

# Develop Business Application Screens in WPF

By: Paul D. Sheriff  
[PSheriff@pdsa.com](mailto:PSheriff@pdsa.com)

[www.pdsa.com](http://www.pdsa.com) or  
[www.PaulSheriffInnerCircle.com](http://www.PaulSheriffInnerCircle.com)

# Paul.About

- Paul D. Sheriff (psheriff@pdsa.com)
  - President of PDSA, Inc.
  - Author, Speaker, Architect
  - Custom Software Development, Developer Tools
  - Software Audits
  - [www.pdsa.com](http://www.pdsa.com)
- Developer Tools
  - Haystack Code Generator
    - [www.CodeHaystack.com](http://www.CodeHaystack.com)
  - .NET Productivity Framework

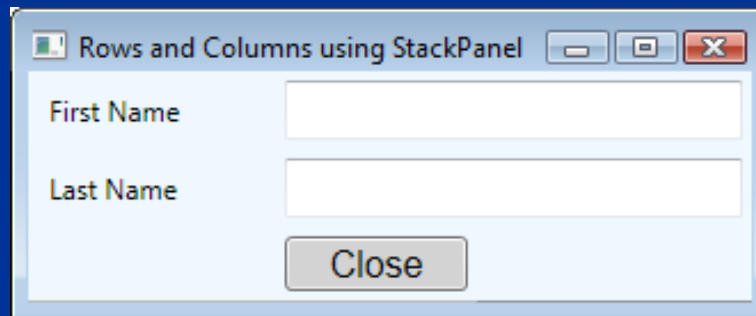


# Agenda

- Screen Layout Options
- Common Business UI
  - Menus, Status Bars, Tool Bars, Etc.
- Window Tricks
- User Controls
- Template WPF Application

# Screen Layout Options

- Most Business Apps Need Row/Column layout



- You can accomplish this a few different ways

# Screen Layout Options

- Grid
  - Allows auto resizing of input controls
- StackPanel
  - No resizing of input controls
  - Need to use Styles for layout
- XAML Power Toys
  - <http://karlshifflett.wordpress.com/2008/10/23/wpf-silverlight-lob-form-layout-searching-for-a-better-solution/>

# Screen Layout Options

- Grid, Star (\*) and Auto

- `<RowDefinition Height="40" />`

- `<RowDefinition Height="2*" />`

- `<RowDefinition Height="Auto" />`

- In the previous sample

- Height="2\*" is two times greater than the fixed row

- Height="Auto" ask child controls for their size

# Screen Layout Options

- "Auto" means to ask control for their size
- "\*" means to use left over space
  - If \* in multiple definitions, shared evenly
  - Can specify how to "share" the space
    - 1\*
    - 2\*
    - Means the second row gets 2 times as much as the 1\* row

# DockPanel

- Put together areas on a screen using DockPanel
- Can dock to Top, Left, Right, Bottom and fill the rest
- Can also simulate using a Grid control



# Screen Layout Options

## Demo

- Using a DockPanel
- Using a Grid

# Application UI

- Business apps have common UI needs
  - Menus
  - About Screen
  - Login Screen
  - Toolbars
  - Status Bars
  - Tooltips
  - Hyperlinks

# Application UI

## Demo

- Various samples of business UI

# Window Tricks

- Windows do not have to have a border
- Can change the shape of the window
  - Circles, Ellipsis, etc.

# Window Tricks

## Demo

- No Border
- Window as a Circle
- Another Login Form

# User Controls

- Re-useable UI and Code
- You will use these a lot
- Can host on any window
- Can be used in Windows Form App
- Create class for getting/setting data

# User Controls

## Demo

- Create User Control
- Binding data
- Load User Control at Runtime

# Shell

- Put it all together
- Create a template WPF application
- Use...
  - Toolbars
  - Status Bars
  - User Controls
  - Animation
- Add/Edit/Delete Screen Samples



# Shell

# Demo

- Show Final Sample

# Summary

- Screen layout can be done many ways
  - Grid, StackPanel, DockPanel
- Standard Business UI
  - Menus, Toolbars, StatusBars
  - About Form, Login Form
- Can change Border of Window
- User Controls are very handy

# Thank You

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# Thank You

- Sign up for Haystack Webcasts
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# Sample Code

- <http://www.pdsa.com/event/??>
  - Get Free Silverlight Video
    - Silverlight XAML for the Complete Novice - Part 1
- \*\* Haystack Special \*\*
  - Special Price: \$499
  - Use Code: ??
  - Valid until: ??/??/11