
Subject: Checking the existence of a file with only part of the file's name

Posted by [thtran296](#) on Wed, 19 Jul 2017 16:07:41 GMT

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Hello everybody,

So I have thousands of text files, with the names like "textABC05_023.tab"

I want to check if one of these files exists. So I use the following:

```
result = file_test('Documents/DataFile/textABC05_023.tab') & print, result
```

The problem is, this only works if I know the exact full name of the file. What if I only want to check the existence of files, given that I know only part of the name, like "textABC05" (omitting the "_023" part)?

Part of the reasons I want to do that is these files have really random numbers at the end, and all I care is whether their names match up to the part textABC05, and if they did, then they exist.

Thank you for all your assistance.

Subject: Re: Checking the existence of a file with only part of the file's name

Posted by [Craig Markwardt](#) on Wed, 19 Jul 2017 17:51:30 GMT

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On Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 12:07:44 PM UTC-4, thtr...@gmail.com wrote:

...

> The problem is, this only works if I know the exact full name of the file. What if I only want to check the existence of files, given that I know only part of the name, like "textABC05" (omitting the "_023" part)?

It might be worth checking out the FILE_SEARCH() function.

Craig
