ICS Tutorials: Manipulating Basic Objects

In this tutorial, you will begin to create the sample application - a common address book. The address book consists of three panels:

- Index—letters of the alphabet
- Index Entries—a listing of all items beginning with a particular letter
- Selected Entry—information stored for a single item

Completed **Application**

The finished application will look something like the following figure:



ICS TUTORIALS: MANIPULATING BASIC OBJECTS

BEFORE YOU BEGIN THIS TUTORIAL

Before You Begin This Tutorial

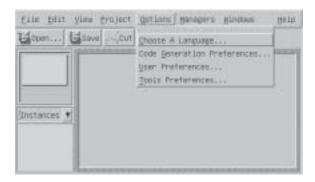
Make a new directory called tutorial_3 and change directories to tutorial_3.

- If you have not started Builder Xcessory yet, enter the following at the prompt in the tutorial_3 directory:
 bx
- If you are already running Builder Xcessory, select New from the Main Window File
 menu to begin a fresh session. If you have questions about clearing the interface,
 review Clearing an Interface in Tutorial Two.

Choosing a language

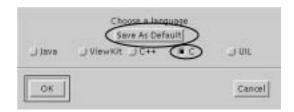
Selecting A Code Generation Language In order to create an interface with Builder Xcessory, you must first select a default code generation language, as follows:

1. Select **Choose a Language** from the **Options** menu of the Browser.



- 2. Select C.
- 3. If you want to make C the default code generation language for future projects, select **Save As Default**.

Note: Except where explicitly noted, the remainder of these tutorials assume you have chosen C.



Code generation preferences

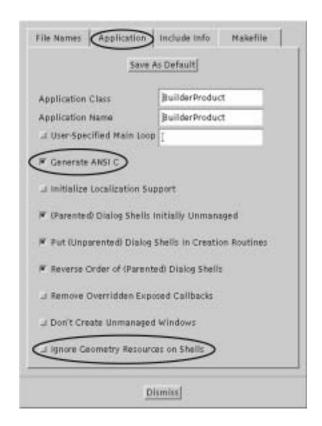
Select **Code Generation Preferences** from the Options menu. On the **Application** tab, you should normally select the following toggles:

Generate ANSI C

This should be selected unless you explicitly need another C standard.

Ignore Geometry Resources on Shells

This toggle should usually be set. It allows a shell widget to use a child's geometry, rather than forcing the shell geometry on the child.



Some suggested code generation preferences

Makefile preferences

Now select the **Makefile** tab and check that the libraries, library paths, and other link flags listed under **LIBS** are correct for your platform.

MAKEFILE PREFERENCES



In general, you need the libraries required to link a Motif program. You also need the correct location of Include files and other flags required to compile a C program on your system (since you have chosen C as your code generation language). The location of the Motif libraries and Include files vary from operating system to operating system and your system administrator may have also modified the standard configuration. If you are not sure of the location of the items that are needed, check with your system administrator.

Hint: On Linux systems, the OpenMotif libraries are located in:

/usr/X11R6/lib

and the Motif Include files are stored in

/usr/X11R6/include/Xm

Consequently, a common addition to the CFLAGS line is:

-I/usr/X11R6/include/

and a common addition to the LIBS line is:

-L/usr/X11R6/lib

Working with widgets

The following sections describe how to create and manipulate widgets.

Creating and Resizing a widget instance

Create and resize an instance of the XmMainWindow widget using the following procedure:

 Select XmMainWindow by clicking MB1 on its icon in the Containers group on the Palette. An outline of an XmMainWindow appears with the resize cursor in its upperleft corner.

WORKING WITH WIDGETS

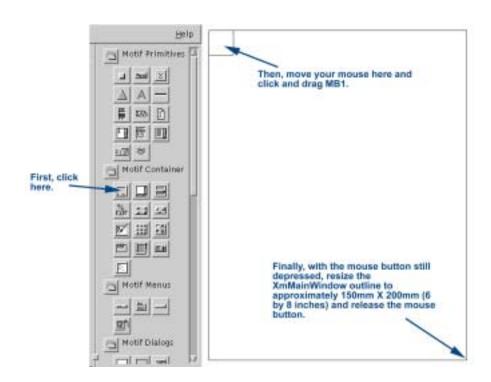
Note: You can display widget names on the Palette by selecting **Both** in Main:Options:User Preferences:Pallete.



- 2. Using the pointing device, move the cursor to the position on the desktop display where you wish to place the upper-left corner of the XmMainWindow. (See next page for an illustration of steps 2 4.)
- 3. Press MB1, and move the cursor slightly to the right. Notice that the resizing cursor has moved to the lower-right corner of the XmMainWindow widget.
- 4. With MB1 still depressed, resize the XmMainWindow outline to approximately 6" wide by 8" high (150mm x 200mm). Release MB1.

