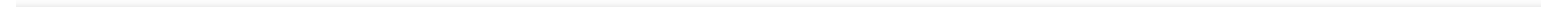# Masked Text Box Mask Syntax

Mask Syntax for the Masked Text Box

The MaskedTextBox uses the standard .NET MaskedTextProvider mask syntax. For full information see the .NET Framework SDK; a summary is provided below.

Mask Character	Accepts	Required?
0	Digit (0-9)	Required
9	Digit (0-9) or space	Optional
#	Digit (0-9) or space	Required
L	Letter (a-z, A-Z)	Required
?	Letter (a-z, A-Z)	Optional
&	Any character	Required
C	Any character	Optional
A	Alphanumeric (0-9, a-z, A-Z)	Required
a	Alphanumeric (0-9, a-z, A-Z)	Optional
.	Decimal separator	Required
,	Group (thousands) separator	Required
:	Time separator	Required
/	Date separator	Required
$	Currency symbol	Required

In addition, the following characters have special meaning:

Mask Character	Meaning
<	All subsequent characters are converted to lower case
>	All subsequent characters are converted to upper case
		Terminates a previous < or >
\	Escape: treat the next character in the mask as literal text rather than a mask symbol

All other characters are treated as literals.

XAML Considerations

XML reserves the &, < and > are special characters. To use these in a mask string in XAML, encode them as &, < and > respectively.

Send comments on this topic to contact@mindscape.co.nz