

set — Overview of system parameters

[Description](#)[Syntax](#)[Remarks and examples](#)[Also see](#)

Description

This entry provides a reference to Stata's `set` commands. For many entries, more thorough information is provided elsewhere; see the Reference field in each entry below for the location of this information.

To reset system parameters to factory defaults, see [\[R\] `set_defaults`](#).

Syntax

```
set [ setcommand ... ]
```

`set` typed without arguments is equivalent to `query` typed without arguments.

Remarks and examples

stata.com

`set adosize`

Syntax: `set adosize # [, permanently]`

Default: 1,000

Description: sets the maximum amount of memory that automatically loaded do-files may consume. $10 \leq \# \leq 10000$.

Reference: [\[P\] `sysdir`](#)

`set autotabgraphs` (Windows only)

Syntax: `set autotabgraphs {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `off`

Description: determines whether graphs are created as tabs within one window or as separate windows.

`set cformat`

Syntax: `set cformat [fmt] [, permanently]`

Description: specifies the output format of coefficients, standard errors, and confidence limits in coefficient tables. *fmt* is a numerical format; see [\[D\] `format`](#).

Reference: [\[R\] `set cformat`](#)

`set checksum`

Syntax: `set checksum {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `off`

Description: determines whether files should be prevented from being downloaded from the Internet if checksums do not match.

Reference: [\[D\] `checksum`](#)

set clevel

Syntax: set clevel # [, permanently]

Default: 95

Description: sets the default credible level for credible intervals for all commands that report credible intervals. $10.00 \leq \# \leq 99.99$, and # can have at most two digits after the decimal point.

Reference: [\[BAYES\] set clevel](#)

set coeftabresults

Syntax: set coeftabresults {on|off}

Default: on

Description: determines whether coefficient table results are stored in `r()`. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

set conren (Unix console only)

Syntax 1: set conren

Syntax 2: set conren clear

Syntax 3: set conren [sf | bf | it]
 {result | [txt | text] | input | error | link | hilite}
 [char[char...]]

Syntax 4: set conren {ulon | uloff} [char [char ...]]

Syntax 5: set conren reset [char [char ...]]

Description: can possibly make the output on your screen appear prettier.

set conren displays a list of the currently defined display codes.

set conren clear clears all codes.

set conren followed by a font type (bf, sf, or it) and display context (result, error, link, or hilite) and then followed by a series of space-separated characters sets the code for the specified font type and display context. If the font type is omitted, the code is set to the same specified code for all three font types. set conren ulon and set conren uloff set the codes for turning on and off underlining.

set conren reset sets the code that will turn off all display and underlining codes.

Reference: [\[GSU\] conren](#)

set copycolor (Mac and Windows only)

Syntax: set copycolor {automatic|asis|gs1|gs2|gs3} [, permanently]

Default: automatic

Description: determines how colors are handled when graphs are copied to the Clipboard.

Reference: [\[G-2\] set printcolor](#)

set dockable (Windows only)

Syntax: set dockable {on|off} [, permanently]

Default: on

Description: determines whether to enable the use of dockable window characteristics, including the ability to dock or tab a window into another window.

set `dockingguides` (Windows only)

Syntax: set `dockingguides` {on|off} [, permanently]

Default: on

Description: determines whether to enable the use of dockable guides when repositioning a dockable window.

set `doublebuffer` (Windows only)

Syntax: set `doublebuffer` {on|off} [, permanently]

Default: on

Description: enables or disables double buffering of the Results, Viewer, and Data Editor windows. Double buffering prevents the windows from flickering when redrawn or resized. Users who encounter performance problems such as the Results window outputting very slowly should disable double buffering.

set `dp`

Syntax: set `dp` {comma|period} [, permanently]

Default: period

Description: determines whether a period or a comma is to be used as the decimal point.

Reference: [D] [format](#)

set `emptycells`

Syntax: set `emptycells` {keep|drop} [, permanently]

Default: keep

Description: sets what to do with empty cells in interactions.

