Getting username, special folders and more using the Environ function

The Environ function lets you get the Windows environment variables for the computer your program is currently running on, for example the user name or the name of the temporary folder. Below you will find a summary of the system variables available, their meaning - if not self-evident and an example af what value to expect when calling the Environ function for that variable. The summary is organized in three groups:
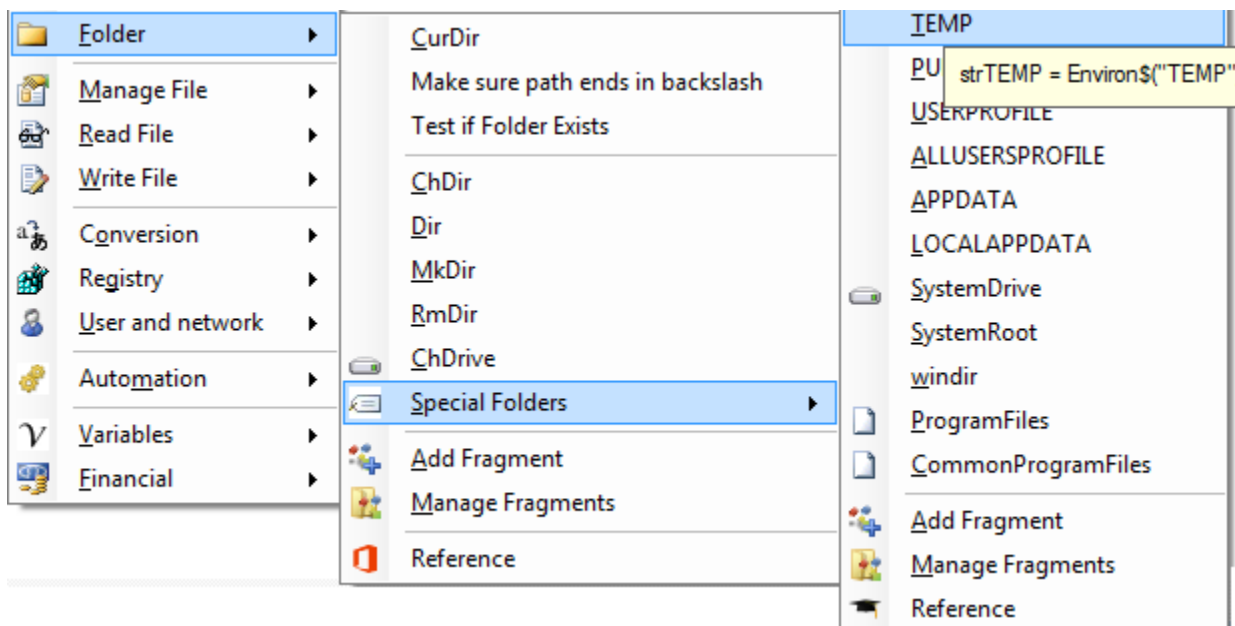
- special folders
- user info and network
- computer OS and processor info

At the bottom of this page you will find VBA code to determine which system variables are available on your PC

Using Environ to get special folders

Using Environ to get the Temporary folder

The default temporary folder that is used by the operating system and applications available to the currently logged on user

`Environ("TEMP")` (or `Environ("TMP")` - which should be the same)

example result: C:\Users\johndoe\AppData\Local\Temp

Using Environ to get the Public Folder

The Public Folder is a Windows folder that you can use to share files with other people that either use the same computer, or connect to it over a network.
`Environ("PUBLIC")`

example result: C:\Users\Public)

Using Environ to get the user's profile folder

`Environ("`<mark>USERPROFILE</mark>`")`

example result:

Windows Vista/7/8: C:\Users\johndoe

Windows XP: C:\Documents and Settings\johndoe

Using Environ to get the "All Users" or "Common" profile folder

The AllUsersProfile environment variable points to location of the "All Users" or "Common" profile folder. Paths are localized.
`Environ("ALLUSERSPROFILE")`

example result:

Windows Vista/7/8: C:\ProgramData

Windows XP: C:\Documents and Settings\All Users

Using Environ to get the AppData\Roaming folder

AppData environment variable points to the base location of where applications should store their data by default. It is a subdirectory of the user's profile folder.
The default value of AppData environment variable depends on the operating system. In Windows XP the default value of AppData environment variable is C:\Documents and Settings\{username}\Application Data, while on Windows Vista & Windows 7 it is C:\Users\{username}\AppData\Roaming
`Environ("APPDATA")`

The AppData folder contains subfolders with per-user application-specific files.

example result:

Windows Vista/7/8: C:\Users\johndoe\AppData\Roaming

Windows XP: C:\Documents and Settings\johndoe\Application Data

Using Environ to get LOCALAPPDATA

LocalAppData environment variable refers to location of temporary files of applications. Its uses include storing of desktop themes, Windows error reporting, caching and profiles of web browsers. The variable was introduced in Windows Vista.

```
Environ("LOCALAPPDATA")
```

```
example result: C:\Users\johndoe\AppData\Local
```

Using Environ to get SystemDrive

SystemDrive environment variable is a special system-wide environment variable, its value is the drive upon which the system folder was placed.

```
Environ("SystemDrive")
```

```
example result: C:
```

Using Environ to get SystemRoot

The location of the system folder, including the drive and path.

```
Environ("SystemRoot")
```

```
example result: C:\Windows
```

Using Environ to get HOMEDRIVE

HomeDrive environment variable returns drive letter on the local computer that is connected to the user's home directory. The drive letter to use is defined in the user's account properties within the domain. This environment variable is based on the value of the home directory. If the home directory is UNC, this variable will be populated with the drive letter that should be mapped to the UNC. If the home directory is a local path, this variable will be populated with the drive letter of the local path

```
Environ("HOMEDRIVE")
```

```
example result: C:
```

Using Environ to get HOMEPATH

HomePath environment variable returns the complete path of the user's home directory, as defined in the user's account properties within the domain. HomePath environment variable is based on the value of the home directory. If the home directory is a UNC, this variable will will return the path (example: "\mypath") to the user's home directory using the mapped drives as a root. IF the home directory uses a local path, it will return the drive letter of that local path.

```
Environ("HOMEPATH")
```

```
example result: \Users\johndoe
```

Using Environ to get the Windows directory

```
Environ("windir")
```

```
example result:C:\Windows
```

Using Environ to get ProgramFiles

ProgramFiles environment variable points to Program Files directory, which stores all the installed program of Windows and others. THe value of the ProgramFiles variable depends on whether the process requesting the environment variable is itself 32-bit or 64-bit (this is caused by Windows-on-Windows 64-bit redirection)

```
Environ("ProgramFiles")
```

```
example result: C:\Program Files (x86))
```

Note

The default value of ProgramFiles environment variable on English-language systems is C:\Program Files. In 64-bit editions of Windows (XP, 2003, Vista, 7, 8), there are also ProgramFiles(x86) environment variable which defaults to C:\Program Files (x86) and ProgramW6432 environment variable which defaults to C:\Program Files.

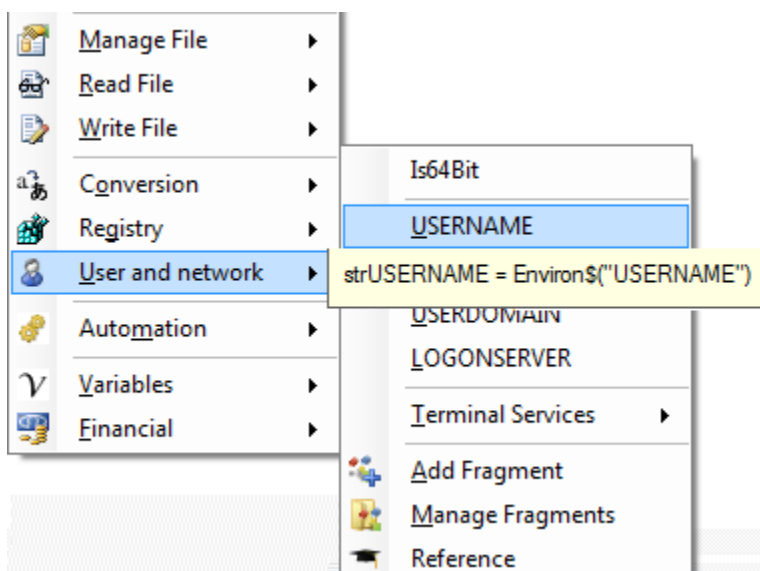# Using Environ to get CommonProgramFiles

```
Environ("CommonProgramFiles")
```

```
example result: C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files")
```

