

GMS TUTORIALS

Display Themes

This tutorial describes *Display Themes*. *Display Themes* are a powerful way to create and save display options for later use. Using *Display Themes*, you can quickly change the look of your data.

1.1 Outline

This is what you will do:

1. Create and edit display themes.

2 Getting Started

Let's get started.

1. If necessary, launch GMS. If GMS is already running, select the *File / New* command to ensure that the program settings are restored to their default state.


3 Display Themes

GMS has many display options. Display options are used to change how data appears, without actually changing the data. For example, you can change the colors of the Feature Objects – the points, arcs and polygons. To do so, you use the *Display / Display Options* menu command.

Display Themes are a way to save your current display options so that you can quickly return to them again.

3.1 Create A 2D Grid

Now we'll create a 2D grid so that we can see how it is affected by display themes.

1. Create a grid frame by right-clicking in the *Project Explorer* and selecting the *New/Grid Frame* command from the pop-up menu.
2. Create a 2D grid by right-clicking on the *Grid Frame*  in the *Project Explorer* and selecting the *Map To/2D Grid* command from the pop-up menu.
3. Click *OK* to accept the defaults and create the grid.

3.2 Create a Default Display Theme

Let's create a new display theme now.



1. Right-click on the blank space in the *Project Explorer* and select the *New / Display Theme* menu command.

This brings up the *Display Theme Properties* dialog. We'll explain this dialog in detail a little later. For now...

2. Change the *Display Theme name* to **Default**.
3. Click *OK* to exit the *Display Theme Properties* dialog.

3.3 Change the Display Options

Now let's change the display options and create another display theme.

1. Click on the *Display Options* button .
2. Change the *Background color* to green by clicking on the button and selecting a green color.
3. Change the *Triad size* to **100**.
4. Click on the *2D Grid Data* item  in the list on the left of the dialog.
5. Change the *Cell edges* line color to blue.

