

Windows Applications Programming

Windows Forms

Few words about me...



https://ro.linkedin.com/in/cotfasliviu

Further Reading / Watching

- Courses on Microsoft Virtual Academy <u>mva.microsoft.com</u>
 - Free
- Courses on PluralSight www.pluralsight.com
 - Free trial
 - Free access (limited period) through <u>Microsoft DreamSpark</u>

Administrative issues

API reference and Source code

- API reference:
 - https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/
- .NET Framework source code:
 - http://referencesource.microsoft.com/#mscorlib/system/string.cs,8281103e6f23
 cb5c

Windows Forms

.NET Graphical User Interface

- Windows Forms (2001)
- Windows Presentation Foundation
- Universal Windows Platform

A USER INTERFACE IS LIKE A JOKE. IF YOU HAVE TO EXPLAIN IT, IT'S NOT THAT GOOD.

Startup and Shutdown

Startup

```
[STAThread]
static void Main()
{
         Application.Run(new Form1());
}
```

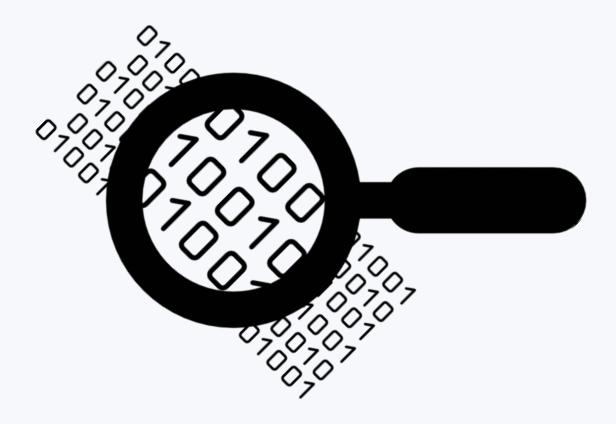
Windows Forms

Application Class

- The Application Class
 - Run
 - Exit
 - ThreadException

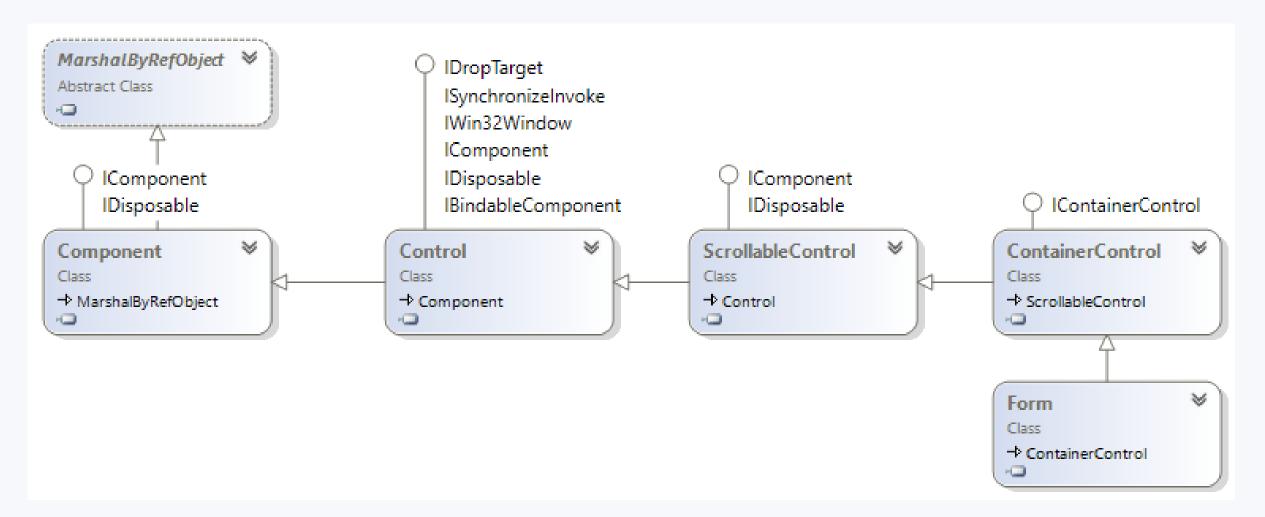
Demo

Implement a calculator (similar to the SimpleCalculator sample)



 All windows in a Windows Forms application are represented by objects of some type deriving from the Form class.

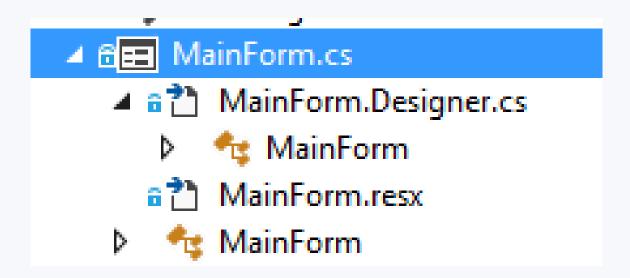
Inheritance

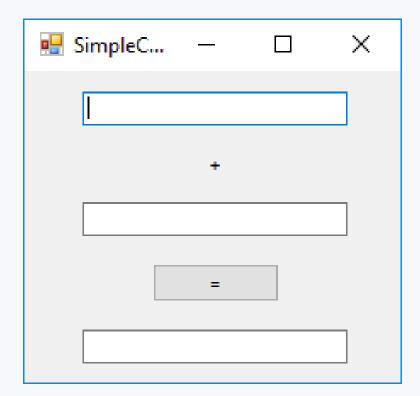


Further reading: <u>link</u> 13

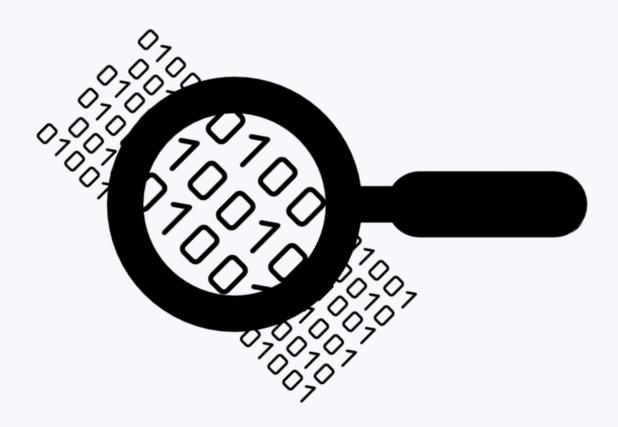
The Forms Designer

- visual designer that auto-generates code.
- Uses partial classes.





Demo



Partial Class

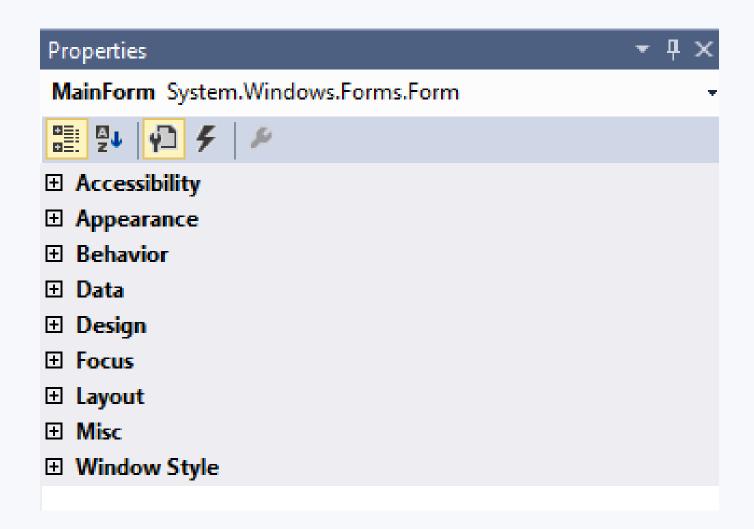
• It is possible to split the definition of a <u>class</u> or a <u>struct</u>, an <u>interface</u> or a method over two or more source files. Each source file contains a section of the type or method definition, and all parts are combined when the application is compiled.

```
public partial class Employee{
   public void DoWork() {
   }
}

public partial class Employee{
   public void GoToLunch() {
   }
}
```

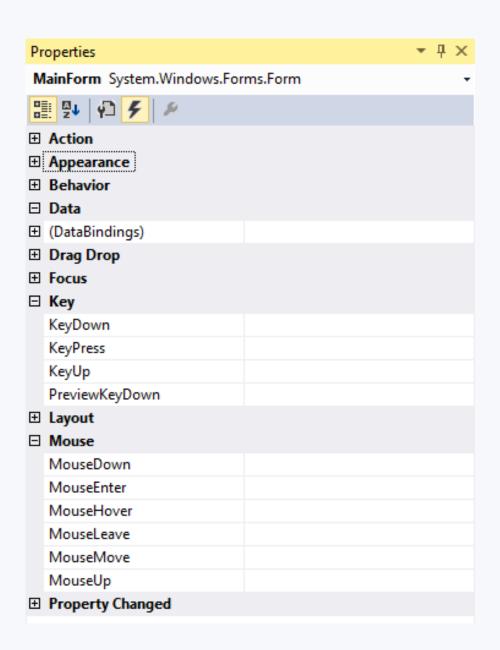
Properties

- Appearance
 - BackColor
 - Font
 - ForeColor
 - Text
- Design
 - Name



Events

- Load
- Key
 - KeyDown
 - KeyPress
 - KeyUp
- Mouse
 - MouseDown
 - MouseUp
 - Click



Keyboard Events

Keyboard Events

Key events occur in the order specified bellow.

Event	Event data	Description
KeyDown	KeyEventArgs	Raised when a key is pressed. The KeyDown event occurs prior to the KeyPress event.
KeyPress	KeyPressEventArgs	Raised when a character generating key is pressed. The KeyPress event occurs after the KeyDown event and before the KeyUp event.
KeyUp	KeyEventArgs	Raised when a key is released.

