8.5

Enabled Property, Timer Control, and Splash Screens

You Disable Controls by Setting Their Enabled Property to False

The Timer Control Allows Your Application to Execute a Procedure at Regular Time Intervals

Splash Screens Are Forms That Appear As an Application Begins Executing

Enabled Property

- ## Most controls have an *Enabled* property

- ## If this Boolean property is set to false the control is disabled meaning the control:

  - ### Cannot receive the focus

  - ### Cannot respond to user generated events

  - ### Will appear dimmed, or grayed out

- ## Default value for this property is true

- ## May be set in code when needed as shown:
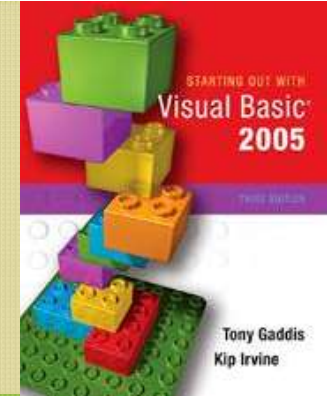
```
btnExample.Enabled = False
```

Timer Control

- A *Timer* control generates *Tick* events
  - Double-click on Timer tool in Toolbox to add
  - Appears in component tray
  - Standard prefix is *tmr*
- Can perform a process at regular intervals by coding the process in a *Tick event* procedure
- Two important properties
  - *Enabled* must be true to generate Tick events
  - *Interval* (milliseconds) decides tick frequency
    - Interval of 1000 causes 1 timer tick per second
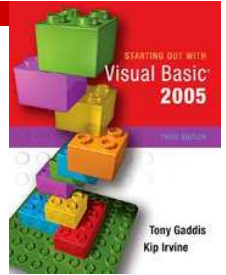- Tutorial 8-5 demonstrates the Timer control

Splash Screens

- A form, often with an application logo, that is displayed while an application is loading

- A *splash screen* usually:

  - Has *Topmost* property set to True so it is displayed over the forms of other applications

  - Disappears shortly by using a Timer

  - Is modeless so the application continues to load while the splash screen is displayed

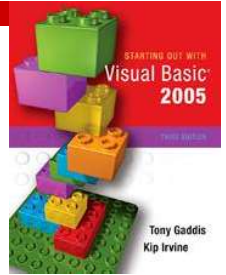- Tutorial 8-6 demonstrates a splash screen

8.6 Anchoring and Docking Controls

Controls Have Two Properties, Anchor and Dock, That Allow You to Determine the Control's Position on the Form When the Form Is Resized at Run Time

Anchor Property

- *Anchor* - a property of various form controls
- A control anchored to a form edge keeps the same distance to the form edge
- Controls may be anchored to any, all, or none of the right, left, top, or bottom edges
  - Default is to anchor to top and left edges
  - Can just as easily anchor to bottom right
  - If anchoring to opposing sides, control is resized when form is resized
  - Anchoring to all 4 sides causes control to be resized proportionally to form

Dock Property

- *Dock* - a property of various form controls
- A control docked to a form edge is placed directly against the form edge
- Controls may be docked to
  - Any one form edge but not more than one
  - No edge or not docked (the default)
- Length or width of docked control changes to match length or width of the form edge