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Subject: Re: New dark theme thread

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Mon, 03 Jan 2022 14:28:01 GMT

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Hi,

I found out that sometimes it's good to re-read some docs, as they get updated: :)

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/api/winuser/nf-winuser-getsyscolor>

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/apps/design/style/color>

From the GetSysColor() documentation, I have picked the following:

Colors no longer available in Windows 10/11:

COLOR\_3DDKSHADOW  
COLOR\_3DHIGHLIGHT  
COLOR\_3DHILIGHT  
COLOR\_3DLIGHT  
COLOR\_3DSHADOW  
COLOR\_ACTIVEBORDER  
COLOR\_ACTIVECAPTION  
COLOR\_APPWORKSPACE  
COLOR\_BACKGROUND  
COLOR\_BTNFACE  
COLOR\_BTNHIGHLIGHT  
COLOR\_BTNHILIGHT  
COLOR\_BTNSHADOW  
COLOR\_CAPTIONTEXT  
COLOR\_DESKTOP  
COLOR\_GRADIENTACTIVECAPTION  
COLOR\_GRADIENTINACTIVECAPTION  
COLOR\_INACTIVEBORDER  
COLOR\_INACTIVECAPTION  
COLOR\_INACTIVECAPTIONTEXT  
COLOR\_INFOBK  
COLOR\_INFOTEXT  
COLOR\_MENU  
COLOR\_MENUHILIGHT  
COLOR\_MENUBAR  
COLOR\_MENUTEXT  
COLOR\_SCROLLBAR  
COLOR\_WINDOWFRAME

Colors available in Windows 10/11:

COLOR\_WINDOW - Window background  
COLOR\_WINDOWTEXT - Headings, body, lists, app and window borders...  
COLOR\_HOTLIGHT - Hyperlinks

COLOR\_GRAYTEXT - Inactive (disabled) UI  
COLOR\_HIGHLIGHTTEXT - Foreground color for text or UI that is selected/interacted with (hover, pressed) or in progress  
COLOR\_HIGHLIGHT - Background or accent for COLOR\_HIGHLIGHTTEXT  
COLOR\_BTNTEXT - Foreground color for buttons and UI with interaction (use with COLOR\_3DFACE)  
COLOR\_3DFACE - Background for COLOR\_BTNTEXT

Maybe, the system color list in ChWin32.cpp should be updated to use only colors that are still available on Windows 10/11:

```
...  
static sysColor sSysColor[] = {  
    { SColorPaper_Write, COLOR_WINDOW },  
...  
}
```

In any case, the dark mode is too high contrast to look at for a full day. E.g. TheIDE has a very nice contrast on Linux Mint following some basic dark theme I picked from the basic list. However, when in Dark mode on Windows, the `GetSysColor(COLOR_WINDOW)` returns "Color(1, 1, 1)" and this is simply too dark. Something between `Color(32, 32, 32)` and `Color(48, 48, 48)`, would work better as the dark background. The invisibility issue with ScrollBar button arrows also make it difficult to use.

Best regards,

Tom

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