

Robocx RoboPrint for Visual Basic 5.0/6.0.

Get Started

1. Select the right button while the cursor is on the Tools window.
2. In this way, you will reach the Components window. In the Components window, select Browse, search for the directory in which the Roboprint shareware is found or go to the Windows\system if the work is a registered copy.
3. Select the OCX File of Roboprint, and it will appear on the Components list.
4. Select OK and return to Edit environment.
5. The Roboprint symbol will now appear on the Tools window. Drag it to your form. The Preview and Print options are now surrounded by a red frame.
6. Select F5 in order to carry out your command. Now select the Preview button of Roboprint.
7. In the center of the form, a small window will appear which points to the page number which has just been created.
8. Following it, the Preview window will appear and within it you will be able to see a display of how your form will appear. Select the Print button and the contents of your form will be sent to your printer.
9. If you choose to use your buttons, you must determine the value of Roboprint Visible to False and add a line of code in your button e.g.:

```
Private Sub PreviewButton_Click()  
Roboprint1.Preview  
End Sub
```

```
Private Sub PrintButton_Click()  
Roboprint1.LVPrint  
End Sub
```

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Customize

In a large proportion of instances, the user will be satisfied with the results and will have to decide, at this point, on determining values of a number of aspects of Roboprint:

Monochrome Always

This will cause the Preview to be black and white even when Roboprint.Color Property = V_Color. This is recommended for documents consisting of many pages. A single-color document will require much less working memory and the work will be carried out more quickly.

Color

V_Monochrome will cause background colors to be printed white. Lines, forms and text will be black.

Page Numbers

Prints the page number at the bottom of the page.

FootTitle – TopTitle

This is for headers and footers. In order to compose a title of more than one line, you must add the code line: FirstLineString & Chr\$(10) & SecondLineString etc.

TopFootAlign can be: 0-Left, 1-Right, or 2-Center

RepeatHeader

This allows printing titles or lists of tables on every page.

Margins

TopMargin, LeftMargin, FootMargin and RightMargin

The values represent centimeters (approximate).

Reasons that printing may be other than intended

Tables

When Controls appears beside the table, they will be printed under the table.

Solution: Determine the value of **SideBySide** to True.

Shortcomings of the solution:

If there are unseen columns in the table, the table will be printed on the left side in order to allow all of the columns to be printed. In this case, controls may be printed on the table. If the table has many lines and the printing is extended to an additional page or pages, be certain that beside it Control will be printed, but only on the final page on which the table will appear. In order to prevent this, the Control must be placed so that its Top will be smaller than that of the table

Not all of the columns can fit on the page

If you must scroll to the right in order to see all of the columns which you typed in the table, the table will be wider than the space that it occupies on the screen.

Solution:

If an additional small amount of space is required, select the Zoom Property of Roboprint at a value of less than 100; otherwise, choose the Orientation command of Landscape, or select columns which you are prepared to forego for Visible = False if you are dealing with DBGrid or their width is 0 as in the example of a table of the FlexGrid type.

Containers

If you are working on Container with Scroll_Bars, you can assure its location at 0,0 in BeforePrint_Event and it can be returned to its place by AfterPrint_Event.

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Size of Printed Objects Related to the Screen

The width of regular A4 paper is 12,000 dots. If the definition which you have chosen for your computer screen is 800 x 600 for small fonts, there will be proper coordination between the size of the objects as you see them and their size on the printed paper. However, if you chose the definition of large fonts, for example, the printed size will be 25% smaller because in this case Screen.Width=9000. If you want complete coordination, you must select the **Roboprint.Zoom** Property for 125.

If you want to be certain that the size which you see on the screen will remain constant for every definition of the user, you must add FreeWare Ocx, AdaptoScreen Control (Robosize) which is found in the Zip file of our Shareware. This will insure proper coordination between the size of the form and the objects of different definitions and will transmit the information to Roboprint in order to correct for differences.

Placement of the Document on Paper

You can determine the size of margins through Properties of Roboprint; however, you may wish to move the printing left or right without changing the non printed (margins) part of the paper. This is very important in the event that you are working in RightToLeft=True. This movement is carried out by ***RightOffsetProperty*** while 1 equals approximately 1 cm. A negative value will move the printing to the right.

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Dialogue Box of the Printer

This is to change the printer and its properties.

Roboprint.ShowPrinterAlways = True will cause the Dialogue box to appear before every print command is sent to the printer. In order to cause the Dialogue box to appear by utilization of the code, type
Roboprint.ShowPrinter.

In order to cancel the printing of Control, select the value of its Tag at ***noprint***.

In order to determine the printing of Control will begin in every case on a new page, select Tag value to ***newpage***.

