

# Expression statement

An expression statement evaluates an [expression](#) and ignores its result. Its purpose is to trigger side effects of expression evaluation only.

When an expression that ends with a block (i.e. '}') is used in a context where a statement is permitted, the trailing semicolon can be omitted without changing the semantic meaning. This is different than omitting the semicolon after a non-block expression. This can include if, match, for, etc. This can cause an ambiguity between it being parsed as a standalone statement and as a part of another expression; in this case, it is parsed as a statement.

```
v.pop(); // Ignore the element returned from pop if v.is_empty() { v.push(5); } else { v.remove(0); } // Semicolon can be omitted. [1]; // Separate expression statement, not an indexing expression
```

When the trailing semicolon is omitted, the result return type of the expression must be the [unit type](#) .

```
// bad: the block's type is i32, not () // Error: expected() because of default return type // if true { // 1 // }
```

```
// good: the block's type is i32 if true { 1 } else { 2 };
```

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