

## HOW TO SORT A FILE CONTENT IN TO EITHER ALPHABETIC OR NUMERIC ORDER (VBSCRIPT)

The easiest way to eliminate duplicate entries is going to utilizing a object that has the ability to see if an object exists (**Scripting.Dictionary**) or contains (**System.Collections.ArrayList**) an entry already.

Let's see a sample text file containing the following rows...

### SERVERS.TXT (BEFORE)

```
SERVER1
SERVER2
SERVER3
SERVER4
SERVER2
SERVER5
SERVER1
SERVER6
SERVER3
SERVER4
SERVER5
```

### THE SCRIPT

```
Option Explicit

Const FOR_READING = 1
Const FOR_WRITING = 2

Dim objFSO : Set objFSO = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")
Dim arrLines : Set arrLines = CreateObject("System.Collections.ArrayList")

'Open the file
Dim objFile : Set objFile = objFSO.OpenTextFile("C:\servers.txt", FOR_READING, False)

'Loop thru and add each line to the array
Do Until objFile.AtEndOfStream
strLine = Trim(objFile.ReadLine)

'Verify that array doesn't already have the entry
If Not arrLines.Contains(strLine) Then arrLines.Add(strLine)

Loop
```

```
objFile.Close  
  
'Sort (ascending) for aesthetics  
arrLines.Sort()  
  
'Join the array with vbCrLf (carriage return or enter)  
Dim strNewFile : strNewFile = Join(arrLines.ToArray, vbCrLf)  
  
'Re-open the file for reading  
Set objFile = objFSO.OpenTextFile("C:\servers.txt", FOR_WRITING, False)  
  
'Write the new text  
objFile.Write strNewFile  
  
objFile.Close
```

## SERVERS.TXT (AFTER)

```
SERVER1  
SERVER2  
SERVER3  
SERVER4  
SERVER5  
SERVER6
```