID

    '* Invert the dashed line.
    Call DrawLine(StartX, StartY, OldX, OldY)

    '* Restore the DrawStyle back to what it was previously.
    DrawStyle = SavedDrawStyle%
End Sub
```

```
Sub Form_MouseDown (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
                    Single, Y As Single)
    ' The above Sub statement must be on just one line.
    '* Don't add effect as you draw box.
    Timer1.Enabled = FALSE
    '* Save the start locations.
    StartX = X
    StartY = Y
    '* Set the last coord. to start locations.
    OldX = StartX
    OldY = StartY
End Sub
```

```
Sub Form_MouseMove (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As
                   Single, Y As Single)
    ' (The above Sub statement must be on just one line.)
    '* If button is depress then...
    If Button Then
        '* Restore previous lines background.
        Call DrawLine(StartX, StartY, OldX, OldY)
        '* Draw new line.
        Call DrawLine(StartX, StartY, X, Y)
        '* Save coordinates for next call.
        OldX = X : OldY = Y
    End If
End Sub
```

```

Sub DrawLine (X1, Y1, X2, Y2 As Single)
    '* Save the current mode so that you can reset it on
    '* exit from this sub routine. Not needed in the sample
    '* but would need it if you are not sure what the
    '* DrawMode was on entry to this procedure.
    SavedMode% = DrawMode

    '* Set to XOR
    DrawMode = INVERSE

    '*Draw a box
    Line (X1, Y1)-(X2, Y2), , B

    '* Reset the DrawMode
    DrawMode = SavedMode%
End Sub

Sub Form_MouseUp (Button As Integer, Shift As Integer, X As Single,
                  Y As Single)
    ' (The above Sub statement must be on just one line.)
    StartEvent = FALSE
    Timer1.Enabled = TRUE
End Sub

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00
KBCategory:
KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

```

## **Declare Currency Type to Be Double When Returning from DLL**

**Article ID: Q72274**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

When using Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, if you want to pass a parameter to a dynamic link library (DLL) routine, or receive a function return value of type Currency from a DLL routine written in Microsoft C, the parameter or function returned should be declared as a "double" in the C routine.

Note that C does not support the Basic Currency data type, and although specifying the parameter as type "double" in C will allow it to be passed correctly, you will have to write your own C routines to manipulate the data in the Currency variable. For information on the internal format of the Currency data type, query in the Microsoft Knowledge Base using the following words:

Basic and Currency and internal and format

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

When creating a DLL function that either receives or returns a Currency data type, it may be useful to include the following declaration:

```
typedef double currency;
```

Based on this typedef, a sample DLL routine to return a currency value might be declared as follows:

```
currency FAR pascal test(...);
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## **Huge Array Support in DLL for Visual Basic for Windows**

**Article ID: Q72585**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

A dynamic-link library (DLL) is available that contains functions for managing arrays larger than 64K from Microsoft Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows. This DLL also provides the ability to create arrays with more than 32,767 (32K) elements per dimension, and to redimension arrays while preserving the data inside of the arrays.

This file can be found in the Software/Data Library by searching for the filename BV0442, the Q number of this article, or S13082. BV0442 was archived using the PKware file-compression utility. When you decompress BV0442, you will obtain the following files:

HUGEARR.DLL, HUGEARR.BAS, HUGEARR.C, HUGEARR.DEF, HUGEARR.H,  
HUGEARR.TXT, MAKEFILE

These files are also available on disk in the application note "Huge Array Support in DLL for Visual Basic for Windows" (BV0442) by calling Microsoft Product Support Services.

This information applies to Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Microsoft Windows, and to Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit (SDK). HUGEARR.DLL is provided only as an example, which you are free to modify, and Microsoft makes no performance or support claims for HUGEARR.DLL or its associated files.

This information does not apply to Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To use the functions in HUGEARR.DLL, copy the declarations contained in HUGEARR.BAS into your global module in Visual Basic and copy HUGEARR.DLL to your Windows directory. The functions can then be used like any other Windows DLL function.

HUGEARR.DLL allocates memory using the Windows API function GlobalAlloc. This means that the largest array that can be allocated is 1 MB in standard mode, and 64 MB in 386 enhanced mode for Windows.

The following routines are contained in HUGEARR.DLL. For a complete description of the parameters and/or return values of these routines, see Visual Basic's Declare statement for the routine in question in the file HUGEARR.BAS. For additional notes on using these functions, see the HUGEARR.TXT reference file.

1. HugeDim:

Dimensions an array and returns a handle to that array.

2. HugeErase:

Erases an array that was previously dimensioned using HugeDim.

3. HugeRedim:

Redimensions an array created with HugeDim to a different size.

4. GetHugeEl, SetHugeEl:

Gets or sets the contents of the specified array element in a given huge array.

5. HugeInt, HugeLong, HugeSingle, HugeDouble, HugeCurrency:

Functions that return a value from a specific element in a huge array of the type corresponding to the function name (Integer, Long, Single, Double, or Currency data type.)

6. HugeUbound:

Returns the upper bound of a given huge array.

7. NumHugeArrays:

Returns the number of free huge array handles available.

References:

HUGEARR.DLL is written in Microsoft C, and the C source code is provided in HUGEARR.C and HUGEARR.H. Advanced programmers can optionally modify and rebuild HUGEARR.DLL by using the Microsoft C Compiler version 6.0 or 6.0a and DLL libraries from the Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit (SDK), and by running NMAKE.EXE with the enclosed MAKEFILE. The MAKEFILE tells LINK.EXE to use the enclosed linker definition file, HUGEARR.DEF.

The following references discuss how to program Windows 3.0 DLL routines:

1. "Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," by Charles Petzold (published by Microsoft Press, 1990).

2. Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit.

Additional Reference Words: 1.00 3.00 6.00 6.00a

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Create a System-Modal Program/Window in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q72674

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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From a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows program, you can disable the ability to switch to other Windows programs by calling the Windows API function SetSysModalWindow.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Microsoft Windows is designed so that the user can switch between applications without terminating one program to run another program. There may be times when the program needs to take control of the entire environment and run from only one window, restricting the user from switching to any other application. An example of this is a simple security system, or a time-critical application that may need to go uninterrupted for long periods of time.

Passing the handle to the window through the argument of SetSysModalWindow will limit the user to that particular window. This will not allow the user to move to any other applications with the mouse or use ALT+ESC or CTRL+ESC to bring up the Task Manager. You can even remove the system menu if you do not want the user to exit through the ALT+F4 (Close) combination.

All child windows that are created by the system-modal window become system-modal windows. When the original window becomes active again, it is system-modal. To end the system-modal state, destroy the original system-modal window.

Care must be taken when using the SetSysModalWindow API from within the Visual Basic for Windows programming environment. Pressing CTRL+BREAK to get to the [break] mode leaves your modal form with no way to exit unless you restart your system. When using the SetSysModalWindow within the environment, be sure to exit your application by destroying the window with either the ALT+F4 in the system menu, or by some other means from within your running program.

To use the SetSysModalWindow API function, declare the API call in your global section, as follows:

```
Declare Function SetSysModalWindow Lib "User" (ByVal hwnd%) As Integer
```

At an appropriate place in your code, add the following:

```
Success% = SetSysModalWindow(hwnd)
```

Once this line is executed, your window will be the only window that can get focus until that window is destroyed.

Note: Because Visual Basic for Windows was not designed with system modal capabilities in mind, using a MsgBox, InputBox, or Form.Show of another form from a system modal window will not work correctly. If you want to show another window from a system modal form, use another Visual Basic for Windows form and call SetSysModalWindow for this second form also, so that it becomes the system modal window. When the second form is unloaded, the original system modal form will again become the system modal window. Note that because the window(s) shown from a system modal window must also call SetSysModalWindow, and since MsgBox/InputBox windows cannot have associated code, you should not call the MsgBox or InputBox functions from a system modal window.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 dialog

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## **VB Out of Stack Space Error w/ LoadPicture in Form\_Paint Event**

**Article ID: Q72675**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0  
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### SUMMARY

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An "Out of stack space" error can occur when you use a LoadPicture method within a Form\_Paint event.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The Visual Basic stack can be exhausted when the LoadPicture method is executed within a [control/form]\_Paint event. The LoadPicture method generates a [control/form]\_Paint event itself, and when performed within a \_Paint event, the program will repeat the cycle until the stack is exhausted.

The following code example demonstrates that the Form\_Paint event is a recursive procedure when a LoadPicture method is included in the \_Paint event code.

After you add the code to your program, run the program and notice how many times the message "Form\_Paint Count :" is displayed within the Immediate Window before you receive the "Out of stack space" error message.

```
Sub Form_Paint ()
    Static Count
    Count = Count + 1
    Debug.Print "Form_Paint Count : "; Count
    Form1.picture = LoadPicture("c:\windows\chess.bmp")
End Sub
```

To remedy the situation, move the LoadPicture to another event handler, such as the Form\_Load event. Since these bitmaps are automatically refreshed when needed, you don't have to maintain the picture within a Paint event.

The Visual Basic stack is limited to 16K bytes, and cannot be changed.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap PrgOptMemMgt



## How to Limit User Input in VB Combo Box with SendMessage API

Article ID: Q72677

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can specify a limit to the amount of text that can be entered into a combo box by calling SendMessage (a Windows API function) with the EM\_LIMITTEXT constant.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following method can be used to limit the length of a string entered into a combo box. Check the length of a string inside a KeyPress event for the control, if the length is over a specified amount, then the formal argument parameter KeyAscii will be set to zero.

Or, the preferred method of performing this type of functionality is to use the SendMessage API function call. After you set the focus to the desired edit control, you must send a message to the window's message queue that will reset the text limit for the control. The argument EM\_LIMITTEXT, as the second parameter to SendMessage, will set the desired text limit based on the value specified by the third arguments. The SendMessage function requires the following parameters for setting the text limit:

SendMessage (hWnd%,EM\_LIMITTEXT, wParam%, lParam)

wParam% Specifies the maximum number of bytes that can be entered. If the user attempts to enter more characters, the edit control beeps and does not accept the characters. If the wParam parameter is zero, no limit is imposed on the size of the text (until no more memory is available).

lParam Is not used.

The following steps can be used to implement this method:

1. Create a form called Form1.
2. Add a combo box called Combo1 to Form1.
3. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

'\*\*\* Note: Each Declare statement must be on just one line:

```
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
Declare Function SendMessage& Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%,
                                           ByVal wParam%,
                                           ByVal wParam%,
                                           lp As Any)

Const WM_USER = &H400
Const EM_LIMITTEXT = WM_USER + 21
```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Form1.Show           ' Must show form to work on it.
    Combo1.SetFocus      ' Set the focus to the list box.
    cbhWnd% = GetFocus() ' Get the handle to the list box.
    TextLimit% = 5       ' Specify the largest string.
    retVal& = SendMessage(cbhWnd%, EM_LIMITTEXT, TextLimit%, 0)
End Sub
```

5. Run the program and enter some text into the combo box. You will notice that you will only be able to enter a string of five characters into the combo box.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Determining Number of Lines in VB Text Box; SendMessage API

Article ID: Q72719

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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To determine the number of lines of text within a text box control, call the Windows API function SendMessage with EM\_GETLINECOUNT(&H40A) as the wParam argument.

Calling SendMessage with the following parameters will return the amount of lines of text within a text box:

```
hWnd%   - Handle to the text box.
wParam% - EM_GETLINECOUNT(&H40A)
lParam% - 0
```

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

For example, to determine the amount of lines within a text box, perform the following steps:

1. Create a form with a text box and a command button. Change the MultiLine property of the text box to TRUE.
2. Declare the API SendMessage function in the global-declarations section of your code window (the Declare statement must be on just one line):

```
Declare Function SendMessage% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%,
                                           ByVal wParam%,
                                           ByVal lParam%,
                                           ByVal lParam%)
```

3. In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, you will need to declare another API routine to get the handle of the text box. Declare this routine also in your global declarations section of your code window. The returned value will become the hWnd% argument to the SendMessage function. For example:

```
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
```

4. Within the click event of your button, add the following code:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Const EM_GETLINECOUNT = &H40A ' Defined within Windows SDK
                                     ' file, WINDOWS.H.

    ' Command button has focus, give focus to text box.
    Text1.SetFocus

    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows get the handle of the text box.
    ' hWd% = GetFocus()

    ' Print the amount of lines to the immediate window.
    Debug.Print SendMessage(Text1.hWnd, EM_GETLINECOUNT, 0, 0)
    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows use hWd% instead of Text1.hWnd.
End Sub

```

5. Run the program. Add several lines of text to the text box. Click the command button to see the number of lines printed out to the immediate window.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther PrgCtrlsStd

## How VB Can Determine if a Specific Windows Program Is Running

Article ID: Q72918

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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To determine if a specific program is running, call the Windows API function FindWindow.

FindWindow returns the handle of the window whose class is given by the lpClassname parameter and whose window name (caption), is given by the lpCaption parameter. If the returned value is zero, the application is not running.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

By calling FindWindow with a combination of a specific program's class name and/or the title bar caption, your program can determine whether that specific program is running.

When an application is started from the Program Manager, it registers the class name of the form. The window class provides information about the name, attributes, and resources required by your form. All Visual Basic forms have this class name:

ThunderForm

You can determine the class name of an application by using SPY.EXE that comes with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK) version 3.0 or 3.1.

If the window has a caption bar title, you can also use the title to locate the instance of the running application. This caption text is valid even when the application is minimized to an icon.

Because another instance of your Visual Basic program will have the same class name and may have the same title bar caption, you must use dynamic data exchange (DDE) to determine if another instance of your Visual Basic program is running. (This DDE technique is not shown in this article).

### Step-by-Step Example

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The following example shows three ways to determine if the Windows Calculator is running. To create the program, do the following:

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Declare the Windows API function FindWindow in the Global declarations section of Form1. The variables are declared as "Any" because you can pass either a pointer to a string, or a NULL (or 0&) value. You are responsible for passing the correct variable type.

```
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function FindWindow% Lib "user" (ByVal lpClassName As Any,
    ByVal lpCaption As Any)
```

3. Add the following code to the form's Click event. This example demonstrates how you can find the instance of the application with a combination of the class name and/or the window's caption. In this example, the application will find an instance of the Windows calculator (CALC.EXE).

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    lpClassName$ = "SciCalc"
    lpCaption$ = "Calculator"

    Print "Handle = ";FindWindow(lpClassName$, 0&)
    Print "Handle = ";FindWindow(0&, lpCaption$)
    Print "Handle = ";FindWindow(lpClassName$,lpCaption$)
End Sub
```

4. Run this program with CALC.EXE running and without CALC.EXE running. If CALC.EXE is running, your application will print an arbitrary handle. If CALC.EXE is not running, your application will print zero as the handle.

Below are some class names of applications that are shipped with Windows:

Class Name	Application
-----	
SciCalc	CALC.EXE
CalWndMain	CALENDAR.EXE
Cardfile	CARDFILE.EXE
Clipboard	CLIPBOARD.EXE
Clock	CLOCK.EXE
CtlPanelClass	CONTROL.EXE
XLMain	EXCEL.EXE
Session	MS-DOS.EXE
Notepad	NOTEPAD.EXE
pbParent	PBRUSH.EXE
Pif	PIFEDIT.EXE
PrintManager	PRINTMAN.EXE
Progman	PROGMAN.EXE (Windows Program manager)
Recorder	RECORDER.EXE
Reversi	REVERSI.EXE
#32770	SETUP.EXE
Solitaire	SOL.EXE
Terminal	TERMINAL.EXE

WFS_Frame	WINFILE.EXE
MW_WINHELP	WINHELP.EXE
#32770	WINVER.EXE
OpusApp	WINWORD.EXE
MSWRITE_MENU	WRITE.EXE

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Scroll VB Text Box Programmatically and Specify Lines

Article ID: Q73371

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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By making a call to the Windows API function `SendMessage`, you can scroll text a specified number of lines or columns within a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows text box. By using `SendMessage`, you can also scroll text programmatically, without user interaction. This technique extends Visual Basic for Windows' scrolling functionality beyond the built-in statements and methods. The sample program below shows how to scroll text vertically and horizontally a specified number of lines.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Note that Visual Basic for Windows itself does not offer a statement for scrolling text a specified number of lines vertically or horizontally within a text box. You can scroll text vertically or horizontally by actively clicking the vertical and horizontal scroll bars for the text box at run time; however, you do not have any control over how many lines or columns are scrolled for each click of the scroll bar. Text always scrolls one line or one column per click the scroll bar. Furthermore, no built-in Visual Basic for Windows method can scroll text without user interaction. To work around these limitations, you can call the Windows API function `SendMessage`, as explained below.

### Example

-----

To scroll the text a specified number of lines within a text box requires a call to the Windows API function `SendMessage` using the constant `EM_LINESCROLL`. You can invoke the `SendMessage` function from Visual Basic for Windows as follows:

```
r& = SendMessage& (hWd%, EM_LINESCROLL, wParam%, lParam&)
```

<code>hWd%</code>	The window handle of the text box.
<code>wParam%</code>	Parameter not used.
<code>lParam%</code>	The low-order 2 bytes specify the number of vertical lines to scroll. The high-order 2 bytes specify the number of horizontal columns to scroll. A positive value for <code>lParam&amp;</code> causes text to scroll upward or to the left. A negative value causes text to scroll downward or to the right.



r&            Indicates the number of lines actually scrolled.

The SendMessage API function requires the window handle (hWd% above) of the text box. To get the window handle of the text box, you must first set the focus on the text box using the SetFocus method from Visual Basic. Once the focus has been set, call the GetFocus API function to get the window handle for the text box. Below is an example of how to get the window handle of a text box.

```
' The following appears in the general declarations section of
' the form:
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "USER" ()

' Assume the following appears in the click event procedure of a
' command button called Scroll.
Sub Command_Scroll_Click ()
    OldhWnd% = Screen.ActiveControl.Hwnd
    ' Store the window handle of the control that currently
    ' has the focus.

    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows use the following line:
    ' OldhWnd% = GetFocus ()

    Text1.SetFocus
    hWd% = GetFocus()
End Sub
```

To scroll text horizontally, the text box must have a horizontal scroll bar, and the width of the text must be wider than the text box width. Calling SendMessage to scroll text vertically does not require a vertical scroll bar, but the length of text within the text box should exceed the text box height.

Below are the steps necessary to create a text box that will scroll five vertical lines or five horizontal columns each time you click the command buttons labeled "Vertical" and "Horizontal":

1. From the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N).
2. Double-click Form1 to bring up the code window.
3. Add the following API declaration to the General Declarations section of Form1. Note that you must put all Declare statements on a separate and single line. Also note that SetFocus is aliased as PutFocus because there already exists a SetFocus method within Visual Basic for Windows.

```
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" () ' For Visual Basic 1.0 only.
Declare Function PutFocus% Lib "user" Alias "SetFocus" (ByVal
                                                    hWd%)
Declare Function SendMessage& Lib "user" (ByVal hWd%,
                                           ByVal wMsg%,
                                           ByVal wParam%,
                                           ByVal lParam&)
```

4. Create a text box called Text1 on Form1. Set the MultiLine property to True and the ScrollBars property to Horizontal (1).

5. Create a command button called Command1 and change the Caption to "Vertical".
6. Create a another command button called Command2 and change the Caption to "Horizontal".
7. From the General Declarations section of Form1, create a procedure to initialize some text in the text box as follows:

```
Sub InitializeTextBox ()
    Text1.Text = ""
    For i% = 1 To 50
        Text1.Text = Text1.Text + "This is line " + Str$(i%)

        ' Add 15 words to a line of text.
        For j% = 1 to 10
            Text1.Text = Text1.Text + " Word "+ Str$(j%)
        Next j%

        ' Force a carriage return (CR) and linefeed (LF).
        Text1.Text = Text1.Text + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)

        x% = DoEvents()
    Next i%
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Call InitializeTextBox
End Sub
```

9. Create the actual scroll procedure within the General Declarations section of Form1 as follows:

```
' The following two lines must appear on a single line:
Function ScrollText& (TextBox As Control, vLines As Integer, hLines
    As Integer)
    Const EM_LINESCROLL = &H406

    ' Place the number of horizontal columns to scroll in the high-
    ' order 2 bytes of Lines&. The vertical lines to scroll is
    ' placed in the low-order 2 bytes.
    Lines& = CInt(&H10000 * hLines) + vLines

    ' Get the window handle of the control that currently has the
    ' focus, Command1 or Command2.
    SavedWnd% = Screen.ActiveControl.Hwnd
    ' For Visual Basic 1.0 use the following line instead of the one
    ' used above.
    ' SavedWnd% = GetFocus%()

    ' Set the focus to the passed control (text control).
    TextBox.SetFocus

    ' For Visual Basic 1.0, get the handle to current focus (text
```

```

' control).
' TextWnd% = GetFocus%()

' Scroll the lines.
Success& = SendMessage(TextBox.HWnd, EM_LINESCROLL, 0, Lines&)
' For Visual Basic 1.0 use the following line instead of the one
' used above.
' Success& = SendMessage(TextWnd%, EM_LINESCROLL, 0, Lines&)

' Restore the focus to the original control, Command1 or
' Command2.
r% = PutFocus% (SavedWnd%)

' Return the number of lines actually scrolled.
ScrollText& = Success&

```

End Function

10. Add the following code to the click event procedure of Command1 labeled "Vertical":

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    ' Scroll text 5 vertical lines upward.
    Num& = ScrollText&(Text1, 5, 0)
End Sub

```

11. Add the following code to the click event procedure of Command2 labeled "Horizontal":

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    ' Scroll text 5 horizontal columns to the left.
    Num& = ScrollText&(Text1, 0, 5)
End Sub

```

12. Run the program. Click the command buttons to scroll the text five lines or columns at a time.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgWindow

**WINAPI.TXT: Windows API Declarations and Constants for VB**  
**Article ID: Q73694**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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SUMMARY

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The file WINAPI.TXT supplies declarations for Microsoft Visual Basic programmers who want to call Windows API routines.

WINAPI.TXT can be found in the Software/Data Library by searching on the word BV0447, the Q number of this article, or S13104. BV0447 was archived using the PKware file-compression utility. After you decompress BV0447, you will obtain the following two files:

WINAPI.TXT  
README.NOW

WINAPI.TXT is provided here in the assumption that you already have a reference for Windows API calls, such as the documentation provided with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK).

If you don't have a reference manual for Windows API calls, you can obtain the Visual Basic add-on kit number 1-55615-413-5, "Microsoft Windows Programmer's Reference" and Online Resource (which includes WINAPI.TXT on disk), available at a charge from Microsoft.

MORE INFORMATION

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WINAPI.TXT can be found on CompuServe in the MSLANG forum (GO MSLANG), as well as in the Microsoft Software Library on CompuServe.

Contents of README.NOW

-----

WINAPI.TXT is an ASCII text file containing the functions and constants in the Microsoft Windows 3.0 API, declared in the format used by Microsoft Visual Basic.

To use WINAPI.TXT, you must have the book "Microsoft Windows Programmer's Reference" for Windows version 3.0 (published by Microsoft Press, 1990), or you must have the reference manuals provided with the Microsoft Windows SDK.

WINAPI.TXT includes the following:

- External procedure declarations for all the Microsoft Windows API

functions that can be called from Visual Basic.

- Global constant declarations for all the constants used by the Microsoft Windows API.
- Type declarations for the user-defined types (structures) used by the Microsoft Windows API.

WINAPI.TXT is too large to be loaded directly into a Visual Basic module. Attempting to load it directly into Visual Basic will cause an "Out of Memory" error message.

WINAPI.TXT is also too large for the Notepad editor supplied with Microsoft Windows, but it can be loaded by Microsoft Write. To use WINAPI.TXT, load it into an editor (such as Microsoft Write) that can handle large files. Copy the declarations you want and paste them into the global module in your Visual Basic application.

Note: Some of the Windows API declarations are very long. Some editors will wrap these onto a second line, and will copy them as multiple lines rather than a single line. Declarations in Visual Basic cannot span lines, so if you paste these as multiple lines, Visual Basic will report an error. If an error occurs, you can either adjust the margins in the editor before copying or remove the line break after pasting.

The global module is the recommended place for the declarations that you copy from the WINAPI.TXT file; however, you can place the external procedure declarations in the Declarations section of any form or module. You can also place the constant declarations anywhere in any module or form code if you remove the Global keyword. Type declarations must be placed in the global module.

Once you have pasted the declaration for a Windows API routine (as well as any associated constant and type declarations) into your application, you can call that routine as you would call any Visual Basic procedure.

For more information about declaring and calling external procedures, see Chapter 23, "Extending Visual Basic," in "Microsoft Visual Basic: Programmer's Guide."

Warning

-----

Visual Basic cannot verify the data you pass to Microsoft Windows API routines. Calling a Microsoft Windows API routine with an invalid argument can result in unpredictable behavior: your application, Visual Basic, or Windows may crash or hang. When experimenting with Windows API routines, save your work often.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

**PRB: Duplicate PostScript Font Names in VB Printer.Fonts List**  
**Article ID: Q75092**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

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When a PostScript printer driver is active in Microsoft Windows version 3.0, the Fonts(index%) property of Visual Basic's Printer object may return one or more duplicate font names at run time. This will not occur in either Visual Basic version 1.0 or 2.0 if you are using Microsoft Windows version 3.1.

CAUSE

=====

This problem is caused by Microsoft Windows version 3.0 itself, not by Microsoft Visual Basic.

STATUS

=====

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a problem with Microsoft Windows version 3.0. The problem was corrected in Microsoft Windows version 3.1.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following program displays the list of font names available for the PostScript printer currently selected in the Windows Control Panel:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    For J% = 0 to Printer.FontCount - 1  
        Print Printer.Fonts(J%)  
    Next J%  
End Sub
```

In some cases, when a PostScript printer is active in Windows, one or more fonts are listed twice.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## Determining Whether TAB or Mouse Gave a VB Control the Focus

Article ID: Q75411

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can determine whether a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows control received the focus from a mouse click or a TAB keystroke by calling the Microsoft Windows API function `GetKeyState` in the control's `GotFocus` event procedure. By using `GetKeyState` to check if the TAB key is down, you can determine if the user pressed the TAB key to get to the control. If the TAB key was not used and the control does not have an access key, the user must have used the mouse to click the control to set the focus.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The `GetKeyState` Windows API function takes an integer parameter containing the virtual key code for the desired key states. `GetKeyState` returns an integer. If the return value is negative, the key has been pressed.

The following is a code example. To use this example, start with a new project in Visual Basic for Windows. Add a text box and a command button to `Form1`. Enter the following code in the project's `GLOBAL.BAS` module:

```
' Global Module.  
Declare Function GetKeyState% Lib "User" (ByVal nVirtKey%)  
Global Const VK_TAB = 9
```

Add the following code to the `GotFocus` event procedure for the `Text1` text box control:

```
Sub Text1_GotFocus()  
    If GetKeyState(VK_TAB) < 0 Then  
        Text1.SelStart = 0  
        Text1.SelLength = Len(Text1.Text)  
    Else  
        Text1.SelLength = 0  
    End If  
End Sub
```

Run the program. If you use the TAB key to move the focus from the command button to the text box, you should see the text in the text box selected. If you change the focus to the text box by clicking it with the mouse, the text will not be selected.

An access key is assigned by using an ampersand (&) in the control's caption property. If the control has an access key, you may also want to check the state of the virtual ALT key by using `GetKeyState` to see if the user used the access key to change the focus. The virtual key code for ALT, actually known as `VK_MENU`, is 12H (&H12).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun APrgOther



## How to Access Windows Initialization Files Within Visual Basic

Article ID: Q75639

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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There are several Microsoft Windows API functions that can manipulate information within a Windows initialization file. GetProfileInt, GetPrivateProfileInt, GetProfileString, and GetPrivateProfileString allow a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows program to retrieve information from a Windows initialization file based on an application name and key name. WritePrivateProfileString and WriteProfileString are used to create/update items within Windows initialization files.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Windows initialization files contain information that defines your Windows environment. Examples of Windows initialization files are WIN.INI and SYSTEM.INI, which are commonly found in the C:\WINDOWS subdirectory. Microsoft Windows and applications for Microsoft Windows can use the information stored in these files to configure themselves to meet your needs and preferences. For a description of initialization files, review the WIN.INI file that comes with Microsoft Windows.

An initialization file is composed of at least an application name and a key name. The contents of Windows initialization files have the following format:

```
[Application name]
keyname=value
```

There are four API function calls (GetProfileInt, GetPrivateProfileInt, GetProfileString, and GetPrivateProfileString) that you can use to retrieve information from these files. The particular function to call depends on whether you want to obtain string or numerical data.

The GetProfile family of API functions is used when you want to get information from the standard WIN.INI file that is used by Windows. The WIN.INI file should be part of your Windows subdirectory (C:\WINDOWS). The GetPrivateProfile family of API functions is used to retrieve information from any initialization file that you specify. The formal arguments accepted by these API functions are described farther below.

The WriteProfileString and WritePrivateProfileString functions write information to Windows initialization files. WriteProfileString is used to modify the Windows initialization file, WIN.INI. WritePrivateProfileString is used to modify any initialization file that you specify. These functions search the initialization file for the key name under the application name. If there is no match, the function adds to the user profile a new string entry containing the key name and the key value specified. If the key name is found, it will replace the key value with the new value specified.

To declare these API functions within your program, include the following Declare statements in the global module or the General Declarations section of a Visual Basic for Windows form:

```
Declare Function GetProfileInt% Lib "Kernel" (ByVal lpAppName$,
    ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal nDefault%)
```

```
Declare Function GetProfileString% Lib "Kernel" (ByVal lpAppName$,
    ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal lpDefault$, ByVal lpReturnedString$,
    ByVal nSize%)
```

```
Declare Function WriteProfileString% Lib "Kernel" (ByVal lpAppName$,
    ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal lpString$)
```

```
Declare Function GetPrivateProfileInt% Lib "Kernel"
    (ByVal lpAppName$, ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal nDefault%,
    ByVal lpFileName$)
```

```
Declare Function GetPrivateProfileString% Lib "Kernel"
    (ByVal lpAppName$, ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal lpDefault$,
    ByVal lpReturnedString$, ByVal nSize%, ByVal lpFileName$)
```

```
Declare Function WritePrivateProfileString% Lib "Kernel"
    (ByVal lpAppName$, ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal lpString$,
    ByVal lpFileName$)
```

Note: Each Declare statement must be on a single line.

The formal arguments to these functions are described as follows:

Argument	Description
lpAppName\$	Name of a Windows application that appears in the initialization file.
lpKeyName\$	Key name that appears in the initialization file.
nDefault\$	Specifies the default value for the given key if the key cannot be found in the initialization file.
lpFileName\$	Points to a string that names the initialization file. If lpFileName does not contain a path to the file, Windows searches for the file in the Windows directory.
lpDefault\$	Specifies the default value for the given key if the key cannot be found in the initialization file.

lpReturnedString\$	Specifies the buffer that receives the character string.
nSize%	Specifies the maximum number of characters (including the last null character) to be copied to the buffer.
lpString\$	Specifies the string that contains the new key value.

Below are the steps necessary to create a Visual Basic for Windows sample program that uses GetPrivateProfileString to read from an initialization file that you create. The program, based on information in the initialization file you created, shells out to the Calculator program (CALC.EXE) that comes with Windows. The sample program demonstrates how to use GetPrivateProfileString to get information from any initialization file.

1. Create an initialization file from a text editor (for example, you can use the Notepad program supplied with Windows) and save the file under the name of "NET.INI". Type in the following as the contents of the initialization file (NET.INI):

```
[NetPaths]
WordProcessor=C:\WINWORD\WINWORD.EXE
Calculator=C:\WINDOWS\CALC.EXE
```

Note: If CALC.EXE is not in the C:\WINDOWS subdirectory (as indicated after "Calculator=" above), replace C:\WINDOWS\CALC.EXE with the correct path.

2. Save the initialization file (NET.INI) to the root directory of your hard drive (such as C:\) and exit the text editor.
3. Start Visual Basic for Windows.
4. Create a form called Form1.
5. Create a push button called Command1.
6. Within the Global Declaration section of Form1, add the following Windows API function declarations. Note that the Declare statement below must appear on a single line.

```
Declare Function GetPrivateProfileString% Lib "kernel"
    (ByVal lpAppName$, ByVal lpKeyName$,ByVal lpDefault$,
    ByVal lpReturnString$,ByVal nSize%, ByVal lpFileName$)
```

7. Within the (Command1) push button's click event add the following code:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    '* If an error occurs during SHELL statement then handle the error.
    On Error GoTo FileError

    '* Compare these to the NET.INI file that you created in step 1
    '* above.
    lpAppName$ = "NetPaths"
```

```

lpKeyName$ = "Calculator"
lpDefault$ = ""
lpReturnString$ = Space$(128)
Size% = Len(lpReturnString$)

'* This is the path and name the NET.INI file.
lpFileName$ = "c:\net.ini"

'* This call will cause the path to CALC.EXE (that is,
'* C:\WINDOWS\CALC.EXE) to be placed into lpReturnString$. The
'* return value (assigned to Valid%) represents the number of
'* characters read into lpReturnString$. Note that the
'* following assignment must be placed on one line.
Valid% = GetPrivateProfileString(lpAppName$, lpKeyName$,
                                lpDefault$, lpReturnString$,
                                Size%, lpFileName$)

'* Discard the trailing spaces and null character.
Path$ = Left$(lpReturnString$, Valid%)

'* Try to run CALC.EXE. If unable to run, FileError is called.
Succ% = Shell(Path$, 1)
Exit Sub

FileError:
  MsgBox "Can't find file", 16, "Error lpReturnString"
  Resume Next

End Sub

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00
KBCategory:
KBSubcategory: APrgINI

```

## How to Print the ASCII Character Set in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q75857

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The default font used by Visual Basic is the standard ANSI character set. To display the ASCII character set, which is more commonly used in MS-DOS-based applications, you must call the two Windows API functions `GetStockObject` and `SelectObject`. In addition, to display the unprintable characters such as TAB, linefeed, and carriage return characters, you need to use the `TextOut` Windows API function because the standard Visual Basic printer object does not display the unprintable characters. By using the Windows API `TextOut` function, you circumvent the Visual Basic printer object and therefore allow all the characters to be displayed.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Windows supports a second character set, referred to as the OEM character set. This is generally the character set used internally by MS-DOS for screen display at the MS-DOS prompt. The character codes 32 to 127 are usually identical for the OEM, ASCII, and ANSI character sets. The ANSI characters represented by the remaining character codes (codes 0 to 31 and 128 to 255) are generally different from characters represented by the OEM and ASCII character sets. However, the OEM and ASCII character sets are identical for these ranges. Under the ASCII and OEM character sets, the character codes 128 to 255 correspond to the extended ASCII character set, which includes line drawing characters, graphics characters, and special symbols. The characters represented by this range of character codes generally differ between the ASCII (or OEM) and ANSI character sets.

To change the selected font from ANSI to the OEM ASCII font, you must get a handle to the OEM character set by calling `GetStockObject`. When this handle is passed as an argument to `SelectObject`, the ANSI font will be replaced by the OEM ASCII font. This API function also returns the handle to the font object previously used. Once you finish displaying the desired characters, you should call `SelectObject` again to reselect the original font object.

Note that there is also an API function called `DeleteObject`. This function need not be called to delete a stock object. The purpose of this API function is to delete objects loaded with the API function `GetObject`.

Here is the syntax for the functions:

`GetStockObject% (nIndex%)`  
-----

nIndex%

Specifies the type of stock object desired. Use the constant OEM\_FIXED\_FONT to retrieve the handle to the OEM character set. The value of this constant is 10.

#### Return Value

The return value identifies the desired logical object if the function is successful. Otherwise, it is NULL.

SelectObject% (hDC%, hObject%)

-----  
hDC%

Identifies the device context.

hObject%

Identifies the object to be selected. Use the return value from GetStockObject% (above) to select the OEM character set.

#### Return Value

The return value identifies the handle to the object previously used. This value should be saved in a variable such that SelectObject can be called again to restore the original object used. It is NULL if there is an error.

#### Step-by-Step Example

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The following example steps demonstrate how to create a program that prints ASCII characters.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
3. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1.
4. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1:

```
' Enter each Declare statement on one, single line.
Declare Function GetStockObject% Lib "GDI" (ByVal nIndex%)
Declare Function SelectObject% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC%, ByVal hObject%)
Declare Function TextOut Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC As Integer,
    ByVal X As Integer, ByVal Y As Integer, ByVal lpString As String,
    ByVal nCount As Integer) As Integer
```

5. Place the following code in the Command1 click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()

    Const OEM_FIXED_FONT = 10
    Const PIXEL = 3

    Dim hOEM As Integer    '*handle the OEM Font Object
    Dim Y, H As Single
```

```

'*save the scale mode so that you can reset later
Saved% = Form1.ScaleMode

'*alter the current scale mode
Form1.ScaleMode = PIXEL

'* get the character height and subtract the external leading
H = Form1.TextHeight(Chr$(200)) - 1

'* get the handle to the desired font
hOEM = GetStockObject(OEM_FIXED_FONT)

'* select the object relating to the font handle
PreviousObject% = SelectObject%(Form1.hDC, hOEM)

'* if successful then print the desired characters.
If PreviousObject% Then

    '* establish border
    Edge$ = "0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 "

    '* initialize output location
    xMark = 10
    yMark = 10

    '* position cursor & print top border
    Form1.CurrentX = xMark
    Form1.CurrentY = yMark
    '* print top ruler edge
    T$ = " " + Edge$ + " "
    ret% = TextOut(Form1.hDC, yMark, xMark, T$, Len(T$))

    '* Cycle through 256 characters beginning at character 0
    For Row% = 0 To 15

        '* prep left border
        T$ = Mid$(Edge$, (Row% * 2) + 1, 2)

        '* assemble string of characters
        For Col% = 0 To 15
            Ch = (Row% * 16) + Col%
            T$ = T$ + Chr$(Ch) + " "
        Next

        '* prep right border
        T$ = T$ + Mid$(Edge$, (Row% * 2) + 1, 2)

        '* prepare for display at next row
        xMark = xMark + H

        '* print the assembled string of characters
        ret% = TextOut(Form1.hDC, yMark, xMark, T$, Len(T$))

    Next

    '* prepare for display at next row

```

```

    xMark = xMark + H

    '* print bottom border
    T$ = " " + Edge$ + " "
    ret% = TextOut(Form1.hDC, yMark, xMark, T$, Len(T$))

    '* reinstate the previous font
    hOEM = SelectObject(Form1.hDC, PreviousObject%)

Else

    '* SelectObject was unsuccessful
    MsgBox "Couldn't Find OEM Fonts", 48

End If

    '* reset the scale mode
    Form1.ScaleMode = Saved%

End Sub

```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start.

7. Click the Command1 button.

When the Command1 button is clicked or selected, a small box with a double border will be drawn in the upper-left corner of the screen. The box is drawn using characters associated with the extended ASCII character set.

#### References:

1. "Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," by Charles Petzold (published by Microsoft Press, 1990)
2. "Peter Norton's Windows 3.0 Power Programming Techniques," by Peter Norton & Paul Yao (published by Bantam Computer Books, 1990)
3. "Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1"
4. The WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint



## How to Clear a VB Combo Box with a Windows API Function

Article ID: Q76513

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article explains how to instantly clear the contents of a Visual Basic combo box by sending the combo box a CB\_RESETCONTENT message.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

No single command within Visual Basic will clear out the entries of a combo box. However, you can clear all entries at once with a simple While loop, as follows:

```
Do While Combo1.ListCount > 0
    Combo1.RemoveItem 0
Loop
```

If you want a single command to clear all combo box entries at once, you can use the SendMessage Windows API function. The arguments to SendMessage with the CB\_RESETCONTENT parameter are

```
SendMessage(hWnd%, wMsg%, wParam%, lParam%)
```

where

hWnd%	Identifies the window that is to receive the message
wMsg%	The message to be sent (CB_RESETCONTENT = &H411)
wParam%	Is not used (NULL)
lParam%	Is not used (NULL)

Specifying wMsg% equal to &H411 sends a CB\_RESETCONTENT message to the combo box. This removes all strings from the combo box and frees any memory allocated for those strings.

To get hWnd%, the handle to the target window, you must call the Windows API function GetFocus. This method will return the handle to the control that currently has focus. For a combo box with a Style property of 2 (Dropdown List), this will return the handle to the combo box that you want to send the message to. For other styles of combo boxes, the focus is set to a child edit control that is part of the combo box, and you must use the GetParent() Windows API function to get the handle to the combo box itself.

The following steps demonstrate how to delete entries from a combo box:

1. Create a combo box called Comb1 on Form1.
2. Declare the following Windows API functions at the module level or in the Global section of your project:

```

Declare Function SendMessage% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%, _
    ByVal wParam%, _
    ByVal lParam%, _
    ByVal lParam%)
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
Declare Function PutFocus% Lib "user" Alias "SetFocus" (ByVal hWnd%)
Declare Function GetParent% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%)

```

(Note: Each Declare statement must be written on one line, leaving out the underscore (\_) line-continuation symbol shown above.)

3. Declare the following constants in the same section:

```

Global Const WM_USER = &H400
Global Const CB_RESETCONTENT = WM_USER + 11
Global Const DROP_DOWN_LIST = 2

```

4. Place some entries into the combo box in the Form\_Load procedure:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    For i = 1 To 10
        Comb1.AddItem Format$(i) 'Put something into combo box.
    Next
End Sub

```

5. Create a Sub within the (Declarations) section of the Form1 Code window with the following code:

```

Sub ClearComboBox (Combo As Control)
    hWndOld% = GetFocus()
    Combo.SetFocus
    If Combo.Style = DROP_DOWN_LIST then
        x = SendMessage(GetFocus(), CB_RESETCONTENT, 0, 0)
    Else
        x = SendMessage(GetParent(GetFocus()), CB_RESETCONTENT, 0, 0)
    End If
    Suc% = PutFocus(hWndOld%)
End Sub

```

6. Within an event procedure, call ClearComboBox with the name of the Combo box as a parameter:

```

Sub Form_Click ()
    ClearComboBox Comb1
End Sub

```

7. Run the program and click anywhere on Form1. This will clear the combo box.

Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for

Windows 3," Charles Petzold. Microsoft Press, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit Reference Volume 1,"  
version 3.0

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software  
Development Kit

Additional reference words: 1.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

**BUG: Bad Text in Long Right-Aligned Labels in Windows ver 3.0**  
**Article ID: Q76515**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

When you use Visual Basic with Windows version 3.0, the caption of a right-aligned label that is set to a length exceeding 255 characters displays unusual (incorrect) characters. A left-aligned or centered caption displays correctly, and all captions display correctly when using Visual Basic with Windows version 3.1.

STATUS

=====

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a problem in Windows version 3.0. This problem was corrected in Windows version 3.1.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. In the Visual Basic environment (VB.EXE), place a label on a blank form.
2. Add the following code to the form's Form\_click event procedure:  
  

```
Label1.alignment = 1 'right justified  
Label1.caption = string$ (277, "k")  
Label1.refresh
```
3. From the Run menu, choose Start or press the F5 key.
4. Click anywhere inside the form except on the label to see unexpected characters appear in the rightmost portion of the caption.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 garbage corrupted

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Using Windows API Functions to Better Manipulate Text Boxes

Article ID: Q76518

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0  
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### SUMMARY =====

By calling Windows API functions from Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, you can retrieve text box (or edit control) information that you cannot obtain using only Visual Basic for Windows' built-in features. Note that in Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0 for Windows, you can use the new `HWND` property of a text box instead of calling the `GetFocus()` function.

This article supplies a sample program that performs the following useful features (making use of the Windows message constants shown in parentheses, obtained by calling Windows API routines):

- Copy a specific line of text from the text box (`EM_GETLINE`).
- Retrieve the number of lines within the text box (`EM_GETLINECOUNT`).
- Position the cursor at a specific character location (`EM_GETSEL`) in the text box.
- Retrieve the line number of a specific character location in the text box (`EM_LINEFROMCHAR`).
- Retrieve the amount of lines before a specified character position in the text box (`EM_LINEINDEX`).
- Retrieve the amount of characters in a specified line in the text box (`EM_LINELENGTH`).
- Replace specified text with another text string (`EM_REPLACESEL`).

For a separate article that explains how to specify the amount of text allowable within a text control, query on the following word in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

`EM_LIMITTEXT`

### MORE INFORMATION =====

Note that as of 3/25/92, the code below corrects the `VBKNOWLG.HLP` file Knowledge Base shipped with the Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows.

Note also that using the `SelStart`, `SelLength`, and `SelText` properties may be easier than using `EM_GETSEL` and `EM_REPLACESEL` below.

The Windows API file `USER.EXE` defines the `SendMessage` function that will return or perform a specific event on your edit control. To create an example that will display specific information about your edit control, do the following:

1. Create a form (Form1), and add the following controls and properties:

Control	Control Name	Height	Left	Top	Width
Label	aGetLine		360	120	
Label	aGetLineCount		360	480	
Label	aGetSel		360	840	
Label	aLineFromChar		360	1200	
Label	aLineIndex		360	1560	
Label	aLineLength		360	1920	
Label	aReplaceSel		360	2280	
Command	Command1	375	360	2640	1815
Text	Text1	1815	2640	480	3495
Text	Text2	375	2520	2640	3615

2. Set each label's AutoSize property to True.
3. Set the Text1.MultiLine property to True.
4. Change the Command1.Caption to "Insert this text --->".
5. Add the following code to the global Declarations section:

```

Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
' Enter the following Declare as one, single line:
Declare Function SendMessage& Lib "user"(ByVal hWnd%, ByVal wParam%,
    ByVal lParam%, ByVal lParam As Any)
' lParam is actually a double word, or long, but declaring
' lParam "As Any" allows flexibility for certain cases of
' using SendMessage.

```

6. After adding the code listed below to your form, run the program. Whenever a key is released, the labels will be updated with the new information about your text box.

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    Show
    X% = fReplaceSel("") '* Used to display the correct text.
End Sub

Sub Text1_KeyUp (KeyCode As Integer, Shift As Integer)
    '* Update the text control information whenever the key
    '* is pressed and released.
    CharPos& = fGetSel()
    LineNumber& = fLineFromChar(CharPos&)
    X% = fGetLine(LineNumber&)
    X% = fGetLineCount()
    X% = fLineIndex(LineNumber&)
    X% = fLineLength(CharPos&)
End Sub

Sub Command1_Click ()
    '* This routine will insert a line of text at the current location
    '* of the caret.

    D$ = Text2.text
    CharPos& = fGetSel()

```

```

X% = fReplaceSel(D$)
X% = fSetSel(CharPos&)

' * Text has been inserted at the caret location. No update the
' * text controls information.
Call Text1_KeyUp(0, 0)
Text1.SetFocus
End Sub

Function fGetLineCount& ()
' * This function will return the number of lines in the edit control.
Const EM_GETLINECOUNT = &H400 + 10

Text1.SetFocus
' In versions 2.00 and 3.00, you need to use a long integer to avoid
' a bad DLL calling convention error message. As an alternative,
' you can use the new HWND property instead of GetFocus():
Pos& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETLINECOUNT, 0&, 0&)
' Use the following Pos& if you have Visual Basic version 1.0:
' Pos& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETLINECOUNT, 0%, 0%)
aGetLineCount.Caption = "GetLineCount = " + Str$(Pos&)
fGetLineCount = Pos&
End Function

Function fGetLine (LineNumber As Long)
' * This function copies a line of text specified by LineNumber
' * from the edit control. The first line starts at zero.

Const MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE = 80
Const EM_GETLINE = &H400 + 20

byteLo% = MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE And (255) '[changed 3/25/92]
byteHi% = Int(MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE / 256) '[changed 3/25/92, two lines:]
Buffer$ = chr$(byteLo%) + chr$(byteHi%) + Space$(MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE-2)

Text1.SetFocus
Pos& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETLINE, CINT(LineNumber), Buffer$)
aGetLine.Caption = "GetLine = " + Buffer$
fGetLine = Pos&

End Function

Function fGetSel& ()
' * This function returns the starting/ending position of the
' * current selected text. This is the current location of the
' * cursor if start is equal to ending.
' * LOWORD-start position of selected text
' * HIWORD-first no selected text

Const EM_GETSEL = &H400 + 0

Text1.SetFocus
location& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETSEL, 0, 0&)
ending% = location& \ &H10000
starting% = location& And &H7FFF
aGetSel.Caption = "Caret Location = " + Str$(starting%)
fGetSel = location& mod 65536

```

End Function

Function fLineFromChar& (CharPos&)

'\* This function will return the line number of the line that  
'\* contains the character whose location(index) specified in the  
'\* third argument of SendMessage. If the third argument is -1,  
'\* then the number of the line that contains the first character  
'\* of the selected text is returned. If start = end from GetSel,  
'\* then the current caret location is used. Line numbers start  
'\* at zero.

Const EM\_LINEFROMCHAR = &H400 + 25

Text1.SetFocus

Pos& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM\_LINEFROMCHAR, CINT(CharPos&), 0&)

aLineFromChar.Caption = "Current Line = " + Str\$(Pos&)

fLineFromChar = Pos&

End Function

Function fLineIndex (LineNumber As Long)

'\* This function will return the number of bytes that  
'\* precede the given line. The returned number reflects the CR/LF  
'\* after each line. The third argument to SendMessage specifies  
'\* the line number, where the first line number is zero. If the  
'\* third argument to SendMessage is -1, then the current line  
'\* number is used.

Const EM\_LINEINDEX = &H400 + 11

Text1.SetFocus

Pos& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM\_LINEINDEX, CINT(LineNumber), 0&)

aLineIndex.Caption = "#Char's before line = " + Str\$(Pos&)

fLineIndex = Pos&

End Function

Function fLineLength& (CharPos As Long)

'\* This function will return the length of a line in the edit  
'\* control. CharPos specifies the index of the character that  
'\* is part of the line that you would like to find the length. If  
'\* this argument is -1, the current selected character is used as  
'\* the index.

Const EM\_LINELENGTH = &H400 + 17

Text1.SetFocus

Pos& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM\_LINELENGTH, CINT(CharPos), 0&)

aLineLength.Caption = "LineLength = " + Str\$(Pos&)

fLineLength = Pos&

End Function

Function fSetSel& (Pos&)

'\* This function selects all characters in the current text that  
'\* are within the starting and ending positions given by  
'\* Location. The low word is the starting position and the high  
'\* word is the ending position. If you set start to end, this  
'\* can be used to position the cursor within the edit control.

Const EM\_SETSEL = &H400 + 1



```

    location& = Pos& * 2 ^ 16 + Pos&
    Text1.SetFocus
    X% = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_SETSEL, 0%, location&)
    fSetSel = Pos&
End Function

Function fReplaceSel (Buffer$)
    '* This function will replace the current selected text with the
    '* new text specified in Buffer$. You must call SendMessage with
    '* the EM_GETSEL constant to select text.

    Const EM_REPLACESEL = &H400 + 18
    Text1.SetFocus
    Pos& = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_REPLACESEL, 0%, Buffer$)
    aReplaceSel.Caption = "String inserted = " + Buffer$
    fReplaceSel = Pos&
End Function

```

Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: The Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," Charles Petzold, Microsoft Press, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1,"  
version 3.0

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## **PRB: No Events Generated When MsgBox Active**

**Article ID: Q76557**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
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### SYMPTOMS

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Visual Basic does not invoke the Paint event or any other event for controls or forms while a MsgBox or InputBox is active.

### CAUSE

=====

This behavior is by design. All events (including the timer control event) are disabled while a MsgBox is showing. The purpose is to block operations that could cause problems.

### WORKAROUND

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To compensate for Paint events not firing, you can set the form AutoRedraw property to True and paint the form from the Form\_Load event.

To display a MsgBox-like dialog and allow all events to occur, you can:

- Call the Windows API function MessageBox.
- Display a modal form (formN.Show 1), which looks like the MsgBox dialog.

### STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Steps to Demonstrate Behavior

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1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project if Visual Basic is already running.

2. Add the following code to the general declarations section:

```
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function MessageBox Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd As Integer, ByVal lpText
As String, ByVal lpCaption As String, ByVal wType As Integer) As Integer
```

2. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    MsgBox "move me", 0, "MsgBox"  
    unused = MessageBox(hWnd, "move me", "MessageBox", 0)  
End Sub
```

3. Add the following code to the Form\_Paint event:

```
Sub Form_Paint ()  
    Line (0, 0)-(ScaleWidth - 1, ScaleHeight - 1), &HFF, BF  
End Sub
```

4. Run the application. Click the form to display the MsgBox dialog. When you drag this dialog box around on the form, the Paint event is not fired and the area previously occupied by the MsgBox is not updated.
5. Click OK to display the MessageBox API dialog. When you drag this dialog box around, the form is repainted.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Create and Use a Custom Cursor in Visual Basic; Win SDK

Article ID: Q76666

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Using a graphics editor, the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK), and the Microsoft C compiler, you can create a dynamic-link library (DLL) containing mouse cursors that can be used in a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows application. By making calls to the Windows API functions LoadLibrary, LoadCursor, SetClassWord, and GetFocus, you can display a custom cursor from within a Visual Basic for Windows application. Below are the steps necessary to create a custom cursor and a Visual Basic for Windows application to use this custom cursor.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Setting a custom cursor in a Visual Basic for Windows application requires a call to the Windows API function LoadLibrary to load the custom DLL containing the cursor resource(s). A call to LoadCursor is then required to load a single cursor contained in the DLL. The return value of the LoadCursor function is a handle to the custom cursor. This handle can be passed as an argument to the API function SetClassWord with the constant GCW\_HCURSOR. SetClassWord also requires a window handle (hWnd) to the object (form or control) for which the cursor is to be set. The hWnd of a form is available via the hWnd runtime method. For example, the statement FWnd = Form1.hWnd will return the hWnd of Form1 to the variable FWnd. The hWnd of a control can be obtained by first using the SetFocus method on the control to give it the input focus and then calling the API function GetFocus. GetFocus returns the hWnd of the object with the current input focus.

A custom cursor always takes the place of the system cursor. The MousePointer property of a form or control to receive the custom cursor must be set to zero (system). Any other value for this property will result in the selected cursor being displayed, not the custom cursor.

Because the cursor is defined as part of a window class, any change to the window class will be reflected across any control or form that uses that class. For example, if the MousePointer property for two command buttons is zero (system) and a custom cursor is set for one of the command buttons, both of the command buttons will receive the custom cursor. To guarantee a custom cursor for each control requires

that the cursor be set by calling SetClassWord in the MouseMove event procedure of the control.

Some controls, such as command buttons, do not contain a MouseMove event procedure. A custom mouse pointer for these types of controls can be set by initiating a timer event. Within the timer event, calls to the API functions GetCursorPos and WindowFromPoint can be made to determine if the mouse is over the control or not. If the WindowFromPoint API call returns the hWnd of the control, then the mouse is over the control. A call to SetClassWord can then be made to set the custom cursor for the control.

Below is an example of using the Windows SDK and C Compiler to create a DLL containing cursor resources. Further below are the steps necessary to create a Visual Basic for Windows program to use the cursor resources.

If you do not have the Windows SDK but have a pre-compiled DLL containing cursor resources, skip to the steps below outlining how to create a Visual Basic application to use the custom cursor resources.

1. Using a graphics editor such as Microsoft Windows SDK Paint program, create two cursor images. Save the images separately as CURS1.CUR and CURS2.CUR, respectively.
2. Using any text editor, create a C source file containing the minimum amount of code for a Windows DLL. The source code must contain the functions LibEntry and WEP (Windows exit procedure). Below is an example of the C source file:

```
#include <windows.h>
int _far _pascal LibMain (HANDLE hInstance,
                          WORD wDataSeg,
                          WORD cbHeapSize,
                          LPSTR lpszCmdLine)
{
    return(1);
}

int _far _pascal WEP (int nParameter)
{
    return(1);
}
```

3. Save the file created in step 2 above as CURSORS.C.
4. Using any text editor, create a definition file (.DEF) for the DLL. Enter the following as the body of the .DEF file:

```
LIBRARY CURSORS

DESCRIPTION 'DLL containing cursor resources'

EXETYPE WINDOWS

STUB 'WINSTUB.EXE'
```

```
CODE MOVEABLE DISCARDABLE
```

```
DATA MOVEABLE SINGLE
```

```
HEAPSIZE 0
```

```
EXPORTS
```

```
WEP @1 RESIDENTNAME
```

5. Save the file created in step 4 above as CURSORS.DEF.
6. Using a text editor, create a resource file for the cursors created in step 1 above. Enter the following as the body of the .RC file:

```
Cursor1 CURSOR CURS1.CUR  
Cursor2 CURSOR CURS2.CUR
```

7. Save the file created in step 6 above as CURSORS.RC.
8. Compile CURSORS.C from the MS-DOS command line as follows:

```
CL /AMw /c /Gsw /Os /W2 CURSORS.C
```

9. Link the program from the MS-DOS command line as follows (enter the following two lines on a single line):

```
LINK /NOE /NOD cursors.obj +  
LIBENTRY.OBJ,,MDLLCEW.LIB+LIBW.LIB,CURSORS.DEF;
```

This will create the file CURSORS.EXE.

10. Add the cursor resources created in step 1 above to the .EXE file created in step 9 above by invoking the Microsoft Resource Compiler (RC.EXE) from the MS-DOS command line as follows:

```
RC CURSORS.RC
```

11. Rename CURSORS.EXE to CURSORS.DLL from the MS-DOS command line as follows:

```
REN CURSORS.EXE CURSORS.DLL
```

Below are the steps necessary to create a Visual Basic for Windows application that uses the cursor resources created in the steps above.

Important  
-----

When running the Visual Basic for Windows program created by following the steps below, it is important to terminate the application from the system menu, NOT the Run End option from the file menu. When Run End is chosen from the file menu, the unload event procedure is not executed. Therefore, the system cursor is not restored and the custom cursor will remain present at design time. Using Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, avoid terminating the program from the Program Manager (PROGMAN.EXE) task list. The unload event procedure is also not called when a program is terminated from the task list in Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows.

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 will be created by default.
2. Put a picture control (Picture1) on Form1.
3. Put a command button (Command1) on Form1.
4. Put a timer control (Timer1) on Form1.
5. Enter the following code in the Global Module:

```
Type PointType
    x As Integer
    y As Integer
End Type
```

6. Enter the following code in the General Declaration section of Form1:

```
DefInt A-Z
' Each of the following Declare statements must appear on one line.
Declare Function LoadLibrary Lib "kernel" (ByVal LibName$)
Declare Function LoadCursor Lib "user" (ByVal hInstance, ByVal
    CursorName$)
Declare Function SetClassWord Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, ByVal
    nIndex, ByVal NewVal)
Declare Function DestroyCursor Lib "user" (ByVal Handle)
Declare Function GetFocus Lib "user" ()
Declare Function PutFocus Lib "user" Alias "SetFocus" (ByVal hWnd)
Declare Sub GetCursorPos Lib "user" (p As PointType)
Declare Function WindowFromPoint Lib "user" (ByVal y, ByVal x)
Const GCW_HCURSOR = (-12)
Dim SysCursHandle
Dim Curs1Handle
Dim Curs2Handle
Dim Pic1hWnd
Dim Command1hWnd
Dim p As PointType
```

7. Enter the following code in the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Form1.Show
    DLLInstance = LoadLibrary("CURSORS.DLL")
    Curs1Handle = LoadCursor(DLLInstance, "Cursor1")
    Curs2Handle = LoadCursor(DLLInstance, "Cursor2")
    SysCursHandle=SetClassWord(Form1.hWnd,GCW_HCURSOR,Curs2Handle)

    ' Get the current control with the input focus.
    CurrHwnd = GetFocus()

    ' Get the Window handle of Picture1.
    Picture1.SetFocus
    Pic1hWnd = Picuture1.GetFocus()
```

```

' Get the Window handle of Command1.
Command1.SetFocus
Command1hWnd = GetFocus()

' Restore the focus to the control with the input focus.
r = PutFocus(CurrHwnd)
timer1.interval = 1    ' One millisecond.
timer1.enabled = -1
End Sub

```

8. Enter the following code in the Form\_Unload event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Unload (Cancel As Integer)
' Restore the custom cursors to the system cursor:
LastCursor = SetClassWord(Form1.hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR, SysCursHandle)
LastCursor = SetClassWord(Pic1hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR, SysCursHandle)
LastCursor = SetClassWord(Command1hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR, SysCursHandle)
' Delete the cursor resources from memory:
Success = DestroyCursor(Curs1Handle)
Success = DestroyCursor(Curs2Handle)
End Sub

```

9. Enter the following code in the Timer1\_Timer event procedure of Timer1:

```

Sub Timer1_Timer ()

' Get the current (absolute) cursor position.
Call GetCursorPos(p)

' Find out which control the midpoint of the cursor is over.
' The cursor is 32 x 32 pixels square. Change the class word
' of the control to the appropriate cursor.
Select Case WindowFromPoint(p.y + 16, p.x + 16)

Case Form1.hWnd
' Each of the following statements must appear on one line.
LastCursor = SetClassWord(Form1.hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR,
                          Curs2Handle)
LastCursor = SetClassWord(Command1hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR,
                          Curs2Handle)
LastCursor = SetClassWord(Pic1hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR,
                          Curs2Handle)

Case Command1hWnd

LastCursor = SetClassWord(Form1.hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR,
                          Curs1Handle)
LastCursor = SetClassWord(Command1hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR,
                          Curs1Handle)

Case Pic1hWnd

LastCursor = SetClassWord(Form1.hWnd, GCW_HCURSOR,
                          Curs1Handle)

```



```
                LastCursor = SetClassWord(Pic1hWnd%, GCW_HCURSOR,  
                                           Curs1Handle)  
            End Select  
End Sub
```

Run the program. The form should receive the "Cursor2" cursor and the controls Command1 and Picture1 should receive the "Cursor1" cursor as the mouse cursor is moved about the form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap APrgOther

## Terminating Windows from a Visual Basic Application

Article ID: Q76981

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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The Visual Basic SendKeys function cannot be used to close Program Manager in order to terminate Windows. To correctly close Program Manager, you must invoke the ExitWindows API function, as shown below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You may want to terminate the current Windows session by closing the Program Manager from within a Visual Basic application. You may think that you can activate the Program Manager control menu and send the appropriate key sequences using the Visual Basic SendKeys function. However, this method will not work because after the Close menu item is chosen, a system modal dialog box is opened that prompts you to save changes to Program Manager. A system modal dialog box locks out ALL other programs until it is satisfied. Therefore, the keystroke you send by using the SendKeys function will never arrive in the dialog box.

To correctly close Program Manager, you must use the ExitWindows API function. You can declare this API function in the GLOBAL.BAS module. For example:

1. Start a new project in Visual Basic.
2. Draw a command button on the form.
3. Add the following as a single line to GLOBAL.BAS:  
  
    Declare Function ExitWindows Lib "user" (ByVal dwReserved&, ByVal wReturnCode%) as integer
4. Add the following line of code to the command button's Click procedure:  
  
    RetVal% = ExitWindows(0,0)
5. Run the program.
6. Click the command button.

The ExitWindows API call initiates the standard Windows shutdown procedure. If all applications agree to terminate, the windows session is terminated and control returns to MS-DOS. If the ExitWindows API call fails due to an open MS-DOS session or for some other reason, FALSE

is returned. You should check for this and handle it appropriately.

#### Steps to Reproduce Incident

-----

1. Start a New Project in Visual Basic.
2. Draw a command button on the form.
3. In the command button Click event procedure, add this code:

```
AppActivate("Program Manager")
SendKeys "%{ }{DOWN 5}{ENTER 2}", 0 'ALT, SPACE, DOWN 5, ENTER 2
```

4. Run the program.

Note that the Program Manager does not close. If you choose the OK button with the mouse, you'll see a message stating, "Can't quit at this time." If you choose the Cancel button, you'll see a message stating, "Cannot start more than one copy of the specified program." These messages are misleading, but are the result of attempting an unsupported action.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 restart start exit windows

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther APrgWindow

## How to Print a VB Picture Control Using Windows API Functions

Article ID: Q77060

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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This article explains how to print a Visual Basic picture control to a printer using several Windows API function calls. Note that the NULL constant created in the code is needed only in version 1.0, not in 2.0 or 3.0.

Note that this example will not work correctly on PostScript printers. Instead of the picture control printing, two blank sheets are ejected from the printer when using a printer configured to use the PostScript printer driver. For the example to work correctly, the printer must use a standard non-PostScript laser printer configuration (such as PCL/HP.)

### MORE INFORMATION

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To print a picture control from Visual Basic, you must use the PrintForm method. Although this can be very useful, there is no straightforward method of printing just a picture control without the use of API function calls. Printing a picture control to the printer is useful when you want to control the location or size of the printed image. Calling API functions to print a picture control is also useful if you want to include other images or text along with the picture image on a single sheet of paper.

To print a bitmap, you need to do the following:

1. Create a memory device context that is compatible with the bitmap (CreateCompatibleDC). A memory device context is a block of memory that represents a display surface. It is used to prepare images before copying them to the actual device surface of the compatible device.
2. Save the present object (SelectObject) and select the picture control using the handle from the memory device context.
3. Use the BitBlt or StretchBlt function to copy the bitmap from the memory device context to the printer.
4. Remove the bitmap from the memory device context (SelectObject) and delete the device context (DeleteDC).

The following steps demonstrate this process:

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a picture (Picture1) control to Form1 and set the AutoRedraw property to True from the Properties bar.
3. Add a command (Command1) button.
4. Display some graphics in Picture1 by loading from a picture file or pasting from the Clipboard at design time. You can load a picture from a file as follows:
  - a. Select the Picture property from the Properties bar.
  - b. Click the arrow at the right of the Settings box, then select the desired picture file (such as a .BMP or .ICO file supplied with Microsoft Windows) from the dialog box.
5. Add the following declarations to the global Declarations section of the Code window. Enter each Declare statement as one, single line.

```
Declare Function CreateCompatibleDC% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC%)
```

```
Declare Function SelectObject% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC%, ByVal hObject%)
```

```
Declare Function StretchBlt% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC%, ByVal X%,  
    ByVal Y%, ByVal nWidth%, ByVal nHght%, ByVal hSrcDC%, ByVal XSrc%,  
    ByVal YSrc%, ByVal nSrcWidth%, ByVal nSrcHeight%, ByVal dwRop%)
```

```
Declare Function DeleteDC% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC%)
```

```
Declare Function Escape% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC As Integer,  
    ByVal nEscape As Integer, ByVal nCount As Integer,  
    LpInData As Any, LpOutData As Any)
```

6. Add the following code to the Command\_Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()

    Const NULL = 0&
    Const SRCCOPY = &HCC0020
    Const NEWFRAME = 1
    Const PIXEL = 3

    '* display hour glass.
    MousePointer = 11
    Picture1.Picture = Picture1.Image

    '* StretchBlt requires pixel coordinates.
    Picture1.ScaleMode = PIXEL
    Printer.ScaleMode = PIXEL

    Printer.Print " "

    hMemoryDC% = CreateCompatibleDC(Picture1.hDC)
```

```

hOldBitMap% = SelectObject(hMemoryDC%, Picture1.Picture)

ApiError% = StretchBlt(Printer.hDC, 0, 0,
                        Printer.ScaleWidth, Printer.ScaleHeight,
                        hMemoryDC%, 0, 0, Picture1.ScaleWidth,
                        Picture1.ScaleHeight, SRCCOPY)

hOldBitMap% = SelectObject(hMemoryDC%, hOldBitMap%)
ApiError% = DeleteDC(hMemoryDC%)

Print Escape(Printer.hDC, NEWFRAME, 0, NULL, NULL)
Printer.EndDoc

    MousePointer = 1
End Sub

```

7. Run the program to copy the bitmap to the printer. If you have selected a low resolution from the Print Manager, printing the bitmap will proceed quickly (the lower the resolution, the faster the print time). While designing your software, you may want to keep this at the lowest possible resolution. The print resolution can be changed from the Windows Control Manager.

#### Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: The Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," Charles Petzold, Microsoft Press, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 1," version 3.0

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Guide to Programming," version 3.0.

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software Development Kit

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## How to Invoke GetSystemMetrics Windows API Function from VB

Article ID: Q77061

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Windows API GetSystemMetrics function can return useful information about the Windows system. GetSystemMetrics can be called directly from Visual Basic for Windows or from the custom Control Development Kit (CDK) to get system metrics for a particular display adapter, retrieve information about the Windows debug mode, or retrieve information about a mouse configuration.

The Visual Basic for Windows CDK is shipped as part of the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic versions 2.0 or 3.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The Windows GetSystemMetrics function call retrieves information about the system metrics. The system metrics are the widths and heights of various display elements of the particular window display. The GetSystemMetrics function can also return flags that indicate whether the current Windows version is a debugging version, whether a mouse is present, or whether the meaning of the left and right mouse button has been changed. System metrics depend on the system display, and may vary from display to display.

The Visual Basic for Windows declaration for GetSystemMetrics is:

```
Declare Function GetSystemMetrics% Lib "user" (ByVal nIndex%)
```

The value nIndex% specifies the system measurement to be retrieved. All measurements are in pixels.

The value returned from the GetSystemMetrics% function specifies the system metrics.

Below is a sample call to determine if the present version of Windows is a debugging version:

```
ScaleMode = 3 ' Select pixel.  
Print "Debugging version : "; GetSystemMetrics(SM_DEBUG).
```

The constants and meaning for nIndex% are as follows:

Constant Name(Value)	Description
SM_CXSCREEN(0).....	Width of screen
SM_CYSCREEN(1).....	Height of screen
SM_CXFRAME(32).....	Width of window frame that can be sized
SM_CYFRAME(33).....	Height of window frame that can be sized
SM_CXVSCROLL(2).....	Width of arrow bitmap on vertical scroll bar
SM_CYVSCROLL(20).....	Height of arrow bitmap on vertical scroll bar
SM_CXHSCROLL(21).....	Width of arrow bitmap on horizontal scroll bar
SM_CYHSCROLL(3).....	Height of arrow bitmap on horizontal scroll bar
SM_CYCAPTION(4).....	Height of caption
SM_CXBORDER(5).....	Width of window frame that cannot be sized
SM_CYBORDER(6).....	Height of window frame that cannot be sized
SM_CXDLGFRAME(7).....	Width of frame when window has WS_DLGFRAME style
SM_CYDLGFRAME(8).....	Height of frame when window has WS_DLGFRAME style
SM_CXHTHUMB(10).....	Width of thumb on horizontal scroll bar
SM_CYHTHUMB(9).....	Height of thumb on horizontal scroll bar
SM_CXICON(11).....	Width of icon
SM_CYICON(12).....	Height of icon
SM_CXCURSOR(13).....	Width of cursor
SM_CYCURSOR(14).....	Height of cursor
SM_CYMENU(15).....	Height of single-line menu
SM_CXFULLSCREEN(16)...	Width of window client area for full-screen window
SM_CYFULLSCREEN(17)...	Height of window client area for full-screen window (height - caption)
SM_CYKANJIWINDOW(18)...	Height of Kanji window
SM_CXMINTRACK(34).....	Minimum tracking width of window
SM_CYMINTRACK(35).....	Minimum tracking height of window
SM_CXMIN(28).....	Minimum width of window
SM_CYMIN(29).....	Minimum height of window
SM_CXSIZE(30).....	Width of bitmaps contained in the title bar
SM_CYSIZE(31).....	Height of bitmaps contained in the title bar
SM_MOUSEPRESENT(19)...	Mouse present
SM_DEBUG(22).....	Nonzero if Windows debug version

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther APrgINI



## Examples of Copying a Disk File in Visual Basic for Windows

Article ID: Q77315

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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Visual Basic for Windows does not have a command to copy a disk file such as the MS-DOS COPY command. However, you can write the necessary code to copy a file. Two examples of copying a file are provided in this article. Note that in Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0, you can use the FileCopy statement instead of the code shown in this article.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The following Visual Basic for Windows sample subprograms, CopyFile1 and CopyFile2, provide two different ways to copy a disk file in a way similar to the MS-DOS COPY command. The first example uses only Visual Basic for Windows code, while the second example includes Window API functions. CopyFile2 runs faster than CopyFile1, especially for large files (up to twice as fast).

Subprogram: CopyFile1

-----

```
Sub CopyFile1 (ByVal Source As String, ByVal Destination As String)
    Dim Index As Integer, NumBlocks As Integer
    Dim FileLength As Long, LeftOver As Long
    Dim FileData As String

    Const BlockSize = 32768

    ' Source and Destination are strings containing filenames:
    Open Source For Binary Access Read As #1
    ' Opening then immediately closing the destination file with
    ' "For Output" access erases the file if it exists (which is
    ' necessary in case the copied Source file is shorter than the
    ' existing Destination file, which would leave some of the old
    ' file's characters at the end of the new Destination file).
    ' You can use this technique to erase the Destination file in place
    ' of the Kill statement to avoid a Kill statement error if the
    ' Destination file doesn't exist:
    Open Destination For Output As #2
    Close #2
    Open Destination For Binary As #2

    FileLength = LOF(1)
```

```

NumBlocks = FileLength \ BlockSize
LeftOver = FileLength Mod BlockSize

FileData = String$(LeftOver, 32)

Get #1, , FileData
Put #2, , FileData

FileData = String$(BlockSize, 32)

For Index = 1 To NumBlocks
    Get #1, , FileData
    Put #2, , FileData
Next Index

Close #1, #2
End Sub

```

Subprogram: CopyFile2

-----

Note that CopyFile2 (below) copies files faster than CopyFile1 (above). Because CopyFile2 uses several API functions, you must include the Visual Basic Declare statements shown below. Place these declarations in the global file or in the (general) (declarations) section of a form or module file that contains the CopyFile2 subprogram:

```

DefInt A-Z
' All Declare statements must be on one line when added to a program:
Declare Function fWrite Lib "kernel" Alias "_lwrite" (ByVal hFile,
    ByVal lpBuff As Long, ByVal nBuff)
Declare Function fRead Lib "kernel" Alias "_lread" (ByVal hFile,
    ByVal lpBuff As Long, ByVal nBuff)
Declare Function GGlobalAlloc Lib "kernel" (ByVal wFlags, ByVal nBuff
    As Long)
Declare Function GGlobalFree Lib "kernel" (ByVal hMem)
Declare Function GGlobalLock Lib "kernel" (ByVal hMem) As Long
Declare Function GGlobalUnlock Lib "kernel" (ByVal hMem)

Sub CopyFile2 (ByVal Source As String, ByVal Destination As String)
    Dim lpBuff As Long
    Dim DestFile As Integer, SourceFile As Integer
    Dim DestDOS As Integer, SourceDOS As Integer
    Dim ApiErr As Integer, AmtRead As Integer
    Dim hMem As Integer
    Const nBuff = 32767
    Const wFlags = &H20

    hMem = GGlobalAlloc(wFlags, nBuff)
    lpBuff = GGlobalLock(hMem)

    DestFile = FreeFile
    Open Destination For Output As #DestFile Len = 1

    SourceFile = FreeFile
    Open Source For Input As #SourceFile Len = 1

```

```
DestDOS = FileAttr(DestFile, 2)
SourceDOS = FileAttr(SourceFile, 2)

Do
    AmtRead = fRead(SourceDOS, ByVal lpBuff, nBuff)
    ApiErr = fWrite(DestDOS, ByVal lpBuff, AmtRead)
Loop Until AmtRead = 0

Close #SourceFile, #DestFile

lpBuff = GlobalUnlock(hMem)
hMem = GlobalFree(hMem)
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Determine Display State of a VB Form, Modal or Modeless

Article ID: Q77316

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

=====

The Show method in the Visual Basic for Windows language can display a form either as modal or modeless. No direct support exists in the language to determine the display state of the form without maintaining global variables that contain the display state of the form. However, the Windows API function GetWindowLong can be used to check the display state of the form.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

When Visual Basic for Windows displays a modal form (.Show 1), all other forms will be modified to contain the Window Style WS\_DISABLED. The Windows API function GetWindowLong can be used to return the Window Style of another form to check for the WS\_DISABLED style.

The following code demonstrates this process:

Add the following to the General Declarations section of Form1 and Form2:

```
DefInt A-Z
Global Const GWL_STYLE = (-16)
Global Const WS_DISABLED = &H80000000
Declare Function GetWindowLong& Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, ByVal nIndex)
```

Form1.Frm

-----

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    ' Flip between "Modeless" and "Modal" display states.
    Static ShowStyle
    Unload form2
    form2.Show ShowStyle
    ShowStyle = (ShowStyle + 1) Mod 2
End Sub
```

Form2.Frm

-----

```
Sub Form_Paint ()
    ' Get the Window Style for Form1.
```

```
WinStyle& = GetWindowLong(Form1.hWnd, GWL_STYLE)
If WinStyle& And WS_DISABLED Then
    ' The WS_DISABLED style is set on "FORM1" when "FORM2"
    ' is displayed with the Modal flag (Show 1).
    Print "Modal      - Show 1"
Else
    ' The WS_DISABLED style is not set on "FORM1" when "FORM2"
    ' is displayed with the Modeless flag (Show or Show 0).
    Print "Modeless - Show"
End If
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow PrgOptTips

## Example of How to Read and Write Visual Basic Arrays to Disk

Article ID: Q77317

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows does not provide a command to read or write an entire array all at once to a disk file. Using Visual Basic for Windows alone, you must transfer each element of the array to the disk. However, using two Windows API functions, `_lread` and `_lwrite`, you can save an entire array to disk in one statement when the array is less than 64K.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The `ReadArray` and `WriteArray` functions provided below allow you to read and write a Visual Basic for Windows array to or from a disk file. These functions will work with arrays of Integers, Longs, Singles, Doubles, Currency, and user-defined types, but not with variable-length strings (as an array or as a member of a user-defined type) or variants. These functions can work with fixed length strings when the strings are a member of a user-defined type. Arrays greater than 64K are supported in Visual Basic versions 2.0 and later for Windows, however the `_lread` and `_lwrite` functions can only handle arrays up to 64K. Arrays greater than 64K can be written to disk using the standard I/O statements built into Visual Basic for Windows.

The two functions, `ReadArray` and `WriteArray`, require two parameters: the array to be transferred, and the Visual Basic for Windows file number to be written to or read from. The functions also return the number of bytes transferred, or -1 when an error occurs with the API function. The file number is the Visual Basic for Windows file number of a file that has already been opened with the `Open` statement, and will be used in the Visual Basic for Windows `Close` statement.

The following function examples use a user-defined type named "Mytype". An example of this type is as follows:

```
Type MyType
    Field1 As String * 10
    Field2 As Integer
    Field3 As Long
    Field4 As Single
    Field5 As Double
```

```
Field6 As Currency
End Type
```

#### Declarations of API Functions

```
-----
DefInt A-Z
' Each Declare statement must appear on one line:
Declare Function fWrite Lib "kernel" Alias "_lwrite" (ByVal hFile,
    lpBuff As Any, ByVal wBytes)
Declare Function fRead Lib "kernel" Alias "_lread" (ByVal hFile,
    lpBuff As Any, ByVal wBytes)
```

#### Function: ReadArray

```
-----
Function ReadArray (An_Array() As MyType, VBFileNumber As Integer) As Long
```

```
    Dim ApiErr As Integer
    Dim ArraySize As Long
    Dim DOSFileHandle As Integer
    Dim ReadFromDisk As Integer
```

```
    ArraySize = Abs(UBound(An_Array) - LBound(An_Array)) + 1
    ArraySize = ArraySize * Len(An_Array(LBound(An_Array)))
```

```
    If ArraySize > 32767 Then
        ReadFromDisk = ArraySize - 2 ^ 15
        ReadFromDisk = ReadFromDisk * -1
    Else
        ReadFromDisk = ArraySize
    End If
```

```
    DOSFileHandle = FileAttr(VBFileNumber, 2)
    ApiErr=fRead(DOSFileHandle,An_Array(LBound(An_Array)),ReadFromDisk)
```

```
    ReadArray = ApiErr
End Function
```

#### Function: WriteArray

```
-----
Function WriteArray (An_Array() As MyType, VBFileNumber As Integer) As Long
```

```
    Dim ApiErr As Integer
    Dim ArraySize As Long
    Dim DOSFileHandle As Integer
    Dim WriteToDisk As Integer
```

```
    ArraySize = UBound(An_Array) - LBound(An_Array) + 1
    ArraySize = ArraySize * Len(An_Array(LBound(An_Array)))
```

```
    If ArraySize > 32767 Then
        WriteToDisk = ArraySize - 2 ^ 15
        WriteToDisk = WriteToDisk * -1
    Else
        WriteToDisk = ArraySize
    End If
```

```
    DOSFileHandle = FileAttr(VBFileNumber, 2)
```

```
ApiErr=fWrite(DOSFileHandle,An_Array(LBound(An_Array)),WriteToDisk)
```

```
WriteArray = ApiErr  
End Function
```

The following are the function header changes to allow the ReadArray and WriteArray functions to work with different data types (Integer, Long, Single, Double, Currency, and user-defined type). Each Function statement must be on a single line:

```
Function ReadArray (An_Array() As Integer, VBFileNumber As Integer)  
    As Long  
Function WriteArray (An_Array() As Integer, VBFileNumber As Integer)  
    As Long
```

```
Function ReadArray (An_Array() As Long, VBFileNumber As Integer) As  
    Long  
Function WriteArray (An_Array() As Long, VBFileNumber As Integer) As  
    Long
```

```
Function ReadArray (An_Array() As Single, VBFileNumber As Integer) As  
    Long  
Function WriteArray (An_Array() As Single, VBFileNumber As Integer) As  
    Long
```

```
Function ReadArray (An_Array() As Double, VBFileNumber As Integer) As  
    Long  
Function WriteArray (An_Array() As Double, VBFileNumber As Integer) As  
    Long
```

```
Function ReadArray (An_Array() As Currency, VBFileNumber As Integer)  
    As Long  
Function WriteArray (An_Array() As Currency, VBFileNumber As Integer)  
    As Long
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther



## How to Get Windows Master List (Task List) Using Visual Basic

Article ID: Q78001

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

By calling the Windows API functions `GetWindow`, `GetWindowText`, and `GetWindowTextLength`, you can get the window titles of all windows (visible and invisible) currently loaded.

The list of all of the window titles is known as the master list. The Windows Task Manager contains a list of the window titles for each of the top-level windows (normally one per application). This list is known as the task list.

The sample program listed below demonstrates how to activate an application by using a list of the top-level windows (a task list).

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

The task list is generally a subset of the master list. The Windows API functions only support methods of getting the master list, not the task list. However, from the master list you can get a list of all top-level windows closely resembling the task list. The only difference is that the list containing the top-level windows may have more entries than the task list because it is possible for an application to remove itself from the task list even though it is part of the master list.

The example below demonstrates how to get the names of all top-level windows. The names of child windows can also be obtained by calling the `GetWindow` API function using the `GW_CHILD` constant. Although the code example only provides an example of using the constants `GW_HWNDFIRST` and `GW_HWNDNEXT` as arguments to `GetWindow`, the value of the other constants such as `GW_CHILD` are provided in the code.

Here are the steps necessary to construct a sample program that demonstrates how to load the task list into a Visual Basic combo box:

1. Start Visual Basic or choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. `Form1` is created by default.
2. Change the caption property of `Form1` to `AppActivate`.

