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Subject: Re: plotting and colors  
Posted by [yp](#) on Tue, 18 Oct 2005 14:41:48 GMT  
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rlaybe...@hotmail.com wrote:

```
> I have always had problems plotting with colors. For example, I am
> using a PC remotely connected to a linux machine running idl.
>
>
> if i do...
>
> a=findgen(1000)/10.0
>
> window,1,retain=2
> plot,sin(a),background=255
>
>
> then I get black on a red background, whereas the help says I should
> get black on a white background...
>
> help!
```

```
device, decomposed=1 (this should be by default)
!p.background='ffffff'x (for a white background)
!p.color=0           (for drawings in black)
```

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Subject: Re: plotting and colors  
Posted by [rlayberry](#) on Tue, 18 Oct 2005 15:41:37 GMT  
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thanks!

ruSS

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Subject: Re: plotting and colors  
Posted by [rlayberry](#) on Tue, 18 Oct 2005 15:41:38 GMT  
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thanks!

ruSS

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Subject: Re: plotting and colors

Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Tue, 18 Oct 2005 16:10:56 GMT

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rlayberry wrote:

```
> I have always had problems plotting with colors. For example, I am
> using a PC remotely connected to a linux machine running idl.
>
>
> if i do...
>
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>
> then I get black on a red background, whereas the help says I should
> get black on a white background...
>
```

A classic FAQ. Check out David Fanning's website [www.dfanning.com](http://www.dfanning.com). While there, you may want to check out this:

[http://www.dfanning.com/color\\_tips/colors24.html](http://www.dfanning.com/color_tips/colors24.html)

I recommend his book. It is well worth it and you won't feel so guilty using all of his code :)

You may also want to consider running your X server in 8-bit mode.

-Rick

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