

# Matlab Brief Manual

## Official Manual

[https://www.mathworks.com/help/pdf\\_doc/matlab/getstart.pdf](https://www.mathworks.com/help/pdf_doc/matlab/getstart.pdf)

## Functions Descriptions

<https://www.mathworks.com/help/matlab/language-fundamentals.html>

<https://www.mathworks.com/help/matlab/mathematics.html>

## Tutorials

<https://matlabacademy.mathworks.com>

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## 1 As Calculator

In “Command Window”, type expression  $\xrightarrow{\text{Press Enter}}$  Output

### Quick Example

```
>> (1+2^0.5)^2+(1-2^0.5)^2
ans =
     6
```

### Commands Table

Commands	Descriptions	Remarks
+, -, *, /, ^	add, subtract, multiply, divide, power	
sin, cos, tan	sine, cosine, tangent	in Radian
asin, acos, atan	arcsine, arccosine, arctangent	in Radian
exp, log	natural exponential function, natural logarithm	
abs, sign	absolute value, sign function	
ceil, floor, fix, round	upper integer, lower integer, integer part, nearest integer	
many others...e.g. xxx	type <b>help xxx</b> to obtain descriptions	

## 2 Variable

### Quick Example

```
>> a=2,b=2*a+1
a =
     2
b =
     5
```

### Rules for variable name:

1. **Case sensitive**  
>> a1=2,A1=3,a1+A1  
a1 =  
 2  
A1 =  
 3  
ans =  
 5
2. **First letter must be English alphabet, the rest must be English alphabets, numbers, or underline “\_”**  
e.g. x1, x\_1, alpha\_k are valid,  
2nd\_root, mid-point, total area are invalid.

Commands Table

Commands	Descriptions	Before	After
;	suppress print	<pre>&gt;&gt; a=2,b=3,c=a+b a =     2 b =     3 c =     5</pre>	<pre>&gt;&gt; a=2;b=3,c=a+b b =     3 c =     5</pre>
format long	15-digit print	<pre>&gt;&gt; a=2^0.5 a =     1.4142 &gt;&gt; b=3^0.5 b =     1.7321</pre>	<pre>&gt;&gt;format long &gt;&gt; a=2^0.5 a =     1.414213562373095 &gt;&gt; b=3^0.5 b =     1.732050807568877</pre>
format short	5-digit print	<pre>&gt;&gt; a=log(2) a =     0.693147180559945 &gt;&gt; b=log(3) b =     1.098612288668110</pre>	<pre>&gt;&gt; format short &gt;&gt; a=log(2) a =     0.6931 &gt;&gt; b=log(3) b =     1.0986</pre>
clc	clear Command Window	<pre>&gt;&gt; format short &gt;&gt; a=log(2) a =     0.6931 &gt;&gt; b=log(3) b =     1.0986 &gt;&gt; clc</pre>	<pre>&gt;&gt;</pre>
clear	clear variables	<pre>&gt;&gt; a=5,b=10 a =     5 b =     10 &gt;&gt; a a =     5</pre>	<pre>a=5,b=10 a =     5 b =     10 &gt;&gt; clear &gt;&gt; a Undefined function or variable 'a'.</pre>

Commands	Descriptions	Examples
<code>disp</code>	display text or variable value	<pre> 1. &gt;&gt; a=5;    &gt;&gt; disp('a')       a 2. &gt;&gt; a=5;    &gt;&gt; disp(a)       5 </pre>
<code>fprintf</code>	display text and variable value	<pre> 1. &gt;&gt; a=2^0.5;    &gt;&gt; fprintf('value of a is %7.5f\n',a) value of a is 1.41421 2. &gt;&gt; a=2^0.5;    &gt;&gt; fprintf('root 2 is %9.5f\n',a) root 2 is  1.41421 </pre> <p>(%9.5f is the data format to be displayed, with 9 as the total space occupied by a, 5 as number of decimal places, f as floating point number. \n is the command for “new line”)</p>
<code>input</code>	user input	<pre> 1. &gt;&gt; a=input('The value of a is ') The value of a is <input type="text"/> ⇒The value of a is 3 a =     3 2. &gt;&gt; a=input('choose a = ') choose a = <input type="text"/> ⇒choose a = 5 a =     5 </pre>
other functions	e.g. <code>sin</code> , <code>cos</code> , <code>log</code> , ...	<pre> &gt;&gt; a=2; &gt;&gt; sin(a) ans =     0.9093 &gt;&gt; cos(2*a+1) ans =     0.2837 &gt;&gt; log(1+cos(a)) ans =    -0.5381 </pre>

