

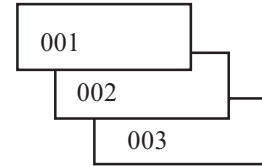
### COUNTER Function

The Counter function is a sequential number generator. It can be used with or without a database.

Sample formula: COUNTER(1,100,1,3,True)

The example on the right generates numbers starting with 1 and ending with 100. As you browse through the records, the series is as follows: 001, 002, 003, ..., 099, 100, 001, 002, 003, ...

RESULT:



Expression formula: **COUNTER ( start\_val, end\_val, step, positions, leading\_zeros )**

COUNTER(1, 100, 2, 3, True )

There are 5 parts:	Part 1 : <b>start_val</b>	start number:	1
	Part 2 : <b>end_val</b>	end number:	100
	Part 3 : <b>step</b>	step increment:	1
	Part 4 : <b>positions</b>	leading zeros:	3
	Part 5 : <b>leading zeros</b>	True (show 0s) or False (no 0s):	0 (zero)

### How to Setup:

1) Create a variable “marker” by drawing a text box and typing **@Counter@** (any alpha/numeric text in between the @ symbols is OK to use)

2) Unselect the Text box.

Go to **Window>Object Variables** & click 2X on “Counter.”  
*This will take you to the Expression builder window.*

3) Click on the Components tab & click 2X on COUNTER.

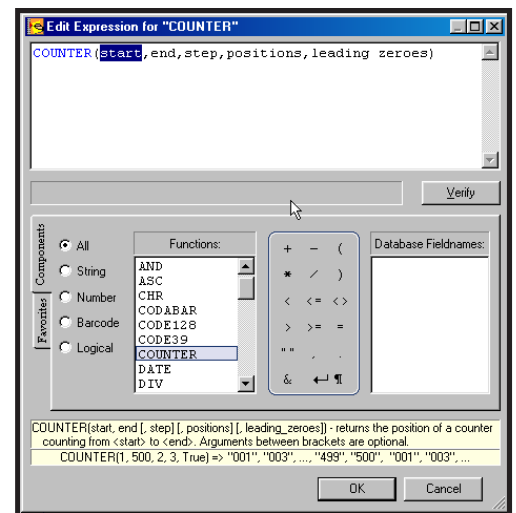
4) Type in your formula and click **Verify**.

*This verifies the formula's syntax is correct.*

**Expression OK** means you are ready to leave the Expression builder window.

5) Click **OK**.

*To browse through the records, use the arrows on the **Variable Data** window.*



### No database used?

When using the COUNTER function *without a database* make sure **Items Without database** is set to the total records for print. Example: Creating 1,000 raffle tickets with individual numbers, the **Items Without Database** would be set to “1,000”.

Go to **Edit> Preferences> Program> General Options> Items without database**

*The following page shows sample formulas using the COUNTER function.*



# PrintShop Mail

## Win-Functions: COUNTER



### Basic Formulas

FORMULA	RESULT	COMMENT
1) <b>COUNTER (100,1000, 5, 4, False)</b>	100, 105, 110, ..., 995, 1000	Ascending increments of five.
2) <b>COUNTER (100, 1000, 1/3, 4, False)</b>	100, 100, 100, 101, 101, 101, ...	Used to add invoice numbers to pre-collated NCR sets
3) <b>"AB"&amp; COUNTER (10, 100, 2, 3, True)</b>	AB010, AB012, AB014, ...	Static text with COUNTER

### Advanced Formulas

FORMULA4: **CHR (VAL (COUNTER (65, 90, 1, 2, False)))**  
 RESULT: A, B, C, ... Y, Z, A, B, ...  
 COMMENT: Alphabet counter

FORMULA5: **COUNTER (1, 3, 1, 1, False) & "A" & COUNTER (5, 8, 1,1/3, False) & "B"**  
 RESULT: 1A5B, 2A5B, 3A5B, 1A6B, 2A6B, 3A6B, ...  
 COMMENT: (2) COUNTERs creating 2 separate ascending numbers with static text.

FORMULA6: **COUNTER (1, 100, 0.5, 3, False)**  
 RESULT: 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 2.5, ...  
 COMMENT: (1) COUNTER creating a .5 ascending effect.

FORMULA7: **IF (COUNTER (1, 2, 1, 1, False) ="1", "A","B") & COUNTER (1, 100, 1, 3, False)**  
 RESULT: A1, B2, A3, B4, ...  
 COMMENT: IF function with a COUNTER function to generate a "A" or "B" text character based on the number "1" or "2" and a 2nd COUNTER used for an ascending number string.

FORMULA8: **IF (VAL (COUNTER (1, 100, 1/20, 3, False)) =1, "\$29.95",  
 IF (VAL (COUNTER (1, 100, 1/20, 3, False)) =2, "\$39.95",  
 IF (VAL (COUNTER (1, 100, 1/20, 3, False)) =3, "\$49.95",  
 IF (VAL (COUNTER (1, 100, 1/20, 3, False)) =4, "\$59.95", ""))**  
 RESULT: A counter based on every 20 records: "\$29.95" for records 1 to 20, \$39.95 for records 21 to 40, \$49.95 for records 41 to 60 and \$59.95 for records 61 to 80. *Used to create retail price tags.*

#### COUNTER Uses

- Any sequential numbering application.
- Can be used with PSM's duplexing, Layout Repetition (multi-up), Front To Back, Back to Front, Vertical & Horizontal print order and Splitjob functions.
- Start and end number's output sequence will depend on PSM's Front To Back/Back To Front settings. Check **Edit> Preferences> Repetition> Priorities.**

#### COUNTER Limitations

- Can not generate random numbering.