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Zoom Property

Sets or returns the zoom scale of the printout as a percentage of the Settings in the ActiveWindows.

Syntax

RoboPrint.Zoom = Percent of magnification (Integer)

The Zoom property syntax has these parts.

Part Description

object A **RoboPrint** Instance.

Independent of the Printer.Zoom Property.

Remarks:

The width of an A3 size page in the printer is 12000 Twips. If you want your prints dimensions like the form appearance you must use the following line in the FormLoad procedure.

Roboprint1.Zoom = 12000/ Screen.width

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BtnViewToolTipText Property

Returns or sets a ToolTip of the Preview Button.

Syntax

object.BtnViewToolTipText [= string]

The BtnViewToolTipText property syntax has these parts:

Part Description

object A RoboPrint Instance.

string A string associated with an object in the Applies To list. That appears in a small rectangle below the object when the user's cursor hovers over the object at run time for about one second.

Remarks

At design time you can set the BtnViewToolTipText property string in the control's properties dialog box.

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BtnPrintToolTipTextProperty

Returns or sets a ToolTip of the Print Button.

Syntax

RoboPrint.BtnPrintToolTipText [= string]

The *BtnPrintToolTipText* property syntax has these parts:

Part Description

object A RoboPrint Instance.

string A string associated with an object in the Applies To list. That appears in a small rectangle below the object when the user's cursor hovers over the object at run time for about one second.

Remarks

At design time you can set the *BtnPrintToolTipText* property string in the control's properties dialog box.

BorderText property

Returns or sets the border Print action for TextBox, Label, MaskedTextBox.

Syntax

```
object.BorderText = [Boolean]
```

The **BorderText** property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
-------------	--------------------

object	A RoboPrint Instance.
---------------	-----------------------

Boolean	A Boolean expression that specifies whether RoboPrint Prints Border around the text
----------------	---

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting	Description
----------------	--------------------

True	(Default) Prints Borders if the TextControl.BorderStyle = 1- Fixed Single
-------------	---

BorderText property

Returns or sets the border Print action for TextBox, Label, MaskedTextBox.

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Boolean	A Boolean expression that specifies whether RoboPrint Prints Border around the text
----------------	---

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting	Description
----------------	--------------------

True	(Default) Prints Borders if the TextControl.BorderStyle = 1- Fixed Single
-------------	---

GridLines property

Returns or sets the GridLine print action for Grids and ListView Controls.

Syntax

object.GridLines = [Boolean]

The **GridLines** property syntax has these parts:

Part Description

object A RoboPrint Instance.

Boolean A Boolean expression that specifies whether RoboPrint Prints Grid lines

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting Description

True (Default) Prints Borders if the GridControl.Grid = True

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Orientation Property

Returns or sets the **Orientation** of Printed **Page**.

Syntax

object.Orientation = [Number]

The **Orientation** property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
-------------	--------------------

object	A RoboPrint Instance.
---------------	-----------------------

Number	0 or 1 value
---------------	--------------

Settings

Setting	Description
----------------	--------------------

0	Portrait Orientation
---	----------------------

1	Landscape Orientation
---	-----------------------

Color Property

Returns or sets the **RoboPrint** Style Print.

Syntax

object.Color = [Number]

The BorderText property syntax has these parts:

Part Description

object An RoboPrint Control

Number 0 or 1 value

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting Description

0 Color

1 Monochrome (B&W)

Monochrome is a very economical feature for largest prints and Preview.

ShowPrinterAlways Property

Returns or sets the ShowPrinterProperties action in each Printer Action.

Syntax

object.ShowPrinterAlways = [Boolean]

The **ShowPrinterAlways** property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
------	-------------

object	An RoboPrint Control
---------------	----------------------

Boolean	A Boolean expression that specifies whether the Default Printer is showed before the Print action.
----------------	--

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting	Description
---------	-------------

True	The Dialog Printer is showed before the Print action.
-------------	---

False	(Default)The Dialog Printer isn't showed before the Print action.
--------------	---

TitlesFont Property

Returns and set the Font of the top and Foot Titles in the RoboPrint Prints.

Syntax

object.Font

The object placeholder represents A RoboPrint instance.

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RepeatHeader Property

Returns or sets the RepeatHeader action in each Grid (DBGrid and MsFlexGrid) Printing or Preview.

Syntax

object.RepeatHeader = [Boolean]

The RepeatHeader property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
------	-------------

object	An RoboPrint Control
--------	----------------------

Boolean	A Boolean expression that specifies whether the Titles Columns of the Grid is Printed in each page.
---------	---

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting	Description
---------	-------------

True	(Default) the Titles Columns of the Grid is Printed in each page.
-------------	---

False	The Titles Columns of the Grid is Printed only in the First occur.
--------------	--

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TopMargin, FootMargin, LeftMargin and RightMargin Properties

Returns or sets the Margins of the Printed Pages in centimeters, occurs also in Preview action.

