

Reserved elements

Reserved symbologies

- ~ Tilde is the reserved character to indicate the private nature of an element such as ~privateLetVariable or ~PrivateCustomFunction, \$~privateScriptVariable or \$\$~PRIVATE.GLOBAL.VARIABLE.
- ! Exclamation mark is a reserved symbol to indicate the [non-relevance](#) of something within code. Just as in many languages where it is used to negate or present the opposite of an operator (such as != meaning 'not equals' within PHP where <> or is not equals within FileMaker) it is most often used with variable declaration which uses the Evaluate() function.

Reserved variable names

- **\$\$ERROR or \$error** is a reserved variable for the storage of an error result. The most common is FileMaker's own Get (LastError). This variable will almost always be a numerical value in order to follow the conventions outline by FileMaker's own error handling. It is, however, not limited to FileMaker's Get (LastError). When augmented by a complimentary variable such as [\\$errorType](#), the contents of \$error may not contain a FileMaker specific error code.
- **\$\$TEMP or \$temp** is a reserved name for a temporary global variable. This variable is **NEVER** used to store persistent data across multiple scripts and it can be assumed that it can be overwritten at any time.
- **\$~this** is a reserved prefix for internal use within custom functions. In order to avoid overwriting any script variables you should prefix variable declarations with this value. For example *\$~thisCounter* would be used as a recursive counter within a Custom Function. To further prevent any name collision, using the name of the function itself is preferred. Such as *\$~thisLeftCharsCounter* where the **\$~this** is the prefix, **LeftChars** is the name of the Custom Function and **Counter** is the descriptor.
- **(deprecated) \$checkScriptName** is a reserved variable for [Script parameter custom functions](#)

Reserved custom function names

- **Null** is a [reserved custom function](#) used by these standards.
- **UniqueID** is a reserved custom function name. More info about [UUID in Best Practices](#).

Reserved custom function prefixes

- **#** (hash or pound) is reserved for [Name/Value pair functions](#) (primarily for script parameters)
- **Triggers** is the prefix for the class of custom functions which deal with script triggers.
- **Error** is the prefix used for the [Error handling](#) section.