

ZIL Reference Guide

Introduction

There are two classes of commands.

The first class is things that only work outside a "routine". These commands are processed during compilation and are a subset of MDL. The order is important and things need to be declared before (higher up in the file) before they are used.

The second class is things that only work inside "routines". These commands are processed by the Z-machine during runtime. The order these are organized does not matter.

Sources:

Learning ZIL, Steve E. Meretzky

ZIL Course, Marc S. Blank

Syntax

Typename	Size	Min-Max	Examples
FIX	32-bit signed integer	-2147483648 to 2147483648	616 *747* #2 10110111
CHARACTER	8-bit	0 to 255	! \A
BYTE	8-bit	0 to 255	65

=== MDL SUBRs and FSUBRs ===

(i.e. "things you can use outside a routine")

The syntax for most of these commands are much like the syntax in MDL.

All these commands are possible to run, test and debug during the interactive mode of ZILF (start ZILF without any options).

Sources:

The MDL Programming Language, S. W. Galley and Greg Pfister

ZIL Language Guide, Jesse McGrew

* (multiply)

```
<* numbers ...>
```

Multiply numbers.

Example:

```
<* 2 3 4> --> 24
```

+ (add)

```
<+ numbers ...>
```

Add numbers.

Example:

```
<+ 2 3 4> --> 7
```

- (subtract)

```
<- numbers ...>
```

Subtract first number by subsequent numbers.

Example:

```
<* 8 3 4> --> 1
```

/ (divide)

```
</ numbers ...>
```

Divide first number by subsequent numbers.

Example:

```
<* 20 5 2> --> 2
```

0?

```
<0? value>
```

Predicate. True if value is 0 otherwise false.

1?

```
<1? value>
```

Predicate. True if value is 1 otherwise false.

==?

```
<==? value1 value2>
```

=?

```
<=? value1 value2>
```

ADD-TELL-TOKENS

```
<ADD-TELL-TOKENS {pattern form} ...> **F
```

ADD-WORD

```
<ADD-WORD atom-or-string [part-of-speech] [value] [flags]>
```

ADJ-SYNONYM

```
<ADJ-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
```

AGAIN

<AGAIN [activation]>

ALLTYPES

<ALLTYPES>

returns a VECTOR containing just those ATOMS which can currently be returned by TYPE or PRIMTYPE.

AND

<AND conditions ...> **F

AND?

<AND? Values ...>

ANDB

<ANDB numbers ...>

APPLICABLE?

<APPLICABLE? Value>

APPLY

<APPLY applicable args ...>

APPLYTYPE

<APPLYTYPE atom [handler]>

ASCII

<ASCII {number | character}>

ASSIGNED?

<ASSIGNED? atom [environment]>

ASSOCIATIONS

<ASSOCIATIONS>

ATOM

<ATOM pname>

AVALUE

<AVALUE asoc>

BACK

<BACK structure [count]>

BIND

```
<BIND [activation-atom] (bindings ...)
      [body-decl] body ...> **F
```

BIT-SYNONYM

```
<BIT-SYNONYM first synonyms ...>
```

BLOCK

```
<BLOCK (oblist ...)>
```

BOUND

```
<BOUND? atom [environment]>
```

BUZZ

```
<BUZZ atoms ...>
```

BYTE

```
<BYTE number>
```

CHECK-VERSION?

```
<CHECK-VERSION? Version-spec>
```

CHRSET

```
<CHRSET alphabet-number {string | character |
                          number | byte} ...>
```

CHTYPE

```
<CHTYPE value type-atom>
```

Change type - returns a new object that has TYPE type-atom and the same “data part” as value. The PRIMTYPE of value must be the same as the TYPEPRIM of type-atom otherwise an error will be generated.

There is a shorthand to change type by typing #type-atom value instead.

Examples:

```
<CHTYPE !\A FIX>
--> 65
#FIX !\A
--> 65
#LIST [1 2 3]
--> ERROR
```

CLOSE

```
<CLOSE channel>
```

COMPILATION-FLAG

```
<COMPILATION-FLAG atom-or-string [value]>
```

COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT

<COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT atom-or-string value>

COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE

<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE atom-or-string>

COND

<COND (condition body ...) ...> **F

CONS

<CONS first rest>

CONSTANT

<CONSTANT atom-or-adecl value> **F

CRLF

<CRLF [channel]>

DECL-CHECK

<DECL-CHECK boolean>

DECL?

<DECL? value pattern>

DEFAULT-DEFINITION

<DEFAULT-DEFINITION name body ...> **F

DEFINE

<DEFINE name [activation-atom] arg-list [decl] body ...> **F

DEFINE-GLOBALS

<DEFINE-GLOBALS group-name
(atom-or-adecl [{BYTE | WORD}] [initializer]) ...> **F

DEFINE20

<DEFINE20 name [activation-atom] arg-list [decl] body ...> **F

DEFINITIONS

<DEFINITIONS package-name>

DEFMAC

<DEFMAC name [activation-atom] arg-list [decl] body ...> **F

DEFSTRUCT

<DEFSTRUCT

```
type-name {base-type | (base-type struct-options ...)}  
(field-name decl field-options ...) ...> **F
```

