

**break** — Break out of for, while, or do loop

[Description](#)

[Syntax](#)

[Remarks and examples](#)

[Also see](#)

## Description

`break` exits the innermost `for`, `while`, or `do` loop. Execution continues with the statement immediately following the close of the loop, just as if the loop had terminated normally.

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

## Syntax

```
for, while, or do {  
    ...  
    if (...) {  
        ...  
        break  
    }  
}  
stmt           ← break jumps here  
...
```

## Remarks and examples

In the following code,

```
for (i=1; i<=rows(A); i++) {  
    for (j=1; j<=cols(A); j++) {  
        ...  
        if (A[i,j]==0) break  
    }  
    printf("j = %g\n", j)  
}
```

the `break` statement will be executed if any element of `A[i, j]` is zero. Assume that the statement is executed for `i=2` and `j=3`. Execution will continue with the `printf()` statement, which is to say, the `j` loop will be canceled but the `i` loop will continue. The value of `j` upon exiting the loop will be 3; when you break out of the loop, the `j++` is not executed.

## Also see

[M-2] **continue** — Continue with next iteration of for, while, or do loop

[M-2] **do** — do ... while (exp)

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

[M-2] **while** — while (exp) stmt

[M-2] **Intro** — Language definition

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