

# fread

WMPRO, WMMINI FW >= 1.0 WMMEGA FW >= 2.0

Read bytes from a file, stream or socket

## Description

**mixed** fread ( int \$handle, int \$bytes )

This function attempts to read a specified number of bytes from a file, stream or socket. If less than the number of bytes are available it will return the available data. If no data is available it will return an empty string.

## Parameters

**\$handle**: Valid handle of a previously opened resource

**\$bytes**: Limit to the number of bytes returned

## Return Values

- **String** containing the data requested from the resource
  - The length of the returned **string** depends on available data (**0 to \$bytes**)
- **Integer** 0 for error

## Example

**Read the 32 byte MD5 hash from file /md5.txt:**

```
<?
$fp=fopen("/md5.txt","r");
if ($fp) {
    $data=fread($fp,32); // read 32 bytes from the file
    print($data);
    fclose($fp);
} else {
    print("File open failed\n");
}
?>
```

## See Also

[fopen\(\)](#) - Open a file for reading or writing

[fseropen\(\)](#) - Open the serial port at the specified baud rate with optional parameters

[f485open\(\)](#) - Open the RS-485 port at the specified baud rate and parity

[fsockopen\(\)](#) - Open an internet socket connection with optional timeout

[fgets\(\)](#) - Return a single line from a file, stream or socket, with optional size limit

[fwrite\(\)](#) - Write data to a file, stream or socket

[feof\(\)](#) - Test if no more data is available in a file, stream or socket

[filesize\(\)](#) - Return the size of a file, or the number of unread bytes in a stream or socket

[fseek\(\)](#) - Position the file pointer in an open file

[ftell\(\)](#) - Return the current position of a file read/write pointer

[fclose\(\)](#) - Close a file, stream or socket

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