
Subject: Re: how to input idl figure to MS office
Posted by [MKatz843](#) on Mon, 29 Jul 2002 22:31:32 GMT
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I hope the following comments may help for the Postscript route. This advice applied to all Mac versions of Word, and perhaps PC versions as well... I do this routine daily.

I've found that it helps to import an EPS file into Word using

"Insert > Picture > From File"

Then make sure you select Encapsulated Postscript (EPS) from the file type menu before selecting the picture in the menu. This avoids having Word mangle (I mean interpret) the image into its own format. You can choose the insert a "link" to the image. That will keep the size of the word file way down (if your graphic is large) but you have to be sure not to misplace the EPS file.

Once imported, don't expect to see a beautiful representation of the graphic on screen. You'll see a low-res preview if you've created one from IDL. Otherwise you may see a blank frame or nearly blank frame where the image should be. DO NOT double-click an EPS graphic in Word--it will try to let you edit it.

If you print to a Postscript printer, the results should be perfect. If you want to output to PDF, you **must** output to a postscript file first, then "distill" with Adobe Distiller. The quick PDF output options in Mac OS X will not render the EPS properly (it places the low-res preview instead.)

If you'll be printing to a non-Postscript printer, I suggest creating a PDF from Word, then print from the PDF to be able to use an EPS file.

Hope this helps,

M. Katz
