

exit() — Terminate execution

Syntax	Description	Remarks and examples	Conformability
Diagnostics	Also see		

Syntax

```
exit(real scalar rc)
```

```
exit()
```

Description

`exit(rc)` terminates execution and sets the overall return code to *rc*.

`exit()` with no argument specified is equivalent to `exit(0)`.

Remarks and examples

[stata.com](#)

Do not confuse `exit()` and `return`. `return` stops execution of the current function and returns to the caller, whereupon execution continues. `exit()` terminates execution. For instance, consider

```
function first()
{
    "begin execution"
    second()
    "this message will never be seen"
}

function second()
{
    "hello from second()"
    exit(0)
}
```

The result of running this would be

```
: first()
   begin execution
   hello from second()
```

If we changed the `exit(0)` to be `exit(198)` in `second()`, the result would be

```
: first()
   begin execution
   hello from second()
r(198);
```

No error message is presented. If you want to present an error message and exit, you should code `exit(error(198))`; see [M-5] `error()`.

Conformability

`exit(rc)`:
rc: 1×1 (optional)

Diagnostics

`exit(rc)` and `exit()` do not return.

Also see

[M-5] `error()` — Issue error message

[M-4] `programming` — Programming functions