

SuperBASIC-Extension GETLINE\$()

Warning: Program runs currently only on the Sinclair QL Emulator QPC2 for Windows, eventually also on other SMS/SMSQ-Systems. I have tested it now with the Windows Subsystem for Linux (WSL - thank you Microsoft) on the UNIX-/Linux-QL emulator uQLx with Minerva 1.98. Crashes horrible, not even the Sysmon is howling

Syntax

```
string$=GETLINE$( [#ch] | [#ch,] [maxlen[,lf]])
```

#ch:

SuperBASIC channel number. Default: #1

maxlen:

Maximum length of returned string (130 to 32766). If the value is outside this range it will automatically increased / decreased. (Warning values greater than 32767 abort with "error in expression"). Default: 258

lf:

If lf is equal 0 the trailing newline will be stripped and not returned. Default: 0

string\$:

Returned string with maximum length between 0 to maxlen.

If the last char of the "file" is a newline (LF) it will always be returned (else the user has no chance to detect if the last char was a newline). If a line is longer than maxlen chars, only the first maxlen chars will be returned, and the remaining chars at the next call of GETLINE\$(). This is problematic if lf is 0 (you cannot detect if there was an LF at the end). So lf=0 should only be used for text files or console channels (windows), not for binary files.

Usage

GETLINE\$() is a machine code extension for the QL inbuilt SuperBASIC and must once be initialised before it will be used. If SuperToolkit II is installed (as in the QPC2 QL emulator program) this may be achieved with:

```
LRESPR getline_bin
```

Else with:

```
address=RESPR(616) : LBYTES getline_bin, address: CALL address
```

On real QLs this is only possible if no executable program is running beside the SuperBASIC interpreter (which is always running). Ideally such extensions (Toolkits) are loaded (initialised) in your boot program. On old QDOS versions (up to JM) after loading the extension you must enter NEW (extension cannot be used in the program in which it is loaded).

GETLINE\$() reads from the current file position to (inclusive) the next newline char and returns this as a string. The last character (the newline) will be stripped if the parameter lf is 0 (or not passed). In

contrast to e.g. the INPUT command of SuperBASIC GETLINE\$() does not break with "End of file" error, if the last char of a file is no newline char (but see below).

Before calling GETLINE\$() you must always test for EOF(). If the file pointer is already at the end of file and you call GETLINE\$(), SuperBASIC breaks with the error message "End of file". If the value of If was 0 (or was not specified), you should test for EOF() after the call. If EOF <> 0 you should test if the last char is a LF, and what to do, if it is.

It is strongly recommended to use no values less than 0 or greater 32766 for the parameter maxlen. This may lead to unexpected behaviour or even errors in future versions.

The ZIP archive should be unpacked on a QDOS system, cause QL files have a fileheader which will be lost on other systems. Albeit not so important for this package, as there is no executable file included.

Source code is included. The program is licensed under the GNU General Public License version 1 or newer. I.e. if you change the program and publish it, you must publish it under the GPL version 1 or newer. Exception: If you want to include GETLINE\$() into another **free (no cost) Toolkit** for QDOS or compatible system, you are allowed to include it there, without the need to change the license under which this toolkit is released. See <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-1.0.html> , <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-2.0.html> or <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl-3.0.html>) .