### DockingTab Overview

The [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control implements the familiar tab control interface, where several overlaying pages (each of which contains arbitrary controls) are accessible via tabs at the side of the control.

In addition to this standard behavior, [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) also provides docking and floating behavior, where the whole control, or individual pages (tabs) can be torn off and automatically docked to one of the other sides of the form, to another [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control, or floated in a separate tool window. To enable the docking and floating behavior of the [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control, it must be placed inside a [C1CommandDock.](#_bookmark323) For more information, see [Enabling DockingTab Docking and](#_bookmark161) [Floating.](#_bookmark161)

**See Also**

[DockingTab Appearance and Behavior Properties](#_bookmark79)

#### DockingTab Appearance and Behavior Properties

[C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) provides a number of useful properties to control the behavior and appearance of the tab items.

[C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) includes a variety of appearance properties to visually enhance and customize the control. The control's tab style, size, and layout can easily be customized through the **C1DockingTab**'s appearance properties. These properties can be set at design time through the Properties window or through code.

In addition to the appearance properties, [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) has several useful behavioral properties for closing tab pages, rearranging tabs, and mouse over effects for tab pages.

The following section introduces some of the common appearance and behavior properties used for the **C1DockingTab** control.

**See Also**

[DockingTab Visual Styles](#_bookmark80) [Docking Styles](#_bookmark81)

[Tab Styles](#_bookmark82)

[Tab Sizing](#_bookmark83)

[Tab Orientation](#_bookmark84) [Text Orientation](#_bookmark85)

[Hiding, Closing, and Moving Individual Tab Pages](#_bookmark86) [Mouse-Over Styles in Tab Pages](#_bookmark87)

###### DockingTab Visual Styles

The [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control provides several built-in styles, such as **Custom**, **System**, **Office2010Blue**, **Office2010Black**, **Office2010Silver**, **Office2007Blue**, **Office2007Black**, **Office2007Silver**, **Office2003Blue**, **Office2003Olive**, **Office2003Silver**, **OfficeXP**, **Classic**, and **WindowsXP** that can be easily applied using the [VisualStyle](#_bookmark691) property.

The following table illustrates each of the [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control’s visual styles.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Property Setting | Image |
| **VisualStyle.Custom** | [**Custom** allows you to customize the control’s visual style] |
| **VisualStyle.System** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **VisualStyle.Office2003Blue** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Office2003Olive** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Office2003Silver** |  |
| **VisualStyle.OfficeXP** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Classic** |  |
| **VisualStyle.WindowsXP** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **VisualStyle.Office2007Blue** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Office2007Black** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Office2007Silver** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Office2010Blue** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Office2010Black** |  |
| **VisualStyle.Office2010Silver** |  |

###### Docking Styles

When the [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control is placed in the [C1CommandDock](#_bookmark323) component (see [Enabling](#_bookmark161) [DockingTab Docking and Floating](#_bookmark161)), it becomes a dockable control. You can select a specific style for docking by setting the [C1CommandDock](#_bookmark323) component’s [DockingStyle](#_bookmark340) property to **Default**, **VS2005**, **VS2008**, or **VS2010**. The **Default** setting shows a gray shaded outline to illustrate where the control will be docked when you release the cursor, whereas **VS2005**, **VS2008**, and **VS2010** mimic the docking style of Visual Studio 2005, Visual Studio 2008, and Visual Studio 2010 respectively. The table below provides an example of each docking style.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Docking Style | Example |
| Default |  |
| VS2005 |  |
| VS2008 |  |

VS2010

###### Tab Styles

**C1DockingTab** provides several built-in styles such as **Custom**, **System**, **Office2007Blue**, **Office2010Blue**, **Office2010Black**, **Office2010Silver, Office2007Black**, **Office2007Silver**, **Office2003Blue**, **Office2003Olive**, **Office2003Silver**, **OfficeXP, Classic**, and **WindowsXP** that can be easily applied using the [VisualStyle](#_bookmark691) property.

**C1DockingTab** provides several built-in styles such as **Classic**, **Default**, **Office2003**, **Office2007**,

Office, **2010, Rounded**, **Sloping**, **VS2003**, and **Windows XP** that can be easily applied using

the [TabStyle](#_bookmark687) property. You could also choose what type of look you would like for your tab pages. For example, you may want the tab pages to display and image, text, or a combination of both. You can do this by setting the [TabLook](#_bookmark681) property to **Default**, **Text**, **Image** or **TextandImage**.

