**mi erase — Erase mi datasets**

### Description

`mi erase` erases `mi .dta` datasets.

### Menu

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### Syntax

```stata
mi erase name [, clear]
```

### Option

`clear` specifies that it is okay to erase the files even if one of the files is currently in memory. If `clear` is specified, the data are dropped from memory and the files are erased.

### Remarks and examples

Stata's ordinary `erase` (see [D] erase) is not sufficient for erasing `mi` datasets because an `mi` dataset might be flongsep, in which case the single name would refer to a collection of files, one containing $m = 0$, another containing $m = 1$, and so on. `mi erase` deletes all the files associated with `mi` dataset `name .dta`, which is to say, it erases `name .dta`, `_1_name .dta`, `_2_name .dta`, and so on:

```
. mi erase mysep
(files mysep.dta, _1_mysep.dta _2_mysep.dta _3_mysep.dta erased)
```

### Also see

- [MI Intro] — Introduction to mi
- [MI mi copy] — Copy mi flongsep data
- [MI Styles] — Dataset styles