

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [\[VB.Net\] How to make a basic theme using themebase](#)

Meerkat.? - May 1, 2012, 6:20 am

First of all, HUGE thanks to Aeonhack for his amazing themebase! Making this tutorial would have been much harder without it.

Well, as the title says, this is a tutorial on making a basic theme.

Sorry for my english, my horrible ability to explain things, and my crappy voice. I also forgot to do the rounded corners.

Don't forget to watch in 720p, it really makes a difference.

Darkshade - May 1, 2012, 6:25 am

That's just so much high quality in one post, amazing!

This will sure help out a lot of people :)

devrian - May 1, 2012, 6:32 am

Thanks for this amazing tutorial! now I can make my own themes :)

The MammoTh - May 1, 2012, 6:36 am

Good tutorial, mavamaarten. Din't know you were from Belgium, I am from Holland. Gegroet.

Meerkat.? - May 1, 2012, 6:38 am

(May 1, 2012 06:36 AM)The MammoTh Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Good tutorial, mavamaarten. Din't know you were from Belgium, I am from Holland. Gegroet.

Ik wist niet dat jij van NL was ;D

Thanks for the compliment!

Skillful - May 1, 2012, 7:08 am

You, my friend, are one of the most amazing members on HF! :D

I was desperately waiting for a tutorial like this :D

ytlayol - May 1, 2012, 7:15 am

awesome tutorial sir....keep rocking i guess i can now try to make my own theme :p

Meerkat.? - May 1, 2012, 7:15 am

(May 1, 2012 07:08 AM)Skillful Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You, my friend, are one of the most amazing members on HF! :D

I was desperately waiting for a tutorial like this :D

Aeonhack had tutorials like this on his YouTube channel, but his account got suspended. Since quite a lot of people ask me how I make my themes I decided to make my own tutorials :)

MistaCode - May 1, 2012, 7:25 am

nice tutorial, some spelling mistakes. but i dont care about them, i still can hear it! nice tutorial mate!
i recommened to watch this, if your trying to make a theme!

zehaha - May 1, 2012, 8:01 am

Awsome work, now i can't wait for the next part :'(

Submariner - May 1, 2012, 8:06 am

Awesome tutorial, very useful, and Very Very HQ!!
Thanks for contributing for our forum

Meerkat.? - May 1, 2012, 10:37 am

Second part added! Thanks for the kind words everyone!

x64 - May 1, 2012, 11:18 am

Awesome man keep going, I'm from the netherlands too (hai <3)

Meerkat.? - May 1, 2012, 12:03 pm

(May 1, 2012 11:18 AM)Just1c3 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Awesome man keep going, I'm from the netherlands too (hai <3)

Bedankt !

If anyone makes a theme based on this tutorial, make sure to post here, I'm interested in what you all produce :)

PoRt21 - May 1, 2012, 12:47 pm

hey man ur fucking awsme (Y) thank u!!

Padawan of VB - May 1, 2012, 1:44 pm

Thank you sooo much for this tutorial ! Im waiting for upcoming tutorials ;)

N00bSaib00t - May 1, 2012, 2:37 pm

thank you for this little tutorial
shoort

Support. - May 1, 2012, 3:04 pm

Shit.

I've already +3'd you... XD

Well done dude, nice one,

Kenny252 - May 1, 2012, 3:07 pm

Damn, mavamaarten. I've been waiting for this from you :P

jj89XD - May 1, 2012, 3:26 pm

Thanks for the tutorial mavamaarten. :) im going to subscribe on youtube

6e756c6c - May 1, 2012, 4:55 pm

Awesome tutorial. Your voice and English are just fine, I wish I could speak as clearly as you do (and I'm an English speaking American). Oh, the X,Y parameters in DrawString are offsets. If you want to draw your text to the left but still have room for an icon or something you can set the X value to 12.

Meerkat.? - May 2, 2012, 4:26 am

(May 1, 2012 04:55 PM)Aeonhack Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Awesome tutorial. Your voice and English are just fine, I wish I could speak as clearly as you do (and I'm an English speaking American). Oh, the X,Y parameters in DrawString are offsets. If you want to draw your text to the left but still have room for an icon or something you can set the X value to 12.Ahh, that's what it's for!

Thanks, by the way. I have watched your vids and no, your english is far better than mine. How would the english from a random dutch speaking guy be better than the english of someone that speaks english as his mother tongue?

Anyways, thanks for everything :)

Subzero414 - May 2, 2012, 7:57 am

Great tutorial really helpful, I don't care about bad English and there was hardly any bad English in there. Great work ;)

Fat Tony - May 2, 2012, 10:58 am

Nice tutorial, best one ive seen so far.

