
Subject: Re: The 'MAC' device and the 'CURSOR_IMAGE' keyword
Posted by [davidf](#) on Mon, 23 Sep 1996 07:00:00 GMT
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David Theil writes:

- > Does anyone know how to manipulate the cursor under the mac version
- > of IDL? When I try to set the cursor_image keyword in a device call
- > I get an error 'Keyword CURSOR_IMAGE not allowed in call to: DEVICE'.

Page 3-2 of the IDL Reference Manual indicates that this keyword is not available for the Mac.

- > I have some other Mac IDL specific questions:
- > xloadct does not work properly on my mac. Changing the color table does
- > not update the currently displayed graphics. Why?

Your Mac is not set up as an 8-bit color device. You may have either 16-bit color or 24-bit color turned on for your monitor. In this version of IDL XLOADCT is designed to work properly only for 8-bit devices. You can find out how many colors you are using by looking at the system variable !D.N_COLORS.

You can use IDL in this mode, but you have to redisplay your graphic *after* you load the color table to see the effect.

For example, if I have my Mac set up to display "thousands" of colors and I want to change the colors of an image, I have to do this:

```
; Display the image in gray-scale.
```

```
LOADCT, 0  
TVSCL, DIST(200,200)
```

```
; Change to Standard Gamma II colors.
```

```
LOADCT, 5  
TVSCL, DIST(200,200)
```

On a Mac, it is usually easier to just change the Monitor control panel to 256 color mode.

- > I reinstalled IDL to try to fix the above problem. Now when I type '?'
- > at the prompt, IDL fails to open the online help application. I
- > get no error and this worked fine before. Anybody got any ideas?

This happens when you don't have enough memory available to open the IDL Help application. Try quitting some of your other applications

or allocate less memory to IDL. (Or, perhaps, turn virtual memory on. The new MacOS 7.5.5 update is suppose to help with virtual memory problems and it seems to really make my system more stable when using virtual memory.)

Yours,

David

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