KeyPress

- Occurs when a character is pressed on the keyboard, and again each time the character is repeated while it continues to be pressed.
- The KeyPress event is not raised by non-character keys other than space and backspace; however, the non-character keys do raise the <u>KeyDown</u> and <u>KeyUp</u> events.
- Use the <u>KeyChar</u> property to sample keystrokes at run time and to consume or modify a subset of common keystrokes.

KeyPressEventArgs

Property	Description
Handled	Boolean value indicating if the event was handled. false until set otherwise. When true, the keystroke is not displayed.
KeyChar	Read-only value of type char containing the composed ASCII character.

KeyDown and KeyUp

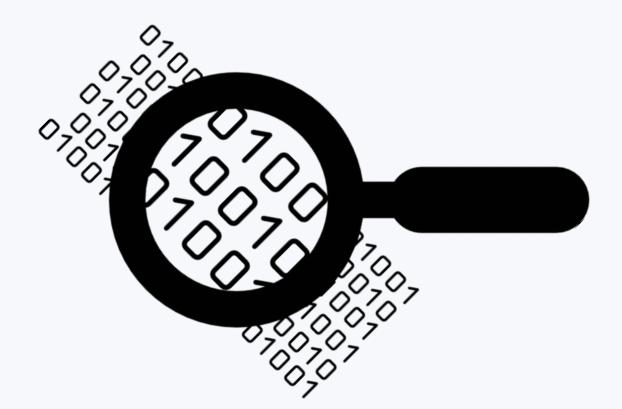
- **KeyDown** Occurs when a key on the keyboard is pressed down.
- KeyUp Occurs when a key on the keyboard is released.
- The KeyDown and KeyUp events are useful to fine-tune an application's behavior as keyboard keys are pressed and released, and for handling noncharacter keys such as the function or arrow keys.
- Handlers for these events receive an instance of the KeyEventArgs class as their event parameter.

KeyEventArgs properties

Property	Data type	Description
Alt	Boolean	Read-only value indicating if the Alt key was pressed. true if pressed, false otherwise.
Control	Boolean	Read-only value indicating if the Ctrl key was pressed. true if pressed, false otherwise.
Shift	Boolean	Read-only value indicating if the Shift key was pressed. true if pressed, false otherwise.
Modifiers	Keys	Read-only flags indicating the combination of modifier keys (Alt, Ctrl, Shift) pressed. Modifier keys can be combined using the bitwise OR operator.
Handled	Boolean	Value indicating if the event was handled. false until set otherwise.
KeyCode	Keys	Read-only value containing the key code for the key pressed. Typical values include the A key, Alt, and BACK (backspace).
KeyData	Keys	Read-only value containing the key code for the key pressed, combined with modifier flags to indicate combination of modifier keys (Alt, Ctrl, Shift).
KeyValue	integer	Key code property expressed as a read-only integer.

Demo

- Implement a NumericTextBox
- KeyEventsNumericTextBox Sample



Mouse Events

Mouse Events

Event	Event argument	Description
Click	EventArgs	Raised when the control is clicked.
DoubleClick	EventArgs	Raised when the control is double-clicked.
MouseEnter	EventArgs	Raised when the mouse cursor enters the control.
MouseHover	EventArgs	Raised when the mouse cursor hovers over the control.
MouseLeave	EventArgs	Raised when the mouse cursor leaves the control.
MouseDown	MouseEventArgs	Raised when the mouse cursor is over the control and a mouse button is pressed.
MouseMove	MouseEventArgs	Raised when the mouse cursor is moved over the control.
MouseWheel	MouseEventArgs	Raised when the control has focus and the mouse wheel is rotated.
MouseUp	MouseEventArgs	Raised when the mouse cursor is over the control and a mouse button is released.

Click and MouseClick

Depressing a mouse button when the cursor is over a control typically raises the following series of events from the control:

- MouseDown event.
- Click event.
- MouseClick event.
- MouseUp event.

Click events are logically higher-level events of a control. They are often raised by other actions, such as pressing the ENTER key when the control has focus.

MouseClick contains specific mouse information (button, number of clicks, wheel rotation, or location),

MouseEventArgs properties

Property	Description
Button	Returns the pressed mouse button. Must be one of the members of the MouseButtons enumeration
Clicks	Returns the integer number of times the mouse button was pressed and released. Resets after two clicks.
Delta	Returns the signed integer number of detents the mouse wheel was rotated. A positive value indicates that the wheel was rotated forward, i.e., away from the user, and a negative value indicates the wheel was rotated backward, i.e., toward the user.
X	The X coordinate, in pixels, of the mouse cursor's hot spot when the button was clicked, relative to the top-left corner of the control.
Υ	The Y coordinate, in pixels, of the mouse cursor's hot spot when the button was clicked, relative to the top-left corner of the control.

Click

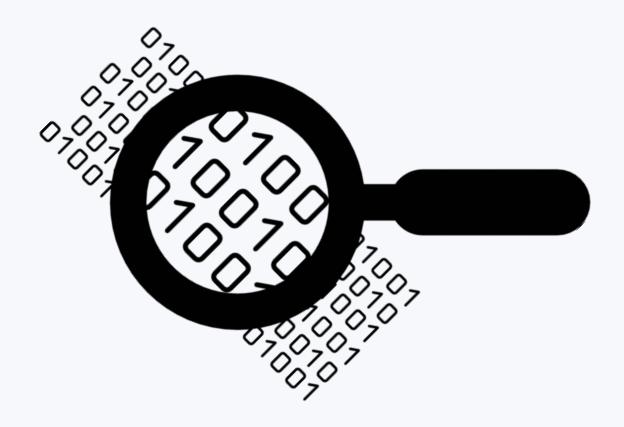
this.btnCalculate.Click += new System.EventHandler(this.btnCalculate_Click);

```
private void btnCalculate_Click(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
    var value1 = int.Parse(tbValue1.Text);
    var value2 = int.Parse(tbValue2.Text);

    var sum = value1 + value2;
    tbSum.Text = sum.ToString();
}
```

Demo

MouseEvents Sample



Alt Shortcuts

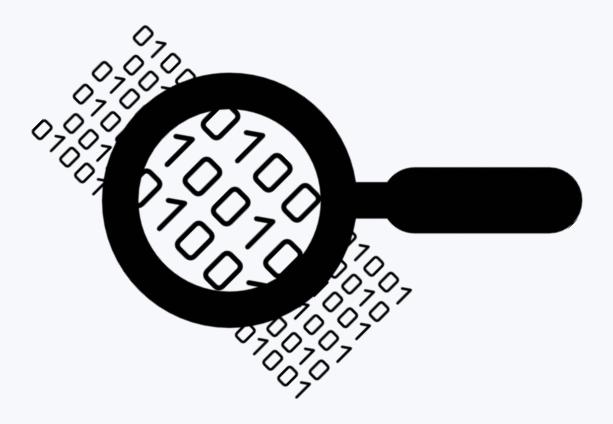
Alt Shortcuts

• An access key is an underlined character in the text of a menu, menu item, or the label of a control such as a button. It allows the user to "click" a button by pressing the ALT key in combination with the predefined access key.

```
// C#
// Set the letter "P" as an access key.
button1.Text = "&Print";
```

Demo

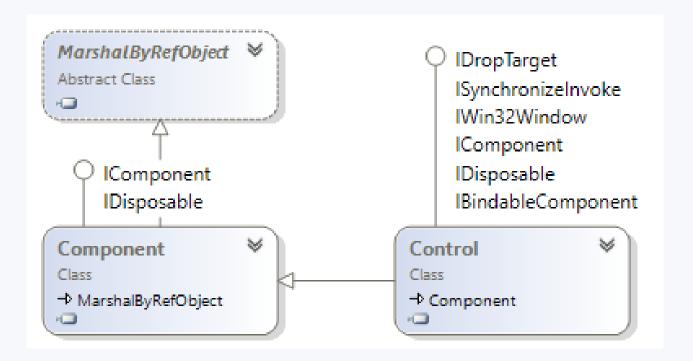
■ In the SimpleCalculator sample replace the Text on the button with "&Calculate"



Controls

Control Class

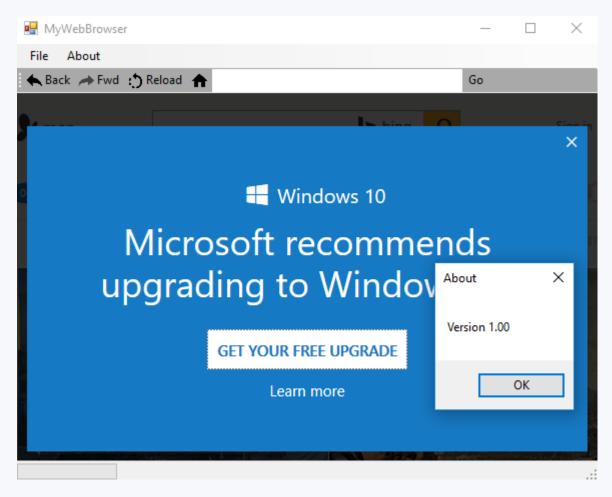
■ The Control class forms the basis for all windows controls in .NET, and provides many properties, methods, and events.



