Hands on – lab 7: Styles and Templates

Getting started with styles and templates

1. New project…
2. Templates > Visual C# > Windows Store > Blank App (XAML)
3. Name the solution "Blank app solution 7"
4. Click OK
5. Make sure the MainPage.xaml is the only page open
6. Right click the page in Solution Explorer in Visual Studio and choose Open in Blend
7. Select the Projects Tab, Right click the project > Add new item > Resource dictionary
   a. Name it Styles.xaml
   b. Close the file
   c. Close App.xaml aswell (Yes, you want to save the changes)
8. Add a new TextBlock to the Grid
9. Select the TextBlock
10. Go to Objects > Edit Style > Create Empty
11. Name it: MyFirstTextStyle
12. Define it in: Resource dictionary: Styles.xaml
13. Note how the Objects and timeline changes again
14. Change the following properties
    a. Set the foreground to a bright yellow
    b. Set the fontsize to 36 pt
    c. Enable Italic on the text
    d. Leave edit mode
15. Add a new TextBlock to the grid and drag it somewhere on the screen
16. Right click it and select Edit Styles > Apply Resource > Choose MyFirstTextStyle
17. Note how it changes the properties and the visual appearance

NOTE: Templating task is on the next page

Template

1. Add a button to the Grid
2. Right click it in Objects and Timeline > Edit Template > Edit a copy
   a. Choose apply to all
   b. Define in: Resource dictionary – Styles.xaml

Nice to know fact: *If you choose to Apply to all, the resource gets no key (x:Key is not set) which means it will automatically apply to all buttons unless you reference an explicit style or template*

3. Note how it the objects and timeline changes – now you see the actual template of the button – how its built up on the inside
4. Select the States tap
5. Try clicking the different states and see how the appearance changes
6. Run the app (Projects > Run Project) and see the state matches what happends when you interact with the button
7. Select the Normal State
   a. Select the Border
   b. Click the Small Yellow Square next to the background property
   c. Select the solid color tap in the color picker
   d. Choose Red
8. Select the Pressed State
   a. Select the Border
   b. Select the solid color tap in the color picker
   c. Choose Blue
9. Select the PointerOver State
   a. Select the Border
   b. Select the solid color tap in the color picker
   c. Choose Purple
10. Run the app (Projects > Run Project)
11. Optional:
    a. Select the Base State
    b. Reset the Border Thickness
    c. Reset the Margin
    d. Play around with the states and change more properties

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