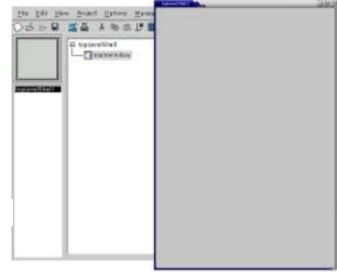
Your interface now contains a single XmMainWindow, within a topLevelShell. Notice that Builder Xcessory automatically created the shell widget for you.

Working with widgets



Status check!

The next screen shot below shows an example of XmMainWindow and the BX Browser. Yours should look similar. If it does, now would be a good time to save your work. If you don't remember how, review Tutorial Two: *Basic Operations*



BX Main Window Note automatic creation of topLevelShell

Resized XmMainWindow

Adding child widgets Insert an XmForm widget as a child of the XmMainWindow by performing the following steps:

1. Select XmForm from the Containers group on the Palette.

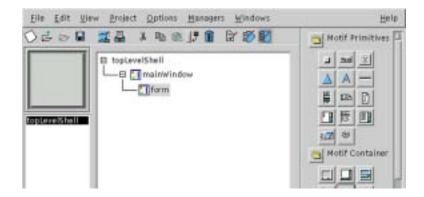


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Working with widgets

2. Place the XmForm inside the XmMainWindow, resized to fill the XmMainWindow. The XmForm is not visible within the XmMainWindow. But if you look at the Browser window of BX, you can confirm that the XmForm was added to your user interface.

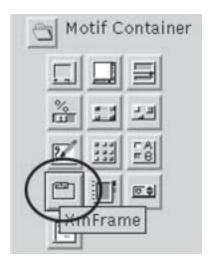
Note: The XmMainWindow resizes itself to fit the XmForm. Just dropping the XmForm in the XmMainWindow will result in XmMainWindow resizing itself to the size of the XmForm icon!



Creating additional widgets

Now add three XmFrames to the XmForm. First add an XmFrame for the Index panel:

1. Select XmFrame from the Containers group on the Palette.



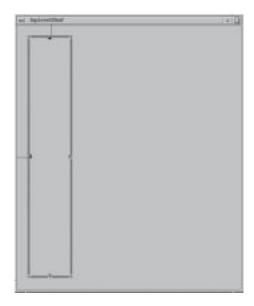
2. Place the XmFrame at the left side of the XmForm, resized to be about 1 inch (25mm) wide and as high as the XmForm working area.

Note: The XmFrame is labeled frame in the Browser. The XmFrame appears with a highlighted border and a handle at the midpoint of each side. The left and top handles are automatically connected to the corresponding edges of the XmForm.

To reposition the XmFrame, drag it with MB1. To resize the XmFrame, grab one of the handles at the sides of the widget and drag it with MB1.

3

Your interface should now look like the figure below.



User interface after adding the first XmFrame

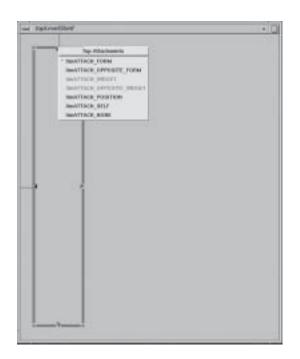
Using the Form Editor

The Form Editor allows you to adjust the layout of the widgets in your interface. To set the connection between the XmFrame and the XmForm, and the offset around the XmFrame, use the following procedure:

Setting attachment

Click and hold MB3 on the top handle.

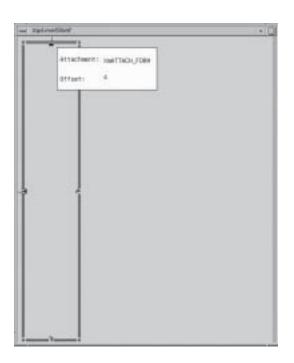
A **Top Attachments** popup menu appears. The attachment shows the current value (XmATTACH_FORM in this case).



Setting offsets

- Click Ctrl/MB3 on the top handle.
 A popup dialog window displays the type of attachment for that handle and the offset (in pixels) from the attached object.
- 3. Hold Ctrl key and drag the handle until the offset value is 4.

Working with widgets



Add index entries panel

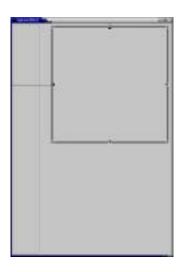
- 4. Release MB3.
- 5. Repeat steps 2–4 for the left and bottom handles, verifying that in each case the attachment is set to XmATTACH_FORM. Note that the bottom handle is set to XmATTACH_NONE by default. To change the setting, move the pointer into the popup menu and drag it to the new setting.
- 6. Release MB3.