Further reading: <u>link</u>

Common controls

 Recommended Controls and Components by Function: https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/xfak08ea%28v=vs.110%29.aspx



Controls

Common controls

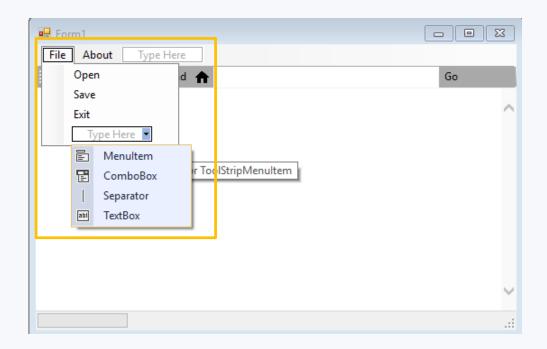
Alphabetic list of controls and components: https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/3xdhey7w%28v=vs.110%29.aspx

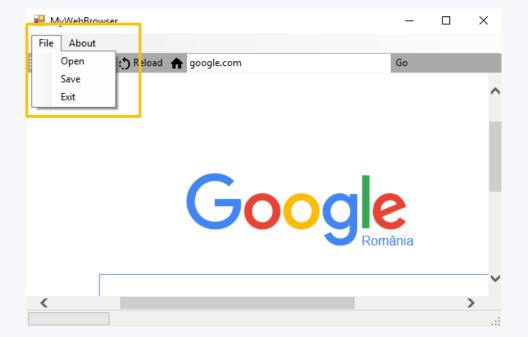
Menus

Menus

- MenuStrip
- ToolStrip / ToolStripContainer
- ContextMenuStrip
- StatusStrip

MenuStrip

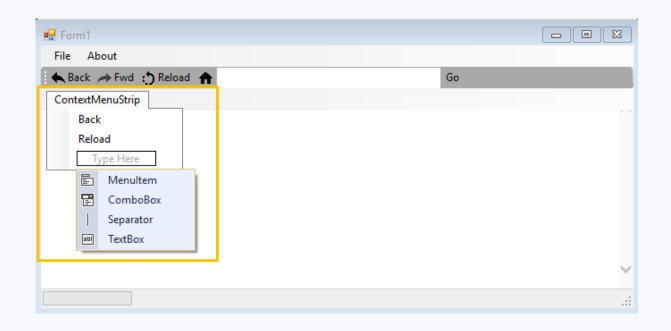


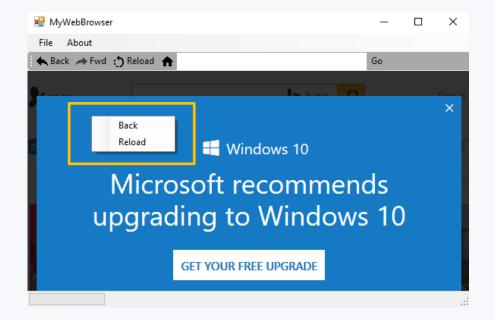


MenuStrip

- System.Windows.Forms.MenuStrip
- The MenuStrip control represents the container for the menu structure of a form. You can add <u>ToolStripMenuItem</u> objects to the MenuStrip that represent the individual menu commands in the menu structure.
- Each <u>ToolStripMenuItem</u> can be a command for your application or a parent menu for other submenu items.
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

ContextMenuStrip



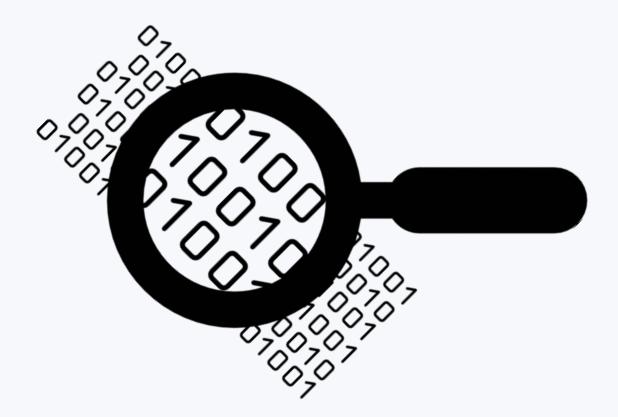


ContextMenuStrip

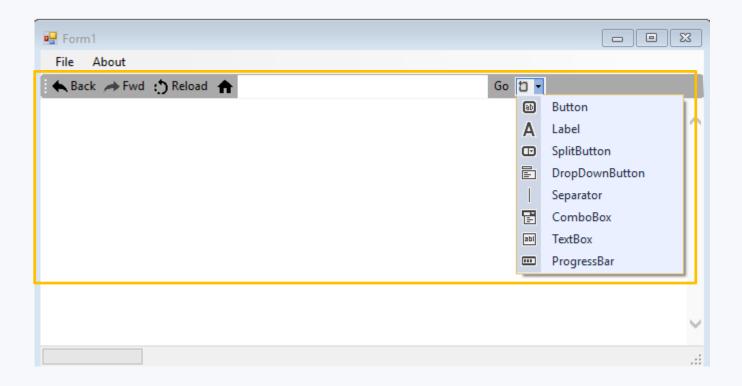
- System.Windows.Forms.ContextMenuStrip
- Shortcut menus, also called context menus, appear at the mouse position when the user clicks the right mouse button. Shortcut menus provide options for the client area or the control at the mouse pointer location.
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

Demo

Add a context menu to the SimpleWebBrowser sample



Menus ToolStrip

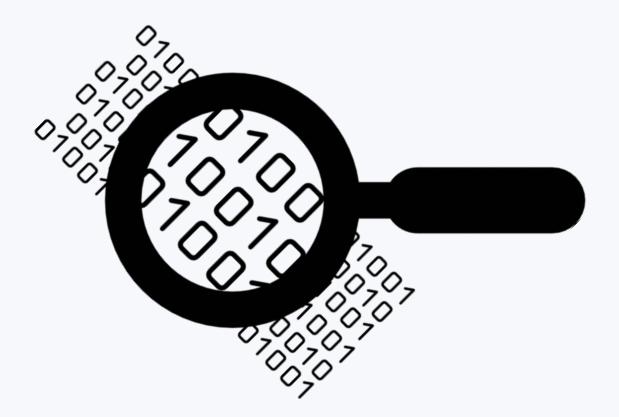


ToolStrip

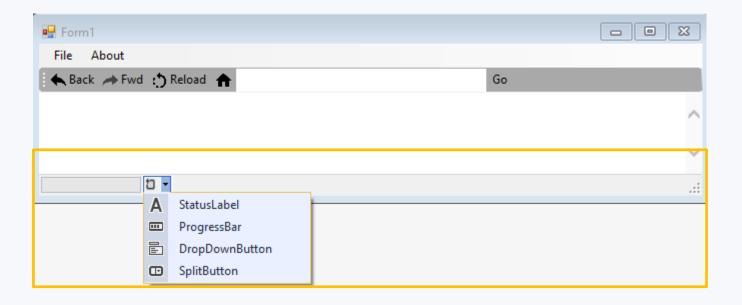
- System.Windows.Forms.ToolStrip
- The Windows Forms ToolStrip control and its associated classes provide a common framework for combining user interface elements into toolbars, status bars, and menus.
- ToolStrip controls offer a rich design-time experience that includes in-place activation and editing, custom layout, and rafting, which is the ability of toolbars to share horizontal or vertical space.
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

Demo

Reimplement the SimpleWebBrowser sample using the ToolStripContainer



StatusStrip

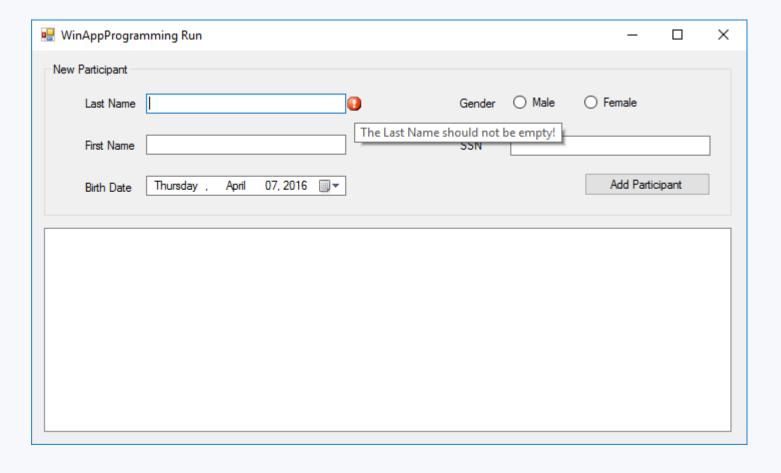


StatusStrip

- Windows.Forms.StatusStrip
- A StatusStrip control displays information about an object being viewed on a Form, the object's components, or contextual information that relates to that object's operation within your application.
- Typically, a StatusStrip control consists of ToolStripStatusLabel objects, each of which displays text, an icon, or both. The StatusStrip can also contain ToolStripDropDownButton, ToolStripSplitButton, and ToolStripProgressBar controls.
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

Data Validation

Using Validating and Validated Events



Control. Validating Event

- Occurs when the control is validating.
- If the <u>CausesValidation</u> property is set to **false**, the Validating and <u>Validated</u> events are suppressed.

```
private void tbLastName_Validating(object sender, CancelEventArgs e)
{
    string lastName = ((TextBox) sender).Text.Trim();

    if (string.IsNullOrWhiteSpace(lastName))
    {
        e.Cancel = true;

        epLastName.SetError((Control)sender, "Last Name isempty!");
    }
}
```

Control. Validating Event

- Events:
 - 1. Enter
 - 2. GotFocus
 - 3. Leave
 - 4. Validating
 - 5. Validated
 - 6. LostFocus
- If the <u>Cancel</u> property of the <u>CancelEventArgs</u> is set to **true** in the Validating event delegate, all events that would usually occur after the Validating event are suppressed.

