

Draw a DBGrid with alternating row colours

You've seen this surely on web pages. Alternating table row colors means displaying the first record in one color and the second record in another color and continue to alternate the color of each row displayed.

When working with datasets with many rows, alternating the background color of each row can increase readability.

Here's the *OnDrawColumnCell* event handler for a *DBGrid* control to color every second row in a different color.

```
procedure TGridForm.DBGridDrawColumnCell(Sender: TObject; const Rect: TRect;
  DataCol: Integer; Column: TColumn; State: TGridDrawState);
var
  grid : TDBGrid;
  row : integer;
begin
  grid := sender as TDBGrid;

  row := grid.DataSource.DataSet.RecNo;

  if Odd(row) then
    grid.Canvas.Brush.Color := clSilver
  else
    grid.Canvas.Brush.Color := clDkGray;

  grid.DefaultDrawColumnCell(Rect, DataCol, Column, State) ;
end; (* DBGrid OnDrawColumnCell *)
```

Note that the row color eliminates the need of table borders and make it easy for the eye to read a row. In a vertical sense, the colors make it easier to 'catch' an item because it is on either one of the colors.

Of course, you need to take into consideration the color of the selected cell/row - I'll leave this up to you - but this should help:

Play with the *Options* property to have the best looking grid for your Delphi application :)

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