Add a second XmFrame for the Index Entry panel:

- 1. Select XmFrame from the Containers group on the Palette.
- 2. Place the XmFrame to the right side of the XmMainWindow, stretch it to extend about half way down.

WORKING WITH WIDGETS

Note: The XmFrame is labeled frame1 in the Browser. The left and top handles are automatically connected to the XmForm.



Setting attachements

To set the connection for frame1 and the various offsets, use the following procedure:

- 1. Click on the left attachment handle with MB1 and do not release.
- 2. Drag the pointer to the edge of the Index panel, and release MB1. The attachment moves from the edge of the form to the edge of the neighboring XmFrame.

Note: The attachment line goes to the midpoint of the near side of the widget.

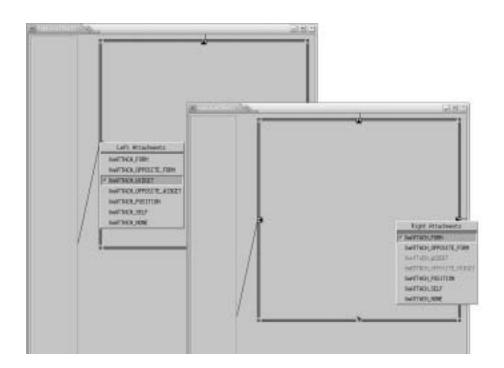
Note: If you release MB1 beyond the center line of the target widget, the attachment is made as XmATTACH_OPPOSITE_WIDGET. Simply repeat steps 1 and 2 without releasing beyond the center line of the Index panel.

Working with widgets

3. Click MB3 on the left handle. Note that the attachment is now set to XmATTACH WIDGET.

Setting offsets

- 4. Use MB3 to set the right handle to XmATTACH FORM.
- 5. Set the offsets for the left, top, and right sides to 4 by pressing the Ctrl key and MB3 on each handle and dragging it.

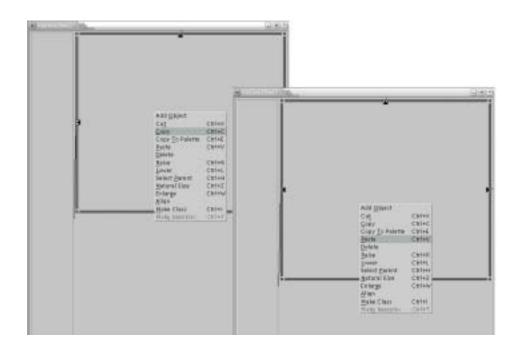


Copying widgets

Add a third XmFrame for the Selected Entry panel by copying frame1 and resizing it:

Add selected entry panel

- 1. Select frame1 (Index Entries) using MB1.
- 2. Click on frame1 with MB3 and slide the pointer to Copy the widget.
- 3. Click MB3 on the form; select **Paste** to create a duplicate of frame1 (called frame2).

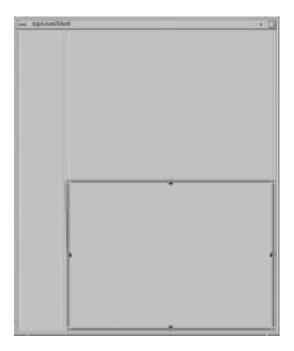


- 4. Use MB1 to place and resize the new frame 2.
- 5. Change the right and bottom attachments to XmATTACH FORM using MB3.
- 6. Attach the top side of frame 2 to frame 1.
- 7. Attach the left side of frame 2 to frame (Index) using MB1.
- 8. Set all four offsets to 4 by pressing the Ctrl key and then pressing MB3 on each handle and dragging it.

WORKING WITH WIDGETS

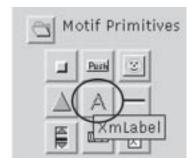
Status Check!

At this point, your user interface should look like the screen below. If it does, now would be a good time to save your user interface.



Adding child widgets Now that the general structure of the address book is set, you need to fill in the operative widgets. For the Index panel, add a Label and a ScrolledList, using the following steps:

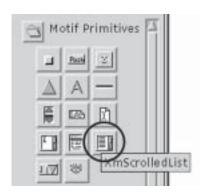
- Select frame (Index panel) in the Browser window.
- 2. Add an XmLabel to frame.



Click on XmLabel on the Palette with MB2, drag it to the frame node in the Browser tree. The XmLabel will automatically expand to fill the frame. This will be corrected later when we modify the appropriate resources.

