

Tutorial

Windows Forms – GUI programming with C#

Inhalt

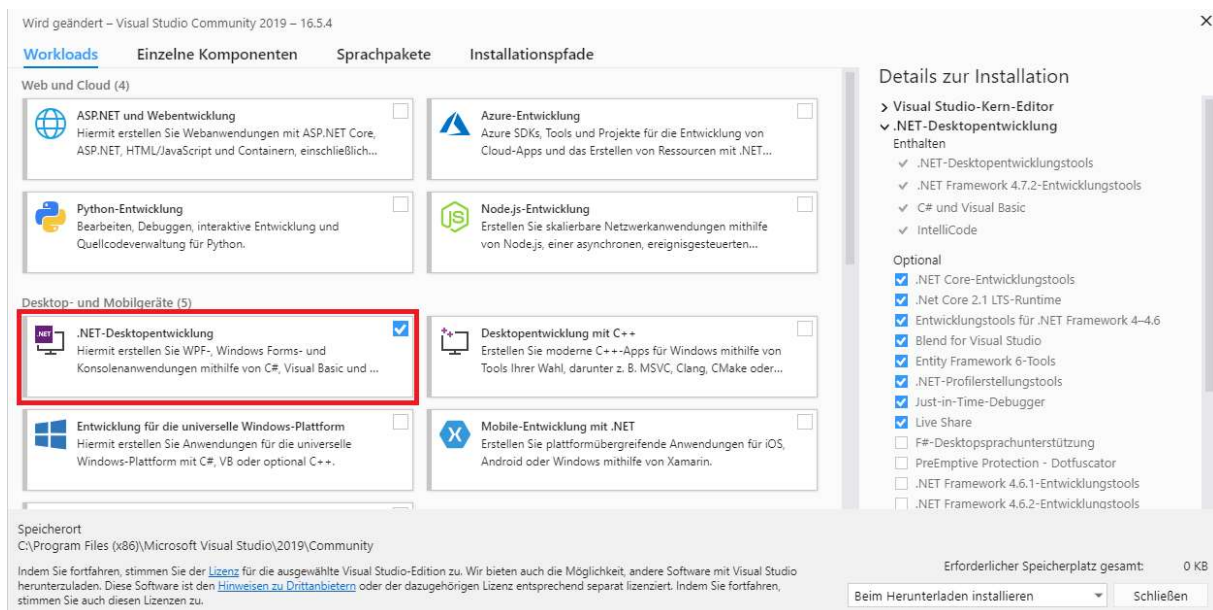
Installation.....	2
Create Project.....	3
Programming.....	5
The IDE.....	5
The Designer-Code	7
Your Code	7

Installation

First of all, you need to install Visual Studio. As a student you can get the enterprise version for free but in this case the free community version should also be enough.



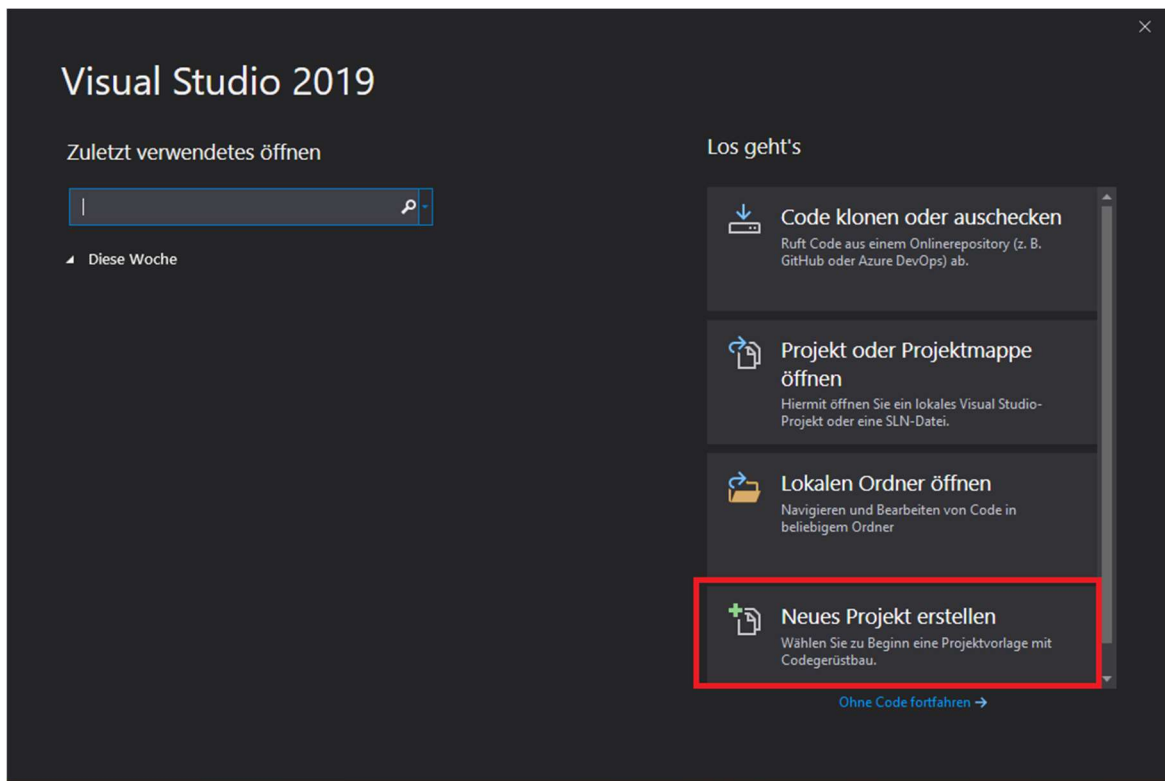
If done, the required package needs to be installed. To build up a GUI with the Windows Forms Framework, we need the package called **“.NET-Desktopentwicklung”**.



