

Color Printing in DataCAD 7 using PrintAPlot Pro

To print in color, you must define pen settings in PrintAPlot Pro which will then be mapped directly to DataCAD's colors. This works the same way pen plotters do: PPP has the pens, and you'll tell DataCAD which ones to use.

1. From the Plotter menu, choose F9 Printer.
2. Choose F2 Setup to open the PrintAPlot Pro Settings Menu.
3. In the upper-right corner of the screen, double-click on Set Pens to open the Set Pens dialogue box. Down the left side of the screen are your pen numbers, the center column lists the pen size settings, and pen colors are listed in the right-hand column. Currently all pens are set to Black.
4. Choose #6 Default Colors from the bottom of the screen. All of the pens should now be assigned a pen color.
5. Please take the time now to write down what color each pen number is. (i.e. #1 is Black, #2 is Red...) You are going to need this information in order to tell DataCAD which pen number to use for each color. Notice that after pen #8 the colors are defined by a numerical value. This refers to a color page which you can print out in order to see what these colors are. See below for instructions on how to print color pages.
6. When you have finished writing down your pen settings, press [ESC].
7. Choose #3 Save Setting from the menu choices across the bottom of your screen.
8. Press [Enter], and change the name of the .SS file from DCAD.SS to COLOR.SS and press [Enter]; your pen settings are now saved to a Setting Sheet named COLOR.SS.
9. Press [Esc] and [Y] to exit PrintAPlot Pro.
10. Choose S5 Set Pens to get a list of DataCAD's colors in your menu bar. You are going to map DataCAD's colors to your pen colors in PPP that you wrote down.
11. Choose White from the menu. DataCAD is now prompting you to Enter a new pen # and the number 1 is highlighted. From your pen settings in PPP we know that pen #1 is currently Black. Press [Enter].
12. Choose the other colors and set their pen numbers for their corresponding colors in PPP Set Pens.
13. When you have finished, set your paper size (F5 PaperSiz), pick F0 Qwklyout and layout your drawing, choose F9 Printer, F3 SetSheet, choose COLOR and F1 Print. Your DataCAD colors will now be printing using the settings from PrintAPlot Pro.

To print color pages:

1. From within your DataCAD drawing file, choose Plotter, Printer, and Setup.
2. Choose Plot List from the upper-right corner of the screen; this will bring up a blue line with a path in it.
3. Press [Enter] to open a dialogue box with a list of .plt files. Highlight COLORPG.PLT and press [Enter] load the COLORPG.PLT to the Plot List. You will see that Plot List now says "Files Selected".
4. Choose #5 Print Plots from the bottom menu to print out the PPP Color Page. When it has finished, choose #9 Exit and then press [Y] for yes. Click your right mouse button to return to the Plotter Menu.