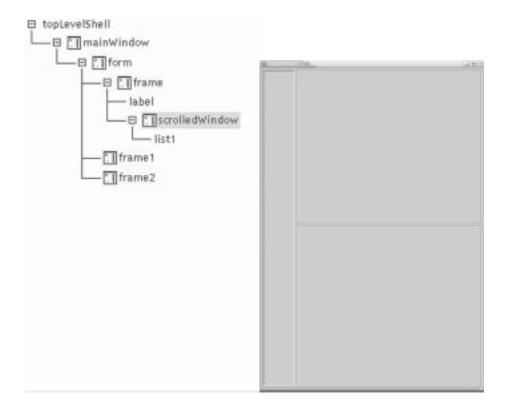
Note: If you are working on a complicated interface, it will often be easier to make changes by placing objects in the Browser tree.

3. Add an XmScrolledList to the frame. The XmScrolledList text will overlay the XmLabel in the user interface that you are developing.





Status Check! Save your work! At this point it is a good idea to confirm that your user interface looks like the screen below. You should also confirm that you have correctly established your widget hierarchy by comparing your Browser with the example provided.



WORKING WITH WIDGETS

Working with the Resource Editor

The following sections describe how to use the Resource Editor for the objects you have created. The next steps modify the Label and ScrolledList you have added to frame.

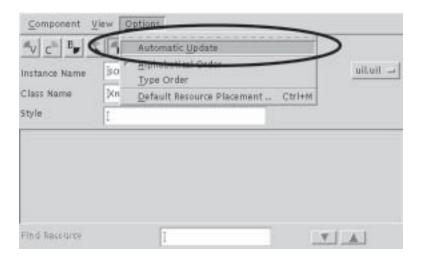
Updating the Resource Editor

You can update the Resource Editor in two ways:

Click MB1 on the object.

You can select the object either in the interface itself, or on the Browser display. This accomplishes two things: it selects the object, and it updates the Resource Editor so that it displays the resources associated with the object.

• Select **Automatic Update** from the Resource Editor **Options** menu, forcing the Resource Editor to update whenever an object is selected (default).



Working with widgets

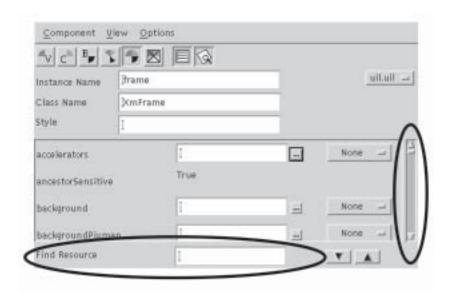
Searching the Resource Editor

To find a resource for a widget in the Resource Editor, first confirm that the widget is currently selected and that the Resource Editor has been updated. The selected object's name should be displayed in the Resource Editor Instance Name field.

Locating resources

To locate a resource, do either of the following:

- Enter the name of the resource you are seeking into the **Find Resource** field. Type the first several letters of the resource in the **Find Resource** search field at the bottom of the Resource Editor until this resource is located. If the **Find Resource** field is not already displayed at the bottom of the Resource Editor, position the cursor within the Resource Editor and press Ctrl/F to toggle it on.
- Use the scrollbar at the right side of the Resource Editor.



Widget Size and Position

Working with resources

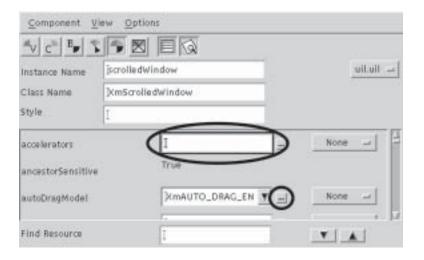
The following sections describe how to modify the value of a resource.

Setting a resource

Now that you have assembled the elements of the Index panel, the next step is to refine the appearance of these widgets.

You can set a widget resource with one of the following procedures:

- Enter the value directly into the resource value entry field to the right of the resource name in the Resource Editor.
- Apply the value to the resource using the appropriate extended editor, by clicking the "..." button.

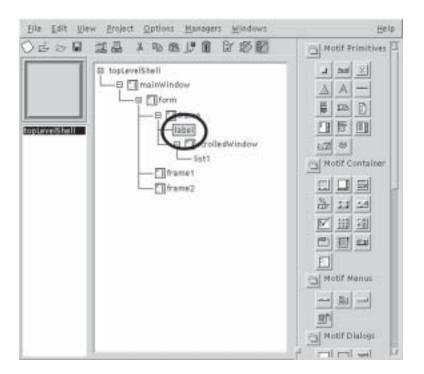


Modifying Resources

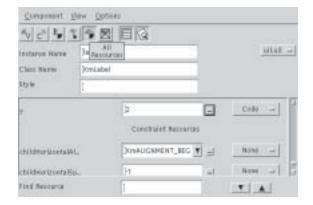
To refine the appearance of the Index panel (frame), you will set resources for the two child components—label and scrolledWindow—and set frame and all its children to Natural Size.

