wxEditor Description

A multilanguage Editor based on
David Cuny's wxBasic IDE and Ralf Peters Editor
License: LGPL
Dirk Noack
State: 01/24/11
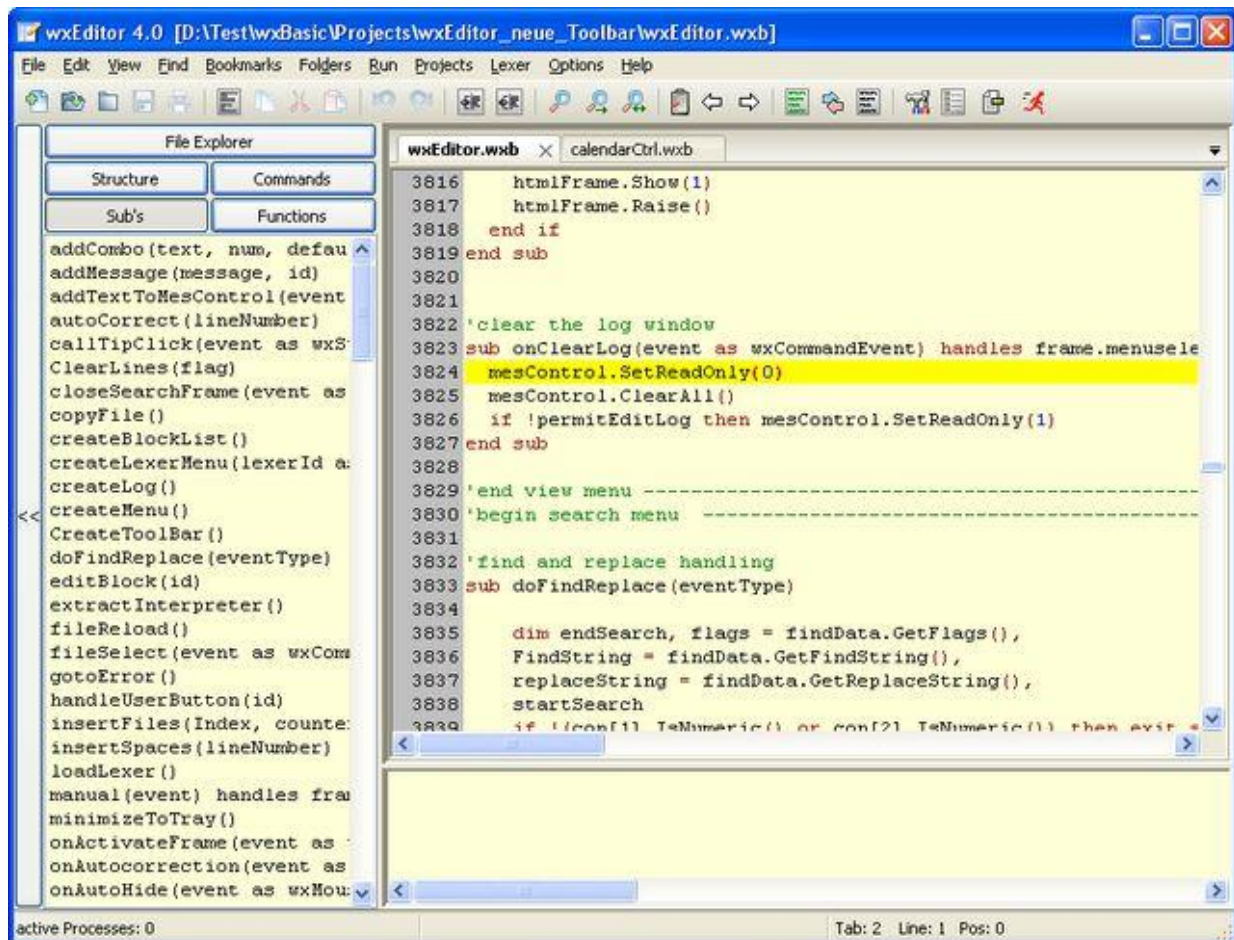dirk_noack@freenet.de
Current Version: 4.0
http://www.wxbasic.net
http://wxbasic.sourceforge.net/phpBB2/index.php

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1. About wxEditor

wxEditor is a Editor and IDE for wxBasic and other programming languages. It is a result of the piecewise enhancement of David Cuny's IDE. Some parts are from Ralf Peters editor, which is implemented in the current wxBasic version.

2. Features

► Toolbar with the most important functions
► View and insert all commands for wxBasic and other languages
► Control Center
► Project management
► Log window
► File backup and backup management
► User define toolbars
► Undo/Redo
► Reload/Copy/Delete a file
► Insert Time/Date/File
► Make code as comment and reverse
► Text converting options
► Hide/Show folders
► Hide/Show line numbers
► Bookmark management
► Save and load text blocks
► Change the lexer and keywords for different programming languages
► Write and add new lexer and keywords for other programming languages
► Change fonts and colours for each lexer
► Multilanguage support (currently German and English only)
► Autoindent
► Extract wxBasic Interpreter
► Convert file to HTML

and many others.

wxEditor uses lexer files (*.lex), in which the keywords and commands for this lexer are placed . You can write a referencefile (*.ref) for each lexer File. In a referencefile are placed all commands for this programming language. A referencefile can be shown in the wxEditors Control Center. From here you can insert the commands into the code.

3. System requirements

 - 300 MHz CPU
 - 64 MB Memory
 - Windows all, Linux

For maximal performance on older PC's you can uncheck all options in the 'Programming' tab of the "Options" dialog.

wxEditor does not write any entries to the registry. The configuration file is saved in the home directory or in the install directory (portable).

4. Installation

Unpack and copy all files and directories into a directory which you want.
wxEditor source files need the latest wxBasic Version from wxbasic.net. Please check your version.

5. To do

► add more functions to 'Autocorrection'
► rewrite 'Convert to HTML'
► add print routine
► add page preview
► add more lexers
► add back file compare
► add drag'n drop
► add more Icons
► add Formdesigner back with more features:
   - Objects in dialogs
   - Sizers
   - Events
   - Object properties
   - must run in Linux

6. Known problems

► Hotkeys and calltips are not working correctly on Linux (german calltips, umlauts)
► The print routine is still inactive, because I have to test a lot
► Problems are by changing colours in Linux, colours are set to black
► Folding does not work correctly
► Memory leak while loading a referencefile more than once

