



Windows App SDK



Buy me a coffee

Connected Animation

Connected Animation shows how you can create **Connected Animations** between **Pages** within an Application using the **Windows App SDK**.

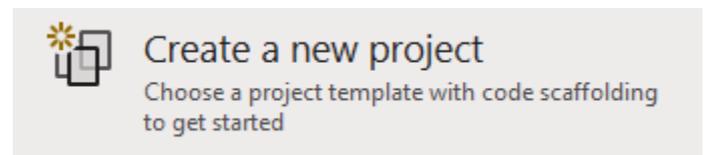
Step 1

Follow **Setup and Start** on how to get **Setup** and **Install** what you need for **Visual Studio 2022** and **Windows App SDK**.

In **Windows 11** choose **Start** and then find or search for **Visual Studio 2022** and then select it.



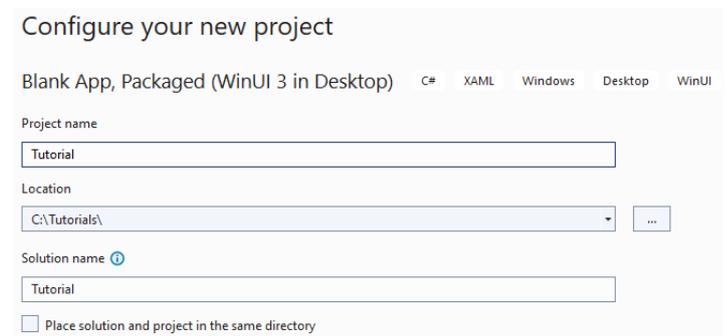
Once **Visual Studio 2022** has started select **Create a new project**.



Then choose the **Blank App, Packages (WinUI in Desktop)** and then select **Next**.

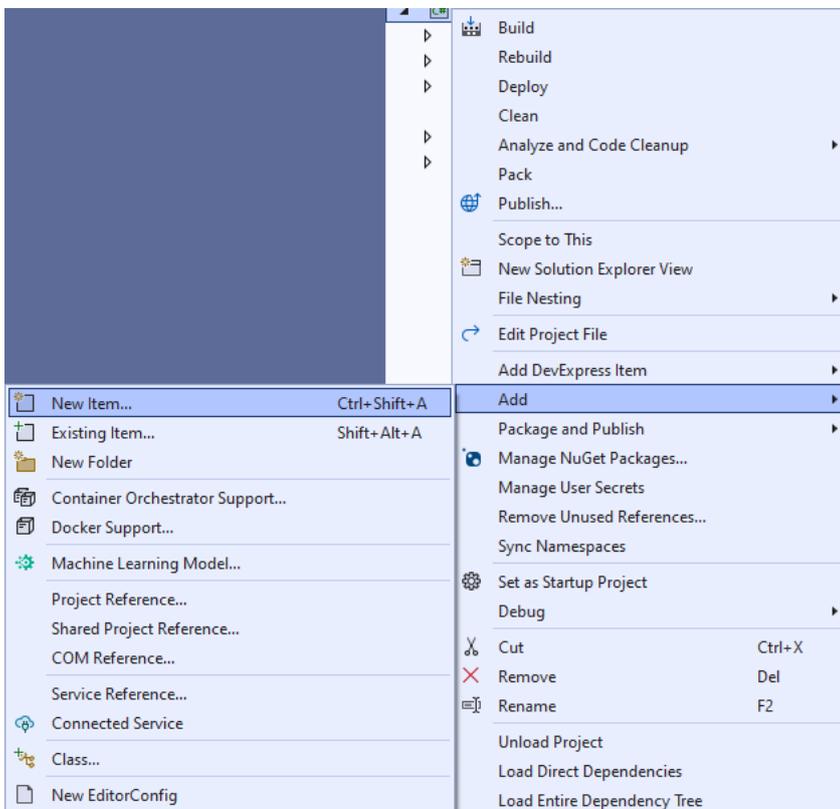


After that in **Configure your new project** type in the **Project name** as *ConnectedAnimation*, then select a Location and then select **Create** to start a new **Solution**.