3. Add the following controls to Form1, and change the Name property as indicated:

Control	Default Name	Name
Label Control	Label1	Label1
Combo Box	Combo1	Combo_ListItem
Command Button	Command1	Command_Ok

4. Change the Caption properties of the controls as follows:

Control	Name	Caption
Label Control	Label1	Application to AppActivate:
Command Button	Command_OK	OK

5. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```

DefInt A-Z

'Windows API function declarations
'Enter each entire Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function GetWindow Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, ByVal wCmd)
    As Integer
Declare Function GetWindowText Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, ByVal lpSting$,
    ByVal nMaxCount) As Integer
Declare Function GetWindowTextLength Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd) As Integer

'Declare constants used by GetWindow
Const GW_CHILD = 5
Const GW_HWNDFIRST = 0
Const GW_HWNDLAST = 1
Const GW_HWNDNEXT = 2
Const GW_HWNDPREV = 3
Const GW_OWNER = 4

```

6. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    Call LoadTaskList

    'If no items are in the task list, end the program.
    If Combo_ListItem.ListCount > 0 Then
        Combo_ListItem.Text = Combo_ListItem.List(0)
    Else
        MsgBox "Nothing found in task list", 16, "AppActivate"
        Unload Form1
    End If
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Command\_Ok button:

```

Sub Command_Ok_Click ()
    'Get the item selected from the text portion of the combo box.
    f$ = Combo_ListItem.Text

```

```
'Resume if "Illegal function call" occurs on AppActivate statement.  
On Local Error Resume Next
```

```
AppActivate f$  
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
Sub LoadTaskList ()  
    'Get the hWnd of the first item in the master list  
    'so we can process the task list entries (top-level only).  
    CurrWnd = GetWindow(Form1.hWnd, GW_HWNDFIRST)  
  
    'Loop while the hWnd returned by GetWindow is valid.  
    While CurrWnd <> 0  
        'Get the length of task name identified by CurrWnd in the list.  
        Length = GetWindowTextLength(CurrWnd)  
  
        'Get task name of the task in the master list.  
        ListItem$ = Space$(Length + 1)  
        Length = GetWindowText(CurrWnd, ListItem$, Length + 1)  
  
        'If there is a task name in the list, add the item to the list.  
        If Length > 0 Then  
            Combo_ListItem.AddItem ListItem$  
        End If  
  
        'Get the next task list item in the master list.  
        CurrWnd = GetWindow(CurrWnd, GW_HWNDNEXT)  
  
        'Process Windows events.  
        x = DoEvents()  
    Wend  
End Sub
```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.

From the combo box, select the window title of an application currently running in Windows. Choose the OK button to activate the application.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Use Common Dialog or Escape() API to Specify Number of Copies

Article ID: Q78165

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can use the Common Dialog in the Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0, or you can call the Windows API Escape() function in other versions to tell the Windows Print Manager how many copies of a document you want to print.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Windows API constant SETCOPYCOUNT (value 17) can be used as an argument to the Escape() function to specify the number of uncollated copies of each page for the printer to print.

The arguments for Escape() are as follows:

```
r% = Escape(hDC, SETCOPYCOUNT, Len(Integer), lpNumCopies, lpActualCopies)
```

Parameter	Type/Description
hDC	hDC. Identifies the device context. Usually referenced by Printer.hDC.
lpNumCopies	Long pointer to integer (not ByVal). Point to a short-integer value that contains the number of uncollated copies to print.
lpActualCopies	Long pointer to integer (not ByVal). Points to a short integer value that will receive the number of copies that were printed. This may be less than the number requested if the requested number is greater than the device's maximum copy count.

The return value specifies the outcome of the escape -- 1 if the escape is successful, a negative number if the escape is not successful, or zero if the escape is not supported.

The following example code demonstrates how to print three copies of a line of text on the printer. To recreate this example, choose New Project from the Visual Basic File menu. Then add a command button to the form and paste the following code into the appropriate event procedures:

```
REM    Below is GLOBAL.BAS:
```

' The following Declare statement must be typed on one, single line:  
Declare Function Escape% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDc%, ByVal nEsc%, ByVal nLen%,  
lpData%, lpOut%)

REM Below is the click procedure for a command button on Form1:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Const SETCOPYCOUNT = 17
    Printer.Print ""
    x% = Escape(Printer.hDC, SETCOPYCOUNT, Len(I%), 3, actual%)
    Printer.Print " Printing three copies of this"
    Printer.EndDoc
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## **Lstrcpy API Call to Receive LPSTR Returned from Other APIs**

**Article ID: Q78304**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Because Microsoft Visual Basic does not support a pointer data type, you cannot directly receive a pointer (such as a LPSTR) as the return value from a Windows API or DLL function.

You can work around this by receiving the return value as a long integer data type. Then use the lstrcpy Windows API function to copy the returned string into a Visual Basic string.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

An LPSTR Windows API data type is actually a far pointer to a null-terminated string of characters. Because LPSTR is a far pointer, it can be received as a four byte data type, such as a Visual Basic long integer. Using the Visual Basic ByVal keyword, you can pass the address stored in a Visual Basic long integer back to the Windows API lstrcpy routine to copy the characters at that address into a Visual Basic string variable.

Because lstrcpy expects the target string to be long enough to hold the source string, you should pad any Visual Basic string passed to lstrcpy to have a size large enough to hold the source string before passing it to lstrcpy. Failure to allocate enough space in the Visual Basic string may result in an Unrecoverable Application Error (UAE) or general protection (GP) fault when you call lstrcpy.

The following is an example program that demonstrates how to use lstrcpy to retrieve an LPSTR pointer returned from the Windows API GetDOSEnvironment routine.

Note that the capability of the Windows API GetDOSEnvironment routine is already available through the Environ function built into Visual Basic. Therefore, so the program is useful only to demonstrate how to use lstrcpy.

```
'*** General declarations ***
```

```
Declare Function GetDosEnvironment Lib "Kernel" () As Long
```

```
' Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
```

```
Declare Function lstrcpy Lib "Kernel" (ByVal lpString1 As Any,  
    ByVal lpString2 As Any) As Long
```

```
'*** Form Click event code ***
```

```
Sub Form_Click()
```

```
    Dim lpStrAddress As Long,  DSEnv$
```

```
    ' Allocate space to copy LPSTR into
```

```
    DSEnv$ = Space$(4096)
```

```
    ' Get address of returned LPSTR into a long integer
```

```
    lpStrAddress = GetDSEnvironment()
```

```
    ' Copy LPSTR into a Visual Basic string
```

```
    lpStrAddress = lstrcpy(DSEnv$, lpStrAddress)
```

```
    ' Parse first entry in environment string and print
```

```
    DSEnv$ = RTrim$(LTrim$(DSEnv$, Len(DSEnv$) - 1))
```

```
    Form1.Print DSEnv$
```

```
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

**PRB: Format\$ Using # for Digit Affects Right Alignment**  
**Article ID: Q79094**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

The pound (#) sign does not serve as a place holder for blank spaces when used with the Format\$ function to reformat numbers as strings. If a pound sign place holder is not filled by a digit, Format\$ truncates that digit position and will not replace that position with a space. This may be undesirable behavior if you are attempting to right align the numeric digits within the string.

CAUSE

=====

Visual Basic Format\$ function handles the pound sign (#) place holder differently from the way it's handled in the Print Using statement found in other Basic products. In the Print Using statement, a pound sign place holder is replaced by a space when no numeric digit occupies that position. By using the Print Using statement, you can right align a formatted numeric string by using the pound sign as place holders for the number. Visual Basic does not support the Print Using statement, so you need to use additional code to right align a string using the Visual Basic Format\$ function. An example is given below.

WORKAROUND

=====

To work around the problem, use a monospaced font, such as Courier, and use the Len function to determine how many spaces need to be added to the left of the string representation of the number to right align the result. Here is the example code:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    desired = 5    'longest number expected
    a = 1.23
    b = 44.56
    FontName = "Courier"    'Select a fixed-spaced font
    num1$ = Format$(a, "#0.00")    'This converts number to a string
    num2$ = Format$(b, "#0.00")    '2 decimal places and a leading 0
    If (desired - Len(num1$)) > 0 Then
        num1$ = Space$(desired - Len(num1$)) + num1$
    End If
    If (desired - Len(num2$)) > 0 Then
        num2$ = Space$(desired - Len(num2$)) + num1$
    End If
```



```

    Print num1$
    Print num2$
End Sub

```

STATUS  
=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION  
=====

Page 121 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Language Reference" for version 1.0 regarding the Format\$ function doesn't specify how the pound sign is handled. When there is no numeric digit to fill the pound sign place holder, the manual does not specify whether the pound sign is replaced by a space or truncated. The documentation should reflect how the pound sign is handled by the Format\$ function.

The Print Using statement supported in other Basic products allows the use of the pound sign as a place holder for leading or trailing spaces, as follows:

```
Print Using "##0.00"; myvar
```

The above example causes two leading spaces to be added to the resulting string representation of the variable myvar when the value of myvar is printed to the screen.

However, when used with the Visual Basic Format\$ function, the same pound sign format switch (#) does not work as a placeholder for spaces:

```
mystring$ = Format$(myvar , " ##.## ")
```

The Visual Basic Format\$ function yields a formatted string representation of myvar with no leading spaces. This may not be the result you expected (for example, when myvar = 1.23). You may have expected the formatted result to have one leading space allowing you to right align the number, but no leading space is added.

The following code sample produces an output of right aligned numbers in Microsoft QuickBasic version 4.5:

```

a = 1.23
b = 44.56
Print Using "##.##"; a
Print Using "##.##"; b

```

The following code sample produce an output of left aligned numbers in Visual Basic:

```

Sub Form_Click ()
    a = 1.23
    b = 44.56
    num1$ = Format$(a, "##.##")
    num2$ = Format$(b, "##.##")
    Print num1$

```

```
Print num2$  
End Sub
```

Click the form to print the numbers. These numbers will be left aligned, instead of right aligned as may be desired.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 4.50 right-justify justify  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Use SetHandleCount to Open More than 15 Files at Once in VB

Article ID: Q79764

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows programs normally may not have more than 15 files open at once. Visual Basic for Windows displays the error message "Too many files" (error code 67) when you attempt to open more than the maximum number of files at once. You can increase the maximum number of open files by calling the Windows API function SetHandleCount.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Windows API function SetHandleCount requests Windows to change the maximum number of files a program can open. SetHandleCount returns the actual number of handles that the program can use, which may be less than the number requested.

The FILES= statement in the CONFIG.SYS file does not limit the number of files available to a Microsoft Windows program.

Do not attempt to increase the number of files with MS-DOS interrupt 21 hex with function 67 hex. This interrupt does not record information needed by Windows.

### Example

-----

The following code example demonstrates how to use SetHandleCount:

```
'*** In the global module: ***  
Declare Function SetHandleCount% Lib "kernel" (ByVal n%)  
  
'*** In the form: ***  
Sub Form_Load ()  
    n% = SetHandleCount(60) ' Request 60 file handles.  
    MsgBox "Maximum number of open files: " + Format$(n%)  
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Set Landscape or Portrait for Printer from VB App

Article ID: Q80185

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Some printers support changing the orientation of the paper output to landscape. With the Windows API `Escape()` function, you can change the settings of the printer to either landscape or portrait. In addition, if you have one of the following products, you can use the Common Dialog box to allow users to set the mode inside a Visual Basic Application:

- Visual Basic version 1.0 Professional Toolkit
- Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 2.0
- Standard or Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 3.0

Below is an example showing how to invoke the Windows API `Escape()` function from Microsoft Visual Basic.

Note that the Windows API `Escape()` function is provided in Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1 for backward compatibility with earlier versions of Microsoft Windows. Applications are supposed to use the `GDI DeviceCapabilities()` and `ExtDeviceMode()` functions instead of the `Escape()` function, but neither `DeviceCapabilities()` nor `ExtDeviceMode()` can be called directly from Visual Basic. This is because they are exported by the printer driver, not by the Windows GDI. The only way to use `ExtDeviceMode()` or `DeviceCapabilities()` in Visual Basic is to create a DLL and call them from there.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Normally, output for the printer is in portrait mode, where output is printed horizontally across the narrower dimension of a paper. In landscape mode, the output is printed horizontally across the longer dimension of the paper.

You can use the `Escape()` function to change the orientation of the printer by passing `GETSETPAPERORIENT` as an argument. When you initially print text to the printer, Visual Basic will use the currently selected orientation. Sending the `Escape()` function will not take effect until you perform a `Printer.EndDoc`. After you perform a `Printer.EndDoc`, output will print in the orientation that you have selected.

To determine if your printer supports landscape mode, do the following:

1. From the Windows Program Manager, run Control Panel.
2. From the Control Panel, select the Printers icon.
3. From the Printers dialog box, choose the Configure button.
4. The Configure dialog box will contain an option for landscape orientation if landscape is supported on your printer.

The example below demonstrates how to change the printer orientation to landscape. Please note that your printer must support landscape mode for these commands to have any effect.

#### Example

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1.
3. Add the following code to the global module:

```
Type OrientStructure
    Orientation As Long
    Pad As String * 16
End Type
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function Escape% Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDc%, ByVal nEsc%,
    ByVal nLen%, lpData As OrientStructure, lpOut As Any)
```

4. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure of the Command1 button:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Const PORTRAIT = 1
    Const LANDSCAPE = 2
    Const GETSETPAPERORIENT = 30
    Const NULL = 0&

    Dim Orient As OrientStructure

    '* Start the printer
    Printer.Print ""

    '* Specify the orientation
    Orient.Orientation = LANDSCAPE

    '* Send escape sequence to change orientation
    x% = Escape(Printer.hDC, GETSETPAPERORIENT,
        Len(Orient), Orient, NULL)
    '* The EndDoc will now re-initialize the printer
    Printer.EndDoc

    Printer.Print "Should print in landscape mode"
    Printer.EndDoc
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## How to Kill an Application with System Menu Using Visual Basic

Article ID: Q80186

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Visual Basic for Windows can use the Windows API SendMessage function to close any active window that has a system menu (referred to as control box within Visual Basic for Windows) with the Close option.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

You can use the Windows API SendMessage function to post a message to any window in the environment as long as the handle to the window is known. You can use the API FindWindow function to determine the handle associated with the window the user wants to close.

Query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base for more information on the FindWindow function:

#### FindWindow and Visual Basic

To create a program to close an occurrence of the Windows version 3.0 Calculator program, do the following:

1. Create a form called Form1.
2. Create two command buttons called Command1 and Command2.
3. Within the Command1 Click event, add the following code:

```
Sub Command1_Click()  
    X% = Shell("Calc.exe")  
End Sub
```

4. Within the Command2 Click event, add the following code:

```
Sub Command2_Click()  
    Const NILL = 0&  
    Const WM_SYSCOMMAND = &H112  
    Const SC_CLOSE = &HF060  
  
    lpClassName$ = "SciCalc"  
    lpCaption$ = "Calculator"
```

```

    '* Determine the handle to the Calculator window.
    Handle = FindWindow(lpClassName$, lpCaption$)

    '* Post a message to Calc to end it's existence.
    X& = SendMessage(Handle, WM_SYSCOMMAND, SC_CLOSE, NIL)

```

```
End Sub
```

5. In the Declarations section, declare the following two API functions:

```

'* NOTE: Each Declare statement must appear on one line.
Declare Function FindWindow% Lib "user" (
    ByVal lpClassName As Any,
    ByVal lpCaption As Any)
Declare Function SendMessage& Lib "user" (
    ByVal hwnd%,
    ByVal wMsg%,
    ByVal wParam%,
    ByVal lParam As Long)

```

6. Run the program. Clicking the Command1 button brings up an instance of the Calculator program. Clicking the Command2 button closes the window.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther



## How to Reset the Parent of a Visual Basic Control

Article ID: Q80189

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Visual Basic version 1.0 does not support overlapping controls. This can be a problem if you want to drag and drop a control from one parent control to another parent control. Using the Windows API SetParent() function call, you can change a control's parent within Visual Basic.

Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0 support overlapping controls with the z-order method. For more information on the z-order method, search for the z-order topic in the Visual Basic Help menu.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

A frame, picture box, and form can act as parent controls. Creating a control on top of any of these parent controls creates that control as a child of the parent. When you use the Drag operations, there may be times when you want to move a child control from one parent control to another parent. If you allow the movement and don't change the child's parent, you are creating overlapping controls, which are not supported in Visual basic.

The SetParent function changes the parent of a child control. SetParent has the following description:

SetParent%(ByVal hWndChild, ByVal hWndParent%)

-----

Parameter	Type/Description
hWndChild	HWnd/Identifies the child window
hWndParent	HWnd/Identifies the parent window

The returned value identifies the previous parent window.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----  
The example below demonstrates how to drag and drop a text box between the form and a picture box on the form. The parent controls are the picture box and the form. The child control is the text box.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Add a Text box (Text1) to Form1.
3. Add a Picture box (Picture1) to Form1.
4. Add a Command button (Command1) to Form1.
5. Add the following code to the Global module:

```
'===== GLOBAL.BAS =====
Declare Function SetParent% Lib "user" (ByVal h%, ByVal h%)
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
' GetFocus will be used to obtain the handles to the
' controls. This is not build into every control of Visual Basic
```

6. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
'===== FORM1 =====
Dim hWndText As Integer
Dim hWndPicture As Integer
```

7. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    'form has to be shown to access any of the controls
    Show

    'get the handle to the text box
    Text1.SetFocus
    hWndText = GetFocus()

    'get the handle to the picture box
    Picture1.SetFocus
    hWndPicture = GetFocus()
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the appropriate event procures:

```
Sub Picture1_DragDrop (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)
    G% = SetParent(hWndText, hWndPicture)
    Source.Move X - Source.Width / 2, Y - Source.Height / 2
    Source.DragMode = 0
End Sub
```

```
Sub Form_DragDrop (Source As Control, X As Single, Y As Single)
    G% = SetParent(hWndText, Form1.hwnd)
    Source.Move X - Source.Width / 2, Y - Source.Height / 2
    Source.DragMode = 0
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    'start the dragging process
    Text1.DragMode = 1
End Sub
```

9. Run the program. The Command1 button is used to start the dragging operation.

## Demonstration Steps

-----

Try the following steps when running the application:

1. Press the command button.
2. Place the cursor over the text box.
3. Press the left mouse button and drag the text box either over the picture control or over the form.
4. Once the text box is over the control, release the mouse button.

For better control of where the text box is placed, turn off Grid Setting from the Edit menu of Visual Basic.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Add a Horizontal Scroll Bar to Visual Basic List Box

Article ID: Q80190

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The normal list box that comes with Visual Basic for Windows does not have a horizontal scroll bar. This can be a problem when the item in a list box extends past the boundaries of the list box. To add a horizontal scroll bar to the control, you can call the Windows API SendMessage function with the LB\_SETHORIZONTALEXTENT (WM\_USER + 21) constant.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

To add a horizontal scroll bar to a list box, perform a SendMessage function call with the LB\_SETHORIZONTALEXTENT constant.

This message sets the width in pixels by which a list box can scroll horizontally. If the size of the list box is smaller than this value, the horizontal scroll bar will horizontally scroll items in the list box. If the list box is large as or larger than this value, the horizontal scroll bar is disabled.

The parameters for the SendMessage function are as follows:

SendMessage(hWnd%, LB\_SETHORIZONTALEXTENT, wParam%, lParam%)

-----  
hWnd% - Handle to the list box  
wParam% - Specifies the number of pixels by which the list box can be scrolled  
lParam% - Is not used

To make a program example that will only allow the user to scroll a specified distance, create a form with the following controls:

Control	Name (CtlName in Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows)
Command button	Command1
List box	List1

-----

Add the following code in the described locations in your code:

```
'===== General Declarations for Form1 =====  
' Enter the following Declare as one, single line:
```

```

Declare Function SendMessage Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%, ByVal wParam%, ByVal lParam%,
    ByVal wMsg%, ByVal lParam%)
Declare Function GetFocus Lib "User" () as Integer

```

```

'===== Form1 =====

```

```

'Note: each command must appear on one, single line.

```

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Const LB_SETHORIZONTALEXTENT = &H400 + 21
    Const NUL = 0&
    ' wParam is in PIXEL(3).
    ScaleMode = 3

    ' Get the handle.
    List1.SetFocus
    ListHwnd% = GetFocus()

    ' This string will show up initially.
    ListString1$ = "Derek is a great "

    ' You can scroll to see this portion.
    ListString2$ = "little boy "

    ' You cannot scroll to see this string.
    ListString3$ = "but can be a problem sometimes"

    ExtraPixels% = TextWidth(ListString2$)
    BoxWidth% = TextWidth(ListString1$)

    ' Resize the text box.
    List1.Move List1.Left, List1.Top, BoxWidth%

    ' Add the scroll bar.
    X% = SendMessage(ListHwnd%, LB_SETHORIZONTALEXTENT,
        BoxWidth% + ExtraPixels%, NUL)

    ' Add the example string to the list box.
    List1.AddItem ListString1$ + ListString2$ + ListString3$
End Sub

```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 scrollbar

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Print VB Form Borders and Menus

Article ID: Q80409

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The methods to print a form provided by Visual Basic print only the client area, not the non-client area of a form. This is a design feature of Visual Basic. The client area of a form includes the form's controls and picture. The non-client area includes the form's borders and menus, which cannot be printed directly from Visual Basic.

To print both the client and non-client areas of a form, copy an image of the form into the Clipboard, paste it into a graphics editor such as Paintbrush, and print. Two methods for this procedure are provided below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Print option from the File menu, and the Visual Basic statement [form.]PrintForm only print the client area of a form. The client area includes the form's picture and controls. Both methods of printing do not print the non-client area, which includes the form's title bar, Minimize and Maximize buttons, borders and menus. To print both the client and non-client areas, you must print the form from an application outside of Visual Basic. If you want to print a form that either

- Has submenu items, but you do not wish to print the submenus

-or-

- Has menus without submenus

-or-

- Does not have menus

then use Method 1 below to print the form.

If you want to print a form that contains submenus in their pulled-down state, use Method 2 below.

### Method 1

-----

To print a form without pulled-down submenus, do the following:

1. From the Visual Basic editing environment, create the form you want to print. Include all controls, titles, menus, pictures, borders, and so on that you want to print, and size them appropriately.
2. Set focus to the form you want to print.
3. Press ALT+PRINT SCREEN. This key combination is an operation in Windows that copies the active window (your form in this case) to the Windows Clipboard.
4. From the Windows Program Manager, launch Paintbrush (or the graphics editor of your choice) and maximize it.
5. From the Paintbrush Edit menu, choose Paste. The image of your form should appear in Paintbrush. If the form is too large for Paintbrush, try either a larger screen resolution (such as 800-by-600 or 1024-by-768), another editor with a larger work screen, or slightly decrease the size of your form for the printing process.
6. Once the form is correctly pasted into Paintbrush, from the File menu, choose Print to print it.

#### Method 2

-----

To print a form with pulled-down submenus, do the following:

1. In the Visual Basic editing environment, create the form you want to print. Include all controls, titles, menus, pictures, borders, and so on that you want to print and size them appropriately.
2. Set focus to the form to be printed.
3. Move the form to the upper left corner of the screen. When the Clipboard pastes its image into Paintbrush, it starts at the upper left corner. If the image is too large for the Paintbrush edit screen, the image is truncated on the right and bottom edges. Placing the form in the upper left corner helps to ensure that the full form fits into Paintbrush.
4. Choose the menu option you want to be pulled down when the form is printed. The menu option should appear pulled down on the screen. Only one menu option can be pulled down at a time, but submenu options can be selected.
5. Press SHIFT+PRINT SCREEN. This keystroke is an option in Windows that copies an image of the entire screen into the Windows Clipboard. When the pull-down menus are open, Visual Basic traps the ALT key and closes the menus, thus making the ALT+PRINT SCREEN keystroke in Method 1 ineffective when printing pull-down menus on a form.
6. From Program Manager, launch Paintbrush (or the graphics editor of your choice) and maximize it.

7. From the Paintbrush Edit menu, choose Paste. Your form should appear in Paintbrush. If the form is too large for Paintbrush, try either a larger screen resolution (for example, 800-by-600 or 1024-by-768), another editor with a larger work screen, or slightly decrease the size of your form for the printing process.
8. Using one of the cutting tools at the top of the Paintbrush toolbox, outline your form.
9. From the Edit menu, choose Copy. This places the graphics area contained in the cutting region into the Clipboard.
10. From the File menu, choose New to bring up a new editor screen. A dialog box will appear to ask if you want to save the current image. You will need to select Yes or No before a new editor screen will appear.
11. Once the editor screen is empty, from the Edit menu, choose Paste to paste your form into the editor.
12. From the File menu, choose Print to print the image.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint



## How to Clear VB Picture Property at Run Time Using LoadPicture

Article ID: Q80488

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

During execution of a Visual Basic program, you can clear the Picture property of a form or picture control by using the LoadPicture function. Calling LoadPicture with no parameters and assigning the result to the Picture property of a form or control will clear the Picture property.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is documented in the Visual Basic Help menu under the LoadPicture function.

### Code Example

-----

To clear the picture property at run time, do the following:

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. Make a picture box called Picture1.
3. Assign a bitmap or icon the picture1.picture property.
4. Add the following code to the form1.click event by double-clicking the form:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    picture1.picture = LoadPicture()  
End Sub
```

5. Run the program.

6. Click the form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgGrap

## How to Get Windows Version Number in VB with GetVersion API

Article ID: Q80642

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

From a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows program, you can find out which version of Windows is running by calling the Windows API GetVersion() function from the Windows Kernel module. The GetVersion() function can help your application accommodate any known differences, if any, in the way API calls operate between different versions of Windows (such as differences between API parameters or return values).

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The step-by-step example given below demonstrates how to make the GetVersion() function call. GetVersion() takes no parameters, and the return value is a WORD value -- which translates to an integer in Visual Basic for Windows.

The return value specifies the major and minor version numbers of Windows. The high order byte specifies the minor version and the low order byte specifies the major version number.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Create a form with a text box and a command button.
2. Add the following declaration to the General Declarations section:

```
Declare Function GetVersion Lib "kernel" () As Integer
```

3. Add following code to the command button Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    i% = GetVersion()  
    ' Lowbyte is derived by masking off high byte.  
    lowbyte$ = Str$(i% And &HFF)  
    ' Highbyte is derived by masking off low byte and shifting.  
    highbyte$ = LTrim$(Str$((i% And &HFF00) / 256))  
    ' Assign Windows version to text property.  
    text1.text = lowbyte$ + "." + highbyte$  
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow EnvntRun

## Using PASSTHROUGH Escape to Send Data Directly to Printer

Article ID: Q96795

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

By using the Windows API `Escape()` function, your application can pass data directly to the printer. If the printer driver supports the PASSTHROUGH printer escape, you can use the `Escape()` function and the PASSTHROUGH printer escape to send native printer language codes to the printer driver.

Printer escapes such as PASSTHROUGH allow applications to access certain facilities of output devices that are not directly available through the graphics device interface (GDI). The PASSTHROUGH printer escape allows the application to send data directly to the printer, bypassing the standard print-driver code.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

A printer driver that supports the PASSTHROUGH printer escape does not add native printer language codes to the data stream sent to the printer, so you can send data directly to the printer. However, Microsoft recommends that applications not perform functions that consume printer memory, such as downloading a font or a macro.

The sample program listed below sends native PCL codes to the printer to change the page orientation and the paper bin. A Hewlett-Packard LaserJet is the assumed default printer.

### An Important Note

-----

Note that the Windows API `Escape()` function is provided in Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1 for backward compatibility with earlier versions of Microsoft Windows. Applications are supposed to use the `GDI DeviceCapabilities()` and `ExtDeviceMode()` functions instead of the `Escape()` function, but neither `DeviceCapabilities()` nor `ExtDeviceMode()` can be called directly from Visual Basic. This is because they are exported by the printer driver, not by the Windows GDI. The only way to use `ExtDeviceMode()` or `DeviceCapabilities()` in Visual Basic is to create a DLL and call them from there.

### Steps to Create Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N)

if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
' Enter the entire Declare statement on one, single line.
Declare Function Escape Lib "Gdi" (ByVal Hdc%, ByVal nEscape%,
    ByVal ncount%, ByVal indata$, ByVal oudata$) As Integer

Const PASSTHROUGH = 19

Const RevLandScape = "&l30" ' PCL command to change Paper
                          ' orientation to Reverse Landscape.
Const Portrait = "&l00"      ' PCL command to change paper
                          ' orientation to Portrait.
Const ManualFeed = "&l3H"    ' PCL command to change Paper Bin
                          ' to Manual Feed Envelope.
Const AutoFeed = "&l1H"      ' PCL command to change Paper Bin
                          ' to Paper Tray AutoFeed
```

3. Add a list box (List1) to Form1.

4. Add the following code to Form1's Form\_Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    List1.AddItem "HP/PCL Reverse Landscape"
    List1.AddItem "HP/PCL Portrait"
    List1.AddItem "HP/PCL Manual Feed Envelope"
    List1.AddItem "HP/PCL Paper Tray Auto Feed"
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the List1\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub List1_Click
    Select Case List1.ListIndex
        Case 0:
            PCL_Escape$ = Chr$(27) + RevLandScape
        Case 1:
            PCL_Escape$ = Chr$(27) + Portrait
        Case 2:
            PCL_Escape$ = Chr$(27) + ManualFeed
        Case 3:
            PCL_Escape$ = Chr$(27) + AutoFeed
    End Select

    PCL_Escape$ = Chr$(Len(PCL_Escape$)) + PCL_Escape$ + Chr$(0)

    ' Enter the entire Result% statement on one, single line.
    Result% = Escape%(Printer.hDC, PASSTHROUGH, Len(PCL_Escape$),
        PCL_Escape$, "")

    Select Case Result%
        ' Enter each Case statement on one, single line.
        Case Is < 0: MsgBox "The PASSTHROUGH Escape is not
            supported by this printer driver.", 48
        Case 0: MsgBox "An error occurred sending the escape
            sequence.", 48
        Case Is > 0: MsgBox "Escape Successfully sent.
            Sending test printout to printer."
```

```
Printer.Print "Test case of "; List1.Text  
End Select  
End Sub
```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program. List1 is filled with four escape sequences to send to the printer.
7. Select any of the options in the list box. A message box appears to indicate the success of the operation.

If the printer driver does not support the PASSTHROUGH printer escape, you must use the DeviceCapabilities() and ExtDevMode() functions instead.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## How to Copy Entire Screen into a Picture Box in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q80670

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY =====

Using the Windows API call BitBlt, you can capture the entire Microsoft Windows screen and place the image into a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows picture box.

First, get the handle to the desktop. Then use the desktop window handle to get the handle to the desktop's device context (hDC). Finally, use the Windows API call BitBlt to copy the screen into the Picture property of a Visual Basic for Windows picture box control.

### MORE INFORMATION =====

#### Step-by-Step Example -----

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows (VB.EXE). Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a picture box (Picture1) to Form1.
3. Set the following properties:

Control	Property	Value
Picture1	AutoRedraw	True
Picture1	Visible	False

4. Add the following code to the GLOBAL.BAS file in version 1.0 or to the general declarations section of Form1 in versions 2.0 and 3.0:

```
Type lrect
    left As Integer
    top As Integer
    right As Integer
    bottom As Integer
End Type
Declare Function GetDesktopWindow Lib "user" () As Integer
Declare Function GetDC Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%) As Integer
' Enter the following Declare on one, single line:
Declare Function BitBlt Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDestDC%, ByVal X%, ByVal Y%,
    ByVal nWidth%, ByVal nHeight%, ByVal hSrcDC%, ByVal XSrc%,
    ByVal YSrc%, ByVal dwRop%) As Integer
' Enter the following Declare on one, single line:
Declare Function ReleaseDC Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd As Integer, ByVal hDC
    As Integer) As Integer
```

```

Declare Sub GetWindowRect Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd%, lpRect As lrect)
Global Const True = -1
Global Const False = 0
Global TwipsPerPixel As Single

```

5. Add the following code to the Form1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Form_Click ()
    Call GrabScreen
End Sub

Sub GrabScreen ()

    Dim winSize As lrect

    ' Assign information of the source bitmap.
    ' Note that BitBlt requires coordinates in pixels.
    hWndSrc% = GetDesktopWindow()
    hSrcDC% = GetDC(hWndSrc%)
    XSrc% = 0: YSrc% = 0
    Call GetWindowRect(hWndSrc%, winSize)
    nWidth% = winSize.right          ' Units in pixels.
    nHeight% = winSize.bottom        ' Units in pixels.

    ' Assign informate of the destination bitmap.
    hDestDC% = Form1.Picture1.hDC
    x% = 0: Y% = 0

    ' Set global variable TwipsPerPixel and use to set
    ' picture box to same size as screen being grabbed.
    ' If picture box not the same size as picture being
    ' BitBlt'ed to it, it will chop off all that does not
    ' fit in the picture box.
    GetTwipsPerPixel
    Form1.Picture1.Top = 0
    Form1.Picture1.Left = 0
    Form1.Picture1.Width = (nWidth% + 1) * TwipsPerPixel
    Form1.Picture1.Height = (nHeight% + 1) * TwipsPerPixel

    ' Assign the value of the constant SRCOPYY to the Raster operation.
    dwRop& = &HCC0020

    ' Note function call must be on one line:
    Suc% = BitBlt(hDestDC%, x%, Y%, nWidth%, nHeight%,
                  hSrcDC%, XSrc%, YSrc%, dwRop&)

    ' Release the DeskTopWindow's hDC to Windows.
    ' Windows may hang if this is not done.
    Dmy% = ReleaseDC(hWndSrc%, hSrcDC%)

    'Make the picture box visible.
    Form1.Picture1.Visible = True
End Sub

Sub GetTwipsPerPixel ()
    ' Set a global variable with the Twips to Pixel ratio.
    Form1.ScaleMode = 3

```

```
    NumPix = Form1.ScaleHeight  
    Form1.ScaleMode = 1  
    TwipsPerPixel = Form1.ScaleHeight / NumPix  
End Sub
```

5. Run the program. Click Form1.
6. Using the mouse, change the size of the form to see more of the picture box. With a little work, you can use this as a screen saver program.

Additional reference words: 1.00 print printer

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow APrgGrap



## VB Custom Controls Support only Certain Picture Formats

Article ID: Q80779

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Load Picture dialog box for the 3-D Command Button, 3-D Group Push Button, Gauge, and Picture Clip custom controls include the extensions for picture formats that are invalid formats for these controls.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The 3-D Command Button, 3-D Group Push Button, Gauge, and Picture Clip custom controls use the same dialog box that Visual Basic uses to assign pictures to certain properties. However, not all .BMP, .ICO, and .WMF files are valid picture formats for the properties of these controls.

The following table lists the valid formats for the picture properties of custom controls and the error messages displayed if an invalid picture format is used:

Control	Property	Valid Formats	Error Message if Invalid Format
3-D Command Button	Picture	.BMP, .ICO	"Only Picture Formats '.BMP' and '.ICO' supported."
3-D Group Push Button	PictureUp, PictureDn, PictureDisabled	.BMP	"Only Picture Format '.BMP' supported."
Gauge	Picture	.BMP, .ICO	"Invalid Picture."
Picture Clip	Picture	.BMP	"Only Picture Format '.BMP' supported."

For additional information on Visual Basic version 2.0 custom controls, review the Professional Features manual.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus APrgGrap

## Using an Escape to Obtain and Change Paper Size for Printer

Article ID: Q96796

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

By using the Windows API `Escape()` function, an application can change the paper size on the printer and obtain a list of available paper metrics for the default printer.

To get the list of available paper metrics, pass the `ENUMPAPERMETRICS` printer escape constant to the `Escape()` function. The function will return either an array containing the paper metrics or the number of paper metrics available. Note that paper metrics differ from the physical paper sizes in that paper metrics delineate the actual region that can be printed to, whereas paper size is the physical size of the paper including the non-printable regions.

To change the paper size, pass the `GETSETPAPERMETRICS` printer escape constant along with the paper metrics to the `Escape()` function.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The example program listed below demonstrates how to use both printer escape constants (`ENUMPAPERMETRICS` and `GETSETPAPERMETRICS`) with the Windows API `Escape()` function.

### An Important Note

-----

Note that the Windows API `Escape()` function is provided in Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1 for backward compatibility with earlier versions of Microsoft Windows. Applications are supposed to use the `GDI DeviceCapabilities()` and `ExtDeviceMode()` functions instead of the `Escape()` function, but neither `DeviceCapabilities()` nor `ExtDeviceMode()` can be called directly from Visual Basic. This is because they are exported by the printer driver, not by the Windows GDI. The only way to use `ExtDeviceMode()` or `DeviceCapabilities()` in Visual Basic is to create a DLL and call them from there. To execute the `ExtDeviceMode()` function, you need to obtain a function pointer to it from the current printer driver. Visual Basic does not support pointers.

### Steps to Create Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created by default.
3. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Module1:

```
Type Rect
    Left As Integer
    Top As Integer
    Right As Integer
    Bottom As Integer
End Type

' Enter each Declare as one, single line.
Declare Function EnumPaperMetricsEscape% Lib "GDI" Alias "Escape"
    (ByVal hDC%, ByVal nEscape%, ByVal IntegerSize%, lpMode%,
    lpOutData As Rect)
Declare Function SetPaperMetricsEscape% Lib "GDI" Alias "Escape"
    (ByVal hDC%, ByVal nEscape%, ByVal RectSize%, NewPaper As Rect,
    PrevPaper As Rect)
Declare Function GetDeviceCaps% Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC%, ByVal nIndex%)

Global Const ENUMPAPERMETRICS = 34
Global Const GETSETPAPERMETRICS = 35
Global Const LOGPIXELSX = 88      ' Logical pixels/inch in X
Global Const LOGPIXELSY = 90      ' Logical pixels/inch in Y
```

4. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1:

```
Dim RectArray() As Rect
```

5. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1.
6. Add a list box (List1) to Form1.
7. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure. For readability some lines of code are shown as two lines but must be entered as a single line of code.

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    ReDim RectArray(1)
    mode% = 0
    ' Enter the entire Result% statement as one, single line.
    Result% = EnumPaperMetricsEscape(Printer.hDC, ENUMPAPERMETRICS,
    2, mode%, RectArray(0))
    If Result% = 0 Then      ' If Result = 0, the call failed
        MsgBox "Printer Driver does not Support EnumPaperMetrics", 48
        Command1.Enabled = False
        Exit Sub
    End If

    ReDim RectArray(Result% - 1) ' Result% contains num paper sizes
    mode% = 1
    ' Enter the entire Result2% statement as one, single line.
    Result2% = EnumPaperMetricsEscape(Printer.hDC, ENUMPAPERMETRICS,
    2, mode%, RectArray(0))
    HorzRatio% = GetDeviceCaps(Printer.hDC, LOGPIXELSX)
```

```

VertRatio% = GetDeviceCaps(Printer.hDC, LOGPIXELSY)

' Add Paper Sizes (Listed by actual printing region) in inches
' to the list box. Enter each of the PWidth$ and PHeight$ statements
' as one, single line.
For i% = 0 To Result% - 1
    PWidth$ = Format$((RectArray(i%).Right - RectArray(i%).Left)
        / HorzRatio%) + Chr$(34) ' Enter as a single line
    PHeight$ = Format$((RectArray(i%).Bottom - RectArray(i%).Top)
        / VertRatio%) + Chr$(34) ' Enter as a single line
    List1.AddItem PWidth$ + " X " + PHeight$
Next i%
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the List1\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub List1_Click ()
    Dim PrevPaperSize As Rect
    ' Enter the entire Result% statement as one, single line.
    Result% = SetPaperMetricsEscape(Printer.hDC, GETSETPAPERMETRICS,
        Len(PrevPaperSize), RectArray(List1.ListIndex), PrevPaperSize)

    If Result% = 0 Then
        MsgBox "Printer Driver does not support this Escape.", 48
    ElseIf Result% < 0 Then
        MsgBox "Error in calling Escape with GETSETPAPERMETRICS."
    Else
        MsgBox "Paper size successfully changed!"
    End If
End Sub

```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.
10. Choose the Command1 button to display a list of available paper metrics in the List1 box. The paper metrics represent the size of the printable regions supported by the printer, not the physical paper sizes.
11. Select one of the paper metrics shown in the List1 box. A message box appears indicating whether or not the paper size was successfully changed using the paper metrics you selected.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## How to Print Multiline Text Box Using Windows API Functions

Article ID: Q80867

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Printing the Text property of a multiline text box while maintaining the line structure requires attention to word wrapping and carriage return/line feeds. The programmer can either track the number of characters and lines in code or use Windows API functions to manipulate the Text property. This article demonstrates these techniques in a Visual Basic example.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The example below demonstrates how to use the API function SendMessage() to track the number of lines in a multiline text box and to select and print the lines the way they appear -- with line breaks or word wrapping intact. This code will work without modification even if the form and controls are resized at run time. The actual position of word wrapping will change.

For more information about API functions relating to text boxes, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

API and text and box and manipulate

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Create a form and place a label, text box, and command button on it.
2. Set the following properties at design time:

Control	Property	Setting
-----		
Text box	TabIndex	0 (zero, or first in tab order)
Text box	MultiLine	True
Label	AutoSize	True
Label	Name	aGetLineCount

3. Add the following code to the Global module:

```
Declare Function GetFocus% Lib "user" ()
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function SendMessage% Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%, ByVal wMsg%,
    ByVal wParam%, ByVal lParam As Any)
Global Buffer As String
```

```

Global resizing As Integer
Global Const EM_GETLINE = &H400 + 20
Global Const EM_GETLINECOUNT = &H400 + 10
Global Const MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE = 80 ' Scale this to size of text box

```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Load procedure:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    ' Size form relative to screen dimensions.
    ' Could define all in move command but recursive definition causes
    ' extra paints.
    form1.width = screen.width * .8
    form1.height = screen.height * .6
    ' Enter the following form1.Move method on one, single line:
    form1.Move screen.width\2-form1.width\2,
               screen.height\2-form1.height\2
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code to the Form\_Resize procedure:

```

Sub Form_Resize ()
    resizing = -1 ' Global flag for fGetLineCount function call
    ' Dynamically scale and position the controls in the form.
    ' This code also is executed on first show of form.
    Text1.Move 0, 0, form1.width, form1.height \ 2
    Text1.SelStart = Text1.SelStart ' To avoid UAE -see Q80669
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    command1.Move form1.width\2-command1.width\2,
                 form1.height-form1.height\4
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    aGetLineCount.Move form1.width \ 2 - command1.width \ 2,
                      Text1.height
    X% = fGetLineCount() ' Update to reflect change in text box size
    resizing = 0
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    '* Pop up an inputbox$ to allow user to specify which line
    '* in the text box to print or print all lines.
    '* Also check bounds so that a valid line number is printed
    OK = 0 ' Zero the Do Loop flag
    NL$ = Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)
    prompt$ = "Which line would you like to print?"
    prompt1$ = prompt$ + NL$ + "Enter -1 for all"
    prompt2$ = "Too many lines" + NL$ + "Try again!" + NL$ + prompt1$
    prompt$ = prompt1$
    Do
        response$ = InputBox$(prompt$, "Printing", "-1")
        If response$ = "" Then Exit Sub ' if user hits cancel then exit
        If Val(response$) > fGetLineCount() Then
            prompt$ = prompt2$
        Else
            OK = -1 ' Line chosen is in valid range so exit DO
        End If
    Loop Until OK

```

```

If Val(response$) = -1 Then ' Print all lines
    ndx& = fGetLineCount&()
    For N& = 1 To ndx&
        Buffer = fGetLine(N& - 1)
        printer.Print Buffer ' or print to the screen
    Next N&
Else ' Print a line
    Buffer = fGetLine(Val(response$) - 1)
    printer.Print Buffer ' or print to the screen
End If
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the general Declarations section of the form's code:

```

Function fGetLine$ (LineNumber As Long)
    ' This function fills the buffer with a line of text
    ' specified by LineNumber from the text box control.
    ' The first line starts at zero.
    byteLo% = MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE And (255) '[changed 5/15/92]
    byteHi% = Int(MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE / 256) '[changed 5/15/92]
    Buffer$ = chr$(byteLo%) + chr$(byteHi%)+Space$(MAX_CHAR_PER_LINE-2)
    ' [Above line changed 5/15/92 to correct problem.]
    text1.SetFocus 'Set focus for API function GetFocus to return handle
    x% = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETLINE, LineNumber, Buffer)
    fGetLine$ = Buffer
End Function

```

```

Function fGetLineCount& ()
    ' This function will return the number of lines
    ' currently in the text box control.
    ' Setfocus method illegal while in resize event
    ' so use global flag to see if called from there
    ' (or use setfocus prior to this function call in general case).
    If Not resizing Then
        Text1.SetFocus ' Set focus for following function GetFocus
        resizing = 0
    End If
    lcount% = SendMessage(GetFocus(), EM_GETLINECOUNT, 0&, 0&)
    aGetLineCount.caption = "GetLineCount = " + Str$(lcount%)
    fGetLineCount& = lcount%
End Function

```

7. Add the following code to the Text1\_Change event:

```

Sub Text1_Change ()
    X% = fGetLineCount() '* Update label to reflect current line
End Sub

```

8. Save the project. Then run the application.
9. Enter text into the text box and either let it wrap or use the ENTER key to arrange lines.
10. Choose the button or TAB and press ENTER.
11. Choose the default (which prints all lines) or enter the line

desired. If you choose Cancel, nothing will print.

12. Resize the form and repeat steps 9 to 11 above. The text will appear on the printed page as you saw it in the text box. Modify the example to print to the screen, write to a file, and so forth.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Windows Programmer's Reference Book and Online Resource"  
(Visual Basic Add-on kit number 1-55615-413-5)

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 textbox

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgWindow



## How to Use FillPolygonRgn API to Fill Shape in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q81470

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Microsoft Visual Basic versions 2.0 and later for Windows include the Shape control which can be used for creating and filling six different geometric shapes. Alternatively, you can create a polygon region on a form or picture and fill it with a color, using the CreatePolygonRgn and FillRgn Windows API calls to draw and fill areas of the screen with color. Geometric shapes not provided with the Shape control, such as a triangle, can be created using this method.

### More Information:

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

To draw a polygon on a form or picture control, you can use the Polygon API call; this will draw the edge of the polygon. You can then use CreatePolygonRgn to create an area that you can paint and use FillRgn to fill it with a color. Using these Windows API calls allows you to pick the points, the number of points, and to choose the color or brush to fill with.

The API calls used in the following example should be declared in the general Declarations section of your form. They are as follows:

API Call	Description
-----	-----
CreatePolygonRgn	Creates a polygonal region
GetStockObject	Retrieves a handle to one of the predefined stock pens, brushes, or fonts
FillRgn	Fills the region specified by the hRgn parameter with the brush specified by the hBrush parameter
Polygon	Draws a polygon consisting of two or more points connected by lines

### Code Example

-----

The following code example shows how to create a black triangle on a form. To change the program to create other shapes, add points to the array.

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose New Module (press ALT, F, M). Module1 is created by default.
3. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Module1 (in Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, add it to GLOBAL.BAS):

```
Type Coord      ' This is the type structure for the x and y
  x As Integer  ' coordinates for the polygonal region.
  y As Integer
End Type

' Enter each Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function CreatePolygonRgn Lib "gdi" (lpPoints As Any,
  ByVal nCount As Integer, ByVal nPolyFillMode As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function Polygon Lib "gdi" (ByVal hdc As Integer,
  lpPoints As Any, ByVal nCount As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function FillRgn Lib "gdi" (ByVal hdc As Integer,
  ByVal hRgn As Integer, ByVal hBrush As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function GetStockObject Lib "gdi" (ByVal nIndex As Integer)
  As Integer
Declare Function DeleteObject Lib "gdi" (ByVal hObject As Integer)
  As Integer

Global Const ALTERNATE = 1 ' ALTERNATE and WINDING are
Global Const WINDING = 2   ' constants for FillMode.
Global Const BLACKBRUSH = 4 ' Constant for brush type.
```

2. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event for Form1:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
  ' Dimension coordinate array.
  ReDim poly(1 To 3) As Coord
  ' Number of vertices in polygon.
  NumCoords% = 3
  ' Set scalemode to pixels to set up points of triangle.
  form1.scalemode = 3
  ' Assign values to points.
  poly(1).x = form1.scalewidth / 2
  poly(1).y = form1.scaleheight / 2
  poly(2).x = form1.scalewidth / 4
  poly(2).y = 3 * form1.scaleheight / 4
  poly(3).x = 3 * form1.scalewidth / 4
  poly(3).y = 3 * form1.scaleheight / 4
  ' Sets background color to red for contrast.
  form1.backcolor = &HFF
  ' Polygon function creates unfilled polygon on screen.
  ' Remark FillRgn statement to see results.
  bool% = Polygon(form1.hdc, poly(1), NumCoords%)
  ' Gets stock black brush.
  hbrush% = GetStockObject(BLACKBRUSH)
  ' Creates region to fill with color.
  hrgn% = CreatePolygonRgn(poly(1), NumCoords%, ALTERNATE)
  ' If the creation of the region was successful then color.
```

```
    If hrgn% Then bool% = FillRgn(form1.hdc, hrgn%, hbrush%)
    ' Print out some information.
    Print "FillRgn Return : ";bool%
    Print "HRgn : "; hrgn%
    Print "Hbrush : "; hbrush%
    Trash% = DeleteObject(hrgn%)
End Sub
```

### 3. Run the program.

You should initially see a blank form. Click the form; a red background with a black triangle on it should be displayed. You can try different numbers of vertices by adding elements to the poly array and updating NumCoords. Different colors and brushes can be substituted as desired.

Note: If you try to fill a region with coordinates beyond the visible form, the CreatePolygonRgn function call will return a zero, meaning it was unsuccessful. The FillRgn will not work if the CreatePolygonRgn function was unsuccessful. All you will see is the outline created by the Polygon function. You should make certain that the vertices are all within the viewable form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## How to Set Windows System Colors Using API and Visual Basic

Article ID: Q82158

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article describes how to use the GetSysColor and SetSysColors API functions to set the system colors for various parts of the display in Microsoft Windows. This allows you to change the Windows display programmatically, instead of using the Windows Control Panel.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Windows maintains an internal array of 19 color values that it uses to paint the different parts of the Windows display. Changing any of these values will affect all windows for all applications running under Windows. Note that the SetSysColors routine only changes the internal system list. This means that any changes made using SetSysColors will only be valid for the current Windows session. To make these changes permanent, you need to change the [COLORS] section of the Windows initialization file, WIN.INI.

For more information on modifying the Windows initialization file programmatically, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

GetProfileString and WriteProfileString

To use the GetSysColor and SetSysColors functions within a Visual Basic for Window application, you must first declare them in the Declarations section of your Code window.

Declare the Function statement as follows:

```
Declare Function GetSysColor Lib "User" (ByVal nIndex%) As Long
```

```
Declare Sub SetSysColors Lib "User" (ByVal nChanges%,  
                                     lpSysColor%,  
                                     lpColorValues&)
```

Note: Each Declare statement above must be written on one line.

The parameters are defined as follows:

Parameter	Definition
nIndex%	Specifies the display element whose color is to be retrieved. See the list below to find the index value for the corresponding display element.
nChanges%	Specifies the number of system colors to be changed.
lpSysColor%	Identifies the array of integer indexes that specify the elements to be changed.
lpColorValues&	Identifies the array of long integers that contain the new RGB color values for each element to be changed.

The following system color indexes are defined using the predefined constants found in the WINDOWS.H file supplied with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK). The corresponding value is the value placed in the lpSysColor% array.

#### List of System Color Indexes

Windows.H Definition	Value	Description
COLOR_SCROLLBAR	0	Scroll-bar gray area
COLOR_BACKGROUND	1	Desktop
COLOR_ACTIVECAPTION	2	Active window caption
COLOR_INACTIVECAPTION	3	Inactive window caption
COLOR_MENU	4	Menu background
COLOR_WINDOW	5	Window background
COLOR_WINDOWFRAME	6	Window frame
COLOR_MENUTEXT	7	Text in menus
COLOR_WINDOWTEXT	8	Text in windows
COLOR_CAPTIONTEXT	9	Text in caption, size box, scroll bar arrow box
COLOR_ACTIVEBORDER	10	Active window border
COLOR_INACTIVEBORDER	11	Inactive window border
COLOR_APPWORKSPACE	12	Background color of multiple document interface (MDI) applications
COLOR_HIGHLIGHT	13	Items selected item in a control
COLOR_HIGHLIGHTTEXT	14	Text of item selected in a control
COLOR_BTNFACE	15	Face shading on push button
COLOR_BTNSHADOW	16	Edge shading on push button
COLOR_GRAYTEXT	17	Grayed (disabled) text. This color is set to 0 if the current display driver does not support a solid gray color.
COLOR_BTNTEXT	18	Text on push buttons

The following is an example of how to set the system colors for different parts of the Windows display:

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Create the following controls for Form1:

Control	Name	Property Setting
-----	-----	-----
Command button	Command1	Caption = "Change all Colors"
Command button	Command2	Caption = "Change selected Colors"

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, set the CtlName Property for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

3. Add the following code to the general Declarations section of Form1:

```
Declare Function GetSysColor Lib "User" (ByVal nIndex%) As Long

Declare Sub SetSysColors Lib "User" (ByVal nChanges%,
                                     lpSysColor%,
                                     lpColorValues&)

' Note: The above declaration must be on one line.

Const COLOR_BACKGROUND = 1
Const COLOR_ACTIVECAPTION = 2
Const COLOR_WINDOWFRAME = 6

Dim SavedColors(18) As Long
```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()

' ** Save current system colors.
  For i% = 0 To 18
    SavedColors(i%) = GetSysColor(i%)
  Next i%

End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Form\_Unload event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form1_Unload ()

' ** Restore system colors.
  ReDim IndexArray(18) As Integer
  For i% = 0 To 18
    IndexArray(i%) = i%
  Next i%
  SetSysColors 19, IndexArray(0), SavedColors(0)

End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()

' ** Change all display elements.
ReDim NewColors(18) As Long
ReDim IndexArray(18) As Integer
For i% = 0 to 18
    NewColors(i%) = QBColor(Int(16 * Rnd))
    IndexArray(i%) = i%
Next i%
SetSysColors 19, IndexArray(0), NewColors(0)

End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the Command2\_Click event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()

' ** Change desktop, window frames, and active caption.
ReDim NewColors(18) As Long
ReDim IndexArray(18) As Integer
For i% = 0 to 18
    NewColors(i%) = QBColor(Int(16 * Rnd))
    IndexArray(i%) = i%
Next i%
SetSysColors 19, IndexArray(0), NewColors(0)

End Sub

```

8. From the Run menu, choose Start, or press the F5 key, to run the program.

Choosing the Change All Colors button will cause all the different parts of the Windows display to be assigned a randomly generated color. Choosing the Change Selected Elements button will cause only the desktop, active window caption, and window frames to be assigned a random color. To restore the original system colors, double-click the Control-menu box to end the application.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap APrgOther

## **VB AniButton Control: Cannot Resize if PictDrawMode=Autosize**

**Article ID: Q82159**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Resizing an Animated Button custom control by setting the Width or Height property at run time will not work if the PictDrawMode property is set to Autosize (1). This is by design. When the PictDrawMode property is in autosize mode, the size is determined by the size of the images loaded, not by the design time setting of Width or Height nor the run time setting of those values.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

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1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the Files menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the ANIBUTTON.VBX custom control file. The Animated Button tool appears in the toolbox.
3. Add the following code to the Form\_Load procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Form1.BackColor = &HFFFFFF00 ' To make the size of the control more
                                ' visible.
    AniButton1.Move Form1.Width \ 4, 0, 1600, 1600
    AniButton1.TextPosition = 3 ' Put caption at top for clarity.
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    AniButton1.Caption = "This is a very very long caption"
    AniButton1.PictDrawMode = 1 ' Autosize control.
    'AniButton1.PictDrawMode = 0 ' As Defined.
    'AniButton1.PictDrawMode = 2 ' Stretches image to fit.
End Sub
```



4. Add the following code to the Form\_DoubleClick event:

```
Sub Form_DblClick ()  
    Print AniButton1.Width  
    AniButton1.Width = 400  
    Print AniButton1.Width  
    Print AniButton1.PictDrawMode  
End Sub
```

5. Run the project with the PictDrawMode setting of 0 uncommented and the other two commented out.
6. Click once to see the effect of changing the mode. Then double-click the form to see the changes due to changing the Width property. Because the caption is the largest object in an unloaded Animated Button, the autosize adjusts to it.
7. Access the Frame property and load a bitmap into the first frame and an icon in the second, or vice versa.
8. Repeat steps 5 and 6. Notice that the larger object (the bitmap) causes the control to resize to it.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus APrgGrap

## How to Disable Close Command in VB Control Menu (System Menu)

Article ID: Q82876

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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To modify an item in the Visual Basic Control menu (also referred to as the System menu), you need to call the API functions `GetSystemMenu` and `ModifyMenu`. This article describes how to disable the Close command in the Control menu.

This information applies to Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

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If you do not want the user to be able to select the Close command from the Control menu or to be able to double-click the Control-menu box to end the application, you can disable the Close command. `GetSystemMenu` returns the handle to the Control menu, which can be used by `ModifyMenu` to change the control menu.

The following code example disables and grays out the Close command in the Visual Basic Control menu.

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a command button (Command1) on Form1. Change its Caption property to "Disable Close" (without the quotation marks).
3. Place another command button (Command2) on Form1. Change its caption to "Exit".
4. Add the following declarations and constants to the general Declarations section of Form1:

```
Declare Function GetSystemMenu Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd%,  
                                           ByVal bRevert%) as Integer  
Declare Function ModifyMenu Lib "User" (ByVal hMenu%,  
                                       ByVal nPosition%,  
                                       ByVal wFlags%,  
                                       ByVal wIDNewItem%,  
                                       ByVal lpNewItem as Any) as Integer  
' Each Declare (above) must be on one line.
```

```
Const MF_BYCOMMAND = &H0
Const MF_GRAYED = &H1
Const SC_CLOSE = &HF060
```

Note that other constants to disable other menu items in the Control menu are described in the CONSTANT.TXT file.

5. Add the following code to the Command1 Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    nPosition% = SC_CLOSE
    s$ = "Close"
    hMenu% = GetSystemMenu(hWnd, 0)
    wFlags% = MF_BYCOMMAND Or MF_GRAYED
    success% = ModifyMenu(hMenu%, nPosition%, wFlags%, 0, s$)
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Command2 Click event:

```
Sub Command2_Click ()
    End
End Sub
```

7. Press F5 to run the program.
8. Click the Control-menu box to see that all the menu items are available.
9. Click the Disable Close command button. Then click the Control-menu box. Notice that the Close menu command is unavailable.

The user cannot end the application by either choosing Close from the Control menu or by double-clicking the Control-menu box. The only way to end this program is to choose the Exit command button.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Windows Programmer's Reference Book and Online Resource"  
(Visual Basic Add-on kit number 1-55615-413-5)

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

**PRB: Can't Change Minimized/Maximized MDIChild's Position/Size**  
**Article ID: Q82878**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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SUMMARY

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SYMPTOMS

When a MDI Child custom control is minimized (reduced to an icon), attempting to change its position or size at run time by setting the Top, Left, Height, or Width property will generate the following Visual Basic error message:

Cannot Change MDIChild Position Or Size While Minimized Or Maximized.

This valid error message will also be generated if the MDI child window is maximized and you attempt to change the size of position of the MDI child.

RESOLUTION

This article does not apply to later versions of Visual Basic. The MDI Child custom control shipped only with version 1.0. Multiple-document interface (MDI) forms are built into Visual Basic version 2.0 and later, making the MDI custom control obsolete.

You cannot change the position or size of a Visual Basic version 1.0 MDI child window when it is minimized or maximized. These properties can be set at run time in code or at design time for any MDI child window that is not maximized or minimized to an icon.

However, you can set the properties in Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows. You do not get an error. Note though that MDI is different in Visual Basic version 2.0 because it is built in to both the Standard and Professional Editions rather than being a separate custom control, as it is in Visual Basic version 1.0.

MORE INFORMATION

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The following steps demonstrate that an error message is generated in Visual Basic version 1.0 when you attempt to change (at run time in code) the Left property of an MDI child window that has been either reduced to an icon or maximized (to the full size of the parent form).

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the MDICHILD.VBX custom control file. The MDI Child tool appears in the toolbox.
3. Place an MDI Child window control on Form1.
4. Double-click the form outside the MDI child window to open the Code window.
5. Add the following code to the Form1 Click event:  

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    MDIChild1.Left = 0  
End Sub
```
6. Press F5 to run the application.
7. Click the Control-menu box (in the upper left corner) of the MDI child window, and choose Minimize.
8. Click directly on the form.

The following error message dialog box is generated:

Cannot Change MDIChild Position Or Size While Minimized Or Maximized

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsCus APrgGrap

## How to Create a Form with no Title Bar in VB for Windows

Article ID: Q83349

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

To create a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows form with a border but with no title bar, the Caption property of a form must be set to a zero-length string; the BorderStyle property must be set to Fixed Single (1), Sizable (2) or Fixed Double; and the ControlBox, MaxButton and MinButton properties must be set to False (0). If any text (including spaces) exists for the Caption property or if the ControlBox, MaxButton, or MinButton property is set to True, a title bar will appear on the form. Note that setting the BorderStyle property to None (0) will always result in a form with no title bar.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Even with the ControlBox, MaxButton, and MinButton properties of a form set to False (0) and the BorderStyle set to Fixed Single (1), Sizable (2) or Fixed Double (3), the form will still have a title bar unless the Caption property is set to null. Setting the Caption to blanks will leave a title bar with no title.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

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1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the Properties bar, set the ControlBox, MaxButton, and MinButton properties to False.
3. Set the Caption property to at least one space.
4. Press the F5 key to run the program. The form will have a title bar without a title.
5. Press CTRL+BREAK to return to design mode.
6. Set the Caption property to a zero-length string (that is, delete all characters including spaces).
7. Press the F5 key to run the program. There should be no title bar on

the form.

You can also have a form with no title bar by setting the `BorderStyle` property to `None (0)`.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## How to Call LoadModule() API Function from Visual Basic

Article ID: Q83350

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY =====

This article shows how to call the Windows LoadModule() API function from a Visual Basic program. The LoadModule() API function loads and executes a Windows program or creates a new instance of an existing Windows program. The code example below shows an example of calling WINVER.EXE with the LoadModule() function call, but you can change it to any executable file.

Note that the Shell function provided in Visual Basic provides a functionality similar to and simpler than the technique explained in this article.

### MORE INFORMATION =====

The LoadModule() API function call has only two parameters, but the second parameter is a pointer to a structure with an embedded structure in it.

The two parameters are as follows:

lpModuleName	Points to a null terminated string that contains the filename of the application to be run.
lpParameterBlock	Points to a data structure consisting of four fields that define a parameter block. The data structure consists of the following fields:
wEnvSeg:	Specifies the segment address of the environment under which the module is to run; 0 indicates that the Windows environment is to be copied.
lpCmdLine:	Points to a NULL terminated character string that contains a correctly formed command line. This string must not exceed 120 bytes in length.
lpCmdShow:	Points to a data structure containing two WORD length values. The first value must be set to 2, and the second value in this example will be set to 5.
dwReserved:	Reserved and must be NULL.

Steps to Reproduce Behavior



- 
1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
  2. Add the following code to the GLOBAL.BAS file (or any module in Visual basic version 2.0):

```
Type CmdShow
    fp As Integer    ' first parameter
    sp As Integer    ' second parameter
End Type

Type lpParameterBlock
    wEnvSeg As Integer
    lpCmdLine As Long    ' This line modified 6/25/93
    lpCmdShow As Long    ' This line modified 5/27/92
    dwReserved As Long
End Type

Declare Function lstrcpy Lib "Kernel" (lp1 As Any, lp2 As Any) As Long
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line
Declare Function LoadModule% Lib "kernel" (ByVal lpModuleName As String,
    lpParameterBlock As Any)
```

3. Add a command button to Form1, and add the following code to the Command1\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()

    Dim cs As CmdShow
    Dim pb As lpParameterBlock
    ' assign values to the CmdShow structure
    pb.lpCmdShow = lstrcpy(cs, cs)    ' Line added 5/27/92
    cs.fp = 2
    cs.sp = 5
    ' assign values to the lpParameterBlock structure
    pb.wEnvSeg = 0
    ' append null to end of path
    ' Following two lines added 6/25/93 replacing previous line:
    lpCmdLine$ = "c:\windows\winver.exe" + Chr$(0)
    pb.lpCmdLine = lstrcpy(ByVal lpCmdLine$, ByVal lpCmdLine$)
    pb.dwReserved = 0&
    ' make sure to append null to end of .EXE name
    m% = LoadModule%("winver.exe" + Chr$(0), pb)

End Sub
```

4. Save the program and run it.

When you run the program and press the command button, the WinVer program will run as it would with the Run command on the Windows Program Manager File menu.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## **VB "Bad DLL Calling Convention" Means Stack Frame Mismatch**

**Article ID: Q85108**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### **SUMMARY**

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When you call a dynamic link library (DLL) function from Visual Basic for Windows, the "Bad DLL Calling Convention" error is often caused by incorrectly omitting or including the ByVal keyword from the Declare statement or the Call statement. The ByVal keyword affects the size of data placed on the stack. Visual Basic for Windows checks the change in the position of the stack pointer to detect this error.

When Visual Basic for Windows generates the run time error "Bad DLL Calling Convention," the most common cause when calling API functions is omitting the ByVal keyword from the Declaration of the external function or from the call itself. It can also occur due to including the ByVal keyword when the function is expecting a 4 byte pointer to the parameter instead of the value itself. This changes the size (number of bytes) of the values placed on the stack, and upon return from the DLL, Visual Basic for Windows detects the change in the position of the stack frame and generates the error.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

There are two calling conventions, or inter-language protocols: the Pascal/Basic/FORTRAN calling convention, and the C calling convention. Visual Basic for Windows uses the Pascal calling convention, as do the Microsoft Window API functions and other Microsoft Basic language products. Under the Pascal convention, it is the responsibility of the called procedure to adjust or clean the stack. (In addition, parameters are pushed onto the stack in order from the leftmost parameter to the rightmost.) Because the DLL function is responsible for adjusting the stack based on the type and number of parameters it expects, Visual Basic for Windows checks the position of the stack pointer upon return from the function. If the called routine has adjusted the stack to an unexpected position, then Visual Basic for Windows generates a "Bad DLL Calling Convention" error. Visual Basic for Windows assumes a stack position discrepancy because the DLL function uses the C calling convention. With the C calling convention, the calling program is responsible for adjusting the stack immediately after the called routine returns control.

Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----  
Create a simple DLL using Microsoft Quick C for Windows or any compiler capable of creating Windows DLLs. The following example is in C and written for Quick C for Windows:

Stacking.C

-----  
#include <windows.h>  
long far pascal typecheck (long a, float b, short far \*c, char far \*buff)  
{  
short retcode;  
a = a \* 3;  
retcode = MessageBox(NULL, "I am in the DLL", "BOX", MB\_OK);  
return (a);  
}

Stacking.DEF

-----  
LIBRARY STACKING  
EXETYPE WINDOWS  
STUB 'winstub.exe'  
STACKSIZE 5120  
HEAPSIZE 1024  
DATA PRELOAD MOVEABLE SINGLE ; ADD THESE TWO LINES  
CODE PRELOAD MOVEABLE DISCARDABLE ; TO AVOID WARNINGS.  
EXPORTS  
typecheck @1  
WEP @2

Add the following code to the general Declarations module in a Visual Basic for Windows form:

Declare Function typecheck Lib "d\stacking.dll" (ByVal a As Long,  
ByVal b As Single, c As Integer, ByVal s As String) As Long

Note: The above declaration must be placed on one line.

In the Form\_Click event:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
Dim a As Long ' Explicitly type the variables.  
Dim b As Single  
Dim c As Integer  
Dim s As String  
a = 3 ' Initialize the variables.  
b = 4.5  
c = 6  
s = "Hello there! We've been waiting for you!"  
Print typecheck(a, b, c, s)  
End Sub
```

Running the program as written above will not generate the error. Now add the ByVal keyword before the variable named c in the Visual Basic for Windows Declaration. Run the program. Note that the MessageBox function pops a box first, and then the error box pops up indicating that Visual Basic for Windows checks the stack upon return to see if it has been correctly adjusted. Because the DLL expected a 4-byte pointer and received a 2-byte value, the stack has not adjusted back

to the initial frame.

As another test, first remove the ByVal keyword before the variable 'c' that you added in the previous test. Declare the parameter 'a As Any' instead of As Long. Change the type of the variable 'a' in the Form\_Click to Integer. Run the program again. Using As Any turns off type checking by Visual Basic for Windows. Because the program passed an integer ByVal instead of the long that the DLL expected, the stack frame is off and the error is generated.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft BASIC 7.0: Programmer's Guide" for versions 7.0 and 7.1,  
pages 423-426

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Draw an Ellipse with Circle Statement in VB

Article ID: Q83906

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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This article describes how to use the Circle statement to draw an ellipse of a specified width and height by calculating the radius and aspect ratio appropriate for the dimensions of the ellipse and the units of measurement, determined by the ScaleMode property.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Circle statement takes two arguments that determine the shape of the ellipse drawn: the radius and the aspect ratio. For example:

```
Circle (x, y), radius,,,, aspect
```

The aspect ratio is the y-radius divided by the x-radius of the ellipse drawn. An aspect ratio of 1.0 (the default) yields a perfect (non-elliptical) circle. If the aspect ratio is less than one, the radius argument specifies the x-radius. If the aspect ratio is greater than one, the radius argument specifies the y-radius. Both the x-radius and the y-radius are measured in units of the x-axis.

### Steps to Create Example Program

-----

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Enter the following code in the Form1\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    Cls
```

```
    ' Set x-axis units different from y-axis to demonstrate  
    ' that the ellipse still comes out right.
```

```
    Form1.ScaleWidth = Rnd * 100
```

```
    Form1.ScaleHeight = Rnd * 100
```

```
    Print "ScaleWidth = "; Format$(Form1.ScaleWidth, "#")
```

```
    Print "ScaleHeight = "; Format$(Form1.ScaleHeight, "#")
```

```
    ' Print the dimensions of the ellipse.
```

```
    ' Draw an ellipse centered on the form and touching the  
    ' borders.
```

```
    w = Form1.ScaleWidth / 2
```

```

        h = Form1.ScaleHeight / 2
        Call ellipse(Form1, w, h, w, h)
End Sub

```

3. Enter the following code in the general Declarations section:

```

' ellipse(frm, x, y, w, h)
' Purpose
'   Draws an ellipse on a form.
' Parameters
'   frm -- the form to draw on
'   x, y -- specify the center of the ellipse.
'   w, h -- specify the width and height.
'
Sub ellipse (frm As Form, ByVal x!, ByVal y!, ByVal w!, ByVal h!)
    Dim swt As Long      ' ScaleWidth  in twips
    Dim sht As Long      ' ScaleHeight in twips
    Dim k As Double      ' conversion factor for x-units to y-units
    Dim ar As Double     ' aspect ratio
    Dim r As Single      ' radius
    Dim save_mode As Integer ' for saving and restoring ScaleMode
    Dim save_width As Single ' for saving and restoring ScaleWidth
    Dim save_height As Single ' for saving and restoring ScaleHeight

    ' Check arguments.
    If w <= 0 Or h <= 0 Then Stop

    ' Determine form dimensions in twips.
    save_mode = frm.ScaleMode ' save Scale... properties
    save_width = frm.ScaleWidth
    save_height = frm.ScaleHeight
    frm.ScaleMode = 1         ' set units to twips
    swt = frm.ScaleWidth
    sht = frm.ScaleHeight
    frm.ScaleMode = save_mode ' restore Scale... properties
    If frm.ScaleMode = 0 Then
        frm.ScaleWidth = save_width
        frm.ScaleHeight = save_height
    End If

    ' Compute conversion factor of x-axis units to y-axis units.
    k = frm.ScaleWidth / frm.ScaleHeight * sht / swt

    ' Compute aspect ratio and radius.
    ar = k * h / w
    If ar <= 1 Then
        r = w
    Else
        r = k * h
    End If

    ' Draw the ellipse.
    frm.Circle (x, y), r, , , , ar
End Sub

```

4. Press F5 to run the program. Then click the form.

The program draws an ellipse centered in the form, and touching the sides of the form. Resize the form and/or click the form again to repeat the demonstration.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## UCase\$/LCase\$ in Text Box Change Event Inverts Text Property

Article ID: Q84059

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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When using the UCase\$ or LCase\$ functions in Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows to capitalize text or make text lower case from within the change procedure of a text box, you may encounter unexpected results if the following conditions are true:

- The text property of the text box is being updated by the UCase\$ or LCase\$ statement.
- The resulting string created by UCase\$ or LCase\$ is assigned to the text property of the text box.
- The above statements appear in the Change event procedure of the text box.

Every time a key is pressed, the text contents are changed, and the cursor is placed at the beginning of the line. This causes the character for your next key press to be inserted at the beginning of the line rather than the end.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

When allowing users to enter text into text boxes, it is often desirable to control whether the user enters all uppercase or all lowercase letters. To do this, it would seem that putting a UCase\$ or LCase\$ statement in a text box Change event would allow you to enter only uppercase or lowercase letters into the text box. However, each time you press a key, the Change event fires and the cursor is brought back to the beginning of the text box as a result of assigning the Text property a new string.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows or from the File menu, select New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Put a text box (Text1) on Form1 by either double-clicking the text box control or single clicking the text box control and drawing



it on Form1.

3. Add the following code to the Text1\_Change event procedure:

```
Sub Text1_Change ()  
    text1.text = UCase$(text1.text)  
End Sub
```

4. Press the F5 key to run the program.

Notice that when you try to type information into the text box that it is entered in reverse order of what you would expect.

An alternative method of changing all contents of the text box to capital letters is to change the KeyAscii code of the typed information in the text box KeyPress event as follows:

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (KeyAscii As Integer)  
  
    ' Check to see if key pressed is a lower case letter.  
    If KeyAscii >= 97 And KeyAscii <= 122 Then  
  
        'If it is lowercase, change it to uppercase.  
        KeyAscii = KeyAscii - 32  
  
    End If  
  
End Sub
```

When you run the above code, the letters typed into the text box are immediately changed to capital letters and are entered correctly as you type them in.

Another alternative method of changing the contents of the text box to uppercase letters is to add the following code to the Change event for the text box:

```
Sub Text1_Change ()  
  
    ' Get the current position of the cursor.  
    CurrStart = Text1.SelStart  
  
    ' Change the text to capitals.  
    Text1.Text = UCase$(Text1.Text)  
  
    ' Reset the cursor position.  
    Text1.SelStart = CurrStart  
  
End Sub
```

SelStart sets or returns the starting point of text selected, and indicates the position of the insertion point if no text is selected.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Print Entire VB Form and Control the Printed Size

Article ID: Q84066

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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The Visual Basic for Windows PrintForm method provides a way to print the client area of a form. However, PrintForm does not allow you to control the size or proportion of the printed output, or to print the non-client area (the caption and border) of the form.

The following code example uses Windows API functions to print the entire form, and provides a method to control the size of the output. This method can also be used to print only the client area to a specific size and to control the position of the printed form to allow text or other graphics to be printed on the same page as the image of the form. The method is also applicable to printing all the forms in a project.

Note that this example will not work correctly on PostScript printers. For the example to work correctly, the printer must use a standard non-PostScript laser printer configuration (such as PCL/HP).

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Combining the Windows API functions BitBlt, StretchBlt, CreateCompatibleDC, DeleteDC, SelectObject, and Escape allows greater control over the placement and size of the printed form than the PrintForm method. In a two-part process, the image of the entire form is captured by using BitBlt to make an invisible picture, and is turned into a persistent bitmap using the AutoRedraw property. Then the picture is printed using the method of printing a picture control (outlined in a separate article, found by querying for the following word in the Microsoft Knowledge Base):

CreateCompatibleDC

This method works on maximized forms as well as any smaller forms. The use of GetSystemMetrics allows a general procedure to handle different window border styles passed to it by querying the video driver for the size of windows standard borders in pixels.

The example below requires a single form with an invisible picture control.

## Example

-----

1. Add the following code to the general Declarations level of the form in a new project:

Note: All Declare statements below must be on one line each.

```
DefInt A-Z
Declare Function BitBlt Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDestDC, ByVal X, ByVal Y,
    ByVal nWidth, ByVal nHeight, ByVal hSrcDC, ByVal XSrc,
    ByVal YSrc, ByVal dwRop&)
Declare Function CreateCompatibleDC Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC)
Declare Function SelectObject Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC, ByVal hObject)
Declare Function StretchBlt Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC, ByVal X, ByVal Y,
    ByVal nWidth, ByVal nHght, ByVal hSrcDC, ByVal XSrc,
    ByVal YSrc, ByVal nSrcWidth, ByVal nSrcHeight, ByVal dwRop&)
Declare Function DeleteDC Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC)
Declare Function Escape Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC, ByVal nEscape,
    ByVal nCount, lpInData As Any, lpOutData As Any)
Declare Function GetSystemMetrics Lib "User" (ByVal nIndex)

Const SM_CYCAPTION = 4
Const SM_CXBORDER = 5
Const SM_CYBORDER = 6
Const SM_CXDLGFRAME = 7
Const SM_CYDLGFRAME = 8
Const SM_CXFRAME = 32
Const SM_CYFRAME = 33

Const TWIPS = 1
Const PIXEL = 3
Const NIL = 0&
Const SRCCOPY = &HCC0020
Const NEWFRAME = 1
```

```
Dim ModeRatio, XOffset, YOffset As Integer
```

2. Set the following properties at design time:

Control	Property	Setting
-----	-----	-----
Form1	Name	Form1 (default)
Form1.Picture1	Name	Picture1 (default)
Form1.Picture2	Name	Picture2 (default)
Form1.File1	Name	File1 (default)

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, set the CtlName/FormName Property for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

You can add any other control(s) to the form to print. If a picture control is drawn at run time, be sure to set its AutoRedraw property to True so that the graphics will be transferred by the Windows API call BitBlt and eventually printed by StretchBlt.

3. Add the following code to the Form\_Load procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
' Size the form explicitly to match parameters of StretchBlt.
' Or use design time size to set coordinates.
    Form1.Move 1095, 1200, 8070, 5280

' Size two example controls.
    File1.Move 4080, 120, 2775, 2535
    Picture1.Move 240, 120, 2775, 2535

' Put up a caption to indicate how to print the form.
    Form1.Caption = "Double Click to Print Form And Text"

' The following *optional* code illustrates creating a persistent
' bitmap that will successfully StretchBlt to the printer.
    Picture1.AutoRedraw = -1 ' Create persistent bitmap of picture
                             ' contents.
    Picture1.Line (0, 0)-(Picture1.ScaleWidth / 2,
    Picture1.ScaleHeight / 2), , BF
    Picture1.AutoRedraw = 0 ' Toggle off.

' Make sure the temporary workspace picture is invisible.
    Picture2.visible = 0
End Sub

```

4. Add the following code to the general procedure level of the form:

```

Sub FormPrint (localname As Form)
' Display cross.
    screen.MousePointer = 2
' Calculate ratio between ScaleMode twips and ScaleMode pixel.
    localname.ScaleMode = PIXEL
    ModeRatio = localname.height \ localname.ScaleHeight
    localname.ScaleMode = TWIPS

XOffset = (localname.width - localname.ScaleWidth) \ ModeRatio
YOffset = (localname.height - localname.ScaleHeight) \ ModeRatio
CapSize% = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CYCAPTION) ' The height of the caption.

' The size of the fixed single border:
FudgeFactor% = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CYBORDER)
' The fudgefactor is due to inevitable mapping errors when converting
' logical pixels to screen pixels. This example is coded for 640X480
' screen resolution. For 800X600, remove the fudgefactor.
' For other resolutions, tweak for perfection!

Select Case localname.BorderStyle
Case 0 ' None.
    XOffset = 0
    YOffset = 0
Case 1 ' Fixed Single.
    XOffset = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CXBORDER)
    YOffset = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CYBORDER) + CapSize% - FudgeFactor%
Case 2 ' Sizeable.
    XOffset = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CXFRAME)
    YOffset = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CYFRAME) + CapSize% - FudgeFactor%
Case 3 ' Fixed Double.
    XOffset = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CXDLGFRAME) + FudgeFactor%

```

```

        YOffset = GetSystemMetrics(SM_CYDLGFRAME) + CapSize%
End Select

' Size the picture to the size of the form's non-client (complete)
' area.
    Picture2.Move 0, 0, localname.Width, localname.Height

' Note that BitBlt requires coordinates in pixels.
    Picture2.ScaleMode = PIXEL
' Clear Picture property of any previous BitBlt image.
    Picture2.Picture = LoadPicture("")
' -1 equals true: Must Have This!!!
    Picture2.AutoRedraw = -1
' Assign information of the destination bitmap.
    hDestDC% = Picture2.hDC
        X% = 0: Y% = 0
        nWidth% = Picture2.ScaleWidth
        nHeight% = Picture2.ScaleHeight

' Assign information of the source bitmap.
' Source is entire client area of form (plus non-client area)
' XOffset and YOffset settings depend on the BorderStyle chosen for
' the form.
    hSrcDC% = localname.hDC
    XSrc% = -XOffset: YSrc% = -YOffset
' Show transition to BitBlt by changing MousePointer.
    Screen.MousePointer = 4
' Assign the SRCCOPY constant to the Raster operation.
    dwRop% = SRCCOPY
    ' The following statement must appear on one line.
    Suc% = BitBlt(hDestDC%, X%, Y%, nWidth%, nHeight%, hSrcDC%, XSrc%,
        YSrc%, dwRop%)

' Start the StretchBlt process now.
' Assign persistent bitmap to Picture property:
    Picture2.Picture = Picture2.Image
' StretchBlt requires pixel coordinates.
    Picture2.ScaleMode = PIXEL
    Printer.ScaleMode = PIXEL
' * The following is an example of mixing text with StretchBlt.
    Printer.Print "This is a test of adding text and bitmaps "
    Printer.Print "This is a test of adding text and bitmaps "
    Printer.Print "This is a test of adding text and bitmaps "
' * If no text is printed in this procedure,
' * then you must add minimum: Printer.Print " "
' * to initialize Printer.hDC.

' Now display hour glass for the StretchBlt to printer.
    screen.MousePointer = 11

    hMemoryDC% = CreateCompatibleDC(Picture2.hDC)
    hOldBitMap% = SelectObject(hMemoryDC%, Picture2.Picture)
' You adjust the vertical stretch factor of the form in the
' argument "Printer.ScaleHeight - 1000":
    ApiError% = StretchBlt(Printer.hDC, 0, 192,
        Printer.ScaleWidth - 300, Printer.ScaleHeight - 1000,
        hMemoryDC%, 0, 0, Picture2.ScaleWidth,

```

```

        Picture2.ScaleHeight, SRCCOPY) ' concatenate above
' The second parameter above allows for text already printed: modify
' accordingly.
    hOldBitMap% = SelectObject(hMemoryDC%, hOldBitMap%)
    ApiError% = DeleteDC(hMemoryDC%)
' * The following is an example of mixing text with StretchBlt.
' Set the printer currentY to allow for the size of the StretchBlt
' image. (This is relative to size of form and stretch factors chosen)
    Printer.currentY = 2392 ' In Twips.
    Printer.Print "This is for text after the StretchBlt"
    Printer.Print "This is for text after the StretchBlt"
    Printer.Print "This is for text after the StretchBlt"
Printer.EndDoc
ApiError% = Escape(Printer.hDC, NEWFRAME, 0, NIL, NIL)

' Reset MousePointer to default.
Screen.MousePointer = 1
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code to the Double\_Click event:

```

Sub Form_DblClick ()
    FormPrint Form1
End Sub

```

6. After saving the project, run the example.

Double-click the form to invoke the FormPrint procedure. Any form passed as a parameter to FormPrint will be printed. BitBlt will transfer the image to the Picture control, then StretchBlt transfers it to the printer DC, which will print the image that was transferred by BitBlt.

