
Subject: writing to a specific directory

Posted by [IDLmastertobe](#) on Fri, 01 Oct 2004 22:05:50 GMT

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My question is how can I write a file to a directory chosen by a user?

Subject: Re: writing to a specific directory

Posted by [Benjamin Hornberger](#) on Sat, 02 Oct 2004 00:03:50 GMT

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IDLmastertobe wrote:

> Yes, but I think this only applies openr and not openw. I'm just not sure
> as to how to write to a directory with respect to using openw.
>

dialog_pickfile does nothing else than returning a string which contains a filename, including the path. That string can then be passed as an argument to openr, openw and any other function / procedure which does something with a file.

Anyway, you don't write to a directory, you write to a file. And to specify the file in IDL, you use a text string. The text string can include an absolute path, or a path relative to the current working directory (which you can find out by doing

```
IDL> cd, current=current_dir & print, current_dir
```

```
).
```

Benjamin

Subject: Re: writing to a specific directory

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 02 Oct 2004 05:34:49 GMT

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IDLmastertobe writes:

> My question is how can I write a file to a directory chosen by a user?

```
file = Dialog_Pickfile(/Write, File='suggestedFilename.txt')  
IF file EQ "" THEN RETURN  
OpenW, lun, file, /Get_Lun  
... etc.
```

Cheers,

David

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