set — Overview of system parameters

Syntax

```
set  [ setcommand ...]
```

set typed without arguments is equivalent to query typed without arguments.

Description

This entry provides a reference to Stata’s `set` commands. For many entries, more thorough information is provided elsewhere; see the Reference field in each entry below for the location of this information.

To reset system parameters to factory defaults, see [R] set_defaults.

Remarks and examples

```
set adosize
Syntax: set adosize # [, permanently]
Default: 1,000
Description: sets the maximum amount of memory that automatically loaded do-files may consume. \(10 \leq # \leq 10000\).
Reference: [P] sysdir
```

```
set autotabgraphs (Windows only)
Syntax: set autotabgraphs {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: off
Description: determines whether graphs are created as tabs within one window or as separate windows.
```

```
set cformat
Syntax: set cformat [fmt] [, permanently]
Description: specifies the output format of coefficients, standard errors, and confidence limits in coefficient tables. `fmt` is a numerical format; see [D] format.
Reference: [R] set cformat
```

```
set charset (Mac only)
Syntax: set charset {mac|latin1} [, permanently]
Default: mac
Description: sets the character set used by Stata for Mac for rendering of ASCII text.
```
set checksum
Syntax: set checksum {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: off
Description: determines whether files should be prevented from being downloaded from the Internet if checksums do not match.
Reference: [D] checksum

set coeftabresults
Syntax: set coeftabresults {on|off}
Default: on
Description: determines whether coefficient table results are stored in \( r() \).
There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

set conren (Unix console only)
Syntax 1: set conren
Syntax 2: set conren clear
Syntax 3: set conren [sf | bf | it]
\{result | [txt | text] | input | error | link | hilite\}
[char[char...]]
Syntax 4: set conren {ulon | uloff} [char [char ...]]
Syntax 5: set conren reset [char [char ...]]
Description: can possibly make the output on your screen appear prettier.
set conren displays a list of the currently defined display codes.
set conren clear clears all codes.
set conren followed by a font type (bf, sf, or it) and display context (result, error, link, or hilite) and then followed by a series of space-separated characters sets the code for the specified font type and display context. If the font type is omitted, the code is set to the same specified code for all three font types.
set conren ulon and set conren uloff set the codes for turning on and off underlining.
set conren reset sets the code that will turn off all display and underlining codes.
Reference: [GSU] conren

set copycolor (Mac and Windows only)
Syntax: set copycolor \{automatic|asis|gs1|gs2|gs3\} [, permanently]
Default: automatic
Description: determines how colors are handled when graphs are copied to the Clipboard.
Reference: [G-2] set printcolor

set dockable (Windows only)
Syntax: set dockable {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: determines whether to enable the use of dockable window characteristics, including the ability to dock or tab a window into another window.
set dockingguides (Windows only)
Syntax: set dockingguides {on | off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: determines whether to enable the use of dockable guides when repositioning a dockable window.

set doublebuffer (Windows only)
Syntax: set doublebuffer {on | off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: enables or disables double buffering of the Results, Viewer, and Data Editor windows. Double buffering prevents the windows from flickering when redrawn or resized. Users who encounter performance problems such as the Results window outputting very slowly should disable double buffering.

set dp
Syntax: set dp {comma | period} [, permanently]
Default: period
Description: determines whether a period or a comma is to be used as the decimal point.
Reference: [D] format

set emptycells
Syntax: set emptycells {keep | drop} [, permanently]
Default: keep
Description: sets what to do with empty cells in interactions.
Reference: [R] set emptycells

set eolchar (Mac only)
Syntax: set eolchar {mac | unix} [, permanently]
Default: unix
Description: sets the default end-of-line delimiter for text files created in Stata.

set fastscroll (Unix and Windows only)
Syntax: set fastscroll {on | off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: sets the scrolling method for new output in the Results window. Setting fastscroll to on is faster but can be jumpy. Setting fastscroll to off is slower but smoother.

