

Technical Support  
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# Optional Parameters in ActiveX Calls

# Notices

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In most cases, this is easy to do. However, the level of inconvenience depends upon the person who created the method. HP VEE requires that you specify ActiveX parameters in order, beginning with the first. You can omit any optional parameters at the end of the list.

A common example has required parameters at the beginning and optional parameters at the end. In the following method, the first two parameters are required and the last two are optional.

MethodX(Param1, Param2, [Param3], [Param4])

Here are some ways you might attempt to call this example function from HP VEE. As noted, some of these variations will work and some will not.

MethodX(Value1) - Illegal. Required param missing

MethodX(Value1, Value2) - Legal. Has all required params

MethodX(Value1, Value2, Value3) - Legal. OK to skip param at end

MethodX(Value1, Value2, , Value4) - Illegal. Cannot skip 3rd param

There are no enforceable rules about the placement of optional parameters within an ActiveX method. It is possible that someone might add a fifth parameter to the previous example, and make it required. For example:

MethodY(Param1, Param2, [Param3], [Param4], Param5)

Hopefully, common sense will keep such designs to a minimum. But if you needed to call this function from HP VEE, it would be necessary to specify all five parameters. (Parameters 1, 2, and 5 because they are required; parameters 3 and 4 because parameters must be specified in order, and you need to reach parameter 5.)