Reference: [R] [set emptycells](#)

set `fastscroll` (Unix and Windows only)

Syntax: set `fastscroll` {on|off} [, permanently]

Default: on

Description: sets the scrolling method for new output in the Results window. Setting `fastscroll` to on is faster but can be jumpy. Setting `fastscroll` to off is slower but smoother.

set `floatwindows` (Windows only)

Syntax: set `floatwindows` {on|off}

Default: off

Description: determines whether to enable floating window behavior for dialog boxes and dockable window. The term “float” in this context means that a window will always float over the main Stata window; these windows cannot be placed behind the main Stata window. There is no `permanently` option because `permanently` is implied.

set `fredkey`

Syntax: set `fredkey` *key* [, permanently]

Description: sets the API key for importing data from the Federal Reserve Economic Data.

Reference: [D] [import fred](#)

set fvlabel

Syntax: `set fvlabel {on|off} [, permanently]`
Description: specifies whether to display factor-variable value labels in coefficient tables.
Reference: [\[R\] set showbaselevels](#)

set fvtrack

Syntax: `set fvtrack {term|factor} [, permanently]`
Description: allows you to control how Stata keeps track of factor levels when you use factor-variables notation.

set fvwrap

Syntax: `set fvwrap # [, permanently]`
Description: specifies that long value labels wrap # lines in coefficient tables.
Reference: [\[R\] set showbaselevels](#)

set fvwrapon

Syntax: `set fvwrapon {word|width} [, permanently]`
Description: specifies whether value labels that wrap will break at word boundaries or break based on available space.
Reference: [\[R\] set showbaselevels](#)

set graphics

Syntax: `set graphics {on|off}`
Default: on; default is off for console Stata
Description: determines whether graphs are displayed on your monitor.
Reference: [\[G-2\] set graphics](#)

set haverdir

Syntax: `set haverdir "path" [, permanently]`
Description: specifies the directory where the Haver databases are stored.
Reference: [\[D\] import haver](#)

set httpproxy

Syntax: `set httpproxy {on|off} [, init]`
Default: off
Description: turns on/off the use of a proxy server. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [\[R\] netio](#)

set httpproxyauth

Syntax: `set httpproxyauth {on|off}`
Default: off
Description: determines whether authorization is required for the proxy server. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [\[R\] netio](#)

set httpproxyhost

Syntax: `set httpproxyhost ["name"]`

Description: sets the name of a host to be used as a proxy server. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

Reference: [R] [netio](#)

set httpproxyport

Syntax: `set httpproxyport #`

Default: 8080 if Stata cannot autodetect the proper setting for your computer.

Description: sets the port number for a proxy server. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

Reference: [R] [netio](#)

set httpproxypw

Syntax: `set httpproxypw ["password"]`

Description: sets the appropriate password. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

Reference: [R] [netio](#)

set httpproxyuser

Syntax: `set httpproxyuser ["name"]`

Description: sets the appropriate user ID. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

Reference: [R] [netio](#)

set include_bitmap (Mac only)

Syntax: `set include_bitmap {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: on

Description: sets the output behavior when copying an image to the Clipboard.

set level

Syntax: `set level # [, permanently]`

Default: 95

Description: sets the default confidence level for confidence intervals for all commands that report confidence intervals. $10.00 \leq \# \leq 99.99$, and # can have at most two digits after the decimal point.

Reference: [R] [level](#)

set linegap

Syntax: `set linegap #`

Default: 1

Description: sets the space between lines, in pixels, in the Results window. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

set linesize

Syntax: set linesize #
Default: 1 less than the full width of the screen
Description: sets the line width, in characters, for both the screen and the log file.
Reference: [R] [log](#)

set locale_functions

Syntax: set locale_functions *locale*
Default: en_US
Description: sets the locale to be used by functions that take *locale* as an optional argument.
Reference: [P] [set locale_functions](#)

set locale_ui

Syntax: set locale_ui *locale*
Default: en_US
Description: sets the locale that Stata uses for the user interface.
Reference: [P] [set locale_ui](#)

set locksplitters (Windows only)

Syntax: set locksplitters {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: off
Description: determines whether splitters should be locked so that docked windows cannot be resized.