Control. Validated Event

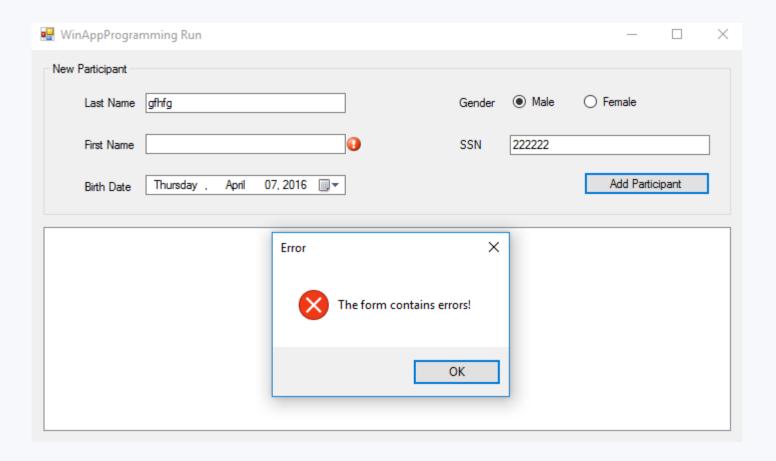
Occurs when the control is finished validating.

```
private void tbLastName_Validated(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
    epLastName.Clear();
}
```

Validating the entire form

```
private void btnAdd Click(object sender, EventArgs e) {
       string firstName = tbFirstName.Text.Trim();
       string lastName = tbLastName.Text.Trim();
      bool formContainsErrors = false;
       if (string.IsNullOrWhiteSpace(lastName)) {
             epLastName.SetError(tbFirstName, "Last Name is empty!");
             formContainsErrors = true;
       if (string.IsNullOrWhiteSpace(firstName)) {...
       if (formContainsErrors)
             MessageBox. Show ("The form contains errors!", "Error",
                    MessageBoxButtons.OK, MessageBoxIcon.Error);
```

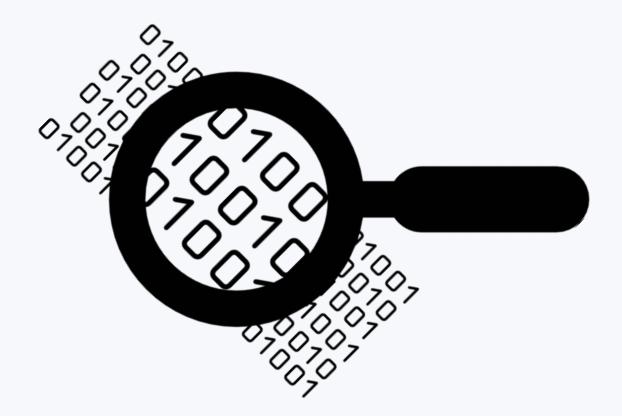
Validating the entire form



Data Validation

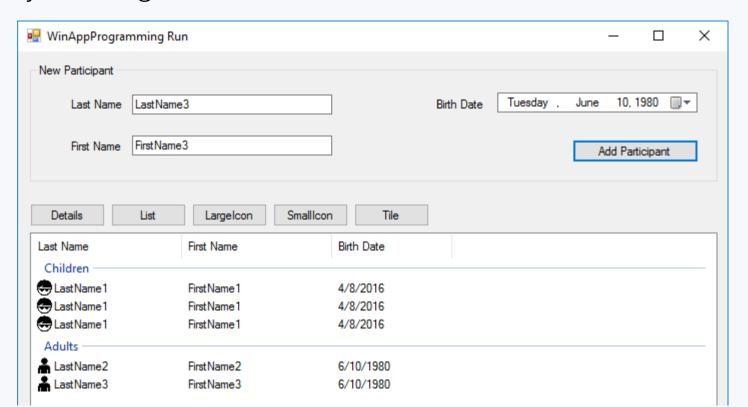
Demo

 Implement validations for an example containing only the first name and the last name fields.



ListView

- System.Windows.Forms. ListView
- Represents a Windows list view control, which displays a collection of items that can be displayed using one of four different views.



ListView

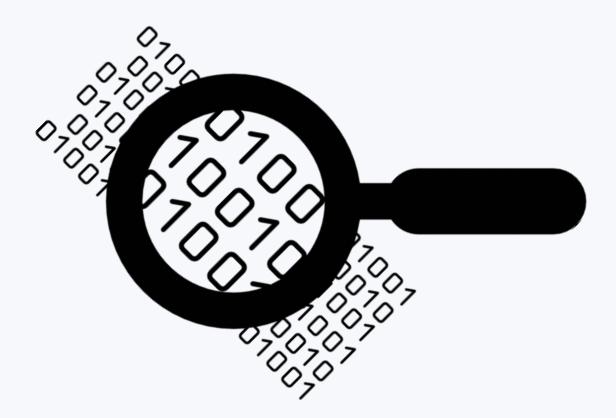
- Important properties:
 - Items
 - Columns
 - Groups
 - CheckBoxes
 - View: Details, List, Tile, SmallIcon, LargeIcon
 - FullRowSelect: True/False
 - GridLines: True/False
 - SmallImageList / LargeImageList

ListView

- Important events:
 - SelectedIndexChanged

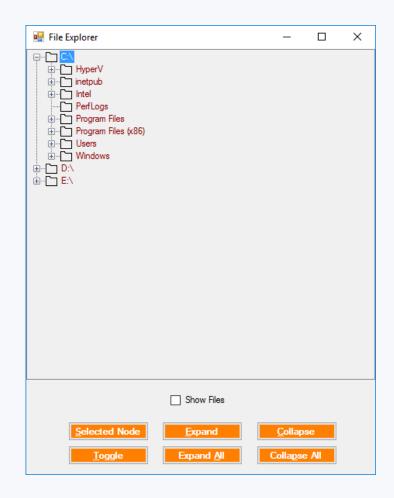
Demo

- Add a listview to the previous demo, similar to the ListViewBasicSample
- Check the ListViewSample



TreeView

- System.Windows.Forms.TreeView
- Displays a hierarchical collection of labeled items, each represented by a <u>TreeNode</u>.



TreeView

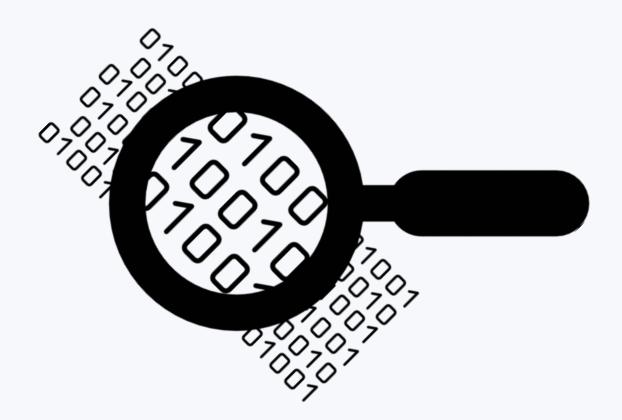
- Important properties:
 - Nodes
 - SelectedNode
 - Sorted
 - CheckBoxes
 - ImageList

TreeView

- Important Events:
 - AfterSelect
 - AfterExpand

Demo

Check the TreeViewSample



Exception Handling

Try, Catch, Finally

- A try statement specifies a code block subject to error-handling or cleanup code. The try block must be followed by a catch block, a finally block, or both.
- The catch block executes when an error occurs in the try block.
- The finally block executes after execution leaves the try block (or if present, the catch block), to perform cleanup code, whether or not an error occurred.

Try, Catch, Finally

```
try
... // exception may get thrown within execution of this block
catch (ExceptionA ex)
... // handle exception of type ExceptionA
catch (ExceptionB ex)
... // handle exception of type ExceptionB
finally
... // cleanup code
```

Common Exception Types

- System.ArgumentException Thrown when a function is called with a bogus argument.
- System.ArgumentNullException Subclass of ArgumentException that's thrown when a function argument is (unexpectedly) null.
- System.ArgumentOutOfRangeException Subclass of ArgumentException that's thrown when a (usually numeric) argument is too big or too small. For example, this is thrown when passing a negative number into a function that accepts only positive values.

Common Exception Types

- System.InvalidOperationException Thrown when the state of an object is unsuitable for a method to successfully execute, regardless of any particular argument values. Examples include reading an unopened file or getting the next element from an enumerator where the underlying list has been modified partway through the iteration.
- System.NotSupportedException Thrown to indicate that a particular functionality is not supported. A good example is calling the Add method on a collection for which IsReadOnly returns true.
- System.NotImplementedException Thrown to indicate that a function has not yet been implemented.

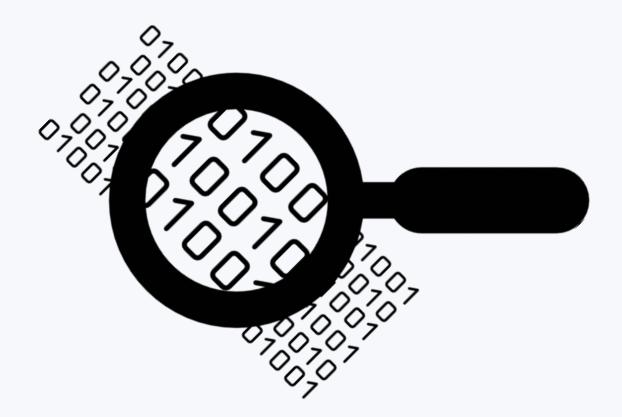
Common Exception Types

- A catch block has access to an Exception object that contains information about the error. You use a catch block to either compensate for the error or *rethrow* the exception. You rethrow an exception if you merely want to log the problem, or if you want to rethrow a new, higher-level exception type.
- A finally block adds determinism to your program: the CLR endeavors to alwaysexecute it. It's useful for cleanup tasks such as closing network connections.

Exception Handling

Demo

 Handle the exceptions for a simple calculator, similar to the one in the StandardExceptions sample



Custom exceptions

- The intrinsic exception types the CLR provides, coupled with custom messages will often be all you need to provide extensive information to a catch block when an exception is thrown.
- There will be times, however, when you want to provide more extensive information or need special capabilities in your exception. It is a trivial matter to create your own *custom exception* class; the only restriction is that it must derive (directly or indirectly) from System. Exception.