Syntax

object.TopMargin = [Double]

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PagesNumbers Property

Returns or sets the Print Pages number when printing or previewing.

Syntax

Roboprint1. PagesNumbers = [Boolean]

The PagesNumbers property syntax has these parts:

PartDescription

object An **RoboPrint** instance

Boolean A Boolean expression that specifies whether the Page number is Printed in each page.

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting Description

True (Default) Page number is Printed in each page.

False none

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TopFootAlignTxt Property

Returns or sets a value that determines the alignment of FootTitle and TopTitle.

Syntax

Roboprint1 [= number]

The Alignment property syntax has these parts:

Settings

Constant		Setting Description
LLeft	0	(Default) Text is left-aligned.
RRight	1	Text is right-aligned; control is left aligned.
Ccenter	2	Text is centered.

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Return or set the values for the From and To Pages.

Syntax

object.FromPage [= number]

object.ToPage [= number]

The FromPage and ToPage property syntax has these parts:

Part Description

object A RoboPrint Control.

number A numeric expression that specifies the first and last pages to be printed.

Remarks

Page not exists in Visual Basic. RoboPrint make them. While this process the number of the Pages that before FromPage appears in gray color.

Data Type

Integer

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PrviewMonochrome Property

Returns or sets the Preview monochrome displays.

Syntax

```
Roboprint1.PrviewMonochrome = [Boolean]
```

The PrviewMonochrome property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
------	-------------

object	An RoboPrint Control
--------	----------------------

Boolean	A Boolean expression that specifies whether the Preview is displayed in monochrome mode.
---------	--

Settings

The settings for Boolean are:

Setting	Description
---------	-------------

True	(Default) RoboPrint.Preview is displayed in monochrome mode, also if ProboPrint.Color is set to V_Color value.
------	--

False	none
-------	------

Remarks:

The goal of the PrviewMonochrome Property is to take the Preview more Fast. The page doesn't exist in Basic Visual applications. RoboPrint creates and stores them in virtual memory. The Memory space required for Monochrome Pages is height times smaller than the required for Color Pages.

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Copies Properties

Returns or sets a value that determines the number of copies to be printed.

Syntax

RoboPrint.Copies [= number]

This value must be an integer.

Remarks

For the Printer object, multiple copies may or may not be collated, depending on the printer driver. Multiple copies of the entire document or multiple copies of each page may be printed. For printers that don't support collating, set Copies = 1, and then use a loop in code to print multiple copies of the entire document.

Note the effect of the properties of the Printer object depends on the driver supplied by the printer manufacturer. Some property settings may have no effect, or several different property settings may all have the same effect. Settings outside the accepted range may produce an error. For more information, see the manufacturer's documentation for the specific driver.

Robocx RoboPrint for Visual Basic 5.0/6.0. PreviewBtnEnabled and PrintBtnEnabled Properties

Returns or sets a value that determines whether the buttons Preview or Print can respond to user-generated events.

Syntax

RoboPrint.PreviewBtnEnabled [= boolean]

RoboPrint.PrintBtnEnabled [= boolean]

The default value is true.

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TopTitle and FootTitle Properties

Set o Return a Titles on the printed page.

Syntax

RoboPrint.TopTitle [=string]

RoboPrint.FootTitle [=string]

Remarks

If PageNumber is set true, the FootTitle will be concatenated with the page number.

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BeforePrint Event

Occur when the user presses a Print or Preview Button.

Syntax

Private Sub RoboPrint1_BeforePrint (Cancel As Boolean, Mode As Integer)

Mode indicate if the event is Print or Preview.

The Validate event syntax has these parts:

Part Description

object A RoboPrint instance.

Cancel a Boolean that Determines whether the Print or Preview operation succeeds.

Mode an integer that indicates if the event is Print or Preview.

Settings

The settings for Cancel are:

Setting Description

True the Print or Preview operation succeeds.

False (Default) the Print or Preview operation fails.

The settings for Mode are:

Setting Description

0 The RoboPrint Action is a Preview Action.

1 The RoboPrint Action is a Print Action.

Example

Private Sub RoboPrint1_BeforePrint (Cancel As Boolean, Mode As Integer)

If Mode = 1 And DataChanged Then Cancel = True

End Sub

Preview Method

Shows how the ActiveForm will look when printed. Same a Preview Button click.

Syntax

RoboPrint1.Preview

Return Value

If the function succeeds, the return value is TRUE.