1337x1337 - May 3, 2012, 3:14 pm

This is a high quality tutorial. Sorry for the late reply.

But this is surely going to help out a lot people who want to make their own themes!

NiTrOwow

stapled - May 3, 2012, 5:06 pm

Amazing :D. I hope you can make another tutorial for even more controls.

Impurity - May 8, 2012, 8:42 pm

Thanks for this, really helped me understand the basics a bit more. Have you considered making additional tutorials for other controls?

Les Frères - May 8, 2012, 8:45 pm

Bookmarked! Thanks for the tut! Will put this to good use

Meerkat.? - May 9, 2012, 5:48 am

(May 8, 2012 08:42 PM)Impurity Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks for this, really helped me understand the basics a bit more. Have you considered making additional tutorials for other controls?

Yes I have, but takes quite a lot of time to prepare, and I really hate to hear myself make stupid mistakes ;D

Basically, when you understand the basics, you can look at other themes to see how to make other controls. They also just exist of rectangles and sometimes ellipses, so a whole tutorial for basically the same thing is not extremely needed, if you get what I mean :)

Skillful - May 9, 2012, 8:25 am

I am learning steadily from these tuts thanks to you mavamaarten! :D

Just a question though, how do you make buttons like the buttons which you made for the Pipilia theme?

Impurity - May 9, 2012, 8:36 am

(May 9, 2012 05:48 AM)mavamaarten Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Yes I have, but takes quite a lot of time to prepare, and I really hate to hear myself make stupid mistakes ;D

Basically, when you understand the basics, you can look at other themes to see how to make other controls. They also just exist of rectangles and sometimes ellipses, so a whole tutorial for basically

the same thing is not extremely needed, if you get what I mean :)

I suppose you're right. Ill try and put all these tuts into effect, and hopefully I'm able to grasp it. What would you say is an easy control to make (other than buttons/group boxes?)

Meerkat.? - May 9, 2012, 9:59 am

(Jan 16, 1970 04:16 AM)Impurity Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I suppose you're right. Ill try and put all these tuts into effect, and hopefully I'm able to grasp it. What would you say is an easy control to make (other than buttons/group boxes?)

All controls are pretty easy :)

A progressbar is basically a rectangle. The rectangle's width is dependent of the value (a custom property you add).

Basically you divide the value by the maximum, giving you a value from 0 - 1 of the progress. Then, you multiply that number with the width. This is the width of your progressbar.

The most tricky control is a TabControl, followed by a textbox (surprisingly). A listbox cannot be made using the themebase (it's possible but way too hard for beginners) but it can be OwnerDrawn.

?????? - May 9, 2012, 11:45 am

Excellent tutorial dude, just watched both parts ;) I've learnt a lot :P

archy1 - May 9, 2012, 12:39 pm

Awesome tutorial, very useful, very good job !!

zosoftnet - May 10, 2012, 6:43 am

This is a nice tutorial and really help in Theming. Love it....

I give you 99.99 out of 100 point. .01 will be for the next tutorial (3rd Tutorial)

Hope the third tutorial also will be out soon!

Impurity - May 10, 2012, 6:57 am

Gradients! You should cover this, because honestly I'm having a difficult time understanding it :P

Meerkat.? - May 10, 2012, 7:01 am

(May 10, 2012 06:57 AM)Impurity Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Gradients! You should cover this, because honestly I'm having a difficult time understanding it :P

Good idea ;)

I'll make a new tutorial rather soon, doing gradients and a progressbar.

Impurity - May 10, 2012, 8:36 am

And more about rounding :P Possibly some "effects" as well (glow, shine, etc). Would really clarify some stuff :P

Kenny252 - May 13, 2012, 12:30 pm

(May 10, 2012 07:01 AM)mavamaarten Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Good idea ;)

I'll make a new tutorial rather soon, doing gradients and a progressbar.

You should do one for textboxes, I can't figure out how to do those :P

lakiluki - May 13, 2012, 3:30 pm

Huh. You're such a great theme-maker so I actually might watch this.

Meerkat.? - May 14, 2012, 10:25 am

(May 13, 2012 12:30 PM)Kenny252 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You should do one for textboxes, I can't figure out how to do those :P

Textboxes are hard indeed. Basically you just draw the outlines for your textbox, then add a real textbox control at runtime.

li0nsar3c00l - May 14, 2012, 11:39 am

awesome tut!

but can you please add, how to make radiobuttons?

im having problems with that

kasp3rw - May 14, 2012, 1:20 pm

Really nice tutorials. I hope you will do more in the future.

