

# Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 Readme File

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This document provides late-breaking or other information that supplements the online Help for Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5.

**Be sure to check out the Mastering Product Web page.** Any updates to this Readme file will be posted on the Product Web page at <http://www.microsoft.com/mastering/>. To view the Web page, click **Product Web Site** on the **Help** menu.

This Readme file contains important and helpful information on the following topics.

- **Send Us Your Feedback**
- **Setup Issues**
- **Removing Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5**
- **Using the Internet Features of This Title**
- **Potential Problems Running This Title**
- **Performance Issues**
- **Hardware Problems**
- **Printing Problems**
- **Technical Support**

To read this file online, use the PAGE DOWN and PAGE UP keys. You can also print the file by clicking **Print** on the **File** menu in any of the Windows-based text applications.

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## Send Us Your Feedback

We welcome your feedback. Let us know how Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 has helped you gain expertise in creating custom solutions. You can reach us in any of the following ways.

Internet: [devtrain@microsoft.com](mailto:devtrain@microsoft.com)

Mail: Mastering Series Products  
Microsoft Corporation  
One Microsoft Way  
Redmond, WA 98052-6399

Fax: (206) 936-7329  
Attn: Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5

Note that we receive a number of suggestions and comments regarding Microsoft products and are unable to respond directly to each one. However, please be assured that your recommendations, ideas, and remarks will be recorded and will help shape future versions of our Mastering Series products.

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## Setup Issues

The default settings for the Setup program will load the Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 title on your C drive in the MVB5 folder. You can assign application files to a different drive; however, Setup will copy as much as 8.5 MB of system files to your Windows\System folder.

Because this title installs system files that may be shared with other applications, you must close any open applications before running Setup.

If you close all open applications and encounter problems during Setup, make sure your system

meets the minimum requirements necessary to install this title.

Do not remove the Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 CD-ROM during Setup, or attempt to start the application, before Setup is complete.

## Internet Explorer 3.0

To help you get onto the World Wide Web quickly, the Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 CD-ROM includes a copy of Internet Explorer 3.0 for Windows 95 and Windows NT 4.0. Internet Explorer is also available to download from the Internet Explorer page on the Microsoft Web site, <http://www.microsoft.com/ie>. If you are running Windows NT 3.51, please download the version of Internet Explorer designed for this operating system from the above mentioned Web site.

## System Requirements

Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 will run on the following minimal system; however, performance will improve with more RAM or a faster CD-ROM drive.

- Personal computer with a 486DX or higher processor, running Windows 95, Windows NT 3.51 with Service Pack 5, or Windows NT 4.0 or later
- 8 MB of memory (16 MB or more recommended)
- 10 MB of available hard-disk space (20 MB to work with the lab files on your hard drive)
- MPC2-compatible CD-ROM drive
- Super VGA or higher-resolution video adapter capable of displaying 256 colors or greater
- Microsoft Mouse or compatible pointing device
- MPC2-compatible audio board

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## Removing Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5

To remove this title from your computer, run Setup again and click the **Remove All** button. You can also uninstall the program by using the Control Panel to run the Add/Remove Programs application.

To completely remove this title, you may also need to do the following:

- **Delete the Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 shortcut.** If you moved the shortcut to a different folder after installing the application, Setup will not be able to detect the location of the new shortcut or delete it. After running Setup (with Remove All), delete the shortcut(s) from the Windows Explorer.
- **Delete the MVB5 folder.** The MVB5 folder (or the folder you specified as the destination folder during Setup) will not be removed because it may contain files that you modified. If you chose the Complete installation option during Setup, the two folders \MVB5\Lists and \MVB5\Labs were added. If you worked on any of the labs or added topics to the Course Notebook, the information is saved in these folders. If you want to remove these folders, select each folder from the Windows Explorer, and press DELETE.

**Warning** When running Setup with the Uninstall option, you may receive a warning message about deleting a shared file. This message is displayed only when Setup prepares to remove a file that another application may need to use. If you remove the file, be aware that other unregistered applications using the same file may no longer run correctly.

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## Using the Internet Features of This Title

The Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 title includes the following Internet access features.

