

---

Subject: Re: How to Get Started with the Z-Buffer  
Posted by [Kenneth Bowman](#) on Tue, 19 Dec 2006 21:18:54 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

In article <1166557284.886392.124780@n67g2000cww.googlegroups.com>, rchughes@gmail.com wrote:

> Before I started to incorporate the Z buffer I was writing it straight  
> to the postscript device like you suggested (it is much easier I must  
> say) but for some reason I can't run it in the cron because IDL needs  
> access to X Windows. I don't know why. I thought IDL might need Xwin  
> to plot so after reading several posts on this newsgroup it pointed me  
> towards using the Z buffer. So I've tried to have all the plots write  
> to the Z buffer before sending it to either Xwin or Postscript but  
> current attempts have been unsuccessful.

If you really do need an X display, then this page will give some tips on how to do that from a cron job

[http://idl.tamu.edu/mactips/headless\\_X.php](http://idl.tamu.edu/mactips/headless_X.php)

The page is aimed at Mac OS X users, but it should work for most current versions of X Windows on other OSes.

Ken Bowman

---