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*AHELP for CIAO 3.4*

## calGetDate

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## Synopsis

Returns the observation start date stored in the CALDB structure.

## Syntax

```
String_Type calGetDate( Caldb_Type cal )
```

## Description

This function returns the start date of the observation stored in the CALDB structure. The returned date may not contain the start time of the observation if the CALDB structure was created from a file; this depends on the format of the DATE-OBS keyword in the file. However, the `calGetTime()` function is guaranteed to return the start time of the observation.

## Example

```
variable cal = calCreateInfo( "img.fits" );  
variable date = calGetDate( cal );  
vmessage( "The observation started on %s", date );
```

## Bugs

See the [bugs page for the caldb library](#) on the CIAO website for an up-to-date listing of known bugs.

## See Also

*caldb*

[calcreateinfo](#), [calfindfile](#), [calgetdata](#), [calgetdate](#), [calgetdetector](#), [calgeterror](#), [calgetfilter](#),  
[calgetinstrument](#), [calgetquery](#), [calgettelescope](#), [calgettime](#), [calprintinfo](#), [calsetdata](#), [calsetdate](#),  
[calsetdetector](#), [calsetexpression](#), [calsetfilter](#), [calsetinstrument](#), [calsettelescope](#), [calsettime](#)

*modules*

[caldb](#)

## Ahelp: calGetDate – CIAO 3.4

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URL:  
<http://cxc.harvard.edu/ciao3.4/calgetdate.html>  
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