

Using **PRINTVB** To Produce Custom Formatted Visual Basic Program Listings

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If you have questions or comments on this program, you can contact the author at:

CompuServe: 74220,2420

Kyle S. Brant
5441 Fenmore Road
Indianapolis, Indiana 46208

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OVERVIEW

PRINTVB is a highly configurable program that prints Visual Basic program listings in a format that you control. Visual Basic .frm, .bas, .txt and .mak files can be printed using PRINTVB. Comments, code, title line (which includes the file name only), procedure header lines and page header lines (which includes date, time and page numbering) are selectably configurable for font size, font name, bold, italic or underline printing format. The printout options are fully explained in the [Configure](#) help screen. [Fonts](#) must be installed in the program before they are available in the [Configure](#) window for assignment to code, comments, or other portions of the printout.

Using PRINTVB

For PRINTVB to properly process your Visual Basic 2.0 Files, they must be saved in "TEXT" format. To accomplish this you can use the FILE SAVE AS command from the menu bar to save individual .frm files in text format. Optionally, you can select OPTIONS/ENVIRONMENT from the menu bar and alter the default "save" format from "binary" to "text". Thereafter all file save operations will produce text format .frm files.

With [Visual Basic 1.0](#) files the .frm files are proprietary binary files, and you must save the file as "text" with the CODE/SAVE TEXT menu bar command.

A typical usage of PRINTVB will include the following steps with optional steps indicated by "(optional)".

1. Select or Open a Visual Basic file of the type: *.frm, *.bas, *.mak, *.txt by clicking the [File Select](#) button or using the [FILE/SELECT FILE](#) menu bar command. If a .mak file is selected, a new dialog window will appear enabling you to choose "all files" listed in the .mak file or one or more selected files to print. **Note** that the .mak file is included as one of the files shown in the list box, thereby enabling a printout of the .mak file as well as all files (.frm and .bas) listed in the .mak file.
2. (Optional) Click on the [Procedure](#) button or the OPTIONS/PROCEDURE SELECT menu bar entry to activate the procedure selection window and select individual procedures for inclusion in the printout. Note: by default, if no procedures are selected in the Procedure Select window, all procedures will be printed by PRINTVB.
3. (Optional) Click on the [Fonts](#) button or OPTIONS/INSTALL FONTS to alter the font list used by PRINTVB. Note: PRINTVB maintains a record of all settings and fonts in a file named PRINTVB.INI.
4. (Optional) Click on the [Configure](#) button or OPTIONS/CONFIGURE and configure the printout formatting options in the Configuration window.
5. Click on the Print button or FILE/PRINT in the menu bar to activate printing of the selected file in accordance with the selected print formatting options.

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Program Installation

PRINTVB is accompanied by at least the following necessary files in the compressed PKZIPped distribution file:

<u>File Name</u>	<u>File Type</u>	<u>Destination Directory</u>
1. PRINTVB.EXE	Main Executable file	Any Directory
2. PRINTVB.HLP	Help file	With PRINTVB.EXE
3. SPIN.VBX	Custom control file	C:\windows\system
4. CMDIALOG.VBX	Custom control file	C:\windows\system
5. README.TXT	Text file	none required
6. LICENSE.DOC	Text file	none required

The files should be installed into the appropriate directory in accordance with the above table. Of course the above presumes that your hard drive is designated "C:". If windows is located on your "D" (or other) hard drive or your windows directory has a pathname other than [\windows\system](#) then substitute the appropriate pathname.

PRINTVB.HLP should be located in the same directory as PRINTVB.EXE else it will not be found when accessed by PRINTVB.EXE.

PRINTVB.EXE will create a [PRINTVB.INI](#) file in its directory if this file cannot be found. This file is a text file containing the setup information that PRINTVB loads upon initial execution.

CAUTION: do **not** change the entries in PRINTVB.INI using a text editor else you may alter the predefined format of the file and the code sequences necessary for the option feature lines to be recognized. The parameters ARE case sensitive. If you ever wish to return to the default settings of PRINTVB simply delete the PRINTVB.INI file located in the directory with PRINTVB.EXE.

CAUTION: If upon unzipping the files you do not see the [-AV](#) parameter reported by PKUNZIP when authenticity verification is confirmed, then make certain to check for viruses or other contaminants that might be present. The author cannot guarantee the programs are free from virus infection if you do not get the [-AV](#) report.

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Configuring PRINTVB

PRINTVB can be configured to print your program listings in many various formats. I prefer not to waste paper printing out the "Form Declarations" so this option is one of my favorites over all other known techniques for printing Visual Basic program listings.

Fonts, Font Styles and Font Sizes are selectable for the following program listing sections:

1. Program comments
2. Program code
3. Title Line (which includes the pathname of the file printed and the file name).
4. Header Line (which includes the date, time and page number).
5. Procedure Headers (the Sub or Function line that precedes each procedure).

Margin widths are easily selected using the up/down spin buttons. For all printers, [PRINTVB](#) assumes that the unprintable area on each edge of the paper is 0.25 inches (as is typical with laser printers and most dot matrix printers). Therefore, the margins you set in the [CONFIGURATION](#) dialog will be added to the built-in .25 inch margin. Thus, to get a 0.5 inch margin, set the margins to 0.25 inches. If odd printer behavior is noted, which entirely depends upon the printer driver used in your system, try increasing margin widths until what you desire printed appears on the paper.

Line spacing should not be set any higher than "2" else much paper is wasted.

The [Exclude Form Declarations](#) checkbox (when checked) prevents printout of the Visual Basic control/form declarations. I have yet to see much value in printing out this portion of a VB .frm source file. To print the control/form declarations, this checkbox must be unchecked and "all procedures" (the program default) must be selected in the [Procedure Selection](#) dialog.

