

TextBox, CheckBox, RadioButton, ComboBox and ListBox Control in VB.NET

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Textbox Control

Text box controls allow entering text on a form at runtime. By default, it takes a single line of text, however, you can make it accept multiple texts and even add scroll bars to it.

To create a text box, drag a Text Box control from the Toolbox and dropping it on the form.

The following are some of the commonly used properties of the TextBox control –

Property	Description
AcceptsReturn	Gets or sets a value indicating whether pressing ENTER in a multiline TextBox control. Creates a new line of text in the control or activates the default button for the form.
CharacterCasing	Gets or sets whether the TextBox control modifies the case of characters as they are typed
Font	Gets or sets the font of the text displayed by the control.
FontHeight	Gets or sets the height of the font of the control.
ForeColor	Gets or sets the foreground color of the control.
Lines	Gets or sets the lines of text in a text box control.
Multiline	Gets or sets a value indicating whether this is a multiline TextBox control.
PasswordChar	Gets or sets the character used to mask characters of a password in a single-line
ReadOnly	Gets or sets a value indicating whether text in the text box is read-only.
ScrollBars	Gets or sets which scroll bars should appear in a multiline TextBox control.
TabIndex	Gets or sets the tab order of the control within its container.
Text	Gets or sets the current text in the TextBox.
TextAlign	Gets or sets how text is aligned in a TextBox control. This property has values Left/right/center
TextLength	Gets the length of text in the control.
wordwrap	Indicates whether a multiline text box control automatically wraps words to the beginning of the next line when necessary.

Methods

AppendText-Appends text to the current text of a text box.

Clear-Clears all text from the text box control.

Copy-Copies the current selection in the text box to the clipboard

Cut-Moves the current selection in the text box to the Clipboard

Paste-Replaces the current selection in the text box with the contents of the Clipboard.

Paste(String)-Sets the selected text to the specified text without clearing the undo buffer.

ResetText-Resets the Text property to its default value.

ToString>Returns a string that represents the TextBoxBase control.

Undo-Undoes the last edit operation in the text box.

Events

The following are some of the commonly used events of the Text control –

Click-Occurs when the control is clicked.

DoubleClick- Occurs when the control is double-clicked.

TextAlignChanged- Occurs when the TextAlign property value changes.

Checkbox

The CheckBox control allows the user to set true/false or yes/no type options. The user can select or deselect it. When a check box is selected it has the value True, and when it is cleared, it holds the value False.

The CheckBox control has three states, checked unchecked and indeterminate

In the indeterminate state, the check box is grayed out. To enable the indeterminate state, the ThreeState property of the check box is set to be True.

Properties of the CheckBox Control.

Property	Description
Appearance	Gets or sets a value determining the appearance of the check box.
Auto check	Gets or sets a value indicating whether the Checked or CheckState value and the appearance of the control automatically change when the check box is selected.
CheckAlign	Gets or sets the horizontal and vertical alignment of the check mark on the check box.
Checked	Gets or sets a value indicating whether the check box is selected.
CheckState	Gets or sets the state of a check box.
Text	Gets or sets the caption of a check box.
ThreeState	Gets or sets a value indicating whether or not a check box should allow three check states rather than two.

Methods of the CheckBox Control

OnCheckedChanged - Raises the CheckedChanged event.

OnCheckStateChanged- Raises the CheckStateChanged event.

OnClick -Raises the OnClick event.

Events of the CheckBox Control

AppearanceChanged- Occurs when the value of the Appearance property of the check box is changed.

CheckedChanged- Occurs when the value of the Checked property of the CheckBox control is changed.

CheckStateChanged- Occurs when the value of the CheckState property of the CheckBox control is changed.

RadioButton Control

The RadioButton control is used to provide a set of mutually exclusive options. The user can select one radio button in a group. If you need to place more than one group of radio buttons in the same form, you should place them in different container controls like a GroupBox control.

To create radio buttons drag RadioButton controls from the Toolbox and drop on the form.

You can display text, image or both on radio button control.

Property	Description
Appearance	Gets or sets a value determining the appearance of the radio button
Auto check	Gets or sets a value indicating whether the Checked value and the appearance of the control automatically change when the control is clicked.
CheckAlign	Gets or sets the location of the check box portion of the radio button.
Checked	Gets or sets a value indicating whether the control is checked.
Text	Gets or sets the caption of a radio button.
Tab stop	Gets or sets a value indicating whether a user can give focus to the radio button control.

Method

PerformClick - Generates a Click event for the control, simulating a click by a user.

Events of the RadioButton Control

AppearanceChanged-Occurs when the value of the Appearance property of the RadioButton control is changed.

CheckedChanged- Occurs when the value of the Checked property of the RadioButton control is changed.

