

Title: How to Use Syntax Highlighting with Microsoft's Developer Studio
Products(s): MCAPI
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Summary

Beginning with version 2.0a the Motion Control API (MCAPI) includes a keyword file for use with Microsoft's Developer Studio User Defined Keyword highlighting feature. User Defined Keyword highlighting permits you to easily identify specific keywords in source code files. The included keyword file contains all of the MCAPI C/C++ function names and constants. MCAPI version 2.1 adds the common motion dialog function names and constants to this list.

More Information

To enable syntax highlighting first exit Developer Studio, if it is running. Next locate the MCAPI file **USERTYPE.DAT**. By default **USERTYPE.DAT** is installed in **\PMC\MCAPI\SOURCES**. Copy this file to the same directory where Developer Studio executable MSDEV.EXE is installed. In Developer Studio 97 (version 5.0) this directory is **\PROGRAM FILES\DEVSTUDIO\SHAREDIDE\BIN**. That's all there is to it!

NOTE: if you already have a **USERTYPE.DAT** file installed for Developer Studio 97 you may use a text editor to merge the MCAPI **USERTYPE.DAT** keywords with your existing **USERTYPE.DAT** keyword file.

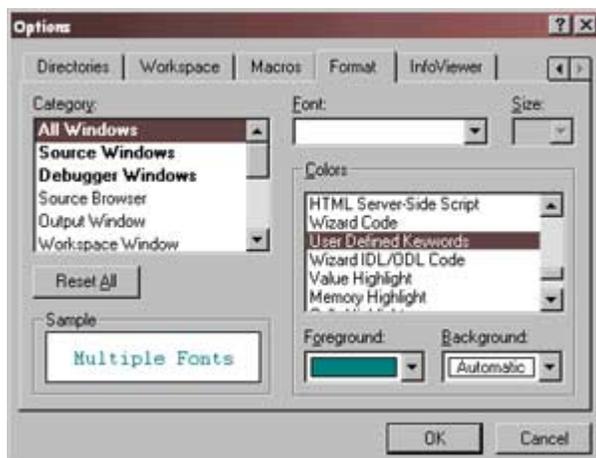


Figure 1: Developer Studio Options Dialog Box

By default Developer Studio 97 highlights user defined keywords using the same color that it uses for language keywords (blue). To make the user defined keywords stand out select **Tools | Options** from the Developer Studio menu bar. Click on the **Format** tab and in the **Colors** box select **User Defined Keywords**. Use the **Foreground** and **Background** options to select unique colors for the user defined keywords.