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## Description

`/*` and `*/` and `//` are how you place comments in Mata programs.

## Syntax

```
/* enclosed comment */
```

```
// rest-of-line comment
```

Notes:

1. Comments may appear in do-files and ado-files; they are not allowed interactively.
2. Stata's beginning-of-the-line asterisk comment is not allowed in Mata:

```
. * valid in Stata but not in Mata
```

## Remarks and examples

stata.com

There are two comment styles: `/*` and `*/` and `//`. You may use one, the other, or both.

Remarks are presented under the following headings:

*The `/* */` enclosed comment*

*The `//` rest-of-line comment*

### The `/* */` enclosed comment

Enclosed comments may appear on a line:

```
/* What follows uses an approximation formula: */
```

Enclosed comments may appear within a line and even in the middle of a Mata expression:

```
x = x + /*left-single quote*/ char(96)
```

Enclosed comments may themselves contain multiple lines:

```
/*
   We use the approximation based on sin(x) approximately
   equaling x for small x; x measure in radians
*/
```

Enclosed comments may be nested, which is useful for commenting out code that itself contains comments:

```
/*
for (i=1; i<=rows(x); i++) {           /* normalization */
    x[i] = x[i] ./ value[i]
}
*/
```

### The // rest-of-line comment

The rest-of-line comment may appear by itself on a line

```
// What follows uses an approximation formula:
```

or it may appear at the end of a line:

```
x = x + char(96) // append single quote
```

In either case, the comment concludes when the line ends.

### Also see

[\[M-2\] intro](#) — Language definition