draft proposed American National Standard for Information Systems—Programming Language—Common Lisp

X3J13/94-101

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

1. Introduction

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1.1 Scope, Purpose, and History

1.1.1 Scope and Purpose

The specification set forth in this document is designed to promote the portability of Common Lisp programs among a variety of data processing systems. It is a language specification aimed at an audience of implementors and knowledgeable programmers. It is neither a tutorial nor an implementation guide.

1.1.2 History

Lisp is a family of languages with a long history. Early key ideas in Lisp were developed by John McCarthy during the 1956 Dartmouth Summer Research Project on Artificial Intelligence. McCarthy's motivation was to develop an algebraic list processing language for artificial intelligence work. Implementation efforts for early dialects of Lisp were undertaken on the IBM 704, the IBM 7090, the Digital Equipment Corporation (DEC) PDP-1, the DEC PDP-6, and the PDP-10. The primary dialect of Lisp between 1960 and 1965 was Lisp 1.5. By the early 1970's there were two predominant dialects of Lisp, both arising from these early efforts: MacLisp and Interlisp. For further information about very early Lisp dialects, see *The Anatomy of Lisp* or *Lisp 1.5 Programmer's Manual*.

MacLisp improved on the Lisp 1.5 notion of special variables and error handling. MacLisp also introduced the concept of functions that could take a variable number of arguments, macros, arrays, non-local dynamic exits, fast arithmetic, the first good Lisp compiler, and an emphasis on execution speed. By the end of the 1970's, MacLisp was in use at over 50 sites. For further information about Maclisp, see *Maclisp Reference Manual, Revision 0* or *The Revised Maclisp Manual*.

Interlisp introduced many ideas into Lisp programming environments and methodology. One of the Interlisp ideas that influenced Common Lisp was an iteration construct implemented by Warren Teitelman that inspired the **loop** macro used both on the Lisp Machines and in MacLisp, and now in Common Lisp. For further information about Interlisp, see *Interlisp Reference Manual*.

Although the first implementations of Lisp were on the IBM 704 and the IBM 7090, later work focussed on the DEC PDP-6 and, later, PDP-10 computers, the latter being the mainstay of Lisp and artificial intelligence work at such places as Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Stanford University, and Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) from the mid-1960's through much of the 1970's. The PDP-10 computer and its predecessor the PDP-6 computer were, by design, especially well-suited to Lisp because they had 36-bit words and 18-bit addresses. This architecture allowed a *cons* cell to be stored in one word; single instructions could extract the *car* and *cdr* parts. The PDP-6 and PDP-10 had fast, powerful stack instructions that enabled fast function calling. But the limitations of the PDP-10 were evident by 1973: it supported a small number of researchers using Lisp, and the small, 18-bit address space (2^{18} = 262,144 words) limited the size of a single program. One response to the address space problem was the Lisp Machine, a special-purpose computer designed to run Lisp programs. The other response was to

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use general-purpose computers with address spaces larger than 18 bits, such as the DEC VAX and the S-1 Mark IIA. For further information about S-1 Common Lisp, see "S-1 Common Lisp Implementation."

The Lisp machine concept was developed in the late 1960's. In the early 1970's, Peter Deutsch, working with Daniel Bobrow, implemented a Lisp on the Alto, a single-user minicomputer, using microcode to interpret a byte-code implementation language. Shortly thereafter, Richard Greenblatt began work on a different hardware and instruction set design at MIT. Although the Alto was not a total success as a Lisp machine, a dialect of Interlisp known as Interlisp-D became available on the D-series machines manufactured by Xerox—the Dorado, Dandelion, Dandetiger, and Dove (or Daybreak). An upward-compatible extension of MacLisp called Lisp Machine Lisp became available on the early MIT Lisp Machines. Commercial Lisp machines from Xerox, Lisp Machines (LMI), and Symbolics were on the market by 1981. For further information about Lisp Machine Lisp, see *Lisp Machine Manual*.

During the late 1970's, Lisp Machine Lisp began to expand towards a much fuller language. Sophisticated lambda lists, `setf`, multiple values, and structures like those in Common Lisp are the results of early experimentation with programming styles by the Lisp Machine group. Jonl White and others migrated these features to MacLisp. Around 1980, Scott Fahlman and others at CMU began work on a Lisp to run on the Scientific Personal Integrated Computing Environment (SPICE) workstation. One of the goals of the project was to design a simpler dialect than Lisp Machine Lisp.

The Macsyma group at MIT began a project during the late 1970's called the New Implementation of Lisp (NIL) for the VAX, which was headed by White. One of the stated goals of the NIL project was to fix many of the historic, but annoying, problems with Lisp while retaining significant compatibility with MacLisp. At about the same time, a research group at Stanford University and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory headed by Richard P. Gabriel began the design of a Lisp to run on the S-1 Mark IIA supercomputer. S-1 Lisp, never completely functional, was the test bed for adapting advanced compiler techniques to Lisp implementation. Eventually the S-1 and NIL groups collaborated. For further information about the NIL project, see "NIL—A Perspective."

The first effort towards Lisp standardization was made in 1969, when Anthony Hearn and Martin Griss at the University of Utah defined Standard Lisp—a subset of Lisp 1.5 and other dialects—to transport REDUCE, a symbolic algebra system. During the 1970's, the Utah group implemented first a retargetable optimizing compiler for Standard Lisp, and then an extended implementation known as Portable Standard Lisp (PSL). By the mid 1980's, PSL ran on about a dozen kinds of computers. For further information about Standard Lisp, see "Standard LISP Report."

PSL and Franz Lisp—a MacLisp-like dialect for Unix machines—were the first examples of widely available Lisp dialects on multiple hardware platforms.

One of the most important developments in Lisp occurred during the second half of the 1970's: Scheme. Scheme, designed by Gerald J. Sussman and Guy L. Steele Jr., is a simple dialect of Lisp whose design brought to Lisp some of the ideas from programming language semantics developed in the 1960's. Sussman was one of the prime innovators behind many other advances in Lisp technology from the late 1960's through the 1970's. The major contributions of Scheme were lexical scoping, lexical closures, first-class continuations, and simplified syntax (no separation of value cells and function cells). Some of these contributions made a large impact on the design of Common Lisp. For further information about Scheme, see *IEEE Standard for the Scheme Programming Language* or "Revised^3 Report on the Algorithmic Language Scheme."

In the late 1970's object-oriented programming concepts started to make a strong impact on Lisp. At MIT, certain ideas from Smalltalk made their way into several widely used programming systems. Flavors, an object-oriented programming system with multiple inheritance, was developed at MIT for the Lisp machine community by Howard Cannon and others. At Xerox, the experience with Smalltalk and Knowledge Representation Language (KRL) led to the development of Lisp Object Oriented Programming System (LOOPS) and later Common LOOPS. For further information on Smalltalk, see *Smalltalk-80: The Language and its Implementation.* For further information on Flavors, see *Flavors: A Non-Hierarchical Approach to Object-Oriented Programming*.

These systems influenced the design of the Common Lisp Object System (CLOS). CLOS was developed specifically for this standardization effort, and was separately written up in "Common Lisp Object System Specification." However, minor details of its design have changed slightly since that publication, and that paper should not be taken as an authoritative reference to the semantics of the object system as described in this document.

In 1980 Symbolics and LMI were developing Lisp Machine Lisp; stock-hardware implementation groups were developing NIL, Franz Lisp, and PSL; Xerox was developing Interlisp; and the SPICE project at CMU was developing a MacLisp-like dialect of Lisp called SpiceLisp.

In April 1981, after a DARPA-sponsored meeting concerning the splintered Lisp community, Symbolics, the SPICE project, the NIL project, and the S-1 Lisp project joined together to define Common Lisp. Initially spearheaded by White and Gabriel, the driving force behind this grassroots effort was provided by Fahlman, Daniel Weinreb, David Moon, Steele, and Gabriel. Common Lisp was designed as a description of a family of languages. The primary influences on Common Lisp were Lisp Machine Lisp, MacLisp, NIL, S-1 Lisp, Spice Lisp, and Scheme. *Common Lisp: The Language* is a description of that design. Its semantics were intentionally underspecified in places where it was felt that a tight specification would overly constrain Common Lisp research and use.

In 1986 X3J13 was formed as a technical working group to produce a draft for an ANSI Common Lisp standard. Because of the acceptance of Common Lisp, the goals of this group differed from those of the original designers. These new goals included stricter standardization for portability, an object-oriented programming system, a condition system, iteration facilities, and a way to handle large character sets. To accommodate those goals, a new language specification, this document, was developed.

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1.2 Organization of the Document

This is a reference document, not a tutorial document. Where possible and convenient, the order of presentation has been chosen so that the more primitive topics precede those that build upon them; however, linear readability has not been a priority.

This document is divided into chapters by topic. Any given chapter might contain conceptual material, dictionary entries, or both.

Defined names within the dictionary portion of a chapter are grouped in a way that brings related topics into physical proximity. Many such groupings were possible, and no deep significance should be inferred from the particular grouping that was chosen. To see *defined names* grouped alphabetically, consult the index. For a complete list of *defined names*, see Section 1.9 (Symbols in the COMMON-LISP Package).

In order to compensate for the sometimes-unordered portions of this document, a glossary has been provided; see Chapter 26 (Glossary). The glossary provides connectivity by providing easy access to definitions of terms, and in some cases by providing examples or cross references to additional conceptual material.

For information about notational conventions used in this document, see Section 1.4 (Definitions).

For information about conformance, see Section 1.5 (Conformance).

For information about extensions and subsets, see Section 1.6 (Language Extensions) and Section 1.7 (Language Subsets).

For information about how *programs* in the language are parsed by the *Lisp reader*, see Chapter 2 (Syntax).

For information about how *programs* in the language are *compiled* and *executed*, see Chapter 3 (Evaluation and Compilation).

For information about data types, see Chapter 4 (Types and Classes). Not all *types* and *classes* are defined in this chapter; many are defined in chapter corresponding to their topic–for example, the numeric types are defined in Chapter 12 (Numbers). For a complete list of *standardized types*, see Figure 4–2.

For information about general purpose control and data flow, see Chapter 5 (Data and Control Flow) or Chapter 6 (Iteration).

1.3 Referenced Publications

- *The Anatomy of Lisp*, John Allen, McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1978.
- *The Art of Computer Programming, Volume 3*, Donald E. Knuth, Addison-Wesley Company (Reading, MA), 1973.
- *The Art of the Metaobject Protocol*, Kiczales et al., MIT Press (Cambridge, MA), 1991.
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1.4 Definitions

This section contains notational conventions and definitions of terms used in this manual.

1.4.1 Notational Conventions

The following notational conventions are used throughout this document.

1.4.1.1 Font Key

Fonts are used in this document to convey information.

name

Denotes a formal term whose meaning is defined in the Glossary. When this font is used, the Glossary definition takes precedence over normal English usage.

Sometimes a glossary term appears subscripted, as in "*whitespace*$_2$." Such a notation selects one particular Glossary definition out of several, in this case the second. The subscript notation for Glossary terms is generally used where the context might be insufficient to disambiguate among the available definitions.

name

Denotes the introduction of a formal term locally to the current text. There is still a corresponding glossary entry, and is formally equivalent to a use of "*name*," but the hope is that making such uses conspicuous will save the reader a trip to the glossary in some cases.

name

Denotes a symbol in the `COMMON-LISP` *package*. For information about *case* conventions, see Section 1.4.1.4.1 (Case in Symbols).

`name`

Denotes a sample *name* or piece of *code* that a programmer might write in Common Lisp.

This font is also used for certain *standardized* names that are not names of *external symbols* of the `COMMON-LISP` *package*, such as *keywords*$_1$, *package names*, and *loop keywords*.

name

Denotes the name of a *parameter* or *value*.

In some situations the notation "⟨⟨*name*⟩⟩" (*i.e.*, the same font, but with surrounding "angle brackets") is used instead in order to provide better visual separation from surrounding characters. These "angle brackets" are metasyntactic, and never actually appear in program input or output.

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1.4.1.2 Modified BNF Syntax

This specification uses an extended Backus Normal Form (BNF) to describe the syntax of Common Lisp *macro forms* and *special forms*. This section discusses the syntax of BNF expressions.

1.4.1.2.1 Splicing in Modified BNF Syntax

The primary extension used is the following:

$$[\![O]\!]$$

An expression of this form appears whenever a list of elements is to be spliced into a larger structure and the elements can appear in any order. The symbol O represents a description of the syntax of some number of syntactic elements to be spliced; that description must be of the form

$$O_1 \mid \ldots \mid O_l$$

where each O_i can be of the form S or of the form S* or of the form S^1. The expression $[\![O]\!]$ means that a list of the form

$$(O_{i_1} \ldots O_{i_j}) \quad 1 \le j$$

is spliced into the enclosing expression, such that if $n \ne m$ and $1 \le n, m \le j$, then either $O_{i_n} \ne O_{i_m}$ or $O_{i_n} = O_{i_m} = Q_k$, where for some $1 \le k \le n$, O_k is of the form Q_k*. Furthermore, for each O_{i_n} that is of the form $Q_k{}^1$, that element is required to appear somewhere in the list to be spliced.

For example, the expression

```
(x ⟦A | B* | C⟧ y)
```

means that at most one `A`, any number of `B`'s, and at most one `C` can occur in any order. It is a description of any of these:

```
(x y)
(x B A C y)
(x A B B B B B C y)
(x C B A B B B y)
```

but not any of these:

```
(x B B A A C C y)
(x C B C y)
```

In the first case, both `A` and `C` appear too often, and in the second case `C` appears too often.

The notation $[\![O_1 \mid O_2 \mid \ldots]\!]^+$ adds the additional restriction that at least one item from among the possible choices must be used. For example:

$(\texttt{x}\ [\![\texttt{A} \mid \texttt{B}^* \mid \texttt{C}]\!]^+\ \texttt{y})$

means that at most one `A`, any number of `B`'s, and at most one `C` can occur in any order, but that in any case at least one of these options must be selected. It is a description of any of these:

```
(x B y)
(x B A C y)
(x A B B B B B C y)
(x C B A B B B y)
```

but not any of these:

```
(x y)
(x B B A A C C y)
(x C B C y)
```

In the first case, no item was used; in the second case, both `A` and `C` appear too often; and in the third case `C` appears too often.

Also, the expression:

$(\texttt{x}\ [\![\texttt{A}^1 \mid \texttt{B}^1 \mid \texttt{C}]\!]\ \texttt{y})$

can generate exactly these and no others:

```
(x A B C y)
(x A C B y)
(x A B y)
(x B A C y)
(x B C A y)
(x B A y)
(x C A B y)
(x C B A y)
```

1.4.1.2.2 Indirection in Modified BNF Syntax

An indirection extension is introduced in order to make this new syntax more readable:

$$\downarrow\! O$$

If *O* is a non-terminal symbol, the right-hand side of its definition is substituted for the entire expression $\downarrow\! O$. For example, the following BNF is equivalent to the BNF in the previous example:

$(\texttt{x}\ [\![\downarrow\! O]\!]\ \texttt{y})$

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$O ::= \texttt{A} \mid \texttt{B}^* \mid \texttt{C}$

1.4.1.2.3 Additional Uses for Indirect Definitions in Modified BNF Syntax

In some cases, an auxiliary definition in the BNF might appear to be unused within the BNF, but might still be useful elsewhere. For example, consider the following definitions:

case *keyform* {↓*normal-clause*}* [↓*otherwise-clause*] → {*result*}*

ccase *keyplace* {↓*normal-clause*}* → {*result*}*

ecase *keyform* {↓*normal-clause*}* → {*result*}*

normal-clause::=(*keys* {*form*}*)

otherwise-clause::=({*otherwise* | *t*} {*form*}*)

clause::=*normal-clause* | *otherwise-clause*

Here the term "*clause*" might appear to be "dead" in that it is not used in the BNF. However, the purpose of the BNF is not just to guide parsing, but also to define useful terms for reference in the descriptive text which follows. As such, the term "*clause*" might appear in text that follows, as shorthand for "*normal-clause* or *otherwise-clause*."

1.4.1.3 Special Symbols

The special symbols described here are used as a notational convenience within this document, and are part of neither the Common Lisp language nor its environment.

→

This indicates evaluation. For example:

```
(+ 4 5) → 9
```

This means that the result of evaluating the *form* `(+ 4 5)` is `9`.

If a *form* returns *multiple values*, those values might be shown separated by spaces, line breaks, or commas. For example:

```
 (truncate 7 5)
→ 1 2
 (truncate 7 5)
→ 1
  2
 (truncate 7 5)
→ 1, 2
```

Each of the above three examples is equivalent, and specifies that `(truncate 7 5)` returns two values, which are `1` and `2`.

Some *conforming implementations* actually type an arrow (or some other indicator) before showing return values, while others do not.

$\xrightarrow{or}$

The notation "$\xrightarrow{or}$" is used to denote one of several possible alternate results. The example

```
(char-name #\a)
→ NIL
or→ "LOWERCASE-a"
or→ "Small-A"
or→ "LA01"
```

indicates that **nil**, "LOWERCASE-a", "Small-A", "LA01" are among the possible results of (char-name #\a)—each with equal preference. Unless explicitly specified otherwise, it should not be assumed that the set of possible results shown is exhaustive. Formally, the above example is equivalent to

```
(char-name #\a) → implementation-dependent
```

but it is intended to provide additional information to illustrate some of the ways in which it is permitted for implementations to diverge.

$\xrightarrow{not}$

The notation "$\xrightarrow{not}$" is used to denote a result which is not possible. This might be used, for example, in order to emphasize a situation where some anticipated misconception might lead the reader to falsely believe that the result might be possible. For example,

```
(function-lambda-expression
   (funcall #'(lambda (x) #'(lambda () x)) nil))
→ NIL, true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA () X), true, NIL
not→ NIL, false, NIL
not→ (LAMBDA () X), false, NIL
```

≡

This indicates code equivalence. For example:

```
(gcd x (gcd y z)) ≡ (gcd (gcd x y) z)
```

This means that the results and observable side-effects of evaluating the *form* (gcd x (gcd y z)) are always the same as the results and observable side-effects of (gcd (gcd x y) z) for any x, y, and z.

▷

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Common Lisp specifies input and output with respect to a non-interactive stream model. The specific details of how interactive input and output are mapped onto that non-interactive model are *implementation-defined*.

For example, *conforming implementations* are permitted to differ in issues of how interactive input is terminated. For example, the *function* **read** terminates when the final delimiter is typed on a non-interactive stream. In some *implementations*, an interactive call to **read** returns as soon as the final delimiter is typed, even if that delimiter is not a *newline*. In other *implementations*, a final *newline* is always required. In still other *implementations*, there might be a command which "activates" a buffer full of input without the command itself being visible on the program's input stream.

In the examples in this document, the notation "▷" precedes lines where interactive input and output occurs. Within such a scenario, "<u>this notation</u>" notates user input.

For example, the notation

```
(+ 1 (print (+ (sqrt (read)) (sqrt (read)))))
▷ 9 16 
▷ 7
→ 8
```

shows an interaction in which "(+ 1 (print (+ (sqrt (read)) (sqrt (read)))))" is a *form* to be *evaluated*, "9 16 " is interactive input, "7" is interactive output, and "8" is the *value yielded* from the *evaluation*.

The use of this notation is intended to disguise small differences in interactive input and output behavior between *implementations*.

Sometimes, the non-interactive stream model calls for a *newline*. How that *newline* character is interactively entered is an *implementation-defined* detail of the user interface, but in that case, either the notation "⟨*Newline*⟩" or "↩" might be used.

```
(progn (format t "~&Who? ") (read-line))
▷ Who? Fred, Mary, and Sally↩
→ "Fred, Mary, and Sally", false
```

1.4.1.4 Objects with Multiple Notations

Some *objects* in Common Lisp can be notated in more than one way. In such situations, the choice of which notation to use is technically arbitrary, but conventions may exist which convey a "point of view" or "sense of intent."

1.4.1.4.1 Case in Symbols

While *case* is significant in the process of *interning* a *symbol*, the *Lisp reader*, by default, attempts to canonicalize the case of a *symbol* prior to interning; see Section 23.1.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader). As such, case in *symbols* is not, by default, significant.

Throughout this document, except as explicitly noted otherwise, the case in which a *symbol* appears is not significant; that is, `HELLO`, `Hello`, `hElLo`, and `hello` are all equivalent ways to denote a symbol whose name is `"HELLO"`.

The characters *backslash* and *vertical-bar* are used to explicitly quote the *case* and other parsing-related aspects of characters. As such, the notations `|hello|` and `\h\e\l\l\o` are equivalent ways to refer to a symbol whose name is `"hello"`, and which is *distinct* from any symbol whose name is `"HELLO"`.

The *symbols* that correspond to Common Lisp *defined names* have *uppercase* names even though their names generally appear in *lowercase* in this document.

1.4.1.4.2 Numbers

Although Common Lisp provides a variety of ways for programs to manipulate the input and output radix for rational numbers, all numbers in this document are in decimal notation unless explicitly noted otherwise.

1.4.1.4.3 Use of the Dot Character

The dot appearing by itself in an *expression* such as

(*item1 item2* . *tail*)

means that *tail* represents a *list* of *objects* at the end of a list. For example,

```
(A B C . (D E F))
```

is notationally equivalent to:

```
(A B C D E F)
```

Although *dot* is a valid constituent character in a symbol, no *standardized symbols* contain the character *dot*, so a period that follows a reference to a *symbol* at the end of a sentence in this document should always be interpreted as a period and never as part of the *symbol*'s *name*. For example, within this document, a sentence such as "This sample sentence refers to the symbol **car**." refers to a symbol whose name is `"CAR"` (with three letters), and never to a four-letter symbol `"CAR."`

1.4.1.4.4 NIL

nil has a variety of meanings. It is a *symbol* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* with the *name* `"NIL"`, it is *boolean* (and *generalized boolean*) *false*, it is the *empty list*, and it is the *name* of the *empty type* (a *subtype* of all *types*).

Within Common Lisp, **nil** can be notated interchangeably as either `NIL` or `()`. By convention, the choice of notation offers a hint as to which of its many roles it is playing.

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For Evaluation?	Notation	Typically Implied Role
Yes	`nil`	use as a *boolean*.
Yes	`'nil`	use as a *symbol*.
Yes	`'()`	use as an *empty list*
No	`nil`	use as a *symbol* or *boolean*.
No	`()`	use as an *empty list*.

Figure 1–1. Notations for NIL

Within this document only, **nil** is also sometimes notated as *false* to emphasize its role as a *boolean*.

For example:

```
(print ())                      ;avoided
(defun three nil 3)             ;avoided
'(nil nil)                      ;list of two symbols
'(() ())                        ;list of empty lists
(defun three () 3)              ;Emphasize empty parameter list.
(append '() '()) → ()           ;Emphasize use of empty lists
(not nil) → true                ;Emphasize use as Boolean false
(get 'nil 'color)               ;Emphasize use as a symbol
```

A *function* is sometimes said to "be *false*" or "be *true*" in some circumstance. Since no *function* object can be the same as **nil** and all *function objects* represent *true* when viewed as *booleans*, it would be meaningless to say that the *function* was literally *false* and uninteresting to say that it was literally *true*. Instead, these phrases are just traditional alternative ways of saying that the *function* "returns *false*" or "returns *true*," respectively.

1.4.1.5 Designators

A ***designator*** is an *object* that denotes another *object*.

Where a *parameter* of an *operator* is described as a *designator*, the description of the *operator* is written in a way that assumes that the value of the *parameter* is the denoted *object*; that is, that the *parameter* is already of the denoted *type*. (The specific nature of the *object* denoted by a "⟪*type*⟫ *designator*" or a "*designator* for a ⟪*type*⟫" can be found in the Glossary entry for "⟪*type*⟫ *designator*.")

For example, "**nil**" and "the *value* of ***standard-output***" are operationally indistinguishable as *stream designators*. Similarly, the *symbol* `foo` and the *string* `"FOO"` are operationally indistinguishable as *string designators*.

Except as otherwise noted, in a situation where the denoted *object* might be used multiple times, it is *implementation-dependent* whether the *object* is coerced only once or whether the coercion occurs each time the *object* must be used.

For example, **mapcar** receives a *function designator* as an argument, and its description is written as if this were simply a function. In fact, it is *implementation-dependent* whether the *function designator* is coerced right away or whether it is carried around internally in the form that it was given as an *argument* and re-coerced each time it is needed. In most cases, *conforming programs* cannot detect the distinction, but there are some pathological situations (particularly those involving self-redefining or mutually-redefining functions) which do conform and which can detect this difference. The following program is a *conforming program*, but might or might not have portably correct results, depending on whether its correctness depends on one or the other of the results:

```
(defun add-some (x)
  (defun add-some (x) (+ x 2))
  (+ x 1)) → ADD-SOME
(mapcar 'add-some '(1 2 3 4))
→ (2 3 4 5)
or→ (2 4 5 6)
```

In a few rare situations, there may be a need in a dictionary entry to refer to the *object* that was the original *designator* for a *parameter*. Since naming the *parameter* would refer to the denoted *object*, the phrase "the ⟪*parameter-name*⟫ *designator*" can be used to refer to the *designator* which was the *argument* from which the *value* of ⟪*parameter-name*⟫ was computed.

1.4.1.6 Nonsense Words

When a word having no pre-attached semantics is required (*e.g.*, in an example), it is common in the Lisp community to use one of the words "foo," "bar," "baz," and "quux." For example, in

```
(defun foo (x) (+ x 1))
```

the use of the name `foo` is just a shorthand way of saying "please substitute your favorite name here."

These nonsense words have gained such prevalance of usage, that it is commonplace for newcomers to the community to begin to wonder if there is an attached semantics which they are overlooking—there is not.

1.4.2 Error Terminology

Situations in which errors might, should, or must be signaled are described in the standard. The wording used to describe such situations is intended to have precise meaning. The following list is a glossary of those meanings.

Safe code

This is *code* processed with the **safety** optimization at its highest setting (`3`). **safety** is a lexical property of code. The phrase "the function `F` should signal an error" means that if `F` is invoked from code processed with the highest **safety** optimization, an error is signaled. It is *implementation-dependent* whether `F` or the calling code signals the error.

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Unsafe code

This is code processed with lower safety levels.

Unsafe code might do error checking. Implementations are permitted to treat all code as safe code all the time.

An error is signaled

This means that an error is signaled in both safe and unsafe code. *Conforming code* may rely on the fact that the error is signaled in both safe and unsafe code. Every implementation is required to detect the error in both safe and unsafe code. For example, "an error is signaled if **unexport** is given a *symbol* not *accessible* in the *current package*."

If an explicit error type is not specified, the default is **error**.

An error should be signaled

This means that an error is signaled in safe code, and an error might be signaled in unsafe code. *Conforming code* may rely on the fact that the error is signaled in safe code. Every implementation is required to detect the error at least in safe code. When the error is not signaled, the "consequences are undefined" (see below). For example, "**+** should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if any argument is not of *type* **number**."

Should be prepared to signal an error

This is similar to "should be signaled" except that it does not imply that 'extra effort' has to be taken on the part of an *operator* to discover an erroneous situation if the normal action of that *operator* can be performed successfully with only 'lazy' checking. An *implementation* is always permitted to signal an error, but even in *safe code*, it is only required to signal the error when failing to signal it might lead to incorrect results. In *unsafe code*, the consequences are undefined.

For example, defining that "**find** should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its second *argument* is not a *proper list*" does not imply that an error is always signaled. The *form*

```
(find 'a '(a b . c))
```

must either signal an error of *type* **type-error** in *safe code*, else return `A`. In *unsafe code*, the consequences are undefined. By contrast,

```
(find 'd '(a b . c))
```

must signal an error of *type* **type-error** in *safe code*. In *unsafe code*, the consequences are undefined. Also,

```
(find 'd '#1=(a b . #1#))
```

in *safe code* might return **nil** (as an *implementation-defined* extension), might never return, or might signal an error of *type* **type-error**. In *unsafe code*, the consequences are undefined.

Typically, the "should be prepared to signal" terminology is used in type checking situations where there are efficiency considerations that make it impractical to detect errors that are not relevant to the correct operation of the *operator*.

The consequences are unspecified

This means that the consequences are unpredictable but harmless. Implementations are permitted to specify the consequences of this situation. No *conforming code* may depend on the results or effects of this situation, and all *conforming code* is required to treat the results and effects of this situation as unpredictable but harmless. For example, "if the second argument to **shared-initialize** specifies a name that does not correspond to any *slots accessible* in the *object*, the results are unspecified."

The consequences are undefined

This means that the consequences are unpredictable. The consequences may range from harmless to fatal. No *conforming code* may depend on the results or effects. *Conforming code* must treat the consequences as unpredictable. In places where the words "must," "must not," or "may not" are used, then "the consequences are undefined" if the stated requirement is not met and no specific consequence is explicitly stated. An implementation is permitted to signal an error in this case.

