

## Replacing Missing Values

The **COALESCE function** enables you to replace missing values in a column with a new value that you specify.

For example, the following query replaces **missing values** in the Score1 column in the score\_data table with the numerical value **-7**, and replaces **missing values** in the Gender column in the score\_data table with the character value **'Missing'**.

```
proc sql;
```

```
    select Name, coalesce(score1, -7) as score1, coalesce(gender, 'Missing') as  
    gender
```

```
from score_data;
```



The following **CASE expression** shows another way to perform the same replacement of missing values. However, the COALESCE function requires fewer lines of code to obtain the same results:

```
proc sql;  
select Name, case  
    when Gender = ' ' then 'Missing'  
    else Gender  
end as Gender  
from score_data;
```

