

linepatternstyle — Choices for whether lines are solid, dashed, etc.

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Description

A line's look is determined by its pattern, thickness, alignment, and color; see [G-4] **concept: lines**. *linepatternstyle* specifies the pattern.

linepatternstyle is specified via options named

`<object>(l or li or line)pattern()`

or, just

`<l or li or line>pattern()`

For instance, for connecting lines (the lines used to connect points in a plot) used by `graph twoway` function, the option is named `lpattern()`:

```
. twoway function ... , lpattern(linepatternstyle) ...
```

Sometimes you will see that a *linepatternstylelist* is allowed:

```
. twoway line ... , lpattern(linepatternstylelist) ...
```

A *linepatternstylelist* is a sequence of *linepatterns* separated by spaces. Shorthands are allowed to make specifying the list easier; see [G-4] **stylelists**.

Syntax

<i>linepatternstyle</i>	Description
<code>solid</code>	solid line
<code>dash</code>	dashed line
<code>dot</code>	dotted line
<code>dash_dot</code>	
<code>shortdash</code>	
<code>shortdash_dot</code>	
<code>longdash</code>	
<code>longdash_dot</code>	
<code>blank</code>	invisible line
<code>"formula"</code>	e.g., <code>"-."</code> or <code>"--."</code> etc.

A *formula* is composed of any combination of

<code>l</code>	solid line
<code>_</code>	(underscore) a long dash
<code>-</code>	(hyphen) a medium dash
<code>.</code>	short dash (almost a dot)
<code>#</code>	small amount of blank space

For a palette displaying each of the above named line styles, type

```
palette linepalette [ , scheme(schemename) ]
```

Other *linepatternstyles* may be available; type

```
. graph query linepatternstyle
```

to obtain the complete list of *linepatternstyles* installed on your computer.

Remarks and examples

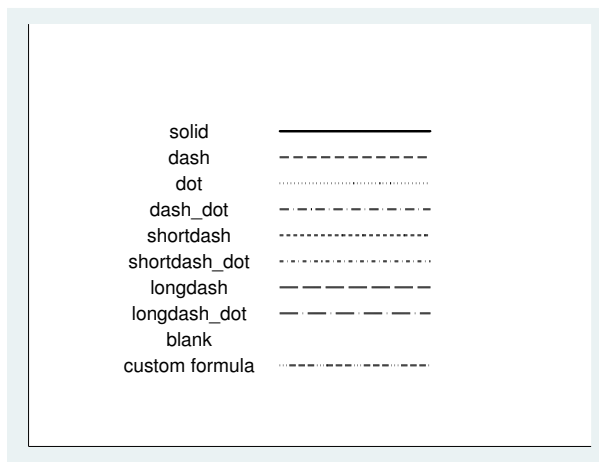
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Although you may choose a prerecorded pattern (for example, `solid` or `dash`), you can build any pattern you wish by specifying a line-pattern formula. For example,

Formula	Description
"1"	solid line, same as <code>solid</code>
"_"	a long dash
"_-"	a long dash followed by a short dash
"_--"	a long dash followed by two short dashes
"_--_#"	a long dash, two short dashes, a long dash, and a bit of space
etc.	

When you specify a formula, you must enclose it in double quotes.

The graph below displays the different line choices:



Also see

[G-4] **concept: lines** — Using lines

[G-4] *colorstyle* — Choices for color

[G-4] *connectstyle* — Choices for how points are connected

[G-4] *linealignmentstyle* — Choices for whether outlines are inside, outside, or centered

[G-4] *linestyle* — Choices for overall look of lines

[G-4] *linewidthstyle* — Choices for thickness of lines