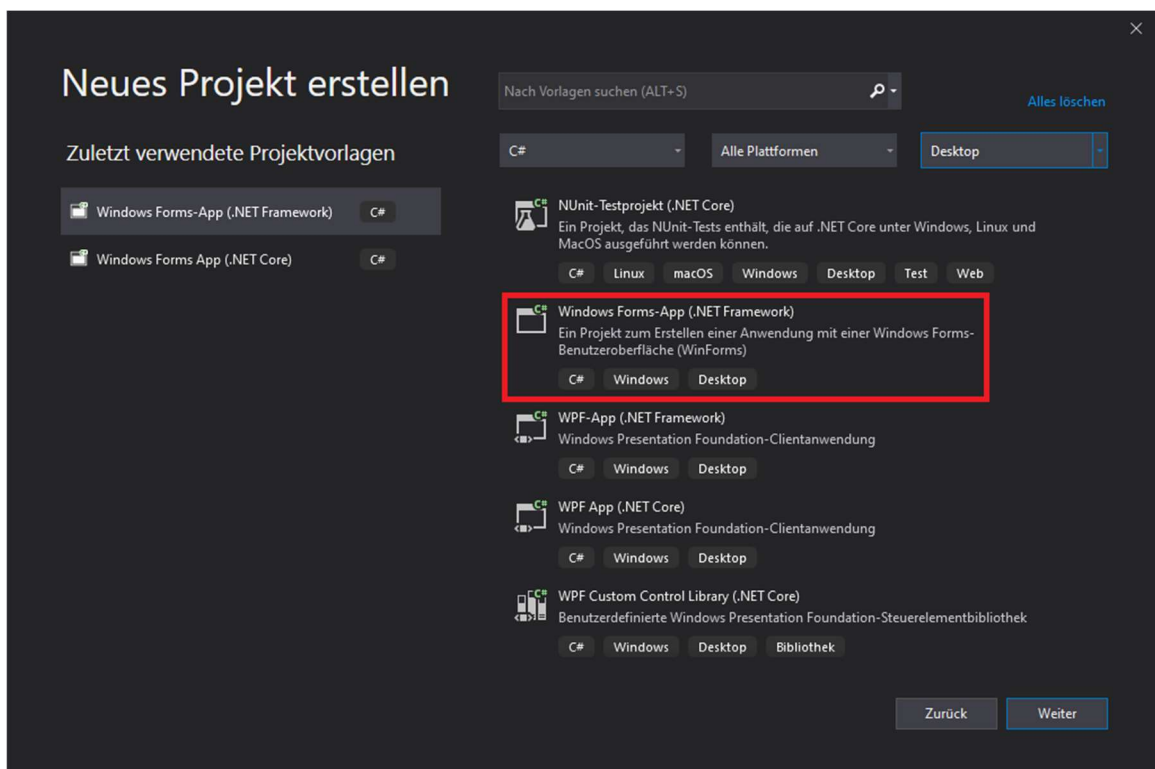
Now you are done with the installing part.

Create Project

After having installed everything, you can create a project. Start this process by clicking on the marked field called “Neues Projekt erstellen” (→ “create new project”).