For example: "Once a name has been declared by **defconstant** to be constant, any further assignment or binding of that variable has undefined consequences."

An error might be signaled

This means that the situation has undefined consequences; however, if an error is signaled, it is of the specified *type*. For example, "**open** might signal an error of *type* **file-error**."

The return values are unspecified

This means that only the number and nature of the return values of a *form* are not specified. However, the issue of whether or not any side-effects or transfer of control occurs is still well-specified.

A program can be well-specified even if it uses a function whose returns values are unspecified. For example, even if the return values of some function `F` are unspecified, an expression such as `(length (list (F)))` is still well-specified because it does not rely on any particular aspect of the value or values returned by `F`.

Implementations may be extended to cover this situation

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This means that the *situation* has undefined consequences; however, a *conforming implementation* is free to treat the situation in a more specific way. For example, an *implementation* might define that an error is signaled, or that an error should be signaled, or even that a certain well-defined non-error behavior occurs.

No *conforming code* may depend on the consequences of such a *situation*; all *conforming code* must treat the consequences of the situation as undefined. *Implementations* are required to document how the situation is treated.

For example, "implementations may be extended to define other type specifiers to have a corresponding *class*."

Implementations are free to extend the syntax

This means that in this situation implementations are permitted to define unambiguous extensions to the syntax of the *form* being described. No *conforming code* may depend on this extension. Implementations are required to document each such extension. All *conforming code* is required to treat the syntax as meaningless. The standard might disallow certain extensions while allowing others. For example, "no implementation is free to extend the syntax of **defclass**."

A warning might be issued

This means that *implementations* are encouraged to issue a warning if the context is appropriate (*e.g.*, when compiling). However, a *conforming implementation* is not required to issue a warning.

1.4.3 Sections Not Formally Part Of This Standard

Front matter and back matter, such as the "Table of Contents," "Index," "Figures," "Credits," and "Appendix" are not considered formally part of this standard, so that we retain the flexibility needed to update these sections even at the last minute without fear of needing a formal vote to change those parts of the document. These items are quite short and very useful, however, and it is not recommended that they be removed even in an abridged version of this document.

Within the concept sections, subsections whose names begin with the words "Note" or "Notes" or "Example" or "Examples" are provided for illustration purposes only, and are not considered part of the standard.

An attempt has been made to place these sections last in their parent section, so that they could be removed without disturbing the contiguous numbering of the surrounding sections in order to produce a document of smaller size.

Likewise, the "Examples" and "Notes" sections in a dictionary entry are not considered part of the standard and could be removed if necessary.

Nevertheless, the examples provide important clarifications and consistency checks for the rest of the material, and such abridging is not recommended unless absolutely unavoidable.

1.4.4 Interpreting Dictionary Entries

The dictionary entry for each *defined name* is partitioned into sections. Except as explicitly indicated otherwise below, each section is introduced by a label identifying that section. The omission of a section implies that the section is either not applicable, or would provide no interesting information.

This section defines the significance of each potential section in a dictionary entry.

1.4.4.1 The "Affected By" Section of a Dictionary Entry

For an *operator*, anything that can affect the side effects of or *values* returned by the *operator*.

For a *variable*, anything that can affect the *value* of the *variable* including *functions* that bind or assign it.

1.4.4.2 The "Arguments" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information describes the syntax information of entries such as those for *declarations* and special *expressions* which are never *evaluated* as *forms*, and so do not return *values*.

1.4.4.3 The "Arguments and Values" Section of a Dictionary Entry

An English language description of what *arguments* the *operator* accepts and what *values* it returns, including information about defaults for *parameters* corresponding to omittable *arguments* (such as *optional parameters* and *keyword parameters*). For *special operators* and *macros*, their *arguments* are not *evaluated* unless it is explicitly stated in their descriptions that they are *evaluated*.

Except as explicitly specified otherwise, the consequences are undefined if these type restrictions are violated.

1.4.4.4 The "Binding Types Affected" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information alerts the reader to the kinds of *bindings* that might potentially be affected by a declaration. Whether in fact any particular such *binding* is actually affected is dependent on additional factors as well. See the "Description" section of the declaration in question for details.

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1.4.4.5 The "Class Precedence List" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This appears in the dictionary entry for a *class*, and contains an ordered list of the *classes* defined by Common Lisp that must be in the *class precedence list* of this *class*.

It is permissible for other (*implementation-defined*) *classes* to appear in the *implementation*'s *class precedence list* for the *class*.

It is permissible for either **standard-object** or **structure-object** to appear in the *implementation*'s *class precedence list*; for details, see Section 4.2.2 (Type Relationships).

Except as explicitly indicated otherwise somewhere in this specification, no additional *standardized classes* may appear in the *implementation*'s *class precedence list*.

By definition of the relationship between *classes* and *types*, the *classes* listed in this section are also *supertypes* of the *type* denoted by the *class*.

1.4.4.6 Dictionary Entries for Type Specifiers

The *atomic type specifiers* are those *defined names* listed in Figure 4–2. Such dictionary entries are of kind "Class," "Condition Type," "System Class," or "Type." A description of how to interpret a *symbol* naming one of these *types* or *classes* as an *atomic type specifier* is found in the "Description" section of such dictionary entries.

The *compound type specifiers* are those *defined names* listed in Figure 4–3. Such dictionary entries are of kind "Class," "System Class," "Type," or "Type Specifier." A description of how to interpret as a *compound type specifier* a *list* whose *car* is such a *symbol* is found in the "Compound Type Specifier Kind," "Compound Type Specifier Syntax," "Compound Type Specifier Arguments," and "Compound Type Specifier Description" sections of such dictionary entries.

1.4.4.6.1 The "Compound Type Specifier Kind" Section of a Dictionary Entry

An "abbreviating" *type specifier* is one that describes a *subtype* for which it is in principle possible to enumerate the *elements*, but for which in practice it is impractical to do so.

A "specializing" *type specifier* is one that describes a *subtype* by restricting the *type* of one or more components of the *type*, such as *element type* or *complex part type*.

A "predicating" *type specifier* is one that describes a *subtype* containing only those *objects* that satisfy a given *predicate*.

A "combining" *type specifier* is one that describes a *subtype* in a compositional way, using combining operations (such as "and," "or," and "not") on other *types*.

1.4.4.6.2 The "Compound Type Specifier Syntax" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information about a *type* describes the syntax of a *compound type specifier* for that *type*.

Whether or not the *type* is acceptable as an *atomic type specifier* is not represented here; see Section 1.4.4.6 (Dictionary Entries for Type Specifiers).

1.4.4.6.3 The "Compound Type Specifier Arguments" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information describes *type* information for the structures defined in the "Compound Type Specifier Syntax" section.

1.4.4.6.4 The "Compound Type Specifier Description" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information describes the meaning of the structures defined in the "Compound Type Specifier Syntax" section.

1.4.4.7 The "Constant Value" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information describes the unchanging *type* and *value* of a *constant variable*.

1.4.4.8 The "Description" Section of a Dictionary Entry

A summary of the *operator* and all intended aspects of the *operator*, but does not necessarily include all the fields referenced below it ("Side Effects," "Exceptional Situations," *etc.*)

1.4.4.9 The "Examples" Section of a Dictionary Entry

Examples of use of the *operator*. These examples are not considered part of the standard; see Section 1.4.3 (Sections Not Formally Part Of This Standard).

1.4.4.10 The "Exceptional Situations" Section of a Dictionary Entry

Three kinds of information may appear here:

- Situations that are detected by the *function* and formally signaled.
- Situations that are handled by the *function*.
- Situations that may be detected by the *function*.

This field does not include conditions that could be signaled by *functions* passed to and called by this *operator* as arguments or through dynamic variables, nor by executing subforms of this operator if it is a *macro* or *special operator*.

1.4.4.11 The "Initial Value" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information describes the initial *value* of a *dynamic variable*. Since this variable might change, see *type* restrictions in the "Value Type" section.

1.4.4.12 The "Argument Precedence Order" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information describes the *argument precedence order*. If it is omitted, the *argument precedence order* is the default (left to right).

1.4.4.13 The "Method Signature" Section of a Dictionary Entry

The description of a *generic function* includes descriptions of the *methods* that are defined on that *generic function* by the standard. A method signature is used to describe the *parameters* and *parameter specializers* for each *method*. *Methods* defined for the *generic function* must be of the form described by the *method signature*.

F (*x class*) (*y t*) `&optional` *z* `&key` *k*

This *signature* indicates that this method on the *generic function* **F** has two *required parameters*: *x*, which must be a *generalized instance* of the *class* **class**; and *y*, which can be any *object* (*i.e.*, a *generalized instance* of the *class* **t**). In addition, there is an *optional parameter* *z* and a *keyword parameter* *k*. This *signature* also indicates that this method on `F` is a *primary method* and has no *qualifiers*.

For each *parameter*, the *argument* supplied must be in the intersection of the *type* specified in the description of the corresponding *generic function* and the *type* given in the *signature* of some *method* (including not only those *methods* defined in this specification, but also *implementation-defined* or user-defined *methods* in situations where the definition of such *methods* is permitted).

1.4.4.14 The "Name" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This section introduces the dictionary entry. It is not explicitly labeled. It appears preceded and followed by a horizontal bar.

In large print at left, the *defined name* appears; if more than one *defined name* is to be described by the entry, all such *names* are shown separated by commas.

In somewhat smaller italic print at right is an indication of what kind of dictionary entry this is. Possible values are:

Accessor

This is an *accessor function*.

Class

This is a *class*.

Condition Type

This is a *subtype* of *type* **condition**.

Constant Variable

This is a *constant variable*.

Declaration

This is a *declaration identifier*.

Function

This is a *function*.

Local Function

This is a *function* that is defined only lexically within the scope of some other *macro form*.

Local Macro

This is a *macro* that is defined only lexically within the scope of some other *macro form*.

Macro

This is a *macro*.

Restart

This is a *restart*.

Special Operator

This is a *special operator*.

Standard Generic Function

This is a *standard generic function*.

Symbol

This is a *symbol* that is specially recognized in some particular situation, such as the syntax of a *macro*.

System Class

This is like *class*, but it identifies a *class* that is potentially a *built-in class*. (No *class* is actually required to be a *built-in class*.)

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Type

This is an *atomic type specifier*, and depending on information for each particular entry, may subject to form other *type specifiers*.

Type Specifier

This is a *defined name* that is not an *atomic type specifier*, but that can be used in constructing valid *type specifiers*.

Variable

This is a *dynamic variable*.

1.4.4.15 The "Notes" Section of a Dictionary Entry

Information not found elsewhere in this description which pertains to this *operator*. Among other things, this might include cross reference information, code equivalences, stylistic hints, implementation hints, typical uses. This information is not considered part of the standard; any *conforming implementation* or *conforming program* is permitted to ignore the presence of this information.

1.4.4.16 The "Pronunciation" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This offers a suggested pronunciation for *defined names* so that people not in verbal communication with the original designers can figure out how to pronounce words that are not in normal English usage. This information is advisory only, and is not considered part of the standard. For brevity, it is only provided for entries with names that are specific to Common Lisp and would not be found in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary the English Language, Unabridged*.

1.4.4.17 The "See Also" Section of a Dictionary Entry

List of references to other parts of this standard that offer information relevant to this *operator*. This list is not part of the standard.

1.4.4.18 The "Side Effects" Section of a Dictionary Entry

Anything that is changed as a result of the evaluation of the *form* containing this *operator*.

1.4.4.19 The "Supertypes" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This appears in the dictionary entry for a *type*, and contains a list of the *standardized types* that must be *supertypes* of this *type*.

In *implementations* where there is a corresponding *class*, the order of the *classes* in the *class precedence list* is consistent with the order presented in this section.

1.4.4.20 The "Syntax" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This section describes how to use the *defined name* in code. The "Syntax" description for a *generic function* describes the *lambda list* of the *generic function* itself, while the "Method Signatures" describe the *lambda lists* of the defined *methods*. The "Syntax" description for an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator* describes its *parameters*.

For example, an *operator* description might say:

F *x y* `&optional` *z* `&key` *k*

This description indicates that the function **F** has two required parameters, *x* and *y*. In addition, there is an optional parameter *z* and a keyword parameter *k*.

For *macros* and *special operators*, syntax is given in modified BNF notation; see Section 1.4.1.2 (Modified BNF Syntax). For *functions* a *lambda list* is given. In both cases, however, the outermost parentheses are omitted, and default value information is omitted.

1.4.4.20.1 Special "Syntax" Notations for Overloaded Operators

If two descriptions exist for the same operation but with different numbers of arguments, then the extra arguments are to be treated as optional. For example, this pair of lines:

file-position *stream* → *position*

file-position *stream position-spec* → *success-p*

is operationally equivalent to this line:

file-position *stream* `&optional` *position-spec* → *result*

and differs only in that it provides on opportunity to introduce different names for *parameter* and *values* for each case. The separated (multi-line) notation is used when an *operator* is overloaded in such a way that the *parameters* are used in different ways depending on how many *arguments* are supplied (*e.g.*, for the *function* **/**) or the return values are different in the two cases (*e.g.*, for the *function* **file-position**).

1.4.4.20.2 Naming Conventions for Rest Parameters

Within this specification, if the name of a *rest parameter* is chosen to be a plural noun, use of that name in *parameter* font refers to the *list* to which the *rest parameter* is bound. Use of the singular form of that name in *parameter* font refers to an *element* of that *list*.

For example, given a syntax description such as:

F `&rest` *arguments*

it is appropriate to refer either to the *rest parameter* named *arguments* by name, or to one of its elements by speaking of "an *argument*," "some *argument*," "each *argument*" *etc.*

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1.4.4.20.3 Requiring Non-Null Rest Parameters in the "Syntax" Section

In some cases it is useful to refer to all arguments equally as a single aggregation using a *rest parameter* while at the same time requiring at least one argument. A variety of imperative and declarative means are available in *code* for expressing such a restriction, however they generally do not manifest themselves in a *lambda list*. For descriptive purposes within this specification,

F `&rest` *arguments*$^+$

means the same as

F `&rest` *arguments*

but introduces the additional requirement that there be at least one *argument*.

1.4.4.20.4 Return values in the "Syntax" Section

An evaluation arrow "→" precedes a list of *values* to be returned. For example:

F *a b c* → *x*

indicates that `F` is an operator that has three *required parameters* (*i.e.*, *a*, *b*, and *c*) and that returns one *value* (*i.e.*, *x*). If more than one *value* is returned by an operator, the *names* of the *values* are separated by commas, as in:

F *a b c* → *x, y, z*

1.4.4.20.4.1 No Arguments or Values in the "Syntax" Section

If no *arguments* are permitted, or no *values* are returned, a special notation is used to make this more visually apparent. For example,

F ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → ⟨*no values*⟩

indicates that `F` is an operator that accepts no *arguments* and returns no *values*.

1.4.4.20.4.2 Unconditional Transfer of Control in the "Syntax" Section

Some *operators* perform an unconditional transfer of control, and so never have any return values. Such *operators* are notated using a notation such as the following:

F *a b c* →|

1.4.4.21 The "Valid Context" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information is used by dictionary entries such as "Declarations" in order to restrict the context in which the declaration may appear.

A given "Declaration" might appear in a *declaration* (*i.e.*, a **declare** *expression*), a *proclamation* (*i.e.*, a **declaim** or **proclaim** *form*), or both.

1.4.4.22 The "Value Type" Section of a Dictionary Entry

This information describes any *type* restrictions on a *dynamic variable*.

Except as explicitly specified otherwise, the consequences are undefined if this type restriction is violated.

1.5 Conformance

This standard presents the syntax and semantics to be implemented by a *conforming implementation* (and its accompanying documentation). In addition, it imposes requirements on *conforming programs*.

1.5.1 Conforming Implementations

A ***conforming implementation*** shall adhere to the requirements outlined in this section.

1.5.1.1 Required Language Features

A *conforming implementation* shall accept all features (including deprecated features) of the language specified in this standard, with the meanings defined in this standard.

A *conforming implementation* shall not require the inclusion of substitute or additional language elements in code in order to accomplish a feature of the language that is specified in this standard.

1.5.1.2 Documentation of Implementation-Dependent Features

A *conforming implementation* shall be accompanied by a document that provides a definition of all *implementation-defined* aspects of the language defined by this specification.

In addition, a *conforming implementation* is encouraged (but not required) to document items in this standard that are identified as *implementation-dependent*, although in some cases such documentation might simply identify the item as "undefined."

1.5.1.3 Documentation of Extensions

A *conforming implementation* shall be accompanied by a document that separately describes any features accepted by the *implementation* that are not specified in this standard, but that do not cause any ambiguity or contradiction when added to the language standard. Such extensions shall be described as being "extensions to Common Lisp as specified by ANSI ⟨⟨*standard number*⟩⟩."

1.5.1.4 Treatment of Exceptional Situations

A *conforming implementation* shall treat exceptional situations in a manner consistent with this specification.

1.5.1.4.1 Resolution of Apparent Conflicts in Exceptional Situations

If more than one passage in this specification appears to apply to the same situation but in conflicting ways, the passage that appears to describe the situation in the most specific way (not necessarily the passage that provides the most constrained kind of error detection) takes precedence.

1.5.1.4.1.1 Examples of Resolution of Apparent Conflicts in Exceptional Situations

Suppose that function `foo` is a member of a set S of *functions* that operate on numbers. Suppose that one passage states that an error must be signaled if any *function* in S is ever given an argument of `17`. Suppose that an apparently conflicting passage states that the consequences are undefined if `foo` receives an argument of `17`. Then the second passage (the one specifically about `foo`) would dominate because the description of the situational context is the most specific, and it would not be required that `foo` signal an error on an argument of `17` even though other functions in the set S would be required to do so.

1.5.1.5 Conformance Statement

A *conforming implementation* shall produce a conformance statement as a consequence of using the implementation, or that statement shall be included in the accompanying documentation. If the implementation conforms in all respects with this standard, the conformance statement shall be

> "⟨⟨*Implementation*⟩⟩ conforms with the requirements of ANSI ⟨⟨*standard number*⟩⟩"

If the *implementation* conforms with some but not all of the requirements of this standard, then the conformance statement shall be

> "⟨⟨*Implementation*⟩⟩ conforms with the requirements of ANSI ⟨⟨*standard number*⟩⟩ with the following exceptions: ⟨⟨*reference to or complete list of the requirements of the standard with which the implementation does not conform*⟩⟩."

1.5.2 Conforming Programs

Code conforming with the requirements of this standard shall adhere to the following:

1. *Conforming code* shall use only those features of the language syntax and semantics that are either specified in this standard or defined using the extension mechanisms specified in the standard.

2. *Conforming code* may use *implementation-dependent* features and values, but shall not rely upon any particular interpretation of these features and values other than those that are discovered by the execution of *code*.

3. *Conforming code* shall not depend on the consequences of undefined or unspecified situations.

4. *Conforming code* does not use any constructions that are prohibited by the standard.

5. *Conforming code* does not depend on extensions included in an implementation.

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1.5.2.1 Use of Implementation-Defined Language Features

Note that *conforming code* may rely on particular *implementation-defined* values or features. Also note that the requirements for *conforming code* and *conforming implementations* do not require that the results produced by conforming code always be the same when processed by a *conforming implementation*. The results may be the same, or they may differ.

Conforming code may run in all conforming implementations, but might have allowable *implementation-defined* behavior that makes it non-portable code. For example, the following are examples of *forms* that are conforming, but that might return different *values* in different implementations:

`(evenp most-positive-fixnum)` → *implementation-dependent*
`(random)` → *implementation-dependent*
`(> lambda-parameters-limit 93)` → *implementation-dependent*
`(char-name #\A)` → *implementation-dependent*

1.5.2.1.1 Use of Read-Time Conditionals

Use of `#+` and `#-` does not automatically disqualify a program from being conforming. A program which uses `#+` and `#-` is considered conforming if there is no set of *features* in which the program would not be conforming. Of course, *conforming programs* are not necessarily working programs. The following program is conforming:

```
(defun foo ()
  #+ACME (acme:initialize-something)
  (print 'hello-there))
```

However, this program might or might not work, depending on whether the presence of the feature `ACME` really implies that a function named `acme:initialize-something` is present in the environment. In effect, using `#+` or `#-` in a *conforming program* means that the variable ***features*** becomes just one more piece of input data to that program. Like any other data coming into a program, the programmer is responsible for assuring that the program does not make unwarranted assumptions on the basis of input data.

1.5.2.2 Character Set for Portable Code

Portable code is written using only *standard characters*.

1.6 Language Extensions

A language extension is any documented *implementation-defined* behavior of a *defined name* in this standard that varies from the behavior described in this standard, or a documented consequence of a situation that the standard specifies as undefined, unspecified, or extendable by the implementation. For example, if this standard says that "the results are unspecified," an extension would be to specify the results.

If the correct behavior of a program depends on the results provided by an extension, only implementations with the same extension will execute the program correctly. Note that such a program might be non-conforming. Also, if this standard says that "an implementation may be extended," a conforming, but possibly non-portable, program can be written using an extension.

An implementation can have extensions, provided they do not alter the behavior of conforming code and provided they are not explicitly prohibited by this standard.

The term "extension" refers only to extensions available upon startup. An implementation is free to allow or prohibit redefinition of an extension.

The following list contains specific guidance to implementations concerning certain types of extensions.

Extra return values

An implementation must return exactly the number of return values specified by this standard unless the standard specifically indicates otherwise.

Unsolicited messages

No output can be produced by a function other than that specified in the standard or due to the signaling of *conditions* detected by the function.

Unsolicited output, such as garbage collection notifications and autoload heralds, should not go directly to the *stream* that is the value of a *stream* variable defined in this standard, but can go indirectly to *terminal I/O* by using a *synonym stream* to ***terminal-io***.

Progress reports from such functions as **load** and **compile** are considered solicited, and are not covered by this prohibition.

Implementation of macros and special forms

Macros and *special operators* defined in this standard must not be *functions*.

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1.7 Language Subsets

The language described in this standard contains no subsets, though subsets are not forbidden.

For a language to be considered a subset, it must have the property that any valid *program* in that language has equivalent semantics and will run directly (with no extralingual pre-processing, and no special compatibility packages) in any *conforming implementation* of the full language.

A language that conforms to this requirement shall be described as being a "subset of Common Lisp as specified by ANSI ⟨⟨*standard number*⟩⟩."

1.8 Deprecated Language Features

Deprecated language features are not expected to appear in future Common Lisp standards, but are required to be implemented for conformance with this standard; see Section 1.5.1.1 (Required Language Features).

Conforming programs can use deprecated features; however, it is considered good programming style to avoid them. It is permissible for the compiler to produce *style warnings* about the use of such features at compile time, but there should be no such warnings at program execution time.

1.8.1 Deprecated Functions

The *functions* in Figure 1–2 are deprecated.

assoc-if-not	**nsubst-if-not**	**require**
count-if-not	**nsubstitute-if-not**	**set**
delete-if-not	**position-if-not**	**subst-if-not**
find-if-not	**provide**	**substitute-if-not**
gentemp	**rassoc-if-not**	
member-if-not	**remove-if-not**	

Figure 1–2. Deprecated Functions

1.8.2 Deprecated Argument Conventions

The ability to pass a numeric *argument* to **gensym** has been deprecated.

The `:test-not` *argument* to the *functions* in Figure 1–3 are deprecated.

adjoin	**nset-difference**	**search**
assoc	**nset-exclusive-or**	**set-difference**
count	**nsublis**	**set-exclusive-or**
delete	**nsubst**	**sublis**
delete-duplicates	**nsubstitute**	**subsetp**
find	**nunion**	**subst**
intersection	**position**	**substitute**
member	**rassoc**	**tree-equal**
mismatch	**remove**	**union**
nintersection	**remove-duplicates**	

Figure 1–3. Functions with Deprecated :TEST-NOT Arguments

The use of the situation names **compile**, **load**, and **eval** in **eval-when** is deprecated.

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1.8.3 Deprecated Variables

The *variable* ***modules*** is deprecated.

1.8.4 Deprecated Reader Syntax

The `#S` *reader macro* forces keyword names into the `KEYWORD` *package*; see Section 2.4.8.13 (Sharpsign S). This feature is deprecated; in the future, keyword names will be taken in the package they are read in, so *symbols* that are actually in the `KEYWORD` *package* should be used if that is what is desired.

1.9 Symbols in the COMMON-LISP Package

The figures on the next twelve pages contain a complete enumeration of the 978 *external symbols* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package*.

&allow-other-keys	*print-miser-width*
&aux	*print-pprint-dispatch*
&body	*print-pretty*
&environment	*print-radix*
&key	*print-readably*
&optional	*print-right-margin*
&rest	*query-io*
&whole	*random-state*
*	*read-base*
**	*read-default-float-format*
***	*read-eval*
break-on-signals	*read-suppress*
compile-file-pathname	*readtable*
compile-file-truename	*standard-input*
compile-print	*standard-output*
compile-verbose	*terminal-io*
debug-io	*trace-output*
debugger-hook	+
default-pathname-defaults	++
error-output	+++
features	-
gensym-counter	/
load-pathname	//
load-print	///
load-truename	/=
load-verbose	1+
macroexpand-hook	1-
modules	<
package	<=
print-array	=
print-base	>
print-case	>=
print-circle	abort
print-escape	abs
print-gensym	acons
print-length	acos
print-level	acosh
print-lines	add-method

Figure 1–4. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part one of twelve).

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adjoin	atom	boundp
adjust-array	base-char	break
adjustable-array-p	base-string	broadcast-stream
allocate-instance	bignum	broadcast-stream-streams
alpha-char-p	bit	built-in-class
alphanumericp	bit-and	butlast
and	bit-andc1	byte
append	bit-andc2	byte-position
apply	bit-eqv	byte-size
apropos	bit-ior	caaaar
apropos-list	bit-nand	caaadr
aref	bit-nor	caaar
arithmetic-error	bit-not	caadar
arithmetic-error-operands	bit-orc1	caaddr
arithmetic-error-operation	bit-orc2	caadr
array	bit-vector	caar
array-dimension	bit-vector-p	cadaar
array-dimension-limit	bit-xor	cadadr
array-dimensions	block	cadar
array-displacement	boole	caddar
array-element-type	boole-1	cadddr
array-has-fill-pointer-p	boole-2	caddr
array-in-bounds-p	boole-and	cadr
array-rank	boole-andc1	call-arguments-limit
array-rank-limit	boole-andc2	call-method
array-row-major-index	boole-c1	call-next-method
array-total-size	boole-c2	car
array-total-size-limit	boole-clr	case
arrayp	boole-eqv	catch
ash	boole-ior	ccase
asin	boole-nand	cdaaar
asinh	boole-nor	cdaadr
assert	boole-orc1	cdaar
assoc	boole-orc2	cdadar
assoc-if	boole-set	cdaddr
assoc-if-not	boole-xor	cdadr
atan	boolean	cdar
atanh	both-case-p	cddaar

Figure 1–5. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part two of twelve).

cddadr	clear-input	copy-tree
cddar	clear-output	cos
cdddar	close	cosh
cddddr	clrhash	count
cdddr	code-char	count-if
cddr	coerce	count-if-not
cdr	compilation-speed	ctypecase
ceiling	compile	debug
cell-error	compile-file	decf
cell-error-name	compile-file-pathname	declaim
cerror	compiled-function	declaration
change-class	compiled-function-p	declare
char	compiler-macro	decode-float
char-code	compiler-macro-function	decode-universal-time
char-code-limit	complement	defclass
char-downcase	complex	defconstant
char-equal	complexp	defgeneric
char-greaterp	compute-applicable-methods	define-compiler-macro
char-int	compute-restarts	define-condition
char-lessp	concatenate	define-method-combination
char-name	concatenated-stream	define-modify-macro
char-not-equal	concatenated-stream-streams	define-setf-expander
char-not-greaterp	cond	define-symbol-macro
char-not-lessp	condition	defmacro
char-upcase	conjugate	defmethod
char/=	cons	defpackage
char<	consp	defparameter
char<=	constantly	defsetf
char=	constantp	defstruct
char>	continue	deftype
char>=	control-error	defun
character	copy-alist	defvar
characterp	copy-list	delete
check-type	copy-pprint-dispatch	delete-duplicates
cis	copy-readtable	delete-file
class	copy-seq	delete-if
class-name	copy-structure	delete-if-not
class-of	copy-symbol	delete-package

Figure 1–6. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part three of twelve).

