[ButtParams](#) ([Ruby](#))

Problem

Method parameter lists don't have to be in parentheses:

    Math.sqrt 2 + 2

is the same as

    Math.sqrt(2 + 2)

However, you can get into trouble if you have parenthesized expressions that are part of an un-parenthesized parameter list:

    Math.sqrt (2 + 2)   #=> 2
    Math.sqrt (2 + 2)*3   #=> 6

If you were expecting the second line to print the square root of twelve, you'd have been disappointed.

Style Tip

Part of the problem is that the layout of the code is fooling you. Make the precedence rules clearer: never leave a space between the end of the method name and an open parenthesis. Butt the parameter list up tight against the name of the method.

    Math.sqrt(2+2) * 3   # parses visually the same way Ruby parses it

or even

    3 * Math.sqrt 2 + 2

but

    Math.sqrt (2+2)*3   # is confusing

See also

- [ParenParams](#)

Contributors

[PragDave](#), another guy

Part of the [RubyStyleGuide](#).

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Rev 6, Last edited at August 18, 2006 18:21 pm by anonymous / 199.246.40.54 ([diff](#))

Approved by JimWeirich at August 18, 2006 15:08 pm