

Advance Programming Techniques (APT)

Lecture # 36

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MDI Windows

- MDI stands for Multiple Document Interface
- Difference between SDI and MDI
- Parent Window
 - MDI program's main window is called **parent window**
 - It usually contains MenuStrip, ToolStrip, StatusStrip etc
- Child Window
 - Each window inside the application is called **child window**

Child Windows

- Properties of child window
 - Each window has only one parent
 - Only one window can be active at one time
 - Child windows can't become parent to other windows
 - They cannot move outside the parent form boundary
 - They can be maximized, minimized, or arranged within the parent
 - Each child window can have different functionality

How to Make MDI Form?

- Enabling MDI in a form
- Creating child forms
- Preventing multiple copies of same child form
- Arranging MDI child windows
- Opening child forms maximized

Benefits of MDI Applications

- MDI is great when:
 - You need multiple forms working at the same time
 - Want a centralized parent window
 - Need easy arrangement of windows
 - Want all forms to share a common menu/tool bar

Real World Use Cases

- You can build following real world applications using MDI form:
 - POS System
 - Student Management System
 - Billing Software
 - Shop Management Tools
 - Accounting Applications
 - Inventory + Sales Management System
- MDI is essential for large Windows applications