
Subject: Re: button size ?

Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 10 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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pei zeng (pei@prism-cs.com) writes:

> I have a dumb question: when I place 3 buttons with value 'Apply', 'OK' and
> 'Cancel', respectively, in one row, the buttons will have different size,
> and I can not find a way to make them have the exact same size. Can anybody
> help me?

When a button is created it has a "natural" size that depends upon the text on the button. Buttons size themselves to fit what is on them, normally. You can explicitly size buttons with the `Scr_XSize` and `Scr_YSize` keywords, but this is not always a good idea, since people prefer different fonts, different font sizes, etc., and your button interface can end up looking decidedly unprofessional.

Still...you sometimes want a neat, all-the-same-size look. I know I do. :-)

So what I usually do is this:

1. Create the buttons with their "natural" size.
2. Before I realize the widget hierarchy, I find out the size of the largest button. The code will look something like this:

```
big_size = 0
FOR j=0,2 DO BEGIN
g = Widget_Info(buttonsID[j], Geometry)
  big_size = big_size > g.scr_xsize
ENDFOR
```

3. Make all the buttons the same big size. The code looks like this:

```
FOR j=0,2 DO Widget_Control, buttonsID[j], Scr_XSize=big_size
```

This works with *most* widgets. For example, I find that you can't resize droplist widgets this way on UNIX platforms (although the documentation gives no indication that it won't work). On machines where it works all the time (i.e., Windows), it works like a charm. :-)

Cheers,

David

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