
Subject: Re: Strange Linux colors

Posted by [Udo Grabowski](#) on Wed, 01 Mar 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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Hello !

We have the same trouble with Idl, and (for direct graphics) it's a flaw of the fvwm window manager which does not handle private colormaps in widgets correctly. Get the newest fvwm2 release from www.fvwm.org, which has a patch for that problem. For object graphics, there currently is no way to get the correct colors on fvwm when a private colormap is needed, I currently try to get some ideas from a former developer of RSI for a patch. As a workaround, close all color sucking applications such as netscape, java applications etc. until enough colors are available (do a 'print,ld.n_colors' after launching an idl window do see how many are allocated). This will help in most cases. But you will have no chance if the application itself allocates a colormap with 256 entries, which always results in a private colormap. The only way to get out of that is to start the Xserver with 24 bit RGB color (modify /etc/XF86Config), which provides always enough colors to avoid a private colormap, but some other applications cannot handle that mode correctly, so expect to have to switch back from 24 to 8 bit sometimes. I don't know if the KDE manager does a better job on the colormaps.

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Subject: Re: Strange Linux colors

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Thu, 02 Mar 2000 08:00:00 GMT

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... I have had no trouble with kde (but running in 32 bpp mode). So far I discovered no other application that would choke in this mode - but I've been told there is these really old custom made tool from xyz which only runs in 8 bpp mode ...

Cheers,
Martin

PS: isn't it one of the virtues of a typical linux box (intel based PC) that you can finally use more than 256 colors with standard hardware?

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