
Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by [yi.selab](#) on Thu, 17 May 2007 08:45:56 GMT
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In this case, the result variable is not the return value of main
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into your C code.

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> Thanks for any help! Ive also bought the 'from c->dml->idl' book but
> it wont be in for a few days.

Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by [Allan Whiteford](#) on Thu, 17 May 2007 11:14:57 GMT
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Note that the return value can be obtained (at least under unix) with the `exit_status` keyword to `spawn`.

```
IDL> spawn, 'basic', exit_status=a  
IDL> print,a  
10
```

however, it's far more useful to use the `printf` in your program as Yi suggested to return data back. The exit status is typically used to return whether or not a command executed correctly or not.

Probably best to ignore this message unless you're really sure that you want the return value from the program rather than just its output.

Thanks,

Allan

Yi wrote:

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Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by [yp](#) on Thu, 17 May 2007 12:46:04 GMT
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On May 16, 11:34 pm, ryans...@gmail.com wrote:

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>
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> it wont be in for a few days.

In this case the output (10) is written to the console (i.e, your windows command prompt shell...) add a line in your C-code
system(pause); //I am not sure which compiler you are using

-y

Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 17 May 2007 14:02:21 GMT
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On May 16, 5:34 pm, ryans...@gmail.com wrote:

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> it wont be in for a few days.
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I think your on the right track by "boughtening" the book, but a quick

and dirty answer: Have you c-program write to stdout, then use spawn.

Good luck!

Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Thu, 17 May 2007 15:12:50 GMT
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ryanselk@gmail.com wrote:

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> variable after this line such as:

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'variable' is supposed to contain whatever output your program produces - in C terms, it contains whatever was written to stdout. Your program doesn't write anything to stdout, so variable won't contain any information. If you want to retrieve the exit status, what

you want is:

SPAWN, 'basic', EXIT_STATUS=variable

Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by [ryanselk](#) on Thu, 17 May 2007 15:32:38 GMT
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On May 17, 2:45 am, Yi <yi.se...@gmail.com> wrote:

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Thank you so much, I understand now! Your right that it works when adding a printf to the code with the result on the spawn.

I was under the impression that this would not work on windows, only unix, not sure why, but it does.

Subject: Re: Need help with basic spawn command
Posted by [Trae](#) on Tue, 22 May 2007 12:55:54 GMT
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Sorry for jumpiing on this thread late.

Why don't you use a combination of make_dll and call_external to have IDL call your C code? I do a lot of number crunching in IDL and write C codes to do much of the tedious but large jobs. These are the procedures I use to get C an IDL to talk to each other.

The learning curve on these procedures is not bad and I've had great success with them. It also sounds easier than what you are trying to do with printf and if you are worried about time, nothing takes longer than reading files. Call_external allows you to pass variables.

Cheers,
-Trae

Cheers,

On May 17, 9:32 am, ryans...@gmail.com wrote:

> On May 17, 2:45 am, Yi <yi.se...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

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