7. Start from the command line

wxEditor supports several command line options:

wxEditor.exe filename -mVisible -cVisible –aVisible –zZoom

Visible = 0   hide/disable the window
Visible = 1   show/enable the window
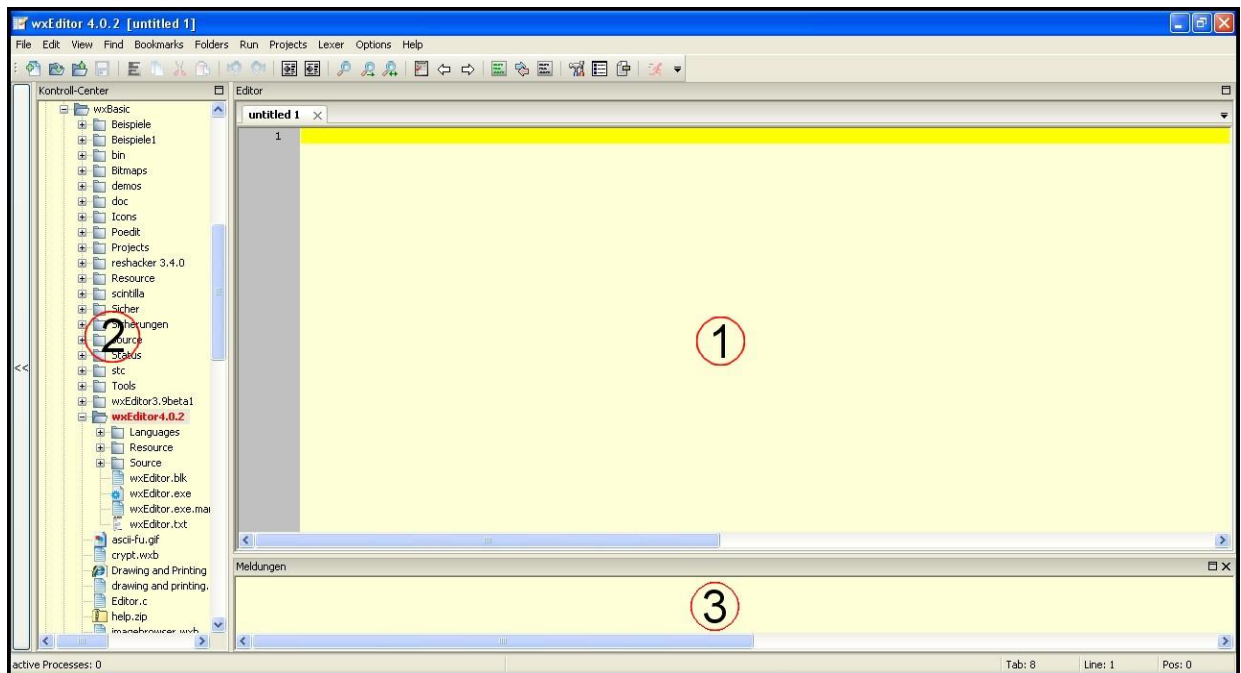
-mVisible   show/hide the log window
-cVisible   show/hide Control Center
-aVisible   enable/disable autohide Control Center
-zZoom   set zoom from 1 to 5
              Zoom = 1   125%
              Zoom = 2   150%
              Zoom = 3   200%...

Example: wxEditor.exe test.wxb –m0 –c0 –a0 –z1

Load the file 'test.wxb', hide the log window and the Control Center. Disable the autohide feature and set the zoom to 125%.

If you use a non existing filename, a new file with this name will be created.

8. First start

At the first start you see a blank editor window and a file explorer. No referencefile is loaded. You can open for example a wxBasic File (*.wxb) to load the wxBasic referencefile because the automatical referencefile loading is set. If you want to work without this, select a lexer you wish and uncheck the automatical loading in the "Options" menu. Now you can see all classes of the programming language.

For starting a compiler or debugger you can setup up to six commands in the lexer menu.

wxEditor has 3 regions:

1) *The editor window*

In this window you can edit your code. It has a separate popup menu, which you can call with the right mouse button.

2) *The Control Center*

This is the central feature of the wxEditor. In this center you can:

- view all subs, functions and classes of the code and jump to it
- view and insert all commands of the programming language, if a referencefile exist and loaded
- view the structure of the code
- preview, rename, delete or open a file in the file explorer

You can write a new referencefile for each programming language to view and insert all commands from the Control Center. Be sure, that the keywords are added to the file '*.lex', otherwise the program can't find this lexer and can't integrate the referencefile. The name of the referencefile must be the same as the lexername with the extension ".ref".

The data structure of the referencefile is separated by spaces. No space is a header, one space is the first child, two spaces are sub Children and so on. You can also add a function, which is not currently implemented by adding a '*' at the end of the function. If you want to insert the function later, you get a corresponding message.
Classes, which have members, begin with a "+" char.

Insert a class or function by doubleclick on it and it opens a new dialog. In this dialog you can write all data for the function. Needed data are highlighted red.

For wxBasic:
If a function need a Text (Value/Label ...), you need not insert the quotation mark. Select styles from the style window (if available). More than one style is possible. With doubleclick on a connection you can also insert connections into the code. The program tells you, if you have forgotten to insert a needed data field. You can also insert a style outside the dialog directly in the code by doubleclick on this.

I have not tested all classes and functions. Would you tell me please, if you found any errors.

In the file explorer window you get a popup menu, if you press the right mouse button on a file. Here you can preview, open, delete or rename a file.

The "Structure" button let you see the real file structure. The base of the structure is created by search words, which are saved in the lexer file.
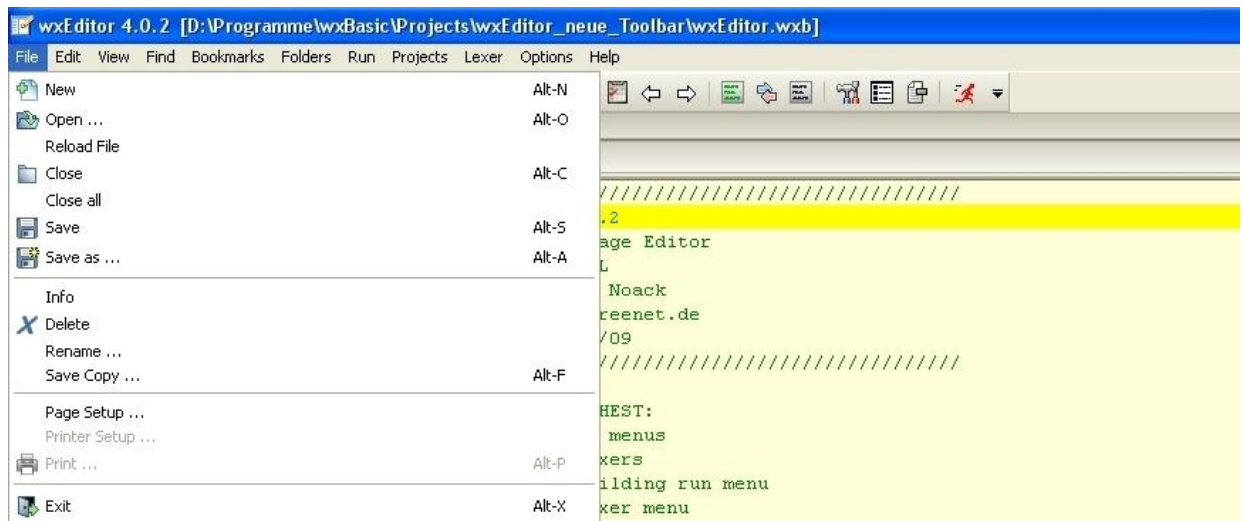
3) The log window

That window shows the most important messages and actions. For example it's useful to show the error message. You can clear this window with the 'Clear Log Window' menu item in the "View" menu.