set logtype

Syntax: set logtype {text|smcl} [, permanently]
Default: smcl
Description: sets the default log filetype.
Reference: [R] [log](#)

set lstretch

Syntax: set lstretch [on|off] [, permanently]
Description: specifies whether to automatically widen the coefficient table up to the width of the Results window to accommodate longer variable names.
Default: on

set matacache, set matafavor, set matalibs, set matalnum, set matamofirst, set mataoptimize, and set matastrict; see [M-3] [mata set](#).

set matsize

Syntax: set matsize # [, permanently]
Default: 400 for Stata/MP, Stata/SE, and Stata/IC
Description: sets the maximum number of variables that can be included in any estimation command.
 $10 \leq \# \leq 11000$ for Stata/MP and Stata/SE; $10 \leq \# \leq 800$ for Stata/IC.
Reference: [R] [matsize](#)

set max_memory

Syntax: set max_memory #[b|k|m|g] [, permanently]
 Default: . (all the memory the operating system will supply)
 Description: specifies the maximum amount of memory Stata can use to store your data.
 $2 \times \text{segmentsize} \leq \# \leq .$
 Reference: [D] [memory](#)

set maxdb

Syntax: set maxdb # [, permanently]
 Default: 50
 Description: sets the maximum number of dialog boxes whose contents are remembered from one invocation to the next during a session. $5 \leq \# \leq 1000$
 Reference: [R] [db](#)

set maxiter

Syntax: set maxiter # [, permanently]
 Default: 16000
 Description: sets the default maximum number of iterations for estimation commands.
 $0 \leq \# \leq 16000$
 Reference: [R] [maximize](#)

set maxvar

Syntax: set maxvar # [, permanently]
 Default: 5000 for Stata/MP and Stata/SE and 2048 for Stata/IC
 Description: sets the maximum number of variables. This can be changed only in Stata/MP and Stata/SE. $2048 \leq \# \leq 32767$
 Reference: [D] [memory](#)

set min_memory

Syntax: set min_memory #[b|k|m|g] [, permanently]
 Default: 0
 Description: specifies an amount of memory Stata will not fall below. This setting affects efficiency, not the size of datasets you can analyze. $0 \leq \# \leq \text{max_memory}$
 Reference: [D] [memory](#)

set more

Syntax: set more {on|off} [, permanently]
 Default: off
 Description: pauses when `—more—` is displayed, continuing only when the user presses a key.
 Reference: [R] [more](#)

set niceness

Syntax: set niceness # [, permanently]
 Default: 5
 Description: affects how soon Stata gives back unused segments to the operating system.
 $0 \leq \# \leq 10$
 Reference: [D] [memory](#)

set notifyuser (Mac only)

Syntax: set notifyuser {on|off} [, permanently]

Default: on

Description: sets the default Notification Manager behavior in Stata.

set obs

Syntax: set obs #

Default: current number of observations

Description: changes the number of observations in the current dataset. # must be at least as large as the current number of observations. If there are variables in memory, the values of all new observations are set to *missing*.

Reference: [D] [obs](#)

set odbcdriver

Syntax: set odbcdriver {unicode|ansi} [, permanently]

Default: unicode

Description: determines whether Unicode or ANSI is your ODBC driver.

Reference: [D] [odbc](#)

set odbcmgr (Mac and Unix only)

Syntax: set odbcmgr {iodbc|unixodbc} [, permanently]

Default: iodbc

Description: determines whether iODBC or unixODBC is your ODBC driver manager.

Reference: [D] [odbc](#)

set output

Syntax: set output {proc|inform|error}

Default: proc

Description: specifies the output to be displayed. proc means display all output; inform suppresses procedure output but displays informative messages and error messages; error suppresses all output except error messages. set output is seldom used.

Reference: [P] [quietly](#)

set pagesize

Syntax: set pagesize #

Default: 2 less than the physical number of lines on the screen

Description: sets the number of lines between —more— messages.

Reference: [R] [more](#)

set pformat

Syntax: set pformat [*fmt*] [, permanently]

Description: specifies the output format of *p*-values in coefficient tables. *fmt* is a numerical format; see [D] [format](#).

