

Using Toolbars in MS Visual Studio.NET 2003

If you have chosen the default setup for your .NET environment, two toolbars will be visible: the standard toolbar (with buttons for file open, save, cut, paste, etc) and the text editor toolbar (with buttons for indenting sections of code, commenting and uncommenting sections of code, etc). If you would like additional tool buttons on your screen, you have two options:

- Choose to have other toolbar(s) also visible
- Add buttons to the currently visible toolbars

Making other toolbar(s) visible:

Choose the **View** menu, then click **Toolbars**. A list of available toolbars will appear, some which are preceded by a checkmark. The checkmarked toolbars are those currently visible. You can click on any unchecked toolbar to make it visible; you can click on any checked toolbar to hide it.

Example: The **Build** toolbar contains buttons to compile your files and your solutions, it is handy to have visible. From the **View** menu, click **Toolbars**, then click **Build**. The toolbar may appear as a separate window rather than a bar at the top of the screen. If you prefer it at the top of the screen, simply drag it by its title bar to the area below the menu bar.

Follow these two steps to add buttons to an existing toolbar:

1. Bring up the Customize dialog box by using one of the following options: Click the drop-down arrow at the end of an existing toolbar, point to **Add or Remove Buttons**, then click **Customize**; or From the **Tools** menu, choose **Customize**.
2. From the Customize dialog box, do the following:
 - Click the **Commands** tab.
 - From the left pane, select the category containing the button you wish to add (if you are not sure of the category, you will have to browse), then use the scroll bars in the right pane to find the appropriate button.
 - Drag the button out of the dialog box to the desired position on your existing toolbar.

Example: Add the **Start Without Debugging (!)** button to your standard toolbar. From the Customize dialog box (step 1 above), click the **Commands** tab, then select the **Debug** category. Scroll the right pane of this dialog box so the **Start Without Debugging** button is visible. Drag this button to the Standard toolbar at the top of your screen.

Removing buttons from a toolbar:

Click the drop-down arrow at the end of the existing toolbar, click on **Add or Remove Buttons**, then click the toolbar name. A list will appear with all available buttons for that toolbar, and the buttons currently visible will be preceded by a checkmark. Click on a checked button to remove it.

Note: If a button that is on the toolbar is grayed out, it is because that button was from a category not originally included with this toolbar. For instance, the **Start Without Debugging** button was from the **Debug** category. If it has been added to the Standard toolbar, it will be visible and checked on this list, but will also be “grayed out” and cannot be un-checked. To remove a grayed out button, you need to take one of the following actions:

- To remove all “grayed-out” buttons at once: click on **Reset Toolbar** at the bottom of this list.
- To remove only one such button: Click **Customize** at the bottom of the list, then drag the button from the toolbar anywhere onto the Customize dialog box.