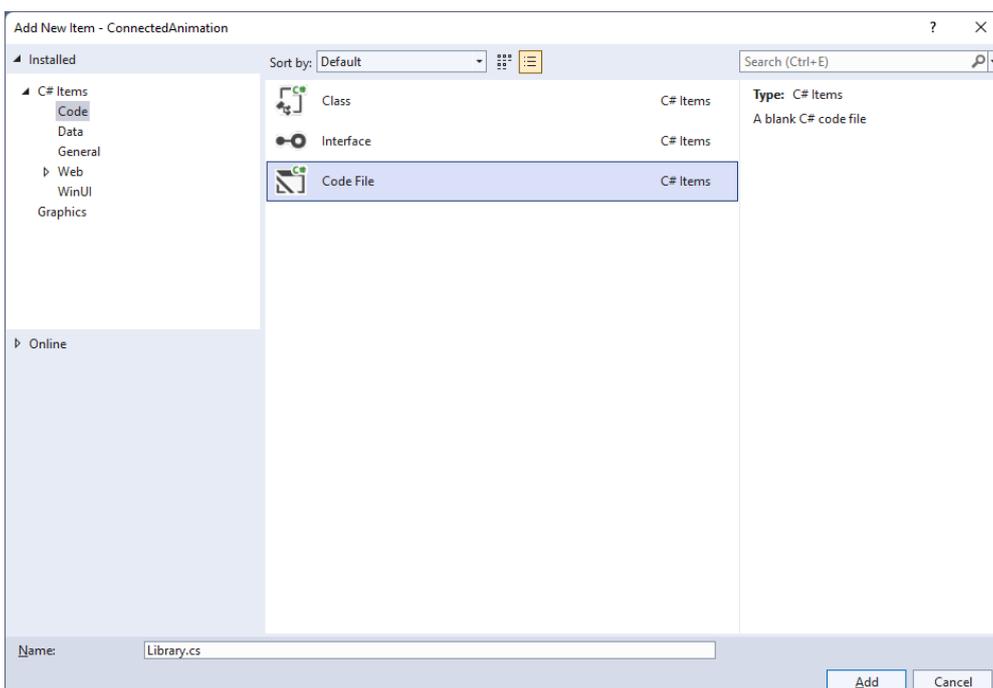
Step 2

Then in **Visual Studio** within **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution**, right click on the **Project** shown below the **Solution** and then select **Add** then **New Item...**



Step 3

Then in **Add New Item** from the **C# Items** list, select **Code** and then select **Code File** from the list next to this, then type in the name of *Library.cs* and then **Click** on **Add**.



Step 4

You will now be in the **View** for the **Code** of *Library.cs*, within this first type the following **Code**:

```
using Microsoft.UI.Xaml.Controls;
using Microsoft.UI.Xaml.Media;
using Microsoft.UI.Xaml.Media.Animation;
using Microsoft.UI.Xaml.Shapes;
using System;
using System.Linq;

internal static class Library
{
    private const string animate_back = "AnimateBack";
    private const string animate_next = "AnimateNext";

    public static Frame Frame { get; set; }

    public static string Current { get; set; }

    public static void Back(ListView listview)
    {
        var rectangle = listview.Items
            .SingleOrDefault(f => (f as Rectangle)
                .Tag.Equals(Current)) as Rectangle;
        var animation = ConnectedAnimationService
            .GetForCurrentView()
            .GetAnimation(animate_back);
        animation?.TryStart(rectangle);
    }

    public static Brush Next(object selected)
    {
        var rectangle = selected as Rectangle;
        Current = rectangle.Tag as string;
        ConnectedAnimationService
            .GetForCurrentView()
            .PrepareToAnimate(animate_next, rectangle);
        return rectangle.Fill;
    }

    // Other Methods
}
```

The **Class** that has been defined so far in *Library.cs* has **const** values along with **Properties** for **Frame** and **Current** then a **Method** for **Back** and **Next** that will be used to create the **Connected Animation** when going backwards and forwards between the **Pages** using the **ConnectedAnimationService**.

