

**abbrev()** — Abbreviate strings[Description](#)[Syntax](#)[Conformability](#)[Diagnostics](#)[Also see](#)

## Description

`abbrev(s, n)` returns *s* abbreviated to *n* [display columns](#). Usually, this means it will be abbreviated to *n* characters, but if *s* contains characters requiring more than one display column, such as Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK), *s* will be abbreviated such that it does not exceed *n* display columns.

1. *n* is the abbreviation length and is assumed to contain integer values in the range 5, 6, ..., 32.
2. If *s* contains a period, ., and *n* < 8, then the value *n* defaults to 8. Otherwise, if *n* < 5, then *n* defaults to 5.
3. If *n* is missing, the entire string (up to the first binary 0) is returned.

If there is a binary 0 in *s*, the abbreviation is derived from the beginning of the string up to but not including the binary 0.

When arguments are not scalar, `abbrev()` returns element-by-element results.

## Syntax

*string matrix* `abbrev(string matrix s, real matrix n)`

## Conformability

<code>abbrev(<i>s</i>, <i>n</i>):</code>	
<i>s</i> :	$r_1 \times c_1$
<i>n</i> :	$r_2 \times c_2$ ; <i>s</i> and <i>n</i> r-conformable
<i>result</i> :	$\max(r_1, r_2) \times \max(c_1, c_2)$

## Diagnostics

`abbrev()` returns "" if *s* is "". `abbrev()` aborts with error if *s* is not a string.

## Also see

[M-4] [String](#) — String manipulation functions