Optionally, you could place text or graphics in the picture (Form1.Picture2) before printing with StretchBlt or print directly to the page using Printer.Print or Printer.Line. If you choose the latter method, by adjusting the second and third parameters of StretchBlt, you can make the already printed content be followed by the image of the form on the same page.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Windows Programmer's Reference Book and Online Resource"  
(Add-on kit number 1-55615-413-5)

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## Creating TOPMOST or "Floating" Window in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q84251

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can create a "floating" window such as that used for the Microsoft Windows version 3.1 Clock by using the SetWindowPos Windows API call.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

A floating (or TOPMOST) window is a window that remains constantly above all other windows, even when it is not active. Examples of floating windows are the Find dialog box in WRITE.EXE, and CLOCK.EXE (when Always on Top is selected from the Control menu).

There are two methods to produce windows that "hover" or "float," one of which is possible in Visual Basic for Windows. This method is described below:

Call SetWindowPos, specifying an existing non-topmost window and HWND\_TOPMOST as the value for the second parameter (hwndInsertAfter):

Use the following declarations:

```
Declare Function SetWindowPos Lib "user" (ByVal h%, ByVal hb%,  
    ByVal x%, ByVal y%, ByVal cx%, ByVal cy%, ByVal f%) As Integer  
' The above Declare statement must appear on one line.
```

```
Global Const SWP_NOMOVE = 2  
Global Const SWP_NOSIZE = 1  
Global Const FLAGS = SWP_NOMOVE Or SWP_NOSIZE  
Global Const HWND_TOPMOST = -1  
Global Const HWND_NOTOPMOST = -2
```

To set the form XXXX to TOPMOST, use the following code:

```
success% = SetWindowPos (XXXX.hWnd, HWND_TOPMOST, 0, 0, 0, 0, FLAGS)  
REM success% <> 0 When Successful
```

To reset the form XXXX to NON-TOPMOST, use the following code:

```
success% = SetWindowPos (XXXX.hWnd, HWND_NOTOPMOST, 0, 0, 0, 0, FLAGS)  
REM success% <> 0 When Successful
```

Note: This attribute was introduced in Windows, version 3.1, so remember to make a `GetVersion()` API call to determine whether the application is running under Windows, version 3.1.

Reference(s):

"Page 892 of Microsoft Windows 3.1 Programmer's Reference, Volume 2, Functions,"

Additional reference words: Win31 Float Topmost Notopmost Setwindowpos  
top most

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow



## Property or Control Not Found When Use Form/Control Data Type

Article ID: Q84383

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You do not need to prefix a control name with the parent form name when you are accessing the property of a control from a Sub or Function to which the control is passed as a parameter. If you use the syntax

```
form.control.property
```

to access the property of the control, you will get a "Property or Control not found" error.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The full syntax to access a property of a control on a form is as follows:

```
form.control.property
```

If the control whose property you are accessing is on the form where the code resides, you do not need to prefix the control name with the form name. For example, if command button Command1 is on Form1 and you want to set its Enabled property to False (0) in the event procedure Command1\_Click, you can use the following:

```
Command1.Enabled = 0
```

You can use the same syntax if the statement is in the general Declarations section of Form1. However, if you want to access the Enabled property of Command1 on a form other than its parent form, or from a Sub or Function in a module, you need to use the full syntax (with the form name).

The property of the control can also be accessed in a module by using the full syntax. For example, to disable Command1 (which is on Form1) in MODULE1.BAS, add the following:

```
Sub AccessProperty
    Form1.Command1.Enabled = 0
End Sub
```

However, if you are passing the control as an argument to a Sub or Function procedure in a general module, you do not need to use the full syntax. For example

```
Sub AccessProperty (ThisForm as Form, ThisControl as Control)
    ThisForm.ThisControl.Enabled = 0
End Sub
```

will give you a "Property or Control 'ThisControl' not found" error. You only need to pass the control name as an argument to the procedure. For example:

```
Sub AccessProperty (ThisControl as Control)
    ThisControl.Enabled = 0
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

**PRB: DateValue Argument Gives "Illegal Function Call" Error**  
**Article ID: Q84547**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

You will correctly get an "Illegal function call" error for the DateValue argument if the short date (the three numbers representing the month, day, and year such as 4/24/92) does not follow the order of the date format selected under International settings in the Windows Control Panel.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

The DateValue function returns a serial number that represents the date of the string argument. The string argument can be a date in abbreviated form (three numbers that represent the month, day, and year). However, this has to conform to the Short Date Format selected in the International settings of the Control Panel.

By default, the order is MDY or the month followed by the day and then the year separated by a slash (/) or a hyphen (-). An example of a valid argument is 4/24/92 for the date April 24, 1992. Using 24/4/92 would produce an "Illegal function call" error.

Note that for the long form of the date, DateValue recognizes April 24, 1992, Apr 24, 1992, 24-Apr-1992, and 24 April 92".

Remember that you will have to restart Windows for any changes made in the International settings to take effect.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How VB Can Get Windows Status Information via API Calls

Article ID: Q84556

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Visual Basic for Windows program example below demonstrates how you can obtain system status information similar to the information displayed in the Windows Program Manager About box. The example program displays the following information using the Windows API function(s) indicated:

- The Windows version number with GetVersion
- The kind of CPU (80286, 80386, or 80486) and whether a math coprocessor is present with GetWinFlags
- Whether Windows is running in enhanced mode or standard mode with GetWinFlags
- The amount of free memory with GetFreeSpace and GlobalCompact
- The percentage of free system resources with SystemHeapInfo

Note: The API function SystemHeapInfo is new to Windows version 3.1 and is not available in Windows, version 3.0. All other API functions listed above are available in both Windows versions 3.0 or 3.1.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

### Steps to Create Example Program

-----

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or if Visual Basic for Windows is already running, choose New Project from the File menu (press ALT, F, N). Form1 will be created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add Module (press ALT, F, M). Module 1 is created by default (In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, this step is unnecessary).
3. Enter the following code into the general declarations section of a code module (In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, place the following in the Global module):

```

' Constants for GetWinFlags.
Global Const WF_CPU286 = &H2
Global Const WF_CPU386 = &H4
Global Const WF_CPU486 = &H8
Global Const WF_80x87 = &H400
Global Const WF_STANDARD = &H10
Global Const WF_ENHANCED = &H20
Global Const WF_WINNT = &H4000

' Type for SystemHeapInfo.
Type SYSHEAPINFO
    dwSize As Long
    wUserFreePercent As Integer
    wGDIFreePercent As Integer
    hUserSegment As Integer
    hGDIsegment As Integer
End Type

Declare Function GetVersion Lib "Kernel" () As Integer
Declare Function GetWinFlags Lib "Kernel" () As Long
'Enter each of the following Declare statements as one, single line:
Declare Function GetFreeSpace Lib "Kernel" (ByVal wFlags As Integer)
    As Long
Declare Function GlobalCompact Lib "Kernel" (ByVal dwMinFree As Long)
    As Long
Declare Function SystemHeapInfo Lib "toolhelp.dll" (shi As
    SYSHEAPINFO) As Integer

```

4. Enter the following code into the Form\_Load procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    Dim msg As String          ' Status information.
    Dim nl As String           ' New-line.
    nl = Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)  ' New-line.

    Show
    MousePointer = 11         ' Hourglass.
    ver% = GetVersion()
    status& = GetWinFlags()

    ' Get operating system and version.
    If status& And WF_WINNT Then
        msg = msg + "Microsoft Windows NT "
    Else
        msg = msg + "Microsoft Windows "
    End If
    ver_major$ = Format$(ver% And &HFF)
    ver_minor$ = Format$(ver% \ &H100, "00")
    msg = msg + ver_major$ + "." + ver_minor$ + nl

    ' Get CPU kind and operating mode.
    msg = msg + "CPU: "
    If status& And WF_CPU286 Then msg = msg + "80286"
    If status& And WF_CPU386 Then msg = msg + "80386"
    If status& And WF_CPU486 Then msg = msg + "80486"
    If status& And WF_80x87 Then msg = msg + " with 80x87"
    msg = msg + nl

```

```

msg = msg + "Mode: "
If status& And WF_STANDARD Then msg = msg + "Standard" + nl
If status& And WF_ENHANCED Then msg = msg + "Enhanced" + nl

' Get free memory.
memory& = GetFreeSpace(0)
msg = msg + "Memory free: "
msg = msg + Format$(memory& \ 1024, "###,###,###") + "K" + nl
memory& = GlobalCompact(&HFFFFFFF)
msg = msg + "Largest free block: "
msg = msg + Format$(memory& \ 1024, "###,###,###") + "K" + nl

' Get free system resources.
' The API SystemHeapInfo became available in Windows version 3.1.
msg = msg + "System resources: "
If ver% >= &H310 Then
    Dim shi As SYSHEAPINFO
    shi.dwSize = Len(shi)
    If SystemHeapInfo(shi) Then
        If shi.wUserFreePercent < shi.wGDIFreePercent Then
            msg = msg + Format$(shi.wUserFreePercent) + "%"
        Else
            msg = msg + Format$(shi.wGDIFreePercent) + "%"
        End If
    End If
Else
    msg = msg + "n/a"
End If

MsgBox msg, 0, "About " + Caption
MousePointer = 0
End Sub

```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 3.10 286 386 486  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## How to Set Focus to First VB .EXE Instance When Second Invoked

Article ID: Q84585

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article describes how to set the focus to the first instance of a Visual Basic for Windows .EXE application when you attempt to invoke a second instance of the same application. This feature prevents multiple copies (instances) of the same program from running in memory.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

An example of this behavior is shown by the File Manager shipped with Windows. If the File Manager is already running and you try to start a second instance of it, the focus is simply shifted to the copy that is already running so that another occurrence is not started. By using the following function, you can achieve the same effect in a Visual Basic for Windows application.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Place a command button (Command1) on Form1. Set the Caption property to END. In the Command1\_Click event, put the keyword END as the only line of code.
3. Put the following declarations in either the global module or the general Declarations section of Form1. Enter each of the three declarations one one, single line:

```
Declare Function FindWindow% Lib "user" (ByVal lpClassName As Any,  
    ByVal lpCaption As Any)  
Declare Function ShowWindow% Lib "User" (ByVal Handle As Integer,  
    ByVal Cmd As Integer)  
Declare Function SFocus% Lib "User" Alias "SetFocus" (ByVal Handle As  
    Integer)
```

4. Put the following code in the Form1.Load event:

```

Title$ = "Test Program"
X% = CheckUnique(Title$)
If X% = 0 Then
    End
End If
Form1.Caption= Title$

```

5. Create the following general function:

```

Function CheckUnique (FormName As String) As Integer
    Dim Handle As Integer
    Handle = FindWindow(0&, FormName)

    If Handle = 0 Then
        ' -1 is a true value.
        CheckUnique = -1
    Else
        X% = ShowWindow(Handle, 1)
        X% = SFocus(Handle)
        ' 0 is a false value.
        CheckUnique = 0
    End If
End Function

```

6. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File.

7. Press the F5 key to run the program.

If you try to launch a second occurrence of the program, it will simply give the focus to the first. If you try to launch a second occurrence while the first occurrence is minimized, it will restore the first occurrence and give it the focus. A second occurrence will not be loaded into Windows.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
 KBCategory:  
 KBSubcategory: APrgWindow



## How to Determine the Number of VB Applications Running at Once

Article ID: Q84836

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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To determine the total number of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows applications running at any given time, you can use the Microsoft Windows API functions `GetModuleHandle` and `GetModuleUsage`.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following code fragment demonstrates a technique to find the total number of Visual Basic for Windows applications currently executing by determining the number of instances of the Visual Basic run-time module (`VBRUN100.DLL`) with the Windows API functions `GetModuleHandle` and `GetModuleUsage`. Remember that Visual Basic for Windows itself is not counted; only applications created with Visual Basic for Windows are included.

### Steps to Create Example Program

-----

1. Start several Visual Basic for Windows applications and leave them running.
2. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
3. Enter the following Windows API function declarations into the General Declarations section of Form1:

```
Declare Function GetModuleUsage% Lib "kernel" (ByVal hModule%)
Declare Function GetModuleHandle% Lib "kernel" (ByVal FileName$)
```

4. Place a command button (`Command1`) on Form1. Double-click that button to open the Code window. In the `Command1_Click` procedure, add the following code:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    msg$ = "Number of executing VB Apps: "

    hModule% = GetModuleHandle("VBRUN300.DLL")
    ' For Visual Basic versions 1.0 and 2.0 for Windows, use
```

```
        ' VBRun100.DLL and VBRun2.00.DLL respectively.  
nInstances% = GetModuleUsage(hModule%)  
  
    msg$ = msg$ + Str$(nInstances%)  
    MsgBox msg$  
End Sub
```

5. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File.

6. Press the F5 key to run the file.

7. Click the command button.

A message box displays the total number of executing Visual Basic for Windows applications.

Note: This program itself will count as one application.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## **Print Form or Client Area to Size on PostScript or PCL Printer**

**Article ID: Q85978**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article demonstrates two Visual Basic procedures: PrintWindow and PrintClient. Both procedures allow you to print a control or form at a specified size and location (a printed page, another form, or a picture control).

The PrintWindow procedure allows you to print the entire control including the border, caption, and menus.

The PrintClient procedure prints everything contained in the form or control excluding the border, caption, and menus. When passed a form, the PrintClient procedure works just like Visual Basic's PrintForm method.

Both procedures (PrintWindow and PrintClient) print all child controls contained in the form or control. And both use the StretchDIBits Window API function as well as other Windows API functions to print a form or control. These functions will print to both Postscript and PCL (printer control language) or HP-type LaserJet printers.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

The following steps show you how to create a program that prints a form on the printer.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add two command buttons (Command1 and Command2) to Form1.
3. Load the WINLOGO.BMP file (or some other large bitmap) into the Picture property of Form1. WINLOGO.BMP should be in the \WINDOWS directory.
4. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created by default.
5. Add the following code to Module1:

```

'*****
'* Project
'*      PrintAll.MAK
'*
'* Contents
'*      PrintALL.FRM   (Form1)
'*      PrintALL.BAS
'* Structure
'*      Form1 can contain any number of controls.
'*      The minimum number to demonstrate both client area
'*      printing and entire form printing is two command buttons.
'*      For illustration, assign a large bitmap to the picture
'*      property of Form1.
'*
'* Description:
'*      This example successfully prints on both PostScript and
'*      PCL (Printer Control Language: the non-PostScript type)
'*      printers. The printer output is of the same resolution as
'*      you would expect from the PrintForm method or from
'*      printing the form from the VB environment. Both the
'*      PrintClient and PrintWindow procedures are generic in
'*      that they can be used to print any visible window. To
'*      incorporate the code into your project, add PrintAll.BAS
'*      in the project and paste the code in the PrintAll.GLB
'*      program into a code module. The code in the
'*      Command1_Click and Command2_Click events demonstrates how
'*      to call the two procedures PrintWindow and PrintClient. To
'*      print any active window, use the AppActivate and the
'*      GetFocus functions to get the handle to the window to pass
'*      to the procedures.
'*
'*****
'*****
'* Module
'*      PrintAll.BAS
'*
'* Description:
'*      Contains all the necessary Windows API function and Type
'*      structure declarations
'*****
DefInt A-Z

Type BITMAPINFOHEADER_Type
    biSize As Long
    biWidth As Long
    biHeight As Long
    biPlanes As Integer
    biBitCount As Integer
    biCompression As Long
    biSizeImage As Long
    biXPelsPerMeter As Long
    biYPelsPerMeter As Long
    biClrUsed As Long
    biClrImportant As Long
End Type

Type BITMAPINFO_Type

```

```

        BitmapInfoHeader As BITMAPINFOHEADER_Type
        bmiColors As String * 1024
End Type

Type RectType
    Left As Integer
    Top As Integer
    Right As Integer
    Bottom As Integer
End Type

Type PointType
    x As Integer
    y As Integer
End Type

' DC related API
Declare Function CreateCompatibleDC Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC)
Declare Function GetWindowDC Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd)
Declare Function GetDC Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd)
Declare Function ReleaseDC Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, ByVal hDC)
Declare Function DeleteDC Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC)

' Graphics related API
' Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function BitBlt Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC, ByVal x, ByVal y,
    ByVal w, ByVal h, ByVal hDC, ByVal x, ByVal y, ByVal o As Long)
' Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function GetDIBits Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC, ByVal hBitmap,
    ByVal nStartScan, ByVal nNumScans, ByVal lpBits As Long,
    BitmapInfo As BITMAPINFO_Type, ByVal wUsage)
' Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function StretchDIBits Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC, ByVal DestX,
    ByVal DestY, ByVal wDestWidth, ByVal wDestHeight, ByVal SrcX,
    ByVal SrcY, ByVal wSrcWidth, ByVal wSrcHeight, ByVal lpBits&,
    BitsInfo As BITMAPINFO_Type, ByVal wUsage, ByVal dwRop&)

' General attribute related API
Declare Function GetDeviceCaps Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC, ByVal nIndex)
Declare Function GetWindowRect Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, lpRect As RectType)
Declare Function GetClientRect Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd, lpRect As RectType)

' Memory allocation related API
Declare Function GlobalAlloc Lib "kernel" (ByVal wFlags, ByVal lMem&)
Declare Function GlobalLock Lib "kernel" (ByVal hMem) As Long
Declare Function GlobalUnlock Lib "kernel" (ByVal hMem)
Declare Function GlobalFree Lib "kernel" (ByVal hMem)

' Graphics object related API
' Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function CreateCompatibleBitmap Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC, ByVal nWidth,
    ByVal nHeight)
Declare Function DeleteObject Lib "gdi" (ByVal hObject)
Declare Function SelectObject Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC, ByVal hObject)
Declare Function ClientToScreen Lib "user" (ByVal hWnd%, p As PointType)
Declare Function LPToDP Lib "gdi" (ByVal hDC, p As PointType, ByVal nCount)

```

```
' Include the following constant declarations if using Visual Basic
' version 1.0
' Const False = 0
' Const True = Not False
```

```
Const HORZRES = 8
Const VERTRES = 10
```

```
Const SRCCOPY = &HCC0020
Const NEWFRAME = 1
Const BITSPIXEL = 12
Const PLANES = 14
```

```
Const BI_RGB = 0
Const BI_RLE8 = 1
Const BI_RLE4 = 2
```

```
Const DIB_PAL_COLORS = 1
Const DIB_RGB_COLORS = 0
```

```
Const GMEM_MOVEABLE = 2
```

4. Add the following function, PrintWindow to Module1

```
'*****
'* Title
'*      PrintWindow()
'*
'* Description
'*
'*      Copies the entire window (form or control) to another
'*      window (form or control) or device such as a printer. This
'*      routine is capable of printing complete form images on any
'*      printer that has Windows drivers loaded including Postscript.
'*
'*      The API functions GetDIBits and StretchDIBits are used to copy
'*      the client area image to the destination window or device.
'*
'* Parameters:
'*      hDC_Dest          Handle to the DC of the destination device or
'*                        window.
'*      DestX             X position of where the image will be
'*                        displayed on the destination device.
'*      DestY             Y position of where the image will be
'*                        displayed on the destination device.
'*      DestDevWidth      Pixel width of the destination device.
'*      DestDevHeight     Pixel height of the destination device.
'*      hWnd_SrcWindow    Window handle of the source window to be
'*                        displayed on the destination device.
'******
' Enter the following statement as one, single line:
Function PrintWindow (ByVal hDC_Dest, ByVal DestX, ByVal DestY,
    ByVal DestDevWidth, ByVal DestDevHeight, ByVal hWnd_SrcWindow)

    Dim Rect As RectType
    Dim BitmapInfo As BITMAPINFO_Type
```

```

cr$ = Chr$(13)

' Get the DC for the entire window including the non-client area.
hDC_Window = GetWindowDC(hWnd_SrcWindow)
hDC_Mem = CreateCompatibleDC(hDC_Window)

' Get the pixel dimensions of the screen. This is necessary so
' that we can determine the relative size of the window compared to
' the screen
ScreenWidth = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_Window, HORZRES)
ScreenHeight = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_Window, VERTRES)

' Get the pixel dimensions of the window to be printed.
r = GetWindowRect(hWnd_SrcWindow, Rect)
Window_Width = Abs(Rect.Right - Rect.Left)
Window_Height = Abs(Rect.Bottom - Rect.Top)

' Create a bitmap compatible with the window DC. Enter the following
' statement as one, single line:

hBmp_Window = CreateCompatibleBitmap(hDC_Window, Window_Width,
    Window_Height)

' Select the bitmap to hold the window image into the memory DC.
hPrevBmp = SelectObject(hDC_Mem, hBmp_Window)

' Copy the image of the window to the memory DC. Enter the following
' statement as one, single line:
r1 = BitBlt(hDC_Mem, 0, 0, Window_Width, Window_Height, hDC_Window,
    0, 0, SRCCOPY)

BitsPerPixel = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_Mem, BITSPIXEL)
ColorPlanes = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_Mem, PLANES)

BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biSize = 40
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biWidth = Window_Width
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biHeight = Window_Height
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biPlanes = 1
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biBitCount = BitsPerPixel * ColorPlanes
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biCompression = BI_RGB
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biSizeImage = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biXPelsPerMeter = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biYPelsPerMeter = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biClrUsed = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biClrImportant = 0

' Calculate the ratios based on the source and destination
' devices. This will help to cause the size of the window image
' to be approximately the same proportion on another device
' such as a printer.
WidthRatio! = Window_Width / ScreenWidth
HeightAspectRatio! = Window_Height / Window_Width

PrintWidth = WidthRatio! * DestDevWidth
PrintHeight = HeightAspectRatio! * PrintWidth

' Calculate the number of bytes needed to store the image assuming

```

```

' 8 bits/pixel.
BytesNeeded& = CLng(Window_Width + 1) * (Window_Height + 1)

' Allocate a buffer to hold the bitmap bits.
hMem = GlobalAlloc(GMEM_MOVEABLE, BytesNeeded&)

' Enter the following If statement as one, single line:
If hDC_Window <> 0 And hBmp_Window <> 0 And hDC_Dest <> 0 And
  hMem <> 0 Then

  lpBits& = GlobalLock(hMem)

  ' Get the bits that make up the image and copy them to the
  ' destination device.
  ' Enter the following r2 statement as one, single line:
  r2 = GetDIBits(hDC_Mem, hBmp_Window, 0, Window_Height, lpBits&,
    BitmapInfo, DIB_RGB_COLORS)
  ' Enter the following r3 statement as one, single line:
  r3 = StretchDIBits(hDC_Dest, DestX, DestY, PrintWidth, PrintHeight,
    0, 0, Window_Width, Window_Height, lpBits&, BitmapInfo,
    DIB_RGB_COLORS, SRCCOPY)
End If

' Reselect in the previous bitmap and select the source image bitmap.
r = SelectObject(hDC_Mem, hPrevBmp)

' Release or delete DC's, memory and objects.
r = GlobalUnlock(hMem)
r = GlobalFree(hMem)
r = DeleteDC(hDC_Window)
r = DeleteObject(hBmp_Window)
r = ReleaseDC(hWnd_SrcWindow, hDC_Form)

' Return true if the window was successfully printed.
If r2 <> 0 And r3 <> 0 Then
  PrintWindow = True
Else
  PrintWindow = False
End If

```

End Function

6. Add the following function, PrintClient to Module1:

```

'*****
'* Title
'*      PrintClient()
'*
'* Description
'*
'*      Copies the client area of a window visible on the desktop to
'*      another window or device such as a printer. This routine is
'*      capable of printing client area images on any printer that has
'*      Windows drivers loaded including PostScript.
'*
'*      The API functions GetDiBits and StretchBits are used to copy
'*      the client area image to the destination device.

```



```

'*
'* Parameters:
'*     hDC_Dest          Handle to the DC of the destination device or
'*                        window.
'*     DestX             X position of where the image will be
'*                        displayed on the destination device.
'*     DestY             Y position of where the image will be
'*                        displayed on the destination device.
'*     DestDevWidth      Pixel width of the destination device.
'*     DestDevHeight     Pixel height of the destination device.
'*     hWnd_SrcWindow    Window handle of the source window to be
'*                        displayed on the destination device.
'*****

' Enter the following Function statement as one, single line:
Function PrintClient (ByVal hDC_Dest, ByVal DestX, ByVal DestY,
    ByVal DestDevWidth, ByVal DestDevHeight, ByVal hWnd_SrcWindow)

    Dim Rect As RectType, RectClient As RectType
    Dim BitmapInfo As BITMAPINFO_Type
    '*
    Dim pWindow As PointType, pClient As PointType, pDiff As PointType
    '*

    cr$ = Chr$(13)

    ' Get the DC for the entire window including the non-client area.
    hDC_Window = GetWindowDC(hWnd_SrcWindow)
    hDC_Mem = CreateCompatibleDC(hDC_Window)

    ' Get the pixel dimensions of the screen.
    ScreenWidth = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_Window, HORZRES)
    ScreenHeight = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_Window, VERTRES)

    ' Get the pixel dimensions of the window to be printed.
    r = GetWindowRect(hWnd_SrcWindow, Rect)
    Window_Width = Abs(Rect.Right - Rect.Left)
    Window_Height = Abs(Rect.Bottom - Rect.Top)

    ' Create a bitmap compatible with the window DC.
    ' Enter the following statement as one, single line:
    hBmp_Window = CreateCompatibleBitmap(hDC_Window, Window_Width,
        Window_Height)

    ' Select the bitmap to hold the window image into the memory DC.
    hPrevBmp = SelectObject(hDC_Mem, hBmp_Window)

    ' Copy the image of the window to the memory DC.
    ' Enter the following statement as one, single line:
    r1 = BitBlt(hDC_Mem, 0, 0, Window_Width, Window_Height,
        hDC_Window, 0, 0, SRCCOPY)

    ' Get the dimensions of the client area.
    r = GetClientRect(hWnd_SrcWindow, RectClient)
    Client_Width = Abs(RectClient.Right - RectClient.Left)
    Client_Height = Abs(RectClient.Bottom - RectClient.Top)

```

```

' Calculate the pixel difference (x and y) between the upper-left
' corner of the non-client area and the upper-left corner of the
' client area.
pClient.x = RectClient.Left
pClient.y = RectClient.Top
r = ClientToScreen(hWnd_SrcWindow, pClient)

xDiff = Abs(pClient.x - Rect.Left)
yDiff = Abs(pClient.y - Rect.Top)

' Create a DC and bitmap to represent the client area of the window.
hDC_MemClient = CreateCompatibleDC(hDC_Window)

' Enter the following statement as one, single line:
hBmp_Client = CreateCompatibleBitmap(hDC_Window, Client_Width,
    Client_Height)

hBmpClientPrev = SelectObject(hDC_MemClient, hBmp_Client)

' Bitblt client area of window to memory bitmap representing the client
' area.
' Enter the following statement as one, single line:
r = BitBlt(hDC_MemClient, 0, 0, Client_Width, Client_Height,
    hDC_Mem, xDiff, yDiff, SRCCOPY)

' Reselect in the previous bitmap and select the source image bitmap.
r = SelectObject(hDC_Mem, hPrevBmp)

' Delete the DC a and bitmap associated with the window.
r = DeleteDC(hDC_Window)
r = DeleteObject(hBmp_Window)

BitsPerPixel = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_MemClient, BITSPIXEL)
ColorPlanes = GetDeviceCaps(hDC_MemClient, PLANES)

BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biSize = 40
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biWidth = Client_Width
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biHeight = Client_Height
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biPlanes = 1
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biBitCount = BitsPerPixel * ColorPlanes
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biCompression = BI_RGB
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biSizeImage = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biXPelsPerMeter = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biYPelsPerMeter = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biClrUsed = 0
BitmapInfo.BitmapInfoHeader.biClrImportant = 0

' Calculate the ratios based on the source and destination
' devices. This will help to cause the size of the window image to
' be approximately the same proportion on another device such as
' a printer.
WidthRatio! = Client_Width / ScreenWidth
HeightAspectRatio! = Client_Height / Client_Width

PrintWidth = WidthRatio! * DestDevWidth
PrintHeight = HeightAspectRatio! * PrintWidth

```

```

' Calculate the number of bytes needed to store the image assuming
' 8 bits/pixel.
BytesNeeded& = CLng(Window_Width + 1) * (Window_Height + 1)

' Allocate a buffer to hold the bitmap bits.
hMem = GlobalAlloc(GMEM_MOVEABLE, BytesNeeded&)

If hDC_Window <> 0 And hBmp_Window <> 0 And hDC_Dest <> 0 And
    hMem <> 0 Then

    lpBits& = GlobalLock(hMem)

    ' Get the bits that make up the image and copy them to the
    ' destination device.

    ' Enter the following r2 statement as one, single line:
    r2 = GetDIBits(hDC_MemClient, hBmp_Client, 0, Client_Height,
        lpBits&, BitmapInfo, DIB_RGB_COLORS)

    ' Enter the following r3 statement as one, single line:
    r3 = StretchDIBits(hDC_Dest, DestX, DestY, PrintWidth, PrintHeight,
        0, 0, Client_Width, Client_Height, lpBits&, BitmapInfo,
        DIB_RGB_COLORS, SRCCOPY)
End If

' Select in the previous bitmap.
r = SelectObject(hDC_MemClient, hBmpClientPrev)

' Release or delete DC's, memory and objects.
r = GlobalUnlock(hMem)
r = GlobalFree(hMem)
r = DeleteDC(hDC_MemClient)
r = DeleteObject(hBmp_Client)
r = ReleaseDC(hWnd_SrcWindow, hDC_Form)

' Return true if the window was successfully printed.
If r2 <> 0 And r3 <> 0 Then
    PrintClient = True
Else
    PrintClient = False
End If

```

End Function

7. Add DefInt A-Z to the general declarations level of Form1.

8. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    ' The ScaleMode must be set to pixels for the PrintWindow
    ' routine to print correctly.
    Printer.ScaleMode = 3

    ' Change MousePointer to an hourglass.
    Screen.MousePointer = 11

    ' Initialize the printer.

```

```

Printer.Print ""

' Copy the image of the form to the printer.
' To print Command1 instead, you can substitute Command1.hWnd for
' Form1.hWnd as the last argument.
' Enter the following statement as one, single line:
r = PrintClient(Printer.hDC, 100, 100, Printer.ScaleWidth,
    Printer.ScaleHeight, Form1.hWnd)

' Display an error if the return value from PrintWindow is zero.
If Not r Then
    MsgBox "Unable to print the form"
Else
    Printer.EndDoc
End If

Screen.MousePointer = 0
End Sub

```

9. Add the following code to the Command2\_Click event:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    ' The ScaleMode must be set to pixels for the PrintWindow
    ' routine to print correctly.
    Printer.ScaleMode = 3

    ' Change MousePointer to an hourglass.
    Screen.MousePointer = 11

    ' Initialize the printer.
    Printer.Print ""

    ' Copy the image of the form to the printer.
    ' To print Command1 instead, you can substitute Command1.hWnd for
    ' Form1.hWnd as the last argument.
    ' Enter the following statement as one, single line:
    r = PrintWindow(Printer.hDC, 100, 100, Printer.ScaleWidth,
        Printer.ScaleHeight, Form1.hWnd)

    ' Display an error if the return value from PrintWindow is zero.
    If Not r Then
        MsgBox "Unable to print the form"
    Else
        Printer.EndDoc
    End If

    Screen.MousePointer = 0
End Sub

```

10. Run the program.

Choose the Command1 button to print only the client area of Form1. Choose the Command2 button to print the entire area of the form.

Note that you can print any of the forms or controls in a project by using this method. Control the size and placement of the forms by changing the second, third, fourth, and fifth parameters of the call to StretchDIBits.

In the example shown above, the form or control is sized in proportion to the size of the screen.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## How to Play a Waveform (.WAV) Sound File in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q86281

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can play a waveform (.WAV) sound file from Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows by calling the sndPlaySound API function from the MMSYSTEM.DLL file. In order to be able to call the sndPlaySound API function, you must be using either Microsoft Windows, version 3.1 or the Microsoft Multimedia Extensions for Windows, version 3.0. The following information discusses the sndPlaySound parameters, and includes an example of how to use this function from Visual Basic for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

To use the sndPlaySound API from within a Visual Basic for Windows application, you must Declare the sndPlaySound function in either the global module or from within the Declarations section of your Code window. Declare the function as follows:

```
Declare Function sndPlaySound Lib "MMSTSTEM.DLL" (ByVal lpszSoundName$  
                                                ByVal wFlags%) As Integer
```

Note: The above Declare statement must be written on just one line.

The parameters listed above are explained as follows:

#### Parameters

-----

lpszSoundName\$

Specifies the name of the sound to play. The function first searches the [sounds] section of the WIN.INI file for an entry with the specified name, and plays the associated waveform sound file. If no entry by this name exists, then it assumes the specified name is the name of a waveform sound file. If this parameter is NULL, any currently playing sound is stopped.

wFlags%

Specifies options for playing the sound using one or more of the following flags:

**SND\_SYNC**

The sound is played synchronously and the function does not return until the sound ends.

**SND\_ASYNC**

The sound is played asynchronously and the function returns immediately after beginning the sound.

**SND\_NODEFAULT**

If the sound cannot be found, the function returns silently without playing the default sound.

**SND\_LOOP**

The sound will continue to play repeatedly until `sndPlaySound` is called again with the `lpszSoundName$` parameter set to null. You must also specify the `SND_ASYNC` flag to loop sounds.

**SND\_NOSTOP**

If a sound is currently playing, the function will immediately return `False` without playing the requested sound.

The `sndPlaySound` function returns `True` (-1) if the sound is played, otherwise it returns `False` (0).

The following code example illustrates how to use the `sndPlaySound` API function to play a waveform (.WAV) sound file.

Add the following code to the global module or general Declarations section of your form:

```
' The following Declare statement must appear on one line.
Declare Function sndPlaySound Lib "MMSYSTEM.DLL" (ByVal
    lpszSoundName$, ByVal wFlags%) As Integer

Global Const SND_SYNC      = &H0000
Global Const SND_ASYNC     = &H0001
Global Const SND_NODEFAULT = &H0002
Global Const SND_LOOP      = &H0008
Global Const SND_NOSTOP    = &H0010
```

Add the following line of code to the appropriate function or subroutine in your application:

```
SoundName$ = "c:\windows\tada.wav"
wFlags% = SND_ASYNC Or SND_NODEFAULT
x% = sndPlaySound(SoundName$, wFlags%)
```

Note that if a large waveform (.WAV) sound file is specified and the above call fails to play the file in its entirety, you will need to adjust the settings on the appropriate sound driver.

For more information on adjusting the sound driver settings, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

Speaker and Sound and Driver and Settings and .Wav and File

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Multimedia Development Kit: Programmer's Reference"  
version 1.0

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther



## **VB for Windows Line Method Does Not Paint Last Pixel**

**Article ID: Q86770**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SYMPTOMS

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The Line method does not paint the last pixel specified in the coordinates passed to it. Therefore, when trying to draw one line that ends on top of another, you must add to the coordinates.

### STATUS

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This behavior is by design and is the same as the LineTo statement in the Windows API; however, this information is not included in the Visual Basic documentation or Help menu.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Put a picture box (Picture1) on Form1.
3. Set the BackColor property of the picture to blue (&H00C00000&) to view the picture box more clearly.
4. Add the following code to the Picture1.Click event:

```
Sub Picture1_Click ()  
    Picture1.Line (100, 100)-(500, 100)  
    Picture1.Line (500, 10)-(500, 200), QBColor(15)  
    Picture1.Line (100, 100)-(500, 100)  
End Sub
```

5. Press F5 to start the program. Click the picture box.

You may expect that the third line statement should overwrite the second line and the point of intersection should be black. However, no intersection occurs because the last pixel of the third line is not drawn, so the third line statement does not overwrite the second line at all.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## How to Invoke Search in Windows Help from Visual Basic Program

Article ID: Q86771

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can invoke the Search feature of the Windows version 3.0 and 3.1 Help engine from a Visual Basic program. To do this, call the Windows API function WinHelp and pass the constant HELP\_PARTIALKEY (&H105) as the wCommand parameter and any string that is a NON-valid topic as the dwData parameter.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. In GLOBAL.BAS (or the .BAS file of your choice in Visual Basic version 2.0), add this code:

```
Global Const HELP_PARTIALKEY = &H105
' Enter the following Declare statement entirely on one, single line.
Declare Function WinHelp Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd As Integer,
    ByVal lpHelpFile As String, ByVal wCommand As Integer,
    ByVal dwData As Any) As Integer
```

3. In the Form1 Click event procedure, add this code:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    DummyVal$ = " "
    ' Enter the following function call entirely on one, single line:
    Temp% = WinHelp(Form1.hWnd, "c:\Windows\winhelp.hlp",
        HELP_PARTIALKEY, DummyVal$)
End Sub
```

4. Press F5 to run this example. Click the form.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Use LZCOPYFILE Function to Decompress or Copy Files

Article ID: Q88257

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Included with Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1 is a dynamic link library (DLL) named LZEXPAND.DLL that contains routines to manipulate compressed files. The functions in LZEXPAND.DLL manipulate files that compressed by the COMPRESS.EXE utility supplied with the Windows Software Development Kit (SDK) versions 3.0 and 3.1. These functions allow you to expand (decompress) a compressed file.

The following example demonstrates how to use the LZCOPYFILE function included in LZEXPAND.DLL. This function is used to expand a compressed file or to copy a file.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following is a small program that will copy or decompress a file in Visual Basic for Windows:

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. In the general Declarations section of Form1, add the following declaration entirely on one, single line:

```
Declare Function LZCOPY Lib "LZEXPAND.DLL" (ByVal SOURCEHANDLE As Integer, ByVal DESTHANDLE As Integer) As Long
```

3. In the Form1 Click event procedure, add the following code:

```
Open "Source" For Input As #1 ' Insert the name and path of the
                              ' file to be decompressed, or copied.

Open "Dest" For Output As #2  ' Insert the name and path of the
                              ' destination file here.

SOURCEHANDLE% = Fileattr(1,2)
DESTHANDLE% = Fileattr(2,2)
RETURNCODE& = Lzcopy(Sourcehandle%, Desthandle%)
Close
```

4. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.

The return code will be set to the number of bytes copied or set to the following value if an error occurs:

- 1 invalid input handle
- 2 invalid output handle
- 3 corrupt compressed file format
- 4 out of space for output file
- 5 insufficient memory for LZFile struct
- 6 bad global handle
- 7 input parameter out of range
- 8 compression algorithm not recognized

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Hide a Non-Visual Basic Window or Icon

Article ID: Q88476

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The following information applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows
- 

### SUMMARY

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Occasionally, it is desirable to hide a window from a Visual Basic for Windows application that is not owned by the Visual Basic for Windows application. For example, when using the GRAPH.VBX custom control provided with the Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows and with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows, an icon appears at the bottom of the screen for the graphics server. This icon represents a program that is a support module for the graph control and so serves no direct purpose for the user. You can hide the icon by issuing two Windows API calls.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The FindWindow and ShowWindow Windows APIs can be used to hide a window. FindWindow uses the title on the top of the window to get a handle that can then be used by ShowWindow. ShowWindow can perform several different operations. In this case it makes a window invisible.

The following example hides the Graphics Server icon started by the Graph control. You can use this same technique to hide any window currently active in Windows.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRAPH.VBX custom control file. The GRAPH tool appears in the Toolbox. This starts the Graphics Server at the bottom of your screen.
3. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1.
4. Enter the following code into the global module taking care to enter each Declare statement entirely on one, single line:

```
Declare Function FindWindow Lib "User" (ByVal lpClassName As Any,  
    ByVal lpWindowName As Any) As Integer  
Declare Function ShowWindow Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd As Integer,  
    ByVal nCmdShow As Integer) As Integer
```

5. Enter the following code into the Command1 click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click()  
    Dim Handle As Integer  
    Dim WindowName As String  
  
    WindowName = "Graphics Server"  
    Const SW_Hide = 0  
  
    Handle = FindWindow(0&, WindowName)  
    X% = ShowWindow(Handle, SW_Hide)  
End Sub
```

6. Press F5 to run the application.

When you choose the Command1 button, the Graphics Server icon becomes invisible.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Compare User-Defined Type Variables in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q88551

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The relational operators (=, <>, and so on) do not support the comparison of user-defined type variables. However, you can compare user-defined type variables by converting the variables to strings, and then comparing the strings. The Windows version 3.1 API `hmemcpy` can be used to convert a user-defined type variable to a string.

The `hmemcpy` API was introduced in Microsoft Windows version 3.1, so this technique requires Windows version 3.1 or later.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

If you attempt to compare user-defined type variables using the relational operators, the error "Type mismatch" is displayed.

The following steps demonstrate how to compare user-defined type variables by first converting the variables to strings and then comparing the strings by using the relational operators.

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Enter the following code into the global module:

```
Type myType
    f1 As String * 2
    f2 As Single
End Type
```

```
' Enter the following Declare statement entirely as one, single line:
Declare Sub hmemcpy Lib "kernel" (hpdDest As Any, hpdSource As Any,
    ByVal cbCopy As Long)
```

3. Enter the following code into the general Declarations section of Form1:

```
' type2str converts a user-defined type variable to a string.
Function type2str (t As myType) As String
    Dim s As String
    s = Space$(Len(t))
```



```
    Call hmemcpy(ByVal s, t, Len(t))
    type2str = s
End Function
```

4. Enter the following code into the Form1 Click event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Dim x As myType
    Dim y As myType

    x.f1 = "ab"
    x.f2 = 2
    y = x

    If type2str(x) = type2str(y) Then
        Print "x = y"
    Else
        Print "x <> y"
    End If

    y.f1 = "ba"
    If type2str(x) > type2str(y) Then
        Print "x > y"
    Else
        Print "x <= y"
    End If
End Sub
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program.

The program prints "x = y" and "x <= y" on Form1.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 3.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Extract a Windows Program Icon -- Running or Not

Article ID: Q88944

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The example program included below demonstrates how to extract an icon from a Windows program, whether it is currently running or not. There are two different techniques depending on whether the program is run in Windows version 3.0 or 3.1. The API function ExtractIcon, introduced in Windows version 3.1, simplifies the process of extracting the icon. In Windows version 3.0, a different approach is required. Both methods are illustrated below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The example program shown below displays the icon of an application in a picture box. The example demonstrates the handling of the hDC property of the picture box control, specifically the relationship between the Refresh method, the Image property, and the AutoRedraw property. The code in the Command3\_Click event demonstrates how to transfer the captured icon image to the Picture property of a picture box (Picture2).

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Create the following controls with the default property settings:

- Picture1
- Picture2
- Command1
- Command2
- Command3

3. Place the code below into the general Declarations section of Form1 taking care to enter each Declare statement on one, single line:

```
' API declarations used in Windows version 3.0 method.
Declare Function GetActiveWindow Lib "User" () As Integer
Declare Function PostMessage Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd As Integer,
    ByVal wParam As Integer, ByVal lParam As Integer, ByVal lParam As Any)
    As Integer
Declare Function FindWindow Lib "User" (ByVal lpClassName As Any,
    ByVal lpWindowName As Any) As Integer
```

```

Declare Function LoadLibrary Lib "Kernel" (ByVal lpLibFileName
    As String) As Integer
Declare Function GetWindowWord Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd As Integer,
    ByVal nIndex As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function LoadIcon Lib "User" (ByVal hInstance As Integer,
    ByVal lpIconName As Any) As Integer

' API declarations used in Windows version 3.1 method.
Declare Function GetModuleHandle Lib "Kernel" (ByVal lpModuleName
    As String) As Integer
Declare Function GetClassWord Lib "User" (ByVal hWnd As Integer,
    ByVal nIndex As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function ExtractIcon Lib "SHELL" (ByVal hInst As Integer,
    ByVal lpszexename As String, ByVal hIcon As Integer) As Integer

' API declaration used by both Windows version 3.0 and 3.1 methods.
Declare Function DrawIcon Lib "User" (ByVal hDC As Integer, ByVal x
    As Integer, ByVal Y As Integer, ByVal hIcon As Integer) As Integer

' Window field offsets for GetClassWord() and GetWindowWord().
Const GWW_HINSTANCE = (-6)
Const GCW_HMODULE = (-16)
' Constants for SendMessage and PostMessage.
Const WM_CLOSE = &H10
' If using Visual Basic version 1.0, remove the single quotation mark
' from the following line of code:
' Const NULL = 0&

```

4. Place the following code in the Form\_Load event of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    Command1.Caption = " 3.0 method "
    Command2.Caption = " 3.1 method "
    Command3.Caption = " Transfer "
    Form1.Caption = " Example of Extracting an Icon"
    Form1.Width = Screen.Width * 2 / 3
    Form1.Height = Screen.Height / 2

    ' Center the form on the screen.
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    Form1.Move (Screen.Width - Form1.Width) / 2,
        (Screen.Height - Form1.Height) / 2
    ' Size and position the controls dynamically at run time.
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    Picture1.Move 0, 0, Form1.Width / 2,
        Form1.Height - Command1.Height * 4
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    Picture2.Move Form1.Width / 2, 0, Form1.Width,
        Form1.Height - Command2.Height * 4
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    Command1.Move (Form1.Width / 2 - Command1.Width) / 2,
        Form1.Height - Command1.Height * 4
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    Command2.Move (Form1.Width / 2 - Command1.Width) / 2,
        Form1.Height - Command1.Height * 3
    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    Command3.Move (Form1.Width * 3 / 2 - Command2.Width) / 2,

```

```

Form1.Height - Command2.Height * 4
End Sub

```

5. Place the following code in the Command1\_Click event. Configure the code to match your situation by removing the comment apostrophe from one of the three methods and adding comment apostrophes to the other two -- to effectively enable one of the methods and disable the other two.

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
Dim hInstance As Integer, handle As Integer, hIcon As Integer
Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture("") ' clear any previous image

' Three alternative ways to obtain the handle of the top-level window
' of the program whose icon you want to extract:

' Method 1: If the program is currently running and you don't know
'           the class name.
' AppActivate ("Program Manager") ' Set focus to application.
' handle = GetActiveWindow()      ' Get handle to window.
' Command1.SetFocus               ' Return focus to button.

' Method 2: If program is running and you know the class name.
' Handle = FindWindow("Progman", "Program Manager")

' Method 3: If program is not running, use path and filename.
' Not_Running_Way "sysedit.exe" ' Call sub at general level.
' Exit Sub          ' Bypass remaining code in this Sub.

' Now you have the handle -- use it to obtain the instance handle.
hInstance = GetWindowWord(handle, GWW_HINSTANCE)
Picture2.Print "3.0 method "
Picture2.Print "handle="; Hex$(handle)
Picture2.Print "hInstance="; Hex$(hInstance) ' Sanity check.

' Iterate through icon resource identifier values
' until you obtain a valid handle to an icon.
Do
    hIcon = LoadIcon(hInstance, n&)
    n& = n& + 1
Loop Until hIcon <> 0
Picture2.Print "hIcon="; Hex$(hIcon)
Picture1.AutoRedraw = -1 ' Make hDC point to persistent bitmap.
r = DrawIcon(Picture1.hDC, 19, 19, hIcon) 'Draw the icon.
Picture1.Refresh          ' Refresh from persistent bitmap to Picture.
End Sub

```

6. Place the following code in the Command2\_Click event. Note that the first two methods commented out are provided for information and contrast to the preferred method, method 3.

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
Dim myhInst As Integer, hIcon As Integer
Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture("") ' Clear the previous image.

' Listed below are three alternative methods that can be used to
' obtain the hInst of your program's module handle.

```

```

' Method 1: Use only with .EXE version of your program.
'   myhInst = GetModuleHandle("Project1.exe")

' Method 2: Use only with your program running in the environment.
'   myhInst = GetModuleHandle("VB.EXE")

' Method 3: The slick way that works in either case.
'   myhInst = GetClassWord(hWnd, GCW_HMODULE)

' The path and filename of program to extract icon from.
lpzxExeName$ = "moricons.dll" ' Can also use an .EXE file here.

' Get handle to icon.
hIcon = ExtractIcon(myhInst, lpzxExeName$, 0)
Picture2.Print "3.1 method "
Picture2.Print "myhInst= "; Hex$(myhInst) ' Sanity check.
Picture2.Print "hIcon= "; Hex$(hIcon) ' Sanity check.

Picture1.AutoRedraw = -1 ' Make the picture's hDC point to the
                        ' persistent bitmap.
r% = DrawIcon(Picture1.hDC, 19, 19, hIcon)
Picture1.Refresh ' Cause Windows to paint from the persistent bitmap
                ' to show the icon.

End Sub

```

7. Place the following code in the form's general Declarations section:

```

Sub Not_Running_Way (appname As String)
    Dim hInstance As Integer, handle As Integer, hIcon As Integer
    Dim hWndShelledWindow As Integer
    Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture("") ' Clear any previous image.
    hInstance = Shell(appname, 2)
    Picture2.Print "3.0 method-application not running"
    Picture2.Print "hInstance= "; Hex$(hInstance) ' Check return.
    r = DoEvents() ' Allow time for shell to complete.

    ' The following technique is from another article that explains
    ' how to determine when a shelled process has terminated. It is
    ' used here to obtain the correct handle to the window of the
    ' application whose icon is being extracted. The handle is needed
    ' to close the application after the extraction is complete.
    TimeoutPeriod = 5
    fTimeout = 0 ' Set to false.
    s! = Timer
    Do
        r = DoEvents()
        hWndShelledWindow = GetActiveWindow()
        ' Set timeout flag if time has expired.
        If Timer - s! > TimeoutPeriod Then fTimeout = True
    Loop While hWndShelledWindow = Form1.hWnd And Not fTimeout
    ' If a timeout occurred, display a timeout message and terminate.
    If fTimeout Then
        MsgBox "Timeout waiting for shelled application", 16
        Exit Sub
    End If

    ' Iterate through icon resource identifier values

```

```

' until you obtain a valid handle to an icon.
Do
    hIcon = LoadIcon(hInstance, n&)
    n& = n& + 1
Loop Until hIcon <> 0

Picture2.Print "HICON= "; Hex$(hIcon)
Picture1.AutoRedraw = -1 ' Make hDC point to persistent bitmap.
r = DrawIcon(Picture1.hDC, 19, 19, hIcon)
Picture2.Print "return from DrawIcon="; r
Picture1.Refresh          ' Refresh from persistent bitmap to picture.

' Now post a message to the window to close the application.
r = PostMessage(hWndShelledWindow, WM_CLOSE, NULL, NULL)
Picture2.Print "return from PostMessage="; r
End Sub

```

8. Place the following code in the Command3\_Click event:

```

Sub Command3_Click ()
    ' This code transfers the extracted icon's image to Picture2's
    ' Picture property and demonstrates that DrawIcon assigns the image
    ' to the hDC of Picture1, which points to the persistent bitmap
    ' (Image property), not to the Picture property.
    Picture2.Picture = LoadPicture("") ' Clear old icon.
    Picture2.currenty = 0               ' Reset coordinates for printing
                                       ' return values.
    Picture2.currentx = 0
    Picture2.Picture = Picture1.image   ' Transfer persistent bitmap image
                                       ' to the Picture property.
End Sub

```

9. Press ALT F, V to save the project. Then press F5 to run the program. Click "3.0 method" to run the code that works in Windows version 3.0. Click "3.1 method" to run the code that works in Windows version 3.1. Click Command3 to copy the icon in Picture1 to Picture2 so that the icon can be accessed as Picture2.Picture.

Both methods extract the first icon in the file. This can be modified to find the second or succeeding icons by:

- Storing the value of n& in the Do Loop from the first extraction and plugging that in as the starting point of the next search in Windows version 3.0.
- Or -
- Setting the third parameter of the ExtractIcon function to a specific index number in Windows version 3.1.

You could do this in a loop to find and examine each icon in the file.

The Windows version 3.0 method may take slightly longer to iterate and find the icon resource ID number.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit Volume 2"

"Microsoft Press Programmer's Reference Library Volume 2"

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Diagnosing "Error in loading DLL" with LoadLibrary

Article ID: Q90753

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The error "Error in loading DLL" (code 48) occurs when you call a dynamic-link library (DLL) procedure and the file specified in the procedure's Declare statement cannot be loaded. You can use the Microsoft Windows API function LoadLibrary to find out more specific information about why a DLL fails to load.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The API function LoadLibrary loads a DLL and returns either a handle or an error code. If the return value is less than 32, it indicates one of the errors listed below. A return value greater than or equal to 32 indicates success and you should call the FreeLibrary function to unload the library.

### LoadLibrary Error Codes

-----

- 0 System was out of memory, executable file was corrupt, or relocations were invalid.
- 2 File was not found.
- 3 Path was not found.
- 5 Attempt was made to dynamically link to a task, or there was a sharing or network-protection error.
- 6 Library required separate data segments for each task.
- 8 There was insufficient memory to start the application.
- 10 Windows version was incorrect.
- 11 Executable file was invalid. Either it was not a Windows application or there was an error in the .EXE image.
- 12 Application was designed for a different operating system.



- 13 Application was designed for MS-DOS 4.0.
- 14 Type of executable file was unknown.
- 15 Attempt was made to load a real-mode application (developed for an earlier version of Windows).
- 16 Attempt was made to load a second instance of an executable file containing multiple data segments that were not marked read-only.
- 19 Attempt was made to load a compressed executable file. The file must be decompressed before it can be loaded.
- 20 Dynamic-link library (DLL) file was invalid. One of the DLLs required to run this application was corrupt.
- 21 Application requires Microsoft Windows 32-bit extensions.

#### Steps to Create Example Program

-----  
The following program demonstrates how to call LoadLibrary to load a library and display a resulting error code.

- 1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
- 2. Enter the following code into the general declarations section:

```
Declare Function LoadLibrary Lib "kernel" (ByVal f$) As Integer
Declare Sub FreeLibrary Lib "Kernel" (ByVal h As Integer)
```

- 3. Enter the following code into the Form Click event handler:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Dim hInst As Integer
    ' Enter the name of your DLL file inside the quotes below.
    ' The file WIN.COM is not a valid DLL and demonstrates an error.
    hInst = LoadLibrary("win.com")
    If hInst > 32 Then
        MsgBox "LoadLibrary success"
        FreeLibrary (hInst)
    Else
        MsgBox "LoadLibrary error " + Format$(hInst)
    End If
End Sub
```

- 4. Press the F5 key to run the program. Then click Form1. The program displays the error code returned from LoadLibrary. Look up this error code in the list of errors above to find an explanation.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Converting an Icon (.ICO) to Bitmap (.BMP) Format

Article ID: Q90872

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can convert a Windows icon file (.ICO) to a Windows bitmap (.BMP) file by storing the icon in a picture box, and then using the SavePicture statement with the Image property of the picture control.

### MORE INFORMATION

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You may wish to convert an icon format file to the bitmap format to perform operations that cannot be performed on icon format files, such as loading the image into Microsoft Windows Paintbrush.

To convert an icon format file to a bitmap format file, assign the icon to the Picture property of a picture box property (at design-time or run-time). At run-time, use the following statement:

```
SavePicture Picture1.Image, "filename.bmp"
```

When you convert an icon to a bitmap, you lose device independence for resolution characteristics. Windows bitmap format files, which usually have a .BMP extension, and represent an image with device independent color information. Windows icon files, which usually have an .ICO extension, can contain information for both color and resolution device independence.

The steps listed below demonstrate how to convert an icon format file to a bitmap format file:

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 will be created by default.
2. Place a picture box named Picture1 on Form1.
3. Enter the following code into the form's Click event:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    Picture1.AutoSize = -1  
    Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture("icons\arrows\arw01dn.ico")  
    SavePicture Picture1.Image, "arw01dn.bmp"  
End Sub
```

4. Press the F5 key to run the program. Click Form1 to convert the file.

Additional Reference(s):

Chapter 19 File Formats of "Microsoft Windows Programmer's Reference"

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## Visual Basic 3.0 Programming Questions & Answers

Article ID: Q92550

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

1. Q. I use the picture control to group other controls. However when I select the picture control, the other controls do not remain on top of the picture control. How can I correct this problem?  
  
A. This problem occurs if you place the controls on the form in the same place as the picture control but not in the picture control itself. To group the controls in a picture control, you must first select the Picture control and then draw the desired control within the Picture control. For more information, please see Chapter 3 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Programmer's Guide."
2. Q. How can I make calls from Visual Basic to the functions in the Windows Application Programming Interface (API) or other dynamic link libraries (DLLs)?  
  
A. To call a subroutine or function from one of the Windows APIs or any other DLL, you need to first provide a Declare statement for that subroutine or function in your Visual Basic application. The exact syntax for the declaration for each Windows API function can be found in the WIN31API.HLP help file included with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic. For more information, please see Chapter 24 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Programmer's Guide."
3. Q. Is there a reference available that lists the correct Visual Basic declarations for the Multimedia API functions?  
  
A. Yes, the file is called WINMMSYS.TXT. It comes with the Professional edition of Visual Basic. You can find it in the \VB\WINAPI directory.
4. Q. Is there a reference available that lists the correct Visual Basic declarations for the Windows for Workgroups API functions?  
  
A. No, at this time such a file is not available from Microsoft. However, you can obtain a copy of the Windows for Workgroups SDK from the WINEXT forum on CompuServe.
5. Q. I followed the examples in the manuals and in the help file on how to use Domain functions such as DSum and DCount, but I keep receiving this error:

Reference to undefined function or array.

Why?

- A. The examples provided for the Domain Aggregate functions are incorrect. These functions must be used within an SQL Statement just as SQL Aggregate functions such as Sum and Count are used. Please look at the SQL Aggregate examples to see how to use these functions within an SQL Statement. For more information, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

DOMAIN and FUNCTION and SQL

6. Q. I want to sort the records referenced by the Data Control in my application. I tried to use the Index Property as described in the example in the manual and in the help file, but I receive the following error message:

Property 'Index' not found

Why?

- A. The examples provided in the Index Property are incorrect. The Index property does not apply to the Data Control. To sort the records referenced by the Data Control, use the ORDER BY Clause within an SQL Statement in the RecordSource property of the Data Control.
7. Q. Is there a better way than the Print Form method to print Forms and Controls in a program?
- A. Yes, it is possible to print forms and/or controls and specify the printed size by using various Windows API function calls. This process is documented in Microsoft Knowledge Base article Q85978. You can also find this article in the top 10 Microsoft Knowledge Base articles that are in the Visual Basic help file. To view these articles, select "Technical Support" from the Contents screen in the Visual Basic help file. Then select "Knowledge Base Articles on Visual Basic."

Additional reference words: 3.00 ivrfax fasttips

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgOther TlsCDK

## How to Get Windows 3.1 Version Number in VB with GetVersion

Article ID: Q92936

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This information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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From a Visual Basic program, you can determine the Windows version by calling the Windows 3.1 API function GetVersion from the Windows kernel module. The GetVersion function can help your program accommodate differences in the way API calls operate between different versions of Windows (such as differences between API parameters or return values).

### MORE INFORMATION

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The code example below shows how to make the GetVersion function call, which takes no parameters. The return value is a DWORD (double-word) value, which translates into a long integer (32-bit value) in Visual Basic.

The GetVersion function changed in Windows 3.1 from a WORD value to a DWORD (double-word) value. The low-order word returns the major (low byte) and minor (high byte) version numbers of Windows, and the high-order word returns the major (high byte) and minor (low byte) versions of MS-DOS, if the function is successful.

For details on the GetVersion function, see pp. 469-470 in the "Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit Programmer's Reference Vol. 2: Functions."

### Example Code

-----

1. Create a new form and add two text boxes (Text1 and Text2) and a command button (Command1).

2. Add the following declaration to the General Declarations section:

```
Declare Function GetVersion Lib "kernel" () As Integer
```

3. Add following code to the command button's Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    I& = GetVersion()

    Windows& = I& And &HFFFF&
    Dos& = (I& And &HFFFF0000) / 65536

    ' The low byte is derived by masking off high byte.
    Lowbyte$ = Str$(Dos& And &HFF)
    ' The high byte is derived by masking off low byte and shifting.
```

```
Highbyte$ = LTrim$(Str$((Dos& And &HFF00) / 256))
' Assign MS-DOS version to Text property.
Text1.Text = Highbyte$ + "." + Lowbyte$

Lowbyte$ = Str$(Windows& And &HFF)
' The high byte is derived by masking off low byte and shifting.
Highbyte$ = LTrim$(Str$((Windows& And &HFF00) / 256))
' Assign Windows version to Text property.
Text2.Text = Lowbyte$ + "." + Highbyte$
End Sub
```

Reference(s): "Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit Programmer's  
Reference Vol. 2: Functions", pp. 469-470.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Establish a Network DDE Link Using Visual Basic

Article ID: Q93160

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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This article demonstrates how to establish a network Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) link between two computers running Microsoft Windows for Workgroups.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Under DDE, a destination (or client) application sends commands through DDE to the source (or server) application to establish a link. Through DDE, the source provides data to the destination at the request of the destination or accepts information at the request of the destination. When you use DDE with Windows version 3.0 or 3.1 based applications, the source and destination applications are both located on the same computer.

When you use Network DDE with Windows for Workgroups based applications, DDE functions exactly the same way as standard DDE except that the source and destination applications are located on different computers.

Before establishing a network DDE link, you must first establish a network DDE share for the conversation by calling the API NDdeShareAdd() function located in the NDDEAPI.DLL file. Here is the Visual Basic declaration:

```
' Enter the following as one, single line:
Declare Function NDdeShareAdd Lib "NDDEAPI.DLL" (Server As Any, ByVal Level
    As Integer, ShareInfo As NDDESHAREINFO, ByVal nSize As Long) As Integer
```

Enter the entire statement as a single line. The first parameter is always a 0 and is passed with ByVal 0& from Visual Basic. The second parameter is always 2. The next parameter is a filled ShareInfo structure (given below). The last parameter is the size of the ShareInfo structure.

Here is The structure of the NDDESHAREINFO structure:

```
Type NDDESHAREINFO
    szShareName As String * MAX_NDDESHARENAME_PLUSONE
    lpszTargetApp As Long    'LPSTR lpszTargetApp
    lpszTargetTopic As Long  'LPSTR lpszTargetTopic
    lpbPassword1 As Long     'LPBYTE lpbPassword1
    cbPassword1 As Long     'DWORD  cbPassword1;

    dwPermissions1 As Long  'DWORD  dwPermissions1;
    lpbPassword2 As Long    'LPBYTE lpbPassword2;
```



```

        cbPassword2 As Long      'DWORD   cbPassword2;
        dwPermissions2 As Long  'DWORD   dwPermissions2;
        lpszItem As Long        'LPSTR   lpszItem;
        cAddItems As Long       'LONG    cAddItems;
        lpNDdeShareItemInfo As Long
    End Type

```

The following table describes each field of the NDDSHAREINFO type:

Field Name	Purpose
szShareName	Name of the share to add.
lpszTargetApp	Pointer to null-terminated string containing the service or application name.
lpszTargetTopic	Pointer to null-terminated string holding the topic name
lpbPassword1	Pointer to the read-only password -- uppercase, null-terminated string. If null, pass null string, not zero.
cbPassword1	Length of read-only password
dwPermissions1	Full access password
cbPassword2	Length of the full access password
dwPermissions2	Permissions allowed by the full access password

Here are the permissions allowed for dwPermissions:

Name	Value	Function
NDDEACCESS_REQUEST	&H1	Allows LinkRequest
NDDEACCESS_ADVISE	&H2	Allows LinkAdvise
NDDEACCESS_POKE	&H4	Allows LinkPoke
NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE	&H8	Allows LinkExecute
NDDEACCESS_START_APP	&H10	Starts source application on connect

Here are the possible return values from NDdeShareAdd():

Name	Value	Meaning
NDDE_NO_ERROR	0	No error.
NDDE_BUF_TOO_SMALL	2	Buffer is too small to hold information.
NDDE_INVALID_APPNAME	13	Application name is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_ITEMNAME	9	Item name is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_LEVEL	7	Invalid level; nLevel parameter must be 2.
NDDE_INVALID_PASSWORD	8	Password is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_SERVER	4	Computer name is not valid; lpszServer parameter must be NULL.
NDDE_INVALID_SHARE	5	Share name is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_TOPIC	10	Topic name is not valid.
NDDE_OUT_OF_MEMORY	12	Not enough memory to complete request.
NDDE_SHARE_ALREADY_EXISTS	15	Existing shares cannot be replaced.

There are two steps to establish a network Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) link between two computers running Microsoft Windows for Workgroups. First, create the DDE source application. Second, create the DDE destination application.

Step One -- Create DDE source application

-----

The following steps show you how to create a Visual Basic DDE source and destination application that communicates through a network DDE link.

1. From the DDE source computer, start Visual Basic or if Visual Basic is already running, from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. Change the LinkTopic property of Form1 to VBTopic.
3. If you are running Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 for Windows, change the LinkMode property of Form1 to 1 - Source. In Visual Basic version 1.0, this property is already set to 1 - Server; don't change it.
4. Add a text box (Text1) to Form1.
5. Change the Name property (CtlName in version 1.0) of Text1 to VBItem.
6. Add a timer (Timer1) to Form1.
7. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.
8. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Module1, and enter all lines as a single line even though they may be shown on multiple lines for readability:

```
' DDE access options
Global Const NDDEACCESS_REQUEST = &H1
Global Const NDDEACCESS_ADVISE = &H2
Global Const NDDEACCESS_POKE = &H4
Global Const NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE = &H8
Global Const NDDEACCESS_START_APP = &H10
Global Const MAX_NDDESHARENAME_PLUSONE = 65
Type NDDESHAREINFO
    szShareName As String * MAX_NDDESHARENAME_PLUSONE
    lpszTargetApp As Long    'LPSTR lpszTargetApp
    lpszTargetTopic As Long  'LPSTR lpszTargetTopic
    lpbPassword1 As Long     'LPBYTE lpbPassword1
    cbPassword1 As Long      'DWORD  cbPassword1;
    dwPermissions1 As Long   'DWORD  dwPermissions1;
    lpbPassword2 As Long     'LPBYTE lpbPassword2;
    cbPassword2 As Long      'DWORD  cbPassword2;
    dwPermissions2 As Long   'DWORD  dwPermissions2;
    lpszItem As Long         'LPSTR  lpszItem;
    cAddItems As Long        'LONG   cAddItems;
    lpNDdeShareItemInfo As Long
End Type
Declare Function NDdeShareAdd Lib "NDDEAPI.DLL" (Server As Any, ByVal
    Level As Integer, ShareInfo As NDDESHAREINFO,

    ByVal Size As Long As Integer
Declare Function lstrcpy Lib "KERNEL" (szDest As Any, szSource As Any)
    As Long
'If using Visual Basic version 1.0, add the following declarations
'Global Const False = 0
'Global Const True = Not False
```

9. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Dim r As Integer
    Dim szShareName As String      ' Net DDE share name
    Dim szTargetName As String    ' Net DDE target name
    Dim szTopicName As String     ' Net DDE source topic name
    Dim szItemName As String
    Dim szReadOnlyPassword As String ' Read-only pw Net DDE share
    Dim szFullAccessPassword As String ' Full access password
    Dim ShareInfo As NDDESHAREINFO

    Dim ShareInfoSize As Long
    Dim Result As Integer
    szShareName = "VBDDSource$" + Chr$(0)
    szTargetName = "VBTARGET" + Chr$(0)
    szTopicName = "VBTopic" + Chr$(0)
    szItemName = Chr$(0)           'All items are allowed
    szReadOnlyPassword = Chr$(0)  'No password
    szFullAccessPassword = Chr$(0)
    'Provide the share, target, topic, and item names along with
    'passwords that identify the network DDE share
    ShareInfo.szShareName = szShareName
    ShareInfo.lpszTargetApp = lstrcpy(ByVal szTargetName,
        ByVal szTargetName)
    ShareInfo.lpszTargetTopic = lstrcpy(ByVal szTopicName,
        ByVal szTopicName)
    ShareInfo.lpszItem = lstrcpy(ByVal szItemName, ByVal szItemName)

    ShareInfo.cbPassword1 = 0
    ShareInfo.lpbPassword1 = lstrcpy(ByVal szReadOnlyPassword,
        ByVal szReadOnlyPassword)
    ShareInfo.dwPermissions1 = NDDEACCESS_REQUEST Or NDDEACCESS_ADVISE Or
        NDDEACCESS_POKE Or NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE Or NDDEACCESS_START_APP
    ShareInfo.cbPassword2 = 0
    ShareInfo.lpbPassword2 = lstrcpy(ByVal szFullAccessPassword,
        ByVal szFullAccessPassword)
    ShareInfo.dwPermissions2 = NDDEACCESS_REQUEST Or NDDEACCESS_ADVISE Or
        NDDEACCESS_POKE Or NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE Or NDDEACCESS_START_APP
    ShareInfo.lpNDdeShareItemInfo = 15
    Result = NDdeShareAdd(ByVal 0&, 2, ShareInfo, Len(ShareInfo))
    ' Start the timer that will continually update the text box and
    ' the DDE link item with random data.
    timer1.Interval = 1000
    timer1.Enabled = True

End Sub
```

10. Add the following code to the Timer1\_Timer event procedure:

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()
    ' Display random value 0 - 99 in the text box (DDE source data).
    Randomize Timer
    VBItem.Text = Format$(Rnd * 100, "0")
End Sub
```

11. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File...

12. Name the file VBTARGET.EXE and choose OK to create the .EXE file.
13. From the File Manager or Program Manager, run VBTARGET.EXE to display a random value in the text box every second.

#### Step Two -- Create the DDE destination application

14. From the DDE destination computer, start Visual Basic or if Visual Basic is already running, from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
15. Add a text box (Text1) to Form1.
16. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Dim r As Long
    Dim szComputer As String      ' Network server name.
    Dim szTopic As String
    ' Identify the network server where the DDE source application
    ' is running. The following statement assumes the source computer
    ' name is COMPUTER1. Change it to your source computer name.
    szComputer = "\\COMPUTER1"
    ' Identify the DDE share established by the source application
    szTopic = "VBDDSource$"
    Text1.LinkMode = 0
    ' The link topic identifies the computer name and link topic
    ' as established by the DDE source application
    Text1.LinkTopic = szComputer + "\" + "NDDE$" + "|" + szTopic
    Text1.LinkItem = "VBItem" ' Name of text box in DDE source app

    Text1.LinkMode = 1          ' Automatic link.
End Sub
```

'For this program to work, set the szComputer variable (above) to the  
'computer name that holds the DDE source application. Find the name  
'in the Network section of Windows for Workgroups Control Panel.

17. From the Run menu, choose Start to run the program.

You should see the same random values generated on the source computer displayed in the text box of the destination computer. If you receive the error message "DDE method invoked with no channel open" on the Text1.LinkMode = 1 statement in Step 16, make sure the szComputer variable is set correctly.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgNet IAPDDE

## Form Cannot Be Larger Than the Screen

Article ID: Q94665

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The maximum size of a form in Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows and Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS is limited to the size of the screen you are using.

In both Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS and for Windows, the following code sizes a form to maximum size:

```
TOP = 0
LEFT = 0
WIDTH = SCREEN.WIDTH
HEIGHT = SCREEN.HEIGHT
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 3.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## How to Connect to a Network Drive by Using WNetAddConnection

Article ID: Q94679

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY =====

Windows version 3.1 provides a new API Call, WNetAddConnection, which will redirect a local device to a shared resource or network server.

WNetAddConnection requires the name of the local device, the name of the network resource, and the password necessary to use that resource.

This article explains in detail the arguments and potential error messages for the Windows version 3.1 WNetAddConnection function call.

### MORE INFORMATION =====

To use WNetAddConnection within a Visual Basic application, declare the WNetAddConnection function in the General Declarations Section of your code window. (In Visual Basic version 1.0 you can also put the declaration in the Global Module.) Declare the function as follows entering the entire Declare statement on one, single line:

```
Declare Function WnetAddConnection% Lib "user" (ByVal lpszNetPath As Any,  
    ByVal lpszPassword As Any,  
    ByVal lpszLocalName As Any)
```

Here are definitions for the formal parameters:

Formal Parameter	Definition
lpszNetPath	Points to a null-terminated string specifying the shared device or remote server.
lpszPassword	Points to a null-terminated string specifying the network password for the given device or server.
lpszLocalName	Points to a null-terminated string specifying the local drive or device to be redirected. All lpszLocalName strings (such as LPT1) are case independent. Only the drive names A through Z and device names LPT1 through LPT3 are used.

Below are the possible return values as defined on page 990 of the Microsoft Windows version 3.1 Programmer's Reference:

Value	(Hex Value)	Meaning
-------	-------------	---------

```

-----
WN_SUCCESS                (&H0)      Function was successful.
WN_NOT_SUPPORTED          (&H1)      Function was not supported.
WN_OUT_OF_MEMORY          (&HB)      System was out of memory.
WN_NET_ERROR              (&H2)      An error occurred on the network.
WN_BAD_POINTER            (&H4)      Pointer was invalid.
WN_BAD_NETNAME            (&H32)     Network resource name was invalid.
WN_BAD_LOCALNAME          (&H33)     Local device name was invalid.
WN_BAD_PASSWORD           (&H6)      Password was invalid.
WN_ACCESS_DENIED          (&H7)      A security violation occurred.
WN_ALREADY_CONNECTED      (&H34)     Local device was already connected
                                   to a remote resource.

```

Below is an example of how to redirect a local device to a network resource:

1. Start Visual Basic (VB.EXE). Form1 is created by default.
2. Create the following controls with the indicated properties on Form1:

Default Name	Caption	CtlName
Text1	(Not applicable)	NetPath
Text2	(Not applicable)	Password
Command1	&Connect	Connect
Drive1	(Not applicable)	Drive1

3. Add the following code to the general declaration section of Form1. Enter the Declare statement as one, single line:

```

Declare Function WnetAddConnection% Lib "user"
    (ByVal lpszNetPath as Any, ByVal lpszPassword as Any,
    ByVal lpszLocalName as Any)
Const WN_Success = &H0
Const WN_Not_Supported = &H1
Const WN_Net_Error = &H2
Const WN_Bad_Pointer = &H4
Const WN_Bad_NetName = &H32
Const WN_Bad_Password = &H6
Const WN_Bad_Localname = &H33
Const WN_Access_Denied = &H7
Const WN_Out_Of_Memory = &HB
Const WN_Already_Connected = &H34

```

If you're using Visual Basic version 1.0, add the following to the general declarations also:

```

Const True = -1
Const False = 0

```

4. Add the following code to the procedure Connect\_Click:

```

Sub Connect_Click ()

    ServerText$ = UCase$(NetPath.Text) + Chr$(0) ' Network resource name
    PasswordText$ = Password.Text + Chr$(0) ' Password for the resource

```

```

driveletter$ = "N:" + Chr$(0) ' Substitute your own drive letter

Succeed% = WnetAddConnection(ServerText$, PasswordText$, driveletter$)

If IsSuccess(Succeed%, msg$) = True Then ' Call Function to parse
                                         ' potential error messages.
    Drive1.Refresh
    NetPath.Text = "" ' Reset the contents following connection
Else
    MsgBox msg$
End If

End Sub

```

5. Create a Sub within the (Declarations) section of the Code window and add the following code:

```

Function IsSuccess% (ReturnCode%, Msg$)

If ReturnCode% = WN_Success Then
    IsSuccess% = True
Else
    IsSuccess% = False
    Select Case ReturnCode%

        Case WN_Success:
            Drive1.Refresh
        Case WN_Not_Supported:
            msg$ = "Function is not supported."
        Case WN_Out_Of_Memory:
            msg$ = "Out of Memory."
        Case WN_Net_Error:
            msg$ = "An error occurred on the network."
        Case WN_Bad_Pointer:
            msg$ = "The Pointer was Invalid."
        Case WN_Bad_NetName:
            msg$ = "Invalid Network Resource Name."
        Case WN_Bad_Password:
            msg$ = "The Password was Invalid."
        Case WN_Bad_Localname:
            msg$ = "The local device name was invalid."
        Case WN_Access_Denied:
            msg$ = "A security violation occurred."
        Case WN_Already_Connected:
            msg$ = "The local device was connected to a remote resource."
        Case Else:
            msg$ = "Unrecognized Error " + Str$(ReturnCode%) + "."

    End Select
End If

End Function

```

6. Run the program. Type in the name of a network resource in the edit box and press the Connect button. The drive box will be updated with the new resource if the call was successful.



Reference(s) :

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Reference Volume 2," version 3.1 and the WIN31WH.HLP file that shipped with the Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0 Professional Version for Windows.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgNet

## Using Lstrcpy() API Function to Get Far Address of a Variable

Article ID: Q94700

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

You can use the Windows API function Lstrcpy() to get the far address of a variable as a Long integer.

The Lstrcpy() function returns the same value as its first argument, which is the address of a variable. Usually you would use the Lstrcpy() function to copy strings that are terminated by a zero byte. However, if you pass the same variable as both the source and the destination, Lstrcpy() copies the variable to itself, which has no effect.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Basic cannot deal with pointers directly. All Basic can do with a pointer is pass it as a parameter to a DLL function.

Basic variables may move in memory. You should take the address of a variable immediately before you use it.

The following steps demonstrate how to get the address of an integer and a variable-length string.

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Enter the following code into the general declarations section:

```
Declare Function Lstrcpy Lib "kernel" (p1 As Any, p2 As Any) As Long
```

3. Enter the following code into the Click event handler:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Dim ptr As Long      ' pointer value
    Dim x1 As Integer    ' variable to take address of
    Dim x2 As String     ' variable to take address of
    x1 = 123
    ptr = Lstrcpy(x1, x1)
    MsgBox "The address of x1 is: " + Hex$(ptr)
    x2 = "x2"
    ' must use ByVal on variable length strings
    ptr = Lstrcpy(ByVal x2, ByVal x2)
    MsgBox "The address of x2 is: " + Hex$(ptr)
End Sub
```

4. Press the F5 key to run the program. It displays the address of the variable in hexadecimal.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Pass Numeric Variables to a C DLL

Article ID: Q94960

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft QuickC for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article shows by example how to pass numeric variables from Visual Basic for Windows to a C DLL. The first example shows how to call C functions with single parameters of all numeric types. The second example shows how to pass multiple parameters and how to pass variables by reference so they can be manipulated on the C side.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Code Example One

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or if you are in Visual Basic, choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. Place five command buttons (Command1, Command2, Command3, Command4, and Command5) on Form1.
3. Add two Text boxes (Text1 and Text2) to Form1.
4. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1. Enter each of the five Declare statements as one, single line.

```
Declare Function noparams Lib "passnums.dll" () As Integer
Declare Function passint Lib "passnums.dll" (ByVal x%) As Integer
Declare Function passlong Lib "passnums.dll" (ByVal x&) As Long
Declare Function passfloat Lib "passnums.dll" (ByVal x!) As Single
Declare Function passdouble Lib "passnums.dll" (ByVal x#) As Double
```

5. Add the following code to the click event of each command buttons:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    text1.Text = Str$(noparams())
    text2.Text = "Noparams"
End Sub
Sub Command2_Click ()
    i% = 21
    text1.Text = Str$(passint(55))
    text2.Text = Str$(passint(i%))
End Sub
Sub Command3_Click ()
    i& = 45000
```

```

        text1.Text = Str$(passlong(40000))
        text2.Text = Str$(passlong(i&))
End Sub
Sub Command4_Click ()
    i! = 1.35
    text1.Text = Str$(passfloat(1.23))
    text2.Text = Str$(passfloat(i!))
End Sub
Sub Command5_Click ()
    i# = 1234.5678
    text1.Text = Str$(passdouble(1.23456))
    text2.Text = Str$(passdouble(i#))
End Sub

```

6. Start Microsoft QuickC for Windows, or if it's already running, from the File menu, choose New.
7. Add the following code to the new file:

```

#include <windows.h>
#include <stdio.h>
/* Noparams takes no parameters and returns a 2 */
extern int far pascal noparams()
{
    return(2);
}
/* add 32 to the integer passed in */
extern int far pascal passint(int a)
{
    a += 32;
    return(a);
}
/* passlong() takes a long integer and adds 7 to it */
extern long far pascal passlong(long x)
{
    x += 7;
    return(x+7);
}
// passfloat passes a floating point number
extern float far pascal passfloat(float x)
{
    return (x += (float) 1.45927);
}
// passdouble passes a floating point number
extern double far pascal passdouble(double x)
{
    return (x+=(double) 1.45927);
}

```

8. From the File menu, choose Save As, and save the file as PASSNUMS.C.
9. From the File menu, choose New, and Type these .DEF file lines:

```

LIBRARY      PASSNUMS
EXETYPE      WINDOWS 3.1
DATA         PRELOAD MOVABLE SINGLE
CODE         PRELOAD MOVABLE DISCARDABLE

```

## EXPORTS

```
noparams    @1
passint      @2
passlong     @3
passfloat    @4
passdouble   @5
```

10. From the File menu, choose Save As, and save the file as PASSNUMS.DEF.
11. From the Project Menu, choose Open and enter PASSNUMS.
12. Choose the OK button. Add PASSNUMS.C and PASSNUMS.DEF to the project.
13. From the Options menu, choose Project. Set the program type to Windows DLL and set the compiler memory model to Large.
14. From the Project menu, choose Rebuild All. This creates PASSNUMS.DLL.
15. Return to Visual Basic and run the program. Pressing any of the command buttons will change the contents of the two text boxes.

## Code Example Two

- 
1. Start Visual Basic, or if Visual Basic is already running, from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
  2. Place two command buttons (Command1, Command2) on Form1.
  3. Add 2 Text boxes (Text1, Text2) to Form1.
  4. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1. Each Declare statements must be entered entirely on one, single line.

