Why does my in-place tooltip dismiss itself as soon as it appears?

devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20151224-00

December 24, 2015



One subtlety in the use of <u>in-place tooltips</u> is that you should create the tooltip with the WS_EX_TRANSPARENT extended style.

This style <u>makes the window invisible to hit-testing</u>, which is a good thing here. The code that decides when to show and hide an in-place tooltip goes like this:

```
POINT ptCursor;
GetCursorPos();
HWND hwnd = WindowFromPoint(ptCursor);
if (hwnd == the_thing_that_needs_a_tooltip) {
  show_the_tooltip();
} else {
  hide_the_tooltip();
}
```

If the mouse enters the thing that needs a tooltip, then we show the tooltip. If the mouse leaves the thing that needs a tooltip, then we hide the tooltip.

Now let's see what happens if you forget the extended style.

- What window is the mouse currently over? \rightarrow The item that needs an in-place tooltip.
- Is that the thing that needs a tooltip? \rightarrow Yes: Show the tooltip.
- What window is the mouse currently over? \rightarrow The tooltip window.
- Is that the thing that needs a tooltip? \rightarrow No: Hide the tooltip.
- What window is the mouse currently over? \rightarrow The item that needs an in-place tooltip.
- Is that the thing that needs a tooltip? \rightarrow Yes: Show the tooltip.
- What window is the mouse currently over? \rightarrow The tooltip window.
- Is that the thing that needs a tooltip? \rightarrow No: Hide the tooltip.
- ...

Oops, the tooltip keeps flashing in and out.

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