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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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