DELAY-DEFINITION

```
<DELAY-DEFINITION name>
```

DIR-SYNONYM

```
<DIR-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
```

DIRECTIONS

```
<DIRECTIONS atoms ...>
```

EMPTY?

```
<EMPTY? Structure>
```

END-DEFINITIONS

```
<END-DEFINITIONS>
```

ENDBLOCK

```
<ENDBLOCK>
```

ENDPACKAGE

```
<ENDPACKAGE>
```

ENDSECTION

```
<ENDSECTION>
```

ENTRY

```
<ENTRY atoms ...>
```

EQVB

```
<EQVB numbers ...>
```

ERROR

```
<ERROR values ...>
```

EVAL

```
<EVAL value [environment]>
```

EVALTYPE

```
<EVALTYPE atom [handler]>
```

EXPAND

```
<EXPAND value>
```

FILE-FLAGS

<FILE-FLAGS {CLEAN-STACK? | MDL-ZIL?} ...>

FILE-LENGTH

<FILE-LENGTH channel>

FLOAD

<FLOAD filename>

FORM

<FORM values ...>

FUNCTION

<FUNCTION [activation-atom] arg-list [decl] body ...> **F

FUNNY-GLOBALS?

<FUNNY-GLOBALS? [boolean]>

G=?

<G=? value1 value2>

Predicate. True if value1 is greater or equal than value2 otherwise false.

G?

<G? value1 value2>

Predicate. True if value1 is greater than value2 otherwise false.

GASSIGNED?

<GASSIGNED? Atom>

GBOUND?

<GBOUND? Atom>

GC

<GC>

GDECL

<GDECL (atoms ...) decl ...> **F

GET-DECL

<GET-DECL item>

GETB

<GETB table index>

GETPROP

<GETPROP item indicator [default-value]>

GLOBAL

<GLOBAL atom-or-adecl default-value [decl] [size]> **F

GROW

<GROW structure end beginning>

GUNASSIGN

<GUNASSIGN atom>

GVAL

<GVAL atom>

IFFLAG

<IFFLAG (condition body ...) ...> **F

ILIST

<ILIST count [init]>

IMAGE

<IMAGE ch [channel]>

INCLUDE

<INCLUDE package-name ...>

INCLUDE-WHEN

<INCLUDE-WHEN condition package-name ...>

INDENT-TO

<INDENT-TO position [channel]>

INDEX

<INDEX offset>

INDICATOR

<INDICATOR asoc>

INSERT

<INSERT string-or-atom oblist>

INSERT-FILE

<INSERT-FILE filename>

ISTRING

<ISTRING count [init]>

ITABLE

<ITABLE [specifier] count [(flags...)] defaults ...>

Defines a table of `count` elements filled with default values: either zeros or, if the default list is specified, the specified list of values repeated until the table is full.

The optional specifier may be the atoms `NONE`, `BYTE`, or `WORD`. `BYTE` and `WORD` change the type of the table and also turn on the length marker (element 0 in the table contains the length of the table), This can also be done with the flags (see `TABLE` about flags).

Examples:

<ITABLE 4 0> -->

Element 0 WORD	Element 1 WORD	Element 2 WORD	Element 3 WORD
0	0	0	0

<ITABLE (BYTE LENGTH) 4 0> -->

Element 0 BYTE	Element 1 BYTE	Element 2 BYTE	Element 3 BYTE	Element 4 BYTE
4	0	0	0	0

<ITABLE BYTE 4 0> -->

Element 0 BYTE	Element 1 BYTE	Element 2 BYTE	Element 3 BYTE	Element 4 BYTE
4	0	0	0	0

ITEM

<ITEM asoc>

IVECTOR

<IVECTOR count [init]>

L=?

<L=? value1 value2>

Predicate. True if `value1` is lower or equal than `value2` otherwise false.

L?

<L? value1 value2>

Predicate. True if `value1` is lower than `value2` otherwise false.

LANGUAGE

<LANGUAGE name [escape-char] [change-chrset]>

LEGAL?

<LEGAL? Value>

LENGTH

<LENGTH structure>

LENGTH?

<LENGTH? structure limit>

LINK

<LINK value str oblist>

LIST

<LIST values ...>

LONG-WORDS?

<LONG-WORDS? [boolean]>

LOOKUP

<LOOKUP str oblist>

LPARSE

<LPARSE text [10] [lookup-oblist]>

LSH

<LSH number1 number2>

LTABLE

<LTABLE [flag-list] values ...>

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the LENGTH flag (see TABLE).

LVAL

<LVAL atom [environment]>

M-HPOS

<M-HPOS channel>

MAPF

<MAPF finalf applicable structs ...>

MAPLEAVE

<MAPLEAVE [value]>

MAPR

<MAPR finalf applicable structs ...>

MAPRET

<MAPRET [value] ...>

MAPSTOP

<MAPSTOP [value] ...>

MAX

<MAX numbers ...>

MEMBER

<MEMBER item structure>

MEMQ

<MEMQ item structure>

MIN

<MIN numbers ...>

MOBLIST

<MOBLIST name>

MOD

<MOD number1 number2>

MSETG

<MSETG atom-or-adecl value> **F

N==?

<N==? value1 value2>

N=?

