

Layout Essentials

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Presentation Goal

Learn about essentials
for well-designed screens

Equal Widths

The image shows a software interface for 'Segment 1' with a form layout where fields of similar function are given equal widths. The form is organized into sections: 'Segment', 'Diameters', and 'Criteria'. The 'Segment' section includes 'Identifier' (Segment 1), 'PTI [kW]', and 'len [mm]'. The 'Diameters' section includes 'da [mm]', 'da2 [mm]', 'R [mm]', 'di [mm]', 'di2 [mm]', and 'D [mm]'. The 'Criteria' section includes 'Location' (Propeller nut thread), 'Connection' (C45E, ReH=600), 'Holes' (checked, Has radial holes), and 'Slots' (unchecked, Has longitudinal slots). A 'Power [kW]' field is also present, and a 'k-factor' field is located below the 'Criteria' section. The fields are arranged in a grid-like structure with consistent column widths for related parameters.

Segment 1	
Segment	
Identifier	Segment 1
PTI [kW]	
len [mm]	
Diameters	
da [mm]	di [mm]
da2 [mm]	di2 [mm]
R [mm]	D [mm]
Criteria	
Location	Propeller nut thread
Connection	C45E, ReH=600
Holes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has radial holes
Slots	<input type="checkbox"/> Has longitudinal slots
	Power [kW]
	k-factor

Equal width indicate similar function

:: JGOODIES :: *Java User Interface Design*

Equal Line Heights

The image shows a software interface for configuring a 'Segment 1'. The interface is organized into several sections:

- Segment**: Contains input fields for 'Identifier' (Segment 1), 'PTI [kW]', 'Power [kW]', and 'len [mm]'.
- Diameters**: Contains input fields for 'da [mm]', 'di [mm]', 'da2 [mm]', and 'di2 [mm]'. The fields for 'R [mm]' and 'D [mm]' are highlighted in red.
- Criteria**: Contains a dropdown for 'Location' (Propeller nut thread), a dropdown for 'Connection' (C45E, ReH=600), and checkboxes for 'Holes' (checked, Has radial holes) and 'Slots' (unchecked, Has longitudinal slots). The 'k-factor' field is highlighted in red.

Balance and Symmetry



Stable Layout

F Flange 1a

Flange

Identifier

PTI [kW] Power [kW]

s [mm]

Diameters

da [mm] di [mm]

da2 [mm] di2 [mm]

R [mm] D [mm]

Criteria

Location k-factor

Bolts

Material

Numbers

ds [mm]

S Segment 1

Segment

Identifier

PTI [kW] Power [kW]

len [mm]

Diameters

da [mm] di [mm]

da2 [mm] di2 [mm]

R [mm] D [mm]

Criteria

Location k-factor

Connection

Holes Has radial holes

Slots Has longitudinal slots

Align Font Baselines

The image shows a Java User Interface dialog box titled "Segment 1". The dialog is divided into three sections: "Segment", "Diameters", and "Criteria". Each section has a horizontal line below its title, and the labels and input fields within each section are aligned to the same baseline. The "Segment" section includes fields for Identifier, PTI [kW], len [mm], and Power [kW]. The "Diameters" section includes fields for da [mm], di [mm], da2 [mm], di2 [mm], R [mm], and D [mm]. The "Criteria" section includes dropdown menus for Location and Connection, a k-factor field, and checkboxes for "Has radial holes" and "Has longitudinal slots".

Segment

Identifier

PTI [kW] Power [kW]

len [mm]

Diameters

da [mm] di [mm]

da2 [mm] di2 [mm]

R [mm] D [mm]


Criteria

Location k-factor







Connection

Holes Has radial holes

Slots Has longitudinal slots

 Adressen pflegen - □ ×

Daten Adresse ?

Kennung:
 Anrede:

Name1:
 Telefon1:

Name2:
 Telefon2:

Name3:
 Telefax:

Straße:
 Email:

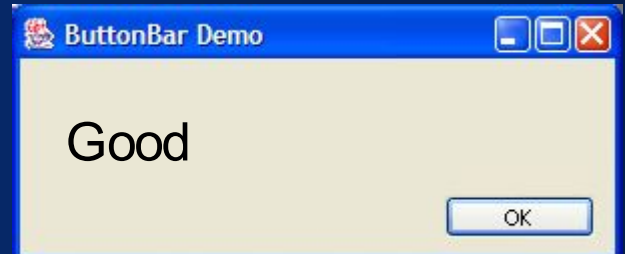
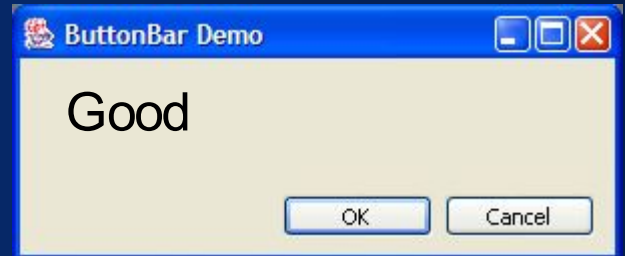
PLZ/Ort:
 privat

