
Subject: Hey! Pssst! Wanna see something wierd?
Posted by [davidf](#) on Fri, 31 Jan 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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Alright you IDL gurus. Explain this!

```
number = STRING(10)
FOR j=0, number DO PRINT, 'Cool...!'
```

Weird, huh. IDL reads my mind! :-)

David

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Subject: Re: Hey! Pssst! Wanna see something wierd?
Posted by [Andy Loughe](#) on Mon, 03 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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David Fanning wrote:

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>
```

Seems easy to explain, the string value is simply converted to integer type because 0 is of that type, to prove this, try these three options...

```
FOR j=0, number DO Help, j
```

```
FOR j=0L, number DO Help, j
```

```
FOR j=0., number DO Help, j
```

--

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"I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who has endowed us
with
sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forego their use."
-Galileo

Subject: Re: Hey! Pssst! Wanna see something wierd?
Posted by [pit](#) on Mon, 03 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT
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In article <davidf-ya023080003101971818290001@news.frii.com>,
davidf@dfanning.com (David Fanning) writes:

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> Alright you IDL gurus. Explain this!  
>  
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> FOR j=0, number DO PRINT, 'Cool...!'  
>  
> Weird, huh. IDL reads my mind! :-)
```

Sorry, I don't get the point. What's so strange about IDL
recognizing the string '10' as a number? It's doing it since long.
It is even "smart" enough to do:

```
IDL> print,fix('10asd')  
10
```

Even cooler, eh?

Peter

--

~~~~~  
~~~~~  
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Tel.: +49 551 39-5048 pit@uni-sw.gwdg.de
-- * -- * ...-- * -- * ...-- * -- * ...-- * -- * ...-- * --
Come and see the stars! http://www.kis.uni-freiburg.de/~ps/SFB

Subject: Re: Hey! Pssst! Wanna see something wierd?

Posted by [Joseph M Zawodny](#) on Mon, 03 Feb 1997 08:00:00 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

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>   FOR j=0, number DO PRINT, 'Cool...!'
>
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> David
```

Well since the loop variable of a FOR loop has the type of the first parameter (namely whatever follows the equal sign) and all other parameters (end-value and step-value) converted to the same type, I am not surprised too much. The conversion of properly formatted string variables to byte, integer, float, ... is well known (look at READS function). I know this since I have had the misfortune of expecting the following to work.

```
for k=0,123456789L do ...
```

```
for k=0,5,0.1 do ...
```

Neither of them worked as I expected until rewritten as

```
for k=0L,123456789 do ...
```

```
for k=0.,5,0.1 do ...
```

Have fun!

--

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