Visual basic 6.0 programming environment

In this task I will explain the environment which visual basic 6.0 uses to make the programming easier for the programmer.

What is Visual Basic?

The word "Visual" refers to the way the **G**raphical **U**ser **I**nterface (GUI) is designed. With some programming languages you have to design the GUI's by writing lots of code to describe everything about the GUI (for example appearance, location of controls, how to display the controls, etc). But with Visual Basic all you have to do is select the control you want and draw it on the form. This is also known as object orientated programming.

The word basic stands for **Beginners All-Purpose Symbolic Instruction Code** which refers to the coding section of the software. The actual code is very simple to use as it is just a large section of English word to do a certain task.

The Visual Basic 6.0 programming environment.

The Visual Basic environment consists of seven main windows which are listed as follows and explained in fig 1.0
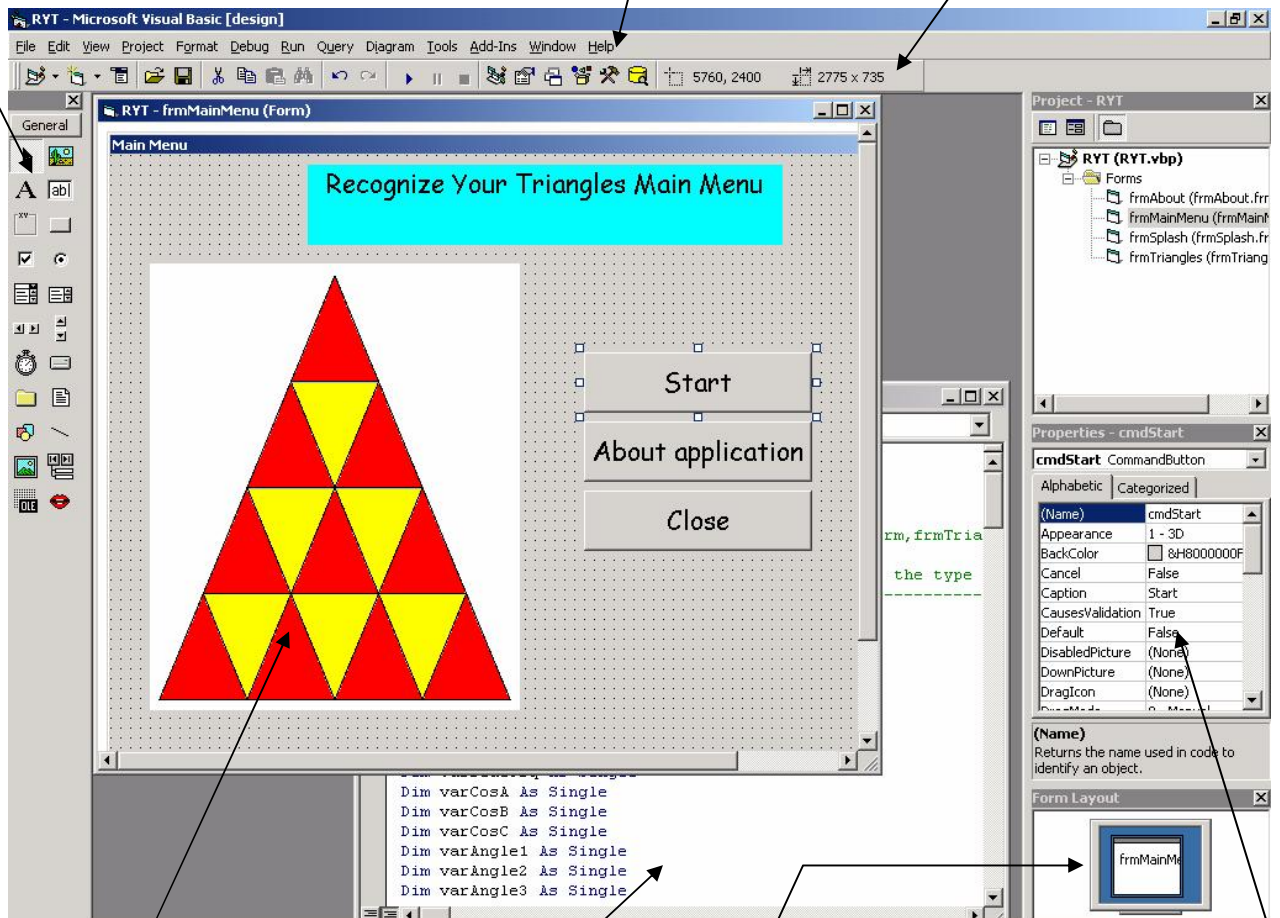
1. Menu Bar
2. Toolbar
3. Toolbox
4. Form window
5. Code window
6. Project window/ explorer
7. Properties window

Toolbox- this is where all the controls in visual basic are show and inserted into the forms.

The menu bar- Displays the commands you use to work with Visual Basic. Including File, Edit, View, Window, Project, Format, Debug, help, etc.

The toolbar- Provide quick access to commonly used commands in the programming environment.

Fig 1.0

The form window- this window is where the GUI is designed that will enable the user to interact with the application.

The code window- this window acts as a code editor for adding, editing, or deleting code.

Form layout window- The Form Layout window allows you to position the forms in your application using a small graphical representation of the screen.