### 3 Function

#### Quick Example

In “Editor”

```
function y = fun1(x)
y=1+2*x+3*x^2;
```

save as m.file  
change current folder

In “Command Window”

```
>> b=fun1(-1)
b =
    2
```

#### Save & Load

To save: “New Script” → construct the function → save → remember the folder.

To load: Change the “Current Folder” to the folder where the function m.file is saved.

(The m.file name is usually saved as the same as the function name)

#### Multiple Input

In “Editor”

```
function d = pyth3(a,b,c)
d=(a^2+b^2+c^2)^0.5;
```

In “Command Window”

```
>> a=pyth3(1,2,3)
a =
    3.7417
```

#### Sub-function(s)

1.

In “Editor”

```
function y = mixfun1(x)
y=sin(s1(x))+sin(3*s1(x));

function w = s1(z)
w=1+z+z^2;
```

In “Command Window”

```
>> a=mixfun1(1)
a =
    0.5532
```

(mixfun1 is main function, s1 is sub-function.)

2.

In “Editor”

```
function y = mixfun2(x)
y=pol1(pol2(x))-pol2(pol1(x));

function s = pol1(r)
s=1-r+r^2;

function s = pol2(r)
s=1+r-r^2;
```

In “Command Window”

```
>> a=mixfun2(-1)
a =
    8
```

(mixfun2 is main function, pol1 and pol2 are sub-functions.)

## Commands Table

Commands	Descriptions	Examples
%	comment / remark (not executed)	<pre>function A = cyl_area(r,h) % A is total surface area of the cylinder % r is base radius, h is height A1=2*pi*r*h; % lateral surface area A2=pi*r^2;   % base area A=A1+2*A2;</pre>
...	code separation	<pre>function y = long_fun(a,b,c,d) y=(a+b+c+d)^2+(a-b+c+d)^2+(a+b... -c+d)^2+(a+b+c-d)^2;</pre>

## 4 Vector & Matrix

### Quick Examples

Vector

```
>> a=[2 3 4 5 6]
a =
     2     3     4     5     6
```

Matrix

```
>> A=[1 2 3;4 5 6;7 8 9]
A =
     1     2     3
     4     5     6
     7     8     9
```

### Commands Table

Commands	Descriptions	Results							
<code>[2 3 4]</code> or <code>[2,3,4]</code>	row vector	<code>[2 3 4]</code>							
<code>[2;3;4]</code>	column vector	<table><tr><td>2</td></tr><tr><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td></tr></table>	2	3	4				
2									
3									
4									
<code>[2,3,4;3,5,6]</code>	matrix	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr></table>	2	3	4	3	5	6	
2	3	4							
3	5	6							
<code>2:5</code>	row vector with step 1	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr></table>	2	3	4	5			
2	3	4	5						
<code>2:0.5:5</code>	row vector with step 0.5	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>2.5</td><td>3</td><td>3.5</td><td>4</td><td>4.5</td><td>5</td></tr></table>	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5
2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5			

