

# Procedures

## Is there a way in SAS to read in Excel Long Dates?

SAS is well-equipped with a number of INFORMATs which allow the source data to be read in. There is a particularly useful date informat called ANYDTDTEw. which reads a wide range of date styles, however it cannot cope with one of Excel Long Date formats in the style: Friday, 28 July 2023.

One solution for this is to write a user-defined function, which can then be used to transform a text string.

This can be seen here:

```
data longdate ;
  infile datalines dsd ;
  input ld :$40. ;
datalines ;
"Friday, 28 July 2023"
;
run ;

options cmlib = work.functions ;

proc fcmp outlib = work.functions.func ;
  function worddate(wd $) ;
    newdt = input(cats(scan(wd,-3),substr(scan(wd,-2),1,3),scan(wd,-1)
),date9.) ;
    return(newdt) ;
  endsub ;
run ;

data longdate ;
  set longdate ;
  datevar = worddate(ld) ;
  format datevar ddmmyy10. ;
run ;
```

Unique solution ID: #1072

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