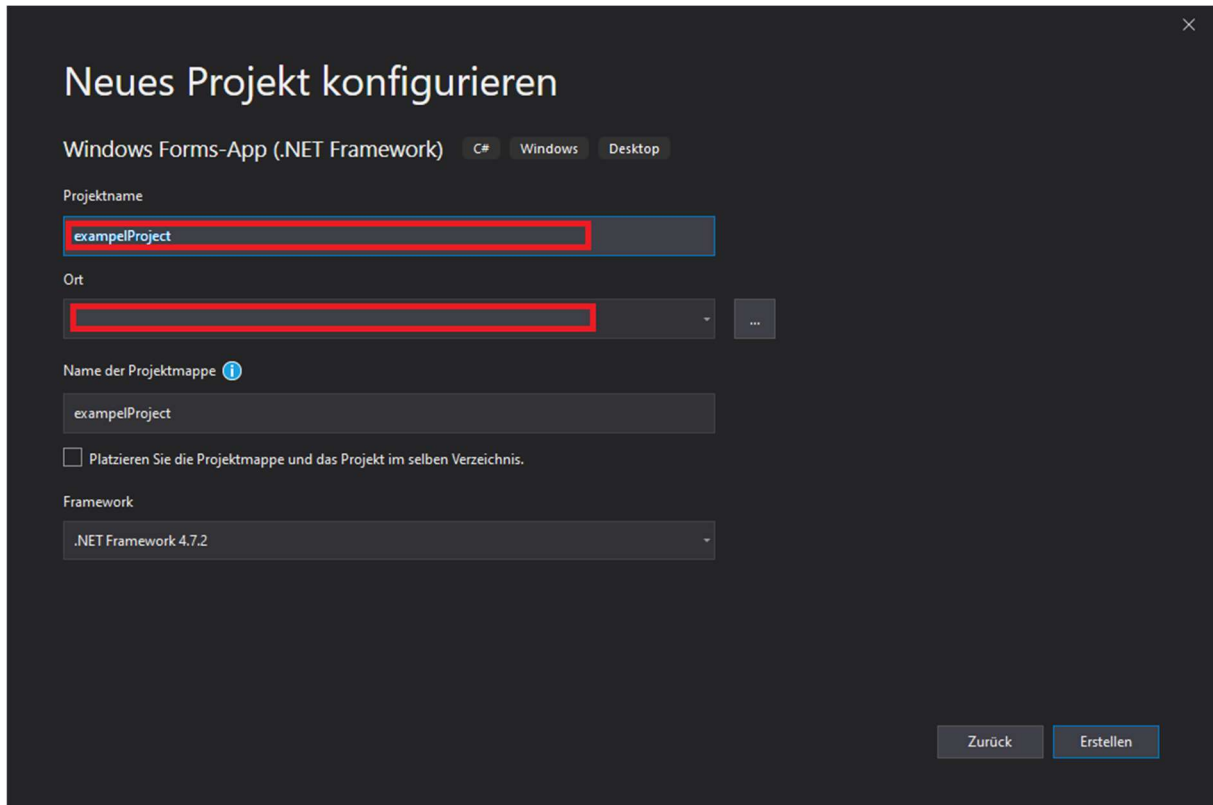


In the following it is important to find the right template. Set “c#” and “desktop” as a filter and select the marked template where it says “.NET Framework” in brackets.



.NET is a software platform from Microsoft with which a so-called .NET application can be executed. In order to be able to run such .NET applications, the so-called .NET Framework is required.

The new project has to have a project name and a location. Think about your own **name** and insert it in the **first text field** and select a **path** in the **second one**.



Neues Projekt konfigurieren

Windows Forms-App (.NET Framework) C# Windows Desktop

Projektname
exampleProject

Ort
exampleProject

Name der Projektmappe ⓘ
exampleProject

☐ Platzieren Sie die Projektmappe und das Projekt im selben Verzeichnis.

Framework
.NET Framework 4.7.2

Zurück Erstellen

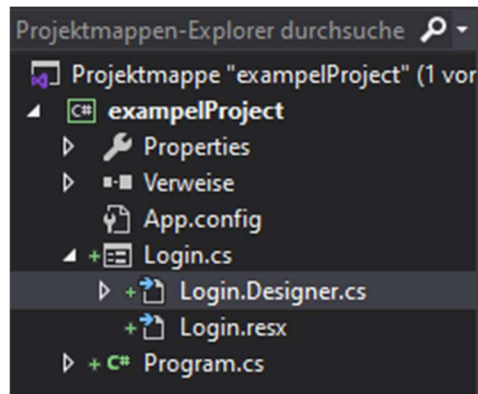
With a click on the button “Erstellen” (→“**create**”), the project will be created. This may take longer time – don’t worry about it.

