

Re: Labels and optimising font size

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.csharp/2008-06/msg01732.html>

- *From:* "Mike Borrowdale" <mike@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 16 Jun 2008 05:41:28 -0500
-

Hi Peter,

sorry about the formatting thing. I didn't write those characters so I'll go and practice where it doesn't matter until I understand what I'm doing wrong.

Back to the questions. Padding is sort-of what I'm looking for. But even with `Padding = 0` there is still quite a large space around the displayed text in a label. Increasing the padding increases the space but, of course, one cannot decrease `Padding` from 0!

I will take a look at `Graphics.MeasureString()` and `extRenderer.MeasureText()` to see how I can use them to predict the text size to use. Thank you for the advice.

Mike

Peter Duniho wrote:

First suggestion: don't put the characters "— " in your post except for the actual purpose of separating a signature from the rest of your post. Many newsreaders (including my own) format the signature differently, and also strip signatures out from quotes by default. The way you wrote you post, the entire message appeared to be a signature and thus was difficult to read and needed special handling just to quote it.

Please don't do that. :)

As far as the question goes:

On Sun, 15 Jun 2008 10:25:53 -0700, Mike Borrowdale
<mike@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

my application simulates a panel of scientific instruments. Digital

Re: Labels and optimising font size

readouts are provided by label components embedded in a `TableLayoutPanel` with the rows and columns set to percentages of size, so the labels expand and contract when the application is resized. So far so good. My customer wants the maximum text size possible for easy readability, but the labels seem to require a lot of 'white space' around any text they are given. Seems to be about 20% of height and possibly more of width is empty space. Is there any way to reduce that unused area?

It's hard to know exactly what part of the formatting you're asking about, but you may want to look at the `Margin` and `Padding` properties. These control external and internal whitespace for the control.

Second problem occurs on resize of the application – is there a way to determine the maximum size of font that will fit in the available label size without clipping the text?

There's not any direct way, but you can measure the text with the `Graphics.MeasureString()` or `TextRenderer.MeasureText()` methods and compare that to the size of the control.

Fonts don't scale in a perfectly linear fashion, so the only 100% accurate way to do that is to iteratively check larger and larger font sizes until you find one that doesn't fit. However, you can use a ratio-based calculation to get pretty close using just one measurement (measure the text at a specific size, then calculate the ratio of the resulting size to the size of the control...then apply the ratio to the size you measured to get the maximum size possible). If you can live with the text occasionally not fitting perfectly, or you can provide a little extra white space to account for the times it's a little off, that would be fine.

Pete

.