Using Microsoft Visual Basic .NET

A) Creating a new form, within a project, within a solution



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When you open up Microsoft Visual Studio .NET the screen should appear similar to the one shown to left. Click on the *My Profile* tab.

Picture #1

The screen should be similar to this one. Click on the down arrow next to the **Profile** box. Then choose *Visual Basic Developer*. Your screen will change some, then click back onto **Projects** tab

Picture #2

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This will be your starting screen when using Visual Basic .NET. Ignore the listings of projects that may already be listed.

When you want to open an already existing project simply click on **Open Project**, then locate project to open.

When you want to create a new form and project within a new solution then click on **New Project**, go ahead and do click this now.

Picture #3

This screen should then appear. Click once on the following items: Visual Basic Projects, in left pane, and Windows **Applications** in right pane. In the name field choose a name for your file and project. This will also correspond to some folders that will be placed in the **Location** you specify. Use the *Browse* button to find a location on your *M*:*drive* to store everything. Also check box next to Create directory for Solution, if not visible click once on bottom left button. Now click on **OK**

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This is the start up screen you will get every time you create a new project. The book explains what these windows are and how they will be used.

Note that this project and solution was named TestProgram, as shown in the right top pane.

Picture #5

B) Inserting an existing form into an already created project

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To add or insert an already created form into a project you first right click on the project name in right pane window, in this example the name is **TestProgram**. Then move the mouse arrow over the **Add** menu then move it over and click on **Add Existing Item....**,

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Another dialog box should then open. Now you need to locate the file or form you want to add to project. This is done by clicking on the down arrow next to the **Look In** label box. When you find the file, in this example it is called **frmHello.vb**, then simply double click the name and should be added to the project.

Picture #7

This screen should then appear and notice that in the right pane window the file **frmHello.vb** has been added. To open this form up double click on the name **frmHello.vb** in this window.

After this is done, the form will appear in the edit window. Now to run this form we need to have the project, **TestProgram**, run this form first. To do this right click on Project name and then select **Properties** at bottom

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When this dialog box opens up you need to enter the form name to run, which in this case is **frmHello**, in the **Startup Object** line. Then click on **OK**, you do not need to enter the **.vb** after the name.

Picture #9

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Now all that is left is to run the program. To do this click on **Debug** in the top menu, then select **Start** The program will then run.

When program is running push the **Push Me** button first then push the **Exit** button. Program will then go back into the editor.

Forms can be removed from a project by right clicking the form name then selecting **Exclude from project**. In which case another form can then be added and tested.