

An Introduction To Programming Using Visual Basic® 2012

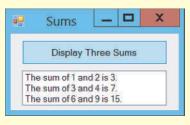
NINTH EDITION

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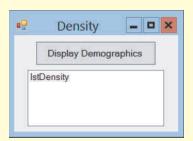


Example 1 Add Numbers The following program calls an expanded version of the Sub procedure DisplaySum three times. The first time the arguments are literals, the second time the arguments are variables, and the third time the arguments are expressions. In the second call of DisplaySum, the values of the variables are passed to the Sub procedure. In the third call, the expressions are evaluated and the resulting numbers are passed to the Sub procedure.





Example 2 Population Density The following program passes a string and two numbers to a Sub procedure. When the Sub procedure is first called, the string parameter *state* is assigned the value "Hawaii", and the numeric parameters *pop* and *landArea* are assigned the values 1375000 and 6423, respectively. The Sub procedure then uses these parameters to carry out the task of calculating the population density of Hawaii. The second calling statement assigns different values to the parameters.



OBJECT	PROPERTY	SETTING
frmDensities	Text	Density
btnDisplay	Text	Display
		Demographics
lstDensity		

```
Private Sub btnDisplay Click(...) Handles btnDisplay.Click
  'Calculate the population densities of states
  Dim state As String, pop, landArea As Double
  lstDensity.Items.Clear()
  state = "Hawaii"
  pop = 1375000
  landArea = 6423
  CalculateDensity(state, pop, landArea)
  lstDensity.Items.Add("")
  state = "Alaska"
  pop = 722718
  landArea = 570600
  CalculateDensity(state, pop, landArea)
End Sub
Sub CalculateDensity(state As String, pop As Double, landArea As Double)
  'The density (number of people per square mile)
  'will be displayed rounded to one decimal place.
  Dim density As Double
  density = pop / landArea
  lstDensity.Items.Add("The density of " & state & " is")
  lstDensity.Items.Add(density.ToString("N1") & " people per square mile.")
End Sub
[Run, and then click on the button.]
                                           Density
                                Display Demographics
                              The density of Hawaii is
                              214.1 people per square mile.
                              The density of Alaska is
                              1.3 people per square mile.
```

Notice that in the calling statement

CalculateDensity(state, pop, landArea)

the variable types have the order String, Double, and Double; the same types and order as in the Sub procedure header. This order is essential. For instance, the calling statement cannot be written as

```
CalculateDensity(pop, landArea, state)
```

In Example 2 the arguments and parameters have the same name. Using same names sometimes makes a program easier to read. However, arguments and their corresponding parameters often have different names. What matters is that the *order*, *number*, and *types* of the arguments and parameters match. For instance, the following code is a valid revision of the btnDisplay_Click event procedure in Example 2. (Figure 5.18 shows how arguments are passed to parameters with this code.)

```
Private Sub btnDisplay_Click(...) Handles btnDisplay.Click
  'Calculate the population densities of states.
   lstDensity.Items.Clear()
   Dim s As String, p As Double, a As Double
```

```
s = "Hawaii"
p = 1375000
a = 6423
CalculateDensity(s, p, a)
lstDensity.Items.Add("")
s = "Alaska"
p = 722718
a = 570600
CalculateDensity(s, p, a)
End Sub
```

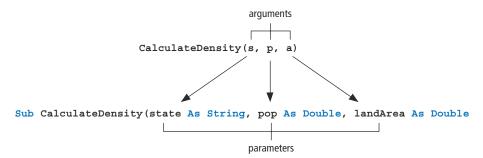


FIGURE 5.18 Passing arguments to a procedure.

Sub Procedures Having No Parameters

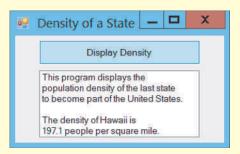
Sub procedures, like Function procedures, are not required to have any parameters. A parameter-less Sub procedure can be used to give instructions or provide a description of a program.



Example 3 Population Density The following variation of Example 2 gives the population density of a single state. The parameterless Sub procedure Describe Task gives an explanation of the program.