Properties window- Lists the property settings for the selected form or control. A *property* is a characteristic of an object, such as size, caption, or color.
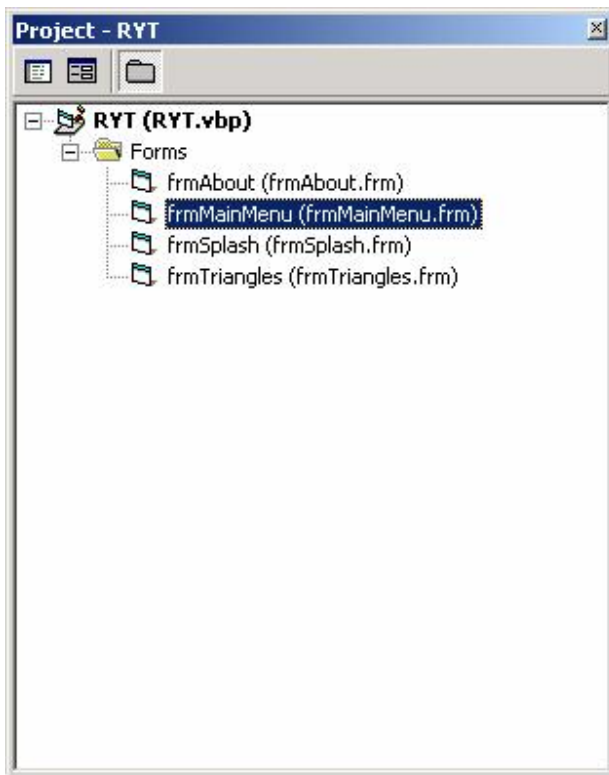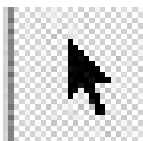
The project explorer window

Fig 1.1

The project explorer window (Fig 1.1) displays the entire files linked with an application. This project contains 4 forms.

The Toolbox

Fig 1.2

The toolbox contains the tools you use to draw controls (or components) on your forms.

 Pointer

The only item in the Toolbox that doesn't draw a control. When you pick the pointer, you can only resize or move a control that has already been drawn on a form.

 Picture box

This is use to display graphical images as a container to input pictures.

 Label

Allows you to have text that you don't want the user to change, such as a caption under a graphic.

 Text box

This control holds text that the user can change. Can be used for output or input.

 Frame

Allows you to create a graphical or functional grouping for controls. To group controls, draw the Frame first, and then draw controls inside the frame.
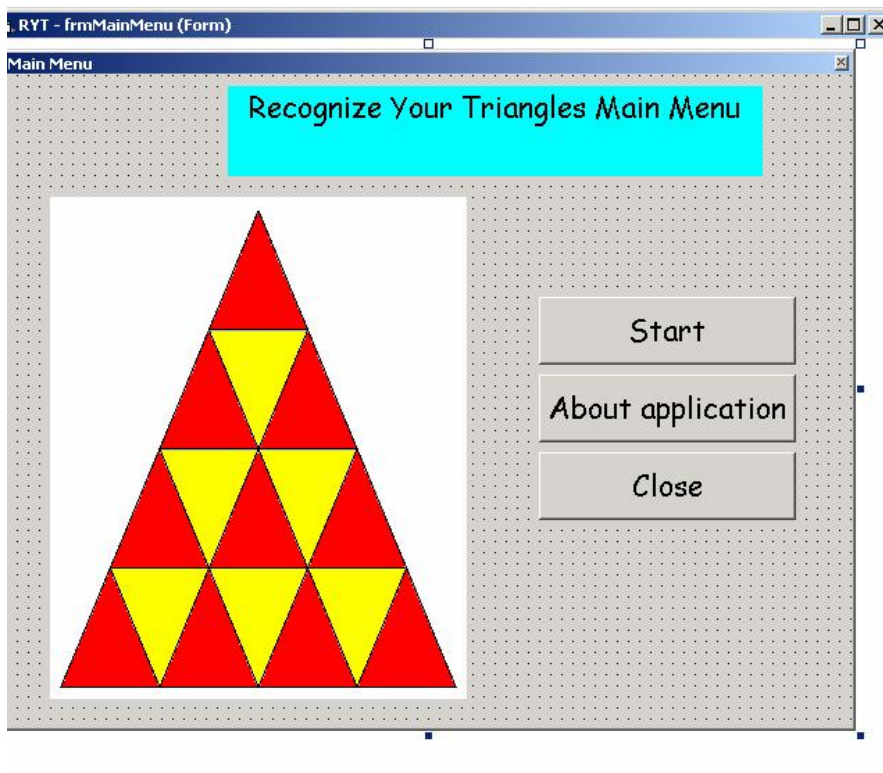
There are other controls on the toolbox.

Menu bar

Displays the commands you use to work with Visual Basic. Besides the standard save, new, open, copy, and paste button, buttons are provided to access functions specific to programming such as Play (Run), Project explorer, or Debug.

Form window

Acts as a window that you customize to design the interface of your application. You add controls, graphics, and pictures to a form to create the look you want. Each form has its own form designer window.

Code editor

```
RYT - frmMainMenu (Code)                                    _ |□| ×|
Form                        ▼|  Load                              ▼|

    'Name:James Williams
    'Date:27 nov 05
    'Software:Visual Basic- Version 6.0
    'Project:RYT.vbp
    'Object:frnSplash.frm, frmMainMenu.frm,frmAbout.frm,frmTriangles.frm
    'Version:1
    'Notes:This program is designed to find out about the type of triangles using the
    '---------------------------------------------------------------------

    'this form is the main menu for the program and does thes calulations for the val
    that the user inputes

    'this section is all the varables

    Dim var1 As Single
    Dim var2 As Single
    Dim var3 As Single
    Dim varside1sq As Single
    Dim varside2sq As Single
    Dim varside3sq As Single
    Dim varCosA As Single
    Dim varCosB As Single
    Dim varCosC As Single
    Dim varAngle1 As Single
    Dim varAngle2 As Single
    Dim varAngle3 As Single
    Dim varAngDeg1 As Single
    Dim varAngDeg2 As Single
    Dim varAngDeg3 As Single
```

This window is where you insert your coding for a form.