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The MaxGUI Beginner Tutorial Series - Tutorial 9: Listboxes, Modify and Insert GadgetItems

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In this tutorial we are going to look at the final MaxGUI functions related to ListBoxes. It's good that we are spending a bit more time on these functions as the concepts of managing gadgets that we have seen so far applies not only to Listboxes but also other list based gadgets as well.

The ModifyGadgetItem and InsertGadgetItem functions are very similar in its functionality to the AddGadgetItem function which we have covered extensively in previous tutorials.

The syntax:-

```
Function ModifyGadgetItem(gadget:TGadget,index,text$,flags=0,icon=1,tip$="",extra:Object=Null)
Function InsertGadgetItem(gadget:TGadget,index,text$,flags=0,icon=1,tip$="",extra:Object=Null)
```

The extra parameter for this function over the **AddGadgetItem** function is the index parameter. As we can imagine, the **AddGadgetItem** simply tack on an item onto the end of the list whereas the insert function needs to know where in the list to insert an item and the Modify function needs to know which item to modify.

Let us see how to modify an item in a listbox

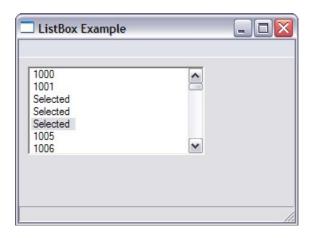
```
SuperStrict
```

```
Local MyWindow:TGadget=CreateWindow("ListBox Example", 200,200,320,240)
Local ListBox:TGadget=CreateListBox(10,10,200,100,MyWindow)

For Local i:Int=1000 To 1050
AddGadgetItem ListBox,i
Next

Repeat
WaitEvent()
Select EventID()
Case EVENT_WINDOWCLOSE
End
Case EVENT_GADGETACTION
ModifyGadgetItem ListBox, SelectedGadgetItem(ListBox), "Selected"
End Select
Forever
```

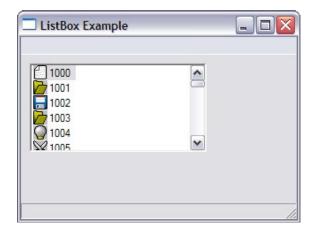
Notice how when we click on an item in the listbox, the item changes to the text Selected as per our instruction in the **ModifyGadgetItem** function above. The **SelectedGadgetItem** function is once again used to retrieve the index of the item which was clicked on by the user.



Unfortunately the **ModifyGadgetItem** function does not allow us to just modify the parameter that we want. To modify the icon for example, we have to resort to the following:-

```
SuperStrict
Local MyWindow:TGadget=CreateWindow("ListBox Example", 200,200,320,240)
Local ListBox:TGadget=CreateListBox(10,10,200,100,MyWindow)
For Local i:Int=1000 To 1050
 AddGadgetItem ListBox,i
Next
Local IconStrip:TIconStrip=LoadIconStrip("D:\My Documents on E\ Tutorials
\toolbar.bmp")
SetGadgetIconStrip(ListBox, IconStrip)
Repeat
 WaitEvent()
 Select EventID()
 Case EVENT WINDOWCLOSE
 Case EVENT GADGETACTION
  Local i:Int=SelectedGadgetItem(listbox)
  Local text:String=GadgetItemText(ListBox,i)
  Local flag:Int=GadgetItemFlags(ListBox,i)
  Local icon:Int=GadgetItemIcon(ListBox,i)
  icon=icon+1
  If icon>11 icon=0
  ModifyGadgetItem ListBox, i, text, flag, icon
 End Select
Forever
```

We can see in the picture below that selecting the item changes the icon attached to the item.



Let us try to understand our program a bit better:-

```
Case EVENT GADGETACTION
```

Local i:Int=SelectedGadgetItem(listbox)
Local text:String=GadgetItemText(ListBox,i)
Local flag:Int=GadgetItemFlags(ListBox,i)
Local icon:Int=GadgetItemIcon(ListBox,i)

We are now using an iconstrip to attach icons to our list elements (see the loadiconstrip statement above, wwe have already covered iconstrips in an earlier tutorial). You can now see 3 new functions, **GadgetItemText**, **GadgetItemFlags** and **GadgetItemIcon**, all of which allows us to retrieve the current value of our GadgetItem list at the particular index.

```
icon=icon+1
If icon>11 icon=0
   ModifyGadgetItem ListBox, i, text, flag, icon
End Select
```

We then increase the icon# by one so that the next icon in our iconstrip will be used by the list element. We also need to check that we have not gone beyond the last icon in our iconstrip. If we do, we reset the icon# back to zero.

Notice that in our **ModifyGadgetItem** line, we place back the original text and flag which we had retrieved earlier and only changed the icon variable

ModifyGadgetItem ListBox, i, text, flag, icon

There is also a **GadgetItemExtra** function but that is too advanced for this tutorial so we will not cover that here.

The last function we want to cover here is the **InsertGadgetItem** function which as you can surmise from its name allows us to insert an item at a particular location in our listbox.

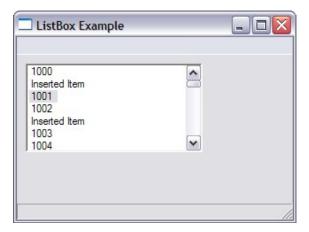
SuperStrict

```
Local MyWindow:TGadget=CreateWindow("ListBox Example", 200,200,320,240)
Local ListBox:TGadget=CreateListBox(10,10,200,100,MyWindow)
```

For Local i:Int=1000 To 1050 AddGadgetItem ListBox,i Next

```
Repeat
WaitEvent()
Select EventID()
Case EVENT_WINDOWCLOSE
End
Case EVENT_GADGETACTION
Local i:Int=SelectedGadgetItem(listbox)
InsertGadgetItem ListBox, i, "Inserted Item"
End Select
Forever
```

Clicking on an item in a list will cause an insertion to happen at that point as can be seen below:-



Summary

So that ends our three tutorial long treatise on Listboxes and the functions required to manipulate them.

In this tutorial we looked at

- **ModifyGadgetItem** and **InsertGadgetItem**, two functions which allow us to modify an existing item in a list and insert an item to a selected location in a list respectively.
- We also saw 3 functions, **GadgetItemText**, **GadgetItemFlags** and **GadgetItemIcon**, all of which allows us to retrieve the current value of our GadgetItem list at the particular index.

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