



Custom Ribbons using CommandBars

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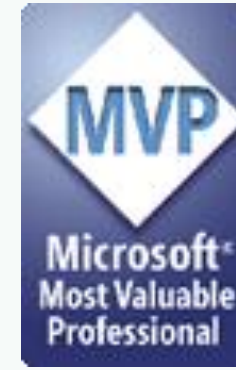
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VBA

- Microsoft MVP for Access (2014-)
- Bytes.com
 - Posts as NeoPa
 - Administrator
 - Main contributor in Access and related topics
- Main interest is in building Access and other Microsoft Office applications
- Loves to automate using inbuilt features and VBA, as well as dig into the bytes (literally!)



Why Care About CommandBars?



- Custom CommandBars (Added using VBA.), and the CommandBarControls (CommandBarButton etc.) that can be added to them, show up (in the Add-Ins Ribbon) as available to use immediately they've been created & made visible.
- Although Ribbons have replaced CommandBars in the main Office (M365) applications, they are still used in the VBE (VBA IDE) window.

Why Care About CommandBars? (cont)

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VBA

- Generally speaking, Ribbons cannot otherwise be changed programmatically.
- The XML file can be changed in VBA prior to reloading later or the UI is available for use by the operator.
- Custom CommandBars can be created as temporary or permanent additions.
Using Temporary ensures they can only affect the active project.
- This presentation shows an example that :
Creates one as temporary;
Shows & hides it;
Includes code to tidy away regardless.



Some concepts :

- **CommandBars (CBs)**

- These are items onto which you can add CommandBarControls.
- Those added by code are referred to as Custom CommandBars.
- Such Custom CommandBars appear in the Add-Ins Ribbon.

- **CommandBarControls (CBCs)**

- There are various types of CommandBarControl that can be used. In this example we'll simply use a CommandBarButton.
- The Action of a CommandBarButton is determined by the .OnAction property.



More concepts :

• CommandBarButton Action

- .OnAction is a string value that :
starts with "=" when used with a publicly-available Function Procedure.
The returned value is always ignored.
Simply the name of the Subroutine when used with a publicly-available Sub Procedure.
- Any globally-available Procedure is valid, but so is a Procedure from the active project
- A common example for something outside the active project is :
.OnAction = "=MsgBox("""Your message here""", , ""Your Title here"")"
- In this example there is a Function called MenuFunc() found in the modMain module.
.OnAction = "=MenuFunc()"
- In Excel the file, project, module & procedure can all be specified if required :
.OnAction = "=' {FileName}'!{ProjectName}.{ModuleName}.{FunctionName}()"
- I was unable to determine a similar, working, syntax for Access.



What my database does :

- It creates, deletes, shows & hides a Custom CommandBar with associated CommandBarButton.
- The Action when clicked is to call the MenuFunc() function &/or the MenuSub Sub.
- In those procedures is code to display a typical example of a menu Form.
- **Now switch across for a demo ...**



Demo 1

Switch to Access

Remember to set code size to 16 (ono) for demo



Summary (What we just saw)

- Custom CommandBars
- CommandBarControls
- Creating, Deleting, Hiding & re-Showing CommandBars & CommandBarButton
- VBA Code to manage all this for you with examples of usage



What my (next) database does :

- It creates, deletes, shows & hides many Custom CBs and CBCs
- It illustrates how the various CBs & CBCs are positioned when used
- It also illustrates how CBC Styles affect that
- **Now switch across for another demo ...**



Demo 2

Switch to Access

Remember to set code size to 16 (ono) for demo



Summary (What we just saw)

- Loads of Custom CBs & CBCs
- Creating, Deleting, Hiding & re-Showing of CBs & CBCs
- VBA Code to manage all this for you with examples of usage – though possibly not all shown



What my next demo shows :

- A real-world example of using CommandBarButtons to start some external apps (Notepad, Calculator & Character Map)
- It's easily tweaked to leave them as permanent changes to your Access Ribbon Interface
- **Now switch across for another demo ...**



Demo 3

Switch to Access



Summary (What we just saw)

- External apps started using some CommandBarButtons
- VBA Code included but not shown



My Links

- Website
www.AccessConsultantUK.co.uk
- YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/@adrianbell4236/videos>
- Bytes profile
bytes.com/profile/51203/neopa/
- Articles on Bytes
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