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denominator	eq
deposit-field	eql
describe	equal
describe-object	equalp
destructuring-bind	error
digit-char	etypecase
digit-char-p	eval
directory	eval-when
directory-namestring	evenp
disassemble	every
division-by-zero	exp
do	export
do*	expt
do-all-symbols	extended-char
do-external-symbols	fboundp
do-symbols	fceiling
documentation	fdefinition
dolist	ffloor
dotimes	fifth
double-float	file-author
double-float-epsilon	file-error
double-float-negative-epsilon	file-error-pathname
dpb	file-length
dribble	file-namestring
dynamic-extent	file-position
ecase	file-stream
echo-stream	file-string-length
echo-stream-input-stream	file-write-date
echo-stream-output-stream	fill
ed	fill-pointer
eighth	find
elt	find-all-symbols
encode-universal-time	find-class
end-of-file	find-if
endp	find-if-not
enough-namestring	find-method
ensure-directories-exist	find-package
ensure-generic-function	find-restart

Figure 1–7. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part four of twelve).

find-symbol	**get-internal-run-time**
finish-output	**get-macro-character**
first	**get-output-stream-string**
fixnum	**get-properties**
flet	**get-setf-expansion**
float	**get-universal-time**
float-digits	**getf**
float-precision	**gethash**
float-radix	**go**
float-sign	**graphic-char-p**
floating-point-inexact	**handler-bind**
floating-point-invalid-operation	**handler-case**
floating-point-overflow	**hash-table**
floating-point-underflow	**hash-table-count**
floatp	**hash-table-p**
floor	**hash-table-rehash-size**
fmakunbound	**hash-table-rehash-threshold**
force-output	**hash-table-size**
format	**hash-table-test**
formatter	**host-namestring**
fourth	**identity**
fresh-line	**if**
fround	**ignorable**
ftruncate	**ignore**
ftype	**ignore-errors**
funcall	**imagpart**
function	**import**
function-keywords	**in-package**
function-lambda-expression	**incf**
functionp	**initialize-instance**
gcd	**inline**
generic-function	**input-stream-p**
gensym	**inspect**
gentemp	**integer**
get	**integer-decode-float**
get-decoded-time	**integer-length**
get-dispatch-macro-character	**integerp**
get-internal-real-time	**interactive-stream-p**

Figure 1–8. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part five of twelve).

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intern	**lisp-implementation-type**
internal-time-units-per-second	**lisp-implementation-version**
intersection	**list**
invalid-method-error	**list***
invoke-debugger	**list-all-packages**
invoke-restart	**list-length**
invoke-restart-interactively	**listen**
isqrt	**listp**
keyword	**load**
keywordp	**load-logical-pathname-translations**
labels	**load-time-value**
lambda	**locally**
lambda-list-keywords	**log**
lambda-parameters-limit	**logand**
last	**logandc1**
lcm	**logandc2**
ldb	**logbitp**
ldb-test	**logcount**
ldiff	**logeqv**
least-negative-double-float	**logical-pathname**
least-negative-long-float	**logical-pathname-translations**
least-negative-normalized-double-float	**logior**
least-negative-normalized-long-float	**lognand**
least-negative-normalized-short-float	**lognor**
least-negative-normalized-single-float	**lognot**
least-negative-short-float	**logorc1**
least-negative-single-float	**logorc2**
least-positive-double-float	**logtest**
least-positive-long-float	**logxor**
least-positive-normalized-double-float	**long-float**
least-positive-normalized-long-float	**long-float-epsilon**
least-positive-normalized-short-float	**long-float-negative-epsilon**
least-positive-normalized-single-float	**long-site-name**
least-positive-short-float	**loop**
least-positive-single-float	**loop-finish**
length	**lower-case-p**
let	**machine-instance**
let*	**machine-type**

Figure 1–9. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part six of twelve).

machine-version	**mask-field**
macro-function	**max**
macroexpand	**member**
macroexpand-1	**member-if**
macrolet	**member-if-not**
make-array	**merge**
make-broadcast-stream	**merge-pathnames**
make-concatenated-stream	**method**
make-condition	**method-combination**
make-dispatch-macro-character	**method-combination-error**
make-echo-stream	**method-qualifiers**
make-hash-table	**min**
make-instance	**minusp**
make-instances-obsolete	**mismatch**
make-list	**mod**
make-load-form	**most-negative-double-float**
make-load-form-saving-slots	**most-negative-fixnum**
make-method	**most-negative-long-float**
make-package	**most-negative-short-float**
make-pathname	**most-negative-single-float**
make-random-state	**most-positive-double-float**
make-sequence	**most-positive-fixnum**
make-string	**most-positive-long-float**
make-string-input-stream	**most-positive-short-float**
make-string-output-stream	**most-positive-single-float**
make-symbol	**muffle-warning**
make-synonym-stream	**multiple-value-bind**
make-two-way-stream	**multiple-value-call**
makunbound	**multiple-value-list**
map	**multiple-value-prog1**
map-into	**multiple-value-setq**
mapc	**multiple-values-limit**
mapcan	**name-char**
mapcar	**namestring**
mapcon	**nbutlast**
maphash	**nconc**
mapl	**next-method-p**
maplist	**nil**

Figure 1–10. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part seven of twelve).

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nintersection	**package-error**
ninth	**package-error-package**
no-applicable-method	**package-name**
no-next-method	**package-nicknames**
not	**package-shadowing-symbols**
notany	**package-use-list**
notevery	**package-used-by-list**
notinline	**packagep**
nreconc	**pairlis**
nreverse	**parse-error**
nset-difference	**parse-integer**
nset-exclusive-or	**parse-namestring**
nstring-capitalize	**pathname**
nstring-downcase	**pathname-device**
nstring-upcase	**pathname-directory**
nsublis	**pathname-host**
nsubst	**pathname-match-p**
nsubst-if	**pathname-name**
nsubst-if-not	**pathname-type**
nsubstitute	**pathname-version**
nsubstitute-if	**pathnamep**
nsubstitute-if-not	**peek-char**
nth	**phase**
nth-value	**pi**
nthcdr	**plusp**
null	**pop**
number	**position**
numberp	**position-if**
numerator	**position-if-not**
nunion	**pprint**
oddp	**pprint-dispatch**
open	**pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted**
open-stream-p	**pprint-fill**
optimize	**pprint-indent**
or	**pprint-linear**
otherwise	**pprint-logical-block**
output-stream-p	**pprint-newline**
package	**pprint-pop**

Figure 1–11. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part eight of twelve).

pprint-tab	**read-char**
pprint-tabular	**read-char-no-hang**
prin1	**read-delimited-list**
prin1-to-string	**read-from-string**
princ	**read-line**
princ-to-string	**read-preserving-whitespace**
print	**read-sequence**
print-not-readable	**reader-error**
print-not-readable-object	**readtable**
print-object	**readtable-case**
print-unreadable-object	**readtablep**
probe-file	**real**
proclaim	**realp**
prog	**realpart**
prog*	**reduce**
prog1	**reinitialize-instance**
prog2	**rem**
progn	**remf**
program-error	**remhash**
progv	**remove**
provide	**remove-duplicates**
psetf	**remove-if**
psetq	**remove-if-not**
push	**remove-method**
pushnew	**remprop**
quote	**rename-file**
random	**rename-package**
random-state	**replace**
random-state-p	**require**
rassoc	**rest**
rassoc-if	**restart**
rassoc-if-not	**restart-bind**
ratio	**restart-case**
rational	**restart-name**
rationalize	**return**
rationalp	**return-from**
read	**revappend**
read-byte	**reverse**

Figure 1–12. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part nine of twelve).

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room	**simple-bit-vector**
rotatef	**simple-bit-vector-p**
round	**simple-condition**
row-major-aref	**simple-condition-format-arguments**
rplaca	**simple-condition-format-control**
rplacd	**simple-error**
safety	**simple-string**
satisfies	**simple-string-p**
sbit	**simple-type-error**
scale-float	**simple-vector**
schar	**simple-vector-p**
search	**simple-warning**
second	**sin**
sequence	**single-float**
serious-condition	**single-float-epsilon**
set	**single-float-negative-epsilon**
set-difference	**sinh**
set-dispatch-macro-character	**sixth**
set-exclusive-or	**sleep**
set-macro-character	**slot-boundp**
set-pprint-dispatch	**slot-exists-p**
set-syntax-from-char	**slot-makunbound**
setf	**slot-missing**
setq	**slot-unbound**
seventh	**slot-value**
shadow	**software-type**
shadowing-import	**software-version**
shared-initialize	**some**
shiftf	**sort**
short-float	**space**
short-float-epsilon	**special**
short-float-negative-epsilon	**special-operator-p**
short-site-name	**speed**
signal	**sqrt**
signed-byte	**stable-sort**
signum	**standard**
simple-array	**standard-char**
simple-base-string	**standard-char-p**

Figure 1–13. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part ten of twelve).

standard-class	**sublis**
standard-generic-function	**subseq**
standard-method	**subsetp**
standard-object	**subst**
step	**subst-if**
storage-condition	**subst-if-not**
store-value	**substitute**
stream	**substitute-if**
stream-element-type	**substitute-if-not**
stream-error	**subtypep**
stream-error-stream	**svref**
stream-external-format	**sxhash**
streamp	**symbol**
string	**symbol-function**
string-capitalize	**symbol-macrolet**
string-downcase	**symbol-name**
string-equal	**symbol-package**
string-greaterp	**symbol-plist**
string-left-trim	**symbol-value**
string-lessp	**symbolp**
string-not-equal	**synonym-stream**
string-not-greaterp	**synonym-stream-symbol**
string-not-lessp	**t**
string-right-trim	**tagbody**
string-stream	**tailp**
string-trim	**tan**
string-upcase	**tanh**
string/=	**tenth**
string<	**terpri**
string<=	**the**
string=	**third**
string>	**throw**
string>=	**time**
stringp	**trace**
structure	**translate-logical-pathname**
structure-class	**translate-pathname**
structure-object	**tree-equal**
style-warning	**truename**

Figure 1–14. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part eleven of twelve).

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truncate	**values-list**
two-way-stream	**variable**
two-way-stream-input-stream	**vector**
two-way-stream-output-stream	**vector-pop**
type	**vector-push**
type-error	**vector-push-extend**
type-error-datum	**vectorp**
type-error-expected-type	**warn**
type-of	**warning**
typecase	**when**
typep	**wild-pathname-p**
unbound-slot	**with-accessors**
unbound-slot-instance	**with-compilation-unit**
unbound-variable	**with-condition-restarts**
undefined-function	**with-hash-table-iterator**
unexport	**with-input-from-string**
unintern	**with-open-file**
union	**with-open-stream**
unless	**with-output-to-string**
unread-char	**with-package-iterator**
unsigned-byte	**with-simple-restart**
untrace	**with-slots**
unuse-package	**with-standard-io-syntax**
unwind-protect	**write**
update-instance-for-different-class	**write-byte**
update-instance-for-redefined-class	**write-char**
upgraded-array-element-type	**write-line**
upgraded-complex-part-type	**write-sequence**
upper-case-p	**write-string**
use-package	**write-to-string**
use-value	**y-or-n-p**
user-homedir-pathname	**yes-or-no-p**
values	**zerop**

Figure 1–15. Symbols in the COMMON-LISP package (part twelve of twelve).

Programming Language—Common Lisp

2. Syntax

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2.1 Character Syntax

The *Lisp reader* takes *characters* from a *stream*, interprets them as a printed representation of an *object*, constructs that *object*, and returns it.

The syntax described by this chapter is called the ***standard syntax***. Operations are provided by Common Lisp so that various aspects of the syntax information represented by a *readtable* can be modified under program control; see Chapter 23 (Reader). Except as explicitly stated otherwise, the syntax used throughout this document is *standard syntax*.

2.1.1 Readtables

Syntax information for use by the *Lisp reader* is embodied in an *object* called a **readtable**. Among other things, the *readtable* contains the association between *characters* and *syntax types*.

Figure 2–1 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *readtables*.

readtable	**readtable-case**
copy-readtable	**readtablep**
get-dispatch-macro-character	**set-dispatch-macro-character**
get-macro-character	**set-macro-character**
make-dispatch-macro-character	**set-syntax-from-char**

Figure 2–1. Readtable defined names

2.1.1.1 The Current Readtable

Several *readtables* describing different syntaxes can exist, but at any given time only one, called the ***current readtable***, affects the way in which *expressions*$_2$ are parsed into *objects* by the *Lisp reader*. The *current readtable* in a given *dynamic environment* is the *value* of ***readtable*** in that *environment*. To make a different *readtable* become the *current readtable*, ***readtable*** can be *assigned* or *bound*.

2.1.1.2 The Standard Readtable

The ***standard readtable*** conforms to *standard syntax*. The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to modify the *standard readtable*. To achieve the effect of altering or extending *standard syntax*, a copy of the *standard readtable* can be created; see the *function* **copy-readtable**.

The *readtable case* of the *standard readtable* is `:upcase`.

2.1.1.3 The Initial Readtable

The ***initial readtable*** is the *readtable* that is the *current readtable* at the time when the *Lisp image* starts. At that time, it conforms to *standard syntax*. The *initial readtable* is *distinct* from the *standard readtable*. It is permissible for a *conforming program* to modify the *initial readtable*.

2.1.2 Variables that affect the Lisp Reader

The *Lisp reader* is influenced not only by the *current readtable*, but also by various *dynamic variables*. Figure 2–2 lists the *variables* that influence the behavior of the *Lisp reader*.

package	***read-default-float-format***	***readtable***
read-base	***read-suppress***	

Figure 2–2. Variables that influence the Lisp reader.

2.1.3 Standard Characters

All *implementations* must support a *character repertoire* called **standard-char**; *characters* that are members of that *repertoire* are called ***standard characters***.

The **standard-char** *repertoire* consists of the *non-graphic character newline*, the *graphic character space*, and the following additional ninety-four *graphic characters* or their equivalents:

Graphic ID	Glyph	Description	Graphic ID	Glyph	Description
LA01	a	small a	LN01	n	small n
LA02	A	capital A	LN02	N	capital N
LB01	b	small b	LO01	o	small o
LB02	B	capital B	LO02	O	capital O
LC01	c	small c	LP01	p	small p
LC02	C	capital C	LP02	P	capital P
LD01	d	small d	LQ01	q	small q
LD02	D	capital D	LQ02	Q	capital Q
LE01	e	small e	LR01	r	small r
LE02	E	capital E	LR02	R	capital R
LF01	f	small f	LS01	s	small s
LF02	F	capital F	LS02	S	capital S
LG01	g	small g	LT01	t	small t
LG02	G	capital G	LT02	T	capital T
LH01	h	small h	LU01	u	small u
LH02	H	capital H	LU02	U	capital U
LI01	i	small i	LV01	v	small v
LI02	I	capital I	LV02	V	capital V
LJ01	j	small j	LW01	w	small w
LJ02	J	capital J	LW02	W	capital W
LK01	k	small k	LX01	x	small x
LK02	K	capital K	LX02	X	capital X
LL01	l	small l	LY01	y	small y
LL02	L	capital L	LY02	Y	capital Y
LM01	m	small m	LZ01	z	small z
LM02	M	capital M	LZ02	Z	capital Z

Figure 2–3. Standard Character Subrepertoire (Part 1 of 3: Latin Characters)

Graphic ID	Glyph	Description	Graphic ID	Glyph	Description
ND01	1	digit 1	ND06	6	digit 6
ND02	2	digit 2	ND07	7	digit 7
ND03	3	digit 3	ND08	8	digit 8
ND04	4	digit 4	ND09	9	digit 9
ND05	5	digit 5	ND10	0	digit 0

Figure 2–4. Standard Character Subrepertoire (Part 2 of 3: Numeric Characters)

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Graphic ID	Glyph	Description
SP02	!	exclamation mark
SC03	$	dollar sign
SP04	"	quotation mark, or double quote
SP05	'	apostrophe, or [single] quote
SP06	(	left parenthesis, or open parenthesis
SP07	)	right parenthesis, or close parenthesis
SP08	,	comma
SP09	_	low line, or underscore
SP10	-	hyphen, or minus [sign]
SP11	.	full stop, period, or dot
SP12	/	solidus, or slash
SP13	:	colon
SP14	;	semicolon
SP15	?	question mark
SA01	+	plus [sign]
SA03	<	less-than [sign]
SA04	=	equals [sign]
SA05	>	greater-than [sign]
SM01	#	number sign, or sharp[sign]
SM02	%	percent [sign]
SM03	&	ampersand
SM04	*	asterisk, or star
SM05	@	commercial at, or at-sign
SM06	[	left [square] bracket
SM07	\	reverse solidus, or backslash
SM08	]	right [square] bracket
SM11	{	left curly bracket, or left brace
SM13	|	vertical bar
SM14	}	right curly bracket, or right brace
SD13	`	grave accent, or backquote
SD15	^	circumflex accent
SD19	~	tilde

Figure 2–5. Standard Character Subrepertoire (Part 3 of 3: Special Characters)

The graphic IDs are not used within Common Lisp, but are provided for cross reference purposes with ISO 6937/2. Note that the first letter of the graphic ID categorizes the character as follows: L—Latin, N—Numeric, S—Special.

2.1.4 Character Syntax Types

The *Lisp reader* constructs an *object* from the input text by interpreting each *character* according to its *syntax type*. The *Lisp reader* cannot accept as input everything that the *Lisp printer* produces, and the *Lisp reader* has features that are not used by the *Lisp printer*. The *Lisp reader* can be used as a lexical analyzer for a more general user-written parser.

When the *Lisp reader* is invoked, it reads a single character from the *input stream* and dispatches according to the ***syntax type*** of that *character*. Every *character* that can appear in the *input stream* is of one of the *syntax types* shown in Figure 2–6.

constituent	*macro character*	*single escape*
invalid	*multiple escape*	*whitespace*$_2$

Figure 2–6. Possible Character Syntax Types

The *syntax type* of a *character* in a *readtable* determines how that character is interpreted by the *Lisp reader* while that *readtable* is the *current readtable*. At any given time, every character has exactly one *syntax type*.

Figure 2–7 lists the *syntax type* of each *character* in *standard syntax*.

character	syntax type	character	syntax type
Backspace	*constituent*	0–9	*constituent*
Tab	*whitespace*$_2$	:	*constituent*
Newline	*whitespace*$_2$	;	*terminating macro char*
Linefeed	*whitespace*$_2$	<	*constituent*
Page	*whitespace*$_2$	=	*constituent*
Return	*whitespace*$_2$	>	*constituent*
Space	*whitespace*$_2$	?	*constituent**
!	*constituent**	@	*constituent*
"	*terminating macro char*	A–Z	*constituent*
#	*non-terminating macro char*	[	*constituent**
$	*constituent*	\	*single escape*
%	*constituent*	]	*constituent**
&	*constituent*	^	*constituent*
'	*terminating macro char*	_	*constituent*
(	*terminating macro char*	`	*terminating macro char*
)	*terminating macro char*	a–z	*constituent*
*	*constituent*	{	*constituent**
+	*constituent*	|	*multiple escape*
,	*terminating macro char*	}	*constituent**
-	*constituent*	~	*constituent*
.	*constituent*	Rubout	*constituent*
/	*constituent*		

Figure 2–7. Character Syntax Types in Standard Syntax

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The characters marked with an asterisk (*) are initially *constituents*, but they are not used in any standard Common Lisp notations. These characters are explicitly reserved to the *programmer*. ~ is not used in Common Lisp, and reserved to implementors. $ and % are *alphabetic*$_2$ *characters*, but are not used in the names of any standard Common Lisp *defined names*.

Whitespace$_2$ characters serve as separators but are otherwise ignored. *Constituent* and *escape characters* are accumulated to make a *token*, which is then interpreted as a *number* or *symbol*. *Macro characters* trigger the invocation of *functions* (possibly user-supplied) that can perform arbitrary parsing actions. *Macro characters* are divided into two kinds, *terminating* and *non-terminating*, depending on whether or not they terminate a *token*. The following are descriptions of each kind of *syntax type*.

2.1.4.1 Constituent Characters

Constituent characters are used in *tokens*. A ***token*** is a representation of a *number* or a *symbol*. Examples of *constituent characters* are letters and digits.

Letters in symbol names are sometimes converted to letters in the opposite *case* when the name is read; see Section 23.1.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader). *Case* conversion can be suppressed by the use of *single escape* or *multiple escape* characters.

2.1.4.2 Constituent Traits

Every *character* has one or more *constituent traits* that define how the *character* is to be interpreted by the *Lisp reader* when the *character* is a *constituent character*. These *constituent traits* are *alphabetic*$_2$, digit, *package marker*, plus sign, minus sign, dot, decimal point, *ratio marker*, *exponent marker*, and *invalid*. Figure 2–8 shows the *constituent traits* of the *standard characters* and of certain *semi-standard characters*; no mechanism is provided for changing the *constituent trait* of a *character*. Any *character* with the alphadigit *constituent trait* in that figure is a digit if the *current input base* is greater than that character's digit value, otherwise the *character* is *alphabetic*$_2$. Any *character* quoted by a *single escape* is treated as an *alphabetic*$_2$ constituent, regardless of its normal syntax.

constituent character	**traits**	**constituent character**	**traits**
Backspace	*invalid*	{	*alphabetic*$_2$
Tab	*invalid**	}	*alphabetic*$_2$
Newline	*invalid**	+	*alphabetic*$_2$, plus sign
Linefeed	*invalid**	-	*alphabetic*$_2$, minus sign
Page	*invalid**	.	*alphabetic*$_2$, dot, decimal point
Return	*invalid**	/	*alphabetic*$_2$, *ratio marker*
Space	*invalid**	A, a	alphadigit
!	*alphabetic*$_2$	B, b	alphadigit
"	*alphabetic*$_2$*	C, c	alphadigit
#	*alphabetic*$_2$*	D, d	alphadigit, double-float *exponent marker*
$	*alphabetic*$_2$	E, e	alphadigit, float *exponent marker*
%	*alphabetic*$_2$	F, f	alphadigit, single-float *exponent marker*
&	*alphabetic*$_2$	G, g	alphadigit
'	*alphabetic*$_2$*	H, h	alphadigit
(	*alphabetic*$_2$*	I, i	alphadigit
)	*alphabetic*$_2$*	J, j	alphadigit
*	*alphabetic*$_2$	K, k	alphadigit
,	*alphabetic*$_2$*	L, l	alphadigit, long-float *exponent marker*
0-9	alphadigit	M, m	alphadigit
:	*package marker*	N, n	alphadigit
;	*alphabetic*$_2$*	O, o	alphadigit
<	*alphabetic*$_2$	P, p	alphadigit
=	*alphabetic*$_2$	Q, q	alphadigit
>	*alphabetic*$_2$	R, r	alphadigit
?	*alphabetic*$_2$	S, s	alphadigit, short-float *exponent marker*
@	*alphabetic*$_2$	T, t	alphadigit
[	*alphabetic*$_2$	U, u	alphadigit
\	*alphabetic*$_2$*	V, v	alphadigit
]	*alphabetic*$_2$	W, w	alphadigit
^	*alphabetic*$_2$	X, x	alphadigit
_	*alphabetic*$_2$	Y, y	alphadigit
`	*alphabetic*$_2$*	Z, z	alphadigit
|	*alphabetic*$_2$*	Rubout	*invalid*
~	*alphabetic*$_2$		

Figure 2–8. Constituent Traits of Standard Characters and Semi-Standard Characters

The interpretations in this table apply only to *characters* whose *syntax type* is *constituent*. Entries marked with an asterisk (*) are normally *shadowed*$_2$ because the indicated *characters* are of *syntax type whitespace*$_2$, *macro character*, *single escape*, or *multiple escape*; these *constituent traits* apply to them only if their *syntax types* are changed to *constituent*.

2.1.4.3 Invalid Characters

Characters with the *constituent trait invalid* cannot ever appear in a *token* except under the control of a *single escape character*. If an *invalid character* is encountered while an *object* is being read, an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled. If an *invalid character* is preceded by a *single escape character*, it is treated as an *alphabetic*$_2$ *constituent* instead.

2.1.4.4 Macro Characters

When the *Lisp reader* encounters a *macro character* on an *input stream*, special parsing of subsequent *characters* on the *input stream* is performed.

A *macro character* has an associated *function* called a ***reader macro function*** that implements its specialized parsing behavior. An association of this kind can be established or modified under control of a *conforming program* by using the *functions* **set-macro-character** and **set-dispatch-macro-character**.

Upon encountering a *macro character*, the *Lisp reader* calls its *reader macro function*, which parses one specially formatted object from the *input stream*. The *function* either returns the parsed *object*, or else it returns no *values* to indicate that the characters scanned by the *function* are being ignored (*e.g.*, in the case of a comment). Examples of *macro characters* are *backquote*, *single-quote*, *left-parenthesis*, and *right-parenthesis*.

A *macro character* is either *terminating* or *non-terminating*. The difference between *terminating* and *non-terminating macro characters* lies in what happens when such characters occur in the middle of a *token*. If a ***non-terminating*** *macro character* occurs in the middle of a *token*, the *function* associated with the *non-terminating macro character* is not called, and the *non-terminating macro character* does not terminate the *token*'s name; it becomes part of the name as if the *macro character* were really a constituent character. A ***terminating*** *macro character* terminates any *token*, and its associated *reader macro function* is called no matter where the *character* appears. The only *non-terminating macro character* in *standard syntax* is *sharpsign*.

If a *character* is a *dispatching macro character* C_1, its *reader macro function* is a *function* supplied by the *implementation*. This *function* reads decimal *digit characters* until a non-*digit* C_2 is read. If any *digits* were read, they are converted into a corresponding *integer* infix parameter P; otherwise, the infix parameter P is **nil**. The terminating non-*digit* C_2 is a *character* (sometimes called a "sub-character" to emphasize its subordinate role in the dispatching) that is looked up in the dispatch table associated with the *dispatching macro character* C_1. The *reader macro function* associated with the sub-character C_2 is invoked with three arguments: the *stream*, the sub-character C_2, and the infix parameter P. For more information about dispatch characters, see the *function* **set-dispatch-macro-character**.

For information about the *macro characters* that are available in *standard syntax*, see Section 2.4 (Standard Macro Characters).

2.1.4.5 Multiple Escape Characters

A pair of ***multiple escape*** *characters* is used to indicate that an enclosed sequence of characters, including possible *macro characters* and *whitespace*$_2$ *characters*, are to be treated as *alphabetic*$_2$ *characters* with *case* preserved. Any *single escape* and *multiple escape characters* that are to appear in the sequence must be preceded by a *single escape character*.

Vertical-bar is a *multiple escape character* in *standard syntax*.

2.1.4.5.1 Examples of Multiple Escape Characters

```
;; The following examples assume the readtable case of *readtable*
;; and *print-case* are both :upcase.
(eq 'abc 'ABC) → true
(eq 'abc '|ABC|) → true
(eq 'abc 'a|B|c) → true
(eq 'abc '|abc|) → false
```

2.1.4.6 Single Escape Character

A ***single escape*** is used to indicate that the next *character* is to be treated as an *alphabetic*$_2$ *character* with its *case* preserved, no matter what the *character* is or which *constituent traits* it has.

Backslash is a *single escape character* in *standard syntax*.

2.1.4.6.1 Examples of Single Escape Characters

```
;; The following examples assume the readtable case of *readtable*
;; and *print-case* are both :upcase.
(eq 'abc '\A\B\C) → true
(eq 'abc 'a\Bc) → true
(eq 'abc '\ABC) → true
(eq 'abc '\abc) → false
```

2.1.4.7 Whitespace Characters

Whitespace$_2$ *characters* are used to separate *tokens*.

Space and *newline* are *whitespace*$_2$ *characters* in *standard syntax*.

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2.1.4.7.1 Examples of Whitespace Characters

```
(length '(this-that)) → 1
(length '(this - that)) → 3
(length '(a
          b)) → 2
(+ 34) → 34
(+ 3 4) → 7
```

2.2 Reader Algorithm

This section describes the algorithm used by the *Lisp reader* to parse *objects* from an *input character stream*, including how the *Lisp reader* processes *macro characters*.

When dealing with *tokens*, the reader's basic function is to distinguish representations of *symbols* from those of *numbers*. When a *token* is accumulated, it is assumed to represent a *number* if it satisfies the syntax for numbers listed in Figure 2–9. If it does not represent a *number*, it is then assumed to be a *potential number* if it satisfies the rules governing the syntax for a *potential number*. If a valid *token* is neither a representation of a *number* nor a *potential number*, it represents a *symbol*.

The algorithm performed by the *Lisp reader* is as follows:

1. If at end of file, end-of-file processing is performed as specified in **read**. Otherwise, one *character*, *x*, is read from the *input stream*, and dispatched according to the *syntax type* of *x* to one of steps 2 to 7.

2. If *x* is an *invalid character*, an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled.

3. If *x* is a *whitespace*$_2$ *character*, then it is discarded and step 1 is re-entered.

4. If *x* is a *terminating* or *non-terminating macro character* then its associated *reader macro function* is called with two *arguments*, the *input stream* and *x*.

