
Subject: Re: Read Total lines in an ASCII file
Posted by [David Burridge](#) on Fri, 13 Dec 2002 18:08:39 GMT
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Hi Maria,

Actually, I beleive there is a new feature in IDL 5.6 that does this. But assuming you're still on IDL 5.5, something like:

```
noLines = 0L
line = ''
OpenR, lun, 'mytextfile.txt', /Get_lun
While Not EOF (lun) Do Begin
    ReadF, lun, line
    noLines = noLines + 1
EndWhile
```

Will do the trick. If (as I suspect) you then want to read the file, don't forget to:

```
Point_Lun, lun, 0
```

before you do. Otherwise, you'll need a:

```
Free_Lun, lun
```

to close the file and make the allocated file unit available to IDL again.

On the other point, will a simple:

```
mychar EQ 'P'
```

in a statement do the trick? Examples

```
If mychar EQ 'P' Then Print, 'Hello'
```

```
mybool = mychar EQ 'P'
```

Hope this helps.

Best regards,

David

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"Maria" <msmimb@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:d19b702e.0212130942.1d6d6dbf@posting.google.com...
> I bet my question seems simple to all of you but...does anybody know
> how to read the total number of lines in an ASCII file?
>
> Also, is there any command in IDL such as if (variable_char is char)
> then give me a boolean (true or false)?
>
> Thanks a lot!
> Maria.

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