

How to create a TMemo with alternating colours to paint the lines

QUESTION

I'm trying to change the font of the first line of a *TMemo*. Is it possible and if so, what functions do I override to accomplish it?

It is possible, but I would advise you to use a font that has the same height as the original font that is used in the memo (to avoid problems with the scollbars). You have to override the *WMPaint* method (i.e. respond to the *WM_Paint* message). The following example shows an owner-drawn memo in which I alternate the colours used to paint the lines, but you can modify it to change the font for the first line only, of course:

```
unit Todrmemo;

interface

uses
  SysUtils, WinTypes, WinProcs, Messages, Classes, Graphics, Controls,
  Forms, Dialogs, StdCtrls;

type
  TOwnerDrawMemo = class(TMemo)
  private
    procedure WMPaint(var Message: TWMPaint); message WM_PAINT;
  end;

procedure Register;

implementation

procedure TOwnerDrawMemo.WMPaint(var Message: TWMPaint);
var
  Buffer: Array[0..255] of Char;
  PS: TPaintStruct;
  DC: HDC;
  i: Integer;
  X, Y, Z: Word;
  OldColor: LongInt;
begin
  DC := Message.DC;
  if DC = 0 then
    DC := BeginPaint(Handle, PS);
  try
    X := 1;
    Y := 1;
    SetBkColor(DC, Color);
    SetBkMode(DC, Transparent);
    OldColor := Font.Color;
    for i:=0 to Pred(Lines.Count) do
      begin
        { this is your place to set/reset the font... }
        if odd(i) then
          SetTextColor(DC, clRed)
        else
          SetTextColor(DC, OldColor);
        Z := Length(Lines[i]);
        StrPCopy(Buffer, Lines[i]);
        Buffer[Z] := #0; { not really needed }
        TextOut(DC, X, Y, Buffer, Z);
        Inc(Y, abs(Font.Height));
      end;
    finally
      if Message.DC = 0 then
        EndPaint(Handle, PS);
    end;
  end;
end;
```

```
procedure Register;  
begin  
  RegisterComponents('Samples', [TOwnerDrawMemo]);  
end;  
  
end.
```

Original resource:	The Delphi Pool
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