

If you need to add custom logic into your [transformations](#), you can implement custom methods and call them in the transformation code. Custom transformation methods allow you to process field values, display data in custom formats, add conditions, and more.

To create custom methods for ASCX transformations:

1. Extend the **CMSTransformation** partial class in the **App\_Code** folder of your web project.
2. Add the definitions of the methods inside the class.



If you wish to add custom functionality for **Text** transformations, implement [custom macro methods](#).

The following example demonstrates how to create a custom method that trims text values to a specified number of characters.

## Writing the custom transformation method

1. Open your Kentico web project in Visual Studio.
2. Create a new folder under the **App\_Code** folder (or **Old\_App\_Code** on web application installations) and name it *CustomTransformationMethods*.
3. Right-click the folder and select **Add -> Add new Item**.
4. Create a new **Class** and name it **CMSTransformation.cs**.



**Note:** Currently, you must develop transformation methods in C#.

5. Remove the default content of the class (apart from the basic references) and enter the following code instead:



```
namespace CMS.DocumentEngine.Web.UI
{
    /// <summary>
    /// Extends the CMSTransformation partial class.
    /// </summary>
    public partial class CMSTransformation
    {
        /// <summary>
        /// Trims text values to the specified length.
        /// </summary>
        /// <param name="txtValue">Original text to be trimmed</param>
        /// <param name="leftChars">Number of characters to be returned</param>
        public string CustomTrimText(object txtValue, int leftChars)
        {
            // Checks that text is not null
            if (txtValue == null | txtValue == DBNull.Value)
            {
                return "";
            }
            else
            {
                string txt = (string)txtValue;

                // Returns a substring if the text is longer than specified
                if (txt.Length <= leftChars)
                {
                    return txt;
                }
                else
                {
                    return txt.Substring(0, leftChars) + "...";
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

6. **Save** the file. **Build** the project if it is installed as a web application.

## Calling the custom method in ASCX transformations

1. Sign in to the Kentico administration interface.
2. Open the **Page types** application.
3. **Edit** (🔧) the **Corporate site - Transformations** page type.
4. Select the **Transformations** tab.
5. Edit the **BlogsList** transformation and change line 5 of its code to the following:

```
..
<%# CustomTrimText(Eval("BlogDescription"), 50) %>
..
```

Save

Generate default transformation

Preview

Transformation name:

BlogsList

Transformation type:

ASCX

Available transformation methods

```


<%@ Control Language="C#" AutoEventWireup="true" Inherits="CMS.Controls.CMSAbstractTransformation" %>
<%@ Register TagPrefix="ccl" Namespace="CMS.Controls" Assembly="CMS.Controls" %>

1 <div class="listBoxWithTeaser">
2 <div class="teaser"><%# IfEmpty(Eval("BlogTeaser"), "<a href='" + GetDocumentUrl() + "'" title='" + HTMLER
3 <div class="description">
4 <a class="header bold" href="#<%# GetDocumentUrl() %>"><%# Eval("BlogName", true) %></a>
5 <%# CustomTrimText(Eval("BlogDescription"), 50) %>
6 </div>
7 </div>

```

Add CSS styles

6. Click **Save** to confirm the modification.

To check the result, click the **Preview** button, enter `/Community/Blogs` into the path textbox on the preview bar and **Refresh**  the page section. In the preview of the blogs page that uses the transformation (on the sample Corporate site), you can see the text of the blog description truncated to the first 50 characters.

/Community/Blogs
Select    Default screen size

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▶ Community ▶ Blogs

Blogs
 27 Events
 Forums
 Wiki

## Blogs

This section contains a sample blog. Any number of blogs can be published here via the system's administration interface. If you are running a corporate blog, you can set up a workflow process for approval of blog posts before they are published. Blogs are standard documents in the content tree. The functionality is provided by the **Pages** and **Blogs** applications.

To learn more, please refer to the [Blogs](#) documentation.

### Company Blogs

[Andrew Jones Blog](#)

My name is Andrew Jones and I am the head of ...

#### Latest blog pos

**Remote Management**

3/23/2011 3:12:26 PM  
In this blog post, I will share some remarks regarding communication between our former New York Office and the newly setup London Office.

**Expanding to Europe**

3/21/2011 5:57:47 PM  
In this blog post, I will try to share some of my impressions of the recent expansion of our operations to the Old Continent.