Step 5

While still in the **Class** for *Library.cs* and after the **Comment** of // **Other Methods** type in the following other **Methods**:

```
public static void From(Rectangle from)
{
    ConnectedAnimationService
        .GetForCurrentView()
        .PrepareToAnimate(animate_back, from);
}

public static void Loaded(Rectangle rectangle)
{
    var animation = ConnectedAnimationService
        .GetForCurrentView()
        .GetAnimation(animate_next);
    rectangle.Opacity = 1;
    animation?.TryStart(rectangle);
}

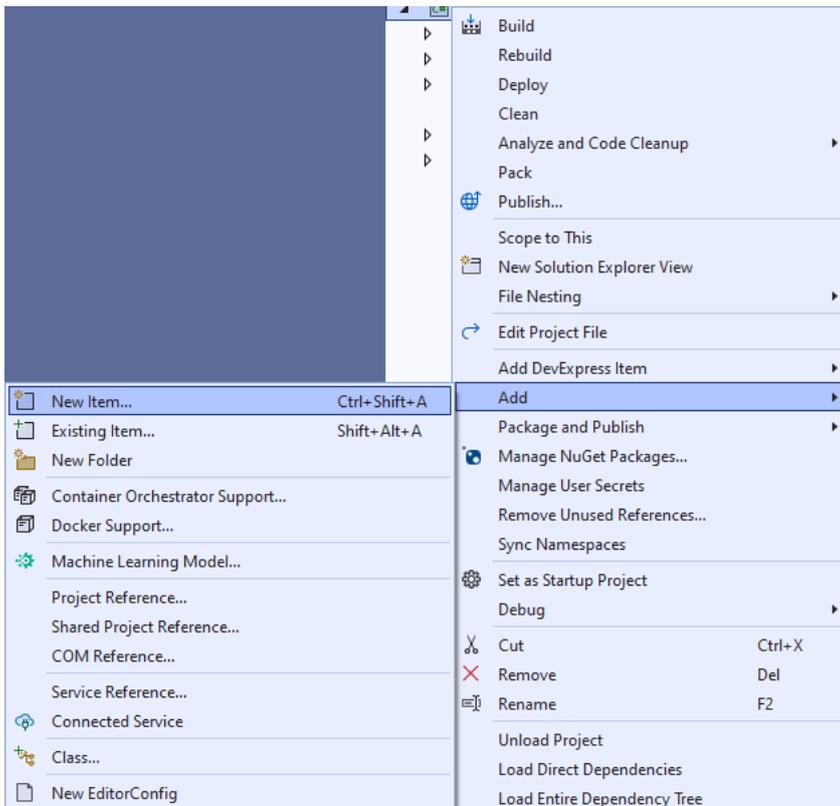
public static void Navigate(Type page, object parameter)
{
    Frame.Navigate(page, Next(parameter));
}

public static Brush GetBrush(object parameter)
{
    return parameter as SolidColorBrush;
}
```

The **Methods** for **From** and **Loaded** will create the animation flow when going between the **Pages** and **Method** for **Navigate** will use the **Method** for **Navigate** of the **Frame** and the **Method** for **GetBrush** will return a **SolidColorBrush** from an **object** of **parameter**.

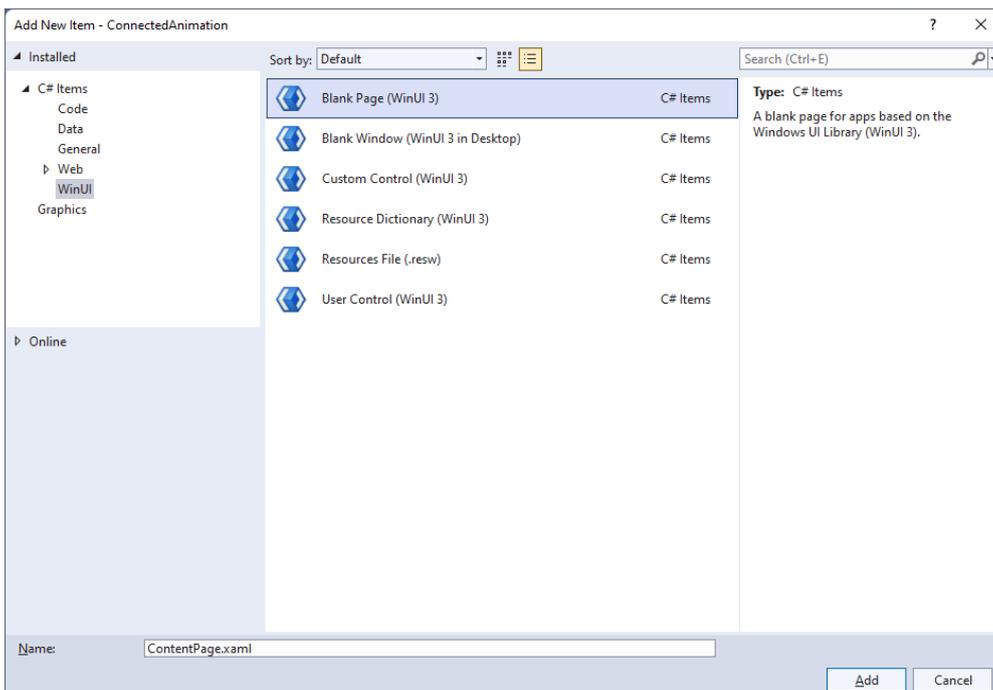
Step 6

Then within **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution**, right click on the **Project** shown below the **Solution** and then select **Add** then **New Item...**



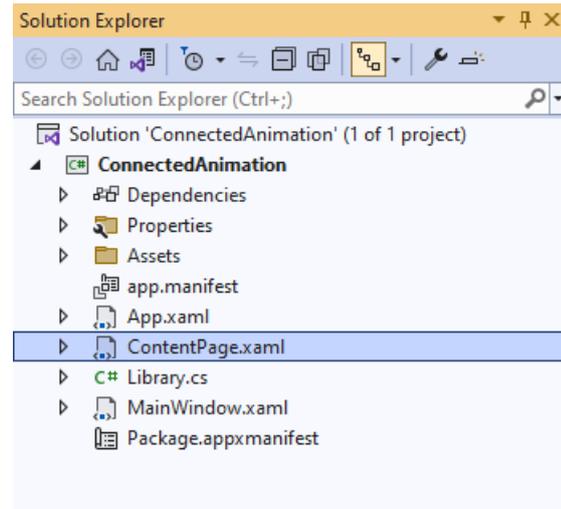
Step 7

Then in **Add New Item** from the **WinUI** items list, select **Page** and then select **Blank page (WinUI 3)** from the list next to this, then type in the name of *ContentPage.xaml* and then **Click** on **Add**.



