

VB Clean

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If you've read the VB Tips file, you may have noticed that there is a description of a technique for cleaning up form and module files before creating an exe. Doing a save text followed by a load text (replace) for each form and module, then saving the project, exiting VB, restarting VB, reloading the project, and creating the exe produces the smallest possible exe files for your program. For a project with a large number of forms and modules, this is a pain.

The accompanying program automates most of this process using the VB sendkeys function and a couple of Windows API calls. It loops through all the forms and modules in a project, and does a save/load for each, but it doesn't save your project or do the rest of the procedure. I've made it as bullet-proof as possible by making it check itself at every step, but there are no guarantees. Please examine the code to satisfy yourself that it will work for you before using it on the only copy of the project to which you have devoted your life!

Note that because VB is not consistent about the default directory for the save and load operations (sometimes it defaults to one directory for the save and a different one for the load!), vbclean always use the same fully qualified name for each save/load text file. It's called "vbclean.txt" and it will always be placed in the directory in which vbclean is started, not the directory in which your project is located. After the save/load process finishes, it erases this file.

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