To set the correct values for the XmLabel (label), perform the following steps:

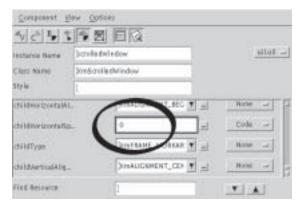
1. Click on label in the Browser to update the Resource Editor.



2. Select All Resources



2. Set the constraint resource childHorizontalSpacing to 0. Click on the current value, and type the new value. Enter Return, or click on the **OK** (check mark) button to the right of the text entry field.



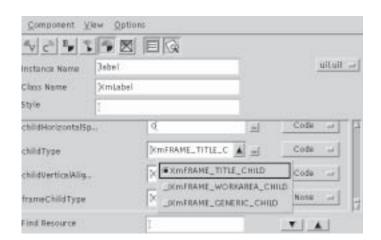
WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION

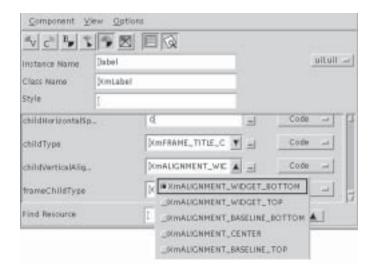
Note: Constraint resources always appear at the end of the resource listing in the Resource Editor.

3. Set the remaining resources as follows:

Resource	Value	
childType	XmFRAME_TITLE_CHILD	
childVerticalAlignment	XmALIGNMENT_WIDGET_BOTTOM	

Click on the arrow associated with the text field. A list of possible values appears. Select the correct value according to the table above, and as seen in the following images.





Setting resources for To set the correct values for the XmScrolledList, perform the following steps:

scrolledWindow

- . Select scrolledWindow in the Browser.
- 2. Set the following constraint resources:

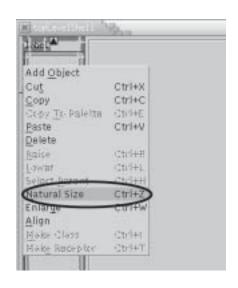
Resource	Value	
childType	XmFRAME_WORKAREA_CHILD	
childHorizontalSpacing	0	

Natural size frame

Set the components of frame to **Natural Size** using the following steps:

- 1. Select all four components: frame, label, scrolledWindow, list1. Press the Ctrl key, then, using MB1, click on each item in the Browser.
- Click on any of the selected items in the Browser with MB3, and select Natural Size.
 This removes any hard-coded width and height values on the objects, allowing the widgets to adjust appropriately when resources such as label strings are changed and require a different arrangement.

WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION



Adding widgets to the Index Entries panel

To fill in the Index Entries panel, add an XmLabel and an XmScrolledWindow to frame1, using the same procedure you did for frame.

- 1. Select frame1 (Index Entries) in the Browser window.
- 2. Add an XmLabel to frame1. Click on XmLabel on the Palette with MB2, drag it to the frame1 node in the Browser tree. The XmLabel will automatically expand to fill frame1. This will be corrected later when we modify the appropriate resources.
- 3. Add an XmScrolledList to frame1. The XmScrolledList text will overlay the XmLabel in the user interface that you are developing.

frame1

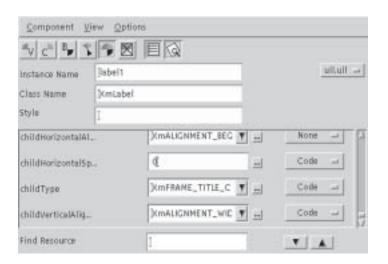
Setting resources for To refine the appearance of the Index Entries panel (frame1), set resources for the four components—frame1, label1, scrolledWindow1, and list2—and then set them all to Natural Size.

