



Introduction

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Visual Basic Formatter (VBF) is designed to assist you, the Visual Basic software developer, maintain well documented source code. Clearly printed source is not only an asset during development but also can prove invaluable in the future, when revisions and updates may be necessary.

VBF provides two principal functions:

• Structuring of source code in accordance with logical hierarchy - This creates a listing which shows the relationships of Visual Basic command groups:

- For/Next
- If/End If
- Do/Loop
- Sub/End Sub
- Function/End Function
- Begin/End

VBF shows each of these logical sets by means of indented lines of code. Sets nested within other sets are successively indented. You may select how many spaces to use for indenture.

• Customizable, formatted, printed code - The source code, once formatted for indenture, may be printed in your choice of font. You also have the options of printing form descriptions, highlighting comments with bold or italics, and adding a project title to the listings.

VBF automatically extracts forms (FRM file extensions) and modules (BAS file extensions) from the project MAK file. You may then select any or all files for formatting and/or printing.

Note: All form and module files must be saved as ASCII text files.



Registration Information

VBF is distributed as shareware. If you find this program useful and would like to eliminate the "registration request" messages and be able to save your options, please register.

Upon registering, you will receive a unique user name and ID number which must be entered in **VBF**.

The cost of registration is US\$30. You may register three ways:

Compuserve Software Registration (SWREG)

Cash, Check, or Money Order (US funds only!)

Charge Cards

Instructions for registering may be seen by clicking **Registration** on the main window menu bar.

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Author Information

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Other programs by the author:

◆ *Hebrew Calendar for Windows* - Almost everything you ever wanted to know about the Hebrew calendar: date conversions, Jewish holidays and observances, sunrise/sunset, extensive *zmanim* lists, anniversaries (general, birthday and *yahrzeit*), Torah and haftarah readings.

◆ *Printer Select* - A useful utility for those with one or more printing devices, for example, a printer and a FAX modem. A small window allows you to select printing device, orientation and Print Manager on/off state.

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Selecting Files, Setting Options and Processing

SELECTING PROJECT FILES

VBF processes Visual Basic form and module files. Form and module files are automatically selected from the project MAK file.

Note: All form and module files must be saved as ASCII text files.

To select the desired MAK file, select the appropriate drive and directory using the list boxes.

Select the desired MAK file by double-clicking or dragging the file name to the **MAK File Forms and Modules** list box.

SELECTING FORM AND MODULE FILES TO FORMAT OR PRINT

Select files from the **MAK File Forms and Modules** list box. To select a single file, click on the file name. To select a continuous list of files, click and drag the mouse along the file names, or, press and hold a shift key then click on the first and last file in the set. To select multiple, non-adjacent files, press and hold a control key, then click on the desired file names.

Select All - Select all form and module files for formatting.

Clear All - Deselect all form and module files previously selected.

PROCESSING

Format - Create formatted listings for the selected form and module files. *Backups are all formatted files are automatically created.* A progress window will appear which shows the status of processing.

Note: When printed or previewed, long lines are wrapped and shown with a hanging indent (second and subsequent lines receive a secondary indent) of 1/2 inch. In addition, a "]" symbol in the right margin brackets all printed lines of the long line.

Preview - Preview the listing of a single selected form or module file will look when printed. A window will appear which you can use to examine the printed pages in detail, print any or all pages and copy a single page to the Windows Clipboard.

Print - Print the selected form and module files without preview.

Formatting Options

Spaces to Indent: Sets the number of spaces to indent each nested structure.

Printing Options

Project Title - Enter a brief title for the project (optional). The title will be printed in the page

headers.

Italicize Comments - Check to italicize code comments.

Bold Comments - Check to bold code comments.

Create Sub/Function Index - Check to create index on last page of printout of all subroutines and functions in the file.

Header/Footer Font - You may select any installed font to use for headers and footers.

Code Font (Use fixed pitch font) - You may select any installed font to use for code line, however for readability, a fixed pitch font, such as Courier New, is recommended..

Print Form Descriptions - Leave unchecked to omit form description code lines which often consume many printed pages.

Time - You may choose either **12-Hour** or **24-Hour** formats. The time and date files were last saved print in the page headers. The time and date of printing print in the page footers along with page numbers.

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Print Preview

VBF provides a **Print Preview** capability for printing tasks. This allows you to see what will be printed before actually sending data to the printer.

You may change the **Zoom** factor to look at fine details of the printed page. If there are multiple pages, a **Page** scroll bar will appear to allow you to look at each page individually. You may also directly **Print** from this window without having to re-generate the printable data.

Use **Copy** to copy to the Windows clipboard. The data can then be inserted into other documents as a graphic.

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Format Progress

This window will appear during file formatting. Backup files are created for each file automatically.

An error beep will sound if there is a nesting error. This means that there is a violation of structure, an unmatched or unpaired set of commands. Generally, Visual Basic will detect and ask you to correct most of these errors while in the development environment. The comment '`<<<<Nesting error detected!`' will be inserted in the source code at the point the error was detected.

Delete BAK - This will delete all backup files created during formatting. You may not want to delete the backups until you gain confidence in using VBF.

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Select Font

All available printer fonts are displayed. Highlight the desired font and click **Select**.

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Glossary

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

C

comment

F

form

formatting

I

indenture

L

lone lines

M

module

N

nesting error

V

VBE

comment

Phrase in Visual Basic source code denoted with a "" or "REM."

form

Visual Basic container with a file extension FRM.

formatting

The VBE process of indenting source code to denote logical relationship between Visual Basic command sets.

indenture

The spacing inserted by VBE to denote logical relationship between Visual Basic command sets such as If/End If, Sub/ End Sub, etc.

lone lines

Codes lines that exceed more than one printed lines. These are shown with a hanging indent and a "]" symbol in the right margin.

module

Visual Basic code file with an extension FRM.

nesting error

There will be a nesting error if there is a violation of rules for matching command pairs in structured source code, such as "If" without a properly matched "End If."

VBF

Visual Basic Formatter, this program.