   The *reader macro function* may read *characters* from the *input stream*; if it does, it will see those *characters* following the *macro character*. The *Lisp reader* may be invoked recursively from the *reader macro function*.

   The *reader macro function* must not have any side effects other than on the *input stream*; because of backtracking and restarting of the **read** operation, front ends to the *Lisp reader* (*e.g.*, "editors" and "rubout handlers") may cause the *reader macro function* to be called repeatedly during the reading of a single *expression* in which *x* only appears once.

   The *reader macro function* may return zero values or one value. If one value is returned, then that value is returned as the result of the read operation; the algorithm is done. If zero values are returned, then step 1 is re-entered.

5. If *x* is a *single escape character* then the next *character*, *y*, is read, or an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled if at the end of file. *y* is treated as if it is a *constituent* whose only *constituent trait* is *alphabetic*$_2$. *y* is used to begin a *token*, and step 8 is entered.

6. If *x* is a *multiple escape character* then a *token* (initially containing no *characters*) is begun and step 9 is entered.

7. If *x* is a *constituent character*, then it begins a *token*. After the *token* is read in, it will be interpreted either as a Lisp *object* or as being of invalid syntax. If the *token* represents an

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   object, that *object* is returned as the result of the read operation. If the *token* is of invalid syntax, an error is signaled. If *x* is a *character* with *case*, it might be replaced with the corresponding *character* of the opposite *case*, depending on the *readtable case* of the *current readtable*, as outlined in Section 23.1.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader). *X* is used to begin a *token*, and step 8 is entered.

8. At this point a *token* is being accumulated, and an even number of *multiple escape characters* have been encountered. If at end of file, step 10 is entered. Otherwise, a *character*, *y*, is read, and one of the following actions is performed according to its *syntax type*:

   - If *y* is a *constituent* or *non-terminating macro character*:
     - If *y* is a *character* with *case*, it might be replaced with the corresponding *character* of the opposite *case*, depending on the *readtable case* of the *current readtable*, as outlined in Section 23.1.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader).
     - *Y* is appended to the *token* being built.
     - Step 8 is repeated.
   - If *y* is a *single escape character*, then the next *character*, *z*, is read, or an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled if at end of file. *Z* is treated as if it is a *constituent* whose only *constituent trait* is *alphabetic*$_2$. *Z* is appended to the *token* being built, and step 8 is repeated.
   - If *y* is a *multiple escape character*, then step 9 is entered.
   - If *y* is an *invalid character*, an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled.
   - If *y* is a *terminating macro character*, then it terminates the *token*. First the *character* *y* is unread (see **unread-char**), and then step 10 is entered.
   - If *y* is a *whitespace*$_2$ *character*, then it terminates the *token*. First the *character* *y* is unread if appropriate (see **read-preserving-whitespace**), and then step 10 is entered.

9. At this point a *token* is being accumulated, and an odd number of *multiple escape characters* have been encountered. If at end of file, an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled. Otherwise, a *character*, *y*, is read, and one of the following actions is performed according to its *syntax type*:

   - If *y* is a *constituent*, macro, or *whitespace*$_2$ *character*, *y* is treated as a *constituent* whose only *constituent trait* is *alphabetic*$_2$. *Y* is appended to the *token* being built, and step 9 is repeated.

- If *y* is a *single escape character*, then the next *character*, *z*, is read, or an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled if at end of file. *Z* is treated as a *constituent* whose only *constituent trait* is *alphabetic*$_2$. *Z* is appended to the *token* being built, and step 9 is repeated.
- If *y* is a *multiple escape character*, then step 8 is entered.
- If *y* is an *invalid character*, an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled.

10. An entire *token* has been accumulated. The *object* represented by the *token* is returned as the result of the read operation, or an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled if the *token* is not of valid syntax.

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2.3 Interpretation of Tokens

2.3.1 Numbers as Tokens

When a *token* is read, it is interpreted as a *number* or *symbol*. The *token* is interpreted as a *number* if it satisfies the syntax for numbers specified in Figure 2–9.

```
numeric-token ::= ↓integer | ↓ratio | ↓float
integer       ::= [sign] {decimal-digit}+ decimal-point | [sign] {digit}+
ratio         ::= [sign] {digit}+ slash {digit}+
float         ::= [sign] {decimal-digit}* decimal-point {decimal-digit}+ [↓exponent]
                  | [sign] {decimal-digit}+ [decimal-point {decimal-digit}*] ↓exponent
exponent      ::= exponent-marker [sign] {digit}+
```

sign—a *sign*.
slash—a *slash*
decimal-point—a *dot*.
exponent-marker—an *exponent marker*.
decimal-digit—a *digit* in *radix* `10`.
digit—a *digit* in the *current input radix*.

Figure 2–9. Syntax for Numeric Tokens

2.3.1.1 Potential Numbers as Tokens

To allow implementors and future Common Lisp standards to extend the syntax of numbers, a syntax for *potential numbers* is defined that is more general than the syntax for numbers. A *token* is a *potential number* if it satisfies all of the following requirements:

1. The *token* consists entirely of *digits*, *signs*, *ratio markers*, decimal points (`.`), extension characters (`^` or `_`), and number markers. A number marker is a letter. Whether a letter may be treated as a number marker depends on context, but no letter that is adjacent to another letter may ever be treated as a number marker. *Exponent markers* are number markers.

2. The *token* contains at least one digit. Letters may be considered to be digits, depending on the *current input base*, but only in *tokens* containing no decimal points.

3. The *token* begins with a *digit*, *sign*, decimal point, or extension character, but not a *package marker*. The syntax involving a leading *package marker* followed by a *potential number* is not well-defined. The consequences of the use of notation such as `:1`, `:1/2`, and `:2^3` in a position where an expression appropriate for **read** is expected are unspecified.

4. The *token* does not end with a sign.

If a *potential number* has number syntax, a *number* of the appropriate type is constructed and returned, if the *number* is representable in an implementation. A *number* will not be representable in an implementation if it is outside the boundaries set by the *implementation-dependent* constants for *numbers*. For example, specifying too large or too small an exponent for a *float* may make the *number* impossible to represent in the implementation. A *ratio* with denominator zero (such as `-35/000`) is not represented in any implementation. When a *token* with the syntax of a number cannot be converted to an internal *number*, an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled. An error must not be signaled for specifying too many significant digits for a *float*; a truncated or rounded value should be produced.

If there is an ambiguity as to whether a letter should be treated as a digit or as a number marker, the letter is treated as a digit.

2.3.1.1.1 Escape Characters and Potential Numbers

A *potential number* cannot contain any *escape characters*. An *escape character* robs the following *character* of all syntactic qualities, forcing it to be strictly *alphabetic*$_2$ and therefore unsuitable for use in a *potential number*. For example, all of the following representations are interpreted as *symbols*, not *numbers*:

```
\256   25\64   1.0\E6   |100|   3\.14159   |3/4|   3\/4   5||
```

In each case, removing the *escape character* (or *characters*) would cause the token to be a *potential number*.

2.3.1.1.2 Examples of Potential Numbers

As examples, the *tokens* in Figure 2–10 are *potential numbers*, but they are not actually numbers, and so are reserved *tokens*; a *conforming implementation* is permitted, but not required, to define their meaning.

1b5000	777777q	1.7J	-3/4+6.7J	12/25/83
27^19	3^4/5	6//7	3.1.2.6	^-43^
3.141_592_653_589_793_238_4	-3.7+2.6i-6.17j+19.6k			

Figure 2–10. Examples of reserved tokens

The *tokens* in Figure 2–11 are not *potential numbers*; they are always treated as *symbols*:

/	/5	+	1+	1-
foo+	ab.cd	_	^	^/-

Figure 2–11. Examples of symbols

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The *tokens* in Figure 2–12 are *potential numbers* if the *current input base* is `16`, but they are always treated as *symbols* if the *current input base* is `10`.

bad-face	25-dec-83	a/b	fad_cafe	f^

Figure 2–12. Examples of symbols or potential numbers

2.3.2 Constructing Numbers from Tokens

A *real* is constructed directly from a corresponding numeric *token*; see Figure 2–9.

A *complex* is notated as a `#C` (or `#c`) followed by a *list* of two *reals*; see Section 2.4.8.11 (Sharpsign C).

The *reader macros* `#B`, `#O`, `#X`, and `#R` may also be useful in controlling the input *radix* in which *rationals* are parsed; see Section 2.4.8.7 (Sharpsign B), Section 2.4.8.8 (Sharpsign O), Section 2.4.8.9 (Sharpsign X), and Section 2.4.8.10 (Sharpsign R).

This section summarizes the full syntax for *numbers*.

2.3.2.1 Syntax of a Rational

2.3.2.1.1 Syntax of an Integer

Integers can be written as a sequence of *digits*, optionally preceded by a *sign* and optionally followed by a decimal point; see Figure 2–9. When a decimal point is used, the *digits* are taken to be in *radix* `10`; when no decimal point is used, the *digits* are taken to be in radix given by the *current input base*.

For information on how *integers* are printed, see Section 22.1.3.1.1 (Printing Integers).

2.3.2.1.2 Syntax of a Ratio

Ratios can be written as an optional *sign* followed by two non-empty sequences of *digits* separated by a *slash*; see Figure 2–9. The second sequence may not consist entirely of zeros. Examples of *ratios* are in Figure 2–13.

`2/3`	;This is in canonical form
`4/6`	;A non-canonical form for 2/3
`-17/23`	;A ratio preceded by a sign
`-30517578125/32768`	;This is $(-5/2)^{15}$
`10/5`	;The canonical form for this is `2`
`#o-101/75`	;Octal notation for $-65/61$
`#3r120/21`	;Ternary notation for 15/7
`#Xbc/ad`	;Hexadecimal notation for 188/173
`#xFADED/FACADE`	;Hexadecimal notation for 1027565/16435934

Figure 2–13. Examples of Ratios

For information on how *ratios* are printed, see Section 22.1.3.1.2 (Printing Ratios).

2.3.2.2 Syntax of a Float

Floats can be written in either decimal fraction or computerized scientific notation: an optional sign, then a non-empty sequence of digits with an embedded decimal point, then an optional decimal exponent specification. If there is no exponent specifier, then the decimal point is required, and there must be digits after it. The exponent specifier consists of an *exponent marker*, an optional sign, and a non-empty sequence of digits. If no exponent specifier is present, or if the *exponent marker* `e` (or `E`) is used, then the format specified by ***read-default-float-format*** is used. See Figure 2–9.

An implementation may provide one or more kinds of *float* that collectively make up the *type* **float**. The letters `s`, `f`, `d`, and `l` (or their respective uppercase equivalents) explicitly specify the use of the *types* **short-float**, **single-float**, **double-float**, and **long-float**, respectively.

The internal format used for an external representation depends only on the *exponent marker*, and not on the number of decimal digits in the external representation.

Figure 2–14 contains examples of notations for *floats*:

`0.0`	;Floating-point zero in default format
`0E0`	;As input, this is also floating-point zero in default format.
	;As output, this would appear as `0.0`.
`0e0`	;As input, this is also floating-point zero in default format.
	;As output, this would appear as `0.0`.
`-.0`	;As input, this might be a zero or a minus zero,
	; depending on whether the implementation supports
	; a distinct minus zero.
	;As output, `0.0` is zero and `-0.0` is minus zero.
`0.`	;On input, the integer zero—*not* a floating-point number!
	;Whether this appears as `0` or `0.` on output depends
	;on the *value* of ***print-radix***.
`0.0s0`	;A floating-point zero in short format
`0s0`	;As input, this is a floating-point zero in short format.
	;As output, such a zero would appear as `0.0s0`
	; (or as `0.0` if **short-float** was the default format).
`6.02E+23`	;Avogadro's number, in default format
`602E+21`	;Also Avogadro's number, in default format

Figure 2–14. Examples of Floating-point numbers

For information on how *floats* are printed, see Section 22.1.3.1.3 (Printing Floats).

2.3.2.3 Syntax of a Complex

A *complex* has a Cartesian structure, with a real part and an imaginary part each of which is a *real*. The parts of a *complex* are not necessarily *floats* but both parts must be of the same *type*: either both are *rationals*, or both are of the same *float subtype*. When constructing a *complex*, if the specified parts are not the same *type*, the parts are converted to be the same *type* internally (*i.e.*, the *rational* part is converted to a *float*). An *object* of type `(complex rational)` is converted internally and represented thereafter as a *rational* if its imaginary part is an *integer* whose value is 0.

For further information, see Section 2.4.8.11 (Sharpsign C) and Section 22.1.3.1.4 (Printing Complexes).

2.3.3 The Consing Dot

If a *token* consists solely of dots (with no escape characters), then an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled, except in one circumstance: if the *token* is a single *dot* and appears in a situation where *dotted pair* notation permits a *dot*, then it is accepted as part of such syntax and no error is signaled. See Section 2.4.1 (Left-Parenthesis).

2.3.4 Symbols as Tokens

Any *token* that is not a *potential number*, does not contain a *package marker*, and does not consist entirely of dots will always be interpreted as a *symbol*. Any *token* that is a *potential number* but does not fit the number syntax is a reserved *token* and has an *implementation-dependent* interpretation. In all other cases, the *token* is construed to be the name of a *symbol*.

Examples of the printed representation of *symbols* are in Figure 2–15. For presentational simplicity, these examples assume that the *readtable case* of the *current readtable* is `:upcase`.

`FROBBOZ`	The *symbol* whose *name* is `FROBBOZ`.
`frobboz`	Another way to notate the same *symbol*.
`fRObBoz`	Yet another way to notate it.
`unwind-protect`	A *symbol* with a hyphen in its *name*.
`+$`	The *symbol* named `+$`.
`1+`	The *symbol* named `1+`.
`+1`	This is the *integer* `1`, not a *symbol*.
`pascal_style`	This *symbol* has an underscore in its *name*.
`file.rel.43`	This *symbol* has periods in its *name*.
`\(`	The *symbol* whose *name* is `(`.
`\+1`	The *symbol* whose *name* is `+1`.
`+\1`	Also the *symbol* whose *name* is `+1`.
`\frobboz`	The *symbol* whose *name* is `fROBBOZ`.
`3.14159265\s0`	The *symbol* whose *name* is `3.14159265s0`.
`3.14159265\S0`	A different *symbol*, whose *name* is `3.14159265S0`.
`3.14159265s0`	A possible *short float* approximation to π.

Figure 2–15. Examples of the printed representation of symbols (Part 1 of 2)

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`APL\\360`	The *symbol* whose *name* is `APL\360`.
`apl\\360`	Also the *symbol* whose *name* is `APL\360`.
`\(b^2\)\ -\ 4*a*c`	The *name* is `(B^2) - 4*A*C`. Parentheses and two spaces in it.
`\(\b^2\)\ -\4*\a*\c`	The *name* is `(b^2) - 4*a*c`. Letters explicitly lowercase.
`|"|`	The same as writing `\"`.
`|(b^2) - 4*a*c|`	The *name* is `(b^2) - 4*a*c`.
`|frobboz|`	The *name* is `frobboz`, not `FROBBOZ`.
`|APL\360|`	The *name* is `APL360`.
`|APL\\360|`	The *name* is `APL\360`.
`|apl\\360|`	The *name* is `apl\360`.
`|\\|\\||`	Same as `||` —the *name* is `||`.
`|(B^2) - 4*A*C|`	The *name* is `(B^2) - 4*A*C`. Parentheses and two spaces in it.
`|(b^2) - 4*a*c|`	The *name* is `(b^2) - 4*a*c`.

Figure 2–16. Examples of the printed representation of symbols (Part 2 of 2)

In the process of parsing a *symbol*, it is *implementation-dependent* which *implementation-defined attributes* are removed from the *characters* forming a *token* that represents a *symbol*.

When parsing the syntax for a *symbol*, the *Lisp reader* looks up the *name* of that *symbol* in the *current package*. This lookup may involve looking in other *packages* whose *external symbols* are inherited by the *current package*. If the name is found, the corresponding *symbol* is returned. If the name is not found (that is, there is no *symbol* of that name *accessible* in the *current package*), a new *symbol* is created and is placed in the *current package* as an *internal symbol*. The *current package* becomes the owner (*home package*) of the *symbol*, and the *symbol* becomes interned in the *current package*. If the name is later read again while this same *package* is current, the same *symbol* will be found and returned.

2.3.5 Valid Patterns for Tokens

The valid patterns for *tokens* are summarized in Figure 2–17.

nnnnn	a *number*
xxxxx	a *symbol* in the *current package*
:*xxxxx*	a *symbol* in the the KEYWORD *package*
ppppp:*xxxxx*	an *external symbol* in the *ppppp package*
ppppp::*xxxxx*	a (possibly internal) *symbol* in the *ppppp package*
:*nnnnn*	undefined
ppppp:*nnnnn*	undefined
ppppp::*nnnnn*	undefined
::*aaaaa*	undefined
aaaaa:	undefined
aaaaa:*aaaaa*:*aaaaa*	undefined

Figure 2–17. Valid patterns for tokens

Note that *nnnnn* has number syntax, neither *xxxxx* nor *ppppp* has number syntax, and *aaaaa* has any syntax.

A summary of rules concerning *package markers* follows. In each case, examples are offered to illustrate the case; for presentational simplicity, the examples assume that the *readtable case* of the *current readtable* is :upcase.

1. If there is a single *package marker*, and it occurs at the beginning of the *token*, then the *token* is interpreted as a *symbol* in the KEYWORD *package*. It also sets the **symbol-value** of the newly-created *symbol* to that same *symbol* so that the *symbol* will self-evaluate.

   For example, :bar, when read, interns BAR as an *external symbol* in the KEYWORD *package*.

2. If there is a single *package marker* not at the beginning or end of the *token*, then it divides the *token* into two parts. The first part specifies a *package*; the second part is the name of an *external symbol* available in that package.

   For example, foo:bar, when read, looks up BAR among the *external symbols* of the *package* named FOO.

3. If there are two adjacent *package markers* not at the beginning or end of the *token*, then they divide the *token* into two parts. The first part specifies a *package*; the second part is the name of a *symbol* within that *package* (possibly an *internal symbol*).

   For example, foo::bar, when read, interns BAR in the *package* named FOO.

4. If the *token* contains no *package markers*, and does not have *potential number* syntax, then the entire *token* is the name of the *symbol*. The *symbol* is looked up in the *current package*.

   For example, bar, when read, interns BAR in the *current package*.

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5. The consequences are unspecified if any other pattern of *package markers* in a *token* is used. All other uses of *package markers* within names of *symbols* are not defined by this standard but are reserved for *implementation-dependent* use.

For example, assuming the *readtable case* of the *current readtable* is :upcase, editor:buffer refers to the *external symbol* named BUFFER present in the *package* named editor, regardless of whether there is a *symbol* named BUFFER in the *current package*. If there is no *package* named editor, or if no *symbol* named BUFFER is present in editor, or if BUFFER is not exported by editor, the reader signals a correctable error. If editor::buffer is seen, the effect is exactly the same as reading buffer with the EDITOR *package* being the *current package*.

2.3.6 Package System Consistency Rules

The following rules apply to the package system as long as the *value* of ***package*** is not changed:

Read-read consistency

Reading the same *symbol name* always results in the *same symbol*.

Print-read consistency

An *interned symbol* always prints as a sequence of characters that, when read back in, yields the *same symbol*.

For information about how the *Lisp printer* treats *symbols*, see Section 22.1.3.3 (Printing Symbols).

Print-print consistency

If two interned *symbols* are not the *same*, then their printed representations will be different sequences of characters.

These rules are true regardless of any implicit interning. As long as the *current package* is not changed, results are reproducible regardless of the order of *loading* files or the exact history of what *symbols* were typed in when. If the *value* of ***package*** is changed and then changed back to the previous value, consistency is maintained. The rules can be violated by changing the *value* of ***package***, forcing a change to *symbols* or to *packages* or to both by continuing from an error, or calling one of the following *functions*: **unintern**, **unexport**, **shadow**, **shadowing-import**, or **unuse-package**.

An inconsistency only applies if one of the restrictions is violated between two of the named *symbols*. **shadow**, **unexport**, **unintern**, and **shadowing-import** can only affect the consistency of *symbols* with the same *names* (under **string=**) as the ones supplied as arguments.

2.4 Standard Macro Characters

If the reader encounters a *macro character*, then its associated *reader macro function* is invoked and may produce an *object* to be returned. This *function* may read the *characters* following the *macro character* in the *stream* in any syntax and return the *object* represented by that syntax.

Any *character* can be made to be a *macro character*. The *macro characters* defined initially in a *conforming implementation* include the following:

2.4.1 Left-Parenthesis

The *left-parenthesis* initiates reading of a *list*. **read** is called recursively to read successive *objects* until a right parenthesis is found in the input *stream*. A *list* of the *objects* read is returned. Thus

```
(a b c)
```

is read as a *list* of three *objects* (the *symbols* `a`, `b`, and `c`). The right parenthesis need not immediately follow the printed representation of the last *object*; *whitespace*$_2$ characters and comments may precede it.

If no *objects* precede the right parenthesis, it reads as a *list* of zero *objects* (the *empty list*).

If a *token* that is just a dot not immediately preceded by an escape character is read after some *object* then exactly one more *object* must follow the dot, possibly preceded or followed by *whitespace*$_2$ or a comment, followed by the right parenthesis:

```
(a b c . d)
```

This means that the *cdr* of the last *cons* in the *list* is not **nil**, but rather the *object* whose representation followed the dot. The above example might have been the result of evaluating

```
(cons 'a (cons 'b (cons 'c 'd)))
```

Similarly,

```
(cons 'this-one 'that-one) → (this-one . that-one)
```

It is permissible for the *object* following the dot to be a *list*:

```
(a b c d . (e f . (g))) ≡ (a b c d e f g)
```

For information on how the *Lisp printer* prints *lists* and *conses*, see Section 22.1.3.5 (Printing Lists and Conses).

2.4.2 Right-Parenthesis

The *right-parenthesis* is invalid except when used in conjunction with the left parenthesis character. For more information, see Section 2.2 (Reader Algorithm).

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2.4.3 Single-Quote

Syntax: `'`⟪*exp*⟫

A *single-quote* introduces an *expression* to be "quoted." *Single-quote* followed by an *expression* *exp* is treated by the *Lisp reader* as an abbreviation for and is parsed identically to the *expression* `(quote` *exp*`)`. See the *special operator* **quote**.

2.4.3.1 Examples of Single-Quote

```
'foo → FOO
''foo → (QUOTE FOO)
(car ''foo) → QUOTE
```

2.4.4 Semicolon

Syntax: `;`⟪*text*⟫

A *semicolon* introduces *characters* that are to be ignored, such as comments. The *semicolon* and all *characters* up to and including the next *newline* or end of file are ignored.

2.4.4.1 Examples of Semicolon

```
 (+ 3 ; three
    4)
→ 7
```

2.4.4.2 Notes about Style for Semicolon

Some text editors make assumptions about desired indentation based on the number of *semicolons* that begin a comment. The following style conventions are common, although not by any means universal.

2.4.4.2.1 Use of Single Semicolon

Comments that begin with a single *semicolon* are all aligned to the same column at the right (sometimes called the "comment column"). The text of such a comment generally applies only to the line on which it appears. Occasionally two or three contain a single sentence together; this is sometimes indicated by indenting all but the first with an additional space (after the *semicolon*).

2.4.4.2.2 Use of Double Semicolon

Comments that begin with a double *semicolon* are all aligned to the same level of indentation as a *form* would be at that same position in the *code*. The text of such a comment usually describes the state of the *program* at the point where the comment occurs, the *code* which follows the comment, or both.

2.4.4.2.3 Use of Triple Semicolon

Comments that begin with a triple *semicolon* are all aligned to the left margin. Usually they are used prior to a definition or set of definitions, rather than within a definition.

2.4.4.2.4 Use of Quadruple Semicolon

Comments that begin with a quadruple *semicolon* are all aligned to the left margin, and generally contain only a short piece of text that serve as a title for the code which follows, and might be used in the header or footer of a program that prepares code for presentation as a hardcopy document.

2.4.4.2.5 Examples of Style for Semicolon

```
;;;; Math Utilities

;;; FIB computes the the Fibonacci function in the traditional
;;; recursive way.

(defun fib (n)
  (check-type n integer)
  ;; At this point we're sure we have an integer argument.
  ;; Now we can get down to some serious computation.
  (cond ((< n 0)
         ;; Hey, this is just supposed to be a simple example.
         ;; Did you really expect me to handle the general case?
         (error "FIB got ~D as an argument." n))
        ((< n 2) n)             ;fib[0]=0 and fib[1]=1
        ;; The cheap cases didn't work.
        ;; Nothing more to do but recurse.
        (t (+ (fib (- n 1))     ;The traditional formula
              (fib (- n 2)))))) ; is fib[n-1]+fib[n-2].
```


2.4.5 Double-Quote

Syntax: "⟪*text*⟫"

The *double-quote* is used to begin and end a *string*. When a *double-quote* is encountered, *characters* are read from the *input stream* and accumulated until another *double-quote* is encountered. If a *single escape character* is seen, the *single escape character* is discarded, the next *character* is accumulated, and accumulation continues. The accumulated *characters* up to but not including the matching *double-quote* are made into a *simple string* and returned. It is *implementation-dependent* which *attributes* of the accumulated characters are removed in this process.

Examples of the use of the *double-quote* character are in Figure 2–18.

`"Foo"`	;A string with three characters in it
`""`	;An empty string
`"\"APL\\360?\" he cried."`	;A string with twenty characters
`"|x| = |-x|"`	;A ten-character string

Figure 2–18. Examples of the use of double-quote

Note that to place a single escape character or a *double-quote* into a string, such a character must be preceded by a single escape character. Note, too, that a multiple escape character need not be quoted by a single escape character within a string.

For information on how the *Lisp printer* prints *strings*, see Section 22.1.3.4 (Printing Strings).

2.4.6 Backquote

The *backquote* introduces a template of a data structure to be built. For example, writing

```
`(cond ((numberp ,x) ,@y) (t (print ,x) ,@y))
```

is roughly equivalent to writing

```
(list 'cond
      (cons (list 'numberp x) y)
      (list* 't (list 'print x) y))
```

Where a comma occurs in the template, the *expression* following the comma is to be evaluated to produce an *object* to be inserted at that point. Assume `b` has the value 3, for example, then evaluating the *form* denoted by `` `(a b ,b ,(+ b 1) b) `` produces the result `(a b 3 4 b)`.

If a comma is immediately followed by an *at-sign*, then the *form* following the *at-sign* is evaluated to produce a *list* of *objects*. These *objects* are then "spliced" into place in the template. For example, if `x` has the value `(a b c)`, then

```
`(x ,x ,@x foo ,(cadr x) bar ,(cdr x) baz ,@(cdr x))
→ (x (a b c) a b c foo b bar (b c) baz b c)
```

The backquote syntax can be summarized formally as follows.

- `` `basic `` is the same as `'basic`, that is, `(quote basic)`, for any *expression* *basic* that is not a *list* or a general *vector*.
- `` `,form `` is the same as *form*, for any *form*, provided that the representation of *form* does not begin with *at-sign* or *dot*. (A similar caveat holds for all occurrences of a form after a *comma*.)
- `` `,@form `` has undefined consequences.
- `` `(x1 x2 x3 ... xn . atom) `` may be interpreted to mean

  `(append [x1] [x2] [x3] ... [xn] (quote atom))`

  where the brackets are used to indicate a transformation of an *xj* as follows:

  – `[form]` is interpreted as `` (list `form) ``, which contains a backquoted form that must then be further interpreted.

  – `[,form]` is interpreted as `(list form)`.

  – `[,@form]` is interpreted as *form*.
- `` `(x1 x2 x3 ... xn) `` may be interpreted to mean the same as the backquoted form `` `(x1 x2 x3 ... xn . nil) ``, thereby reducing it to the previous case.
- `` `(x1 x2 x3 ... xn . ,form) `` may be interpreted to mean

  `(append [x1] [x2] [x3] ... [xn] form)`

  where the brackets indicate a transformation of an `xj` as described above.
- `` `(x1 x2 x3 ... xn . ,@form) `` has undefined consequences.
- `` `#(x1 x2 x3 ... xn) `` may be interpreted to mean `` (apply #'vector `(x1 x2 x3 ... xn)) ``.

Anywhere "`,@`" may be used, the syntax "`,.`" may be used instead to indicate that it is permissible to operate *destructively* on the *list structure* produced by the form following the "`,.`" (in effect, to use **nconc** instead of **append**).

If the backquote syntax is nested, the innermost backquoted form should be expanded first. This means that if several commas occur in a row, the leftmost one belongs to the innermost *backquote*.

