

Deref

This function will take a reference obtained by the ref function and returns its Lua element.

Syntax

```
mixed deref( int reference )
```

Required Arguments

- reference:** The valid reference, which you want to dereference

Returns

Returns *mixed* if the reference were valid. Returns *false* if the reference were invalid.

Remarks

This function was originally created to prevent garbage-collection of specific Lua objects/elements which should persist even though no script would reference them. The storage of those references can be obtained by a call to the debug.getregistry function. The **ref** and **deref** template can easily be remade using a locally-hidden Lua table and two such function implementations.