### Launching URLs

This product contains Uniform Resource Locators (URLs) that you can launch to view related Web sites on the Internet. The pointers to these addresses may change as Web sites and pages are added, deleted, modified, and moved.

If you are running Windows NT 3.51 you won't be able to launch URLs from within this title. You will have to copy the URL and paste it into the Windows NT 3.51 version of Internet Explorer in order to

access the information.

Note that at the time this course was released, all the Web sites listed in it were valid and fully functional. However, as the World Wide Web evolves, you may find that an Internet jump provided in the this title is no longer valid. If this happens, try searching the Web for the site, or connect to the Mastering Series Web page on the Microsoft Web site to see if updated URLs are listed.

## Product Web Site

To jump to the Mastering Series Web page, click **Product Web Site** on the **Help** menu. This page will contain any future errata information, and pointers to additional information.

## Internet Explorer 3.0

To launch URLs and go to the Mastering Series Web site from within this title, you need Internet Explorer version 3.0 or later. You can install Internet Explorer 3.0 from the IE301 folder on the Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 CD-ROM, or download it from the Microsoft Web site <http://microsoft.com/ie>.

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## Potential Problems Running This Title

This section describes problems you may experience while running the Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 title.

- **User Profiles:** If you change the User Profiles in Windows 95 after installing this course, continue to log on to your computer with the same user name you originally used during installation. Other users who may have altered the default User Profiles settings will experience a path error message when restarting the Course. To avoid this problem, use the original user name.
- **Temp folder:** If a C:\Temp folder does not exist on your hard drive, this title will fail to run. The splash screen will appear, and then the run-time error with the error message "3043 Disk or Network Error" will be displayed. To fix this error, create a folder named Temp on your C drive.
- **Graphics:** There are several issues you may encounter while viewing the graphics in this course.
  - **800x600 is the recommended resolution:** This title is designed to run on computers capable of displaying 256 or more colors. Although the title does run on systems displaying 16 colors, there is a noticeable reduction of image quality. When running at a resolution 640x480, some of the larger graphics may be displayed out of the active window. It is recommended that you run this title at a resolution of 800x600 or greater.
  - **Restart the title after changing resolution:** You will need to restart the title after you change your screen resolution, or the Navigation Pane may not work properly.
  - **Some illustrations can be viewed large or small:** The graphics viewer in this application enables you to switch between large and small views by clicking the illustration. The illustrations will remain in the size you last viewed them. If an image appears distorted or compressed, click in the illustration to make sure you are viewing the entire image. Note that some of the smaller illustrations do not change their size.
  - **Illustrations can be selected for copying:** You can also copy and paste illustrations by selecting them. When an illustration is highlighted, it appears in inverse video. If a illustration appears to be in inverse video for no apparent reason, try deselecting it by clicking elsewhere on the screen.
- **Palette flash:** Palette flashes can occur when switching between Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 and other running applications, or when starting or stopping animations and demonstrations. To remove palette flashes, set your monitor color level to High Color (16-bit) or True Color (24-bit).
- **Library articles:** Library articles included in this title are not edited by the Mastering Microsoft Visual Basic 5 team. You may encounter documentation errors, references to page numbers or files, and formatting problems. Addresses, phone numbers, and other contact information appearing in this title may have changed since the time of publication.
- **Topic titles:** Some of the topic titles in this course may be cut off when running this title in lower resolutions.
- **Navigation and Topic panes:** If you use the keyboard to navigate through the Contents in the Navigation pane or the topics in the Topic pane, you may need to change the focus of the

application, depending on what you want to view. To change the focus, click the pane in which you want to navigate. On some systems, the vertical scroll bar may change size when scrolling through the topics and labs, or navigating through the Contents.