An *implementation* is free to interpret a backquoted *form* F_1 as any *form* F_2 that, when evaluated, will produce a result that is the *same* under **equal** as the result implied by the above

definition, provided that the side-effect behavior of the substitute *form* F_2 is also consistent with the description given above. The constructed copy of the template might or might not share *list* structure with the template itself. As an example, the above definition implies that

```
`((,a b) ,c ,@d)
```

will be interpreted as if it were

```
(append (list (append (list a) (list 'b) 'nil)) (list c) d 'nil)
```

but it could also be legitimately interpreted to mean any of the following:

```
(append (list (append (list a) (list 'b))) (list c) d)
(append (list (append (list a) '(b))) (list c) d)
(list* (cons a '(b)) c d)
(list* (cons a (list 'b)) c d)
(append (list (cons a '(b))) (list c) d)
(list* (cons a '(b)) c (copy-list d))
```

2.4.6.1 Notes about Backquote

Since the exact manner in which the *Lisp reader* will parse an *expression* involving the *backquote reader macro* is not specified, an *implementation* is free to choose any representation that preserves the semantics described.

Often an *implementation* will choose a representation that facilitates pretty printing of the expression, so that `` (pprint '(a ,b)) `` will display `` `(a ,b) `` and not, for example, `(list 'a b)`. However, this is not a requirement.

Implementors who have no particular reason to make one choice or another might wish to refer to *IEEE Standard for the Scheme Programming Language*, which identifies a popular choice of representation for such expressions that might provide useful to be useful compatibility for some user communities. There is no requirement, however, that any *conforming implementation* use this particular representation. This information is provided merely for cross-reference purposes.

2.4.7 Comma

The *comma* is part of the backquote syntax; see Section 2.4.6 (Backquote). *Comma* is invalid if used other than inside the body of a backquote *expression* as described above.

2.4.8 Sharpsign

Sharpsign is a *non-terminating dispatching macro character*. It reads an optional sequence of digits and then one more character, and uses that character to select a *function* to run as a *reader macro function*.

The *standard syntax* includes constructs introduced by the `#` character. The syntax of these constructs is as follows: a character that identifies the type of construct is followed by arguments in some form. If the character is a letter, its *case* is not important; `#O` and `#o` are considered to be equivalent, for example.

Certain `#` constructs allow an unsigned decimal number to appear between the `#` and the character.

The *reader macros* associated with the *dispatching macro character* `#` are described later in this section and summarized in Figure 2–19.

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dispatch char	purpose	dispatch char	purpose
Backspace	signals error	{	undefined*
Tab	signals error	}	undefined*
Newline	signals error	+	read-time conditional
Linefeed	signals error	-	read-time conditional
Page	signals error	.	read-time evaluation
Return	signals error	/	undefined
Space	signals error	A, a	array
!	undefined*	B, b	binary rational
"	undefined	C, c	complex number
#	reference to = label	D, d	undefined
$	undefined	E, e	undefined
%	undefined	F, f	undefined
&	undefined	G, g	undefined
'	function abbreviation	H, h	undefined
(	simple vector	I, i	undefined
)	signals error	J, j	undefined
*	bit vector	K, k	undefined
,	undefined	L, l	undefined
:	uninterned symbol	M, m	undefined
;	undefined	N, n	undefined
<	signals error	O, o	octal rational
=	labels following object	P, p	pathname
>	undefined	Q, q	undefined
?	undefined*	R, r	radix-*n* rational
@	undefined	S, s	structure
[	undefined*	T, t	undefined
\	character object	U, u	undefined
]	undefined*	V, v	undefined
^	undefined	W, w	undefined
_	undefined	X, x	hexadecimal rational
`	undefined	Y, y	undefined
|	balanced comment	Z, z	undefined
~	undefined	Rubout	undefined

Figure 2–19. Standard # Dispatching Macro Character Syntax

The combinations marked by an asterisk (*) are explicitly reserved to the user. No *conforming implementation* defines them.

Note also that *digits* do not appear in the preceding table. This is because the notations `#0`, `#1`, ..., `#9` are reserved for another purpose which occupies the same syntactic space. When a *digit* follows a *sharpsign*, it is not treated as a dispatch character. Instead, an unsigned integer argument is accumulated and passed as an *argument* to the *reader macro* for the *character* that follows the digits. For example, `#2A((1 2) (3 4))` is a use of `#A` with an argument of `2`.

2.4.8.1 Sharpsign Backslash

Syntax: `#\`⟨⟨*x*⟩⟩

When the *token* *x* is a single *character* long, this parses as the literal *character* *char*. *Uppercase* and *lowercase* letters are distinguished after `#\`; `#\A` and `#\a` denote different *character objects*. Any single *character* works after `#\`, even those that are normally special to **read**, such as *left-parenthesis* and *right-parenthesis*.

In the single *character* case, the *x* must be followed by a non-constituent *character*. After `#\` is read, the reader backs up over the *slash* and then reads a *token*, treating the initial *slash* as a *single escape character* (whether it really is or not in the *current readtable*).

When the *token* *x* is more than one *character* long, the *x* must have the syntax of a *symbol* with no embedded *package markers*. In this case, the *sharpsign backslash* notation parses as the *character* whose *name* is `(string-upcase x)`; see Section 13.1.7 (Character Names).

For information about how the *Lisp printer* prints *character objects*, see Section 22.1.3.2 (Printing Characters).

2.4.8.2 Sharpsign Single-Quote

Any *expression* preceded by `#'` (*sharpsign* followed by *single-quote*), as in `#'`*expression*, is treated by the *Lisp reader* as an abbreviation for and parsed identically to the *expression* `(function expression)`. See **function**. For example,

```
(apply #'+ l) ≡ (apply (function +) l)
```

2.4.8.3 Sharpsign Left-Parenthesis

`#(` and `)` are used to notate a *simple vector*.

If an unsigned decimal integer appears between the `#` and `(`, it specifies explicitly the length of the *vector*. The consequences are undefined if the number of *objects* specified before the closing `)` exceeds the unsigned decimal integer. If the number of *objects* supplied before the closing `)` is less than the unsigned decimal integer but greater than zero, the last *object* is used to fill all remaining elements of the *vector*. The consequences are undefined if the unsigned decimal integer is non-zero and number of *objects* supplied before the closing `)` is zero. For example,

```
#(a b c c c c)
#6(a b c c c c)
#6(a b c)
#6(a b c c)
```


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all mean the same thing: a *vector* of length `6` with *elements* `a`, `b`, and four occurrences of `c`. Other examples follow:

```
#(a b c)               ;A vector of length 3
#(2 3 5 7 11 13 17 19 23 29 31 37 41 43 47)
                       ;A vector containing the primes below 50
#()                    ;An empty vector
```

The notation `#()` denotes an empty *vector*, as does `#0()`.

For information on how the *Lisp printer* prints *vectors*, see Section 22.1.3.4 (Printing Strings), Section 22.1.3.6 (Printing Bit Vectors), or Section 22.1.3.7 (Printing Other Vectors).

2.4.8.4 Sharpsign Asterisk

Syntax: `#*`⟨⟨*bits*⟩⟩

A *simple bit vector* is constructed containing the indicated *bits* (`0`'s and `1`'s), where the leftmost *bit* has index zero and the subsequent *bits* have increasing indices.

Syntax: `#`⟨⟨*n*⟩⟩`*`⟨⟨*bits*⟩⟩

With an argument *n*, the *vector* to be created is of *length* *n*. If the number of *bits* is less than *n* but greater than zero, the last bit is used to fill all remaining bits of the *bit vector*.

The notations `#*` and `#0*` each denote an empty *bit vector*.

Regardless of whether the optional numeric argument *n* is provided, the *token* that follows the *asterisk* is delimited by a normal *token* delimiter. However, (unless the *value* of ***read-suppress*** is *true*) an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled if that *token* is not composed entirely of `0`'s and `1`'s, or if *n* was supplied and the *token* is composed of more than *n* *bits*, or if *n* is greater than one, but no *bits* were specified. Neither a *single escape* nor a *multiple escape* is permitted in this *token*.

For information on how the *Lisp printer* prints *bit vectors*, see Section 22.1.3.6 (Printing Bit Vectors).

2.4.8.4.1 Examples of Sharpsign Asterisk

For example, `#*101111`

```
#6*101111
#6*101
#6*1011
```

all mean the same thing: a *vector* of length `6` with *elements* `1`, `0`, `1`, `1`, `1`, and `1`.

For example:

```
#*         ;An empty bit-vector
```

2.4.8.5 Sharpsign Colon

Syntax: `#:`⟨⟨*symbol-name*⟩⟩

`#:` introduces an *uninterned symbol* whose *name* is *symbol-name*. Every time this syntax is encountered, a *distinct uninterned symbol* is created. The *symbol-name* must have the syntax of a *symbol* with no *package prefix*.

For information on how the *Lisp reader* prints *uninterned symbols*, see Section 22.1.3.3 (Printing Symbols).

2.4.8.6 Sharpsign Dot

`#.`*foo* is read as the *object* resulting from the evaluation of the *object* represented by *foo*. The evaluation is done during the **read** process, when the `#.` notation is encountered. The `#.` syntax therefore performs a read-time evaluation of *foo*.

The normal effect of `#.` is inhibited when the *value* of ***read-eval*** is *false*. In that situation, an error of *type* **reader-error** is signaled.

For an *object* that does not have a convenient printed representation, a *form* that computes the *object* can be given using the `#.` notation.

2.4.8.7 Sharpsign B

`#B`*rational* reads *rational* in binary (radix 2). For example,

```
#B1101 ≡ 13 ;1101₂
#b101/11 ≡ 5/3
```

The consequences are undefined if the token immediately following the `#B` does not have the syntax of a binary (*i.e.*, radix 2) *rational*.

2.4.8.8 Sharpsign O

`#O`*rational* reads *rational* in octal (radix 8). For example,

```
#o37/15 ≡ 31/13
#o777 ≡ 511
#o105 ≡ 69 ;105₈
```

The consequences are undefined if the token immediately following the `#O` does not have the syntax of an octal (*i.e.*, radix 8) *rational*.

2.4.8.9 Sharpsign X

`#X`*rational* reads *rational* in hexadecimal (radix 16). The digits above `9` are the letters `A` through `F` (the lowercase letters `a` through `f` are also acceptable). For example,

```
#xF00 ≡ 3840
#x105 ≡ 261 ;105₁₆
```

The consequences are undefined if the token immediately following the `#X` does not have the syntax of a hexadecimal (*i.e.*, radix 16) *rational*.

2.4.8.10 Sharpsign R

`#`*n*`R`

`#`*radix*`R`*rational* reads *rational* in radix *radix*. *radix* must consist of only digits that are interpreted as an *integer* in decimal radix; its value must be between 2 and 36 (inclusive). Only valid digits for the specified radix may be used.

For example, `#3r102` is another way of writing `11` (decimal), and `#11R32` is another way of writing `35` (decimal). For radices larger than 10, letters of the alphabet are used in order for the digits after `9`. No alternate `#` notation exists for the decimal radix since a decimal point suffices.

Figure 2–20 contains examples of the use of `#B`, `#O`, `#X`, and `#R`.

`#2r11010101`	;Another way of writing `213` decimal
`#b11010101`	;Ditto
`#b+11010101`	;Ditto
`#o325`	;Ditto, in octal radix
`#xD5`	;Ditto, in hexadecimal radix
`#16r+D5`	;Ditto
`#o-300`	;Decimal `-192`, written in base 8
`#3r-21010`	;Same thing in base 3
`#25R-7H`	;Same thing in base 25
`#xACCEDED`	;`181202413`, in hexadecimal radix

Figure 2–20. Radix Indicator Example

The consequences are undefined if the token immediately following the `#`*n*`R` does not have the syntax of a *rational* in radix *n*.

2.4.8.11 Sharpsign C

`#C` reads a following *object*, which must be a *list* of length two whose *elements* are both *reals*. These *reals* denote, respectively, the real and imaginary parts of a *complex* number. If the two parts as notated are not of the same data type, then they are converted according to the rules of floating-point *contagion* described in Section 12.1.1.2 (Contagion in Numeric Operations).

`#C(`*real imag*`)` is equivalent to `#.(complex (quote` *real*`) (quote` *imag*`))`, except that `#C` is not affected by ***read-eval***. See the *function* **complex**.

Figure 2–21 contains examples of the use of `#C`.

`#C(3.0s1 2.0s-1)`	;A *complex* with *small float* parts.
`#C(5 -3)`	;A "Gaussian integer"
`#C(5/3 7.0)`	;Will be converted internally to `#C(1.66666 7.0)`
`#C(0 1)`	;The imaginary unit; that is, i.

Figure 2–21. Complex Number Example

For further information, see Section 22.1.3.1.4 (Printing Complexes) and Section 2.3.2.3 (Syntax of a Complex).

2.4.8.12 Sharpsign A

`#nA`

`#`*n*`A`*object* constructs an *n*-dimensional *array*, using *object* as the value of the `:initial-contents` argument to **make-array**.

For example, `#2A((0 1 5) (foo 2 (hot dog)))` represents a 2-by-3 matrix:

```
0      1      5
foo    2      (hot dog)
```

In contrast, `#1A((0 1 5) (foo 2 (hot dog)))` represents a *vector* of *length* 2 whose *elements* are *lists*:

```
(0 1 5) (foo 2 (hot dog))
```

`#0A((0 1 5) (foo 2 (hot dog)))` represents a zero-dimensional *array* whose sole element is a *list*:

```
((0 1 5) (foo 2 (hot dog)))
```

`#0A foo` represents a zero-dimensional *array* whose sole element is the *symbol* `foo`. The notation `#1A foo` is not valid because `foo` is not a *sequence*.

If some *dimension* of the *array* whose representation is being parsed is found to be `0`, all *dimensions* to the right (*i.e.*, the higher numbered *dimensions*) are also considered to be `0`.

For information on how the *Lisp printer* prints *arrays*, see Section 22.1.3.4 (Printing Strings), Section 22.1.3.6 (Printing Bit Vectors), Section 22.1.3.7 (Printing Other Vectors), or Section 22.1.3.8 (Printing Other Arrays).

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2.4.8.13 Sharpsign S

`#s(name slot1 value1 slot2 value2 ...)` denotes a *structure*. This is valid only if *name* is the name of a *structure type* already defined by **defstruct** and if the *structure type* has a standard constructor function. Let *cm* stand for the name of this constructor function; then this syntax is equivalent to

```
#.(cm keyword1 'value1 keyword2 'value2 ...)
```

where each *keywordj* is the result of computing

```
(intern (string slotj) (find-package 'keyword))
```

The net effect is that the constructor function is called with the specified slots having the specified values. (This coercion feature is deprecated; in the future, keyword names will be taken in the package they are read in, so *symbols* that are actually in the `KEYWORD` *package* should be used if that is what is desired.)

Whatever *object* the constructor function returns is returned by the `#S` syntax.

For information on how the *Lisp printer* prints *structures*, see Section 22.1.3.12 (Printing Structures).

2.4.8.14 Sharpsign P

`#P` reads a following *object*, which must be a *string*.

`#P`⟨⟨*expression*⟩⟩ is equivalent to `#.(parse-namestring '`⟨⟨*expression*⟩⟩`)`, except that `#P` is not affected by ***read-eval***.

For information on how the *Lisp printer* prints *pathnames*, see Section 22.1.3.11 (Printing Pathnames).

2.4.8.15 Sharpsign Equal-Sign

`#n=`

`#`*n*`=`*object* reads as whatever *object* has *object* as its printed representation. However, that *object* is labeled by *n*, a required unsigned decimal integer, for possible reference by the syntax `#`*n*`#`. The scope of the label is the *expression* being read by the outermost call to **read**; within this *expression*, the same label may not appear twice.

2.4.8.16 Sharpsign Sharpsign

#*n*#

#*n*#, where *n* is a required unsigned decimal *integer*, provides a reference to some *object* labeled by #*n*=; that is, #*n*# represents a pointer to the same (**eq**) *object* labeled by #*n*=. For example, a structure created in the variable y by this code:

```
(setq x (list 'p 'q))
(setq y (list (list 'a 'b) x 'foo x))
(rplacd (last y) (cdr y))
```

could be represented in this way:

```
((a b) . #1=(#2=(p q) foo #2# . #1#))
```

Without this notation, but with ***print-length*** set to 10 and ***print-circle*** set to **nil**, the structure would print in this way:

```
((a b) (p q) foo (p q) (p q) foo (p q) (p q) foo (p q) ...)
```

A reference #*n*# may only occur after a label #*n*=; forward references are not permitted. The reference may not appear as the labeled object itself (that is, #*n*=#*n*#) may not be written because the *object* labeled by #*n*= is not well defined in this case.

2.4.8.17 Sharpsign Plus

#+ provides a read-time conditionalization facility; the syntax is #+*test expression*. If the *feature expression test* succeeds, then this textual notation represents an *object* whose printed representation is *expression*. If the *feature expression test* fails, then this textual notation is treated as *whitespace*$_2$; that is, it is as if the "#+ *test expression*" did not appear and only a *space* appeared in its place.

For a detailed description of success and failure in *feature expressions*, see Section 24.1.2.1 (Feature Expressions).

#+ operates by first reading the *feature expression* and then skipping over the *form* if the *feature expression* fails. While reading the *test*, the *current package* is the KEYWORD *package*. Skipping over the *form* is accomplished by *binding* ***read-suppress*** to *true* and then calling **read**.

For examples, see Section 24.1.2.1.1 (Examples of Feature Expressions).

2.4.8.18 Sharpsign Minus

#- is like #+ except that it skips the *expression* if the *test* succeeds; that is,

#-*test expression* ≡ #+(not *test*) *expression*

For examples, see Section 24.1.2.1.1 (Examples of Feature Expressions).

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2.4.8.19 Sharpsign Vertical-Bar

#|...|# is treated as a comment by the reader. It must be balanced with respect to other occurrences of #| and |#, but otherwise may contain any characters whatsoever.

2.4.8.19.1 Examples of Sharpsign Vertical-Bar

The following are some examples that exploit the #|...|# notation:

```
;;; In this example, some debugging code is commented out with #|...|#
;;; Note that this kind of comment can occur in the middle of a line
;;; (because a delimiter marks where the end of the comment occurs)
;;; where a semicolon comment can only occur at the end of a line
;;; (because it comments out the rest of the line).
 (defun add3 (n) #|(format t "~&Adding 3 to ~D." n)|# (+ n 3))


;;; The examples that follow show issues related to #| ... |# nesting.

;;; In this first example, #| and |# always occur properly paired,
;;; so nesting works naturally.
 (defun mention-fun-fact-1a ()
   (format t "CL uses ; and #|...|# in comments."))
→ MENTION-FUN-FACT-1A
 (mention-fun-fact-1a)
▷ CL uses ; and #|...|# in comments.
→ NIL
 #| (defun mention-fun-fact-1b ()
      (format t "CL uses ; and #|...|# in comments.")) |#
 (fboundp 'mention-fun-fact-1b) → NIL


;;; In this example, vertical-bar followed by sharpsign needed to appear
;;; in a string without any matching sharpsign followed by vertical-bar
;;; having preceded this.  To compensate, the programmer has included a
;;; slash separating the two characters.  In case 2a, the slash is
;;; unnecessary but harmless, but in case 2b, the slash is critical to
;;; allowing the outer #| ... |# pair match.  If the slash were not present,
;;; the outer comment would terminate prematurely.
 (defun mention-fun-fact-2a ()
   (format t "Don't use |\# unmatched or you'll get in trouble!"))
→ MENTION-FUN-FACT-2A
 (mention-fun-fact-2a)
▷ Don't use |# unmatched or you'll get in trouble!
→ NIL
 #| (defun mention-fun-fact-2b ()
```

```
    (format t "Don't use |\# unmatched or you'll get in trouble!") |#
 (fboundp 'mention-fun-fact-2b) → NIL


;;; In this example, the programmer attacks the mismatch problem in a
;;; different way.  The sharpsign vertical bar in the comment is not needed
;;; for the correct parsing of the program normally (as in case 3a), but
;;; becomes important to avoid premature termination of a comment when such
;;; a program is commented out (as in case 3b).
 (defun mention-fun-fact-3a () ; #|
   (format t "Don't use |# unmatched or you'll get in trouble!"))
→ MENTION-FUN-FACT-3A
 (mention-fun-fact-3a)
▷ Don't use |# unmatched or you'll get in trouble!
→ NIL
 #|
 (defun mention-fun-fact-3b () ; #|
   (format t "Don't use |# unmatched or you'll get in trouble!"))
 |#
 (fboundp 'mention-fun-fact-3b) → NIL
```

2.4.8.19.2 Notes about Style for Sharpsign Vertical-Bar

Some text editors that purport to understand Lisp syntax treat any `|...|` as balanced pairs that cannot nest (as if they were just balanced pairs of the multiple escapes used in notating certain symbols). To compensate for this deficiency, some programmers use the notation `#||...#||...||#...||#` instead of `#|...#|...|#...|#`. Note that this alternate usage is not a different *reader macro*; it merely exploits the fact that the additional vertical-bars occur within the comment in a way that tricks certain text editor into better supporting nested comments. As such, one might sometimes see code like:

```
#|| (+ #|| 3 ||# 4 5) ||#
```

Such code is equivalent to:

```
#| (+ #| 3 |# 4 5) |#
```

2.4.8.20 Sharpsign Less-Than-Sign

`#<` is not valid reader syntax. The *Lisp reader* will signal an error of *type* **reader-error** on encountering `#<`. This syntax is typically used in the printed representation of *objects* that cannot be read back in.

2.4.8.21 Sharpsign Whitespace

`#` followed immediately by *whitespace*$_1$ is not valid reader syntax. The *Lisp reader* will signal an error of *type* **reader-error** if it encounters the reader macro notation `#`⟨*Newline*⟩ or `#`⟨*Space*⟩.

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2.4.8.22 Sharpsign Right-Parenthesis

This is not valid reader syntax.

The *Lisp reader* will signal an error of *type* **reader-error** upon encountering `#)`.

2.4.9 Re-Reading Abbreviated Expressions

Note that the *Lisp reader* will generally signal an error of *type* **reader-error** when reading an *expression*$_2$ that has been abbreviated because of length or level limits (see ***print-level***, ***print-length***, and ***print-lines***) due to restrictions on "`..`", "`...`", "`#`" followed by *whitespace*$_1$, and "`#)`".

Programming Language—Common Lisp

3. Evaluation and Compilation

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3.1 Evaluation

Execution of *code* can be accomplished by a variety of means ranging from direct interpretation of a *form* representing a *program* to invocation of *compiled code* produced by a *compiler*.

Evaluation is the process by which a *program* is *executed* in Common Lisp. The mechanism of *evaluation* is manifested both implicitly through the effect of the *Lisp read-eval-print loop*, and explicitly through the presence of the *functions* **eval**, **compile**, **compile-file**, and **load**. Any of these facilities might share the same execution strategy, or each might use a different one.

The behavior of a *conforming program* processed by **eval** and by **compile-file** might differ; see Section 3.2.2.3 (Semantic Constraints).

Evaluation can be understood in terms of a model in which an interpreter recursively traverses a *form* performing each step of the computation as it goes. This model, which describes the semantics of Common Lisp *programs*, is described in Section 3.1.2 (The Evaluation Model).

3.1.1 Introduction to Environments

A ***binding*** is an association between a *name* and that which the name denotes. *Bindings* are *established* in a *lexical environment* or a *dynamic environment* by particular *special operators*.

An ***environment*** is a set of *bindings* and other information used during evaluation (*e.g.*, to associate meanings with names).

Bindings in an *environment* are partitioned into ***namespaces***. A single *name* can simultaneously have more than one associated *binding* per *environment*, but can have only one associated *binding* per *namespace*.

3.1.1.1 The Global Environment

The ***global environment*** is that part of an *environment* that contains *bindings* with both *indefinite scope* and *indefinite extent*. The *global environment* contains, among other things, the following:

- *bindings* of *dynamic variables* and *constant variables*.
- *bindings* of *functions*, *macros*, and *special operators*.
- *bindings* of *compiler macros*.
- *bindings* of *type* and *class names*
- information about *proclamations*.

3.1.1.2 Dynamic Environments

A ***dynamic environment*** for *evaluation* is that part of an *environment* that contains *bindings* whose duration is bounded by points of *establishment* and *disestablishment* within the execution of the *form* that established the *binding*. A *dynamic environment* contains, among other things, the following:

- *bindings* for *dynamic variables*.
- information about *active catch tags*.
- information about *exit points* established by **unwind-protect**.
- information about *active handlers* and *restarts*.

The *dynamic environment* that is active at any given point in the *execution* of a *program* is referred to by definite reference as "the current *dynamic environment*," or sometimes as just "the *dynamic environment*."

Within a given *namespace*, a *name* is said to be *bound* in a *dynamic environment* if there is a *binding* associated with its *name* in the *dynamic environment* or, if not, there is a *binding* associated with its name in the *global environment*.

3.1.1.3 Lexical Environments

A ***lexical environment*** for *evaluation* at some position in a *program* is that part of the *environment* that contains information having *lexical scope* within the *forms* containing that position. A *lexical environment* contains, among other things, the following:

- *bindings* of *lexical variables* and *symbol macros*.
- *bindings* of *functions* and *macros*. (Implicit in this is information about those *compiler macros* that are locally disabled.)
- *bindings* of *block tags*.
- *bindings* of *go tags*.
- information about *declarations*.

The *lexical environment* that is active at any given position in a *program* being semantically processed is referred to by definite reference as "the current *lexical environment*," or sometimes as just "the *lexical environment*."

Within a given *namespace*, a *name* is said to be *bound* in a *lexical environment* if there is a *binding* associated with its *name* in the *lexical environment* or, if not, there is a *binding* associated with its name in the *global environment*.

3.1.1.3.1 The Null Lexical Environment

The ***null lexical environment*** is equivalent to the *global environment*.

Although in general the representation of an *environment object* is *implementation-dependent*, **nil** can be used in any situation where an *environment object* is called for in order to denote the *null lexical environment*.

3.1.1.4 Environment Objects

Some *operators* make use of an *object*, called an ***environment object***, that represents the set of *lexical bindings* needed to perform semantic analysis on a *form* in a given *lexical environment*. The set of *bindings* in an *environment object* may be a subset of the *bindings* that would be needed to actually perform an *evaluation*; for example, *values* associated with *variable names* and *function names* in the corresponding *lexical environment* might not be available in an *environment object*.

The *type* and nature of an *environment object* is *implementation-dependent*. The *values* of *environment parameters* to *macro functions* are examples of *environment objects*.

The *object* **nil** when used as an *environment object* denotes the *null lexical environment*; see Section 3.1.1.3.1 (The Null Lexical Environment).

3.1.2 The Evaluation Model

A Common Lisp system evaluates *forms* with respect to lexical, dynamic, and global *environments*. The following sections describe the components of the Common Lisp evaluation model.

3.1.2.1 Form Evaluation

Forms fall into three categories: *symbols*, *conses*, and *self-evaluating objects*. The following sections explain these categories.

3.1.2.1.1 Symbols as Forms

If a *form* is a *symbol*, then it is either a *symbol macro* or a *variable*.

The *symbol* names a *symbol macro* if there is a *binding* of the *symbol* as a *symbol macro* in the current *lexical environment* (see **define-symbol-macro** and **symbol-macrolet**). If the *symbol* is a *symbol macro*, its expansion function is obtained. The expansion function is a function of two arguments, and is invoked by calling the *macroexpand hook* with the expansion function as its first argument, the *symbol* as its second argument, and an *environment object* (corresponding to the current *lexical environment*) as its third argument. The *macroexpand hook*, in turn, calls the expansion function with the *form* as its first argument and the *environment* as its second argument. The *value* of the expansion function, which is passed through by the *macroexpand hook*, is a *form*. This resulting *form* is processed in place of the original *symbol*.

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If a *form* is a *symbol* that is not a *symbol macro*, then it is the *name* of a *variable*, and the *value* of that *variable* is returned. There are three kinds of variables: *lexical variables*, *dynamic variables*, and *constant variables*. A *variable* can store one *object*. The main operations on a *variable* are to *read*$_1$ and to *write*$_1$ its *value*.

An error of *type* **unbound-variable** should be signaled if an *unbound variable* is referenced.

Non-constant variables can be *assigned* by using **setq** or *bound*$_3$ by using **let**. Figure 3–1 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to assigning, binding, and defining *variables*.

boundp	**let**	**progv**
defconstant	**let***	**psetq**
defparameter	**makunbound**	**set**
defvar	**multiple-value-bind**	**setq**
lambda	**multiple-value-setq**	**symbol-value**

Figure 3–1. Some Defined Names Applicable to Variables

The following is a description of each kind of variable.

3.1.2.1.1.1 Lexical Variables

A *lexical variable* is a *variable* that can be referenced only within the *lexical scope* of the *form* that establishes that *variable*; *lexical variables* have *lexical scope*. Each time a *form* creates a *lexical binding* of a *variable*, a *fresh binding* is *established*.