The log window has got a limit up to 1000 lines.

9. The menus
9.1. File menu

Under the menu you can view the file history. Set the counter of the history files from 0 to 30 in the "Options" menu.

New

Create a new file with the default lexer.
You can change the default lexer in the "Lexer" menu by clicking on a lexer and select "Set as default".

Open

Open a saved file.
If selecting the option 'Auto Lexer', the right lexer is automatically loaded.

Reload File

Reload the current file.

Close

Close the current file.

Close all

Close all opened files.

Save

Save the current file.

Save as

Save the current file with a new filename.

Info

Get a simple file info of the current file.

Delete

Delete the current file.

Rename

Rename the current file.

Save a Copy

Save a copy of the current file.

Page Setup

Setup the page for printing.
This Item has currently no effect.

Printer Setup

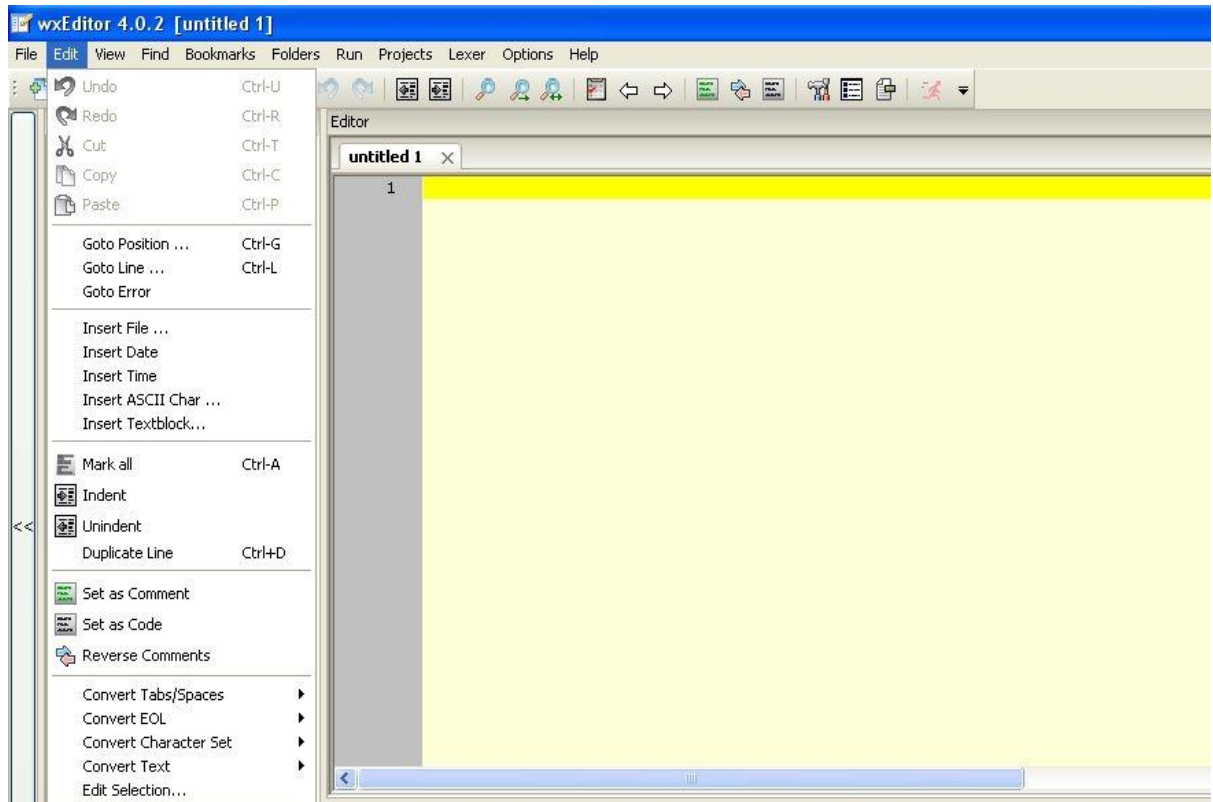Open the printer setup dialog.
This Item has currently no effect.

Print

Print the current file.
This Item has currently no effect.

Exit

Exit application.

9.2. Edit menu

Undo

Undo the last action.

Redo

Redo the last action.

Cut

Copy the selected text to the clipboard and delete it.

Copy

Copy the selected text to the clipboard.

Paste

Paste text from the clipboard.

Goto Position

Go to a specified position in the text.

Goto Line

Go to a specified line in the text.

Goto Error

Go to the error marker, if exist.

Insert File

Insert a saved file on the current position.

Insert Date

Insert current date on the current position.

Insert Time

Insert the current time on the current position.

Insert ASCII Char

Insert a ASCII value of the given char.

Insert Textblock

This menu item let you create, insert, rename or delete a textblock. In the left window all saved textblocks are displayed. By clicking on it, you can see the text in the right window. Create a new one by clicking on the "New" button. Now you can write a new text or copy/insert a text from the clipboard.

Select all

Select the entire text.

Indent

Indent the text.

Unindent

Unindent the text.

Duplicate Line

Make a copy of the current line.

Convert Tabs/Spaces

Convert white spaces to tab or reverse.

Convert EOL

Convert the line ending to Mac (CR), Linux (LF) or Windows (CRLF).

Convert Charakter Set

Convert character set to Ansi or ASCII.

Convert Text
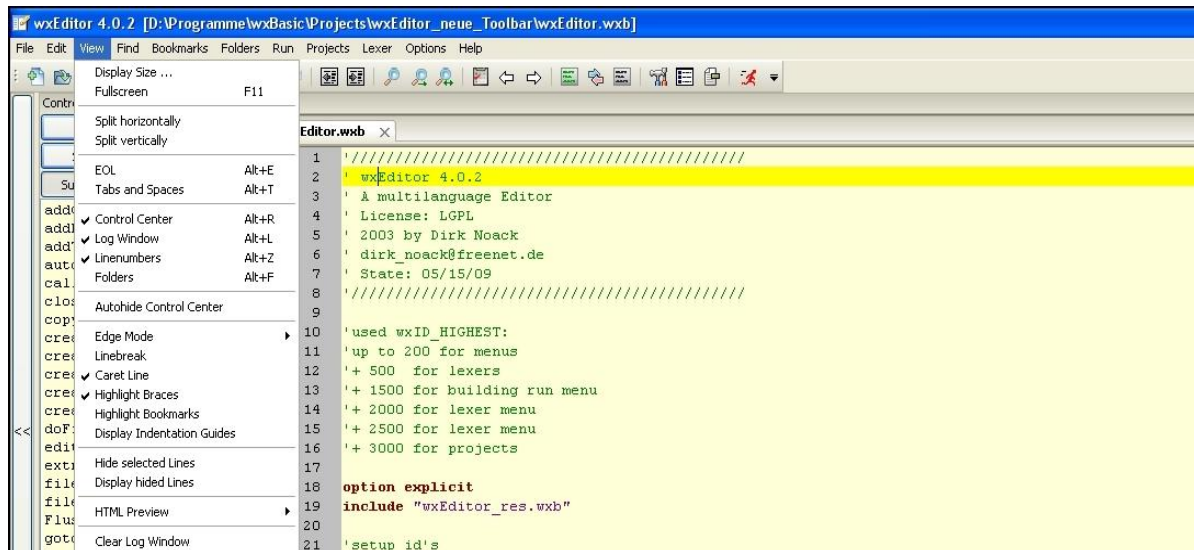
Convert text to upper or lower case.

