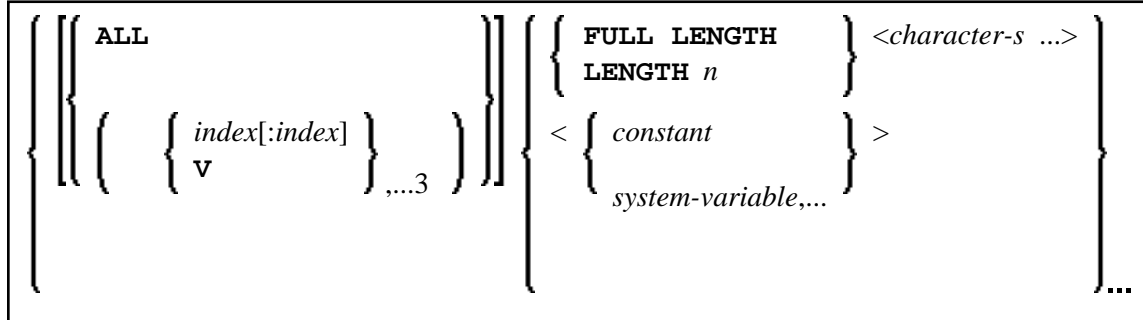


Initial/Constant Values for an Array

The *array-init-definition* option used in the *variable-definition* option of `DEFINE DATA LOCAL`, `DEFINE DATA INDEPENDENT`, `DEFINE DATA CONTEXT` and `DEFINE DATA OBJECT` has the following syntax:



This chapter covers the following topics:

- Function
- Restriction
- Syntax Description

Function

With an *array-init-definition*, you define the initial/constant values for an array.

Note:

If, in the *variable-definition* option, the keyword `INIT` was used for the initialization, the value may be modified by any statement that affects the content of a variable. If the keyword `CONST` was used for the initialization, any attempt to change the value will be rejected by the compiler.

See also *Defining Fields* in the *Programming Guide*, particularly the following sections:

- *Initial Values*
- *User-Defined Constants*

Restriction

For a redefined field, an *array-init-definition* is not permitted.

Syntax Description

ALL	All occurrences in all dimensions of the array are initialized with the same value.
<i>index</i>	Only the array occurrences specified by the <i>index</i> are initialized. If you specify <i>index</i> , you can only specify one value with <i>constant</i> ; that is, all specified occurrences are initialized with the same value.
V	This notation is only relevant for multidimensional arrays if the occurrences of one dimension are to be initialized with different values. V indicates an index range that comprises all occurrences of the dimension specified with V; that is, all occurrences in that dimension are initialized. Only one dimension per array may be specified with V. The occurrences are initialized occurrence by occurrence with the values specified for that dimension. The number of values must not exceed the number of occurrences of the dimension specified with V.
<i>constant</i>	The constant (value) with which the array is to be initialized (INIT), or the constant to be assigned to the array (CONSTANT). For further information on constants, see <i>User-Defined Constants</i> in the <i>Programming Guide</i> . Note: Occurrences for which no values are specified, are initialized with a default value.
<i>system-variable</i>	The initial value for an array may also be the value of a Natural system variable. Note: Multiple constant values/system variables must be separated either by the input delimiter character (as specified with the session parameter ID) or by a comma. A comma must not be used for this purpose, however, if the comma is defined as decimal character (with the session parameter DC).
FULL LENGTH LENGTH <i>n</i>	As initial value, a variable can be filled, entirely or partially, with a specific single character or string of characters (only possible for variables of format A or U). With FULL LENGTH , the entire array occurrence(s) are filled with the specified <i>character</i> or <i>characters</i> . With LENGTH <i>n</i> , the first <i>n</i> positions of the array occurrence(s) are filled with the specified <i>character</i> or <i>characters</i> . A <i>system-variable</i> must not be specified with FULL LENGTH or LENGTH <i>n</i> . Within one <i>array-init-definition</i> , only either FULL LENGTH or LENGTH <i>n</i> may be specified; both notations must not be mixed.

Example of LENGTH *n* for Array:

In this example, the first 5 positions of each occurrence of the array will be filled with NONON.

```
DEFINE DATA LOCAL
1 #FIELD (A25/1:3) INIT ALL LENGTH 5 <'NO'>
...
END-DEFINE
```

Numerous examples of assigning initial values to arrays are provided in the *Programming Guide*.