

No "sleep" command for batch files? Make it a choice!

I just trapped myself while hacking up a batch file.
Used to shell scripting I wanted to add a delay to the batch using "sleep".

Dough! Bad Idea! Bad command or filename. Smash your head here to continue {(x)}!

So I winded up my memories from stoneage. Wasn't there the choice command!?

Yeah, after some lurking around with the '/'? feature I had stuck it together:

```
choice /c 1 /d 1 /t 1 > nul
```

While

- "/c 1" sets the choice values (1 is my value)
- "/d 1" sets the default choice value (which is 1 from above)
- "/t 1" sets the timeout to 1 second (or whatever is appropriate)
- "> nul" means the same as ">/dev/null": send output to nirvana (notice there being only one 'l' however)

Of course this may be bothersome to type if you use it often, so a "batch function" may be better, especially when you need other batch tricks to get around DOS command limitations (lazy man's approach: create a second batch file for it).

```
@echo off
```

```
rem *****  
rem check args  
rem *****
```

```
:checkargs
```

```
if "%1/" == "func/" goto callfunc  
goto main
```

```
:_checkargs
```

```
rem *****  
rem call functions  
rem *****
```

```
:callfunc  
shift
```

```
rem we could do "goto %1" instead  
rem if there is a lot of functions  
if "%1/" == "sleep/" goto sleep
```

```
goto exit
```

```
:_callfunc
```

```
rem *****
```

```
rem function sleep
rem *****

:sleep
shift

choice /c 1 /d 1 /t %1 > nul

goto exit

:_sleep

rem *****
rem main body
rem *****

:main
echo hello, going to sleep now
call %0 func sleep 1

echo sleep is over, good bye

goto exit

:_main

rem *****
rem exit handler
rem *****

:exit
rem if there is anything left to do, do it now.

:_exit
```