



using inputn to re-format data

Dr. Arthur Tabachneck
Director, Data Management

Note: stolen from a sas-l post by Ian Whitlock



suppose you had the following data:

**data have;
input info \$30.;
cards ;
65
04/15/45
04/15/1946
15/04/47
15/04/1948
15APR1949
1950
;**



and you needed to have the following file:

```
data need;  
input age;  
cards ;  
65  
64  
63  
62  
61  
60  
59  
;
```



a data step solution

```
data need;  
  set have;  
  if length(info) le 3 then  
    age = inputn ( info , 'f' , 8 ) ;  
  else if length(info) eq 4 then  
    age= year(today())- inputn ( info , 'f' , 8 ) ;  
  else age= round(yrdif(  
    inputn (info , 'anydtdte' , length(info) ),  
    today(),'Actual'));  
run ;
```



inputn

Enables you to specify a numeric informat at run time

Syntax: INPUTN(source, informat.<,w<,d>>)



Questions?

Your comments and questions are valued and encouraged.

Contact the author:

Dr. Arthur Tabachneck
Director, Data Management
Insurance Bureau of Canada
Toronto, Ontario L3T 5K9
Email: atabachneck@ibc.ca