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HyperCard: How To Find Character Number in a Field

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TOPIC ---

How can I return the "number" of the first character of a line in a HyperCard
field?

Since each TextEdit Record contains an array containing the number of the first
character of the line, I'd like to access that information.

DISCUSSION ------------------------------------

You can find the number of the first character of line x in a HyperCard
field by using the following script:

```
if x = 1
then
  put 1 into charNum
else
  put (the length of line 1 to (x-1) of fld test) + 1 into charNum
end if
```

The only problem with the script is that HyperCard considers a line as a line
only if it is terminated with a carriage return. Line endings that result from
word-wrap in a field are not counted as lines.

For example, a field set to display eight characters wide is filled with 20,000
characters without a carriage return. The display shows approximately x lines,
but HyperCard considers the field to only have one line.

Since HyperCard returns only a null-terminated string of characters as field
contents, you cannot use an XCMD to retrieve the line-starts information.
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