Edit Selection

In the following dialog you can edit the selection:

- Remove the spaces on the left side of the text
- Remove the spaces on the right side of the text
- Remove empty lines
- Remove comment lines; this is the entire line
- Remove comments in lines
- Remove linebreaks

If no selection is given, the entire text would be changed.

9.3. View Menu

Display Size

Open a new dialog. Here you can set the display size from 50% to 200%.

Fullscreen

Set the main window to fullscreen. In fullscreen mode no menubar and no statusbar is shown.

Split horizontally

If more then one files are loaded, the editor window is split horizontally into 2 windows on the current selected file.
Remove a split window by dragging the files with the mouse to the first window.

Split vertically

If more then one files are loaded, the editor window is split vertically into 2 windows on the current selected file.
Remove a split window by dragging the files with the mouse to the first window.

EOL

Show/Hide the line end characters.

Tabs and White Spaces

Show/Hide the tabulators and white spaces.

Control Center

Show/Hide the Control Center.

Log Window

Show/Hide the log window.

Linenumbers

Show/Hide line numbers.

Folders

Show/Hide folders.

Auto Hide Control Center

Enable/Disable the autohide feature of the Control Center.
If enabled, the Control Center will be shown, if the mouse pointer is over the hide button
and hide, if the cursor is enter the editor window.

Edge Mode

The 'Edge Mode' display the line end in the editor window. The length of the lines is set in
the "Options" dialog in the 'Linelength …' menu item.

You can select between three modes:

> None: No line end is shown
> Line: Display line end as a line
> Coloured: Display long lines coloured

Linebreak

Break the lines, if the line is longer as the display size.

Caret Line

Highlight the current line.

Highlight Braces

Highlight dedicated braces.
Dedicated braces are display bold.

Highlight Bookmarks

Highlight bookmarks.
The line of a bookmark becomes a coloured background, otherwise a bookmark is
displayed as a little triangle on the left side of the line.

Indentation Guides

Display indentation guides.
The indentation guides are displayed as dotted lines.

Hide selected Lines

Hide selected lines.

You can hide more then one passages of the text.

Show hided Lines

Opens a new window, in which you can view all hided passages of the text. Select a passage and press 'Show' to show the passage, otherwise 'OK' to close the window.

HTML Preview

If you write HTML source code you can preview this code in a builtin HTML window or with the default browser installed on your system.

Clear Log Window

Clear the log window.

9.4. Find menu

Find

Open the find dialog.
Find a word in the entire text.

Replace

Open the findreplace dialog.
Find and replace a word in the entire text.

Find in Selection

Open the find dialog.
Find a word in the selected text only.

Replace in Selection

Open the findreplace dialog.
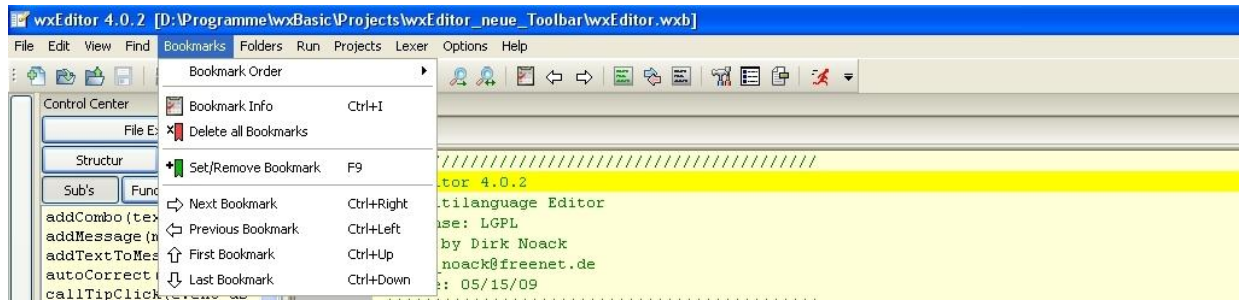Find and replace a word in the selected text only.

Repeat last Find

Repeat the last search again.

File Search

Open a dialog to search for files on your system.
Search for files by extension or by included text. In the result list it is possible to open a founded file.

9.5. Bookmarks menu

You can set bookmarks for each file as far as you want. Bookmarks are set and delete with the F9 Key. All bookmarks are shown in the "Bookmarks Info" menu item.

Bookmark Order

Display bookmarks in the "Bookmark Info" menu item:

− sorted by line numbers
− sorted by creation

Bookmark Info

Display all bookmarks in a new window.
Jump to a bookmark by selecting it or delete it by pressing the delete button.

Delete all Bookmarks

Delete all bookmarks in the current selected file.

Set/Remove Bookmark

Create a new bookmark or delete a existing bookmark on the current line .

Next Bookmark

Jump to the next bookmark in the current selected file.

Previous Bookmarks

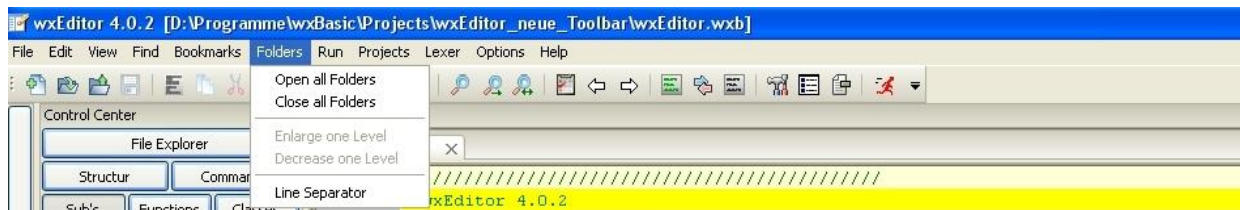Jump to the previous bookmark in the current selected file.

First Bookmark

Jump to the first bookmark in the current selected file.

