

VelocityGenericMacros

A collection of Velocimacros of a non-web nature that may be useful in *any* Velocity application. These may make use of the [VelocityTools](#)' Generic tools.

```
***
* For displaying an alternate value when the primary one is "null".
*
* @param the primary variable
* @param the alternate value or variable
* @author <a href="mailto:nathan@esha.com">Nathan Bubna</a>
*#
#macro( altnull $variable $alternate )
#if( "$!variable" == "" )$!alternate#else$variable#end##
#end
```

```
***
* For truncating a variable's output at a specific length.
*
* Usage:
*   "#truncate( 'this is too long' 10 )" -> "this is to..."
*
* @param the variable to be truncated
* @param the length of the output (not including the ellipses!)
* @author <a href="mailto:nathan@esha.com">Nathan Bubna</a>
*#
#macro( truncate $stringVariable $length )
#set( $truncateMe = "$!stringVariable" )
#if( $truncateMe.length() <= $length)$truncateMe#else${truncateMe.substring(0,$length)}...#end##
#end
```

```
***
* Convenience directive to invoke a method and ignore the return value.
*
* Usage:
*   #call( $hashtable.put("foo", "bar") )
*
*#
#macro( call $foo )#if($foo)***##end#end
```

```
##
* Convenience macro to return "unknown" if null value
* @author Ted Husted
*#
#macro (unknown $name $code)
  #if($code )
    $!name [$code]
  #else
    <i>Unknown</i>
  #end
#end
```

```
##
* Convenience macro to return "Not Specified" if null value
* @author Ted Husted
##
#macro (notSpecified $value)
  #if($value )
    $value
  #else
    <i>Not Specified</i>
  #end
#end
```

```
##
* Convenience macro to return "Pending" if null value
* @author Ted Husted
##
#macro (pending $value)
  #if($value )
    $value
  #else
    <i>Pending</i>
  #end
#end
```