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Subject: Re: Yet another bug??  
Posted by [sjt](#) on Wed, 24 May 1995 07:00:00 GMT  
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Phil (phil@peace.med.ohio-state.edu) wrote:

: Sorry to keep posting but I've just started developing some useful  
: tools in IDL and it seems I run across a new 'bug' every day. Could  
: someone tell me the sense behind the following:

```
: IDL> print, not 0
:   -1
: IDL> print, not 1
:   -2
```

: Shouldn't (not 0) = 1 and (not 1) = 0 or am i just missing something?  
: Is there something in the manuals that describes this logic?

: Just wondering.

The answers are perfectly correct 0 is in hex 0000 and so (not 0) is ffff  
which is -1, and not 1 will be fffe or -2. It's a bitwise operation,  
often useful but occasionally infuriating (e.g. if you want to use the  
negation of something you've just calculated as a value of a set/unset  
keyword) if you want the logical operation then you should and the entire  
expression with 1  
e.g.

```
IDL>print, (not 0) and 1
1
IDL>print, (not 1) and 1
0
```

```
: --
: /*****
: Phil Williams
: Postdoctoral Researcher          "One man gathers what
: MRI Facility                    another man spills..."
: The Ohio State University        -The Grateful Dead
: email: phil@peace.med.ohio-state.edu
: URL: http://justice.med.ohio-state.edu:1525
: *****/
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