Step 8

Then from **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution** double-click on **ContentPage.xaml** to see the **XAML** for the **Content Page**.



Step 9

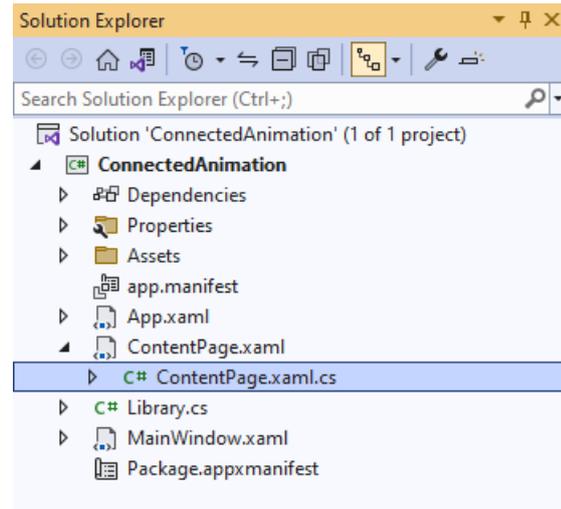
Then in the **XAML** for **ContentPage.xaml**, below **<Grid>** and above **</Grid>**, type in the following **XAML**:

```
<ListView Name="Display" Margin="10">
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Black" Fill="Black" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Gray" Fill="Gray" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Red" Fill="Red" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Orange" Fill="Orange" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Yellow" Fill="Yellow" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Green" Fill="Green" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Cyan" Fill="Cyan" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Blue" Fill="Blue" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Magenta" Fill="Magenta" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
  <Rectangle HorizontalAlignment="Left" Margin="10"
    Width="64" Height="64" Tag="Purple" Fill="Purple" Tapped="Rectangle_Tapped"/>
</ListView>
```

This **ListView** contains **Rectangle** elements of different colours plus each has the **Event** for **Tapped** set to the **Method** of **Rectangle_Tapped** which will be triggered when the **Rectangle** is **Tapped** or **Clicked**.

Step 10

Then, within **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution** select the arrow next to **ContentPage.xaml** then double-click on **ContentPage.xaml.cs** to see the **Code** for the **Content Page**.



Step 11

In the **Code** for **ContentPage.xaml.cs** type in the following **Code** below the end of the **Constructor** of **public ContentPage() { ... }**:

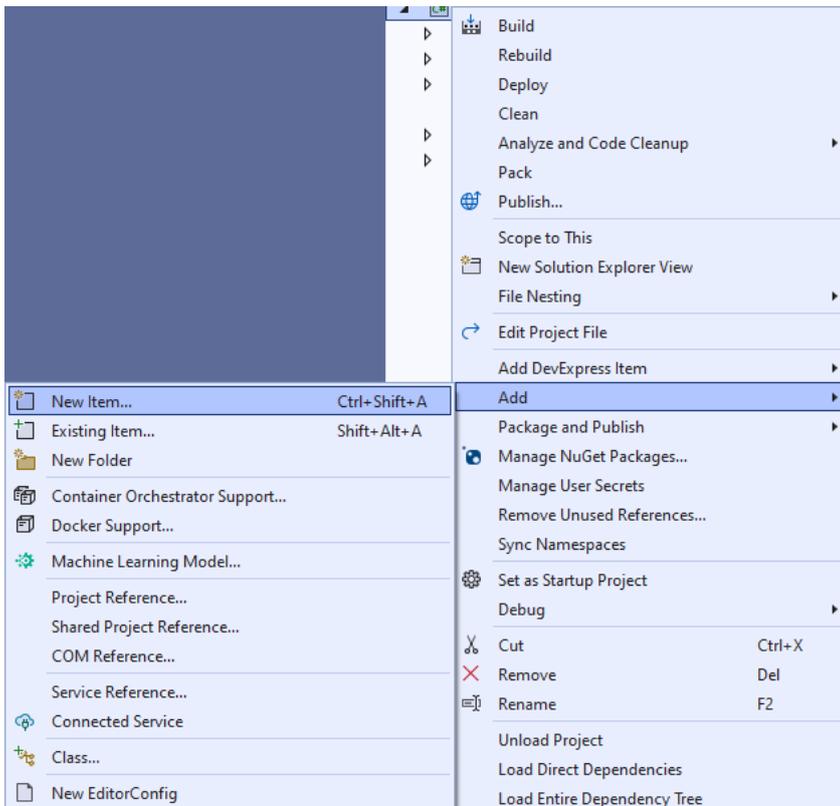
```
protected override void OnNavigatedTo(NavigationEventArgs e)
{
    if (e.NavigationMode == NavigationMode.Back)
    {
        Library.Back(Display);
    }
    base.OnNavigatedTo(e);
}

private void Rectangle_Tapped(object sender, TappedRoutedEventArgs e)
{
    Library.Navigate(typeof(DetailPage), sender);
}
```