COMBOBOX Control

The ComboBox control is used to display a drop-down list of various items. It is a combination of a text box in which the user enters an item and a drop-down list from which the user selects an item. To create a combo box drag a ComboBox control from the Toolbox and drop it on the form. You can populate the combo box items either from the properties window or at runtime. To add items to a ComboBox, select the ComboBox control and go to the properties window for the properties of this control. Click the ellipses (...) button next to the Items property. This opens the String Collection Editor dialog box, where you can enter the values one at a line.

Properties of the ComboBox Control

Property	Description
AllowSelection	Gets a value indicating whether the list enables selection of list items.
DataSource	Gets or sets the data source for this ComboBox.
FlatStyle	Gets or sets the appearance of the ComboBox.
Items	Gets an object representing the collection of the items contained in this ComboBox.
MaxDropDownItems	Gets or sets the maximum number of items to be displayed in the

	drop-down part of the combo box.
MaxLength	Gets or sets the maximum number of characters a user can enter in the editable area of the combo box.
SelectedIndex	Gets or sets the index specifying the currently selected item.
SelectedItem	Gets or sets currently selected item in the ComboBox.
SelectedText	Gets or sets the text that is selected in the editable portion of a ComboBox.
SelectedValue	Gets or sets the value of the member property specified by the ValueMember property.
SelectionLength	Gets or sets the number of characters selected in the editable portion of the comboBOX
SelectionStart	Gets or sets the starting index of text selected in the combo box.
Sorted	Gets or sets a value indicating whether the items in the combo box are sorted.
Text	Gets or sets the text associated with this control.

Methods of the ComboBox Control

BeginUpdate-Prevents the control from drawing until the EndUpdate method is called, while items are added to the combo box one at a time.

EndUpdate-Resumes drawing of a combo box, after it was turned off by the BeginUpdate method.

FindString-Finds the first item in the combo box that starts with the string specified as an argument.

FindStringExact Finds the first item in the combo box that exactly matches the specified string.

SelectAll- Selects all the text in the editable area of the combo box.

Events of the ComboBox Control

DropDown- Occurs when the drop-down portion of a combo box is displayed.

DropDownClosed- Occurs when the drop-down portion of a combo box is no longer visible.

DropDownStyleChanged - Occurs when the DropDownStyle property of the ComboBox has changed.

SelectedIndexChanged- Occurs when the SelectedIndex property of a ComboBox control has changed.

SelectionChangeCommitted- Occurs when the selected item has changed and the change appears in the combo box.

LISTBOX Control

The ListBox represents a Windows control to display a list of items to a user. A user can select an item from the list. It allows the programmer to add items at design time by using the properties window or at the runtime.

To create a list box by dragging a ListBox control from the Toolbox and dropping it on the form. You can populate the list box items either from the properties window or at runtime. To add items to a ListBox, select the ListBox control and get to the properties window, for the properties of this control. Click the ellipses (...) button next to the Items property. This opens the String Collection Editor dialog box, where you can enter the values one at a line.

Properties of the ListBox Control

Properties	description
AllowSelection	Gets a value indicating whether the ListBox currently enables selection of list items.
HorizontalScrollBar	Gets or sets the value indicating whether a horizontal scrollbar is displayed in the listbox
ItemHeight	Gets or sets the height of an item in the list box.

Items	Gets the items of the list box
Multicolumn	Gets or sets a value indicating whether the list box supports multiple columns.
SelectedIndex	Gets or sets the zero-based index of the currently selected item in a list box.
SelectedIndices	Gets a collection that contains the zero-based indexes of all currently selected items in the listbox
Selected item	Gets or sets the currently selected item in the list box.
Sorted	Gets or sets a value indicating whether the items in the list box are sorted alphabetically
Text	Gets or searches for the text of the currently selected item in the list box.
TopIndex	Gets or sets the index of the first visible item of a list box.

Methods of the ListBox Control

BeginUpdate- Prevents the control from drawing until the EndUpdate method is called, while items are added to the ListBox one at a time.

ClearSelected - Unselects all items in the ListBox.

EndUpdate- Resumes drawing of a list box after it was turned off by the BeginUpdate method.

FindString- Finds the first item in the ListBox that starts with the string specified as an argument.

FindStringExact- Finds the first item in the ListBox that exactly matches the specified string.

GetSelected- Returns a value indicating whether the specified item is selected.

SetSelected- Selects or clears the selection for the specified item in a ListBox.

OnSelectedIndexChanged- Raises the SelectedIndexChanged event.

OnSelectedValueChanged- Raises the SelectedValueChanged event.

Events of the ListBox Control

Click-Occurs when a list box is selected.

SelectedIndexChanged-Occurs when the SelectedIndex property of a list box is changed.