Values for label1

To set the correct values for the label1, perform the following steps:

- 1. Click on label1 in the Browser to update the Resource Editor.
- 2. Set the constraint resource childHorizontalSpacing to 0. Click on the current value, and type the new value.
- 3. Set the remaining resources as follows:

Resource	Value	
childType	XmFRAME_TITLE_CHILD	
childVerticalAlignment	XmALIGNMENT_WIDGET_BOTTOM	



Values for scrolledWindow

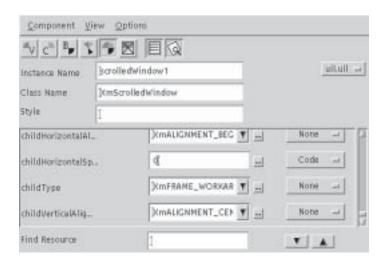
To set the correct values for the scrolledWindow1, perform the following steps:

- 1. Select scrolledWindow1 in the Browser.
- 2. Set the following constraint resources:

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WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION

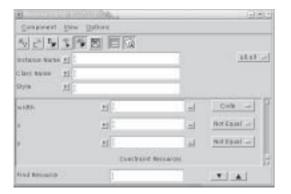
Resource	Value		
childType	XmFRAME_WORKAREA_CHILD		
childHorizontalSpacing	0		



Natural size frame1

Set the components of frame1 to Natural Size using the following steps:

- 1. Select all four components: frame1, label1, scrolledWindow1, list2. Press Ctrl, then click on each item with MB1.
- 2. Click on any of the selected items in the Browser using MB3, select Natural Size.



Adding widgets to the Selected Entry panel

The process for refining frame 2—the Selected Entry panel—is similar to that for frame and frame1 except that you will use a XmScrolledText instead of a XmScrolledList widget.

- 1. Select frame 2 (Selected Entry) in the Browser window.
- 2. Add an XmLabel to frame 2. Click on XmLabel on the Palette with MB2, drag it to the frame 2 node in the Browser tree. The XmLabel will automatically expand to fill frame 2. This will be corrected later when we modify the appropriate resources.
- 3. Add an XmScrolledText to frame 2. The XmScrolledText will overlay the XmLabel.



WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION

Setting frame2 resources

To refine the appearance of frame2, you will set resources for the four components—frame2, label2, scrolledWindow2, and text—and set them all to **Natural Size**.

Values for label2

To set the correct values for label2, perform the following steps:

- 1. Click on label2 in the Browser to update the Resource Editor.
- 2. Set the constraint resource childHorizontalSpacing to 0. Click on the current value, and type the new value.
- 3. Set the remaining resources as follows:

Resource	Value	
childType	XmFRAME_TITLE_CHILD	
childVerticalAlignment	XmALIGNMENT_WIDGET_BOTTOM	

Values for scrolledWindow2

To set the correct values for scrolledWindow2, perform the following steps:

- 1. Select scrolledWindow2 in the Browser.
- 2. Set the following constraint resources:

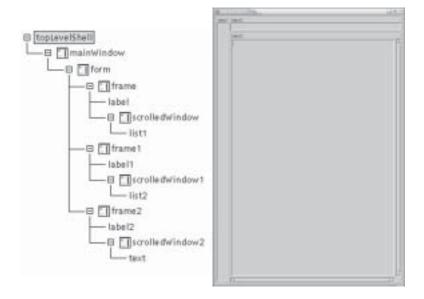
Resource	Value	
childType	XmFRAME_WORKAREA_CHILD	
childHorizontalSpacing	0	

Natural size for frame2

Set the components of frame 2 to Natural Size using the following steps:

- 1. Select all four components: frame2, label2, scrolledWindow2, text. Hold down the Ctrl key and click on each item with MB1.
- 2. Click on any of the selected items with MB3, select Natural Size.

Status Check! Save Your Work!



Now Check your user interface and browser against the examples above

Setting instance names

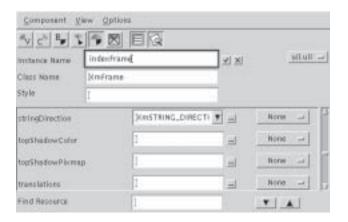
Using your own instance names when working with Builder Xcessory is good practice. There's no guarantee that the default names will be maintained from session to session. (Besides, imagine sitting down to maintain your application months later and trying to figure out what pushButton73 is supposed to do.)

Renaming index objects

Let's rename the index objects so that they make more sense. Select each object in frame and enter the new name in the Instance Name field at the top of the Resource Editor. To change the Instance Name, perform the following steps:

WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION

1. For example, click on frame in the Browser window to select it (if it is not already selected). Then in the Resource Editor window, click on the text "frame" to the right of the label "Instance Name"



- Type the new name.
- 3. Click on the check mark at the end of the text field, or press Return. Use the following names for the widgets that are part of the frame hierarchy:

Object	New Name
frame	indexFrame
label	indexLabel
scrolledWindow	indexSW
list1	indexList

Note: When generating C++ or ViewKit code, Builder Xcessory automatically prepends an underscore character to all instance names to construct the class data member used to store the object ID (following accepted convention). So the object named indexFrame is referenced as _indexFrame in all generated code.