set floatwindows (Windows only)
Syntax: set floatwindows {on | off}
Default: off
Description: determines whether to enable floating window behavior for dialog boxes and dockable window. The term “float” in this context means that a window will always float over the main Stata window; these windows cannot be placed behind the main Stata window. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
set fvlabel
Syntax: set fvlabel \{on off\} [, permanently]
Description: specifies whether to display factor-variable value labels in coefficient tables.
Reference: [R] set showbaselevels

set fvwrap
Syntax: set fvwrap # [, permanently]
Description: specifies that long value labels wrap # lines in coefficient tables.
Reference: [R] set showbaselevels

set fvwrapon
Syntax: set fvwrapon \{word width\} [, permanently]
Description: specifies whether value labels that wrap will break at word bounderies or break based on available space.
Reference: [R] set showbaselevels

set graphics
Syntax: set graphics \{on off\}
Default: on; default is off for console Stata
Description: determines whether graphs are displayed on your monitor.
Reference: [G-2] set graphics

set haverdir
Syntax: set haverdir "path" [, permanently]
Description: specifies the directory where the Haver databases are stored.
Reference: [D] import haver

set httpproxy
Syntax: set httpproxy \{on off\} [, init]
Default: off
Description: turns on/off the use of a proxy server. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] netio

set httpproxyauth
Syntax: set httpproxyauth \{on off\}
Default: off
Description: determines whether authorization is required for the proxy server.
There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] netio

set httpproxyhost
Syntax: set httpproxyhost "name"
Description: sets the name of a host to be used as a proxy server. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] netio
set httpproxyport
Syntax: `set httpproxyport #`
Default: 8080 if Stata cannot autodetect the proper setting for your computer.
Description: sets the port number for a proxy server. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] netio

set httpproxypw
Syntax: `set httpproxypw "password"
Description: sets the appropriate password. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] netio

set httpproxyuser
Syntax: `set httpproxyuser "name"
Description: sets the appropriate user ID. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] netio

set include_bitmap (Mac only)
Syntax: `set include_bitmap {on|off} [, permanently]`
Default: on
Description: sets the output behavior when copying an image to the Clipboard.

set level
Syntax: `set level # [, permanently]`
Default: 95
Description: sets the default confidence level for confidence intervals for all commands that report confidence intervals. $10.00 \leq # \leq 99.99$, and # can have at most two digits after the decimal point.
Reference: [R] level

set linegap
Syntax: `set linegap #`
Default: 1
Description: sets the space between lines, in pixels, in the Results window. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.

set linesize
Syntax: `set linesize #`
Default: 1 less than the full width of the screen
Description: sets the line width, in characters, for both the screen and the log file.
Reference: [R] log
set locksplitters (Windows only)
Syntax: set locksplitters {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: off
Description: determines whether splitters should be locked so that docked windows cannot be resized.

set logtype
Syntax: set logtype {text|smcl} [, permanently]
Default: smcl
Description: sets the default log filetype.
Reference: [R] log

set lstretch
Syntax: set lstretch {on|off} [, permanently]
Description: specifies whether to automatically widen the coefficient table up to the width of the Results window to accommodate longer variable names.

set matalbs, set matacache, set matafavor, set matalnum, set matamofirst, set mataoptimize, and set matastrict; see [M-3] mata set.

set matsize
Syntax: set matsize # [, permanently]
Default: 400 for Stata/MP, Stata/SE, and Stata/IC; 40 for Small Stata
Description: sets the maximum number of variables that can be included in any estimation command. This setting cannot be changed in Small Stata.
10 ≤ # ≤ 11000 for Stata/MP and Stata/SE; 10 ≤ # ≤ 800 for Stata/IC.
Reference: [R] matsize

set max_memory
Syntax: set max_memory # [b|k|m|g] [, permanently]
Default: . (all the memory the operating system will supply)
Description: specifies the maximum amount of memory Stata can use to store your data.
2 × segmentsize ≤ # ≤ .
Reference: [D] memory

set maxdb
Syntax: set maxdb # [, permanently]
Default: 50
Description: sets the maximum number of dialog boxes whose contents are remembered from one invocation to the next during a session. 5 ≤ # ≤ 1000
Reference: [R] db

set maxiter
Syntax: set maxiter # [, permanently]
Default: 16000
Description: sets the default maximum number of iterations for estimation commands.
0 ≤ # ≤ 16000
Reference: [R] maximize
set maxvar
Syntax: set maxvar # [ , permanently ]
Default: 5000 for Stata/MP and Stata/SE, 2048 for Stata/IC, and 99 for Small Stata
Description: sets the maximum number of variables. This can be changed only in Stata/MP and Stata/SE. $2048 \leq # \leq 32767$
Reference: [D] memory

set min_memory
Syntax: set min_memory # [b | k | m | g ] [ , permanently ]
Default: 0
Description: specifies an amount of memory Stata will not fall below. This setting affects efficiency, not the size of datasets you can analyze. $0 \leq # \leq \max_{\text{memory}}$
Reference: [D] memory

set more
Syntax: set more { on | off } [ , permanently ]
Default: on
Description: pauses when —more— is displayed, continuing only when the user presses a key.
Reference: [R] more

set niceness
Syntax: set niceness # [ , permanently ]
Default: 5
Description: affects how soon Stata gives back unused segments to the operating system. $0 \leq # \leq 10$
Reference: [D] memory

set notifyuser (Mac only)
Syntax: set notifyuser { on | off } [ , permanently ]
Default: on
Description: sets the default Notification Manager behavior in Stata.

