clear — Clear memory

Description

clear, by itself, removes data and value labels from memory and is equivalent to typing

- `version 16.1`
- `drop _all` (see [D] drop)
- `label drop _all` (see [D] label)

`clear mata` removes Mata functions and objects from memory and is equivalent to typing

- `version 16.1`
- `mata: mata clear` (see [M-3] mata clear)

`clear results` eliminates stored results from memory and is equivalent to typing

- `version 16.1`
- `return clear` (see [P] return)
- `ereturn clear` (see [P] return)
- `sreturn clear` (see [P] return)
- `_return drop _all` (see [P] _return)

`clear matrix` eliminates from memory all matrices created by Stata’s `matrix` command; it does not eliminate Mata matrices from memory. `clear matrix` is equivalent to typing

- `version 16.1`
- `return clear` (see [P] return)
- `ereturn clear` (see [P] return)
- `sreturn clear` (see [P] return)
- `_return drop _all` (see [P] _return)
- `matrix drop _all` (see [P] matrix utility)
- `estimates drop _all` (see [R] estimates)

`clear programs` eliminates all programs from memory and is equivalent to typing

- `version 16.1`
- `program drop _all` (see [P] program)

`clear ado` eliminates all automatically loaded ado-file programs from memory (but not programs defined interactively or by do-files). It is equivalent to typing

- `version 16.1`
- `program drop _allado` (see [P] program)

`clear rngstream` eliminates from memory stored random-number states for all `mt64s` streams (including the current stream). It resets the `mt64s` generator to the beginning of every stream, based on the current `mt64s` seed. `clear rngstream` does not change the current `mt64s` seed and stream. The `mt64s` seed and stream can be set with `set seed` and `set rngstream`, respectively.

`clear frames` eliminates from memory all frames and restores Stata to its initial state of having a single, empty frame named default.

`clear all` and `clear *` are synonyms. They remove all data, value labels, matrices, scalars, constraints, clusters, stored results, frames, ser sets, and Mata functions and objects from memory. They also close all open files and postfiles, clear the class system, close any open Graph windows and dialog boxes, drop all programs from memory, and reset all timers to zero. However, they do not call `clear rngstream`. They are equivalent to typing
Quick start

Remove data and value labels from memory

clear

Remove Stata matrices from memory

clear matrix

Remove Mata matrices, Mata objects, and Mata functions from memory

clear mata

Remove all programs from memory

clear programs

As above, but only programs automatically loaded by ado-files

clear ado

Remove results stored in r(), e(), and s() from memory

clear results

Remove all the above and constraints, clusters, and sersets; reset timers to 0; clear the class system;
and close all open files, graph windows, and dialog boxes

clear all

Same as above

clear *

Syntax

clear

clear [ mata | results | matrix | programs | ado | rngstream | frames ]

clear [ all | * ]
Remarks and examples

You can clear the entire dataset without affecting macros and programs by typing `clear`. You can also type `clear all`. This command has the same result as `clear` by itself but also clears matrices, scalars, constraints, clusters, stored results, seresets, Mata, the class system, business calendars, and programs; closes all open files and postfiles; closes all open Graph windows and dialog boxes; and resets all timers to zero.

Example 1

We load the `bpwide` dataset to correct a mistake in the data.

```
use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r16/bpwide
(fictional blood pressure data)
list in 1/5
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>patient</th>
<th>sex</th>
<th>agegrp</th>
<th>bp_bef</th>
<th>bp_after</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>30-45</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>30-45</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>30-45</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>30-45</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>30-45</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

```
replace bp_after = 145 in 3
(1 real change made)
```

We made another mistake. We meant to change the value of `bp_after` in observation 4. It is easiest to begin again.

```
clear
use https://www.stata-press.com/data/r16/bpwide
(fictional blood-pressure data)
```

Also see

[D] drop — Drop variables or observations
[P] discard — Drop automatically loaded programs
[U] 11 Language syntax
[U] 13 Functions and expressions