
Subject: Re: Illegal 3D Transformation (Beginner)
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 16 Dec 2002 19:23:03 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Klemens Barfus (klemens.barfus@forst.tu-dresden.de) writes:

> I am a beginner with IDL, got some example from other people and tried
> them on my computer. I allways get the error message: Illegal 3D
> transformation. I tried David Fannings Satter 3D program and get the
> error message: SURFACE: Illegal 3D transformation.
> Is there something to change in my IDL, or what is the problem ?

Oh, dear. *What* programs!?

I was once teaching an IDL course and one of the people attending said to me, "IDL is kind of strange isn't it? It never gives you any error messages."

Say what!? About an hour later I learned that this guy had gotten an IDL startup file from one of his "friends" and that !Quiet was set to 1. Do you realize how hard it is to program something without error messages!

The bottom line is this: one of your "friends" may have a weird sense of humor.

I would do this. Start IDL without any start-up files, and without running any of the code you got from friends. Then try this:

```
IDL> Surface, dist(15)
```

If that doesn't work, tell us more about what version of IDL you are running, whether you installed it yourself, whether you had any problems during install, etc.

I think you have either set some system variables inadvertently, or your installation is not set up properly. Did you change the name of the main IDL directory?

Cheers,

David

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
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