In the following table, denote

$$u=[2,3,4,5,6,7]=[2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \ 6 \ 7] \text{ and } A=[1,2,3;4,5,6;7,8,9]=\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Commands	Descriptions	Results				
u(2)	2-nd entry	3				
u(3:5)	3-rd to 5-th entries	<table><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr></table>	4	5	6	
4	5	6				
A(2,3)	2-nd row 3-rd column entry	6				
A(2,1:2)	2-nd row, 1-st to 2-nd column entries	<table><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr></table>	4	5		
4	5					
A(2:3,1)	2-nd to 3-rd row, 1-st column entries	<table><tr><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>7</td></tr></table>	4	7		
4						
7						
A(2:3,1:2)	2-nd to 3-rd row, 1-st to 2-nd column entries	<table><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr></table>	4	5	7	8
4	5					
7	8					
A(:,1)	1-st column entries	<table><tr><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>7</td></tr></table>	1	4	7	
1						
4						
7						
A(3,:)	3-rd row entries	<table><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr></table>	7	8	9	
7	8	9				

In the following table, denote  $A=[2,3;1,2]=\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B=[1,2;1,1]=\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Commands	Descriptions	Results				
A+B	entry-wise addition	<table><tr><td>3</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr></table>	3	5	2	3
3	5					
2	3					
A-B	entry-wise subtraction	<table><tr><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>1</td></tr></table>	1	1	0	1
1	1					
0	1					
A*B	matrix multiplication $AB$	<table><tr><td>5</td><td>7</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr></table>	5	7	3	4
5	7					
3	4					
A/B	$AB^{-1}$ , or solution to $XB = A$	<table><tr><td>1</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	1	1	1	0
1	1					
1	0					
A\B	$A^{-1}B$ , or solution to $AX = B$	<table><tr><td>-1</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	-1	1	1	0
-1	1					
1	0					
A^2	matrix power $A^2$	<table><tr><td>7</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>7</td></tr></table>	7	12	4	7
7	12					
4	7					
A.*B	entry-wise multiplication	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	2	6	1	2
2	6					
1	2					
A./B	entry-wise division	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>1.5</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	2	1.5	1	2
2	1.5					
1	2					
A.^B	entry-wise power	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>9</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	2	9	1	2
2	9					
1	2					
A'	matrix conjugate transpose $A^* = (\bar{A})^\top$	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	2	1	3	2
2	1					
3	2					
A.'	matrix transpose $A^\top$	<table><tr><td>2</td><td>1</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>2</td></tr></table>	2	1	3	2
2	1					
3	2					

Commands	Descriptions	Examples
<b>zeros</b>	zero vector / matrix	<pre> 1. &gt;&gt; A=zeros(3) A =     0    0    0     0    0    0     0    0    0 2. &gt;&gt; A=zeros(2,3) A =     0    0    0     0    0    0 </pre>
<b>eye</b>	identity matrix	<pre> 1. &gt;&gt; A=eye(3) A =     1    0    0     0    1    0     0    0    1 2. &gt;&gt; A=eye(2,3) A =     1    0    0     0    1    0 </pre>
<b>diag</b>	matrix $\rightarrow$ vector of diagonal vector $\rightarrow$ diagonal matrix	<pre> 1. &gt;&gt; A=[2,3,1;4,0,2;1,1,3] A =      2     3     1      4     0     2      1     1     3 &gt;&gt; diag(A) ans =      2      0      3 2. &gt;&gt; a=[1,2,3] a =      1     2     3 &gt;&gt; diag(a) ans =      1     0     0      0     2     0      0     0     3 </pre>
<b>ones</b>	“one” vector / matrix	<pre> 1. &gt;&gt; A=ones(3) A =      1     1     1      1     1     1      1     1     1 2. &gt;&gt; A=ones(2,3) A =      1     1     1      1     1     1 </pre>



<b>rand</b>	random number / vector / matrix with entries between 0 and 1	1. >> rand() ans = 0.3922 2. >> rand(3) ans = 0.6555 0.0318 0.0971 0.1712 0.2769 0.8235 0.7060 0.0462 0.6948 3. >> rand(2,3) ans = 0.3171 0.0344 0.3816 0.9502 0.4387 0.7655
<b>length</b>	number of entries in a vector	>> a=[2,3,5,7,11] a = 2 3 5 7 11 >> length(a) ans = 5
<b>size</b>	size(A,1): number of rows size(A,2): number of columns	>> A=[1,3,5;2,4,6] A = 1 3 5 2 4 6 >> size(A,1) ans = 2 >> size(A,2) ans = 3

