
Subject: Re: Read Total lines in an ASCII file
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 18:53:59 GMT
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Med Bennett (no.spam@this.address.please) writes:

> That should work fine, but I would think that it would be slow for large files
> because of the loop. I do this instead - also somewhat crude but maybe
> faster:

I once thought of writing an article about all the goofy ways people have devised to count the lines in their files. (Have you ever wondered why we are so attached to columns of data? I wonder if it has something to do with the hard-wiring in our brains. Something about bananas hanging from the top of a tree, maybe.)

Anyway, IDL 5.6 has FILE_LINES, which will give us all a consistent way to count lines from now on. Now, all we have to do is convince everyone to upgrade... :-)

Cheers,

David

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