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Subject: IDL widget\_label questions  
Posted by [mayor](#) on Thu, 15 Apr 1993 06:44:47 GMT  
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I'd like to use the widget\_label in order to display the status of my program to the user as it's executing by just putting little one-liners up in it such as reading, calculating, writing, etc. Here's an example of what I mean:

```
pro test

base=widget_base(title='PROGRAM STATUS')
widget_control,base,/realize

w1=widget_label(base,value='LOADING...')
widget_control,w1,/realize

; code that does the loading goes here

w1=widget_label(base,value='CALCULATING...')
widget_control,w1,/realize

; code that does the calculating goes here

widget_control,base,/destroy

retall
end
```

I have two questions:

- 1) How do I clear the old text out of the widget\_label so the new text doesn't overwrite it?
- 2) How do I control the size of this widget? xsize and ysize keywords don't seem to have any effect.
- 3) Is this the most efficient way to accomplish what I'm after?

(Direct reply to [MAYOR@VAXINE.LARC.NASA.GOV](mailto:MAYOR@VAXINE.LARC.NASA.GOV) would be appreciated as I don't check the BB regularly. Thanks.)

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