## BearPlot documentation and usage

BearPlot v1.0, Jan. 22, 2016

BearPlot is a Python-based program to draw graphics using an input-file-specified graphics primitives. BearPlot is intended to support C++ programs by providing graphics potential as a "second stage of execution" after the C++ program.



This sequence is a kludgy solution to a system problem: that C++ does not have a universal graphics standard; it's difficult to select and install graphics libraries to support the variety of environments needed.

BearPlot contains some error messages when data file lines cannot be interpreted. BearPlot is licensed by Missouri State University using the MIT license. Use BearPlot at your own risk.

Tkinter graphic library commands are documented at TKinter documentation at http://infohost.nmt.edu/tcc/help/pubs/tkinter/web/index.html.

## Coordinate system for BearPlot graphics

Like many graphics system, BearPlot's Y axis values are REVERSED in comparison to the standard Cartesian coordinate system. The coordinate system origin (0,0) is at the upper left, and Y values increase going DOWN the graphics window. A line from the origin to the center of the graphics window would be drawn using the coordinates (0,0) to (WIDTH/2, HEIGHT/2). The conversion from "standard" Cartesian coordinate system value (sx, sy) to graphics coordinate system (gx, gy) is: gx = sx (that is, no difference), gy = (HEIGHT-sy).

### Contents of the data file for input to BearPlot graphics

Every data file must contain on the first line a specification of the output graphics window using the form

pixelWidth pixelHeight color

where color is one of the Tkinter known strings (see below for valid color names).

**Example data file usage:** 700 700 white

**Graphics drawing primitives.** The data file may contain whatever of these primitives are needed to display the desired graphic output.

Graphics command.	Meaning	Data file form and example usage.
This is the first		Fields in parentheses are <b>optional</b> –
word or phrase on a		when that field does not appear in the
line of the data file.		data file, some default value is used.
Uppercase or		
lowercase are		
allowed.		

CIRCLE	Draws a circle with coordinate	circle topLeftX topLeftY diameter
CIRCLE	Draws a circle, with coordinate	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	bounding box, with top left and	(color)
	diameter given as parameters.	
	Optional fill color, default is	circle 50 50 20 blue
	transparent (see below for valid color	
	names).	
COORDINATE PLANE	Draws a basic coordinate plane,	coordinate_plane
	spliting the canvas into four equal	
	halves. This command has no	
	parameters other than the name	
	itself.	
DOTTED LINE	Draws a dotted line from startx starty	line_dotted startX startY endX endY
	to endx endy with an optional color	(color)
	as parameter 6. Default color is black.	
	(See below for valid color names).	line dotted 50 50 20 200
	(Coo selett for raina color hames).	blue
LINE	Draws a line from startx and starty to	line startX startY endX endY (optional
	endx and endy with an optional color	color, default is black)
	option. Default color is black. (See	,
	below for valid color names).	line 50 50 20 200 blue
OVAL	Draws an oval, with coordinates as a	oval topLeftX topLeftY bottomLeftX
OVAL	bounding box, with top left and	bottomLeftY (color)
	bottom right given as parameters.	BottomEertr (color)
	Optional fill color, default is	oval 50 50 200 100 blue
	•	Oval 30 30 200 100 blue
	transparent. (See below for valid	
DOINT	color names).	
POINT	Draws a one pixel point at point x y.	point x y (color)
	With an optional color. Default color	
	is black. (See below for valid color	point 50 50 blue
	names).	
POSITIVE	Draws a basic positive coordinate	positive_coordinate_plane
COORDINATE PLANE	plane, with the axis 2 pixels from the	
	edge. This command has no	
	parameters other than the name	
	itself.	
RECTANGLE	Draws a rectangle between two	rectangle topLeftX topLeftY
	points, top left and bottom right,	bottomRightX bottomRightY (color)
	with optional fill color. Default color	
	is transparent. (See below for valid	rectangle 50 50 100 100
	color names).	blue
TEXT	Draws text using black color,	text pointX pointY fontsize word1
	centered on point given, numeric	word2 word3
	font size. Typical font size values are	
	integers 10 (small) to 36 (extra-large).	text 50 50 16 Hello World!
	The text on the remainder of line will	
	be displayed.	
	be displayed.	

THICK LINE	Draws a thicker line from startx starty to endx endy with an optional color. Default color is black. (See below for valid color names).	line_solid startX startY endX endY (color)  line_solid 50 50 20 20 blue
TRIANGLE	Draws segments forming a triangle between three points, optional line color. Default color is black. (See below for valid color names).	triangle point1X point1Y point2X point2Y point3X point3Y (color)  triangle 50 50 20 20 50 20 blue

#### Other graphics data file commands.

Graphics command.	Meaning	Example data file usage. Fields in
This is the first		parentheses are <b>optional</b> – when that
word on a line of		field does not appear in the data file,
the data file.		some default value is used.
Uppercase or		
lowercase are		
allowed.		
COMMENT	Allows comments to be placed in	comment word1 word2 word3
	data file. There is no graphical effect	
	resulting from a comment.	comment It certainly is a
		fine day today!
SLEEP	Pauses execution of graphic display.	sleep (seconds)
	Optional input in seconds as a	
	floating-point value. Default is 2.	sleep
		sleep 2.5

# Example

Desired outcome appearance of graphics, the data file used, the result obtained

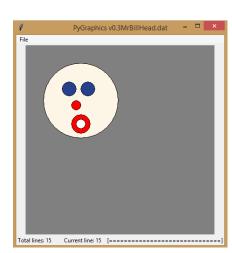


400 400 gray
comment Bill's head
circle 40 40 160 oldlace

comment Bill's eyes
circle 80 80 30 royalblue4
circle 120 80 30
royalblue4

comment Bill's nose
circle 100 120 20 red

comment Bill's mouth
circle 100 150 40 red



### Valid color names

Choose Tkinter color names from color charts found on the web using the search term "Tkinter color name chart".



### **Execution of BearPlot software**

BearPlot contains some error messages when data file lines cannot be interpreted.