Last Bookmarks

Jump to the last bookmark in the current selected file.

9.6. Folders menu

Folders are visible, if the "View Folders" menu item is checked in the "View" menu. They are marked by line indentation.

Open all Folders

Open all folders.
You can see opened folders as a '-' char on the left side of the text.

Close all Folders

Close all folders.
You can see closed folders as a '+' char on the left side of the text.

Enlarge one Level

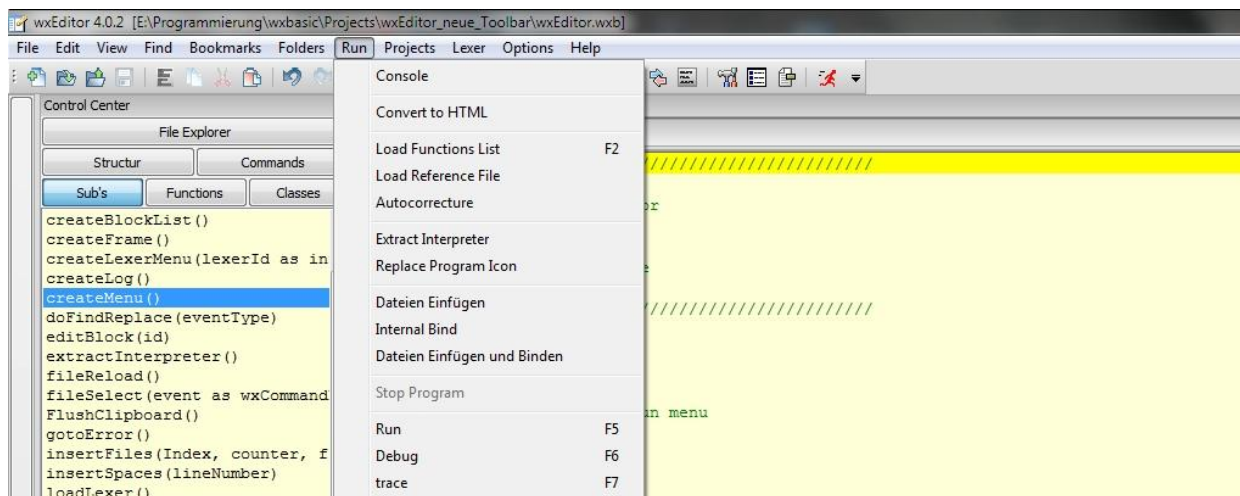If folders are closed you can enlarge one folder level with this Item.

Decrease one Level

If folders are open you can decrease one folder level with this Item.

Line Separator

If checked, a line will be displayed between the first and the last line of a closed folder.

9.7. Run menu

Console

Open a console window.

Convert to HTML

This is a very simple text to HTML converter and a experimental function.

Description:
- If the Program found a selection on the begin of the file, this selection is set to bold (for example, as a caption).
- You can create a table of contents, if the headline is underlined twice ('=' char).
- All headlines are set to italic and underline.
- If the line beginning with:
  "-" an unordered list or
  "1." an ordered list will be created
- One empty line ends a paragraph.
- Http or email adress will set as a connection.

Currently no other functions are available.

Load Functions List

Search in the text for declared search words and display these in the Control Center.
Search words are declared in the "Options" dialog for each lexer in the "Lexer" Menu.

Load Reference File

If the program found a referencefile for the current selected lexer in the "/Resource/Lexer" directory, this file would be loaded into the Control Center.

Autocorrecture

Scan the text, insert spaces and set commands to the correct case. It is the same as you

check 'Insert Spaces' and 'Auocorrecture' in the "Options" dialog and scroll down. This is useful, if you load a new file and you will correct it.
The function is only available, if a referencefile is loaded.

Extract Interpreter

Extract the wxBasic interpreter (wxbasic or wxbasic.exe) from the wxEditor executable and save it in the wxEditor working directory. But it's also possible to copy the interpreter to the current file directory. So you can test wxBasic without having the wxBasic source files.

Replace Program Icon

wxBasic can't compile the code into a executable. It bind the code with the interpreter. So you can view the wxBasic icon from the interpreter only.
To replace the icon in the interpreter you can use this function. It unpack the packed interpreter by using the executable packing program "upx.exe", replace the interpreter icon with a new one by using "Resource Hacker" and pack the changed interpreter again.
Be sure that you have the needed programs on your system.

Insert Files

Scan the code for include files and insert these files into the text. Furthermore the text is cleaning up (remove unneeded text in executables).
Save the new file with another filename when the original filename !
This function is used to create a new or to update a languagefile for example in "Poedit".

Bind

Bind the file with the wxBasic interpreter to an executable. If no interpreter exist, the program will extract it from the wxEditor.
If you have included files with the menu item "Insert Files" you can now bind the new created file.

Insert Files and Bind

Scan the code for include files and insert these files into the text. Furthermore the text is cleaning up (remove unneeded text in executables). Afterwards the code is bind to the wxBasic interpreter.
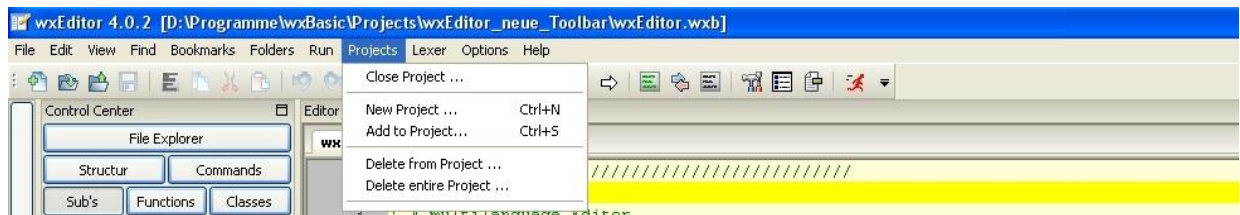You can use this menu item if you don't have include files.
This function does not change the original code.

Stop Program

Stop the current executed program.

9.8. Projects menu

A project is a file with the extension "prj". In this file are saved all filenames of your project. You can create a subfolder in the project folder for storing all project files. Also you can see and open all your projects in this menu item. It's faster and easier to open your files than the file open dialog.

Close Project

Close all files stored in your project file.

New Project

Create a new project. It create a new directory in the wxEditor projects directory with the given name.

Add to Project

Add the current activated file to a project. Select a project from the list.