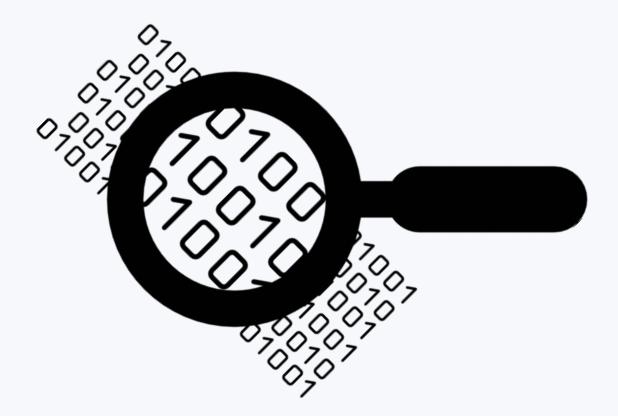
Custom exceptions

```
public class InvalidBirthDateException : Exception
        public DateTime BirthDate { get; set; }
        public InvalidBirthDateException(DateTime birthDay)
            BirthDate = birthDay;
        public override string Message
            get
                return "The birthDate " + BirthDate + " is invalid";
```

Exception Handling

Demo

- Implement an example that uses the InvalidBirthDateException;
- Check the ValidationCustomExceptions sample.



Exception Handling

Further reading

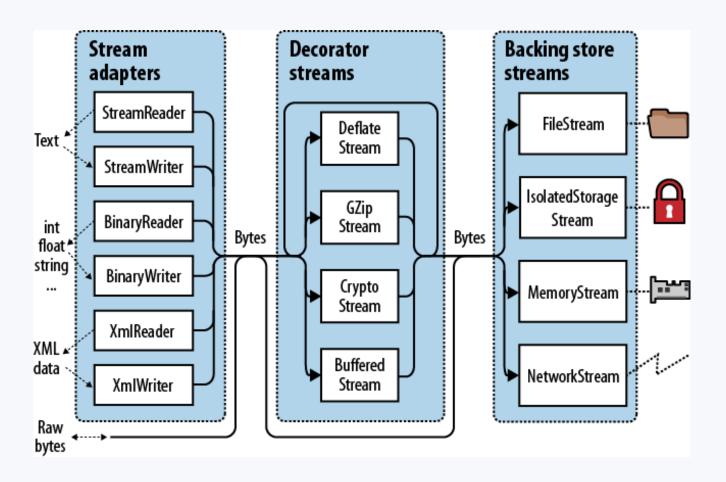
MSDN Best Practices for Exceptions: <u>link</u>

Streams

Stream Architecture

- A stream is an abstraction of a sequence of bytes, such as a file, an input/output device, an inter-process communication pipe, or a TCP/IP socket.
- System.IO.Stream class and its derived classes provide a generic view of these different types of input and output, and isolate the programmer from the specific details of the operating system and the underlying devices.
- System.IO.Stream is the abstract base class of all streams.
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

Stream architecture



Stream Architecture

 Unlike an array, where all the backing data exists in memory at once, a stream deals with data serially—either one byte at a time or in blocks of a manageable size. Hence, a stream can use little memory regardless of the size of its backing store.

System.IO.FileStream

Can be used to read from, write to, open, and close files on a file system.

Further reading: <u>link</u>

System.IO.FileMode

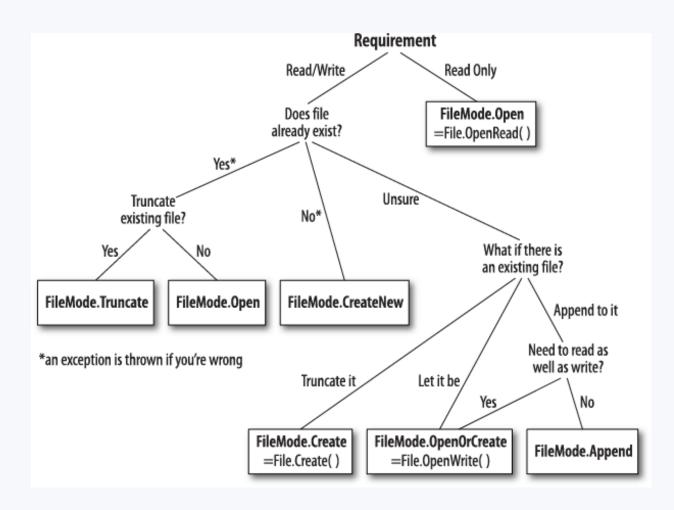
Append	Opens the file if it exists and seeks to the end of the file, or creates a new file. This requires FileIOPermissionAccess.Append permission.		
Create	Specifies that the operating system should create a new file. If the file already exists, it will be overwritten. This requires FileIOPermissionAccess.Write permission.		
CreateNew	Specifies that the operating system should create a new file. This requires FileIOPermissionAccess.Write permission.		
Open	Specifies that the operating system should open an existing file. The ability to open the file is dependent on the value specified by the FileAccess enumeration.		

System.IO.FileMode

OpenOrCreate	Specifies that the operating system should open a file if it exists; otherwise, a new file should be created. If the file is opened with FileAccess.Read, FileIOPermissionAccess.Read permission is required. If the file access is FileAccess.Write, FileIOPermissionAccess.Write permission is required. If the file is opened with FileAccess.ReadWrite, both FileIOPermissionAccess.Read and FileIOPermissionAccess.Read and FileIOPermissionAccess.Read and FileIOPermissionAccess.Write permissions are required.	
Truncate	Specifies that the operating system should open an existing file. When the files opened, it should be truncated so that its size is zero bytes. This require FileIOPermissionAccess.Write permission.	

Further reading: <u>link</u>

System.IO.FileMode



System.IO.FileAccess

Read	Read access to the file. Data can be read from the file. Combine with Write for read/write access.
ReadWrite	Read and write access to the file. Data can be written to and read from the file.
Write	Write access to the file. Data can be written to the file. Combine with Read for read/write access.

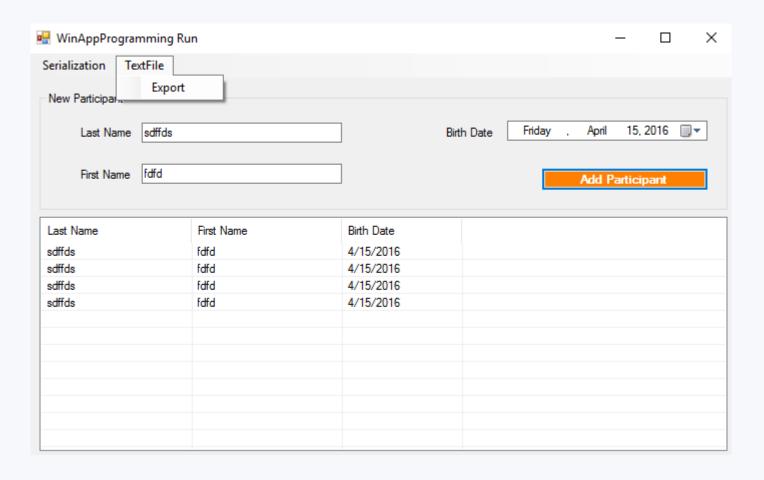
Further reading: <u>link</u>

Writing Text Files

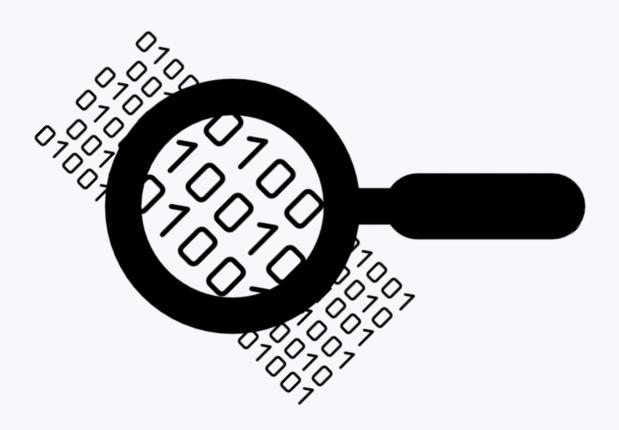
- System.IO.StreamWriter Implements a <u>TextWriter</u> for writing characters to a stream in a particular encoding.
- Useful Methods:
 - Write
 - WriteLine
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

```
static void Main(string[] args){
         // Get the directories currently on the C drive.
          DirectoryInfo[] cDirs = new DirectoryInfo(@"c:\").GetDirectories();
          // Write each directory name to a file.
          using (StreamWriter sw = new StreamWriter("CDriveDirs.txt")) {
                    foreach (DirectoryInfo dir in cDirs){
                              sw.WriteLine(dir.Name);
          // Read and show each line from the file.
          string line = "";
          using (StreamReader sr = new StreamReader("CDriveDirs.txt")) {
                    while ((line = sr.ReadLine()) != null)
                              Console.WriteLine(line);
```

Writing Text Files



Demo



File and Directory Operations

The System.IO namespace provides a set of types for performing "utility" file and directory operations, such as copying and moving, creating directories, and setting file attributes and permissions.

- Static classes:
 - File and Directory
- Instance method classes (constructed with a file or directory name)
 - FileInfo and DirectoryInfo
- Additional class:
 - Path

Special Folders

```
string myDocPath =
    Environment.GetFolderPath(Environment.SpecialFolder.MyDocuments);
```

Examples: Desktop, ProgramFiles, ProgramFilesX86, Favorites, MyMusic, MyVideos

All special folders: <u>link</u>

System.IO.File

Important methods:

```
bool Exists (string path); // Returns true if the file is present
void Delete (string path);
void Copy (string sourceFileName, string destFileName);
void Move (string sourceFileName, string destFileName);
void Replace (string sourceFileName, string destinationFileName,
string destinationBackupFileName);
FileAttributes GetAttributes (string path);
void SetAttributes (string path, FileAttributes fileAttributes);
```

System.IO.Directory

Important methods:

```
void SetCurrentDirectory (string path);
DirectoryInfo CreateDirectory (string path);
DirectoryInfo GetParent (string path);
string GetDirectoryRoot (string path);
string[] GetLogicalDrives();
// The following methods all return full paths:
string[] GetFiles (string path);
string[] GetDirectories (string path);
string[] GetFileSystemEntries (string path);
IEnumerable<string> EnumerateFiles (string path);
IEnumerable<string> EnumerateDirectories (string path);
```

File and Directory Operations

System.IO.FileInfo

- Provides additional properties such as:
 - Extension,
 - Length,
 - IsReadOnly,
 - Directory.

