

## Description

`c(name)` returns Stata's c-class value; see [P] [creturn](#).

Do not confuse `c()` with `C()`, which makes complex out of real arguments; see [M-5] [C\(\)](#).

## Syntax

```
scalar c(string scalar name)
```

returned is either a real or string scalar, depending on the value of *name*.

## Remarks and examples

See [P] [creturn](#) or, in Stata, type

```
. creturn list
```

to see what is stored in `c()`. Among the especially useful `c()` values are

```
string c("current_date")
string c("current_time")
string c("os")
string c("dirsep")
```

## Conformability

`c(name)`:

*name*: 1 × 1

*result*: 1 × 1

## Diagnostics

`c(name)` returns a string or real depending on the particular `c()` value requested. If *name* is an invalid name or contains a name for which no `c()` value is defined, returned is "".

## Also see

[M-4] [Programming](#) — Programming functions

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