

---

Subject: Re: Dumb PostScript Defaults

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 01 Dec 2010 16:36:13 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

David Fanning wrote:

- > Folks,
- >
- > I'm tired of getting e-mails that tell me my "stupid
- > program doesn't work in PostScript". My programs don't
- > work in PostScript because of stupid PostScript defaults!
- >
- > Anyway, I just updated all my "device independent"
- > programs to set the damn PostScript device properly
- > so things just work. I don't normally recommend (or
- > write!) programs that do things behind your back,
- > but in this case it seems justified.
- >
- > Here is what I am doing:
- >
- > IF !D.Name EQ 'PS' THEN Device, COLOR=1, BITS\_PER\_PIXEL=8
- >
- > Can anyone think of a reason why this would NOT be a good idea?

Page charges for colour plots in journals aside, nope.

I use Liam's pson.pro for \*all\* my day-to-day Postscript output. And there is a similar line in that procedure:

```
device, filename=filename, /color, bits_per_pixel=8
```

But, I'm sure someone will still complain about it. :o)

cheers,

paulv

---

---

Subject: Re: Dumb PostScript Defaults

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 01 Dec 2010 16:41:57 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Paul van Delst writes:

- > Page charges for colour plots in journals aside, nope.

Well, you have to set these keywords to get grayscale, even!  
The default is black and white. For goodness sakes!

Maybe after working for, what, 40 days straight, I just feel like ranting about IDL, but these PostScript defaults just really ought to be fixed. It's a travesty.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

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

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

---

Subject: Re: Dumb PostScript Defaults

Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Wed, 01 Dec 2010 18:06:30 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

In article <MPG.2760232c3c9e047e98989f@news.giganews.com>, David Fanning <news@dfanning.com> wrote:

- > Folks,
- >
- > I'm tired of getting e-mails that tell me my "stupid
- > program doesn't work in PostScript". My programs don't
- > work in PostScript because of stupid PostScript defaults!
- >
- > Anyway, I just updated all my "device independent"
- > programs to set the damn PostScript device properly
- > so things just work. I don't normally recommend (or
- > write!) programs that do things behind your back,
- > but in this case it seems justified.
- >
- > Here is what I am doing:
- >
- > IF !D.Name EQ 'PS' THEN Device, COLOR=1, BITS\_PER\_PIXEL=8
- >
- > Can anyone think of a reason why this would NOT be a good idea?

This is in my PS\_ON procedure

```
    DEVICE, COLOR = 1, BITS_PER_PIXEL = 8                ;Turn on 24-bit color for
images
```

Ken Bowman

---