
Question

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"IF THEN - \$SELECT - \$CASE" - What is the best way?

Hi all,

I'm wonder what could be the best way convert the sentence "[Switch](#)" C# into Cache code.

```
int caseSwitch = 1;

switch (caseSwitch)
{
    case 1:
        Console.WriteLine("Case 1");
        break;

    case 2:
        Console.WriteLine("Case 2");
        break;

    default:
        Console.WriteLine("Default case");
        break;
}
```

My first attempt was:

```
set caseSwith = 1

if (caseSwith = 1)
{
    w "Case 1"
}
else
{
    if (caseSwith = 2)
    {
        w "Case 2"
    }
    else
    {
        w "Default case"
    }
}
```

Maybe, for complex conditions, it should be the best option, however I've used the [\\$SELECT](#) command

```
set caseSwith = 1
```

```
w $SELECT(caseSwith=1:"Case 1",caseSwith=2:"Case 2",1:"Default case")
```

It seems the best option for simple sentence (one line and clear)

Other options is using the [\\$CASE](#) command

```
set caseSwith = 1
```

```
w $CASE(caseSwith, 1:"Case 1",2:"Case 2",:"Default case")
```

so, it is easier because it is checking only one variable to evaluate the condition.

My question is, what should be the best way for complex conditions?

```
set val1 = 1
```

```
set val2 = 2
```

```
set val3 = 3
```

```
if ((val1>=3)&&(val1<=9))
```

```
{  
  if (val2=0)  
  {  
    w "Condition 1"  
  }  
  else
```

```
{  
  if (val2>0)  
  {  
    w "Condition 2"  
  }  
}
```

```
}  
else
```

```
{  
  if (val2=1)
```

```
{  
  if (val3<3)  
  {  
    w "Condition 3"  
  }  
  else  
  {  
    w "Condition default 1"  
  }  
}
```

```
}  
else
```

```
{  
  if ((val2>1) && (val2<9))
```

```
{  
  w "Condition 4"  
}
```

```
else
```

```
{  
  w "Condition default 2"  
}
```

```
    }  
}
```

As you see, it so complex because the condition is linked to 3 variables.

Trying to use \$SELECT with this example

```
set val1 = 1  
set val2 = 2  
set val3 = 3
```

```
w $SELECT((val1>=3)&&(val1<=9): $SELECT(val2=0:"Condition 1",val2>0:"Condition 2"),val2=1:$SELECT(val3<3:"Condition 3",1:"Condition default 1"),val2'=1:$SELECT((val2>1) && (val2<9):"Condition 4",1:"Condition default 2"))
```

The line is longer and quite complicated to read

I haven't used \$CASE because it affect to more than one variable.

So I don't want to create hundreds line of IF THEN conditions, but I want to have a clear code and easy for maintenance.

Please comment on how do you would solve this problem

[#Caché](#) [#Coding Guidelines](#)

Source URL:<https://community.intersystems.com/post/if-then-select-case-what-best-way>