At the request of some users, PRINTVB will now print a single procedure per page if the [New Page Each Procedure](#) checkbox is checked. This setting is optionally saved, or may be activated for the current execution of PRINTVB, as is the case with all of the configuration options.

A special header line may be entered in the text box at the bottom of the [Configure](#) dialog. The header information entered in this box is saved permanently when you save the configuration of the program. An alternate header may be entered during program execution of PRINTVB without saving it (as a special case header) and remains in effect so long as PRINTVB is running or minimized.

The [Print Priority](#) checkbox has three settings: LOW, MEDIUM and HIGH. At the LOW setting PRINTVB gives Windows the CPU after processing each line in the file currently being processed for printing. The Medium setting gives Windows the CPU every 16 lines, and the HIGH setting gives Windows the CPU every 63 lines of text processed from the selected or opened file. The [Print Priority](#) setting is designed to enable execution of other programs while parsing and processing of the selected by PRINTVB takes place. If you want the fastest processing by PRINTVB to take place, then choose the HIGH setting, and PRINTVB will give up the CPU to Windows less often.

PRINTVB will [Automimize](#) (minimize on print) automatically if the [Automimize](#) checkbox is selected in the configuration screen and the SAVE button is clicked. If MINIMIZE ON PRINT is set from the OPTIONS menu bar in the main window, minimize on print is active only for the current session of PRINTVB. To save this setting, you must enter the Configuration window/screen and click SAVE. Likewise, if the currently saved setting is Automimize when PRINTVB is executed, then selecting

MINIMIZE ON PRINT from the menu bar will turn off this feature (check mark is deleted) for the current session of PRINTVB, but the startup configuration is unaffected.

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File Selection

The File Selection or File open dialog box is the standard windows "File Open" dialog with file name filters for .frm, .bas, .mak and .txt filenames. In other words only files with these extensions can be opened. If you use an include statement for a file with a name other than the above, a suggested approach is to rename the file so it satisfies the file name filter requirements.

PRINTVB attempts to detect if the selected file is a binary format file, but nothing is guaranteed, so please pay close attention to what you are printing else your printer may get an Excedrin headache printing all of the binary garbage that may result during print of a binary file.

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Fonts

Printer Fonts are accessible by software, and the Fonts/Install Fonts dialog provides a listing of all available printer fonts present in your system. It is suggested that if you change printers often, then TrueType fonts should be selected for installation and use by PRINTVB. If you remove fonts from Windows using the Control Panel approach, be certain to remove those fonts from the Installed Fonts list in the Fonts/Install Fonts dialog to prevent uncertain results.

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Procedure Selection

One significant feature of PRINTVB is the dialog that enables selection of one or more procedures from your code listings to include in the printout. This is particularly attractive if you are debugging one or just a few of the total number of procedures contained in a .frm or .bas file and you wish to save the paper required to print the undesired procedures. Note that the left mouse button may be depressed and dragged over several vertically adjacent procedure names to select all of such procedures. The Procedure Selection dialog is self-explanatory for the most part and should not present any difficulty to the user

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Registration

Your economic support of our programming efforts is needed to encourage continued development of new and better quality software. If you find PRINTVB useful, your support in the form of a registration of your copy of PRINTVB will be appreciated. PRINTVB is a shareware program and continued use beyond a 30 day trial period is a violation of federal and state copyright laws.

PRINTVB is not to be distributed on a "for profit" basis as part of a shareware disk or shareware CD without the prior written consent of the author and agreed payment of a reasonable royalty for each copy sold.

To register your copy of PRINTVB and receive the latest updates and feature improvements, print and fill out the form shown below. The form (below) can be printed by clicking on FILE/PRINT while viewing this page.

Company or Individual Name

Street Address (line 1)

Street Address (line 2)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country _____

Floppy Disk Options (check one):

3.5" 1.44Meg _____ 3.5" 760K _____ 5 1/4 1.2 Meg _____

Enclose a check or money order for \$14.95 for each copy of PRINTVB you wish to purchase. Include an additional \$3.00 for shipping expenses within the U.S. Foreign Shipping Addressees should include \$8.00 for shipping expense. Source code is available for an additional \$10.00. Send this order form to:

[Kyle S. Brant](#)
[5441 Fenmore Road](#)
[Indianapolis, In 46208](#)

Registration of PRINTVB entitles ONLY the owner of the registered version to install and use PRINTVB on more than one computer, so long as only one copy of PRINTVB is executing at any moment in time. Site licenses are also available at rates based upon user group numbers.

Revision Notes

1. Version 1.0 released in July 1993. User feedback as to any bugs I have not found is encouraged.
2. Version 1.1 Revised code so portrait or landscape printing works correctly. Fixed print alignment minor bugs and added optional header line saved in INI file.
3. Version 1.2 Revisions and Additions:
 - (a) Print priority setting to give Windows the CPU at three different rates;
 - (b) Option in configuration screen to print one procedure per page (or force form feed at beginning of new procedure);
 - (c) Found and fixed print alignment bug that produced unaligned text on printers with resolution different from 300 dpi in line with two font sizes;
 - (d) Added project (.mak) file recognition and new window giving user option to print all or some of files listed in project (.mak) file, including .mak file as optional file printed; this dialog/window is invoked each time the File Select result is a "*.mak" file.
 - (e) Added additional information displayed on form during printing to indicate the name of the file currently being processed, as a means of tracking progress during print of a .mak file.
 - (f) user is no longer able to install duplicate entries of the same font; although this was not a bug, it would allow numerous entries of undesired fonts in installed fonts list

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