<N=? value1 value2>

NEW-ADD-WORD

<NEW-ADD-WORD atom-or-string [type] [value] [flags]>

NEWTYPE

<NEWTYPE name primtype-atom [decl]>

NEXT

<NEXT asoc>

NOT

<NOT value>

NTH

<NTH structure index>

OBJECT

<OBJECT name (property values ...) ...>

OBLIST?

<OBLIST? Atom>

OFFSET

<OFFSET offset structure-decl [value-decl]>

OPEN

<OPEN "READ" path>

OR

<OR conditions ...> **F

OR?

<OR? Values ...>

ORB

<ORB numbers ...>

ORDER-FLAGS?

<ORDER-FLAGS? LAST objects ...>

ORDER-OBJECTS?

<ORDER-OBJECTS? Atom>

ORDER-TREE?

<ORDER-TREE? Atom>

PACKAGE

<PACKAGE package-name>

PARSE

<PARSE text [10] [lookup-oblist]>

PLTABLE

```
<PLTABLE [flags ...] values ...>
```

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the LENGTH and PURE flag (see TABLE).

PNAME

```
<PNAME atom>
```

PREP-SYNONYM

```
<PREP-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
```

PRIMTYPE

```
<PRIMTYPE value>
```

evaluates to the primitive type of value. The primitive types are ATOM, FIX, LIST, STRING, TABLE and VECTOR.

Examples:

```
<PRIMTYPE !\A>
--> FIX
<PRIMTYPE <+1 2>>
--> FIX
<PRIMTYPE "ABC">
--> STRING
```

PRIN1

```
<PRIN1 value [channel]>
```

PRINC

```
<PRINC value [channel]>
```

PRINT

```
<PRINT value [channel]>
```

PRINT-MANY

```
<PRINT-MANY channel printer items ...>
```

PRINTTYPE

```
<PRINTTYPE atom [handler]>
```

PROG

```
<PROG [activation-atom] (bindings ...)
    [body-decl] body ...> **F
```

PROPDEF

```
<PROPDEF atom default-value spec ...> **F
```

PTABLE

`<PTABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>`

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the PURE flag (see TABLE).

PUT

`<PUT structure index new-value>`

PUT-DECL

`<PUT-DECL item pattern>`

PUTB

`<PUTB table index new-value>`

PUTPROP

`<PUTPROP item indicator [value]>`

PUTREST

`<PUTREST list new-rest>`

QUIT

`<QUIT [exit-code]>`

QUOTE

`<QUOTE value> **F`

READSTRING

`<READSTRING dest channel [max-length-or-stop-chars]>`

REMOVE

`<REMOVE {atom | pname oblist}>`

RENTY

`<RENTY atoms ...>`

REPEAT

`<REPEAT [activation-atom] (bindings ...) [body-decl] body ...> **F`

REPLACE-DEFINITION

`<REPLACE-DEFINITION name body ...> **F`

REST

`<REST structure [count]>`

RETURN

<RETURN [value] [activation]>

ROOM

<ROOM name (property value ...) ...>

ROOT

<ROOT>

ROUTINE

<ROUTINE name [activation-atom] arg-list body ...> **F

ROUTINE-FLAGS

<ROUTINE-FLAGS flags ...>

SET

<SET atom value [environment]>

SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS

<SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS args ...> **F

SETG

<SETG atom value>

SETG20

<SETG20 atom value>

SORT

<SORT predicate vector [record-size] [key-offset]
[vector [record-size] ...]>

SPNAME

<SPNAME atom>

STRING

<STRING values ...>

STRUCTURED?

<STRUCTURED? Value>

SUBSTRUC

<SUBSTRUC structure [rest] [amount] [structure]>

SYNONYM

<SYNONYM original synonyms ...>

SYNTAX

```
<SYNTAX verb [prep1] [OBJECT] [(FIND flag-name)]
      [(search-flags ...)] [prep2] [OBJECT]
      [(FIND flag-name)] [(search-flags ...)]
      = action-routine-name [preaction-routine-name]
      [action-name]>
```

TABLE

```
<TABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
```

Defines a table containing the specified values.

The optional specifier may be the atoms NONE, BYTE, or WORD. BYTE and WORD change the type of the table and also turn on the length marker (element 0 in the table contains the length of the table). This can also be done with the flags (see TABLE about flags).

These flags control the format of the table:

- WORD causes the elements to be 2-byte words. This is the default.
- BYTE causes the elements to be single bytes.
- LEXV causes the elements to be 4-byte records. If default values are given to ITABLE with this flag, they will be split into groups of three: the first compiled as a word, the next two compiled as bytes. The table is also prefixed with a byte indicating the number of records, followed by a zero byte
- STRING causes the elements to be single bytes and also changes the initializer format. This flag may not be used with ITABLE. When this flag is given, any values given as strings will be compiled as a series of individual ASCII characters, rather than as string addresses.

These flags alter the table without changing its basic format:

- LENGTH causes a length marker to be written at the beginning of the table, indicating the number of elements that follow. The length marker is a byte if BYTE or STRING are also given; otherwise the length marker is a WORD. This flag is ignored if LEXV is given
- PURE causes the table to be compiled into static memory (ROM).

