

Subject: Re: ERROR: % Ambiguous keyword abbreviation: KEY
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 02 Jul 1999 07:00:00 GMT
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gabriel rodriguez ibeas wrote:

```
> I have gotten a
>
>      % Ambiguous keyword abbreviation:  KEY
>
> error if I make define a procedure like:
>
> PRO ProcedureName, ..., KEYWORD=KEYWORD, ..., KEY=KEY, ...
>
> and then called it with:
>
> ProcedureName, KEYWORD=KEY.
>
> David Fanning has a program, COLORBAR which also produces the error if
> used, for example:
>
>      COLORBAR, DIV=5, MAX=10,MIN=0, FORMAT='(F5.2)'
>
> I'm using IDL 5.2 for WIN32, in an NT machine.
>
> Has anyone had the same problem?. Is it a bug? (By default, I think
> IDL should check if there exists a keyword whose full name is the one we
> are using in the call, and search for abbreviations afterwards.)
```

Well, that's just not the way IDL works! If you rename your KEY keyword to KEY2 for example, then KEYWORD=KEY would be recognized correctly. However, KEY=nnn would still be ambiguous.

This topic might almost be worth a David Fanning article or at least an FAQ entry ;-)

Martin

— —

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