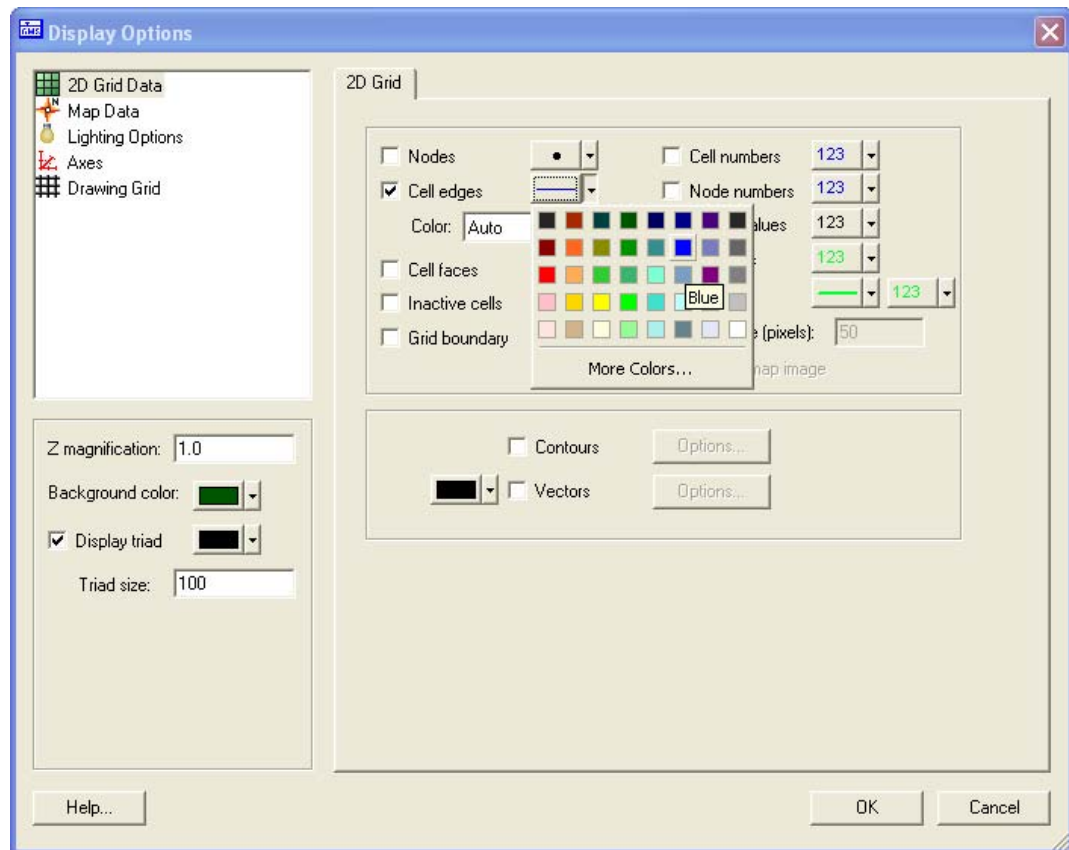



Figure 3.1 Changing the Display Options.

6. Change the *Color* option under *Cell edges* from **Auto** to **Specified**.
7. Click *OK*.

3.4 Create the Display Theme

1. Right-click on the blank space in the *Project Explorer* and select the *New / Display Theme* menu command.
2. Change the *Display Theme name* to **Green background**.
3. Click *OK*.

3.5 Switching Between Display Themes

1. In the *Project Explorer* click on the **Default** display theme .


Notice the background color, the triad, and the grid color have all reverted back to their default settings. Clicking on a display theme changes the display options to whatever they were when the theme was created.

2. In the *Project Explorer* click on the **Green background** display theme .

Again notice how the background color, the triad, and the grid color have changed. The display theme captures the display options that were in affect at the time the display theme was created.

3.6 Theme Properties

Let's take a closer look at the display theme properties.

1. Right-click on the **Green background** display theme  and select the *Properties* command from the pop-up menu.

This brings up the *Display Theme Properties* dialog shown in Figure 3.2.

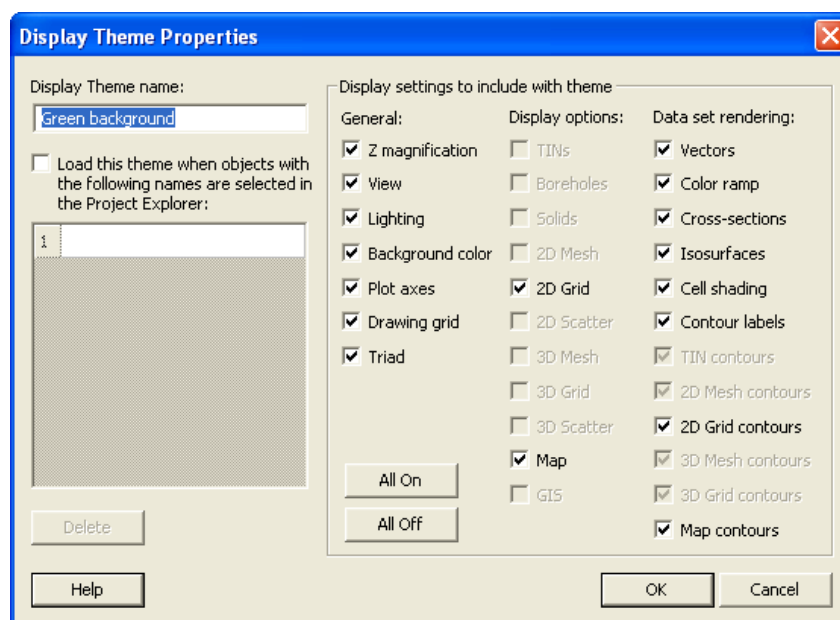





Figure 3.2 *Display Theme Properties*.



