

Creating Custom MXML Components

Move code to a component

1. In Flex Builder from the **Navigator** view, right click on the **src** folder and select **New > Folder**.
2. Name the new folder **components**.
3. Right click on the **components** folder and select **New > MXML Component**.
4. The **Filename** is `ReservationForm`.
5. It is **Based on** `VBox`.
6. Remove the width and height values.
7. Click **Finish**.
8. In **AdobeODT.mxml** locate the **Form** container.
9. Copy the **Form** and paste it into the **ReservationForm.mxml** file.
10. Delete the **Form** in **AdobeODT.mxml** and save the file.
11. In **ReservationForm.mxml**, move the **borderStyle**, **borderColor**, **dropShadowEnabled**, **dropShadowColor**, **shadowDirection** and **shadowDistance** properties and values from the beginning **Form** tag to the beginning **VBox** tag.
12. Remove the **x**, **y**, **width** and **height** properties from the **Form** container.

Your code should appear as follows:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<mx:VBox xmlns:mx=http://www.adobe.com/2006/mxml
    borderColor="#D4D4D4" borderStyle="solid"
    dropShadowColor="#B3B3B3" dropShadowEnabled="true"
    shadowDirection="right" shadowDistance="10">
    <mx:Form>
```

```

    <mx:FormHeading label="Contact Information"/>
    <mx:FormItem label="Full Name:">
        <mx:TextInput id="fullname"/>
    </mx:FormItem>
    <mx:FormItem label="Address:">
        <mx:TextInput id="address"/>
    </mx:FormItem>
    <mx:FormItem label="City:">
        <mx:TextInput id="city"/>
    </mx:FormItem>
    <mx:FormItem label="State:">
        <mx:TextInput id="state"/>
    </mx:FormItem>
    <mx:FormItem label="Postal Code:">
        <mx:TextInput id="postalcode"/>
    </mx:FormItem>
    <mx:FormItem label="Phone:">
        <mx:TextInput id="phone"/>
    </mx:FormItem>
    <mx:FormHeading label="Room Information"/>
    <mx:FormItem label="Date Needed:">
        <mx:DateField id="dateNeeded" />
    </mx:FormItem>
    <mx:FormItem>
        <mx:Button label="Submit"/>
    </mx:FormItem>
</mx:Form>
</mx:VBox>

```

13. Save the file.

Use the component in the application

14. Return to **AdobeODT.mxml** file and locate the **Application** tag.
15. Create a new namespace named `comp` that points to all the files in the `components` folder.

```
<mx:Application
    xmlns:mx="http://www.adobe.com/2006/mxml"
    layout="vertical"
    backgroundColor="#FFFFFF"
    horizontalAlign="left" paddingTop="5"
    creationComplete="init()"
    xmlns:comp="components.*">
```

16. Locate the **List** control, after the **List** control add the `ReservationForm` component from the `comp` namespace.

```
<comp:ReservationForm />
```

17. Add the following properties to the **ReservationForm** tag:
 - a. Add an `x` property with the value `439` and a `y` property with the value `53`.
 - b. Add a `width` property with the value of `318` and `height` property with the value of `529`.

```
<comp:ReservationForm x="439" y="53"
    width="318" height="529"/>
```

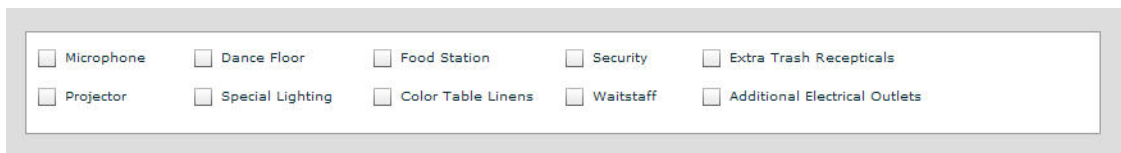
18. Save the file and run.

You should not see a change in the display of the application.

Create a new component

19. In the **Navigator** view, right click on the **components** folder and select **New > MXML Component**.
20. The **Filename** is `Options`.
21. It is **Based on** `Canvas`.
22. The **width** is 840 and the **height** is 80.
23. Change to the **Flex Design** view.
24. From the **Components** view, drag a `CheckBox` control to the stage.
25. In the **Flex Properties** view, enter these properties:
 - a. **Label:** `Microphone` **X:** 10 **Y:** 10
26. Drag the following **CheckBox** controls to the stage and add their respective properties:
 - a. **Label:** `Projector` **X:** 10 **Y:** 40
 - b. **Label:** `Dance Floor` **X:** 132 **Y:** 10
 - c. **Label:** `Special Lighting` **X:** 132 **Y:** 40
 - d. **Label:** `Food Station` **X:** 272 **Y:** 10
 - e. **Label:** `Color Table Linens` **X:** 272 **Y:** 40
 - f. **Label:** `Security` **X:** 422 **Y:** 10
 - g. **Label:** `Waitstaff` **X:** 422 **Y:** 40
 - h. **Label:** `Extra Trash Receptacles` **X:** 529 **Y:** 10
 - i. **Label:** `Additional Electrical Outlets` **X:** 529 **Y:** 40

Your components should display similar to this in **Flex Design** view:



27. Save the file.
28. Change to the **Source** view.

Add new component to application

29. Return to **AdobeODT.mxml** and locate the **Canvas** container.
30. Add a `height` property of 100% to the **Canvas** tag.
31. After the beginning **Canvas** tag, add a **Label** control with an `x` property with a value of 0 and a `text` property with a value of Please select any additional amenities needed for your room. Our staff will contact you to finalize your reservation.
32. After the **Label** tag, add the **Options** component from the `comp` namespace.
33. Add an `x` property of 0 and a `y` property of 26 .

Your code should look as follows:

```
<mx:Canvas height="100%">
    <mx:Label x="0"
        text="Please select any additional amenities
        needed for your room. Our staff will contact you to
        finalize your reservation." />
    <comp:Options x="0" y="26" />
```

...

34. Change the `x` property value of the **Rooms Available Label** control to 0 (zero) and the `y` property value to 116.

```
<mx:Label text="Rooms Available:" x="0" y="116"/>
```

35. Change the `y` property of the **List** control to 142 .
36. Change the `y` property of the **ReservationForm** component to 142.
37. Save the file and run.

Your application should appear as follows:

XYZ Convention Center

111 49th Ave, Denver, CO 80634 Phone: 303-555-1212 Fax: 303-555-1234

Room Reservation System

Please select any additional amenities needed for your room. Our staff will contact you to finalize your reservation.

- Microphone Dance Floor Food Station Security Extra Trash Recepticals
 Projector Special Lighting Color Table Linens Waitstaff Additional Electrical Outlets

Rooms Available:

- Colorado Room
- Mile High Room
- Bronco Room
- Greeley Room
- Boulder Room
- Denver Room

Contact Information

Full Name:
Address:
City:
State:
Postal Code:
Phone:

Room Information

Date Needed: 

Create a property in the custom component

38. Return to the **ReservationForm** component and add a **Script** block after the opening **VBox** tag.

39. Within the **Script** block import the **ArrayCollection** class.

```
import mx.collections.ArrayCollection;
```

40. Create a public variable named **selectedOptions** datatyped as **ArrayCollection**.

```
public var selectedOptions:ArrayCollection;
```

41. Make the **selectedOptions** variable **Bindable**.

```
[Bindable] public var selectedOptions:ArrayCollection;
```