## What's the difference between the wParam of the WM\_NOTIFY message and the idFrom in the NMHDR structure?

devblogs.microsoft.com/oldnewthing/20131204-00

December 4, 2013



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The WM\_NOTIFY message takes the following parameters:

- wParam = identifier of the control sending the message
- lParam = pointer to a NMHDR structure
  - hwndFrom = handle of the control sending the message
  - idFrom = identifier of the control sending the message
  - code = notification code
  - other fields depending on the notification code

Notice that the identifier of the control sending the message appears in two places, once in the <code>wParam</code> and again in the <code>idFrom</code>. What's the difference? There is no difference. It's just a convenience. The same value is passed in both places, and you can check whichever one is easier for you. You might use the <code>wParam</code> because it avoids having to dereference a pointer. You might use the <code>NMHDR</code> because that way you have only one thing to pass to your <code>OnNotify</code> helper function. Whatever floats your boat.

Passing the same information multiple ways is hardly new. The <a href="https://www.message">wM\_COMMAND</a> message also passes redundant information: The control identifier is passed in the low word of the <a href="https://www.wparam">wParam</a>, and you can also get it by calling <a href="https://wparam">GetDlgCtrlID</a> on the window handle passed in the <a href="https://wparam">lparam</a>.

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