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## Windows XP Look and Feel - Introduction

Windows XP Look and Feel is an optional feature of Windows XP and later versions of Windows. Under XP, it may be enabled from the Appearance tab of the Display Properties dialog box, by choosing Windows XP style.

Dyalog Version 10.1 provides full support for Windows XP Look and Feel. This means that both the APL Session and the Dyalog GUI will optionally display XP style buttons, combo boxes, and other GUI components if XP Look and Feel is in effect. Furthermore, GUI applications developed using Dyalog Version 10.1 will also exhibit standard XP behaviour if required.

To obtain Windows XP Look and Feel a program (myprog.exe) must be built with a specific set of resources, or there must be a file that specifies these resources named myprog.exe.manifest in the same directory as the myprog.exe executable. The contents of this file are in XML format.

## Enabling XP Behaviour during Development

To enable or disable XP Look and Feel for the Dyalog development environment (Session):

1. Open the Configuration dialog box (Options/Configure).
2. Select the General tab.
3. Set or clear the Enable XP Look and Feel checkbox.

Setting this checkbox causes APL to create a file whose name is the name of the current Dyalog executable (normally dyalog.exe), with a .manifest suffix, in the same directory as dyalog.exe. Clearing this checkbox causes APL to delete the file of this name.

Note that XP Look and Feel is selected by the existence (and contents of) this file when you start the Dyalog program. If you rename your Dyalog program file, you will lose XP Look and Feel unless you also rename the corresponding .manifest file.

## Enabling XP Behaviour for Applications

Application workspaces that you run using dyalog.exe will or will not exhibit XP Look and Feel depending upon the presence and contents of the dyalog.exe.manifest file created by setting the XP Look and Feel checkbox.

You may enable XP Look and Feel for workspaces that use dyalogrt.exe or for your own bound executables by ensuring that there is a corresponding .manifest file in the same directory as the .exe. It is recommended that you create this manifest file by editing a copy of the .manifest file created by dyalog.exe.

Alternatively, you may embed the resources that specify XP Look and Feel into your bound executables by checking the Enable XP Look and Feel checkbox in the Create Bound file dialog box (File/Export).

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