

# IA - Input Assign Character

This Natural profile and session parameter defines the character to be used as the assignment character for the input parameter processing in INPUT statements, either in keyword/delimiter mode or when processing data from the Natural stack.

Within a Natural session, the profile parameter IA can be overridden by the session parameter IA.

<b>Possible settings</b>	any special character	Assignment character for the input parameter processing in INPUT statements. The character specified with the IA parameter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• must not be the same as the character specified with the profile/session parameters CF (control character for mainframe terminal commands), DC (decimal character) or ID (input delimiter character);</li> <li>• should not be the same as the one specified with the profile parameter HI (help character).</li> </ul>	
<b>Default setting</b>	=	Equals sign.	
<b>Dynamic specification</b>	yes		
<b>Specification within session</b>	yes	Applicable Statements:	SET GLOBALS
		Applicable Command:	GLOBALS
<b>Application Programming Interface</b>	USR0350N, USR1005N*	See <i>SYSEXT - Natural Application Programming Interfaces</i> in the <i>Utilities</i> documentation.  * Recommended.	

## Example:

In the following example, it is assumed that, for the beginning, the default input assign character (=) applies.

```
** Example 'IACHAR': Input Assign character
*****
DEFINE DATA LOCAL
1 #A (A1)
1 #B (A1)
END-DEFINE
*
INPUT #A #B
*
WRITE 'Field #A:' #A / 'Field #B:' #B
*
END
```

1. Enter the command

```
IACHAR #A=Y, #B=X
```

The program produces the following output:

```
Page      1
```

```
05-01-19  11:05:51
```

```
Field #A: Y
```

```
Field #B: X
```

2. Enter the command

```
GLOBALS IA=:
```

This sets the input assign character to colon (:).

3. Then enter the command

```
IACHAR #B:X, #A:Y
```

The program produces the following output:

```
Page      1
```

```
06-11-13  12:12:24
```

```
Field #A: Y
```

```
Field #B: X
```

**Under Natural Security:** The setting of this parameter can be overridden by the *Session Parameters* option of the Library Profile.