

Appendix B - Operators and Symbols

This appendix contains a glossary of Cairo's syntax, including operators and other symbols that appear by themselves or in the context of paths, generics, macros, attributes, comments, tuples, and brackets.

Operators

Table B-1 contains the operators in Cairo, an example of how the operator would appear in context, a short explanation, and whether that operator is overloadable. If an operator is overloadable, the relevant trait to use to overload that operator is listed.

Operator	Example	
Explanation	Overloadable?	
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-----	-----	
`!`	`!expr`	Logical
complement	`Not`	
`~`	`~expr`	Bitwise
NOT	`BitNot`	
`!=`	`expr != expr`	Non-equality
comparison	`PartialEq`	
`%`	`expr % expr`	Arithmetic
remainder	`Rem`	
`%=`	`var %= expr`	Arithmetic remainder
and assignment	`RemEq`	
`&`	`expr & expr`	Bitwise
AND	`BitAnd`	
`&&`	`expr && expr`	Short-circuiting logical
AND		
`*`	`expr * expr`	Arithmetic
multiplication	`Mul`	
`*=`	`var *= expr`	Arithmetic multiplication
and assignment	`MulEq`	
`@`	`@var`	
Snapshot		
`*`	`*var`	Desnap
`+`	`expr + expr`	Arithmetic
addition	`Add`	
`+=`	`var += expr`	Arithmetic addition and
assignment	`AddEq`	
`;`	`expr, expr`	Argument and element
separator		
`-`	`-expr`	Arithmetic
negation	`Neg`	
`-`	`expr - expr`	Arithmetic
subtraction	`Sub`	
`-=`	`var -= expr`	Arithmetic subtraction and
assignment	`SubEq`	

`->`	`fn(...) -> type`, <code>|...| -> type</code>	Function and closure return type
`.`	`expr.ident`	Member access
`/`	`expr / expr`	Arithmetic division
`/=`	`var /= expr`	Arithmetic division and assignment
`:`	`pat: type`, `ident: type`	Constraints
`:`	`ident: expr`	Struct field initializer
`;`	`expr;`	Statement and item terminator
`<`	`expr < expr`	Less than comparison
`<=`	`expr <= expr`	Less than or equal to comparison
`=`	`var = expr`	Assignment
`==`	`expr == expr`	Equality comparison
`=>`	`pat => expr`	Part of match arm syntax
`>`	`expr > expr`	Greater than comparison
`>=`	`expr >= expr`	Greater than or equal to comparison
`^`	`expr ^ expr`	Bitwise exclusive OR
<code>|</code>	<code>expr | expr</code>	Bitwise OR
<code>||</code>	<code>expr || expr</code>	Short-circuiting logical OR
`?`	`expr?`	Error propagation

Table B-1: Operators

Non Operator Symbols

The following list contains all symbols that are not used as operators; that is, they do not have the same behavior as a function or method call.

Table B-2 shows symbols that appear on their own and are valid in a variety of locations.

Symbol	Explanation
`..._u8`, `..._usize`, `..._bool`, etc.	Numeric literal of specific type
`"..."`	String literal
`"...`	Short string, 31 ASCII characters maximum

| ``_`` | “Ignored” pattern binding |

Table B-2: Stand-Alone Syntax

Table B-3 shows symbols that are used within the context of a module hierarchy path to access an item.

Symbol	Explanation
<code>`ident::ident`</code>	Namespace path
<code>`super::path`</code>	Path relative to the parent of the current module
<code>`trait::method(...)`</code>	Disambiguating a method call by naming the trait that defines it

Table B-3: Path-Related Syntax

Table B-4 shows symbols that appear in the context of using generic type parameters.

Symbol	Explanation
<code>`path<...>`</code>	Specifies parameters to generic type in a type (e.g., <code>`Array<u8>`</code>)
<code>`path::<...>`</code> , <code>`method::<...>`</code>	Specifies parameters to a generic type, function, or method in an expression; often referred to as turbofish
<code>`fn ident<...> ...`</code>	Define generic function
<code>`struct ident<...> ...`</code>	Define generic structure
<code>`enum ident<...> ...`</code>	Define generic enumeration
<code>`impl<...> ...`</code>	Define generic implementation

Table B-4: Generics

Table B-5 shows symbols that appear in the context of specifying attributes on an item.