The flags LENGTH and PURE are implied in LTABLE, PTABLE or PLTABLE.

Examples:

```
<TABLE 1 2 3 4> -->
```

Element 0 WORD	Element 1 WORD	Element 2 WORD	Element 3 WORD
1	2	3	4

```
<TABLE (BYTE LENGTH) 1 2 3 4> -->
```

Element 0 BYTE	Element 1 BYTE	Element 2 BYTE	Element 3 BYTE	Element 4 BYTE
4	1	2	3	4

```
<TELL-TOKENS {pattern form} ...> **F
<TOP structure>
```



```
<TUPLE values ...>
```

TYPE

```
<TYPE value>
```

evaluates to the type of value. Also see ALLTYPES.

Examples:

```
<TYPE !\A>
--> CHARACTER
<TYPE <+1 2>>
--> FIX
<TYPE #BYTE 42>
--> BYTE
```

TYPE?

```
<TYPE? value type-1 ... type-N>
```

Evaluates to type-i only if <=? type-i > is true. It is faster and gives more information than ORing tests for each TYPE. If the test fails for all type-i's, TYPE? returns #FALSE ().

Examples:

```
<TYPE? !\A CHARACTER FIX>
--> CHARACTER
<TYPE? <+1 2> CHARACTER FIX>
--> FIX
<TYPE? #BYTE 42 CHARACTER FIX>
--> #FALSE ()
```

TYPEPRIM

```
<TYPEPRIM type>
```

evaluates to the primitive type of type. The primitive types are ATOM, FIX, LIST, STRING, TABLE and VECTOR.

Examples:

```
<TYPEPRIM CHARACTER>
--> FIX
<TYPEPRIM FORM>
--> LIST
<PRIMTYPE BYTE>
--> FIX
```

UNASSIGN

```
<UNASSIGN atom [environment]>
```

UNPARSE

```
<UNPARSE value>
```

USE

<USE package-name ...>

USE-WHEN

<USE-WHEN condition package-name ...>

VALID-TYPE?

<VALID-TYPE? Atom>

VALUE

<VALUE atom [environment]>

VECTOR

<VECTOR values ...>

VERB-SYNONYM

<VERB-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>

VERSION

<VERSION {ZIP | EZIP | XZIP | YZIP | number} [TIME]>

VERSION?

<VERSION? (version-spec body ...) ...> **F

VOC

<VOC string [part-of-speech]>

XORB

<XORB numbers ...>

ZGET

<ZGET table index>

ZIP-OPTIONS

<ZIP-OPTIONS {COLOR | MOUSE | UNDO | DISPLAY | SOUND
| MENU} ...>

ZPUT

<ZPUT table index new-value>

ZREST

<ZREST table bytes>

ZSTART

<ZSTART atom>

=== Z-code builtins ===

(i.e. "things you can use inside a routine")

Sources:

The Z-Machine Standards Document, Graham Nelson

The Inform Designer's Manual, Graham Nelson

ZIL Language Guide, Jesse McGrew

* (multiply)

<* numbers ...>

Zapf syntax

MUL

Inform syntax

mul

Multiply numbers.

Example:

<* 2 3 4> --> 24

+ (add)

<+ numbers ...>

Zapf syntax

ADD

Inform syntax

add

Add numbers.

Example:

<+ 2 3 4> --> 7

- (subtract)

<- numbers ...>

Zapf syntax

SUB

Inform syntax

sub

Subtract first number by subsequent numbers.

Example:

<* 8 3 4> --> 1

/ (divide)

</ numbers ...>

Zapf syntax

DIV

Inform syntax

div

Divide first number by subsequent numbers.

Example:

`<* 20 5 2> --> 2`

0?

`<0? value>`

Zapf syntax

ZERO?

Inform syntax

Jz

Predicate. True if value is 0 otherwise false.

1?

`<1? value>`

Predicate. True if value is 1 otherwise false.

==?, =?, EQUAL?

`<==? value values...>`

`<=? value values...>`

Zapf syntax

EQUAL?

Inform syntax

Je

Both predicates evaluates to the same Zapf syntax and are synonyms.

AGAIN

`<AGAIN [activation]>`

Skips the rest of the loop and starts again from the top.

AND

`<AND expressions...>`

Logical AND.

APPLY

`<APPLY routine values...>`

ASH

`<ASH number places>`

Zapf syntax

ASHIFT

Inform syntax

art_shift

ASSIGNED?

`<ASSIGNED? Name>`

Zapf syntax
ASSIGNED?

Inform syntax
check_arg_count

BACK

<BACK table [bytes]>

BAND

<BAND numbers...>

Zapf syntax
BAND

Inform syntax
and

Bitwise OR.

BCOM

<BCOM value>

Zapf syntax
BCOM

Inform syntax
not

BIND

<BIND (bindings...) expressions...>

BOR

<BOR numbers...>

Zapf syntax
BOR

Inform syntax
or

Bitwise OR.