## 5 If, For, While

### Quick Examples

In “Editor”

```
a=rand()
if a<0.5
    disp('below 0.5')
else
    disp('above 0.5')
end
```

copy & paste  
to “Command Window”

In “Command Window”

```
>> a=rand()
if a<0.5
    disp('below 0.5')
else
    disp('above 0.5')
end
a =
    0.2551
below 0.5
```

```
a=0;
for i=1:10
    a=a+i;
end
disp(a)
```

copy & paste  
to “Command Window”

```
>> a=0;
for i=1:10
    a=a+i;
end
disp(a)
55
```

```
a=1;
while a>0.001
    a=a/2;
end
disp(a)
```

copy & paste  
to “Command Window”

```
>> a=1;
while a>0.001
    a=a/2;
end
disp(a)
9.7656e-04
```

### Commands Table

Commands	Descriptions
&&	and
	or
<, <=	less than, less than or equal to
>, >=	greater than, greater than or equal to
~=	not equal to
<b>break</b>	exit from “for”, “while”
ctrl+c	terminate execution

### 1 branch: if...end

e.g.

```
c=0;
a=rand();
if a>0.4 && a<0.6
    c=1;
end
disp([c,a])
```



```
>> c=0;
a=rand();
if a>0.4 && a<0.6
    c=1;
end
disp([c,a])
0    0.9058
```

### 2 branches: if...else...end

e.g.

```
a=floor(6*rand());
if a==1 || a==3 || a==5
    fprintf('%1.0f is odd \n',a)
else
    fprintf('%1.0f is even \n',a)
end
```



```
>> a=floor(6*rand());
if a==1 || a==3 || a==5
    fprintf('%1.0f is odd \n',a)
else
    fprintf('%1.0f is even \n',a)
end
2 is even
```

### 3 or more branches: if...elseif...else...end

e.g.

```
x=rand();
if x<=1/3
    y=3*x;
elseif x<=2/3
    y=1;
else
    y=3*(1-x);
end
fprintf('f(x) = %4.2f\n',y)
```



```
>> x=rand();
if x<=1/3
    y=3*x;
elseif x<=2/3
    y=1;
else
    y=3*(1-x);
end
fprintf('f(x) = %4.2f\n',y)
f(x) = 0.43
```

### Example 5.1

```
function n=min_n(b)
% Given that a_(n+1) = a_n + 1/a_n
% find minimum n such that a_n >= b
% stop when n > 1000
n=1;
a(n)=1;
while a(n)<b
    a(n+1)=a(n)+1/a(n);
    n=n+1;
    if n==1001
        disp('n>1000')
        break
    end
end
disp(a(n))
```

```
>> min_n(10)
ans =
    50
>> m=min_n(20)
m =
   199
>> m=min_n(50)
n>1000
m =
  1001
```

### Example 5.2

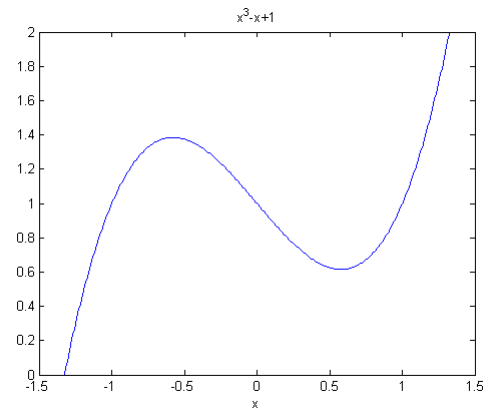
```
function [a,b]=sol_py(c)
% find integer pair (a,b) such that a^2+b^2=c
% a,b are between 0 and 9
d=0; % change to 1 when solution is found
for i=1:9
    for j=1:9
        if i^2+j^2==c
            a=i;b=j;d=1;
            break; % exit from 'for' loop of i
        end
    end
    if d==1
        break % exit from 'for' loop of i
    end
end
if d~=1
    a=0;b=0;
    disp('no solution between 0 and 9')
end
```

```
>> [a,b]=sol_py(10)
a =
    1
b =
    3
>> [x,y]=sol_py(20)
x =
    2
y =
    4
>> [m,n]=min_n(30)
no solution between 0 and 9
m =
    0
n =
    0
```