Within the *scope* of a *binding* for a *lexical variable name*, uses of that *name* as a *variable* are considered to be references to that *binding* except where the *variable* is *shadowed*$_2$ by a *form* that *establishes* a *fresh binding* for that *variable name*, or by a *form* that locally *declares* the *name* **special**.

A *lexical variable* always has a *value*. There is no *operator* that introduces a *binding* for a *lexical variable* without giving it an initial *value*, nor is there any *operator* that can make a *lexical variable* be *unbound*.

Bindings of *lexical variables* are found in the *lexical environment*.

3.1.2.1.1.2 Dynamic Variables

A *variable* is a *dynamic variable* if one of the following conditions hold:

- It is locally declared or globally proclaimed **special**.

- It occurs textually within a *form* that creates a *dynamic binding* for a *variable* of the *same name*, and the *binding* is not *shadowed*$_2$ by a *form* that creates a *lexical binding* of the same *variable name*.

A *dynamic variable* can be referenced at any time in any *program*; there is no textual limitation on references to *dynamic variables*. At any given time, all *dynamic variables* with a given name refer to exactly one *binding*, either in the *dynamic environment* or in the *global environment*.

The *value* part of the *binding* for a *dynamic variable* might be empty; in this case, the *dynamic variable* is said to have no *value*, or to be *unbound*. A *dynamic variable* can be made *unbound* by using **makunbound**.

The effect of *binding* a *dynamic variable* is to create a new *binding* to which all references to that *dynamic variable* in any *program* refer for the duration of the *evaluation* of the *form* that creates the *dynamic binding*.

A *dynamic variable* can be referenced outside the *dynamic extent* of a *form* that *binds* it. Such a *variable* is sometimes called a "global variable" but is still in all respects just a *dynamic variable* whose *binding* happens to exist in the *global environment* rather than in some *dynamic environment*.

A *dynamic variable* is *unbound* unless and until explicitly assigned a value, except for those variables whose initial value is defined in this specification or by an *implementation*.

3.1.2.1.1.3 Constant Variables

Certain variables, called *constant variables*, are reserved as "named constants." The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to assign a value to, or create a *binding* for a *constant variable*, except that a 'compatible' redefinition of a *constant variable* using **defconstant** is permitted; see the *macro* **defconstant**.

Keywords, *symbols* defined by Common Lisp or the *implementation* as constant (such as **nil**, **t**, and **pi**), and *symbols* declared as constant using **defconstant** are *constant variables*.

3.1.2.1.1.4 Symbols Naming Both Lexical and Dynamic Variables

The same *symbol* can name both a *lexical variable* and a *dynamic variable*, but never in the same *lexical environment*.

In the following example, the *symbol* **x** is used, at different times, as the *name* of a *lexical variable* and as the *name* of a *dynamic variable*.

```
(let ((x 1))            ;Binds a special variable X
  (declare (special x))
  (let ((x 2))          ;Binds a lexical variable X
    (+ x                ;Reads a lexical variable X
       (locally (declare (special x))
                x))))   ;Reads a special variable X
→ 3
```


3.1.2.1.2 Conses as Forms

A *cons* that is used as a *form* is called a *compound form*.

If the *car* of that *compound form* is a *symbol*, that *symbol* is the *name* of an *operator*, and the *form* is either a *special form*, a *macro form*, or a *function form*, depending on the *function binding* of the *operator* in the current *lexical environment*. If the *operator* is neither a *special operator* nor a *macro name*, it is assumed to be a *function name* (even if there is no definition for such a *function*).

If the *car* of the *compound form* is not a *symbol*, then that *car* must be a *lambda expression*, in which case the *compound form* is a *lambda form*.

How a *compound form* is processed depends on whether it is classified as a *special form*, a *macro form*, a *function form*, or a *lambda form*.

3.1.2.1.2.1 Special Forms

A *special form* is a *form* with special syntax, special evaluation rules, or both, possibly manipulating the evaluation environment, control flow, or both. A *special operator* has access to the current *lexical environment* and the current *dynamic environment*. Each *special operator* defines the manner in which its *subexpressions* are treated—which are *forms*, which are special syntax, *etc.*

Some *special operators* create new lexical or dynamic *environments* for use during the *evaluation* of *subforms* of the *special form*. For example, **block** creates a new *lexical environment* that is the same as the one in force at the point of evaluation of the **block** *form* with the addition of a *binding* of the **block** name to an *exit point* from the **block**.

The set of *special operator names* is fixed in Common Lisp; no way is provided for the user to define a *special operator*. Figure 3–2 lists all of the Common Lisp *symbols* that have definitions as *special operators*.

block	**let***	**return-from**
catch	**load-time-value**	**setq**
eval-when	**locally**	**symbol-macrolet**
flet	**macrolet**	**tagbody**
function	**multiple-value-call**	**the**
go	**multiple-value-prog1**	**throw**
if	**progn**	**unwind-protect**
labels	**progv**	
let	**quote**	

Figure 3–2. Common Lisp Special Operators

3.1.2.1.2.2 Macro Forms

If the *operator* names a *macro*, its associated *macro function* is applied to the entire *form* and the result of that application is used in place of the original *form*.

Specifically, a *symbol* names a *macro* in a given *lexical environment* if **macro-function** is *true* of the *symbol* and that *environment*. The *function* returned by **macro-function** is a *function* of two arguments, called the expansion function. The expansion function is invoked by calling the *macroexpand hook* with the expansion function as its first argument, the entire *macro form* as its second argument, and an *environment object* (corresponding to the current *lexical environment*) as its third argument. The *macroexpand hook*, in turn, calls the expansion function with the *form* as its first argument and the *environment* as its second argument. The *value* of the expansion function, which is passed through by the *macroexpand hook*, is a *form*. The returned *form* is *evaluated* in place of the original *form*.

The consequences are undefined if a *macro function* destructively modifies any part of its *form* argument.

A *macro name* is not a *function designator*, and cannot be used as the *function* argument to *functions* such as **apply**, **funcall**, or **map**.

An *implementation* is free to implement a Common Lisp *special operator* as a *macro*. An *implementation* is free to implement any *macro operator* as a *special operator*, but only if an equivalent definition of the *macro* is also provided.

Figure 3–3 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *macros*.

macroexpand-hook	**macro-function**	**macroexpand-1**
defmacro	**macroexpand**	**macrolet**

Figure 3–3. Defined names applicable to macros

3.1.2.1.2.3 Function Forms

If the *operator* is a *symbol* naming a *function*, the *form* represents a *function form*, and the *cdr* of the list contains the *forms* which when evaluated will supply the arguments passed to the *function*.

When a *function name* is not defined, an error of *type* **undefined-function** should be signaled at run time; see Section 3.2.2.3 (Semantic Constraints).

A *function form* is evaluated as follows:

The *subforms* in the *cdr* of the original *form* are evaluated in left-to-right order in the current lexical and dynamic *environments*. The *primary value* of each such *evaluation* becomes an *argument* to the named *function*; any additional *values* returned by the *subforms* are discarded.

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The *functional value* of the *operator* is retrieved from the *lexical environment*, and that *function* is invoked with the indicated arguments.

Although the order of *evaluation* of the *argument subforms* themselves is strictly left-to-right, it is not specified whether the definition of the *operator* in a *function form* is looked up before the *evaluation* of the *argument subforms*, after the *evaluation* of the *argument subforms*, or between the *evaluation* of any two *argument subforms* if there is more than one such *argument subform*. For example, the following might return 23 or 24.

```
(defun foo (x) (+ x 3))
(defun bar () (setf (symbol-function 'foo) #'(lambda (x) (+ x 4))))
(foo (progn (bar) 20))
```

A *binding* for a *function name* can be *established* in one of several ways. A *binding* for a *function name* in the *global environment* can be *established* by **defun**, **setf** of **fdefinition**, **setf** of **symbol-function**, **ensure-generic-function**, **defmethod** (implicitly, due to **ensure-generic-function**), or **defgeneric**. A *binding* for a *function name* in the *lexical environment* can be *established* by **flet** or **labels**.

Figure 3–4 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *functions*.

apply	**fdefinition**	**mapcan**
call-arguments-limit	**flet**	**mapcar**
complement	**fmakunbound**	**mapcon**
constantly	**funcall**	**mapl**
defgeneric	**function**	**maplist**
defmethod	**functionp**	**multiple-value-call**
defun	**labels**	**reduce**
fboundp	**map**	**symbol-function**

Figure 3–4. Some function-related defined names

3.1.2.1.2.4 Lambda Forms

A *lambda form* is similar to a *function form*, except that the *function name* is replaced by a *lambda expression*.

A *lambda form* is equivalent to using *funcall* of a *lexical closure* of the *lambda expression* on the given *arguments*. (In practice, some compilers are more likely to produce inline code for a *lambda form* than for an arbitrary named function that has been declared **inline**; however, such a difference is not semantic.)

For further information, see Section 3.1.3 (Lambda Expressions).

3.1.2.1.3 Self-Evaluating Objects

A *form* that is neither a *symbol* nor a *cons* is defined to be a *self-evaluating object*. *Evaluating* such an *object yields* the *same object* as a result.

Certain specific *symbols* and *conses* might also happen to be "self-evaluating" but only as a special case of a more general set of rules for the *evaluation* of *symbols* and *conses*; such *objects* are not considered to be *self-evaluating objects*.

The consequences are undefined if *literal objects* (including *self-evaluating objects*) are destructively modified.

3.1.2.1.3.1 Examples of Self-Evaluating Objects

Numbers, *pathnames*, and *arrays* are examples of *self-evaluating objects*.

```
3 → 3
#c(2/3 5/8) → #C(2/3 5/8)
#p"S:[BILL]OTHELLO.TXT" → #P"S:[BILL]OTHELLO.TXT"
#(a b c) → #(A B C)
"fred smith" → "fred smith"
```

3.1.3 Lambda Expressions

In a *lambda expression*, the body is evaluated in a lexical *environment* that is formed by adding the *binding* of each *parameter* in the *lambda list* with the corresponding *value* from the *arguments* to the current lexical *environment*.

For further discussion of how *bindings* are *established* based on the *lambda list*, see Section 3.4 (Lambda Lists).

The body of a *lambda expression* is an *implicit progn*; the *values* it returns are returned by the *lambda expression*.

3.1.4 Closures and Lexical Binding

A *lexical closure* is a *function* that can refer to and alter the values of *lexical bindings established* by *binding forms* that textually include the function definition.

Consider this code, where `x` is not declared **special**:

```
(defun two-funs (x)
  (list (function (lambda () x))
        (function (lambda (y) (setq x y)))))
(setq funs (two-funs 6))
(funcall (car funs)) → 6
(funcall (cadr funs) 43) → 43
(funcall (car funs)) → 43
```


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The **function** *special form* coerces a *lambda expression* into a *closure* in which the *lexical environment* in effect when the *special form* is evaluated is captured along with the *lambda expression*.

The function `two-funs` returns a *list* of two *functions*, each of which refers to the *binding* of the variable `x` created on entry to the function `two-funs` when it was called. This variable has the value `6` initially, but **setq** can alter this *binding*. The *lexical closure* created for the first *lambda expression* does not "snapshot" the *value* `6` for `x` when the *closure* is created; rather it captures the *binding* of `x`. The second *function* can be used to alter the *value* in the same (captured) *binding* (to `43`, in the example), and this altered variable binding then affects the value returned by the first *function*.

In situations where a *closure* of a *lambda expression* over the same set of *bindings* may be produced more than once, the various resulting *closures* may or may not be *identical*, at the discretion of the *implementation*. That is, two *functions* that are behaviorally indistinguishable might or might not be *identical*. Two *functions* that are behaviorally distinguishable are *distinct*. For example:

```
(let ((x 5) (funs '()))
  (dotimes (j 10)
    (push #'(lambda (z)
              (if (null z) (setq x 0) (+ x z)))
          funs))
  funs)
```

The result of the above *form* is a *list* of ten *closures*. Each requires only the *binding* of `x`. It is the same *binding* in each case, but the ten *closure objects* might or might not be *identical*. On the other hand, the result of the *form*

```
(let ((funs '()))
  (dotimes (j 10)
    (let ((x 5))
      (push (function (lambda (z)
                        (if (null z) (setq x 0) (+ x z))))
            funs)))
 funs)
```

is also a *list* of ten *closures*. However, in this case no two of the *closure objects* can be *identical* because each *closure* is closed over a distinct *binding* of `x`, and these *bindings* can be behaviorally distinguished because of the use of **setq**.

The result of the *form*

```
(let ((funs '()))
  (dotimes (j 10)
    (let ((x 5))
      (push (function (lambda (z) (+ x z)))
           funs)))
  funs)
```

is a *list* of ten *closure objects* that might or might not be *identical*. A different *binding* of x is involved for each *closure*, but the *bindings* cannot be distinguished because their values are the *same* and immutable (there being no occurrence of **setq** on x). A compiler could internally transform the *form* to

```
(let ((funs '()))
  (dotimes (j 10)
    (push (function (lambda (z) (+ 5 z)))
          funs))
 funs)
```

where the *closures* may be *identical*.

It is possible that a *closure* does not close over any variable bindings. In the code fragment

```
(mapcar (function (lambda (x) (+ x 2))) y)
```

the function (lambda (x) (+ x 2)) contains no references to any outside object. In this case, the same *closure* might be returned for all evaluations of the **function** *form*.

3.1.5 Shadowing

If two *forms* that *establish lexical bindings* with the same *name* N are textually nested, then references to N within the inner *form* refer to the *binding* established by the inner *form*; the inner *binding* for N ***shadows*** the outer *binding* for N. Outside the inner *form* but inside the outer one, references to N refer to the *binding* established by the outer *form*. For example:

```
(defun test (x z)
  (let ((z (* x 2)))
    (print z))
  z)
```

The *binding* of the variable z by **let** shadows the *parameter* binding for the function test. The reference to the variable z in the **print** *form* refers to the **let** binding. The reference to z at the end of the function test refers to the *parameter* named z.

Constructs that are lexically scoped act as if new names were generated for each *object* on each execution. Therefore, dynamic shadowing cannot occur. For example:

```
(defun contorted-example (f g x)
  (if (= x 0)
      (funcall f)
      (block here
         (+ 5 (contorted-example g
                                 #'(lambda () (return-from here 4))
                                 (- x 1))))))
```

Consider the call (contorted-example nil nil 2). This produces 4. During the course of execution, there are three calls to contorted-example, interleaved with two blocks:

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```
(contorted-example nil nil 2)
  (block here1 ...)
    (contorted-example nil #'(lambda () (return-from here1 4)) 1)
      (block here2 ...)
        (contorted-example #'(lambda () (return-from here1 4))
                           #'(lambda () (return-from here2 4))
                           0)
            (funcall f)
                   where f → #'(lambda () (return-from here1 4))
                (return-from here1 4)
```

At the time the funcall is executed there are two **block** *exit points* outstanding, each apparently named here. The **return-from** *form* executed as a result of the funcall operation refers to the outer outstanding *exit point* (here$_1$), not the inner one (here$_2$). It refers to that *exit point* textually visible at the point of execution of **function** (here abbreviated by the #' syntax) that resulted in creation of the *function object* actually invoked by **funcall**.

If, in this example, one were to change the (funcall f) to (funcall g), then the value of the call (contorted-example nil nil 2) would be 9. The value would change because **funcall** would cause the execution of (return-from here$_2$ 4), thereby causing a return from the inner *exit point* (here$_2$). When that occurs, the value 4 is returned from the middle invocation of contorted-example, 5 is added to that to get 9, and that value is returned from the outer block and the outermost call to contorted-example. The point is that the choice of *exit point* returned from has nothing to do with its being innermost or outermost; rather, it depends on the lexical environment that is packaged up with a *lambda expression* when **function** is executed.

3.1.6 Extent

Contorted-example works only because the *function* named by f is invoked during the *extent* of the *exit point*. Once the flow of execution has left the block, the *exit point* is *disestablished*. For example:

```
(defun invalid-example ()
  (let ((y (block here #'(lambda (z) (return-from here z)))))
    (if (numberp y) y (funcall y 5))))
```

One might expect the call (invalid-example) to produce 5 by the following incorrect reasoning: **let** binds y to the value of **block**; this value is a *function* resulting from the *lambda expression*. Because y is not a number, it is invoked on the value 5. The **return-from** should then return this value from the *exit point* named here, thereby exiting from the block again and giving y the value 5 which, being a number, is then returned as the value of the call to invalid-example.

The argument fails only because *exit points* have *dynamic extent*. The argument is correct up to the execution of **return-from**. The execution of **return-from** should signal an error of *type* **control-error**, however, not because it cannot refer to the *exit point*, but because it does correctly refer to an *exit point* and that *exit point* has been *disestablished*.

A reference by name to a dynamic *exit point* binding such as a *catch tag* refers to the most recently *established binding* of that name that has not been *disestablished*. For example:

```
(defun fun1 (x)
  (catch 'trap (+ 3 (fun2 x))))
(defun fun2 (y)
  (catch 'trap (* 5 (fun3 y))))
(defun fun3 (z)
  (throw 'trap z))
```

Consider the call `(fun1 7)`. The result is `10`. At the time the **throw** is executed, there are two outstanding catchers with the name `trap`: one established within procedure `fun1`, and the other within procedure `fun2`. The latter is the more recent, and so the value `7` is returned from **catch** in `fun2`. Viewed from within `fun3`, the **catch** in `fun2` shadows the one in `fun1`. Had `fun2` been defined as

```
(defun fun2 (y)
  (catch 'snare (* 5 (fun3 y))))
```

then the two *exit points* would have different *names*, and therefore the one in `fun1` would not be shadowed. The result would then have been `7`.

3.1.7 Return Values

Ordinarily the result of calling a *function* is a single *object*. Sometimes, however, it is convenient for a function to compute several *objects* and return them.

In order to receive other than exactly one value from a *form*, one of several *special forms* or *macros* must be used to request those values. If a *form* produces *multiple values* which were not requested in this way, then the first value is given to the caller and all others are discarded; if the *form* produces zero values, then the caller receives **nil** as a value.

Figure 3–5 lists some *operators* for receiving *multiple values*$_2$. These *operators* can be used to specify one or more *forms* to *evaluate* and where to put the *values* returned by those *forms*.

multiple-value-bind	**multiple-value-prog1**	**return-from**
multiple-value-call	**multiple-value-setq**	**throw**
multiple-value-list	**return**	

Figure 3–5. Some operators applicable to receiving multiple values

The *function* **values** can produce *multiple values*$_2$. `(values)` returns zero values; `(values` *form*`)` returns the *primary value* returned by *form*; `(values` *form1 form2*`)` returns two values, the *primary value* of *form1* and the *primary value* of *form2*; and so on.

See **multiple-values-limit** and **values-list**.

3.2 Compilation

3.2.1 Compiler Terminology

The following terminology is used in this section.

The ***compiler*** is a utility that translates code into an *implementation-dependent* form that might be represented or executed efficiently. The term ***compiler*** refers to both of the *functions* **compile** and **compile-file**.

The term ***compiled code*** refers to *objects* representing compiled programs, such as *objects* constructed by **compile** or by **load** when *loading* a *compiled file*.

The term ***implicit compilation*** refers to *compilation* performed during *evaluation*.

The term ***literal object*** refers to a quoted *object* or a *self-evaluating object* or an *object* that is a substructure of such an *object*. A *constant variable* is not itself a *literal object*.

The term ***coalesce*** is defined as follows. Suppose `A` and `B` are two *literal constants* in the *source code*, and that `A'` and `B'` are the corresponding *objects* in the *compiled code*. If `A'` and `B'` are **eql** but `A` and `B` are not **eql**, then it is said that `A` and `B` have been coalesced by the compiler.

The term ***minimal compilation*** refers to actions the compiler must take at *compile time*. These actions are specified in Section 3.2.2 (Compilation Semantics).

The verb ***process*** refers to performing *minimal compilation*, determining the time of evaluation for a *form*, and possibly *evaluating* that *form* (if required).

The term ***further compilation*** refers to *implementation-dependent* compilation beyond *minimal compilation*. That is, *processing* does not imply complete compilation. Block compilation and generation of machine-specific instructions are examples of further compilation. Further compilation is permitted to take place at *run time*.

Four different *environments* relevant to compilation are distinguished: the *startup environment*, the *compilation environment*, the *evaluation environment*, and the *run-time environment*.

The ***startup environment*** is the *environment* of the *Lisp image* from which the *compiler* was invoked.

The ***compilation environment*** is maintained by the compiler and is used to hold definitions and declarations to be used internally by the compiler. Only those parts of a definition needed for correct compilation are saved. The *compilation environment* is used as the *environment argument* to macro expanders called by the compiler. It is unspecified whether a definition available in the *compilation environment* can be used in an *evaluation* initiated in the *startup environment* or *evaluation environment*.

The ***evaluation environment*** is a *run-time environment* in which macro expanders and code specified by **eval-when** to be evaluated are evaluated. All evaluations initiated by the *compiler* take place in the *evaluation environment*.

The ***run-time environment*** is the *environment* in which the program being compiled will be executed.

The *compilation environment* inherits from the *evaluation environment*, and the *compilation environment* and *evaluation environment* might be *identical*. The *evaluation environment* inherits from the *startup environment*, and the *startup environment* and *evaluation environment* might be *identical*.

The term ***compile time*** refers to the duration of time that the compiler is processing *source code*. At *compile time*, only the *compilation environment* and the *evaluation environment* are available.

The term ***compile-time definition*** refers to a definition in the *compilation environment*. For example, when compiling a file, the definition of a function might be retained in the *compilation environment* if it is declared **inline**. This definition might not be available in the *evaluation environment*.

The term ***run time*** refers to the duration of time that the loader is loading compiled code or compiled code is being executed. At run time, only the *run-time environment* is available.

The term ***run-time definition*** refers to a definition in the *run-time environment*.

The term ***run-time compiler*** refers to the *function* **compile** or *implicit compilation*, for which the compilation and run-time *environments* are maintained in the same *Lisp image*. Note that when the *run-time compiler* is used, the *run-time environment* and *startup environment* are the same.

3.2.2 Compilation Semantics

Conceptually, compilation is a process that traverses code, performs certain kinds of syntactic and semantic analyses using information (such as proclamations and *macro* definitions) present in the *compilation environment*, and produces equivalent, possibly more efficient code.

3.2.2.1 Compiler Macros

A *compiler macro* can be defined for a *name* that also names a *function* or *macro*. That is, it is possible for a *function name* to name both a *function* and a *compiler macro*.

A *function name* names a *compiler macro* if **compiler-macro-function** is *true* of the *function name* in the *lexical environment* in which it appears. Creating a *lexical binding* for the *function name* not only creates a new local *function* or *macro* definition, but also *shadows*$_2$ the *compiler macro*.

The *function* returned by **compiler-macro-function** is a *function* of two arguments, called the expansion function. To expand a *compiler macro*, the expansion function is invoked by calling the *macroexpand hook* with the expansion function as its first argument, the entire compiler macro

form as its second argument, and the current compilation *environment* (or with the current lexical *environment*, if the *form* is being processed by something other than **compile-file**) as its third argument. The *macroexpand hook*, in turn, calls the expansion function with the *form* as its first argument and the *environment* as its second argument. The return value from the expansion function, which is passed through by the *macroexpand hook*, might either be the *same form*, or else a form that can, at the discretion of the *code* doing the expansion, be used in place of the original *form*.

macroexpand-hook	**compiler-macro-function**	**define-compiler-macro**

Figure 3–6. Defined names applicable to compiler macros

3.2.2.1.1 Purpose of Compiler Macros

The purpose of the *compiler macro* facility is to permit selective source code transformations as optimization advice to the *compiler*. When a *compound form* is being processed (as by the compiler), if the *operator* names a *compiler macro* then the *compiler macro function* may be invoked on the form, and the resulting expansion recursively processed in preference to performing the usual processing on the original *form* according to its normal interpretation as a *function form* or *macro form*.

A *compiler macro function*, like a *macro function*, is a *function* of two *arguments*: the entire call *form* and the *environment*. Unlike an ordinary *macro function*, a *compiler macro function* can decline to provide an expansion merely by returning a value that is the *same* as the original *form*. The consequences are undefined if a *compiler macro function* destructively modifies any part of its *form* argument.

The *form* passed to the compiler macro function can either be a *list* whose *car* is the function name, or a *list* whose *car* is **funcall** and whose *cadr* is a list `(function name)`; note that this affects destructuring of the form argument by the *compiler macro function*. **define-compiler-macro** arranges for destructuring of arguments to be performed correctly for both possible formats.

When **compile-file** chooses to expand a *top level form* that is a *compiler macro form*, the expansion is also treated as a *top level form* for the purposes of **eval-when** processing; see Section 3.2.3.1 (Processing of Top Level Forms).

3.2.2.1.2 Naming of Compiler Macros

Compiler macros may be defined for *function names* that name *macros* as well as *functions*.

Compiler macro definitions are strictly global. There is no provision for defining local *compiler macros* in the way that **macrolet** defines local *macros*. Lexical bindings of a function name shadow any compiler macro definition associated with the name as well as its global *function* or *macro* definition.

Note that the presence of a compiler macro definition does not affect the values returned by functions that access *function* definitions (*e.g.*, **fboundp**) or *macro* definitions (*e.g.*, **macroexpand**). Compiler macros are global, and the function **compiler-macro-function** is sufficient to resolve their interaction with other lexical and global definitions.

3.2.2.1.3 When Compiler Macros Are Used

The presence of a *compiler macro* definition for a *function* or *macro* indicates that it is desirable for the *compiler* to use the expansion of the *compiler macro* instead of the original *function form* or *macro form*. However, no language processor (compiler, evaluator, or other code walker) is ever required to actually invoke *compiler macro functions*, or to make use of the resulting expansion if it does invoke a *compiler macro function*.

When the *compiler* encounters a *form* during processing that represents a call to a *compiler macro name* (that is not declared **notinline**), the *compiler* might expand the *compiler macro*, and might use the expansion in place of the original *form*.

When **eval** encounters a *form* during processing that represents a call to a *compiler macro name* (that is not declared **notinline**), **eval** might expand the *compiler macro*, and might use the expansion in place of the original *form*.

There are two situations in which a *compiler macro* definition must not be applied by any language processor:

- The global function name binding associated with the compiler macro is shadowed by a lexical binding of the function name.

- The function name has been declared or proclaimed **notinline** and the call form appears within the scope of the declaration.

It is unspecified whether *compiler macros* are expanded or used in any other situations.

3.2.2.1.3.1 Notes about the Implementation of Compiler Macros

Although it is technically permissible, as described above, for **eval** to treat *compiler macros* in the same situations as *compiler* might, this is not necessarily a good idea in *interpreted implementations*.

Compiler macros exist for the purpose of trading compile-time speed for run-time speed. Programmers who write *compiler macros* tend to assume that the *compiler macros* can take more time than normal *functions* and *macros* in order to produce code which is especially optimal for use at run time. Since **eval** in an *interpreted implementation* might perform semantic analysis of the same form multiple times, it might be inefficient in general for the *implementation* to choose to call *compiler macros* on every such *evaluation*.

Nevertheless, the decision about what to do in these situations is left to each *implementation*.

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3.2.2.2 Minimal Compilation

Minimal compilation is defined as follows:

- All *compiler macro* calls appearing in the *source code* being compiled are expanded, if at all, at compile time; they will not be expanded at run time.

- All *macro* and *symbol macro* calls appearing in the source code being compiled are expanded at compile time in such a way that they will not be expanded again at run time. **macrolet** and **symbol-macrolet** are effectively replaced by *forms* corresponding to their bodies in which calls to *macros* are replaced by their expansions.

- The first *argument* in a **load-time-value** *form* in *source code* processed by **compile** is *evaluated* at *compile time*; in *source code* processed by **compile-file**, the compiler arranges for it to be *evaluated* at *load time*. In either case, the result of the *evaluation* is remembered and used later as the value of the **load-time-value** *form* at *execution time*.

3.2.2.3 Semantic Constraints

All *conforming programs* must obey the following constraints, which are designed to minimize the observable differences between compiled and interpreted programs:

- Definitions of any referenced *macros* must be present in the *compilation environment*. Any *form* that is a *list* beginning with a *symbol* that does not name a *special operator* or a *macro* defined in the *compilation environment* is treated by the compiler as a function call.

- **Special** proclamations for *dynamic variables* must be made in the *compilation environment*. Any *binding* for which there is no **special** declaration or proclamation in the *compilation environment* is treated by the compiler as a *lexical binding*.

- The definition of a function that is defined and declared **inline** in the *compilation environment* must be the same at run time.

- Within a *function* named F, the compiler may (but is not required to) assume that an apparent recursive call to a *function* named F refers to the same definition of F, unless that function has been declared **notinline**. The consequences of redefining such a recursively defined *function* F while it is executing are undefined.

- A call within a file to a named function that is defined in the same file refers to that function, unless that function has been declared **notinline**. The consequences are unspecified if functions are redefined individually at run time or multiply defined in the same file.

- The argument syntax and number of return values for all functions whose **ftype** is declared at compile time must remain the same at run time.

- *Constant variables* defined in the *compilation environment* must have a *similar* value at run time. A reference to a *constant variable* in *source code* is equivalent to a reference to a *literal object* that is the *value* of the *constant variable*.

- Type definitions made with **deftype** or **defstruct** in the *compilation environment* must retain the same definition at run time. Classes defined by **defclass** in the *compilation environment* must be defined at run time to have the same *superclasses* and same *metaclass*.

  This implies that *subtype/supertype* relationships of *type specifiers* must not change between *compile time* and *run time*.

- Type declarations present in the compilation *environment* must accurately describe the corresponding values at run time; otherwise, the consequences are undefined. It is permissible for an unknown *type* to appear in a declaration at compile time, though a warning might be signaled in such a case.

- Except in the situations explicitly listed above, a *function* defined in the *evaluation environment* is permitted to have a different definition or a different *signature* at run time, and the run-time definition prevails.

Conforming programs should not be written using any additional assumptions about consistency between the run-time *environment* and the startup, evaluation, and compilation *environments*.

Except where noted, when a compile-time and a run-time definition are different, one of the following occurs at run time:

- an error of *type* **error** is signaled
- the compile-time definition prevails
- the run-time definition prevails

If the *compiler* processes a *function form* whose *operator* is not defined at compile time, no error is signaled at compile time.

3.2.3 File Compilation

The *function* **compile-file** performs compilation of *forms* in a file following the rules specified in Section 3.2.2 (Compilation Semantics), and produces an output file that can be loaded by using **load**.

Normally, the *top level forms* appearing in a file compiled with **compile-file** are evaluated only when the resulting compiled file is loaded, and not when the file is compiled. However, it is typically the case that some forms in the file need to be evaluated at compile time so the remainder of the file can be read and compiled correctly.

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The **eval-when** *special form* can be used to control whether a *top level form* is evaluated at compile time, load time, or both. It is possible to specify any of three situations with **eval-when**, denoted by the symbols `:compile-toplevel`, `:load-toplevel`, and `:execute`. For top level **eval-when** forms, `:compile-toplevel` specifies that the compiler must evaluate the body at compile time, and `:load-toplevel` specifies that the compiler must arrange to evaluate the body at load time. For non-top level **eval-when** forms, `:execute` specifies that the body must be executed in the run-time *environment*.

The behavior of this *form* can be more precisely understood in terms of a model of how **compile-file** processes forms in a file to be compiled. There are two processing modes, called "not-compile-time" and "compile-time-too".

Successive forms are read from the file by **compile-file** and processed in not-compile-time mode; in this mode, **compile-file** arranges for forms to be evaluated only at load time and not at compile time. When **compile-file** is in compile-time-too mode, forms are evaluated both at compile time and load time.

3.2.3.1 Processing of Top Level Forms

Processing of *top level forms* in the file compiler is defined as follows:

1. If the *form* is a *compiler macro form* (not disabled by a **notinline** *declaration*), the *implementation* might or might not choose to compute the *compiler macro expansion* of the *form* and, having performed the expansion, might or might not choose to process the result as a *top level form* in the same processing mode (compile-time-too or not-compile-time). If it declines to obtain or use the expansion, it must process the original *form*.

2. If the form is a *macro form*, its *macro expansion* is computed and processed as a *top level form* in the same processing mode (compile-time-too or not-compile-time).

3. If the form is a **progn** form, each of its body *forms* is sequentially processed as a *top level form* in the same processing mode.

4. If the form is a **locally**, **macrolet**, or **symbol-macrolet**, **compile-file** establishes the appropriate bindings and processes the body forms as *top level forms* with those bindings in effect in the same processing mode. (Note that this implies that the lexical *environment* in which *top level forms* are processed is not necessarily the *null lexical environment*.)

5. If the form is an **eval-when** form, it is handled according to Figure 3–7.

CT	LT	E	Mode	Action	New Mode
Yes	Yes	—	—	Process	compile-time-too
No	Yes	Yes	CTT	Process	compile-time-too
No	Yes	Yes	NCT	Process	not-compile-time
No	Yes	No	—	Process	not-compile-time
Yes	No	—	—	Evaluate	—
No	No	Yes	CTT	Evaluate	—
No	No	Yes	NCT	Discard	—
No	No	No	—	Discard	—

Figure 3–7. EVAL-WHEN processing

Column **CT** indicates whether `:compile-toplevel` is specified. Column **LT** indicates whether `:load-toplevel` is specified. Column **E** indicates whether `:execute` is specified. Column **Mode** indicates the processing mode; a dash (—) indicates that the processing mode is not relevant.

The **Action** column specifies one of three actions:

Process: process the body as *top level forms* in the specified mode.

Evaluate: evaluate the body in the dynamic execution context of the compiler, using the *evaluation environment* as the global environment and the *lexical environment* in which the **eval-when** appears.

Discard: ignore the *form*.

The **New Mode** column indicates the new processing mode. A dash (—) indicates the compiler remains in its current mode.

6. Otherwise, the form is a *top level form* that is not one of the special cases. In compile-time-too mode, the compiler first evaluates the form in the evaluation *environment* and then minimally compiles it. In not-compile-time mode, the *form* is simply minimally compiled. All *subforms* are treated as *non-top-level forms*.

   Note that *top level forms* are processed in the order in which they textually appear in the file and that each *top level form* read by the compiler is processed before the next is read. However, the order of processing (including macro expansion) of *subforms* that are not *top level forms* and the order of further compilation is unspecified as long as Common Lisp semantics are preserved.

eval-when forms cause compile-time evaluation only at top level. Both `:compile-toplevel` and `:load-toplevel` situation specifications are ignored for *non-top-level forms*. For *non-top-level*

forms, an **eval-when** specifying the `:execute` situation is treated as an *implicit progn* including the *forms* in the body of the **eval-when** *form*; otherwise, the *forms* in the body are ignored.

3.2.3.1.1 Processing of Defining Macros

Defining *macros* (such as **defmacro** or **defvar**) appearing within a file being processed by **compile-file** normally have compile-time side effects which affect how subsequent *forms* in the same *file* are compiled. A convenient model for explaining how these side effects happen is that the defining macro expands into one or more **eval-when** *forms*, and that the calls which cause the compile-time side effects to happen appear in the body of an `(eval-when (:compile-toplevel) ...)` *form*.

The compile-time side effects may cause information about the definition to be stored differently than if the defining macro had been processed in the 'normal' way (either interpretively or by loading the compiled file).

In particular, the information stored by the defining *macros* at compile time might or might not be available to the interpreter (either during or after compilation), or during subsequent calls to the *compiler*. For example, the following code is nonportable because it assumes that the *compiler* stores the macro definition of `foo` where it is available to the interpreter:

```
(defmacro foo (x) `(car ,x))
(eval-when (:execute :compile-toplevel :load-toplevel)
  (print (foo '(a b c))))
```

A portable way to do the same thing would be to include the macro definition inside the **eval-when** *form*, as in:

```
(eval-when (:execute :compile-toplevel :load-toplevel)
  (defmacro foo (x) `(car ,x))
  (print (foo '(a b c))))
```

Figure 3–8 lists macros that make definitions available both in the compilation and run-time *environments*. It is not specified whether definitions made available in the *compilation environment* are available in the evaluation *environment*, nor is it specified whether they are available in subsequent compilation units or subsequent invocations of the compiler. As with **eval-when**, these compile-time side effects happen only when the defining macros appear at top level.

declaim	**define-modify-macro**	**defsetf**
defclass	**define-setf-expander**	**defstruct**
defconstant	**defmacro**	**deftype**
define-compiler-macro	**defpackage**	**defvar**
define-condition	**defparameter**	

Figure 3–8. Defining Macros That Affect the Compile-Time Environment

3.2.3.1.2 Constraints on Macros and Compiler Macros

Except where explicitly stated otherwise, no *macro* defined in the Common Lisp standard produces an expansion that could cause any of the *subforms* of the *macro form* to be treated as *top level forms*. If an *implementation* also provides a *special operator* definition of a Common Lisp *macro*, the *special operator* definition must be semantically equivalent in this respect.

Compiler macro expansions must also have the same top level evaluation semantics as the *form* which they replace. This is of concern both to *conforming implementations* and to *conforming programs*.

3.2.4 Literal Objects in Compiled Files

The functions **eval** and **compile** are required to ensure that *literal objects* referenced within the resulting interpreted or compiled code objects are the *same* as the corresponding *objects* in the *source code*. **compile-file**, on the other hand, must produce a *compiled file* that, when loaded with **load**, constructs the *objects* defined by the *source code* and produces references to them.

In the case of **compile-file**, *objects* constructed by **load** of the *compiled file* cannot be spoken of as being the *same* as the *objects* constructed at compile time, because the *compiled file* may be loaded into a different *Lisp image* than the one in which it was compiled. This section defines the concept of *similarity* which relates *objects* in the *evaluation environment* to the corresponding *objects* in the *run-time environment*.

The constraints on *literal objects* described in this section apply only to **compile-file**; **eval** and **compile** do not copy or coalesce constants.

3.2.4.1 Externalizable Objects

The fact that the *file compiler* represents *literal objects* externally in a *compiled file* and must later reconstruct suitable equivalents of those *objects* when that *file* is loaded imposes a need for constraints on the nature of the *objects* that can be used as *literal objects* in *code* to be processed by the *file compiler*.

An *object* that can be used as a *literal object* in *code* to be processed by the *file compiler* is called an ***externalizable object***.

We define that two *objects* are ***similar*** if they satisfy a two-place conceptual equivalence predicate (defined below), which is independent of the *Lisp image* so that the two *objects* in different *Lisp images* can be understood to be equivalent under this predicate. Further, by inspecting the definition of this conceptual predicate, the programmer can anticipate what aspects of an *object* are reliably preserved by *file compilation*.

The *file compiler* must cooperate with the *loader* in order to assure that in each case where an *externalizable object* is processed as a *literal object*, the *loader* will construct a *similar object*.

The set of *objects* that are ***externalizable objects*** are those for which the new conceptual term "*similar*" is defined, such that when a *compiled file* is *loaded*, an *object* can be constructed which

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can be shown to be *similar* to the original *object* which existed at the time the *file compiler* was operating.

3.2.4.2 Similarity of Literal Objects

3.2.4.2.1 Similarity of Aggregate Objects

Of the *types* over which *similarity* is defined, some are treated as aggregate objects. For these types, *similarity* is defined recursively. We say that an *object* of these types has certain "basic qualities" and to satisfy the *similarity* relationship, the values of the corresponding qualities of the two *objects* must also be similar.

3.2.4.2.2 Definition of Similarity

Two *objects* S (in *source code*) and C (in *compiled code*) are defined to be *similar* if and only if they are both of one of the *types* listed here (or defined by the *implementation*) and they both satisfy all additional requirements of *similarity* indicated for that *type*.

number

Two *numbers* S and C are *similar* if they are of the same *type* and represent the same mathematical value.

character

Two *simple characters* S and C are *similar* if they have *similar code attributes*.

Implementations providing additional, *implementation-defined attributes* must define whether and how *non-simple characters* can be regarded as *similar*.

symbol

Two *apparently uninterned symbols* S and C are *similar* if their *names* are *similar*.

Two *interned* symbols S and C are *similar* if their *names* are *similar*, and if either S is accessible in the *current package* at compile time and C is accessible in the *current package* at load time, or C is accessible in the *package* that is *similar* to the *home package* of S.

(Note that *similarity* of *symbols* is dependent on neither the *current readtable* nor how the *function* **read** would parse the *characters* in the *name* of the *symbol*.)

package

Two *packages* S and C are *similar* if their *names* are *similar*.

Note that although a *package object* is an *externalizable object*, the programmer is responsible for ensuring that the corresponding *package* is already in existence when code referencing it as a *literal object* is *loaded*. The *loader* finds the corresponding *package object* as if by calling **find-package** with that *name* as an *argument*. An error is signaled by the *loader* if no *package* exists at load time.

random-state

Two *random states* S and C are *similar* if S would always produce the same sequence of pseudo-random numbers as a $copy_5$ of C when given as the *random-state argument* to the *function* **random**, assuming equivalent *limit arguments* in each case.

(Note that since C has been processed by the *file compiler*, it cannot be used directly as an *argument* to **random** because **random** would perform a side effect.)

cons

Two *conses*, S and C, are *similar* if the car_2 of S is *similar* to the car_2 of C, and the cdr_2 of S is *similar* to the cdr_2 of C.

array

Two one-dimensional *arrays*, S and C, are *similar* if the *length* of S is *similar* to the *length* of C, the *actual array element type* of S is *similar* to the *actual array element type* of C, and each *active element* of S is *similar* to the corresponding *element* of C.

Two *arrays* of *rank* other than one, S and C, are *similar* if the *rank* of S is *similar* to the *rank* of C, each $dimension_1$ of S is *similar* to the corresponding $dimension_1$ of C, the *actual array element type* of S is *similar* to the *actual array element type* of C, and each *element* of S is *similar* to the corresponding *element* of C.

In addition, if S is a *simple array*, then C must also be a *simple array*. If S is a *displaced array*, has a *fill pointer*, or is *actually adjustable*, C is permitted to lack any or all of these qualities.

hash-table

Two *hash tables* S and C are *similar* if they meet the following three requirements:

1. They both have the same test (*e.g.*, they are both **eql** *hash tables*).

2. There is a unique one-to-one correspondence between the keys of the two *hash tables*, such that the corresponding keys are *similar*.

3. For all keys, the values associated with two corresponding keys are *similar*.

If there is more than one possible one-to-one correspondence between the keys of S and C, the consequences are unspecified. A *conforming program* cannot use a table such as S as an *externalizable constant*.

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pathname

Two *pathnames* S and C are *similar* if all corresponding *pathname components* are *similar*.

function

Functions are not *externalizable objects*.

structure-object and **standard-object**

A general-purpose concept of *similarity* does not exist for *structures* and *standard objects*. However, a *conforming program* is permitted to define a **make-load-form** *method* for any *class* K defined by that *program* that is a *subclass* of either **structure-object** or **standard-object**. The effect of such a *method* is to define that an *object* S of *type* K in *source code* is *similar* to an *object* C of *type* K in *compiled code* if C was constructed from *code* produced by calling **make-load-form** on S.

3.2.4.3 Extensions to Similarity Rules

Some *objects*, such as *streams*, **readtables**, and **methods** are not *externalizable objects* under the definition of similarity given above. That is, such *objects* may not portably appear as *literal objects* in *code* to be processed by the *file compiler*.

An *implementation* is permitted to extend the rules of similarity, so that other kinds of *objects* are *externalizable objects* for that *implementation*.

If for some kind of *object*, *similarity* is neither defined by this specification nor by the *implementation*, then the *file compiler* must signal an error upon encountering such an *object* as a *literal constant*.

3.2.4.4 Additional Constraints on Externalizable Objects

If two *literal objects* appearing in the source code for a single file processed with the *file compiler* are the *identical*, the corresponding *objects* in the *compiled code* must also be the *identical*. With the exception of *symbols* and *packages*, any two *literal objects* in *code* being processed by the *file compiler* may be *coalesced* if and only if they are *similar*; if they are either both *symbols* or both *packages*, they may only be *coalesced* if and only if they are *identical*.

Objects containing circular references can be *externalizable objects*. The *file compiler* is required to preserve **eql**ness of substructures within a *file*. Preserving **eql**ness means that subobjects that are the *same* in the *source code* must be the *same* in the corresponding *compiled code*.

In addition, the following are constraints on the handling of *literal objects* by the *file compiler*:

array: If an *array* in the source code is a *simple array*, then the corresponding *array* in the compiled code will also be a *simple array*. If an *array* in the source code is displaced, has a *fill pointer*, or is *actually adjustable*, the corresponding *array* in the compiled code might lack any or all of these qualities. If an *array* in the source code has a fill pointer, then the corresponding *array* in the compiled code might be only the size implied by the fill pointer.

packages: The loader is required to find the corresponding *package object* as if by calling **find-package** with the package name as an argument. An error of *type* **package-error** is signaled if no *package* of that name exists at load time.

random-state: A constant *random state* object cannot be used as the state argument to the *function* **random** because **random** modifies this data structure.

structure, standard-object: *Objects* of *type* **structure-object** and **standard-object** may appear in compiled constants if there is an appropriate **make-load-form** method defined for that *type*.

The *file compiler* calls **make-load-form** on any *object* that is referenced as a *literal object* if the *object* is a *generalized instance* of **standard-object**, **structure-object**, **condition**, or any of a (possibly empty) *implementation-dependent* set of other *classes*. The *file compiler* only calls **make-load-form** once for any given *object* within a single *file*.

symbol: In order to guarantee that *compiled files* can be *loaded* correctly, users must ensure that the *packages* referenced in those *files* are defined consistently at compile time and load time. *Conforming programs* must satisfy the following requirements:

1. The *current package* when a *top level form* in the *file* is processed by **compile-file** must be the same as the *current package* when the *code* corresponding to that *top level form* in the *compiled file* is executed by **load**. In particular:

   a. Any *top level form* in a *file* that alters the *current package* must change it to a *package* of the same *name* both at compile time and at load time.

   b. If the first *non-atomic top level form* in the *file* is not an **in-package** *form*, then the *current package* at the time **load** is called must be a *package* with the same *name* as the package that was the *current package* at the time **compile-file** was called.

2. For all *symbols* appearing lexically within a *top level form* that were *accessible* in the *package* that was the *current package* during processing of that *top level form* at compile time, but whose *home package* was another *package*, at load time there must be a *symbol* with the same *name* that is *accessible* in both the load-time *current package* and in the *package* with the same *name* as the compile-time *home package*.

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3. For all *symbols* represented in the *compiled file* that were *external symbols* in their *home package* at compile time, there must be a *symbol* with the same *name* that is an *external symbol* in the *package* with the same *name* at load time.

If any of these conditions do not hold, the *package* in which the *loader* looks for the affected *symbols* is unspecified. *Implementations* are permitted to signal an error or to define this behavior.

3.2.5 Exceptional Situations in the Compiler

compile and **compile-file** are permitted to signal errors and warnings, including errors due to compile-time processing of `(eval-when (:compile-toplevel) ...)` forms, macro expansion, and conditions signaled by the compiler itself.

Conditions of *type* **error** might be signaled by the compiler in situations where the compilation cannot proceed without intervention.

In addition to situations for which the standard specifies that *conditions* of *type* **warning** must or might be signaled, warnings might be signaled in situations where the compiler can determine that the consequences are undefined or that a run-time error will be signaled. Examples of this situation are as follows: violating type declarations, altering or assigning the value of a constant defined with **defconstant**, calling built-in Lisp functions with a wrong number of arguments or malformed keyword argument lists, and using unrecognized declaration specifiers.

The compiler is permitted to issue warnings about matters of programming style as conditions of *type* **style-warning**. Examples of this situation are as follows: redefining a function using a different argument list, calling a function with a wrong number of arguments, not declaring **ignore** of a local variable that is not referenced, and referencing a variable declared **ignore**.

Both **compile** and **compile-file** are permitted (but not required) to *establish* a *handler* for *conditions* of *type* **error**. For example, they might signal a warning, and restart compilation from some *implementation-dependent* point in order to let the compilation proceed without manual intervention.

Both **compile** and **compile-file** return three values, the second two indicating whether the source code being compiled contained errors and whether style warnings were issued.

Some warnings might be deferred until the end of compilation. See **with-compilation-unit**.

3.3 Declarations

Declarations provide a way of specifying information for use by program processors, such as the evaluator or the compiler.

Local declarations can be embedded in executable code using **declare**. ***Global declarations***, or ***proclamations***, are established by **proclaim** or **declaim**.

The **the** *special form* provides a shorthand notation for making a *local declaration* about the *type* of the *value* of a given *form*.

The consequences are undefined if a program violates a *declaration* or a *proclamation*.

3.3.1 Minimal Declaration Processing Requirements

In general, an *implementation* is free to ignore *declaration specifiers* except for the **declaration**, **notinline**, **safety**, and **special** *declaration specifiers*.

A **declaration** *declaration* must suppress warnings about unrecognized *declarations* of the kind that it declares. If an *implementation* does not produce warnings about unrecognized declarations, it may safely ignore this *declaration*.

A **notinline** *declaration* must be recognized by any *implementation* that supports inline functions or *compiler macros* in order to disable those facilities. An *implementation* that does not use inline functions or *compiler macros* may safely ignore this *declaration*.

A **safety** *declaration* that increases the current safety level must always be recognized. An *implementation* that always processes code as if safety were high may safely ignore this *declaration*.

A **special** *declaration* must be processed by all *implementations*.

3.3.2 Declaration Specifiers

A ***declaration specifier*** is an *expression* that can appear at top level of a **declare** expression or a **declaim** form, or as the argument to **proclaim**. It is a *list* whose *car* is a *declaration identifier*, and whose *cdr* is data interpreted according to rules specific to the *declaration identifier*.

3.3.3 Declaration Identifiers

Figure 3–9 shows a list of all *declaration identifiers* defined by this standard.

declaration	ignore	special
dynamic-extent	inline	type
ftype	notinline	
ignorable	optimize	

Figure 3–9. Common Lisp Declaration Identifiers

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An implementation is free to support other (*implementation-defined*) *declaration identifiers* as well. A warning might be issued if a *declaration identifier* is not among those defined above, is not defined by the *implementation*, is not a *type name*, and has not been declared in a **declaration** *proclamation*.

3.3.3.1 Shorthand notation for Type Declarations

A *type specifier* can be used as a *declaration identifier*. (*type-specifier* {*var*}*) is taken as shorthand for (type *type-specifier* {*var*}*).

3.3.4 Declaration Scope

Declarations can be divided into two kinds: those that apply to the *bindings* of *variables* or *functions*; and those that do not apply to *bindings*.

A *declaration* that appears at the head of a binding *form* and applies to a *variable* or *function binding* made by that *form* is called a ***bound declaration***; such a *declaration* affects both the *binding* and any references within the *scope* of the *declaration*.

Declarations that are not *bound declarations* are called ***free declarations***.

A *free declaration* in a *form* $F1$ that applies to a *binding* for a *name* N *established* by some *form* $F2$ of which $F1$ is a *subform* affects only references to N within $F1$; it does not to apply to other references to N outside of $F1$, nor does it affect the manner in which the *binding* of N by $F2$ is *established*.

Declarations that do not apply to *bindings* can only appear as *free declarations*.

The *scope* of a *bound declaration* is the same as the *lexical scope* of the *binding* to which it applies; for *special variables*, this means the *scope* that the *binding* would have had had it been a *lexical binding*.

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, the *scope* of a *free declaration* includes only the body *subforms* of the *form* at whose head it appears, and no other *subforms*. The *scope* of *free declarations* specifically does not include *initialization forms* for *bindings* established by the *form* containing the *declarations*.

Some *iteration forms* include step, end-test, or result *subforms* that are also included in the *scope* of *declarations* that appear in the *iteration form*. Specifically, the *iteration forms* and *subforms* involved are:

- **do**, **do***: *step-forms*, *end-test-form*, and *result-forms*.
- **dolist**, **dotimes**: *result-form*
- **do-all-symbols**, **do-external-symbols**, **do-symbols**: *result-form*

3.3.4.1 Examples of Declaration Scope

Here is an example illustrating the *scope* of *bound declarations*.

```
(let ((x 1))                ;[1] 1st occurrence of x
  (declare (special x))     ;[2] 2nd occurrence of x
  (let ((x 2))              ;[3] 3rd occurrence of x
    (let ((old-x x)         ;[4] 4th occurrence of x
          (x 3))            ;[5] 5th occurrence of x
      (declare (special x)) ;[6] 6th occurrence of x
      (list old-x x))))     ;[7] 7th occurrence of x
→ (2 3)
```

The first occurrence of x *establishes* a *dynamic binding* of x because of the **special** *declaration* for x in the second line. The third occurrence of x *establishes* a *lexical binding* of x (because there is no **special** *declaration* in the corresponding **let** *form*). The fourth occurrence of x *x* is a reference to the *lexical binding* of x established in the third line. The fifth occurrence of x *establishes* a *dynamic binding* of *x* for the body of the **let** *form* that begins on that line because of the **special** *declaration* for x in the sixth line. The reference to x in the fourth line is not affected by the **special** *declaration* in the sixth line because that reference is not within the "would-be *lexical scope*" of the *variable* x in the fifth line. The reference to x in the seventh line is a reference to the *dynamic binding* of *x established* in the fifth line.

Here is another example, to illustrate the *scope* of a *free declaration*. In the following:

```
(lambda (&optional (x (foo 1))) ;[1]
  (declare (notinline foo))     ;[2]
  (foo x))                      ;[3]
```

the *call* to foo in the first line might be compiled inline even though the *call* to foo in the third line must not be. This is because the **notinline** *declaration* for foo in the second line applies only to the body on the third line. In order to suppress inlining for both *calls*, one might write:

```
(locally (declare (notinline foo)) ;[1]
  (lambda (&optional (x (foo 1)))  ;[2]
    (foo x)))                      ;[3]
```

or, alternatively:

```
(lambda (&optional                               ;[1]
           (x (locally (declare (notinline foo)) ;[2]
                (foo 1))))                       ;[3]
  (declare (notinline foo))                      ;[4]
  (foo x))                                       ;[5]
```

Finally, here is an example that shows the *scope* of *declarations* in an *iteration form*.