Delete from Project

Remove a file from a project. Select a project from the list. From the following list you can select the file to be removed.
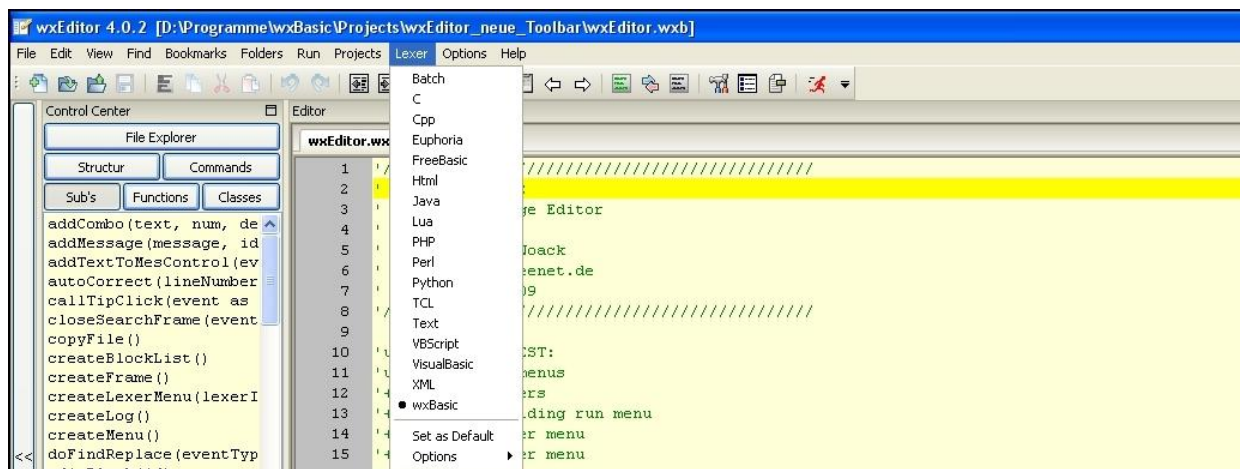The file will not be deleted.

Delete entire Project

Select a project from the following list.

Warning:

All files in the project directory will be deleted and the directory will be removed, it's possible !

9.9. Lexer menu

Lexer files are saved in "/Resource/Lexer" directory. A lexer file has the extension '.lex'. The Name of the lexer file is imported to the wxEditor "Lexer" menu.
By clicking on a lexer the program will load all keywords, commands, colours, styles and search words into the Editor.

Take a look into the wxBasic lexerfile, if you would create a new one.

Set as default

Set the current lexer as the default lexer. So you can create a new file and this lexer is already loaded.

Options

1. Background colours:
    Set the background colours for each style of the lexer. The colours are saved in the lexer file.

2. Fonts:
    Set the font and the font colour for each style of the lexer. The fonts are saved in the lexer file.

3. Commands:
    In the following dialog you can setup the working directory, the comment char, three search words and up to six commands for the selected lexer.
    More then one search word or commands in one line are possible, separated by semicolon.
    The name in the search words you can view on the button in the Control Center.

    Example for search words:

    Subs   declare Sub; public Sub; private Sub

    This example will show all entries beginning with this words in the Control Center under the button 'Subs'.

For commands also you can use placeholders.
For example, compile and run a Freebasic file, setup the command:
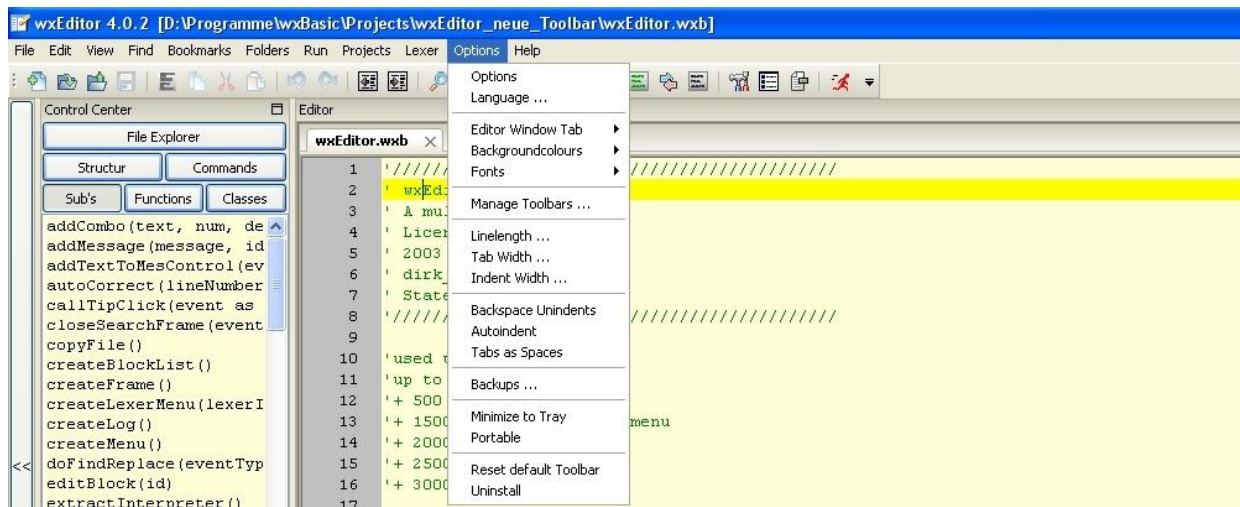
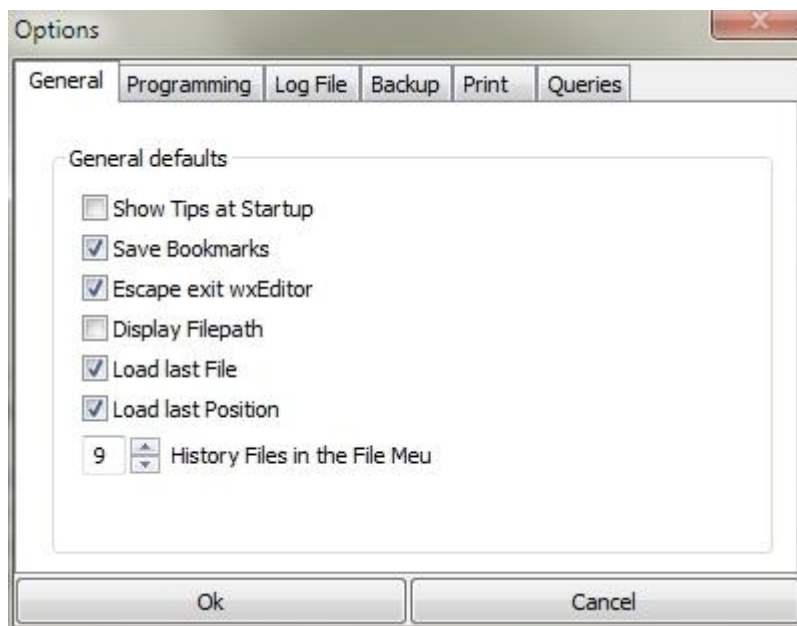Freebasic_path\fbc.exe %p;%n.exe

