

## Changing Windows Colour Backgrounds using RapidSet

In versions of Windows from XP to Windows 7 it was relatively easy to change Windows background colours via the Control Panel. However, in Windows 8, the Advanced Appearance options are limited. As a result, changing Windows background colours is a little complicated in Windows 8 – unless you use an additional programme to apply the changes.

This factsheet gives instructions on the use of a free programme called '**RapidSet**'. The software lets you quickly and easily set your preferred Windows colour background.

### Step 1 – Downloading the Software

RapidSet is available from following address:

<http://www.fx-software.co.uk/assistive.htm>

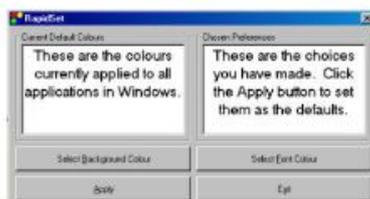
Alternatively, type 'RapidSet software' into a search engine and the link to 'FX Software' should be near the top of the list of results.

The FX Software logo looks like this:



On the left hand side of each FX page are several links.

- **Click** on the 'Assistive Software' link.
- **Scroll** down the page to information and a download link for RapidSet (see image below):



#### **RapidSet (1.12Mb)**

Allows quick and easy changing of the background and font colours, without having to go through the Screen Properties dialogs.

- To begin installing RapidSet **click** the download link



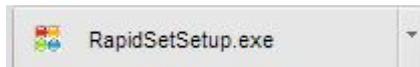
## Step 2 – Installing RapidSet

After choosing to download RapidSet, depending on the browser you are using, you need to run the software.

Internet Explorer download option: **Click 'Run'**



Google Chrome download: **Click** to run the installation file:



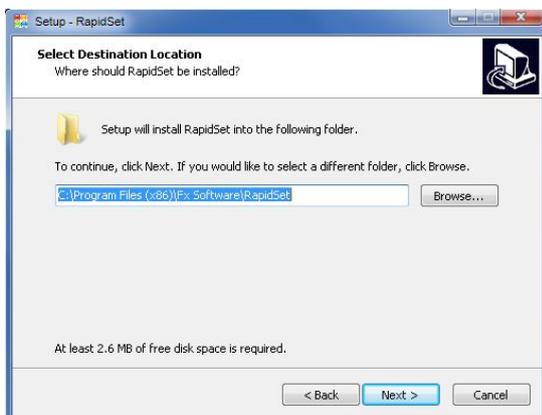
Once the installation starts, a series of Windows are displayed. Follow the instructions below to install the software:



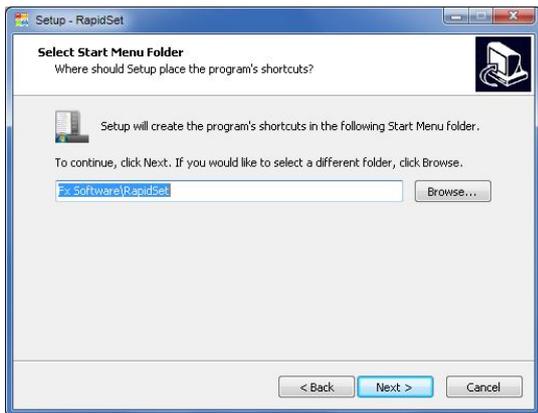
Click OK



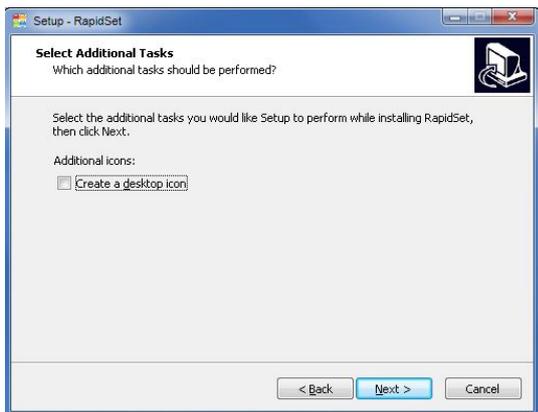
Click 'Next'



