Windows 8 Using XAML, Part 13: Tiles and Templates

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Meet the expert: Ken Getz is a featured instructor for several of our Visual Studio courses. He is a Visual Basic and Visual C# expert and has been recognized multiple times as a Microsoft MVP. Ken is a seasoned instructor, successful consultant, and the author or co-author of several best-selling books. He is a frequent speaker at technical conferences like Tech-Ed, VSLive, and DevConnections and he has written for several of the industry's most-respected publications including Visual Studio Magazine, CoDe Magazine, and MSDN Magazine.

Prerequisites: This course assumes that students have some programming background and experience using Visual Studio 2010 and C# or Visual Basic. In addition, the course assumes some basic knowledge of XAML markup and basic knowledge of Windows store applications and Windows 8.

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Course description: The tiles and templates are the new icons for Windows 8. In this course you will learn to work with tiles from a user's perspective. Then learn how to create a default tile for an application. Next you will investigate each of the 46 tile templates that Windows 8 supports, followed up by creating tile notifications using both the XML DOM and the NotificationsExtensions API. Then you will see how to create tile notifications using "peek" templates, schedule and cancel tile notifications.

Course outline:

Tiles
- Introduction
- Tiles on Start Screen
- Two Sizes Fit All
- Tiles in Two Sizes
- Tiles with Badges
- Secondary Tiles
- Demo: Using Tiles
- Demo: Setup Secondary Tile
- Creating Tiles
- What's on a Tile?
- What About Badges?
- Tiles, Logos, and Badges
- Default Tiles
- Making Choices
- Creating a Default Tile
- Demo: Creating a Default Tile
- Summary

Tile Templates
- Introduction
- Creating Notifications
- Understanding Tiles
- Varying Templates
- Things to Note
- Wide vs. Square
- Using a Peek Template
- Square Tile Templates
- Wide Tile Templates
- Tile XML
- Tile Basic Schema
- Tile Schema
- Tile Branding
- Tile Templates
- TileSquareBlock
- TileSquareText01
- TileSquareImage
- TileSquarePeekImageAndText01
- TileWideText01
- Summary

More Tile Templates
- Introduction
- TileWideText06
- TileWideImage
- TileWideImageCollection
- TileWideImageAndText01
- TileWideBlockAndText01
- TileWideSmallImageAndText01
- TileWidePeekImageCollection01
- TileWidePeekImageAndText01
- TileWidePeekImage01
- Summary

Tile XML
- Introduction
- XML By Hand
- Retrieving the Template
- Use the DOM
- Displaying the Tile
- Getting Started
- Demo: Tile Notification
- Demo: TileWideImageAndText02
- Demo: Branding
- Demo: Code for Notification
- Demo: Setup Notification
- Using NotificationsExtensions
- Benefits
- Where To Get It?
- Creating Tiles
- Displaying Tiles
- Demo: Notification Library
- Demo: Setup Notification
- Summary

Peek and Notifications
- Introduction
- Using a Peek Template
- Demo: Using Peek Template
- Investigating All the Options
- Queuing Tile Notifications
- Examining TileTemplates
- Demo: TileTemplates
- Demo: TileTemplate Code
- Demo: Setup Branding
- Demo: Set Description
- Demo: List Box
- Demo: Notify Tile Button
- Scheduling and Cancelling
- Scheduling
- Demo: Scheduling Notifications
- Demo: Run Notification
- Demo: Remove Tile
- Summary