
Subject: Re: Modal dialog - returning values
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 21 Mar 2005 18:40:49 GMT
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JD Smith writes:

> Well, no, but I've just heard the old rag "you can't use common blocks to
> run more than one copy" so many times, that I had to be a contrarian ;).

Well, contrarian is one thing, confusitarian is something else.
I think a good rule is something like "Don't *ever* point a gun
at something you don't intend to shoot." Later, when you have
some experience, you might see a need to modify the rule in
light of certain in-laws, etc. But explaining the nuances up
front seems problematic to me.

I went through a short period with my teaching in which
I thought it was important to explain nuances (for example,
with filled contour plots). Now, I'm back to not bothering
unless someone notices something is very, very wrong. Three-
quarters of the people won't notice the problem anyway, and
if they do, there is always something to read on my web page.

And, anyway, without the nuances we can usually get to the
part where we have to write a real IDL program, and then the
fun *really* starts! :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. In the I-Thought-We-Elected-These-Bozos-To-Get-the-
Government-OUT-of-Our-Lives department (no, I'm not talking
about Terri Schiavo, but if the shoe fits, wear it), isn't
it going just a little over the top to have towel dispensers
at knee height? I just got back from a trip to California.
Previously, I noticed that you have to be a whole lot more
careful with your aim with the urinals installed at shoe-top
height, but now the towel dispensers are down there, too.
I'm beginning to feel like Gulliver when I walk into bathrooms
in Government facilities.

And don't even get me started with low-flush toilets.
Someone should do a study of the relationship between
the installation of low-flush toilets in hotels and the
size of the tip you have to leave the hotel cleaning staff
when you leave. :-)

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