

# Re: modify the desktopbackground

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.vb/2007-06/msg01585.html>

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- *From:* "Michael M." <nospam@xxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Thu, 28 Jun 2007 14:13:31 +0100
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Yes,

Windows can not display a jpeg directly on screen, just as media player can not display an Mpeg movie directly on the on the screen without decoding it, a filter is always used to decompress it to a bitmap, so even when you load a jpeg directly it is filtered by a codec into a bitmap in memory and then displayed.

Mike.

"JR" <x.x@xxx> wrote in message  
[news:7DGgi.7314\\$FX5.282847@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](news:7DGgi.7314$FX5.282847@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

thanks all

"Joergen Bech @ post1.tele.dk" <jbech<NOSPAMNOSPAM> schreef in bericht  
<news:ltbl73hab2s75alamd0dlhovd6oanjmr3j@xxxxxxxxxxxx>

Why don't you just convert the jpg file to bmp and set the bmp?

I believe it will take up the same amount of memory once Windows has to load and present it anyway.

Here is a code sample that takes jpgs:

<http://www.codeproject.com/dotnet/SettingWallpaperDotNet.asp>

and here:

<http://www.devasp.net/net/articles/display/421.html>

Both cheat by converting the image to bmp before sending it to the desktop.

The desktop properties dialog allows you to pick jpg files and if you rename the file you picked, switch to another background, then try to select the (now invalid) entry again, it won't work, so

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at first sight it does not look like Windows is creating a local bmp copy from the jpg file selected. But it is. Take a look at c:\Documents and Settings\\Local Settings\Application Data\Microsoft\ and you will find a file named "Wallpaper1.bmp", which is the currently selected wallpaper file converted to bmp. Such a file will not appear if you had selected a bmp file, as no conversion needs to take place.

I tried the supported formats and only bmp files do not cause the Wallpaper1.bmp file to be created.

So either you convert the jpg to bmp or Windows will do it for you. It would appear that the Desktop is not going to take a jpg directly but needs to go through a cached bmp file.

Yes, you could go the Active Desktop route, but I am sure your users would not like it.

/Joergen Bech

On Thu, 21 Jun 2007 16:48:49 GMT, "JR" <x.x@xxx> wrote:

Hi,

how can I change the desktopbackground in vb.net to a JPG file

I can do it with a bmp file with the api

```
Private Declare Function SystemParametersInfo Lib
```

```
"user32" Alias
```

```
"SystemParametersInfoA" (ByVal uAction As Integer,
```

```
ByVal uParam As
```

```
Integer,
```

```
ByVal lpvParam As String, ByVal fuWinIni As Integer) As
```

```
Long
```

'constants to be used with the above api

```
Private Const SPI_SETDESKWALLPAPER As Integer = 20
```

```
Private Const SPIF_UPDATEINIFILE As Integer = &H1
```

```
Private Const SPIF_SendWinIniChange As Integer = &H2
```

Jan

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