Reference: [R] [set cformat](#)

set pinnable (Windows only)

Syntax: `set pinnable {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `on`

Description: determines whether to enable the use of pinnable window characteristics for certain windows in Stata.

set playsnd (Mac only)

Syntax: `set playsnd {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `on`

Description: sets the sound behavior for the Notification Manager behavior in Stata.

set printcolor

Syntax: `set printcolor {automatic|asis|gs1|gs2|gs3} [, permanently]`

Default: `automatic`

Description: determines how colors are handled when graphs are printed.

Reference: [\[G-2\] set printcolor](#)

set processors

Syntax: `set processors #`

Description: sets the number of processors or cores that Stata/MP will use. The default is the number of processors available on the computer, or the number of processors allowed by Stata/MP's license, whichever is less.

set reventries

Syntax: `set reventries # [, permanently]`

Default: `5000`

Description: sets the number of scrollbar lines available in the Review window.
 $5 \leq \# \leq 32000$.

set revkeyboard (Mac only)

Syntax: `set revkeyboard {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `on`

Description: sets the keyboard navigation behavior for the Review window. `on` indicates that you can use the keyboard to navigate and enter items from the Review window into the Command window. `off` indicates that all keyboard input be directed at the Command window; items can be entered from the Review window only by using the mouse.

set rmsg

Syntax: `set rmsg {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `off`

Description: indicates whether a return message telling the execution time is to be displayed at the completion of each command.

Reference: [\[P\] rmsg](#)

set rng

Syntax: `set rng {default | mt64 | mt64s | kiss32}`
Default: `default`
Description: determines which random-number generator Stata's random-number functions and commands will use.
Reference: [\[R\] set rng](#)

set rngstate

Syntax: `set rngstate statecode`
Description: resets the state of the random-number generator to the value specified.
Reference: [\[R\] set seed](#)

set rngstream

Syntax: `set rngstream #`
Description: specifies the stream from which Stata's stream random-number generator should draw random numbers.
Reference: [\[R\] set rngstream](#)

set scheme

Syntax: `set scheme schemename [, permanently]`
Default: `s2color`
Description: determines the overall look for graphs.
Reference: [\[G-2\] set scheme](#)

set scrollbar

Syntax: `set scrollbar #`
Default: `200000`
Description: sets the scrollbar buffer size, in bytes, for the Results window; may be set between 10,000 and 2,000,000.

set searchdefault

Syntax: `set searchdefault {local | net | all} [, permanently]`
Default: `local`
Description: sets the default behavior of the `search` command. `set searchdefault local` restricts `search` to use only Stata's keyword database. `set searchdefault net` restricts `search` to searching only the Internet. `set searchdefault all` indicates that both the keyword database and the Internet are to be searched.
Reference: [\[R\] search](#)

set seed

Syntax: `set seed #`
Default: `123456789`
Description: specifies initial value of the random-number seed used by the [random-number functions](#), such as `runiform()` and `rnormal()`.
Reference: [\[R\] set seed](#)

set segmentsize

Syntax: `set segmentsize #[b|k|m|g] [, permanently]`
 Default: 32m for 64-bit machines; 16m for 32-bit machines
 Description: Stata allocates memory for data in units of `segmentsize`. This setting changes the amount of memory in a single segment.
 $1\text{m} \leq \# \leq 32\text{g}$ for 64-bit machines; $1\text{m} \leq \# \leq 1\text{g}$ for 32-bit machines
 Reference: [D] [memory](#)

set sformat

Syntax: `set sformat [fmt] [, permanently]`
 Description: specifies the output format of test statistics in coefficient tables.
fmt is a numerical format; see [D] [format](#).
 Reference: [R] [set cformat](#)

set showbaselevels

Syntax: `set showbaselevels { on|off|all } [, permanently]`
 Description: specifies whether to display base levels of factor variables and their interactions in coefficient tables.
 Reference: [R] [set showbaselevels](#)

set showemptycells

Syntax: `set showemptycells { on|off } [, permanently]`
 Description: specifies whether to display empty cells in coefficient tables.
 Reference: [R] [set showbaselevels](#)

set showomitted

Syntax: `set showomitted { on|off } [, permanently]`
 Description: specifies whether to display omitted coefficients in coefficient tables.
 Reference: [R] [set showbaselevels](#)

set smoothfonts (Mac only)