Personen | Notizen | Termine | Schlagworte | Bemerkung

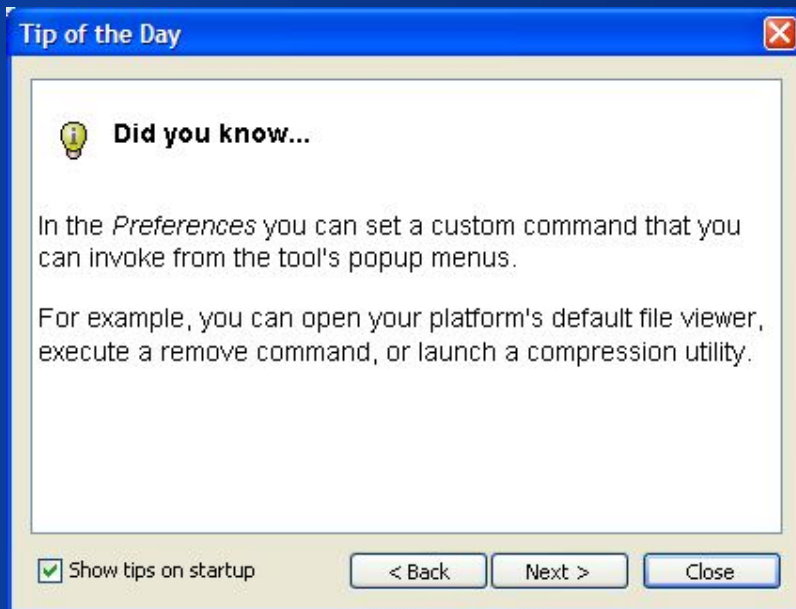
Name	Funktion	Durchwahl	Privat
Karl Schneider	Beratung	030 - 2801 - 1000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Karin Müller	Sekretariat	030 - 2801 - 0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Minimal Widths

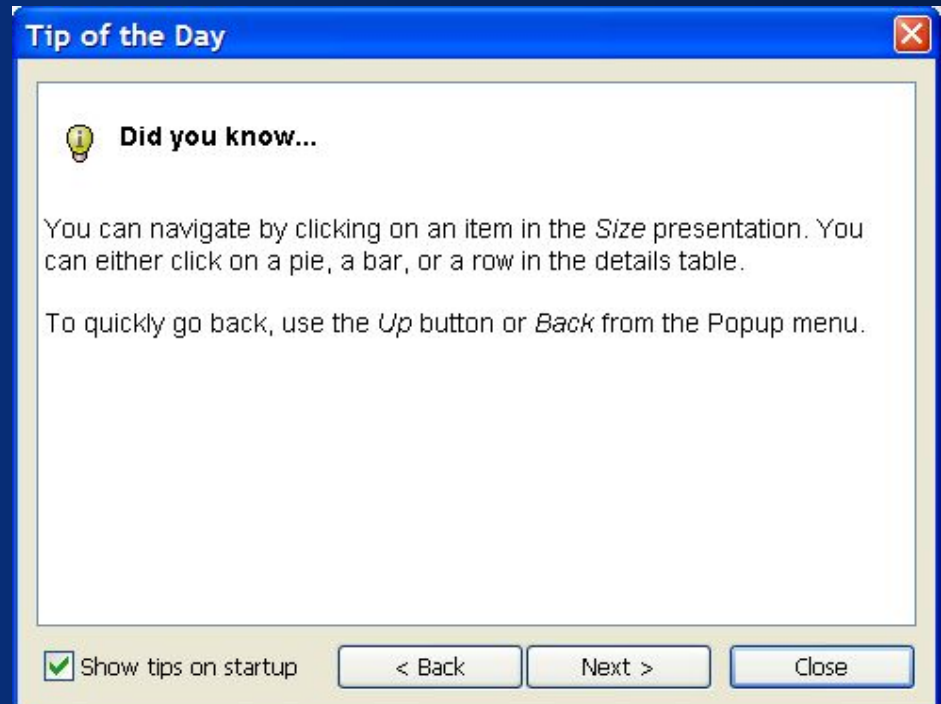
- For example buttons need a minimal width



Scale with Font and Resolution



96dpi



120dpi

No Pixel Sizes in Screen Design!

