
Subject: Re: Using a text list to populate a LIST() in IDL
Posted by [Dick Jackson](#) on Tue, 25 Feb 2014 04:04:57 GMT
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Hi folks,

If an extra copy of the strings will fit in memory, this might be easier:

```
f = 'test_string.txt'
strs = StrArr(File_Lines(f))
OpenR, unit, f, /Get_LUN
ReadF, unit, strs
Free_LUN, unit
strList = List(strs, /EXTRACT)
```

--

Cheers,
-Dick

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Paul van Delst wrote, On 2014-02-24, 9:20am:

> I created a test file, "test_string.txt", that contains the following (minus the
> "%<" lines):

```
>
> -----%<-----
> this is string one
> and now string two
> this little piggy cried wee wee wee...
> the end
> -----%<-----
```

> Then the procedure:

```
>
> -----%<-----
> pro read_into_list, user_list
>   user_list = list()
>   openr, fid, "test_string.txt", /get_lun
>   cbuffer = ""
>   while (~ eof(fid)) do begin
>     readf, fid, cbuffer
>     user_list.add, cbuffer
>   endwhile
>   free_lun, fid
> end
```

```

> -----%<-----
>
> Running the above in IDL:
>
>
> IDL> .run read_into_list
> % Compiled module: READ_INT0_LIST.
> IDL> read_into_list, x
> IDL> help, x
> X          LIST <ID=1 NELEMENTS=4>
> IDL> for i=0, n_elements(x)-1 do help, x[i]
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'this is string one'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'and now string two'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'this little piggy cried wee wee wee...'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'the end'
>
> When I edit the file and run again I get
>
> IDL> read_into_list, x
> IDL> for i=0, n_elements(x)-1 do help, x[i]
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'this is string one'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'and now string two'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'toss in a third string,'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'this little piggy cried wee wee wee...'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'the end'
> <Expression>  STRING  = 'not really. This the the last line'
>
>
> How's that?
>
>
> cheers,
>
> paulv
>
> On 02/23/14 17:31, johnson.dustin.astro@gmail.com wrote:
>> Hi,
>>
>>
>> I am writing a function/routine that makes use of a user provided
>> list
> of strings. Right now, the user needs to edit the LIST(a,b,c,d)
> parameter. I was wondering if there is a way for me to have the routine
> reference a .txt file and use the contents to populate the list, rather
> than have the user edit the function.
>>
>> Does anyone know how I would accomplish this?
>>

```

>> Thanks!

>>