```
Declare Function bunchparam Lib "multvars.dll" (ByVal w%,
    ByVal x%, ByVal y!, ByVal z#) As Double
Declare Function bunchbyref Lib "multvars.dll"
    (x%, y%, z!, a#) As Double
```

5. Add the following code to the click events of the buttons:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    i% = 123
    j% = 40000
    k! = 1.234
    l# = 1234.567
    text1.Text = Str$(bunchparam(123, 40000, 1.2345, 1.2345))
    text2.Text = Str$(bunchparam(i%, j%, k!, l#))
End Sub
Sub Command2_Click ()
    i% = 12
    j% = 40000
    k! = 123.455
    l# = 123455.678
    x# = bunchbyref(i%, j%, k!, l#)
    text1.Text = Str$(i%) + Str$(j%) + Str$(k!) + Str$(l#)
    text2.Text = Str$(x#)
End Sub
```

6. Start Microsoft QuickC for Windows or choose New from the File menu.

7. Add the following code to the new file:

```
#include <windows.h>
#include <stdio.h>
/* bunchparam() adds double-precision values and an integer. */
extern double far pascal bunchparam(int a, long b, float c, double d)
{
    return(a+b+c+d);
}
extern double far pascal bunchbyref(int *a, long *b, float *c, double *d)
{
    *a += 55;
    *b += 77;
    *c += (float) 123.456;
    *d += 12345.678;
    return(*a*b);
}
```

8. From the File menu, choose Save As, and save the file as MULTVARS.C.

9. From the File menu, choose New, and type these .DEF file lines:

```
LIBRARY      MULTVARS
EXETYPE      WINDOWS 3.1
DATA         PRELOAD MOVABLE SINGLE
CODE         PRELOAD MOVABLE DISCARDABLE
EXPORTS
             bunchparam @1
             bunchbyref @2
```

10. From the File menu, choose Save As, and save the file as MULTVARS.DEF.

11. From the Project Menu, choose Open and enter MULTVARS.

12. Choose the OK button. Add MULTVARS.C and MULTVARS.DEF to the project.

13. From the Options menu, choose Project. Set the program type to Windows DLL and set the compiler memory model to Large.

14. From the Project menu, choose Rebuild All. This creates MULTVARS.DLL.

15. Return to Visual Basic and run the program. Pressing either Command button will change the contents of the text boxes.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Create a Transparent Bitmap Using Visual Basic

Article ID: Q94961

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

A transparent image shows the background behind it instead of the image itself. You can use an icon editor such as the IconWorks sample program provided with Visual Basic to create icons that contain transparent parts. This article shows you how to make certain parts of a bitmap transparent.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Here are the six general steps required to create a transparent bitmap:

1. Store the area, or background, where the bitmap is going to be drawn.
2. Create a monochrome mask of the bitmap that identifies the transparent areas of the bitmap by using a white pixel to indicate transparent areas and a black pixel to indicate non-transparent areas of the bitmap.
3. Combine the pixels of the monochrome mask with the background bitmap using the And binary operator. The area of the background where the non-transparent portion of the bitmap will appear is made black.
4. Combine an inverted copy of the monochrome mask (step 2) with the source bitmap using the And binary operator. The transparent areas of the source bitmap will be made black.
5. Combine the modified background (step 3) with the modified source bitmap (step 4) using the Xor binary operator. The background will show through the transparent portions of the bitmap.
6. Copy the resulting bitmap to the background

### Example Code

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following controls to Form1 with the associated property values:

Control	Name (or CtlName)	Property Settings
-----		
Picture	pictSource	Picture ="WINDOWS\THATCH.BMP"
Picture	pictDest	Picture ="WINDOWS\ARCHES.BMP"
Command button	cmdCopy	Caption ="Copy"



3. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.
4. Add the following code to the cmdCopy\_Click event procedure of Form1. This code calls the TransparentBlt() function to copy a source bitmap to a destination (background) picture control. White (QBColor(15)) areas of the bitmap are made transparent against the background bitmap.

```
Sub cmdCopy_Click ()
    Call TransparentBlt(pictDest, pictSource.Picture, 10, 10, QBColor(15))
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code the general declarations section of Module1. Enter each Declare statement as one, single line:

```
Type bitmap
    bmType As Integer
    bmWidth As Integer
    bmHeight As Integer
    bmWidthBytes As Integer
    bmPlanes As String * 1
    bmBitsPixel As String * 1
    bmBits As Long
End Type
Declare Function BitBlt Lib "GDI" (ByVal srchDC As Integer, ByVal srcX
    As Integer, ByVal srcY As Integer, ByVal srcW As Integer, ByVal srcH
    As Integer, ByVal desthDC As Integer, ByVal destX As Integer, ByVal
    destY As Integer, ByVal op As Long) As Integer
Declare Function SetBkColor Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC As Integer, ByVal
    cColor As Long) As Long
Declare Function CreateCompatibleDC Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC As Integer)
    As Integer
Declare Function DeleteDC Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function CreateBitmap Lib "GDI" (ByVal nWidth As Integer, ByVal
    nHeight As Integer, ByVal cbPlanes As Integer, ByVal cbBits As
    Integer, lpvBits As Any) As Integer
Declare Function CreateCompatibleBitmap Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC As Integer,
    ByVal nWidth As Integer, ByVal nHeight As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function SelectObject Lib "GDI" (ByVal hDC As Integer, ByVal
    hObject As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function DeleteObject Lib "GDI" (ByVal hObject As Integer) As
    Integer
Declare Function GetObj Lib "GDI" Alias "GetObject" (ByVal hObject As
    Integer, ByVal nCount As Integer, bmp As Any) As Integer
Const SRCCOPY = &HCC0020
Const SRCAND = &H8800C6
Const SRCPAINT = &HEE0086
Const NOTSRCCOPY = &H330008
```

6. Add the following Sub procedure to the general declarations section of Module1. TransparentBlt() accepts six parameters: a destination picture control (dest), a source bitmap to become transparent (srcBmp), the X,Y coordinates in pixels where you want to place the source bitmap on the destination (destX and destY), and the RGB value for the color you want to be transparent. TransparentBlt() copies the source bitmap to any X,Y location on the background making areas transparent.

```

Sub TransparentBlt (dest As Control, ByVal srcBmp As Integer, ByVal
    destX As Integer, ByVal destY As Integer, ByVal TransColor As Long)
    Const PIXEL = 3
    Dim destScale As Integer
    Dim srcDC As Integer 'source bitmap (color)
    Dim saveDC As Integer 'backup copy of source bitmap
    Dim maskDC As Integer 'mask bitmap (monochrome)
    Dim invDC As Integer 'inverse of mask bitmap (monochrome)
    Dim resultDC As Integer 'combination of source bitmap & background
    Dim bmp As bitmap 'description of the source bitmap
    Dim hResultBmp As Integer 'Bitmap combination of source & background
    Dim hSaveBmp As Integer 'Bitmap stores backup copy of source bitmap
    Dim hMaskBmp As Integer 'Bitmap stores mask (monochrome)
    Dim hInvBmp As Integer 'Bitmap holds inverse of mask (monochrome)
    Dim hPrevBmp As Integer 'Bitmap holds previous bitmap selected in DC
    Dim hSrcPrevBmp As Integer 'Holds previous bitmap in source DC
    Dim hSavePrevBmp As Integer 'Holds previous bitmap in saved DC
    Dim hDestPrevBmp As Integer 'Holds previous bitmap in destination DC
    Dim hMaskPrevBmp As Integer 'Holds previous bitmap in the mask DC
    Dim hInvPrevBmp As Integer 'Holds previous bitmap in inverted mask DC
    Dim OrigColor As Long 'Holds original background color from source DC
    Dim Success As Integer 'Stores result of call to Windows API
    If TypeOf dest Is PictureBox Then 'Ensure objects are picture boxes
        destScale = dest.ScaleMode 'Store ScaleMode to restore later
        dest.ScaleMode = PIXEL 'Set ScaleMode to pixels for Windows GDI
        'Retrieve bitmap to get width (bmp.bmpWidth) & height (bmp.bmpHeight)
        Success = GetObj(srcBmp, Len(bmp), bmp)
        srcDC = CreateCompatibleDC(dest.hDC) 'Create DC to hold stage
        saveDC = CreateCompatibleDC(dest.hDC) 'Create DC to hold stage
        maskDC = CreateCompatibleDC(dest.hDC) 'Create DC to hold stage
        invDC = CreateCompatibleDC(dest.hDC) 'Create DC to hold stage
        resultDC = CreateCompatibleDC(dest.hDC) 'Create DC to hold stage
        'Create monochrome bitmaps for the mask-related bitmaps:
        hMaskBmp = CreateBitmap(bmp.bmpWidth, bmp.bmpHeight, 1, 1, ByVal 0&)
        hInvBmp = CreateBitmap(bmp.bmpWidth, bmp.bmpHeight, 1, 1, ByVal 0&)
        'Create color bitmaps for final result & stored copy of source
        hResultBmp = CreateCompatibleBitmap(dest.hDC, bmp.bmpWidth,
            bmp.bmpHeight)
        hSaveBmp = CreateCompatibleBitmap(dest.hDC, bmp.bmpWidth,
            bmp.bmpHeight)
        hSrcPrevBmp = SelectObject(srcDC, srcBmp) 'Select bitmap in DC
        hSavePrevBmp = SelectObject(saveDC, hSaveBmp) 'Select bitmap in DC
        hMaskPrevBmp = SelectObject(maskDC, hMaskBmp) 'Select bitmap in DC
        hInvPrevBmp = SelectObject(invDC, hInvBmp) 'Select bitmap in DC
        hDestPrevBmp = SelectObject(resultDC, hResultBmp) 'Select bitmap
        Success = BitBlt(saveDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmpWidth, bmp.bmpHeight, srcDC,
            0, 0, SRCCOPY) 'Make backup of source bitmap to restore later
        'Create mask: set background color of source to transparent color.
        OrigColor = SetBkColor(srcDC, TransColor)
        Success = BitBlt(maskDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmpWidth, bmp.bmpHeight, srcDC,
            0, 0, SRCCOPY)
        TransColor = SetBkColor(srcDC, OrigColor)
        'Create inverse of mask to AND w/ source & combine w/ background.
        Success = BitBlt(invDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmpWidth, bmp.bmpHeight, maskDC,
            0, 0, NOTSRCCOPY)
        'Copy background bitmap to result & create final transparent bitmap
        Success = BitBlt(resultDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmpWidth, bmp.bmpHeight,

```

```

    dest.hDC, destX, destY, SRCCOPY)
'AND mask bitmap w/ result DC to punch hole in the background by
'painting black area for non-transparent portion of source bitmap.
Success = BitBlt(resultDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmWidth, bmp.bmHeight,
    maskDC, 0, 0, SRCAND)
'AND inverse mask w/ source bitmap to turn off bits associated
'with transparent area of source bitmap by making it black.
Success = BitBlt(srcDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmWidth, bmp.bmHeight, invDC,
    0, 0, SRCAND)
'XOR result w/ source bitmap to make background show through.
Success = BitBlt(resultDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmWidth, bmp.bmHeight,
    srcDC, 0, 0, SRCPAINT)
Success = BitBlt(dest.hDC, destX, destY, bmp.bmWidth, bmp.bmHeight,
    resultDC, 0, 0, SRCCOPY) 'Display transparent bitmap on backgrnd
Success = BitBlt(srcDC, 0, 0, bmp.bmWidth, bmp.bmHeight, saveDC,
    0, 0, SRCCOPY) 'Restore backup of bitmap.
hPrevBmp = SelectObject(srcDC, hSrcPrevBmp) 'Select orig object
hPrevBmp = SelectObject(saveDC, hSavePrevBmp) 'Select orig object
hPrevBmp = SelectObject(resultDC, hDestPrevBmp) 'Select orig object
hPrevBmp = SelectObject(maskDC, hMaskPrevBmp) 'Select orig object
hPrevBmp = SelectObject(invDC, hInvPrevBmp) 'Select orig object
Success = DeleteObject(hSaveBmp) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteObject(hMaskBmp) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteObject(hInvBmp) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteObject(hResultBmp) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteDC(srcDC) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteDC(saveDC) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteDC(invDC) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteDC(maskDC) 'Deallocate system resources.
Success = DeleteDC(resultDC) 'Deallocate system resources.
dest.ScaleMode = destScale 'Restore ScaleMode of destination.
End If
End Sub

```

7. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.
8. Click the Copy button. The thatched pattern in the first picture is copied onto the second picture (an image of arches) making the arches show through areas of the previously white thatched pattern.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgGrap

## How Windows Versions 3.0 and 3.1 Activate Apps Differently

Article ID: Q95463

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.00
- 

### SUMMARY

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When activating a multiple-window application in Windows version 3.0, only the window that was activated comes to the top. In Windows version 3.1, all the windows relating to the application come to the top.

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a problem in Microsoft Windows version 3.0. This problem was corrected in Microsoft Windows version 3.1.

Because many Visual Basic applications are written as multiple-window applications, this problem is apparent when these applications are run with both Windows versions.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Reproduce Problem

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1. Start Windows version 3.1.
2. Run Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
3. From the File menu, choose New Form (ALT, F, F) twice to create two forms, Form2 and Form3.
4. Add the following code to Form\_Load of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load
    Form1.Show
    Form2.Show
    Form3.Show
End Sub
```

5. From the File menu, chose Make EXE File (ALT, F, K) and choose the OK button to create an executable using the default name (PROJECT1.EXE).
6. From outside the Visual Basic environment, Run PROJECT1.EXE.
7. Run NOTEPAD.EXE.
8. Click Form1 in PROJECT1.EXE. All three forms for PROJECT1.EXE, which are currently being clipped by NOTEPAD.EXE, come to the top.

9. Close Windows version 3.1, saving all necessary data in open applications.

10. Start Windows version 3.0.

11. Repeat steps 6 through 8 to see that only Form1 comes to the top.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.10 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## How to Obtain & Change the Paper Bins for the Default Printer

Article ID: Q96797

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

By using the Windows API `Escape()` function, an application can change the paper bin on the printer and obtain a list of available paper bins for the default printer.

To return a list of paper bin names and a list of corresponding of bin numbers, pass the `ENUMPAPERBINS` printer escape constant to the `Escape()` function. You can use the first list to display the available paper bins for the user, and use the second list to change the paper bin.

To change the paper bin, pass the `GETSETPAPERBINS` printer escape constant along with the bin number to the `Escape()` function. `GETSETPAPERBINS` returns the current bin and the number of bins supported by the default printer.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The example code listed below demonstrates how to use both `ENUMPAPERBINS` and `GETSETPAPERBINS` with the Windows API `Escape()` function.

### An Important Note

-----

Note that the Windows API `Escape()` function is provided in Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1 for backward compatibility with earlier versions of Microsoft Windows. Applications are supposed to use the `GDI DeviceCapabilities()` and `ExtDeviceMode()` functions instead of the `Escape()` function, but neither `DeviceCapabilities()` nor `ExtDeviceMode()` can be called directly from Visual Basic. This is because they are exported by the printer driver, not by the Windows GDI. The only way to use `ExtDeviceMode()` or `DeviceCapabilities()` in Visual Basic is to create a DLL and call them from there.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created by default.
3. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Module1:

```

Global Const MaxBins = 6
Type PaperBin          ' Used for EnumPaperBins
    BinList(1 To MaxBins) As Integer
    PaperNames(1 To MaxBins) As String * 24
End Type

Type BinInfo           ' Used for GetSetPaperBins
    CurBinNumber As Integer ' Current Bin
    NumBins As Integer      ' Number of bins supported by printer
    Reserved1 As Integer    ' Reserved
    Reserved2 As Integer    ' Reserved
    Reserved3 As Integer    ' Reserved
    Reserved4 As Integer    ' Reserved
End Type

' Enter each complete Declare statement on one, single line.
Declare Function EnumPaperBinEscape% Lib "GDI" Alias "Escape"
    (ByVal hDC%, ByVal nEscape%, ByVal nCount%, NumBins%,
    lpOutData As Any)
Declare Function GetPaperBinEscape% Lib "GDI" Alias "Escape"
    (ByVal hDC%, ByVal nEscape%, ByVal nCount%, InBinInfo As Any,
    OutBinInfo As Any)

Global Const ENUMPAPERBINS = 31
Global Const GETSETPAPERBINS = 29

```

4. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1.
5. Add a list box (List1) to Form1.
6. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim InPaperBin As PaperBin
    Dim InBinInfo As BinInfo
    ' Enter each complete result% statement on one, single line.
    result% = GetPaperBinEscape(Printer.hDC, GETSETPAPERBINS, 0,
        ByVal 0&, InBinInfo)
    result% = EnumPaperBinEscape(Printer.hDC, ENUMPAPERBINS, 2,
        MaxBins, InPaperBin)

    List1.Clear
    For I% = 1 To InBinInfo.NumBins ' Fill list1 with available bins
        List1.AddItem InPaperBin.PaperNames(I%)
        List1.ItemData(List1.NewIndex) = InPaperBin.BinList(I%)
    Next I%

End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the List1\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub List1_Click ()
    Dim InBinInfo As BinInfo
    Dim NewBinInfo As BinInfo

    NewBinInfo.CurBinNumber = List1.ItemData(List1.ListIndex)
    ' Enter the following result% statement on one, single line.
    result% = GetPaperBinEscape(Printer.hDC, GETSETPAPERBINS,

```

```
        Len(NewBinInfo), NewBinInfo, PrevBinInfo)

        MsgBox "Sending Sample Output to printer using Bin: " + List1.Text
        Printer.Print "This should of have come from Bin: "; List1.Text
        Printer.EndDoc
    End Sub
```

8. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.
9. Choose the Command1 button to see a list of available paper bins for the default printer listed in the List1 box.
10. Select one of the paper bins listed in the List1 box. A message box appears to tell you that a sample printout is being sent to the printer using the paper bin you selected.

Additional reference words: 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint



## How to Use Windows 3.1 APIs to Play Videos in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q96090

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can play video .AVI files in Visual Basic by using Windows version 3.1 APIs.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Use the following procedure to position and size the window where you want to play the .AVI file and to play the .AVI file:

1. Run Visual Basic, or if Visual Basic is already running, choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a command button control (Command1) to Form1.
3. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event of Form1:

```
DIM CmdStr as String
DIM ret as Integer

'*** This will open the AVIVideo and create a child window on the
'*** form where the video will display. Animation is the device_id.
CmdStr = ("open c:\rbtndog.avi type AVIVideo alias Animation parent "
  + LTrim$(Str$(form1.hWnd)) + " style " + LTrim$(Str$(WS_CHILD)))
Ret = mciSendString(CmdStr, 0&, 0, 0)

'*** Put the window at location 10 10 relative to the parent window
'*** with a size of 200 200
Ret = mciSendString("put Animation window at 10 10 200 200", 0&, 0, 0)

'*** The wait tells the MCI command to complete before returning
'*** control to the application.
Ret = mciSendString("play Animation wait", 0&, 0, 0)

'*** Close windows so they don't crash when you exit the application.
Ret = mciSendString("close Animation", 0&, 0, 0)
```

4. Choose New Module from the File menu (ALT, F, M). MODULE1.BAS is created by default. Add the following code to Module1. Enter the entire Declare on a single line:

```
Global Const WS_CHILD = &H40000000
Declare Function mciSendString Lib "mmsystem" (ByVal lpstrCommand$,
```

```
ByVal lpstrReturnStr As Any, ByVal wReturnLen%, ByVal hCallBack%)  
As Long
```

5. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press the F5 key to run the program.

For more information on the sndSendString() function and command strings, see pages 3-26 and 7-23 to 7-93 in the "MultiMedia Programmer's Reference."

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Set the Formatting Rectangle of a TextBox

Article ID: Q101162

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can change the formatting rectangle of a text box to control when scrolling occurs.

The formatting rectangle determines the range of positions allowed for the caret (text cursor). The limiting rectangle is independent of the size of the edit-control window. By default, the formatting rectangle is the same as the client area of the edit-control window.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Using the SendMessage API call and the EM\_SETRECT message, you can set the formatting rectangle of a text box. If you do not send the EM\_SETRECT message, the formatting rectangle defaults to the size of the client area of the text box.

You can use this API call to control where the scrolling starts in a text box. The default scrolling starts when the cursor reaches the left side of the text box. This API can make that rectangle smaller than the actual text box forcing the scrolling to start before the cursor reaches the left side of the text box.

Note the following if you do not use the message until after text has been entered into the text box:

If the text box does not have a horizontal scroll bar, and the formatting rectangle is set to be larger than the text box window, lines of text exceeding the width of the text box (but smaller than the width of the formatting rectangle) are clipped instead of wrapped.

### Step-by-Step Demonstration

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or if you are in Visual Basic, start a new project.
2. Add a text box (Text1) to your form.
3. Set the Text1 MultiLine Property to True and the ScrollBars Property to 3 (Both).
4. From the File menu, choose New Module (Module1.bas).

5. Add the following code to Module1.bas:

```
Type recttype
    l As Integer ' left of rectangular region
    t As Integer ' top of region
    r As Integer ' right of region
    b As Integer ' bottom of region
End Type
' Note the following Declare must be on one, single line:
Declare Function SendMessage Lib "user" (ByVal hwnd%, ByVal wParam%,
    ByVal wp%, lp As Any) As Long
```

6. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event for Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    EM_SETRECT = &H403          ' Set EM_SETRECT variable
    Dim rect As recttype        ' dim variable as rectype
    rect.l = 0                  ' Set left to upper left corner
    rect.t = 0                  ' Set top to upper left corner
    rect.r = 200                ' Set right of region
    rect.b = 200                ' Set bottom of region
    x% = SendMessage(text1.hwnd, EM_SETRECT, 0, rect)
End Sub
```

7. Run the program.

Start typing in the text box. Scrolling will begin when you reach the edge of your region. You can change the size of your region by changing the values of the rect type.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## How to Determine When a Shelled Process Has Terminated

Article ID: Q96844

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Executing the Shell() function in a Visual Basic for Windows program starts another executable program asynchronously and returns control to the Visual Basic application. The shelled program continues to run indefinitely until the user closes it -- not until your Visual Basic program terminates. However, your program can wait until the shelled program has finished by polling the return value of the Windows API GetModuleUsage() function. This article describes the method and provides a code example.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Caution: Will Not Work with MS-DOS Prompt

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Note that the technique described below does not work for MS-DOS programs because Windows considers all MS-DOS programs to be instances of the same program. In other words, if you have an MS-DOS prompt, the technique described below will wait for the MS-DOS prompt to terminate as well as waiting for the shelled program to terminate.

To reliably determine when an MS-DOS program ends, repeatedly search the master list until the MS-DOS program name appears and then disappears. To find an article that describes how to get the master list, search for the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

MASTER and TASK and LIST

### Monitoring the Status of a Shelled Process

-----

By using the Windows API GetModuleUsage() function, your Visual Basic program can monitor the status of a shelled process. The return value from the Shell() function can be used to call the GetModuleUsage() function continuously within a loop to find out if the shelled program has finished.

If the Shell() function is successful, the return value is the instance handle for the shelled program. This instance handle can be passed to the GetModuleUsage() function to determine the reference count for the module.

When the GetModuleUsage() function returns a value of 0 or less, the shelled program has finished.

This algorithm works correctly regardless of the WindowStyle used to shell the program. In addition, this method works correctly when:

- Shelling to Windows programs.
- Shelling to MS-DOS programs.
- Shelling to applications that do not display a window.

Below are the steps necessary to build a Visual Basic for Windows program that uses the Shell() function to execute the Windows Notepad accessory (NOTEPAD.EXE). The code shows by example how to use the Windows API GetModuleUsage() function to wait until a shelled process terminates before resuming execution.

#### Step-by-Step Example

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:  
  
    Declare Function GetModuleUsage% Lib "Kernel" (ByVal hModule%)  
  
3. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event procedure of Form1:  
  
    Sub Form\_Click ()  
        x% = Shell("NOTEPAD.EXE")                 ' Modify the path as necessary.  
  
        While GetModuleUsage(x%) > 0             ' Has Shelled program finished?  
            z% = DoEvents()                     ' If not, yield to Windows.  
        Wend  
        MsgBox "Shelled application just terminated", 64  
    End Sub
4. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.
5. Using the mouse, click in the Form1 window. At this point, the Notepad application is shelled.

The MsgBox statement following the Shell() Function is not executed because the While loop prevents it. The message box does not appear until Notepad is closed when the user chooses Exit from Notepad's File menu (ALT, F, X).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Using the Printer Object to Print a Grid Control's Contents

Article ID: Q96941

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The example program in this article shows you how to print the contents of a grid control using the Printer object.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The example code prints a line border around the grid if the grid control BorderStyle is set to 1 and prints grid lines between the cells if GridLines is set to True.

### Steps to Create Example Program

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1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. Select GRID.VBX. The Grid tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Place a grid (Grid1) on Form1. Set the Cols and Rows properties to 6.
4. Add the following code to the Form1 Click event:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    ' Add sample data to the grid
    Dim i, j
    For i = 0 To Grid1.Cols - 1
        For j = 0 To Grid1.Rows - 1
            Grid1.Col = i
            Grid1.Row = j
            Grid1.Text = Format$(i + j + i ^ j)
        Next
    Next
    ' Print the data
    Call Grid_Print(Grid1)
    Printer.EndDoc
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the general declarations section:

```
Sub Grid_Print (grid As Control)
    Dim tppx As Integer ' alias TwipsPerPixelX
    Dim tppy As Integer ' alias TwipsPerPixelY
```

```

tppx = Printer.TwipsPerPixelX
tppy = Printer.TwipsPerPixelY
Dim Col As Integer    ' index to grid columns
Dim Row As Integer    ' index to grid rows
Dim x0 As Single      ' upper left corner
Dim y0 As Single      '      "
Dim x1 As Single      ' position of text
Dim y1 As Single      '      "
Dim x2 As Single      ' position of grid lines
Dim y2 As Single      '      "

' set upper left corner
x0 = Printer.CurrentX
y0 = Printer.CurrentY

' draw the border around the grid
If grid.BorderStyle <> 0 Then
    Printer.Line -Step(grid.Width - tppx, grid.Height - tppy), , B
    x0 = x0 + tppx
    y0 = y0 + tppy
End If

' draw the text in the grid
x1 = x0
For Col = 0 To grid.Cols - 1
    ' skip non-visible columns
    If Col >= grid.FixedCols And Col < grid.LeftCol Then
        Col = grid.LeftCol
    End If
    ' stop if outside grid
    If x1 + grid.ColWidth(Col) >= grid.Width Then Exit For
    y1 = y0
    For Row = 0 To grid.Rows - 1
        ' skip non-visible columns
        If Row >= grid.FixedRows And Row < grid.TopRow Then
            Row = grid.TopRow
        End If
        ' stop if outside grid
        If y1 + grid.RowHeight(Row) >= grid.Height Then Exit For
        ' set position to print the cell
        Printer.CurrentX = x1 + tppx * 2
        Printer.CurrentY = y1 + tppy
        ' print cell text
        grid.Col = Col
        grid.Row = Row
        Printer.Print grid.Text
        ' advance to next row
        y1 = y1 + grid.RowHeight(Row)
        If grid.GridLines Then
            y1 = y1 + tppy
        End If
    Next
    ' advance to next column
    x1 = x1 + grid.ColWidth(Col)
    If grid.GridLines Then
        x1 = x1 + tppx
    End If

```



```

Next

' draw grid lines
If grid.GridLines Then
    x2 = x0
    y2 = y0
    For Col = 0 To grid.Cols - 1
        ' skip non-visible columns
        If Col >= grid.FixedCols And Col < grid.LeftCol Then
            Col = grid.LeftCol
        End If
        x2 = x2 + grid.ColWidth(Col)
        ' stop if outside grid
        If x2 >= grid.Width Then Exit For
        Printer.Line (x2, y0)-Step(0, y1 - tppy)
        x2 = x2 + tppx
    Next
    For Row = 0 To grid.Rows - 1
        ' skip non-visible rows
        If Row >= grid.FixedRows And Row < grid.TopRow Then
            Row = grid.TopRow
        End If
        y2 = y2 + grid.RowHeight(Row)
        ' stop if outside grid
        If y2 >= grid.Height Then Exit For
        Printer.Line (x0, y2)-Step(x1 - tppx, 0)
        y2 = y2 + tppy
    Next
End If
End Sub

```

6. Press the F5 key to run the program. Click Form1 to fill the grid with sample data and print the grid.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint

## How to Use SystemParametersInfo API for Control Panel Settings

Article ID: Q97142

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The SystemParametersInfo API call can be used to get and set Windows settings that are normally set from the Desktop by using the Control Panel.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can call the SystemParametersInfo API to set and get all the settings controlled by the Windows Control Panel. Normally a user would have to choose the Windows Control Panel to view or change system settings such as granularity, wallpaper, or icon title wrap. Instead of forcing the user to set things manually using the Control Panel you can have your program call the SystemParametersInfo API to set them automatically.

Use the following Visual Basic for Windows Declare for the API. Enter it all as one, single line:

```
Declare Function SystemParametersInfo Lib "User" (ByVal uAction  
    As Integer, ByVal uparam As Integer, lpvParam As Any, ByVal fuWinIni  
    As Integer) As Integer
```

Here are the formal arguments to the function:

uAction	system parameter to query or set
uParam	depends on system parameter
lpvParam	depends on system parameter
fuWinIni	WIN.INI update flag

The uAction argument can be one of the following constants:

```
CONST SPI_GETBEEP=1  
CONST SPI_SETBEEP=2  
CONST SPI_GETMOUSE=3  
CONST SPI_SETMOUSE=4  
CONST SPI_GETBORDER=5  
CONST SPI_SETBORDER=6  
CONST SPI_GETKEYBOARDSPEED=10  
CONST SPI_SETKEYBOARDSPEED=11  
CONST SPI_LANGDRIVER=12  
CONST SPI_ICONHORIZONTALSPACING=13  
CONST SPI_GETSCREENSAVETIMEOUT=14  
CONST SPI_SETSCREENSAVETIMEOUT=15
```

```

CONST SPI_GETSCREENSAVEACTIVE=16
CONST SPI_SETSCREENSAVEACTIVE=17
CONST SPI_GETGRIDGRANULARITY=18
CONST SPI_SETGRIDGRANULARITY=19
CONST SPI_SETDESKWALLPAPER=20
CONST SPI_SETDESKPATTERN=21
CONST SPI_GETKEYBOARDDELAY=22
CONST SPI_SETKEYBOARDDELAY=23
CONST SPI_ICONVERTICALSPACING=24
CONST SPI_GETICONTITLEWRAP=25
CONST SPI_SETICONTITLEWRAP=26
CONST SPI_GETMENUDROPALIGNMENT=27
CONST SPI_SETMENUDROPALIGNMENT=28
CONST SPI_SETDOUBLECLKWIDTH=29
CONST SPI_SETDOUBLECLKHEIGHT=30
CONST SPI_GETICONTITLELOGFONT=31
CONST SPI_SETDOUBLECLICKTIME=32
CONST SPI_SETMOUSEBUTTONSWAP=33
CONST SPI_SETICONTITLELOGFONT=34
CONST SPI_GETFASTTASKSWITCH=35
CONST SPI_SETFASTTASKSWITCH=36

```

The UParam argument should be 0 when used with a GET constant, and it should contain the new value of the setting when used with a SET constant. The exceptions to these rules are documented in the Windows version 3.1 Software Development Kit (SDK) help file.

When used with a GET constant, the lpvParam argument returns the current value of the setting. When used with a SET constant, it is a NULL. The exceptions to these rules are documented in the Windows version 3.1 SDK help file.

The fuWinIni argument updates the WIN.INI file:

```

Const SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE = &H2
Const SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE = &H1

```

#### Example One

One exception to the rules given above occurs with a call to set or get the icon spacing setting. The following example gives the correct arguments to use to set and get the horizontal spacing:

1. Create a Visual Basic project, and add the following controls to a form:

Control Name	Caption
Command1	Read
Command2	Set
Text1	
Label1	Icon Horizontal Spacing

2. Add the following code to the general declarations section of the form:

```

Const SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE = &H2
Const SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE = &H1
Const SPI_ICONHORIZONTALSPACING = 13

```

```

Dim uAction As Integer
Dim uparam As Integer
' Enter the following Declare as one, single line:
Declare Function SystemParametersInfo Lib "User" (ByVal uAction As
    Integer, ByVal uparam As Integer, lpvParam As Any, ByVal fuWinIni As
    Integer) As Integer

```

3. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```

uAction = 0
uparam = 0
ret% = SystemParametersInfo(SPI_ICONHORIZONTALSPACING, uAction,
uparam, SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE Or SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE)
text1.Text = uparam

```

4. Add the following code to the Command2\_Click event:

```

uAction = Val(text1.Text)
uparam = 0
' Enter the following as one, single line:
x% = SystemParametersInfo(SPI_ICONHORIZONTALSPACING, uAction,
    ByVal 0&, SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE Or SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE)

```

5. Run the program, and click the Read button. The current setting of the icon horizontal spacing will be displayed in the Text1 box. Enter a new number(32 is the lowest setting accepted) in the Text1 box, and click the Read button. The spacing will be reset. To see the new setting, bring up the Windows Task list, and choose Arrange Icons.

#### Example Two

-----  
The example follows the general parameter rules. It demonstrates how to turn icon title wrapping on and off by using SETICONTITLEWRAP.

1. Create a Visual Basic project and add the following controls to a form:

Control Name	Caption
Command1	Wrapping True
Command2	Wrapping False

2. Add the following code to the general declarations section of the form:

```

' Enter the following Declare as one, single line:
Declare Function SystemParametersInfo Lib "User" (ByVal uAction As
    Integer, ByVal uparam As Integer, lpvParam As Any, ByVal fuWinIni As
    Integer) As Integer
Const SPI_SETICONTITLEWRAP = 26
Const SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE = &H2
Const SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE = &H1

```

3. Add the following code to the Command1 Click event:

```

' Enter the following as one, single line:
x% = SystemParametersInfo(SPI_SETICONTITLEWRAP, True, 0&,
    SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE Or SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE)

```

4. Add the following code to the Command2 Click event:

```
' Enter the following as one, single line:
x% = SystemParametersInfo(SPI_SETICONTITLEWRAP, False, 0&,
    SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE Or SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE)
```

5. Run the program and watch the icon titles as you click the two buttons.

#### Example Three

-----

This example follows the general parameter rules. It demonstrates how to change your desktop's wallpaper with the SPI\_SETDESKWALLPAPER.

1. Create a Visual Basic project and add the following controls to a form:

Control Name	Caption
-----	
Command1	Change Wallpaper to Rivets

2. Add the following code to the general declarations section of the form:

```
Const SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE = &H1
Const SPI_SETDESKWALLPAPER = 20
Const SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE = &H2

' Enter the following Declare as one, single line:
Declare Function SystemParametersInfo Lib "User" (ByVal uAction As
    Integer, ByVal uparam As Integer, ByVal lpvParam As String, ByVal
    fuWinIni As Integer) As Integer
```

3. Add the following code to the Command1 Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    filenm$ = "C:\Windows\rivets.bmp"

    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    x% = SystemParametersInfo(SPI_SETDESKWALLPAPER, 0&,
        filenm$, SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE Or SPIF_SENDWININICHANGE)
End Sub
```

4. Run the program and watch the wallpaper change to RIVETS.BMP.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Example of calling EnumFontFamilies from a DLL

Article ID: Q98577

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article demonstrates how to obtain a list of available fonts for a device by calling EnumFontFamilies or EnumFonts from a DLL.

Visual Basic already provides a Fonts property for obtaining a list of available font names for a device. Microsoft recommends that you use the Fonts property instead of the function provided in this article to obtain a list of available fonts. Use the technique shown in this article only if you have encountered a bug or limitation when using the Fonts property.

To create the example shown below, you need a C compiler capable of creating Windows dynamic link libraries (DLLs), and you need to have the Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK) version 2.0 or 3.0. The CDK is provided with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 2.0 and 3.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Below are the steps necessary to create a sample DLL that demonstrates using EnumFontFamilies:

#### STEP ONE: Create Example .DLL File

-----

1. Create a source file called FONTNAME.C and add the following code:

```
#include <windows.h>
#include <vbapi.h>
#include <string.h>

int FAR PASCAL _export EnumFontNames (HDC, HAD);
int FAR PASCAL _export GetNextFont (LPLOGFONT, LPNEWTEXTMETRIC,
                                   int, LPARAM);
BOOL Win31OrGreater (VOID);

int giFontCount;
float gfVersion;

//=====
// Title
//      EnumFontNames()
//
// Parameters
//      hdc      Device context for which fonts will be enumerated
```

```

//      had      Handle to Visual Basic string array where the
//                font names will be placed.
//
// Returns
//      The number of fonts enumerated.
//=====
int FAR PASCAL EnumFontNames (HDC hdc, HAD had)
{
    giFontCount = 0;

    if ( Win31OrGreater() )
        //Use EnumFontFamilies under Win 3.1 and later
        while (EnumFontFamilies(hdc, NULL, GetNextFont, had));
    else
        //Need to use EnumFonts under Win 3.0
        while (EnumFonts(hdc, NULL, GetNextFont, had));

    return giFontCount;
}

//=====
// Title
//      GetNextFont()
//
// Parameters
//      lplf      Far pointer to LOGFONT structure
//      lpntm     Far pointer to NEWTEXTMETRIC structure
//      FontType  Type of font
//      lp        User-defined. In this case it holds the handle
//                to a Visual Basic string array.
//
// Returns
//      TRUE as a signal to enumerate the next font
//      FALSE as a signal to stop enumeration
//=====
int FAR PASCAL GetNextFont
(
    LPLOGFONT lplf,
    LPNEWTEXTMETRIC lpntm,
    int FontType,
    LPARAM lp
)
{
    static char szFirstFont[LF_FACESIZE + 1];
    char szFaceName[LF_FACESIZE + 1];
    int iElements, lbound;

    HAD had = (HAD) lp;
    LONG lBounds = VBAArrayBounds(had, 1);

    //Get out if there are no elements in the array
    if (lBounds == AB_INVALIDINDEX)
        return FALSE;

    // Store the lower bound of the array for index 1
    lbound = LOBOUND(lBounds);

```

```

//Get number of elements in the array
iElements = HIBOUND(lBounds) - lbound + 1;

//Initialize the vars holding the font face names
if (giFontCount == 0)
    szFirstFont[0] = '\0';

szFaceName[0] = '\0';

if (giFontCount <= iElements)
{
    HLSTR hlstr;
    SHORT indexes[1];

    //Copy the face size into a buffer so that we can insure its
    //null terminated
    if ( Win31OrGreater() )
        lstrcpy((LPSTR) szFaceName, lplf->lfFaceName,
                LF_FACESIZE - 1);
    else
        //Need to use C runtime routine fmemcpy instead of
        //lstrcpy under Win 3.0
        _fmemcpy((LPVOID) szFaceName, lplf->lfFaceName,
                LF_FACESIZE - 1);

    szFaceName[LF_FACESIZE] = '\0';

    if (giFontCount == 0)

        //Store the first font retrieved. If we see this font
        //again, we know we've enumerated all the fonts
        lstrcpy((LPSTR) szFirstFont, szFaceName);

    else if (!lstrcmp(szFirstFont, szFaceName))
        //If we see the same face name again, get out and stop
        //enumerating
        return FALSE;

    //Assume a single index array
    indexes[0] = lbound + giFontCount;

    //Get the VB string handle from the VB array
    hlstr = VBArrayElement(had, VBArrayIndexCount(had),
                           indexes);

    //Make sure the string handle is valid
    if (HIWORD(hlstr))
    {
        //Add the fontname to the array
        VBSetHlstr(&hlstr, (LPSTR) szFaceName, lstrlen((LPSTR)
                szFaceName));

        //Return and get the next font
        giFontCount++;
    }

    return TRUE;
}

```



```

    }

    else
        //Can't fit all font names into the array provided, so get
        //out.
        return FALSE;
}

//=====
// Title
//      Win31OrGreater ()
//
// Returns
//      TRUE if we're running under Windows 3.1 or better
//      FALSE if we're running under Windows 3.0
//=====
BOOL Win31OrGreater ( VOID )
{
    DWORD dVersion;

    //Check which version of Windows we're running under
    dVersion = GetVersion();
    if (LOBYTE(LOWORD(dVersion)) > 3 || (LOBYTE(LOWORD(dVersion))
        == 3 && HIBYTE(LOWORD(dVersion)) > 0))
        return TRUE;
    else
        return FALSE;
}

//-----
// Initialize library. This routine is called when the first
// client loads
// the DLL.
//-----
int FAR PASCAL LibMain
(
    HANDLE hModule,
    WORD   wDataSeg,
    WORD   cbHeapSize,
    LPSTR  lpszCmdLine
)
{
    // Avoid warnings on unused (but required) formal parameters
    wDataSeg = wDataSeg;
    cbHeapSize = cbHeapSize;
    lpszCmdLine = lpszCmdLine;

    return 1;
}

//-----
// WEP
//-----
int FAR PASCAL WEP(int fSystemExit);

//-----
// Performs cleanup tasks when the DLL is unloaded.  WEP() is

```

```

// called automatically by Windows when the DLL is unloaded (no
// remaining tasks still have the DLL loaded). It is strongly
// recommended that a DLL have a WEP() function, even if it does
// nothing but returns success (1), as in this example.
//-----
int FAR PASCAL WEP
(
    int fSystemExit
)
{
    // Avoid warnings on unused (but required) formal parameters
    fSystemExit = fSystemExit;

    return 1;
}

```

2. Create a module-definition file (DEF) called FONTNAME.DEF and add the following:

```

LIBRARY FONTNAME

DESCRIPTION 'Example of how to enumerate all font names for
            specific device'

EXETYPE WINDOWS

CODE PRELOAD MOVEABLE DISCARDABLE
DATA PRELOAD MOVEABLE SINGLE

EXPORTS
    WEP @1 RESIDENTNAME
    ENUMFONTNAMES @2
    GETNEXTFONT @3

```

3. Compile FONTNAME.C from the MS-DOS command line as follows:

```
CL /c /ASw /W3 FONTNAME.C
```

4. Link the resulting FONTNAME.OBJ file as follows:

```

LINK /NOE /NOD
    FONTNAME.OBJ+LIBENTRY.OBJ, FONTNAME.DLL,,
    LIBW+SDLLCEW+VBAPI.LIB, FONTNAME.DEF;

```

5. Resource compile FONTNAME.DLL to make it Windows 3.0 compatible as follows:

```
RC /30 FONTNAME.DLL
```

6. Copy FONTNAME.DLL to the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory.

STEP TWO: Create Visual Basic Sample Program

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a list box (List1) to Form1.

3. Add the following Declare statement as one, single line to the general-declarations section of Form1:

```
Declare Function EnumFontNames Lib "FONTNAME.DLL" (ByVal hDC As Integer, FontNames() As String) As Integer
```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Click ()

    Dim i As Integer
    Dim FontCount As Integer
    ReDim FontNames(255) As String 'Make the array intentionally
                                   'large to hold any number of
                                   'font names

    'For Screen fonts, pass Form1.hDC instead. If using the
    'Common Dialog control, you can also pass the hDC property
    'of the Common Dialog control.
    FontCount = EnumFontNames(Printer.hDC, FontNames())

    List1.Clear
    For i = 0 To FontCount - 1
        List1.AddItem FontNames(i)
    Next

End Sub
```

5. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press F5 to run the program.
6. Click Form1.

The available font names for the selected printer will be displayed in the list box.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## How to Print Text Sideways in Picture Control with Windows API

Article ID: Q99874

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The example below shows how to print text sideways in a picture control using Windows API function calls. The text prints vertically in the picture control, rotated by 90 degrees.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic. Form1 is created by default.
2. Draw a large picture box (Picture1) on the form.
3. From the File menu, choose New Module to create a new module. Put the following code in the module:

```
DefInt A-Z
global Const LF_FACESIZE = 32
Type LOGFONT
    lfheight As Integer
    lfwidth As Integer
    lfescapement As Integer
    lforientation As Integer
    lfweight As Integer
    lfitalic As String * 1
    lfunderline As String * 1
    lfstrikeout As String * 1
    lfcharset As String * 1
    lfoutprecision As String * 1
    lfclipprecision As String * 1
    lfquality As String * 1
    lfpitchandfamily As String * 1
    lffacename As String * LF_FACESIZE
End Type
```

```
' Enter each of the following 7 Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function CreateFont% Lib "GDI" (ByVal h%, ByVal w%, ByVal e%,
    ByVal o%, ByVal n%, ByVal i%, ByVal u%, ByVal s%, ByVal c%,
    ByVal op%, ByVal cp%, ByVal q%, ByVal j%, ByVal f$)
Declare Function createfontindirect Lib "GDI" (lplogfont As LOGFONT)
    As Integer
Declare Function selectobject Lib "GDI" (ByVal hdc%, ByVal object%)
```

```

    As Integer
Declare Function textout Lib "GDI" (ByVal hdc%, ByVal x%, ByVal y%,
    ByVal text$, ByVal ncount%) As Integer
Declare Sub deleteobject Lib "GDI" (ByVal object%)
Declare Function getdevicecaps Lib "GDI" (ByVal hdc%, ByVal nIndex%)
    As Integer
Declare Function gettextface Lib "GDI" (ByVal hdc As Integer,
    ByVal ncount As Integer, ByVal lpname As String) As Integer

Global Const PROOF_QUALITY = 2
Global Const FW_NORMAL = 400

```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event:

```

picture1.Cls
Dim hfont As Integer, holdfont As Integer
Dim font As LOGFONT
nvalue = getdevicecaps(picture1.hDC, 34)
font.lfheight = 12
font.lfwidth = 0
font.lfescapement = 900
font.lforientation = 900
font.lfweight = 400      'This is normal
font.lfitalic = Chr$(0)
font.lfunderline = Chr$(0)
font.lfstrikeout = Chr$(0)
font.lfcharset = Chr$(0)
font.lfoutprecision = Chr$(0)
font.lfclipprecision = Chr$(0)
font.lfquality = Chr$(2)
font.lfpitchandfamily = Chr$(33)
font.lffacename = "Courier New" + Chr$(0)

hfont = createfontindirect(font)
holdfont = selectobject(picture1.hDC, hfont)
szfacename$ = Space$(80)
retval% = gettextface(picture1.hDC, 79, szfacename$)

nchars = Len(sometext$)
picture1.CurrentX = 200
picture1.CurrentY = 2000
picture1.Print Left$(RTrim$(szfacename$), Len(RTrim$(szfacename$)) - 1)
deleteobject hfont

```

5. Run the program. Click the form, not the picture. You'll see the phrase "Courier New" print sideways in the picture control, from the lower left to the upper left.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgPrint APrgWindow

## How to Play MIDI Files Using API Calls from Visual Basic

Article ID: Q99898

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article demonstrates how to play a MIDI (.MID) file from Visual Basic using Windows version 3.1 APIs.

If you have the Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0, or if you have the Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, you can use the MCI control to play a MIDI file. You don't need to use the APIs

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Step by Step to an Application that Plays an .MID file

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or if Visual Basic is already running, choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a Command Button (Command1) to Form1.
3. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event of Form1:

```
DIM ret as Integer
```

```
'*** The following will open the sequencer with the C:\WIN31\CANYON.MID  
'*** file. Canyon is the device_id. Enter the entire statement on one,  
'*** single line.
```

```
ret = mciSendString("open CANYON.MID type sequencer alias canyon",  
    0&, 0, 0)
```

```
'*** The wait tells the MCI command to complete before returning control  
'*** to the application.
```

```
Ret = mciSendString("play canyon wait", 0&, 0, 0)
```

```
'*** Close CANYON.MID file and sequencer device
```

```
Ret = mciSendString("close Animation", 0&, 0, 0)
```

4. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line:  
Declare Function mciSendString Lib "mmsystem" (ByVal lpstrCommand$,  
    ByVal lpstrReturnStr As Any, ByVal wReturnLen%, ByVal hCallback%)  
    As Long
```

5. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press F5 to run the program.

More information about sndSendString() can be found in:

- the MultiMedia Programmer's Reference on page 3-26.
- Command strings described on pages 7-23 to 7-93 and in the WIN31MWH.HLP file shipped with the Windows 3.1 Software Development Kit (SDK).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## How to Read a Large File into Memory by Calling API Functions

Article ID: Q100513

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- The Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Windows, version 3.1 or higher
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article demonstrates how to call Windows API functions to read a file of any size (including a huge file such as a bitmap) into memory and how to write a block of memory (including a huge memory block) out to a file.

The information in this article applies only to Windows version 3.1 or higher because it uses Windows API functions introduced in Windows version 3.1.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Perform the following steps to create a sample program that demonstrates how to read a large file into memory and write that memory back out to a file:

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.
3. Add the following code to the general-declarations section of Module1:

```
' OpenFile() Structure
Type OFSTRUCT
    cBytes As String * 1
    fFixedDisk As String * 1
    nErrCode As Integer
    reserved As String * 4
    szPathName As String * 128
End Type

' OpenFile() Flags
Global Const OF_READ = &H0
Global Const OF_WRITE = &H1
Global Const OF_READWRITE = &H2
Global Const OF_SHARE_COMPAT = &H0
Global Const OF_SHARE_EXCLUSIVE = &H10
Global Const OF_SHARE_DENY_WRITE = &H20
Global Const OF_SHARE_DENY_READ = &H30
Global Const OF_SHARE_DENY_NONE = &H40
Global Const OF_PARSE = &H100
Global Const OF_DELETE = &H200
Global Const OF_VERIFY = &H400
```



```

Global Const OF_CANCEL = &H800
Global Const OF_CREATE = &H1000
Global Const OF_PROMPT = &H2000
Global Const OF_EXIST = &H4000
Global Const OF_REOPEN = &H8000

' Enter each of the following Declare statements on one, single line:
Declare Function OpenFile Lib "Kernel" (ByVal lpFilename As
    String, lpReOpenBuff As OFSTRUCT, ByVal wStyle As Integer) As Integer
Declare Function hRead Lib "kernel" Alias "_hread" (ByVal hFile As
    Integer, lpMem As Any, ByVal lSize As Long) As Long
Declare Function hWrite Lib "Kernel" Alias "_hwrite" (ByVal hFile
    As Integer, lpMem As Any, ByVal lSize As Long) As Long
Declare Function lClose Lib "kernel" Alias "_lclose" (ByVal hFile
    As Integer) As Integer

' Global Memory Flags
Global Const GMEM_FIXED = &H0
Global Const GMEM_MOVEABLE = &H2
Global Const GMEM_NOCOMPACT = &H10
Global Const GMEM_NODISCARD = &H20
Global Const GMEM_ZEROINIT = &H40
Global Const GMEM_MODIFY = &H80
Global Const GMEM_DISCARDABLE = &H100
Global Const GMEM_NOT_BANKED = &H1000
Global Const GMEM_SHARE = &H2000
Global Const GMEM_DDESHARE = &H2000
Global Const GMEM_NOTIFY = &H4000
Global Const GMEM_LOWER = GMEM_NOT_BANKED

Global Const GHND = (GMEM_MOVEABLE Or GMEM_ZEROINIT)
Global Const GPTR = (GMEM_FIXED Or GMEM_ZEROINIT)

' Enter each of the following Declare statements on one, single line:
Declare Function GlobalAlloc Lib "Kernel" (ByVal wFlags As
    Integer, ByVal dwBytes As Long) As Integer
Declare Function GlobalLock Lib "Kernel" (ByVal hMem As Integer)
    As Long
Declare Function GlobalUnlock Lib "Kernel" (ByVal hMem As Integer)
    As Integer
Declare Function GlobalFree Lib "Kernel" (ByVal hMem As Integer)
    As Integer

```

4. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()

    Dim InpFile As String
    Dim OutFile As String
    Dim hFile As Integer
    Dim fileStruct As OFSTRUCT
    Dim FSize As Long
    Dim BytesRead As Long
    Dim BytesWritten As Long
    Dim hMem As Integer
    Dim lpMem As Long
    Dim r As Integer

```

Me.Show

```
'Insert the name of a bitmap or file that is greater than 64K.
'256COLOR.BMP is less than 5K in size, however, the routine
'below still demonstrates how to read and write a file of any
'size
InpFile = "C:\WINDOWS\256COLOR.BMP"
OutFile = "C:\WINDOWS\TEST.BMP"

'Get the size of the file to be read
FSize = FileLen(InpFile)

If FSize > 0 Then

    'Allocate a block of memory equal to the size of the input file.
    hMem = GlobalAlloc(GPTR, FSize)

    If hMem <> 0 Then
        lpMem = GlobalLock(hMem)

        'Read the file into memory
        hFile = OpenFile(InpFile, fileStruct, OF_READ Or
                        OF_SHARE_DENY_NONE)
        BytesRead = hRead(hFile, ByVal lpMem, FSize)

        MsgBox Format(BytesRead) & " bytes read into memory"

        r = lClose(hFile)

        'Write the file back to disk to verify the file was
        'read correctly
        hFile = OpenFile(OutFile, fileStruct, OF_CREATE Or
                        OF_WRITE Or OF_SHARE_DENY_NONE)
        BytesWritten = hWrite(hFile, ByVal lpMem, FSize)

        MsgBox Format(BytesWritten) & " bytes written to output file"

        r = lClose(hFile)

        'Free resources
        r = GlobalUnlock(hMem)
        r = GlobalFree(hMem)
    Else
        MsgBox "Not enough memory to store file"
    End If
Else
    MsgBox "Input file is zero bytes in length"
End If
End
```

End Sub

5. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press F5 to run the program. Form1 will be displayed and the program will end.
6. Use PaintBrush or some other bitmap editor to open C:\WINDOWS\TEST.BMP to verify that it is the same bitmap as C:\WINDOWS\256COLOR.BMP.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## How to Find Next Available Drive Letter (for Network Connect)

Article ID: Q100834

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Visual Basic program in this article shows by example how to find the next available (unused) drive letter in Windows. This is useful when making network connections to a new drive letter.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

The Freedrive function defined below returns the next drive letter available in Windows, followed by a colon (:).

1. Start Visual Basic. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1:

```
' Enter the following Declare statement as one, single line:
Declare Function GetDriveType Lib "kernel"
    (ByVal nDrive As Integer) As Integer

Function Freedrive ()
    Dim DriveNum As Integer, FirstFreeDrive As String
    Dim FirstDrive As Integer
    DriveNum = -1
    Do
        DriveNum = DriveNum + 1    ' start at drive zero.
        FirstDrive% = GetDriveType(DriveNum)
        ' GetDriveType returns zero if it cannot determine drive
        ' type or returns 1 if the specified drive does not exist.
    Loop Until FirstDrive% = 0
    ' DriveNum of 0 means Drive A, 1=B, 2=C, 3=D, 4=E, 5=F, and so on:
    FirstFreeDrive = Chr$(DriveNum + 65) + ":"
    Freedrive = FirstFreeDrive
End Function
```

3. In the Form\_click event, add the following statements:

```
Sub Form_Click ()

    Cls
    Print "The next available (unused) drive letter is: "; Freedrive()
```

```
' More handy tips: The "App" object below is found in VB 2.0  
' and 3.0 (but not 1.0).  
Print "The title for the EXE in Windows Task Manager: "; app.Title  
Print "The name of this EXE, or project in VB, is: "; app.EXENAME  
Print "The path to this application is: "; app.Path
```

End Sub

4. Run the program, and click the form.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgNet

## Adjusting Form Size for Different Video Screen Resolutions

Article ID: Q103646

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Different display devices can have different resolutions (twips per pixel ratios). These differences can cause form and control sizes and locations to appear differently than when they were created. Two solutions to this problem are:

- Set the ScaleMode on all forms and picture boxes to Pixels (3). This unit of measurement does not depend on screen resolution, so forms and controls will always appear the same size and location relative to each other.
- Adjust your form and control sizes and locations at run time to match visual elements which are not affected by the screen resolution. For example, the sample program given below adjusts the width of the client area of a form to match a bitmap which is a fixed number of pixels wide and is therefore not affected by screen resolution.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add two labels, one command button, and one picture control to Form1.
3. Set Picture1's picture property to C:\WINDOWS\WINLOGO.BMP.
4. Add the following code in the Form Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
  
    ' Set up a picture box:  
    Picture1.AutoSize = True  
    Picture1.Move 0, 0  
  
    ' Set up the labels and command button:  
    Xtwips& = Screen.TwipsPerPixelX  
    Ytwips& = Screen.TwipsPerPixelY  
    Ypixels& = Screen.Height / Ytwips&  
    Xpixels& = Screen.Width / Xtwips&
```

```

label1.Caption = "Below is resolution that you are running in"
label2.Caption = Str$(Xpixels&) + " by " + Str$(Ypixels&)
label1.Width = Picture1.Width
label2.Width = Picture1.Width
label1.Left = 0
label2.Left = 0
label1.Top = Picture1.Height + 10
label2.Top = label1.Top + label1.Height + 10
command1.Top = label2.Top + label2.Height + 10
command1.Left = (Picture1.Width - command1.Width) / 2

' Size the form to fit the picture box, labels, and command button
ScaleMode = 1 ' twips
Width = Width - ScaleWidth + Picture1.Width

' Enter the Height statement as one, single line:
Height = Height - ScaleHeight + Picture1.Height + label1.Height
        + label2.Height + command1.Height
End Sub

```

5. Add the following code in the Command1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    End
End Sub

```

6. Press the F5 key to run the program. Click the Command1 button to exit from the example.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow

## How to Play an .AVI Video File in Full Screen in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q104123

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article shows by example how to play an .AVI (video) file in full screen from Visual Basic for Windows. When you play an .AVI file using the full screen, the color palette focus is set to the .AVI file only. No dithering of colors occurs because there are no other windows in the background to capture the color palette.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The example uses the mciSendString application programming interface (API) from Microsoft Windows version 3.1 or Microsoft Windows version 3.0 with Multimedia Extensions.

For the example to work, your computer must be able to play .AVI files and you need either Microsoft Windows version 3.1 or Microsoft Windows version 3.0 with Multimedia Extensions.

The .AVI file included in the example (WNDSURF1.AVI) is the one from Microsoft Video for Windows.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1, and set its caption property to: Play Video.
3. Add the following line of code to the (general) (declarations) section of Form1:

```
' Enter the following Declare statement on one, single line:
Declare Function mciSendString Lib "mmsystem"
    (ByVal lpstrCommand$, ByVal lpstrReturnStr As Any,
    ByVal wReturnLen%, ByVal hCallback%) As Long
```

4. Add the following lines of code to the Command1 Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    CmdStr$ = "play c:\winvideo\wndsurf1.avi fullscreen "
    ReturnVal& = mciSendString(CmdStr$, 0&, 0, 0&)
```



End Sub

5. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program. Click the Play Video button to watch the video full screen. The video will last for a few seconds and return back to the Visual Basic environment.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## Windows Debugging Tools for Use with Visual Basic

Article ID: Q104156

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Microsoft Windows debugging tools listed in this article may help you debug and troubleshoot problems such as general protection (GP) faults that you encounter while in Visual Basic or while executing a compiled Visual Basic program.

None of these tools are included as part of the Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, but they are readily available from other sources as listed in each tool's description. You can use these tools to debug many different problems, including but not limited to GP faults.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following tools may help you debug your Visual Basic programs. A brief description of each tool is given below. For more information, review the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK) documentation.

#### Dr. Watson for Windows (DRWATSON.EXE)

-----

This tool comes with Microsoft Windows version 3.1. It is located in the \WINDOWS directory. This is a diagnostic tool for the Microsoft Windows operating system. It detects system and application failures caused by Windows applications and can store information in a disk file called a log file. There is more information in the Programming Tools Manual in Chapter 6 of the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1.

#### CodeView for Windows (CVW.EXE)

-----

This tool comes with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows version 3.1. You cannot use this tool to debug Visual Basic programs, but you can use it to debug dynamic link libraries (DLLs) used by Visual Basic. For example, you can use this tool to test the execution of your application and examine your data simultaneously.

You can isolate problems quickly because you can display any combination of variables, global or local, while you interrupt or trace an application's execution. For information on how to use CodeView for Windows, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

codeview and visual and basic

Also, there is more information in the Programming Tools Manual in Chapter 4 of the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1.

#### Heap Walker (HEAPWALK.EXE)

-----

This tool comes with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1. Use it to test how memory is being allocated. It checks memory by examining the global heap (the system memory that the Windows operating system uses), local heaps used by active applications, and DLLs in your Windows system.

Heap Walker is useful for analyzing the effects your application has when it allocates memory from the global heap or when it creates user interface objects or graphics objects. There is more information in the Programming Tools Manual in Chapter 9 of the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1.

#### Microsoft Windows SPY (SPY.EXE)

-----

This tool comes with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1. Use it to test or monitor messages sent to one or more windows in Microsoft Windows and to examine the values of message parameters. For more information, see the Programming Tools Manual in Chapter 7 of the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1.

#### Dynamic Data Exchange Spy (DDESPY.EXE)

-----

This tool comes with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1. Use it to test or monitor dynamic data exchange messages and activity between two windows applications in the Microsoft Windows operating system. You can use DDESPY.EXE to trace DDE messages in Microsoft Windows. For more information, see the Programming Tools Manual in Chapter 8 of the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit for Windows 3.1.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgOther

## ODBC Setup Program Gives Error: Could not open file...

Article ID: Q95736

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 2.0  
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### SUMMARY

=====

Running the Data Access Setup program from Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows into the ODBC directory that Visual Basic Setup created results in this error message:

Could not open the file named: C:\VB\ODBCADM.HLP. It is in use by another application.

C:\VB is the path where Visual Basic exists. At this point you must quit the Setup program.

The ODBC Setup program is trying to copy the ODBCADM.HLP file on top of itself. The ODBC setup files already reside in the directory C:\VB\ODBC.

To work around the problem, choose the default directory (C:\ODBC) or any other subdirectory. Then the Setup program works correctly. After installing ODBC, you can move the contents of the directory to any other directory.

This is not a problem with Visual Basic, but rather a limitation of the ODBC Setup program.

### More Information

The following steps reproduce the problem:

1. Set up Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows in C:\VB.
2. Double-click the Data Access Setup icon to start the Setup program.
3. Choose continue.
4. Select Install ODBC Administration Utility.
5. On the choice entitled "The Microsoft ODBC administration utility will be copied into the following directory on your hard disk:" Change the default path from C:\ODBC to C:\VB\ODBC

You should receive the error message "Could not open the file named: 'C:\VB\ODBCADM.HLP' followed by a dialog asking if you want to quit setup. You will need to select Yes to this dialog in order to terminate the ODBC setup program.

Additional reference words: 2.00 setup ODBC

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: APrgDataODBC

## How to Keep the Current Record the Same After Using Refresh

Article ID: Q97181

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
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### SUMMARY

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In Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows, when the Refresh method updates the recordset for a data control, it recreates the recordset and resets the current record. This invalidates all existing bookmarks for that recordset. This behavior is by design. It is not a Visual Basic bug but rather a design feature of the data control.

However, this behavior may be undesirable if you want to refresh the recordset and maintain the current record. This article explains how to restore the current record after executing the Refresh method.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Although there is no simple way to retain the current record after executing the Refresh method, you can restore the current record. To do so, store unique field data for the current record. Then use the stored field data to execute the Refresh method followed by the FindFirst method. The FindFirst method uses the stored field data to restore the current record.

The following steps demonstrate how to restore the current record after executing the Refresh method:

1. Start Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Put a data control (Data1) on Form1.
3. Set the DatabaseName property for Data1 to <path name>BIBLIO.MDB where <path name> represents the full path to the Visual Basic BIBLIO.MDB sample database.
4. Set the RecordSource property of Data1 to Authors, which is the name of the table in the BIBLIO.MDB database.
5. Put a Text box (Text1) on Form1

6. Set the DataSource property of Text1 to Data1
7. Set the DataField property of Text1 to Author, which is the name of the field (column) in the Authors table.
8. Put a command button (Command1) on Form1
9. Change the Caption property of Command1 to Refresh.
10. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
  
    Dim CurrRec As Variant  
  
    'Hide the text box and emulate it by drawing a border  
    text1.Visible = False  
    Line (text1.Left, text1.Top)-(text1.Left + text1.Width,  
        text1.Top + text1.Height), , B  
  
    'Store the value of a unique field for the current record  
    CurrRec = Data1.RecordSet!Au_ID  
  
    'Update the RecordSet  
    Data1.Refresh  
  
    'Restore the current record by using the stored field value  
    'to find  
    Data1.RecordSet.FindFirst "Au_ID = " & CurrRec  
  
    text1.Visible = True  
  
End Sub
```

11. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press the F5 key to run the program.
12. Using the data control, move to the next record. You should see "Atre, Shaku" displayed in the text box
13. Using the data control, move further into the file. To do this, click the right arrow or click the rightmost button -- the one with the arrow and bar -- to move to the end of the file.
14. Click the Refresh button. The name of the first author in the recordset is displayed in Text1 for an instant. Then the current author is redisplayed.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## How to Copy Current Database Record into a Record Variable

Article ID: Q97413

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Although Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows does not provide a direct way to assign the current database record to a record variable, this article gives you a generic routine. Using this generic routine, you can assign the current record, containing any number of fields, to a record variable that represents the structure of the current database record.

This generic routine is useful if you have existing database code that uses record variables to represent database records. For example, using this routine, you can use the Visual Basic data access features without making major changes to how you read and handle records. After you assign the contents of the current record to a record variable of the appropriate type, your code can manipulate the record as before, independent of the underlying database.

The routine demonstrated below requires Windows version 3.1 or later because it uses the Windows API function `hmemcpy()`, which was introduced in Windows version 3.1. An error will result on the call to `hmemcpy()` if you attempt to run the sample using Windows version 3.0.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Follow these general steps to assign the current database record to a record variable:

1. Define a Type ... End Type structure that represents the record structure of the database table that you are going to use. This requires that the number and data types of the fields in the table be known in advance.

To determine the structure of the table quickly, run the Data Manager tool provided with Visual Basic. From the Data Manager File menu, choose Open to open the database. Select a Table from the list displayed in the Database window, and choose the Design button to see the table's field names, data types, and field lengths.

2. Dimension a variable of the user-defined type structure created in step 1.



3. Create a generic routine using the Windows API `hmemcpy()` function to copy each field of the current database record into a string. To do this, step through all of the fields in the Fields collection and accumulate the fields together into a single string.
4. Use the `hmemcpy()` function to copy the contents of the string created in step 3 to the record variable created in step 2.

Perform the following steps to create an example application that demonstrates how to copy the current database record into a user-defined structure. This example shows you how to use the Data control to copy a record from the BIBLIO.MDB sample database provided with Visual Basic.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add two text boxes (Text1 and Text2) to Form1
3. Add a data control (Data1) to Form1
4. Add a command button (Command1) to Form1.
5. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in steps 2, 3 and 4.

Control Name	Property	New Value	Comment
Command1	Caption	"Copy"	
Data1	DatabaseName	BIBLIO.MDB	You will also need to provide the full path to this file, which should be in your Visual Basic directory C:\VB
Data1	RecordSource	Authors	
Text1	DataSource	Data1	
Text1	DataField	AU_ID	
Text2	DataSource	Data1	
Text2	DataField	Author	

6. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.
7. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Module1:

```
Type typeAuthor
    AU_ID As Long
    Author As String * 255
End Type
' Enter the following Declare on a single line:
Declare Sub hmemcpy Lib "KERNEL" (dest As Any, src As Any, ByVal
    Size As Long)
```

8. Add the following code to Module1:

```
Function GetCurrRec (ds As Dynaset) As String

    Dim i As Integer
    Static FieldStr As String
```

```

Static recStr As String

recStr = ""

'Step through each field in the current record and accumulate
'the contents of each field into a string
For i = 0 To ds.Fields.Count - 1

    'Pad out to the right size
    FieldStr = Space(ds.Fields(i).Size)

    Select Case ds.Fields(i).Type

        'Copy the binary representation of the field to a
        'string (FieldStr)

        Case 1, 2      'Bytes
            hmemcpy ByVal FieldStr, CInt(ds.Fields(i).Value),
                                ds.Fields(i).Size

        Case 3          'Integers
            hmemcpy ByVal FieldStr, CInt(ds.Fields(i).Value),
                                ds.Fields(i).Size

        Case 4          'Long integers
            hmemcpy ByVal FieldStr, CLng(ds.Fields(i).Value),
                                ds.Fields(i).Size

        Case 5          'Currency
            hmemcpy ByVal FieldStr, CCur(ds.Fields(i).Value),
                                ds.Fields(i).Size

        Case 6          'Singles
            hmemcpy ByVal FieldStr, CSng(ds.Fields(i).Value),
                                ds.Fields(i).Size

        Case 7, 8      'Doubles
            hmemcpy ByVal FieldStr, CDbl(ds.Fields(i).Value),
                                ds.Fields(i).Size

        Case 9, 10     'String types
            hmemcpy ByVal FieldStr, ByVal CStr(ds.Fields(i).Value),
                                Len(ds.Fields(i).Value)

        Case 11, 12    'Memo and long binary
            FieldStr = ds.Fields(i).GetChunk(0, ds.Fields(i).FieldSize())

    End Select

    'Accumulate the field string into a record string
    recStr = recStr & FieldStr

Next

'Return the accumulated string containing the contents of all
'fields in the current record
GetCurrRec = recStr

```

End Function

9. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event in Form1:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()

    Dim recAuthor As typeAuthor
    Dim strCurrRec As String
    Dim strVerify As String

    'Copy the current record in the Authors table to a string
    strCurrRec = GetCurrRec(Data1.RecordSet)

    'Copy the string to the record variable that has a structure
    'matching the struture of the current record in the Authors table
    hmemcpy recAuthor, ByVal strCurrRec, Len(recAuthor)

    'Verify that the correct results were returned by displaying
    'the contents of the record variable
    strVerify = "AU_ID: " & Format$(recAuthor.AU_ID) & Chr$(13)
    strVerify = strVerify & "Author: " & Trim(recAuthor.Author)
    MsgBox strVerify

End Sub
```

10. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program.

Click the scroll bar of the Data control to select an author. The Text1 box displays the author ID, and the Text2 box displays the author's name. Click the "Copy" button to copy the current author's information to the record variable and see contents of the record variable displayed in a MsgBox.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## How to Use Data Control to Scroll Up and Down in a Recordset

Article ID: Q97414

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The data control provided with Visual Basic does not provide an automatic way to scroll up or down in a recordset by groups (pages) of records. This article shows you how to use the MoveNext and MovePrevious methods to scroll up or down in a recordset by groups (pages) of records without displaying all the records.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Usually, when you use the MoveNext and MovePrevious methods to scroll up or down by a specified number of records, all the records are displayed as you move through them. This is undesirable behavior if you want a way to scroll through the recordset by pages.

In order to display only the record you have scrolled to, without displaying all the records in between, you need to use the Clone method to clone the data control's recordset.

Once you clone the recordset, you can use the MoveNext and MovePrevious methods to move to the desired record within the cloned recordset. Then set the Bookmark property of the original recordset to the Bookmark property of the cloned recordset. This makes the desired record the current record in the original recordset and causes the fields of this record to be displayed in the bound data controls.

Perform the following steps to create an example program that demonstrates how to scroll up and down by pages in a data control's recordset:

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a data control (Data1) to Form1.
3. Add two text boxes (Text1 and Text2) to Form1.
4. Add two command buttons (Command1 and Command2) to Form1.
5. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in steps 2, 3, and 4.

Control Name	Property	New Value	Comment
Command1	Caption	"Page Up"	
Command2	Caption	"Page Down"	
Data1	DatabaseName	BIBLIO.MDB	Provide the full path to to this file, which should be in the Visual Basic directory -- C:\VB
Data1	RecordSource	Authors	
Text1	DataSource	Data1	
Text1	DataField	AU_ID	
Text2	DataSource	Data1	
Text2	DataField	Author	

6. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
Const PAGEUP = 1
Const PAGEDOWN = 2
Const Records_per_Page = 10
```

7. Add the following procedure to Form1:

```
Sub Page (RecSet As Dynaset, ByVal iDirection As Integer, ByVal
        Records As Integer)

    Dim dsClone As Dynaset
    Dim i As Integer

    'Copy the visible recordset. This is necessary so that you can
    'move through the clone recordset without displaying each record.
    Set dsClone = RecSet.Clone()

    'Set the current record of the cloned recordset to the current
    'record of the visible recordset.
    dsClone.Bookmark = RecSet.Bookmark

    'Scroll up or down N number of records in the cloned recordset.
    i = 1
    Do While i <= Records And Not dsClone.EOF And Not dsClone.BOF

        If iDirection = PAGEUP Then
            dsClone.MovePrevious
        Else
            dsClone.MoveNext
        End If

        i = i + 1
    Loop

    'If the above loop caused a BOF or EOF condition, move to the
    'beginning or end of the recordset as appropriate.
    If dsClone.BOF And iDirection = PAGEUP Then
        dsClone.MoveFirst
    ElseIf dsClone.EOF And iDirection = PAGEDOWN Then
        dsClone.MoveLast
    End If
```

```
'Change the bookmark of the visible record set to the bookmark  
'of the desired record. This makes the current record of the  
'visible recordset match the record moved to in the cloned  
'dynaset. The fields of the record are displayed in the data  
'bound controls without displaying any intervening records.  
RecSet.Bookmark = dsClone.Bookmark
```

End Sub

8. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event for Form1:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
  
    'Scroll up 10 records in the recordset associated with Data1  
    Page Data1.RecordSet, PAGEUP, Records_per_Page
```

End Sub

9. Add the following code to the Command2\_Click event for Form1:

```
Sub Command2_Click ()  
  
    'Scroll down 10 records in the recordset associated with Data1  
    Page Data1.RecordSet, PAGEDOWN, Records_per_Page
```

End Sub

10. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program.

Click the "Page Up" or "Page Down" button to scroll up or down in 10-record increments. Change the value of Records\_per\_Page to modify the pagesize.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## ODBC Setup & Connection Issues for Visual Basic Version 3.0

Article ID: Q97415

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY =====

There are four possible problem areas that can contribute to a failure to connect to a database server when using ODBC and Visual Basic:

- Having correct .INI file settings.
- Having the correct DLLs in the right place.
- Having the server information needed to connect to a server correctly.
- Meeting the needs of Microsoft and Sybase SQL Servers.

### MORE INFORMATION =====

The following describes each of the four areas, giving possible errors and problems that can arise if things are not set up correctly.

#### INI file settings -----

There are two .INI files (ODBCINST.INI and ODBC.INI) that must reside in the Windows directory and must contain correct information about the installed ODBC drivers and servers.

ODBCINST.INI contains the ODBC driver information needed to register new servers using the RegisterDataBase() statement in Visual Basic. Here is an example .INI file for the SQL Server driver that ships with Visual Basic:

```
[ODBC Drivers]
SQL Server=Installed

[SQL Server]
Driver=C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\sqlsrvr.dll
Setup=C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\sqlsetup.dll
```

The [ODBC Drivers] section tells the driver manager the names of the installed drivers. The [SQL Server] section tells the ODBC driver manager the names of the dynamic link libraries (DLLs) to use to access data from a server set up as a SQL Server. The order of the two sections and their entries is arbitrary.

ODBC.INI contains the data for each installed driver. The driver manager uses this information to determine which DLL to use to access data from a particular database backend. Here is an example of a file containing three data sources all using the SQL Server driver:

```
[ODBC Data Sources]
```

MySQL=SQL Server  
CorpSQL=SQL Server

```
[MySQL]
Driver=C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\sqlsrvr.dll
Description=SQL Server on server MySQL
OemToAnsi=No
Network=dbnmp3
Address=\\mysql\pipe\sql\query
```

```
[CorpSQL]
Driver=C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\sqlsrvr.dll
Description=SQL Server on server CorpSQL
OemToAnsi=No
Network=dbnmp3
Address=\\corpsql\pipe\sql\query
```

The first section tells the driver manager which sections appearing below it define the data source. As you can see, each entry has a value (in this case, SQL Server) that matches a value from the ODBCINST.INI file.

If the information on a data source is incorrect or missing, you may get the following error:

```
ODBC - SQLConnect failure 'IM002[Microsoft][ODBC DLL] Data source
not found and no default driver specified'
```

If the DLL listed on the Driver=... line cannot be found or is corrupt, the following error may occur:

```
ODBC - SQLConnect failure 'IM003[Microsoft][ODBC DLL] Driver
specified by data source could not be loaded'
```

#### ODBC and Driver DLLs

-----  
The following DLLs must be on the path or in the Windows system directory in order for ODBC to be accessible from Visual Basic:

```
ODBC.DLL      - driver manager
ODBCINST.DLL  - driver setup manager
VBDB300.DLL   - Visual Basic programming layer
```

If VBDB300.DLL is missing or corrupt, you see the following error in Visual Basic when you try to run the application:

```
ODBC Objects require VBDB300.DLL
```

If either the ODBC.DLL or ODBCINST.DLL file is missing or corrupt, you see the following error in Visual Basic when you try to run the application:

```
Cannot Find ODBC.DLL, File not Found
```

The SQL Server driver requires the following files:

```
SQLSRVR.DLL   - actual driver
SQLSETUP.DLL  - driver setup routines
DBNMP3.DLL    - named pipe routines needed by SQL server
```



If the SQLSRVR.DLL is missing or corrupt, you see the following error when calling the OpenDataBase() function with a SQL Server data source:

```
ODBC - SQLConnect failure 'IM003[Microsoft][ODBC DLL] Driver
specified by data source could not be loaded'
```

If the SQLSETUP.DLL is missing or corrupt, you see the following error when calling the RegisterDataBase statement with SQL Server as the driver name:

```
The configuration DLL (C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\SQLSETUP.DLL) for the ODBC
SQL server driver could not be loaded.
```

#### Server Information Needed to Connect to a Data Source

---

Certain information is needed to connect to a data source using the OpenDataBase() function. This information is obtainable from the server administrator in the case of SQL Server. The following is an example of a call to the OpenDataBase() function to connect to a SQL Server called CorpSQL as a user named Guest with password set to taco:

```
Dim db As DataBase
Set db = OpenDataBase( "corpsql", False, False, "UID=guest;PWD=taco")
```

If any of this information is missing, an ODBC dialog box appears to give a user a chance to supply the needed data. If the information is incorrect, the following error occurs:

```
ODBC - SQLConnect failure '28000[Microsoft][ODBC SQL Server Driver]
[SQL Server] Login failed'
```

#### Information Specific to Microsoft and Sybase SQL Servers

---

For Microsoft and Sybase SQL Servers, you need to add stored procedures to the server itself by running a batch file of SQL statements to make a Microsoft or Sybase SQL Server ODBC-aware. In other words, before you can run a Visual Basic ODBC application using the SQL Server driver, you must first update the ODBC catalog of stored procedures. These procedures are provided in the INSTCAT.SQL file. The system administrator for the SQL Server should install the procedures by using the SQL Server Interactive SQL (ISQL) utility.

If the INSTCAT.SQL file is not processed on the server, the following error occurs:

```
ODBC - SQL Connect Failure
"08001" [Microsoft ODBC SQL Server Driver]
'unable to connect to data source'number: 606'
```

To install the catalog stored procedures by using the INSTCAT.SQL file, run INSTCAT.SQL from the command line using ISQL. Do not use the SAF utility provided with SQL Server. Microsoft SAF for MS-DOS and OS/2 is limited to 511 lines of code in a SQL script, and INSTCAT.SQL contains more than 511 lines of code.

Run ISQL from the OS/2 command line using the following syntax. Enter the two lines as one, single line, and do not include the angle braces <>.

```
ISQL /U <sa login name > /n /P <password> /S <SQL server name> /i  
  <drive: \path\INSTCAT.SQL > /o <drive:\path\output file name>
```

/U The login name for the system administrator.  
/n Eliminates line numbering and prompting for user input.  
/P Password used for the system administrator. This switch is case sensitive.  
/S The name of the server to set up.  
/i Provides the drive and fully qualified path for the location of INSTCAT.SQL  
/o Provides ISQL with an output file destination for results including error listings.

Here's an example. Enter the following as one, single line:

```
ISQL /U sa /n /P squeeze /S BLUEDWARF /i C: \SQL\INSTCAT.SQL /o  
C: \SQL OUTPUT.TXT
```

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataODBC

**PRB: Error 3219 When Updating Record Set Created w/ Distinct**  
**Article ID: Q104459**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

SYMPTOMS

=====

Trying to perform an update on a result set created with the Distinct predicate results in error 3219 "Can't perform operation, it is illegal."

CAUSE

=====

An object variable or a data control result set created with the Distinct predicate is not updatable according to Help. The following statement is in the Distinct keyword Help topic:

The output of a query that uses Distinct is not updatable and doesn't reflect subsequent changes made by other users. Therefore, when you use the Distinct predicate in a query, you are prevented from trying to update your records.

WORKAROUND

=====

The only workaround at this time is to not use the DISTINCT predicate to build the results set. Note that you may have to handle the duplicates by some other coding means.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose Open Project (ALT, F, O) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a data control, two command buttons, and one text box to Form1.
3. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control Name	Property	New Value	Comment
--------------	----------	-----------	---------

-----

Command1	Caption	"Set Up Distinct Predicate"	
Command2	Caption	"Press for Update"	
Data1	DatabaseName	BIBLIO.MDB	Provide the full path to this file, which should be in C:\VB
Data1	RecordSource	Authors	
Text1	DataSource	Data1	
Text1	DataField	Author	

4. Add the following code to Command1 click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    '* Enter the following two lines of code as one, single line:
    data1.RecordSource = "Select DISTINCT Author From authors
        where author > 'a'"
    data1.Refresh
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to Command2 click event procedure:

```
Sub Command2_Click ()
    data1.Recordset.Update
End Sub
```

6. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. Click the Command1 button to set up the Distinct predicate. Delete the zero in "Arnson, Robert, 1970." Then click the Command2 button. This should result in the 3219 error "Can't perform operation, it is illegal."

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory: IAP

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## How to Implement the DLookup Function in Visual Basic

Article ID: Q99704

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic Programming System for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft Access provides a set of domain, or record set, functions that are useful in getting the value of one field based on criteria involving another field. The DLookup domain function is particularly useful.

Although Visual Basic does not contain the DLookup function, you can write the equivalent using Visual Basic code. This article describes how to implement the DLookup domain function in Visual Basic.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

In Microsoft Access, the DLookup domain function returns the value of a field for a given set of criteria. The syntax for the DLookup function is as follows:

DLookup(expr, domain , criteria)

Argument	Description
----------	-------------

expr	String expression identifying the field that contains the data you want to return. Operands in expr can include the name of a table field.
------	--

domain	String expression identifying the records that constitute the record set. It can be a table name, query name, or SQL expression that returns data.
--------	--

criteria	Optional string expression used to restrict the range of data on which DLookup is performed. For example, criteria could be the SQL expression's WHERE clause without the word WHERE. If criteria is omitted, DLookup evaluates expr against the entire record set.
----------	---

### Step-by-Step to a Custom Visual Basic DLookup Function

-----  
The following steps show by example how to create a Visual Basic custom DLookup function.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following controls with the associated properties to Form1:

Control	Name	Property Settings
---------	------	-------------------

```

-----
Command Button    Command1    Caption = "Lookup"
Label             Label2
Data             Data1        Databasename = "BIBLIO.MDB"
                                   RecordSource = "Authors"
Label            Label1        DataSource = Data1
                                   DataField = Author

```

3. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
Dim gDefaultDatabase As Database
```

4. Add the following code to the general section of Form1:

```

'Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
Function DLookup (ByVal FieldName As String, ByVal RecSource
    As String, ByVal Criteria As String) As Variant

    Dim dsResult As Dynaset
    Dim ReturnValue As Variant

    On Local Error GoTo Error_DLookup:

    'Create a dynaset based on the record source or SQL string provided
    Set dsResult = gDefaultDatabase.CreateDynaset(RecSource)

    'Find the first record that meets the criteria provided
    dsResult.FindFirst Criteria

    'See if we found any records
    If Not dsResult.NoMatch Then

        'Return the value of the field
        DLookup = dsResult(FieldName).Value

    Else

        DLookup = Null

    End If

DLookup_Exit:
Exit Function

Error_DLookup:
    'Display the error and get out
    MsgBox "Error (" & Err & "): " & Error(Err) & " in DLookup", 64
    Resume DLookup_Exit:

End Function

```

5. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()

    'Get the first book title for the current author.
    'Enter the following two lines as one, single line:

```

```

Label2.Caption = DLookup("Title", "Titles", "Au_ID = " &
    Format(data1.Recordset("Au_ID")))
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure of Form1:

```

'Cause the records to be read from the database. This is
'needed to initialize the Database property.
data1.Refresh

'Keep the default database in a global variable to be used
'by the DLookup function
Set gDefaultDatabase = data1.Database

```

7. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press F5 to run the program.
8. Click the directional arrows on the Data control to display different author names in Label1.
9. Click the Lookup button and title to display one of the author's books in Label2.

As demonstrated in this example program, you can use DLookup to return a field value such as book title based on the value of another field such as author ID.

#### Examples Showing How to Use DLookup

Below are some more examples showing how you can use the DLookup function.

In the following example, from the Authors table in the Visual Basic BIBLIO.MDB sample database, DLookup uses the Au\_ID field to return the corresponding author name for the author whose ID is 17. Assume that the variable AuthorName is a string.

