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Subject: Re: filename check

Posted by [Edward Max Pottasch](#) on Tue, 24 Oct 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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Stuart Colley <src@star.ucl.ac.uk> wrote in message

news:Pine.OSF.3.96.1001024143333.20360F-100000@zuaxp7.star.ucl.ac.uk...

>

> Can anyone suggest a way to check that a file exists before attempting to

> read from it, since the error messages obtained from trying to read from a

> non-existing file, don't make it clear that file doesn't exist.

>

> cheers,

> S

>

hi Stuart,

my way of IDL programming is rather simple since I am only familiar with the older versions of IDL (v.3.4.1). Anyway this works for me:

ciao, Ed

```
fn='filename'
```

```
; check if file exists
```

```
ff=FINDFILE(fn)
```

```
IF (ff(0) EQ fn) THEN BEGIN
```

```
; do your stuff
```

```
ENDIF
```

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