BUFOUT

<BUFOUT value>

Zapf syntax
BUFOUT

Inform syntax
buffer_mode

CATCH

<CATCH>

Zapf syntax
CATCH

Inform syntax
catch

CHECKU

<CHECKU character>

Zapf syntax
CHECKU

Inform syntax
check_unicode

CLEAR

<CLEAR window-number>

Zapf syntax

CLEAR

Inform syntax

erase_window

COLOR

<COLOR fg bg>

Zapf syntax

COLOR

Inform syntax

set_colour

COND

<COND (condition expressions...)...>

COPYT

<COPYT src-table dest-table length>

Zapf syntax

COPYT

Inform syntax

copy_table

CRLF

<CRLF>

Zapf syntax

CRLF

Inform syntax

new_line

CURGET

<CURGET table>

Zapf syntax

CURGET

Inform syntax

get_cursor

CURGET is only available in version 4 and later.

CURSET

<CURSET row column>

CURSET is only available in version 4 and later.

DCLEAR

<DCLEAR picture-number row column>

Zapf syntax

DCLEAR

Inform syntax

erase_picture

DEC

<DEC name>

Zapf syntax

DEC

Inform syntax

dec

DIRIN

<DIRIN stream-number>

Zapf syntax

DIRIN

Inform syntax

input_stream

DIROUT

<DIROUT stream-number [table] [width]>

Zapf syntax

DIROUT

Inform syntax

output_stream

DISPLAY

<DISPLAY picture-number row column>

Zapf syntax

DISPLAY

Inform syntax

draw_picture

DLESS?

<DLESS? name value>

Zapf syntax

DLESS?

Inform syntax

dec_chk

DO

<DO (name start end [step]) expressions...>

A quirk of the DO statement, which can be thought of as a cross between a Pascal-style "for" statement and a C-style "for" statement.

Pascal-style "for" statements loop over a range of values:

```
// Pascal
for i := 1 to 10 do ...
for j := 10 downto 1 do ...

// ZIL
<DO (I 1 10) ...>
<DO (J 10 1 -1) ...>
```

C-style "for" statements initialize some state, then mutate it and repeat until a condition becomes false. In ZIL, the condition is reversed - the loop exits when it becomes true:

```
// C
for (i = first(obj); i; i = next(i)) { ... }

// ZIL
```

```
<DO (I <FIRST? .OBJ> <NOT .I> <NEXT? .I>) ...>
```

Notice that every Pascal-style loop can be transformed into a C-style loop:

```
// Pascal-style loops
<DO (I 1 10) ...>
<DO (J 10 1 -1) ...>

// C-style equivalents
<DO (I 1 <G? .I 10> <+ .I 1>) ...>
<DO (J 10 <L? .J 1> <- .J 1>) ...>
```

The quirk is that the behavior of DO depends on the syntax you use for each part.

If the third value inside the parens is a complex FORM -- meaning one that isn't a simple LVAL or GVAL, like '.MAX' is -- it's assumed to be a "C-style" exit condition, otherwise it's assumed to be a "Pascal-style" upper/lower bound. Likewise, the optional fourth value is treated as either a C-style mutator or a Pascal-style step size.

More of the DO statement's quirks are demonstrated here:

```
<ROUTINE GO ()
  <TEST-PASCAL-STYLE>
  <TEST-C-STYLE>
  <TEST-MIXED-STYLE>
  <QUIT>>

<CONSTANT C-ONE 1>
<CONSTANT C-TEN 10>

<ROUTINE TEST-PASCAL-STYLE ("AUX" (ONE 1) (TEN 10))
  <TELL "== Pascal style ==" CR>

  <TELL "Counting from 1 to 10...">
  ;"1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10"
  <DO (I 1 10)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

  <TELL "Counting from 1 to 10 with step 2...">
  ;"1 3 5 7 9"
  <DO (I 1 10 2)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

  <TELL "Counting from 10 to 1...">
  ;"10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1"
  <DO (I 10 1)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

  <TELL "Counting from 10 to 1 with step -2...">
  ;"10 8 6 4 2"
  <DO (I 10 1 -2)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>
```



```

<TELL "Counting from .ONE to .TEN...">
;"1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10"
<DO (I .ONE .TEN)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

<TELL "Counting from .TEN to .ONE...">
;"10"
;"Since the loop bounds aren't FIXes (numeric
 literals), ZILF doesn't know the loop is meant
 to count down, and it compiles a loop that counts
 up and exits after the first iteration. A DO loop
 whose condition is a constant or simple FORM always
 runs at least once."
<DO (I .TEN .ONE)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

<TELL "Counting from 10 to .ONE...">
;"10"
;"See above."
<DO (I 10 .ONE)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

<TELL "Counting from .TEN to 1...">
;"10"
;"See above."
<DO (I .TEN 1)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

<TELL "Counting from .TEN to .ONE with step -1...">
;"10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1"
<DO (I .TEN .ONE -1)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

<TELL "Counting from ,C-TEN to ,C-ONE...">
;"10"
;"Even defining the loop bounds as CONSTANTS won't
 tell ZILF that the loop needs to run backwards."
<DO (I ,C-TEN ,C-ONE)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

<TELL "Counting from %,C-TEN to %,C-ONE...">
;"10 9 8 7 5 4 3 2 1"
;"The % forces ,C-TEN to be evaluated at read time,
 so the loop bounds are specified as FIXes, allowing
 ZILF to determine that the loop runs backwards."
<DO (I %,C-TEN %,C-ONE)
    (END <CRLF>)