There is the **Method** for **OnNavigatedTo** that uses **override** to change the functionality of the **Method** for **OnNavigatedTo** which will check the **NavigationMode** and call the **Method** of **Back** in the **Class** of **Library** and pass through the **ListView** it also calls the version of the **Method** that was **Overridden** with **base.OnNavigatedTo(e)** there is also another **Method** of **Rectangle_Tapped** which will call the **Method** of **Navigate** in the **Class** of **Library** when a **Rectangle** is **Tapped** or **Clicked**.

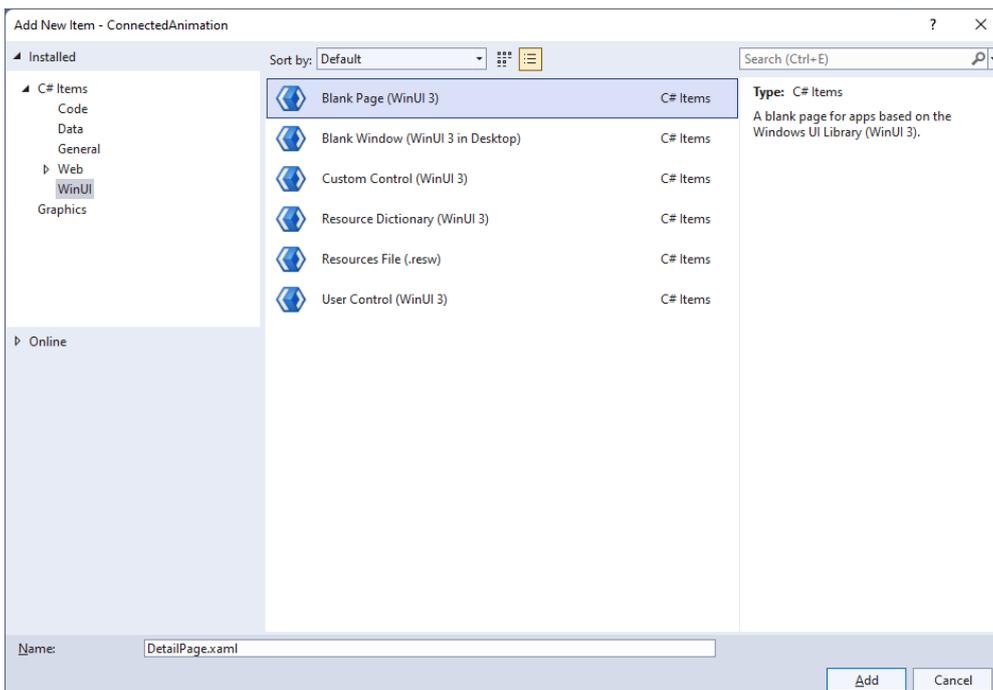
Step 12

Then within **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution**, right click on the **Project** shown below the **Solution** and then select **Add** then **New Item...**



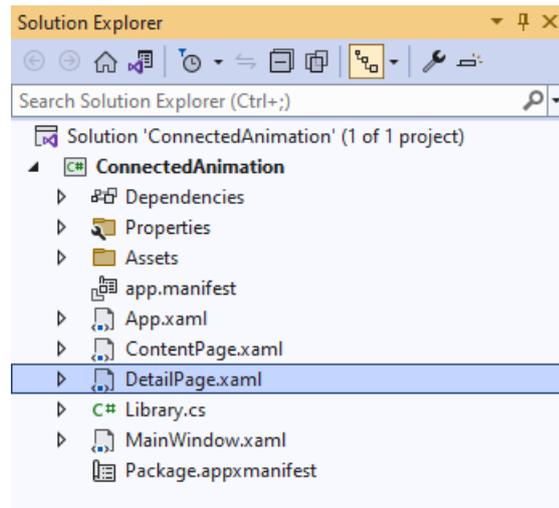
Step 13

Then in **Add New Item** from the **WinUI** items list, select **Page** and then select **Blank page (WinUI 3)** from the list next to this, then type in the name of *DetailPage.xaml* and then **Click** on **Add**.