Click 'Next'

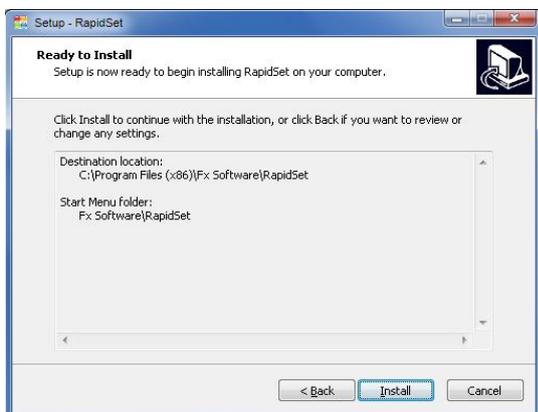


Click 'Next'



Click 'Next'

(click 'Create a Desktop icon' as an option if you want a shortcut to the programme on your desktop)



Click 'Install'

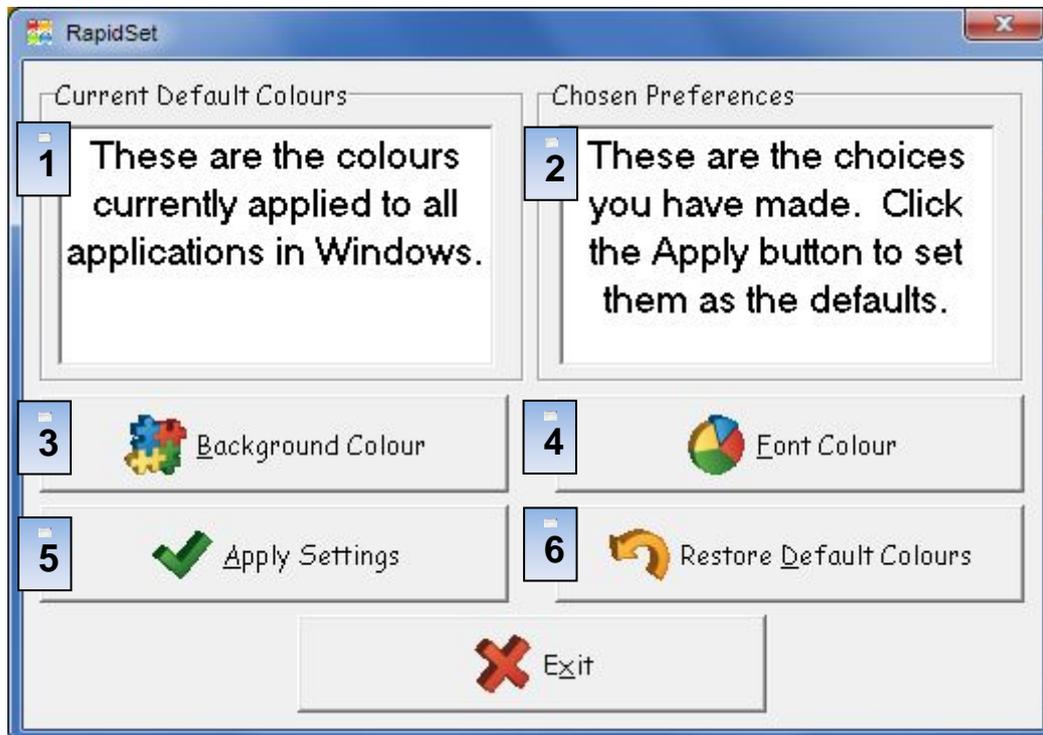


Click 'Finish' – RapidSet will launch automatically

### Step 3 – Using RapidSet

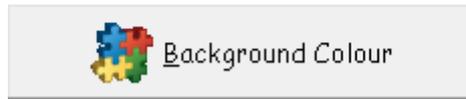
RapidSet has a very simple interface. It is easy to choose a new background colour and compare the colour options with the current background.

