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Subject: Re: Another user input question

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 15 Jul 2009 18:40:33 GMT

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Joanna writes:

> I'm writing a program where I want the user to input which file they  
> want to be read into the program. I previously had a specific file in  
> the program using rdfloat, where I knew how many columns there were,  
> etc. Now I want my program to be more universal, but I'm having  
> trouble figuring out how to allow the user to pick the file. I've  
> tried things like this:  
>  
> data=' '  
> read,'Enter file',x  
> data=rd\_tfile( or other such functions), 'data'... and so on and so  
> forth...  
> print,data  
>  
> I just keep getting various types of error messages. Any ideas?

Try this:

```
file = Dialog_Pickfile()
IF file EQ "" THEN RETURN
```

There are various keywords you can use with DIALOG\_PICKFILE to refine your search. Learn about them by typing this:

```
IDL> ? dialog_pickfile
```

Cheers,

David

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

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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