Using Environ to get user info

- User name / logon ID
- Computer name
- User Domain
- Terminal Services ClientName and SessionName

Using Environ to get user name / logon ID

The name (logon ID) of the user that is currently logged on.

```
Environ("USERNAME ")
```

```
example result: johndoe
```

Using Environ to get the computer name

The NetBOIS name of the computer.
```
Environ("COMPUTERNAME")
```

```
example result:BETA
```

Using Environ to get USERDOMAIN

UserDomain environment variable points to the name of the domain that contains the user's account.
```
Environ("USERDOMAIN")
```

```
example result: Intranet
```

Using Environ to get the Terminal Services ClientName

Returns value of ComputerName environment variable of a remote host. The ClientName environment variable is Terminal Services specific, and only appears in a user's environment when they are logged on to a Terminal server, in Remote Administration or Application Server mode.
```
Environ("ClientName")
```

```
example result:MyServer
```

Using Environ to get Terminal Services SessionName

The SessionName variable is only defined if the Terminal Services system component is installed to the Windows XP clients or newer. [1] When a client connects via a terminal server session, SessionName environment variable is a combination of the connection name, followed by a pound symbol {#} and then the session number.
```
Environ("SESSIONNAME")
```

```
example result: Console
```

Using Environ to get LOGONSERVER

LogonServer environment variable indicates which domain controller authenticated the client's logon request.
```
Environ("LOGONSERVER")
```

```
example result: \\BETA
```

Using Environ to get the computer's OS and processor info

Using Environ to get OS

OS environment variable returns the operating system name. Windows 2000 and later versions of Microsoft Windows display the operating system as Windows_NT.
```
Environ("OS")
```

```
example result: Windows_NT
```

Using Environ to get PROCESSOR_ARCHITECTURE

Processor_Architecture environment variable indicates the chip architecture of the CPU. Values: x86, IA64.[
```
Environ("PROCESSOR_ARCHITECTURE")
```

```
example result: x86:
```

Using Environ to get PROCESSOR_ARCHITEW6432

```
Environ("PROCESSOR_ARCHITEW6432")
```

```
example result: AMD64)
```

Using Environ to get PROCESSOR_IDENTIFIER

Processor_Identifier environment variable returns a description of the CPU, for example: "x86 Family 15 Model 2 Stepping 9, GenuineIntel".[
```
Environ("PROCESSOR_IDENTIFIER")
```

```
example result: Intel64 Family 6 Model 30 Stepping 5, GenuineIntel
```

Using Environ to get PROCESSOR_LEVEL

Processor_Level environment variable indicates the model number of the CPU installed in the computer, including x86 = 3,4,5 and higher; Alpha = 21064; and MIPS = 3000 or 4000.
```
Environ("PROCESSOR_LEVEL")
```

```
example result: 6
```

Using Environ to get PROCESSOR_REVISION

Processor_Revision environment variable returns the revision number of the CPU installed in the computer.
```
Environ("PROCESSOR_REVISION")
```

```
example result: 1e05
```

Using Environ to get NUMBER_OF_PROCESSORS

Number_Of_Processors environment variable specifies the number of processors installed on the computer.
```
Environ("NUMBER_OF_PROCESSORS")
```

```
example result: 8
```

Code to etermine which system variables are available on your PC / in your profile

```vb
Sub ListEnvironVariables()

    Dim strEnviron As String

    Dim i As Long

    For i = 1 To 255

        strEnviron = Environ(i)

        If LenB(strEnviron) = 0& Then Exit For

        Debug.Print strEnviron

    Next

End Sub
```

