

Tech Info Library

Custom Icon: Limited to 34 Colors (5/93)

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TOPIC -----

When I copy certain colors created in Canvas to custom icons, not all of the colors are copied (particularly, green). The green color created in Canvas appears as white when presented in an icon. I didn't use ResEdit in this sequence.

DISCUSSION -----

If you use ResEdit, you'll see that only 34 colors are available for icon resources. These colors aren't customizable, they are strictly defined. If you use a custom color (not in the palette of 34 icon colors) while in a graphics program, the system attempts to map the custom color to the icon palette color when you make the image into an icon.

There are specific shades of greens, browns, blues, purples, and grays available. Black, white, yellow, and red are also available. To get predictable results, use the colors from ResEdit's Icon editor when working in Canvas; or use ResEdit's Icon editor.

The 34 colors of the icon color palette are in the following positions on the standard 256 color System palette. The column/row format used matches the ResEdit icon editor's color selector format.

1 51 22 146 227 159 165 72 192 236 176 42 84 127 171 19 105 92 245 246 43 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 216

For another way to match colors, follow these steps:

- 1) Open ResEdit.
- 2) Open the Icon editor from an icl8 resource.
- 3) Drag the tear-off color selector onto the desktop.
- 4) Take a picture of the screen (shift-command-3).
- 5) In your graphics program:
 - a) Open the screen picture file (named Picture 1, or other number).
 - b) Use the eyedropper tool to pick up the colors in the color selector.

The 34 colors of the icon color palette can't map directly to the 16 colors in the 16-color System palette. Of the 34 colors not available in the 16-color palette, most are mapped to a gray, white, black or an associated color.

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