```

```

        <TELL " " N .I>>

<CRLF>>

<OBJECT DESK
  (DESC "desk")>

<OBJECT MONITOR
  (DESC "monitor")
  (LOC DESK)>

<OBJECT KEYBOARD
  (DESC "keyboard")
  (LOC DESK)>

<OBJECT MOUSE
  (DESC "mouse")
  (LOC DESK)>

<ROUTINE TEST-C-STYLE ()
  <TELL "== C style ==" CR>

  <TELL "Counting from 10 down to 1...">
  ;"10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1"
  <DO (I 10 <L? .I 1> <- .I 1>)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

  <TELL "Counting from 10 up (!) to 1...">
  ;""
  ;"Nothing is printed, because the exit condition
  is initially true. A DO loop whose condition is
  a complex FORM can exit before the first iteration."
  <DO (I 10 <G? .I 1> <+ .I 1>)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

  <TELL "On the desk:">
  ;"monitor mouse keyboard"
  <DO (I <FIRST? ,DESK> <NOT .I> <NEXT? .I>)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " D .I>>

  <CRLF>>

<ROUTINE TEST-MIXED-STYLE ()
  <TELL "== Mixed ==" CR>

  <TELL "Powers of 2 up to 1000:">
  ;"1 2 4 8 16 32 64 128 256 512"
  <DO (I 1 1000 <* .I 2>)
    (END <CRLF>)
    <TELL " " N .I>>

```

<CRLF>>

Highlights:

- Loops can include subsequent code in an (END ...) clause for brevity, e.g. to print a newline after a list.

A Pascal-style DO can *sometimes* determine when it needs to run backwards, even if no step size is provided.

Pascal and C style can be mixed in the same loop, e.g. <DO (I 1 1000 <* .I 2>) ...> to count powers of 2 up to 1000.

ERASE

<ERASE value>

Zapf syntax

ERASE

Inform syntax

erase_line

Versions 4 and 5: if the value is 1, erase from the current cursor position to the end of its line in the current window. If the value is anything other than 1, do nothing.

Version 6: if the value is 1, erase from the current cursor position to the end of the its line in the current window. If not, erase the given number of pixels minus one across from the cursor (clipped to stay inside the right margin). The cursor does not move.

F?

<F? expression>

FCLEAR

<FCLEAR object flag>

Zapf syntax

FCLEAR

Inform syntax

clear_attr

FIRST?

<FIRST? Object>

Zapf syntax

FIRST?

Inform syntax

get_child

FONT

Zapf syntax

FONT

Inform syntax

set_font

FSET

<FSET object flag>

Zapf syntax

Inform syntax

FSET	set_attr
------	----------

FSET?

<FSET? object flag>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
FSET?	test_attr

FSTACK

<FSTACK [stack]>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
FSTACK	pop / pop_stack

G?

<G? value value>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
GRTR?	Jg

G=?

<G=? value value>

GET

<GET table offset>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
GET	loadw

GETB

<GETB table offset>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
GETB	loadb

GETP

<GETP object property>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
GETP	get_prop

GETPT

<GETPT object property>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
GETPT	get_prop_addr

GVAL

<GVAL name>

HLIGHT

<HLIGHT style>

Zapf syntax

HLIGHT

Inform syntax

set_text_style

0	Normal
1	Inverse
2	Bold
4	Italic
8	Mono

HLIGHT is only available in version 4 and later.

IFFLAG

<IFFLAG (compilation-flag-condition expressions...)...>

IGRTR?

<IGRTR? name value>

Zapf syntax

IGRTR?

Inform syntax

inc_chk

Increment name, and test if name is greater than value.

IN?

<IN? object object>

Zapf syntax

IN?

Inform syntax

jin

INC

<INC name>

Zapf syntax

INC

Inform syntax

inc

Increment name by 1. (This is signed, so -1 increments to 0.)

INPUT

<INPUT 1 [time] [routine]>

Zapf syntax

Inform syntax

INPUT read_char

INPUT is only available in version 4 and later. INPUT reads a single character from the keyboard.

An example of using the optional arguments time and routine. This creates a pause of two seconds (if not interrupted by a keypress from the player):

```
<ROUTINE WAIT-TWO-SECONDS ()  
    <INPUT 1 20 ABORT-WAIT>  
>  
  
<ROUTINE ABORT-WAIT () <RETURN T>>
```

INTBL?

<INTBL? value table length [form]>

Zapf syntax

INTBL?

Inform syntax

scan_table

IRESTORE

<IRESTORE>

Zapf syntax

IRESTORE

Inform syntax

restore_undo

ISAVE

<ISAVE>

Zapf syntax

ISAVE

Inform syntax

save_undo

ITABLE

<ITABLE [length-spec] number [(table-flags...)]
[const-expressions...]>

L?

<L? value1 value2>

Is value1 lower to value2.

Zapf syntax

LESS?

Inform syntax

Jl

L=?

<L=? value1 value2>

Is value1 lower or equal to value2.

LEX

<LEX text parse [dictionary] [flag]>

Zapf syntax
LEX

Inform syntax
tokenise

LEX is only available in version 4 and later. Parse the text into parse. See [READ](#) for more info about parsing.