Step 14

Then from **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution** double-click on **DetailPage.xaml** to see the **XAML** for the **Detail Page**.



Step 15

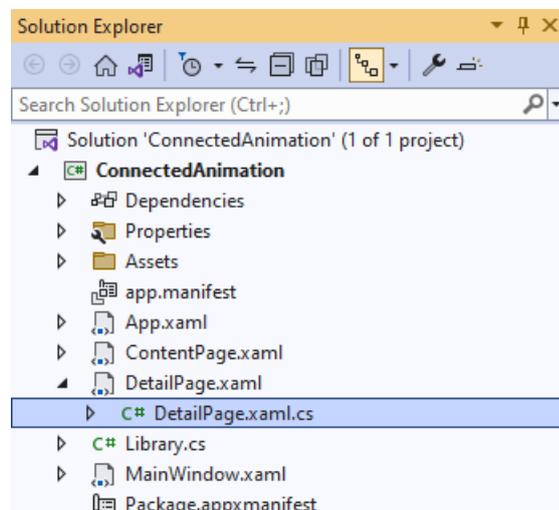
Then in the **XAML** for **DetailPage.xaml** below `<Grid>` and above `</Grid>`, type in the following **XAML**:

```
<Rectangle Margin="50" Name="Target" Opacity="0" Loaded="Target_Loaded"/>
<CommandBar VerticalAlignment="Bottom">
  <AppBarButton Icon="Back" Label="Back" Click="Back_Click"/>
</CommandBar>
```

There is **Rectangle** element of **Target** which has an **Event** for **Loaded** set to a **Method** of **Target_Loaded** along with an **AppBarButton** set to a **Method** of **Back_Click** which will be triggered when the **AppBarButton** is **Clicked**.

Step 16

Then, within **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution** select the arrow next to **DetailPage.xaml** then double-click on **DetailPage.xaml.cs** to see the **Code** for the **Detail Page**.



Step 17

In the **Code** for **DetailPage.xaml.cs** type in the following **Code** below the end of the **Constructor** of **public DetailPage() { ... }**:

```
protected override void OnNavigatedTo(NavigationEventArgs e)
{
    Target.Fill = Library.GetBrush(e.Parameter);
}

protected override void OnNavigatingFrom(NavigatingCancelEventArgs e)
{
    if (e.NavigationMode == NavigationMode.Back)
        Library.From(Target);
    base.OnNavigatingFrom(e);
}

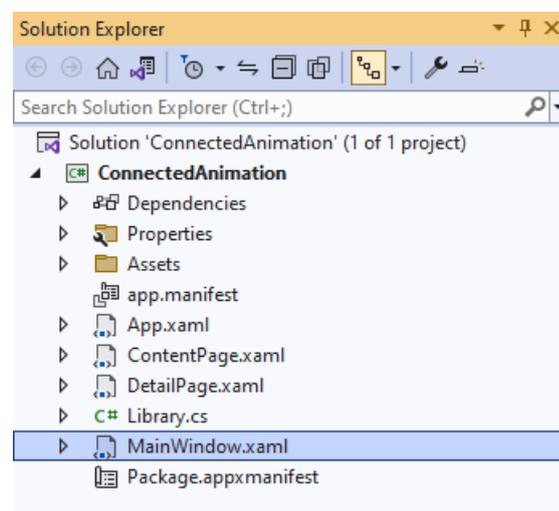
private void Target_Loaded(object sender, RoutedEventArgs e)
{
    Library.Loaded(Target);
}

private void Back_Click(object sender, RoutedEventArgs e)
{
    Library.Frame.GoBack();
}
```

There is a **Method** for **OnNavigatedTo** that uses **override** to change the functionality of the **Method** for **OnNavigatedTo** which will set **Fill** for the **Rectangle** element of **Target** using the **Method** of **GetBrush** from the **Class** for **Library** there is also an **override** for **OnNavigatingFrom** which will call the **Method** for **From** in the **Class** for **Library** when navigating backwards. There is also a **Method** of **Target_Loaded** for when the **Rectangle** element of **Target** has loaded and there is the **Method** for when the **AppBarButton** is **Clicked** of **Back_Click** which calls the **Method** of **GoBack** for the **Frame** in the **Class** for **Library**.

Step 18

Then from **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution** double-click on **MainWindow.xaml** to see the **XAML** for the **Main Window**.



