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## Deleting Empty Lines From a Container



Sometimes you'll have a variable or field that contains unwanted blank lines. Now one way to handle that is with a repeat loop:

```
repeat with x = (the number of lines of tData) down to 1
  if line x of tData is empty then delete line x of tData
end repeat
```

However this breaks down when you have thousands of lines of text, since the `repeat with` construct gets slower and slower as the value of **x** increases.

Those that are concerned with performance know that `repeat for each` is a lot faster, but it requires additional lines of code, and it also effectively stores a copy of your original container in memory, minus the blank lines:

```
put "" into tNewData
repeat for each line tLine in tData
  if tLine is not empty then
    put tLine & CR after tNewData
  end if
end repeat
delete char -1 of tData -- removes trailing CR
```

However you can also do this with a simple one-liner, which shows the power of the Revolution scripting language:

```
filter tData without empty
```

This not only removes the blank lines, but also works on the same variable, thus conserving memory.

Enjoy!

*Posted 3/1/2006 by Ken Ray*

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