or

with setup a working directory
fbc.exe %p;%n.exe

You can set a hotkey for for each command. Be sure, that this key is not already used.
The program does not check the keys.
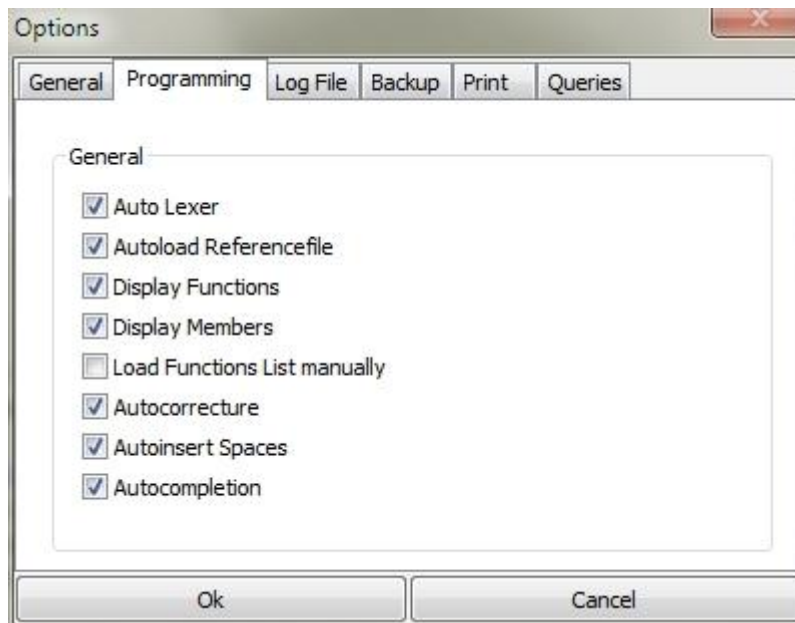
9.10. Options menu

1. General

➢ Show Tips at Startup
  Show a tip at startup

➢ Save Bookmarks
  Save all bookmarks into to the configuration file for loading at next start

➢ Escape exit Editor
  Exit wxEditor with the escape key

➢ Display Filepath
  Display the path of the opened files in the editors tab

➢ Load last File
  Load the last activated file at next start

➤ Load last Position
   Load the last position at the next start

➤ History Files
   Set the number of history files in the "File" menu
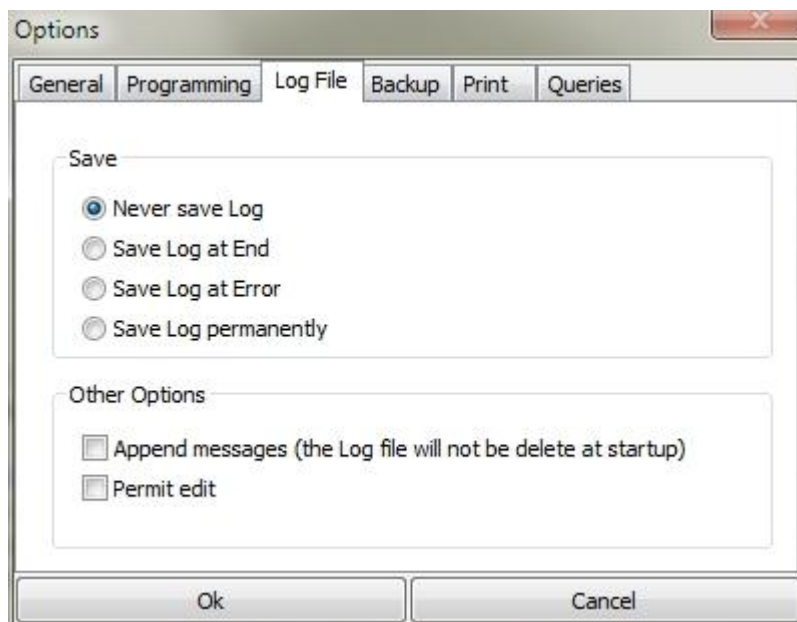
2. *Programming*

➤ Auto Lexer
   Load the right lexer automatically by loading or changing a file.
   wxEditor read the extension of the file and change the lexer aumatically. It can cause
   problems, if more then one language use the same extension. Then you must select
   the lexer in the lexer menu manually.

➤ Autoload Referencefile
   Load the referencefile automatically, if exist

➤ Display Functions
   Display the full function as a calltip in the editor window, if the cursor is on a opened
   brace of a function/class.

➤ Display Members
   Display all members for the function in a userlist, if the cursor is on a dot after a
   function/class. Scroll in the members list with the cursor keys and insert a member
   by pressing the tab key.
   Note: If you store functions in an array/table with variables maybe this will not work
   correctly. wxEditor scan the code backwards and use the first founded declaration to
   display the members.

➤ Load Functions List manually
   This functions list in the Control Center will normally load at opening or at activating
   a file. Deactivating this function will prohibit this automatically loading. You can
   manually reload this list by pressing the 'F2' key. Activating this option to speeding
   up the file loading time.

- ➢ Autocorrecture
  Write all functions and members in lower case. wxEditor will correct the case automatically. This function works with commands rather then with all searchwords in the Control Center.

- ➢ Autoinsert Spaces
  Set spaces between operators and braces automatically. This option is optimized for the VB Lexer! I have not tested it with other lexer.

- ➢ Autocompletion
  After the first four typed chars a list with all known words is shown. Select a word and insert it with the tab key.
  Note: Some features decelerate the startup and the working with the Editor. (see 'System Requirements')
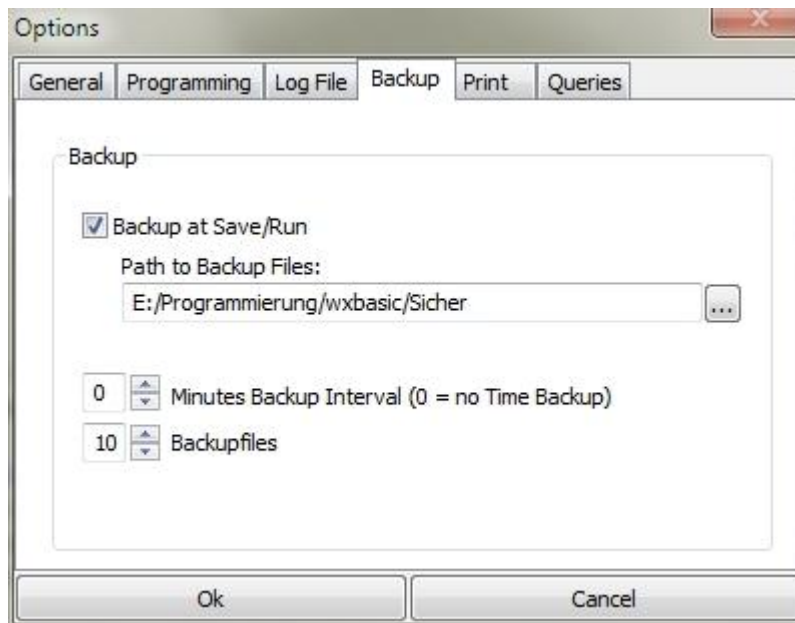
3. *Log File*