Further reading: <u>link</u>

File and Directory Operations

Other classes

- DirectoryInfo
 - Further reading: <u>link</u>
- Path
 - Further reading: <u>link</u>

Serialization

Serialization and Deserialization

- Serialization is the act of taking an in-memory object or object graph (set of objects that reference each other) and flattening it into a stream of bytes or XML nodes that can be stored or transmitted. Deserialization works in reverse, taking a data stream and reconstituting it into an in-memory object or object graph.
- Serialization and deserialization are typically used to:
 - Transmit objects across a network or application boundary.
 - Store representations of objects within a file or database.

Serialization Engines

- There are four serialization mechanisms in the .NET Framework:
 - The data contract serializer
 - The binary serializer
 - The (attribute-based) XML serializer (XmlSerializer)
 - The IXmlSerializable interface

Binary Serializer

```
[Serializable]
public sealed class Person
{
    public string Name;
    public int Age;
}
```

- The [Serializable] attribute instructs the serializer to include all fields in the type. This includes both private and public fields (but not properties). Every field must itself be serializable; otherwise, an exception is thrown.
- Primitive .NET types such as string and int support serialization (as do many other .NET types).

Binary Serializer

```
private void btnSerialize_Click(object sender, EventArgs e){
       IFormatter formatter = new BinaryFormatter();
       using (FileStream s = File.Create("serialized.bin"))
              formatter.Serialize(s, participants);
private void btnDeserialize_Click(object sender, EventArgs e){
       IFormatter formatter = new BinaryFormatter();
       using (FileStream s = File.OpenRead("serialized.bin"))
              participants = (List<Participant>)formatter.Deserialize(s);
               DisplayParticipants();
```

Binary Serialization Attributes

- [NonSerialized]
 - Fields that should not be serialized, such as those used for temporary calculations, or for storing file or window handles, must be marked explicitly with the [NonSerialized] attribute

```
public sealed class Person
{
    public string Name;
    public DateTime DateOfBirth;
    [NonSerialized] public int Age;
    [NonSerialized] public bool Valid = true;
    public Person() { Valid = true; }
}
```

Dialogs

Modal & Modeless

- Forms can exhibit either modal or modeless behavior
- A modal form is one that demands the user's immediate attention, and blocks input to any other windows the application may have open.
- Good UI design suggests that you should use modal dialogs only when absolutely necessary. Typical examples: error messages

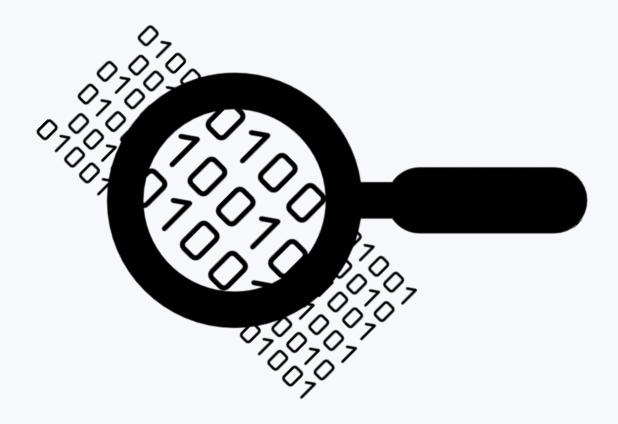
Modal & Modeless

```
//modal
Form frm = new Form( );
frm.ShowDialog( );

//modeless
Form frm = new Form( );
frm.Show ( );
```

Modal & Modeless

Implement an example similar to the DialogSample project



Useful Properties

Property	Туре	Description
AcceptButton	IButtonControl	Gets or sets the button on a form that is clicked when the user presses Enter, irrespective of which control actually has focus.
CancelButton	IButtonControl	Gets or sets the button on a form that is clicked when the user presses Escape, irrespective of which control actually has focus.
ControlBox	Boolean	Gets or sets a value indicating if the system menu can be displayed and if the Close button (X) is displayed on the right end of the titlebar. The system menu is exposed by clicking on the icon in the titlebar if the Icon property is set, or by right-clicking on the titlebar if the Icon property is not set. Default is true.
DialogResult	DialogResult	Gets or sets the return value from a form or dialog box displayed modally. Legal values are members of the DialogResult enumeration. This property is covered in detail on the following slide.
FormBorderStyle	e FormBorderStyle	Gets or sets the border style. In addition to appearance, the FormBorderStyle dictates whether or not the form will be resizable.
Icon	Icon	Gets or sets the icon for the form.
ShowInTaskBar	Boolean	Gets or sets a value indicating if the form Text property is displayed in the Windows taskbar. Default is true.

Useful Properties

Property	Туре	Description	
ShowInTaskBar	Boolean	Gets or sets a value indicating if the form Text property is displayed in the Windows taskbar. Default is true.	
Size	Size	Gets or sets both the height and width of the form.	
StartPosition	FormStartPosition Gets or sets the starting position of the form.		
TopMost	Boolean	Gets or sets value indicating the form is displayed on top all the other forms, even if it is not the active form. Typically used for modeless dialog boxes, which should always be visible.	

Useful Properties > FormBorderStyle

Value	Description
Fixed3D	Nonresizable, 3-D border.
FixedDialog	Nonresizable, dialog-style border
FixedSingle	Nonresizable, single line border
FixedToolWindow	Nonresizable, tool window border
None	No border
Sizable	Default value. Standard resizable border
SizableToolWindow	Resizable, tool window border

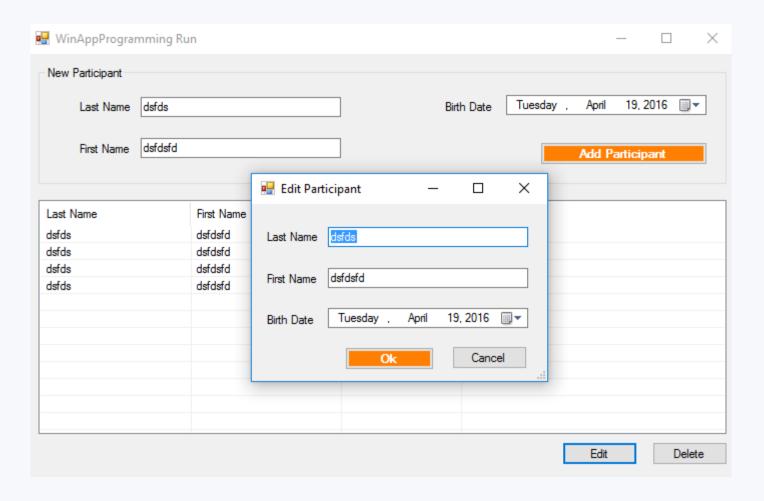
Useful Properties > DialogResult

Value	Description	
Abort	Abort	
Cancel	Cancel	
Ignore	Ignore	
No	No	
None	Returns nothing. Modal dialog is not terminated.	
OK	OK	
Retry	Retry	
Yes	Yes	

Useful Properties > StartPosition

Value	Description
CenterParent	Center form within parent form
CenterScreen	Center form within current display
Manual	Location and size of form dictates its starting position
WindowsDefaultBounds	Form at Windows default location with bounds determined by Windows default
WindowsDefaultLocation	Form at Windows default location with dimensions specified in form's constructor

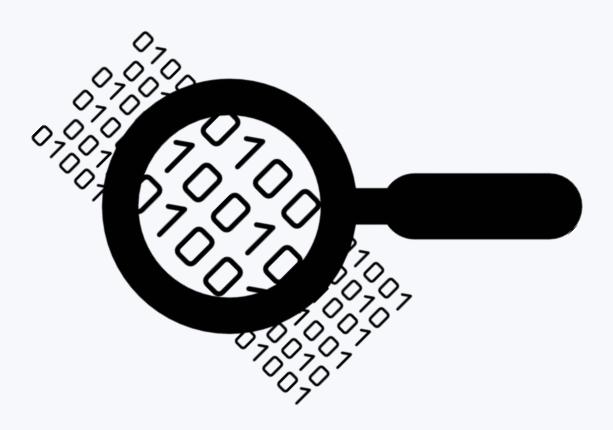
Transferring data between forms



Transferring data between forms

```
public partial class EditForm: Form
        private readonly Participant _participant;
        public EditForm(Participant participant) {
                participant = participant;
                InitializeComponent();
```

Transferring data between forms



Secondary Forms

CommonDialog Classes

- FileDialog
- ColorDialog
- FontDialog
- PageSetupDialog
- PrintDialog

Data Binding

Data Binding

- Data binding in Windows Forms gives you the means to display and make changes to information from a data source in controls on the form.
- You can bind to both traditional data sources as well as almost any structure that contains data.
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

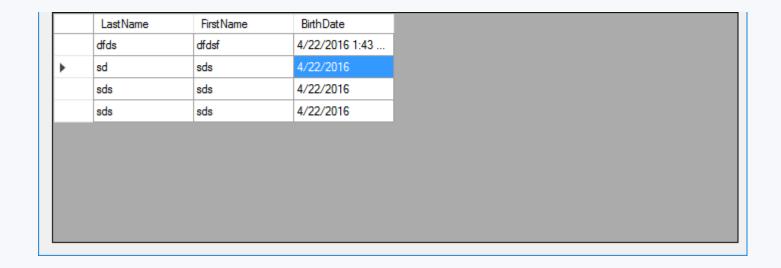
Types of Data Binding

Туре	Description	
Simple data binding	The ability of a control to bind to a single data element, such as a value in column in a dataset table. This is the type of binding typical for controls such a TextBox control or Label control, which are controls that typically only display a single value. In fact, any property on a control can be bound to a field in database.	
Complex data binding	The ability of a control to bind to more than one data element, typically more than one record in a database. Complex binding is also called list-based binding. Examples of controls that support complex binding are the DataGridView , ListBox , and ComboBox controls.	

