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## 11.8 Scriptlet Example

As an example of code that is too complex for a JSP expression alone, [Listing 11.8](#) presents a JSP page that uses the `bgColor` request parameter to set the background color of the page. Simply using

```
<BODY BGCOLOR="<%=" request.getParameter("bgColor") %>">
```

would violate the cardinal rule of reading form data: always check for missing or malformed data. So, we use a scriptlet instead. `JSP-Styles.css` is omitted so that the style sheet does not override the background color. [Figures 11-5, 11-6, and 11-7](#) show the default result, the result for a background of `C0C0C0`, and the result for `papayawhip` (one of the oddball X11 color names still supported by most browsers for historical reasons), respectively.

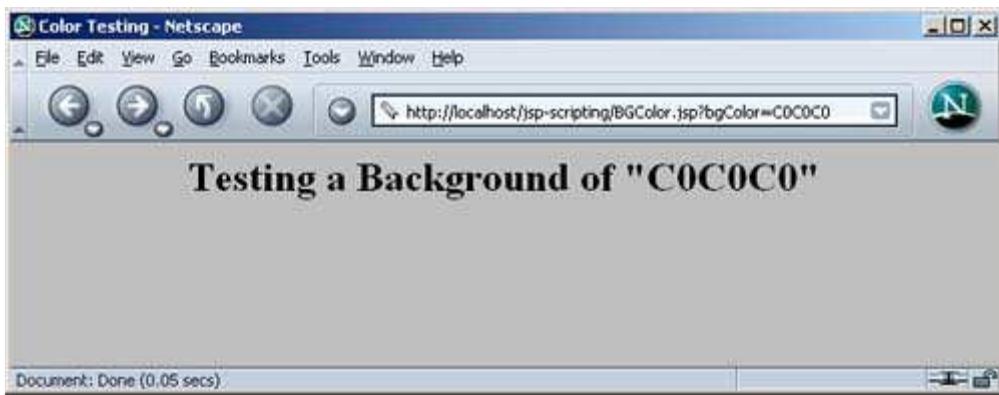
### **Listing 11.8 BGColor.jsp**

```
<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<TITLE>Color Testing</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<%
String bgColor = request.getParameter("bgColor");
if ((bgColor == null) || (bgColor.trim().equals(""))) {
    bgColor = "WHITE";
}
%>
<BODY BGCOLOR="<%=" bgColor %>">
<H2 ALIGN="CENTER">Testing a Background of "<%=" bgColor %>"</H2>
</BODY></HTML>
```

**Figure 11-5. Default result of `BGColor.jsp`.**



**Figure 11-6. Result of `BGColor.jsp` when accessed with a `bgColor` parameter having the RGB value `C0C0C0`.**



**Figure 11-7. Result of `BGColor.jsp` when accessed with a `bgColor` parameter having the X11 color name `papayawhip`.**



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