
Subject: Re: transparent background

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Tue, 03 Jun 2003 17:20:33 GMT

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"Craig Niederberger" wrote in message...

> I'm trying to import a plot into PowerPoint, but I'd like the
> background to be transparent. I've been fooling around with the
> metafile display device, e.g.
>
> SET_PLOT, 'METAFILE'
>
> but so far have been unable to achieve a transparent background. Any
> ideas?

I don't know how PP will handle it but I would try writing a PNG file and setting the TRANSPARENT keyword appropriately. Check the docs.

Some applications may ignore the transparent pixels in PNG files but I don't know if PP is one of them. If it doesn't work, you could try using Photoshop or a similar program to convert the PNG to a GIF with transparency and drop that in PP.

-Rick

Subject: Re: transparent background

Posted by [R.Bauer](#) on Tue, 03 Jun 2003 17:25:47 GMT

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Craig Niederberger wrote:

> Hi all,
>
> I'm trying to import a plot into PowerPoint, but I'd like the
> background to be transparent. I've been fooling around with the
> metafile display device, e.g.
>
> SET_PLOT, 'METAFILE'
>
> but so far have been unable to achieve a transparent background. Any
> ideas?
>
> Many TIA,
> Craig

Three months are gone

Please have a look at the google archive and search for example

pstoimg group:comp.lang.idl-pvwave group:comp.lang.idl-pvwave
group:comp.lang.idl-pvwave

pstoimg has a transparent parameter.

from the help:

-transparent

Generate transparent bitmaps, i.e. the background color (white) is transparent if viewed with certain viewers (e.g. browsers). This option may not be available due to missing capabilities of external programs.

pstoimg - Convert a PostScript file to a bitmap image
using Ghostscript and the Netpbm utilities

regards

Reimar

--

Reimar Bauer

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a IDL library at ForschungsZentrum Juelich

http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-i/idl_icglib/idl_lib_intro.html

Subject: Re: transparent background
Posted by [GrahamWilsonCA](#) on Wed, 04 Jun 2003 23:43:49 GMT
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You may want to try using the 'CGM' driver in your set_plot command.
This is a metafile format that will produce a vector file format if possible. Moreover, powerpoint will import these as ANSI version 3 with no troubles.

If you are trying to make an image with a transparent background, you

will likely need a two step process or a mac with office for os x :)

GW

Subject: Re: transparent background

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Thu, 05 Jun 2003 00:13:12 GMT

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"Graham" wrote in message...

> If you are trying to make an image with a transparent background, you
> will likely need a two step process or a mac with office for os x :)

FWIW, I can create an image with a transparent background with one step and
a PC :)

-r

Subject: Re: transparent background

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 05 Jun 2003 00:40:42 GMT

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Rick Towler (rtowler@u.washington.edu) writes:

> FWIW, I can create an image with a transparent background with one step and
> a PC :)

Well, how was that done? Because I didn't have any luck
at all fooling around with it the other day for 15-20 minutes.

Cheers,

David

--

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

Subject: Re: transparent background

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Thu, 05 Jun 2003 18:29:42 GMT

"David Fanning" wrote in message ...

> Rick Towler writes:

>

>> FWIW, I can create an image with a transparent background with one step
and

>> a PC :)

>

> Well, how was that done? Because I didn't have any luck

> at all fooling around with it the other day for 15-20 minutes.

You didn't really fool around for 20 minutes, did you?

With the B/W linear color table loaded:

```
IDL> test = BYTARR(200,200)
```

```
IDL> test[100:199,*] = 200
```

```
IDL> tvlct, r,g,b,/get
```

```
IDL> write_png,'test.png',test,r,g,b,TRANSPARENT=[0]
```

In PP, Insert -> Picture -> From File... and select 'test.png'

I have a 200x200 image, right half is lt. gray, left half is transparent.

Load test.png up in Photoshop and the left half of the image is transparent too.

-r
