
Subject: Opening variable files

Posted by [Christopher E. Crabtr](#) on Thu, 30 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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I am an undergraduate at Washington University. We purchased IDL in the summer of 96. I am currently trying to write a widget based application and I ran into a problem. I want the user to be able to open a file of his or her choosing, but when I try to use the statement

```
openr, 1, filename
```

where filename is a string (variable) I get a message saying that a scalar value is expected. Is there any way to allow the user to enter in the new file name without exiting the application and recompiling the program with the new 'filename' inserted.

Thanks,

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