

Building a Custom Control

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Add Custom Property Dialog

The Add Custom Property dialog box allows you to add your property to the control. The controls for this dialog are as follows:

Name:

Enter the name of the property here. The maximum length of this field is 80 characters.

Data Types Flags:

This group of check boxes allows you to select the various Data types flags for the currently property. If data type flag of property is **Enum** then you can input the Enum List to the property.

Other Flags:

This group of check boxes allows you to select the various other flags for the currently property.

Default flags (**GetData, SaveData, SetData, SetMsg**)

Enum List:

This list-box displays a list of available items for enumerated property.

To add a item in to list-box, select the final item and enter the text in edit-box.

To change any item in list-box, select the item and enter the text in edit-box.

To remove a item from the list-box, select the item and press on **Del** button, the item will be removed.

OK:

Add custom property to your control.

Cancel:

Close **Add Custom Property Dialog**.

Help:

This button will display the **Add Custom Property Dialog** help topic.

Using VBX Wizard

VBX Wizard is a dialog box based application which consists of seven dialog boxes. You maneuver through these dialog boxes to set the parameters that VBX Wizard will use to create the framework for your control. The following topics cover each dialog box:

[VBX Wizard Project Dialog](#)

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About VBX Wizard version 2.1

VBX Control Development Wizard was written by Eli and Dani Zeitlin.

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Introduction

VBX Wizard is a program, whose purpose is to simplify the development of VBX controls using the VBApi Unit or Libraray.VBX Wizard is not a code generator in the traditional sense. It is a tool that is designed to create the framework of an application that creates VBX controls using the VBApi Unit or Libraray.

When creating a VBX using VBApi Unit or Libraray, you create several classes and map messages from both Borland Pascal for Windows or Delphi or Visual C++ or Borland C++ and the WorkShop or AppStudio. Additionally, you create dialogs and popup windows for a complete VBX control. VBX Wizard assists in this area by generating class definitions, default class code, and default message handlers for you on **Borland Pascal, Delphi, Visual C++ or Borland C++** language.

Note: When your VBX is completed, you must rename *.DLL file to *.VBX file only in Borland Pascal or Borland C++.

VBX Wizard Project Dialog

The project dialog is where you provide the name and location of your project. This dialog has several controls. They are as follows:

File Name:

Enter the name of the project here. You are limited to the standard eight character limitation of Dos. The default extension of ".pas" or ".c" will be appended for you.

Directory:

This is a scrollable list-box that allows you to select the directory and drive for the project. When you change the currently selected drive, the Directory list-box is automatically updated with the contents of the selected drive.

New Subdirectory:

This edit box lets you create a directory. This directory becomes a subdirectory of the current directory unless you specify a path.

Drives:

Open the list and then select the drive.

Create Resource File:

VBX Wizard generates a set of resource files that are used to provide VBX Control.

Context Sensitive Help:

VBX Wizard generates a set of help files that are used to provide context-sensitive help. Help support requires using the Help compiler, which is provided with Borland Pascal, Delphi, Visual C++, Borland C++.

License Validation:

VBX Wizard inserts several function calls and generates a separate .LIC file in **Windows directory** that supports licensing for your control.

Compiler:

The Compiler option tells the VBX Wizard which compiler to save the source code of Control.

Next:

Control Options Dialog will be displayed when you select this button.

Help:

This button will display the VBX Wizard Project Dialog help topic.

About:

This button will display the About Dialog.

Exit:

This button terminates the VBX Wizard application.

Add to Control Dialog

The Add to Control dialog box allows you to add a properties, events, methods and messages, to the control. The controls for this dialog are as follows:

Properties:

This list-box displays a list of available properties for your control. Double click on the property to move it to selected properties list-box. To remove a property from the selected properties list-box, select the property name and press on **Del** button, the property will be removed. To add custom property press **Custom** Button, it open [Add Custom Property Dialog](#).