Simple data binding

```
tbLastName.DataBindings.Add("Text",_viewModel,"LastName");
tbLastName.DataBindings.Add("Text",_viewModel,"LastName",false,DataSourceUpdateMode.OnPropertyChanged);
```

Complex data binding



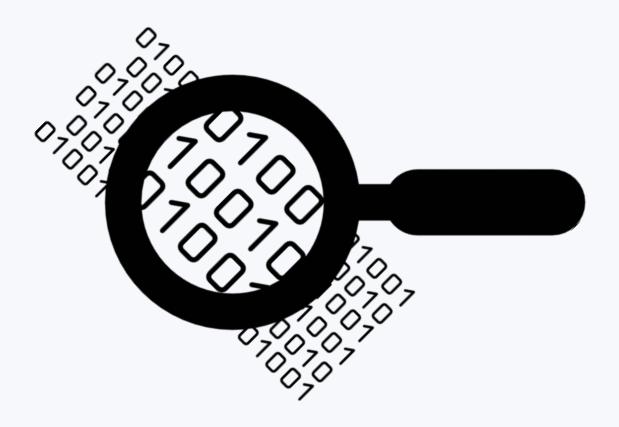
dgvParticipants.DataSource = _viewModel.Participants;

Change notification

- One of the most important concepts of Windows Forms data binding is change notification. To ensure that your data source and bound controls always have the most recent data, you must add change notification for data binding.
- Specifically, you want to ensure that bound controls are notified of changes that were made to their data source, and the data source is notified of changes that were made to the bound properties of a control.
- Cases:
 - Simple Binding <u>INotifyPropertyChanged</u>
 - Complex data binding <u>IBindingList</u>

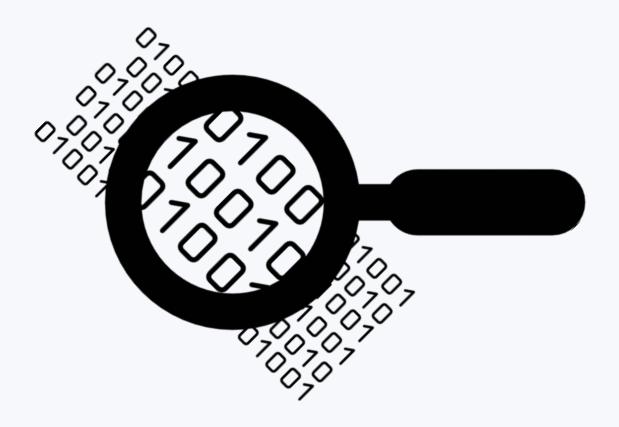
Demo

Discuss the DataBinding sample



Demo

Add a UnitTest project, similar to DataBindingSample.Tests



Databases

Data Access

- ADO.NET Active Data Objects
- NHibernate
- Entity Framework (recommended)

ADO.NET - Active Data Objects

- Approaches:
 - Connection Oriented Data Access Architecture the application makes a connection to the Data Source and then interacts with it through SQL requests using the same connection. In these cases the application stays connected to the database system even when it is not using any Database Operations
 - Disconnected Data Access Architecture the application can manipulate a set of DataTable objects (contained within a DataSet) that functions as a client-side copy of the external data. The connection is automatically opened and closed on when needed.
- Further reading: <u>link</u>

ADO.NET Data Providers

Type of Object	
Connection	Provides the ability to connect to and disconnect from the data store. Connection objects also provide access to a related transaction object.
Command	Represents a SQL query or a stored procedure. Command objects also provide access to the provider's data reader object.
DataReader	Provides forward-only, read-only access to data using a server-side cursor.
DataAdapter	Transfers DataSets between the caller and the data store. Data adapters contain a connection and a set of four internal command objects used to select, insert, update, and delete information from the data store.
Parameter	Represents a named parameter within a parameterized query.
Transaction	Encapsulates a database transaction.

ADO.NET Data Providers

- ADO.NET supports multiple data providers, each of which is optimized to interact with a specific DBMS
- Connection:
 - SqlConnection;
 - OracleConnection;
 - OdbcConnection;
 - MySqlConnection;
 - SqLiteConnection.

Connection

- The connection tells the rest of the ADO.NET code which database it is talking to.
- SQLiteConnection

```
SQLiteConnection conn = new SQLiteConnection("Data Source=database.db");
```

SQLConnection

```
SqlConnection conn = new SqlConnection( "Data Source=DatabaseServer; Initial Catalog=Northwind;User ID=YourUserID;Password=YourPassword");
```

The Command object specifies the type of interaction that will be performed on a database. For example, you can do select, insert, update, and delete commands on rows of data in a database table.

```
SQLiteCommand command = new SQLiteCommand("SELECT * FROM Participant",
    _dbConnection);
```

- ExecuteScalar()
 - Executes the query and returns the first column of the first row in the result set returned by the query. All other columns and rows are ignored.
 - If the value in the database is **null**, the query returns **DBNull.Value**.

```
// 1. Instantiate a new command
SqlCommand cmd = new SqlCommand("select count(*) from Participant", conn);

// 2. Call ExecuteScalar to send command
int count = (int)cmd.ExecuteScalar();
```

- ExecuteNonQuery()
 - Can be used to change the data in a database by executing UPDATE, INSERT, or DELETE statements.

```
const string stringSql = "DELETE FROM Participant WHERE Id=@id";
try{
       //Remove from the database
       dbConnection.Open();
       SQLiteCommand sqlCommand = new SQLiteCommand(stringSql, dbConnection);
       var idParameter = new SQLiteParameter("@id");
       idParameter.Value = participant.Id;
       sqlCommand.Parameters.Add(idParameter);
       sqlCommand.ExecuteNonQuery();
finally{
       if (_dbConnection.State != ConnectionState.Closed) _dbConnection.Close();
```

DataReader

The ADO.NET DataReader can be used to retrieve a read-only, forward-only stream of data from a database. Results are returned as the query executes, and are stored in the network buffer on the client until you request them using the Read method of the DataReader.

DataReader

```
SQLiteDataReader sqlReader = sqlCommand.ExecuteReader();
try {
       while (sqlReader.Read())
                _participants.Add(new Participant(
                        (long) sqlReader["Id"], (string) sqlReader["LastName"],
                        (string) sqlReader["FirstName"],
                        DateTime.Parse((string) sqlReader["BirthDate"])));
finally {
        // Always call Close when done reading.
       sqlReader.Close();
```

Transaction

```
try{
         _dbConnection.Open();
         dbCommand.Transaction = _dbConnection.BeginTransaction();
         participant.Id = (long)dbCommand.ExecuteScalar();
         dbCommand.Transaction.Commit();
catch (Exception){
         dbCommand.Transaction.Rollback();
         throw;
finally{
         if (_dbConnection.State != ConnectionState.Closed) _dbConnection.Close();
```

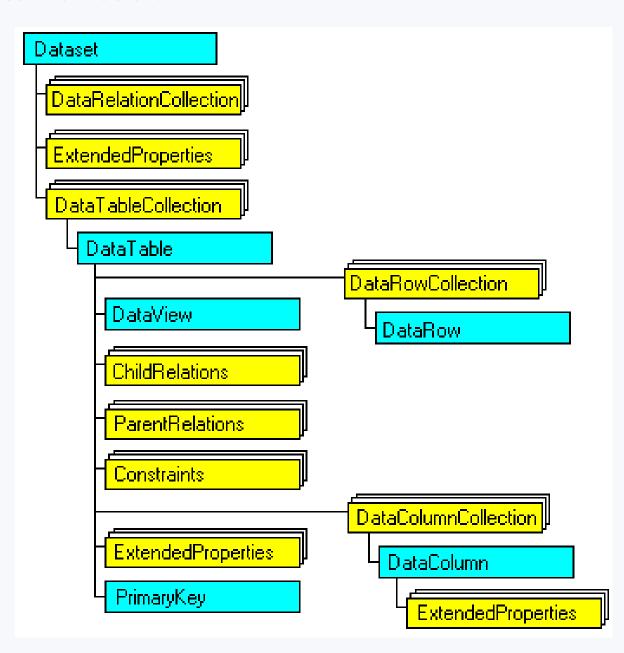
DataSet and DataAdapter

- A DataSet is an in-memory data store that can hold numerous tables (DataTable). DataSets only hold data and do not interact with a data source.
- It is the DataAdapter that manages connections with the data source and gives us disconnected behavior. The DataAdapter opens a connection only when required and closes it as soon as it has performed its task.
- The DataAdapter uses Command objects to execute SQL commands at the data source to both load the DataSet with data and reconcile changes that were made to the data in the DataSet back to the data source.

