

Re: tackling the packer

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Tcl/comp.lang.tcl/2005-08/msg00832.html>

- *From:* "R. T. Wurth" <rwurth@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 20 Aug 2005 01:08:36 GMT
-

"Gerald W. Lester" <Gerald.Lester@xxxxxxx> wrote in
[UwsNe.6505\\$A33.5593@lakeread06](mailto:UwsNe.6505$A33.5593@lakeread06):>[news:UwsNe.6505\\$A33.5593@lakeread06](mailto:UwsNe.6505$A33.5593@lakeread06):

> Melissa Schrupf wrote:
>> Gerald W. Lester wrote:
>>
>>

[[discussion of geoemetry managers, pack vs. grid snipped]]

My favorite geo mgr is "it depends". Frequently I use combinations. The project I work on has some standard decorations, namely a company proprietary notice and a hint-text bar that go at the bottom of every toplevel window. The routine that builds these for us always packs, so all of our toplevels must be packed. When we need a grid, we pack a full-width frame, and grid widets into that.

For example, one common pattern throughout our code is a "simple admin detail screen", which typically creates or edits a database record. After creating our standard decoration, we typically pack -side top a frame and in this frame we grid rows comprising a fixed label and a setting widget, which might be an entry, a tk_menu, or a button that invokes a modal calendar dialog, for example. We use some combination of -sticky and -anchor to get the labels right justified, so they butt up against the data setting widget with suitable padding for separation. Then, below this, we pack our action buttons, e. g. Clear, Update, Reset, Cancel, etc. in a row across the bottom.

Another pattern we use a lot (a view-managed table) has a table at the top, displayed in a packed (-side top) V&H scrolled listbox, a frame containing a row of 3 (packed) buttons for invoking modal dialogs for controlling the selection, formatting, and sorting of the database records displayed, and then a application-specific area. Sometimes the application-specific area is like a simple admin detail screen, a packed frame containing gridded widgets, sometimes it's just a field of buttons for acting on selected records.

Occasionally, I've even packed a row of buttons into a frame gridded to span all columns in the last row of a grid.

Re: tackling the packer

My conclusion is that Tk is amazingly flexible, but one isn't really using it's full potential unless one is equally familiar and comfortable with both geo mgrs, and carefully considers which is better for the task at hand, based on the characteristics of the problem at hand, and not on the author simply choosing his/her favorite.

—
Rich Wurth / rwurth@xxxxxxx / Rumson, NJ USA

• *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ **Re: tackling the packer**
◇ *From:* Gerald W. Lester

• *References:*

- ◆ **tackling the packer**
◇ *From:* k:arel
- ◆ **Re: tackling the packer**
◇ *From:* Gerald W. Lester
- ◆ **Re: tackling the packer**
◇ *From:* Melissa Schrupf
- ◆ **Re: tackling the packer**
◇ *From:* Gerald W. Lester

- Prev by Date: **Re: Pofiling or timing in TCL**
- Next by Date: **Re: seeking tcltest help.**
- Previous by thread: **Re: tackling the packer**
- Next by thread: **Re: tackling the packer**
- Index(es):
 - ◆ **Date**
 - ◆ **Thread**