The main section of the dialog lists the settings that are included with the theme. We can use this to create themes that only include specific settings. For example, if you don't want the current Z magnification to be changed when you click on a display theme, you can turn that option off in the properties dialog. We'll demonstrate using the background color.

2. Turn off the *Background color* option.
3. Click *OK*.
4. Switch between the **Default** and **Green background** display themes  to see that the background color no longer changes, but the grid color and the triad still do.
5. Right-click on the **Green Background** display theme  and select the *Properties* command from the pop-up menu.

6. Turn on the *Background color* option and click *OK*.
7. Switch between the **Default** and **Green background** display themes  to see that the color again changes, and that it is still green.

3.7 Updating Display Themes

You can change the display options saved with a display theme.


1. Click on the *Display Options* button .
2. Change the *Background color* to red.
3. Click *OK* to exit the *Display Options* dialog.
4. Right-click on the **Green background** display theme  and select the *Update With Current Display* command from the pop-up menu.
5. Switch between the **Default** and **Green background** display themes to see that the new color is now associated with the **Green background** theme.

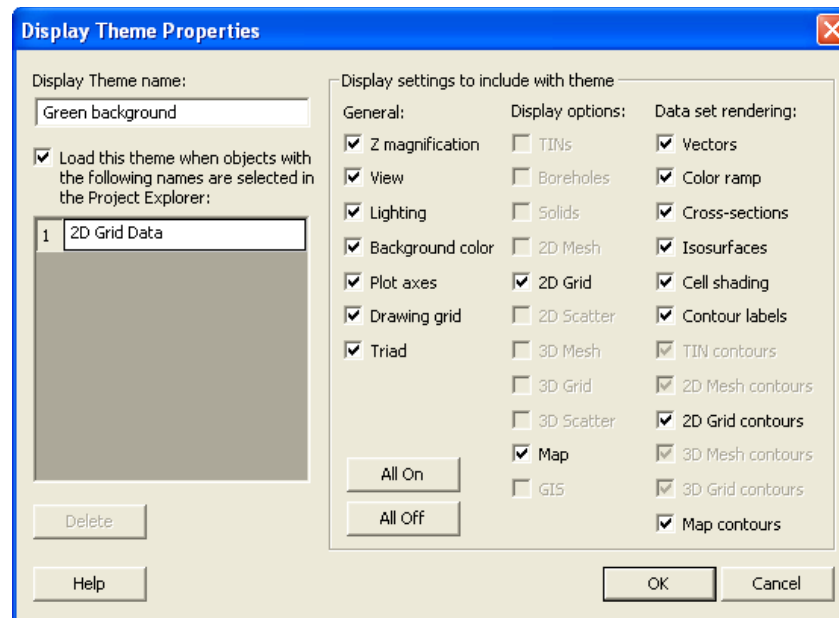
3.8 Automatically Loading Display Themes


You can have display themes load automatically when you select other objects (objects other than display themes) in the *Project Explorer*.

1. Select the **Default** display theme  to restore the display options to the default values.

Automatically Load the Display Theme

1. Right-click on the **Green Background** display theme  and select the *Properties* command from the pop-up menu.
2. Turn on the option to *Load this theme when objects with the following names are selected in the Project Explorer*.
3. Type “2D Grid Data” into the list.



4. Click *OK*.
5. Click on the **2D Grid Data** item  in the *Project Explorer*. Notice that the **Green background** theme was loaded.
6. Click on the other items in the *Project Explorer* and notice that the **Green background** theme only gets loaded when you click on it, or on the **2D Grid Data** item.

Note that the theme looks for the name of the item, not the type. For example, if you had a TIN that was named “2D Grid Data”, it would also trigger the Green background theme.

4 Conclusion

This concludes the tutorial. Here are the things that you should have learned in this tutorial:

- Display themes can be used to quickly save and restore your display options.
- Display themes can include just a subset of display options if you wish.
- Display themes can be loaded automatically when clicking on other objects in the *Project Explorer*.