



Using a reserved word as a local variable declaration will result in the following type of error message ...

```
desc varchar2(100);
```

```
*
```

ERROR at line 4:

ORA-06550: line 4, column 5:

PLS-00103: Encountered the symbol "DESC" when expecting one of the following:

begin function pragma procedure subtype type <an identifier>

<a double-quoted delimited-identifier> current cursor delete

exists prior

The symbol "begin" was inserted before "DESC" to continue.

ORA-06550: line 12, column 4:

PLS-00103: Encountered the symbol "end-of-file" when expecting one of the following:

(begin case declare end exception exit for goto if loop mod

null pragma raise return select update while with

<an identifier> <a double-quoted



Oracle 11g allows the Developer to use reserved words etc as identifiers for local variables, this is achieved by using double quotes around the variable, for example ...

declare

```
"begin" varchar2(1000);
```

begin

```
"begin" := 'Hello';
```

```
dbms_output.put_line('The value of begin is '||"begin");
```

end;



Note that the variable name now becomes 'case sensitive', that is the declared name must be used exactly as declared in the same case...

declare

```
"begin" varchar2(1000);
```

begin

```
dbms_output.put_line('The value of begin is '||"Begin");
```

ERROR at line 9:

PLS-00201: identifier 'Begin' must be declared



Double quotes will allow variables to have spaces and symbols ...

declare

"begin the begin \$" varchar2(1000);

begin

"begin the begin \$" := 'Hello';

dbms_output.put_line('The value of Begin is '||"begin the begin \$");

end;



The following are examples of what will now compile in PLSQL
(but are not necessarily recommended) ...

declare

"www.address" varchar2(1000);

"The end" varchar2(1000);

"declare" varchar2(1000);

"start,end" varchar2(1000);

"form-start" varchar2(1000);

begin