



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

2018/09/07 05:04 · prokushev · [0 Comments](#)

Int 21H, AH=37H, AL=00H

Version

2 and higher

Brief

GET SWITCH CHARACTER

Family API

Input

```
AX = 3700h
```

Return

AL = status

```
00h successful
    DL = current switch character
FFh unsupported subfunction
```

Macro

Notes

Determine the character which is used to introduce command switches. This setting is ignored by MS-DOS commands in version 4.0 and higher, but is honored by many third-party programs and by Novell DOS 7 external commands

BUG: Novell DOS 7's COMMAND.COM (prior to Update 15) fails to honor the SwitChar setting for internal commands even though COMMAND.COM honors it in its own command tail (i.e. COMMAND /?); even in Update 15, internal commands fail to honor SwitChar for the /? help option

documented in some OEM versions of some releases of DOS

supported by OS/2 compatibility box

always returns AL=00h/DL=2Fh for MS-DOS 5+ and DR DOS 3.41-6.0

Novell DOS 7 COMMAND.COM indicates switch characters other than '/' by changing the first backslash (and only the first one) in the path it prints for PROMPT \$p with a forward slash

See also

AX=[3701h](#)

Note

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

| DOS API | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Process manager | INT 20H, INT 21H : 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, INT 21H : 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, INT 21H : 01H, 02H, 03H, 04H, 05H, 06H, 07H, 08H, 09H, 0AH, 0BH, 0AH, 0CH, 5D07H, 5D08H, 5D09H, 5D0AH |
| Signals | INT 23H, INT 24H, INT 21H : 3300H, 3301H, 3302H |
| Memory manager | INT 21H : 48H, 49H, 4AH, 5800H, 5801H, 5802H, 5803H |
| Date and Time | INT 21H : 2AH, 2BH, 2CH, 2DH |
| Misc | INT 21H : 30H, 3306H, 3700H, 3701H, 3702H, 3703H, 59H |
| NLS | INT 21H : 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 | INT 21H : 4400H, 4401H, 4402H, 4403H, 4404H, 4405H, 4406H, 4407H, 4408H, 4409H, 440AH, 440BH, 440CH, 440DH, 440EH, 440FH, 4410H, 4411H, 53H |
| Network | INT 21H : 5E00H, 5E01H, 5E02H, 5E03H, 5E04H, 5E05H, 5F00H, 5F01H, 5F02H, 5F03H, 5F04H, 5F05H, 5F07H, 5F08H |
| osFree Macro Library | |
| Video I/O | @SetMode @SetCurSz @SetCurPos @GetCur @SetPage @ScrollUp @ScrollDn @Scroll @GetChAtr @PutChAtr @PutCh @SetPalet @SetColor @SetDot @GetDot @WrtTTY @VideoState @GetMode @GetDisplay @GetVideoState @GetEGInfo @Cls |

| osFree Macro Library | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 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 DosDevIOCtl DosDevIOCtl2 |
| | 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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