
Subject: Re: best way to draw text/fonts on MacOS from C/C++

Posted by [daveremba](#) on Tue, 26 Jul 2011 04:11:45 GMT

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Regarding:

Quote:- investigate how minimal Cocoa application looks like - it is enough to display "Hello world" in otherwise empty window (view?), preferably without the presence of .nib files

1. build the minimal app is easy, gcc on Mac knows how to handle and link the file types without any unusual flags (although one can get fancy and specify architectures for "universal binaries" etc.)

The following command works, to mix a C main file have it start an objective-C Cocoa application:

```
gcc main.c main.m cocoa_test2AppDelegate.m -framework Cocoa -o cocoa_test2_bundle.app/Contents/MacOS/cocoa_test2
```

the code editor will load the .m files after I set the filter to All Files.

2. The template code generated in Xcode sets up Cocoa so it does expect to have a .nib file (if one deletes it the app will not display a GUI).

One can however create a toplevel window manually and handle the events for it. (Apple provides sample code to do this for legacy Carbon apps, but we won't use it).

FLTK (and other modern GUI frameworks) create the toplevel and handle events in Objective-C calling Cocoa. One subclasses from NSView to create the window, and one subclasses from NSObject to create a delegate class to handle the events.

I have not finished looking the FI_Cocoa.mm file yet.

One can access the FLTK/Cocoa bridge online. That is what I am looking at.

Dave