

---

Subject: Problem with non-modal children of modal dialogs  
Posted by [Phillip & Suzanne](#) on Sun, 13 Jun 1999 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Hi all;

I remember this issue being discussed shortly after IDL 5.0 came out, but not noticing that this affected me at the time. However, in some of my programs, I display moderately complicated (modal) dialogs, and want to provide a help capability for these. The problem I have using IDL is that if I display the help in a different window, IDL requires that window to be modal as well. Thus, when the user actually desires to use the information in the help window, s/he must first close the window (remembering the help tip) and act on the help information. There appears to be no way to make the window stay up while allowing the user to switch back to the modal dialog. My solution so far has been to stick with the IDL 4.0 convention to XManager that allows non-modal children of modal dialogs (although there appears to be no way to close them except by closing the modal dialog). Does anyone know of a better way to handle this?

Thanks.

Phillip

---