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Thread: [Looping through a listbox and removing items](#)

Alien - November 2, 2014, 1:22 pm

This issue has come up rather unexpectedly and I can't seem to figure out what exactly the problem is. So, basically.. I am trying to loop through a listbox and remove any items that match up with the items/contents of another listbox. My code works fine.. up until I import a list of items that consist of over 300 into the first listbox then nothing gets removed. I know it sounds a little bit confusing.. but just take a look at my code and you can probably see what I'm talking about.

```
Code Using FD As New OpenFileDialog()  
    FD.Filter = "txt files (*.txt)|*.txt|All files (*.*)|*.*"  
    If FD.ShowDialog = Windows.Forms.DialogResult.OK Then  
        WordBox.Items.Clear()  
        WordBox.Items.AddRange(IO.File.ReadAllLines(FD.FileName))  
  
        For Each item In Listbox2.Items  
            For i As Integer = WordBox.Items.Count - 1 To 0 Step -1  
                If WordBox.Items(i).Contains(item.ToString) Then  
                    WordBox.Items.RemoveAt(i)  
                End If  
            Next  
        Next  
    Next  
  
End If
```

End Using
Any help is appreciated! Thanks

Hawk HF - November 2, 2014, 1:46 pm

I don't think you can edit the contents of the listbox while looping through it.

Try using an array to temporarily store the new contents of listbox2, then setting it after the loop has been completed.

Only3 - November 2, 2014, 2:03 pm

check b4 u add them > If Not listBox1.Items.Contains
or HashSet > [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb359438\(v=vs.110\).aspx](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb359438(v=vs.110).aspx)

Odus - November 2, 2014, 2:32 pm

I wasn't able to recreate your problem even when using your code with a txt at 450 lines.

```
Code Private Sub Button1_Click(sender As Object, e As EventArgs) Handles Button1.Click  
    For Each Item As String In ListBox2.Items  
        For i As Integer = ListBox1.Items.Count - 1 To 0 Step -1  
            If ListBox1.Items(i) = Item Then ListBox1.Items.RemoveAt(i)
```

```
Next
Next
End Sub
Private Sub Form1_Load(sender As Object, e As EventArgs) Handles MyBase.Load
    ListBox1.Items.AddRange(IO.File.ReadAllLines("C:\Users\Odus\Desktop\Test.txt"))
End Sub
```

Alien - November 2, 2014, 3:39 pm

(Nov 2, 2014 03:32 PM)Odus Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I wasn't able to recreate your problem even when using your code with a txt at 450 lines.

```
Code Private Sub Button1_Click(sender As Object, e As EventArgs) Handles Button1.Click
    For Each Item As String In ListBox2.Items
        For i As Integer = ListBox1.Items.Count - 1 To 0 Step -1
            If ListBox1.Items(i) = Item Then ListBox1.Items.RemoveAt(i)
        Next
    Next
End Sub
Private Sub Form1_Load(sender As Object, e As EventArgs) Handles MyBase.Load
    ListBox1.Items.AddRange(IO.File.ReadAllLines("C:\Users\Odus\Desktop\Test.txt"))
End Sub
```

I don't know why..... but when I loaded your code...

```
Code For Each Item As String In ListBox2.Items
    For i As Integer = ListBox1.Items.Count - 1 To 0 Step -1
        If ListBox1.Items(i) = Item Then ListBox1.Items.RemoveAt(i)
    Next
Next
```

It seems to have fixed the problem.. lol

The only real difference I can see that may of fixed it is..

```
Code For Each Item As String In ListBox2.Items
```

Cairns - November 3, 2014, 3:49 am

For Each won't work whilst you are removing an item, at least it doesn't for a collection class because when you remove an item the collection is being edited.

Use a For Count loop and do it, and count backwards using step -1