
Subject: Re: A little handy date function

Posted by [Andrew Lough](#) on Mon, 25 Mar 2002 18:19:22 GMT

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G Karas wrote:

```
>
> I was trying to make some unique filenames...
>
> first I tried the randomn() function, but it always gave
> back the same number for the same seed...
>
> and the bin_date(systime()) combination, did not quite make it ;
> it missed leading zeroes..
>
> so i thought, why not posting my little routine:
>
> --- cut here -----cut here -----
>
> FUNCTION UNIQUE_DATE
>
> ; little function to create *correct* timestamps
> ; the existing bin_date function, does not add
> ; zeroes... so we never know where what is...
> ; works for 24 hours clock..
> ; not fixed for am-pm clocks...
>
> aq = bin_date(systime()) ; get the systime and put it in an array
>
> uq = string(aq)
>
> if aq[1] LT 10 then uq[1] = '0' + deblank(uq[1]) ; month
> if aq[2] LT 10 then uq[2] = '0' + deblank(uq[2]) ; day
> if aq[3] LT 10 then uq[3] = '0' + deblank(uq[3]) ; hour
> if aq[4] LT 10 then uq[4] = '0' + deblank(uq[4]) ; min
> if aq[5] LT 10 then uq[5] = '0' + deblank(uq[5]) ; sec
>
> datearr = uq[0] + uq[1] + uq[2] + '_' + $
>           uq[3] + uq[4] + uq[5]
>
> date_string = deblank(datearr)
>
> return, date_string
>
> END
>
> FUNCTION DEBLANK, myTEXT
>
> deresult = strcompress(string(myTEXT), /REMOVE_ALL)
```

```
> return, deresult
>
> END
```

How about this attempt at a simpler solution...

```
aq = BIN_DATE( SYSTIME() )
```

```
uq = STRING( aq[0], aq[1], aq[2], '_', aq[3], aq[4], aq[5], $
  format='(i4.4, i2.2, i2.2, a, i2.2, i2.2, i2.2)' )
```

```
return, uq
```

```
--
```

```
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```