You can read out the messages from the log window and save them in a log file. 4 methods are possible:

- ➢ Never Save Log
  Don't save messages into the log file

- ➢ Save Log at End
  Save log file at the end of the session (all messages)

- ➢ Save Log at Error
  Save an entry on each error to the log file

- ➢ Save Log permanently
  Save an entry on each message to the log file (permanently saving)

- ➢ Append Messages
  Normally a new log file is created on each session and the log window is readonly. With this option the file will not deleted and messages are append.
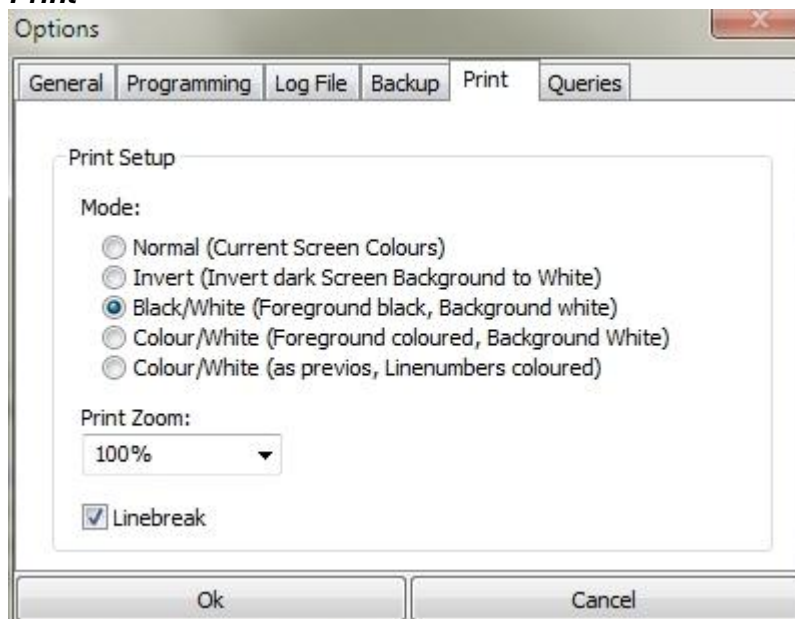
➢ Permit edit
With this option you can write your own messages into the log window. After confirming a line by pressing the enter key the line will be save to the log file. Clear the log window by using the corresponding menu item in the "View" menu.
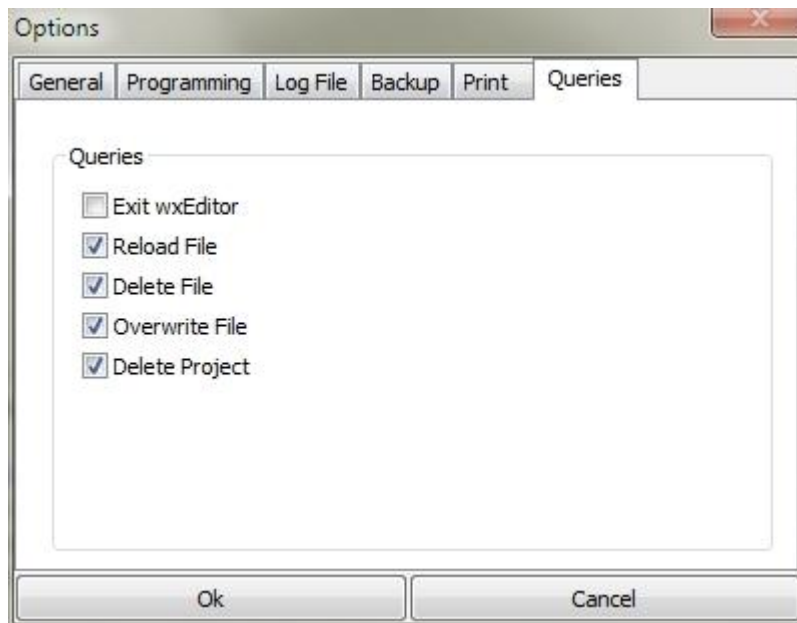
4. Backup

➢ Backup at Save/Run
Save a backup of the file then save or execute the file
Set an existing path for the backup files, otherwise you get an error message.

➢ Minutes Backup Interval
Set the timer for backups.

➢ Backupfiles
Set the counter for backup files from 1 to 100

5. Print

➢ Mode:
Set the print modes, differently by colours

➢ Print Zoom:
Set the printer zoom

➢ Linebreak
Break long lines during printing

6. Queries

➢ Exit wxEditor
Ask before exiting wxEditor from the file menu

➢ Relead File
Ask before reloading a file from the file menu

➢ Delete File
Ask before deleting a file from the file menu

➢ Overwrite File
Ask before overwriting a file

➢ Delete Project
Ask before deleting a project

Language

Select a new language for the program (need restart).

Editor Window Tab

Select the tabulator of the wxEditor window top ort bottom.

Backgroundcolours

Select background colours for:
- editor window
- Control Center
- error marker
- current line
- bookmarks
- selections

Fonts

Select fonts for:

- editor window
- Control Center

Manage Toolbars

Open a new window to change toolbars. In this dialog you can:

- create, rename or delete a toolbar
- add, change, delete or sort toolbar items

This dialog is also open if you click on the overflow button in the toolbar menu.

Line Length

Set the length of the lines in the editor window.

Tab Width

Set the tab width.

Indent Width

Set the indentation width

Backspace Unindents

If you press the backspace key, the number of chars of the indent width are removed.

Autoindent

Indent the indentation width of the last line, if you press the enter key.

Tabs as Spaces

By pressing the tab key the tab will be insert as the number of white spaces.

Backups

Search for backups in the backup directory you set in the "Options" menu. Now you can see a list of all available backups. From here you can open or restore a backup file.

Warning:

By pressing the 'Restore' button the original file will be overwritten !

Minimize to Tray

Minimize the program to the system tray.

Portable

By default, wxEditor will save the configuration file in your home directory. Check this option to save this file in the wxEditor program directory.

Uninstall

This option will delete an existing wxEditor configuration file and the wxEditor folder in your home directory and end the program. After this you can delete the wxEditor directory.

9.11. Help menu

Description

Open this file, if a pdf reader is installed.

wxBasic Version

Display the wxBasic version, with which the wxEditor is binded.

Class Help

Check this option to get a simple help of used classes.
Move the mouse over the code and some words are selected. For these words you can
show the declared class, the member and the line of the declaration as a calltip.
By clicking on this calltip the wxWidgets help is loaded and searching for the class.

Because there are different options to declare classes the result maybe not correctly
always.

About

Display the "About" dialog.

10. Disclaimer

I have successful tested the program on Windows XP and Windows 7 system but I can't exclude, that there are still any errors. Therefore please make a backup of your data always.

This software is provided "as is". You can use that at your own risk.

For suggestions and improvements or if you find a bug, please send me an email or post to the wxBasic forum.