

OCCURS() Function

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Returns the number of times a character expression occurs within another character expression.

Syntax

OCCURS(*cSearchExpression*, *cExpressionSearched*)

Returns

Numeric

Arguments

cSearchExpression Specifies a character expression that OCCURS() searches for within *cExpressionSearched*.

cExpressionSearched Specifies the character expression OCCURS() searches for *cSearchExpression*.

Remarks

OCCURS() returns 0 (zero) if *cSearchExpression* isn't found within *cExpressionSearched*.

SUBSTR() Function

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Returns a character string from the given character expression or memo field.

Syntax

SUBSTR(*cExpression*, *nStartPosition* [, *nCharactersReturned*])

Returns

Character

Arguments

cExpression Specifies the character expression or memo field from which the character string is returned.

StartPosition Specifies the position in the character expression or memo field *cExpression* from where the character string is returned. The first character of *cExpression* is position 1.

If TALK is SET ON and *nStartPosition* is greater than the number of characters in *cExpression*, Visual FoxPro generates an error message. If TALK is SET OFF, the empty string is returned.

nCharactersReturned Specifies the number of characters to return from *cExpression*. If you omit *nCharactersReturned*, characters are returned until the end of the character expression is reached.

Remarks

SUBSTR() returns a character string from a character expression or memo field, starting at a specified position in the character expression or memo field and continuing for a specified number of characters.

SUBSTR() will not return a value for a memo field when issued in the Debug window. To return a value in the Debug window, place the memo field name within ALLTRIM(), and place ALLTRIM() within SUBSTR().

AT() Function

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Returns the beginning numeric position of the first occurrence of a character expression or memo field within another character expression or memo field, counting from the leftmost character.

Syntax

AT(*cSearchExpression*, *cExpressionSearched* [, *nOccurrence*])

Returns

Numeric

Arguments

cSearchExpression Specifies the character expression that AT() searches for in *cExpressionSearched*.

cExpressionSearched Specifies the character expression *cSearchExpression* searches for.

Both *cSearchExpression* and *cExpressionSearched* can be memo fields of any size.

nOccurrence Specifies which occurrence (first, second, third, and so on) of *cSearchExpression* is searched for in *cExpressionSearched*. By default, AT() searches for the first occurrence of *cSearchExpression* (*nOccurrence* = 1). Including *nOccurrence* lets you search for additional occurrences of *cSearchExpression* in *cExpressionSearched*. AT() returns 0 if *nOccurrence* is greater than the number of times *cSearchExpression* occurs in *cExpressionSearched*.

Remarks

AT() searches the second character expression for the first occurrence of the first character expression. It then returns an integer indicating the position of the first character in the character expression found. If the character expression isn't found, AT() returns 0.

The search performed by AT() is case-sensitive. To perform a search that isn't case-sensitive, use ATC().

VAL() Function

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Returns a numeric value from a character expression composed of numbers.

Syntax

VAL(*cExpression*)

Returns

Numeric

Arguments

cExpression Specifies a character expression composed of up to 16 numbers. Rounding occurs if more than 16 numbers are included in *cExpression*.

Remarks

VAL() returns the numbers in the character expression from left to right until a non-numeric character is encountered (leading blanks are ignored). VAL() returns 0 if the first character of the character expression isn't a number or a plus sign (+) or minus sign (-).

VAL() can be used to convert the character strings returned by the Visual FoxPro SYS() functions to numeric values.