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Subject: Re: HELP making widgets look "busy"  
Posted by [benell](#) on Fri, 04 Sep 1992 03:48:58 GMT  
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In article <87864@netnews.upenn.edu> mark@ginger.biophys.upenn.edu (Mark Elliott) writes:

>  
> Does anyone know a good way to imply that an IDL widget is "busy"?  
> With other widget toolkits (Motif,...) I used to do things like:  
>  
> - Change the cursor to an hour-glass  
> - Change the background color of the widget  
> - Make all the widget items (buttons,...) become insensitive  
>  
> Can any/all of the above be done with IDL widgets?  
>  
>

To change the cursor to another object use the DEVICE procedure with the keyword `CURSOR_STANDARD = #`, where # is the value of what you want the cursor to become. The IDL manual, app. E will point to a header file that contains the objects that the mouse can become. To make the cursor into a watch the following works:

```
DEVICE, CURSOR_STANDARD = 150
```

To return the mouse to a crosshair use:

```
DEVICE, /CURSOR_CROSSHAIR
```

One problem with this is that the mouse only changes when the pointer is over a draw widget. If your widget does not have a draw widget in it, you could make the widget insensitive.

To make the widget insensitive, use the SENSITIVE keyword in the call to `WIDGET_CONTROL`. ie.

```
WIDGET_CONTROL, base, SENSITIVE = 0 ;base is the base id of widget.
```

Then to make the widget sensitive again use the same call but with `SENSITIVE = 1` (non-zero).

- K

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