**Introduction**

Gadgets are lightweight HTML and script-based applications that provide the ability to derive and present information or functionality from a variety of sources, such as local applications and controls, or websites and services. Developers with experience authoring webpages will find the process of creating a gadget very familiar.

**The Files**

A basic gadget consists of two files:

1. Gadget.xml - The manifest, an XML file that contains general configuration and presentation information for the gadget.
2. *name*.html - An HTML file, where *name* is specified in the <name> tag of the associated gadget manifest, which provides the shell for the gadget UI and contains the core functionality for the gadget.

**Important**

It is highly recommended that all gadget HTML and script files be saved with UTF-8 character encoding.

**How to Create**

1. Locate and open your gadgets folder. Click the **Start** button, and then click **Run...**. In the **Open** text box, type:

%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows Sidebar\Gadgets

1. In your Gadgets folder, create a new folder named **MyCustomGadget.gadget**.
2. Copy and paste the following code into Notepad or a similar editor that allows you to create an HTML file. Name the file **MyCustomGadget.html**, and save it in your MyCustomGadget.gadget folder.

<html>

<head>

<title>My Custom Gadget</title>

<style>

body

{

margin: 0;

width: 130px;

height: 65px;

}

#gadgetContent

{

width: 130px;

top: 24px;

text-align: center;

position: absolute;

font-family: Verdana;

font-size: 10pt;

}

</style>

<script language="javascript">

function showtime()

{

var now=new Date();

var h=now.getHours();

var m=now.getMinutes();

var s=now.getSeconds();

h=(h<10)?"0"+h:h;

m=(m<10)?"0"+m:m;

s=(s<10)?"0"+s:s;

gadgetContent.innerHTML="<h2><font color='red'>"+h+":</font><font color='Blue'>"+m+":</font><font color='Green'>"+s+"</font></h2>";

setTimeout("showtime()",1000);

}

</script>

</head>

<body onload="showtime()" bgcolor="black">

<span id="gadgetContent"></span>

</body>

</html>

1. Create the gadget manifest by copying and pasting the following code into a new file. Save this file with the file name **gadget.xml** and UTF-8 encoding.

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>

<gadget>

<name>My Custom Gadget</name>

<namespace>Sample Gadget</namespace>

<version>1.0.0.0</version>

<author name="Kiran Vidhate">

<info url="www.example.com" />

</author>

<copyright>Kiran Vidhate</copyright>

<description>Sample Digital Clock Gadget</description>

<hosts>

<host name="sidebar">

<base type="HTML" apiVersion="1.0.0" src="MyCustomGadget.html" />

<platform minPlatformVersion="1.0" />

<permissions>Full</permissions>

</host>

</hosts>

</gadget>

1. That’s it..it should show the custom gadget created under the Gadgets option under the main context menu on the desktop as shown below.