If the function fails, the return value is FALSE.

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Lprint Method

Print the ActiveForm. Same a Print Button click

Syntax

RoboPrint1.Lprint

Return Value

If the function succeeds, the return value is TRUE.

If the function fails, the return value is FALSE.

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ShowPrinter Method

Show the Properties Dialog of the Default Printer.

Syntax

RoboPrint.ShowPrinter

Return Value

If the function succeeds, the return value is TRUE.
If the function fails, the return value is FALSE.

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Rational usage of Report Writers

Report Writers like Crystal, are independent applications with their own access to the database. They are therefore very slow and wasteful with computer resources. On the other hand, they make the designing of intricate reports relatively easy compared to writing code for such reports in a programming language.

Programmer will generally design reports using the tools of his own programming environment. (Previewing a two page or longer report created with a report writer is not a very pleasant experience for the user).

In these cases, and they are very frequent, the programmer will be forced to redesign the report with the help of a report writer, in order to enable the user to print out the report or form.

With **Roboprint** this duplication of effort is unnecessary.

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Guidelines for working with Roboprint

The order of printing is from top to bottom.

Zorder will not be recognized.

All Controls and their Top lower than the Grid prints Behind the Grid and never side by the side.

The Controls when they're whose Tag or their Parents.Tag = noprint. Or/and their whose Visible

Property =False will be not printed.

RoboPrint ignores Methods:

Print, Shape, Line and Zorder.

RoboPrint ignores Properties:

MSFlexGrid.MergeCell and MSFlexGrid.Picture

Text Control situated into Tabs Control will be not correctly printed.

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AfterPrint Event

Occur when **Roboprint** has finished the Printer Action.

Syntax

RoboPrint1_AfterPrint

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Features

RoboPrint Control provides automatic Preview and Print, for **Visual Basic 5.0/6.0** Apps, without need of code.

RoboPrint prints the following controls:

DBGrid – DataGrid - MsFlexGrid - MsHFlexGrid, TextBox - Label - MaskedTextBox - ComboBox.Text – ListBox - Shape - Line - CheckBox - OptionButton - MSChart - Pictures of PictureBox and Image.

RoboPrint prints the entire contents of Grids, ListView and Multiline TextBox, in Multipages feature if needed.

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Faster Preview

RoboPrint creates and stores the preview pages in virtual memory. The memory space required for monochrome pages is eight times smaller than that required for colour pages.

By setting the **PreviewMonochrome** Property to True, or restricting the number of pages by the use of the **FromPage– ToPage** Properties, you can achieve faster previewing speeds.

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Exclude Grid.Column When Printing

In DBGrid Control you set the Column. Visible to False. In MsFlexGrid you set MsFlexGrid1.ColWidth(Required Column No.) to zero (Run Time only) If you want columns to be invisible in the print output, you must set their Invisible property or set their width to zero in the BeforePrint Before>Main event and restore these values in the AfterPrint After>Main event.

Keep the proportion of the Print.

If you have a function in your application that resizes forms and controls when the user screen definitions are different from the design screen and print size is changed as well.

To rectify this problem you must to add the following line to your Resize function:

Roboprint.Zoom zoom>Main= Roboprint.Zoom zoom>Main* You own resize Factor.

PrevPrintTip and PrevBtnCloseTip Property

Returns or sets a ToolTip of the Print and Close Buttons in Preview window.

Syntax

RoboPrint. PrevPrintTip [= string]

The PrevPrintTip property syntax has these parts:

Part Description

object An **RoboPrint** Instance.

Default value Print

string A string associated with an object in the Applies To list. That appears in a small rectangle below the object when the user's cursor hovers over the object at run time for about one second.

Remarks

At design time you can set the BtnPrintToolTipText property string in the control's properties dialog box.

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PrevPrintVisible Property

Returns or sets the Visible Property of the Preview window print button.

Syntax

```
Roboprint1.PrevPrintVisible = [Boolean]
```

The PrevPrintVisible property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
------	-------------

object	An RoboPrint Control
--------	----------------------

Boolean	A Boolean expression that specifies whether the Preview is displayed in monochrome mode.
---------	--

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PrevBkColor Property

returns or sets the background color of the Preview window.

Syntax

Roboprint.PrevBkColor [= color]

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SideBySide Property

Returns or sets a value indicating whether Roboprint print grids side by side.

Syntax

```
object.SidebySide [= boolean]
```

The Visible property syntax has these parts:

Part	Description
-------------	--------------------

object	An RoboPrint Control
--------	----------------------

Boolean	A Boolean expression that specifies whether Roboprint print grids side by side
---------	--

Settings

Remarks

In multipage feature might bring unexpected results.