Each of the elements of the RapidSet window is numbered below:

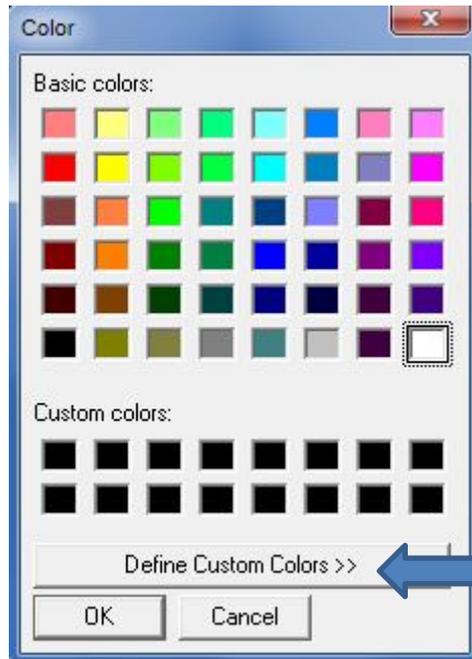


- 1 The **Current Default Colour** preview
- 2 **Chosen preference** (use this to preview the changes)
- 3 **Background Colour** - Use this button to open the colour palette
- 4 **Font Colour** - Use this button to open the font colour palette
- 5 **Apply Settings** - Click here to apply the selected settings
- 6 **Restore Default Colours** - Click here to restore to the default colours

To search for a new background colour, **click** the background colour button:



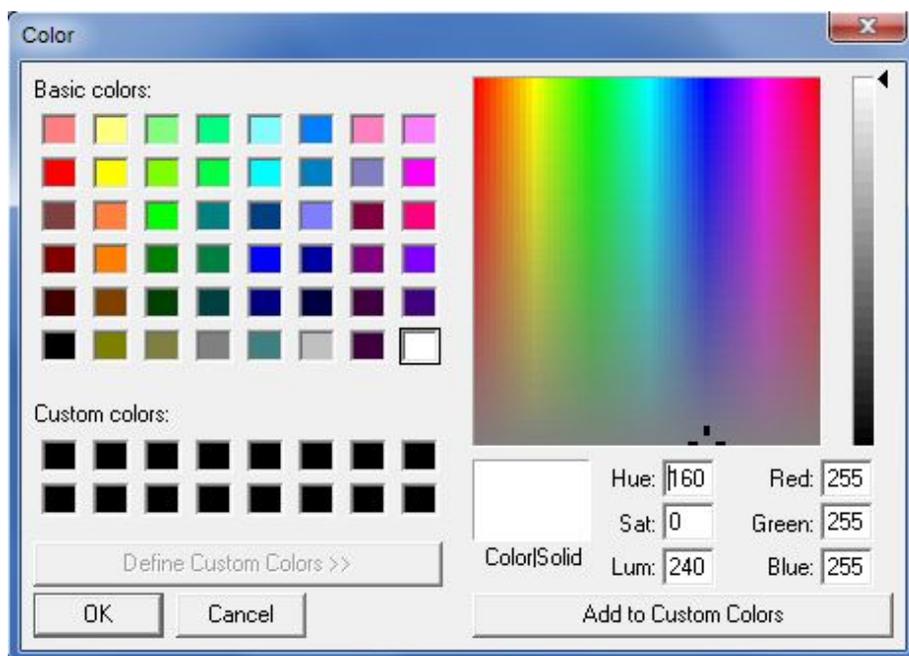
This will display the basic colour palette:



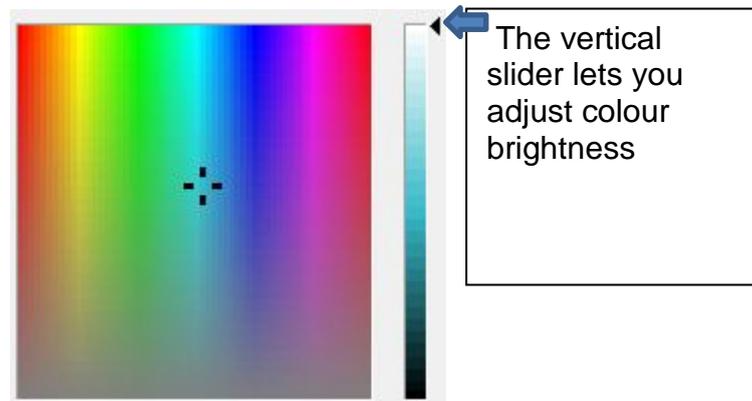
**Click** on any colour then click **OK** to see a preview of the new background colour

To see more colour options, click the 'Default Custom Colors' button.

The extended colour palette is displayed after clicking the 'Default Custom Colors' button:

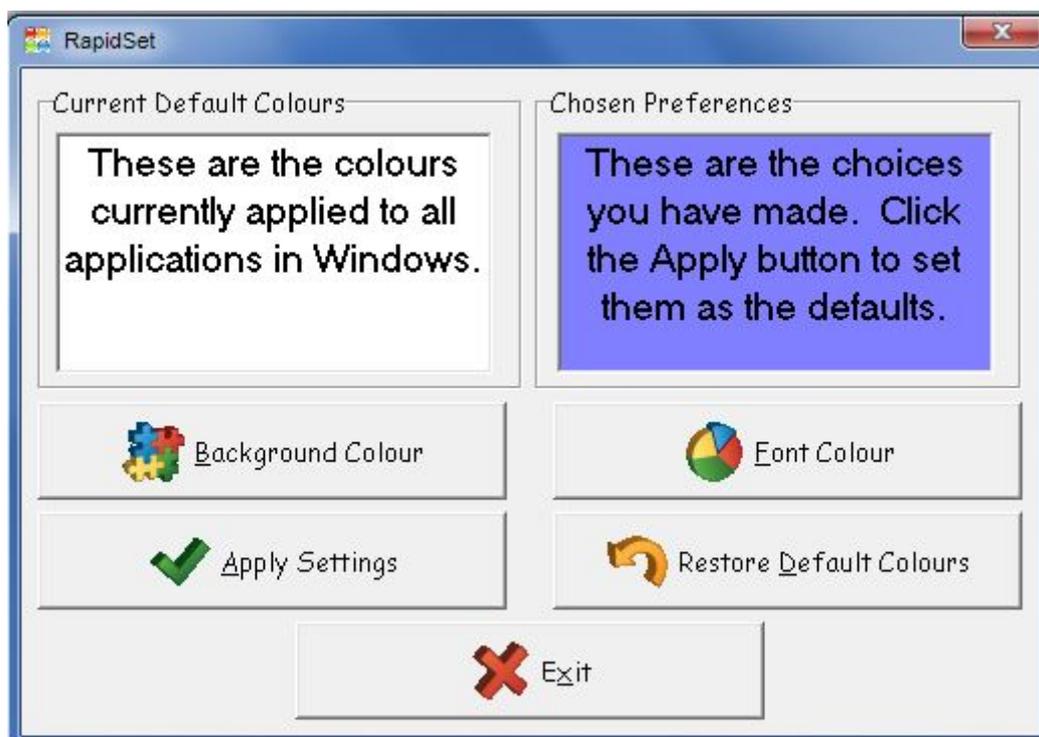


Within the extended colour palette you can drag a crosshair around the colour spectrum to choose a precise colour:



After choosing a colour in the palette, **click OK**.

A preview is available in the RapidSet interface:



To confirm and apply the colour option, **click 'Apply Settings'**.

Finally, **click 'Exit'** to close RapidSet.