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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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