



**Note:** This IBM PC BIOS API call is for DOS/Win16 personality only. Use [Family API](#) for portability.

**Note:** [osFree Macro Library](#) provides macros for most of functions

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# Int 10H, AH=08H

## Version

IBM 5150 and higher

## Brief

Get character and attribute undr cursor

## Family API

[VioReadCellStr](#) [VioReadCharStr](#)

## Input

```
AH = 08h  
BH = page number
```

## Return

```
AH - attribute  
AL - character
```

## Macro

```
INCLUDE BIOS.INC
```

## Notes

- for monochrome displays, a foreground of 1 with background 0 is underlined
- the blink bit may be reprogrammed to enable intense background colors using AX=1003h or by programming the CRT controller
- the foreground intensity bit (3) can be programmed to switch between character sets A and B on EGA and VGA cards, thus enabling 512 simultaneous characters on screen. In this case the bit's usual function (intensity) is regularly turned off.
- in graphics modes, only characters drawn with white foreground pixels are matched by the pattern-comparison routine
- on the Tandy 2000, BH=FFh specifies that the current page should be used
- because of the IBM BIOS specifications, there may exist some clone BIOSes which do not preserve SI or DI; the Novell DOS kernel preserves SI, DI, and BP before many INT 10h calls to avoid problems due to those registers not being preserved by the BIOS.
- some IBM PC ROM BIOSes destroy BP when in graphics modes

## Note

Text based on [Ralf Brown Interrupt List Release 61](#)

<b>IBM PC BIOS API</b>	
Video I/O	<b>INT 10H:</b> 00H, 01H, 02H, 03H, 05H, 06H, 07H, 08H, 09H, 0AH, 0BH, 0CH, 0DH, 0EH, 0FH
Hardware info	<b>INT 11H, INT 12H</b>
Serial I/O	<b>INT 14H:</b> 00H, 01H, 02H, 03H
Tape I/O	<b>INT 15H:</b> 00H, 01H, 02H, 03H
Keyboard I/O	<b>INT 16H:</b> 00H, 01H, 02H
Printer I/O	<b>INT 17H:</b> 00H, 01H, 02H
Disk I/O	<b>INT 13H:</b> 00H, 01H, 02H, 03H, 04H, 05H
Date and Time	<b>INT 1AH:</b> 00H, 01H
<b>osFree Macro Library</b>	
Video I/O	@SetMode @SetCurSz @SetCurPos @GetCur @SetPage @ScrollUp @ScrollDn @Scroll @GetChAtr @PutChAtr @PutCh @SetPalet @SetColor @SetDot @GetDot @WrtTTY @VideoState @GetMode @GetDisplay @GetVideoState @GetEGAInfo @Cls
Hardware info	@Equipment @MemSize
Serial I/O	@AuxInit @AuxSendChar @AuxRecieveChar @AuxStatus
Tape I/O	@TapeOn @TapeOff @TapeRead @TapeWrite
Keyboard I/O	@KbdStatus @CharIn @CharPeek
Printer I/O	@PrnPrint @PrnInit @PrnStatus
Disk I/O	@DskReset @DskStatus @DskRead @DskWrite @DskVerify @DskFormat
Date and Time	@SetTime @GetTime
Mouse	@MouInit @MouShowPointer @MouStatus @MouSetPos @MouSetMickey @MouRegion

### osFree Macro Library

Memory manager [@ModBlok SET\\_BLOCK](#)

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2022/03/13 05:54 · prokushev · 0 Comments

### Family API

DOS	Process Manager	DosBeep DosExit DosSleep DosExecPgm
	File Manager	DosChDir DosChgFilePtr DosClose DosDelete DosDupHandle DosMkDir DosMove DosQCurDir DosQCurDisk DosSetFileMode DosOpen DosQFileInfo DosRead DosQFileMode DosQFSInfo DosQVerify DosRmdir DosSelectDisk DosFindClose DosFindFirst DosFindNext DosSetFileInfo DosSetVerify DosWrite DosFileLocks DosSetFHandState DosNewSize DosBufReset DosQFHandState DosSetFSinfo DosShutdown
	Memory Manager	DosFreeSeg DosSubAlloc DosSubFree DosSubSet DosAllocHuge DosAllocSeg DosReallocHuge DosReallocSeg DosGetHugeShift DosCreateCSAlias
	NLS	DosCaseMap DosGetCtryInfo DosGetDBCSEv DosSetCtryCode DosGetCollate DosGetMessage DosInsMessage DosPutMessage
	Date and Time	DosSetDateTime DosGetDateTime
	Devices	DosDevConfig DosDevIOCtl DosDevIOCtl2
	Signals	DosHoldSignal DosSetSigHandler
	Misc	BadDynLink DosGetEnv DosGetMachineMode DosGetVersion DosError DosErrClass DosSetVec
KBD	KbdCharIn KbdFlushBuffer KbdGetStatus KbdSetStatus KbdStringIn KbdPeek	
VIO	VioGetBuf VioGetConfig VioGetCurPos VioGetCurType VioGetPhysBuf VioReadCellStr VioReadCharStr VioScrollUp VioScrollDn VioScrollLf VioScrollRt VioScrUnLock VioSetCurPos VioSetCurType VioSetMode VioGetMode VioShowBuf VioWrtCellStr VioWrtCharStr VioWrtCharStrAtt VioWrtNAttr VioWrtNCell VioWrtNChar VioWrtTTY VioScrLock VioPopUp	
Tools	BIND	
Modules	DOSCALLS.DLL VIOCALLS.DLL KBDCALLS.DLL MSG.DLL	
Libraries	API.LIB OS2386.LIB FAPI.LIB DOSCALLS.LIB SUBCALLS.LIB	

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