LOC

<LOC object>

Zapf syntax
LOC

Inform syntax
get_parent

LOWCORE-TABLE

<LOWCORE-TABLE field-spec length routine>

LOWCORE

<LOWCORE field-spec [new-value]>

LSH

<LSH number places>

Zapf syntax
SHIFT

Inform syntax
log_shift

LTABLE

<LTABLE [(table-flags...)] values...>

LVAL

<LVAL name>

MAP-CONTENTS

<MAP-CONTENTS (name [next] object) expressions...>

MAP-DIRECTIONS

<MAP-DIRECTIONS (name pt room) expressions...>

MARGIN

<MARGIN left right window-number>

Zapf syntax
MARGIN

Inform syntax
set_margins

MENU

<MENU number table>

Zapf syntax
MENU

Inform syntax
make_menu

MOD

<MOD number number>

Zapf syntax
MOD

Inform syntax
mod

MOUSE-INFO

<MOUSE-INFO table>

Zapf syntax
MOUSE-INFO

Inform syntax
read_mouse

MOUSE-LIMIT

<MOUSE-LIMIT window-number>

Zapf syntax
MOUSE-LIMIT

Inform syntax
mouse_window

MOVE

<MOVE object object>

Zapf syntax
MOVE

Inform syntax
insert_obj

N=?

<N==? value values...>

NEXT?

<NEXT? Object>

Zapf syntax
NEXT?

Inform syntax
get_sibling

NEXTP

<NEXTP object property>

Zapf syntax
NEXTP

Inform syntax
get_next_prop

NOT

<NOT expression>

Logical NOT.

OR

<OR expressions...>

Logical AND.

ORIGINAL

<ORIGINAL?>

Zapf syntax
ORIGINAL?

Inform syntax
piracy

PICINF

<PICINF picture-number table>

Zapf syntax
PICINF

Inform syntax
picture_data

PICSET

<PICSET table>

Zapf syntax
PICSET

Inform syntax
picture_table

PLTABLE

<PLTABLE [(table-flags...)] values...>

POP

<POP [stack]>

Zapf syntax
POP

Inform syntax
pull

PRINT

<PRINT packed-string>

Zapf syntax
PRINT

Inform syntax
print_paddr

PRINTB

<PRINTB unpacked-string>

Zapf syntax
PRINTB

Inform syntax
print_addr

PRINTC

<PRINTC character>

Zapf syntax

Inform syntax

PRINTC print_char

PRINTD

<PRINTD object>

Zapf syntax
PRINTD

Inform syntax
print_obj

PRINTF

<PRINTF table>

Zapf syntax
PRINTF

Inform syntax
print_form

PRINTI

<PRINTI string>

Zapf syntax
PRINTI

Inform syntax
print

PRINTN

<PRINTN number>

Zapf syntax
PRINTN

Inform syntax
print_num

PRINTR

<PRINTR string>

Zapf syntax
PRINTR

Inform syntax
print_ret

PRINTT

<PRINTT table width height skip>

Zapf syntax
PRINTT

Inform syntax
print_table

PRINTU

<PRINTU number>

Zapf syntax
PRINTU

Inform syntax
print_unicode

PROG

<PROG (bindings...) expressions...>

PTABLE

<PTABLE [(table-flags...)] values...>

PTSIZE

<PTSIZE table>

Zapf syntax
PTSIZE

Inform syntax
get_prop_len

PUSH

<PUSH value>

Zapf syntax
PUSH

Inform syntax
push

PUT

<PUT table offset value>

Zapf syntax
PUT

Inform syntax
storew

PUTB

<PUTB table offset value>

Zapf syntax
PUTB

Inform syntax
storeb

PUTP

<PUTP object property value>

Zapf syntax
PUTP

Inform syntax
put_prop

QUIT

<QUIT>

Zapf syntax
QUIT

Inform syntax
quit

RANDOM

<RANDOM range>

Zapf syntax
RANDOM

Inform syntax
random

READ

<READ text parse [time] [routine]>

Zapf syntax
READ

Inform syntax
aread / sread

Reads text from keyboard and parse it. Result is stored in two byte-tables. Byte 0 in `text` most contain the max-size of the buffer and if `parse` is supplied, byte 0 of it most contain max number of words that will be parsed.

After READ, `text` contains:

Byte	0	Max number of chars read into the buffer
	1	Actual number of chars read into the buffer
	2-	The typed chars all converted to lowercase

`parse` contains:

Byte	0	Max number of words parsed
	1	Actual number of words parsed
	2-3	Adress to first word in dictionary (0 if word is not in it)
	4	Length of first word
	5	Start position (in <code>text</code>) of first word
	6-9	Second word
	...	