Symbol	Explanation
<code>`#[derive(...)]`</code>	Automatically implements a trait for a type
<code>`#[inline]`</code>	Hint to the compiler to allow inlining of annotated function
<code>`#[inline(always)]`</code>	Hint to the compiler to systematically inline annotated function
<code>`#[inline(never)]`</code>	Hint to the compiler to never inline annotated function
<code>`#[must_use]`</code>	Hint to the compiler that the return value of a function or a specific returned type must be used
<code>`#[generate_trait]`</code>	Automatically generates a trait for an impl

<code>#[available_gas(...)]</code>	Set the maximum amount of gas available to execute a function
<code>#[panic_with(..., wrapper_name)]</code>	Creates a wrapper for the annotated function which will panic if the function returns <code>None</code> or <code>Err</code> , with the given data as the panic error
<code>#[test]</code>	Describe a function as a test function
<code>#[cfg(...)]</code>	Configuration attribute, especially used to configure a <code>tests` module with</code>
<code>#[cfg(test)]</code>	
<code>#[should_panic]</code>	Specifies that a test function should necessarily panic
<code>#[starknet::contract]</code>	Defines a Starknet smart contract
<code>#[starknet::interface]</code>	Defines a Starknet interface
<code>#[starknet::component]</code>	Defines a Starknet component
<code>#[starknet::embeddable]</code>	Defines an isolated embeddable implementation that can be injected in any smart contract
<code>#[embeddable_as(...)]</code>	Defines an embeddable implementation inside a component
<code>#[storage]</code>	Defines the storage of a smart contract
<code>#[event]</code>	Defines an event in a smart contract
<code>#[constructor]</code>	Defines the constructor in a smart contract
<code>#[abi(embed_v0)]</code>	Defines an implementation of a trait, exposing the functions of the impl as entrypoints of a contract
<code>#[abi(per_item)]</code>	Allows individual definition of the entrypoint type of functions inside an impl
<code>#[external(v0)]</code>	Defines an external function when <code>#[abi(per_item)]</code> is used
<code>#[flat]</code>	Defines a enum variant of the <code>Event` enum that is not nested, ignoring the variant name in the serialization process, very useful for composability when using Starknet components</code>
<code>#[key]</code>	Defines an indexed <code>Event` enum field, allowing for more efficient queries and filtering of events</code>

Table B-5: Attributes

Table B-6 shows symbols that appear in the context of calling or defining macros.

Symbol	Explanation
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<code>`print!</code>	Inline printing	
<code>`println!</code>	Print on a new line	
<code>`consteval_int!</code>	Declare a constant that is the result of a computation of integers	
<code>`array!</code>	Instantiate and fill arrays	
<code>`panic!</code>	Calls <code>`panic`</code> function and allows to provide a message error longer than 31 characters	
<code>`assert!</code>	Evaluates a Boolean and panics if <code>`false`</code>	
<code>`assert_eq!</code>	Evaluates an equality, and panics if not equal	
<code>`assert_ne!</code>	Evaluates an equality, and panics if equal	
<code>`assert_lt!</code>	Evaluates a comparison, and panics if greater or equal	
<code>`assert_le!</code>	Evaluates a comparison, and panics if greater	
<code>`assert_gt!</code>	Evaluates a comparison, and panics if lower or equal	
<code>`assert_ge!</code>	Evaluates a comparison, and panics if lower	
<code>`format!</code>	Format a string and returns a <code>`ByteArray`</code> with the contents	
<code>`write!</code>	Write formatted strings in a formatter	
<code>`writeln!</code>	Write formatted strings in a formatter on a new line	
<code>`get_dep_component!</code>	Returns the requested component state from a snapshot of the state inside a component	
<code>`get_dep_component_mut!</code>	Returns the requested component state from a reference of the state inside a component	
<code>`component!</code>	Macro used in Starknet contracts to embed a component inside a contract	

Table B-6: Macros

Table B-7 shows symbols that create comments.

Symbol	Explanation
<code>-----</code> <code>-----</code>	
<code>//</code>	Line comment

Table B-7: Comments

Table B-8 shows symbols that appear in the context of using tuples.

Symbol	Explanation
<code>-----</code> <code>-----</code>	
<code>()`</code>	Empty tuple (aka unit), both literal and type
<code>(expr)`</code>	Parenthesized expression
<code>(expr,)`</code>	Single-element tuple expression
<code>(type,)`</code>	Single-element tuple type

`(expr, ...)`	Tuple expression	
`(type, ...)`	Tuple type	
`expr(expr, ...)`	Function call expression; also used to initialize tuple `struct`s and tuple `enum` variants	

Table B-8: Tuples

Table B-9 shows the contexts in which curly braces are used.

Context	Explanation	
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`{...}`	Block expression	
`Type {...}`	`struct` literal	

Table B-9: Curly Braces