

Chapter 2: Desktop Application

Lesson 1: Introduction

These programs have high-quality user experiences. They are native Windows applications. Windows Forms offers an extensive client library providing interface to access native Windows graphical interface elements and graphics from managed code. It is built with event-driven architecture similar to Windows clients and hence, its applications wait for user input for its execution.

Button. A button accepts clicks. In Windows Forms we use a Button control that accepts click events and performs other actions in the user interface. This control provides a way to accept input—and invoke logic based on that input.

Action: You can use a Button control to perform an action when the user clicks or presses a key to activate the button.

Event

Add. Let's describe how you can add a Button control to a Windows Forms program. In Visual Studio, make sure the Window you want to add the button to is shown. Go to the View menu and select the Toolbox option.



Label. One useful control in Windows Forms is the Label control. This control serves as an invisible frame where you can place text. Labels can have lots of text, but often only have a few words. They can be mutated in your C# code.

Start. As with other Windows Forms controls, the Label control should be added by opening the Toolbox pane and dragging or double-clicking the Label item. Initially, the label will have the Text property set as "label1".

Summary. The Label control in the Windows Forms toolkit is the ideal container for small text fragments and, fittingly, for labeling other controls in your window. But the label need not be static.



TextBox lets users type letters and enter data. It is part of the Windows Forms platform and is used with C# code. It is added with the Visual Studio designer. Many events and properties are available on this control.

Events. In Visual Studio the lightning bolt symbol describes event handlers. Windows Forms programs are primarily event-based, which means you can use the lightning bolt icon in the Properties dialog to add the most important event handlers.

Form1

Type stuff here!

TextBox