

**continue** — Continue with next iteration of for, while, or do loop

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

## Description

`continue` restarts the innermost `for`, `while`, or `do` loop. Execution continues just as if the loop had reached its logical end.

`continue` nearly always occurs following an `if`.

## Syntax

```

for, while, or do {
    ...
    if (...) {
        ...
        continue
    }
    ...
}
...

```

## Remarks and examples

stata.com

The following two code fragments are equivalent:

```

for (i=1; i<=rows(A); i++) {
    for (j=1; j<=cols(A); j++) {
        if (i==j) continue
        ... action to be performed on A[i,j] ...
    }
}

```

and

```

for (i=1; i<=rows(A); i++) {
    for (j=1; j<=cols(A); j++) {
        if (i!=j) {
            ... action to be performed on A[i,j] ...
        }
    }
}

```

`continue` operates on the innermost `for` or `while` loop, and even when the `continue` action is taken, standard end-of-loop processing takes place (which is `j++` here).

## Also see

[M-2] **do** — do ... while (exp)

[M-2] **for** — for (exp1; exp2; exp3) stmt

[M-2] **while** — while (exp) stmt

[M-2] **break** — Break out of for, while, or do loop

[M-2] **intro** — Language definition