Programming

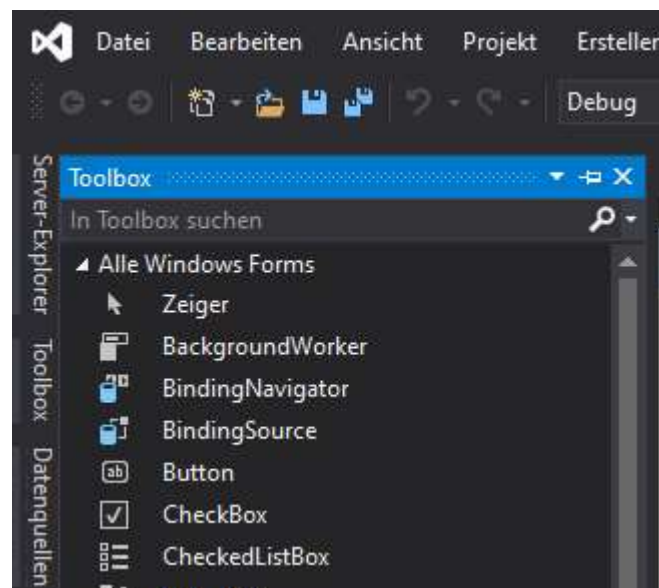
The IDE

On the right side, you can find your project files. The selected “Login.**Designer.cs**” provides windows generated code and will be treated in the following topic. The “Login.cs” file provides the code behind the main form. In a new project it is called “**Form1.cs**” by default.

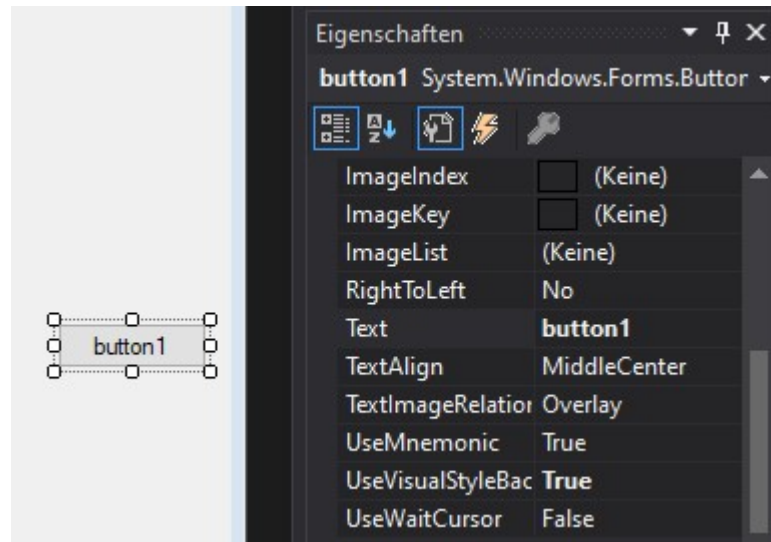
If you cancelled the overview by accident, you can redisplay it by typing the hotkey “Strg+Alt+L” (in German) or you search it in the top tap “**View**”.



On the left side you should see the “**Toolbox**”. The toolbox provides a lot of predefined windows elements which you can add to your form by double-click or drag-and-drop.



If you select an item in your form, which you previously added from the toolbox, you can **edit its properties**. The properties can be found on the right side under your project files. This is the main method to edit an items name, displayed text, colour and everything else. You could also do this by editing the windows generated code in the designer but I highly advise against doing so because if you produce an error it is difficult to undo and fix it.



The **flash** beneath the blue marked property-symbol provides predefined **events**. Those events can be activated and edited later on in the code.

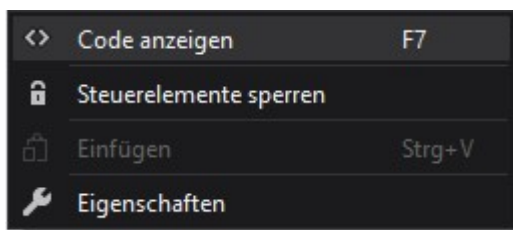
The Designer-Code

By adding items from the toolbox to your form, windows generates the required code for you. This happens in the **Designer.cs** file. You can find information like names and positions of each element here.

```
//  
// button1  
//  
this.button1.Location = new System.Drawing.Point(82, 130);  
this.button1.Name = "button1";  
this.button1.Size = new System.Drawing.Size(75, 23);  
this.button1.TabIndex = 0;  
this.button1.Text = "button1";  
this.button1.UseVisualStyleBackColor = true;  
this.button1.Click += new System.EventHandler(this.button1_Click);  
//
```

Your Code

You can get to your own code behind the GUI by right-clicking the main form and then “Code anzeigen” (→“**view code**”) or pressing “F7”.



In this file you can fill operate the exercises of your GUI. Means, you can define your variables, functions and loops.

In this example I defined an event which gets called by **clicking my button** (to define the event, double-click on the button, or take the longer way of defining it in the event properties → **flash**-symbol).

```
1-Verweis  
private void button1_Click(object sender, EventArgs e)  
{  
    ...  
    MessageBox.Show("Hello World!");  
}
```

Every button-click will open a message-box which displays the text “Hello World!”.

Other possibilities, as well as my example project code will be discussed during the presentation.