

Description

goto label causes control to pass to the statement following *label*:. *label* may be any name up to eight characters long.

Syntax

```
label: ...  
...  
goto label
```

where *label*: may occur before or after the `goto` and must be a [valid Stata name](#).

Remarks and examples

These days, good style is to avoid using `goto`.

`goto` is useful when translating a FORTRAN program, such as

```
A = 4.0e0/3.0e0  
10 B = A - 1.0e0  
C = B + B + B  
EPS = DABS(C - 1.0e0)  
if (EPS.EQ.0.0e0) GOTO 10
```

The Mata translation is

```
a = 4/3  
s10: b = a - 1  
c = b + b + b  
eps = abs(c-1)  
if (eps==0) goto s10
```

although

```
a = 4/3  
do {  
    b = a - 1  
    c = b + b + b  
    eps = abs(c - 1)  
} while (eps==0)
```

is more readable.

Reference

Gould, W. W. 2005. *Mata Matters: Translating Fortran*. *Stata Journal* 5: 421–441.

Also see

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

[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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