



# Forcible Insertion

Making your programs transcend the limits



“or breaking windows”  
By Steve Hanna



# Window Handles

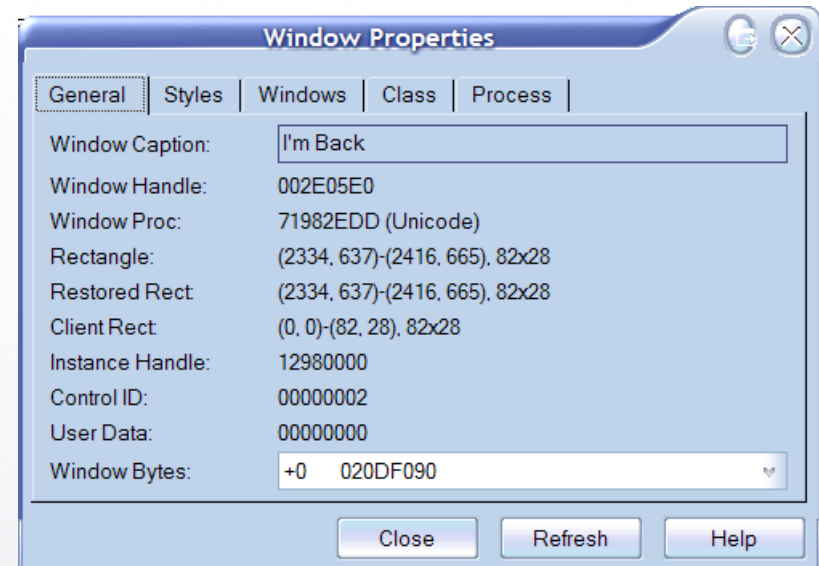
- Every item in the windows GUI has a handle
- All GUI objects are windows with their own handles
- Relationship between objects, Parent and Child windows
- GUI Object types are called Classes.
- Button, Edit, Static, Listbox, ComboBox, are all examples of GUI Objects





# Obtaining Window Handles

- Programmatically
  - FindWindow, FindWindowEx
  - EnumWindows
- On the Fly
  - Spy++ (Visual C++ tool)
  - Example: AIM “Back” button





# Examples

- FindWindow and FindWindowEX return HWND, the data type for windows handles
- HWND FindWindow(LPCTSTR lpClassName, LPCTSTR lpWindowName);
- HWND m\_hWnd = FindWindow(NULL, "WindowNameHere");
- Window Class or Window Title can be blank, but not both
- EnumWindows – We'll look at later





# Windows Message System

- What are Messages?
  - Messages are pieces of information sent from one program or another encouraging or notifying it that it should take some action
- When are messages generated?
  - Messages are generated when any event takes place in the system
  - Mouse movement, redraw a window, hit a key, etc. We'll look at the messages later



# Message Details

- Two types of messages, System and Application defined messages
- Two types of message routing, Queued and nonqueued.





# Sending Messages

- LRESULT SendMessage  
(HWND hWnd, UINT Msg, WPARAM wParam, LPARAM lParam );
- Example
  - LRESULT IrResult = SendMessage(myHWND, WM\_CLOSE, NULL, NULL)
- Example
  - wParam and lParam are used to specify arguments to the messages. As show above WM\_CLOSE doesn't require additional requirements.



# Dealing with Messages

- The Windows Message Loop

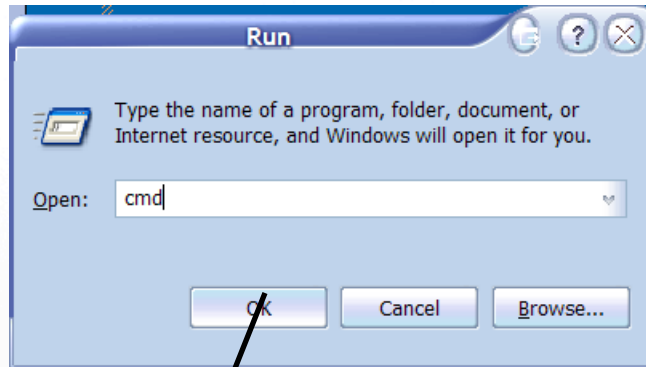
```
while( (bRet = GetMessage( &msg, NULL, 0, 0 )) != 0)
{
    if (bRet == -1)
    {
        // handle the error and possibly exit
    }
    else
    {
        switch(msg.message)
        {
            case WM_RBUTTONDOWN:
                //dostuff
                break;
            //process other messages
        }

        TranslateMessage(&msg);
        DispatchMessage(&msg);
    }
}
```



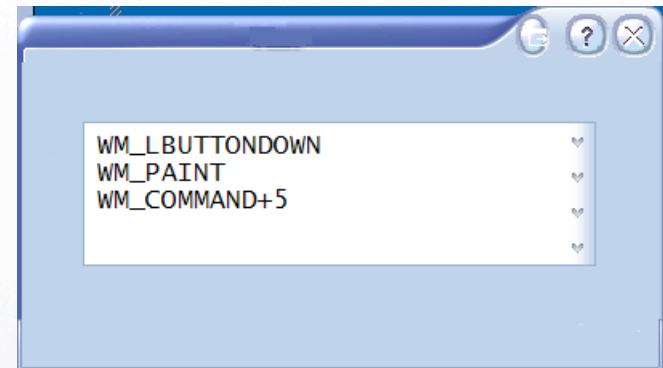


# Example



WM\_LBUTTONDOWN

“Message Queue”



Program calls function that corresponds to the event that took place



# Hooking

- What is hooking?
  - Hooking is injecting code to handle other window events before the window has a chance to process them
- Uses?
  - Key logging, Sub classing (Out of Process), Plugins





# The Hook Chain

- If a hook is installed it is put into the system wide “Hook Chain”
- Example    \\ signifies the message path

System

\\

Keylogger

\\

Application

The hook chain can very long, just remember there is a performance cost for using them and too many may make the user become irritated or suspicious.







# Example Hook

- `HHOOK msg=SetWindowsHookEx(WH_GETMESSAGE, (HOOKPROC)GetMsgProc,hins,0);`
- First Parameter: Hook type
- Second Parameter: Callback Function
- Third Parameter: VERY IMPORTANT, specifies the ThreadID which the hook will be associated with. In order to be associated with all windows this parameter must be ZERO!
- Real example code later.



# Example Keylogger

- Basic program that intercepts all keyboard messages and writes them to a specified file.
- Also sets attributes so file is harder to find.
- Let's view the example!





# Security

- Messages don't have access privileges.
- Any messages can be sent or intercepted from any window.