

# Utility Functions: ArrayRandomize()

Posted At : November 2, 2008 4:30 AM | Posted By : Jon Hartmann

Related Categories: ColdFusion, Utility Function

A simple array randomization option. Note that although I use "CFMX\_COMPAT" as the default randomization algorithm, you should probably always use "SHA1PRNG" to get better results.

```
<cffunction name="ArrayRandomize" access="public" output="true" returntype="array">
    <cfargument name="array" type="array" required="true" />
    <cfargument name="algorithm" type="string" required="false" default="CFMX_COMPAT" />

    <!---
        Fisher-Yates shuffle
        http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fisher-Yates_shuffle
    --->

    <cfset var i = ArrayLen(arguments.array) />
    <cfset var k = 0 />
    <cfset var temp = "" />

    <cfif i gt 0>
        <cfloop condition="i gt 0">
            <cfset k = RandRange(1, i, arguments.algorithm) />

            <cfset temp = arguments.array[i] />
            <cfset arguments.array[i] = arguments.array[k] />
            <cfset arguments.array[k] = temp />
            <cfset i = i - 1 />
        </cfloop>
    </cfif>

    <cfreturn arguments.array />
</cffunction>
```