

# Re: how do people feel about exit function from loop

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VB/microsoft.public.vb.general.discussion/2007-07/msg02864.html>

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I don't think that is true at all. Unfortunately I'm a DB programmer as well and almost every loop I do is appropriate for exit for (assuming it needs to terminate early at all). I almost never encounter a loop that needs a variable to exit. When I say almost never I reckon I could count on 1 hand in 10+ years. If you think this is common I think you are stretching the truth.

Obviously our programming styles or perhaps our needs are different, then.

```
For i = 100 to 1 Step -1
  if SomeFunction(i) = "" then exit for
Next
```

I've made a couple of changes and the second is half the lines of code as the first. I don't see how this can be considered a bad thing. I don't see how the second could not possibly be considered clearer.

Uhhh...yeah, but you've also change the nature of the loop, as the result is no longer being assigned to strTest. The equivalent While loop would be...

```
i = 100
While (SomeFunction(i) <> "") And (i > 0)
  i = i - 1
Wend
```

...which is hardly difficult to read.

Less code is still better when all else is equal.

```
SomeLoop: Debug.Print "Hello"
Goto SomeLoop
```

Re: how do people feel about exit function from loop

or

```
While True  
Debug.Print "Hello"  
Wend
```

or

```
For i = 1 To 2  
i = i - 1  
Debug.Print "Hello"  
Next
```

All are obviously stupid ideas (especially the For loop in this case), and yet the Goto loop requires the least amount of code. So why do we discourage people from using that even in instances where it might make perfect sense? It all comes back to style and how we were trained.

One (admittedly minor) advantage to using While loops is that you don't have to drastically change your logic if you move to a language that doesn't support Exit/Break/whatever.

Anyway, as I've said before, I'm not advocating my choices for anybody else. It's how *I* think, and how *I* code, much like Rick thinks in one-liners that the rest of us sit puzzling over for much longer than he does. Whether you agree with them or not, the reasons I choose to continue to code that way also make sense to me. Any and all arguments aside, though, I find it much easier to code without the use of Exit For, and I'm generally proud at the end of the day at the tidiness of my code. You code how you code, I code how I code...end of story.

Rob

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