
Subject: Re: A simple IF statement question

Posted by [Benjamin Luethi](#) on Mon, 14 Feb 2005 14:37:36 GMT

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Excerpt from the IDL help:

The definition of true and false for the different data types is as follows:

- Byte, integer, and long: odd integers are true, even integers are false.
- Floating-point, and complex: non-zero values are true, zero values are false.

The imaginary part of a complex number is ignored.

- String: any string with a nonzero length is true, null strings are false.
- Heap variables (pointers and object references): non-null values are true, null values are false.

In your case it's integer. So because 0, 2 and 24 are even they are "false", 1 and 19 are "true" (odd).

Ben

On 14 Feb 2005 05:55:28 -0800, Andry William <andry_william@hotmail.com> wrote:

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> Dear IDL user,
>
> I am using IDL 6.1 on Linux SUSE. I am writing a simple code using the
> IF statement and am wondering about the following result:
>
> IDL> IF 1 THEN PRINT, '1' ELSE PRINT, 'None'
> 1
> IDL> IF 2 THEN PRINT, '2' ELSE PRINT, 'None'
> None
> IDL> IF 19 THEN PRINT, '19' ELSE PRINT, 'None'
> 19
> IDL> IF 24 THEN PRINT, '24' ELSE PRINT, 'None'
> None
> IDL> IF 0 THEN PRINT, '0' ELSE PRINT, 'None'
> None
>
> Am I wrong when I expect the IF statement to return always TRUE if the
> condition is not 0 (I mean something like 1,2,3,4,...)?
>
> Thanks for any comments.
```

>
> Andry

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