I have finally done my first time, I couldn't have done it without your help.

Thank you.

CryptShock - May 14, 2012, 1:22 pm

thank you for the tutorial bro...

Good work

(° ? °) - May 14, 2012, 1:30 pm

Good job. That was really helpful videos!

Tru?Bit - May 18, 2012, 8:34 am

Thanks! Looking forward to a new tutorial with radiobuttons and other stuff.

Btw: I fixed my problem with the error. Used a wrong version of the ThemeBase.

??G - May 18, 2012, 11:09 am

Awesome tutorial man. Keep up the great work :D

Meerkat.? - May 20, 2012, 9:07 am

NEW PART OF THE TUTORIAL! HERE'S PART 3 ?

Tru?Bit - May 20, 2012, 9:25 am

Watching it right now, will edit with my opinion later!

Edit: Another nice tutorial! I'm definitely gonna experiment with other themes to see how things are done.

Thanks :)

eCoLoGy - May 20, 2012, 9:56 am

Respect for you and Aeon both of you are the kind of members that makes me proud of being here in HF.

Usefull and quality information.

Keep it up ;)

Meerkat.? - May 20, 2012, 10:12 am

(May 20, 2012 09:56 AM)eCoLoGy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Respect for you and Aeon both of you are the kind of members that makes me proud of being here in HF.

Usefull and quality information.

Keep it up ;)

Haha thanks a bunch! People like you are the reason I make these tutorials :)

6e756c6c - May 21, 2012, 1:35 am

(May 20, 2012 09:07 AM)mavamaarten Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) NEW PART OF THE TUTORIAL! HERE'S PART 3 ?

You could also use the DrawGradient method! Anyways, I just wanted to let you know how much I love watching your videos and I really hope you make more soon. =]

Meerkat.? - May 21, 2012, 8:05 am

(May 21, 2012 01:35 AM)Aeonhack Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You could also use the DrawGradient method! Anyways, I just wanted to let you know how much I love watching your videos and I really hope you make more soon. =]

Thanks! I know about the DrawGradient method, but since this is a beginners tutorial, I thought it'd be easier to explain. LinearGradientbrushes are easier than ColorBlends.

jerrojack - May 24, 2012, 3:01 am

Can you make a tutorial on progress bar,and a 3D look button

Tru?Bit - May 24, 2012, 4:04 am

(May 24, 2012 03:01 AM)jerrojack Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Can you make a tutorial on progress bar,and a 3D look button

That would be cool, and helpful!

And gratz on l33t btw :)

Spoiler ([Click to View](#))

Having fun on school? I'm having a day off, haha. u jelly?

ytlayol - May 24, 2012, 4:11 am

jst got l33t so +1 for you my friend..keep it up

6e756c6c - May 24, 2012, 6:47 am

(May 21, 2012 08:05 AM)Mavamaarten~ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks! I know about the DrawGradient method, but since this is a beginners tutorial, I thought it'd be easier to explain. LinearGradientbrushes are easier than ColorBlends.

DrawGradient has a bunch of overloads. One of which just takes the rectangle and two colors. I think you may be confusing it for the DrawRadial method, which draws a radial gradient using a ColorBlend.

Chronic Man - May 24, 2012, 6:57 am

this is an awesome tutorial, subscribing on youtube ?

Meerkat.? - May 24, 2012, 8:00 am

(May 24, 2012 06:47 AM)Aeonhack Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) DrawGradient has a bunch of overloads. One of which just takes the rectangle and two colors. I think you may be confusing it for the DrawRadial method, which draws a radial gradient using a ColorBlend.

Oh, I really didn't know ?

Ah well, I seldom use more than 2 colors anyways. Even if I do, I usually stick to a LinearGradientBrush and set the InterPolationColors. Using the DrawGradient some more would be useful indeed :D

EKNOZ - May 25, 2012, 11:47 pm

The theme you were making in the tut looks very good :D

Good job and good luck :D

- EKNOZ

Meerkat.? - May 26, 2012, 2:21 am

(May 25, 2012 11:47 PM)EKNOZ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The theme you were making in the tut looks very good :D

Good job and good luck :D

- EKNOZ

Haha no it doesn't. It's just a quick tutorial to teach the basics of thememaking, the end result won't be a beautiful piece of art but more an ugly rectangular but working theme.

