
Subject: centering dialog_pickfile, printersetup, etc...
Posted by [cgoethel](#) on Thu, 10 Jul 2008 20:08:53 GMT
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Hello All,

Is there a way to center the dialog_pickfile or dialog_printersetup widgets in my window? There don't seem to be any keywords in these routines to do this.

Thanks!

Cindy

Subject: Re: centering dialog_pickfile, printersetup, etc...
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 14 Jul 2008 23:14:19 GMT
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Andrew Cool writes:

- > Dialog_Pickfile must contain some internal smarts to do with centering
- > itself. Perhaps there is an undocumented
- > keyword to force centering on the first call?

If there is, no one has let me in on the secret. :-(

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: centering dialog_pickfile, printersetup, etc...
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 14 Jul 2008 23:15:20 GMT
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Andrew Cool writes:

- > Interesting! The first time I invoke x=3DDialog_Pickfile() from the
- > command line, it appears in the top left
- > corner of the screen. (XP, IDL v6.4)
- >

> The second time, and subsequent times, I invoke x=3DDialog_Pickfile(),
> it appears centered on the screen!!
>
> Dialog_Pickfile must contain some internal smarts to do with centering
> itself. Perhaps there is an undocumented
> keyword to force centering on the first call?

But, clearly, someone (or something) is doing the centering.
Why can't they expose that mechanism so we can put the damn
thing where we want it?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: centering dialog_pickfile, printersetup, etc...

Posted by edward.s.meinel@aero on Tue, 15 Jul 2008 14:43:01 GMT

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On Jul 14, 7:15 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Andrew Cool writes:
>> Interesting! The first time I invoke x=3DDialog_Pickfile() from the
>> command line, it appears in the top left
>> corner of the screen. (XP, IDL v6.4)
>
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> Why can't they expose that mechanism so we can put the damn
> thing where we want it?
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

I got around the problem by calling Dialog_Pickfile through an empty parent widget. I can get it close enough to the screen center that it isn't too bad. I just wish the size could be specified -- I get real tired of resizing the dialog when folders contain long filenames...

Ed

Subject: Re: centering dialog_pickfile, printerssetup, etc...
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 15 Jul 2008 14:55:47 GMT
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edward.s.meinel@aero.org writes:

> I got around the problem by calling Dialog_Pickfile through an empty
> parent widget. I can get it close enough to the screen center that it
> isn't too bad. I just wish the size could be specified -- I get real
> tired of resizing the dialog when folders contain long filenames...

How does that work? It doesn't seem to do anything at all for me.

```
base = Widget_Base()
filename = Dialog_Pickfile(DIALOG_PARENT=base)
CENTER_TLB, base
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
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Subject: Re: centering dialog_pickfile, printerssetup, etc...
Posted by [edward.s.meinel@aero](#) on Tue, 15 Jul 2008 19:03:11 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Jul 15, 10:55 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> edward.s.mei...@aero.org writes:
>> I got around the problem by calling Dialog_Pickfile through an empty
>> parent widget. I can get it close enough to the screen center that it
>> isn't too bad. I just wish the size could be specified -- I get real

```
>> tired of resizing the dialog when folders contain long filenames...
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>
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> CENTER_TLB, base
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
```

First, call CENTER_TLB, base instead of CENTER_TLB, base

Then, you have to center and realize the parent base before calling
DIALOG_PICKFILE:

```
base = Widget_Base()
CENTER_TLB, base
WIDGET_CONTROL, base, /REALIZE
filename = Dialog_Pickfile(DIALOG_PARENT=base)
```

I tried various permutations of the widget calls, and that is the only one that sort-of worked. I'll let one of the other Masters try and explain why...

Ed
