
Subject: widget_list() question

Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Thu, 09 Sep 2010 19:11:17 GMT

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Hello,

I am putting together a little display tool where I would like to keep track of datafiles I have been using/displaying.

I want all the filenames for the session to be visible, as well as selectable so I can "flip" between files (all of the data from the files are kept in an IDL_Container object.)

So what I want to be able to do is:

- 1) create an empty list widget.
- 2) append new filenames to the list as they are read in. (e.g. "widget_control, id, append_value = filename" type of thing)
- 3) retrieve the list of all the filenames, or just the currently selected one.
- 4) retrieve the position in the list of the currently selected entry (I think I know how to do that already).

I thought I could use a regular old WIDGET_LIST() to do this but it appears to be quite difficult to concatenate values

in an already existing list, to say nothing of retrieving the list of string values in the list. I gather I'll need to

use the FUNC_GET_VALUE keyword, but how does one construct a function to retrieve the list contents? (The documentation didn't point to any examples that I could find)

I guess the question I'm asking is if widget_list() can handle this sort of functionality, or do I need to construct my own compound widget to do the job?

Alternatively, should I just keep track of stuff in my own (already existing) file_list container and simply recreate

the list from scratch everytime something changes? (Seems a bit bull-in-a-china-shop'ish)

Any info/hints appreciated.

cheers,

paulv
