

**Optimize Client/Server Apps**

# **VISUAL BASIC<sup>®</sup>**

PROGRAMMER'S JOURNAL

## ***Which is Faster?***

- ▶ On Win 3.x, 95, & NT
- ▶ On a 486 or Pentium
- ▶ For graphics, form loading,  
& number crunching

**Clocking  
Data Access**  
DAO, RDO, & ODBC API

**GUI Design**  
DOs & DON'Ts

*Improve*  
**VB4 Setup**





**18** Steve Jackson benchmarks data access techniques, and

**36** Ward Hitt lets VB3 and VB4 duke it out.

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## FEATURES

### **18** CLOCKING DATA ACCESS *by Steve Jackson*

Programmers dabbling in client/server development must choose from several disparate data access techniques, and choose wisely if the desired result is speed and efficiency. Steve's benchmarks can help you make these choices.

### **36** BENCHMARK BATTLE *by Ward Hitt*

You'll be surprised to learn that for graphics processing using VB methods, VB4 may be the slowest environment you could choose. Not surprisingly, though, it ranks the fastest for the other operations tested in the author's benchmarks.

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Picasso had his Blue Period. GUI designers pass through the Ransom-Note Phase before developing the advanced skill of Restrained Simplicity. GUI expert Virginia Howlett helps you achieve the stature of an interface artiste.

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Not literally, but figuratively, as in screamingly fast. Code carefully with VB4/32 and SQL Server 6.0, and you can reap spectacular performance gains.

### **74** TAKE CONTROL OF SETUP *by Michiel De Bruijn*

Even if you never used VB3's SetupWizard, you'll want to explore Microsoft's VB4 implementation of the setup automation facility: it's reliable, and it offers plenty of goodies in both 16- and 32-bit versions.

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