```

AuthorName = DLookup("Author", "Authors", "Au_ID = 17")

```

If the criteria argument contains non-numeric text other than field names, you must enclose the text in single quotation marks. In the following example from the Titles table of the BIBLIO.MDB database, ISBN is the name of a field, and 0895886448 is a string literal.

```

BookTitle1 = DLookup("Title", "Titles", "ISBN = '0895886448'")
BookTitle2 = DLookup("Title", "Titles", "Au_Id = 17")

```

Even if more than one record satisfies criteria, DLookup returns only one field. If no record satisfies criteria, or if the domain contains no records, DLookup returns a Null.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

**PRB: Can't Use ActiveForm to Reference Data Control in VB 3.0**  
**Article ID: Q101252**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

SYMPTOMS

=====

Using the ActiveForm Property of the Screen control or an MDI Parent form to reference a Data control causes a "Type Mismatch" error in Visual Basic.

CAUSE

=====

This behavior is by design. This is not a bug in Visual Basic. The Visual Basic environment does not know in advance that the Active form will actually contain a Data control, so it generates a "Type mismatch" error.

WORKAROUND

=====

To avoid the error message, use global objects to reference the local controls. The "More Information" section below demonstrates one method for doing this.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Correct Problem

-----

This example shows how to correct the problem. First, create the problem by following the steps listed in "Steps to Reproduce Problem." Then correct the problem with these steps:

1. Add the following code to the Form\_Activate Event:

```
Sub Form_Activate ()  
    Set CurrentDS = Data1.Recordset  
End Sub
```

2. Change two lines of code into comments by adding a single quotation mark to the beginning of the line. Change the Set CurrentDS statement in the Set\_CurrentDS Sub in Module1 to a comment, and do the same to the Call Set\_CurrentDS statement in the Form\_Click event of Form1.



## Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a data control (Data1) to Form1.
3. Set the DatabaseName Property of Data1 to BIBLIO.MDB.
4. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.
5. Add the following code to the General section of Module1:

```
Global CurrentDS As DynaSet
```

6. Add the following code to Module1:

```
Sub Set_CurrentDS ()  
    Set CurrentDS = Screen.ActiveForm.Data1.Recordset  
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Form\_Click event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    Call Set_CurrentDS  
End Sub
```

8. From the Run menu, choose start (ALT, R, S) or press the F5 key.

A "Type mismatch" error will occur on the Set statement.

Additional reference words: 3.00 errmsg

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataIISAM PrgCtrlsStd

**PRB: Visual Basic 3.0 ODBC Does Not Support OpenTable Method**  
**Article ID: Q101254**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

The OpenTable method is not supported in Visual Basic version 3.0 for ODBC data sources.

CAUSE

=====

Visual Basic version 3.0 introduced a new layer of database management, the Microsoft Access engine, that lies between Visual Basic itself and the ODBC drivers. This new layer allows version 3.0 to work with Microsoft Access, FoxPro, Paradox, and dBASE databases. However, the Microsoft Access engine does not support using OpenTable on ODBC data sources, or any table that is not part of a Microsoft Access database (.MDB). Therefore, when you attempt to use OpenTable on tables that are not Microsoft Access tables or that come from an ODBC data source, Visual Basic version 3.0 generates the error.

WORKAROUND

=====

You can use CreateDynaset on any table that uses an ISAM or ODBC (attached tables).

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design. It is documented on page 149 of the Visual Basic version 3.0 "Professional Features Book 2" manual.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataODBC

## Transactions on ODBC Data Sources in Visual Basic Version 3.0

Article ID: Q101518

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Under the ExecuteSQL method, transactions are unsupported against ODBC data sources. Even though a transaction may be started by a Visual Basic application and this transaction space is global to all database objects, the transaction space on database objects does not include actions by the ExecuteSQL method against remote ODBC data sources such as SQL Server or Oracle.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

When you use the ExecuteSQL method or the passthrough property on dynasets, Visual Basic version 3.0 dispatches the SQL code directly to the ODBC data source through the ODBC driver. Therefore, it does not offer any transaction support in terms of CommitTrans or Rollback even though the ODBC driver for that data source might support transactions. This behavior is by design.

The following example illustrates the behavior in Visual Basic version 3.0. The code in the example uses the ExecuteSQL method to delete all rows from the table even though a rollback is issued.

```
Dim D as Database
Set D = Opendatabase ' an ODBC data source such as Oracle
Begintrans
D.Executesql("delete from sometable")
Rollback
```

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataODBC

## How to Open dBASE Table with Nonstandard File Extension

Article ID: Q101742

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

To open a dBASE table file that has a non-standard file extension, specify the table name as <filename>#<extension>.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The standard file extension used by dBASE for tables is .DBF. In Visual Basic version 3.0 using the dBASE installable ISAMs, you can open a table by specifying the file name without this extension because the dBASE installable ISAM assumes the extension to be .DBF by default. If you specify the extension <filename>.<extension>, the dBASE installable ISAM will not recognize it and will give you the following error message:

<filename>.<extension> isn't a valid name.

To open a dBASE table file that has a non-standard file extension, specify the table name as <filename>#<extension>. The dBASE installable ISAM interprets the pound sign (#) in the table name as a period and opens the dBASE table.

### Example

-----

The following code example demonstrates how to open a dBASE table file that has a non-standard file extension (AUTHORS.OLD) and print the first field of all records in the table to the form. The following example assumes that you have a dBASE III table with a file name of AUTHORS.OLD located in the C:\DBASEIII\OLDBOOKS directory. You may need to modify the example and create a dBASE III database with a table called AUTHORS.OLD in order for it to work correctly.

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a Command Button (Command1) to Form1.
3. Add the following code to the Click event of Command1:

```
Sub Command1_Click()  
    Dim db As Database  
    Dim OldAuthors As Table  
  
    Connect$ = "dBASE III"           ' Specify database type  
    dbName$ = "C:\DBASEIII\OLDBOOKS" ' Specify database directory
```

```
Set db = OpenDatabase(dbName$, False, False, Connect$)
Set OldAuthors = db.OpenTable("Authors#Old") ' Open table
While Not OldAuthors.EOF
    Print OldAuthors(0)           ' Print field(0) to the form
    OldAuthors.MoveNext          ' for all records.
Wend

OldAuthors.Close
db.Close
End Sub
```

4. Run the example.

5. Click the Command1 button.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataIISAM

**PRB: Error When Updating Fields in Dynaset That Has 2+ Tables**  
**Article ID: Q102681**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

When trying to edit or update fields in a dynaset that was created by a SQL select statement that joined two or more tables, the following errors may occur. In these messages 'item' is a field in a table to be changed.

Can't perform operation; it is illegal. (3219)  
Can't update 'item'; field not updatable. (3113)

CAUSE

=====

These errors occur if the Microsoft Access engine cannot insure that referential integrity of the table entries will be maintained as a result of the operation.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

For a multiple table dynaset to be updatable, the following must be true:

- The dynaset needs to have been created with a SQL 'join' clause between tables that have a one-to-many relationship.
- There must be a unique index (or primary key) on the one-side of the query.

Reproducing the Behavior

-----

These examples use the BIBLIO.MDB database that shipped as a sample database with Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. In BIBLIO.MDB, the Authors table has a unique (primary) index set on AU\_ID, and the Titles table has an index set on AU\_ID but it is not unique or primary. The following code causes the errors:

```
Dim db As database
Dim ds As dynaset
' Enter the following SQL$ command as one, single line:
SQL$ = "Select * from AUTHORS,TITLES, Titles INNER JOIN authors
      ^on Titles.AU_ID = Authors.AU_ID"
Set db = OpenDatabase("C:\vb3\biblio.mdb")
Set ds = db.CreateDynaset(SQL$)
ds.Edit
```

This is a classic example of a SQL inner join statement. It chooses all fields from both tables where the book titles match up with the author who wrote them. The unique index is the ID number of the author. This means one author can have many titles but books by a single author will have only one author in the Authors table.

If this query did not have a one-to-many relationship, the error, "Can't perform operation; it is illegal"(3219) would occur on the line "ds.Edit." The error is telling you that either there is not a unique index in the multiple-table dynaset, or there is no unambiguous one-side to the query. Checking the updatable property of the dynaset before invoking edit mode avoids the error from attempting to edit a non-updatable dynaset.

After the query is successfully created and the copy buffer is opened by issuing the Edit statement, you can proceed with updating records.

```
ds.Fields("Title") = "Some new book title"  
ds.Update
```

This works because "Title" is on the non-unique or many-side of the initial query. All the records in the Titles table are editable whereas none of the records in Authors table are editable. The error "Can't update 'item'; field not updatable." (3113) occurs with an attempt to edit any item in the Authors table.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## How to Build Access DB & Load Data from Btrieve for Windows DB

Article ID: Q103440

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

The example in this article demonstrates how to build a Microsoft Access database without having a database or database template already built. The example uses a Btrieve for Windows database file to supply the data to be placed into the newly created Microsoft Access database.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

NOTE: You will need to have a Btrieve for Windows database file already built to test this example. The Btrieve for Windows database file tested with this example can be sent upon request.

### Steps to demonstrate the example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add three command buttons and two grid controls using GRID.VBX to Form1. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control	Property	New Value
-----		
Command1	Caption	"Press to Load Btrieve File and Display in Grid"
Command2	Caption	"Press to Transfer Data and Build New DB"
Command3	Caption	"Press to Display Data from the New Database"
Grid1	Cols	4
Grid1	Rows	15
Grid2	Cols	4
Grid2	Rows	15

3. Review the following brief outline of the table from the Btrieve for Windows database:

Table Name:       Big\_Tab

Field Names	Field Type	Field Size
-----		
PrimaryKey	Long Integer	
MyMoney	Currency	
MyString	Text	154



Index Names	Index Fields	Unique	Primary
tabindex	+PrimaryKey	Yes	No

4. Add the following variables and constants to the (general) section of Form1:

```
Dim PrimaryKeys(30) As Long
Dim Money(30) As Currency
Dim Strings(30) As String * 154
Const DB_LONG = 4
Const DB_TEXT = 10
Const DB_CURRENCY = 5
Const DB_LANG_GENERAL = ";LANGID=0x0809;CP=1252;COUNTRY=0"
```

5. Add the following code to the Form Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Show
    grid1.ColWidth(1) = 1000      'For PK ID
    grid1.ColWidth(2) = 2000      'For Money
    grid1.ColWidth(3) = 5000      'For Story
    grid1.Col = 1
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Primary Keys"   'Header for PK ID
    grid1.Col = 2
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Money"          'Header for Money
    grid1.Col = 3
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Big String"     'Header for Story
    grid2.ColWidth(1) = 1000      'For PK ID
    grid2.ColWidth(2) = 2000      'For Money
    grid2.ColWidth(3) = 5000      'For Story
    grid2.Col = 1
    grid2.Row = 0
    grid2.Text = "Prime's"        'Header for PK ID
    grid2.Col = 2
    grid2.Row = 0
    grid2.Text = "Your Money"     'Header for Money
    grid2.Col = 3
    grid2.Row = 0
    grid2.Text = "Your Story"     'Header for Story
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Command1 Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim db As Database
    Dim conn$
    Dim dt As Table
    conn$ = "Btrieve;"
    ' Enter the following Set as one, single line:
    Set db = OpenDatabase("C:\articles\btrvwin\file.ddf", False, False,
        conn$)
    Set dt = db.OpenTable("Big_Tab")
    ' Counter for loading the grid
```

```

For i% = 1 To 10      'Grab the first ten for a test
    grid1.Col = 1
    grid1.Row = i%
    grid1.Text = dt(0)      'Load the grid
    PrimaryKeys(i%) = dt(0) 'Load the temporary array
    grid1.Col = 2
    grid1.Row = i%
    grid1.Text = dt(1)      'Load the grid
    Money(i%) = dt(1)       'Load the temporary array
    grid1.Col = 3
    grid1.Row = i%
    grid1.Text = dt(2)      'Load the grid
    Strings(i%) = dt(2)     'Load the temporary array
    dt.MoveNext
Next i%
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the Command2 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    Dim newdb As Database
    Dim newtb As Table
    Dim newtd As New tabledef
    Dim newidx As New Index
    Dim field1 As New field      'For PK IDs
    Dim field2 As New field      'For Money
    Dim field3 As New field      'For Story's
    screen.MousePointer = 11     'To display the time to build
    Set newdb = CreateDatabase("NEWBTWDB.MDB", DB_LANG_GENERAL)
    newtd.Name = "Money_Table"   '* New table name
    field1.Name = "PK_ID"        '* Holds PK ID
    field1.Type = DB_LONG
    newtd.Fields.Append field1
    field2.Name = "Money"        '* Holds Money
    field2.Type = DB_CURRENCY
    newtd.Fields.Append field2
    field3.Name = "Story"        '* Holds Story
    field3.Type = DB_TEXT
    field3.Size = 154
    newtd.Fields.Append field3
    newidx.Name = "PK_ID_IDX"    '* You have to have an index
    newidx.Fields = "PK_ID"
    newidx.Primary = True
    newtd.Indexes.Append newidx
    newdb.TableDefs.Append newtd
    Set newtb = newdb.OpenTable("Money_Table")
    For i% = 1 To 10
        newtb.AddNew
        newtb("PK_ID") = PrimaryKeys(i%)      'place in field1
        newtb("Money") = Money(i%)             'place in field3
        newtb("Story") = Trim$(Strings(i%))    'place in field4
        newtb.Update                           'Saving to table
    Next i%
    newtb.Close                                '* Close DB's table
    newdb.Close                                '* Close DB
    screen.MousePointer = 0                    'Set back to show done
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the Command3 Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command3_Click ()
    Dim db As Database
    Dim t As Table
    Dim counter%
    Set db = OpenDatabase("NEWBTWDB.MDB")
    Set t = db.OpenTable("Money_Table")
    counter% = 1           'Start counter at Row=1
    Do Until t.EOF
        grid2.Col = 1
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(0)      'Load the PK ID
        grid2.Col = 2
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(1)      'Load the Money
        grid2.Col = 3
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(2)      'Load the Story
        counter% = counter% + 1
        t.MoveNext
    Loop
    t.Close
    db.Close
End Sub
```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. First, click the Command1 button. Next, click the Command2 button. Then click the Command3 button. Compare the results.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataIISAM

## How to Make Access DB & Transfer Data from Btrieve for MS-DOS

Article ID: Q103441

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

The example in this article demonstrates how to build a Microsoft Access database without having a database or database template already built. The example uses a Btrieve for MS-DOS database file to supply the data to be placed into the newly created Microsoft Access database.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

NOTE: You will need to have a Btrieve for MS-DOS database file already built to test this example. The Btrieve for MS-DOS database file tested with this example can be sent upon request.

### Steps to Demonstrate Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add three command buttons and two grid controls using GRID.VBX to Form1. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control	Property	New Value	Comment
-----			
Command1	Caption	"Press to Load Btrieve File and Display in Grid"	
Command2	Caption	"Press to Transfer Data and Build New DB"	
Command3	Caption	"Press to Display the Data of the New Database"	
Grid1	Cols	6	
Grid1	Rows	35	
Grid2	Cols	6	
Grid2	Rows	35	

3. The following is an brief outline of the table from the Btrieve for MS-DOS database:

Table Name: Customers

Field Names	Field Type	Field Size
-----		
Cust_ID	Long	
First_Name	Text	15
Last_Name	Text	15
Cust_Addr	Text	30
Cust_Phone	Text	20

Index Names	Index Fields	Unique	Primary
Cust_ID_IDX	+Cust_ID	Yes	No

4. Add the following variables and constants to the (general) section of Form1:

```
Dim cust_ids(30) As Integer
Dim first_names(30) As String * 15
Dim last_names(30) As String * 15
Dim cust_addr(30) As String * 30
Dim cust_phones(30) As String * 20
Const DB_LONG = 4
Const DB_TEXT = 10
Const DB_LANG_GENERAL = ";LANGID=0x0809;CP=1252;COUNTRY=0"
```

5. Add the following code to the Form1 Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Show
    grid1.ColWidth(1) = 1000      'For Cust ID
    grid1.ColWidth(2) = 2000      'For First Name
    grid1.ColWidth(3) = 2000      'For Last Name
    grid1.ColWidth(4) = 3000      'For Cust Addr
    grid1.ColWidth(5) = 2000      'For Cust Phone
    grid1.Col = 1
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Cust ID"         'Header for Cust ID
    grid1.Col = 2
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "First Name"      'Header for First Name
    grid1.Col = 3
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Last Name"       'Header for Last Name
    grid1.Col = 4
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Cust Addr"       'Header for Cust Addr
    grid1.Col = 5
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Cust Phone"      'Header for Cust Phone

    grid2.ColWidth(1) = 1000      'For Cust ID
    grid2.ColWidth(2) = 2000      'For First Name
    grid2.ColWidth(3) = 2000      'For Last Name
    grid2.ColWidth(4) = 3000      'For Cust Addr
    grid2.ColWidth(5) = 2000      'For Cust Phone
    grid2.Col = 1
    grid2.Row = 0
    grid2.Text = "Customer ID"     'Header for Cust ID
    grid2.Col = 2
    grid2.Row = 0
    grid2.Text = "Cust First Name" 'Header for First Name
    grid2.Col = 3
    grid2.Row = 0
    grid2.Text = "Cust Last Name"  'Header for Last Name
    grid2.Col = 4
```

```

grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Customer Addr"    'Header for Cust Addr
grid2.Col = 5
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Customer Phone"   'Header for Cust Phone
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the Command1 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim db As database
    Dim conn$
    Dim dt As table
    conn$ = "Btrieve;"
    ' Enter the following Set as one, single line:
    Set db = OpenDatabase("C:\articles\btrvdos\file.ddf", False,
        False, conn$)
    Set dt = db.OpenTable("Customers")
    i% = 1          '* counter for loading the grid
    Do Until (dt.EOF = True)
        grid1.Col = 1
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = dt(0)          'Load the grid
        cust_ids(i%) = dt(0)        'Load the temporary array
        grid1.Col = 2
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = dt(1)          'Load the grid
        first_names(i%) = dt(1)     'Load the temporary array
        grid1.Col = 3
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = dt(2)          'Load the grid
        last_names(i%) = dt(2)      'Load the temporary array
        grid1.Col = 4
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = dt(3)          'Load the grid
        cust_addr(i%) = dt(3)       'Load the temporary array
        grid1.Col = 5
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = dt(4)          'Load the grid
        cust_phones(i%) = dt(1)     'Load the temporary array
        dt.MoveNext
        i% = i% + 1
    Loop
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the Command2 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    Dim newdb As Database
    Dim newtb As Table
    Dim newtd As New tabledef
    Dim newidx As New Index
    Dim field1 As New field      'For Emp nums
    Dim field2 As New field      'For Emp names
    Dim field3 As New field      'For Emp addresses
    Dim field4 As New field      'For Emp ss_nums
    screen.MousePointer = 11     'To display the time to build

```

```

Set newdb = CreateDatabase("NEWBTRDB.MDB", DB_LANG_GENERAL)
newtd.Name = "Cust_Table"           '* New table name
field1.Name = "Cust_ID"             '* Holds Cust ID nums()
field1.Type = DB_LONG
newtd.Fields.Append field1
field2.Name = "First_Name"          '* Holds First names()
field2.Type = DB_TEXT
field2.Size = 15
newtd.Fields.Append field2
field3.Name = "Last_Name"           '* Holds Last names()
field3.Type = DB_TEXT
field3.Size = 15
newtd.Fields.Append field3
field4.Name = "Cust_Addr"           '* Holds cust Addr()
field4.Type = DB_TEXT
field4.Size = 30
newtd.Fields.Append field4
field5.Name = "Cust_Phone"          '* Holds cust phones()
field5.Type = DB_TEXT
field5.Size = 20
newtd.Fields.Append field5
newidx.Name = "Cust_ID_IDX"         '* You must have to have an index
newidx.Fields = "Cust_ID"
newidx.Primary = True
newtd.Indexes.Append newidx
newdb.TableDefs.Append newtd
Set newtb = newdb.OpenTable("Cust_Table")
For i%=1 to 10                      'There are only ten entries
    newtb.AddNew
    newtb("Cust_ID") = cust_ids(i%)    'place in field1
    newtb("First_Name") = Trim$(first_names(i%)) 'place in field2
    newtb("Last_Name") = Trim$(last_names(i%))  'place in field3
    newtb("Cust_Addr") = Trim$(Cust_addr(i%))   'place in field4
    newtb("Cust_Phone") = Trim$(Cust_phones(i%)) 'place in field5
    newtb.Update                          'Saving to table
Next i%
newtb.Close                             'Close DB's table
newdb.Close                             'Close DB
screen.MousePointer = 0                 'Set back to show finished
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the Command3 Click event procedure:

```

Sub Command3_Click ()
    Dim db As Database
    Dim t As Table
    Dim counter%
    Set db = OpenDatabase("NEWBTRDB.MDB")
    Set t = db.OpenTable("Cust_Table")
    counter% = 1                      'Start counter at Row=1
    Do Until t.EOF
        grid2.Col = 1
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(0)             'Load the Cust ID
        grid2.Col = 2
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(1)             'Load the First Name
    Loop
End Sub

```

```

        grid2.Col = 3
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(2)           'Load the Last Name
        grid2.Col = 4
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(3)           'Load the Cust Addr
        grid2.Col = 5
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(4)           'Load the Cust Phone
        counter% = counter% + 1
        t.MoveNext
    Loop
    t.Close
    db.Close
End Sub

```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. First, click the Command1 button. Next, click the Command2 button. Then click the Command3 button, and compare the results.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataIISAM



## Differences Between the Object Variables in VB Version 3.0

Article ID: Q103442

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY =====

This article contains two references:

- A revised version of the table outlined on the back of the "Professional Features Book 2" manual for Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Programming System for Windows. This table outlines the differences in the properties and methods of the three main data access objects (table, dynaset, and snapshot) in Visual Basic version 3.0.
- A brief list of the differences between table, database, dynaset, querydef, and snapshot objects.

### MORE INFORMATION =====

Revised Table for the Back of "Professional Features Book 2"  
-----

The following table lists most of the properties and methods that apply to each of the database objects.

- Yes means the object does contain the property or method in both the Standard and Professional Editions of Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.
- No means the object does not contain the property or method in either the Standard or Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.
- Yes/PRO means the object contains the property or method only in the Professional Edition, not the Standard Edition, of Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.
- (docerr) highlights that information as a correction to the information given in the original table shown on the back of the "Professional Features Book 2."

-----

Properties	Table	Dynaset	Snapshot
BOF	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
BookMark	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
BookMarkable	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
DateCreated	Yes/PRO	No	No

-----

EOF	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
Filter	No	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO
Index	Yes/PRO	No	No
LastModified	Yes/PRO	Yes	No
LastUpdated	Yes/PRO	No	No
LockEdits	Yes/PRO	Yes	No
Name	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
NoMatch	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
RecordCount	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
Sort	No	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO
Transactions	Yes/PRO	Yes	No
Updatable	Yes/PRO	Yes	No

Methods	Table	Dynaset	Snapshot
AddNew	Yes/PRO	Yes	No
Clone	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO
Close	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
CreateDynaset	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO (docerr)	No
CreateSnapshot	Yes/PRO	No	Yes/PRO (docerr)
Delete	Yes/PRO	Yes	No
Edit	Yes/PRO	Yes	No
FindFirst	No (docerr )	Yes	Yes/PRO
FindLast	No (docerr )	Yes	Yes/PRO
FindNext	No (docerr )	Yes	Yes/PRO
FindPrevious	No (docerr )	Yes	Yes/PRO
ListFields	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO
ListIndexes	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO	Yes/PRO
MoveFirst	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
MoveLast	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
MoveNext	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
MovePrevious	Yes/PRO	Yes	Yes/PRO
Seek	Yes/PRO	No	No
Update	Yes/PRO	Yes	No

#### List of Differences Between Data Access Objects

Below, object by object, is a list of differences, recommendations, and suggestions for each of the various data access objects. The page numbers refer to pages in the "Professional Features Book 2." Article Q numbers refer to other Microsoft Knowledge Base articles which give provide additional information.

#### Snapshot Objects

- Snapshots return all of the selected data and Dynasets return only a set of keys that indirectly reference the database's records (page 57). Therefore when retrieving a small number of records in a recordset, you may want to use a dynaset instead of a snapshot unless this is the first time you are using a newly created snapshot or dynaset.
- When either a snapshot or a dynaset is first created -- prior to any movelast operation -- both the snapshot and the dynaset return one page (2048 bytes) of data. The dynaset also fetches the keyset of the dynaset. This means that on first creation, snapshots, as the name

implies, return faster. However, if you were to proceed record by record sequentially through the entire recordset, you'd find that the dynaset navigates faster -- approximately two times faster. This is because navigating by keyset instead of by local pointers is more efficient.

- Snapshots return all the selected data when movelast is executed or when the entire recordset is completely navigated. Therefore, in these two cases, trying to retrieve a large amount of data (a large number of records) could take some time. It may take less time to use Dynasets instead of Snapshots in this scenario (page 57).
- Snapshots can become outdated (the data is no longer current) quickly in a multiuser environment (page 57).
- Snapshots cannot use the Transaction statements (BeginTrans, CommitTrans, and RollBack).
- Snapshots or dynasets cannot use the Seek method because Seek applies only to table objects. However, snapshots or dynasets can use the Find method instead of the Seek method.
- Snapshots cannot use Edit, AddNew, Delete, or Update properties that pertain to data changes made in records. Snapshot objects are a read-only type of dynaset.
- Snapshot objects may be good for taking summary reports, since they contain a fixed copy of the data as it existed when the snapshot was created. If data is changed, a snapshot will not show the change until the snapshot is rebuilt (page 57).
- Snapshots can be created from an existing dynaset or snapshot, but you cannot create a dynaset from an existing snapshot (page 56).
- Snapshots can contain table name(s), attached tables, querydef objects or SQL statements (pg. 56).
- Snapshot object membership is fixed (page 48).

#### Dynasets Objects

- Dynaset and snapshot objects can use the Sort property, but the table object and the data control cannot use the Sort property. To sort data with a data control, use the ORDER BY clause of an SQL statement or query. To sort a table object, set an Index property on a field that already has a Index specified (example shown on pages 50 and 75).
- Dynasets are the most flexible of the three objects listed in the table above (page 51).
- Dynasets are a dynamic (not fixed) subset of records. Dynasets can contain attached tables, table name(s), querydef object name or SQL query (page 51).
- Filters are used to screen records to be brought back in dynasets or snapshots (page 53). Table objects cannot use filters.
- Dynasets can be locked with a page-locking scheme with a page containing

a maximum of 2K of data (page 54). Page 54 also mentions pessimistic and optimistic locking methods.

- Dynasets that are formed because of a query or SQL string are suspended until the query or SQL string returns the first record (page 51).
- Dynaset or snapshot objects can be filtered using the Filter property or sorted using the Sort property even further by using a second dynaset or snapshot object (page 53).
- Dynaset or snapshot objects are used with querydef objects. Also, the ListParameters method returns a snapshot with one record for each parameter used by the query (pages 93 and 97).
- Dynaset objects do not reflect changes made by others until you recreate the Dynaset variable or execute the CreateDynaset method with no arguments (page 55).
- Dynaset object membership is fixed, you can add, change, and delete records, and a result is returned by a query (page 48).
- Dynaset objects can create an inconsistent dynaset with the DB\_INCONSISTENT flag. But it may be harder to keep referential integrity when this flag is specified (pages 58, 59, and 85).
- To improve performance, you may want to add the option DB\_READONLY if you are not writing to or allowing the users to make changes to database records (pages 58 and 59).

#### Table objects

- Table objects have direct access to the data records (page 49). The data in a table object variable always reflects all current changes, including the additions of new records and the deletions of existing records (page 50).
- Table objects cannot be created from attached tables (page 50).
- Table object membership can change. You can add, change, and delete records, but there is no result returned by a query (page 48).
- Table objects cannot use the Find method (page 72).
- Table, database and dynaset objects can be locked, but a snapshot object cannot be locked (pages 88 and 89).
- Table objects provide the most up-to-date view of your data because the data in a table variable always reflects all current changes (page 50).
- Table objects can be ordered on a Indexed field, the Index property does apply. But the Index does not apply to data controls, snapshots or dynasets (see example on page 75).
- When looking for a single, specific record, you may want to use the Seek method with a table object because it is the fastest way to retrieve a single record (page 74).

## QueryDef Objects

- querydef objects may be more efficient. For example, use a stored query of an SQL string as an argument to the recordset of querydef to produce a filtered dynaset or snapshot instead of creating a dynaset or snapshot and then filtering it (page 67).
- querydef objects do not store data. They store the definition of a query used to retrieve data (page 91).
- querydefs can be created only on a Microsoft Access or Visual Basic database (page 92).
- querydefs require a name. You must supply a name for the query when you create it (page 92).

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## DOC: Data Access Guide Index -- A through M

Article ID: Q103702

-----  
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- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

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Below is the A-M index for the Data Access Guide in the Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows "Professional Features Book 2" manual. This index was not included in the manual. The index in the very back of the manual is for the Crystal Reports section of the manual only.

The following index covers sections A through M of the Data Access Guide index. The N through Z portion of the index is available in another Microsoft Knowledge Base article. To find it, search on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

Data and Access and Guide and Index

Insert this index in front of the Crystal Reports section in the "Professional Features Book 2" manual.

### MORE INFORMATION

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## DOC: Data Access Guide Index -- N through Z

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-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
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### SUMMARY

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Below is the N-Z index for the Data Access Guide in the Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows "Professional Features Book 2" manual. This index was not included in the manual. The index in the very back of the manual is for the Crystal Reports section of the manual only.

The following index covers sections N through Z of the Data Access Guide index. The A through M portion of the index is available in another Microsoft Knowledge Base article. To find it, search on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

Data and Access and Guide and Index

Insert this index in front of the Crystal Reports section in the "Professional Features Book 2" manual.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## How to Convert a Text File into a New Access Database

Article ID: Q103807

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

This article shows by example how to build a Microsoft Access database from scratch without having a database or database template already built. Then it shows how to load that database from data supplied by a standard ASCII text file.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. If you don't have one already, build an ASCII text file to use in this example. If you already have the text file built, you can ignore most of step 5 -- except for loading Grid1 with data from your text file.
2. Add three command buttons and two grid controls (GRID.VBX) to Form1.
3. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2.

Control	Property	New Value
-----		
Command1	Caption	"Press to Build Text File and Display in Grid"
Command2	Caption	"Press to Transfer Data and Build New DB"
Command3	Caption	"Press to Display the Data of the New Database"
Grid1	Cols	5
Grid1	Rows	35
Grid2	Cols	5
Grid2	Rows	35

4. Add the following code to the (general) section of Form1:

```
Dim nums(30) As Long
Dim names(30) As String * 20
Dim addresses(30) As String * 25
Dim ss_nums(30) As String * 12
Const DB_LONG = 4
Const DB_TEXT = 10
Const DB_LANG_GENERAL = ";LANGID=0x0809;CP=1252;COUNTRY=0"
```

5. Add the following code to the Form load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
```

```

Show
grid1.ColWidth(1) = 1000      'For Emp ID
grid1.ColWidth(2) = 2000      'For Emp Name
grid1.ColWidth(3) = 3000      'For Emp Addr
grid1.ColWidth(4) = 2000      'For Emp SSN
grid1.Col = 1
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Emp ID"         'Header for Emp ID from text file
grid1.Col = 2
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Emp Name"       'Header for Emp Name from text file
grid1.Col = 3
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Emp Addr"       'Header for Emp Addr from text file
grid1.Col = 4
grid1.Row = 0
grid1.Text = "Emp SSN"        'Header for Emp SSN from text file

grid2.ColWidth(1) = 1000      'For Emp ID
grid2.ColWidth(2) = 2000      'For Emp Name
grid2.ColWidth(3) = 3000      'For Emp Addr
grid2.ColWidth(4) = 2000      'For Emp SSN
grid2.Col = 1
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Employee ID"     'Header for Emp ID from DB
grid2.Col = 2
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Employee Name"   'Header for Emp Name from DB
grid2.Col = 3
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Employee Addr"   'Header for Emp ID from DB
grid2.Col = 4
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Employee SSN"    'Header for Emp Name from DB
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the Command1 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    For i% = 1 To 30
        nums(i%) = i%
        names(i%) = "John Doe # " + Str$(i%)
        addresses(i%) = Str$(i%) + " Mocking Bird Lane"
        If i% < 9 Then
            '* Enter the following four lines as one, single line:
            ss_nums(i%) = Trim$(Str$(i%) + Trim$(Str$(i%))
                + Trim$(Str$(i%)) + "-" + Trim$(Str$(i% + 1))
                + Trim$(Str$(i% + 1)) + "-" + Trim$(Str$(i%))
                + Trim$(Str$(i%)) + Trim$(Str$(i%)) + Trim$(Str$(i%))
        Else
            '* Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
            ss_nums(i%) = Trim$(Trim$(Str$(999)) + "-" + Trim$(Str$(88))
                + "-" + Trim$(Str$(7777)))
        End If
    Next i%
    Open "Testdata.DAT" For Output As #1
    For j% = 1 To 30

```

```

        Print #1, nums(j%)
        Print #1, names(j%)
        Print #1, addresses(j%)
        Print #1, ss_nums(j%)
    Next j%
    Close #1
    For i% = 1 To 30                                'Display results from text file
        grid1.Col = 1
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = nums(i%)                        'Load Emp IDs
        grid1.Col = 2
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = names(i%)                      'Load Emp Names
        grid1.Col = 3
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = addresses(i%)                  'Load Emp Addr
        grid1.Col = 4
        grid1.Row = i%
        grid1.Text = ss_nums(i%)                    'Load Emp SSNs
    Next i%
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the Command2 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    Dim newdb As Database
    Dim newtb As Table
    Dim newtd As New tabledef
    Dim newidx As New Index
    Dim field1 As New field                'For Emp nums
    Dim field2 As New field                'For Emp names
    Dim field3 As New field                'For Emp addresses
    Dim field4 As New field                'For Emp ss_nums
    screen.MousePointer = 11              'Display the time to build
    Set newdb = CreateDatabase("NEWDB.MDB", DB_LANG_GENERAL)
    newtd.Name = "Emp_Table"               '* New table name
    field1.Name = "Emp_ID"                 '* Holds Employee ID nums()
    field1.Type = DB_LONG
    newtd.Fields.Append field1
    field2.Name = "Emp_Name"               '* Holds Emp names()
    field2.Type = DB_TEXT
    field2.Size = 20
    newtd.Fields.Append field2
    field3.Name = "Emp_Addr"               '* Holds Employee addr()
    field3.Type = DB_TEXT
    field3.Size = 25
    newtd.Fields.Append field3
    field4.Name = "Emp_SSN"                '* Holds emp ss_nums()
    field4.Type = DB_TEXT
    field4.Size = 12
    newtd.Fields.Append field4
    newidx.Name = "Emp_ID_IDX"             '* You have to have an index
    newidx.Fields = "Emp_ID"
    newidx.Primary = True
    newtd.Indexes.Append newidx
    newdb.TableDefs.Append newtd
    Set newtb = newdb.OpenTable("Emp_Table")

```

```

Open "Testdata.dat" For Input As #1
BeginTrans
Do While Not (EOF(1))
    newtb.AddNew
    Line Input #1, tmp1$           'Retrieve empl_id
    Line Input #1, tmp2$           'Retrieve empl_name
    Line Input #1, tmp3$           'Retrieve empl_addr
    Line Input #1, tmp4$
    newtb("Emp_ID") = Trim$(tmp1$) 'Place in field1
    newtb("Emp_Name") = Trim$(tmp2$) 'Place in field2
    newtb("Emp_Addr") = Trim$(tmp3$) 'Place in field3
    newtb("Emp_SSN") = Trim$(tmp4$) 'Place in field4
    newtb.Update                   'Save to table
Loop
CommitTrans
Close #1                          'Close text file
newtb.Close                       'Close DB's table
newdb.Close                       'Close DB
screen.MousePointer = 0           'Set back to show done
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the Command3 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command3_Click ()
    Dim db As Database
    Dim t As Table
    Dim counter%
    Set db = OpenDatabase("NEWDB.MDB")
    Set t = db.OpenTable("Emp_Table")
    counter% = 1                    'Start counter at Row=1
    Do Until t.EOF
        grid2.Col = 1
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(0)           'Load Emp ID
        grid2.Col = 2
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(1)           'Load Emp Name
        grid2.Col = 3
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(2)           'Load Emp Addr
        grid2.Col = 4
        grid2.Row = counter%
        grid2.Text = t(3)           'Load Emp SSN
        counter% = counter% + 1
        t.MoveNext
    Loop
    t.Close
    db.Close
End Sub

```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. First click the Command1 button first. Then click the Command2 button, and then click the Command3 button to compare the results.

Additional reference words: 3.00  
KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## Limitations of the Data Control in Visual Basic Version 3.0

Article ID: Q103808

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Chapter 20 in the "Programmer's Guide" explains how to use a data control in Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. You may want to use an object variable such as Snapshot instead of using the data control. Chapter 20 does not explain the limitations of using the data control, so this article lists those limitations for you.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Because a data control is a special type of Dynaset, its limitations are similar to those of Dynasets. Here are the limitations of data controls:

- You cannot use a QueryDef requiring a Parameter in the RecordSource property of the data control.
- Using a data control along with other bound controls uses System Resources (memory). When you build larger programs, you may want to look at other programming methods (Database objects don't require controls, therefore you don't use System Resources) to display your database data.
- Not every method and property specific to the Table object can be performed by the data control. Here are two such cases:
  - You cannot take advantage of the Index property of the Table object to display your database data in a specific indexed order with the data control. This technique, described in the example shown in the Help file topic "Index Property (Data Access)," works only with the Table object, not the data control. As an alternative, you can use an ORDER BY clause in an SQL statement, as in this example:

```
Data1.RecordSource = "Select * From Publishers Order By PubID"
```

The ORDER BY clause technique is also more flexible than the Index property technique. Using the ORDER BY clause, you can sort on any field, and no specified index is required.

- You cannot use a Seek method on your database data for a specific record with the data control. The Seek method can only be used by the Table object. You can, however, perform a FindFirst method with the data control.
- You cannot use the Sort property on a specific database record with the



data control. The Sort property technique is specific to a Dynaset or Snapshot object. The following example proves this limitation:

```
Data1.Recordset.Sort = "City DESC"    '** No error occurs
Data1.Refresh                        '** No change in order occurs
```

If you try to sort the Publishers table by City, nothing happens. But if you use an ORDER BY clause in an SQL statement, as in the following example, you will see the database data displayed in descending order by the City names:

```
Data1.RecordSource = "Select * From Publishers Order By City DESC"
Data1.Refresh
```

- A data control is bound to one, single form -- the form on which it resides. Therefore, when the form that contains the data control is not loaded, you cannot refer to the data control from another form.
- You cannot perform a FileCopy statement on a database while a form that contains a data control is loaded. A "Permission Denied" error occurs if you try to use the FileCopy statement to make a backup of your database while a form containing a data control is loaded in memory. To prevent this error, first close or unload the form that contains the data control. Then run the FileCopy statement to make a database backup.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## How to Create an Access DB & Transfer Data from dBASE III DB

Article ID: Q104013

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

This example demonstrates how to build a new Microsoft Access database and load it with data coming from a dBASE III database file.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To use this example, you will need a dBASE III database file. The dBASE III database file that was tested with this example can be sent upon request.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add three command buttons and use GRID.VBX to add two grid controls to Form1. Then using following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls:

Control Name	Property	New Value
-----		
Command1	Caption	"Press to Load dBASE III DB File and Display in Grid"
Command2	Caption	"Press to Transfer Data and Build New DB"
Command3	Caption	"Press to Display the Data of the New Database"
Grid1	Cols	7
Grid1	Rows	15
Grid2	Cols	7
Grid2	Rows	15

3. The following is an brief outline of the table from the dBASE III database:

Table Name:       CHECKS

Field Name	Field Type	Field Size
-----		
CHKNO	Double	
PAYTO	Text	30
AMT	Double	
DATE	Date/Time	
MEMO	Text	25

NAME5 Double

Index Name	Index Field	Unique	Primary
nm5	+NAME5	Yes	No

4. Add the following variables and constants to the (general) section of Form1:

```
Dim CK_nums(20) As Double
Dim paytos(20) As String * 30
Dim amts(20) As Double
Dim dates(20) As Variant
Dim memos(20) As String * 25
Dim indexs(20) As Double
Dim counter%
Const DB_DATE = 8
Const DB_DOUBLE = 7
Const DB_TEXT = 10
Const DB_LANG_GENERAL = ";LANGID=0x0809;CP=1252;COUNTRY=0"
```

5. Add the following lines to the Form load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Show
    grid1.ColWidth(1) = 1000    'For Chk nums
    grid1.ColWidth(2) = 2000    'For Paid to
    grid1.ColWidth(3) = 1500    'For Amt for
    grid1.ColWidth(4) = 2000    'For Date written
    grid1.ColWidth(5) = 3000    'For Memo
    grid1.ColWidth(6) = 1000    'For index
    grid1.Col = 1
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Check No."
    grid1.Col = 2
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Party Paid"
    grid1.Col = 3
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Amount"
    grid1.Col = 4
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Date Written"
    grid1.Col = 5
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Memo about"
    grid1.Col = 6
    grid1.Row = 0
    grid1.Text = "Index"
    grid2.ColWidth(1) = 1000    'For Chk nums
    grid2.ColWidth(2) = 2000    'For Paid to
    grid2.ColWidth(3) = 1500    'For Amt for
    grid2.ColWidth(4) = 2000    'For Date written
    grid2.ColWidth(5) = 3000    'For Memo
    grid2.ColWidth(6) = 1000    'For index
    grid2.Col = 1
    grid2.Row = 0
```

```

grid2.Text = "Check No."
grid2.Col = 2
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Party Paid"
grid2.Col = 3
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Amount"
grid2.Col = 4
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Date Written"
grid2.Col = 5
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Memo about"
grid2.Col = 6
grid2.Row = 0
grid2.Text = "Index"
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the Command1 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim db As Database
    Dim conn$
    Dim dt As Table
    conn$ = "dBASE III;"

    ' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
    Set db = OpenDatabase("c:\articles\db3\dbaseiii", False,
        False, conn$)

    Set dt = db.OpenTable("CHECKS")
    screen.MousePointer = 11
    counter% = 1
    Do Until (dt.EOF = True)
        grid1.Col = 1
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = dt(0)
        CK_nums(counter%) = Val(grid1.Text)
        grid1.Col = 2
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = dt(1)
        paytos(counter%) = grid1.Text
        grid1.Col = 3
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = dt(2)
        amts(counter%) = Val(grid1.Text)
        grid1.Col = 4
        grid1.Row = counter%
        If IsNull(dt(4)) Then 'In case there is no date entered
            grid1.Text = ""
        Else
            grid1.Text = dt(4)
        End If
        dates(counter%) = grid1.Text
        grid1.Col = 5
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = dt(5)
    Loop
End Sub

```

```

        memos(counter%) = grid1.Text
        grid1.Col = 6
        grid1.Row = counter%
        grid1.Text = dt(8)
        indexs(counter%) = Val(grid1.Text)
        counter% = counter% + 1
        dt.MoveNext
    Loop
    screen.MousePointer = 0
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the Command2 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    Dim newdb As Database
    Dim newtb As Table
    Dim newtd As New tabledef
    Dim newidx As New Index
    Dim field1 As New field      'For chknum
    Dim field2 As New field      'For party paid to
    Dim field3 As New field      'For amount
    Dim field4 As New field      'For date written
    Dim field5 As New field      'For memo field
    Dim field6 As New field      'For in index
    screen.MousePointer = 11
    Set newdb = CreateDatabase("DBASE3.MDB", DB_LANG_GENERAL)
    newtd.Name = "Checks_Table"  'New table name
    field1.Name = "Check_nums"
    field1.Type = DB_DOUBLE
    newtd.Fields.Append field1
    field2.Name = "Paid_to"
    field2.Type = DB_TEXT
    field2.Size = 30
    newtd.Fields.Append field2
    field3.Name = "Check_amt"
    field3.Type = DB_DOUBLE
    newtd.Fields.Append field3
    field4.Name = "Date_wrt"
    field4.Type = DB_DATE
    newtd.Fields.Append field4
    field5.Name = "Check_memo"
    field5.Type = DB_TEXT
    field5.Size = 25
    newtd.Fields.Append field5
    field6.Name = "Check_indx"
    field6.Type = DB_DOUBLE
    newtd.Fields.Append field6
    newidx.Name = "Check_nums_IDX"
    newidx.Fields = "Check_indx"
    newidx.Primary = True
    newtd.Indexes.Append newidx
    newdb.TableDefs.Append newtd
    Set newtb = newdb.OpenTable("Checks_Table")
    For j% = 1 To counter% - 1
        newtb.AddNew
        newtb("Check_nums") = CK_nums(j%)  'from dBASE III file
        newtb("Paid_to") = paytos(j%)      'from dBASE III file
    Next j%
End Sub

```

```

        newtb("Check_amt") = amts(j%)      'from dBASE III file
        newtb("Date_wrt") = dates(j%)     'from dBASE III file
        newtb("Check_memo") = memos(j%)   'from dBASE III file
        newtb("Check_indx") = indexs(j%)  'from dBASE III file
        newtb.Update                      'Saving to table
    Next j%
    newtb.Close
    newdb.Close
    screen.MousePointer = 0
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the Command3 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command3_Click ()
    Dim db As Database
    Dim t As Table
    Dim cntr%
    Set db = OpenDatabase("DBASE3.MDB")
    Set t = db.OpenTable("Checks_Table")
    cntr% = 1      'Start counter at Row=1
    Do Until t.EOF
        grid2.Col = 1
        grid2.Row = cntr%
        grid2.Text = t(0)
        grid2.Col = 2
        grid2.Row = cntr%
        grid2.Text = t(1)
        grid2.Col = 3
        grid2.Row = cntr%
        grid2.Text = t(2)
        grid2.Col = 4
        grid2.Row = cntr%
        If IsNull(t(3)) Then 'In case there is no date entered
            grid2.Text = ""
        Else
            grid2.Text = t(3)
        End If
        grid2.Col = 5
        grid2.Row = cntr%
        grid2.Text = t(4)
        grid2.Col = 6
        grid2.Row = cntr%
        grid2.Text = t(5)
        cntr% = cntr% + 1
        t.MoveNext
    Loop
    t.Close
    db.Close
End Sub

```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. Click the Command1 button first. Then click the Command2 button. Then click the Command3 button, and compare the results.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataIISAM

## Examples Show How to Query BIBLIO.MDB Database

Article ID: Q104155

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

Most of the examples in the Visual Basic Help menu for SQL statements do not show how to work with the BIBLIO.MDB Microsoft Access database that comes with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. Therefore this article shows by example how to use SQL statements with the BIBLIO.MDB database.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following example gives 16 different SQL statements to test on the BIBLIO.MDB database. If you try one of the query statements on your own database and the result set is not what you had expected, try the Query By Example routine that comes with Microsoft Access to test your query. Note that if you try these examples on a computer that does not have SHARE.EXE loaded in memory, you will see this error:

Object Variable not Set, number 91

SHARE.EXE must be loaded for the Microsoft Access database to work.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Add one list box, two command buttons, and one text box to Form1.
3. Using the following table as a guide, set the properties of the controls you added in step 2:

Control Name	Property	New Value
-----		
Command1	Caption	"Select Query from List box"
Command2	Caption	"Press to Clear Text Box"
Text1	Multiline	True
Text1	Scrollbars	Vertical
Text1	Text	" "

4. Add the following code to the (general) (declarations) section of Form1:

```
Dim query_array(0 To 15) As String
```

5. Add the following code to the form load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    '*** Note that each statement, including those shown on more than one
    '*** line, must be entered as one, single line.

    'Load query array with some example queries:
    query_array(0) = "Select all * from publishers"           'Select All
    query_array(1) = "Select all * from publishers"           'From clause
    query_array(2) = "Select publishers.name from publishers
        where publisher s.name in ('ETN Corporation', 'ACM')"   'Where In
    query_array(3) = "Select publishers.name from publishers
        order by publishers.city"                               'Order By
    query_array(4) = "Select publishers.name from publishers,
        [publisher comments] where [publisher comments].publisher =
        publishers.name group by publishers.name"             'Group By
    query_array(5) = "Select publishers.name from publishers
        where publisher s.name between 'ETN Corporation' and
        'ACM'"                                                  'Where Between
    query_array(6) = "Select Distinct publishers.name from
        publishers, [publisher comments] where
        [publisher comments].publisher = publishers.name
        group by publishers.name"                               'Distinct
    query_array(7) = "Select publishers.name from publishers
        In biblio.mdb"                                          'In clause
    query_array(8) = "Select Distinctrow publishers.name
        from publishers, [publisher comments] where
        [publisher comments].publisher = publishers.name
        group by publishers.name"                               'Distinctrow
    query_array(9) = "Select all * from publishers order
        by Publishers.name WITH OWNERACCESS OPTION"           'Owneraccess Option
    query_array(10) = "Select publishers.name from
        publishers group by publishers.name having
        publishers.name like 'A*'"                              'Having clause
    query_array(11) = "Select publishers.name from
        publishers, [publisher comments], [publisher comments]
        left join publishers on [publisher comments].pubid =
        publishers.pubid"                                       'Left Join
    query_array(12) = "Select publishers.name from
        publishers, [publisher comments], [publisher comments]
        right join publishers on [publisher comments].pubid =
        publishers.pubid"                                       'Right Join
    query_array(13) = "Select publishers.name from
        publishers, [publisher comments], [publisher comments]
        inner join publishers on [publisher comments].pubid =
        publishers.pubid"                                       'Inner Join
    query_array(14) = "Select publishers.name from
        publishers order by publishers.name ASC"               'ASC order
    query_array(15) = "Select publishers.name from
        publishers order by publishers.name DESC"             'DESC order
    list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Select All' Query"
    list1.AddItem "Example of: 'From clause' Query"
    list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Where In' Query"
    list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Order By' Query"
    list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Group By' Query"
    list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Where Between' Query"
    list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Distinct' Query"
```



```

list1.AddItem "Example of: 'In clause' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Distinctrow' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Owneraccess Option' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Having clause' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Left Join' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Right Join' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'Inner Join' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'ASC order' Query"
list1.AddItem "Example of: 'DESC order' Query"
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the list1 click event procedure:

```

Sub List1_Click ()
    idx% = list1.ListIndex
    Select Case idx%
        Case 0: command1.Caption = "Press for 'Select All'"
        Case 1: command1.Caption = "Press for 'From clause'"
        Case 2: command1.Caption = "Press for 'Where In'"
        Case 3: command1.Caption = "Press for 'Order By'"
        Case 4: command1.Caption = "Press for 'Group By'"
        Case 5: command1.Caption = "Press for 'Where Between'"
        Case 6: command1.Caption = "Press from 'Distinct'"
        Case 7: command1.Caption = "Press from 'In clause'"
        Case 8: command1.Caption = "Press from 'Distinctrow'"
        Case 9: command1.Caption = "Press from 'Owneraccess Option'"
        Case 10: command1.Caption = "Press from 'Having clause'"
        Case 11: command1.Caption = "Press from 'Left Join'"
        Case 12: command1.Caption = "Press from 'Right Join'"
        Case 13: command1.Caption = "Press from 'Inner Join'"
        Case 14: command1.Caption = "Press from 'ASC order'"
        Case 15: command1.Caption = "Press from 'DESC order'"
        Case Else: command1.Caption = "Select Query from List box"
    End Select
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the text1 keypress event procedure:

```

Sub Text1_KeyPress (keyascii As Integer)
    If keyascii > 0 Then '** this routine makes it a read-only text box
        keyascii = 0
    End If
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the command1 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command1_Click ()
    Dim db As database
    Dim ds As dynaset
    On Error GoTo type_error
    idx% = list1.ListIndex
    tmp$ = query_array(idx%)
    Set db = OpenDatabase("C:\vb3\biblio.mdb")
    Set ds = db.CreateDynaset(tmp$)
    Do Until ds.EOF = True
        If IsNull(ds(0)) Then
            text1.Text = text1.Text + " " + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)
        End If
    Loop
End Sub

```

```

        Else
            text1.Text = text1.Text + ds(0) + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)
        End If
        ds.MoveNext
    Loop
    ds.Close
    db.Close
    command2.SetFocus
type_error:
    If Err = 13 Then      '*** Type Mismatch error
        Do Until ds.EOF = True
            If IsNull((ds(1))) Then
                text1.Text = text1.Text + " " + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)
            Else
                text1.Text = text1.Text + ds(1) + Chr$(13) + Chr$(10)
            End If
            ds.MoveNext
        Loop
        ds.Close
        db.Close
        command2.SetFocus
    Exit Sub
    Else
        command2.SetFocus
    Resume Next
End If
End Sub

```

9. Add the following code to the command2 click event procedure:

```

Sub Command2_Click ()
    text1.Text = ""
    command1.Caption = "Select Query from List box"
End Sub

```

10. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S), or press the F5 key to run the program. Select a query from the list box. Press the command button to have the result set added to the text box.

To clear the contents of the text box, press the second command button.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## Referential Integrity Enforced for DBs Created in Access

Article ID: Q104983

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows has no built-in features or properties that provide Referential Integrity. To make Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows enforce referential integrity rules on a Microsoft Access database, build the database in Microsoft Access. To do this, open the Database window in Microsoft Access, and choose Relationships... from the Edit menu. Then in the Relationships window, select the Enforce Referential Integrity option.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

For more information on the way Visual Basic version 3.0 handles and enforces referential integrity, please refer to page 85 of "Professional Features Book 2."

Visual Basic version 3.0 can enforce referential integrity between tables as long as the Enforce Referential Integrity option was selected in Microsoft Access. Visual Basic enforces these rules by providing certain error codes when a database built in Microsoft Access has violated the referential integrity rules in Visual Basic code. These are trappable errors in Visual Basic, so you as the programmer have the option to handle these violations as you wish.

Below are the possible errors you could get that refer to referential integrity:

- Couldn't initialize data access because file 'SYSTEM.MDA' couldn't be opened.

Error 3028

In order to ensure referential integrity in databases created by Microsoft Access, Visual Basic must read the Access SYSTEM.MDA file. Make sure the file is in the location specified in the SystemDB entry in the [Options] section in the .INI file.

- Can't delete or change record. Because related records exist in table 'Item', referential integrity rules would be violated.

Error 3200

You tried to perform an operation that would have violated referential integrity rules for related tables. For example, this error occurs if

you try to delete or change a record in the "one" table in a one-to-many relationship when there are related records in the "many" table. If you want to delete or change the record, first delete the related records from the "many" table.

- Can't add or change record. Referential integrity rules require a related record in table 'Item'.

#### Error 3201

You tried to perform an operation that would have violated referential integrity rules for related tables. For example, this error occurs if you try to change or insert a record in the "many" table in a one-to-many relationship, and that record doesn't have a related record in the table on the "one" side. If you want to add or change the record, first add a record to the "one" table that contains the same value for the matching field.

There is more information in the Visual Basic version 3.0 "Professional Features Book 2" manual. Referential integrity implementation differences between Microsoft Access and Visual Basic are described on page 119. System table differences are explained on page 21, and using multiple tables is described on page 85.

Dynaset objects can create an inconsistent dynaset with the DB\_INCONSISTENT flag. But it may be harder to keep referential integrity when this flag is specified. See pages 58, 59, and 85 of "Professional Features Book 2."

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## How to Query for Dates Using a SQL Statement in VB 3.0

Article ID: Q105173

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
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### SUMMARY

=====

When you query for Dates in a Microsoft Access database, you may receive an incorrect result or a 'Type Mismatch' error message. To query for a date in a SQL statement in Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows, enclose the date in pound signs (#).

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following example code selects every field from the Employees table in the NWIND.MDB sample database where the field Birth Date is greater than 12/31/60. NWIND.MDB is the Microsoft Access sample database provided with Microsoft Access versions 1.0 and 1.1.

```
' Data1 is a data control.  
Data1.DataBase = "C:\ACCESS\NWIND.MDB"  
' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:  
Data1.RecordSource = "SELECT * FROM Employees  
    WHERE [Birth Date] > #12/31/60#"
```

```
' The following example uses FindFirst with the same Data Control:  
Data1.RecordSet.FindFirst "[Hire Date] <= #9/21/92#"
```

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgDataAcc

## Clicking Toolbox/Color Palette Menu Doesn't Leave Menu Open

Article ID: Q73418

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows, versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

When you single click in the System menu (the Control menu in the upper left corner) of the Toolbox or the Color Palette in the Visual Basic environment, the menu flashes on the screen but does not stay visible like normal Windows System menus.

This behavior only occurs when running under Microsoft Windows, version 3.0. When running under Microsoft Windows, version 3.1, the menus visible as you would expect.

To keep the Toolbox or Color Palette system menu pulled down, when running under Microsoft Windows, version 3.0, you must hold down the mouse button.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

On a normal Windows System menu, a single mouse click pulls down the menu and keeps the menu down without having to hold down the mouse button. Even though the System menus of the Toolbox and Color Palette may look like normal System menus, they do not act like them, and are not "normal" Windows System menus. They were not designed to stay open with a single mouse click; therefore, the menu will flash briefly on the screen on a single mouse click and then disappear, unless you keep the mouse button held down.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Envtdes

## No Edit Menu Access for Property Entry; Use Edit Shortcut Keys

Article ID: Q73800

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The Properties Bar entry window was not designed to handle the Edit menu commands (such as Cut, Copy, Paste, and Undo) when chosen with the mouse. The Edit menu commands affect the controls on the form, not the Properties Bar entry window (even if you first select text in the Properties Bar entry window before choosing the Edit menu with the mouse).

Instead of choosing Edit commands with the mouse, you can select the desired text in the Properties Bar entry window and use the Edit shortcut keys, as follows:

Command	Shortcut Keys
-----	-----
Cut	SHIFT+DELETE
Copy	CTRL+INSERT
Paste	SHIFT+INSERT
Undo	ALT+BACKSPACE

(NUM LOCK needs to be off if you select the DELETE or INSERT key from the numeric keypad.)

### MORE INFORMATION

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Example: Edit Menu Cannot Affect Properties Bar Entry Window

---

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. From the File menu, choose New Project.
3. Double-click a label box from the Toolbox (symbolized by a capital A in script). This should display a label box on the form.
4. With the mouse, select the text fragment "Lab" from the "Label1" Caption in the Properties Bar entry window, and choose Copy from the Edit menu.

Note: While you may have thought you just copied "Lab" into the

Clipboard, you actually copied the entire Label1 control (from the form) into the Clipboard. Clicking the Edit menu anywhere outside the Properties Bar entry window causes the focus to revert back to the Label1 control on the form.

5. Click the "Form1" text appearing in the Properties Bar entry window to set the focus there.
6. From the Edit menu, choose Paste (again, clicking the Edit menu or anywhere outside the Properties Bar entry window causes the focus to revert back to the Label1 control on the form.) This causes the following message box to appear:

"You already have a control named 'Label1'. Do you want to create a control array?".

Select either the Yes or No command button. Notice that another copy of the Label1 box will appear in the upper left corner of the form.

Instead of choosing Edit commands with the mouse, you can select the desired text in the Properties Bar entry window and use the Edit shortcut keys. For example, you can select text in the Properties Bar entry window, then press CTRL+INSERT (while NUM LOCK is off) to copy text to the Clipboard. You can press SHIFT+INSERT to paste Clipboard text into the Properties Bar entry window. You can press ALT+BACKSPACE to Undo a Cut, Copy, or Paste.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes



## Deleting VB Control Moves Associated Code to Object: (General)

Article ID: Q73808

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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When you delete a control in the Visual Basic environment, the code that you wrote for that control is not deleted, but is instead moved to the Object: (General) area for code. Some programmers may not realize that these detached (unused) procedures still exist and consume memory. The detached code is available for calling, copying, or reuse. For example, when you add a control that shares the same name as a detached procedure, the detached event procedure reassociates with that control.

If you want to delete both the control and its associated code, you need to manually select and delete the code in each event procedure for that control in addition to deleting the control itself.

This behavior is by design in Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0 and 2.0.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following example demonstrates that your code goes into the Object: (General) area after you delete the associated control (or object):

1. From the File menu, choose New Project.
2. Double-click a command button from the Toolbox. This puts a Command1 button on your form.
3. Double-click the Command1 button. This brings up the code window for the Command1\_Click event procedure.
4. Enter the following code inside the Command1\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click()  
    Print "Hello"           ' Enter this statement.  
End Sub
```

5. Press F5 to run your code. Click the Command1 button to see the text "Hello" display on Form1 in the upper left corner. From the Run menu, choose End to stop the program.
6. Click the Command1 button on Form1 to set the focus there and

either press DELETE or choose the Delete command from the Edit menu. This deletes the Command1 button from the form.

At this point, some programmers may incorrectly assume that the code associated with the Command1 button was also deleted. Actually, the code associated with any deleted object is automatically moved into the Object: (general) area of the Code window for that form. You can find the detached procedures in the Code window by choosing (general) from the Object: box, and choosing the procedures from the Proc: box. (Click the DOWN arrow symbol on the right of the Object: and Proc: boxes to see your choices.)

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## **VB Help Misleading Error, "Unable to Find Windows Help.EXE"**

**Article ID: Q76549**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Under conditions of low Windows system resources, invoking Visual Basic online Help may display a misleading error dialog box, such as "Unable to find Windows Help.EXE".

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

If Windows has less than 5 percent of free system resources, a misleading error dialog box that states "Unable to find Windows Help.EXE" will be displayed if you try to invoke the Visual Basic online Help.

### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. Check Windows free resources (choose About from the Windows Help menu). If free resources are less than 5 percent, proceed to step 4.
3. Start another Windows application. Go to step 2.
4. From the Visual Basic online Help, choose the Index button.

This problem, while possibly misleading, is not destructive in any way. To regain access to the Visual Basic Help system, you must first close Windows applications until you have more than 5 percent of free system resources.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Envtdes

## Using PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP Keys Within VB.EXE Environment

Article ID: Q76559

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

At design time in the Code window of the Visual Basic programming environment (VB.EXE), you can use the PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP keys as shortcut keys to go from one event procedure to another. Other helpful shortcut keys are listed below.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Below is an example that demonstrates certain conditions you need to follow before you can use the PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP shortcut keys to their fullest potential in the Code window:

1. Start Visual Basic with a New Project.
2. Place some command buttons or any other objects on the form.
3. Double-click the form to bring up the Code window.
4. Place code within the various event procedures. For example, place some various Print statements in the following event procedures:

- Form\_Click
- Command1\_Click
- Label1\_Click
- Form\_Load

(Note that you will need to have a command button and a label placed on Form1 before adding Print statements in the event procedures mentioned above.)

5. Press the PAGE DOWN or PAGE UP key and notice how the VB.EXE environment moves from one event procedure to another. The PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP work in a such a way that you are looking at the event procedures in an alphabetic order, except that the "(general)" event procedure is always on the top of the list even if it contains no code.
6. Notice that only the event procedures that contain code are displayed. Also note that PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP wrap around continuously. To activate PAGE UP and PAGE DOWN, the focus (the I-beam mouse pointer) must be in the Code window. When you have pages

of code within an event procedure, there are times when the PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP seem to perform differently, but you need to visualize paging up or down a listing of event procedures in a printout to see how these routines are designed to work.

#### Other Shortcut Keys in VB.EXE

---

The F1 function key invokes Visual Basic Help. When you receive an error after pressing the F5 key to run your code, you can press the F1 key to get additional information on that error.

F5 is the shortcut key to run a program.

F7 activates the Code window.

ALT+PRINT SCREEN is a Windows feature to copy the active window into the Clipboard. PRINT SCREEN copies the entire screen into the Clipboard. CTRL+INSERT copies selected text into the Clipboard.

F8 single-steps through a program in the VB.EXE environment.

F9 toggles breakpoints on and off.

F12 chooses the Save Project As command from the File menu.

For additional shortcut keys, search for "shortcuts" under Help in the VB.EXE environment, and search for "system keys" in the Windows Help.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Envtdes

## **CTRL+HOME Commits Current Line to VB Syntax Checking/Parsing**

**Article ID: Q76561**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

In the Visual Basic for Windows Code window, edit keys that move the cursor from a line will commit that line to syntax checking (and code parsing) by the Visual Basic for Windows editor. This is not a problem with Visual Basic for Windows, but is by design.

Note that you can turn off syntax checking by choosing the Syntax Checking command from the Code menu.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Visual Basic for Windows checks each line of code as it is entered for syntax and usage. This is a feature of the Visual Basic for Windows editing environment that prevents entry errors. Syntax checking is done before performing any edit function in which the cursor will leave the current line. Thus, any edit key combination that moves the cursor from that line will initiate the checking process.

### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. Open the Global module.
3. Type "This is a test" and press CTRL+HOME.

An error message of "Expected: Statement" will be displayed. You may not expect the error to occur because the cursor has not yet left the line of code with the error; however, CTRL+HOME normally moves the cursor off of the line, and therefore the line is checked before doing the edit operation, resulting in the error message.

Similar behavior results when using other edit keys that move the cursor from the current line, such as ENTER, PAGE UP, PAGE DOWN, CTRL+END, UP ARROW, DOWN ARROW, and so on.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## **VB Forms with Menus Cannot Have Fixed Double BorderStyle**

**Article ID: Q76630**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows versions 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Because of Windows version 3.0 and 3.1 limitations, forms with menus cannot have the BorderStyle property set to Fixed Double. To have menus, a form's BorderStyle property must be either None, Fixed Single, or Sizable.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

#### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. In the Menu Design window, create a menu on Form1.
3. Set the BorderStyle of Form1 to Fixed Double.
4. Run the program.

Note that the border style is fixed single.

Because of a Windows problem with menus on forms with fixed double borders, Visual Basic does not paint the menus correctly. For this reason, Visual Basic does not allow this particular combination of a menu on a form with a fixed double border.

For more information on this limitation, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

visual basic and menu and caption and bar

Additional reference words: 1.00 3.00 3.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd Envtdes

**PRB: Invalid in Immediate Window Error When Creating Variable**  
**Article ID: Q76636**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

=====

SYMPTOMS

One of the following error messages may occur when you attempt to create a new variable in the VB.EXE Immediate window:

Invalid in Immediate Window

-or-

Invalid in Debug Window

CAUSE

This error message may occur if your program has encountered a serious error (for example, "Out of Stack Space") from which the program cannot recover to continue. The current program must be able to continue for variables to be created in the Immediate window.

RESOLUTION

Exit Visual Basic.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Visual Basic, or choose New Project from the File menu if Visual Basic is already running.
2. Double-click Form1 to open a code window. In the Form\_Click event procedure, enter the following code:

Call Form\_Click

3. Execute the program and click Form1. An "Out of Stack Space" error will be displayed.
4. Close the error message window and enter the following code in the Immediate window:

A\$ = "123"

5. At this point, you will receive one of the error messages listed above.



If not, repeat steps 3 and 4.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 errmsg

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

**PRB: ToolBox/Color Palette Menus Lose Focus After Single ESC**  
**Article ID: Q76984**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

The ToolBox and Color Palette system menus lose their focus after only one press of the ESC key rather than two. Other system menus lose focus after two presses of ESC.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. Click the ToolBox or the Color Palette.
3. Press ALT+MINUS to open its system menu.
4. Press ESC to close its system menu.
5. Press SPACEBAR to drop the system menu again.

Pressing SPACEBAR does not drop the system menu as it would in other Windows system menus. The focus on these two particular system menus is lost with one press of ESC. This is not a problem, but a design feature of the Visual Basic ToolBox and Color Palette windows.

This feature is unlike other Windows system menus in which two ESC key presses are required to remove the focus. (The first ESC closes the system menu, but the focus remains on it. The second ESC returns the focus to the original window.) The ToolBox and Color Palette system menus are not regular Windows system menus, and function differently.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Envtdes

## **PRB: Compatibility Problems with Adobe Type Manager**

**Article ID: Q77645**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SYMPTOMS

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The following problems may arise when using the Adobe Type Manager (ATM) with Visual Basic:

- FontName list is incorrect and/or contains duplicate names
- Unrecoverable Application Errors (UAEs) in Windows version 3.0 or General Protection (GP) faults in Windows version 3.1.
- Incorrect screen font displayed when using ATM fonts

### STATUS

=====

Adobe Type Manager, is manufactured by vendors independent of Microsoft; we make no warranty, implied or otherwise, regarding this product's performance or reliability.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## **Restart in VB Break Mode if Delete Blank Line Above End Sub**

**Article ID: Q78074**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Deleting a blank line above the End Sub/End Function or below the Sub/Function statement will generate the message

You will have to restart your program  
after this edit--proceed anyway?

while in break mode in the VB.EXE environment. This behavior is by design.

This information applies to Microsoft Visual Basic programming system 1.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Deleting the line following the Sub or Function statement requires you to restart when in break mode. This also occurs when deleting the line preceding the End Sub or End Function statement of any procedure. The Visual Basic edit manager treats both of these deletions as modifications to the first or last lines, both of which require a restart when in break mode.

The following steps will force a restart in a program while in break mode.

1. In a new project, choose Start from the Run Menu.
2. Press CTRL+BREAK to suspend execution of the application and enter break mode.
3. Press F7, or from the Code menu, choose View Code to bring up the code window.
4. The text cursor should be on the blank line between the following procedure statements:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
```

```
End Sub
```

5. Press DEL to delete the blank line between the Sub Form\_Click() and End Sub lines.

The following message will be displayed:

You will have to restart your program  
after this edit--proceed anyway?

The above message is also displayed when the cursor is on the second line and you press the BACKSPACE key once, or if the cursor is at the beginning of the last line of a procedure (at the beginning of the End Sub line) and you press the BACKSPACE key once.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

**PRB: Printer Error When Printing VB Form to Text-Only Printer**  
**Article ID: Q78075**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

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The message "Printer Error" displays when you print a form from Visual Basic to a text-only printer. The text-only printer does not have the graphics capability to print the Visual Basic form. Windows traps the printer error and displays the "Printer Error" dialog box.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. From the Windows Control Panel, choose the Printers icon, and select Generic Text / Text Only as the default printer. (You may need to install the Generic / Text Only printer from the Control Panel to make this option available.)
2. Start Visual Basic.
3. From the File menu, choose Print. The current form and code are selected by default in the print dialog box.
4. Choose the OK button to print. Windows displays the "Printer Error" dialog box.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvDes

**PRB: Printing with HPPCL5A.DRV to HP LaserJet III Cuts Line**  
**Article ID: Q78079**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

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Choosing Print from the Visual Basic File menu to print source code truncates one line of code per page of output when printing to a Hewlett-Packard (HP) LaserJet series III printer using the HPPCL5A.DRV printer driver.

CAUSE

=====

This is a problem with the Hewlett-Packard LaserJet series III printer driver version 3.42 for Windows.

STATUS

=====

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a problem with the HPPCL5A printer driver version 3.42. This problem was corrected by the HP III driver version 30.3.85 included with Microsoft Word for Windows version 2.0.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 HP laser jet truncate lose

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## High Granularity Setting Affects Windows/VB Form Resizing

Article ID: Q79386

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- All programs written for Microsoft Windows version 3.0 and version 3.0a, including programs written with Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

If you set the granularity of Windows' invisible sizing grid to a value greater than zero, you may notice that form resizing is no longer smooth. This behavior is correct and can be changed by setting the granularity back to zero.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Windows Control Panel program group contains several icons that allow you to customize the Windows environment. The Desktop program allows you to specify the Windows granularity setting. If you notice that Visual Basic forms do not smoothly resize, but instead resize in "chunks," the problem may be caused by a granularity setting that is too high.

To change the Windows granularity setting, do the following:

1. Open the Windows Main program group.
2. Double-click the Control Panel icon.
3. Double-click the Desktop icon.
4. Move to the granularity text box in the lower right portion of the dialog box.
5. Click the up or down scroll arrow to the right of the text box to increase or decrease the size of the grid. Or, type the number you want in the text box.

Note: The allowable range of values is 0-49 inclusive. Setting the granularity to zero will produce the smoothest form resizing.

6. Choose OK.

### Reference(s):

"Microsoft Windows 3.0 Graphical Environment: Users Guide," version 3.0, page 157

Additional reference words: 1.00 3.00 3.00a W\_Win3  
KBCategory:



KBSubcategory: EnvDes

## Helv and Tms Rmn FontNames Not Available in Windows 3.1

Article ID: Q84470

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Helv and Tms Rmn are no longer listed in the Settings box of the Properties bar as selections for the FontName property in Visual Basic under Windows 3.1. By default, Windows 3.1 maps the fonts Helv and Tms Rmn to MS Sans Serif and MS Serif, respectively.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Visual Basic uses Helv as the default setting for the FontName property of forms and controls. That font is still the default setting for FontName in Visual Basic, even though it is no longer a system font in Windows 3.1. Helv and Tms Rmn are no longer listed in the drop-down list box in the Properties bar.

In Windows 3.1, Helv is mapped to MS Sans Serif and Tms Rmn is mapped to MS Serif by default. This appears in the [FontSubstitutes] section of the WIN.INI file. Therefore, FontName can still be set to Helv or Tms Rmn at run-time without producing any errors, even though they are no longer available. Windows will instead use the existing fonts to which they are mapped.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## **VB Uses Bitmap Fonts when TrueType FontSize Less Than 7 Points**

**Article ID: Q84483**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### **SYMPTOMS**

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The Microsoft Windows version 3.1 operating environment provides you with TrueType scalable fonts that can be used in Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows applications. Visual Basic for Windows supports TrueType fonts for font sizes of 7 points or greater -- depending on the video driver installed. Smaller fonts are mapped to available bitmap fonts, based on the fonts available for the video driver installed.

### **CAUSE**

=====

This is not a problem with Visual Basic for Windows. This is how Windows manages fonts. This is expected behavior in Windows when using TrueType fonts that are less than 7 points in size.

### **STATUS**

=====

There is no way to force Visual Basic for Windows to use TrueType fonts for font sizes less than 7 points. This is by design.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

Microsoft Windows 3.1 utilizes automatic bitmap font substitution, which is done to preserve readability at small sizes when they are displayed. At very small point sizes (4 to 7 points on standard VGA video resolutions), most Type 2 fonts are substituted with a hand-tuned bitmap font to preserve readability. This can cause the style of the font to change. For example, the Times New Roman font shipped with Windows version 3.1 appears as the Small Fonts font for sizes 4 - 6 and MS Serif for sizes 6.25 - 8.25, rather than its native face it has at larger sizes.

The program below demonstrates this scenario. The program attempts to print a message using the Arial font in sizes from 1 to 9. Visual Basic for Windows uses the font Small Fonts for font sizes less than 7 and depending on the video driver installed may use Arial for sizes between 7 and 8.25. Using the standard VGA driver, Arial is used for

font sizes greater than 8.25.

#### Steps to Demonstrate This Behavior

---

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Enter the following code into the Form\_Click procedure:

