

Chapter 40: CreateObject vs. GetObject

Section 40.1: Demonstrating GetObject and CreateObject

[MSDN-GetObject Function](#)

Returns a reference to an object provided by an ActiveX component.

Use the GetObject function when there is a current instance of the object or if you want to create the object with a file already loaded. If there is no current instance, and you don't want the object started with a file loaded, use the CreateObject function.

```
Sub CreateVSGet()  
    Dim ThisXLApp As Excel.Application 'An example of early binding  
    Dim AnotherXLApp As Object 'An example of late binding  
    Dim ThisNewWB As Workbook  
    Dim AnotherNewWB As Workbook  
    Dim wb As Workbook  
  
    'Get this instance of Excel  
    Set ThisXLApp = GetObject(ThisWorkbook.Name).Application  
    'Create another instance of Excel  
    Set AnotherXLApp = CreateObject("Excel.Application")  
    'Make the 2nd instance visible  
    AnotherXLApp.Visible = True  
    'Add a workbook to the 2nd instance  
    Set AnotherNewWB = AnotherXLApp.Workbooks.Add  
    'Add a sheet to the 2nd instance  
    AnotherNewWB.Sheets.Add  
  
    'You should now have 2 instances of Excel open  
    'The 1st instance has 1 workbook: Book1  
    'The 2nd instance has 1 workbook: Book2  
  
    'Lets add another workbook to our 1st instance  
    Set ThisNewWB = ThisXLApp.Workbooks.Add  
    'Now loop through the workbooks and show their names  
    For Each wb In ThisXLApp.Workbooks  
        Debug.Print wb.Name  
    Next  
    'Now the 1st instance has 2 workbooks: Book1 and Book3  
    'If you close the first instance of Excel,  
    'Book1 and Book3 will close, but book2 will still be open  
  
End Sub
```