
Subject: Re: the dreaded issue: colors

Posted by [David Foster](#) on Thu, 10 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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D. Mattes wrote:

>
> IDL gurus (and there are many of you!):
>
> it appears that when IDL first starts, !D.N_COLORS and !D.TABLE_SIZE are
> both 256 for my 8-bit display, and don't actually report the number of
> colors in the shared color table, until a window or device has been
> opened. how can i get around this "feature"? i suppose i could open and
> close a window before querying these system variables...
>

David -

You could put something like the following in your "idl_startup" file:

```
window, xsize=5, ysize=5, /pixmap, /free  
wdelete
```

and this will do the trick. I often use this when I need to define
default fonts and the like in the startup file, and don't want
that nagging "IDL 0" window to come up.

Dave Foster

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