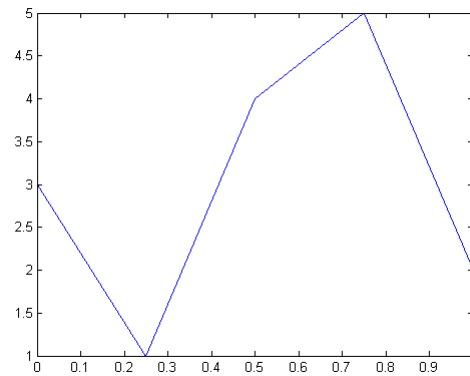
## 6 Graph

### Quick Examples

```
>> ezplot('x.^3-x+1',[-1.5,1.5,0,2])
```



```
>> x=0:0.25:1;  
>> y=[3,1,4,5,2];  
>> plot(x,y)
```



## Commands Table

Commands	Descriptions	Examples (in “Editor”)
ezplot	plot function	1. ezplot('x.^2+1') 2. ezplot('x.^2+1', [-2,2,0,5])
plot	plot points	x=-2:0.1:2; y=x.^2+1; plot(x,y)
subplot	plot multiple graphs	subplot(1,2,1),ezplot('x.^2+1') x=-2:0.1:2;y=x.^2+1; subplot(1,2,2),plot(x,y)
grid on	display grid	ezplot('x.^2+1') grid on
axis	limits of coordinates	ezplot('x.^2+1') axis([-2,2,0,5])
title	graph title	ezplot('x.^2+1') title('function 1')
xlabel ylabel zlabel	labels of coordinates	ezplot('x.^2+1') xlabel('length') ylabel('height')
legend	labels of functions	x=-2:0.1:2; y1=x.^2+1; y2=2-x.^2; plot(x,y1,x,y2) legend('fun 1','fun 2')
plot3	plot 3D curve	t=0:0.1:12 plot3(cos(t),sin(t),t)
mesh	plot 3D “net” surface	t=-1:0.1:1; [x,y]=meshgrid(t); z=sin(x.*y); mesh(x,y,z)
meshc	plot 3D “net” surface with contour	t=-1:0.1:1; [x,y]=meshgrid(t); z=sin(x.*y); meshc(x,y,z)
surf	plot 3D “smooth” surface	t=-1:0.1:1; [x,y]=meshgrid(t); z=sin(x.*y); surf(x,y,z)
surfc	plot 3D “smooth” surface with contour	t=-1:0.1:1; [x,y]=meshgrid(t); z=sin(x.*y); surfc(x,y,z)

## Styles of plot

Colours	Lines	Points
y yellow	- solid line (default)	+ plus sign
m magenta	-- dashed line	o circle
c cyan	: dotted line	* asterisk
r red	-. dash-dot line	. point
g green		x cross
b blue		s square
w white		d diamond
k black		

### Example 6.1

```
x=-2:0.1:2;
y=x.^2+1;
subplot(2,3,1),plot(x,y,'g'),title('g'),legend('1')
subplot(2,3,2),plot(x,y,'g--'),title('g--'),legend('2')
subplot(2,3,3),plot(x,y,'g--o'),title('g--o'),legend('3')
subplot(2,3,4),plot(x,y,'--'),title('--'),legend('4')
subplot(2,3,5),plot(x,y,'o'),title('o'),legend('5')
subplot(2,3,6),plot(x,y,'--o'),title('--o'),legend('6')
```