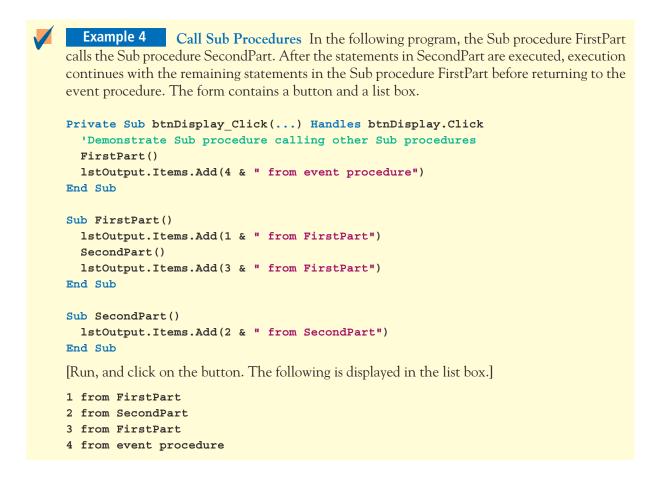
```
of the program.
Private Sub btnDisplay_Click(...) Handles btnDisplay.Click
 DescribeTask()
 CalculateDensity("Hawaii", 1375000, 6423)
End Sub
Sub DescribeTask()
 lstOutput.Items.Clear()
 lstOutput.Items.Add("This program displays the")
 lstOutput.Items.Add("population density of the last state")
 lstOutput.Items.Add("to become part of the United States.")
End Sub
Sub CalculateDensity(state As String, pop As Double, landArea As Double)
 Dim density As Double
 density = pop / landArea
 lstOutput.Items.Add("") 'insert a blank line
 lstOutput.Items.Add("The density of " & state & " is")
 lstOutput.Items.Add(density.ToString("N1") & " people per square mile.")
End Sub
```

[Run, and then click on the button.]



Sub Procedures Calling Other Sub Procedures

A Sub procedure can call another Sub procedure. If so, after the End Sub statement at the end of the called Sub procedure is reached, execution continues with the line in the calling Sub procedure following the calling statement.



Comments

1. Sub procedures allow programmers to focus on the main flow of a complex task and defer the details of implementation. Modern programs use them liberally. This method of program construction is known as modular or top-down design. As a rule, a Sub procedure should perform only one task, or several closely related tasks, and should be kept relatively small.

- 2. The first line inside a Sub procedure is often a comment statement describing the task performed by the Sub procedure. If necessary, several comment statements should be used. Conventional programming practice also recommends that all variables used by the Sub procedure be listed in comment statements with their meanings. In this text, we give several examples of this practice, but adhere to it only when the variables are especially numerous or lack descriptive names.
- 3. In Section 5.1, we saw that Word Completion and Parameter Info help us write a function call. These IntelliSense features provide the same assistance for Sub procedure calls. (Of course, Word Completion and Parameter Info work only after the Sub procedure has been created.) See Fig. 5.19.

```
Private Sub btnAddNumbers_Click(sender # DisplaySum(1, 2)
Dim x As Double = 3
Dim y As Double = 4
DisplaySum(
DisplaySum(num1 As Double, num2 As Double)
```

FIGURE 5.19 The Parameter Info help feature.

Practice Problems 5.2

- 1. What is the difference between an event procedure and a Sub procedure?
- **2.** What is wrong with the following code?

```
Private Sub btnDisplay_Click(...) Handles btnDisplay.Click
  Dim phone As String
  phone = mtbPhoneNum.Text
  AreaCode(phone)
End Sub

Sub AreaCode()
  txtOutput.Text = "Your area code is " & phone.Substring(0, 3)
End Sub
```

EXERCISES 5.2

In Exercises 1 through 20, determine the output displayed when the button is clicked.

```
    Private Sub btnDisplay_Click(...) Handles btnDisplay.Click
        Piano(88)
        End Sub
        Sub Piano(num As Integer)
            txtOutput.Text = num & " keys on a piano"
        End Sub

    Private Sub btnDisplay_Click(...) Handles btnDisplay.Click
        'Opening line of Moby Dick
        FirstLine("Ishmael")
        End Sub
```