Retrieving GET & POST data

JRequest 'getVar' method

To retrieve GET/POST request data, Joomla! uses the getVar method of the JRequest class (JRequest::getVar()).

Retrieving Data

If you have a form variable named 'address', you would want to use this code to get it:

```
$address = JRequest::getVar('address');
```

Unless other parameters are set, all HTML and trailing whitespace will be filtered out.

The DEFAULT Parameter

If you want to specify a default value in the event that 'address' is not in the request or is unset, use this code:

```
$address = JRequest::getVar('address', 'Address is empty');
echo $address;  // Address is empty
```

The SOURCE Parameter

Frequently, you will expect your variable to be found in a specific portion of the HTTP request (POST, GET, etc...). If this is the case, you should specify which portion; this will slightly increase your extension's security. If you expect 'address' to only be in POST, use this code to enforce that:

```
$address = JRequest::getVar('address', 'default value goes here', 'pos
t');
```

The VARIABLE TYPE Parameter

The fourth parameter of getVar() can be used to specify certain filters to force validation of specific value types for the variable.

```
$address = JRequest::getVar('address', 'default value goes here', 'pos
t','variable type');
```

Here is a list of types you can validate:

- INT
- INTEGER
- FLOAT
- DOUBLE
- BOOL
- BOOLEAN
- WORD
- ALNUM
- CMD
- BASE64
- STRING
- ARRAY
- PATH
- USERNAME

The FILTER MASK Parameter

Finally, there are some mask constants you can pass in as the fifth parameter that allow you to bypass portions of the filtering:

```
$address = JRequest::getVar('address', 'default value goes here', 'pos
t','validation type','mask type');
```

- JREQUEST_NOTRIM - prevents trimming of whitespace
- JREQUEST_ALLOWRAW - bypasses filtering
- JREQUEST_ALLOWHTML - allows most HTML. If this is not passed in, HTML is stripped out by default.