

# **SAS V8 **SUNKEN** Treasures**

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**GOTCHAs**

**MERGE, SET, UPDATE, RETAIN**

```
Data Update;  
  Set trnxs;  
Run;
```

**What is Wrong with this Data Step?**

In SAS Version 6.12 - Nothing!

In SAS Version 8.2 - you will get an error stating that a "missing semicolon" may be encountered. And a reference to DATASTMTCHK=COREKEYWORDS causing this condition.

You will need to read the SAS Documentation regarding this option DATASTMTCHK.

A work around for Version 8.2 is

**Options DATASTMTCHK=NONE;**

Or re-code your Datastep using a one-level name other than "Update", "Merge", "Set" or "Retain".

If you have a two-level name (Permanent) then the Keywords are OK to use.

```
%macro validvar;
```

```
  %if &sysver ne 6.12 %then %do;
```

```
    options validvarname=v6;
```

```
    options datastmtchk=none;
```

```
  %end;
```

```
%mend validvar;
```