



FormValidator 5.0

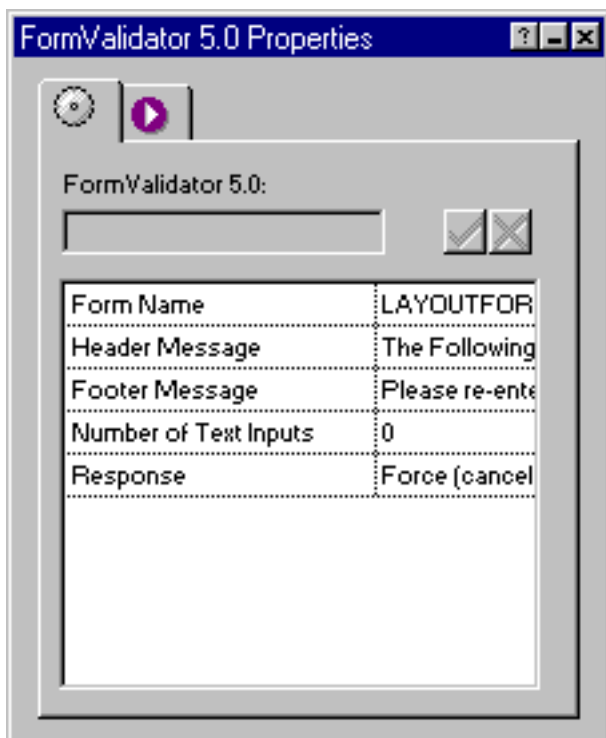
Getting Started

FormValidator is a NetObjects Fusion v4.0/5.0 component which does validation of email addresses, URL addresses, dates, and other formats. You can choose to not allow blank fields and HTML. It can also dynamically strip out the HTML of messages on submission. Stripping HTML is perfect for message boards and other posting forms where you don't want people to insert pictures, formatting, etc.

Getting started with the FormValidator:

- Run the Installation program, specifying the location of Fusion 4.0/5.0's component directory.
- Launch Fusion
- If the coolmaps.com component toolbar is not visible choose View > Toolbars > Component Tools > coolmaps.com components
- Select the FormValidator component and drag out an area on the page (this graphic does not appear on the published page).

The FormValidator properties now appears in Fusion's properties palette.



FormValidator Options

FormName, this option lets you specify the name of the Fusion form layout region. The default name for a form made in Fusion is FORMLAYOUT, and that is the default in the Properties Palette as well.

Header Message is the first half of the message that will appear in the alert box if the user has invalid fields. It should say something similar to "The following fields are incorrectly filled out:". A list of incorrectly filled out fields will appear after your message.

Footer Message is the message at the bottom of the alert box that tells the user what to do. Usually this will say something such as "Please re-enter and submit again."

Use Custom Names? If you wish the error message to display a different name than that of the actual field name, set this option to **Yes** and then enter the name in the **Custom Name #** field for each input configured.

of Text Inputs, this option is where you select the number of input fields you have on your Form Layout Page that will be validated.

Name of # is where you enter the name of the field. Defaults for Fusion are usually something like TEXTBOXFIELD1.

Custom Name #, enter the custom name to be displayed in the error message if this field is filled out incorrectly.

Type # is where you enter the validation type. The first five validation types apply only to text inputs. Radio Button and Combo Box validation work only with their respective input types. The choices are:

- **Email Validation**, checks the field to make sure the text is in email form, e.g. 'roma@coolmaps.com'.
- **URL Validation**, checks the field to make sure the text is in URL form, e.g. 'http://club.coolmaps.com'.
- **Date Validation**, checks the field to make sure the text is in date form. Acceptable formats: 'nn.nn.nn', 'nn/nn/nn', or 'nn-nn-nn'.
- **Letters Only**, permits only letters, e.g. use in a name field. (Permits both caps and lower case.)
- **Numbers Only**, permits only numbers 0-9, e.g. use in an age field. (Phone number formats allowed.)
 - **Allow Spaces**, is only available if using Letters Only or Numbers Only validation. Determines whether spaces in the text field are allowed or not.
- **Radio Button**, forces a selection from a group of radio buttons.
- **Combo Box**, checks combo boxes to see if a valid selection is made. With this form of validation, elements in the combo box that are not allowed should have a value of "#" (no quotes!). A good example of its use is when using a default value such as "-- Select --". Setting the value of

"-- Select --" to "#" would force a visitor to make a selection before proceeding.

- None, does no validation.

HTML # is an additional validation technique. The choices are:

- Allow, does not check for HTML tags.
- Do Not Allow, checks the fields and does not allow HTML tags.
- Strip Out HTML, strips out all HTML tags from the text and gives no error message. (This is great for dynamic pages, such as message boards.)

Blank Field # is an additional validation technique. The choices are:

- Allow, does not check blank or empty text fields.
- Do Not Allow, checks the fields and does not allow blank or empty fields.

Response, the last option on the properties palette lets you choose how you would like the alert message box to work. Your choices are:

- Force (cancel) is usually the choice you will want to use. It brings up the generic alert box with only one button that says "OK" and it forces the user to go back and re-enter the information. In other words, it does not ever allow them to submit the form until all the information is correct.
- Warn (cancel/proceed) gives the user two choices when they make an invalid form entry. The user can choose "OK" or "Cancel". If they choose "OK" the information will be submitted, if they choose "Cancel", they will be sent back to the page to correct the information. Note: if you choose this choice it might be a good idea to change your footer message to read something like "Do you want to continue?"