

---

Subject: Online help with non-windowing devices  
Posted by [rivers](#) on Sat, 24 Jun 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

I would like to get IDL online help when I log on from home using a text/Tektronix terminal emulator. In this case my plot device is 'tek' and it can't do windowing.

Prior to IDL 4.0 I could get online help by typing '?', and I would get a text-based interface to the online help. Not beautiful, but it did the job. This no longer works, IDL tries to use the hypertext help and I get an X error opening display.

There was a post about a month ago which described a way to get the old widget based help by using WIDGET\_OLH. The old text based help was done with the routine MAN\_PROC. MAN\_PROC still exists in IDL\_DIR/lib/, but when I run it there appears to be no online help library available?

Is it still possible to get help when logged on through a non-windowing device? If not, then IDL 4.0 is a major step backward in this regard.

---

Mark Rivers	(312) 702-2279 (office)
CARS	(312) 702-9951 (secretary)
Univ. of Chicago	(312) 702-5454 (FAX)
5640 S. Ellis Ave.	(708) 922-0499 (home)
Chicago, IL 60637	<a href="mailto:rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu">rivers@cars3.uchicago.edu</a> (Internet)

---