
Subject: Re: Again: How to use FORMAT like sprintf??
Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Wed, 25 Sep 2002 14:24:07 GMT
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Brian Huether wrote:

>
> I posted this question and got some great answers but everytime I tried the
> examples that you all showed me, IDL gave me this error:
>
> Unexpected text in format
>
> I am using IDL 5.2. Could that be the problem? If so, can someone explain
> how to do what I need using version 5.2? Here is my original message:

I don't know when IDL started supporting C style format codes; it might not have done so yet in 5.2. In that case, you'll need to learn to use the Fortran-style format codes instead:

```
IDL> s = string(10, FORMAT= $  
IDL> '("IDL has been driving me crazy for the last ",I0," days")' )  
IDL> print,s  
IDL has been driving me crazy for the last 10 days
```

```
IDL> arrayname='A'  
IDL> somekeyword='TYPE'  
IDL> s = string(arrayname, somekeyword, FORMAT= $  
IDL> '("SIZE(",A0," /",A0,")")' )  
IDL> print,s  
SIZE(A, /TYPE)
```

Just look in the online help, or your user's guide, for 'format codes'.