Otherwise layout does **not** retain proportions



GridBagLayout

Name: Karsten

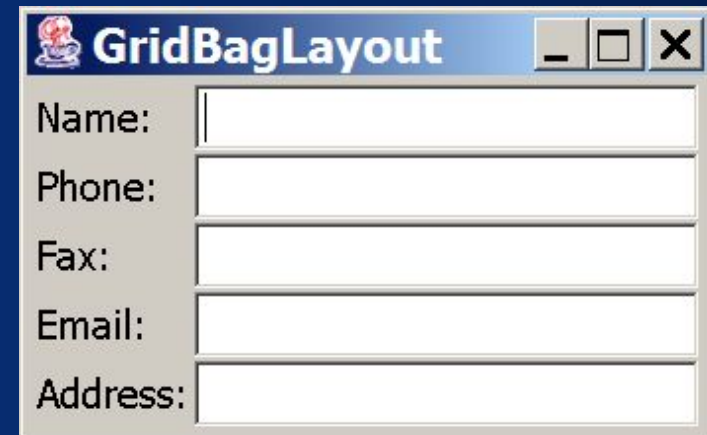
Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Address:

96dpi



GridBagLayout

Name:

Phone:

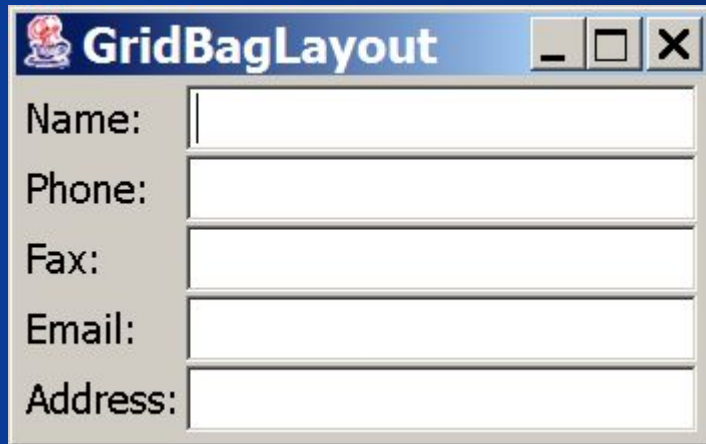
Fax:

Email:

Address:

180dpi

Appropriate White Space



GridBagLayout

Name:

Phone:

Fax:

Email:

Address:

Bad



GridBagLayout

Name:

Phone:

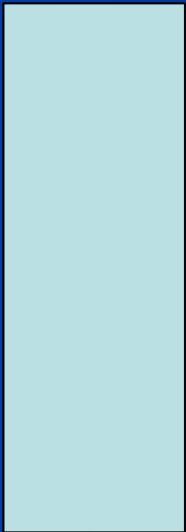
Fax:

Email:

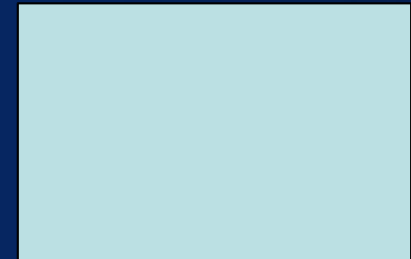
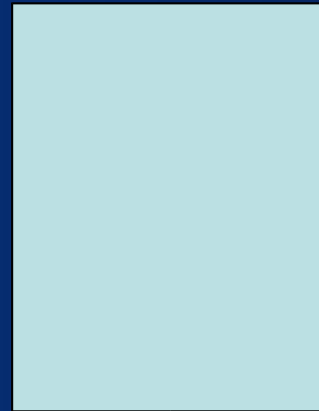
Address:

Good

Aesthetic Aspect Ratios



Instable



Stable

References

- Design Specifications and Guidelines
msdn.microsoft.com
- Aqua Human Interface Guidelines
www.apple.com/developer/
- Grid Systems in Graphic Design
Josef Müller-Brockmann
- JGoodies Forms
www.JavaDesktop.org

Readings: Design

Mullet & Sano: *Designing Visual Interfaces*

- All about: visual variables, scale, contrast, proportion, organization and visual structure
- Many useful examples
- Interesting and easy to read
- 250 pages with many screenshots