Events:

This list-box displays a list of available events for your control. Click on the event to select it. To remove a event click on the event again, the event will be unchecked. To add custom event press **Custom** Button, it open [Add Custom EventDialog](#).

Methods:

This list-box displays a list of available methods for your control. Click on the method to select it. To remove a method click on the method again, the event will be unselected.

Messages:

This list-box displays a list of available messages to map for your control. Double click on the message to move it to selected messages list-box. To remove a message from the selected messages list-box, select the message name and press on Del button, the message will be removed. The Messages Types to View check boxes choose the types of messages to view in Messages list-box.

Save:

This button instructs VBX Wizard to accept the current project parameters and construct the project.

Source:

This button will display the [View Source Code Dialog](#)

Set Prefs...:

This button will display the [Control Preferences Dialog](#)

Help:

This button will display the **Add to Control Dialog** help topic.

Prev:

This buton will display the [Control Options Dialog](#) and close **Add to Control Dialog**.

Exit:

This button terminates the VBX Wizard application.

Add Custom Event Dialog

The Add Custom Event dialog box allows you to add your event to the control. The controls for this dialog are as follows:

Name:

Enter the name of the event here. The maximum length of this field is 80 characters.

Parameters:

Enter Parameters for you event here...The maximum length of this field is 255 characters.

Example for Parameters: `x as integer,y as integer,l as long,s as string`

NoUnload Flag (Only when Compiler selected to Pascal or Delphi):

When this flag is set, it tells Visual Basic not to allow unloading of the current form or any control on the form, while the corresponding event procedure is being fired.

The NoUnload flag is useful for events that must assume that nothing is unloaded.

OK:

Add event to your control.

Cancel:

Close **Add Custom Event Dialog**.

Help:

This button will display the **Add Custom Event Dialog** help topic.

Control Preferences Dialog

The Control Preferences dialog box allows you to set control preferences. The controls for this dialog are as follows:

Default Size:

Sets default size for a control in pixels.

This size is used when a control is created by double-clicking on a control in the Toolbox window.

Files:

Select the files you want to copy into your project directory.

Default Property:

Name of property that is the default property value for the control.

Setting this box to **(none)** indicates no default property value.

Example: If a control is created, with the name property set to Circle1, and the default property is set to Caption, then the following code (**Visual Basic**):

Circle1 = "hello"

means

Circle1.Caption = "hello"

Default Event:

Name of default event in Code window.

OK:

Close the **Control Preferences Dialog** and return to [Add to Control Dialog](#).

Cancel:

Close the **Control Preferences Dialog** and return to [Add to Control Dialog](#).

Help:

This button will display the **Control Preferences Dialog** help topic.

View Source Code Dialog

The View Source Code dialog box allows you to view files of project. The controls for this dialog are as follows:

FileName:

Select the file name to view in edit window.

Cancel:

Close the **View Source Code Dialog** and return to [Add to Control Dialog](#).

Copy:

Copies text from a edit window onto the Clipboard, leaving the original intact and replacing the previous Clipboard contents.

Help:

This button will display the View Source Code Dialog help topic.

Control Options Dialog

The Control Options dialog box allows you to select a Name, Default Window Style, Version, Model flags and Class Style, to the control. The controls for this dialog are as follows:

Control Name:

Enter the name of the control here. The maximum length of this field is 255 characters.

Parent Class:

This is a dropdown combo box that allows you select from one of the standard windows controls as the superclass of your control. Default Window Style list-box is automatically updated with the contents of the selected parent class.

Default Window Style:

The style of window being created.

Version:

This radio button allows you to select the version of Visual Basic that the control will be developed for. Current options are limited to the usVersion variable in the CDK.

Model Flags:

This list box allows you to select the various model flags for the control.

Class Style:

This list box allows you to select the various class flags for the control.

Next:

Add to Control Dialog will be displayed when you select this button.

Prev:

This button will display the VBX Wizard Project Dialog and close **Control Option Dialog**.

Help:

This button will display the Control Options Dialog help topic.

Exit:

This button terminates the VBX Wizard application.