set obs
Syntax: set obs #
Default: current number of observations
Description: changes the number of observations in the current dataset. # must be at least as large as the current number of observations. If there are variables in memory, the values of all new observations are set to missing.
Reference: [D] obs

set odbcmgr (Unix only)
Syntax: set odbcmgr { iodbc | unixodbc } [ , permanently ]
Default: iodbc
Description: determines whether iODBC or unixODBC is your ODBC driver manager.
Reference: [D] odbc
**set output**

**Syntax:**
```
set output {proc | inform | error}
```

**Default:** proc

**Description:** specifies the output to be displayed. proc means display all output; inform suppresses procedure output but displays informative messages and error messages; error suppresses all output except error messages. set output is seldom used.

**Reference:** [P] quietly

**set pagesize**

**Syntax:**
```
set pagesize #
```

**Default:** 2 less than the physical number of lines on the screen

**Description:** sets the number of lines between —more— messages.

**Reference:** [R] more

**set pformat**

**Syntax:**
```
set pformat [fmt] [, permanently]
```

**Description:** specifies the output format of p-values in coefficient tables. fmt is a numerical format; see [D] format.

**Reference:** [R] set cformat

**set pinnable** (Windows only)

**Syntax:**
```
set pinnable {on | off} [, permanently]
```

**Default:** on

**Description:** determines whether to enable the use of pinnable window characteristics for certain windows in Stata.

**set playsnd** (Mac only)

**Syntax:**
```
set playsnd {on | off} [, permanently]
```

**Default:** on

**Description:** sets the sound behavior for the Notification Manager behavior in Stata.

**set printcolor**

**Syntax:**
```
set printcolor {automatic | asis | gs1 | gs2 | gs3} [, permanently]
```

**Default:** automatic

**Description:** determines how colors are handled when graphs are printed.

**Reference:** [G-2] set printcolor

**set processors**

**Syntax:**
```
set processors #
```

**Description:** sets the number of processors or cores that Stata/MP will use. The default is the number of processors available on the computer, or the number of processors allowed by Stata/MP’s license, whichever is less.

**set reventries**

**Syntax:**
```
set reventries # [, permanently]
```

**Default:** 5000

**Description:** sets the number of scrollback lines available in the Review window. $5 \leq # \leq 32000$. 
set revkeyboard (Mac only)
Syntax: set revkeyboard {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: sets the keyboard navigation behavior for the Review window. on indicates that you can use the keyboard to navigate and enter items from the Review window into the Command window. off indicates that all keyboard input be directed at the Command window; items can be entered from the Review window only by using the mouse.

set rmsg
Syntax: set rmsg {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: off
Description: indicates whether a return message telling the execution time is to be displayed at the completion of each command.
Reference: [P] rmsg

set scheme
Syntax: set scheme schemename [, permanently]
Default: s2color
Description: determines the overall look for graphs.
Reference: [G-2] set scheme

set scrollbufsize
Syntax: set scrollbufsize #
Default: 200000
Description: sets the scrollback buffer size, in bytes, for the Results window; may be set between 10,000 and 2,000,000.

set searchdefault
Syntax: set searchdefault {local|net|all} [, permanently]
Default: local
Description: sets the default behavior of the search command. set searchdefault local restricts search to use only Stata’s keyword database. set searchdefault net restricts search to searching only the Internet. set searchdefault all indicates that both the keyword database and the Internet are to be searched.
Reference: [R] search

set seed
Syntax: set seed {#|code}
Default: 123456789
Description: specifies initial value of the random-number seed used by the runiform() function.
Reference: [R] set seed

