

No, really, why is it 160×31?

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When I discussed some time ago [why minimized windows have an apparent size of 160×31](#), I explained that the minimized icon is a miniature title bar, but I managed not to explain why the values are exactly 160 and 31. The width of the miniature title bar is determined by the `iwidth` member of `MINIMIZEDMETRICS` structure. You can retrieve and change this structure with the help of the `SystemParametersInfo` function. (Use the `SPI_GETMINIMIZEDMETRICS` and `SPI_SETMINIMIZEDMETRICS` flags, respectively.) Some people will mention the `MinWidth` registry value, but those people are wrong. Notice, for example, that messing with `MinWidth` requires a logoff cycle, whereas using `SPI_SETMINIMIZEDMETRICS` takes effect immediately. That's because `SPI_SETMINIMIZEDMETRICS` updates the internal state variables, whereas whacking the registry just change a value in a database that nobody pays attention to once you've logged on.

What about the height? That's just the height of a caption bar, which you can adjust from the Appearance tab of the Display control panel. (Programmatically, you can use that helpful `SystemParametersInfo` function, this time using the `iCaptionHeight` member of the `NONCLIENTMETRICS` structure.)

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