

## Re: OT: Using the 'FILE' protocol?

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.electronics.design/2005-09/msg03872.html>

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- *From:* Terry Pinnell <[terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 22 Sep 2005 13:41:58 +0100
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john coates <[coates@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:coates@xxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

>Hi,  
>  
>On Thu, 22 Sep 2005 11:08:07 +0100, Terry Pinnell  
><[terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:terrypinDELETE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:  
>  
>>But it fails if there are any spaces in the path  
>>or filename, such as  
>>'file://D:/Docs/SUNDRY/Internet Radio/BBC stations etc.txt'  
>>  
>>Anyone know how to get around that please? Placing it in quotes didn't  
>>work.  
>  
>Replace the space with the hexadecimal code for a space, which is:  
>%20  
>  
>Also, if seem to remember that formally you have to use a vertical  
>line character after the drive letter rather than a colon.  
>Thus:  
>'file://D|/Docs/SUNDRY/Internet%20Radio/BBC%20stations%20etc.txt'  
>  
>But within windows applications the colon mostly seems to work.  
>  
>Succes,  
>  
>Bas

Thanks both. That looked \*so\* right. And the text turned blue, just as it does with a URL. But sadly, on r-clicking and choosing Open, TextPad didn't like it: "The system cannot find the path specified."

BTW, changing the colon to | was a retrograde step (it lost the rest of the blue text).

One other thought was along the lines of changing it to its 'DOS' name, the one with ~ characters and serial numbers. I used to know some way of generating that abbreviated 'no blanks' name automatically. Something like dragging it into a DOS window? But just

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tried dragging that file into a Win XP Command Prompt window and it appears with the full name, so maybe I'm imagining it.

I've emailed Keith MacDonald, TextPad's author, to see if he can shed light. Could be it's impossible.

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Terry Pinnell  
Hobbyist, West Sussex, UK

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• ***Follow-Ups:***

- ◆ ***Re: OT: Using the 'FILE' protocol?***  
◇ *From:* Richard H.

• ***References:***

- ◆ ***OT: Using the 'FILE' protocol?***  
◇ *From:* Terry Pinnell

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