

ReleaseDC

The **ReleaseDC** function releases a device context (DC), freeing it for use by other applications. The effect of the **ReleaseDC** function depends on the type of device context. It frees only common and window device contexts. It has no effect on class or private device contexts.

```
int ReleaseDC(  
    HWND hwnd,           // handle of window  
  
    HDC hdc              // handle of device context  
);
```

Parameters

hwnd

Identifies the window whose device context is to be released.

hdc

Identifies the device context to be released.

Return Value

The return value specifies whether the device context is released. If the device context is released, the return value is 1.

If the device context is not released, the return value is zero.

Remarks

The application must call the **ReleaseDC** function for each call to the **GetWindowDC** function and for each call to the **GetDC** function that retrieves a common device context.

An application cannot use the **ReleaseDC** function to release a device context that was created by calling the **CreateDC** function; instead, it must use the **DeleteDC** function.