

Module 7 - Menu Bar and Pop Up Menu in VB

The main objective in designing a program is to enhance the ease of use of the features provided.

Well-designed menus aid in accomplishing this objective. Menus are perhaps the most noticeable feature of an application. Programmers cannot always know what standard features they might wish to utilize in an application until they have reached a much advanced stage in the development process.

Thus, while using the Application Wizard, it is preferable to select every program that might be used. It can always be deleted later. The main advantage offered by the Visual Basic (VB) Application Wizard is that it facilitates the making of menus that already have the standard features of Windows loaded in them.

As you have worked with menus of various GUI environments, such as MS Word, there are generally **two types of menus**: a **horizontal menu** known as Menu Bar and a **vertical menu** known as Pop-Up Menu or Pull-Down Menu or simply Submenu.

What is the Application Wizard?

The Application Wizard in Visual Basic helps programmers quickly create a basic (starter) program that already includes common features like menus, toolbars, etc.

- You just choose what features you want from a ready-made list (template).
- The wizard creates the basic structure of the program for you.
- Menus created by the wizard follow the standard Windows layout.

Steps to Build a Simple Menu in Visual Studio 2022 (VB.NET)

Step 1: Open Visual Studio 2022

- Click on Start or open Visual Studio 2022 from your desktop.

Step 2: Create a New Project

- Click on "Create a new project".
- In the search bar, type "Windows Forms App (.NET Framework)".
- Choose Visual Basic as the language.
- Click Next.

Step 3: Name and Save Your Project

- Enter a project name (e.g., SimpleMenuApp).
- Choose the location where you want to save the project.
- Click Create.



CBSE



ICSE



NTSE



Banking &
Insurance



Central Govt.
Service



State Govt.
Services



LAW
Entrance



MBA
Entrance



Railways & Metro
Services

...many more

abhyasonline.in

Course
&
Test Series

Visual Basic - Basic

Step 4: Open the Form Designer

- A blank form (Form1.vb) will appear.
This is your main window.

Step 5: Add a MenuStrip to the Form

- Go to the Toolbox (on the left).
- Find MenuStrip (under “Menus & Toolbars”).
- Drag MenuStrip onto the form (it will appear at the top of the form).

Step 6: Create Menu Items

- Click on “Type Here” in the MenuStrip.
- Type File → press Enter → type Open, press Enter again → type Exit.
- Add more menus if needed (like Edit → Cut, Copy, Paste).

Step 7: Write Code for Menu Items

- Double-click on a menu item (e.g., Exit) to open the code window.
- Write the action you want, like:

```
Private Sub ExitToolStripMenuItem_Click(sender As Object, e As EventArgs)  
Handles ExitToolStripMenuItem.Click  
Me.Close() ' This will close the form  
End Sub
```

Step 8: Run the Program

- Click the Start button (green play arrow) or press F5.
- Your form will appear with the menu working!



abhyasonline.in

**Course
&
Test Series**

 **CBSE**

 **ICSE**

 **NTSE**

 **Banking &
Insurance**

 **Central Govt.
Service**

 **State Govt.
Services**

 **LAW
Entrance**

 **MBA
Entrance**

 **Railways & Metro
Services**

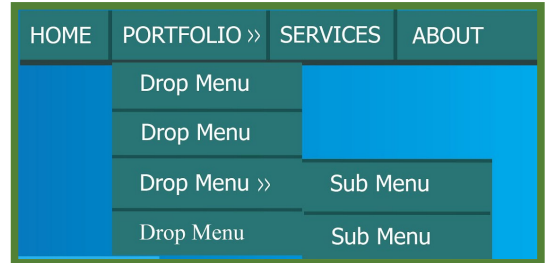
...many more

abhyasonline.in

Visual Basic - Basic

Building Drop Down Menu

- Building a drop-down menu (ComboBox) in VB:
- Add the ComboBox: In Visual Studio, you design your form by dragging a ComboBox from the Toolbox onto your form. This is the drop-down menu users will interact with.
- Add Items to It: You can either add options (like "Apple", "Orange", etc.) in the Properties window or by using code like `ComboBox1.Items.Add("Apple")`. These are the choices shown in the dropdown.
- Respond to Selection: To do something when a user picks an item, you handle the `SelectedIndexChanged` event – this lets you write code that reacts to their choice.
- Run and Test: Press F5 to run the program, click the dropdown, choose an item, and see if your event code works as expected.



POP - UPS

In VB, pop-ups usually refer to message boxes or custom forms that appear to give information or ask the user for input.

Pop-Up Menus are small menus that appear when you **right-click** on something in a program or window.

They are called "**pop-up**" because they **suddenly appear (pop up)** near where your mouse pointer is.

