

# ViewNullTool

JUnit tests can be found [here](#).

```
/*
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 */

package org.apache.velocity.tools.view.tools;

import org.apache.velocity.context.Context;
import org.apache.velocity.tools.generic.NullTool;

/**
 * Tool for working with <code>null</code> in Velocity templates.
 * It provides a method to set a VTL reference back to <code>null</code>,
 * automatically using the current context.
 * Also provides methods to check if a VTL reference is <code>null</code> or not.
 * <p>
 * NOTE: <code>set</code> and <code>setNull</code> does not clear attributes in servlet objects.
 * To remove attributes from <code>request</code>, <code>session</code> and <code>application</code>,
 * use <code>$request.removeAttribute()</code>, <code>$session.removeAttribute()</code> and
 * <code>$application.removeAttribute()</code> respectively.
 * </p>
 * <p><pre>
 * Example uses:
 * #set($foo = "bar")
 * $foo                      -> bar
 * $null.isNull($foo)          -> false
 * $null.isNotNull($foo)       -> true
 *
 * $null.setNull("foo")
 * $foo                      -> $foo (null)
 * $null.isNull($foo)          -> true
 * $null.isNotNull($foo)       -> false
 *
 * $null.set($foo, "hoge")
 * $foo                      -> hoge
 * $null.set($foo, $null.null)
 * $foo                      -> $foo (null)
 *
 *
 * Toolbox configuration:
 * &lt;tool&gt;
 *   &lt;key&gt;null&lt;/key&gt;
 *   &lt;scope&gt;request&lt;/scope&gt;
 *   &lt;class&gt;org.apache.velocity.tools.ViewNullTool&lt;/class&gt;
 * &lt;/tool&gt;
 * </pre></p>
 *
 * <p>This tool is NOT meant to be used in either application or
 * session scopes of a servlet environment.</p>
 *
 * @author <a href="mailto:shinobu@ieee.org">Shinobu Kawai</a>
 * @version $Id: $
 */
public class ViewNullTool extends NullTool implements ViewTool
{
```

```
/** The Context. */
private Context context = null;

/**
 * Default constructor.
 */
public ViewNullTool()
{
}

/**
 * Initializes this instance.
 *
 * @param object the current Context
 */
public void init(Object object)
{
    if (!(object instanceof Context))
    {
        throw new IllegalArgumentException("Tool can only be initialized with a Context");
    }

    this.context = (Context) object;
}

/**
 * Sets the given VTL reference back to <code>null</code> using the current context.
 * @param key the VTL reference to set back to <code>null</code>.
 */
public void setNull(String key)
{
    this.setNull(this.context, key);
}

/**
 * Sets the given VTL reference to the given value using the current context.
 * If the value is <code>null</code>,
 * the VTL reference is set to <code>null</code>.
 * @param key the VTL reference to set.
 * @param value the value to set the VTL reference to.
 */
public void set(String key, Object value)
{
    this.set(this.context, key, value);
}

}
```