```
Sub Form_Click ()  
    For i = 1 To 9 Step .25  
        FontName = "Arial"  
        FontSize = i  
        Print Str$(i); Chr$(9); Str$(FontSize); Chr$(9); FontName  
    Next i  
End Sub
```

3. Press the F5 key to run the program, and click the form. Notice that the Arial TrueType font is used only for font sizes of 8.25 or larger.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 3.10

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Envtdes

## Visual Basic 3.0 Common Troubleshooting Questions & Answers

Article ID: Q92548

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

1. Q. When using the Setup Wizard tool that comes with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows, I get the following error message during the compression process:

Sharing violation on drive C:

Why?

- A. There is a known problem with the SHARE.EXE utility in Microsoft Windows version 3.1. To avoid this problem, copy the files SETUPKIT.DLL and VBRUN300.DLL from the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory to the directory where the SETUPWIZ.EXE file is located. This way SETUPWIZ.EXE and COMPRESS.EXE will not try to use the same files at the same time.
2. Q. I am having problems with the Setup Wizard & Setup Kit that comes with Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. At various times, it reports trouble copying files as well as other errors. Is there a known problem with the Setup Wizard?
- A. Yes, there are a number of known problems with the Setup Wizard and the Setup Kit files that it uses. There are updates available for the following Setup Wizard and Setup Kit files: SETUPWIZ.EXE, SETUP.EXE, and the SETUP1 project files. These updated files are available on CompuServe in LIB 1 of the MSBASIC forum. You can also request these updated files by calling Microsoft on the Visual Basic startup and installation support line at (206)646-5105. For more information on the problems these updates fix, see the Microsoft Knowledge Base articles Q101624 & Q100003.
3. Q. What updates are available for Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows?
- A. The following updates are available on CompuServe in LIB 1 of the MSBASIC forum or through Microsoft on the Visual Basic startup and installation line (206)646-5105. For additional information regarding the problems that these updates address, please see the Knowledge Base Article listed after each filename:

MSAJT110.DLL	-	Not Available
XBS110.DLL	-	Q100514
VBRUN300.DLL	-	Q99251
MSCOMM.VBX	-	Q101944
GRID.VBX	-	Q101261

4. Q. I wrote an application that connects to a Microsoft Access database. I can run the application from the Visual Basic environment with no problem, but if I make an EXE and try to run it, I receive this error message:

Could not find Installable ISAM

Why?

- A. When using any of the database features with any of the installable ISAMs, you must have an "Installable ISAM" section within an .INI file that has the same name as your .EXE file. For more information on the contents and purpose of this .INI file, please see page 148 in the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Professional Features Book 2" manual.
5. Q. I am having trouble getting my ODBC application to connect to my database on the server, what could I be doing wrong?
- A. There are several help files and text files that deal specifically with ODBC setup and connections issues. You can find a list of these and other information files by following three steps:
1. Open the Visual Basic help file.
  2. Choose the Contents button.
  3. Select "Other Information sources."
6. Q. Where can I find more information about ODBC and how to create an ODBC driver?
- A. Order the ODBC SDK by calling (206)936-2655. The ODBC SDK is free.

Additional reference words: 3.00 ivrfax fasttips

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## **VB for Windows Trappable Errors List of Changes/Additions**

**Article ID: Q93711**

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The information in this article applies to:

- The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### **SUMMARY**

=====

This article lists error codes, messages, and explanations of the errors that you can trap at run time using the On Error statement and the Err function in Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0.

The first list below documents the trappable errors for Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0 that are no longer trappable errors in Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0.

The second list below documents the new trappable errors in Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0 that are not listed as trappable errors in Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0.

This article is based on the online help documentation of the trappable error listing in Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0. For more information on these errors look in the online help "trappable error" listing and select the error you would like more information on.

### **MORE INFORMATION**

=====

Listed below are trappable errors in Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0 that are not trappable errors in Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0:

260	No timer available
280	DDE channel not fully closed; awaiting response from foreign application
293	DDE method invoked with no channel open
296	PasteLink already performed on this control
297	Can't set LinkMode; invalid LinkTopic
340	Control array element 'item' does not exist
345	Reached limit: cannot create any more controls on this form
381	Invalid property array index
423	Property or control 'item' not found
430	No currently active control
431	No currently active form
520	Can't empty Clipboard
521	Can't open Clipboard

Listed below are the trappable errors in Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0 that are not trappable errors in Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0:

91	Object variable not set
----	-------------------------

92 For loop not initialized  
93 Invalid pattern string  
94 Invalid use of Null  
95 Cannot destroy active form instance  
298 DDE requires DDEML.DLL  
387 'item' property can't be set on this control  
391 Name not available  
392 MDI Child forms cannot be hidden  
393 'item' property cannot be read at run time  
394 'item' property is write-only  
403 MDI forms cannot be shown modally  
404 MDI child forms cannot be shown modally  
426 Only one MDI form allowed  
600 Set value not allowed on collections  
601 Get value not allowed on collections  
602 General ODBC error: '<error>'  
603 ODBC - SQLAllocEnv failure  
604 ODBC - SQLAllocConnect failure  
605 OpenDatabase - invalid connect string  
606 ODBC - SQLConnect failure '<error>'  
607 Visual Basic 2.0 attempted on unopened database  
608 ODBC - SQLFreeConnect error  
609 ODBC - GetDriverFunctions failure  
610 ODBC - SQLAllocStmt failure  
611 ODBC - SQLTables (TableDefs.Refresh) failure: '<error>'  
612 ODBC - SQLBindCol failure  
613 ODBC - SQLFetch failure: '<error>'  
614 ODBC - SQLColumns (Fields.Refresh) failure: '<error>'  
615 ODBC - SQLStatistics (Indexes.Refresh) failure: '<error>'  
616 Table exists - append not allowed  
617 No fields defined - cannot append table  
618 ODBC - SQLNumResultCols (Create Dynaset) failure: '<error>'  
619 ODBC - SQLDescribeCol (Create Dynaset) failure '<error>'  
621 Row-returning SQL is illegal in ExecuteSQL method  
622 CommitTrans/Rollback illegal - Transactions not supported  
623 Name not found in this collection  
624 Unable to build data type table  
625 Data type of field '<field name>' not supported by target  
database  
626 Attempt to Move past EOF  
627 Dynaset is not updatable or Edit method has not been invoked  
628 <method>: Dynaset method illegal - no scrollable cursor support  
629 Warning: <operation> (ODBC - SQLSetConnectOption failure)  
630 Property is read-only  
631 Zero rows affected by Update method  
632 Update illegal without previous Edit or AddNew method  
633 Append illegal - field is part of a TableDefs collection  
634 Property value only valid when Field is part of a Dynaset  
635 Cannot set the property of an object which is part of a Database  
object  
636 Set field value illegal without previous Edit or AddNew method  
637 Append illegal - Index is part of a TableDefs collection  
638 Visual Basic 2.0 attempted on unopened Dynaset  
639 Field type is illegal  
640 Field size illegal for specified field type  
641 '<item>' illegal - no current record  
642 Reserved parameter must be FALSE



643 Property not found  
644 ODBC - SQLConfigDataSource error '<error>'  
645 ODBC driver does not support exclusive access to Dynasets  
646 GetChunk: Offset/Size argument combination illegal  
647 Delete method requires a name argument  
648 ODBC objects require VBODBCA.DLL  
708 File not found: <file name>  
710 File already open: <file name>  
712 Device I/O error: <device>  
713 File already exists: <file name>  
716 Disk full: <drive>  
719 Bad file name: <file name>  
722 Too many files: <file name>  
725 Permission denied: <file name>  
730 Path access error: <path name>  
731 Path not found: <path name>  
732 Must have startup form or Sub Main ()  
735 Can't save file to TEMP  
740 Invalid procedure name  
742 Not enough room to paste contents into current line  
743 Can't set next statement  
744 Search text not found  
745 Text would be too long. Edit prevented  
746 One or more replacements too long and not made  
747 Syntax errors produced while replacing  
748 An undo error has occurred. Further undo is unavailable  
749 Watch expression too long, expression truncated  
750 An expression must be selected  
752 Error reading Tutorial file 'item'  
753 Tutorial directory 'item' not found  
754 Can't find file 'item'  
755 Not enough memory to load help file.  
756 Duplicate procedure name  
757 Can't find Windows Help .EXE file  
758 Control must be same type as rest of array  
759 Array already has a control at index 'item'  
760 Not a legal object name: 'item'  
761 Must specify which item(s) to print  
762 Can't clear Index property without changing name  
764 <name> is a control name  
765 Controls without the Align property cannot be placed directly on the MDI form  
766 Event handler must be a Sub procedure  
768 Event procedure argument has incorrect data type  
769 Menu subitem skipped a level  
770 Parent or top-level menu item may not be checked  
771 Can't assign shortcut key to menu name  
772 Can't use separator bar as menu name  
773 Menu control must have a name  
774 Menu control array element must have an index  
775 Menu control array indices must be in ascending order  
776 Menu control array elements must be contiguous and within the same submenu  
777 Shortcut key already assigned  
778 Separator bar may not be checked or disabled, or have an shortcut key  
779 At least one submenu item must be visible

780 Valid range: [1...32]  
781 Valid range: [24...1188]  
783 Separator may not be the window List menu  
784 Can't have more than one window List menu  
785 New not allowed on this type  
20000 Can't load Custom Control DLL: 'item'  
20001 Can't unload Custom Control DLL; in use  
20002 Can't quit at this time  
20003 You'll have to restart your program after this edit--proceed  
anyway?  
20004 'item' has been changed; must reset  
20005 Reset halted programs so Code window can be closed?  
20006 Not enough stack space to enter break mode--continue?  
20007 Not enough stack space to enter break mode for error--must reset  
20008 Line too long to edit--edit truncated line?  
20009 Search complete  
20011 Invalid command-line argument 'item'  
20012 Save changes to 'item'?  
20013 You already have a control named 'item'. Do you want to create  
a control array?  
20014 Error loading 'item'. The code associated with this form could  
not be loaded. Continue loading form?  
20015 Error loading 'item'. An error was encountered loading a  
property. Continue?  
20016 Error loading 'item'. A control could not be loaded due to load  
error. Continue?  
20017 Form had old file format  
20018 Replace existing 'item'?  
20019 'item' does not exist  
20020 'item' already exists in project  
20021 <Filename> is a Read-Only file  
20022 Errors during load. Refer to <log file> for details  
20023 '<item>' could not be loaded  
20024 Version number missing or invalid; Visual Basic 2.0 assumed  
20025 String value too long to process; form load aborted

#### Trappable Errors for Grid Control:

30000 Cannot use RemoveItem on a fixed row  
30001 Cannot use AddItem on a fixed row  
30002 Grid does not contain that row  
30004 Invalid column number for alignment  
30005 Invalid alignment value  
30006 Unable to allocate memory for grid  
30008 Not a valid picture type  
30009 Invalid row value  
30010 Invalid column value  
30011 Unable to register the memory manager  
30013 Invalid row height value  
30014 Invalid column width value  
30015 Cannot remove last non-fixed row  
30016 FixedRows must be one less than Rows value  
30017 FixedCols must be one less than Cols value  
30018 Rows must be one more than FixedRows value  
30019 Cols must be one more than FixedCols value

#### Trappable Errors for OLE Control:

30000 OLE\_OK  
30001 OLE\_WAIT  
30002 OLE\_BUSY  
30003 OLE\_ERROR\_PROTECT\_ONLY  
30004 OLE\_ERROR\_MEMORY  
30005 OLE\_ERROR\_STREAM  
30006 OLE\_ERROR\_STATIC  
30007 OLE\_ERROR\_BLANK  
30008 OLE\_ERROR\_DRAW  
30009 OLE\_ERROR\_METAFILE  
30010 OLE\_ERROR\_ABORT  
30011 OLE\_ERROR\_CLIPBOARD  
30012 OLE\_ERROR\_FORMAT  
30013 OLE\_ERROR\_OBJECT  
30014 OLE\_ERROR\_OPTION  
30015 OLE\_ERROR\_PROTOCOL  
30016 OLE\_ERROR\_ADDRESS  
30017 OLE\_ERROR\_NOT\_EQUAL  
30018 OLE\_ERROR\_HANDLE  
30019 OLE\_ERROR\_GENERIC  
30020 OLE\_ERROR\_CLASS  
30021 OLE\_ERROR\_SYNTAX  
30022 OLE\_ERROR\_DATATYPE  
30023 OLE\_ERROR\_PALETTE  
30024 OLE\_ERROR\_NOT\_LINK  
30025 OLE\_ERROR\_NOT\_EMPTY  
30026 OLE\_ERROR\_SIZE  
30027 OLE\_ERROR\_DRIVE  
30028 OLE\_ERROR\_NETWORK  
30029 OLE\_ERROR\_NAME  
30030 OLE\_ERROR\_TEMPLATE  
30031 OLE\_ERROR\_NEW  
30033 OLE\_ERROR\_OPEN  
30034 OLE\_ERROR\_NOT\_OPEN  
30035 OLE\_ERROR\_LAUNCH  
30036 OLE\_ERROR\_COMM  
30037 OLE\_ERROR\_TERMINATE  
30038 OLE\_ERROR\_COMMAND  
30039 OLE\_ERROR\_SHOW  
30040 OLE\_ERROR\_DOVERB  
30041 OLE\_ERROR\_ADVISE\_NATIVE  
30042 OLE\_ERROR\_ADVISE\_PICT  
30043 OLE\_ERROR\_ADVISE\_RENAME  
30044 OLE\_ERROR\_POKE\_NATIVE  
30045 OLE\_ERROR\_REQUEST\_NATIVE  
30046 OLE\_ERROR\_REQUEST\_PICT  
30047 OLE\_ERROR\_SERVER\_BLOCKED  
30048 OLE\_ERROR\_REGISTRATION  
30050 OLE\_ERROR\_TASK  
30051 OLE\_ERROR\_OUTOFDATE  
30052 OLE\_ERROR\_CANT\_UPDATE\_CLIENT  
30053 OLE\_ERROR\_UPDATE  
  
31001 Out of memory  
31002 Property is write-only  
31003 Can't open Clipboard

31004 No object  
31005 Object closed  
31007 Can't paste  
31008 Invalid property value  
31009 Object not empty  
31010 Property is read-only  
31011 Type of object cannot be created  
31014 This action is reserved for future use  
31015 Cannot execute object  
31016 Server class was not specified before the registration database was  
accessed  
31017 Invalid format on set data or set data text  
31018 Class is not set  
31019 Source document is not set  
31020 Source item is not set

Additional reference words: 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## How to Use Visual Basic Vers 1.0, 2.0, & 3.0 on Same Computer

Article ID: Q94697

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article describes how to set up Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 and keep Visual Basic version 1.0 on your computer. There are two issues involved when attempting to maintain two versions of Visual Basic on the same computer. First, you need to set up Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 so that it does not overwrite the Visual Basic version 1.0 files. Second, you must manage the compatibility between the two versions.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To keep Visual Basic version 1.0 on your computer, install Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 in a different directory. By default, the Visual Basic version Setup program attempts to copy the files to the \VB directory, but it will ask you if you want to put it in a different directory.

If you have the Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0 and you want to preserve the custom control (or .VBX) files, place them in a directory other than \WINDOWS or \WINDOWS\SYSTEM. The Setup program for the Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic 1.0 gives you the option to place a copy of the custom control files in a separate directory. These files are normally placed in a subdirectory called VBX in the Visual Basic directory.

If you requested an extra copy of the custom control files, they'll remain separated from the Visual Basic version 2.0 custom control files, so you do not need to do anything. However, if you didn't request a copy, copy the Visual Basic version 1.0 .VBX files from the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory to another directory before running the Visual Basic version 2.0 Setup program. In addition to the VBX files, you also need to copy GSW.EXE, GSWDLL.DLL, and COMMDLG.DLL from the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory to the other directory.

The Setup program for the Visual Basic Standard and Professional editions copies the .VBX, .EXE, and .DLL files to the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory. If a .VBX, .EXE, or .DLL file already exists in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory with that name, the Setup program changes the file extension from .VBX, .EXE, or .DLL to .OLD.

If you already ran the Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 Setup program, you can recover the version 1.0 custom control files by copying the .OLD files from the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory to a different directory. Then rename the .OLD files giving them the appropriate extension (.VBX, .EXE, or .DLL).

For example, rename GSW.OLD to GSW.EXE, GSWDLL.OLD to GSWDLL.DLL, and COMMDLG.OLD to COMMDLG.DLL. Then rename all other .OLD files to .VBX files.

For the most part, the code for Visual Basic version 1.0 applications is upwardly compatible. In other words, you should be able to run all version 1.0 applications in version 2.0 or 3.0 with few or no changes. When you load a version 1.0 project into Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0, you will be informed that your files are in the old format. When you save the project, Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 converts the files into the new version 2.0 or 3.0 format. Once the version 1.0 project files are saved in the new version's format, you cannot load the project files back into Visual Basic version 1.0.

Once you install Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0, any version 1.0 .EXE files that use custom controls will likely use the version 2.0 or 3.0 custom controls. This happens because when you installed the later version, its controls replaced the earlier version's controls in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory. This should work well because the Visual Basic version 2.0 Professional Toolkit controls are upwardly compatible from the version 1.0 Professional Toolkit controls.

If you need to use Visual Basic version 1.0 custom controls, put them in the same directory as the version 1.0 .EXE that uses them. Then the .EXE will find the version 1.0 controls first. However, there is no guarantee the version 1.0 custom controls will be used because another .EXE may have already loaded the version 2.0 controls.

Additional reference words: 2.00 1.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvDes

## Add Graph Causes Err: GSW.EXE and GSWDLL.DLL Version Mismatch

Article ID: Q96007

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Loading the graph control into a project when different versions of GSW.EXE and GSWDLL.DLL exist on the same computer can cause one of the following two error messages:

GSW.EXE and GSWDLL.DLL Version Mismatch  
Need Graphics Server 2.00 or later

Because the graph control uses a graphing and charting library (GSWDLL.DLL) along with a graphics server (GSW.EXE) to provide its graphing capabilities, it must have the same versions of these two files.

To work around the problem, place the 2.0 version of all three files (GRAPH.VBX, GSW.EXE, and GSWDLL.DLL) in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory, and delete or move the older versions out of the following directories:

- The \WINDOWS directory
- The \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory
- All directories located on the MS-DOS path

### MORE INFORMATION

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The setup program for the Professional Edition of Visual Basic version 2.0, correctly updates the GRAPH.VBX and its two auxiliary files if previous versions of the files exist in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory. If prior versions of the control reside in a different directory, such as the \WINDOWS directory, the setup program for Visual Basic version 2.0 will not rename or remove the older versions. However, it does place the version 2.0 versions of the controls in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory.

When you load the graph control, either by choosing Add File from the File menu or by adding GRAPH.VBX to the AUTOLOAD.MAK file, the graph control searches the directories for its two auxiliary files in this order:

1. The directory where GRAPH.VBX resides, unless it's \WINDOWS\SYSTEM
2. The \WINDOWS directory
3. The \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory
4. The directories on MS-DOS path

If GRAPH.VBX resides in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory the search begins with step 2. The error message, therefore, can occur when a copy of GRAPH.VBX resides in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory and an older version of either GSW.EXE or GSWDLL.DLL resides in the \WINDOWS directory while 2.0

versions reside in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory with GRAPH.VBX.

#### Steps to Reproduce Error Message

1. Run SETUP.EXE from the Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0.
2. Install the Toolkit in the \VB1 directory using these two options:
  - Select the option to install Controls/Samples.
  - Select Yes, when asked if you want to install duplicate copies of the Toolkit controls in the \VB1\VBX directory.

This will install copies of the custom controls in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM and \VB1\VBX directories.

3. Run SETUP.EXE from the Visual Basic Professional Edition version 2.0 for Windows.
4. Install Visual Basic version 2.0 in the default directory (\VB) using the Complete Installation option.

At this point, the Visual Basic version 1.0 controls in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory are updated to their 2.0 versions, including GRAPH.VBX, GSW.EXE, and GSWDLL.DLL.

5. Rename GSW.EXE in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory to GSW.OLD. Using File Manager, navigate to the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory and select GSW.EXE from the list of files. From the File menu, choose Rename (ALT, F, N). In the To box, enter GSW.OLD.

By doing this, you will retain a 2.0 version of the Graph control's server program.

6. Copy GSW.EXE from the \VB1\VBX directory into the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory. Using File Manager, navigate to the \VB1\VBX directory and select GSW.EXE from the list of files. From the File menu, choose Copy (ALT, F, C).

Now you have conflicting versions of the GRAPH.VBX and GSW.EXE files in the same directory.

7. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

The AUTOLOAD.MAK file, installed with Visual Basic 2.0, will attempt to load all custom controls shipped with the Professional Edition. When the loading process reaches the graph control, the following error message occurs:

GSW.EXE & GSWDLL.DLL version mismatch

Upon closing the error message box, a second error message box appears:

Can't load Custom Control DLL: C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM\GRAPH.VBX

The two error messages also occur when you choose Add File from the



File menu

Even though this example incorrectly updates only the GSW.EXE file, the same error messages occur when all three files related to the graph control have different versions.

Additional reference words: 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtDes

## **PRB: Placing Controls inside Container Controls**

**Article ID: Q104166**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
  - Standard and Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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To place a control correctly within a container control, use one of the following methods.

- Select an existing control, and from the Edit menu, choose either Cut or Copy. Then select the container control, and from the Edit menu, choose Paste.
- Find the icon for the control in the Toolbox. Click it, and then drag a rectangle inside the border of the container. More specifically, click a Toolbox icon, and then release the mouse button. Move the mouse cursor inside the border of the container control. The mouse cursor changes to cross hairs. Now click the mouse button and hold it down. Move the mouse to the bottom right. Then release the mouse button.

You cannot place a control inside a container control by double-clicking an icon in the Toolbox or by dragging a control onto a container control. These actions place the control on the form in front of the container rather than inside the container control.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Container controls supplied with the standard edition are the frame and picture box. The container controls supplied with the professional edition are the 3-D frame, 3-D panel, and the gauge. These controls can also be placed inside container controls.

When you place a control inside a container control, such as a frame, the containerized control:

- appears completely within the border of the container control and in front of the background of the container control
- maintains its position relative to the container control

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 B\_VBmsdos

KBCategory: Envnt

KBSubCategory: EnvntDes

## Can't Use Multiple & (for Access Keys) in a VB Menu Control

Article ID: Q73372

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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When creating a menu control that has multiple & (ampersand) characters to mark the access keys in the caption (for example, &a&b&c&d), the menu will appear with an underline under the character after the last &. However, the access key will respond to the character following the first &. This is not a problem with Visual Basic, but rather with the Windows operating environment.

To work around this problem, do not put multiple & characters in the menu caption; just use one & character per caption.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Reproduce Problem

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1. From the File menu, choose New Project (ALT+F+N).
2. From the Window menu, choose Menu Design Window (ALT+W+M).
3. Enter "&A&B&C&D" (without the quotation marks) for the Caption.
4. Enter "ABCD" (without the quotation marks) for the CtlName.
5. Choose the Done button.
6. Click the menu item ABCD on Form1.
7. Enter the statement `Print "ABCD"` in the click event for the menu item ABCD as follows:

```
Sub ABCD_Click ()  
    Print "ABCD"  
End Sub
```

8. Run the program.

When the program is run, the D in the menu caption will be underlined, but the menu responds to ALT+A, not ALT+D.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: EnvtRun

## Cannot Tile or Cascade Programs Created with Visual Basic

Article ID: Q73698

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
  - Microsoft Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Applications that have been created with Microsoft Visual Basic do not tile or cascade as do other Windows applications.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Visual Basic creates applications that are pop-up windows. This window style does not respond to the tile or cascade message sent from the Windows version 3.0 Task List or other applications that support the cascade and tile features.

You can verify this action by launching two applications created in Visual Basic, then bringing up the Windows Task List by pressing CTRL+ESC, and from the Task List choosing either the Cascade or Tile button. Notice that nothing has changed in the arrangements of these two Visual Basic application windows. You may have expected the Visual Basic application windows to cascade or tile as other Windows applications do, but they will not do so.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## **Some VB.EXE Main Menu Commands Can Be Invisible at Run Time**

**Article ID: Q73699**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
  - Microsoft Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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If you shrink the width of VB.EXE's main menu (and Properties Bar) such that menu commands automatically wrap to the next line, wrapped menu commands may be invisible at run time in the VB.EXE environment.

You can work around this visibility problem by using the ALT key to access the invisible menu commands on the shrunken menu, or by avoiding shrinking the width beyond the point where the menus wrap.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Steps to Reproduce Problem

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1. Start Visual Basic (VB.EXE).
2. Place the mouse pointer on the far right side of the Properties Bar such that the mouse changes to a double-headed pointer, ready for resizing the Properties Bar.
3. Press and hold down the left button of the mouse and drag the right edge of the Properties Bar toward the left side of the screen so that the Bar ends up being about 3 inches in width, then release the mouse button. This should cause the Window and Help menu commands to automatically wrap the next line.
4. From the Run menu, choose Start, or press F5. The Window and Help menus are now invisible because they are wrapped beyond the edge of their window.
5. Click the Immediate Window (in the lower right corner) and bring the Immediate Window in front of the Form1 window.
6. Try bringing up either the Window menu by pressing ALT+W or the Help menu by pressing ALT+H. You will see the appropriate menu on the screen, but it will appear disconnected below the Main Menu (or Properties Bar) even though the menu is still functional. If you don't perform step 5, you won't be able to select the invisible menus with the ALT key (or with the mouse).

This behavior is due to the way that Windows, version 3.0 manipulates menus

and the design of the Visual Basic for Windows, version 1.0 interface. To avoid this behavior, Microsoft recommends keeping the main menu sufficiently wide such that menus are not wrapped.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## UAE or GP Fault with VB .EXE Acting as Windows 3.0 Shell

Article ID: Q73801

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0 and 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Compiled Visual Basic .EXE applications can be used as the Windows shell in Windows version 3.1 on an 80386 computer or better.

However, an .EXE application created by Visual Basic cannot be used as the Windows shell in Windows version 3.0. Attempting to run an application as the Windows version 3.0 shell results in an Unrecoverable Application Error (UAE).

This is a design limitation of Windows version 3.0. It is not a limitation in Windows version 3.1, with one exception. When you run the .EXE program in Windows version 3.1 standard mode on a 80286 computer, a General Protection (GP) fault occurs at the same point where a UAE occurs in Windows version 3.0.

Basically, you can use a Visual Basic .EXE program as a Windows shell only on an 80386 computer or better. This information applies only to Visual Basic .EXE programs.

### MORE INFORMATION

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A user-defined shell application can be specified in the Windows system initialization (SYSTEM.INI) file. The default shell is PROGRAMMAN.EXE (the Program Manager). If a Visual Basic program is specified as the customized Windows 3.0 shell, a Windows 3.0 UAE occurs on any attempt to run Windows version 3.0 from the MS-DOS command line. This problem does not occur with Windows version 3.1.

A Visual Basic application cannot be run as the Windows 3.0 shell because it does not contain the special set of startup code required by a Windows 3.0 shell application. The only way to create a Windows 3.0 shell application is to use the C Compiler and the Windows Software Development Kit (SDK) to write a non-Visual Basic application.

### Steps to Reproduce Problem

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Warning: The following steps require changing the Windows system initialization file (SYSTEM.INI) in a manner such that Windows version 3.0



will not run successfully unless the file is restored from MS-DOS. The file can be restored from MS-DOS by using a backup copy of the SYSTEM.INI file or by restoring the SYSTEM.INI file with a text editor in MS-DOS.

1. Start Visual Basic.
2. From the File menu, choose New Project.
3. From the File menu, choose Make .EXE program.
4. Choose the OK button to select Project1.EXE as the .EXE filename.
5. Exit Visual Basic.
6. Start Windows Notepad.
7. From the File menu, choose Open.
8. In the Filename text box, type C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM.INI including the correct path for the SYSTEM.INI file on your computer.
9. Choose the OK button.
10. Change the line the reads:  
  
    SHELL=PROGMAN.EXE  
  
to this line:  
  
    SHELL=C:\VB\PROJECT1.EXE  
  
changing the path to the correct path to the file created in step 4.
11. From the File menu, choose Save.
12. Exit Notepad.
13. From the Windows Program Manager File menu, choose Exit. You should return  
    to MS-DOS.
14. At the MS-DOS command prompt, start Windows.

When you attempt to start Windows version 3.0, a UAE occurs. You will need to reboot (restart) your computer and modify the SYSTEM.INI file using a text editor in MS-DOS to reverse the change made in step 10.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 286 386

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## **F5 in Run Mode with Focus on Main Menu Bar Acts as CTRL+BREAK**

**Article ID: Q74348**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
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### SUMMARY

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A Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows program will break at run time under the following simultaneous conditions:

1. You run the program in the Visual Basic for Windows development environment.
2. The Visual Basic for Windows menu bar has the focus.
3. You press the F5 key.

The program will break when the F5 key is pressed and the Immediate Window will get the focus. This is not a problem with Visual Basic for Windows, but rather a design feature.

This information only applies to an application run in the Visual Basic for Windows development environment, not as an .EXE program.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The F5 key acts as the shortcut key for the Visual Basic for Windows Run menu. Because Start, Continue, and Break all share the same menu item under the Run menu, F5 acts differently depending upon the state of execution of a program. It acts as the Run key in the Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows environment. It also serves as the Break key once the application is running and the focus is on the Visual Basic for Windows menu bar. After execution has been "broken" with the Break key, the F5 key serves as the Continue key.

To demonstrate the different modes of the F5 key, do the following:

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows.
2. From the File menu, select New Project (press ALT, F, N).
3. Press the F5 key to run the program.
4. Using the mouse, click the Visual Basic for Windows menu bar.

5. Press the F5 key to break the program. The Immediate window will be given the focus after you press the F5 key.

6. Press the F5 key again to continue execution of the program.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

**PRB: Access Key Causes Different Event Order than Mouse Click**  
**Article ID: Q74905**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

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In Visual Basic, events may be generated in a different order if you choose a control (such as a button, a check box, or an option box) using an access key rather than with the mouse. The events that occur in a different order are Click, LostFocus, and GotFocus.

WORKAROUND

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By inserting the DoEvents statement as the very first statement in the Click event handler, you can cause the LostFocus and GotFocus events to be handled before the body of the Click event handler.

STATUS

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This behavior is by design. It is not a bug in Visual Basic.

MORE INFORMATION

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You can create an access key at design time by changing the Caption property of a control to include an ampersand (&). The access key is the character after the ampersand, and at run time you press ALT+character to choose the control. (See page 120 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Programmer's Guide" version 1.0. manual.)

When you press an access key (ALT+character) to choose a control, the Click event is generated before the LostFocus and GotFocus event; however, when you choose a control by clicking the mouse, the LostFocus and GotFocus events are generated before the Click event.

The example below shows this different order of events. The example uses command buttons, but also applies to Check and Option boxes:

1. Open a new form and create two command buttons.
2. Enter the code as shown further below.
3. Change the Caption property of Command2 to "Command&2"
4. Run the program.

5. a. When Command1 has the focus and you click Command2, the following events are generated in the following order:

Command1\_LostFocus  
Command2\_GotFocus  
Command2\_Click

- b. When Command1 has the focus and you press the access key, ALT+2, the following events are generated in the following order:

Command2\_Click  
Command1\_LostFocus  
Command2\_GotFocus

Sample Code:

-----

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    Print "Command1_click"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command1_LostFocus ()  
    Print "Command1_lostfocus"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command1_GotFocus ()  
    Print "Command1_gotfocus"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command2_Click ()  
    Print "Command2_click"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command2_LostFocus ()  
    Print "Command2_lostfocus"  
End Sub
```

```
Sub Command2_GotFocus ()  
    Print "Command2_gotfocus"  
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 vbmsdos

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd Envtrun

## Determining Whether TAB or Mouse Gave a VB Control the Focus

Article ID: Q75411

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can determine whether a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows control received the focus from a mouse click or a TAB keystroke by calling the Microsoft Windows API function `GetKeyState` in the control's `GotFocus` event procedure. By using `GetKeyState` to check if the TAB key is down, you can determine if the user pressed the TAB key to get to the control. If the TAB key was not used and the control does not have an access key, the user must have used the mouse to click the control to set the focus.

### MORE INFORMATION

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The `GetKeyState` Windows API function takes an integer parameter containing the virtual key code for the desired key states. `GetKeyState` returns an integer. If the return value is negative, the key has been pressed.

The following is a code example. To use this example, start with a new project in Visual Basic for Windows. Add a text box and a command button to `Form1`. Enter the following code in the project's `GLOBAL.BAS` module:

```
' Global Module.  
Declare Function GetKeyState% Lib "User" (ByVal nVirtKey%)  
Global Const VK_TAB = 9
```

Add the following code to the `GotFocus` event procedure for the `Text1` text box control:

```
Sub Text1_GotFocus()  
    If GetKeyState(VK_TAB) < 0 Then  
        Text1.SelStart = 0  
        Text1.SelLength = Len(Text1.Text)  
    Else  
        Text1.SelLength = 0  
    End If  
End Sub
```

Run the program. If you use the TAB key to move the focus from the command button to the text box, you should see the text in the text box selected. If you change the focus to the text box by clicking it with the mouse, the text will not be selected.

An access key is assigned by using an ampersand (&) in the control's caption property. If the control has an access key, you may also want to check the state of the virtual ALT key by using `GetKeyState` to see if the user used the access key to change the focus. The virtual key code for ALT, actually known as `VK_MENU`, is 12H (&H12).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun APrgOther

## How to Use CodeView for Windows (CVW.EXE) with Visual Basic

Article ID: Q75612

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can use CodeView for Windows (CVW) to debug a dynamic link library (DLL) or custom control that is called from Visual Basic.

Note that you can build custom controls using the Control Development Kit (CDK) for Visual Basic. The Visual Basic CDK, formerly shipped separately as an add-on product from Microsoft, is now shipped as part of Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

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CVW.EXE, CodeView for Windows, is distributed with the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK).

CVW can be a useful tool for debugging DLLs and custom controls written for a Visual Basic program.

CVW takes the following command line arguments:

[path]CVW.EXE /L [dynamic link library] [executable program]

where:

[dynamic library] is your DLL or custom control.

[executable program] is the EXE that uses your DLL/custom control.

The "/L" option tells CVW that this is a DLL or custom control.

You can invoke CVW from the Windows Program Manager in any of the following ways:

- From the Windows Program Manager File menu, choose New, and specify CVW.EXE as a Program Item with proper arguments. You can then double-click the CVW icon to run CVW.EXE.
- From the Windows Program Manager File menu, choose Run, and enter CVW.EXE and its command line arguments.
- Invoke CVW with no arguments, and at the prompts, enter the



program name and DLL/VBX that you want to debug.

The example below demonstrates how to invoke CIRCLE3.VBX, which comes with the Microsoft Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK):

1. Run CVW.EXE from the Program Manager as specified below.

```
[path]CVW.EXE /L [path]CIRCLE3.VBX [path]VB.EXE
```

Note: You can just specify an .EXE program that was written in the Visual Basic environment instead of specifying the VB.EXE environment itself. If you do this, skip steps 7, 8, and 9 below.

Note: If you invoke CVW.EXE with no command line arguments, CVW.EXE will prompt you for command line arguments. Specify the VB.EXE file that uses the \*.VBX file. CVW.EXE will then prompt you for "Additional DLLs...". Specify the \*.VBX file at this prompt. Skip to step 4.

2. When CVW is loaded into the debug monitor, the following message will be displayed:

```
No Symbolic information for VB.EXE
```

3. Choose the OK button to load the Visual Basic program.
4. From the File menu, choose Open Module to load the CIRCLE3.VBX source code. You should see a list of "c" source code in the list box. Select CIRCLE.C, which corresponds to the CIRCLE3.VBX source code.
5. Locate the WM\_LBUTTONDOWNBLCLK message and set a breakpoint on the first "IF" statement.
6. Press F5 to run your Visual Basic program.
7. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the CIRCLE3.VBX file. The CIRCLE3 tool appears in the toolbox.
8. Select the custom control from the toolbox and add it to your form.
9. Press F5 to run your program.
10. Double-click the circle. When your breakpoint is encountered, focus will be set to CVW and execution will stop at your breakpoint. You can now step through your program.
11. Press F5 to return to the Visual Basic program.

Reference(s):

"Programming Windows: the Microsoft Guide to Writing Applications for Windows 3," by Charles Petzold, Microsoft Press, 1990

"Peter Norton's Windows 3.0 Power Programming Techniques," by Peter Norton and Paul Yao, Bantam Computer Books, 1990

"Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit: Programming Tools,"  
version 3.0

WINSDK.HLP file shipped with Microsoft Windows 3.0 Software  
Development Kit

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvtRun

## **Simulating ON KEY and Key Trapping by Using the KeyDown Event**

**Article ID: Q75858**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Although there is no ON KEY GOSUB statement in Visual Basic, you can achieve an effect identical to ON KEY event handling. Visual Basic forms and controls that are able to get focus have a KeyDown event procedure that can simulate the effects of the ON KEY statements in Basic interpreters and compilers for MS-DOS. In fact, the KeyDown event procedure is more powerful and flexible than the ON KEY statement.

### MORE INFORMATION

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Pressing a key while a Visual Basic form or control has the focus executes that form or control KeyDown event procedure. Within the KeyDown event procedure, you can call a global procedure and pass the actual key states to the global procedure. You can use this to create an effect in Visual Basic for Windows that is identical to the effect caused by trapping ON KEY events in Basic interpreters and compilers for MS-DOS. In Visual Basic, you can also pass the name of the control or form where the KeyDown event occurred, so the global procedure will know which control or form called it.

Here's a small example:

1. In the Visual Basic Project window, double-click a form or module (GLOBAL.BAS in Visual Basic version 1.0) to bring up the code window. Move to the general-declaration section of the form or module. Then from the Visual Basic Code menu, choose Load text, and load the CONSTANTS.TXT file that came with Visual Basic.

Note: in Visual Basic version 1.0, if you already have text in the GLOBAL.BAS file, create a new module, add the CONSTANTS.TXT file to the new module, and then cut and paste the text into the GLOBAL.BAS file.

2. Add two text boxes (Text1 and Text2) to a form.
3. In the Text1\_KeyDown event procedure, add the following code:

Call OnKeyGoSub(KeyCode, Shift, Text1)

4. In the Text2\_KeyDown event procedure, add the following code:

Call OnKeyGoSub(KeyCode, Shift, Text2)

5. Add a Label (Label1) to to the form.
6. In the general-declaration section for the form, add this procedure:

```
Sub OnKeyGoSub (KeyCode%, Shift%, Ctrl As Control)
    Select Case KeyCode%
        Case KEY_MENU: Key$ = ""
        Case KEY_SHIFT: Key$ = ""
        Case KEY_CONTROL: Key$ = ""
        Case KEY_F1: Key$ = " F1 "
        Case KEY_UP: Key$ = " UP key"
        Case KEY_CAPITAL: Key$ = "CAP LOCKS"
        Case Else: Key$ = Chr$(KeyCode%)
    End Select
    Select Case Shift%
        Case SHIFT_MASK: Shft$ = "Shift"
        Case ALT_MASK: Shft$ = "Alt"
        Case CTRL_MASK: Shft$ = "Ctrl"
        Case Else: Shft$ = ""
    End Select
    Label1.Caption="Key:" + Shft$ + " " + Key$
End Sub
```

7. Run the program. Move back and forth between the two text boxes using either the TAB key or the mouse. Experiment with any key in combination with the ALT, CTRL, and SHIFT keys. Also, try the F1 and UP ARROW keys.

The above example is limited, but shows you how to simulate the ON KEY statements or key trapping in Visual Basic by placing the call to the key trap procedure in any KeyDown event procedure.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## **Sending Keystrokes from Visual Basic to an MS-DOS Application**

**Article ID: Q77394**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The "Microsoft Visual Basic: Language Reference" version 1.0 manual states that the SendKeys function cannot be used to send keystrokes to a non-Windows application. Listed below is a method that can be used to work around this limitation.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows SendKeys function can send keystrokes to the currently active window (as if the keystrokes had been typed at the keyboard). Although it is not possible to send keystrokes to a non-Windows application with SendKeys directly, you can place text on the Clipboard and use SendKeys to paste that text into an MS-DOS application that is running in a window (or minimized as an icon.)

To run an MS-DOS application in a window, you MUST be running in Windows 386 enhanced mode. You must also make sure that the MS-DOS application's PIF file has been set to display the application in a window rather than full screen. Use the Windows PIF Editor to make this modification, if necessary.

An example of sending keystrokes to an MS-DOS session running in a window is given below:

1. Start a MS-DOS session (running in a window).
2. Start Visual Basic for Windows.
3. Enter the following into the general declarations section of the form:

```
Dim progame As String
```

4. Draw two labels on the form. Change the first label's caption to "Dos App Title." Change the second label's caption to "Keys to send."
5. Draw two text boxes on the form (next to each of the previously

drawn labels). Delete the default contents of these text boxes. These controls will be used to allow the user to enter the MS-DOS application window title and the keystrokes to send to it. Change the Name property of these text boxes to "DosTitle" and "DosKeys," respectively.

6. Draw a command button on the form and change its caption to "Send keys."
7. Attach the following code to the command button click procedure:

```
programe = "Microsoft Visual Basic"  
clipboard.Clear  
clipboard.SetText DosKeys.Text + Chr$(13) ' Append a <CR>.  
AppActivate DosTitle.Text  
SendKeys "% ep", 1  
AppActivate programe
```

If the text that you send is the DIR command or another command that takes time, the AppActivate call immediately following the SendKeys call will interrupt the processing. The AppActivate call should be placed in a timer with the appropriate interval set and the timer enabled in the command\_click procedure. The timer should be disabled before exiting the timer.

8. Run the program.
9. Enter the window title of the MS-DOS application into the DosTitle text box. The default window title for an MS-DOS session is "DOS." If you would like to change the window title of an MS-DOS application, you should use the PIF Editor.
10. Enter the keystrokes to send into the DosKeys text box (for example, "DIR").
11. Click the Send Keys command button. The keystrokes will be sent to the Clipboard and then pasted into the MS-DOS window.

If this technique is used in a compiled Visual Basic for Windows program, you should change the programe assignment from "Microsoft Visual Basic" to the executable file name. Also, if you would like to see the text being placed onto the Clipboard, you can open the Windows Clipboard viewer.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## **"Error Loading DLL" if VB Compiled .EXE Has Same Name as DLL**

**Article ID: Q79598**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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If you create a compiled executable program with the same base name as a dynamic link library (DLL) that is called from the program, an "Error Loading DLL" message will be displayed when the compiled program attempts to call the DLL. If the DLL is loaded before the .EXE program is run (for example, if the DLL is in use from another application) then the executable program will not run at all.

Similarly, if an .EXE program has the same name as a loaded device driver (.DRV) and the driver is loaded before you run the .EXE program, then your executable program will not run. For example, if you name your executable program TIMER.EXE, it will not run because Windows has already loaded a device driver named TIMER.DRV.

This behavior is how Windows is designed to operate. It is not a problem with Microsoft Visual Basic, because the behavior can occur with any Windows application, and may occur between any two Windows modules (either from executable programs or DLLs).

### MORE INFORMATION

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This behavior occurs because Windows checks, by module name, to see if a program is already loaded before it tries to execute that program. If the requested module is already loaded, Windows creates another instance of that module. Thus, attempting to load a DLL with the same module name as an already executing program will fail (usually with the error "Error Loading DLL"), and attempting to start an executable program with the same module name as an already loaded DLL will not execute the program.

Because the module name for a DLL is often the same as the name of the DLL itself (although this can be varied using the LIBRARY entry of the module definition file used when creating the DLL), and the module name for a compiled Visual Basic program is the same as the original base .EXE file name, attempting to load a DLL and a Visual Basic .EXE program that share the same name will often result in one of the above errors. To avoid this problem, either recompile the Visual Basic program and change the .EXE filename, or recreate the DLL, changing the LIBRARY entry in the module definition file.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun



## VB "Cannot Find DLL, Insert in Drive A" Using Shell

Article ID: Q80404

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

When a Visual Basic for Windows application shells to a Microsoft Windows application that expects to find a dynamic link library (DLL) in its own directory, Visual Basic for Windows may generate the following error message and fail to start the application:

Cannot Find <DLL NAME>, Please Insert in Drive A

This error occurs because the application being shelled to expects to find the DLL in the current directory, the MS-DOS path, or the Windows directory. Shelling to an application in code does not change the current directory, even if you specify the path to the application in the Shell statement.

One solution is to use Visual Basic for Windows' ChDir statement to change the current directory to the directory containing the DLL before attempting to shell to the application. An alternative solution is to copy the DLL to the Windows directory, or include the path where the DLL is located in the MS-DOS path.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following is a pseudocode example that shows how to use the ChDir statement to make the application's directory the current directory. The C:\APPS directory and the .EXE name MYAPP.EXE are arbitrary names selected to represent the location of the application being shelled to and an .EXE name, respectively.

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    ChDir "c:\Apps"      ' The name of the directory containing
                        ' the needed DLL.
    x% = Shell("c:\Apps\MyApp.EXE", 1)
End Sub
```

Note: If the application is on a different drive, use the ChDrive statement first to change drives before using the ChDir statement.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## **VB CURDIR\$ Function Not Reliable to Determine Program Location**

**Article ID: Q80611**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The CURDIR\$ function returns the path to the current directory on the currently selected drive. Because the current directory is not necessarily the directory where the current Visual Basic program resides, the CURDIR\$ function is not a reliable means for determining the location of the currently executing program. This information applies to the CURDIR\$ function, and to the drive list box, directory list box, and file list box controls in Visual Basic.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can use any of the following methods to start a program under Windows:

- From the MS-DOS prompt, type:  
  
    WIN drive:\pathname\program name
- From Windows Program Manager, choose Run from the File menu, and enter the full pathname of the executable program.
- From Windows File Manager, choose Run from the File menu, and enter the full path of the executable program.
- From Windows Program Manager, choose New from the File menu, and create a new program item for the executable program. Double-click the resulting icon.
- From Windows File Manager, use the mouse to choose the appropriate drive and directory containing the executable file, and double-click the executable filename.

If the program is launched using the first, third, or fifth method above, the CURDIR\$ value will return the current directory at the time Windows was launched or at the time the program was started from File Manager. The current directory can be checked by opening File Manager and reading the current directory from the bar below the drive buttons; for the fifth method, the File Manager's current directory will actually be the directory where the started program resides.

If the program is launched using the second method from the Windows Program Manager, the CURDIR\$ value will be the path to the location

of the program that was started.

If the program is launched using the fourth method, the CURDIR\$ value is the working directory you specified for the icon, or if you left the working directory blank, CURDIR\$ returns the Windows directory.

Note that the current directory of an MS-DOS session does not necessarily indicate the current directory that will be returned by CURDIR\$.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## How to Get Windows Version Number in VB with GetVersion API

Article ID: Q80642

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

From a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows program, you can find out which version of Windows is running by calling the Windows API GetVersion() function from the Windows Kernel module. The GetVersion() function can help your application accommodate any known differences, if any, in the way API calls operate between different versions of Windows (such as differences between API parameters or return values).

### MORE INFORMATION

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The step-by-step example given below demonstrates how to make the GetVersion() function call. GetVersion() takes no parameters, and the return value is a WORD value -- which translates to an integer in Visual Basic for Windows.

The return value specifies the major and minor version numbers of Windows. The high order byte specifies the minor version and the low order byte specifies the major version number.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Create a form with a text box and a command button.
2. Add the following declaration to the General Declarations section:

```
Declare Function GetVersion Lib "kernel" () As Integer
```

3. Add following code to the command button Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    i% = GetVersion()  
    ' Lowbyte is derived by masking off high byte.  
    lowbyte$ = Str$(i% And &HFF)  
    ' Highbyte is derived by masking off low byte and shifting.  
    highbyte$ = LTrim$(Str$((i% And &HFF00) / 256))  
    ' Assign Windows version to text property.  
    text1.text = lowbyte$ + "." + highbyte$  
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgWindow EnvntRun

**PRB: Device Unavailable Msg When Change Path & Drive Door Open**  
**Article ID: Q80645**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

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Changing the Path property of a directory list box or a file list box to a floppy drive that has an open drive door or no disk present results in the following error:

Error: 68 Device unavailable

Rather than giving this more expected error:

Error: 71 Disk not ready

This occurs whether you run the program in the VB.EXE environment or as an .EXE file.

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following definitions for errors 68 and 71 can be found in the Visual Basic online Help:

Error 68 Device Unavailable

-----

The device you are trying to access is not online or does not exist.

Error 71 Disk Not Ready

-----

There is no disk in the drive specified, or the drive door is open. Insert a disk in the drive, close the door, and retry the operation.

Attempting to open a file on a drive that has an open door or missing disk generates Error 71, "Disk Not Ready."

Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Start Visual basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Create the following controls on Form1:

Control	Control Name
Drive list box	Drive1
File list box	File1

3. Add the following code to the Drive1\_Change event procedure:

```
Sub Drive1_Change ()
    On Error GoTo Trap
    File1.path = drive1.drive
    Exit Sub
Trap:
    MsgBox "Error:"+Str$(Err)+" "+Error$(Err)
    Resume Next
End Sub
```

4. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program.

Changing the drive in the drive list box to a drive that is open or that contains no disk causes a message box to display:

Error: 68 Device unavailable

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## How to Emulate Overtyping Mode in a Visual Basic Text Box

Article ID: Q96210

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Although Visual Basic text boxes do not support an Overtyping (replace) mode where the text you type replaces the text already there, you can write code to support it. The example below demonstrates one method for implementing an overtyping mode in a Visual Basic text box.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows text box controls default to Insert mode, inserting the text you type rather than replacing what is already there. To emulate the Overtyping mode, you need to add code to the KeyPress and KeyDown events for a text box. The following is an example.

#### Steps to Create Example Program

---

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Add one text box to Form1 named Text1.

3. Add one label box to Form1 named Label1.

4. Enter the following code in the Form1 General section:

```
Dim insert As Integer    'Insert flag
```

4. Enter the following code in the Form1 Load procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()  
    insert = False        'initialize insert flag  
    label1.Caption = "Insert"  
End Sub
```

3. Enter the following code in the Text1 KeyPress procedure:

```
Sub Text1_KeyPress (keyascii As Integer)  
    If keyascii <> 8 Then                'if keyascii not Backspace  
        If insert Then                  'check insert flag  
            string1$ = text1.Text  
            pos% = text1.SelStart + 1    'get cursor position  
            If (pos% > Len(string1$)) Then 'if cursor is at the end then  
                'append keystroke to end
```



```

        string1$ = text1.Text + Chr$(keyascii)
    Else
        'else place keystroke in
        'correct position in text
        Mid(string1$, pos&, 1) = Chr$(keyascii)
    End If
    text1.Text = string1$
    text1.SelStart = pos&
    keyascii = 0
End If
End If
End Sub

```

4. Enter the following code in the Text1\_KeyDown procedure:

```

Sub Text1_KeyDown (keycode As Integer, Shift As Integer)
    If keycode = 45 Then    'If the insert key was pressed
        insert = Not insert    'toggle insert flag
        If insert Then
            label1.Caption = "Overwrite"
        Else
            label1.Caption = "Insert"
        End If
    End If
End Sub

```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program. When you click Insert, the Label1 label shows the current mode of the Text1 text box.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 overtyping typeover replace

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## How to Right Align Numbers Using Format\$

Article ID: Q95945

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Use the following two-step process to right align numbers using the Format\$ function:

1. Format the number into a string by using the usual numeric conversion characters (0 # . ,).
2. Format the resulting string by using a format string consisting of a number of @ characters equal to the length of the format string used in step 1.

The following example Sub procedure formats several numbers using the seven character formats \$##0.00 and @@@@@"@:

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Print "|" + Format$(Format$(1.5, "$##0.00"), "@@@@@@") + "|"
    Print "|" + Format$(Format$(12.5, "$##0.00"), "@@@@@@") + "|"
    Print "|" + Format$(Format$(123.5, "$##0.00"), "@@@@@@") + "|"
End Sub
```

Here is the output:

```
| $1.50|
| $12.50|
|$123.50|
```

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

You can automatically generate the @ format string by using Len and String\$ as in this example:

```
Function rFormat (value As Variant, fmt As String) As Variant
    rFormat = Format(Format(value, fmt), String$(Len(fmt), "@"))
End Function
```

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 justify right-justify

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## Programming a Delay Using the Timer Function

Article ID: Q96069

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
  - Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for MS-DOS, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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You can delay execution of your code for a specific time interval by using the Timer function.

With Visual Basic for MS-DOS, you cannot use the SLEEP statement to do this while forms are showing. An attempt to do so causes this error:

Invalid when forms are showing.

To use the Timer function to pause for a number of seconds, store the value of Timer in a variable. Then use a loop to wait until the Timer returns a specified number of seconds greater than the stored value. If the delay loop will execute when midnight passes, compensate by reducing the starting Timer value by the number of seconds in a day (24 hours \* 60 minutes \* 60 seconds). Calling DoEvents from within the loop allows events to be processed during the delay.

### MORE INFORMATION

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#### Code Example

-----

```
Sub Form_Click ()
    Print "hello ";
    Call Pause(2) ' delay for 2 seconds
    Print "world"
End Sub

Sub Pause (ByVal nSecond As Single)
    Dim t0 As Single
    t0 = Timer
    Do While Timer - t0 < nSecond
        Dim dummy As Integer
        dummy = DoEvents()
        ' if we cross midnight, back up one day
        If Timer < t0 Then
            t0 = t0 - 24 * 60 * 60
        End If
    Loop
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: B\_VBasic B\_VBMSDOS 1.00 2.00 3.00 wait  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: EnvRun

## **'Error in loading DLL' When LIBRARY Name Not Same as Filename**

**Article ID: Q98309**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The "Error in loading DLL" error message will occur if you call a DLL and the LIBRARY name of the DLL is different from the filename. This is by design. Visual Basic ensures that the LIBRARY name and filename of a DLL match. If they don't match, Visual Basic generates the "Error in loading DLL" error.

Visual Basic 3.0 does not require that the LIBRARY name and the filename be the same for a DLL. However, unless you are designing a DLL specifically to be called from Visual Basic 3.0 or some other application not written using Visual Basic, we recommend that you use the same name for both the LIBRARY name and filename of a DLL.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

When creating a Windows DLL, you must specify the LIBRARY name of the DLL in the module-definition (.DEF) file for the DLL. In order to call any procedure contained within the DLL from Visual Basic, the LIBRARY name given in the module-definition file must be the same as the filename for the DLL.

### Steps to Reproduce the Error Message

-----

Perform the following steps to build a DLL that will lead to a "Error in loading DLL" error when called from Visual Basic. To build the following application, you will need to use a C compiler capable of creating Windows Dynamic Link Libraries (DLLs).

1. Create a C source code file that contains the following code and save the file as TEST.C.

```
#include <windows.h>
```

```
VOID FAR PASCAL test ( VOID );
```

```
VOID FAR PASCAL test ( VOID )
```

```
{
```

```
    //The contents of any procedure in the DLL is not important
```

```
    //Define this procedure to be called from Visual Basic
```

```
    return;
```

```
}
```

```

//-----
// Initialize library. This routine is called when the first
// client loads
// the DLL.
//-----
int FAR PASCAL LibMain
(
    HANDLE hModule,
    WORD   wDataSeg,
    WORD   cbHeapSize,
    LPSTR  lpszCmdLine
)
{
    // Avoid warnings on unused (but required) formal parameters
    wDataSeg = wDataSeg;
    cbHeapSize = cbHeapSize;
    lpszCmdLine = lpszCmdLine;

    return 1;
}

//-----
// WEP
//-----
int FAR PASCAL WEP(int fSystemExit);

//-----
// Performs cleanup tasks when the DLL is unloaded. WEP() is
// called automatically by Windows when the DLL is unloaded (no
// remaining tasks still have the DLL loaded). It is strongly
// recommended that a DLL have a WEP() function, even if it does
// nothing but returns success (1), as in this example.
//-----
int FAR PASCAL WEP
(
    int fSystemExit
)
{
    // Avoid warnings on unused (but required) formal parameters
    fSystemExit = fSystemExit;

    return 1;
}

```

2. Create a module-definition file (DEF) file that contains the following code and save the file as TEST.DEF.

```

LIBRARY DIFFNAME

DESCRIPTION 'Sample DLL where LIBRARY name != filename'

EXETYPE WINDOWS

CODE PRELOAD MOVEABLE DISCARDABLE
DATA PRELOAD SINGLE MOVEABLE

EXPORTS

```

```
WEP @1 RESIDENTNAME
TEST @2
```

3. Compile TEST.C from the command line as follows:

```
CL /c /ASw /W3 TEST.C
```

4. Link the resulting TEST.OBJ file as follows:

```
LINK /NOE /NOD TEST.OBJ+LIBENTRY.OBJ,TEST.DLL,,LIBW+SDLLCEW,TEST.DEF;
```

5. Copy TEST.DLL to the Windows directory.

6. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

7. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
Declare Sub Test Lib "TEST.DLL" ()
```

8. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Call TEST
End Sub
```

9. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press the F5 key to run the program.

Execution will break on the Call statement in the Form\_Load event, and you will receive the error "Error in loading DLL."

To avoid this error, change the LIBRARY name in TEST.DEF, under step 2, from DIFFNAME to TEST. Then do step 4 to link in the new module-definition file. Follow steps 5 through 8 again and you should no longer see the "Error in loading DLL" error message.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun

**PRB: Some ATI Video Drivers Hang When Using MSOUTLIN.VBX**  
**Article ID: Q100194**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

If you use an OutLine control in a Visual Basic project and you are using an ATI Mach 32 video driver this could cause your computer to hang (stop responding to input).

CAUSE

=====

This is a problem with the ATI video driver not a problem with Visual Basic. The m32-86.drv and Mach32.drv drivers have been reported to cause this problem.

RESOLUTION

=====

An updated driver may solve the problem. To contact ATI Technologies concerning an updated driver call the following number.

ATI Technologies Inc. (416) 756-0711 ATI technical support

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: EnvRun PrgCtrlsCus



## Why Cooper Software Is Listed in Visual Basic's Copyright

Article ID: Q72747

---

The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0 and 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Microsoft Visual Basic copyright notice acknowledges Cooper Software in both the sign-on dialog box and in the About dialog box from the Help menu. Visual Basic uses technology from a forms engine purchased from Cooper Software. The acknowledgment in Visual Basic is part of the contract between Microsoft and Cooper Software.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsThird

**Technical Data Sheets Available for Visual Basic for Windows**  
**Article ID: Q77906**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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You can obtain detailed sales literature in the United States by calling Microsoft End User Sales at (800) 426-9400. Ask for the Visual Basic for Windows package or the Visual Basic for MS-DOS package.

Outside of the United States, you can obtain these data sheets by contacting your local Microsoft subsidiary or dealer.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsPSS

## Visual Basic Online Help Example Errors

Article ID: Q78772

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0  
-----

### SYMPTOMS

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There are several code examples in Visual Basic version 1.0's online Help that do not behave as expected if actually copied and run. The corresponding examples in the "Visual Basic: Language Reference" manual contain the same errors.

### STATUS

=====

These problems do not exist in later versions of Visual Basic for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Under the topic "ActiveControl, Active Form Properties," the second example demonstrating these properties contains an omission of the Clipboard object. When copied and run as is, the error message "Method Not Applicable For This Object" will be displayed.

The ActiveControl example contains the line in the EditCut\_Click event procedure for the menu item:

```
SetText Screen.ActiveControl.SelText
```

This should be changed to read:

```
Clipboard.SetText Screen.ActiveControl.SelText
```

Under the topic titled "Fonts Property," the example shows setting the FontName = "". This will cause a run time error "Invalid Property Value".

The example will also fail when attempting to select a printer FontName as the screen FontName where no associated screen font exists under Windows. For example, when the printer LinePrinter font is selected for the screen, an error will occur because the screen does not support this font. The examples for the topics "FontName Property" and "FontCount Property" if modified as suggested in the online Help to print the available printer fonts to the screen will fail for the same reason.

The example for the Fonts Property follows:

```
'Fonts Property Example
```

```

Sub Form_Click ()

    Static X%          ' A static variable.
    AutoRedraw = -1 ' Keep screen text.
    If X% = Printer.FontCount Then ' Check for last font.
        X% = 0 ' Set X%.
        Print ' Print blank line.
        FontName = "" ' Reset to default font.
    End If
    If X% = 0 Then Print "Printer Fonts" ' Print header.
    FontName = Printer.Fonts(X%) ' Set FontName.
    Print X%; "This is " + FontName + " font" ' Print message.
    X% = X% + 1 ' Set X%.

End Sub

```

As stated above, this fails in two ways. The line resetting the FontName property is syntactically incorrect. Also, the logic may fail because of no corresponding screen font for the printer font.

Modifying the example to address both problems requires an On Error trap routine and saving the values of FontName, FontBold, and FontSize explicitly. The following example works properly.

```

'Fonts Property Example
Sub Form_Click ()
    On Error GoTo errHandler
    Static x% ' A static variable.
    Static savename$, savebold%, savesize' <<< added this!!

    AutoRedraw = -1 ' Keep screen text.
    If x% = Printer.fontcount Then ' Check for last font.
        x% = 0 ' Set X%.
        FontName = savename$ ' <<<add this! Reset to default font.
        Fontsize = savesize ' and this
        Fontbold = savebold% ' and this
        Print ' Print blank line.
    End If
    If x% = 0 Then
        Print "Printer Fonts" ' Print header.
        savename$ = FontName ' save all these
        savebold% = Fontbold ' to original settings
        savesize = Fontsize ' now
    End If
    FontName = Printer.Fonts(x%) ' Set FontName.
    Print x%; "This is " + FontName + " font" ' Print message.

ExitSub:
    x% = x% + 1 ' Set X%.

Exit Sub

errHandler:

    Print x%; "This is " + Printer.Fonts(x%) + " name"
    Resume ExitSub:

```

End Sub

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsDoc

**List of Visual Basic Companion Products and Services Available**  
**Article ID: Q78962**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

A file is available that lists Visual Basic companion products and services available as of March 15, 1992. This file can be found in the Software/Data Library by searching on the word VBADDONS, the Q number of this article, or S13242. VBADDONS was archived using the PKware file-compression utility.

The VBADDONS file ("Visual Basic Companion Products and Services") contains the following sections:

- Custom controls and .DLLs
- Data access/connectivity
- Graphics utilities and clip-art
- Publications and services
- Trademarks
- Where to send additions or corrections

Additional reference words: 1.00 third-party add-on

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsThird

**LONG: Visual Basic Companion Products & Services (Complete)**  
**Article ID: Q78963**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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This article lists Visual Basic for Windows companion products and services as of July 9, 1992.

MORE INFORMATION

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This list of Companion Products and Services is organized by topic and including frequently requested items such as report writers and Windows help file authoring tools. All products that offer custom controls are highlighted so you can find them more easily. Here are the sections:

- Custom Controls and .DLLs
- Data Access
- Report Writers
- LAN\Host Connectivity and Communications
- Pen\Multimedia
- Visual Basic Libraries and Tools
- Windows Programming Tools and Utilities
- Help File authoring tools
- Graphics Utilities and Clip-Art
- Publications and Training

=====

CUSTOM CONTROLS AND .DLLS

=====

ADDE

17, Rue Louise Michel

92301 Levallois-Perret, France

Contact: Xavier Ledur +33-1-47-58-78-41

Map Custom Control -- a window in which one or more overlapped geographical maps (cities, countries, networks) are displayed. Zooming and positioning functions are integrated in the control. The control can load maps from "Cartes et Bases Windows," an existing Microsoft Windows graphical environment map package. Sample maps from ADDE catalog come with it.

-----

Autodesk, Inc.

2320 Marinship Way

Sausalito, CA 94965

Contact: (415) 332-2344

Fax: (415) 331-8093

Autodesk Animation Player for Visual Basic -- dynamic link library that

provides Visual Basic users with easy to use animation functionality to add to Windows applications. The control plays industry-standard FLI and FLC animations from hard disks or CD-ROMs.

---

Crescent Software, Inc.

11 Bailey Ave  
Ridgefield, CT 06877 USA  
Contact: Don Malin (203) 438-5300  
Fax: (203) 431-4626

QuickPak Professional for Windows -- contains custom controls and a general purpose set of utilities for use with Microsoft Visual Basic programming system. QuickPak Professional for Windows provides routines for quickly sorting and searching data, performing fast file operations, expression evaluation, and other useful tasks.

---

Desaware

5 Town & Country Village #790  
San Jose, CA 95128  
Contact: Gabriel Appleman (213) 943-3305

Custom Control Factory -- an interactive development tool for creating custom controls including Animated Pushbuttons, Multistate Buttons, enhanced buttons, checkbox and option button controls for Windows applications.

CCF-Cursors -- provides you with complete control over cursors (mouse pointers) in Visual Basic applications. Create your own cursors or convert icons to cursors, and much more. Includes over 50 cursors.

---

FarPoint Technologies, Inc.

P.O Box 309 75 Walnut Street  
Richmond, OH 43944-0309  
Contact: (614) 765-4333  
Fax: (614) 765-4939

Visual Architect for Visual Basic -- Custom controls and other tools for creating advanced applications, including a complete spreadsheet control.

---

INSYS

268 Rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine  
75012 Paris, France  
Contact: M. Quentin +33-1-40-04-6-36

Insys Classes -- a collection of Visual Basic custom controls for business oriented computing and communications applications, including: structured text fields (numeric, alphanumeric, masked input), hierarchical list boxes, structured list boxes, date/time management controls with spin buttons, CPIC control, and a simple spreadsheet control.

---

MicroHelp, Inc.

4359 Shallowford Industrial Parkway  
Marietta, GA 30066  
Contact: Mark Novisoff (404) 516-0899  
Fax: (404) 516-1099

VB Tools 2.0 -- designed to add "pizazz" to Visual Basic programs. It includes over 30 custom controls such as a grid, MDI child windows, 256 color control, and icon tag: also information on how to use Windows API services, ASM routines, utility modules, a program providing \$INCLUDE capabilities, and much more.

MicroHelp Muscle -- libraries to include in Visual Basic applications.

---



OutRider Systems

P.O. Box 271669

Houston, TX 77277-1669

Contact: Jim Nech (713) 521-0486

ButtonTool -- custom control that enables developers to create many new button types and styles using bitmaps, icons, and metafiles as backgrounds.

Edit Tool -- custom control mask for a custom edit box that formats date, time, dollar, and numerical data.

-----  
Pinnacle Publishing

P.O. Box 8099

Federal Way, WA 98003

Contact: David Johnson (800) 231-1293 or (206) 941-2300

Graphics Server for Visual Basic -- custom control for integrating graphing and charting capabilities into Visual Basic applications. It includes pie charts, bar charts and a variety of other graphs in 2D or 3D.

-----  
Sheridan Software Systems, Inc.

65 Maxess Road

Melville, NY 11747

Contact: Joseph Modica (516) 753-0985

Fax (516) 293-4155

VB Extenders -- 3-D Widgets (Versions 1, 2, and 3) are collections of custom controls that support three-dimensional text boxes and controls on Visual Basic forms. It includes standard set of six, plus controls for more advanced functionality such as list boxes and menu options.

-----  
Software Paths Ltd.

Clonmel House, 17 Harcourt Street

Dublin 2, Ireland

Contact: 010 353 1 780039

Fax : 010 353 1 780142

Data Validation Control -- offers automatic data-validation for text, integer, floating point, date, time and currency values. Text validation uses regular expressions, allowing complex pattern matching to be provided automatically. Time, date and currency validation use the international settings from WIN.INI or may be specified by the programmer.

-----  
TeraTech

3 Choke Cherry Road, Suite 360

Rockville, MD 20850

Contact: (800) 447-9120 Ext: 12 Fax: (301) 963-0436

Dazzle/VB -- custom control that displays realistic images in Visual Basic (256 color) with Dazzle's special effects (wipe, fade); or zoom or adjust colors. Also available in a professional version with true grey scale support, on the fly compression, color support, and palette control.

Creating Visual Basic Custom Controls and .DLLs -- programmers can create Dynamic Link Libraries (DLLs) that are callable from Visual Basic using any of the following language tools. The .DLL must use Pascal calling conventions (the standard for Microsoft Windows). Custom controls are created with the Control Development Kit.

Microsoft C/C++ 7.0

Microsoft FORTRAN 5.1

Microsoft Quick C for Windows

Borland C++

Zortech C++

Microsoft Macro Assembler 6.0

Microsoft COBOL 4.5

Borland Turbo Pascal for Windows

Watcom C

=====  
Data Access  
=====

Aaerdeus, Inc.  
302 College Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
Contact: Randy Burns (415) 325-7529  
SQL Express -- dynamic link library and set of sample programs that allow  
Microsoft SQL Server to be used with Microsoft Visual Basic.

-----

Abacus Accounting Systems Inc.  
P.O. Box 3835  
Postal Station "D"  
Edmonton, AB T5L 4K1 10335-172 Street, Suite 208, Edmonton,  
AB T5S 1K9 Canada  
Contact: Tom Dawson (403) 489-5994  
Fax: (403) 486-4335  
vxBase -- DLL that allows Visual Basic programmers to create xBASE  
applications for Windows in hours. It's all in the functions: vxAppendBlank  
through vxZap -- 86 functions in all. Browse object supports user-definable  
tables, on-screen editing, and visual relationships. Available as shareware  
on MSBASIC forum on CompuServe or directly from Comsoft.

-----

Akros, Inc.  
115 N. Center Street, Ste. 204  
Northville, MI 48167  
Contact: (313) 347-3556  
Fax: (313) 347-3765  
VBPX -- provides a seamless interface between Visual Basic and the Borland  
Paradox Engine. Contains over 50 functions in a single DLL for single and  
multi-user support, sample application (with source code) and is runtime  
and royalty free. Provides cost-effective application development.

-----

AJS  
PO Box 83220  
Los Angeles, CA 90083  
Contact: Jim Taylor (800) 992-3383 or (310) 215-9145  
Visual/db -- Visual Basic developers can access dBase-compatible data and  
index files using the Visual/db Source Document Relational Database  
Management System. This is a standalone, single user, DBMS engine that  
includes VB source code for creating stand alone applications.

-----

Apex Software Corporation  
4516 Henry Street, Suite 401  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
Tel. (412) 681-4343  
Contact: Richard F. DiGiovani (818) 594-7293  
Agility/VB -- a database developer's tool for Visual Basic based on Apex's  
powerful Apex Database Library. It is provided as a set of DLL functions  
callable from Visual Basic programs, which the programmer defines and  
relates to each other using a graphical View Editor. Provides complete  
access to dBASE IV compatible files.

-----

Blue Rose Software  
Box 29574 Atlanta, GA 30359-0574  
Contact: Richard Denton (404) 717-1225

DATABasic -- a B-tree database engine for use with Visual Basic featuring speed, flexibility, small libraries, ease of maintenance, and rapid software development. It provides an integrated development environment. DATABasic eliminates an entire class of programming bugs -- synchronization bugs between code and databases. (Includes source code at no extra charge.)

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Borland International  
1800 Green Hill Rd  
Scotts Valley, CA 95067  
Contact: 408-439-1639

Paradox Engine Version 2.0 -- includes DLL for developing Windows applications. You can create, read, and write Paradox tables, records, and fields. Supports multi-user database functions such as multi-user file locking, record locking, and password protection. Applications created with the Paradox engine ship run time and royalty free.

---

Channel Computing, Inc.  
53 Main Street  
Newmarket, NH 03857

Contact: Max Klein (603) 659-2832

Forest & Trees -- a Data Access and Reporting Tool that lets Visual Basic system users build an "electronic dashboard" to collect, combine, and automatically monitor information from a wide range of spreadsheets, database files and database servers.

---

Copia International  
1342 Avalon Court  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Contact: Dorothy Gaden (708) 682-8898

AccSys for Paradox -- with the Microsoft Visual Basic, it provides the programmer with total control over Paradox table files, primary and secondary index files. Developers can create, read, write, modify, and update Paradox files without having to control the internal file format.

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Coromandel  
70-15 Austin Street, Third Floor  
Forest Hills, NY 11375  
Contact: Narayan Laksham, Director of Marketing, (800) 535-3267, (718) 793-7963  
Fax (718) 973-9710

ObjectTrieve for Visual Basic -- an ISAM DLL for Microsoft Windows and Visual Basic. It is capable of storing and retrieving binary large objects (BLOBS) such as scanned images, video, documents, bitmaps, etc. It includes Visual Basic declarations and sample code.

DbControls -- database custom controls for Visual Basic. Build database applications without writing any code. Uses ObjectTrieve's database engine, with support for binary large objects (BLOBS), multiple variable-length fields in the same record, unlimited number of indexes, and non-contiguous multi-key parts.

DbControls for dBASE -- database custom controls for Visual Basic. Read and write dBASE III files without writing any code. Create new dBASE files from your Visual Basic Applications.

DbControls for Btrieve -- database custom controls for Visual Basic. Read and write Btrieve files without writing any code.

Integra SQL -- complements and extends the Visual Basic system by providing high-performance relational database functionality, including building, querying, updating and reporting of facilities.

-----  
DatTel Communications Systems, Inc.  
3508 Market Street, Suite 415  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Contact: Ravi Gururaj (215) 564-5577

DataLIB -- dynamic link library (DLL) that allows Visual Basic programmers to read and write Excel, Lotus 1-2-3, dBASE, and DIF, SYLK and ASCII files. Includes all Visual Basic declarations and sample application.

-----  
Daytris Inc.

81 Bright Street, Suite 1E  
Jersey City, NJ 07302

Contact: Todd C. Fearn (201) 200-0018

CDB for Windows -- sophisticated database toolkit for Windows developers offering multi-user ISAM functionality, relational and network data models, client server implementations, portability to MS-DOS and UNIX platforms, and royalty free distribution of object files.

-----  
ETN Corporation

RD4 Box 659

Montoursville, PA 17754-9433

Contact: Wynne Yoder (717) 435-2202

PowerLibW -- library (DLL) of over 90 functions and a DBMS server that provides dBase-compatible I/O that the Microsoft Visual Basic programmer may access. Supports expressions, filters, indexes, memos, relations, and multiple database access.

Top D.B.A. -- utility for creating and modifying files (and accessing data) used in the program development/testing phase of Visual Basic application production via compatible DDE capabilities.

-----  
Gupta Technologies

1040 Marsh Road

Menlo Park, CA 94025

Contact: (415) 321-9500

SQLBase Server -- multi-user SQL database engine that supports crash recovery, password protection, on-line backup, and remote monitoring. Gupta has DLLs that provide access to the server from Visual Basic client apps.

-----  
MDBS

PO BOX 6089

Lafayette, IN 47903

Fax: (317) 448 6428

Contact: Gary Rush (317) 447-1122

MDBS VI -- ISAM engine for Windows that has a Visual Basic interface for creating sophisticated, powerful, Windows database applications. Includes a Visual Basic global module and documentation for using Visual Basic with MDBS VI.

-----  
Microsoft Corporation

One Microsoft Way

Redmond, WA 98027

Contact: Microsoft Inside Sales (800) 227-4679

Microsoft Visual Basic Library for SQL Server -- write Visual Basic applications for Microsoft SQL Server using this library.

-----  
Natural Language, Inc.

2910 Seventh Street

Berkeley, California 94710

Contact: Mark Foster, (510) 849-8244 Paul Ricci, VP

Marketing (510) 849-8217

Fax: (510) 841-3628

Natural Language -- dynamic link library (DLL) that translates English queries into SQL. Allows Visual Basic programmers to provide their users with English-language interfaces to SQL databases.

---

Novell, Inc.

5918 West Courtyard Drive

Austin, TX 78732

Contact: Mary K. Ellsworth (512) 794-1488

Btrieve for Windows Developer's Kit -- a complete toolkit that enables Visual Basic developers to write applications with Btrieve, Novell's key-indexed record manager.

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Outrider Systems, Inc.

P.O. Box 271669

Houston, TX 77277-1669

Contact: Jim Nech (713) 521-0486

vBaseTool -- database engine that supports xBase III compatible data, index, and memo fields.

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Pioneer Software

5540 Centerview Drive, Suite 324

Raleigh, North Carolina 27608

Contact: Sales: (800) 876-3101 or (919) 859-2220 Richard

Holcomb, VP of marketing

Q+E Database Library -- collection of DLLs that support access to database resident information from Visual Basic applications. API supports development of low memory usage, high performance, database-independent Visual Basic applications. Connect to SQL databases from Oracle, Sybase, Ingres, SQL Server, Microsoft, and Novell. Connect to DB2. Connect to Paradox, dBASE, Btrieve, Excel XLS and ASCII text files.

Q+E Database/VB -- custom controls for Visual Basic allow you to create full-featured, multi-user database applications without writing any code. dBASE-compatible format supports record locking. Pictures and bitmaps can be stored directly in the database. Complete database creation and maintenance utility included.

---

PowerFlex Corp

Victoria, Australia

Contact: (03) 882 7599

PFX C-Lib -- finely-crafted DLL that allows you to access the data in your current POWERFlex or Dataflex file from Visual Basic.

---

Quadbase Systems, Inc.

790 Lucerne Drive, Suite 51

Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Fax: (408) 738-6980

Contact: Fred Luk (408) 738-6989

Quadbase-SQL for Windows -- a DLL (dynamic link library) that is a full-featured, compact, and high performance relational database engine for Visual Basic programmers to build single and/or multi-user applications that require advanced database features and industry standard SQL. The system can directly access dBase IV, Lotus 123, Foxpro index, and Clipper index files.

-----  
Raima Corporation  
3245 146th Place S.E., Suite 230  
Bellevue, WA 98007  
Contact: (206) 747-5570

Marketing contact: Bill Pieser  
db\_VISTA III Database Management System -- combines both relational  
and network model database technologies for high-performance Visual  
Basic application development. API can be easily called from Visual  
Basic for database application development. Sample application in  
Visual Basic available upon request.  
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SQLSoft  
10635 N.E. 38th Place, Bldg. 24, Suite B  
Kirkland, WA 98942  
Contact: James O'Farrell (206) 822-1287  
VBOAS Design Kit V1.0 (Visual Basic Object Access for SQL Server) --  
provides production application developers with high level Visual  
Basic object access to Microsoft/Sybase SQL Server. In just a few lines of  
Visual Basic code, you can connect to SQL Server, load data into Visual  
Basic objects and execute TransAct SQL statements. Extensive, on-line  
Windows help documents the usage of SQLVB Design Kit V1.0.  
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Sequiter Software Inc.  
#209, 9644-54 Ave.  
Edmonton, AB, Canada T6E 5V1  
Tel. (403) 437-2410, Fax (403) 436-2999,  
Europe Tel. +33.20.24.20.14, Europe fax +33.20.24.20.90  
Contact: Ben Krueger (403) 437-2410  
CodeBase 4.5 -- complete multi-user, multi-platform library for database  
management. Compatible with dBASE IV/III, Clipper, and FoxPro 2.0 data,  
index and memo files. Includes a Windows DLL for Visual Basic and on-line  
documentation with Visual Basic declarations and examples.  
-----

Software Source  
42808 Christy St. Ste 222  
Fremont, CA 94538  
Fax (415) 651-6039  
Contact: Sam Cohen (415) 623-7854  
VB/ISAM -- extends Visual Basic with a set of simple functions to read and  
write data file records by alphanumeric key. Capabilities include field-  
structured (Get and Put) or unstructured access, read next, previous, or  
approximate record, variable-length records and keys, and very large  
records (up to 32KB) and files (up to 512MB).  
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TechGnosis, Inc.  
One Park Place  
621 N.W. 53rd Street, Suite 340  
Boca Raton, FL 33487  
Contact: Keith Toleman (407) 997-6687  
SequeLink -- client-server data access for Visual Basic system. Provides  
access to OS/2, UNIX, VAX/VMS, and AS400 servers. Supported databases  
include Oracle, Sybase, Ingres, SQL Server, DBM, RDB, and SQL 400.  
-----

Unelko Corporation  
7428 E. Caren Drive  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260

Contact: Tony Pitman (602) 991-7272

Fax: (602) 483-7674

Bridgit -- dynamic link library that contains functions to allow full access to dBase III files, indexes, and memos. Two versions will be available: one for dBase III and the other for Clipper index files.

---

#### XDB Systems

14700 Sweitzer Lane

Laurel, MD 20707

Contact: (800) 488-4948

Fax: (301) 317-7701

XDB -- DLL gives serious SQL power in Windows. It provides 100% of IBM's DB2 SQL on your PC. Provides advanced SQL functionality such as dynamic SQL, cascading referential integrity, concurrency control, transaction processing, backup, recovery, and data security. Also supports DDE.

=====

#### REPORT WRITERS

=====

#### Crystal Services

1050 West Pender Street, Ste 2200

Vancouver, B.C. V6E357

Contact: Greg Kerfoot 604-681-3425

Quick Reports For Windows -- a Windows report writer that can access data from dBase, Paradox and Btrieve databases. The product is a WYSIWYG report designer that allows user to pick fields from their databases and place them on a report and print this report to a window or printer.

---

#### Zen Software, Inc.

72 Bart Road

Monroe, CT 05468

Contact: Harlan Cooper (203) 268-6015

Excel Reporter -- Windows-based report writer. Allows developers and end users to produce reports, forms and mailing labels from the data stored in database files. Can be used as a standalone or called from within a Visual Basic program via DDE.

=====

#### LAN/HOST CONNECTIVITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

=====

#### Attachmate

13231 S.E. 36th Street

Bellevue, WA 98006

Contact: Posy Gering or Mike New (800) 426-6283

Extra for Windows 3.2 -- gives Visual Basic developers access to IBM mainframes. Programs can be written to automatically integrate mainframe information with PC applications using DDE, DLL calls, and Visual Basic custom controls.

---

#### CNA Computer Systems Engineering, Inc.

P.O. Box 70248

Bellevue, WA 98007

Contact: John Evans (206) 861-4736

ConnX -- connectivity tool allowing record level communication between Visual Basic applications and indexed or sequential VAX RMS files while supporting user and file level security.

---

Crescent Software, Inc.

11 Bailey Ave

Ridgefield, CT 06877 USA

Contact: Don Malin (203) 438-5300 Fax: (203) 431-4626

PDQComm for Windows -- complete collection of routines that make it easy to add communications capabilities to programs written in Visual Basic.

---

Digital Communications Associates, Inc.

1000 Alderman Drive

Alpharetta, GA 30202-4199

Contact: Margaret Owens (404) 442-4521

IRMA Workstation for Windows' (IWW) Standard IRMA Scripting Language and the Crosstalk products' Crosstalk Application Scripting Language (CASL) -- enable developers to write scripts that transfer information to and from mainframes or information services using Microsoft Visual Basic applications through dynamic data exchange (DDE). Supports XModem and ZModem transfer protocols.

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Distinct Corporation

P.O. Box 3410

Saratoga, CA 95070-1410

Contact: Chris Apap-Bologna (408) 741-0781

Distinct TCP/IP Software Development Kit Berkeley Sockets, RPC/XDR and NFS toolkit for the Microsoft Windows environment -- includes Visual Basic declarations. Allows developers to write custom TCP/IP network applications or distributed applications for Windows. Accessed using a DLL.

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Dome Software Corporation

655 West Carmel Drive, Suite 151

Carmel, IN 46032

Fax: 317-573-8109

Contact: Ken Jones (317) 573-8100

Parley -- client server product that provides access to VAX or mainframe data. It provides a network independent communication layer that fully integrates a Visual Basic application into a variety of corporate data sources (SQL and non-SQL sources).

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The Frustum Group, Inc.

122 East 42nd Street, Suite 1700

New York, NY 10168

Contact: Chris Davis (212) 984-0760 or (800) 548-5660

Fax: (212) 687-8119

TransPortal PRO -- data-exchange toolkit that integrates Visual Basic applications with on-line host applications (3270, 5250, or VT100). DLL can be used to read from, write to, and send keystrokes directly to host application. Includes Visual Basic declarations.

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FutureSoft

1001 South Dairy Ashford, Suite 203

Houston, TX 77077

Contact: Teri Taylor (713) 496-9400

DynaComm -- with each DynaComm product, Visual Basic system users will be able to visually link their applications to DynaComm using DynaComm custom controls. Planned to support IBM, HP, NEC, and Data General mainframes.

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Groupe Bull

7, Rue Ampere



91343 Massy, France

Phone: +33-1-69-93-90-90

Affinity-Visual -- fully integrates the Microsoft Visual Basic system with Bull's Affinity product. Affinity-Visual provides full Windows graphical display services to existing host applications throughout Bull environments.

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JSB Corporation

108 Whispering Pines Drive, Suite 115

Scotts Valley, CA 95066

Contact: (408) 438-8300

Fax: (408) 438-8360

JSB MutiView Desktop PC to Unix integration product -- supports DDE links between Visual Basic and existing remote UNIX applications. Additionally, it provides custom controls that provide communications links to UNIX applications to allow Visual Basic programs to be clients of UNIX systems.

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Microcom Inc.

55 Federal Road

Danbury, CT 06810

Contact: (800) 822-8224 or Howard Luxenberg (203) 730-4378

MicroCourier -- complete communication package for Windows for under \$100. Includes sample applications written in Visual Basic with full source code.

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MicroHelp, Inc.

4359 Shallowford Industrial Parkway

Marietta, GA 30066

Contact: Mark Novisoff (404) 516-0899

Fax: (404) 516-1099

MicroHelp Communications Library -- communications routines for Visual Basic invoked exactly like SubPrograms and Functions, including automatic file transfer routines using XModem, XModem CRC, YModem, YModem-Batch, ZModem, CompuServe B, and ASCII transfers.

MicroHelp Network Library -- access to network interface routines. Supports Novell, Lantastic, and NETBios compatible networks.

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Microsoft Corporation

One Microsoft Way

Redmond, WA 98027

Contact: Microsoft Inside Sales (800) 227-4679

Microsoft LAN Manager Toolkit for Visual Basic -- tools to customize a LAN Manager-based network using Microsoft Visual Basic. Includes a graphing facility for displaying performance information and other system stats. Sample utilities for common network management and diagnostic applications.

---

NetManage, Inc.

20823 Stevens Creek Blvd., Suite 100

Cupertino, CA 95014

Contact: Sales Dept. (408) 973-7171 Dan Geisler

Chameleon TCP/IP for Windows -- TCP/IP application package for Windows. Includes TELNET, FTP, TFTP, SMTP/mail, name services, PING, network management and diagnostics. Implemented as a Windows DLL callable from Visual Basic applications as both client and server.

RPC-SDK: ONC Development Tools -- software development kit for building distributed applications in Windows using Sun ONC RPC/XDR. Windows DLL callable from Visual Basic applications as RPC client and server.

NEWT/SDK -- software development kit for Windows 3.0 TCP/IP communications

protocol. Offers the Visual Basic programmer direct access to the Berkeley 4.3BSD socket interface, FTP and SMTP.

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Rochester Software Connection

4909 Highway 52 North

Rochester, MN 55901

Contact: John Freund, Vice President of Sales & Marketing,

(507) 288-5922, (800) 829-3555

ShowCase WindowLink -- DLL allows you to link Visual Basic applications to IBM AS/400 systems. Includes Visual Basic declarations and sample code.

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Symbiotics

725 Concord Ave

Cambridge, MA 02138

Contact: (800) 989-9174

NetWorks!Connect -- allows you to write programs that talk to each other over a network using the language functions and commands you already know. Fully compatible with Novell NetWare LAN Manager, and Banyan Vines. Also Sun and HP UNIX platforms.

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TechGnosis, Inc.

One Park Place

621 N.W. 53rd Street, Suite 340

Boca Raton, FL 33487

Contact: Keith Toleman (407) 997-6687

SequeLink Engine -- software development toolkit enabling workstation access to host-based data and applications. Extends the functionality of the company's SequeLink client/server architecture by enabling host operating systems, applications, and non-relational DBMSs to act as servers for Windows applications.

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Wall Data Incorporated

17769 N.E. 78th Place

Redmond, WA 98052

Contact: Catherine Rudolph (Marketing Communications) (800) 48-RUMBA

Fax: (206) 885-9250

Rumba Application Development Kit -- complete development environment enables Visual Basic developers to change how users interact with PC and host applications. Includes advanced tools for creating connectivity links. Rumba Tools for DDE and Rumba Tools for EHLLAPI -- enables advanced users to create simplified and transparent connectivity links between PCs and host computers. Rumba Tools for DDE allows Visual Basic applications to exchange data continuously with Rumba using DDE. Also allows Visual Basic applications to exchange data with Rumba using EHLLAPI.

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=====  
PEN/MULIMEDIA  
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New Media Graphics Corporation

780 Boston Road

Billerica, MA 01821-0666

Contact: (800) 288-2207

Fax: (508) 663-6678

SuperVideo Windows -- a full line of video, framegrabbing, and compression boards for desktop multimedia applications on PC and MCA computers using a custom control. Display, capture, or compress full motion, true color video in any Windows 3.x application.

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StylusTech Inc.  
Suite 300, Building 600  
One Kendall Square  
Boston, MA 02139  
Contact: (617) 277-7007  
Fax: (617) 277-8907  
Pen InputMaster -- first of a series of pen-centric extensions to Visual Basic. A multi-featured, combination custom control that supports three methods of data input: entry field, entry field with character guides, and pick list.

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VISUAL BASIC LIBRARIES AND TOOLS

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Crescent Software, Inc.  
11 Bailey Ave  
Ridgefield, CT 06877 USA  
Contact: Don Malin (203) 438-5300 Fax: (203) 431-4626  
QuickPak Professional for Windows -- custom controls and a general purpose set of utilities for use with Visual Basic programming system. QuickPak Professional for Windows provides routines for quickly sorting and searching data, performing fast file operations, expression evaluation, and other useful tasks.

-----  
EMS Professional Shareware  
4505 Buckhurst Ct.  
Olney, MD 20832  
Contact: (301) 924-3594 Fax (301) 963-2708  
Public Domain Files -- file collection of public domain and shareware file collections for Visual Basic programmers. Over 300 applications written in Visual Basic and utilities.

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Hewlett-Packard Company  
19310 Pruneridge Ave.  
M/S 49AW  
Cupertino, CA 95014  
Contact: Inquiry Manager (800) 452-4844  
HP 82335B HP-IB for Windows and MS-DOS -- dynamic link library (DLL) and language interface for creating HP-IB (IEEE 488) instrument control programs for the most popular industry standard test equipment using Visual Basic. The HP-IB interface card is included.

-----  
Kofax Image Products  
3 Jenner Street  
Irvine, CA 92718  
Fax: (714) 727-3144  
Contact: Emily Backus (714) 727-1733  
Kofax Image Processing Platform (KIPP) -- application-development software and controller boards, compatible with the Visual Basic system, that serve as the foundation for creating PC-based document image processing applications and systems.

-----  
MicroHelp, Inc.  
4636 Huntridge Drive  
Roswell, GA 30075-2012  
Contact: Mark Novisoff (404) 594-1185

MicroHelp Muscle -- library for the professional programmer that includes hundreds of assembly language routines and several high-level Visual Basic routines.

VBXRef -- a comprehensive cross reference utility for Visual Basic applications, including reference trees for procedures and variables.

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National Instruments

6504 Bridge Point Parkway

Austin, TX 78730-5039

Contact: Tim Dehne or Holly Matheny (512) 794-0100

NI-488.2 Windows Interface for Visual Basic -- links a Visual Basic application to the NI-488.2 Windows GPIB driver software. System boards for the IEEE 488 interface available as well. Products connect Visual Basic with thousands of industry-standard programmable instruments.

NI-DAQ for Windows -- NI-DAQ Windows Interface for Visual Basic applications using National Instruments' plug-in data acquisition boards.

DLL with high-level data acquisition functions for developing data acquisition applications in Visual Basic.

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Pinnacle Publishing

P.O. Box 8099

Federal Way, WA 98003

Contact: David Johnson (800) 231-1293 or (206) 941-2300

Graphics Server for Visual Basic -- custom control for integrating graphing and charting capabilities into Visual Basic applications. Includes pie charts, bar charts and a variety of other graphs in 2D or 3D.

---

Scientific Software Tools, Inc.

30 East Swedesford Road

Malvern, PA 19355

Contact: Elise Furman (215) 889-1454, Fax (215) 889-1630

DriverLINX\VB -- high-performance data-acquisition engine for developing custom applications using Microsoft Visual Basic. Quickly create sophisticated virtual instruments that you could only dream of in MS-DOS, in just days, using DriverLINX\VB. DriverLINX takes the form of a custom control that is added to the Toolbox of built-in Visual Basic controls.

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Sheridan Software Systems, Inc.

65 Maxess Road

Melville, NY 11747

Contact: Joseph Modica (516) 753-0985, fax (516) 293-4155

VB Assist -- Help utility that works alongside Visual Basic to speed application development with utilities to set properties and much more.

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TeraTech

3 Choke Cherry Road, Suite 360

Rockville, MD 20850

Contact: (800) 447-9120 Ext: 12

Fax: (301) 963-0436

ProMath/VB -- many mathematical, scientific, and statistical functions. From integration to Bessel Functions to Curtosis and Skew. Complex numbers and FFT are all supported.

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The Young Software Works

PO Box 185 Cooper Station

New York, NY 10276

Contact: (212) 982-4127

FAX: (212) 673-1715

VB Project Archiver -- project management utility for Visual Basic programmers. Provides project archiving capabilities using PKZip, LHARC, or other compression utilities. Can determine which code and form modules are active in a Visual Basic app for use as a simple version control system.

-----  
Ward Systems Group, Inc.

245 W. Patrick Street

Frederick, MD 21701

Contact: Marge Sherald (301) 662-7950

NeuroWindows -- a neural network programming tool, designed to work with Microsoft Visual Basic. It builds powerful neural network applications that perform a wide variety of pattern recognition and prediction tasks.

=====  
WINDOWS PROGRAMMING TOOLS AND UTILITIES  
=====

Artisoft

6920 Koll Center Parkway

Suite 209

Pleasanton, California 94566

Contact: (415) 426-5355 Corporate accounts national sales

manager: Brion Miller

Wired for Sound -- DLL that can add sound capabilities to any Visual Basic form. Plays sound through PC speaker or sound boards. Includes API\_SPEC.TXT file with code examples for Visual Basic programmers.

-----  
Black Ice Software, Inc.

Crane Road

Somers, NY 10589

Contact: (914) 277-7006 Laurie Welchoff; Jozef Nemeth, President

Fax: (914) 276-8418

TIFF SDK for Windows -- DLL that allows you to add TIFF 5.0 support to Visual Basic applications without learning the complexity of the Tagged Image File Format.

-----  
DemoSource

8646 Corbin Avenue

Northridge CA, 91324-4130

Contact: Brian L. Berman (800) 888-8063 Fax (818) 772-2877

DemoSource -- a QuickLine voice library and VFEEdit professional sound editor compatible with Visual Basic. It enables PCs to dispense prerecorded voice messages through standard touch-tone telephones for interactive mail order catalogs and automated outbound dialing systems for sales and telemarketing.

-----  
First Byte

19840 Pioneer Avenue

Torrance, CA 90503

Contact: Michael Belanger (310) 793-0600 x 212 Sales rep/tech support

Monologue for Windows -- a DLL to make Visual Basic applications talk. It is a text-to-speech utility that converts text into speech, to PC speaker or sound board.

-----  
RealSound Inc.

4910 Amelia Earhart Drive

Salt Lake City, UT 84116

Fax (801) 359-2968

Contact: Janson Tanner (801) 359-2900

RealSound for Windows -- a DLL for Windows providing an exciting enhancement to Visual Basic in hardware-quality digitized sound.

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Silicon Valley Products, Corp.

8 Paquatuck Avenue

East Moriches, NY 11940-0564

Contact: Paul Norris (516) 878-6438

QuickLine -- dynamic link library for use with Visual Basic to control TTI's telephone interface board for recording or playing messages, decoding telephone touch tones, and placement of calls.

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The Stirling Group

172 Old Mill Road

Schaumburg, IL 60193

Contact: Viresh Bhatia, Managing Partner (708) 307-9197,  
(800) 3-SHIELD (800-374-4353)

Fax: (708) 307-9340

TbxSHIELD -- a dynamic link library that allows you to create toolbox controls to include in your applications. Controls can be of any size, shape, or style. It can be created quickly and easily and includes Visual Basic declarations and sample application.

---

VideoLogic

245 First Street

Cambridge, MA 02142

Contact: Karyn Scott (617) 494-0530

DVA-4000/ISA -- digital video adapter that allows Visual Basic users to seamlessly integrate full-motion video with standard graphics and text in the Windows environment.

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=====  
HELP FILE AUTHORING TOOLS  
=====

Blue Sky Software Corp.

7486 La Jolla Blvd. Ste 3

La Jolla, CA 92037

Contact: (619) 459-6365, (800) 677-4WIN

RoboHelp -- An automatic authoring tool that makes the process of creating a Windows Help System just a matter of pointing and clicking. The user just fills in the actual help text when prompted. Features a customized tool palette. Generates source code for context sensitive help, hypertext link, cross reference.

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Software Interphase, Inc.

82 Cucumber Hill Road

Foster, RI 02825

Contact: 800-542-2742

Windows Help Magician -- create Windows Help files in a single integrated environment. Uses advanced functions, and hotkeys. Allows you to test a file instantly. Edit, test, write RTF file, compile and call WINHELP.EXE in the same environment.

---

WexTech Systems, Inc.

310 Madison Avenue, Ste 905

New York, NY 10017

Contact: Steve Wexler (212) 949-9595

Fax: (212) 949-4007

Doc-to-Help -- Word for Windows 2.0 utility that allows you to create professional-quality documentation and automatically convert that documentation into Windows context-sensitive online help for your Visual Basic application. Includes the Microsoft Windows Help Compiler.

=====  
GRAPHICS UTILITIES AND CLIP-ART  
=====

Data Techniques

1000 Business Center Drive Suite 120

Savannah, GA 31405

Contact: (912) 651-8003

Image Man/VB -- object oriented Windows custom control that adds advanced image display and print capabilities to applications. Supports TIFF, PCX, GIF, EPSF, WMF, and BMP formats in 24 bit color.

-----  
Dynalink Technologies

P.O. Box 593

Beaconsfield, Quebec

Canada H9W 5V3

Contact: (800) 522-4624 Peter Krenjevich, (514) 489-3007

Clip'nSave 2.0 for Windows -- screen capture and image conversion program.

It can capture any part of a screen to include in a Visual Basic program or print. Reads and writes mono, gray, and color BMP, DIB, TIF, PCX, GIF, and EPS files.

-----  
Eikon Systems Inc.

989 East Hillside Blvd, Suite 260

Foster City, CA 94404

Sales: (800) 727-2793

Contact: Jeff Galvin (415) 349-4664

Scrapbook+ -- a Windows utility for managing Clipboard images, bitmaps, clip art, and other graphics. "Camera" tool allows you to create bitmap images of any portion of a screen. Can convert graphics between TIF, PCX, BMP, and MSP formats.

-----  
MicroCal, Inc.

22 Industrial Dr. E.

Northampton, MA 01060

Contact: (800) 969-7720.

Origin -- powerful scientific and technical graphics software for Windows.

Supports DDE for plotting data from Visual Basic applications.

-----  
TechSmith Corporation

1745 Hamilton Road, Suite 300

Okemos, MI 48864

Contact: (517) 347-0800

SnagIt -- screen capture utility for Windows. DDE support allows you to add screen capture capability to Visual Basic applications.

DDE Watch -- monitoring and debugging tool for dynamic data exchange.

=====  
PUBLICATIONS AND TRAINING  
=====

Addison-Wesley Publishing Company, Inc.

1 Jacob Way

Reading, MA 01867

Orders: (800) 447-2226 or (617) 944-3700 or fax (617) 942-1117

Contact: (617) 944-3700 Editor: Julie Stillman x2773, (&

Claire Horne), Marketing: Ann Lane x2278

Using Visual Basic by William Murray and Chris Pappas -- a hands-on guide to learning, using and mastering Visual Basic. The book emphasizes how to design screens and place controls within Visual Basic. The authors lead readers through a series of applications that will serve as templates for applications. Includes disk.

Advanced Visual Basic by Mark Burgess -- due Summer, 1992.

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Bantam Computer Books

666 Fifth Avenue

New York, NY 10103

Contact: Jono Hardjowirogo (212) 492-9826

Visual Basic Programming with Windows Applications by Douglas Hergert -- a book oriented toward programmers with Basic experience interested in developing business solutions.

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Brady (Prentice Hall, owned by S & S)

Simon and Shuster, Inc.

15 Columbus Circle

New York, NY 10023

Sales: (800) 223-2348

Contact: Gene Smith (503) 639-9822

Visual Basic by Steven Holzner and The Peter Norton Computing Group -- a complete introduction to Visual Basic.

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The Cobb Group

9420 Bunsen Parkway, Suite 300

Louisville, KY 40220

Sales: (800) 223-8720

Contact: Melissa Haeberlin (502) 491-1900

Inside Visual Basic -- a 16-page monthly journal providing tips and techniques for using the Visual Basic programming system.

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Cooper Software Inc.

3523 A Haven Avenue

Menlow Park, CA 94025-9986

Fax: (415) 364-0593

Contact: Alan Cooper (415) 364-9150

QRC -- Quick reference card for Microsoft Windows 3.0. Quick reference to all 597 Windows API calls.

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ETN Corporation

RD4 Box 659

Montoursville, PA 17754-9433

Contact: (Technical Information): (717) 435-2202 Sales:  
(800) 326-9273

Fax: (717) 435-2802

VB= mc^2: The Art of Visual Basic Programming by J.D. Evans -- a book about advanced Visual Basic programming and Windows application design. It includes a companion disk and extensive code samples and approaches Visual Basic from a different angle. Order directly from ETN.

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Fawcette Technical Publishing



299 California Ave, Suite 120

Palo Alto, CA 94306-1912

Contact: Jim Fawcette (415) 688-1808 Fax (415) 688-1812

Basic Pro -- a bimonthly periodical for Basic professionals covering both text-mode and Windows Basic development issues. Provides advertising space for developers of Basic language products and add-on products, in addition to regular letters to the editor, guest columnist, product review, and upcoming industry event sections.

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Microsoft Press

One Microsoft Way

Redmond, WA 98052-6399

Contact: Craig Johnson (206) 936-3895

The Microsoft Visual Basic Workshop -- a book and software package that is a one-stop source of imaginative and useful Visual Basic forms and subprograms to use in Microsoft Windows applications.

Microsoft Windows Multimedia -- Programmer's reference for creating Windows applications that access multimedia functionality.

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Microsoft University

10700 Northrup Way

Bellevue, WA 98004-1447

(206) 828-1507

Microsoft University Visual Basic -- Advanced Topics course, a 3-day course covering concepts needed to write sophisticated event-driven, graphical programs and design applications that integrate with DDE and Windows DLLs.

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Osborne/McGraw Hill

2600 10th Street

Berkeley, CA 94710

Sales: (510) 549-6614

Contact: Jeff Pepper (415) 549-6638

Visual Basic Inside and Out By Gary Cornell -- a complete review of the Visual Basic programming system for Windows.

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Programmer's Warehouse

8283 N. Hayden Road, Suite 195

Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

Contact: 800) 323-1809 or (602) 443-0580

Fax: (602) 443-0659

A full-service mail-order reseller for Visual Basic and all related companion products.

---

Que (Prentice Hall, owned by S & S)

11711 North College Avenue

Carmel, IN 46032

Tel. (800) 428-5331 (317) 573-2500

Using Visual Basic by Roger Jennings -- a book for beginning and intermediate programmers who want to write Visual Basic applications. Includes advanced features such as DDE, as well as a complete keyword reference section. Ships in April, 1992.

Visual Basic By Example by D.F. Scott -- beginning level overview with many programming examples. Ships in April, 1992.

Visual Basic Programmer's Reference -- Currently on hold.

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Sams (Prentice Hall, owned by S & S)

11711 North College Avenue

Carmel, IN 46032

Tel. (800) 628-7360

First Book of Visual Basic by Orvis -- a structured tutorial for the novice computer user covering the Visual Basic language and modern programming practice.

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Tab/McGraw Hill

13311 Monterey Lane

Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17294

Tel: 717-794-2191 or 800-822-8138 (for orders)

Visual Basic: Easy Windows Programming by Namir Shammas -- a hands-on introduction to developing VB applications. Organized in a workbook format, each chapter teaches a specific task such as constructing interfaces, testing and debugging code, and producing executable files. Includes more than 50 ready to use programming examples. Ships in February, 1992.

Visual Basic Power Programming by Namir Shammas -- a book designed to go beyond the fundamentals of developing with Visual Basic. It provides a programmer's toolbox complete with routines for file management, text and graphics manipulation, scientific plotting, and more. The package includes many reusable programs, modules, and forms. Ships in April, 1992.

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Waite Group Press

100 Shoreline Highway, Suite A-285

Mill Valley, CA 94941

Contact: (415) 331-0575

Visual Basic How-To by Robert Arnson, Dan Rosen, Mitchell Waite, and Jonathan Zuck -- a book and disk package that contains hundreds of Visual Basic solutions from how to make an interface to how to use the Windows API functions.

Visual Basic Super Bible by Bryan Scott, Taylor Maxwell -- explains each command, keyword, property, object and procedure of Visual Basic. 900 pages. All examples on disk. Ships April, 1992.

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Windows Tech Journal

Oakley Publishing Company

PO Box 70167

Eugene, OR 97401-0110

Contact: J.D. Hildebrand (503) 747-0800 Fax: (503) 746-0071

Windows Tech Journal -- the monthly magazine of tools and techniques for Windows programmers. Annual subscription (12 issues) is \$29.95.

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Michael Risse

Microsoft Corporation

One Microsoft Way

Redmond, WA 98052-6399

Tel. (206) 882-8080

Fax (206) 93-MS-FAX (206-936-7329)

Additional reference words:

KBCategory: Refs

KBSubcategory: RefsThird

**Cobb Group's "Inside Visual Basic" Journal Article Titles**  
**Article ID: Q83351**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

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"Inside Visual Basic" is a monthly magazine published by The Cobb Group, Inc. The following article titles are reprinted with permission from the Cobb Group's "Inside Visual Basic" (c) January and February 1992 issues.

For more information, contact the Cobb Group at the following address and phone number:

The Cobb Group, Inc.  
9420 Bunsen Parkway  
Suite 300  
Louisville, KY 40220  
(800) 223-8720

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"Creating a new control -- The combo dropdown list box"  
"Wither Basic data-type codes"  
"Keeping users informed with minimized icons"  
"Speeding up list box clearing"  
"Managing data in multiple database formats with QELIB"  
"Displaying your forms faster"  
"Simplify debugging and maintenance with a good naming convention"  
"Creating smaller VB EXEs"  
"Stop draggin' that text around"  
"Soup to nuts software"

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"Creating your own VB help system"  
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"Adding hot keys to your programs"  
"Anyone need a sort?"  
"Keeping your perspectives when resizing forms"  
"Source code listings"

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsPSS RefsThird

## Visual Basic 3.0 Support Service Questions & Answers

Article ID: Q92552

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
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1. Q. Where can I get information on Microsoft's no-charge startup and installation support services for Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows?
  - A. The telephone number to call for no-charge technical support for Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows is (206)646-5105. Your telephone company will bill you for long-distance charges only. This service provides support for setup and installation questions only and is available 6:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Pacific time, Monday through Friday.
2. Q. Where can I get information on fee-based technical support and programming assistance for Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows?
  - A. Microsoft OnCall is a fee-based service that provides technical support and programming assistance. The rate for this service is \$2 per minute. The telephone number is (900)896-9876. Your telephone company will bill you for this service.

If you are blocked from dialing the 900 number, you can call (206)646-5106. A \$20 fee will be charged to your credit card for each call. Mastercard, Visa, and American Express cards are accepted.

Microsoft offers additional comprehensive, fee-based technical support options. For more information about these options, please call Microsoft OnLine Sales at (800)443-4672.
3. Q. Where can I get information about support for Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows available on the CompuServe electronic information service?
  - A. Microsoft technical support and programming assistance from other Visual Basic developers is available in the MSBASIC forum on CompuServe. Through the MSDN forum on CompuServe, you can also gain access to the Microsoft Knowledge Base, which contains descriptions of known problems and answers to many frequently asked questions. For more information, please call CompuServe at (800)848-8990 and ask for the CompuServe Information Manager software disk. The software disk provides you with an option that enables you to set up your own CompuServe account.
4. Q. Where can I get information about support for the Control Development Kit provided with the professional edition of

Visual Basic for Windows?

- A. Support for the Microsoft Control Development Kit is currently provided only through CompuServe in the MSBASIC forum in section 16 or through service requests in Microsoft OnLine support services. For more information about CompuServe, please call CompuServe at (800)848-8990. For more information about the Microsoft OnLine support services, please call (800)443-4672.
- 5. Q. Where can I get information about support for the Crystal Reports Custom Control and associated features in Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows?
  - A. Support for the Crystal Reports Custom Control is provide solely by Crystal, a company separate from Microsoft. There is a detailed listing of all support options available to you from Crystal in the last 2 pages of the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Professional Features Book 2" manual.
- 6. Q. What is the Microsoft Download Service? how do I access it?
  - A. Microsoft Download Service (MSDL) is a Bulletin Board system (BBS) that can be accessed by any user with a computer and a modem. The MSDL contains application notes, drivers, and other support files from Microsoft. MSDL supports 1200, 2400, and 9600 baud (V.32 and V.42) with 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, and no parity. The supported protocols are Xmodem, Xmodem-1K, Ymodem (batch), Kermit, Super Kermit (Sliding Windows), and Zmodem. To connect to MSDL, call (206)936-6735 and follow the instructions.
- 7. Q. What is the Microsoft Developer Network? How do I get it?
  - A. The Microsoft Developer Network (MSDN) is a newsletter and CD available together or separately. The newsletter is published every other month and the CD is published quarterly. Both the newsletter and the CD contain technical information for all developers who write applications using Microsoft operating systems or development tools. The CD contains code samples, technical articles, development tools, and the Microsoft Knowledge Base. For more information, please call (800)227-4679, or call (800)759-5474 to join.
- 8. Q. Where can I place an order or get upgrade and pricing information about Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows?
  - A. For information regarding product updates, prices, and sales, please call Microsoft Customer Service at (800)426-9400. Note that no technical support is provided on this line.

Additional reference words: 3.00 ivrfax fasttips

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsProd

## **Name Property Cannot Be Set When Using Implicit Property**

**Article ID: Q93214**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

On Page 126 of the Visual Basic Programmer's Guide, it incorrectly states that all controls have an implicit property you can use for storing or retrieving values. Some controls supplied with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic for Windows use the Name property as their implicit property, which you cannot use at run-time.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following controls from the Visual Basic Professional Edition use the Name property as their implicit property:

- Common dialog
- MAPI session
- MAPI message
- Spin button

Attempting to access the implicit property of these controls results in one of the following errors:

- 'Name' property cannot be read at run time
- 'Name' property cannot be set at run time

You access the implicit property of a control (also known as the "value of a control" or the "default value of a control") by writing the control name with no property. For example, with a text box named Text1, you can write the following statement to assign a value to the Text property:

```
Text1 = "hello world"
```

The following list shows the implicit properties for all the controls in both the Standard and Professional Editions:

Standard Control	Implicit Property
-----	-----
Check box	Value
Combo box	Text
Command button	Value
Directory list box	Path
Drive list box	Drive
File list box	FileName
Frame	Caption
Grid	Text

Image	Picture
Label	Caption
Line	Visible
List box	Text
Menu	Enabled
OLE client	Action
Option button	Value
Picture box	Picture
Scroll bar vertical	Value
Scroll bar horizontal	Value
Shape	Shape
Text box	Text
Timer	Enabled

Professional Control	Implicit Property
----------------------	-------------------

3D check box	Value
3D command button	Value
3D frame	Caption
3D group push button	Value
3D option button	Value
3D panel	Caption
Animated button	Value
Common dialog	Name (not usable)
Communications	Input
Gauge	Value
Graph	QuickData
Key status	Value
MAPI session	Name (not usable)
MAPI message	Name (not usable)
Masked edit	Text
Multimedia MCI	Command
Pen BEdit	Text
Pen HEdit	Text
Pen ink on bitmap	Picture
Pen on-screen keyboard	Visible
Picture clip	Picture
Spin button	Name (not usable)

Additional reference words: 2.00 docerr

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsDoc PrgCtrlsStd PrgCtrlsCus



## Visual Basic MCI Control TimeFormat Property Information

Article ID: Q94012

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- The Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - The Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Multimedia Device Control (MCI.VBX) TimeFormat property does not support all format settings with all device types. When you assign a value to TimeFormat that is not supported by the device, the TimeFormat retains its previous setting.

This article also describes MCI\_FORMAT\_MSX (2) and shows how to separate the 4 bytes of a time value.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To determine if the current device supports a particular TimeFormat setting, assign the value to TimeFormat. Then check TimeFormat to see if it returns the value assigned. For example:

```
For i = 0 To 10
    MMControl1.TimeFormat = i
    If MMControl1.TimeFormat = i Then
        MsgBox Format$(i) + " supported"
    Else
        MsgBox Format$(i) + " not supported"
    End If
Next
```

Some of the time formats, such as MCI\_FORMAT\_TMSF, provide four separate byte size numbers packed into one four byte long integer. The following sample statements show how you can extract the four bytes into separate variables:

```
byte1 = MMControl1.Position And &HFF&
byte2 = (MMControl1.Position And &HFF00&) \ &H100
byte3 = (MMControl1.Position And &HFF0000) \ &H10000
byte4 = (MMControl1.Position And &H7F000000) \ &H1000000
If (MMControl1.Position And &H80000000) <> 0 Then
    ' put sign bit back into byte4
    byte4 = byte4 + &H80
End If
```

The least significant byte is stored in byte1 and the most significant byte is stored in byte4.

The following list shows all possible settings for TimeFormat:

- 0 MCI\_FORMAT\_MILLISECONDS
- 1 MCI\_FORMAT\_HMS
- 2 MCI\_FORMAT\_MSF
- 3 MCI\_FORMAT\_FRAMES
- 4 MCI\_FORMAT\_SMPTE\_24
- 5 MCI\_FORMAT\_SMPTE\_25
- 6 MCI\_FORMAT\_SMPTE\_30
- 7 MCI\_FORMAT\_SMPTE\_30DROP
- 8 MCI\_FORMAT\_BYTES
- 9 MCI\_FORMAT\_SAMPLES
- 10 MCI\_FORMAT\_TMSF

The TimeFormat setting MCI\_FORMAT\_MSF is described in the README.TXT file but is missing from the "Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Features Custom Control Reference" for version 2.0. The following description of MCI\_FORMAT\_MSF appears in the README.TXT file:

- 2 MCI\_FORMAT\_MSF Minutes, seconds, and frames are packed into a four-byte integer. From least significant byte to most significant byte, the individual data values follow:

- Minutes (least significant byte)
- Seconds
- Frames
- Unused (most significant byte)

The TimeFormat property affects the following properties.

- Position
- From
- To
- Start
- Length
- TrackLength
- TrackPosition

Microsoft has confirmed that this information should be included in the "Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Features Custom Control Reference" for version 2.0. We will post new information here when the documentation has been updated with this additional information.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 docerr  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: RefsDoc

## Corrections for Errors in Visual Basic Version 2.0 Manuals

Article ID: Q94373

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- The Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Below are corrections for documentation errors in the manuals shipped with Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Standard Edition and Professional Edition version 2.0.

This master list of corrections includes and adds to the corrections already found in the README.TXT file shipped with Visual Basic 2.0. Please use the article below as your master list for making corrections to the Visual Basic 2.0 manuals.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Standard Edition version 2.0 includes the following two manuals:

- "Microsoft Visual Basic Programmer's Guide"
- "Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference"

In addition, the Professional Edition version 2.0 also includes:

- "Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Features"

### Corrections to "Microsoft Visual Basic Programmer's Guide," Version 2.0

=====

Page      Section/Note

-----

- |    |   |
|----|---|
| 4  | Visual Basic Documentation                                    |
|    | In the second bullet list item, replace "eight" with "seven." |
| 6  | Using Online Documentation                                    |
|    | In the third line, replace "eight" with "seven."              |
| 8  | Figure 1.2 The Contents Screen                                |
|    | This illustration does not show the actual Contents screen.   |
| 15 | Starting Visual Basic   |

In the second table item under "Menu equivalent," change it to read, "Start command on the Run menu."

19      Setting Properties

In the second paragraph of step 3, change "...clicking the DOWN ARROW key at the right..." to "...clicking the down arrow at the right..."

23      Simple Animation

In the Setting column of the table, change "(White)" to "(Black)."

In the paragraph following the table, change "... and the BackColor property to 0 (Black)" to "... and the BackColor property to black"

26      File1\_Db1Click (Source Code)

Form1.Open.Picture = ...

Should read:

Form1.Image1.Picture = ...

66      Table 3.2 Operator(n)

The values for (n) are incorrect:  
1,2,3,2,2 should be 1,3,2,0,4 (reading down the list).

201      Identifying the Current Mode

In the paragraph at the bottom of the page, change the phrase after the semicolon to "the unavailable buttons appear dimmed on the toolbar."

210      Using the Calls Dialog

Remove the "}" from the end of step 1.

216      Editing or Deleting a Watch Expression

In the numbered list at the top of the page, remove the "(s)" from the word "expression" in the second step.

220      Assigning Values to Variables and Properties

In the paragraph following the three lines of example statements, change the text to "The first statement alters a property of the currently active form, the second alters a property of the VScroll1 control, and the third assigns a value to a variable."

227      How to Handle Errors

The list of steps is incorrectly numbered. The paragraph now numbered 2 should not be numbered. Remove the number 2 from that paragraph. Then replace the 3 in the following paragraph with 2 and replace the 4 in the last paragraph with 3.

## 229 Exiting an Error-Handling Routine

In the table that describes ways to exit an error-handling routine, make the following changes:

Replace the Resume entry with:

Resume (0)	Program execution resumes with the statement that caused the error or the most recently executed call out of the procedure containing the error-handling routine.
------------	---

Change the Resume Next entry by removing the period at the end of the sentence and adding "or with the statement immediately following the most recently executed call out of the procedure containing the error-handling routine."

Change the Resume line entry by removing the period at the end of the sentence and adding "that must be in the same procedure as the error handler."

## 234 Change the note at the bottom of the page as follows:

Remove everything after the first sentence. Add the following:

If a Resume statement is executed, control returns to the most recently executed call out of the procedure containing the error handler. If a Resume Next statement is executed, control returns to whatever statement in the procedure containing the error-handling routine immediately follows the most recently executed call out of that procedure.

For example, in the Calls list shown in Figure 10.3, if procedure A has an enabled error handler and Procedures B and C don't, an error occurring in Procedure C will be handled by Procedure A's error handler. If that error handler uses a Resume statement, upon exit, the program continues with a call to Procedure B. However, if Procedure A's error handler uses a Resume Next statement, upon exit, the program will continue with whatever statement in Procedure A follows the call to Procedure B. In neither case does the error handler return directly to either the procedure or the statement where the error originally occurred.

## 420 The Directory List Box

In the code at the bottom of the page, change the first line as follows:

```
GoHigher = 0      ' Initialize for currently expanded directory.
```

## 421 The File List Box

Change the first paragraph as follows:

"The file list box displays files contained in the directory specified by the Path property at run time. You can display all the files in the current directory on the current drive by using the following statement:"

The paragraph that begins, "If you set the System property..." may be misleading. The following additional information is provided to clarify the meaning.

The default value for the System and Hidden properties is False. The default value for the Normal, Archive, and ReadOnly properties is True.

When Normal = True, any file that does not have the System or Hidden attribute is displayed. When Normal = False, you can still display files with ReadOnly and/or Archive attributes by setting the appropriate attribute to True (ReadOnly = True, Archive = True).

When System = True, any file with the System attribute is displayed unless it also has the Hidden attribute.

When Hidden = True, any file with the Hidden attribute is displayed unless it also has the System attribute.

To display any file that has both Hidden and System among its attributes, both Hidden and System must be True. However, files that have either Hidden or System attributes are displayed as well.

#### 424 Writing Code for the WinSeek Application

In the second paragraph, change the first sentence as follows:

"The WinSeek application resolves this ambiguity by determining if the path of the dirList box is different from the currently highlighted directory."

#### 425 The cmdSearch\_Click Procedure

In the sample code shown, change the reference to "dirList,ListIndex" (note the comma) in the If statement to the following:

```
If dirList.Path <> dirList.List (dirList.ListIndex) Then
```

#### 482 Change the last sentence in the paragraph at the top of the page to this:

"When the user activates the object (the graph), the server application (MS Graph) is invoked by the client application (Visual Basic), and the object's data is opened for editing."

#### 541 New Keywords in Visual Basic 2.0

Include the keyword "Count" in the list.

=====

Corrections to "Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference," Version 2.0

=====

Page      Section/Note

-----

82          DateValue Function

Change the last sentence in the second paragraph of the Remarks section to this:

"For example, in addition to recognizing 12/30/1991 and 12/30/91, DateValue recognizes December 30, 1991 and Dec 30, 1991.

167        GetData Method

The following line of code is not correct:

Picture = Clipboard.GetData()

It should be:

Picture1.Picture = Clipboard.GetData()

And the following line is not correct:

Picture = LoadPicture()

It should be:

Picture1.Picture = LoadPicture()

320        Print Method

In the description of expressionlist at the top of the page, the term "text expression" should read "string expression."

386        Shell Function

Change the second sentence in the description of commandstring to this:

"If the program name in commandstring does not include a .BAT, .COM, .EXE, or .PIF extension, .EXE is assumed."

412        Text Box Control

The Toolbox Icon and figure shows the menu control, not the text box control.

489        Not Operator

Search in the Visual Basic Help menu for more current information about the Not operator.

None      Me Keyword

The Me keyword is not documented in the "Microsoft Visual Basic Language Reference." For complete information about the Me keyword, search in the Visual Basic Help menu.

=====

Corrections to "Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Features," Version 2.0

=====

Custom Control Reference

-----

Page	Section/Note
------	--------------

-----

153	Two lines in the code example for the ExtraData property need to be corrected to produce the graph illustrated on that page. Change references to ThisPoint to Graph1.ThisPoint and add the following line as the first line of code:
-----	---

Graph1.GraphType = 2

247	DeviceID Property
-----	-------------------

The second paragraph in Remarks that starts with "The device ID may be used..." is not true.

248	DisplayhWnd Property
-----	----------------------

The DisplayhWnd property is not a valid property of the MCI control. The property in the manual should be hWndDisplay. The documentation on page 248 for DisplayhWnd actually applies to the hWndDisplay property.

263	Done Event
-----	------------

The syntax for the Done event should be:

"Sub MMControl\_Done(NotifyCode As Long)

ODBC Object Reference

-----

Page	Section/Note
------	--------------

-----

11	"Creating a New Table" (Code)
----	-------------------------------

The following line of code is incorrect:

Dim f1, f1, f3, f4, f5 as New Field

It needs to be broken up into individual statements:

Dim f1 as New Field  
Dim f2 as New Field  
Dim f3 as New Field  
Dim f4 as New Field



Dim f5 as New Field

Help Compiler Guide

-----  
Page      Section/Note  
-----

126      Remove the extraneous text near the top of the page beginning  
         with ".para." and ending with "end."

Additional reference words: 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsDoc

**Visual Basic User Groups in the U.S.A. and Other Countries**  
**Article ID: Q95831**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SUMMARY

=====

Below is a non-exhaustive list of Visual Basic User Groups throughout the world including their name, contact name, address, and if applicable their voice phone, FAX phone and CompuServe ID numbers. The list is broken down into the following three geographic regions:

1. United States
2. Canada
3. International Countries

The geographic regions are sorted alphabetically by state, province, or country within their region.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

-----  
Visual Basic User Groups in the United States:  
-----

Tucson Computer Society  
Contact: Bruce Fulton  
516 E. Mabel  
Tucson, AZ 85705  
Voice Phone: 602/577-7700

Pasadena PC UG  
Contact: Rod Ream  
2026 S. 6th St.  
Alhambra, CA 91830  
Voice Phone: 818/280-6850

Berkeley PC UG  
Contact: Gustavo Edelstyn  
2625 Alcatraz Avenue #271  
Berkeley, CA 94705  
Voice Phone: 415/553-8739  
CompuServe ID:71552,3052

San Fransisco PC UG  
Contact: Dov Gorman  
1127 Bancroft Way

Berkeley, CA 94702  
Voice Phone: 510/339-3414

Sacramento PC UG  
Contact: Larry Clarke  
345 Pruewett Drive  
Folsom, CA 95630  
Voice Phone: 916/983-3950

Orange Coast PC UG  
Contact: Wendy Sarrett  
3700 Park View Lane #22D  
Irvine, CA 92715  
714/966-3925

Diablo Valley PC UG  
Contact: Steve Israel  
1635 School St. Suite 101  
Morago, CA 94556-1125  
Voice Phone: 510/376-7174

Napa Valley PC UG  
Contact: Frank Sommer  
1253 Monticello Road  
Napa, CA 94558  
Voice Phone: 707/258-2509

North Orange County CC  
Contact: Bill Hinds  
712 N. Clinton  
Orange, CA 92667  
Voice Phone: 714/633-4874  
CompuServe ID:76516,2623

BASIC PRO Magazine  
Contact: Jim Fawcette  
c/o Basic Pro  
299 California Ave - Suite 190  
Palo Alto, CA 94306-1912

Silicon Valley Com. Soc.  
Contact: Allan Colby  
107 Lake Road  
Portola Valley, CA 94028  
Voice Phone: 415/851-4567  
71257,760

Pinellas IBM PC UG  
Contact: Thomas Kiehl  
14155 102nd Avenue N  
Largo, FL 34644

Chicago Computer Society  
Contact: Allan Wolff  
1560 N. Sandburg Terrace #1715  
Chicago, IL 60610  
Voice Phone: 312/787-8966

CompuServe ID:72430,2717

Indianapolis Computer Society  
Contact: Bill Seltzer  
2064 Emily Dr  
Indianapolis, IN 46260

Indianapolis Comp. Soc.  
Contact: Bill Seltzer  
2064 Emily Dr  
Indianapolis, IN 46260  
Voice Phone: 317/549-9011

Kentucky Indiana PC UG  
Contact: Tim Landgrave  
200 Whittington Parkway Suite 100A  
Louisville, KY 40222  
CompuServe ID:71760,12

The Cobb Group  
Contact: Blake Ragsdale  
9420 Bunsen Parkway Suite 300  
Louisville, KY 40220  
CompuServe ID:71321,1127

Boston Computer Society  
Contact: Jim Wieler  
15 Lanark Road  
Arlington, MA 02147  
Voice Phone: 617/648-1768  
CompuServe ID:72570,66

Boston Computer Society  
Contact: Bill Goodridge  
30 Woodfield Road  
Wellesley, MA 02181  
Voice Phone: 617/239-0958

Twin City PC UG  
Contact: Bill Willis  
5860 73rd Ave N. #207  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55429  
Voice Phone: 612/566-9464

Las Vegas Computer Soc.  
Contact: Carl Jarnberg  
3111 S. Valley View  
Suite A214  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
Voice Phone: 702/876-0603

ACGNJ  
Contact: James Boyd  
60 Feronia Wayt  
Rutherford, NJ 07070  
Voice Phone: 201/438-6166

Philadelphia Area Com. Soc.  
Contact: Steve Longo  
c/o LaSalle University  
1900 West Olney  
Philadelphia, PA 19141  
Voice Phone: 215/951-1255

Houston Area League  
Contact: Fred Thorlin  
10819 Lakeside Forest Lane  
Houston, TX 77042-1025  
Voice Phone: 713/784-8906  
CompuServe ID:73317,662

N. Texas PC UG  
Contact: Woody Pewitt  
1301 East Parkerville Road  
Desoto, TX 75115  
Voice Phone: 214/230-3485  
CompuServe ID:71670,3203

Utah Blue Chips  
Contact: Jim Murtha  
7563 s. 960 east  
Midville, UT 84047  
FAX Phone: 801-533-8004

Pac N'West PC UG  
Contact: Sean Bleichschmidt  
12831 N.E. 14th Place  
Bellevue, WA 98005  
Voice Phone: 206/455-4317

Capital PC UG  
Contact: Charles Kelly  
1800 G St. NW Room 408  
Washington DC 20550  
Voice Phone: 202/357-9796  
CompuServe ID:71044,1124

-----  
User Groups in Canada:  
-----

Philadelphia Area Com. Soc.  
Contact: Steve Longo  
c/o LaSalle University  
1900 West Olney  
Philadelphia, PA 19141  
Voice Phone: 215/951-1255

Winnepeg PC UG  
Contact: Kent Sharkey  
210 Montgomery Ave  
Winnipeg Manitoba, Canada  
Voice Phone: 204/989-6870

Toronto Win UG  
Contact: Don Roy  
6327 Atherley Crescent  
Mississauga Ontario Canada L5N 2J1  
Voice Phone: 416/826-0320  
CompuServe ID:76675,1272

-----  
International User Groups:  
-----

Taiwan VB Program Group  
Contact: Andy Kuo  
U Lead Systems, Inc.  
12F-A, 563 Chung Hsiao E. Rd - Section 4  
Taipei, Taiwan R.O.C.  
Fax Phone: 011-86-2-764-9599

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: RefsThird

## Differences Between VCP Version 1.0 and VB Version 2.0 or 3.0

Article ID: Q98544

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual C++ programming system for Windows and MS-DOS, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Visual Control Pack, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

If you have the Professional edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 for Windows, you have everything that the Microsoft Visual Control Pack (VCP) has and more.

All controls, tools, and documentation shipped with the Microsoft Visual Control Pack are identical to those same controls, tools, and documentation shipped with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic versions 2.0 for Windows, with two exceptions:

- A new copy of the MSCOMM.VBX custom control that works with Visual C++ version 1.0 comes with the Visual Control Pack version 1.0.
- Enhanced Control Development Kit (CDK) documentation including helpful hints on creating custom controls for use with Microsoft Visual C++ version 1.0 comes with the Visual Control Pack version 1.0.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The Microsoft Visual Control Pack includes a newer MSCOMM.VBX custom control. This newer MSCOMM.VBX is slightly enhanced to work with Microsoft Visual C++ version 1.0. The newer control does not work any differently or any better than the one that comes with Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows.

If you have Visual C++ version 1.0 and currently own the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0 for Windows, you can get a free copy of the new MSCOMM.VBX custom control from Microsoft Visual Basic Product Support by calling (206) 646-5105.

The new MSCOMM.VBX custom control and the enhanced CDK documentation come with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. The enhanced CDK documentation was also shipped as part of the April 1993 release of the Microsoft Developer Network (MSDN) CD.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 VC++

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsProd

## **International and U.S. Support for Crystal Reports**

**Article ID: Q100368**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft supports setup and installation for the Crystal Reports product shipped with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. For other Crystal Reports support, please contact Crystal Services, not Microsoft.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following lists international and U.S. telephone numbers you can call to get technical support for Crystal Reports. Also listed is the CompuServe ID and mailing address for Crystal Reports support.

#### Canada/US

Crystal Services  
Suite 2200 - 1050 West Pender Street  
Vancouver, BC, Canada V6E 3S7

Phone: 604-669-8379 (8:00am - 5:00pm pacific time)  
Fax: 604-681-7163  
BBS: 604-681-9516

Product support via CompuServe:  
Send CompuServe mail to : 71035,2430

#### England

Company: Contemporary Software  
Phone: 273-483-979  
Fax: 273-486-224

#### Netherlands

Company: Microscope  
Phone 10-456-3799  
Fax 10-456-5549

#### Australia

Company: Sourceware  
Phone: 2-427-7999  
Fax: 2-427-7255  
"Ask for Tony Johnson"

For a complete list of Crystal Reports support offerings see the last three pages (PSS 1 - PSS 3) of the "Microsoft Visual Basic Professional Features Book 2" manual



Additional reference words: 3.00  
KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: RefsProd PrgCtrlsCus

## **Corrections for Errors in Visual Basic Version 3.0 Manuals**

**Article ID: Q100369**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article is a master list of corrections for documentation errors in the Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows manuals.

Included are corrections to version 3.0 of the following manuals and files that ship with both the Standard and Professional Editions:

- Online Help file VB.HLP
- "Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Programmer's Guide"
- "Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Language Reference"

Also included are corrections to version 3.0 of the following manuals that ship with the Professional Edition only:

- "Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Professional Features Book 1"
  - Custom Control Reference
  - Control Development Guide
  - Help Compiler Guide
- "Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Professional Features Book 2"
  - Data Access Guide
  - Appendixes
  - Crystal Reports for Visual Basic User's Manual

This master list of corrections includes and adds to the correction list found in "Part 4: Notes for Microsoft Visual Basic Online Help" and "Part 5: Notes for Microsoft Visual Basic Programmer's Guide" of the README.TXT file shipped with the product. Please use this article as your master list for making corrections to the manuals and help file.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

-----  
Corrections to the Online Help File VB.HLP  
-----

### Error Message Help

-----

Online Help is not available for dialogs or error messages that occur at design time. For ISAM errors, use the Search dialog in Help.

"Couldn't find installable ISAM"

-----

An external file dynamic link library (DLL) file couldn't be found. This file is required for operations such as attaching or accessing external tables.

Possible causes:

1) An entry in the [Installable ISAM] section in VB.INI or <APPNAME>.INI is incorrect. For example, this error occurs if you're accessing a Paradox external table, and the Paradox entry of the .INI file points to a nonexistent directory. Exit Visual Basic, make necessary corrections in VB.INI or <APPNAME>.INI using Microsoft Windows Notepad or another text editor, restart Visual Basic, and try the operation again.

2) One of the entries in the [Installable ISAM] section in VB.INI points to a network drive, and that drive isn't connected. Check to make sure the network is available and the proper drive letter is established, and try the operation again.

Attributes Property

-----

The Help topic for the attributes property and the DATACONS.TXT file incorrectly list DB\_SYSTEMOBJECT as having a value of &H80000002. The correct value is H80000000.

Index Property (Data Access)

-----

The information listed in the Index Property (Data Access) Help topic is not correct. Here is the correct information for this topic:

Applies To  
Table object

Description  
With data access, determines which existing index is the current index used to sort records in a Table and in recordsets created from that Table. The default is blank. Not available at design time; read/write at run time.

Syntax  
table.Index [ = indexname ]

Remarks  
The order of the data in a table is determined by the order in which the data is added to the table. To alter the order of records fetched from the table when using a Table object, set the Index property to the name of an index in the Indexes collection of the Table's TableDef object. For example, to set the index to be used on a Seek against the Titles table:

```
Dim Tb as Table, Db as Database
```

```
Set Db = OpenDatabase("Biblio.MDB")
Set Tb = Db.OpenTable("Titles")
Tb.Index = "PubID"
Tb.Seek "=", 3
```

The specified index must already be defined. If you set the Index property to an index that doesn't exist, or if the index isn't set when you use the Seek method, an error occurs.

In the Professional Edition, you can create a new Index in a Table by creating a new Index object, setting its properties, then appending it to the Indexes collection of the Table's TableDef.

The records in a Table can be ordered only according to the indexes defined for it. To sort the Table records in some other order, create a new Index for the table and append it to the Table's Index Collection, or create a Dynaset or Snapshot that has a different sort order. To specify the sort order for Dynasets and Snapshots, use the Sort property after the Dynaset or Snapshot has been created. You can also set the order of a Dynaset or Snapshot by including an Order By clause in a SQL statement used to define the Dynaset or Snapshot.

The Index property of a control array element is not the same as the Index property of a data access object.

Data Type  
String

=====  
Corrections to "Programmer's Guide"  
=====

(Page 188)      The New Keyword

In the example at the top of the page, the local form variable F is declared with the New keyword using the Dim statement. To make the form variable and the loaded form instance persist, use a Static or Global variable instead.

(Page 194)      Determining the Type of an Object Variable

You can use the If...TypeOf statement to determine the control type of a custom control:

If TypeOf object Is objecttype

The identifier you use for 'object' is the class name of the custom control. See the section "Specific Control Object Types" (P. 186) for more information.

(Page 461)      The Options Property

The constant values shown are in hexadecimal and should be preceded with the &H notation. For example, DB\_SQLPASSTHROUGH = &H40, not decimal 40. See online Help (Options Property) or the file DATACONS.TXT for the correct values.

(Page 454)      BIBLIO.MAK and DATAMGR.EXE

The second sentence of the first paragraph should read:

If you installed the sample applications, you will find this application in the \DATACTRL subdirectory of the Visual Basic SAMPLES subdirectory (\VB\SAMPLES\DATACTRL).

The third sentence of the second paragraph should read:

You will find DATAMGR.EXE in the main Visual Basic directory (\VB).

(Page 456)      Getting a Quick Start. Item 6.

Delete the second sentence which begins "Set the DataSource property for Label1 ..." under item 6.

(Page 459)      The Connect Property

In the table for the Connect property setting, change the Connect setting for Paradox from the following:

```
paradox;pwd=password;
```

to:

```
paradox 3.x;pwd=password;
```

NOTE: The database name in the Connect setting must match (except for case) the database name in the VB.INI file. See page 148 of "Professional Features Book 2."

(Page 462)      The RecordSource Property

The first sentence in the second paragraph should be changed to remove the reference to queries. Queries are not returned by the RecordSource Property. In other words, change the following:

At design time you can choose from a list of database tables and queries by first ...

to:

At design time you can choose from a list of database tables by first ...

In addition, the following text and example should be changed:

For example, the following SQL query returns all of the columns in the bibliography for authors who live in New York:

```
Data1.DatabaseName = "BIBLIO.MDB"  
Data1.RecordSource = "Select * from Titles where state = 'NY'"  
Data1.Refresh
```

The above should read:

For example, the following SQL query returns all of the columns in the bibliography for publishers based in New York:

```
Data1.DatabaseName = "BIBLIO.MDB"  
Data1.RecordSource = "Select * from Publishers where  
                      state = 'NY'"  
Data1.Refresh
```

(Page 465) Adding a New Record

In the second paragraph in this section, the last sentence should read, "Notice that using the buttons on the data control or one of the Move methods to move to another record will automatically save your added record."

(Page 530) Determining How an Object Is Displayed

In the first paragraph, the second sentence should read, "the Icon check box," not "theIcon check box."

(Page 550) Creating Invisible Objects

In the sample code, the following line has incorrect syntax:

```
MyWord = ObjVar.SuggestWord MyWord
```

The code should look like this:

```
MyWord = ObjVar.SuggestWord (MyWord)
```

(Page 552) Limitations in Visual Basic

Under the discussion "Arrays and User-Defined Types," the third bulleted item should read: "You cannot assign the return value of a property or method to an array variable or a variable of a user-defined type."

(Page 554) Closing an Object

In the paragraph after the sample code, second sentence: It is not true that invoking a Close method on an object sets variables that refer to the object to Nothing.

(Page 582) Determining the Files You Need to Distribute

The following additional files are required for distributing your Visual Basic applications:

DLL Name	Required by (Professional Edition Only)
-----	-----
PDIRJET.DLL	Crystal Reports for Visual Basic
PDBJET.DLL	Crystal Reports for Visual Basic
MSAJT110.DLL	Crystal Reports for Visual Basic
MSAES110.DLL	Crystal Reports for Visual Basic
PDSODBC.DLL	ODBC and Crystal Reports for Visual Basic

=====  
Corrections to "Language Reference"  
=====

(Page 21-22) Action Property (OLE)

In the Settings table, in Setting 5, the reference to None in the second sentence of the third paragraph should read as follows:

"If the Paste was not successful, the OleType property will be set to 3 (None)."

In Setting 12, the constant should be OLE\_READ\_FROM\_FILE, not ReadFromFile. In Setting 14, the constant should be OLE\_INSERT\_OBJ\_DLG.

(Page 41) AutoActivate Property

In the Note, replace the words "the double-click event" with "a DblClick event."

(Page 53) BorderStyle Property

The OLE control cannot have a setting of 2. Remove the setting and description for Setting 2 in the OLE control table.

(page 57) Caption property

For labels, the caption is limited to 1024 characters, not 2048.

(Page 65) Check Box Control

Add DataField and DataSource to the Properties list.

(Page 82) Color Property

The "Applies To" line should read "Common dialog (Color dialog)."

(Page 89) Common Dialog Control

Add "FilterIndex" and "MaxFileSize" to the Properties (File dialogs) list.

(Page 93) Connect Property

In the Note, change "SourceTable" to "SourceTableName."

(Page 97)        Copies Property

The "Applies To" line should read "Common dialog (Print dialog)."

(Page 97)        Controls Collection

The following three statements are incorrect:

```
If TypeOf Frm.Controls(I) Is Not Menu Then
    Frm.Controls(I).Enabled = State
End If
```

Replace them with the following four statements:

```
If TypeOf Frm.Controls(I) Is Menu Then
Else
    Frm.Controls(I).Enabled = State
End If
```

(Page 100)       CreateDatabase Function

Three corrections are necessary:

- In the code example, replace "False" with "DBVERSION10."
- In the table above the code example, replace "DB\_COMPACT\_ENCRYPT" with "DB\_ENCRYPT."
- The Syntax line indicates that both the second and third function parameters are optional. This is incorrect. The second parameter is required. Use DB\_LANG\_GENERAL as the default.

(Page 111)       Data Control

Add UpdateControls and UpdateRecord to the Methods list.

(Page 112)       Database Object

In the Properties list, the QueryTimeout Property should be identified as being available only in the Professional Edition.

(Page 117)       DataText Property

In the code example, change the two instances of "MSDRAW" to "MSGGRAPH."

(Page 134)       DefaultExt Property

The "Applies To" line should read:

"Common dialog (File dialogs)."

(Page 144)       Dir, Dir\$ Functions

Line 11 of the sample program is incorrect. It reads:

```
If GetAttr(Path + DirName) And ATTR_DIRECTORY = ATTR_DIRECTORY Then
```

It should read:



If GetAttr(Path + DirName) = ATTR\_DIRECTORY Then

(Page 185)      Field Object

The Properties list should refer to SourceField and SourceTable, not SourceFieldName and SourceTableName.

(Page 195)      FileTitle Property

The "Applies To" line should read:

"Common dialog (File dialogs)."

Add the following to the Remarks section:

Note: If the OFN\_NOVALIDATE flag is set, the FileTitle property will not return a value.

(Page 198)      Filter Property (Common Dialog)

At the beginning of the topic, add "Applies To...Common dialog (File dialogs)." In the Remarks section, after the third paragraph, add this text:

Here is an example of a Filter in which the user can choose text files or picture files that include bitmaps and icons:  
Text (\*.txt) | \*.txt | Pictures (\*.bmp;\*.ico) | \*.bmp;\*.ico

(Page 199)      FilterIndex Property

The "Applies To" line should read  
"Common dialog (File dialogs)."

(Page 229)      Frame Control

Add the Name Property to the Properties list.

(Page 231)      FromPage, ToPage Properties

The "Applies To" line should read  
"Common dialog (Print dialog)."

(Page 240)      GetAttr Function

The final Sub...End Sub block in code should read as follows:

```
Sub File1_Click ()
    Const ATTR_READONLY = 1, ATTR_HIDDEN = 2      ' Declare
    Const ATTR_SYSTEM = 4, ATTR_ARCHIVE = 32      ' Constants.
    Dim Attr, FName, Msg                          ' Declare variables.
    If Right(Dir1.Path, 1) = "\" Then              ' See if root file.
        FName = Dir1.Path & File1.FileName        ' Get file path.
    Else
        FName = Dir1.Path & "\" & File1.FileName  ' Get file
                                                    ' path.
    End If
    Attr = GetAttr(FName) ' Get attributes.
```

```

If Attr > 7 Then Attr = Attr Xor ATTR_ARCHIVE ' Disregard
                                           'Archive.

Select Case Attr ' Look up attributes.
Case 0: Msg = "Normal"
Case ATTR_READONLY: Msg = "Read-Only"
Case ATTR_HIDDEN: Msg = "Hidden"
Case ATTR_HIDDEN + ATTR_READONLY: Msg = "Hidden and Read-Only"
Case ATTR_SYSTEM: Msg = "System"
Case ATTR_READONLY + ATTR_SYSTEM: Msg = "Read-Only and System"
Case ATTR_HIDDEN + ATTR_SYSTEM: Msg = "Hidden and System"
Case ATTR_READONLY + ATTR_HIDDEN + ATTR_SYSTEM:
    - Msg = "Read-Only," + Msg = " Hidden, and System"
End Select
MsgBox UCase(FName) & " is a " & Msg & " file." ' Display
                                           ' message.

End Sub

```

(Page 256) hDC Property

The Usage line should read:

```
{[form.] [commondialog. | picturebox.] | Printer.}hDC
```

Also, the second paragraph of the Remarks should read:

"With a common dialog control, this property returns a device context for the printer selected in the Print dialog box when the..." (the rest of the text remains the same).

(Page 258) Height, Width Properties

The See Also line should refer to the "Width # Statement," not the "Width Statement."

(Page 274) Image Control

Add DataField and DataSource to the Properties list.

(Page 279) Index Property (Data Access)

The following information, in the Remarks section, is incorrect:

To set this property with a data control, specify the TableDef, set the index, and then Refresh the control:

```

Data1.RecordSource = "Publishers"
Data1.Database.TableDefs("Publishers").Index = "PrimaryKey"
Data1.Refresh

```

Replace it with the following:

You cannot set the Index property with a data control. To use an indexed field in Visual Basic, use a SQL statement similar to the following example:

```

Data1.RecordSource = "SELECT * FROM Publishers ORDER BY Zip"
Data1.Refresh

```

By using the ORDER BY clause in the SQL syntax, you can simulate the effect of the Index property.

(Page 279)      Index Property (Data Access)

The "Applies To" says TableDef but should say "Table."

(Page 280)      InitDir Property

The "Applies To" line should read:

"Common dialog (File dialogs)."

(Page 297)      KeyDown, KeyUp Events

The See Also should refer to the SendKeys Statement, not the SendKeys Method.

(Page 299)      KeyPress Events

The See Also should refer to the SendKeys Statement, not the SendKeys Method.

(Page 303)      Label Control

Add the DataField, DataSource, and Parent properties to the Properties list.

(Page 336-338)      ListFields Method

In the second table, the fifth and sixth entries in the Field column should be SourceTable and SourceField, not SourceTableName and SourceFieldName. The code example and the headings of the table below it should also refer to SourceTable and SourceField.

(Page 345)      ListTables Method

In Remarks, the first paragraph under the TableType field table should read:

"When you use the ListTables method to create a Snapshot, you can evaluate the contents of the Attributes field in the Snapshot by referring to the TableDef property settings table in the Attributes property topic.

(Page 361)      Max, Min Properties (Common Dialog)

At the beginning of the topic, add:

"Applies To...Common dialog (Font, Print dialogs)."

(Page 363)      MaxFileSize Property

The "Applies To" line should read:

"Common dialog (File dialogs)."

(Page 390)      Name Property

The "Applies To" line should include the Database object.

(Page 418)      OpenQueryDef Method

In the example, the name of the parameter is "Enter State" not "State Wanted," and the name of the existing query is "By State" not "Get State."

(Page 432)      Partition Function

In the code in Example 3, the second five lines of code duplicate the first five lines and should be deleted.

(Page 439)      Picture Box Control

Add DataField and DataSource to the Properties list.

(Page 444)      PopupMenu Method

In the Syntax line, there should be a comma immediately before the y.

(Page 455)      PrinterDefault Property

The "Applies To" line should read:

"Common dialog (Print dialog)."

(Page 536-537)      SourceFieldName, SourceTableName Properties

All references to SourceFieldName and SourceTableName in this topic should refer to "SourceField" and "SourceTable" instead.

(Page 538)      SourceTableName Property

There should be a full entry for the "SourceTableName" topic. See online Help for the text of this topic.

(Page 565)      Text Box Control

The second piece of art is incorrect. It should show a text box on a form but instead, it shows a menu title and menu items on a form. Also, add DataField and DataSource to the Properties list.

(Page 595)      Validate Event

In the third paragraph following the Constants table, change "edit buffer" to "copy buffer."

(Page 619)      Trappable Errors

In Appendix B, the odd header is wrong. It should read "Trappable Errors," not "Trappable Error Messages."

(Page 634) Trappable Error Messages

In Table B.6 ("Data Access Trappable Error Messages"),  
Error #3137 should be deleted.

=====  
Corrections to "Professional Features Book 1 -- Custom Control Reference"  
=====

(Page xxii) Visual Basic Executable (.EXE) Files

The Visual Basic run-time file is listed incorrectly. The first  
bulleted item should read VBRUN300.DLL, not VBRUN200.DLL.

(Page 69) CDHolding Property

Cross out the following paragraph. It is incorrect. It contradicts  
the Remarks under CDTimeout Property:

When the Carrier Detect line is high (CDHolding=True) and the CDTimeout  
number of milliseconds has passed, the communications control sets the  
CommEvent property to MSCOMM\_ER\_CDTO (Carrier Detect Timeout Error),  
and generates the OnComm event.

(Page 107) Graphs Within Graphs

This section states, "The graph control can have child windows.  
You can place other controls (including more graphs) within a  
graph."

This information is incorrect. The graph control in Visual Basic  
version 3.0 does not support child controls. You cannot place a  
control of any type on a graph and have it belong to the graph.  
The entire section should be removed.

(Page 147) Graph Control

In Example 1, the following line contains two "=" characters:

```
Graph1.LabelText = "Data point" = Str$(i%)
```

The line should read:

```
Graph1.LabelText = "Data point" + Str$(i%)
```

(Page 148) Graph Control

In Example 2, the following line contains two "=" characters:

```
Graph1.LabelText = "Label" = Str$(i%)
```

The line should read:

```
Graph1.LabelText = "Label" + Str$(i%)
```

(Page 176) Key Status Control

The table for the Value property incorrectly states that False is the default value. The default value is determined by the state of the keyboard.

(Page 180) MAPI Session Control

There should be no footnotes, since the MAPI controls are only available in Visual Basic.

(Page 186) MAPI Messages Control

There should be no footnotes, since the MAPI controls are only available in Visual Basic.

=====  
Corrections to "Professional Features Book 1 -- Help Compiler Guide"  
=====

(Page 68) Running Macros When a User Enters a Topic

Insert the following sentence after the first sentence: "Macro calls can be authored in footnotes that use an exclamation (!) as the reference mark."

=====  
Corrections to "Professional Features Book 2 -- Data Access Guide"  
=====

(Page 31) Creating New Table Definitions

Delete the following line of code from the example:

On Error Resume Next

(Page 139) Accessing Paradox Tables

The following line is incorrect:

conn\$ = "Paradox;"

It should read as follows:

conn\$ = "Paradox 3.X"

(Page 154) Accessing Microsoft SQL Server Databases

The reference to two versions of INSTCAT.SQL (INSTCAT.SQL and INSTCAT.48) that are supposedly used differently depending on whether the backend is Microsoft SQL Server or Sybase, is an error. The single version of INSTCAT.SQL provided by Microsoft on the Visual Basic version 3.0 disks is complete and sufficient for both Microsoft SQL Server and Sybase SQL Server, versions 4.2 and later. The file named INSTCAT.48, if you have it, is not useful and can be deleted.

The instructions on how to run INSTCAT.SQL, which formerly were found in Appendix D of the version 2.0 "Professional Features"

manual, are no longer included in the manual. Page 154 of the version 3.0 manual says you can find information on setup, configuration, and operational issues when accessing tables from SQL Server in a file named SQLSVR.HLP. In fact, this file does not exist. The correct file name is DRVSSRVR.HLP, and you should find it in the \WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory.

In the DRVSSRVR.HLP file, search on "INSTCAT.SQL" to find the syntax of the ISQL batch command that you need to use to run the INSTCAT.SQL file.

Additional reference words: 3.00 docerr

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsDoc

## **Developer Services Offers Solution Provider Packages**

**Article ID: Q100781**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 3.0  
-----

### SUMMARY

=====

Solution Provider Services is a new package that customers can buy to get technical help. This package is sold through Developer Services.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

For more information on the Solution Provider packages or to purchase the package, call Developer Services at 1-800-227-4679 and ask to speak to someone about the "Solution Provider" packages.

Customers who already have the Solution Provider package can use it by calling 1-800-227-4679 followed by extension 11700 and then their five-digit member number for technical support.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: RefsProd



## **"Insufficient Disk Space" After Setup Begins to Copy Files**

**Article ID: Q74648**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

If you receive an "Insufficient disk space" error message when running Visual Basic's Setup program, it may be caused by using Windows with a temporary Windows swap file instead of the permanent Windows swap file.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Pages 520 through 529 in the "Microsoft Windows User's Guide" version 3.0 manual discuss Windows swap files. Permanent swap files are contiguous so that your disk does not contain files in fragmented pieces, which may happen if you are using temporary swap files. Temporary Windows swap files may grow in size, which may cause the "Insufficient disk space" error during the execution of Visual Basic's Setup program. However, permanent Windows swap files will not change in size, so using permanent Windows swap files may help to avoid the "Insufficient disk space" error.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Setins

## **Example of Client-Server DDE Between Visual Basic Applications**

**Article ID: Q74861**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article outlines the steps necessary to initiate dynamic data exchange (DDE) between a Microsoft Visual Basic destination application and a Visual Basic source application.

This article demonstrates how to:

- Create a Visual Basic application to function as a DDE source.
- Create a Visual Basic application to function as a DDE destination.
- Initiate a manual DDE link (information updated upon request from the destination) between the destination application and the source application.
- Use LinkRequest to update information in the destination application from information in the source application.
- Initiate a automatic DDE link (information updated automatically from source to destination) between the destination application and the source application.
- Use LinkPoke to send information from the destination application to the source application.
- Change the LinkMode property between automatic and manual.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

A destination application sends commands through DDE to the source application to establish a link. Through DDE, the source provides data to the destination at the request of the destination or accepts information at the request of the destination.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

The steps below show how to establish a DDE conversation between two Visual Basic applications.

#### STEP ONE: Create the Source Application in Visual Basic

-----

1. Start a new project in Visual Basic. Form1 is created by default.
2. Change the Caption property of Form1 to Source.

3. Change the Form1 LinkMode property to 1 - Source.
4. Put a Text Box (Text1) on Form1.
5. Save the form and project with the name SOURCE.
6. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File. In the Make EXE File dialog box, choose OK to accept SOURCE.EXE as the name of the EXE file.

#### STEP TWO: Create the Destination Application in Visual Basic

---

1. From the File menu, choose New Project. Form1 is created by default.
2. Change the Caption property of Form1 to Destination.
3. Add the following controls to Form1, and give them the properties indicated:

Default Name	Caption	Name
Text1	(Not applicable)	Text1
Option1	Manual Link	ManualLink
Option2	Automatic Link	AutomaticLink
Command1	Poke	Poke
Command2	Request	Request

4. Add the following code to the General Declaration section of Form1:

```

Const AUTOMATIC= 1
Const MANUAL = 2
Const NONE = 0

'(NOTE: For Visual Basic version 1.0, also add the following
'      constants:
'Const True = -1
'Const False = 0

```

5. Add the following code to the Load event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    'This procedure will start the VB source application.

    z% = Shell("SOURCE", 1)

    z% = DoEvents()    'Causes Windows to finish processing Shell command.

    Text1.LinkMode = NONE    'Clears DDE link if it already exists.

    Text1.LinkTopic = "Source|Form1"    'Sets up link with VB source.
    Text1.LinkItem = "Text1"            'Set link to text box on source.
    Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL              'Establish a manual DDE link.
    ManualLink.Value = TRUE              'Sets appropriate option button.
End Sub

```

6. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of ManualLink:

```

Sub ManualLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = TRUE      'Make request button valid.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE      'Clear DDE Link.
    Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL    'Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub

```

7. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of AutomaticLink:

```

Sub AutomaticLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = FALSE    'No need for button with automatic link.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE      'Clear DDE Link.

    Text1.LinkMode = AUTOMATIC 'Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of Request:

```

Sub Request_Click ()
    'With a manual DDE link, this button will be visible, and when
    'selected it will request an update of information from the source
    'application to the destination application.
    Text1.LinkRequest
End Sub

```

9. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of Poke:

```

Sub Poke_Click ()
    'With any DDE link, this button will be visible, and when it's
    'selected, will poke information from the destination application
    'into the source application.
    Text1.LinkPoke
End Sub

```

#### STEP THREE: Run the Visual Basic Destination Application

-----  
Choose one of these options:

- Run the Visual Basic destination application from the VB.EXE environment by skipping to step 4 below.
  - Save the application. Then create an .EXE file and run it from Windows by beginning with step 1 below.
1. From the File menu, choose Save, and save the form and project with the name DEST.
  2. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File, and give it the name DEST.EXE.
  3. Exit the Visual Basic environment (VB.EXE).
  4. Run the application from Windows if it's an .EXE file or from the VB.EXE environment.
  5. Form1 of the destination application will load and the source application will automatically start.

#### STEP FOUR: Experiment with DDE Between Visual Basic Applications

-----

1. Try typing some text into the source application's text box. Then click the Request button. The text appears in the destination application's text box.
2. Click the Automatic Link button and then type some more text into the source application's text box. The text is automatically updated in the destination application's text box.
3. Type some text into the destination application's text box. Then click the Poke button to send the text to the source application's text box.

For additional information on dynamic data exchange (DDE) between Visual Basic and other Windows-based applications, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

DDE and Visual Basic

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## DDE Example Between Visual Basic and Word for Windows

Article ID: Q74862

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article outlines the steps necessary to initiate dynamic data exchange (DDE) between a Microsoft Visual Basic application and a Microsoft Word for Windows (WINWORD.EXE) document at run time.

This article demonstrates how to:

- Prepare a Word for Windows document for active DDE.
- Initiate a manual DDE link (information updated upon request from the destination) between the Visual Basic application (the destination) and the document loaded into Word for Windows (the source).
- Use LinkRequest to update information in the Visual Basic destination based on information contained in the Word for Windows source.
- Initiate a automatic DDE link (information updated automatically from source to destination) between the Visual Basic destination and the Word for Windows source.
- Use LinkPoke to send information from the Visual Basic destination to the Word for Windows source.
- Change the LinkMode property between automatic and manual.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

A destination application sends commands through DDE to the source application to establish a link. Through DDE, the source provides data to the destination at the request of the destination or accepts information at the request of the destination.

### Example Showing How to Establish a DDE Conversation

-----

The steps below give an example of how to establish a DDE conversation between a Visual Basic application and a document loaded into Word for Windows (WINWORD.EXE).

#### STEP ONE: Create the Source Document in Word for Windows

-----

1. Start Word for Windows. Document1 is created by default.
2. From the Window menu, choose Arrange All. This removes maximization if

the document was maximized. Note that the title at the top of the WINWORD.EXE main title bar is now:

Microsoft Word

instead of:

Microsoft Word - Document1

3. Press CTRL+SHIFT+END to select to the end of the document.
4. From the Insert menu, choose Bookmark. Under Bookmark Name, type:

DDE\_Link

Press the ENTER key. This sets a bookmark for the entire document. This bookmark functions as the LinkItem in the DDE conversation.

5. From the File menu, choose Save As, and save the document with the name SOURCE.DOC.
6. Exit from Word for Windows. For this particular example to function correctly, WINWORD.EXE must not be loaded and running.

#### STEP TWO: Create the Destination Application in Visual Basic

1. Start Visual Basic. Form1 is created by default.
2. Create the following controls on Form1, giving the controls the properties shown in the table:

Default Name	Caption	Name
Text1	(Not applicable)	Text1
Option1	Manual Link	ManualLink
Option2	Automatic Link	AutomaticLink
Command1	Poke	Poke
Command2	Request	Request

3. Add the following code to the General Declaration section of Form1:

```
Const AUTOMATIC = 1
Const MANUAL = 2
Const NONE = 0
```

4. Add the following code to the Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    'This procedure starts WINWORD.EXE, loads the document that was
    'created earlier, and prepares for DDE by creating a bookmark to
    'the whole document. This bookmark is necessary because it
    'functions as the LinkItem for the source in the DDE conversation.

    z% = Shell("WinWord Source.Doc",1)

    z% = DoEvents () 'Process Windows events to ensure that
                    'WINWORD.EXE is executed before any attempt is
```

'made to perform DDE with it.

```
Text1.LinkMode = NONE           'Clears DDE link if it exists.
Text1.LinkTopic = "WinWord|Source" 'Sets up link with WINWORD.EXE.
Text1.LinkItem = "DDE_Link"      'Set link to bookmark on document.
Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL          'Establish a manual DDE link.
ManualLink.Value = TRUE
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Manual Link button:

```
Sub ManualLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = TRUE 'Make request button valid.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE  'Clear DDE Link.
    Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL 'Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Automatic Link button:

```
Sub AutomaticLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = FALSE 'No need for button with automatic link.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE   'Clear DDE Link.
    Text1.LinkMode = AUTOMATIC 'Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Request button:

```
Sub Request_Click ()
    'With a manual DDE link this button is visible. Clicking this button
    'requests an update of information from the source application to the
    'destination application.
    Text1.LinkRequest
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Poke button:

```
Sub Poke_Click ()
    'With any DDE link, this button is visible. Clicking this button
    'pokes information from the destination application into the source
    'application.
    Text1.LinkPoke
End Sub
```

STEP THREE: Try it out

-----  
Now, you have two choices. You can run the Visual Basic destination application from the Visual Basic VB.EXE environment by skipping to step 4 below, or you can save the application, create an .EXE file, and run that from Windows by beginning with step 1 below.

1. From the File menu, choose Save, and save the form and project with the name DEST.
2. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File with the name DEST.EXE.



3. Exit from the Visual Basic environment (VB.EXE).
4. Run the application. Run an .EXE file from Windows, or if you're in the Visual Basic environment, from the Run menu, choose Start.

Form1 of the Visual Basic destination application will be loaded, and Word for Windows will automatically start and load SOURCE.DOC.

5. Make sure the main title bar in WINWORD.EXE reads "Microsoft Word," not "Microsoft Word - SOURCE.DOC." If the title bar is not correct, choose Arrange All from the Window menu.

#### STEP FOUR: Experiment with DDE Between Visual Basic and Word for Windows

---

1. Try typing some text into the document in Word for Windows. Then click the Request button. The text appears in the text box.
2. Click the Automatic Link button. Then type some more text into the document in Word for Windows. The text is automatically updated in the Visual Basic text box.
3. Type some text in the text box in the Visual Basic application. Then click the Poke button. The text goes to the Word for Windows document.

Note that if in the WINWORD.EXE document, you delete the total contents of the bookmark, the bookmark is also deleted. Any attempt to perform DDE with this WINWORD.EXE session after deleting the bookmark causes this error:

Foreign applications won't perform DDE method or operation.

If this happens, you must recreate the bookmark in the document in Word for Windows before performing any further DDE operations.

In Visual Basic version 1.0, you need to add the following two global constants to the form's general declarations section:

```
CONST TRUE = -1
CONST FALSE = NOT TRUE
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 winword

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## DDE from Visual Basic for Windows to Excel for Windows

Article ID: Q75089

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Excel for Windows, version 4.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article describes how to initiate a dynamic data exchange (DDE) conversation between a Visual Basic destination application and a Microsoft Excel source application.

This article demonstrates how to:

- Prepare a Microsoft Excel for Windows document for active DDE.
- Initiate a manual DDE link (information updated upon request from the destination) between Visual Basic (the destination) and Excel (the source).
- Use the LinkRequest method to update information in Visual Basic (the destination) based on information contained in Excel (the source).
- Initiate a automatic DDE link (information updated automatically from source to destination) between Visual Basic (the destination) and Excel (the source).
- Use the LinkPoke method to send information from Visual Basic (the destination) to Excel (the source).
- Change the LinkMode property between automatic and manual.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic version 1.0, Microsoft Visual Basic version 2.0, and Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0.

A destination application sends commands through DDE to the source application to establish a link. Through DDE, the source provides data to the destination at the request of the destination or accepts information at the request of the destination.

The procedure below is as an example showing how to establish a DDE conversation between Visual Basic and Excel for Windows.

#### STEP ONE: Create the Source Spreadsheet in Excel

-----

1. Start Excel. A document (spreadsheet) with Sheet1 as the title is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Save As, and save the document (spreadsheet) naming it SOURCE.XLS

4. Exit Excel. For this example to function properly, Excel must not be loaded and running.

#### STEP TWO: Create the Destination Application in Visual Basic

-----  
The destination is the application that performs the link operations. It prompts the source to send information or informs the source that information is being sent to it.

1. Start Visual Basic (VB.EXE). Form1 is created by default.
2. Add the following controls to Form1, and give them the properties indicated:

Default Name	Caption	Name
-----		
Text1	(not applicable)	Text1
Option1	Manual Link	ManualLink
Option2	Automatic Link	AutomaticLink
Command1	Poke	Poke
Command2	Request	Request

3. Add the following code to the general Declaration section of Form1:

```
Const AUTOMATIC = 1
Const MANUAL = 2
Const NONE = 0
```

4. Add the following code to the Load event procedure of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    'This procedure starts Excel and loads SOURCE.XLS, the
    'spreadsheet created above.
    z% = Shell("EXCEL SOURCE.XLS", 1)

    z% = DoEvents()           'Process Windows events to ensure that
                              'Excel executes before making any attempt
                              'to perform DDE.

    Text1.LinkMode = NONE     'Clear DDE link if it already exists.

    Text1.LinkTopic = "Excel|source.xls"  'Set up link with Excel.

    Text1.LinkItem = "R1C1"   'Set link to first cell on spreadsheet.
    Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL   'Establish a manual DDE link.
    ManualLink.Value = TRUE
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Manual Link button:

```
Sub ManualLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = TRUE    'Make request button valid.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE     'Clear DDE Link.
    Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL   'Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Automatic Link button:

```
Sub AutomaticLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = FALSE      'No need for button with automatic link.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE        'Clear DDE Link.
    Text1.LinkMode = AUTOMATIC   'Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Request button:

```
Sub Request_Click ()
    'With a manual DDE link this button will be visible and when
    'selected it will request an update of information from the source
    'application to the destination application.
    Text1.LinkRequest
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Poke button:

```
Sub Poke_Click ()
    'With any DDE link this button will be visible and when selected
    'it will poke information from the destination application to the
    'source application.
    Text1.LinkPoke
End Sub
```

#### STEP THREE: Run the Visual Basic Destination Application

-----  
You have two choices:

- Run the Visual Basic destination application from the Visual Basic environment by skipping to step 4 below.
  - Save the application. Then create an .EXE file, and run it from Windows by beginning with step 1 below.
1. From the Visual Basic File menu, choose Save, and save the Form and Project naming both DEST.
  2. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File. Name it DEST.EXE.
  3. Exit from Visual Basic.
  4. Run the application from Windows if an .EXE file or from the Visual Basic environment.
  5. Form1 of the destination application will be loaded and Excel will automatically start with the document SOURCE.XLS loaded.
  6. Make sure the main title bar in Excel reads "Microsoft Excel," not "Microsoft Excel - SOURCE.XLS." If the title bar is incorrect, choose Arrange All from the Window menu.

#### STEP FOUR: Experiment with DDE between Visual Basic and Excel

- 
1. Try typing some text in R1C1 in the spreadsheet. Then click the Request button. The text appears in the text box.

Be sure to press the ENTER key after entering text into an Excel cell before clicking the Request button in the Visual Basic program. If you don't, a "Timeout while waiting for DDE response" error message will display because of the TEXT1.LINKREQUEST statement. This occurs because while entering text into a cell, Excel is in a polling loop for data entry. No real data is transferred to the cell until you press ENTER. Therefore, Visual Basic continues to request the data from the cell, but Excel does not pay attention to the request until it exits the polling loop, which results in the DDE time-out message.

2. Choose the Automatic Link button and then type some more text in R1C1 of the spreadsheet. The text is automatically updated in the Visual Basic text box.
3. Type some text in the text box in the Visual Basic application and choose the Poke button. The text is sent to R1C1 in the Excel spreadsheet.

Note: If you have the Ignore Remote Requests option selected in the Excel Workspace dialog box, you will not be able to establish DDE from Visual Basic. Make sure the Ignore Remote Requests option isn't selected.

For Visual Basic version 1.0 add the following constants to the general declarations of the form:

```
CONST TRUE = -1
CONST FALSE = NOT TRUE
```

For more information on DDE between Visual Basic and other Windows-based applications, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

DDE and Visual Basic

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 4.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## Using DDE Between Visual Basic and Q+E for Windows

Article ID: Q75090

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article describes how to initiate a Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) conversation between a Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows destination application and a Pioneer Software Q+E for Windows source application. (Q+E is a database query tool.)

This article demonstrates how to:

1. Prepare a Q+E database file for active DDE.
2. Initiate a manual DDE link (information updated upon request from the destination) between Visual Basic for Windows (the destination) and Q+E (the source).
3. Use LinkRequest to update information in Visual Basic for Windows (the destination) based on information contained in Q+E (the source).
4. Initiate a automatic DDE link (information updated automatically from source to destination) between Visual Basic for Windows (the destination) and Q+E (the source).
5. Use LinkPoke to send information from Visual Basic for Windows (the destination) to Q+E (the source).
6. Change the LinkMode property between Automatic and Manual.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

A destination application sends commands through DDE to the source application to establish a link. Through DDE, the source provides data to the destination at the request of the destination or accepts information at the request of the destination.

The following steps serve as a example of how to establish a DDE conversation between Visual Basic for Windows and Q+E.

First, generate a Q+E database file to act as the source.

1. Create a database (.DBF) file (see the Q+E manuals for the procedure). For this example, you will use one of the default files, ADDR.DBF, that is provided with Microsoft Excel for Windows.
2. If Q+E is already running, exit Q+E. For this example to work properly, Q+E must not be loaded and running.

Next, create the destination application in Visual Basic for Windows.

The destination is the application that performs the link operations. It prompts the source to send information or informs the source that information is being sent.

1. Start Visual Basic for Windows. Form1 will be created by default.
2. Create the following controls with the following properties on Form1:

Default Name -----	Caption -----	Name -----
Text1	(not applicable)	Text1
Option1	Manual Link	ManualLink
Option2	Automatic Link	AutomaticLink
Command1	Poke	Poke
Command2	Request	Request

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows, set the CtlName Property for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

3. Add the following code to the General Declaration section of Form1:

```

Const AUTOMATIC = 1
Const MANUAL = 2
Const NONE = 0

' Const TRUE = -1 ' In Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows uncomment
' Const FALSE = 0 ' these two lines.
```

4. Add the following code to the Load event procedure of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()          ' This procedure will start Q+E and load the
                          ' file "ADDR.DBF".
    z% = Shell("C:\EXCEL\QE C:\EXCEL\QE\ADDR.DBF",1)
    z% = DoEvents ()      ' Process Windows events. This
                          ' ensures that Q+E will be
                          ' executed before any attempt is
                          ' made to perform DDE with it.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE ' Clears DDE link if it already
                          ' exists.
    Text1.LinkTopic = "QE|QUERY1" ' Sets up link with Q+E.
    Text1.LinkItem = "R1C1"      ' Set link to first cell on
                          ' spreadsheet.
    Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL      ' Establish a manual DDE link.
    ManualLink.Value = TRUE
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the

Manual Link button:

```
Sub ManualLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = TRUE      ' Make request button valid.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE      ' Clear DDE Link.
    Text1.LinkMode = MANUAL    ' Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the AutomaticLink button:

```
Sub HotLink_Click ()
    Request.Visible = FALSE    ' No need for button with automatic link.
    Text1.LinkMode = NONE      ' Clear DDE Link.
    Text1.LinkMode = AUTOMATIC ' Reestablish new LinkMode.
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Request button:

```
Sub Request_Click ()
    ' With a manual DDE link this button will be visible and when
    ' selected it will request an update of information from the source
    ' application to the destination application.
    Text1.LinkRequest
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the Click event procedure of the Poke button:

```
Sub Poke_Click ()
    ' With any DDE link this button will be visible and when selected
    ' it will poke information from the destination application to the
    ' source application.
    Text1.LinkPoke
End Sub
```

You can now run the Visual Basic for Windows destination application from the Visual Basic for Windows environment (skip to step 4) or you can save the application and create an .EXE file and run that from Windows (continue to step 1):

1. From the File menu, save the Form and Project using the name CLIENT.
2. From the File menu, choose Make an EXE File, and name it CLIENT.EXE.
3. Exit Visual Basic for Windows.
4. Run the application (from Windows if an .EXE file, or from the Run menu if from the Visual Basic for Windows environment). Form1 of the destination application will be loaded and Q+E will automatically be started with the database file ADDR.DBF loaded.
5. Make sure that the main title bar in Q+E reads "Q + E," NOT "Q + E - ADDR.DBF." If the title bar is incorrect, then from the Window menu of Q+E, choose Arrange All.



You can now experiment with DDE between Visual Basic for Windows and Q+E for Windows:

1. Try typing some text in R1C1 (the cell that holds the name "Tyler") in the Q+E spreadsheet and then choose the Request button. The text will appear in the Visual Basic for Windows text box.
2. Choose the Automatic Link button and then type some more text in R1C1 of the Q+E spreadsheet. The text is automatically updated in the Visual Basic for Windows text box.
3. Type some text in the text box in the Visual Basic for Windows application and choose the Poke button. The text is sent to R1C1 in the Q+E spreadsheet.

Note that if you do not have the Allow Editing option checked on the Edit menu in Q+E, you will not be able to change the contents of the Q+E spreadsheet. This may prevent some DDE operations. For example, attempting to LinkPoke to Q+E from Visual Basic for Windows when the Allow Editing option is not chosen will cause the program to crash and result in a "Foreign application won't perform DDE method or operation" error message. Attempting to change the contents of the spreadsheet from Q+E will result in a "Use the allow editing command before making changes" error message. From the Edit menu of Q+E, choose Allow Editing to enable this option. When viewed from the Edit menu, Allow Editing should have a check mark next to it when enabled.

You can also establish DDE between applications at design time. For more information, see page 356 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Programmer's Guide" version 1.0 manual, or Chapter 20 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic Programmer's Guide" version 2.0 manual.

For additional information on DDE between Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows and other Windows applications query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

DDE and Visual Basic

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## DDE Example Between Visual Basic and Windows Program Manager

Article ID: Q76551

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Windows, version 3.0 and 3.1
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article demonstrates how to send dynamic data exchange (DDE) interface commands to the Microsoft Windows Program Manager from Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows using DDE.

The interface commands available through DDE with the Windows Program Manager are as follows:

```
CreateGroup (GroupName, GroupPath)
ShowGroup (GroupName, ShowCommand)
AddItem (CommandLine, Name, IconPath, IconIndex, XPos, YPos)
DeleteGroup (GroupName)
ExitProgman (bSaveState)
```

A full explanation of the above commands can be found in Chapter 22, pages 19-22 of the "Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit Guide to Programming" version 3.0 manual.

An application can also obtain a list of Windows groups from the Windows Program Manager by issuing a LinkRequest to the "PROGMAN" item.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following program demonstrates how to use four of the five Windows Program Manager DDE interface commands and the one DDE request:

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Create the following controls with the given properties on Form1:

Object	Name	Caption
-----	-----	-----
TextBox	Text1	
Button	Command1	Make
Button	Command2	Delete
Button	Command3	Request

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Window set the CtlName Property for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

3. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Text1.LinkTopic = "ProgMan|Progman"
    Text1.LinkMode = 2          ' Establish manual link.

    Text1.LinkExecute "[CreateGroup(Test Group)]"
        ' Make a group in Windows Program Manager.

    Text1.LinkExecute "[AddItem(c:\vb\vb.exe, Visual Basic)]"
        ' Add an item to that group.

    Text1.LinkExecute "[ShowGroup(Test Group, 7)]"
        ' Iconize the group and focus to VB application.

    On Error Resume Next      ' Disconnecting link with Windows Program
    Text1.LinkMode = 0        ' Manager causes an error in Windows 3.0.
        ' This is a known problem with Windows Program Manager.
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Command2\_Click event:

```
Sub Command2_Click ()
    Text1.LinkTopic = "ProgMan|Progman"
    Text1.LinkMode = 2          ' Establish manual link.

