Starting a new project

1. On the Menu Bar click File, New Project, or press the Ctrl+N keys, to open the New Project dialog box.

2. In the New Project dialog box select the Windows Forms Application template icon.

3. Enter a project name of your choice in the Name field, then click on the OK button to create the new project – in this case the project name will be “GettingStarted”.

Visual Basic now creates your new project and loads it into the IDE. A new tabbed Form Designer window appears (in place of the Start Page tabbed window) displaying a default Form and a Properties window is added below the Solution Explorer.
The Form Designer is where you create visual interfaces for your applications and the Properties window contains details of the item that is currently selected in the Form Designer window.

The Visual Basic IDE has now gathered all the resources needed to build a default Windows application – click the Start Debugging button on the Tool Bar to launch this application.

The application simply creates a basic window – you can move it, minimize it, maximize it, resize it, and quit the application by closing it. It may not do much but you have already created a real Windows program!

You can alternatively run applications using the F5 keyboard shortcut key.