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Drag and Drop Files with C#

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This tutorial will explain how to handle drag and drop events sent to one of the windows in your program by the Windows shell. In other words, this tutorial w teach you how to allow users to drag and drop files onto your form so you can stuff with them. This was bugging me for a little while, because it was so simp VB and for some reason it took me a while to figure it out in C#...anyway, on tutorial! This is the first tutorial I've ever written, so bear with me :)

To start, create a new C# Windows Application project called DragDropFiles. P ListBox control somewhere on the form. Set its AllowDrop property to "true". (the Events lightning bolt to get to the events of the ListBox.

Now, to be able to handle files being dropped, at least two events need to be with. The first is DragEnter, where basically all you have to do is allow the dra operation to continue. If you don't allow the operation to continue, say, becau user is dragging text into the control, the mouse cursor will stay a "NO" symb instead of becoming the "Copy Here" symbol (the pointer with a "+" next to it

The second event that must be handled (assuming they get past the DragEnte event) is DragDrop. This is where you actually read the files in the list and, in application, add them to a ListBox.

So, scroll down in the events list (make sure you have the ListBox selected, n form) until you find DragEnter and doubleclick it. Enter the following code in tl listBox1_DragEnter method:

```
// make sure they're actually dropping files (not text or anything
if( e.Data.GetDataPresent(DataFormats.FileDrop, false) == true )
// allow them to continue
// (without this, the cursor stays a "NO" symbol
e.Effect = DragDropEffects.All;
```

The comments should explain the code. Next, we need to actually handle the Get back to the graphical form editing interface and select the ListBox. Make s you are viewing the Events for the ListBox and scroll down to the DragDrop ev and doubleclick it. Enter the following code into the listBox1_DragDrop metho

```
// transfer the filenames to a string array
// (yes, everything to the left of the "=" can be put in the
// foreach loop in place of "files", but this is easier to underst
string[] files = (string[])e.Data.GetData(DataFormats.FileDrop);
```

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```
// loop through the string array, adding each filename to the List
foreach( string file in files )
{
listBox1.Items.Add(file);
}
```

You're done! That was simple :) Go run the program and drag and drop some
(My Computer and the Recycle Bin don't count as files) onto the ListBox and s
what happens. It will add the filename with FULL PATH to the ListBox, so if yo
just the filename you'll need to parse it out (something I won't talk about here
example code shows this in action with everything done for you, if you're that
person :) The example code also demonstrates how to grab the size of the file
put it into a label -- something I was too lazy to explain here. Have fun, and h
coding!

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