

Subject: Re: Vector Graphics in IDL?  
Posted by [Sdavis](#) on Wed, 27 Mar 2002 18:41:27 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Here's what the website says:

Vector graphics must be supplied as valid Encapsulated PostScript files (EPS or .eps). A valid EPS file allows all objects within the image to be edited. Note that anchors are defined points along a line (there are no lines in raster art). The boundary (or bounding box) is a temporary border created by the Adobe Illustrator software to allow for sizing, editing, and manipulation (there are no boundaries in raster art).

### Advantages:

File size is smaller than raster/bitmapped images in some cases, but not all. This allows for shorter loading times for files on the Web.

Images can have unlimited resolution (number of dots in an image): the higher the resolution, the more clear the image.

This is because vector images are created by math, which does not have a fixed resolution. The resolution is affected by the quality of the printer or monitor settings.

Editing can be made easily with a graphics software, e.g., Adobe Illustrator.

Within the image, each element (line, curve, box, label, etc.) can be edited separately.

Files can be resized without any loss of quality.

It seems as though they want the ability to re-size the graphics that you give them. I'm not totall sure though!

thanks,  
sean

[illegible]

On Wed, 27 Mar 2002, David Fanning wrote:

```
> Sean Davis (sdavis@nis.lanl.gov) writes:
>
>> Ok... time for an "I'm lost ... " question. I'm trying to submit some
>> plots to a journal
>>
>> that claims to require "Vector Graphics", which it suggests should be made
>> in a program like Adobe Illustrator
>>
>> (which I, of course, don't have). However, it says that the "Vector
>> Graphics" should be .eps file created by
>>
>> Illustrator. I know that IDL can create .eps files, so the question is,
>> does IDL create "Vector Graphics" when
>>
>> a .eps file is created?
>
> I think the answer is "probably yes". :-)
>
> I'm not sure the output is equivalent to what you can
> produce with Illustrator, but you can certainly scale,
> resize, etc. the vectors IDL puts out in, for example,
> a line plot.
>
> I guess it is a question of whether the journal wants its
> graphics artists to "tweak" the graphics output, or whether
> it just wants to be sure your graphic will fit into the
> space in the journal allocated for it. If the latter, I
> think you are fine creating an encapsulated PostScript
> file in IDL.
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting
> Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: david@dfanning.com
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
> Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155
>
```

---