Chaoscope - Color gradients

After I get some nice feedback concerning my tutorial "Chaoscope: get startet" I've been also ask if I know how it is possible to use some selfmade color gradients in Chaoscope.
I have investigated some time and found it out.

By the way: you can download Chaoscope from the following homepage:
Chaoscope Home

I think that the download does not take much time. After you have downloaded Chaoscope you can install it.

Now, back to topic. During my investigations I've found the word FractInt Map within the Chaoscope manual.
I use Google to search some more details about this word. At one site I've found the information that it is very easy to create gradiants by using a simple texteditor. So we will do this now.

.: Let's take a look to a Color Map :.
Open Notepad (you can do this quickly by selecting the windows start menu. Chooce the entry *Execute...* then.
Now you can type notepad into the field. Press okay after that. You can also place a link to notepad into your Quickstart-Panel.). It is also possible to use another texteditor (though I suggest to not use Word ;)).
Okay, now we open a file.
Therefore we browse to the Chaoscope subfolder "maps". Within this folder we found some other folders.
I have selected the folder *blue*. If you do not see files, you have to switch the data type option to "All data types". Now you should see all data types. I have selected the file *blue_orange.map*.

.: How now? :.
The file we will see looks like this:
0 0 255
255 128 0

Okay, what does that mean. Firstly we note 3 numbers side by side. The values we see are so-called *RGB-Values*. RGB means: Red, Green, Blue.
The value 0 is the minimum and 255 the maximum. If we write the numbers 0,0,0 the result would be a black color. If we write 255,255,255 the result would be a white color.
So 255,0,0 is red, 0,255,0 is green and 0,0,255 is blue.
Okay, now we know what the first line means. It is the color blue.
The second line is an orange color. You recognize that the colors red and green are mixed. By the way: the numbers 255,255,0 will leave into a yellow color. 255,0,255 is a violet color and 0,255,255 is a neon color.

As plaintext the two line means:
Create a gradient which begins with a blue color and ends with an orange color.
It is not very difficult.

.: Save your color gradient :.
If you've created your own color gradient you have to save it with the file extension *.map*. Make sure that notepad will not save your gradient as *.txt*. To avoid this change the data type option to "All data types".

.: Some examples :.
Okay. Here are some examples.
1) Gradient from dark brown to bright brown
61 44 23
230 217 202

2) Gradient from white to dark brown
255 255 255
176 109 22

3) Gradient from red to blue to yellow
255 0 0
0 0 255
255 255 0

4) Gradient from red to blue to yellow to green
255 0 0
0 0 255
255 255 0
0 255 0

It is not very difficult and after a while you will get some nice color gradients.
I get some stimuli as I worked with color gradients in my grafic application Paint Shop Pro. I wrote down the color values from these gradients and then I've created my chaoscope color gradients.

You can download a tool which also allows you to create color gradients from the following homepage:
Color Map Generator

I don't know if the tool works with Windows2000 or WindowsXP.
If you don't want to write down color values you can give it a try.

I hope you've found this tutorial useful.

I would be happy to receive every kind of feedback from you.

X-PaX