

## Re: How to return VB "Nothing"

**Source:** <http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/VC/microsoft.public.vc.atl/2004-12/0244.html>

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**From:** Alexander Nickolov ([agnickolov\\_at\\_mvps.org](mailto:agnickolov_at_mvps.org))

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That last advice is wrong. The fact that the garbage in the passed in [out, retval] pointer is typically NULL does not mean the component should not set it. If for example I am the client, not VB, it may be true garbage, not NULL! Failure to set the output argument on success can spell a crash.

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"Andrew Jarvis" <[someone@somewhere](mailto:someone@somewhere)> wrote in message  
news:uzK0phr3EHA.3908@TK2MSFTNGP12.phx.gbl...  
> Nothing is the VB terminology for NULL.  
>  
> Just return NULL.  
>  
> If fact the pointer that VB will have created to receive the return value  
> will already be Nothing so you don't have to do anything.  
>  
> AJ  
>  
> "German" <[german.koninin@crmDASHworldwideDOTnet](mailto:german.koninin@crmDASHworldwideDOTnet)> wrote in message  
> news:uM1WUUr3EHA.2788@TK2MSFTNGP15.phx.gbl...  
>> Hi.  
>>  
>> I would like to return VB "Nothing" from my method of ATL ActiveX.  
>> the return type of my method is LPDISPATCH. I have no idea how to do such  
>> thing.  
>> In VB it should looks like following.  
>>  
>> If myactivex.mymethod is Nothing Then  
>>   BsgBox"Ok"  
>> End If  
>>  
>> Thanks a lot.  
>>  
>>  
>  
>