    Text1.LinkExecute "[DeleteGroup(Test Group)]"
        ' Delete the group and all items within it.

    On Error Resume Next      ' Disconnecting link with Windows Program
    Text1.LinkMode = 0        ' Manager causes an error in Windows 3.0.
        ' This is a known problem with Windows Program Manager.
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Command3\_Click event:

```
Sub Command3_Click ()
    Text1.LinkTopic = "ProgMan|Progman"
    Text1.LinkItem = "PROGMAN"
    Text1.LinkMode = 2          ' Establish manual link.
    Text1.LinkRequest          ' Get a list of the groups.

    On Error Resume Next      ' Disconnecting link with Windows Program
    Text1.LinkMode = 0        ' Manager causes an error in Windows 3.0.
        ' This is a known problem with Windows Program Manager.
End Sub
```

5. Press the F5 key to run the program.

6. Choose the Make button, then choose the Delete button. Note the result.

7. Choose the Request button. This will put a list of the groups

in the Windows Program Manager to be placed in the text box. The individual items are delimited by a carriage return plus linefeed.

As noted in the Windows Software Development Kit (SDK) manual mentioned above, the ExitProgman() command will only work if Windows Program Manager is NOT the shell (the startup program when you start Windows).

For a more comprehensive explanation of the CreateGroup, ShowGroup, AddItem, DeleteGroup, and ExitProgman commands, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

DDE and CreateGroup

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## **Visual Basic and DDE/OLE with Other Windows Applications**

**Article ID: Q76562**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows can link to a number of Windows applications through dynamic data exchange (DDE). Visual Basic can also, through the addition of custom controls, link to other Windows applications through object linking and embedding (OLE). Custom controls for OLE support are provided with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic, available from Microsoft End User Sales and Service or from your nearest dealer of Microsoft products.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Visual Basic has built-in support for DDE. Visual Basic can link and share information with any other Windows application that also supports DDE.

Additional articles in this Knowledge Base discuss exactly how to establish a DDE link between Visual Basic and the following applications:

- Another Visual Basic application
- Microsoft Word for Windows
- Microsoft Excel for Windows
- Q+E (shipped with Microsoft Excel)

To locate these articles, query on the following words:

Visual and Basic and DDE

A Visual Basic application can also use OLE to link with any other Windows application that supports OLE.

OLE controls are not built into Visual Basic itself, but are readily available through the Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic, available from Microsoft End User Sales and Service or your nearest Microsoft dealer.

A more challenging approach to obtain OLE support is to write your own custom control. With the Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK), along with either the Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit (SDK) and Microsoft C or Microsoft QuickC for Windows, you can create a custom control that supports OLE and add it to your Visual Basic application. The Visual Basic CDK is shipped as part of Microsoft

Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows.

Below is a list of applications for Microsoft Windows and their abilities to support DDE and/or OLE.

Product -----	Version -----	Supports DDE -----	Supports OLE -----
Bookshelf	1.0	No	Yes
Money	1.0	No	Yes
Publisher	1.0	No	Yes
Visual Basic	1.0	Yes	No and Yes*
Excel	3.0	Yes	Yes
PowerPoint	2.0	No	Yes
Project	1.0	No	No
Word	1.0	Yes	No
Word	2.0	Yes	Yes
Works	2.0	No	No

\* Not built into Visual Basic itself, but is available through Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic or through another Visual Basic custom control.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPOLE IAPDDE

**PRB: Workaround for Not Enough Memory to Load Tutorial Error**  
**Article ID: Q78000**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

Under any one of the conditions listed in the CAUSE section, If you try to run the Visual Basic tutorial, a message box will tell you, "Not Enough Memory To Load Tutorial."

CAUSE

=====

- The Visual Basic tutorial is not actually installed.
- The current directory is not pointing to the location of VB.EXE.
- The VB.LES file is corrupt.

RESOLUTION

=====

You can verify that the current directory is pointing to the location of VB.EXE by clicking the Visual Basic Icon in the Program Manager and choosing File Properties from the Program Manager Menu. The Working Directory option should specify the correct location of VB.EXE.

The subdirectory \VB\VB.CBT\ contains files for the Visual Basic tutorial. If the file VB.LES has been modified or replaced by another file, the tutorial cannot be run and two erroneous dialog boxes will open. The messages displayed in these dialog boxes are incorrect and should be ignored.

The first dialog box has the title "Visual Basic Tutorial" and displays the message "Out of memory". Choosing the OK button will clear this box and another one will open.

The second dialog box is titled "Microsoft Visual Basic." It displays the message "Not enough memory to load tutorial." Choose the OK button to clear this box.

To correct this problem, reinstall Visual Basic so that the VB.LES file is replaced by the correct file. Note that to reinstall Visual Basic correctly, you must first delete all files from the previous installation. Remember to save all of your program files (\*.FRM, \*.MAK, and so on) before deleting the previous installation.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Setins

## **VB CDK VBAPI.LIB Contains CodeView Information**

**Article ID: Q78211**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### **SUMMARY**

=====

The Microsoft Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK) provides a library of Visual Basic API functions, VBAPI.LIB, which contains Microsoft CodeView information. This CodeView information may not be usable by non-Microsoft languages. The Visual Basic CDK was included with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system version 1.0 for Windows. And the CodeView information is provided with Visual Basic version 2.0.

A version of VBAPI.LIB without Microsoft CodeView information is available in the Software/Data Library and can be found by searching on the word VBAPI, the Q number of this article, or S13227. VBAPI was archived using the PKware file-compression utility.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: TlsCDK



## How to Subclass a VB Form Using VB CDK Custom Control

Article ID: Q78398

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

In Windows programming terms, subclassing is the process of creating a message handling procedure and intercepting messages for a given window, handling any messages you choose, and passing the rest to the window's original message handler.

The subclass procedure is basically a message filter that performs non-default processing for a few key messages, and passes other messages to a default window procedure using `CallWindowProc()`. The `CallWindowProc()` function passes a message to the Windows system, which in turn sends the message to the target window procedure. The target window procedure cannot be called directly by the subclass procedure because the target procedure (in this case a window procedure) is exported.

Below is a simple example of how to subclass a Visual Basic form by writing a custom control using the Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK). The Visual Basic CDK is shipped as part of Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows and as part of the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic versions 2.0 and 3.0 for Windows.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following code example demonstrates how to subclass a form from a custom control using the Visual Basic Custom CDK.

This example is developed using the `CIRCLE.C` program example from the `CIRCLE1` project supplied with the CDK package. Only the file(s) that have changed from this project are included, and it is assumed that you have the additional CDK files as well as a C compiler capable of creating a Windows 3.0 compatible dynamic link library (DLL).

The basic idea for subclassing is to examine the window structure for a window directly using the `GetWindowLong` function to determine the address of the original window procedure. You can then change the address of the target window's window procedure to the address of your subclass procedure using `SetWindowLong`. In your subclass window procedure, you handle the messages you wish and use `CallWindowProc` to pass along other messages to the original window procedure.

```

//===== CIRCLE1 =====
// CIRCLE.C
// An example of subclassing a Visual Basic Form
//=====

#define NOCOMM
#include <windows.h>

#include <vbapi.h>
#include "circle.h"

//declare the subclass procedure
LONG FAR PASCAL _export SbClsProc (HWND, USHORT, USHORT, LONG);

//far pointer to the default procedure
FARPROC lpfnOldProc = (FARPROC) NULL ;

//get the controls parent handle(form1)
HWND hParent ;

//-----
// Circle Control Procedure
//-----
LONG FAR PASCAL _export CircleCtlProc (HCTL hctl, HWND hwnd,
    USHORT msg, USHORT wp, LONG lp)
{
    LONG lResult ;
    switch (msg)
    {
        case WM_CREATE:
            switch (VBGetMode())
            {
                //this will only be processed during run mode
                case MODE_RUN:
                {
                    hParent = GetParent (hwnd) ;
                    //get the address instance to normal proc
                    lpfnOldProc = (FARPROC) GetWindowLong
                        (hParent, GWL_WNDPROC) ;
                    //reset the address instance to the new proc
                    SetWindowLong (hParent,
                        GWL_WNDPROC, (LONG) SbClsProc) ;
                }
                break ;
            }
            break ;
    }
    // call the default VB proc
    lResult = VBDefControlProc(hctl, hwnd, msg, wp, lp);
    return lResult;
}

LONG FAR PASCAL _export SbClsProc (HWND hwnd, USHORT msg,
    USHORT wp, LONG lp)
{
    switch (msg)

```

```

{
    case WM_SIZE:
    {
        //place size event here for example...
    }
    break;
    case WM_DESTROY:
        SetWindowLong (hwnd, GWL_WNDPROC,
                        (LONG) lpfnOldProc) ;
        break ;
    }
    // call CircleCtlProc to process any other messages
    return (CallWindowProc(lpfnOldProc, hwnd, msg, wp, lp));
}

;=====
;Circle.def - module definition file for CIRCLE3.VBX control
;=====
LIBRARY      CIRCLE
EXETYPE      WINDOWS
DESCRIPTION   'Visual Basic Circle Custom Control'

CODE          MOVEABLE
DATA          MOVEABLE SINGLE

HEAPSIZE      1024

EXPORTS
    WEP          @1 RESIDENTNAME
    SbClsProc @2
;-----

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00
KBCategory:
KBSubcategory: TlsCDK

```

## **VB CDK Custom Property Name Cannot Start with Numeric Value**

**Article ID: Q78399**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Property Name (npszName) field in the PROPINFO structure for the Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK) cannot start with a numeric value.

This information needs to be added to page 143 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Control Development Guide" shipped with Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic 1.0 for Windows, or page 132 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic: Control Development Guide" shipped with the earlier CDK add-on for Microsoft Visual Basic.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

When a control property starts with a numeric value, Visual Basic will generate the binding/syntax checking error "Expected: end-of-statement." However, the property works correctly in the Visual Basic design mode from the Properties bar (or the Properties window in version 2.0)

### Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Rebuild the Circle3 example provided with the CDK after changing the PROPINFO Property\_FlashColor structure in CIRCLE3.H to the following:

```
PROPINFO Property_FlashColor =  
{  
    "2FlashColor", DT_COLOR | PF_fGetData | PF_fSetData |  
    PF_fSaveData | PF_fEditable, OFFSETIN(CIRCLE,  
    FlashColor)  
} ;
```

2. While in Visual Basic development environment (VB.EXE) with the Circle3 control loaded, assign the 2FlashColor property a value:

```
Circle1.2FlashColor = 2
```

3. Press F5 to generate the "Expected: end-of-statement" error message. The text "FlashColor" will be selected for the syntax error.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: TlsCDK

**PRB: SETUP.EXE Error: Insufficient Disk Space on: C:\WINDOWS**  
**Article ID: Q78961**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

Visual Basic displays the following message during setup if there is less 382K of space in version 2.0 or less than 330K of space in version 1.0 available to Windows on the drive where Windows resides -- which may be different from the drive where you are installing Visual Basic.

Error - Insufficient disk space on: C:\WINDOWS

STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

At first, SETUP.EXE for Visual Basic copies the files VBSETUP.EXE and VBRUN100.DLL into the Windows subdirectory. If there is not enough space on the drive where Windows resides (such as in C:\WINDOWS), Visual Basic will display the error.

This is the disk space available to Windows just before setup. This may differ from the amount of space reported at the MS-DOS command prompt outside of Windows because of temporary files that Windows creates during operation.

VBSETUP.EXE is deleted when setup is completed. VBRUN100.DLL is copied over to the Visual Basic subdirectory, but is not deleted from the Windows subdirectory.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Setins

## Call VBSetErrorMessage() In Response to VBM\_ Messages Only

Article ID: Q80403

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK) for Microsoft Visual Basic Programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic, version 1.0
  - Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SYMPTOMS

=====

The Visual Basic Control Development Kit (CDK) API function VBSetErrorMessage() operates correctly only when called in response to a VBM\_ message, such as VBM\_SETPROPERTY.

### STATUS

=====

This behavior is by design.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The VBSetErrorMessage() function can be called from a custom control in response to a VBM\_ message to pass an error number and message back to Visual Basic. When execution returns to Visual Basic, a trappable run-time error will occur, with the error number and message specified in the call to VBSetErrorMessage.

The VBSetErrorMessage routine works only in response to messages that originate from Visual Basic itself (VBM\_ messages). Visual Basic responds to the return code for VBM\_ messages, and in turn sets the error condition in the program. If the return code for a VBM\_ message is True, Visual Basic will generate an error condition. For other messages (non VBM\_ messages), Visual Basic must pass along the return code to the originator of the message (usually Windows); therefore, Visual Basic will not generate an error condition for these messages.

### Reference(s):

"Microsoft Visual Basic: Control Development Guide," (c) 1992, page 117 (shipped with Professional Toolkit)

"Microsoft Visual Basic: Control Development Guide," (c) 1991, page 108 (part no. 20666)

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: TlsCDK

## Getting Program Manager Group Names into Combo Box in VB

Article ID: Q80410

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

To get a list of group names in the Windows 3.0 Program Manager, you can call the Windows API GetPrivateProfileString function from a Visual Basic program. This article describes a method of using the Windows API GetPrivateProfileString function to get all the group names from Program Manager and place them into a Visual Basic combo box.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Windows initialization (.INI) files contain information that defines your Windows environment. Examples of Windows initialization files are WIN.INI and SYSTEM.INI, which are commonly found in the C:\WINDOWS subdirectory. Windows and Windows applications can use the information stored in these files to configure themselves to meet your needs and preferences. For a description of initialization files, read the WININI.TXT file that comes with Microsoft Windows 3.0.

An initialization file is composed of at least an application name and a key name. The contents of Windows initialization files have the following format:

```
[Application name]
keyname=value
```

The GetPrivateProfile family of API functions are used to retrieve information from any initialization file that you specify.

To declare this API function within your program, include the following Declare statement in the global module or the general Declarations section of a Visual Basic form. The entire Declare statement must be on one, single line.

```
Declare Function GetPrivateProfileString% Lib "Kernel"
    (ByVal lpAppName$, ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal lpDefault$,
    ByVal lpReturnedString$, ByVal nSize%, ByVal lpFileName$)
```

The formal arguments to these functions are described as follows:

Argument	Description
-----	-----
lpAppName\$	Name of a Windows application that appears in the



	.INI file.
lpKeyName\$	Key name that appears in the .INI file.
lpFileName\$	Points to a string that names the .INI file. If lpFileName does not contain a path to the file, Windows searches for the file in the Windows directory.
lpDefault\$	Specifies the default value for the given key if the key cannot be found in the .INI file.
lpReturnedString\$	Specifies the buffer that receives the character string.
nSize%	Specifies the maximum number of characters (including the last null character) to be copied to the buffer.

#### Code Example

-----

To get the group names from Program Manager into a combo box, do the following:

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, select New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 will be created by default.
2. Add a combo box (Combo1) to Form1.
3. Within the global Declarations section of Form1, add the following Windows API function declaration. Note that the Declare statement below must appear on a single line.

```
Declare Function GetPrivateProfileString% Lib "kernel"
    (ByVal lpAppName$, ByVal lpKeyName$, ByVal
    lpDefault$, ByVal lpReturnString$, ByVal nSize%,
    ByVal lpFileName$)
```

4. Within the Form\_Load event procedure for Form1, add the following code:

```
Sub Form_Load()
    ' This is the name of the group in the PROGMAN.INI file
    lpAppName$ = "Groups"

    ' All group names start with Group: Group1, Group2, etc.
    lpKeyName$ = "Group"

    ' If no group found return value in lpDefault$
    lpDefault$ = ""

    ' Initialize string
    lpReturnString$ = Space$(128)
    Size% = Len(lpReturnString$)
```

```

' This is the path and name the PROGMAN.INI file.
lpFileName$ = "c:\windows\progman.ini"

Valid% = 1
i% = 0

While (Valid%)

    i% = i% + 1

    ' The following three lines must be typed on a single line
    Valid% = GetPrivateProfileString(lpAppName$, lpKeyName$
        + LTrim$(Str$(i%)), lpDefault$, lpReturnString$,
        Size%, lpFileName$)

    ' Discard the trailing spaces and null character.
    group$ = Left$(lpReturnString$, Valid%)

    ' check to see if string was returned. Change arguments
    ' passed to the Mid$ statement to change what is displayed in combo
    ' box. By setting number to 15 this strips c:\windows\
    ' and .GRP
    ' The following 2 lines must be on one line
    If Valid% > 0 Then combol.AddItem Mid(group$, 12,
        Len(group$) - 15)
Wend

' Set text of combo box to first item in list
combol.listindex = 0

End Sub

```

5. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S). The combo box will contain the filenames (without the extension) of the group (.GRP extension) files in the Windows directory. The group name conforms to the MS-DOS filename convention; it is limited to eight characters.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## **VB DDE to Excel with Embedded TAB Can Truncate String in Excel**

**Article ID: Q82157**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

If you send strings containing TAB characters in a dynamic data exchange (DDE) conversation from Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows to Microsoft Excel, the string may be truncated in Excel if you specify a specific row and column in the Visual Basic for Windows LinkItem property. If you do not specify a column in the LinkItem property but only specify a specific row, your string will be parsed by Excel, and each TAB will cause the characters following the TAB to be entered into the following cell in Excel.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

This behavior occurs when the following is true:

- A string that you are trying to send to Excel through DDE contains an embedded TAB.
- You set your LinkItem property to a specific Excel cell (both row and column, such as R1C1, meaning row 1 column 1).

The attempted conversation will result in a truncated string. For example, if you pass the following string to Excel

```
"The cow jumped" + Chr$(9) + "over the moon"
```

and if the two conditions above are true, the only thing you will see on the Excel side is "The cow jumped". The rest of the string will be lost.

The following code example passes strings to Excel from a list box with TAB-delimited columns. Run the program twice, and uncomment the LinkItem line to see the different behavior.

### Steps to Reproduce Behavior

-----

1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. Put a text box on the form (Form1), and change the Name (change CtlName in Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows) property to "ddebox".
3. Put a list box (List1) and a command button (Command1) on Form1.
4. Add the following code to the Form\_Load procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Form1.Show
    ' Add items to list box with TABs embedded.
    List1.AddItem "hey" + Chr$(9) + "is"
    List1.AddItem "for" + Chr$(9) + "horses"
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    Const NONE = 0, COLD = 2      ' Define constants.

    If ddebox.LinkMode = NONE Then
        Z% = Shell("Excel", 4)    ' Start Excel.
        ' Set link topic.
        ddebox.LinkTopic = "Excel|Sheet1"
        ddebox.LinkItem = ""      ' Set link item.
        ddebox.LinkMode = COLD    ' Set link mode.
    End If

    ' Loop through all items in list box:
    For i% = 0 To List1.ListCount - 1
        Row$ = Format$(i% + 1)      ' Format row variable.
        ' ddebox.LinkItem = "R"+Row$ ' Take out comment to send entire
        ' string.
        ' Comment next line when uncommenting above line.
        ddebox.LinkItem = "R" + Row$ + "C1" ' This statement truncates
        ' string in Excel.
        ddebox.text = List1.list(i%) ' Assign text box to list box string.
        ddebox.LinkPoke      ' Send the string to Excel.
    Next

    ddebox.LinkMode = NONE
End Sub
```

For best results, make sure Excel is not running before you start the program. When you start the program, notice the list box has the strings added to it during the form Load event. If you choose the command button to initialize the DDE conversation with the program typed in exactly as shown, the following will appear in Excel:

```
hey    ' This will be in cell A1.
for    ' This will be in cell A2.
```

If you change the assignment statement of the LinkItem of the ddebox from

```
ddebox.LinkItem = "R" + Row$ + "C1"
```

to

```
ddebox.LinkItem = "R"+ Row$
```

notice that the entire string is passed to Excel with the following results:

```
hey      is      ' These words will be in A1 and B1.  
for      horses  ' These words will be in A2 and B2.
```

The reason for this behavior is that Excel uses TABs as its delimiter. You can use this method to send multiple items to Excel, placing them in their own cells if desired. If that is not the desired result, you will have to make sure you compensate for the lost parts of the string.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## VB Example of Using DDE LinkExecute to Word for Windows 2.0

Article ID: Q82879

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
  - Microsoft Word for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article demonstrates how to send a LinkExecute event to Microsoft Word for Windows from Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows using dynamic data exchange (DDE).

The commands available through DDE with Word for Windows are as follows:

- Any Macro in Word for Windows
- Any embedded WordBasic command built into Word for Windows

A full explanation of the above commands can be found in Word for Windows online Help under the topic "WordBasic."

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following example program demonstrates how to:

- Automatically start Word for Windows
  - Automatically send text typed in a Visual Basic for Windows text box to the Word for Windows document
  - Print the Word for Windows document to the selected printer.
1. Run Visual Basic for Windows, or from the File menu, choose New Project (press ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic for Windows is already running. Form1 is created by default.
  2. Create the following controls with the given properties on Form1:

Object	Name	Caption
-----	-----	-----
TextBox	Text1	
Button	Command1	Start Word
Button	Command2	Link
Button	Command3	Send Text
Button	Command4	Print

(In Visual Basic version 1.0 for Windows set the CtlName Property

for the above objects instead of the Name property.)

3. Add the following code to the Command1\_Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()
    x = Shell("winword.exe", 7) ' Start Word for Windows minimized
                                ' without the focus.
    x = DoEvents()              ' This gives WinWord time to load.
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Command2\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command2_Click ()
    text1.LinkMode = 0 ' Clears DDE link if it already exists.
    text1.LinkTopic = "WinWord|document1" ' Sets up link with
                                           ' WINWORD.EXE.
    text1.LinkMode = 2 ' Establish a manual DDE link.
    text1.LinkTimeout = 60 ' Set the time for a response to 6 seconds.
    ' If a DDETIMEOUT occurs increase the Text1.LinkTimeout.
    text1.LinkExecute "[InsertBookmark .Name ="+Chr$(34)+"Test"+Chr$(34)+"]"
    ' (Note that the space is necessary as shown before .Name in the above
    ' LinkExecute statement.)
    text1.LinkItem = "Test" ' Set link to a bookmark on document.
End Sub
```

5. Add the following code to the Command3\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command3_Click ()
    text1.LinkPoke ' Sends the contents of the text box.
End Sub
```

6. Add the following code to the Command4\_Click event procedure:

```
Sub Command4_Click ()
    text1.LinkExecute "[FilePrintDefault]" ' Prints the doc with the
                                           ' default printer settings.
End Sub
```

7. Press the F5 key to run the program.

8. Choose the Start Word button.

9. Choose the Link button. This will establish a DDE conversation with Word's Document1 and create a bookmark called Test using LinkExecute and the embedded InsertBookmark WordBasic command. It will then set the LinkItem to this newly created bookmark in Document1.

10. Type some text in the text box and choose the Send Text command button to send the contents of the text box to Word for Windows.

11. Choose the Print button to print the document in Word for Windows.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## **VB CDK: Example of Subclassing a Visual Basic Form**

**Article ID: Q83806**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The subclass procedure is a message filter that performs non-default processing for a few key messages, and passes other messages to a control's default window procedure using CallWindowProc. The CallWindowProc function passes a message to Windows, which in turn sends the message to the target window procedure. The target window procedure cannot be called directly by the subclass procedure because the target procedure is exported.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The following code example demonstrates how to subclass a form using the Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows Custom Control Development Kit (CDK).

This example is developed using the CIRCLE.C source file from the CIRCLE1 project supplied with the CDK package. Only the file(s) that have changed from this project are included, and it is assumed that you have the additional CDK files.

```
//===== CIRCLE1 =====  
// CIRCLE.C  
// An example of subclassing a Visual Basic for Windows Form  
//=====
```

```
#define NOCOMM  
#include <windows.h>  
  
#include <vbapi.h>  
#include "circle.h"  
  
// Declare the subclass procedure.  
LONG FAR PASCAL _export SbClsProc (HWND, USHORT, USHORT, LONG);  
  
// Far pointer to the default procedure.  
FARPROC lpfnOldProc = (FARPROC) NULL ;  
  
// Get the controls parent handle(form1).
```



```

HWND      hParent ;

//-----
// Circle Control Procedure
//-----
LONG FAR PASCAL _export CircleCtlProc (HCTL hctl, HWND hwnd,
    USHORT msg, USHORT wp, LONG lp)
{
    LONG lResult ;
    switch (msg)
    {
        case WM_CREATE:
            switch (VBGetMode())
            {
                // This will only be processed during run mode.
                case MODE_RUN:
                {
                    hParent = GetParent (hwnd) ;
                    // Get the address instance to normal proc.
                    lpfnOldProc = (FARPROC) GetWindowLong
                        (hParent, GWL_WNDPROC) ;
                    // Reset the address instance to the new proc.
                    SetWindowLong (hParent,
                        GWL_WNDPROC, (LONG) SbClsProc) ;
                }
                break ;
            }
            break ;
    }
    // Call the default VB for Windows proc.
    lResult = VBDefControlProc(hctl, hwnd, msg, wp, lp);
    return lResult;
}

LONG FAR PASCAL _export SbClsProc (HWND hwnd, USHORT msg,
    USHORT wp, LONG lp)
{
    switch (msg)
    {
        case WM_SIZE:
        {
            // Place size event here for example...
        }
        break;
        case WM_DESTROY:
            SetWindowLong (hwnd, GWL_WNDPROC,
                (LONG) lpfnOldProc) ;
            break ;
    }
    // Call CircleCtlProc to process any other messages.
    return (CallWindowProc(lpfnOldProc, hwnd, msg, wp, lp));
}

;=====
;Circle.def - module definition file for CIRCLE3.VBX control
;=====

```

LIBRARY CIRCLE  
EXETYPE WINDOWS  
DESCRIPTION 'Visual Basic Circle Custom Control'

CODE MOVEABLE  
DATA MOVEABLE SINGLE

HEAPSIZE 1024

EXPORTS  
WEP @1 RESIDENTNAME  
SbClsProc @2

;-----

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: TlsCDK

## **VB Example of Using DDE to Run a Word 2.0 for Windows Macro**

**Article ID: Q85857**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article demonstrates how to send a LinkExecute command to Word for Windows version 2.0 from Visual Basic using dynamic data exchange (DDE) to run a macro.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following example program demonstrates how to automatically start Word for Windows and execute a WinWord macro called MyMacro.

### Steps to Create Example Program

-----

1. Run Visual Basic, or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. Create the following controls on Form1 with the following properties:

Object	CtrlName	Caption
-----	-----	-----
TextBox	Text1	
Button	Command1	Start Word
Button	Command2	MyMacro

3. Add the following code to the Command1 Click event:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()  
    x = Shell("winword.exe", 7) 'Start Word for Windows  
                                'minimized without the focus  
End Sub
```

4. Add the following code to the Command2 Click event:

```
Sub Command2_Click ()  
    Text1.LinkMode = 0 'Clears DDE link if it already exists.  
    Text1.LinkTopic = "Winword|document1" 'Sets up link with  
                                           'WINWORD.EXE.  
    Text1.LinkMode = 2 'Establish a cold DDE link.  
    Text1.LinkTimeout = 60 'Set the time for a response to 6 seconds;
```

```

                                'if a DDETIMEOUT occurs, increase the
                                'Text1.LinkTimeout
' Enter the following two lines as one, single line:
Text1.LinkExecute
    "[ToolsMacro .Name =" + Chr$(34) + "MyMacro" + Chr$(34) + ",.Run]"
    '(Note that the space is necessary as shown before .Name in the
    ' above LinkExecute statement.)
End Sub

```

5. Create a macro called MyMacro in WinWord that inserts "hello world" in the document:

- a. Switch to WinWord.
- b. From the Tools menu, choose Macro.
- c. Type "MyMacro" in the Macro Name field. Choose the Edit button.
- d. Type the following:

Insert "Hello World"

- e. From the File menu, choose Close. At the "Do you want to keep the changes to Global: MyMacro?" prompt, choose Yes (this will save the newly created MyMacro macro).
- f. From the File menu, choose Exit. At the "Do you want to save the global glossary and command changes?" prompt, choose Yes. (The MyMacro macro has been added to the WinWord NORMAL.DOT file.)

6. Press F5 to run the program.

7. Choose the Start Word button.

8. Choose the MyMacro button. This will establish a DDE conversation with Word Document1 and execute the MyMacro macro.

9. Switch to WinWord to verify that the Document1 contains "Hello World," confirming that the MyMacro macro has been run (the CTRL+HOME key combination will move the cursor back to the beginning of the document).

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 winword

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## How to Use a Linked Paintbrush Object with OLECLIEN.VBX

Article ID: Q86776

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The following example program demonstrates how to use the Visual Basic OLE Client (OLECLIEN.VBX) custom control to create a linked Paintbrush object.

The following OLEClient property settings are required to create a Paintbrush Object Linking and Embedding (OLE) object:

Class           - "PBrush"

SourceDoc   - The full path of a bitmap file to use (for example, c:\windows\arches.bmp).

SourceItem   - A string containing the pixel coordinates of the part of the bitmap to display. These coordinates should be in the format "x1 y1 x2 y2".

This information applies to the OLECLIEN.VBX custom control in Visual Basic.

Note that Windows version 3.0 Paintbrush does not support OLE; you must have Windows version 3.1 in order to use this example.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

The following program demonstrates how to create a linked Paintbrush object in Visual Basic using the OLECLIEN.VBX custom control.

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the OLECLIEN.VBX custom control file. The OLE Client tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Place a command button and an OLEClient control on Form1.
4. Enter the following code:

```
Sub Command1_Click()  
    OLEClient1.Class = "PBrush"
```

```

OLEClient1.Protocol = "StdFileEditing"
OLEClient1.SourceDoc = "c:\windows\arches.bmp"

' The SourceItem for Paintbrush is the coordinates of
' of an object image in bitmap - "x1 y1 x2 y2".
OLEClient1.SourceItem = "0 0 121 159"

OLEClient1.ServerType = 0 ' Linked.
OLEClient1.Action = 1     ' CreateFromFile.
Command1.Enabled = 0
End Sub

Sub OleClient1_DblClick ()
    OLEClient1.Action = 7 ' Activate (open for editing).
End Sub

Sub Form_Unload (Cancel As Integer)
    OLEClient1.Action = 9 ' Close (terminate connection).
End Sub

```

5. Press F5 to run the program. Click the command button to create the OLE object. Double-clicking the OLEClient control will start Paintbrush for you to edit the OLE object.

Reference(s):

"Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic: Custom Control Reference" Pages 196-232

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPOLE

## How to Obtain a Listing of Classes for OLE Client Control

Article ID: Q87001

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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Below is an example of how to obtain a list of the Object Linking and Embedding (OLE) class properties for the OLE Client control in Visual Basic. This example is based on the ServerAcceptFormats example on page 214 in the "Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic: Custom Control Reference" for version 1.0.

This example gets the information from the REG.DAT file in your Windows directory. It uses the ServerClasses property to return a listing of the classes to a list box. The Class property is discussed on pages 198-201 and 207 of the "Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Visual Basic: Custom Control Reference" for version 1.0. The ServerClasses property is discussed on pages 201 and 217 in the same manual.

Note that the CtlName property in Visual Basic version 1.0 has been changed to the Name property in Visual Basic version 2.0.

### MORE INFORMATION

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This example uses a single form with two list boxes, two labels, and one OLE Client control. One list box should have a CtlName (or Name) of Identifier, and the other list box should have a CtlName (or Name) of FileType. Each label is placed above a list box, with the captions of Identifier and File Type, respectively.

There are three event procedures (Form\_Load, Identifier\_Click, and FileType) and one procedure, located in the general section of Form1, called FillItems(S\$).

The example results in two lists. The available OLE classes are listed in the Identifier list box, and the Class File Types are listed in the File Type list box.

When you click a certain class in the Identifier list box, the associated class display is highlighted in the second Identifier-Display list box.

### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the OLECLIENT.VBX custom control file. The OLE Client tool will appear in the Toolbox.
3. Add two label boxes (Label1 and Label2) and two list boxes (List1 and List2) to Form1. Position Label1 above List1, and Label2 above List2.
4. Change the Control Name of List1 to Identifier, and change the Caption of Label1 to Identifier.
5. Change the Control Name of List2 to FileType, and change the Caption of Label2 to FileType.

6. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event procedure:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Dim I As Integer
    ' Fill the Identifier and FileType list boxes
    For I = 0 To OLEClient1.ServerClassCount - 1
        Identifier.AddItem OLEClient1.ServerClasses(I)
        FileType.AddItem OLEClient1.ServerClassesDisplay(I)
    Next I
End Sub
```

7. Add the following code to the Identifier\_Click event procedure after you have changed the control name in step 4 above:

```
Sub Identifier_Click ()
    ' When user selects a Class, highlight the associated ClassDisplay.
    FileType.ListIndex = Identifier.ListIndex
    ' Display information associated with the selected class.
    FillItems (OLEClient1.ServerClasses(Identifier.ListIndex))
End Sub
```

8. Add the following code to the FileType\_Click event procedure after you have changed the control name in step 4:

```
Sub FileType_Click ()
    ' When user selects a ClassDisplay, highlight the associated Class.
    Identifier.ListIndex = FileType.ListIndex
End Sub
```

9. Add the following code to the (general) section of the form's Code window under Object:

```
Sub FillItems (S$)
    Dim I As Integer
    ' Set the ServerClass.
    OLEClient1.ServerClass = S$
End Sub
```

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPOLE



## Visual Basic 3.0 Setup & Installation Questions & Answers

Article ID: Q92546

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

1. Q. I am having difficulty with the ODBC Setup and Installation. Is there any information on how this should be done for various databases?  
  
A. There are several help files and text files that deal specifically with ODBC setup and connections issues. You can find a list of these and other information files by following three steps:
  1. Open the Visual Basic help file.
  2. Choose the Contents button.
  3. Select "Other Information sources."
2. Q. The setup program for Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows takes from 15 to 30 minutes to finish. Is this normal?  
  
A. No, this is not normal behavior for Visual Basic setup. We are aware of one configuration that displays this symptom. The problem is with an SCSI (scuzzy) driver (ASPIDOS) loaded in high memory. If you load this driver in low memory, there is no problem.
3. Q. I successfully installed Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows with no error messages, but all the help file icons in the VB group in Program Manager are gray MS-DOS icons. When I choose these icons, I get an error message that says:

Cannot Run Program. There is no application associated with this file. Choose Associate from the File menu to create an association.

Why does this happen?

- A. This is a known problem with The Setup program in the Professional edition of Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows. The Setup program adds the following problem line to the extensions section of the WIN.INI file if no association for .HLP files currently exists:

```
HLP=D:\WINDOWS\SETUPWIZ.INI ^.HLP
```

To fix the problem replace the line with this line:

```
HLP=WINHELP.EXE ^.HLP
```

For more information on this problem, please see Microsoft Knowledge Base article Q100191.

Additional reference words: 3.00 ivrfax fasttips

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: Setins

## Visual Basic 3.0 Programming Questions & Answers

Article ID: Q92550

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0
- 

1. Q. I use the picture control to group other controls. However when I select the picture control, the other controls do not remain on top of the picture control. How can I correct this problem?  
  
A. This problem occurs if you place the controls on the form in the same place as the picture control but not in the picture control itself. To group the controls in a picture control, you must first select the Picture control and then draw the desired control within the Picture control. For more information, please see Chapter 3 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Programmer's Guide."
2. Q. How can I make calls from Visual Basic to the functions in the Windows Application Programming Interface (API) or other dynamic link libraries (DLLs)?  
  
A. To call a subroutine or function from one of the Windows APIs or any other DLL, you need to first provide a Declare statement for that subroutine or function in your Visual Basic application. The exact syntax for the declaration for each Windows API function can be found in the WIN31API.HLP help file included with the Professional Edition of Visual Basic. For more information, please see Chapter 24 of the "Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 Programmer's Guide."
3. Q. Is there a reference available that lists the correct Visual Basic declarations for the Multimedia API functions?  
  
A. Yes, the file is called WINMMSYS.TXT. It comes with the Professional edition of Visual Basic. You can find it in the \VB\WINAPI directory.
4. Q. Is there a reference available that lists the correct Visual Basic declarations for the Windows for Workgroups API functions?  
  
A. No, at this time such a file is not available from Microsoft. However, you can obtain a copy of the Windows for Workgroups SDK from the WINEXT forum on CompuServe.
5. Q. I followed the examples in the manuals and in the help file on how to use Domain functions such as DSum and DCount, but I keep receiving this error:

Reference to undefined function or array.

Why?

- A. The examples provided for the Domain Aggregate functions are incorrect. These functions must be used within an SQL Statement just as SQL Aggregate functions such as Sum and Count are used. Please look at the SQL Aggregate examples to see how to use these functions within an SQL Statement. For more information, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

DOMAIN and FUNCTION and SQL

6. Q. I want to sort the records referenced by the Data Control in my application. I tried to use the Index Property as described in the example in the manual and in the help file, but I receive the following error message:

Property 'Index' not found

Why?

- A. The examples provided in the Index Property are incorrect. The Index property does not apply to the Data Control. To sort the records referenced by the Data Control, use the ORDER BY Clause within an SQL Statement in the RecordSource property of the Data Control.
7. Q. Is there a better way than the Print Form method to print Forms and Controls in a program?
- A. Yes, it is possible to print forms and/or controls and specify the printed size by using various Windows API function calls. This process is documented in Microsoft Knowledge Base article Q85978. You can also find this article in the top 10 Microsoft Knowledge Base articles that are in the Visual Basic help file. To view these articles, select "Technical Support" from the Contents screen in the Visual Basic help file. Then select "Knowledge Base Articles on Visual Basic."

Additional reference words: 3.00 ivrfax fasttips

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: PrgCtrlsStd APrgOther TlsCDK

## How to Establish a Network DDE Link Using Visual Basic

Article ID: Q93160

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article demonstrates how to establish a network Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) link between two computers running Microsoft Windows for Workgroups.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Under DDE, a destination (or client) application sends commands through DDE to the source (or server) application to establish a link. Through DDE, the source provides data to the destination at the request of the destination or accepts information at the request of the destination. When you use DDE with Windows version 3.0 or 3.1 based applications, the source and destination applications are both located on the same computer.

When you use Network DDE with Windows for Workgroups based applications, DDE functions exactly the same way as standard DDE except that the source and destination applications are located on different computers.

Before establishing a network DDE link, you must first establish a network DDE share for the conversation by calling the API NDdeShareAdd() function located in the NDDEAPI.DLL file. Here is the Visual Basic declaration:

```
' Enter the following as one, single line:
Declare Function NDdeShareAdd Lib "NDDEAPI.DLL" (Server As Any, ByVal Level
    As Integer, ShareInfo As NDDESHAREINFO, ByVal nSize As Long) As Integer
```

Enter the entire statement as a single line. The first parameter is always a 0 and is passed with ByVal 0& from Visual Basic. The second parameter is always 2. The next parameter is a filled ShareInfo structure (given below). The last parameter is the size of the ShareInfo structure.

Here is The structure of the NDDESHAREINFO structure:

```
Type NDDESHAREINFO
    szShareName As String * MAX_NDDESHARENAME_PLUSONE
    lpszTargetApp As Long    'LPSTR lpszTargetApp
    lpszTargetTopic As Long  'LPSTR lpszTargetTopic
    lpbPassword1 As Long     'LPBYTE lpbPassword1
    cbPassword1 As Long      'DWORD  cbPassword1;

    dwPermissions1 As Long   'DWORD  dwPermissions1;
    lpbPassword2 As Long     'LPBYTE lpbPassword2;
```

```

        cbPassword2 As Long      'DWORD   cbPassword2;
        dwPermissions2 As Long  'DWORD   dwPermissions2;
        lpszItem As Long        'LPSTR   lpszItem;
        cAddItems As Long       'LONG    cAddItems;
        lpNDdeShareItemInfo As Long
    End Type

```

The following table describes each field of the NDDESHAREINFO type:

Field Name	Purpose
szShareName	Name of the share to add.
lpszTargetApp	Pointer to null-terminated string containing the service or application name.
lpszTargetTopic	Pointer to null-terminated string holding the topic name
lpbPassword1	Pointer to the read-only password -- uppercase, null-terminated string. If null, pass null string, not zero.
cbPassword1	Length of read-only password
dwPermissions1	Full access password
cbPassword2	Length of the full access password
dwPermissions2	Permissions allowed by the full access password

Here are the permissions allowed for dwPermissions:

Name	Value	Function
NDDEACCESS_REQUEST	&H1	Allows LinkRequest
NDDEACCESS_ADVISE	&H2	Allows LinkAdvise
NDDEACCESS_POKE	&H4	Allows LinkPoke
NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE	&H8	Allows LinkExecute
NDDEACCESS_START_APP	&H10	Starts source application on connect

Here are the possible return values from NDdeShareAdd():

Name	Value	Meaning
NDDE_NO_ERROR	0	No error.
NDDE_BUF_TOO_SMALL	2	Buffer is too small to hold information.
NDDE_INVALID_APPNAME	13	Application name is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_ITEMNAME	9	Item name is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_LEVEL	7	Invalid level; nLevel parameter must be 2.
NDDE_INVALID_PASSWORD	8	Password is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_SERVER	4	Computer name is not valid; lpszServer parameter must be NULL.
NDDE_INVALID_SHARE	5	Share name is not valid.
NDDE_INVALID_TOPIC	10	Topic name is not valid.
NDDE_OUT_OF_MEMORY	12	Not enough memory to complete request.
NDDE_SHARE_ALREADY_EXISTS	15	Existing shares cannot be replaced.

There are two steps to establish a network Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) link between two computers running Microsoft Windows for Workgroups. First, create the DDE source application. Second, create the DDE destination application.

Step One -- Create DDE source application

-----

The following steps show you how to create a Visual Basic DDE source and destination application that communicates through a network DDE link.

1. From the DDE source computer, start Visual Basic or if Visual Basic is already running, from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. Change the LinkTopic property of Form1 to VBTopic.
3. If you are running Visual Basic version 2.0 or 3.0 for Windows, change the LinkMode property of Form1 to 1 - Source. In Visual Basic version 1.0, this property is already set to 1 - Server; don't change it.
4. Add a text box (Text1) to Form1.
5. Change the Name property (CtlName in version 1.0) of Text1 to VBItem.
6. Add a timer (Timer1) to Form1.
7. From the File menu, choose New Module (ALT, F, M). Module1 is created.
8. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Module1, and enter all lines as a single line even though they may be shown on multiple lines for readability:

```
' DDE access options
Global Const NDDEACCESS_REQUEST = &H1
Global Const NDDEACCESS_ADVISE = &H2
Global Const NDDEACCESS_POKE = &H4
Global Const NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE = &H8
Global Const NDDEACCESS_START_APP = &H10
Global Const MAX_NDDESHARENAME_PLUSONE = 65
Type NDDESHAREINFO
    szShareName As String * MAX_NDDESHARENAME_PLUSONE
    lpszTargetApp As Long    'LPSTR lpszTargetApp
    lpszTargetTopic As Long  'LPSTR lpszTargetTopic
    lpbPassword1 As Long     'LPBYTE lpbPassword1
    cbPassword1 As Long      'DWORD  cbPassword1;
    dwPermissions1 As Long   'DWORD  dwPermissions1;
    lpbPassword2 As Long     'LPBYTE lpbPassword2;
    cbPassword2 As Long      'DWORD  cbPassword2;
    dwPermissions2 As Long   'DWORD  dwPermissions2;
    lpszItem As Long         'LPSTR  lpszItem;
    cAddItems As Long        'LONG   cAddItems;
    lpNDdeShareItemInfo As Long
End Type
Declare Function NDdeShareAdd Lib "NDDEAPI.DLL" (Server As Any, ByVal
    Level As Integer, ShareInfo As NDDESHAREINFO,

    ByVal Size As Long As Integer
Declare Function lstrcpy Lib "KERNEL" (szDest As Any, szSource As Any)
    As Long
'If using Visual Basic version 1.0, add the following declarations
'Global Const False = 0
'Global Const True = Not False
```

9. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Dim r As Integer
    Dim szShareName As String      ' Net DDE share name
    Dim szTargetName As String    ' Net DDE target name
    Dim szTopicName As String     ' Net DDE source topic name
    Dim szItemName As String
    Dim szReadOnlyPassword As String ' Read-only pw Net DDE share
    Dim szFullAccessPassword As String ' Full access password
    Dim ShareInfo As NDDESHAREINFO

    Dim ShareInfoSize As Long
    Dim Result As Integer
    szShareName = "VBDDSource$" + Chr$(0)
    szTargetName = "VBTARGET" + Chr$(0)
    szTopicName = "VBTopic" + Chr$(0)
    szItemName = Chr$(0)           'All items are allowed
    szReadOnlyPassword = Chr$(0)  'No password
    szFullAccessPassword = Chr$(0)
    'Provide the share, target, topic, and item names along with
    'passwords that identify the network DDE share
    ShareInfo.szShareName = szShareName
    ShareInfo.lpszTargetApp = lstrcpy(ByVal szTargetName,
        ByVal szTargetName)
    ShareInfo.lpszTargetTopic = lstrcpy(ByVal szTopicName,
        ByVal szTopicName)
    ShareInfo.lpszItem = lstrcpy(ByVal szItemName, ByVal szItemName)

    ShareInfo.cbPassword1 = 0
    ShareInfo.lpbPassword1 = lstrcpy(ByVal szReadOnlyPassword,
        ByVal szReadOnlyPassword)
    ShareInfo.dwPermissions1 = NDDEACCESS_REQUEST Or NDDEACCESS_ADVISE Or
        NDDEACCESS_POKE Or NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE Or NDDEACCESS_START_APP
    ShareInfo.cbPassword2 = 0
    ShareInfo.lpbPassword2 = lstrcpy(ByVal szFullAccessPassword,
        ByVal szFullAccessPassword)
    ShareInfo.dwPermissions2 = NDDEACCESS_REQUEST Or NDDEACCESS_ADVISE Or
        NDDEACCESS_POKE Or NDDEACCESS_EXECUTE Or NDDEACCESS_START_APP
    ShareInfo.lpNDdeShareItemInfo = 15
    Result = NDdeShareAdd(ByVal 0&, 2, ShareInfo, Len(ShareInfo))
    ' Start the timer that will continually update the text box and
    ' the DDE link item with random data.
    timer1.Interval = 1000
    timer1.Enabled = True

End Sub
```

10. Add the following code to the Timer1\_Timer event procedure:

```
Sub Timer1_Timer ()
    ' Display random value 0 - 99 in the text box (DDE source data).
    Randomize Timer
    VBItem.Text = Format$(Rnd * 100, "0")
End Sub
```

11. From the File menu, choose Make EXE File...



12. Name the file VBTARGET.EXE and choose OK to create the .EXE file.
13. From the File Manager or Program Manager, run VBTARGET.EXE to display a random value in the text box every second.

#### Step Two -- Create the DDE destination application

14. From the DDE destination computer, start Visual Basic or if Visual Basic is already running, from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
15. Add a text box (Text1) to Form1.
16. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event of Form1:

```
Sub Form_Load ()
    Dim r As Long
    Dim szComputer As String      ' Network server name.
    Dim szTopic As String
    ' Identify the network server where the DDE source application
    ' is running. The following statement assumes the source computer
    ' name is COMPUTER1. Change it to your source computer name.
    szComputer = "\\COMPUTER1"
    ' Identify the DDE share established by the source application
    szTopic = "VBDDSource$"
    Text1.LinkMode = 0
    ' The link topic identifies the computer name and link topic
    ' as established by the DDE source application
    Text1.LinkTopic = szComputer + "\" + "NDDE$" + "|" + szTopic
    Text1.LinkItem = "VBItem" ' Name of text box in DDE source app

    Text1.LinkMode = 1          ' Automatic link.
End Sub
```

'For this program to work, set the szComputer variable (above) to the  
'computer name that holds the DDE source application. Find the name  
'in the Network section of Windows for Workgroups Control Panel.

17. From the Run menu, choose Start to run the program.

You should see the same random values generated on the source computer displayed in the text box of the destination computer. If you receive the error message "DDE method invoked with no channel open" on the Text1.LinkMode = 1 statement in Step 16, make sure the szComputer variable is set correctly.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: APrgNet IAPDDE

**Use COMPRESS-r to Avoid Error: Could not execute: SETUP1.EX 2**  
**Article ID: Q93426**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows,  
versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

SUMMARY

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Files used with the Setup Kit must be decompressed or compressed by using COMPRESS -r <filename>. The following error can occur if you use a method other than COMPRESS -r to create a file with an underscore as the last character:

Error - Could not execute: SETUP1.EX 2

However, VER.DLL must be named VER.DL\_ on the setup disk and must not be compressed.

MORE INFORMATION

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This information is included with the Help file provided with the Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.

The filename listed in the error message above can be different from SETUP1.EX if you customized the Setup Kit.

The following two commands both create a file named SETUP1.EX\_, but they are not equivalent:

```
COMPRESS -r SETUP1.EXE           (correct)
COMPRESS SETUP1.EXE SETUP1.EX_   (incorrect)
```

The COMPRESS.EXE option -r compresses a file, replaces the last character of the filename with an underscore (\_), and stores the replaced character in the compressed file. When the Setup Kit uses VER.DLL to decompress a file, VER.DLL reads the character from the file and restores the file to its original name.

If you create a file with an underscore as the last character without using COMPRESS -r, VER.DLL renames the file by removing the underscore. For example, SETUP1.EX\_ becomes SETUP1.EX.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00 errmsg

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: TlsSetWiz

## **DDE Conversation Can Cause Error Message: DDE Channel Locked**

**Article ID: Q95462**

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The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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The error message "DDE channel locked" indicates that an attempt is being made to open a DDE conversation between two objects that are already engaged in a conversation. However, usually the error message occurs in a Visual Basic application as a result of a non-Visual Basic DDE Server application failing to post or send a DDE message Visual Basic is expecting.

The best overall solution is to alter the DDE server application so that it correctly sends the appropriate DDE messages.

Both "DDE channel locked" and "Timeout while waiting for DDE response" are errors that can be trapped in Visual Basic, so you can work around the problem by performing the following steps:

1. Turn on error trapping. For example:

On Local Error GoTo DDEerrhand:

2. In your error handling routine, trap error #284 ("DDE channel locked") and set the LinkTimeout property to 1. This triggers the error message "Timeout while waiting for DDE response" much quicker.
3. Also, in your error handling routine trap error #286 ("Timeout while waiting for DDE response"), reset the LinkTimeout value, re-establish the link, and execute a RESUME statement, as in this example:

```
DDEerrhand:
Select Case Err
    Case 284:
        OldLinkMode = Text1.LinkMode
        OldTimeout = Text1.LinkTimeout
        Text1.LinkTimeout = 1
        Resume
    Case 286:
        Text1.LinkTimeout = OldTimeout
        Text1.LinkMode = 0
        Text1.LinkMode = OldLinkMode
        Resume
End Select
```

MORE INFORMATION

=====

The DDE conversation guidelines set by the Windows Software Development Kit (SDK) require that Visual Basic sometimes wait for an expected DDE message. If that message is never correctly sent or posted to Visual Basic, the following scenario is likely to occur, leading to the error message "DDE channel locked":

1. At some point between when Visual Basic established the conversation and the conversation terminated, the DDE server application fails to post or send a message that Visual Basic is expecting as a normal part of the DDE termination procedure.
2. At this point, Visual Basic is in a PeekMessage loop waiting for a message from the server indicating that the server application has also terminated the DDE conversation. Because Visual Basic is yielding the CPU inside the loop, the Visual Basic code continues to execute and the DDE conversation appears to have terminated normally from the server side.
3. Because Visual Basic is still waiting for the expected DDE message from the server application, the DDE channel is still open. Any attempt to reopen the channel (such as setting the LinkMode property for the control performing the DDE) results in a "DDE channel locked" error.

If no further DDE actions are attempted, you will receive a "Timeout while waiting for DDE response" error message. The timeout will occur after a number of milliseconds equal to the communicating control's LinkTimeout property.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00 3.00 errmsg

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## How to Use DDE to Display Microsoft Access Data in VB

Article ID: Q96845

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The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Professional Toolkit for Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 1.0
- 

### SUMMARY

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This article demonstrates how to use DDE to obtain and display data from a Microsoft Access database. While Microsoft Access does not support poking data into a database, it does provide several LinkTopics, so you can get information out from a database.

Using supported LinkTopics, you can receive:

- The contents of a Microsoft Access table
- The result of a stored query in the Microsoft Access database
- The result of a SQL expression that you pass to Microsoft Access
- Specifics about a Microsoft Access database

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Below you'll find example code and a detailed list of the LinkTopics and LinkItems supported by Microsoft Access. For the most updated list of LinkTopics and LinkItems supported by Microsoft Access, query on the following words in the Microsoft Knowledge Base:

access and DDE and item and topic and server

### LinkTopics Supported

-----

Here are the LinkTopics supported by Microsoft Access:

System	: List of supported LinkTopics.
<Database>	: <Database> is the filename of an existing database.
<TableName>	: <TableName> is a table within the specified database.
<QueryName>	: <QueryName> is a query within the specified database.
SQL <SQL Statement>	: Result of a SQL Query where <SQL Statement> is a valid SQL expression.

### LinkItems Supported for Each LinkTopic

-----

Here are the LinkItems supported for each LinkTopic and the results they return

System:

SysItems	- List of LinkItems supported by the System LinkTopic.
Formats	- List of formats Microsoft Access can post to the clipboard.
Status	- Busy or Ready.
Topics	- List of all open databases.
<Macro>	- Name of a macro to be executed.

#### Database:

TableList	- List of tables
QueryList	- List of queries
MacroList	- List of scripts
ReportList	- List of reports
FormList	- List of forms
ModuleList	- List of modules
<Macro>	- The name of a macro to be executed.

#### Table Name, Query Name, and SQL <expression>:

All	- All the data in the table including the column names.
Data	- All rows of data without the column names.
FieldCount	- Count of columns in the table or query results.
FieldNames	- List of Columns.
NextRow	- The next row in the table or query. When the conversation begins, NextRow returns the first row. If the current row is the last record, a NextRow request fails.
PrevRow	- The previous row in the table or query. If PrevRow is the first request over a new channel, the last row of the table or query is returned. If the current row is the first record, a PrevRow request fails.
FirstRow	- Data in the first row.
LastRow	- Data in the last row.
<Macro>	- The name of a macro to be executed.

Although all three LinkTopics (table name, query name, and SQL expression) return contents from the database and all three support the same LinkItems, their syntax structures differ slightly. Each LinkTopic must specify the database the object is in, a semicolon (;), the keyword (TABLE, QUERY, or SQL), and the name of an existing table, query, or SQL expression. Here are the syntax structures:

```
[db Name];TABLE <Table name>
[db Name];QUERY <Query name>
[db Name];SQL <SQL expression>;
```

Here are examples:

```
Text1.LinkTopic = "C:\ACCESS\NWIND.MDB;TABLE Employees"
Text1.LinkTopic = "C:\ACCESS\NWIND.MDB;QUERY Sales Totals"
Text1.LinkTopic = "C:\ACCESS\NWIND.MDB;SQL Select * from Employees;"
```

Note that all SQL statements must end with a semicolon (;).

#### Step-by-Step Example

-----

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N)

if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.

2. From the File menu, choose Add File. In the Files box, select the GRID.VBX custom control file. The grid tool appears in the Toolbox.
3. Add two list boxes (List1 and List2) to Form1. The List1 box holds the list of Tables and the List2 box holds the Queries.
4. Add two command buttons (Command1 and Command2) to Form1, placing the Command1 button beneath the List1 box and the Command2 button beneath the List2 box. Change the following properties:

Default	Name	Caption
Command1	GetTableList	Get &Table List
Command2	GetQueryList	Get &Query List

5. Add a grid control (Grid1) to Form1 giving it the following properties:

Default	Name	FixedCols
Grid1	Grid1	0

The user chooses to display a table or the results of a query in Grid1.

6. Add two text boxes (Text1 and Text2) to Form1. The Text2 box acts as the destination for the data added to List1 and List2, so the user doesn't need to see this text box. But the Text1 box needs to be visible to the user because it acts as the destination for individual rows returned from a query or table.
7. Add two more command buttons to Form1, placing them beneath the Text1 box. Give the two command buttons the following properties:

Default	Name	Caption
Command1	NextRow	&Next Row
Command2	PrevRow	&Previous Row

8. Add the following code to the General Declarations section of Form1:

```
Const None = 0
Const Automatic = 1
Const Manual = 2
Const dbname = "C:\ACCESS\NWIND.MDB" ' Change Paths as necessary
Const accesspath = "C:\ACCESS\MSACCESS.EXE "
```

9. Add the following three Sub procedures to the General Declarations section of Form1:

```
Sub ClearGrid ()
    ' Select all grid cells.
    Grid1.SelStartCol = 0
    Grid1.SelStartRow = 1
    Grid1.SelEndCol = Grid1.Cols - 1
    Grid1.SelEndRow = Grid1.Rows - 1
    ' Clear the cells.
```

```

Grid1.Clip = ""
' Clean up the grid.
Grid1.Col = Grid1.FixedCols
Grid1.Row = Grid1.FixedRows
Grid1.SelEndCol = Grid1.SelStartCol
Grid1.SelEndRow = Grid1.SelStartRow
End Sub

Sub PopulateGrid (IsTable%, QueryOrTable$)
    If IsTable% Then
        Text1.LinkTopic = "MSACCESS|" + dbname + ";TABLE " + QueryOrTable$
    Else
        Text1.LinkTopic = "MSACCESS|" + dbname + ";QUERY " + QueryOrTable$
    End If
    Text1.LinkItem = "FieldCount"
    Text1.LinkMode = Automatic
    Grid1.Cols = Val(Text1.Text)

    Text1.LinkItem = "FieldNames"
    Grid1.FixedRows = 0      ' Cannot additem to a fixed row
    Grid1.AddItem Text1.Text, 0
    Grid1.FixedRows = 1

    On Error GoTo LastRowErr
    Text1.LinkItem = "LastRow"
    Grid1.AddItem Text1.Text, 1
    Text1.LinkItem = "PrevRow"
    Do
        Grid1.AddItem Text1.Text, 1
        Text1.LinkRequest
    Loop
    Exit Sub
LastRowErr:
    Exit Sub ' Error occurs when last row is reached
End Sub

Sub GetList (L As ListBox, ListType$)
    text2.LinkMode = None
    text2.LinkTopic = "MSAccess|" + dbname
    text2.LinkItem = ListType$
    text2.LinkMode = Automatic
    StartPos% = 1
    Do
        Pos% = InStr(StartPos%, text2.Text, Chr$(9))
        If Pos% = 0 Then Exit Do
        L.AddItem Mid$(text2.Text, StartPos%, Pos% - StartPos%)
        StartPos% = Pos% + 1
    Loop
End Sub

```

10. Add the following code to the Form\_Load event of Form1:

```

Sub Form_Load ()
    result% = Shell(accesspath + dbname, 1)
End Sub

```

11. Add the following code to the GetQueryList\_Click event procedure:



```

Sub GetQueryList_Click ()
    GetList List2, "QueryList"
End Sub

```

12. Add the following code to the GetQueryList\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub GetTableList_click ()
    GetList List1, "TableList"
End Sub

```

13. Add the following code to the List1\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub List1_Click ()
    Table$ = List1.Text
    ClearGrid
    PopulateGrid True, Table$
End Sub

```

14. Add the following code to the List2\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub List2_Click ()
    Query$ = List1.Text
    ClearGrid
    PopulateGrid False, Query$
End Sub

```

15. Add the following code to the NextRow\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub NextRow_click ()
    On Error GoTo NextRowErrHand:
    Text1.LinkItem = "NextRow" ' Get the next row of results
    Exit Sub
NextRowErrHand:
    MsgBox "Last row reached"
    Exit Sub
End Sub

```

16. Add the following code to the PrevRow\_Click event procedure:

```

Sub PrevRow_Click ()
    On Error GoTo PrevRowErrHand
    Text1.LinkItem = "PrevRow"
    Exit Sub
PrevRowErrHand:
    MsgBox "First Row Reached"
    Exit Sub
End Sub

```

17. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) to run the program. Microsoft Access is shelled with the NWIND.MDB sample database open and Form1 showing on the screen.
18. Choose the Get Table List button to see a list of all the tables in the NWIND database displayed in the List1 box.
19. Choose the Get Query List button to see a list of the previously

defined queries that exist in the NWIND database displayed in the List2 box.

20. Select one of the items in either the List1 or List2 box to see the results displayed in Grid1.
21. Choose the Next Row button to see the second row displayed in the Text1 box. Continue to choose the Next Row button to display successive rows until you get to the last row. When you get to the last row, a message box appears to tell you that you reached the last row.
22. Choose the Prev Row button. The row previous to the one displayed in the Text1 box is displayed.

Additional reference words: 1.00 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## OLE Embedding & Linking Word for Windows Objects into VB Apps

Article ID: Q97618

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Professional Edition of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, version 2.0
  - Microsoft Word for Windows, version 2.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article shows by example how to use the object linking and embedding (OLE) client custom control (OLECLIEN.VBX) with Microsoft Word for Windows. The example demonstrates both how to embed and how to link a Word for Windows document into a Visual Basic application.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Embedding an object encapsulates the data displayed in the Visual Basic OLE client control and makes the data inaccessible to other applications, unlike the data in an linked object. In addition, embedding an object does not require that a file already exist for the object to be usable.

Linking an object, on the other hand, does require that a file already exist, and it requires a LinkItem setting. For a Word for Windows document, the LinkItem can be any bookmark within the document.

The example shown below demonstrates how to use:

- Embedded Word for Windows objects
- Linked Word for Windows objects

The following OLE client control property settings are required to create a Word for Windows OLE object:

Property	Value
-----	
Class	"WordDocument"
Protocol	"StdFileEditing"

In addition, linked objects require the following OLE client control property settings:

Property	Value
-----	
SourceDoc	The full path of the document to use (such as C:\OLETEST.DOC)
SourceItem	A bookmark (OLE_Link is used in this example)

Here are the steps you need to follow to create the example:

Step One: Create the Word for Windows Document You Want to Link Or Embed

-----

1. Start Word for Windows. Document1 is created by default.
2. Press CTRL+SHIFT+END to select to the end of the document.
3. From the Insert menu, choose Bookmark. Under Bookmark Name, type:

OLE\_Link

and press ENTER to set a bookmark for the entire document. This bookmark functions as the LinkItem.

4. From the File menu, choose Save As, and save the document with the name C:\OLETEST.DOC. (If the path is different, change the ServerDoc property on OleClient1 to reflect the correct path.)

#### Step Two: Create the Visual Basic Application That Will Hold the Document

---

1. Start Visual Basic or from the File menu, choose New Project (ALT, F, N) if Visual Basic is already running. Form1 is created by default.
2. From the File menu, choose Add File and add OLECLIEN.VBX to the project.
3. Add the following controls to Form1, and give them the properties shown:

Default Name	Caption	Name
OleClient1	N/A	OleClient1
Option1	&Embed Object	OptionEmbed
Option2	&Link Object	OptionLink
Command1	Embed WinWord Object	Command1

4. Change the Value property on OptionEmbed to True.
5. Add the following code to the general declarations section of Form1:

```
Dim fshowing As Integer

Const OLE_LINKED = 0
Const OLE_EMBEDDED = 1
Const OLE_STATIC = 2

Const OLE_CREATE = 0
Const OLE_CREATE_FROM_FILE = 1
Const OLE_UPDATE = 6
Const OLE_ACTIVATE = 7
Const OLE_DELETE = 10
```

6. Add the following code to the click event of Command1:

```
Sub Command1_Click ()

    ' Unload the current object so a new object can be loaded
    If fshowing Then
        OleClient1.Action = OLE_DELETE
    End If

    OleClient1.Class = "WordDocument"
```

```

OleClient1.Protocol = "StdFileEditing"
If OptionEmbed Then
    ' Data is managed by Visual Basic
    OleClient1.ServerType = OLE_EMBEDDED
    OleClient1.Action = OLE_CREATE
Else
    OleClient1.SourceDoc = "C:\OLETEST.DOC"
    OleClient1.SourceItem = "OLE_Link"
    OleClient1.ServerType = OLE_LINKED
    OleClient1.Action = OLE_CREATE_FROM_FILE
End If
OleClient1.Action = OLE_UPDATE
fshowing = True

```

End Sub

7. Add the following code to the DblClick event of OleClient1:

```

Sub OleClient1_DblClick ()
    OleClient1.Action = OLE_ACTIVATE
End Sub

```

8. Add the following code to the Click event of OptionEmbed:

```

Sub OptionEmbed_Click ()
    Command1.Caption = "Embed WinWord Object"
End Sub

```

9. Add the following code to the Click event of OptionLink:

```

Sub OptionLink_Click ()
    Command1.Caption = "Link WinWord Object"
End Sub

```

8. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT+R, S) to run the program.
9. Click the Embed WinWord Object button to activate Word for Windows.
10. Type some text into the active Word document.
11. Close Word and click the Yes button when asked if you want to update the Object in OleClient1. The Word for Windows icon is painted in the OleClient1 control.
12. Double-click the OLE client control to reactivate Word and redisplay the text you entered.
13. Click OptionLink. The caption of button changes to Link WinWord Object.
14. Click the Link WinWord Object button. The Word icon remains in the OLE client control, however it is now linked to the document created in the first part of this example, not the embedded object.
15. Double-click the OLE client control to activate Word for Windows and redisplay the text you entered in the first document.

Additional reference words: 2.00

KBCategory:  
KBSubcategory: IAPOLE

**PRB: Error: Setup could not be completed due to system errors**  
**Article ID: Q98554**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

During Visual Basic setup, you may encounter this error:

Setup could not be completed due to system errors

Then setup terminates. This error usually occurs while setup is calculating the amount of free disk space.

CAUSE

=====

This error occurs because Visual Basic setup is attempting to use an older version of LZEXPAND.DLL that it found on your computer. In all reported cases of this problem, the LZEXPAND.DLL file is dated 7-Aug-91 and is usually located in the WINDOWS directory.

One product that may install a copy of LZEXPAND.DLL dated 7-Aug-91 is MicroHelp Muscle version 1.0. However, it is possible that other products not sold by Microsoft may also install this file.

RESOLUTION

=====

To overcome this problem, perform the following steps:

1. Exit from Windows to MS-DOS.
2. Find the LZEXPAND.DLL file that's dated 7-Aug-91. It may be located in the WINDOWS or WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory, but it is usually in the WINDOWS directory.
3. Delete or rename the LZEXPAND.DLL dated 7-Aug-91 to a new name.
4. Locate a copy of LZEXPAND.DLL on your computer that has a date later than 7-Aug-91, and put it in the WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory.
5. If you don't find a later version of LZEXPAND.DLL, run the Windows Setup program from the Windows distribution disks. This will install a later version of LZEXPAND.DLL in the WINDOWS\SYSTEM directory.
6. Start Windows.
7. Run the Visual Basic setup program again.

The error should no longer occur.

Additional reference words: 2.00 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: Setins



**PRB: GP Fault with Visual Basic DDE Sample & Word for Windows**  
**Article ID: Q99812**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 2.0 and 3.0
  - Microsoft Word for Windows, versions 2.0a, 2.0b, and 2.0c
- 

SYMPTOMS

=====

Running the Visual Basic DDE sample with Microsoft Word for Windows may cause a general protection (GP) fault.

STATUS

=====

Microsoft has confirmed this to be a problem with Microsoft Word for Windows versions 2.0a, 2.0b, and 2.0c. We are researching this problem and will post new information here in the Microsoft Knowledge Base as it becomes available.

MORE INFORMATION

=====

Steps to Reproduce Problem

-----

1. Start Word for Windows (WINWORD.EXE).
2. Start Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows.
3. From the File menu, choose Open Project (ALT, F, O). Then open the DDE.MAK project from the \VB\SAMPLES\DDE directory.
4. From the Run menu, choose start (ALT, R, S), or press F5.  
The main form of DDE.MAK is titled DDE Experimenter.
5. From the DDE Experimenter form, select WinWord as the Application and Document1 as the Topic. The Item automatically becomes \Doc.
6. Select the Manual option.
7. Click the Connect button. The caption for the command button will change to Disconnect.
7. Type text into the text box in the Destination Data section of the DDE Experimenter form.
8. Click the Poke button.
9. Select the Automatic option.

At this point, a GP fault occurs in USER.EXE. The address of the GP fault

varies depending on the version of Word for Windows. Although the message indicates that Visual Basic caused the GP fault, the problem is actually caused by Word for Windows, not Visual Basic.

Additional reference words: 3.00 WinWord 2.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: IAPDDE

## How to Change the Setup Application Name in SETUP1.EXE

Article ID: Q101743

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.00.
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

The Setup Wizard in Visual Basic version 3.0 creates SETUP1.EXE that when executed displays a blue background with white letters that say: "<EXE NAME> Setup," where <EXE NAME> is the name of your application. This article explains how to change that message to something other than the default.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To change the display of <EXE NAME>, follow these steps:

1. Run the Setup Wizard as you normally would to create installation disks.
2. Start Visual Basic and load the project SETUP1A.MAK (The Setup Wizard created this project in the C:\VB\SETUPKIT\SETUP1 directory).
3. In the General Declarations section of SETUP1A.FRM, change the value of constant APPNAME:

```
Const APPNAME = "<Whatever you want to put here>"
```

4. From the File menu, choose Make EXE to create the file SETUP1.EXE.
5. Exit to MS-DOS.
6. Copy and compress the file SETUP1.EXE to your distribution disk.

```
C:\VB\SETUPKIT\KITFILES\COMPRESS -r SETUP1.EXE A:\
```

This will copy over the old SETUP1.EX\_ that was created on the distribution disk by the Setup Wizard.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: TlsSetWiz

**Additions to 'Determining the Files You Need to Distribute'**  
**Article ID: Q103439**

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, version 3.0  
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SUMMARY  
=====

After producing an executable program (.EXE file) in Microsoft Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows, if you want to distribute, sell or test that .EXE file on another computer that does not have Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows installed, you need to know which files to distribute with your .EXE file. These files are listed on pages 579-582 in the Visual Basic version 3.0 for Windows "Programmer's Guide." This article gives a list of files to be appended to that list.

MORE INFORMATION  
=====

Note that VBRUN300.DLL must always be distributed with your executable program.

Below is a list of files that need to be appended to the list provided on pages 579-582 in the "Programmer's Guide."

File Names to Distribute:      Required if your program....  
-----

PDIRJET.DLL	Uses Crystal Reports for
PDBJET.DLL	Visual Basic.
MSAJT110.DLL	
MSAES110.DLL	

PDSODBC.DLL	Uses ODBC and Crystal Reports for
	Visual Basic.

MSAFINX.DLL	Uses the IIF or any of the
	financial functions.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory:

KBSubcategory: TlsSetWiz

## How to Run a WinHelp Macro from a Help File

Article ID: Q104165

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Standard and Professional Editions of Microsoft Visual Basic for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

This article shows by example how to invoke WinHelp macros in a Help file upon first entering a topic or upon clicking a hot spot. The examples show you how to modify the example help topic source file VB\HC\ICONWRKS.RTF using Microsoft Word version 2.0 for Windows. After making the changes and compiling the .RTF file into a Help file (.HLP file), you will be able to execute a macro upon first entering the topic or upon clicking a hot spot.

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

To run a macro when a topic is first entered, enter the macro call into a custom footnote with an exclamation (!) as the footnote mark. To do this in Microsoft Word version 2.0 for Windows, follow these steps:

1. Open the file VB\HC\ICONWRKS.RTF.
2. Locate the beginning of this topic heading:

Editor: Commands and Tools

Place the text caret at the beginning of the line, in front of the pound (#) character.

3. From the Insert menu, choose Footnote and select Custom Footnote Mark. Enter the exclamation mark (!) and choose the OK button. The Footnotes area appears at the bottom of the window with the caret on a line that begins with the exclamation mark (!).

4. Enter this text:

About()

5. To save this change, from the File menu, choose Close. In each of the subsequent three dialogs, press the Enter key to select the default button.

6. At the command prompt, set the current directory to VB\HC. Then enter the following command to compile the help file:

HC31 ICONWRKS.HPJ

7. Load the resulting ICONWRKS.HLP file into WINHELP.EXE. To do this in the

Program Manger, from the File menu, choose Run. Then enter the full path of VB\HC\ICONWRKS.HLP. The IconWorks help file appears.

8. Click the hot spot Commands and Tools to jump to the topic that contains the macro call. When the topic appears, the About() macro displays a dialog box titled About Help.

To run a macro immediately when a hot spot is clicked, format the hot spot text as double-underlined text followed by an exclamation mark (!) and the macro call -- both formatted as hidden text. To do this in Microsoft Word version 2.0 for Windows, follow these steps:

1. Open the file VB\HC\ICONWRKS.RTF.
2. From the Tools menu, choose Options. Select the View Category. In the section labeled Nonprinting Characters, check Paragraph Marks and Hidden Text.
3. Place the text caret at the beginning of the second line of the file (the line following the heading). Enter the text "Call Macro!About()" without the quotation marks, and press the Enter key.
4. Select the text "Call Macro" up to but not including the exclamation mark. From the Format menu, choose Character. Change the setting in the combo box labeled Underline from None to Double. Choose the OK button.
5. Select the text "!About()" up to but not including the paragraph character at the end of the line. From the Format menu, choose Character. In the Style section, check Hidden.
6. Close the file. Compile it using the Help compiler (HC31.EXE). Then view the compiled .HLP file using WINHELP.EXE. See the previous example for an explanation of how to do this.
7. Click the Call Macro hot spot. The About() macro displays a dialog box titled About Help.

Additional reference words: 3.00

KBCategory: Tls

KBSubCategory: TlsHC

## How to Manipulate Groups & Items in Program Manager Using DDE

Article ID: Q104943

-----  
The information in this article applies to:

- Microsoft Visual Basic programming system for Windows, versions 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0
- 

### SUMMARY

=====

Program Manager has a DDE command-string interface that allows other applications to create, display, delete, and reload groups; add items to groups; replace items in groups; delete items from groups; and close Program Manager. The following commands perform these actions:

- CreateGroup
- Reload (Windows 3.1 only)
- DeleteGroup
- ShowGroup
- ReplaceItem (Windows 3.1 only)
- DeleteItem (Windows version 3.1 only)
- AddItem

### MORE INFORMATION

=====

Perform the following steps to produce an application that manipulates Program Manager using DDE:

1. Start Visual Basic or if Visual Basic is already running, choose New Project from the File menu (ALT, F, N). Form1 is created by default.
2. Add a Textbox control (Text1) to Form1
3. Add a Label control (Label1) to Form1 and change the caption to Group.
- 4 Add a Textbox control (Text2) to Form1 and change the caption to GGroup.
5. Add a Label control (Label2) to Form1 and change the caption to Item.
6. Add a Textbox control (Text3) to Form1 and change the caption to GItem.
7. Add a Label control (Label3) to Form1 and change the caption to Command Line.
8. Add a Textbox control (Text4) to Form1 and change the caption to ItemExe.
9. Add a Command Button control (Command1) to Form1 and name it CGroup for create group.
10. Add the following code to the CGroup\_Click event of Form1:

```

Sub CGroup_Click ()
Dim cmd As String
    On Error GoTo CGroup_Error
    text1.LinkMode = 0
    text1.LinkTopic = "Progman|Progman"
    text1.LinkMode = 2
    cmd = "[CreateGroup(" + GGroup.Text + ")]"
    text1.LinkExecute cmd
CGDone:    text1.LinkMode = 0
    Exit Sub
CGroup_Error:
    MsgBox "Error Adding Group"
    Resume CGDone
End Sub

```

11. Add a Command Button control (Command2) to Form1 and name it DGroup for Delete Group.

12. Add the following code to the DGroup\_Click event of Form1:

```

Sub DGroup_Click ()
Dim cmd As String
    On Error GoTo DGroup_Error
    text1.LinkMode = 0
    text1.LinkTopic = "Progman|Progman"
    text1.LinkMode = 2
    cmd = "[DeleteGroup(" + GGroup.Text + ")]"
    text1.LinkExecute cmd
DGDone:    text1.LinkMode = 0
    Exit Sub
DGroup_Error:
    MsgBox "Error Deleting Group"
    Resume DGDone
End Sub

```

13. Add a Command Button control (Command3) to Form1 and name it SGroup for ShowGroup.

14. Add the following code to the SGroup\_Click event of Form1:

```

Sub SGroup_Click ()
Dim cmd As String
    On Error GoTo SGroup_Error
    text1.LinkMode = 0
    text1.LinkTopic = "Progman|Progman"
    text1.LinkMode = 2
    cmd = "[ShowGroup(" + GGroup.Text + ", 1" + ")]"
    text1.LinkExecute cmd
SGDone:    text1.LinkMode = 0
    Exit Sub
SGroup_Error:
    MsgBox "Error Showing Group"
    Resume SGDone
End Sub

```

15. Add a Command Button control (Command4) to Form1 and name it



Reload.

16. Add the following code to the Reload\_Click event of Form1:

```
Sub Reload_Click ()
Dim cmd As String
    On Error GoTo RLError
    text1.LinkMode = 0
    text1.LinkTopic = "Progman|Progman"
    text1.LinkMode = 2
    cmd = "[Reload(" + GGroup.Text + ")]"
    text1.LinkExecute cmd
RLDone:    text1.LinkMode = 0
    Exit Sub
RLError:
    MsgBox "Error Reloading Group"
    Resume RLDone
End Sub
```

17. Add a Command Button control (Command5) to Form1 and name it AItem for add item.

18. Add the following code to the AItem\_Click event of Form1:

```
Sub AItem_Click ()
Dim cmd As String
    On Error GoTo ALError
    text1.LinkMode = 0
    text1.LinkTopic = "Progman|Progman"
    text1.LinkMode = 2
    '*** The ShowGroup is necessary because AddItem changes the group
    '*** with the focus. ShowGroup forces the group you want the
    '*** action taken to get the focus.
    If (Len(GGroup.Text) > 0) Then
        cmd = "[ShowGroup(" + GGroup.Text + ", 1" + ")]"
        text1.LinkExecute cmd
    End If
    cmd = "[Additem(" + ItemExe.Text + "," + GItem.Text + ")]"
    text1.LinkExecute cmd
AIDone:
    text1.LinkMode = 0
    Exit Sub
ALError:
    MsgBox "Error adding Item"
    Resume AIDone
End Sub
```

19. Add a Command Button control (Command6) to Form1 and name it DItem for delete item.

20. Add the following code to the DItem\_Click event of Form1:

```
Sub DItem_Click ()
Dim cmd As String
    On Error GoTo DLError
    text1.LinkMode = 0
    text1.LinkTopic = "Progman|Progman"
```

```

text1.LinkMode = 2
'*** ShowGroup is necessary because DeleteItem changes the group
'*** with the focus. ShowGroup forces the group you want the action
'*** taken to get the focus.
If (Len(GGroup.Text) > 0) Then
    cmd = "[ShowGroup(" + GGroup.Text + ", 1" + ")]"
    text1.LinkExecute cmd
End If
cmd = "[DeleteItem(" + GItem.Text + ")]"
text1.LinkExecute cmd
DIDone:    text1.LinkMode = 0
Exit Sub
DIError:
    MsgBox "Error Deleting Item"
    Resume DIDone
End Sub

```

21. Add a Command Button control (Command7) to Form1 and name it RItem for replace item.

22. Add the following code to the RItem\_Click event of Form1:

```

Sub RItem_Click ()
Dim cmd As String
On Error GoTo RLError
text1.LinkMode = 0
text1.LinkTopic = "Progman|Progman"
text1.LinkMode = 2
'*** ShowGroup forces the group you want the action taken on
'*** to get the focus.
If (Len(GGroup.Text) > 0) Then
    cmd = "[ShowGroup(" + GGroup.Text + ", 1" + ")]"
    text1.LinkExecute cmd
End If
cmd = "[ReplaceItem(" + GItem.Text + ")]"
text1.LinkExecute cmd
cmd = "[Additem(" + ItemExe.Text + "," + GItem.Text + ")]"
text1.LinkExecute cmd
RIDone:    text1.LinkMode = 0
Exit Sub
RLError:
    MsgBox "Error Replacing Item"
    Resume RIDone
End Sub

```

23. From the Run menu, choose Start (ALT, R, S) or press the F5 key to run the program. Enter the group you want created in the GGroup textbox and click the Create Group button. You will now see the group you created in Program Manager. To add an item to a group, enter the group in the GGroup textbox. Enter the item you want added in the GItem textbox and enter the command line in the ItemExe textbox. The item will now be in the group you specified.

For more information, refer to the "Programmers Reference, Volume 1: Overview Microsoft Windows SDK," chapter 17, "Shell Dynamic DataExchange Interface." Also, look in the Windows SDK Help file in the Progman topic.

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