

# m\_utl\_get\_col\_format.sas File Reference

## Utilities

Utility macro to obtain column format attribute from a table

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### Description

The macro is used to obtain the attribute format information from a given column in a table. The macro can be used to get the column format from within a data step, or standalone. The result information is directly given back from the macro.

### Note

*The `SHOW_ERR` parameter shows or suppresses possible warnings or errors in the log. The default for `SHOW_ERR` is value is N.*

### Note

*In case of encrypted SAS datasets, the `ENCRYPTKEY=` parameter must be provided as part of the `CREDS` credentials string.*

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### Date

2020-09-23 00:00:00

### Version

20.1.09

### Link

<https://github.com/paul-canals/toolbox>

## Parameters

Input	help	Parameter, if set (Help or ?) to print the Help information in the log. In all other cases this parameter should be left out from the macro call.
Input	table	Full LIBNAME.TABLENAME name of the or SAS dataset to get the column attribute information. The default value is: <code>_NONE_</code> .
Input	table_dsid	Parameter representing the SAS dataset or table identifier. The parameter contains the value of the table identifier when the table was already opened before calling this macro. The default value for <code>TABLE_DSID</code> is: 0.
Input	creds	Optional. Specifies the <code>ENCRYPTKEY=</code> parameter value if <code>DATASET</code> involves an encrypted dataset.
Input	col_name	Parameter to specify the column attribute name.
Input	col	Alias of the <code>COL_NAME=</code> parameter.
Input	decimals	Parameter to specify the number of in case the numeric format could not be defined. The default value for <code>DECIMALS</code> is: 1.
Input	dec	Alias of the <code>DECIMALS=</code> parameter.
Input	show_err	Boolean [Y N] parameter to show or hide warnings or errors in the log. The default value is: Y.
Input	debug	Boolean [Y N] parameter to provide verbose mode information. The default value is: N.

## Returns

- The format value for a given column.

## Calls

- [m\\_utl\\_print\\_message.sas](#)
- [m\\_utl\\_print\\_mtrace.sas](#)
- [m\\_utl\\_varlist.sas](#)

## Usage

Example 1: Show help information:

```
%m_utl_get_col_format(?)
```

Example 2: Obtain column format information for Actual column of the SASHELP.prdsale table:

```
data WORK.result;
  Table="SASHELP.prdsale";
  Column='Actual';
  Format="%m_utl_get_col_format(table=SASHELP.prdsale,col=Actual,debug=Y)";
  output;
run;

proc print data=WORK.result noobs;
run;
```

Example 3: Obtain column format information for Prodtype column of the SASHELP.prdsale table:

```
data WORK.result;
  Table="SASHELP.prdsale";
  Column='Prodtype';
  Format="%m_utl_get_col_format(table=SASHELP.prdsale,col=Prodtype,debug=Y)";
  output;
run;

proc print data=WORK.result noobs;
run;
```

Example 4: Obtain column format information for Invoice column of the SASHELP.cars table:

```
data WORK.result;
  Table="SASHELP.cars";
  Column='Invoice';
  Format="%m_utl_get_col_format(table=SASHELP.cars,col=Invoice,debug=Y)";
  output;
run;

proc print data=WORK.result noobs;
run;
```

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