
Subject: Re: Convert Integer to Text

Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Mon, 14 May 2001 12:24:30 GMT

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Dan Blair <vze2p88d@verizon.net> writes:

```
> Mark Hadfield wrote:  
>  
>> From: ""Mark Hadfield"" <m.hadfield@niwa.cri.nz>  
>>  
>>> You can add the prefix and suffix via the "+" operator like this...  
>>>  
>>> name = 'MC'+string(index,format='(I3.3)')+'.dcm'  
>>>  
>>> or within the format specifier like this...  
>>>  
>>> name = string(index,format='("MC",I3.3,".dcm")'  
>>  
>> Of course you can also use printf-style format codes (new to IDL 5.4) like  
>> this  
>>  
>> name = string(index,format='("%MC%3.3d.dcm")')  
>>  
>> I suppose there must be somebody out there who actually *uses* this stuff?  
>>  
>> ---  
>> Mark Hadfield  
  
> A freind of mine wrote a nice thing for just this application. It's a  
> function called  
> padnumstring.pro  
>  
> here it is  
>  
> repeat begin  
> if strlen(numstring) lt length then numstring='0'+numstring  
> endrep until strlen(numstring) eq length
```

Not to blame you or your friend, but Mark's solution using the format qualifier is far superior and faster, too. You shouldn't use a loop in IDL when you can avoid it as easily as here.

Martin

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