

Change the Color Scheme of All Your Windows

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Just for a change of pace, try changing XP's color scheme to give all your windows a different look.

1. Right-click on your desktop and select **Properties**.
2. After your DISPLAY SETTINGS window pops up, select the **Appearance** tab.
3. Confirm that you are in WINDOWS XP STYLE.
4. Near the lower left corner of the dialogue box, look for **Color Scheme**. The default setting is blue. Try one of the other two: olive green or silver.
5. Click OK.
6. It will take several seconds for your requested color change to appear on your monitor.
7. Open a couple windows to see if you like the new look. It will retain that look until you select another color scheme.

If you want to try some "exotic" color schemes, follow these steps:

1. Right-click on your desktop and select **Properties**.
2. After your display settings pop up, select the **Appearance** tab.
3. Select WINDOWS CLASSIC STYLE.
4. Near the lower left corner of the dialogue box, look for **Color Scheme**. There are over 20 color schemes from which to choose. Try several to see if any of them suits you.
5. Click OK when you have decided on one.
6. It will take several seconds for your color change to appear on your monitor.
7. Open a couple windows to see if you like the new look. It will retain that look until you select another color scheme.

It's easy to make your window title bars (the area on a window that has the min, max, & close buttons on it) different colors. In fact, you will see that there are a number of other color tweaking settings there as well, so you can easily give your computer that custom feel.

1. Right-click your desktop and select **Properties**. (In Vista it's called "Personalize")

2. Your display settings will pop up. Select the **Appearance** tab (Windows Color and Appearance in Vista).
3. Select **WINDOWS CLASSIC STYLE**.
4. Select the **Advanced** button.
5. Click the drop down box labeled **Item**.
6. Select **Active Title Bar** from the list.
7. To the right of that drop down box, you should see two additional drop down boxes labeled **Color** and **Color2**. Please note that these changes will not take place unless you have selected Windows Classic Style on the previous page.
8. The first Color box is the first color on your title bar. The second is the color that the first fades into. Set them however you like. You can preview the results in the little preview window above the settings.
9. Please note that there are 17 other adjustments you can make to the appearance of Windows.