

Description

`query graphics` shows the graphics settings, which includes the graphics scheme.

`set scheme` allows you to set the graphics scheme to be used. The default setting is `stcolor`; it was `s2color` prior to Stata 18.

Quick start

Show graphics settings

```
query graphics
```

Set the default graph scheme for the session to that used by the *Stata Journal*

```
set scheme sj
```

Same as above, and set `sj` as the default scheme in future sessions

```
set scheme sj, permanently
```

Syntax

```
query graphics
```

```
set scheme schemename [ , permanently ]
```

Option

`permanently` specifies that in addition to making the change right now, the scheme setting be remembered and become the default setting when you invoke Stata.

Remarks and examples

The graphics scheme specifies the overall look for the graph. You can specify the scheme to be used for an individual graph by specifying the `scheme()` option on the `graph` command, or you can specify the scheme once and for all by using `set scheme`.

See [G-4] **Schemes intro** for a description of schemes and a list of available *schemenames*.

One of the available *schemenames* is `economist`, which roughly corresponds to the style used by *The Economist* magazine. If you wanted to make the `economist` scheme the default for the rest of this session, you could type

```
. set scheme economist
```

and if you wanted to make `economist` your default, even in subsequent sessions, you could type

```
. set scheme economist, permanently
```

Note that `cscrip`.ado sets the scheme to `s2color8`. Therefore, if your do-file or ado-file calls `cscrip`.ado, the scheme will be changed to `s2color8`. You can change the scheme by adding the `set scheme` command after your `cscrip` line.

References

- Jann, B. 2018a. [Customizing Stata graphs made easy \(part 2\)](#). *Stata Journal* 18: 786–802.
———. 2018b. [Customizing Stata graphs made easy \(part 1\)](#). *Stata Journal* 18: 491–502.

Also see

- [G-3] [scheme_option](#) — Option for specifying scheme
[G-4] [Schemes intro](#) — Introduction to schemes

Stata, Stata Press, Mata, NetCourse, and NetCourseNow are registered trademarks of StataCorp LLC. Stata and Stata Press are registered trademarks with the World Intellectual Property Organization of the United Nations. StataNow is a trademark of StataCorp LLC. Other brand and product names are registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective companies. Copyright © 1985–2025 StataCorp LLC, College Station, TX, USA. All rights reserved.

For suggested citations, see the FAQ on [citing Stata documentation](#).

