

# Image Analysis for ArcGIS FAQs<sup>1</sup>



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## How Do I Apply a Color Ramp to an Image?

Use ArcMap to apply a color ramp to an image. Thematic images are continually used in geospatial analyses, and effective display of data using colors (or color patterns) is often a critical part of the visualization and analysis process. This document describes how to apply a color ramp to an image using ArcMap.

### What You Will Need and Other Assumptions

- A thematic raster image

### Overview of Steps

1. Apply a color ramp to a thematic image.

### Step-by-Step Example

1. Start ArcMap from your Desktop, or on the Windows Taskbar click **Start | Programs | ArcGIS | ArcMap**.
2. Select the **Add Data** button and add a thematic image to the Data Frame.
3. **Double-click** on the image filename in the Table of Contents and select the **Symbology** tab in the **Properties** dialog.
4. Adjust the image's symbology by selecting a **Color Scheme**, or manually change the color of a class by **Double-clicking** on its color under the **Symbol** field. *Note: ensure that **Unique Values** is selected in the **Show** window.*
5. Click **Apply** and then **OK**.

*Note: changing an image's symbology (colors) in ArcGIS 8.3 is for display purposes only. To make color changes permanent to an image file, you would be required to save it as another file. This can be done by selecting **Image Analysis | GIS Analysis | Recode**. It should be noted that the next version of ArcGIS (ArcGIS 9.0), soon available to Forest Service users, has increased color editing and applying capabilities. Meanwhile, we recommend using ERDAS Imagine to make color changes to your thematic image.*

<sup>1</sup> Produced by the USDA Forest Service RSAC ( <http://fsweb.rsac.fs.fed.us> ). A Forest Service version of Image Analysis for ArcGIS was used to develop this reference document. No warranty is made as to completeness or accuracy.