
pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by foxhedgehog - 2009/03/16 02:38

so I know that the developers are aware of the issue when trying to pin the windows to the desktop in vista or newer OSes; I get a warning in v. 2.5 of rainlendar that vista renders things poorly when I try to select it. and if I do select it, transparency stops working and the rendering does indeed get weird.

I just wanted to point out that, in windows 7, there is a button on the far right side of the taskbar that highlights the desktop by turning all open windows into outlines when you hover the mouse over it (the feature is called "preview desktop," and is a sub-function of aero peek):

http://www.winsupersite.com/win7/ff_aero_peek.asp

needless to say, it would be awesome if rainlendar was preserved when I did this, so that I could check my calendar by hovering over this button.

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Rainy - 2009/03/18 11:43

Yes, it would be great if the calendar stayed visible with the aero peek so let's hope that Microsoft releases an API or instructions how this can be accomplished.

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by foxhedgehog - 2009/03/18 15:46

hi rainy

for what it's worth I cross-posted this question at a windows 7 forum and they suggested that the only way to do this at present was to develop rainlendar under the microsofy gadget architecture:

<http://www.sevenforums.com/customization/5388-preview-desktop-question-new-post.html>

so yeah, I'm definitely hoping for the release of the API

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Jaykul - 2009/08/22 21:51

Hey rainy ... here's the code you need ;)

```
using System;
using System.Runtime.InteropServices;
```

```
namespace Huddled {
    public static class Dwm {

        public static extern int DwmSetWindowAttribute(IntPtr hwnd, int attr, ref int attrValue, int attrSize);

        public enum DwmWindowAttribute
        {
            NCRenderingEnabled = 1,
            NCRenderingPolicy,
            TransitionsForceDisabled,
            AllowNCPaint,
            CaptionButtonBounds,
        }
    }
}
```

```

NonClientRtlLayout,
ForcelconicRepresentation,
Flip3DPolicy,
ExtendedFrameBounds,
HasIconicBitmap,
DisallowPeek,
ExcludedFromPeek,
Last
}

public enum DwmNCRRenderingPolicy
{
    UseWindowStyle,
    Disabled,
    Enabled,
    Last
}

public static void RemoveFromAeroPeek(IntPtr Hwnd) //Hwnd is the handle to your window
{
    int renderPolicy = (int)DwmNCRRenderingPolicy.Enabled;
    DwmSetWindowAttribute(Hwnd, (int)DwmWindowAttribute.ExcludedFromPeek, ref renderPolicy, sizeof(int));
}
}
}

```

Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Jaykul - 2009/08/22 22:48

Oh, and as a bonus ... while you wait for Rainy, here's a PowerShell 2.0 script which will fix all the Rainlendar windows so they don't hide during Aero Peek on Windows 7

I wrote this up as a PowerShell script/function to make it a little easier to use to apply this trick to whatever other apps you may have ... <http://huddledmasses.org/fun-with-pinvoke-and-aero-peek/>

Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by cristianciofu - 2009/08/23 02:41

Some quick instructions about how and where should we add this? :)

Thanks

Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by cristianciofu - 2009/08/23 03:44

ok, i created a file called rainy.ps1 with the above code.

I right-clicked on it and selected the "Run with PowerShell" option, but nothing happened :(

In ISE if I run the file I get the following error:

File C:\Users\Chris\Desktop\rainy.ps1 cannot be loaded because the execution of scripts is disabled on this system. Please see "get-help about_signing" for more details.

At line:0 char:0

I tried this solution:

To run an unsigned script:

1. Save the script file on your computer.
2. Click Start, click My Computer, and locate the saved script file.
3. Right-click the script file, and then click Properties.
4. Click Unblock.

But I cannot see any Unblock there :(

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by cristianciofu - 2009/08/23 03:48

Ok, I managed to run it by setting "Set-ExecutionPolicy Unrestricted".

But still, nothing happened :(Rainlendar is still not working with the stick to background" option :(

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Rainy - 2009/08/23 06:57

This keeps the windows visible with the "Aero Peek" feature in Windows 7. It does not fix the problem with the "Show Desktop".

Thanks for the code Jaykul. I tried it with Rainlendar and it works great. The fix will be available in the next build.

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Jaykul - 2009/08/23 13:33

Yeah, sorry if that was misleading. This won't fix the pin-to-desktop thing (although to be honest, I'm not sure I know what that was supposed to do), it only fixes it so it stays visible like a desktop gadget when you WIN+SPACE or mouse-hover on the right border of your taskbar in Windows 7.

I was wondering, Rainy, if you can make it ignore the "minimize" command, so that it will stay on the desktop when I press Win+D. Currently, pressing WIN+D makes it minimize along with everything else, so although I can peek at it, I can't actually interact with it easily -- what's worse, when I press Win+D again, it doesn't seem to go back to always-on-bottom, nor to remember that it should be ExcludeFromPeek. :unsure:

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Jaykul - 2009/08/23 19:39

Oh, and for anyone else ... I wrote this up as a PowerShell script/function to make it a little easier to use to apply this trick to whatever other apps you may have ... <http://huddledmasses.org/fun-with-pinvoke-and-aero-peek/>

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Rainy - 2009/08/25 11:01

The Win+D doesn't actually minimize windows but it brings the desktop window over them. You can minimize the windows with Win+M (Shift+Win+M to restore) which will leave Rainlendar visible.

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by cristianciofu - 2009/08/25 11:27

GREAT tip Rainy - thanks a lot :)

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Jaykul - 2009/08/25 11:50

Interesting :ohmy: Well, in that case, I guess there's another API call to track down, because gadget windows do stay visible and usable after Win+D :silly:

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by metler - 2009/08/30 04:39

Some instructions would be very comfortable :)

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Jordi - 2009/09/14 15:19

Rainy wrote:

This keeps the windows visible with the "Aero Peek" feature in Windows 7. It does not fix the problem with the "Show Desktop".

Thanks for the code Jaykul. I tried it with Rainlendar and it works great. The fix will be available in the next build.

I also use aero peek in Win7. At the moment I have installed the latest version v2.6 b82. It is not fixed in this build, right?

Rainy, Do you have an ETA when the new build with this feature will be released?

TIA,
Jordi

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Rainy - 2009/09/16 10:47

I'm in the middle of something so I cannot do a build at the moment. You'll need to wait still few weeks for the next build.

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Tobber - 2009/11/01 17:21

So, it's been 6 weeks since the last post in this thread and I'm quite sure that some of us anxiously await another release that will fix the "pin to desktop"-issue with win7.
Any news yet? :-)

Thanks for the great work!

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Rainy - 2009/11/03 10:59

Well, we have been waiting for Microsoft to make this functionality possible ever since Vista was released but so far nothing has happened so I don't expect this to get solved any time soon.

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Tobber - 2009/11/05 16:27

I'm not exactly involved in programming those little desktop gadgets.
But there are plenty of them out there. Are they all released by Microsoft?

As I said I'm not at all involved so I don't know about anything about the underlying problem. Just want to understand...

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Re:pin to desktop support in win 7

Posted by Rainy - 2009/11/06 11:14

The desktop gadgets work with the "Show desktop" feature since Windows handles them internally. Rainlendar unfortunately cannot be converted to a Windows gadget since it would require a total rewrite of the application which really isn't an option and I'm not sure if it even would be possible.

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