

# Creating an Advanced Report Template

Velocity is a popular Java-based template engine. For a general introduction to the Velocity template language, see [Apache.org](http://Apache.org).

If a dashboard needs to run reports based on the results of another report or needs to get data from Java objects, the Excel template must provide a Velocity script instead of a simple Properties worksheet described in the previous section.

The Velocity script for an Excel dashboard template normally consists of three sections:

## Section 1. Global Definitions

Define the URIs for dependent reports

## Section 2. Preprocessing

Add the required dashboard parameters

Initialize the dependent reports

## Section 3. Rendering

Get parameter value(s)

Define the target range/row/column/cell

Get data from reports

Get data Java objects

Populate the target range/row/column/cell

Return the content of the resulting dashboard (Excel workbook)