

Get Coding Help – Read the Docs + Errors vs Warnings!

To be a good programmer, you'll have to be able to solve problems (preferably independently). Thus, you need to know where to find solutions when you face issues with your code. We'll first talk a manual/reference you can use to look for help, then we'll briefly touch on code errors and warnings.

Introducing... the MQL5 Code Documentation (aka the MQL5 Reference).

What is Code Documentation?

Code documentation is a manual that explains how the code works. Every programming language (not just MQL5) has a code documentation.

What is MQL5 Reference?

It is a code documentation that explains how the MQL5 coding language works. There are two ways to access the MQL5 Reference:

- Web access (online access) **(Preferred Method)**
- Access it via the MetaEditor (offline access)

Web Access (Preferred Method)

How to access

Link: <https://www.mql5.com/en/docs>

How to use

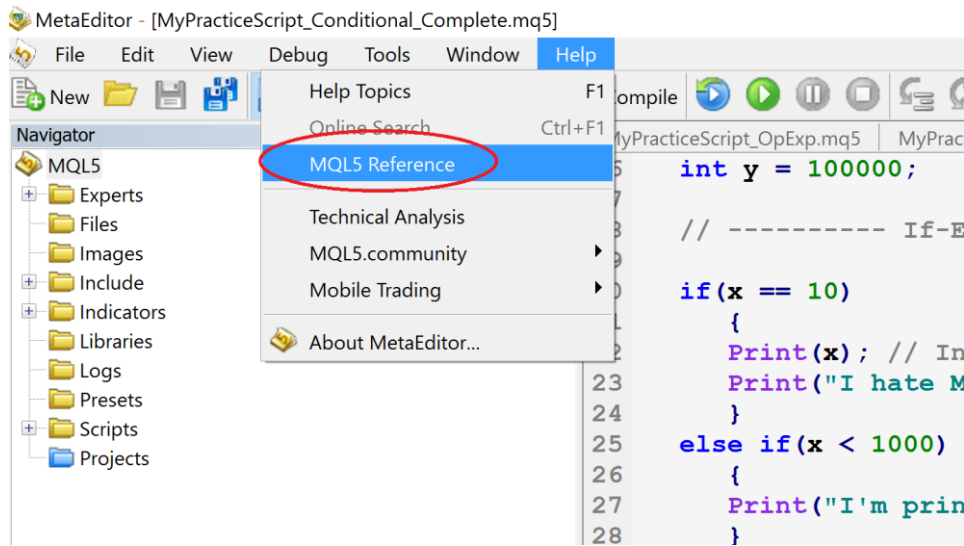
The best way to use the web docs is via Google Search. When you are looking for help, search in this manner (for better results): *MQL5 <insert keywords>*

Eg. MQL5 datatypes, MQL5 reserved words, MQL5 Syntax etc.

The first result should lead you to the exact page you are looking for within the MQL5 docs.

Access it via the MetaEditor

How to access

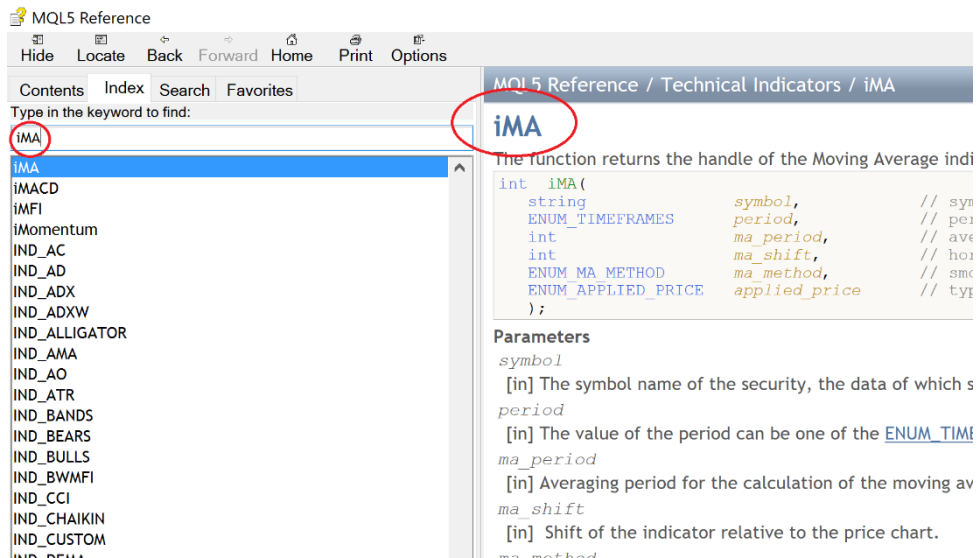


See pic above.

