
Subject: Re: color of widgets

Posted by [Peter Mason](#) on Sun, 25 Aug 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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On Thu, 22 Aug 1996, Tgreve wrote:

> Does anyone know how to change the light blue color of the widgets into
> something else...(anything!)?

You can get at this sort of stuff on X-Windows platforms via the RESOURCE_NAME switch in the widget creation routines. There's an example in the docs under WIDGET_BASE -> RESOURCE_NAME. (The feature also works in other widget creation routines.)

There is a down-side to using this feature along with an 8-bit display and a shared colormap (a common setup). The colours you request will be reserved, leaving you with less for your graphics. (And quite a few colours can be reserved, even if you modify just one background colour - along with the background, new colours appear to be reserved for the widget shading etc.)

Peter Mason

Subject: Re: color of widgets

Posted by [Peter Mason](#) on Mon, 26 Aug 1996 07:00:00 GMT

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> On Thu, 22 Aug 1996, Tgreve wrote:

>> Does anyone know how to change the light blue color of the widgets into
>> something else...(anything!)?

There's another way to do this globally, without having to use RESOURCE_NAME=... in your source code. It might be more like what you're after.

There's a file called Idl in \$IDL_DIR/resource/X11/lib/app-defaults which contains X resource definitions for idl and "idltool". The only things defined for idl are Idl*background and Idl*XmText.translations (sun only), and Idl.colors. (The rest of the file pertains to idltool.) Anyway, you could (re)define Idl*background here, and I understand that it should then kick in when you run idl.

More simply, define Idl*background in your own .Xdefaults file (along with idl.gr_depth etc). (You'll then have to restart your session or do something like xrdb -load .Xdefaults to activate your changes.)

e.g., Include the line

```
Idl*background:green
```

to get all of your widgets rendered in garish green.

I can't find any references to Idl*background in the docs. I would guess that there could be some other Idl X resources that you can change like this, but you'll have to find them by trial and error.

Peter Mason
