
Subject: Re: Table widgets

Posted by [davidf](#) on Sun, 10 Oct 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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Nils Johnson (nilsj@unixg.ubc.ca) writes:

> : Don't know about the table widget. Don't use it. :-)
>
> So what do you use to get a bunch of strings on the screen so
> that it looks like columns of text? Is the table widget overkill
> for doing this if I just want to display data and not have it be
> modified by the user?

Oh, it might be just the thing for this purpose. I don't use it on principle, since I dislike it so much. I'd hack something--anything--together to avoid using it and my program would probably be worse off for it. :-)

> : I once took a survey of the 10 best widget programmers I knew.
> : I asked them how they size their text widgets. I got 10
> : completely different answers. The only common thread was
> : that each answer bordered on voodoo.
>
> How about bugging your friends at RSI to fix this so there's no
> black magic anymore? Like getting a fixed-width font and then
> having a UNIT setting in characters...

My "friends" at RSI think I'm basically nuts and have long since discounted my input on user-interface issues. However, if *you* wrote them a note, I'd bet they would be much more inclined to listen to the input. :-)

But if it is a fixed width font that you want, even I can figure out a way to size text widgets:

```
stringValue='This is text'  
textID = Widget_Text(tlb, Value=stringValue, $  
    XSize=StrLen(stringValue), Font='Courier*12')
```

It is all the non-proportionally spaced fonts that cause the havoc.

Cheers,

David

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