



The expression if e1 then e2 else e3 evaluates to e2 if e1 evaluates to true, and to e3 otherwise. We call e1 the guard of the if expression.



In contrast to if-then-else statements found in imperative languages, if-then-else expressions within OCaml function just like any other expression. This means they are positionable wherever expressions are accepted.

```
4 + (if 'a' = 'b' then 1 else 2)

- : int = 6
```



If expressions can be nested in a pleasant way:

```
if e1 then e2
else if e3 then e4
else if e5 then e6
...
else en
```