Key Points:

- **Right-click to open:** You open a pop-up menu by **right-clicking** with your mouse.
- **Context-based:** The menu options change depending on **where** you click. For example:
 - Right-clicking on a file might show: *Open, Rename, Delete.*
 - Right-clicking on the desktop might show: *Refresh, Display Settings.*
- **Also called "Context Menus"** because they show options related to the current context (what you're clicking on).
- **Windows 9x and other systems** use right-clicks to activate these menus.

**Course
&
Test Series**



CBSE



ICSE



NTSE



**Banking &
Insurance**



**Central Govt.
Service**



**State Govt.
Services**



**LAW
Entrance**



**MBA
Entrance**



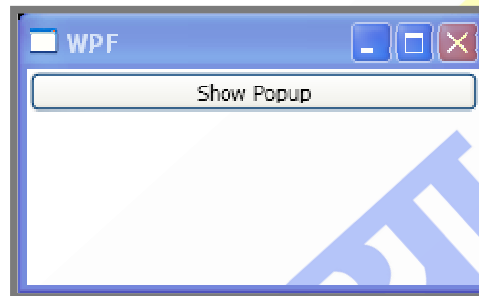
**Railways & Metro
Services**

...many more

abhyasonline.in

Visual Basic - Basic

- **Message Box (Simple Pop-up):** The most common pop-up is a message box. You can show one using `MessageBox.Show("Your message here")`. It's useful for alerts, errors, or confirmations.
- **Types of Pop-ups:** You can customize it with buttons and icons like `MessageBox.Show("Are you sure?", "Confirm", MessageBoxButtons.YesNo, MessageBoxIcon.Question)`.
- **Custom Pop-up Forms:** If you need more advanced interaction (text input, custom layout), you can create a new Form, design it, and use `FormName.ShowDialog()` to show it as a modal pop-up.
- **Handling Responses:** You can get the user's response (like Yes/No) and use it in your code to decide what happens next.



Step-by-Step: Creating a Pop-Up Menu in Visual Studio 2022

Step 1: Create a New Windows Forms App

1. Open Visual Studio 2022.
2. Go to File → New → Project.
3. Choose Windows Forms App (.NET Framework) or Windows Forms App (.NET) depending on your setup.
4. Name your project and click Create.

Step 2: Add a ContextMenuStrip

1. Open the Toolbox (View → Toolbox).
2. Find ContextMenuStrip under the Menus & Toolbars section.
3. Drag the ContextMenuStrip onto the form (it appears below the form, not directly on it).

Step 3: Add Menu Items

1. Click on the ContextMenuStrip1 in the bottom tray.
2. In the Properties window, click the small arrow on Items or click on the control itself.



**Course
&
Test Series**

 **CBSE**

 **ICSE**

 **NTSE**

 **Banking &
Insurance**

 **Central Govt.
Service**

 **State Govt.
Services**

 **LAW
Entrance**

 **MBA
Entrance**

 **Railways & Metro
Services**

...many more
abhyasonline.in

Visual Basic - Basic

3. Add menu items like:

- Open
- Save
- Exit

You can double-click each item later to write code for what happens when it's clicked.

Step 4: Assign the Pop-Up Menu to a Control

1. Click on a control (like a Button, TextBox, or even the Form).
2. In the Properties window, find the ContextMenuStrip property.
3. Set it to the name of your context menu (e.g., contextMenuStrip1).

Step 5: Add Code for Menu Actions (Optional)

Double-click on a menu item (e.g., "Exit") and write your code:

```
private void exitToolStripMenuItem_Click(object sender, EventArgs e)
{
    this.Close(); // closes the form
}
```

Assignment

Create a Context Menu (Pop-Up Menu) with a "Colours" menu that contains Red, Yellow, and Blue options. When the user right-clicks on a button and selects a color from the menu, the button's background color should change to the selected color.

Instructions:

1. Create a **new Windows Forms App** in Visual Studio 2022.
2. Drag a **Button** onto the form and name it btnColor.
 - Change its Text property to "Right-click me!".
3. Drag a **ContextMenuStrip** onto the form from the Toolbox.
4. Add a main menu item called "Colours" to the ContextMenuStrip.
5. Under "Colours", add three sub-items:
 - Red
 - Yellow
 - Blue
6. Assign the ContextMenuStrip to the button:

Course
&
Test Series

Visual Basic - Basic

- o Select the button → go to **Properties** → find ContextMenuStrip → select your menu (e.g., contextMenuStrip1)
- 7. Double-click on each color menu item and write code to **change the button's background color** when clicked.

 **CBSE**

 **ICSE**

 **NTSE**

 **Banking & Insurance**

 **Central Govt. Service**

 **State Govt. Services**

 **LAW Entrance**

 **MBA Entrance**

 **Railways & Metro Services**

...many more

abhyasonline.in