Malik Robinson - May 29, 2012, 4:32 pm

pretty High quality tutorials bro Thank you for the knowledge

magmotar - June 5, 2012, 2:05 am

Can you make more tutorials like this

Really want to learn more

Matty3414 - June 11, 2012, 12:18 am

My window doesn't seem to resize

It like flickers, then once I let go it goes back to original size, the windows also wont move around the screen. :(

Thanks for the tutorial though, lots of help there :)

Meerkat.? - June 11, 2012, 2:43 am

(Jun 11, 2012 12:18 AM)Matty3414 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) My window doesn't seem to resize

It like flickers, then once I let go it goes back to original size, the windows also wont move around the screen. :(

Thanks for the tutorial though, lots of help there :)

Then you have done something wrong. Are you sure you inherited the correct class?

Matty3414 - June 11, 2012, 5:15 am

(Jun 11, 2012 02:43 AM)Mavamaarten~ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Then you have done something wrong. Are you sure you inherited the correct class?

Yes, I double checked ;). I even started over again. Same thing, I gave up. I probably try again and then get it.

Khaos Theory - June 11, 2012, 10:54 am

simply amazing tutorial i was waiting for something like this thank you so much. Your accent is awesome by the way

RK_Flare - June 11, 2012, 7:11 pm

The button docked the whole thing. I don't know how to fix it unless you make it anchor bottom left.

6e756c6c - June 11, 2012, 10:01 pm

(Jun 11, 2012 07:11 PM)RK_Flare Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The button docked the whole thing. I don't know how to fix it unless you make it anchor bottom left.

Make sure you are using the ThemeControl and not ThemeContainer.

Matty3414 - June 12, 2012, 3:30 am

Right, so me being...me. It worked. But just wondering, how to stop resizing, I stopped at part 2,

because I didn't think I need any more, just a basic button and fame would do me :) .

6e756c6c - June 12, 2012, 4:18 am

(Jun 12, 2012 03:30 AM)Matty3414 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Right, so me being...me. It worked. But just wondering, how to stop resizing, I stopped at part 2, because I didn't think I need any more, just a basic button and fame would do me :) .

Just change the 'Resizable' property to false on your theme.

C4RTM4N300 - June 20, 2012, 3:18 pm

I just completed my ancient console theme with this tutorial! Just awesome! :D

6e756c6c - June 20, 2012, 8:26 pm

(Jun 20, 2012 03:18 PM)C4RTM4N300 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I just completed my ancient console theme with this tutorial! Just awesome! :D

Does that have something to do with Stargate...? D:

Lime Whips - June 21, 2012, 12:52 am

Im gonna try this once I get a source thanks

kHack85 - June 30, 2012, 1:25 pm

nice nice try some new to make and :P

Cornflower Blue ???-?— - August 15, 2012, 9:57 am

THANKS SOO MUCH, this help me soo much. ILY ;)

Shaxine - August 21, 2012, 2:27 pm

Thank you for you Tutorial. Helped me a lot.

But I have a question.. :S

The 'Form' only can be moved by clicking in a certain area of the top. it's possible increase that area to make all form movable?

Since now I appreciate your attention and help! ^^

PS: Sorry for my bad English

6e756c6c - August 21, 2012, 2:43 pm

(Aug 21, 2012 02:27 PM)Shaxine Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thank you for you Tutorial. Helped me a lot.

But I have a question.. :S

The 'Form' only can be moved by clicking in a certain area of the top. it's possible increase that area to make all form movable?

Since now I appreciate your attention and help! ^^

PS: Sorry for my bad English

Change the header property to increase/decrease the moveable area. If you want the whole thing to be movable you may have to alter the theme base.

Shaxine - August 21, 2012, 2:50 pm

(Aug 21, 2012 02:43 PM)Aeonhack Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Change the header property to increase/decrease

the moveable area. If you want the whole thing to be movable you may have to alter the theme base.

Thank you for the fast reply.

I want the all Form to be movable and I searched the theme base for what makes the form move but with no success. :(

6e756c6c - August 21, 2012, 3:20 pm

In your theme resize event put Header = Height.

LittleBrotherTrucker - August 21, 2012, 4:24 pm

EDIT: Nevermind, I'm just retarded, figured it out.

Shaxine - August 21, 2012, 4:31 pm

(Aug 21, 2012 03:20 PM)Aeonhack Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) In your theme resize event put Header = Height. wooh :o

Thank you, thank you very much!!?

It works ^^

Keep with your excente work and making absolutely great themes!?

