

Creating a Pop Up Button Style

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So I've been getting pretty fancy with my GUI development, and today I wanted to design a button that would appear as just flat text until you hovered over it with the mouse, at which point it would "pop up" and look like an actual button.



The following solution only works when run on a system with a Windows Vista/7 theme enabled, such as Aero or Basic. It will not work when run with the Windows Classic theme.

The 'Flat' Pop Up Button was achieved by simply setting the background and border to transparent. Here's the XAML:

```
<Button Content="Click Me!" Background="Transparent" BorderBrush="Transparent"/>
```

The next step was to make it so that when the mouse hovers over the button it "pops up" visually and looks like your standard button. At first I tried several methods for accomplishing this using triggers to set the style of the button which were all turning out to be pretty messy since I'm not the best graphical designer.

But silly me, I didn't realize that in this case I didn't have to do anything special at all! I could just leave the button as it is in the XAML above and the baked in triggers for the **Button** would still kick in and change the appearance when the mouse hovered over it.

Here's what that looks like:



It looks pretty cool in spots where you want a nice, Aero style button, but if the user isn't interacting with it you don't want all those pixels distracting from the clean whiteness that is your polished application.