How to use

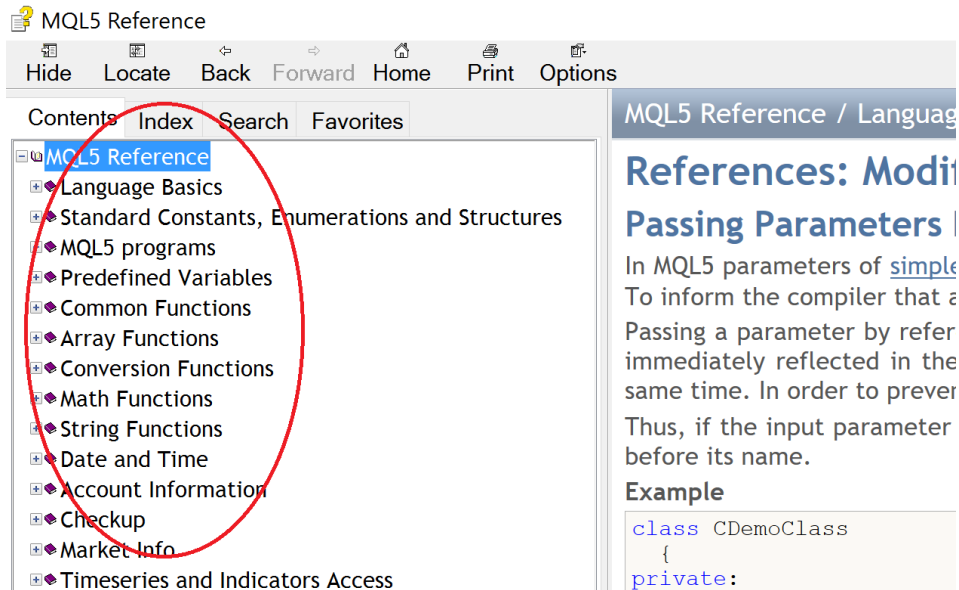
There are three ways to navigate the MQL5 Reference:

1. Search for keywords (Preferred)



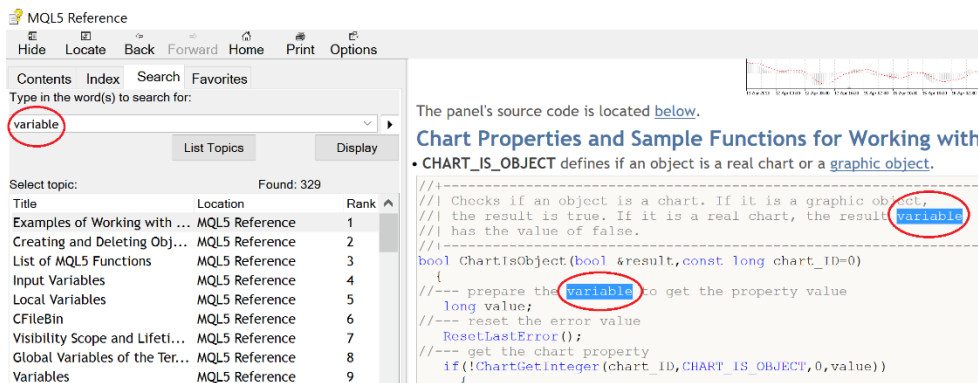
This may not work for all keywords.

2. Scan the content page



This may be tedious, especially if you don't know what you're looking for.

3. Search using words that appear the most number of times



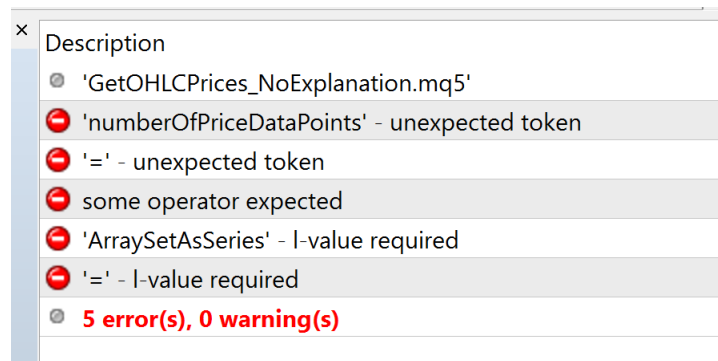
This method looks for articles where the searched word appears the most number of times.

Errors and Warnings

Errors

What they are: Errors indicate that your code is written wrongly. It cannot be compiled and run.

How they look like: Red symbols.



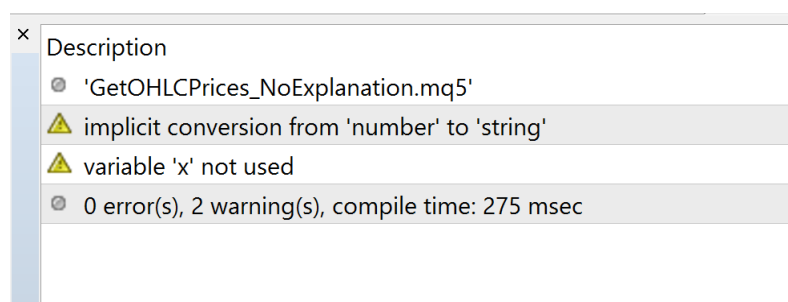
How we should solve them:

- Always solve the top most error first. In the above example, that refers to ""numberOfPriceDataPoints' – unexpected token"
- If the error message is obvious, do as it says. Otherwise, Google Search "MQL5 <insert error name>".

Warnings

What they are: Errors indicate that your code could be written better. But it still can be compiled and run.

How they look like: Yellow symbols.



How we should solve them:

- You can choose to ignore them. But you should attempt to understand what the warnings mean.
- If the warning message is obvious, do as it says. Otherwise, Google Search "MQL5 <insert warning name>".

Self-help and Debugging

We will include three lectures in the future (in the next course) that will help you be an independent coder. Do look out for them:

- Still lost at programming? Self-Learning Methods
- Types of Errors! And Common Coding Problems!
- Debugging Demonstration - Understanding the Thought Process