
Subject: Beginner question about the '@' usage

Posted by [Mathieu Malaterre](#) on Wed, 27 Jul 2005 17:32:41 GMT

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Hello,

So I am slowly learning idl, and I am confused on the use of the '@' to include files.

If I have:

```
:::::::::::  
hello.pro  
:::::::::::  
print, 'Hello World'  
exit
```

I can just run

```
$ idl hello.pro  
and everything is fine
```

If I have then:

```
:::::::::::  
lib.pro  
:::::::::::  
; Lib containing one Function  
  
; carre return the square of its input  
Function carre, input  
    return, input*input  
End  
:::::::::::  
testlib.pro  
:::::::::::  
; include the content of file: lib.pro  
@lib  
a = 5  
print, a  
b = carre(a)  
print, b  
exit
```

I cannot run :

```
$ idl testlib.pro
```

it returns:

% Programs can't be compiled from single statement mode.

Then I tried:

\$ echo testlib | idl

but then it returns:

% Attempt to call undefined procedure/function: 'TESTLIB'.

% Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$

What is the correct way to run testlib.pro ?

Thanks

Mathieu
