
Subject: assign an octal number to a variable
Posted by duxiyu@gmail.com on Mon, 13 Oct 2008 22:40:01 GMT
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I found a method to assign an octal number to a variable.

For example,

```
a="30  
print,a
```

It seems that the double quotation mark before the number can indicate this number is octal value.

But I do not find its detailed directions in IDL help.

In the similar way, which symbol can indicate the binary and hexadecimal number?

Best regards,
Du

Subject: Re: assign an octal number to a variable
Posted by duxiyu@gmail.com on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 18:09:05 GMT
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Thank you very much.
This is what I want.

But I still have a question as follows:

```
IDL> print,"77  
63
```

"16 is equal to '77'o.

I do not find the explanation of this expression in IDL help.

Du

On Oct 14, 5:29 pm, "mgal...@gmail.com" <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Oct 14, 1:53 am, "dux...@gmail.com" <dux...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> I am looking for the method to assign a binary or hexadecimal number
>> (such as 1101011 or 8AE3) to a variable.
>
> IDL> print, 'FF'x
> 255

```
> IDL> print, '100'b
>      4
> IDL> print, '77'o
>      63
>
> Mike
> --www.michaelgalloy.com
> Tech-X Corporation
> Software Developer II
```

Subject: Re: assign an octal number to a variable
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 19:46:10 GMT
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On Oct 14, 12:09 pm, "dux...@gmail.com" <dux...@gmail.com> wrote:

```
> Thank you very much.
> This is what I want.
>
> But I still have a question as follows:
>
> IDL> print,"77
>      63
>
> "16 is equal to '77'o.
```

I'm a bit confused by the statement. "16 is equal to '16'o and "77 is equal to '77'o; they are different notations for the same thing.

; 16 octal = 1 * 8 + 6 = 14 decimal

```
IDL> print, "16
      14
IDL> print, '16'o
      14
```

; 77 octal = 7 * 8 + 7 = 63 decimal

```
IDL> print, "77
      63
IDL> print, '77'o
      63
```

Subject: Re: assign an octal number to a variable
Posted by [duxiyu@gmail.com](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 20:33:53 GMT
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On Oct 14, 9:46 pm, "mgal...@gmail.com" <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Oct 14, 12:09 pm, "dux...@gmail.com" <dux...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> Thank you very much.
>> This is what I want.
>
>> But I still have a question as follows:
>
>> IDL> print,"77
>> 63
>
>> "16 is equal to '77'o.
>
> I'm a bit confused by the statement. "16 is equal to '16'o and "77 is
> equal to '77'o; they are different notations for the same thing.
>
> ; 16 octal = 1 * 8 + 6 = 14 decimal
>
> IDL> print, "16
> 14
> IDL> print, '16'o
> 14
>
> ; 77 octal = 7 * 8 + 7 = 63 decimal
>
> IDL> print, "77
> 63
> IDL> print, '77'o
> 63

Yes, I know "16 is another notation of '16'o.
I want to learn more about it,
and wonder whether there is the similiar notation for the binary or
hexadecimal number.
But I cannot find any information about it in IDL help.
Did you see this notation before?

Subject: Re: assign an octal number to a variable
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 21:13:44 GMT
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On Oct 14, 2:33 pm, "dux...@gmail.com" <dux...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Yes, I know "16 is another notation of '16'o.
> I want to learn more about it,
> and wonder whether there is the similiar notation for the binary or
> hexadecimal number.
> But I cannot find any information about it in IDL help.

> Did you see this notation before?

Yes, this is the reason that you should never use double quotes for strings, because valid looking strings produce errors that take one forever to figure out why they are a syntax error:

```
IDL> print, "22 monkeys"
```

```
print, "22 monkeys"  
      ^
```

```
% Syntax error.
```

As far as I know, there is no equivalent notation for binary or hexadecimal values, just the '100'b and 'FF'h notations.

Mike

--

www.michaelgalloy.com

Tech-X Corporation

Software Developer II

Subject: Re: assign an octal number to a variable

Posted by duxiyu@gmail.com on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 21:29:35 GMT

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On Oct 14, 11:13 pm, "mgal...@gmail.com" <mgal...@gmail.com> wrote:

> On Oct 14, 2:33 pm, "dux...@gmail.com" <dux...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> Yes, I know "16 is another notation of '16'o.

>> I want to learn more about it,

>> and wonder whether there is the similiar notation for the binary or

>> hexadecimal number.

>> But I cannot find any information about it in IDL help.

>> Did you see this notation before?

>

> Yes, this is the reason that you should never use double quotes for

> strings, because valid looking strings produce errors that take one

> forever to figure out why they are a syntax error:

>

```
> IDL> print, "22 monkeys"
```

```
>
```

```
> print, "22 monkeys"
```

```
>      ^
```

```
> % Syntax error.
```

```
>
```

> As far as I know, there is no equivalent notation for binary or

> hexadecimal values, just the '100'b and 'FF'h notations.

>
> Mike
> --www.michaelgalloy.com
> Tech-X Corporation
> Software Developer II

Finally, I find it in IDL help.
It is under the topic "Defining and Using Constants".

Subject: Re: assign an octal number to a variable
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 14 Oct 2008 21:38:59 GMT
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duxiyu@gmail.com writes:

> Finally, I find it in IDL help.
> It is under the topic "Defining and Using Constants".

Huh, amazing. Isn't that the page that comes up when you
search on "octal" in the on-line help? Wasted breath...

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