Step 19

In the **XAML** for **MainWindow.xaml** there be some **XAML** for a **StackPanel1**, this should be **Removed** by removing the following:

```
<StackPanel Orientation="Horizontal"
HorizontalAlignment="Center" VerticalAlignment="Center">
    <Button x:Name="myButton" Click="myButton_Click">Click Me</Button>
</StackPanel>
```

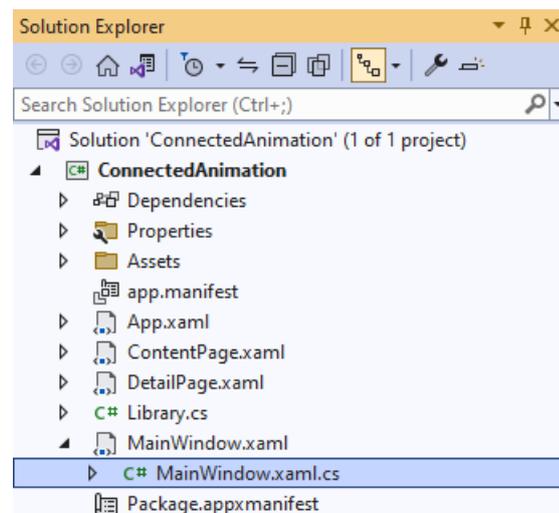
Step 20

While still in the **XAML** for **MainWindow.xaml** above **</Window>**, type in the following **XAML** for a **Frame**:

```
<Frame Name="Frame"/>
```

Step 21

Then, within **Solution Explorer** for the **Solution** select the arrow next to **MainWindow.xaml** then double-click on **MainWindow.xaml.cs** to see the **Code** for the **Main Window**.



Step 22

In the **Code** for **MainWindow.xaml.cs** there be a **Method** of **myButton_Click(...)** this should be **Removed** by removing the following:

```
private void myButton_Click(object sender, RoutedEventArgs e)
{
    myButton.Content = "Clicked";
}
```

Step 23

Once **myButton_Click(...)** has been removed, within the **Constructor** of **public MainWindow() { ... }** and below the line of **this.InitializeComponent();** type in the following **Code**:

```
Library.Frame = Frame;
Library.Frame.Navigate(typeof(ContentPage));
```

The **Constructor** of **public MainWindow() { ... }** should look like the following:

```
public MainWindow()
{
    this.InitializeComponent();
    Library.Frame = Frame;
    Library.Frame.Navigate(typeof(ContentPage));
}
```

These set up the **Property** for the **Frame** and call the **Method** for **Navigate** in the **class** of **Library**.

