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Subject: Re: Error on shutdown of widget !@\$%  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Tue, 10 Apr 2001 10:12:16 GMT  
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Sean Heukels (sean77=cuthere=@dds.nl) writes:

- > How do I get rid off, or catch this error ??
- >
- > When I shutdown my widget program by clicking exit, in my menubar, I can
- > reset colors, structures, the whole thing.
- > But when I click the Top-right-cross (Windows) And top-left=box on Unix,
- > which shutdowns the current process, I get an error by widget\_event,
- > that this one ('named by number') is not defined.
- >
- > I wish to clean up the variables that I clean on pushing exit in the same
- > way and don't want to create errors.
- >
- > How can this be done ??

While it *sounds* like a good idea to put all your cleanup in the Exit button event handler, it never works, as you have discovered, because nobody uses it. They kill widgets with the mouse, not by clicking the Exit button.

So, take *all* your cleanup out of the Exit button event handler and put it in a CLEANUP routine associated with the top-level base widget by means of a CLEANUP keyword on the XMANAGER command. Make a *SEPARATE* event handler for your Exit button that does nothing but destroy the TLB.

I say *SEPARATE* because your other problem, I'm sure, stems from having all your event handler code in the same procedure. The error you get on exit is because you are trying to do something with the top-level base after you just killed it! (90% of the time people are trying to put something into the user value of the top-level base after they just killed it.)

While people who know what they are doing (Stein Vidar comes to mind) can write code with one huge event handler, I've never known it to be anything but totally confusing for people just getting started with IDL. You will have a lot more luck writing widget programs with lots of separate event handlers, but this

is especially true for your exit button.

If you are looking for examples, you can try any of the widget programs on my web page.

And, although it sounds like a hell of a lot of money, getting a good book to show you the proper way of writing widget programs saves an enormous amount of wear and tear, not to mention frustration. :-)

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

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Subject: Re: Error on shutdown of widget !@\$%

Posted by [marc schellens\[1\]](#) on Tue, 10 Apr 2001 10:52:26 GMT

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Sean Heukels wrote:

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> way and dont want 2 create errors.  
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> How can this be done ??  
>  
> Thnks Sean

The problem here is, that when you kill the widget by the window-manager, your widget doesn't exist anymore when you want to read data from it. You can define a procedure for the top level base via the KILL\_NOTIFY

keyword  
which will be called when the widget dies, no matter how.  
This procedure gets the widget ID of the dying widget as an argument.  
Alternatively you define a cleanup procedure via the CLEANUP keyword to  
xmanager,  
which overrides the KILL\_NOTIFY. It also gets the widget ID as its  
argument.  
Do the cleanup in one of these procedures and just kill the widget in  
the  
event handler (the cleanup routine will be called then also.

Cheers,  
marc

Example:

```
pro testKill,ID
print,'testKill'
print,widget_info(/VALID_ID,ID)
end
```

```
pro xKill,ID
print,'xKill'
print,widget_info(/VALID_ID,ID)
end
```

```
pro test_Event,event
widget_control,event.top,/DESTROY
end
```

```
pro test
```

```
tlb=widget_base(/COL,KILL_NOTIFY='testKill')
```

```
wb=widget_button(tlb,VALUE='-----OK-----')
```

```
widget_control,tlb,/REALIZE
```

```
;; uncomment the CLEANUP keyword for using xKill instead
xmanager,'test',tlb;,CLEANUP='xKill'
end
```

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Subject: Re: Error on shutdown of widget !@\$%  
Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Wed, 11 Apr 2001 10:00:42 GMT  
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Sean Heukels wrote:

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 > Thanks Sean

Another possibility instead of KILL\_NOTIFY described by Marc  
 is to suppress this feature.

This is done by the keyword TLB\_FRAME\_ATTR to widget\_base()

Value Meaning

1 Base cannot be resized, minimized, or maximized.

2 Suppress display of system menu.

4 Suppress title bar.

8 Base cannot be closed.

16 Base cannot be moved.

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

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Forschungszentrum Juelich

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<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/>

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a IDL library at Forschungszentrum Juelich

[http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl\\_icglib/idl\\_lib\\_intro.html](http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg1/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html)

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/zb/text/publikation/juel3786.html>

Subject: Re: Error on shutdown of widget !@\$%  
Posted by [m.hadfield](#) on Wed, 11 Apr 2001 22:31:17 GMT  
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From: "Reimar Bauer" <r.bauer@fz-juelich.de>

> Another possibility instead of KILL\_NOTIFY described by Marc  
> is to suppress this feature.  
>  
> This is done by the keyword TLB\_FRAME\_ATTR to widget\_base()  
>

IMHO that's bad practice. Users expect to be able to close windows via the controls on the window frame. The programmer should provide for this unless there's a good reason not to.

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Mark Hadfield  
m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz <http://katipo.niwa.cri.nz/~hadfield>  
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research

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Posted from clam.niwa.cri.nz [202.36.29.1]  
via Mailgate.ORG Server - <http://www.Mailgate.ORG>

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