Running the above code on my PC returned:

```
ALLUSERSPROFILE=C:\ProgramData

APPDATA=C:\Users\uildriks\AppData\Roaming

asl.log=Destination=file

CLASSPATH=.;C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre6\lib\ext\QTJava.zip

CommonProgramFiles=C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files

CommonProgramFiles(x86)=C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files

CommonProgramW6432=C:\Program Files\Common Files

COMPUTERNAME=BETA

ComSpec=C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

CSSCRIPT_DIR=C:\projects\ThirdParty\cs-script

CSSCRIPT_SHELLEX_DIR=C:\ProgramData\CS-Script\ShellExtension\3.3.0.0\CS-Script

DXROOT=C:\Program Files (x86)\Sandcastle\

EMC_AUTOPLAY=c:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Roxio Shared\
```

FP_NO_HOST_CHECK=NO

HOMEDRIVE=C:

HOMEPATH=\Users\uildriks

LOCALAPPDATA=C:\Users\uildriks\AppData\Local

LOGONSERVER=\\BETA

NUMBER_OF_PROCESSORS=8

OS=Windows_NT

Path=C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Office\Office14\;C:\projects\ThirdParty\cs-script\lib;C:\projects\ThirdParty\cs-script;C:\Program Files\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\Windows Live;C:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Microsoft Shared\Windows Live;C:\Windows\system32;C:\Windows;C:\Windows\System32\Wbem;C:\Windows\System32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\;c:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Roxio Shared\10.0\DLLShared\;c:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Roxio Shared\DLLShared\;C:\Program Files\Microsoft Windows Performance Toolkit\;C:\Program Files (x86)\Windows Live\Shared;c:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft ASP.NET\ASP.NET Web Pages\v1.0\;c:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server\100\Tools\Binn\;c:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\100\Tools\Binn\;c:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\100\DTS\Binn\;c:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server\100\Tools\Binn\VSShell\Common7\IDE\;c:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft SQL Server\100\DTS\Binn\;C:\Program Files (x86)\QuickTime\QTSystem\;C:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Serve

r\110\Tools\Binn\;C:\Program Files\Microsoft\Web Platform Installer\;C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio 2008\SDK\VisualStudioIntegration\Tools\Sandcastle\ProductionTools\;C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 SDK\VisualStudioIntegration\Tools\Sandcastle\ProductionTools\

PATHEXT=.COM;.EXE;.BAT;.CMD;.VBS;.VBE;.JS;.JSE;.WSF;.WSH;.MSC

PROCESSOR_ARCHITECTURE=x86

PROCESSOR_ARCHITEW6432=AMD64

PROCESSOR_IDENTIFIER=Intel64 Family 6 Model 30 Stepping 5, GenuineIntel

PROCESSOR_LEVEL=6

PROCESSOR_REVISION=1e05

ProgramData=C:\ProgramData

ProgramFiles=C:\Program Files (x86)

ProgramFiles(x86)=C:\Program Files (x86)

ProgramW6432=C:\Program Files

PSModulePath=C:\Windows\system32\WindowsPowerShell\v1.0\Modules\

PUBLIC=C:\Users\Public

QTJAVA=C:\Program Files (x86)\Java\jre6\lib\ext\QTJava.zip

RoxioCentral=c:\Program Files (x86)\Common Files\Roxio Shared\10.0\Roxio Central36\

SESSIONNAME=Console

SystemDrive=C:

SystemRoot=C:\Windows

TEMP=C:\Users\uildriks\AppData\Local\Temp

TMP=C:\Users\uildriks\AppData\Local\Temp

USERDOMAIN=beta

USERNAME=uildriks

USERPROFILE=C:\Users\uildriks

VS100COMNTOOLS=c:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio 10.0\Common7\Tools\

VS90COMNTOOLS=c:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio 9.0\Common7\Tools\

VSSDK100Install=C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio 2010 SDK\

VSSDK90Install=C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 SDK\

WecVersionForRosebud.188C=4

windir=C:\Windows

WIX=C:\Program Files (x86)\WiX Toolset v3.6\

Source: http://codevba.com/office/environ.htm#.YJ3g56hKiUk