

Screen Interactions

Buttons and Links



Topics

- Interacting with the app
 - Link Widget
 - Button Widget
- Navigate Screen Lifecycle
- Submit Screen Lifecycle
 - Submit to the current Screen
- Download Widget



Interacting with the app

When using web applications, end-users don't just type URLs and wait for the result

It is very common to have other forms of interactions

- Following links
- Filling in forms
- Clicking buttons

Each time the user **navigates** to a new page, or **submits** data do the server, a new request / response cycle starts





◯ Links and **◯** Buttons

Links and Buttons have similar behaviors

Links can enclose other widgets

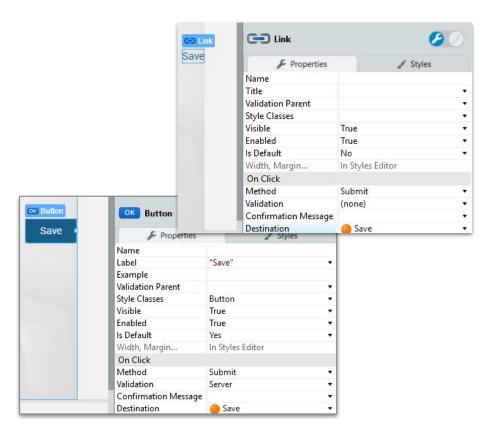
• Visually more flexible than Buttons

On Click: Either submits a request to call an Action or navigates to a Screen

Method property determines how data is submitted to the Server

Destination property can be set to a:

- Screen Action
- Destination





Navigate

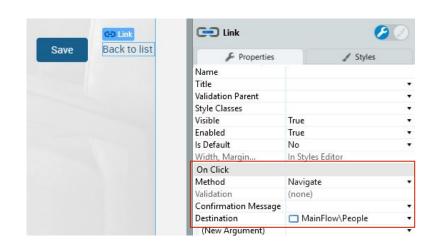
Uses HTTP GET Method

- Requests a specific resource
- Does not submit data to the server
 - Parameters are sent and displayed in the URL
 - Form Input values are not sent in the request

Browser displays the Destination URL

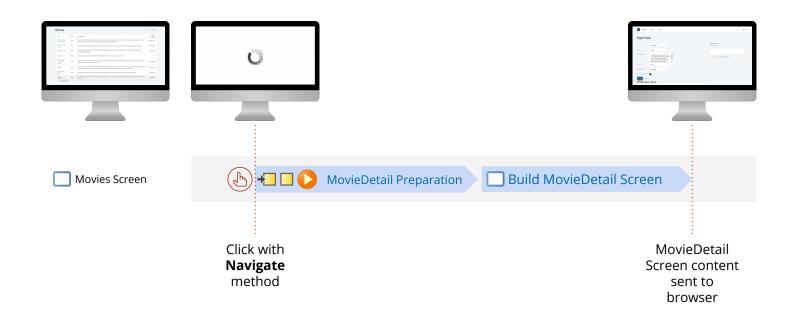
Link / Button Destination can be:

- Target Screen
- External URL





Navigate Screen Lifecycle





Submit

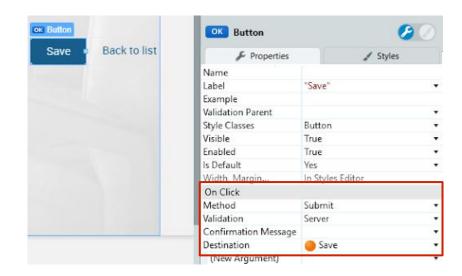
Uses HTTP POST Method
Submits data to the server in the request

- Upload a file
- Send Form Input fields data

Browser shows URL of the Screen that handles the submit request

Link / Button Destination can be:

- **Screen Action** (submits to current Screen)
- Target Screen
- External URL





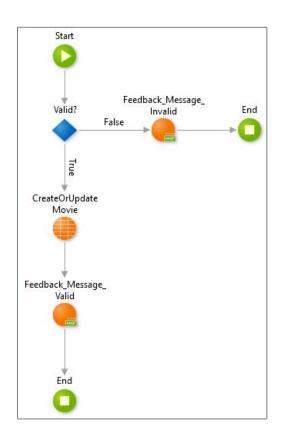
Submitting to a Screen Action

With the Submit Method, the Destination can be a Screen Action

Runs when the Button / Link is clicked

A Screen Action has a flow of statements that are executed in order

- Has access to all elements in the Screen scope
 - Widgets
 - Preparation elements
 - Screen Variables
- The last node of the Action has impact on the Screen lifecycle



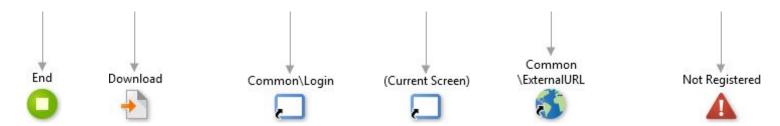


Finishing the Screen Action

The last node of a Screen Action flow greatly influences the lifecycle

There are several possibilities

- Stay on the same Screen
 - End, Download (of a file)
- Navigate to a Screen
 - Destination, Current Screen, External URL
- Raise an Exception



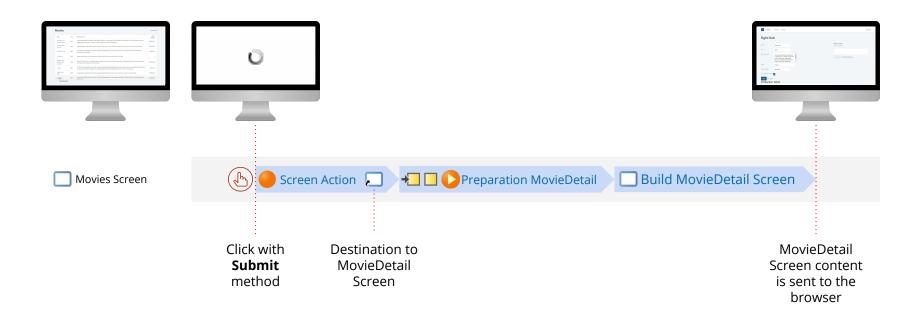


Submit Screen Lifecycle: End





Submit Screen Lifecycle: Destination





Submit Method: End vs. (Current Screen)

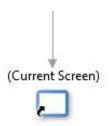
The application stays in the same Screen in both cases:

- Preparation of the Screen runs
- Entire Screen will be rebuilt

What's the difference?

- End Node
 - Values of Screen Variables are preserved
- Destination (Current Screen)
 - Values of Screen Variables are reset to their default values









Allows the end-user to download a file

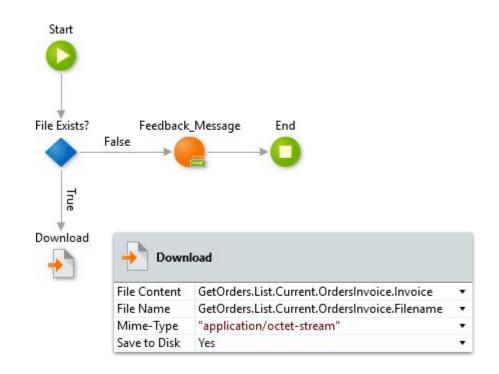
Can be saved

Download node properties

- File Content: Expect binary data
- File Name: Text of the file name
- Save to Disk: Or just display the file

Ends the Action Flow

- There can be no other statements after it
- Preparation does not run again





Summary

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