DataSet and DataAdapter

- For example, the SqlDataAdapter performs the following tasks when filling a DataSet with data:
 - Open connection
 - Retrieve data into DataSet
 - Close connection
- and performs the following actions when updating data source with DataSet changes:
 - Open connection
 - Write changes from DataSet to data source
 - Close connection

DataSet



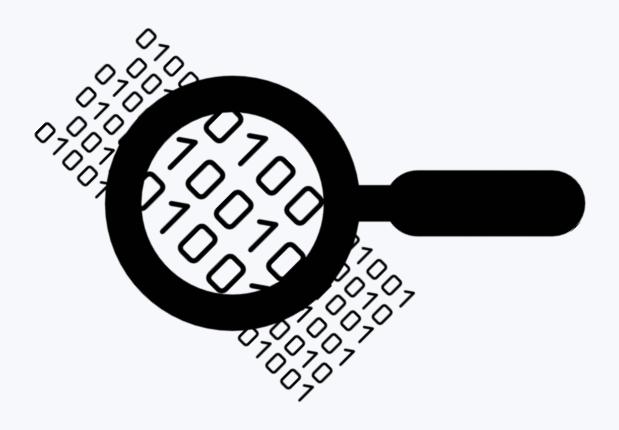
DataAdapter

```
dbDataAdapter = new SQLiteDataAdapter("SELECT * FROM Participant", conn);
//delete
var deleteCommand = new SQLiteCommand("DELETE FROM Participant WHERE Id = @Id", _ conn);
deleteCommand.Parameters.Add(new SQLiteParameter("@Id"));
_dbDataAdapter.DeleteCommand = deleteCommand;
//insert
var insertCommand = new SQLiteCommand("INSERT INTO Participant (LastName, FirstName, BirthDate)
VALUES (@LastName, @FirstName, @BirthDate);", conn);
insertCommand.Parameters.Add(new SQLiteParameter("@LastName"));
...... //FirstName, BirthDate
dbDataAdapter.InsertCommand = insertCommand;
```

Choosing a DataReader or a DataSet

- Use a DataSet to do the following:
 - Cache data locally in your application so that you can manipulate it. If you only
 need to read the results of a query, the DataReader is the better choice.
 - Interact with data dynamically such as binding to a Windows Forms control or combining and relating data from multiple sources.
 - Perform extensive processing on data without requiring an open connection to the data source, which frees the connection to be used by other clients.
- If you do not require the functionality provided by the DataSet, you can improve the performance of your application by using the DataReader to return your data in a forward-only, read-only manner.

Demo

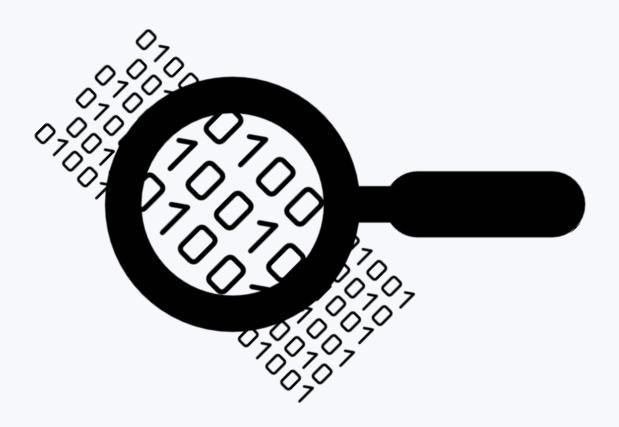


UserControls

UserControl

- The UserControl gives you the ability to create controls that can be used in multiple places within an application or organization.
- Examples: E-mail Addresse, Numeric TextBox (include validations)
- Further reading: <u>link</u> and <u>link</u>

Demo

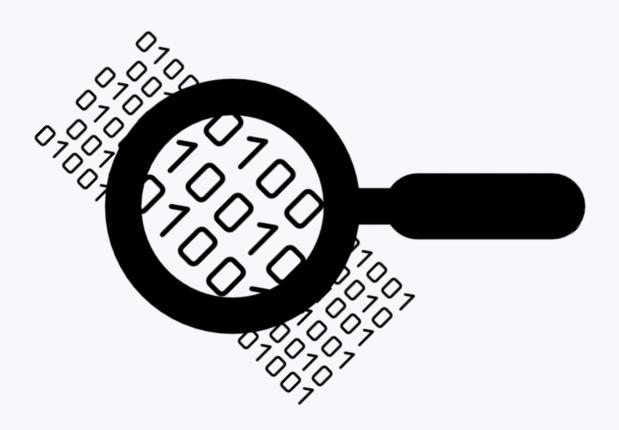


Graphics

Graphics

- The Graphics class provides methods for drawing objects to the display device. A Graphics instance is associated with a specific device context.
- You can obtain a Graphics object (the class does not include a public constructor):
 - by calling the <u>Control.CreateGraphics</u> method on an object that inherits from <u>System.Windows.Forms.Control</u>;
 - by handling a control's <u>Control.Paint</u> event and accessing the <u>Graphics</u> property of the <u>System.Windows.Forms.PaintEventArgs</u> class;
 - from an image by using the Graphics.
 From Image method.

Demo



Clipboard

Clipboard

- Class: System.Windows.Forms.<u>Clipboard</u>
- The *clipboard* is a set of functions and messages that enable applications to transfer data. Because all applications have access to the clipboard, data can be easily transferred between applications or within an application.

Adding data – Multiple Formats

Call <u>SetDataObject</u> to put data on the Clipboard in **one** or **multiple** formats, replacing its current contents.

SetDataObject(Object, Boolean)	Clears the Clipboard and then places data on it and specifies whether the data should remain after the application exits.
SetDataObject(Object)	Clears the Clipboard and then places nonpersistent data on it.

• For a list of predefined formats to use with the Clipboard class, see the DataFormats class.

Adding data – Multiple Formats

```
DataObject data = new DataObject();

// Add a Customer object using the type as the format.
data.SetData(new Customer("Customer as Customer object"));

// Add a ListViewItem object using a custom format name.
data.SetData("CustomFormat", new ListViewItem("Customer as ListViewItem"));

Clipboard.SetDataObject(data);
```

Adding data – Specific Format

■ To add data of a particular format to the Clipboard, replacing the existing data, call the appropriate **Set**Format method, such as <u>SetText</u>, or call the <u>SetData</u> method to specify the format.

```
//Copy HTML from web browser onto the clipboard
Clipboard.SetText(WebBrowser1.DocumentText, TextDataFormat.Html);

//Copy the picture from the picture box onto the clipboard
Clipboard.SetImage(PictureBox1.Image);

//Copy Pixel object onto the clipboard
Clipboard.SetData("Pixel", _pxl);
```

Retrieving data - Multiple Formats

- Call <u>GetDataObject</u> to retrieve data from the Clipboard. The data is returned as an object that implements the <u>IDataObject</u> interface.
- To specify the format in these operations, call the <u>ContainsData</u> and <u>GetData</u> methods instead.

Retrieving data - Specific Format

■ To retrieve data of a particular format from the Clipboard, first call the appropriate ContainsFormat method (such as ContainsText) method to determine whether the Clipboard contains data in that format, and then call the appropriate GetFormat method (such as GetText) to retrieve the data if the Clipboard contains it.

```
if (Clipboard.ContainsText(TextDataFormat.Html))
        TextBox2.Text = Clipboard.GetText(TextDataFormat.Html);

if (Clipboard.ContainsImage())
        PictureBox2.Image = Clipboard.GetImage();

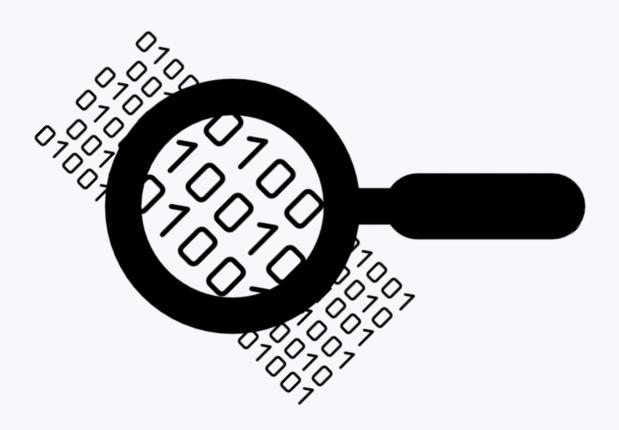
if (Clipboard.ContainsData("Pixel")){
        var tempPixel = (Pixel) Clipboard.GetData("Pixel");
        LoadPixel(tempPixel, TextBox4);
}
```

Clear

Call the <u>Clear</u> method to remove all data from the Clipboard.

```
//Clear the clipboard Clipboard.Clear();
```

Demo



Drag & Drop

Performing

 In order to begin a drag-and-drop operation, the DoDragDrop method should be called.

```
public DragDropEffects DoDragDrop(
          object data,
          DragDropEffects allowedEffects
)
```

- Parameters
 - data: the data to drag (a base managed class such as String or Bitmap, or an object that implements ISerializable or IDataObject.)
 - allowedEffects: Copy, Move

Performing

Example:

```
private void tbText_MouseDown(object sender, MouseEventArgs e)
{
     // This initiates a DragDrop operation, specifying that the data to be dragged
     // with be the text stored in the tbText control.
     tbText.DoDragDrop(tbText.Text, DragDropEffects.Copy);
}
```

Control.AllowDrop Property

- Gets or sets a value indicating whether the control can accept data that the user drags onto it.
- true if drag-and-drop operations are allowed in the control; otherwise, false. The default is false.

Mouse Event	Description
<u>DragEnter</u>	This event occurs when an object is dragged into the control's bounds. The handler for this event receives an argument of type DragEventArgs .
<u>DragOver</u>	This event occurs when an object is dragged while the mouse pointer is within the control's bounds. The handler for this event receives an argument of type DragEventArgs .
<u>DragDrop</u>	This event occurs when a drag-and-drop operation is completed. The handler for this event receives an argument of type DragEventArgs .
<u>DragLeave</u>	This event occurs when an object is dragged out of the control's bounds. The handler for this event receives an argument of type EventArgs .

Events - DragEnter

Example:

```
private void listBox_DragEnter(object sender, DragEventArgs e){
        // This control will use any dropped data to add items to the listbox. Therefore,
only data in a text format will be allowed. Setting the autoConvert parameter to true
specifies that any data that can be converted to a text format is also acceptable.
        if (e.Data.GetDataPresent(DataFormats.Text, true)) {
                // Show the standard Copy icon.
                e.Effect = DragDropEffects.Copy;
```

Events - DragDrop

Example

Drag & Drop

Further reading: <u>link</u>

Printing

Steps

- 1. Crate an instance of the **PrintDocument** class
- 2. (Optional) Set properties such as the **DocumentName** and **PrinterSettings**
- 3. Call the **Print** method to start the printing process.
- 4. Handle the **PrintPage** event in order to specify the output to print, by using the GraphicsGraphics property of the PrintPageEventArgs.

Steps

- 1. Crate an instance of the **PrintDocument** class
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Printing

Further reading: <u>link</u>

UI Design

Alignment

