Subject: Re: keybaord input Posted by Vap User on Fri, 25 Sep 1998 07:00:00 GMT

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Rob MacLeod <macleod@orthus.cvrti.utah.edu> writes:

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>
> Folks,
> Simple, beginners questions, but I want to have some very basic control
> over a program via the keyboard. For example, viewing a set of images and
> use "n" for next image "p" for previous, etc. Widgets are overkill and
> more time than I am willing to commit. But instead a command that waits
> for keyboard input, returns the value entered, which I then process inside
> the program. Braindead stuff in any other language I have used but I
> cannot seem to find it in IDL (maybe it's me who is braindead on this one
> (-:).
>
```

You can use either read, 'prompt', variable or ret=get\_kbrd(1) inside a repeat... until loop. Using Read,... will allow more than one character input from the user, get kbrd(1) only reads one character for each call.

Something like this would work.

```
usr_input="
repeat begin
; either do this
 read,"What do you want to do (P=prev/N=next/Q=quit)? ",usr_input
 ret=strupcase( strmid( strtrim( usr input,2),0,1) )
; or this
 print,' What do you want to do (P=prev/N=next/Q=quit)?'
 ret=strupcase(get_kbrd(1))
; but using get_kbrd() I found that I had to process the 'return'
    ; key, i.e.
 junk=get_kbrd(0)
    ; despite the help page claiming that you can't process return
    ; events this way. Go figure!
  case ret of
   'P': begin
 ; go backwards
   end
```

```
'N': begin
  ; go forwards
   end
    'Q':
   else: begin
  message, 'Sorry, no savvy! Try again',/cont
   end
  endcase
 endrep until ret eq 'Q'
 return
> If this matters, I need this for the Mac implementation of IDL 5
 Hope it doesn't matter.
> Thanks,
> Rob
> Rob MacLeod, Ph.D.
> Nora Eccles Harrison Cardiovascular Research and Training Institute (CVRTI)
> Building 500, University of Utah
> Salt Lake City, Utah 84112
> Internet: macleod@cvrti.utah.edu
                                            ....0/0
> Phonemail: (801)581-8183
> Fax: (801)581-3128
I don't speak for JPL, it doesn't speak for me.
Well, not all the time, at least.
William Daffer <vapuser@haifung.jpl.nasa.gov>
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