



**Note: This API call is for DOS and Win16 personality only. Use [Family API](#) for portability.**

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# Int 21H, AH=01H

## Version

1 and higher

## Brief

READ CHARACTER FROM STANDARD INPUT, WITH ECHO

## Family API

[DosRead](#)

## Input

AH = 01h

## Return

AL = character read

## Notes

^C / ^Break are checked, and INT 23 executed if read

^P toggles the DOS-internal echo-to-printer flag

^Z is not interpreted, thus not causing an EOF if input is redirected character is echoed to standard output standard input is always the keyboard and standard output the screen under DOS 1.x, but they may be redirected under DOS 2+

## See also

AH=06h,AH=07h,AH=08h,AH=0Ah

## Note

Text based on [Ralf Brown Interrupt List Release 61](#)

<b>DOS API</b>	
Process manager	INT 20H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 00H, 25H, 26H, 31H, 34H, 35H, 4BH, 4CH, 4DH, 50H, 51H, 52H, 55H, 62H, INT 22H, INT 27H, INT 28H
File manager	INT 25H, INT 26H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 0DH, 0EH, 0FH, 10H, 11H, 12H, 13H, 14H, 15H, 16H, 17H, 19H, 1AH, 1BH, 1CH, 21H, 22H, 23H, 24H, 27H, 28H, 29H, 2EH, 2FH, 32H, 3305H, 36H, 39H, 3AH, 3BH, 3CH, 3DH, 3EH, 3FH, 40H, 41H, 42H, 4300H, 4301H, 45H, 45H, 46H, 4EH, 4FH, 54H, 56H, 5700H, 5701H, 5AH, 5BH, 5c00H, 5c01H, 60H, 67H, 68H, 6900H, 6901H, 6AH, 6CH
Character Device I/O	INT 29H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 01H, 02H, 03H, 04H, 05H, 06H, 07H, 08H, 09H, 0AH, 0BH, 0AH, 0CH, 5D07H, 5D08H, 5D09H, 5D0AH
Signals	INT 23H, INT 24H, <b>INT 21H</b> : 3300H, 3301H, 3302H
Memory manager	<b>INT 21H</b> : 48H, 49H, 4AH, 5800H, 5801H, 5802H, 5803H
Date and Time	<b>INT 21H</b> : 2AH, 2BH, 2CH, 2DH
Misc	<b>INT 21H</b> : 30H, 3306H, 3700H, 3701H, 3702H, 3703H, 59H
NLS	<b>INT 21H</b> : 3303H, 3304H, 3800H, 3801H, 6300H, 6301H, 6301H, 6500H, 6501H, 6502H, 6503H, 6504H, 6505H, 6506H, 6507H, 6520H, 6521H, 6522H, 6523H, 65A0H, 65A1H, 65A2H, 6601H, 6602H
Devices	<b>INT 21H</b> : 4400H, 4401H, 4402H, 4403H, 4404H, 4405H, 4406H, 4407H, 4408H, 4409H, 440AH, 440BH, 440CH, 440DH, 440EH, 440FH, 4410H, 4411H, 53H
Network	<b>INT 21H</b> : 5E00H, 5E01H, 5E02H, 5E03H, 5E04H, 5E05H, 5F00H, 5F01H, 5F02H, 5F03H, 5F04H, 5F05H, 5F07H, 5F08H

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Hardware info	@Equipment @MemSize
Serial I/O	@AuxInit @AuxSendChar @AuxRecieveChar @AuxStatus
Tape I/O	@TapeOn @TapeOff @TapeRead @TapeWrite
Keyboard I/O	@KbdStatus @CharIn @CharPeek
Printer I/O	@PrnPrint @PrnInit @PrnStatus
Disk I/O	@DskReset @DskStatus @DskRead @DskWrite @DskVerify @DskFormat
Date and Time	@SetTime @GetTime
Mouse	@MouInit @MouShowPointer @MouStatus @MouSetPos @MouSetMickey @MouRegion
Memory manager	@ModBlok SET_BLOCK

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Family API		
DOS	Process Manager	DosBeep DosExit DosSleep DosExecPgm
	File Manager	DosChDir DosChgFilePtr DosClose DosDelete DosDupHandle DosMkDir DosMove DosQCurDir DosQCurDisk DosSetFileMode DosOpen DosQFileInfo DosRead DosQFileMode DosQFSInfo DosQVerify DosRmdir DosSelectDisk DosFindClose DosFindFirst DosFindNext DosSetFileInfo DosSetVerify DosWrite DosFileLocks DosSetFHandState DosNewSize DosBufReset DosQFHandState DosSetFSinfo DosShutdown
	Memory Manager	DosFreeSeg DosSubAlloc DosSubFree DosSubSet DosAllocHuge DosAllocSeg DosReallocHuge DosReallocSeg DosGetHugeShift DosCreateCSAlias
	NLS	DosCaseMap DosGetCtryInfo DosGetDBCSEv DosSetCtryCode DosGetCollate DosGetMessage DosInsMessage DosPutMessage
	Date and Time	DosSetDateTime DosGetDateTime
	Devices	DosDevConfig DosDevIOct1 DosDevIOct2
	Signals	DosHoldSignal DosSetSigHandler
	Misc	BadDynLink DosGetEnv DosGetMachineMode DosGetVersion DosError DosErrClass DosSetVec
KBD		KbdCharIn KbdFlushBuffer KbdGetStatus KbdSetStatus KbdStringIn KbdPeek
VIO		VioGetBuf VioGetConfig VioGetCurPos VioGetCurType VioGetPhysBuf VioReadCellStr VioReadCharStr VioScrollUp VioScrollDn VioScrollLf VioScrollRt VioScrUnLock VioSetCurPos VioSetCurType VioSetMode VioGetMode VioShowBuf VioWrtCellStr VioWrtCharStr VioWrtCharStrAtt VioWrtNAttr VioWrtNCell VioWrtNChar VioWrtTTY VioScrLock VioPopUp
Tools		BIND
Modules		DOSCALLS.DLL VIOCALLS.DLL KBDCALLS.DLL MSG.DLL
Libraries		API.LIB OS2386.LIB FAPI.LIB DOSCALLS.LIB SUBCALLS.LIB

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