
Subject: Re: create string of fixed length

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2006 00:07:55 GMT

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justspam03@yahoo.de wrote:

> Hi,
>
> here's a probably very easy one (my apologies, but the help file failed
> to provide such)
> How does one create a string of fixed length, say a string consisting
> of 168 space
> characters?

How 'bout

```
spaces = MAKE_ARRAY( 168, VALUE=32B )
```

?

It's not quite a string per se, but mostly fulfills the same function.

paulv

--

Paul van Delst
CIMSS @ NOAA/NCEP/EMC

Subject: Re: create string of fixed length

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2006 00:31:06 GMT

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justspam03@yahoo.de writes:

> here's a probably very easy one (my apologies, but the help file failed
> to provide such)
> How does one create a string of fixed length, say a string consisting
> of 168 space

I'd do it just a little bit differently than Paul, but
it amounts to the same thing:

```
fixedStr = String(Replicate(32B, 168))
```

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Subject: Re: create string of fixed length
Posted by [codepod](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2006 01:04:32 GMT
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Or there's the simple format trick:

```
cow = string(' ', format='(a168)')
```

justspam03@yahoo.de wrote:

```
> Hi,  
>  
> here's a probably very easy one (my apologies, but the help file failed  
> to provide such)  
> How does one create a string of fixed length, say a string consisting  
> of 168 space  
> characters?  
> Thanks!  
> Oliver
```

Subject: Re: create string of fixed length
Posted by [Jan Kristian Jensen](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2006 07:51:51 GMT
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justspam03@yahoo.de wrote:

```
> How does one create a string of fixed length, say a string consisting  
> of 168 space characters?
```

And you could always apply brute force:

```
space = ' '  
longspace = ''  
for i = 0, 167 do longspace = longspace + space
```

Jan

--

Jan Kristian Jensen

Remove the obvious from the email adress to email me.

Subject: Re: create string of fixed length
Posted by [mmeron](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2006 08:28:59 GMT
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In article <dum2em\$kd0\$1@dolly.uninett.no>, Jan Kristian Jensen
<jankj11_nospam_remove_@_bluezone.no> writes:
> justspam03@yahoo.de wrote:
>> How does one create a string of fixed length, say a string consisting
>> of 168 space characters?
>
> And you could always apply brute force:
>
> space = ' '
> longspace = "
> for i = 0, 167 do longspace = longspace + space
>
What's wrong with

```
longspace = string(replicate(32b,168))
```

Mati Meron | "When you argue with a fool,
meron@cars.uchicago.edu | chances are he is doing just the same"

Subject: Re: create string of fixed length
Posted by [justspam03](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2006 09:55:45 GMT
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Oj, I'm impressed. This is almost like
there's-more-than-one-way-to-do-it-Perl.
I think I like the replicate version best.
No, actually I like the
char *s = (char *) malloc(169 * sizeof(char));
for(i = 0; i < 168; i++) s[i] = ' '; s[168]='\0';
version best ;-)
Thanks!
O. (ducking away)

Subject: Re: create string of fixed length
Posted by [Norbert Hahn](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 2006 14:43:50 GMT
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justspam03@yahoo.de wrote:

> Hi,
>
> here's a probably very easy one (my apologies, but the help file failed

> to provide such)
> How does one create a string of fixed length, say a string consisting
> of 168 space
> characters?

There is no such beast as fixed length of string - if I'm not mistaken.
Surely I can assign 168 spaces to a variable of type string, but when
I execute `abc = "*" some lines later, the length of the string abc`
will change to one byte.

To maintain the original length and using my example I would have to
replace byte one with "*" in an assignment that may look like
`strput, abc, "*", 1`

... or am I completely wrong?

Norbert