You could also customize your tab's style using **C1DockingTab**'s general appearance properties such as the **C1DockingTab.BackgroundImage**, **C1DockingTab.BackgroundImageLayout**, [TabAreaBackColor,](#_bookmark676) [TabBackColor,](#_bookmark751) [TabBackColorSelected,](#_bookmark752) and [TabForeColorSelected.](#_bookmark755)

The following figure illustrates a few of **C1DockingTab**'s general appearance properties:

**Figure 1**



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Labels for Figure 1 | Description |
| **1** | PictureBox control |
| **2** | Label control |
| **3** | C1DockingTabPage.CaptionText |
| **4** | RichTextBox control |
| **5** | C1DockingTabPage.TabBackColorSelected = PaleTurquoise |
| **6** | C1DockingTabPage.Image |
| **7** | C1DockingTabPage.TabBackColor = MistyRose |
| **8** | C1DockingTab.BackGroundImage |

###### Tab Sizing

You can customize the width and height of the tab pages by setting its [ItemSize](#_bookmark659) to an appropriate value. This will make all the tab pages the same size no matter what the content is inside each tab. Its default settings for its size are based on the size of its text and image. In addition to customizing the height and width of each tab you can also set a mode for the tabs. The [TabSizeMode](#_bookmark684) property contains four types of members: **FillToEnd**, **Fit**, **Normal**, and **User**. The **FillToEnd** stretches the tabs so they take the whole width of the tab control. The **Fit** squeezes all tabs so they fit into the width of the tab control. The **Normal** member gets the default sizing mode. The **User** member allows the user to specify the tab size in the MeasureTab event. The following table shows the effect of

each [TabSizeMode](#_bookmark684) member.



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Note:** The third image in the following table contains only two tab pages to better illustrate the effect of the FillToEnd member. |
| Property Setting | Image |  |
| **TabSizeMode.Normal** |  |
| **TabSizeMode.Fit** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TabSizeMode.FillToEnd** |  |
| **TabSizeMode.User** |  |

###### Tab Orientation

**C1DockingTab** provides various options for the tab orientation. The tabs can be aligned to the top, bottom, left, or right of the **C1DockingTab** control by using the [Alignment](#_bookmark641) property.

The following image displays the tabs aligned at the top of the [C1DockingTab.](#_bookmark602)



In addition to choosing the tab layout you can also specify how the tabs are aligned along the side of the page content area by setting the [AlignTabs](#_bookmark642) property to **Near**, **Far**, or **Center**.

**Note:** The [AlignTabs](#_bookmark642) will not take effect if the [TabSizeMode](#_bookmark684) property is set to Fit.

The following image displays the tabs aligned at the Top and Center of the [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control:



If you would like your tabs located at a specific location rather than **Near**, **Far**, or **Center** of the control you can specify exactly where by setting the [Indent](#_bookmark658) property to a specific number in pixels. For example the following image depicts the tabs indented to 30 pixels.



###### Text Orientation

In addition to determining the layout of the tabs you can also customize the layout of the text in the tabs. You can use the [TextDirection](#_bookmark689) property to display the text horizontally, vertically, vertically from right to left, or vertically from left to right. The following table illustrates how the tabs appear when the [TextDirection](#_bookmark689) is set to **Horizontal**, **VerticalLeft**, or **VerticalRight**:

Property Setting Image

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TextDirection.Horizontal** |  |
| **TextDirection.VerticalLeft** |  |
| **TextDirection.VerticalRight** |  |

When you have text and an image displayed in the tab you may want to control whether the text is

displayed above, below, to the left or to the right of the image. You can use [TabLayout](#_bookmark680) property to set the text above, below, to the left or to the right of the image in the tab.

Property Setting Image

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TabLayout.TextOnRight** |  |
| **TabLayout.TextonLeft** |  |
| **TabLayout.TextAbove** |  |
| **TabLayout.TextBelow** |  |

###### Hiding, Closing, and Moving Individual Tab Pages

The [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) control includes the following behavioral properties for hiding, closing, and moving tab pages at run time:

* [CanAutoHide](#_bookmark647)
* [CanCloseTabs](#_bookmark648)
* [CanMoveTabs](#_bookmark649)

For your convenience these properties are set to **True** by default. If you don't want to enable these properties you can set them to **False**. The following table depicts how the [C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) appears at run time when the [CanAutoHide,](#_bookmark647) [CanCloseTabs,](#_bookmark648) and [CanMoveTabs](#_bookmark649) are set to **True**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Action | Result |
| **AutoHide icon clicked** |  |
| **Page1 Close button clicked** |  |
| **Page1 tab moved** |  |

###### Mouse-Over Styles in Tab Pages

[C1DockingTab](#_bookmark602) provides a simple property for applying mouse-over effects to the tabs. When the [HotTrack](#_bookmark656) property is set to **True** at design time or programmatically it changes the tab's appearance when the mouse hovers over it.