
Subject: Re: Beginner question about the @ usage
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 27 Jul 2005 20:09:34 GMT
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Paul Van Delst writes:

```
> The usual exception to the each-function-in-its-own-file rule is things like widget code where
> event
> handlers are placed in the same file as the widget creation code, e.g. mywidget.pro contains:
>
> PRO Exit_Event, Event
>   WIDGET_CONTROL, Event.Top, /DESTROY
> END
>
> PRO mywidget
>   Top_Level_Base_ID = WIDGET_BASE( COLUMN = 1, $
>                               MAP = Map, $
>                               MBAR = Menu_Bar_ID, $
>                               TITLE = 'MyWidget' )
>   File_Menu_ID = WIDGET_BUTTON( Menu_Bar_ID, $
>                               VALUE = 'File', $
>                               /MENU )
>   File_Exit_ID = WIDGET_BUTTON( File_Menu_ID, $
>                               VALUE = 'Exit', $
>                               EVENT_PRO = 'Exit_Event', $
>                               /SEPARATOR, $
>                               UVALUE = 'Exit' )
>   WIDGET_CONTROL, Top_Level_Base_ID, MAP = Map, $
>                               REALIZE = 1, $
>                               UPDATE = 1
>   XMANAGER, 'mywidget', Top_Level_Base_ID
>
> END
>
>
> Note that the MAIN routine, mywidget, is AFTER the event handler. This ensures that the
> dependent
> "Exit_Event" routine is compiled whenever the "mywidget" procedure is invoked. If you put the
> event
> handler after the main routine, it would not get compiled.
```

Paul is certainly correct, but I do wish he had named that event handler MYWIDGET_EXIT_EVENT. Giving arbitrary names to utility routines (for, in fact, this is what any module in the file **before** the main or command module is) will lead you, eventually, to spending a long week trying to figure out why your code works perfectly sometimes and not at all other

times. :-)

Here is an article if you are interested in learning more:

<http://www.fanning.com/tips/namefiles.html>

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
