

**st\_local()** — Obtain strings from and put strings into Stata macros

Description Diagnostics	Syntax Reference	Remarks and examples Also see	Conformability
----------------------------	---------------------	----------------------------------	----------------

## Description

`st_local(name)` returns the contents of the specified local macro.

`st_local(name, contents)` sets or resets the contents of the specified local macro. If the macro did not previously exist, a new macro is created. If it did previously exist, the new contents replace the old.

## Syntax

```
string scalar  st_local(string scalar name)
void          st_local(string scalar name, string scalar contents)
```

Note: `st_local(name, "")` deletes.

## Remarks and examples

[stata.com](#)

See [\[M-5\] st\\_global\(\)](#) and [\[M-5\] st\\_rclear\(\)](#).

## Conformability

```
st_local(name):
  name:         1 × 1
  result:       1 × 1

st_local(name, contents):
  name:         1 × 1
  contents:     1 × 1
  result:       void
```

## Diagnostics

`st_local(name)` returns "" if the name contained in *name* is not defined. `st_local(name)` aborts with error if the name is malformed.

`st_local(name, contents)` aborts with error if the name contained in *name* is malformed.

## Reference

Gould, W. W. 2008. [Mata Matters: Macros](#). *Stata Journal* 8: 401–412.

## Also see

[M-4] [stata](#) — Stata interface functions