
Subject: Re: Test if variable is a string
Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Tue, 04 Feb 2003 13:23:30 GMT
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In article <qzu65s0xtbv.fsf@sand.science.uva.nl>,
Carsten Dominik <dominik@_DROP_THIS_science.uva.nl> wrote:

> So what is the magic word for determining the type of a variable?

type = SIZE(variable, /TYPE)

What, that isn't obvious? ;-)

Ken Bowman

Subject: Re: Test if variable is a string
Posted by [Carsten Dominik](#) on Tue, 04 Feb 2003 15:23:40 GMT
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>>>> > "KPB" == Kenneth P Bowman <kpb@null.com> writes:

KPB> In article <qzu65s0xtbv.fsf@sand.science.uva.nl>,
KPB> Carsten Dominik <dominik@_DROP_THIS_science.uva.nl> wrote:

>> So what is the magic word for determining the type of a variable?

KPB> type = SIZE(variable, /TYPE)

KPB> What, that isn't obvious? ;-)

Exactly! :-) Thanks

- Carsten

Subject: Re: Test if variable is a string
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 04 Feb 2003 16:21:14 GMT
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Kenneth P. Bowman (kpb@null.com) writes:

> type = SIZE(variable, /TYPE)

I just point out that in code you want to be able
to read and understand later, that the TNAME keyword
is also useful. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

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

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Subject: Re: Test if variable is a string

Posted by [Richard French](#) on Wed, 05 Feb 2003 03:10:10 GMT

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"David Fanning" <david@dfanning.com> wrote:

>
> I just point out that in code you want to be able
> to read and understand later,....

Gee, who would want to do that?

Does anyone here remember the glory days of FORTH?

A true 'write-only' language. It's like reading raw

Postscript and trying to remember what is on the stack

And how it got there.

Which makes me think about all of the other dead programming languages out there - does anyone still use Pascal? I seem to recall that the original Mac code was written in Pascal - about as different a language from IDL as I can think of.

Dick French
