

---

Subject: Re: setting default background color, etc  
Posted by [Andy Loughe](#) on Wed, 14 May 1997 07:00:00 GMT  
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Melissa Nischan wrote:

>  
> Hi All,  
>  
> I am very new to IDL, and have what I believe should be a basic  
> question (but I couldn't find anything in the FAQ about it): when I start  
> IDL and plot something, I always get white on a black background. I  
> discovered that if I set !p.background I can change that, but I was  
> wondering how do I set the default background to be something other than  
> black? It's a pain to have to set it each time. (I use IDL on a  
> UNIX machine)  
>  
> thanks,  
> Melissa  
> nischan@ll.mit.edu

Put

!p.background = preferred\_color\_index

into a startup file that is automatically run when entering idl.

In Unix, IDL\_STARTUP contains the name of this startup file.

--

Andrew F. Loughe                    |  
afl@cdc.noaa.gov  
University of Colorado, CIRES Box 449 |  
http://cdc.noaa.gov/~afl  
Boulder, CO 80309-0449               | phn:(303)492-0707  
fax:(303)497-7013

-----  
"I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us  
with  
sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forego their use."  
-Galileo

---