Renaming index entries objects

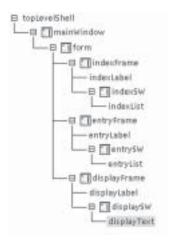
4. Select each object in frame1 and enter the new name in the Instance Name field at the top of the Resource Editor. Use the following names:

Object	New Name
frame1	entryFrame
label1	entryLabel
scrolledWindow 1	entrySW
list2	entryList

Renaming selected entry objects

5. Select each object in frame 2 and enter the new name in the Instance Name field at the top of the Resource Editor. Use the following names:

Object	New Name
frame2	displayFrame
	displayLabel
scrolledWindow2	displaySW
text	displayText

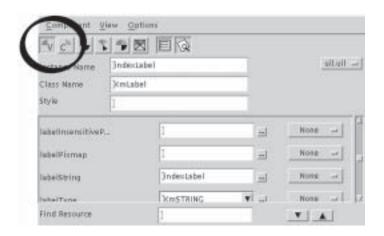


WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION

Setting label string text

To set the label of each of the three panels in your address book, change the value of the labelString resource, using the following steps:

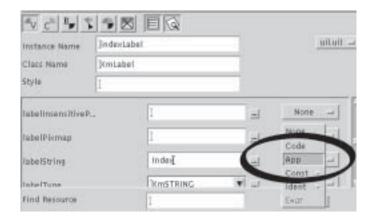
- 1. Select indexLabel on the Browser.
- 2. Select Visual Resources



- 3. Search for the labelString resource.
- 4. Click on the resource value text to select it.

Note: The default value for labelString is the instance name for the object. In this case, the default labelString value is "indexLabel".

- 5. Type Index.
- 6. Click on the check mark at the end of the text field, or press Return.
- 7. Click on the option menu to the right of the text field.
- 8. Select **App** from the popup list.



The default setting is **Code**, which means that the value of the resource is hard-coded. Text strings should be kept in an app-defaults file, to allow for easily changing language-specific items for internationalization.

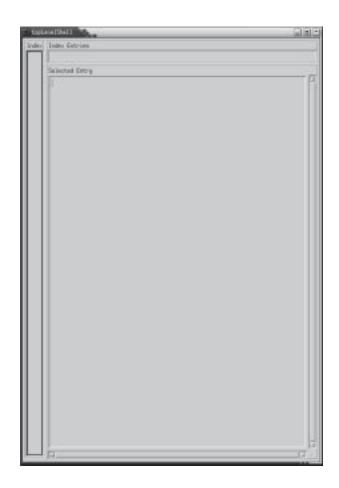
Repeat steps 1-8 for entryLabel and displayLabel. Use the following names for those objects:

Object	labelString	Location
entryLabel	IndexEntries	Арр
displayLabel	SelectedEntry	App

WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION

Status Check!

At this point, your user interface should match the sample provided below. If it does, now would be a good time to save your work!



Your User Interface Should Look Like This After Changing the labelStrings

Fine tuning sizes

When you originally designed your user interface, you were asked to estimate sizes for various forms. At this point, we're going to adjust the sizes precisely. To do so, follow these instructions:

1. Select each widget listed in the table below and change the specified resources:

Widget	Resource	Value
form	w idth	576
entryList	visibleItemCount	7
displayText	rows	20
indexList	visibleItemCount	26

Fixing the Size of Index Entries

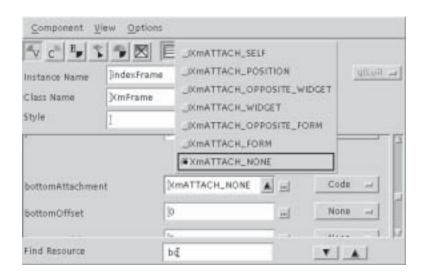
You may have noticed that the two panes on the right, entryFrame and displayFrame are not sized correctly. This occurred because of the Form attachments we set earlier.

Note: Try to directly set the number of rows for the displayText. You should get the error message "Widget does not allow the resource "rows" to be modified to this value at this time." This error message is generated because we set the bottomAttachment of displayFrame to the bottom of the form in an earlier step. The geometry of the parent overrides the geometry setting of the child. Hence you cannot set rows directly. This geometry hierarchy is one of the most powerful aspects of Motif, and it is also one that at times can be the most frustrating.

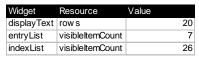
To resize the three frames, perform the following steps:

- 1. Select indexFrame in the Browser.
- 2. Find the bottomAttachment resource and set it XmATTACH_NONE.