Example:

```
<GLOBAL READBUF <ITABLE BYTE 63>>
<GLOBAL PARSEBUF <ITABLE BYTE 28>>
<ROUTINE READ-TEST ("AUX" WORDS WLEN WSTART WEND)
  <PUTB ,READBUF 0 60>
  <PUTB ,PARSEBUF 0 6>
  <READ ,READBUF ,PARSEBUF>
  <SET WORDS <GETB ,PARSEBUF 1>> ;"# of parsed words"
  <DO (I 1 .WORDS)
    <SET WLEN <GETB .PARSEBUF <* .I 4>>>
    <SET WSTART <GETB .PARSEBUF <+<* .I 4> 1>>>
    <SET WEND <+ .WSTART <- .WLEN 1>>>
    <TELL "word " N .I " is " N .WLEN " char long. ">
    <TELL "The word is '">
    <DO (J .WSTART .WEND)
      <PRINTC <GETB .READBUF .J>> ;"To lcase!"
    >
  <TELL "'.'" CR>
>
>
```

See *The Inform Designer's Manual* (ch. §2.5, p. 44-46) for more info about READ.

REMOVE

<REMOVE object>

Zapf syntax
REMOVE

Inform syntax
remove_obj

REPEAT

<REPEAT (bindings...) expressions...>

REST

<REST table [bytes]>

RESTART

<RESTART>

Zapf syntax

RESTART

Inform syntax

restart

RESTORE

<RESTORE [table] [bytes] [filename]>

Zapf syntax

RESTORE

Inform syntax

restore

RETURN

<RETURN [value] [activation]>

Zapf syntax

RETURN

Inform syntax

ret

RFALSE

<RFALSE>

Zapf syntax

RFALSE

Inform syntax

rfalse

RFATAL

<RFATAL>

RSTACK

<RSTACK>

Zapf syntax

RSTACK

Inform syntax

ret_popped

RTRUE

<RTRUE>

Zapf syntax

RTRUE

Inform syntax

rtrue

SAVE

<SAVE [table] [bytes] [filename]>

Zapf syntax
SAVE

Inform syntax
save

SCREEN

<SCREEN window-number>

Zapf syntax
SCREEN

Inform syntax
set_window

SCROLL

<SCROLL window-number pixels>

Zapf syntax
SCROLL

Inform syntax
scroll_window

SET

<SET name value>

Zapf syntax
SET

Inform syntax
store

SETG

<SETG name value>

SOUND

<SOUND number [effect] [volume] [routine]>

Zapf syntax
SOUND

Inform syntax
sound_effect

SPLIT

<SPLIT number>

Zapf syntax
SPLIT

Inform syntax
split_window

T?

<T? expression>

TABLE

<TABLE [(table-flags...)] values...>

TELL

<TELL token-commands>

THROW

<THROW value stack-frame>

Zapf syntax
THROW

Inform syntax
throw

USL

<USL>

Zapf syntax
USL

Inform syntax
show_status

VALUE

<VALUE name/number>

Zapf syntax
VALUE

Inform syntax
load

VERIFY

<VERIFY>

Zapf syntax
VERIFY

Inform syntax
verify

VERSION?

<VERSION? (name/number expressions...)...>

WINATTR

<WINATTR window-number flags operation>

Zapf syntax
WINATTR

Inform syntax
window_style

WINGET

<WINGET window-number property>

Zapf syntax
WINGET

Inform syntax
get_wind_prop

WINPOS

<WINPOS window-number row column>

Zapf syntax
WINPOS

Inform syntax
move_window

WINPUT

<WINPUT window-number property value>

Zapf syntax
WINPUT

Inform syntax
put_wind_prop

WINSIZE

<WINSIZE window-number height width>

Zapf syntax

WINSIZE

Inform syntax

window_size

XPUSH

<XPUSH value stack>

Zapf syntax

XPUSH

Inform syntax

push_stack

ZWSTR

<ZWSTR src-table length offset dest-table>

Zapf syntax

ZWSTR

Inform syntax

encode_text

=== Other Z-machine OP-codes ===

These OP-codes don't have direct ZIL-equivalent (used to call routines).

Sources:

The Z-Machine Standards Document, Graham Nelson

ZAPF syntax	Inform Syntax	Description (Z specifikations 1.0)
BTST	test	Jump if all of the flags in bitmap are set (i.e. if bitmap & flags == flags).
CALL1	call_1s	Executes routine() and stores resulting return value.
CALL2	call_2s	Executes routine(arg1) and stores resulting return value.
CALL	call_vs	The only call instruction in Version 3. It calls the routine with 0, 1, 2 or 3 arguments as supplied and stores the resulting return value. (When the address 0 is called as a routine, nothing happens and the return value is false.)
ICALL1	call_1n	Executes routine() and throws away result.
ICALL2	call_2n	Executes routine(arg1) and throws away result.
ICALL	call_vn	Like CALL, but throws away result.
IXCALL	call_vn2	CALL with a variable number (from 0 to 7) of arguments, then throw away the result. This (and call_vs2) uniquely have an extra byte of opcode types to specify the types of arguments 4 to 7. Note that it is legal to use these opcodes with fewer than 4 arguments (in which case the second byte of type information will just be \$FF).
JUMP	jump	Jump (unconditionally) to the given label. (This is not a branch instruction and the operand is a 2-byte signed offset to apply to the program counter.) It is legal for this

		to jump into a different routine (which should not change the routine call state), although it is considered bad practice to do so and the Txd disassembler is confused by it.
NOOP	nop	Probably the official "no operation" instruction, which, appropriately, was never operated (in any of the Infocom datafiles): it may once have been a breakpoint.
XCALL	call_vs2	Like IXCALL, but stores resulting value.