Hawk HF - August 23, 2012, 1:43 pm

Can't thank you enough for this, as well as all of the other help you've given me over time.

wickedprayer - September 2, 2012, 3:10 pm

Thanks a lot Mavamaarten~, i used your tutorial to create my first theme :

[img]http://i39.servimg.com/u/f39/11/29/14/15/bloody12.png[/img]
<https://hackforums.net/showthread.php?tid=2832047&pid=26091586#pid26091586>

This is really basic, but i will explore all possibilities with themebase ;)

Controllable. - September 2, 2012, 3:15 pm

Simply amazing thank you! Also sorry for adding to the humphing of this thread. >_< Just wanted to say thanks! :)

Meerkat.? - September 3, 2012, 3:55 am

I'm glad you like the tutorials. I personally don't really like them but I guess they're enough to get you started.

CyberR00T - September 7, 2012, 4:07 pm

bookmaked. Thank you so much Mavamaarten~. You are a super HQ members

saafinkhan - September 7, 2012, 7:43 pm

amazing work...going to do now..and why u r saying ur voice is horrible... ur voice is gud man.... :)

hey m facing a problem by ur method...m using visual studio 2008

now...

when i added class then type this code

#Region "themebase"

#End Region

Class theme

Inherits themecontainer 154 <-- i cant get this..

End Class

help me...

serubi - September 15, 2012, 1:58 pm

Epic tutorial Mavamaarten~! I do have one problem though.

<http://youtu.be/uWFOpHSHvvs?hd=1>

Please forgive me if this has already been answered.

Meerkat.? - September 15, 2012, 2:24 pm

(Sep 15, 2012 01:58 PM)serubi Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Epic tutorial Mavamaarten~! I do have one problem though.

<http://youtu.be/uWFOpHSHvvs?hd=1>

Please forgive me if this has already been answered.

That's really odd. Did you add 2 themecontainers on 1 form? Looks like it :P

w?rloct - September 15, 2012, 2:49 pm

Vouch for you Sir! Awesome tutorials! Keep it up!

serubi - September 15, 2012, 3:18 pm

(Sep 15, 2012 02:24 PM)Mavamaarten~ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's really odd. Did you add 2 themecontainers on 1 form? Looks like it :P

I just found out why this was happening and went here to check if you had answered. You're correct. I added 2 of them in the same form :P How would I remove the one and add it again? Because when I change the form font and build solution the font doesn't update. So I have to add the theme again.

?Eatos - October 13, 2012, 3:26 pm

Before watching this tutorial I would like to ask something... How much time did you spend on making Chrome Theme? :)

Meerkat.? - October 14, 2012, 5:17 am

(Oct 13, 2012 03:26 PM)?Eatos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Before watching this tutorial I would like to ask something... How much time did you spend on making Chrome Theme? :)
About 5 minutes for each control. The tabcontrol probably less.

?Eatos - October 14, 2012, 9:53 am

(Oct 14, 2012 05:17 AM)Mavamaarten~ Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) About 5 minutes for each control. The tabcontrol probably less.

Really? ? You must be really quick then... Thanks for letting me know...

Meerkat.? - October 14, 2012, 10:01 am

(Oct 14, 2012 09:53 AM)?Eatos Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Really? ? You must be really quick then... Thanks for letting me know...

I start from themes I have already made. But also, just look at the controls.
The tabcontrol, for example, is just a gray rectangle with text next to it ;D

+Nemesis - October 14, 2012, 12:47 pm

Awesome tutorials man .

Also i live like 10 km from you :P

heyheyp - October 15, 2012, 12:48 pm

nice tutorial bro thanks you :)

Compzzz Heyheyp

_Phoenix - October 15, 2012, 1:10 pm

Thanks a lot for this <3.

Really helpful.

t0ny - December 16, 2012, 7:32 am

Thanks for this mav ;)

Will definitely help me.

nuk - April 25, 2013, 12:18 pm

WoW.... I can't believe that I just watched this for the first time.... very nice homie :)

gorateron - July 10, 2013, 2:14 pm

Please, make moar of these tutorial videos !!

ProfitCoder - July 20, 2013, 6:20 pm

Thanks for the tutorial

Very nice

byte[] - July 20, 2013, 11:24 pm

Dude I followed this tut just from searching on youtube never actually knew that it was you ;OOO

shan - July 21, 2013, 1:28 am

mavamarteeen~ you rock my dear <3 <3 ? awesome post thnq thnq thnq a lo lo looottt mmmwah ?

vmdhartec - July 26, 2013, 1:40 am

Thanks Mavamaarten~ Gud work... Really it helps me alot for Winapp Devlopers... Keep Rocking...

krazy - July 27, 2013, 7:44 am

thanks so much for this amazing tutorials! came in handy

Rylie16 - July 27, 2013, 11:47 am

LOVE this tutorial. I have watched it all 5-6 times.

Now, would you consider explaining how ColorBlend Works?

Anyways, thank you so much for this!