
Subject: Re: Directory separators

Posted by [George Constantinides](#) on Wed, 28 Mar 2001 22:41:51 GMT

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```
>
>>
>> I have been using the following function to select the appropriate OS
>> specific directory separator. I have two questions about it: (1) what
>> is the correct directory separator in VMS?, and (2) is there a built-in
>> means of getting the same information?
>>
>> Thanks,
>>
>> Ben
>>
>> ;-----START
>> FUNCTION SYSSEP
>>
>> Case StrLowerCase(!Version.OS_Family) of
>> 'unix': Return, '/'
>> 'win':  Return, '\'
>> 'macos': Return, ':'
>> 'vms': Return, "
>> Else: Return, "
>> EndCase
>>
>> End
>> ;-----END
>
> Paul van Delst is correct that "." separates subdirectories in VMS.
> However, the most frequent use that I've seen for a case statement like
> the above is to separate the directory specification from a file name.
> In that case you'd want "]". To complete Paul's example:
>
> DISK$NAME1:[PAULV.DIR.SUBDIR.SUBSUBDIR]filename.ext
>
```

In VMS you may also get a file path define via a logical such as:

```
$ DEFINE DIR_PATH DISK$NAME1:[PAULV.DIR.SUBDIR.SUBSUBDIR]
```

in which case the above file spec becomes DIR_PATH:filename.ext

So you also need to search for ":" as well as "]". To do this you can use a regular expression as show below.

```
;----- --
```

Function ExtrFileName, FullFileSpec

; Given the full file spec extract the file name. (vms case)

```
f= StrSplit(FullFileSpec,'^*:[^*\\]','/Extract)
```

```
f = f[N_Elements(f)-1]
```

```
f= StrSplit(f,';*$','/Extract)
```

```
Return, f[0]
```

End

```
;-----
```

Regards,

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