

# How To Do It Faster?!?

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Python/comp.lang.python/2005-04/msg00192.html>

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Hello max & NG,

>I don't quite understand what your program is doing. The user=a[18::20]  
>looks really fragile/specific to a directory to me.

I corrected it to user=a[18::5][:-2], it was my mistake. However, that command is NOT specific to a particular directory. You can try to whatever directory or net resource mounted on your system. It works.

```
>>> a=os.popen("dir /s /q /-c /a-d " + root).read().splitlines()
```

Mhm... have you tried this command on a BIG directory? On your C: drive for example? I had to kill Python after having issued that command because it ate up all my CPU (1GB) for a quite long time. There simply are too many files/information to retrieve in a single command.

In my first mail, I said I have to work with a BIG directory (more than 1 TB) and I need to retrieve information when they become available (I put this info on a wxPython ListCtrl). This is why I have chosen os.walk() and that command (that runs on a separate thread wrt the ListCtrl).

It does NOT run faster than your command (probably my solution is slower), but I can get information on every directory I scan, while with your command I have to wait a long time to process the results, plus the user can not interact with the results already found.

>To get a list containing files owned by a specific user, do something like:  
>>> files=[line.split()[-1] for line in a if owner in line]

I will try this solution also.

Thanks NG for your useful suggestions.

Andrea.

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- Prev by Date: [\*\*\*Re: problem running the cgi module\*\*\*](#)
- Next by Date: [\*\*\*Stylistic question about inheritance\*\*\*](#)

## How To Do It Faster?!?

- Previous by thread: ***Re: How To Do It Faster?!?***
- Next by thread: ***How To Do It Faster?!?***
- Index(es):
  - ◆ ***Date***
  - ◆ ***Thread***