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Subject: Another IDL twist

Posted by [edward.s.meinel](#) on Thu, 16 Dec 1999 08:00:00 GMT

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Does anyone know the rhyme or reason for the calling methods for the built-in IDL READ\_\* procedures? Sometimes it is:

```
image = READ_ASCII(file_name)
```

but other times it is:

```
READ_GIF, file_name, image
```

What's going on? Do I just have to look it up everytime?

|                 |           |
|-----------------|-----------|
| READ_ASCII      | Function  |
| READ_BMP        | Function  |
| READ_DICOM      | Function  |
| READ_GIF        | Procedure |
| READ_INTERFILE  | Procedure |
| READ_JPEG       | Procedure |
| READ_PICT       | Procedure |
| READ_PNG        | Function  |
| READ_PPM        | Procedure |
| READ_SPR        | Function  |
| READ_SRF        | Procedure |
| READ_SYLK       | Function  |
| READ_TIFF       | Function  |
| READ_WAVE       | Procedure |
| READ_X11_BITMAP | Procedure |
| READ_XWD        | Function  |

At least the QUERY\_\* routines are all functions...

Ed "twistin' the night away" Meinel

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