Syntax: `set smoothfonts { on|off }`
 Default: on
 Description: determines whether to use font smoothing (antialiased text) in the Results, Viewer, and Data Editor windows.

set timeout1

Syntax: `set timeout1 #seconds [, permanently]`
 Default: 30
 Description: sets the number of seconds Stata will wait for a remote host to respond to an initial contact before giving up. In general, users should not modify this value unless instructed to do so by Stata Technical Services.
 Reference: [R] [netio](#)

set timeout2

Syntax: set timeout2 *#seconds* [, permanently]

Default: 180

Description: sets the number of seconds Stata will keep trying to get information from a remote host after initial contact before giving up. In general, users should not modify this value unless instructed to do so by Stata Technical Services.

Reference: [R] [netio](#)

set trace

Syntax: set trace {on|off}

Default: off

Description: determines whether to trace the execution of programs for debugging.

Reference: [P] [trace](#)

set tracedepth

Syntax: set tracedepth #

Default: 32000 (equivalent to ∞)

Description: if trace is set on, traces execution of programs and nested programs up to tracedepth. For example, if tracedepth is 2, the current program and any subroutine called would be traced, but subroutines of subroutines would not be traced.

Reference: [P] [trace](#)

set traceexpand

Syntax: set traceexpand {on|off} [, permanently]

Default: on

Description: if trace is set on, shows lines both before and after macro expansion. If traceexpand is set off, only the line before macro expansion is shown.

Reference: [P] [trace](#)

set tracehilite

Syntax: set tracehilite "pattern" [, word]

Default: ""

Description: highlights *pattern* in the trace output.

Reference: [P] [trace](#)

set traceindent

Syntax: set traceindent {on|off} [, permanently]

Default: on

Description: if trace is set on, indents displayed lines according to their nesting level. The lines of the main program are not indented. Two spaces of indentation are used for each level of nested subroutine.

Reference: [P] [trace](#)

set tracenumber

Syntax: `set tracenumber {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `off`

Description: if `trace` is set on, shows the nesting level numerically in front of the line. Lines of the main program are preceded by 01, lines of subroutines called by the main program are preceded by 02, etc.

Reference: [\[P\] trace](#)

set tracesep

Syntax: `set tracesep {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `on`

Description: if `trace` is set on, displays a horizontal separator line that displays the name of the subroutine whenever a subroutine is called or exits.

Reference: [\[P\] trace](#)

set type

Syntax: `set type {float|double} [, permanently]`

Default: `float`

Description: specifies the default storage type assigned to new variables.

Reference: [\[D\] generate](#)

set update_interval (Mac and Windows only)

Syntax: `set update_interval #`

Default: `7`

Description: sets the number of days to elapse before performing the next automatic update query.

Reference: [\[R\] update](#)

set update_prompt (Mac and Windows only)

Syntax: `set update_prompt {on|off}`

Default: `on`

Description: determines wheter a dialog is to be displayed before performing an automatic update query. There is no `permanently` option because `permanently` is implied.

Reference: [\[R\] update](#)

set update_query (Mac and Windows only)

Syntax: `set update_query {on|off}`

Default: `on`

Description: determines whether update query is to be automatically performed when Stata is launched. There is no `permanently` option because `permanently` is implied.

Reference: [\[R\] update](#)

set varabbrev

Syntax: `set varabbrev {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `on`

Description: indicates whether Stata should allow variable abbreviations.

Reference: [\[P\] varabbrev](#)

`set varkeyboard` (Mac only)

Syntax: `set varkeyboard {on|off} [, permanently]`

Default: `on`

Description: sets the keyboard navigation behavior for the Variables window. `on` indicates that you can use the keyboard to navigate and enter items from the Variables window into the Command window. `off` indicates that all keyboard input be directed at the Command window; items can be entered from the Variables window only by using the mouse.

Also see

[R] [query](#) — Display system parameters

[R] [set_defaults](#) — Reset system parameters to original Stata defaults

[P] [creturn](#) — Return c-class values

[M-3] [mata set](#) — Set and display Mata system parameters