- **Printing:** When printing the current screen, the media elements represented by icons (illustrations, sample code, tips, and self-check answers) will not print. To print this information, click **Print** on the **File** menu when the media element is displayed in the active window. If you experience problems printing over a network, consult your network administrator to make sure your printer settings are correct. The solutions for common printing problems are described in the section "Printing Problems" in this Readme file. If you want to print the Glossary, the entire Glossary will print.
  - **Text:** This title uses your system settings to display some foreground and background colors. You may want to choose a compatible display combination (such as the Windows standard color scheme) for best results. When displaying the Glossary pop-up window, the application may lose focus. To correct this problem, click the Topic area, and focus will return to the application.
  - **Video:** The .avi files will run only if you have installed ActiveMovie during the Mastering Visual Basic 5 Setup. You may already have ActiveMovie installed on your computer. If you are not sure whether it has been installed, click "Yes" in the ActiveMovie warning message during Setup. Even with appropriate hardware, you may experience long wait times while video files are being loaded, and you may encounter errors in audio/video synchronization during playback.
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## Performance Issues

There are several ways to cause this title to run faster. Many of the methods described below are general tips that will improve the performance of any Windows application. For more information about performance, consult your Windows documentation.

This title uses your computer's random access memory (RAM) to display illustrations and play video and audio. If this title runs slow, or if you get error messages saying you are out of memory, you may not have enough available RAM. Following are some tips to make the best use of your computer's available memory.

- Close all open applications that are not being used.
- Add more RAM (memory) to your computer. You can determine how much memory is available by starting MS-DOS, typing **mem**, and pressing ENTER. You need at least 8 MB of RAM (16 MB is recommended).
- If you are using more than 256 colors in your video display, you may want to lower the colors to 256. For information about how to change your Windows display, consult your Windows documentation.

For more information about improving performance, consult your Windows 95 and CD-ROM documentation.

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## Hardware Problems

In some rare situations, this title may encounter display problems when using accelerated video drivers, video drivers with more than 256 colors, or high-resolution video drivers. One example is a video display with garbled images; another is a crash that occurs when attempting to play a video. If you do encounter such problems, there are several things you can do.

- Most problems can be fixed by obtaining new drivers from your video card manufacturer. Contact the manufacturer of your video card to determine if newer versions are available. The manufacturer's phone number should be included with the documentation that came with your video card or computer. Another option for obtaining updated drivers is to use the Microsoft Download Service (MSDL), an electronic bulletin board that can be accessed by modem at (206) 936-MSDL.

The drivers provided on MSDL are compressed with the PKWare utilities, and are in the form of executable files. It is best to download the file or files you need into an empty folder on your hard disk or onto a blank formatted floppy disk. To decompress these drivers after downloading them, either:

- Double-click the file name you downloaded from Windows Explorer.  
-or-
- From the DOS prompt, change to the directory that contains the downloaded file, type the file name, and then press ENTER.
- An alternative to obtaining a new or updated display driver is to change your video mode to a standard video mode, such as a 640x480 resolution with 256 colors.

To find out what video driver you are using, double-click **Display** in the Control Panel. In Windows 95, click the **Settings** tab, and then click the **Change Display Type** button. For information about how to install or change drivers, click the **Help** button.

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## Printing Problems

Screen resolution and printer resolution are often not the same, so when you print, the result may not match the quality you see on the screen.

If you encounter a general protection fault when you print a topic, check your printer driver. Switch to a more current version of the driver, if one is available. Make sure that your printer is online and that you can print to it from another application. If the problem persists, open the **Property** page for the printer you are using. Click the **Fonts** tab, and then select the method of downloading TrueType fonts that works best with your system.

If you are using an HP LaserJet printer, make sure that you have the most current printer driver, or try setting the printer resolution to 300 dpi (graphics may not print properly at 600 dpi).

You should be able to print grayscale images from this title. If you have a black and white laser printer, you may need to upgrade your printer driver. Call the dealer from whom you bought the printer or call the printer manufacturer.

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## Technical Support

### For help on Setup and product features:

- Check Help.
- Take the Tour, which is accessible through the Welcome screen of the course or through Help.
- Check the Mastering Series Web site to see if any Readme update information has been posted for this title.

### For phone support:

- In the United States, support is available between 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM Pacific Standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays at (206) 635-7033 (this is a toll call).
- In Canada, support engineers are available between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM Eastern Standard time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays at (905) 568-3503 (this is a toll call).
- Outside North America, contact your local Microsoft subsidiary.