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# Command Reference: Free()

## Free (remove) time series from memory

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The `Free()` command frees (removes) the selected time series from memory. The time series will therefore not be available for use after that line in the command file. This command is useful for discarding temporary time series needed for data manipulation (e.g., so that they are not written in output and are not available for interactive plots). Freed time series are also removed from any ensembles that reference the time series.

Rather than freeing time series, it may be more appropriate to use the `SelectTimeSeries()` command, which can be used in conjunction with some commands to select time series and then operate on the selected time series. This approach allows selective use of time series and minimized the need for `Free()` commands. Many commands also use a `TSList` parameter to indicate which time series should be operated on by a command.

The following dialog is used for editing the command and illustrates the command syntax.

**Edit Free() Command**

This command frees (removes) time series, which is useful to remove unneeded or temporary time series.

The list of time series to be removed can be indicated in several ways.

Time series identifiers follow the pattern:

Location.Source.DataType.Interval.Scenario

Examples of wildcard use when `TSList=AllMatchingTSID` are shown below:

- \* - matches all time series
- ABC\* - matches locations starting with ABC
- ABC\*,\*.Type.Month - matches locations starting with ABC, with data type Type and interval Month.

**Use `TSList=TSPosition` with caution because positions may change when commands are changed.**

Time series that are in an ensemble will be removed from the ensemble.

TS list:  Optional - indicates the time series to process (default=AllTS).

TSID (for `TSList=matching TSID`):

EnsembleID (for `TSList=EnsembleID`):

Time series position(s) (for `TSList=TSPosition`):  Optional - use with `TSList=TSPosition` (e.g., 1,2,7-8).

Free ensemble if empty? ☐ Optional - for ensembles (default=True).

Command:

```
Free (TSList=AllMatchingTSID, TSID="40*")
```

Cancel OK

**Free() Command Editor**

Free

The command syntax is as follows:

```
Free (Parameter=Value, ...)
```

### Command Parameters

Parameter	Description	Default
TSList	Indicates the list of time series to be processed, one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AllMatchingTSID – all time series that match the TSID (single TSID or TSID with wildcards) will be modified.</li> <li>AllTS – all time series before the command.</li> <li>EnsembleID – all time series in the ensemble will be modified (see the EnsembleID parameter).</li> <li>LastMatchingTSID – the last time series that matches the TSID (single TSID or TSID with wildcards) will be modified.</li> <li>TSPosition – time series specified by position in the results list (see TSPosition parameter below).</li> </ul>	AllTS
TSID	The time series identifier or alias for the time series to be modified, using the * wildcard character to match multiple time series.	Required if TSList=*TSID
EnsembleID	The ensemble to be modified, if processing an ensemble.	Required if TSList=EnsembleID
TSPosition	A list of time series positions (1+) in output, separated by commas. Ranges can be specified as Start-End.	Required if TSList=TSPosition
FreeEnsembleIfEmpty	Indicate whether to free the ensemble from which time series were removed, if the ensemble is empty (has no time series remaining after the Free () command).	True

A sample command file is as follows:

```
Free(TSList=AllMatchingTSID,TSID="40*")
```