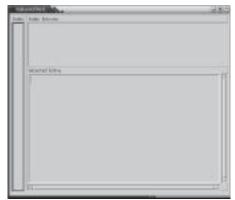
WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION



- 3. Select displayFrame in the Browser.
- 4. Find the bottomAttachment resource and set it to XmATTACH_NONE too.
- 5. Set the following resources:



- Select mainWindow in the Browser, and find the resource height in the Resource Editor.
- 7. Using your Window Manager, set the height to approximately 508 pixals.
- 8. Find the Width resource for mainWindow and set the width to 576.
- 9. Reset both to XmATTACH_FORM for the bottomAttachment of both indexFrame and displayFrame.



After you have fixed the sizing, the application should look like this.

The Extended Editor

Completing the Index panel

To fill in the Index, you should use an extended editor. Extended editors allow you to repeat actions without exiting from the editor. To fill in the alphabet in the Index, perform the following actions:

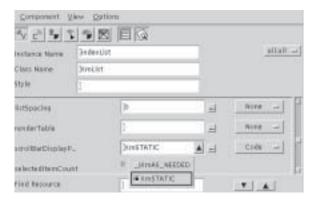
- 1. Select indexList.
- 2. Set the resource scrollBarDisplayPolicy to XmStatic.

Note: XmStatic means that the scrollbar is always visible.

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WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION

Find the items resource, and use an extended editor to change it, as described in the following section.



Using an extended editor

Extended editors provide additional flexibility in working with resources. For more information on extended editors, see Extended Editors in the Builder Xcessory Reference Manual.

To set the value of the items resource of indexList to include the letters of the alphabet:

editor

Starting an extended 1. Click the (...) button to the right of the items text field.



- 2. This displays the extended editor appropriate for the items resource, the XmStringTable Editor. (The window title includes the name of the resource, in this case "items Editor.")
- 3. Enter the first new resource value, "A" (without quotes), in the text entry area at the top of the editor. Do not press return when you finish typing; that would simply add another (blank) line to the label.

Note: The XmStringTable editor has three main areas: a text entry area at the top, a "preview" area in the middle, and a list of previous entries at the bottom.

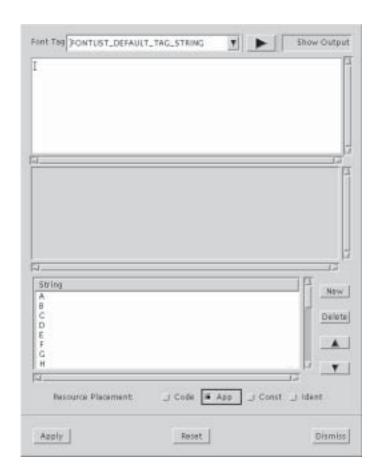
Resource placement

4. Hold the Shift key and press Return. This enters the value for the current list item and resets the editor for the next item.

Hint: You can also enter the succeeding items by pressing the New button after you type each letter.

- 5. Repeat steps 2–3 for letters B through Z.
- 6. Select **App** for resource placement.
- 7. Click the **Apply...** button.
- 8. Click **Dismiss** to hide the XmStringTable Editor.

WIDGET SIZE AND POSITION



Completing the index entries panel

- 1. Select entryList in the Browser window.
- 2. Update the Resource Editor.
- 3. Set the resource scrollBarDisplayPolicy to XmStatic.

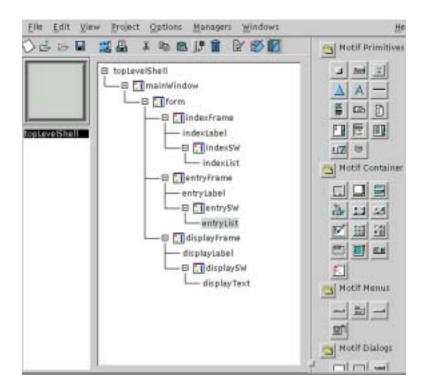
Finished!

Your interface should now look like the following figure:



Your First User Interface with Builder Xcessory!

The instance tree in the Browser should look like the following figure:



Final Interface Displayed in the Browser

Saving the interface

Now is the time to save your work. If you are unsure of how to do this, please review *Saving* Your User Interface *in* Tutorial One: Basic Operations. Make sure you save it in the tutorial_3 directory you created before starting this tutorial.

Summary

You have now completed Tutorial Three. In this tutorial you have:

- Chosen a code generation language
- Created widget instances
- Added widget children to existing parent widgets
- Positioned and sized widgets
- Modified widget attributes using the Resource Editor
- Changed the storage location for widget resources