

Clojure Macroexpand Reference

purelyfunctional.tv/clojure-macros

In these examples, we define a macro `square` like this:

```
(defmacro square [x]
  `(let [x# ~x]
    (when (number? x#)
      (* x# x#))))
```

Expand only the toplevel macro call one time:

```
(macroexpand-1 '(square 10))
```

```
=> (clojure.core/let [x_12 10]
    (clojure.core/when (clojure.core/number? x_12)
      (clojure.core/* x_12 x_12)))
```

*notice vars are now
namespace-qualified
by backquote*

*square gets expanded but let
and when remain
they are both macros*

Expand the toplevel macro call until the toplevel is no longer a macro call:

```
(macroexpand '(square 10))
```

```
=> (let* [x_13 10]
    (clojure.core/when (clojure.core/number? x_13)
      (clojure.core/* x_13 x_13)))
```

let is a special
form, so it's has no
namespace*

*square gets expanded as well as
let because they are both toplevel
when remains because it is nested*

Expand all of the macro calls in the expression until no macro calls exist:

```
(clojure.walk/macroexpand-all '(square 10))
```

```
=> (let* [x_14 10]
    (if (clojure.core/number? x_14)
      (do
        (clojure.core/* x_14))))
```

special forms

*square, let, and when are
expanded
there are no more macros*

Keybindings

Emacs (CIDER)

```
cider-macroexpand-1  C-c C-m
cider-macroexpand-all C-c M-m
```

vim (fireplace)

```
c1m{motion}
cm{motion}
```

Cursive

With a REPL open, select
Tools -> REPL -> View expansion

[Find more reference sheets at PurelyFunctional.tv](http://PurelyFunctional.tv)