
Subject: Re: Am I stupid?

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2001 14:18:30 GMT

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"Liam E. Gumley" <Liam.Gumley@ssec-nospam.wisc.edu> writes:

> Colin Rosenthal wrote:

>> so is there a sensible way around this? What I'm actually trying to
>> do is to have a keyword AXISCOLOR in a routine that also accepts
>> the AX keyword. I know I could call it something different but am I
>> just being a whiny luser if I think the above code should work
>> as is?

>

> Colin,

>

> According to the IDL documentation:

>

> "Keywords can be abbreviated to their shortest unique length"

>

> In your case, the keyword AX precludes the use of another keyword which
> begins with the letters "AX". A good rule of thumb is to make the first
> 3 characters of each keyword unique.

Not that this doesn't frustrate the heck out of me sometimes. There are many times where I want keywords like TIME, TIMEUNIT, TIMESTEP, and so on. My suggestion is that the above policy should hold, *unless* there is an exact match to a specific keyword.

Craig

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Astrophysics, IDL, Finance, Derivatives | Remove "net" for better response
