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Subject: Re: color widget

Posted by [Pavel A. Romashkin](#) on Fri, 10 Aug 2001 17:07:23 GMT

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David made fun of my little hack I put out a while ago, which was doing exactly that, and promised something sleeker and cooler and of course object-filled from his own anvil. You better ask the Coyote where it is.

Cheers,

Pavel

Marc Schellens wrote:

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> I want to let the user interactively select a color.

> Is there some modal dialog, which allows that comfortably

> and returns a three byte vector?

> Ie. I am using object graphics, so there might be problems

> with cw\_coloresel and co.

>

> Thanks,

> :-) marc

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Subject: Re: color widget

Posted by [david\[2\]](#) on Fri, 10 Aug 2001 17:53:59 GMT

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>> Thanks,

>> :-) marc

My news source seems to be dropping every third article these days, so I didn't see this article from Marc Schellens. (Perhaps this is a message

from the gods that I should play more tennis.)

But I've got all \*kinds\* of color tools!

I recommend FSC\_COLOR. Out of the box, this program knows 88 color "names" that I use for all manner of drawing colors. (If you don't like the 88 I've selected for you, you can easily load your own in the program.) It will instinctively return a color triple on a 24-bit display device, but you can force it to \*always\* return the color triple by setting the TRIPLE keyword:

```
IDL> Print, FSC_COLOR('yellow', /Triple)
255 255 0
```

If you want the user to see the colors and select one from the available colors, then simply use the SELECTCOLOR keyword:

```
IDL> theColor = FSC_COLOR('Indian Red', $
    /SelectColor, /Triple)
```

Specifying a group leader, will make the program modal:

```
theColor = FSC_COLOR('Indian Red', $
    /SelectColor, /Triple, Group_Leader=event.top)
```

I use this program in every widget program I write, whether object graphics or direct graphics. I don't know how anyone lives without it. :-)

You will need the PICKCOLORNAME program too:

```
http://www.dfanning.com/programs/fsc\_color.pro
http://www.dfanning.com/programs/pickcolorname.pro
```

Cheers,

David

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