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Magic Functions - Getters / Setters

Enabling Magic Functions via Admin

You can enable magic functions in the web / server context by going to:

Enable the settings:

-

The Code

Once, you've checked and enabled it, we're ready to start with some code. I created *person.cfc* with the following code:

person.cfc

```
name="init" access="public" output="no" hint="initalization">
  this>

name="setage" access="public" output="no" hint="This sets the age">
name="value" required="yes" type="numeric">
arguments.value LT 30>
message="Blah! You're just a young pup!">

variables.age = arguments.value>

name="getage" access="public" returntype="string" output="no" hint="This gets the age">
  "My age is #variables.age#">

name="dump" access="public" output="no" hint="I'm just here for debugging purposes">
variables>
```

So, this is a person object, but I didn't declare age or name anywhere. I did create two age specific functions (*getage()* / *setage*). Now, I'm going to call my Person component via my *index.cfm*:

```
oPerson = createObject('component','person').init()>
<--- In Railo 3.1.2.015, you can write this as: <cfset oPerson = new person()> --->
var="#oPerson#">
```

My dump:

-

Now, let's play around a little bit by setting some properties and cfoutput'ing it:

```
oPerson.name = "Todd Rafferty">
oPerson.age = 37>
#oPerson.name#<--- Result: "Todd Rafferty" --->
#oPerson.age#<--- Result: Guess? Check below to find out if you're right! --->
```

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So, you can see here that `oPerson.age` didn't output to just "37", it actually returned "My age is 37" as found in the **getage()** function. Now, what happens if I try to lie and I say that I'm 29?

```
oPerson.age = 29>
```

The result?

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You could further expand on this so that *setName()* validates that the user actually exists and throws an error if it doesn't.

External Resource

- Mark Drew's blog post on [Railo ORM and Magic Functions](#)

 Categories:

- [TIP](#)