

# Re: Inputbox Question

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.general.discussion/2005-07/msg00522.html>

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- *From:* "Al Reid" <[areidjr@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:areidjr@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 8 Jul 2005 13:07:54 -0400
- 

"Rick Rothstein" <[rickNOSPAMnews@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:rickNOSPAMnews@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote in message  
[news:%23Qb9%2359gFHA.2456@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:%23Qb9%2359gFHA.2456@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

>>> The only problem here is that using "" an place of vbNullString  
>>> does \*NOT\* result in any "Bloat." In fact, once compiled, they  
>>> both result in exactly the same executable. WinDiff sees no  
>>> difference in the executables, other than the file date.

>>>

>>> That is an incorrect assumption.

>>>

>>> Create a new project, add a command button to Form1, and add the  
>>> following sub:

>>>

>>> Private Sub Command1\_Click()

>>> Dim S As String

>>>

>>> S = ""

>>> End Sub

>>>

>>> Copy the "S=" line so that there are 100 of them. Compile to

>>> Project1.exe

>>>

>>> Then replace all literal zero-length strings with either

> vbNullString

>>> or with your own constant. Compile to Project2.exe.

>>>

>>> The file size of Project1.exe and Project2.exe is different by 4K.

>>

>> Not on my systems; the files are different but are the same size

> whether I

>> use vbNullString, my onw constant or "". I used native code optimized

> for

>> small code size with VB6 SP5.

>

> Are they the same number of physical bytes? Or are you just looking at

> the sector size that Windows Explorer reports? It seems that DenBorg's

> 4K difference is a sector size difference leading me to believe that the

> physical byte size of the files is, in fact, different.

>

## Re: Inputbox Question

- > With that said... Who cares!
- >
- > The difference, if there really is one, under any or all compile
- > conditions, has got to be so small as to be meaningless given the size
- > of RAM and hard disks on current systems. Seems to me that it is time
- > for this thread to end, no?
- >
- > Rick
- >
- >

Rick,

In my case, I used WinDiff to compare the files AND went as far as running a disassembler and comparing the code visually. They are identical.

In the case of a boolean compare (a = "")' vs. (a = vbNullString) they both compare a to "0".

So as far as I can see, the compiler optimizes them both to the same machine code.

—  
Al Reid

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- *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ **Re: Inputbox Question**  
◇ *From: J French*

- *References:*

- ◆ **Inputbox Question**  
◇ *From: A P*
- ◆ **Re: Inputbox Question**  
◇ *From: Michael Cole*
- ◆ **Re: Inputbox Question**  
◇ *From: DenBorg*
- ◆ **Re: Inputbox Question**  
◇ *From: Bob Butler*
- ◆ **Re: Inputbox Question**  
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- ◇ *From: DenBorg*
- ◆ **[Re: Inputbox Question](#)**
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