



# CASE

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3Cb - CASE (author: Tao Yue, state: changed)

Case opens a case statement. The case statement compares the value of ordinal expression to each selector, which can be a [constant](#), a subrange, or a list of them separated by [commas](#). Selector field separated to action field by [Colon](#).

Suppose you wanted to branch one way if `b` is `1`, `7`, `2037`, or `5`; and another way if otherwise. You could do it by:

```
if (b = 1) or (b = 7) or (b = 2037) or (b = 5) then
  Statement1
else
  Statement2;
```

But in this case, it would be simpler to list the numbers for which you want `Statement1` to execute. You would do this with a `case` statement:

```
case b of
  1,7,2037,5: Statement1;
  otherwise  Statement2
end;
```

The general form of the `case` statement is:

```
case selector of
  List1:  Statement1;
  List2:  Statement2;
  ...
  Listn:  Statementn;
  otherwise Statement
end;
```

The `otherwise` part is optional. When available, it differs from compiler to compiler. In many compilers, you use the word `else` instead of `otherwise`.

selector is any variable of an ordinal data type. You may not use `reals`!

Note that the lists must consist of literal values. That is, you must use constants or hard-coded values -- you cannot use variables.



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