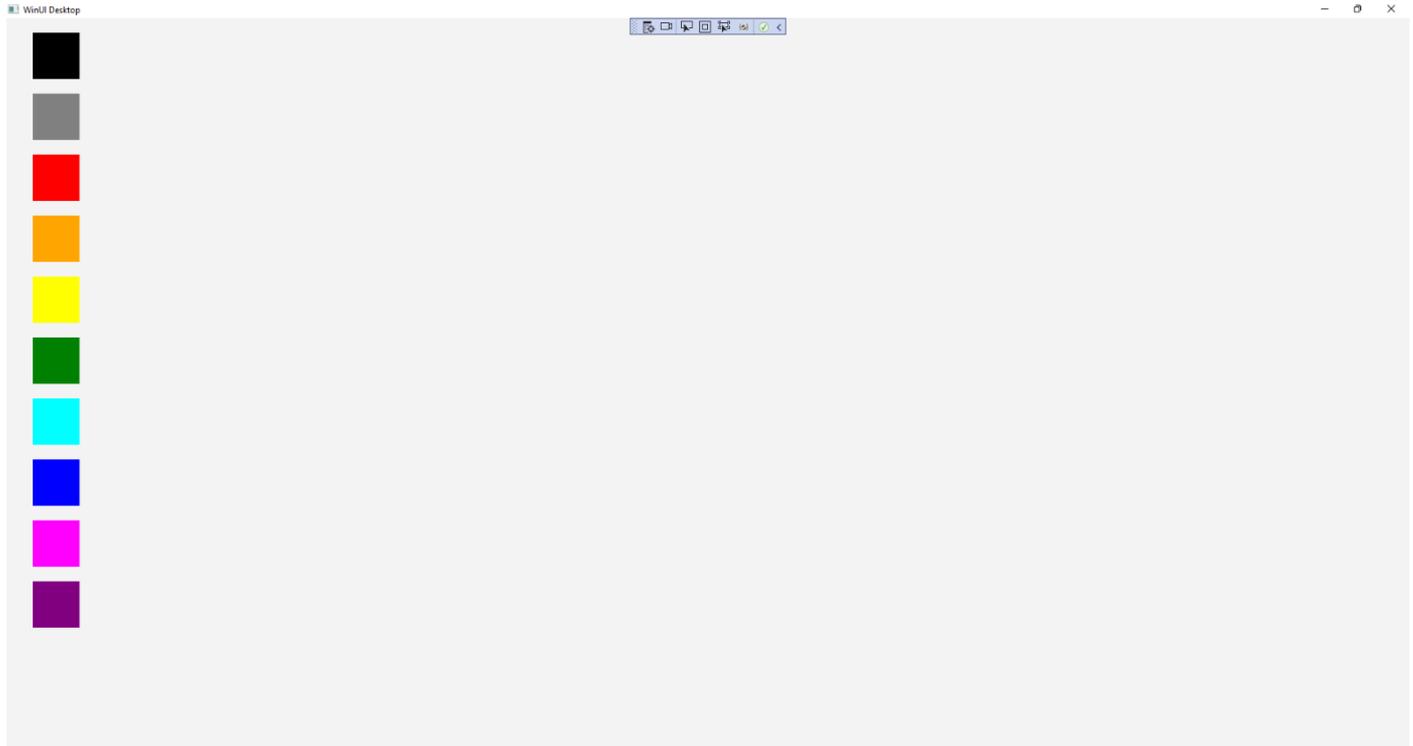
Step 24

That completes the **Windows App SDK** Application. In **Visual Studio 2022** from the **Toolbar** select **ConnectedAnimation (Package)** to **Start** the Application.



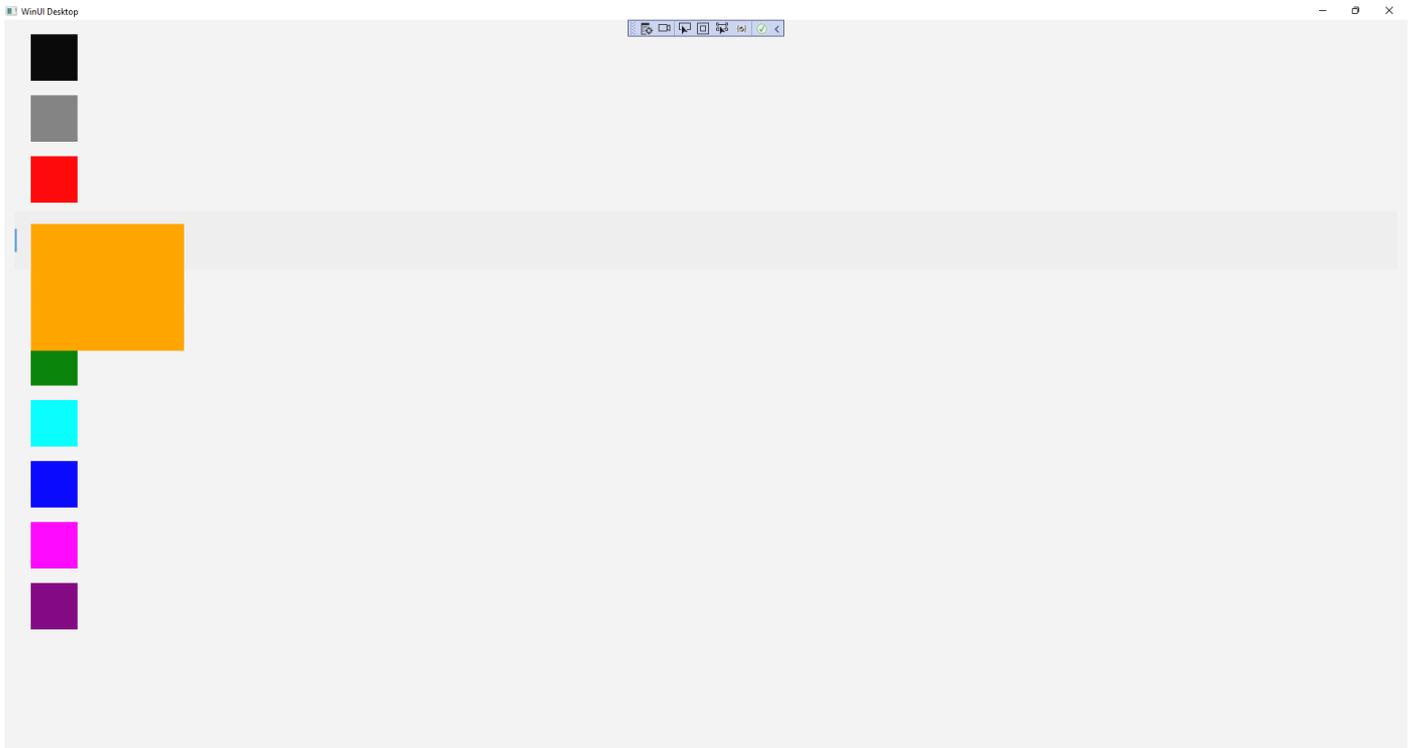
Step 25

Once running you should see the **Rectangle** elements.



Step 26

You can **Click** on any of the **Rectangle** elements to switch from the **Content Page** to the **Detail Page** and observe the **Connected Animation**.



Step 27

To **Exit** the **Windows App SDK** Application, select the **Close** button from the top right of the Application as that concludes this **Tutorial** for **Windows App SDK** from tutorialr.com!