set segmentsize
Syntax: set segmentsize #[b|k|m|g] [, permanently]
Default: 32m for 64-bit machines; 16m for 32-bit machines
Description: Stata allocates memory for data in units of segmentsize. This setting changes the amount of memory in a single segment. 1m ≤ # ≤ 32g for 64-bit machines; 1m ≤ # ≤ 1g for 32-bit machines
Reference: [D] memory
set sformat
Syntax: set sformat [fmt] [, permanently]
Description: specifies the output format of test statistics in coefficient tables.
fmt is a numerical format; see [D] format.
Reference: [R] set cformat

set showbaselevels
Syntax: set showbaselevels {on | off | all} [, permanently]
Description: specifies whether to display base levels of factor variables and their interactions in coefficient tables.
Reference: [R] set showbaselevels

set showemptycells
Syntax: set showemptycells {on | off} [, permanently]
Description: specifies whether to display empty cells in coefficient tables.
Reference: [R] set showbaselevels

set showomitted
Syntax: set showomitted {on | off} [, permanently]
Description: specifies whether to display omitted coefficients in coefficient tables.
Reference: [R] set showbaselevels

set smoothfonts (Mac only)
Syntax: set smoothfonts {on | off}
Default: on
Description: determines whether to use font smoothing (antialiased text) in the Results, Viewer, and Data Editor windows.

set timeout1
Syntax: set timeout1 #seconds [, permanently]
Default: 30
Description: sets the number of seconds Stata will wait for a remote host to respond to an initial contact before giving up. In general, users should not modify this value unless instructed to do so by Stata Technical Services.
Reference: [R] netio

set timeout2
Syntax: set timeout2 #seconds [, permanently]
Default: 180
Description: sets the number of seconds Stata will keep trying to get information from a remote host after initial contact before giving up. In general, users should not modify this value unless instructed to do so by Stata Technical Services.
Reference: [R] netio

set trace
Syntax: set trace {on | off}
Default: off
Description: determines whether to trace the execution of programs for debugging.
Reference: [P] trace
set tracedepth
Syntax: set tracedepth #
Default: 32000 (equivalent to ∞)
Description: if trace is set on, traces execution of programs and nested programs up to tracedepth. For example, if tracedepth is 2, the current program and any subroutine called would be traced, but subroutines of subroutines would not be traced.
Reference: [P] trace

set traceexpand
Syntax: set traceexpand {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: if trace is set on, shows lines both before and after macro expansion. If traceexpand is set off, only the line before macro expansion is shown.
Reference: [P] trace

set tracehilite
Syntax: set tracehilite "pattern" [, word]
Default: ""
Description: highlights pattern in the trace output.
Reference: [P] trace

set traceindent
Syntax: set traceindent {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: if trace is set on, indents displayed lines according to their nesting level. The lines of the main program are not indented. Two spaces of indentation are used for each level of nested subroutine.
Reference: [P] trace

set tracenumber
Syntax: set tracenumber {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: off
Description: if trace is set on, shows the nesting level numerically in front of the line.
Lines of the main program are preceded by 01, lines of subroutines called by the main program are preceded by 02, etc.
Reference: [P] trace

set tracesep
Syntax: set tracesep {on|off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: if trace is set on, displays a horizontal separator line that displays the name of the subroutine whenever a subroutine is called or exits.
Reference: [P] trace
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set type
Syntax: set type {float | double} [, permanently]
Default: float
Description: specifies the default storage type assigned to new variables.
Reference: [D] generate

set update_interval (Mac and Windows only)
Syntax: set update_interval #
Default: 7
Description: sets the number of days to elapse before performing the next automatic update query.
Reference: [R] update

set update_prompt (Mac and Windows only)
Syntax: set update_prompt {on | off}
Default: on
Description: determines whether a dialog is to be displayed before performing an automatic update query. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] update

set update_query (Mac and Windows only)
Syntax: set update_query {on | off}
Default: on
Description: determines whether update query is to be automatically performed when Stata is launched. There is no permanently option because permanently is implied.
Reference: [R] update

set varabbrev
Syntax: set varabbrev {on | off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: indicates whether Stata should allow variable abbreviations.
Reference: [P] varabbrev

set varkeyboard (Mac only)
Syntax: set varkeyboard {on | off} [, permanently]
Default: on
Description: sets the keyboard navigation behavior for the Variables window. on indicates that you can use the keyboard to navigate and enter items from the Variables window into the Command window. off indicates that all keyboard input be directed at the Command window; items can be entered from the Variables window only by using the mouse.

Also see

[R] query — Display system parameters
[R] set_defaults — Reset system parameters to original Stata defaults
[P] creturn — Return c-class values
[M-3] mata set — Set and display Mata system parameters