```
(let ((x  1))                     ;[1]
  (declare (special x))           ;[2]
```



```
  (let ((x 2))                    ;[3]
    (dotimes (i x x)              ;[4]
      (declare (special x)))))    ;[5]
→ 1
```

In this example, the first reference to x on the fourth line is to the *lexical binding* of x established on the third line. However, the second occurrence of x on the fourth line lies within the *scope* of the *free declaration* on the fifth line (because this is the *result-form* of the **dotimes**) and therefore refers to the *dynamic binding* of x.

3.4 Lambda Lists

A ***lambda list*** is a *list* that specifies a set of *parameters* (sometimes called *lambda variables*) and a protocol for receiving *values* for those *parameters*.

There are several kinds of *lambda lists*.

Context	Kind of Lambda List
defun *form*	*ordinary lambda list*
defmacro *form*	*macro lambda list*
lambda expression	*ordinary lambda list*
flet local *function* definition	*ordinary lambda list*
labels local *function* definition	*ordinary lambda list*
handler-case *clause* specification	*ordinary lambda list*
restart-case *clause* specification	*ordinary lambda list*
macrolet local *macro* definition	*macro lambda list*
define-method-combination	*ordinary lambda list*
define-method-combination `:arguments` option	*define-method-combination arguments lambda list*
defstruct `:constructor` option	*boa lambda list*
defgeneric *form*	*generic function lambda list*
defgeneric *method* clause	*specialized lambda list*
defmethod *form*	*specialized lambda list*
defsetf *form*	*defsetf lambda list*
define-setf-expander *form*	*macro lambda list*
deftype *form*	*deftype lambda list*
destructuring-bind *form*	*destructuring lambda list*
define-compiler-macro *form*	*macro lambda list*
define-modify-macro *form*	*define-modify-macro lambda list*

Figure 3–10. What Kind of Lambda Lists to Use

Figure 3–11 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *lambda lists*.

lambda-list-keywords	**lambda-parameters-limit**

Figure 3–11. Defined names applicable to lambda lists

3.4.1 Ordinary Lambda Lists

An ***ordinary lambda list*** is used to describe how a set of *arguments* is received by an *ordinary function*. The *defined names* in Figure 3–12 are those which use *ordinary lambda lists*:

define-method-combination	**handler-case**	**restart-case**
defun	**labels**	
flet	**lambda**	

Figure 3–12. Standardized Operators that use Ordinary Lambda Lists

An *ordinary lambda list* can contain the *lambda list keywords* shown in Figure 3–13.

&allow-other-keys	**&key**	**&rest**
&aux	**&optional**	

Figure 3–13. Lambda List Keywords used by Ordinary Lambda Lists

Each *element* of a *lambda list* is either a parameter specifier or a *lambda list keyword*. Implementations are free to provide additional *lambda list keywords*. For a list of all *lambda list keywords* used by the implementation, see **lambda-list-keywords**.

The syntax for *ordinary lambda lists* is as follows:

lambda-list::=({*var*}*
 [`&optional` {*var* | (*var* [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*]
 [`&rest` *var*]
 [`&key` {*var* | ({*var* | (*keyword-name var*)} [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*
 [`&allow-other-keys`]]
 [`&aux` {*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*])

A *var* or *supplied-p-parameter* must be a *symbol* that is not the name of a *constant variable*.

An *init-form* can be any *form*. Whenever any *init-form* is evaluated for any parameter specifier, that *form* may refer to any parameter variable to the left of the specifier in which the *init-form* appears, including any *supplied-p-parameter* variables, and may rely on the fact that no other parameter variable has yet been bound (including its own parameter variable).

A *keyword-name* can be any *symbol*, but by convention is normally a $keyword_1$; all *standardized functions* follow that convention.

An *ordinary lambda list* has five parts, any or all of which may be empty. For information about the treatment of argument mismatches, see Section 3.5 (Error Checking in Function Calls).

3.4.1.1 Specifiers for the required parameters

These are all the parameter specifiers up to the first *lambda list keyword*; if there are no *lambda list keywords*, then all the specifiers are for required parameters. Each required parameter is specified by a parameter variable *var*. *var* is bound as a lexical variable unless it is declared **special**.

If there are `n` required parameters (`n` may be zero), there must be at least `n` passed arguments, and the required parameters are bound to the first `n` passed arguments; see Section 3.5 (Error Checking in Function Calls). The other parameters are then processed using any remaining arguments.

3.4.1.2 Specifiers for optional parameters

If **&optional** is present, the optional parameter specifiers are those following **&optional** up to the next *lambda list keyword* or the end of the list. If optional parameters are specified, then each one is processed as follows. If any unprocessed arguments remain, then the parameter variable *var* is bound to the next remaining argument, just as for a required parameter. If no arguments remain, however, then *init-form* is evaluated, and the parameter variable is bound to the resulting value (or to **nil** if no *init-form* appears in the parameter specifier). If another variable name *supplied-p-parameter* appears in the specifier, it is bound to *true* if an argument had been available, and to *false* if no argument remained (and therefore *init-form* had to be evaluated). *Supplied-p-parameter* is bound not to an argument but to a value indicating whether or not an argument had been supplied for the corresponding *var*.

3.4.1.3 A specifier for a rest parameter

&rest, if present, must be followed by a single *rest parameter* specifier, which in turn must be followed by another *lambda list keyword* or the end of the *lambda list*. After all optional parameter specifiers have been processed, then there may or may not be a *rest parameter*. If there is a *rest parameter*, it is bound to a *list* of all as-yet-unprocessed arguments. If no unprocessed arguments remain, the *rest parameter* is bound to the *empty list*. If there is no *rest parameter* and there are no *keyword parameters*, then an error should be signaled if any unprocessed arguments remain; see Section 3.5 (Error Checking in Function Calls). The value of a *rest parameter* is permitted, but not required, to share structure with the last argument to **apply**.

3.4.1.4 Specifiers for keyword parameters

If **&key** is present, all specifiers up to the next *lambda list keyword* or the end of the *list* are keyword parameter specifiers. When keyword parameters are processed, the same arguments are processed that would be made into a *list* for a *rest parameter*. It is permitted to specify both **&rest** and **&key**. In this case the remaining arguments are used for both purposes; that is, all remaining arguments are made into a *list* for the *rest parameter*, and are also processed for the **&key** parameters. If **&key** is specified, there must remain an even number of arguments; see Section 3.5.1.6 (Odd Number of Keyword Arguments). These arguments are considered as pairs, the first argument in each pair being interpreted as a name and the second as the corresponding

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value. The first *object* of each pair must be a *symbol*; see Section 3.5.1.5 (Invalid Keyword Arguments). The keyword parameter specifiers may optionally be followed by the *lambda list keyword* **&allow-other-keys**.

In each keyword parameter specifier must be a name *var* for the parameter variable. If the *var* appears alone or in a (*var init-form*) combination, the keyword name used when matching *arguments* to *parameters* is a *symbol* in the `KEYWORD` *package* whose *name* is the *same* (under **string=**) as *var*'s. If the notation ((*keyword-name var*) *init-form*) is used, then the keyword name used to match *arguments* to *parameters* is *keyword-name*, which may be a *symbol* in any *package*. (Of course, if it is not a *symbol* in the `KEYWORD` *package*, it does not necessarily self-evaluate, so care must be taken when calling the function to make sure that normal evaluation still yields the keyword name.) Thus

```
(defun foo (&key radix (type 'integer)) ...)
```

means exactly the same as

```
(defun foo (&key ((:radix radix)) ((:type type) 'integer)) ...)
```

The keyword parameter specifiers are, like all parameter specifiers, effectively processed from left to right. For each keyword parameter specifier, if there is an argument pair whose name matches that specifier's name (that is, the names are **eq**), then the parameter variable for that specifier is bound to the second item (the value) of that argument pair. If more than one such argument pair matches, the leftmost argument pair is used. If no such argument pair exists, then the *init-form* for that specifier is evaluated and the parameter variable is bound to that value (or to **nil** if no *init-form* was specified). *supplied-p-parameter* is treated as for **&optional** parameters: it is bound to *true* if there was a matching argument pair, and to *false* otherwise.

Unless keyword argument checking is suppressed, an argument pair must a name matched by a parameter specifier; see Section 3.5.1.4 (Unrecognized Keyword Arguments).

If keyword argument checking is suppressed, then it is permitted for an argument pair to match no parameter specifier, and the argument pair is ignored, but such an argument pair is accessible through the *rest parameter* if one was supplied. The purpose of these mechanisms is to allow sharing of argument lists among several *lambda expressions* and to allow either the caller or the called *lambda expression* to specify that such sharing may be taking place.

Note that if **&key** is present, a keyword argument of `:allow-other-keys` is always permitted—regardless of whether the associated value is *true* or *false*. However, if the value is *false*, other non-matching keywords are not tolerated (unless **&allow-other-keys** was used).

Furthermore, if the receiving argument list specifies a regular argument which would be flagged by `:allow-other-keys`, then `:allow-other-keys` has both its special-cased meaning (identifying whether additional keywords are permitted) and its normal meaning (data flow into the function in question).

3.4.1.4.1 Suppressing Keyword Argument Checking

If **&allow-other-keys** was specified in the *lambda list* of a *function*, *keyword*$_2$ *argument* checking is suppressed in calls to that *function*.

If the `:allow-other-keys` *argument* is *true* in a call to a *function*, *keyword*$_2$ *argument* checking is suppressed in that call.

The `:allow-other-keys` *argument* is permissible in all situations involving *keyword*$_2$ *arguments*, even when its associated *value* is *false*.

3.4.1.4.1.1 Examples of Suppressing Keyword Argument Checking

```
;;; The caller can supply :ALLOW-OTHER-KEYS T to suppress checking.
 ((lambda (&key x) x) :x 1 :y 2 :allow-other-keys t) → 1
;;; The callee can use &ALLOW-OTHER-KEYS to suppress checking.
 ((lambda (&key x &allow-other-keys) x) :x 1 :y 2) → 1
;;; :ALLOW-OTHER-KEYS NIL is always permitted.
 ((lambda (&key) t) :allow-other-keys nil) → T
;;; As with other keyword arguments, only the left-most pair
;;; named :ALLOW-OTHER-KEYS has any effect.
 ((lambda (&key x) x)
  :x 1 :y 2 :allow-other-keys t :allow-other-keys nil)
→ 1
;;; Only the left-most pair named :ALLOW-OTHER-KEYS has any effect,
;;; so in safe code this signals a PROGRAM-ERROR (and might enter the
;;; debugger).  In unsafe code, the consequences are undefined.
 ((lambda (&key x) x)                   ;This call is not valid
  :x 1 :y 2 :allow-other-keys nil :allow-other-keys t)
```

3.4.1.5 Specifiers for &aux variables

These are not really parameters. If the *lambda list keyword* **&aux** is present, all specifiers after it are auxiliary variable specifiers. After all parameter specifiers have been processed, the auxiliary variable specifiers (those following `&aux`) are processed from left to right. For each one, *init-form* is evaluated and *var* is bound to that value (or to **nil** if no *init-form* was specified). **&aux** variable processing is analogous to **let*** processing.

```
 (lambda (x y &aux (a (car x)) (b 2) c) (list x y a b c))
    ≡ (lambda (x y) (let* ((a (car x)) (b 2) c) (list x y a b c)))
```


3.4.1.6 Examples of Ordinary Lambda Lists

Here are some examples involving *optional parameters* and *rest parameters*:

```
 ((lambda (a b) (+ a (* b 3))) 4 5) → 19
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 2)) (+ a (* b 3))) 4 5) → 19
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 2)) (+ a (* b 3))) 4) → 10
 ((lambda (&optional (a 2 b) (c 3 d) &rest x) (list a b c d x)))
→ (2 NIL 3 NIL NIL)
 ((lambda (&optional (a 2 b) (c 3 d) &rest x) (list a b c d x)) 6)
→ (6 T 3 NIL NIL)
 ((lambda (&optional (a 2 b) (c 3 d) &rest x) (list a b c d x)) 6 3)
→ (6 T 3 T NIL)
 ((lambda (&optional (a 2 b) (c 3 d) &rest x) (list a b c d x)) 6 3 8)
→ (6 T 3 T (8))
 ((lambda (&optional (a 2 b) (c 3 d) &rest x) (list a b c d x))
  6 3 8 9 10 11)
→ (6 t 3 t (8 9 10 11))
```

Here are some examples involving *keyword parameters*:

```
 ((lambda (a b &key c d) (list a b c d)) 1 2) → (1 2 NIL NIL)
 ((lambda (a b &key c d) (list a b c d)) 1 2 :c 6) → (1 2 6 NIL)
 ((lambda (a b &key c d) (list a b c d)) 1 2 :d 8) → (1 2 NIL 8)
 ((lambda (a b &key c d) (list a b c d)) 1 2 :c 6 :d 8) → (1 2 6 8)
 ((lambda (a b &key c d) (list a b c d)) 1 2 :d 8 :c 6) → (1 2 6 8)
 ((lambda (a b &key c d) (list a b c d)) :a 1 :d 8 :c 6) → (:a 1 6 8)
 ((lambda (a b &key c d) (list a b c d)) :a :b :c :d) → (:a :b :d NIL)
 ((lambda (a b &key ((:sea c)) d) (list a b c d)) 1 2 :sea 6) → (1 2 6 NIL)
 ((lambda (a b &key ((c c)) d) (list a b c d)) 1 2 'c 6) → (1 2 6 NIL)
```

Here are some examples involving *optional parameters*, *rest parameters*, and *keyword parameters* together:

```
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 3) &rest x &key c (d a))
    (list a b c d x)) 1)
→ (1 3 NIL 1 ())
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 3) &rest x &key c (d a))
    (list a b c d x)) 1 2)
→ (1 2 NIL 1 ())
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 3) &rest x &key c (d a))
    (list a b c d x)) :c 7)
→ (:c 7 NIL :c ())
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 3) &rest x &key c (d a))
    (list a b c d x)) 1 6 :c 7)
→ (1 6 7 1 (:c 7))
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 3) &rest x &key c (d a))
```

```
   (list a b c d x)) 1 6 :d 8)
→ (1 6 NIL 8 (:d 8))
 ((lambda (a &optional (b 3) &rest x &key c (d a))
   (list a b c d x)) 1 6 :d 8 :c 9 :d 10)
→ (1 6 9 8 (:d 8 :c 9 :d 10))
```

As an example of the use of **&allow-other-keys** and `:allow-other-keys`, consider a *function* that takes two named arguments of its own and also accepts additional named arguments to be passed to **make-array**:

```
 (defun array-of-strings (str dims &rest named-pairs
                          &key (start 0) end &allow-other-keys)
   (apply #'make-array dims
          :initial-element (subseq str start end)
          :allow-other-keys t
          named-pairs))
```

This *function* takes a *string* and dimensioning information and returns an *array* of the specified dimensions, each of whose elements is the specified *string*. However, `:start` and `:end` named arguments may be used to specify that a substring of the given *string* should be used. In addition, the presence of **&allow-other-keys** in the *lambda list* indicates that the caller may supply additional named arguments; the *rest parameter* provides access to them. These additional named arguments are passed to **make-array**. The *function* **make-array** normally does not allow the named arguments `:start` and `:end` to be used, and an error should be signaled if such named arguments are supplied to **make-array**. However, the presence in the call to **make-array** of the named argument `:allow-other-keys` with a *true* value causes any extraneous named arguments, including `:start` and `:end`, to be acceptable and ignored.

3.4.2 Generic Function Lambda Lists

A ***generic function lambda list*** is used to describe the overall shape of the argument list to be accepted by a *generic function*. Individual *method signatures* might contribute additional *keyword parameters* to the *lambda list* of the *effective method*.

A *generic function lambda list* is used by **defgeneric**.

A *generic function lambda list* has the following syntax:

lambda-list::=({*var*}*
  [`&optional` {*var* | (*var*)}*]
  [`&rest` *var*]
  [`&key` {*var* | ({*var* | (*keyword-name var*)})}*
  [`&allow-other-keys`]])

A *generic function lambda list* can contain the *lambda list keywords* shown in Figure 3–14.

&allow-other-keys	&optional
&key	&rest

Figure 3–14. Lambda List Keywords used by Generic Function Lambda Lists

A *generic function lambda list* differs from an *ordinary lambda list* in the following ways:

Required arguments

Zero or more *required parameters* must be specified.

Optional and keyword arguments

Optional parameters and *keyword parameters* may not have default initial value forms nor use supplied-p parameters.

Use of &aux

The use of **&aux** is not allowed.

3.4.3 Specialized Lambda Lists

A ***specialized lambda list*** is used to *specialize* a *method* for a particular *signature* and to describe how *arguments* matching that *signature* are received by the *method*. The *defined names* in Figure 3–15 use *specialized lambda lists* in some way; see the dictionary entry for each for information about how.

defmethod	defgeneric

Figure 3–15. Standardized Operators that use Specialized Lambda Lists

A *specialized lambda list* can contain the *lambda list keywords* shown in Figure 3–16.

&allow-other-keys	&key	&rest
&aux	&optional	

Figure 3–16. Lambda List Keywords used by Specialized Lambda Lists

A *specialized lambda list* is syntactically the same as an *ordinary lambda list* except that each *required parameter* may optionally be associated with a *class* or *object* for which that *parameter* is *specialized*.

lambda-list::=({*var* | (*var* [*specializer*])}*
[&optional {*var* | (*var* [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*]
[&rest *var*]
[&key {*var* | ({*var* | (*keyword-name var*)} [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}* [&allow-other-keys
[&aux {*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*])

3.4.4 Macro Lambda Lists

A ***macro lambda list*** is used in describing *macros* defined by the *operators* in Figure 3–17.

define-compiler-macro	**defmacro**	**macrolet**
define-setf-expander		

Figure 3–17. Operators that use Macro Lambda Lists

With the additional restriction that an *environment parameter* may appear only once (at any of the positions indicated), a *macro lambda list* has the following syntax:

reqvars::={*var* | ↓*pattern*}*

optvars::=[&optional {*var* | ({*var* | ↓*pattern*} [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*]

restvar::=[{&rest | &body} {*var* | ↓*pattern*}]

keyvars::=[&key {*var* | ({*var* | (*keyword-name* {*var* | ↓*pattern*})} [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*
[&allow-other-keys]]

auxvars::=[&aux {*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*]

envvar::=[&environment *var*]

wholevar::=[&whole *var*]

lambda-list::=(↓*wholevar* ↓*envvar* ↓*reqvars* ↓*envvar* ↓*optvars* ↓*envvar*
↓*restvar* ↓*envvar* ↓*keyvars* ↓*envvar* ↓*auxvars* ↓*envvar*) |
(↓*wholevar* ↓*envvar* ↓*reqvars* ↓*envvar* ↓*optvars* ↓*envvar* . *var*)

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pattern::=(↓*wholevar* ↓*reqvars* ↓*optvars* ↓*restvar* ↓*keyvars* ↓*auxvars*) |
(↓*wholevar* ↓*reqvars* ↓*optvars* . *var*)

A *macro lambda list* can contain the *lambda list keywords* shown in Figure 3–18.

&allow-other-keys	**&environment**	**&rest**
&aux	**&key**	**&whole**
&body	**&optional**	

Figure 3–18. Lambda List Keywords used by Macro Lambda Lists

Optional parameters (introduced by **&optional**) and *keyword parameters* (introduced by **&key**) can be supplied in a *macro lambda list*, just as in an *ordinary lambda list*. Both may contain default initialization forms and *supplied-p parameters*.

&body is identical in function to **&rest**, but it can be used to inform certain output-formatting and editing functions that the remainder of the *form* is treated as a body, and should be indented accordingly. Only one of **&body** or **&rest** can be used at any particular level; see Section 3.4.4.1 (Destructuring by Lambda Lists). **&body** can appear at any level of a *macro lambda list*; for details, see Section 3.4.4.1 (Destructuring by Lambda Lists).

&whole is followed by a single variable that is bound to the entire macro-call form; this is the value that the *macro function* receives as its first argument. If **&whole** and a following variable appear, they must appear first in *lambda-list*, before any other parameter or *lambda list keyword*. **&whole** can appear at any level of a *macro lambda list*. At inner levels, the **&whole** variable is bound to the corresponding part of the argument, as with **&rest**, but unlike **&rest**, other arguments are also allowed. The use of **&whole** does not affect the pattern of arguments specified.

&environment is followed by a single variable that is bound to an *environment* representing the *lexical environment* in which the macro call is to be interpreted. This *environment* should be used with **macro-function**, **get-setf-expansion**, **compiler-macro-function**, and **macroexpand** (for example) in computing the expansion of the macro, to ensure that any *lexical bindings* or definitions established in the *compilation environment* are taken into account. **&environment** can only appear at the top level of a *macro lambda list*, and can only appear once, but can appear anywhere in that list; the **&environment** *parameter* is *bound* along with **&whole** before any other *variables* in the *lambda list*, regardless of where **&environment** appears in the *lambda list*. The *object* that is bound to the *environment parameter* has *dynamic extent*.

Destructuring allows a *macro lambda list* to express the structure of a macro call syntax. If no *lambda list keywords* appear, then the *macro lambda list* is a *tree* containing parameter names at the leaves. The pattern and the *macro form* must have compatible *tree structure*; that is, their *tree structure* must be equivalent, or it must differ only in that some *leaves* of the pattern match *non-atomic objects* of the *macro form*. For information about error detection in this *situation*, see Section 3.5.1.7 (Destructuring Mismatch).

A destructuring *lambda list* (whether at top level or embedded) can be dotted, ending in a parameter name. This situation is treated exactly as if the parameter name that ends the *list* had appeared preceded by **&rest**.

It is permissible for a *macro form* (or a *subexpression* of a *macro form*) to be a *dotted list* only when `(... &rest var)` or `(... . var)` is used to match it. It is the responsibility of the *macro* to recognize and deal with such situations.

3.4.4.1 Destructuring by Lambda Lists

Anywhere in a *macro lambda list* where a parameter name can appear, and where *ordinary lambda list* syntax (as described in Section 3.4.1 (Ordinary Lambda Lists)) does not otherwise allow a *list*, a *destructuring lambda list* can appear in place of the parameter name. When this is done, then the argument that would match the parameter is treated as a (possibly dotted) *list*, to be used as an argument list for satisfying the parameters in the embedded *lambda list*. This is known as destructuring.

Destructuring is the process of decomposing a compound *object* into its component parts, using an abbreviated, declarative syntax, rather than writing it out by hand using the primitive component-accessing functions. Each component part is bound to a variable.

A destructuring operation requires an *object* to be decomposed, a pattern that specifies what components are to be extracted, and the names of the variables whose values are to be the components.

3.4.4.1.1 Data-directed Destructuring by Lambda Lists

In data-directed destructuring, the pattern is a sample *object* of the *type* to be decomposed. Wherever a component is to be extracted, a *symbol* appears in the pattern; this *symbol* is the name of the variable whose value will be that component.

3.4.4.1.1.1 Examples of Data-directed Destructuring by Lambda Lists

An example pattern is

```
(a b c)
```

which destructures a list of three elements. The variable `a` is assigned to the first element, `b` to the second, etc. A more complex example is

```
((first . rest) . more)
```

The important features of data-directed destructuring are its syntactic simplicity and the ability to extend it to lambda-list-directed destructuring.

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3.4.4.1.2 Lambda-list-directed Destructuring by Lambda Lists

An extension of data-directed destructuring of *trees* is lambda-list-directed destructuring. This derives from the analogy between the three-element destructuring pattern

```
(first second third)
```

and the three-argument *lambda list*

```
(first second third)
```

Lambda-list-directed destructuring is identical to data-directed destructuring if no *lambda list keywords* appear in the pattern. Any list in the pattern (whether a sub-list or the whole pattern itself) that contains a *lambda list keyword* is interpreted specially. Elements of the list to the left of the first *lambda list keyword* are treated as destructuring patterns, as usual, but the remaining elements of the list are treated like a function's *lambda list* except that where a variable would normally be required, an arbitrary destructuring pattern is allowed. Note that in case of ambiguity, *lambda list* syntax is preferred over destructuring syntax. Thus, after **&optional** a list of elements is a list of a destructuring pattern and a default value form.

The detailed behavior of each *lambda list keyword* in a lambda-list-directed destructuring pattern is as follows:

&optional

Each following element is a variable or a list of a destructuring pattern, a default value form, and a supplied-p variable. The default value and the supplied-p variable can be omitted. If the list being destructured ends early, so that it does not have an element to match against this destructuring (sub)-pattern, the default form is evaluated and destructured instead. The supplied-p variable receives the value **nil** if the default form is used, **t** otherwise.

&rest, **&body**

The next element is a destructuring pattern that matches the rest of the list. **&body** is identical to **&rest** but declares that what is being matched is a list of forms that constitutes the body of *form*. This next element must be the last unless a *lambda list keyword* follows it.

&aux

The remaining elements are not destructuring patterns at all, but are auxiliary variable bindings.

&whole

The next element is a destructuring pattern that matches the entire form in a macro, or the entire *subexpression* at inner levels.

&key

Each following element is one of

a *variable*,

or a list of a variable, an optional initialization form, and an optional supplied-p variable.

or a list of a list of a keyword and a destructuring pattern, an optional initialization form, and an optional supplied-p variable.

The rest of the list being destructured is taken to be alternating keywords and values and is taken apart appropriately.

&allow-other-keys

Stands by itself.

3.4.5 Destructuring Lambda Lists

A ***destructuring lambda list*** is used by **destructuring-bind**.

Destructuring lambda lists are closely related to *macro lambda lists*; see Section 3.4.4 (Macro Lambda Lists). A *destructuring lambda list* can contain all of the *lambda list keywords* listed for *macro lambda lists* except for **&environment**, and supports destructuring in the same way. Inner *lambda lists* nested within a *macro lambda list* have the syntax of *destructuring lambda lists*.

A *destructuring lambda list* has the following syntax:

reqvars::={*var* | ↓*lambda-list*}*

optvars::=[`&optional` {*var* | ({*var* | ↓*lambda-list*} [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*]

restvar::=[{`&rest` | `&body`} {*var* | ↓*lambda-list*}]

keyvars::=[`&key` {*var* | ({*var* | (*keyword-name* {*var* | ↓*lambda-list*})} [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*
[`&allow-other-keys`]]

auxvars::=[`&aux` {*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*]

envvar::=[`&environment` *var*]

wholevar::=[`&whole` *var*]

lambda-list::=(↓*wholevar* ↓*reqvars* ↓*optvars* ↓*restvar* ↓*keyvars* ↓*auxvars*) |
(↓*wholevar* ↓*reqvars* ↓*optvars* . *var*)

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3.4.6 Boa Lambda Lists

A ***boa lambda list*** is a *lambda list* that is syntactically like an *ordinary lambda list*, but that is processed in "**b**y **o**rder of **a**rgument" style.

A *boa lambda list* is used only in a **defstruct** *form*, when explicitly specifying the *lambda list* of a constructor *function* (sometimes called a "boa constructor").

The **&optional**, **&rest**, **&aux**, **&key**, and **&allow-other-keys** *lambda list keywords* are recognized in a *boa lambda list*. The way these *lambda list keywords* differ from their use in an *ordinary lambda list* follows.

Consider this example, which describes how **destruct** processes its `:constructor` option.

```
(:constructor create-foo
        (a &optional b (c 'sea) &rest d &aux e (f 'eff)))
```

This defines `create-foo` to be a constructor of one or more arguments. The first argument is used to initialize the `a` slot. The second argument is used to initialize the `b` slot. If there isn't any second argument, then the default value given in the body of the **defstruct** (if given) is used instead. The third argument is used to initialize the `c` slot. If there isn't any third argument, then the symbol `sea` is used instead. Any arguments following the third argument are collected into a *list* and used to initialize the `d` slot. If there are three or fewer arguments, then **nil** is placed in the `d` slot. The `e` slot is not initialized; its initial value is *implementation-defined*. Finally, the `f` slot is initialized to contain the symbol `eff`. **&key** and **&allow-other-keys** arguments default in a manner similar to that of **&optional** arguments: if no default is supplied in the *lambda list* then the default value given in the body of the **defstruct** (if given) is used instead. For example:

```
(defstruct (foo (:constructor CREATE-FOO (a &optional b (c 'sea)
                                            &key (d 2)
                                            &aux e (f 'eff))))
  (a 1) (b 2) (c 3) (d 4) (e 5) (f 6))

(create-foo 10) → #S(FOO A 10 B 2 C SEA D 2 E implemention-dependent F EFF)
(create-foo 10 'bee 'see :d 'dee)
→ #S(FOO A 10 B BEE C SEE D DEE E implemention-dependent F EFF)
```

If keyword arguments of the form `((`*key var*`)` [*default* [*svar*]]) are specified, the *slot name* is matched with *var* (not *key*).

The actions taken in the `b` and `e` cases were carefully chosen to allow the user to specify all possible behaviors. The **&aux** variables can be used to completely override the default initializations given in the body.

If no default value is supplied for an *aux variable* variable, the consequences are undefined if an attempt is later made to read the corresponding *slot*'s value before a value is explicitly assigned. If such a *slot* has a `:type` option specified, this suppressed initialization does not imply a type mismatch situation; the declared type is only required to apply when the *slot* is finally assigned.

With this definition, the following can be written:

```
(create-foo 1 2)
```

instead of

```
(make-foo :a 1 :b 2)
```

and `create-foo` provides defaulting different from that of `make-foo`.

Additional arguments that do not correspond to slot names but are merely present to supply values used in subsequent initialization computations are allowed. For example, in the definition

```
(defstruct (frob (:constructor create-frob
                 (a &key (b 3 have-b) (c-token 'c)
                         (c (list c-token (if have-b 7 2))))))
        a b c)
```

the `c-token` argument is used merely to supply a value used in the initialization of the `c` slot. The *supplied-p parameters* associated with *optional parameters* and *keyword parameters* might also be used this way.

3.4.7 Defsetf Lambda Lists

A ***defsetf lambda list*** is used by **defsetf**.

A *defsetf lambda list* has the following syntax:

lambda-list::=({*var*}*
  [&optional {*var* | (*var* [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*]
  [&rest *var*]
  [&key {*var* | ({*var* | (*keyword-name var*)} [*init-form* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*
  [&allow-other-keys]]
  [&environment *var*]

A *defsetf lambda list* can contain the *lambda list keywords* shown in Figure 3–19.

&allow-other-keys	&key	&rest
&environment	&optional	

Figure 3–19. Lambda List Keywords used by Defsetf Lambda Lists

A *defsetf lambda list* differs from an *ordinary lambda list* only in that it does not permit the use of **&aux**, and that it permits use of **&environment**, which introduces an *environment parameter*.

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3.4.8 Deftype Lambda Lists

A ***deftype lambda list*** is used by **deftype**.

A *deftype lambda list* has the same syntax as a *macro lambda list*, and can therefore contain the *lambda list keywords* as a *macro lambda list*.

A *deftype lambda list* differs from a *macro lambda list* only in that if no *init-form* is supplied for an *optional parameter* or *keyword parameter* in the *lambda-list*, the default *value* for that *parameter* is the *symbol* ***** (rather than **nil**).

3.4.9 Define-modify-macro Lambda Lists

A ***define-modify-macro lambda list*** is used by **define-modify-macro**.

A *define-modify-macro lambda list* can contain the *lambda list keywords* shown in Figure 3–20.

&optional	&rest

Figure 3–20. Lambda List Keywords used by Define-modify-macro Lambda Lists

Define-modify-macro lambda lists are similar to *ordinary lambda lists*, but do not support keyword arguments. **define-modify-macro** has no need match keyword arguments, and a *rest parameter* is sufficient. *Aux variables* are also not supported, since **define-modify-macro** has no body *forms* which could refer to such *bindings*. See the *macro* **define-modify-macro**.

3.4.10 Define-method-combination Arguments Lambda Lists

A ***define-method-combination arguments lambda list*** is used by the `:arguments` option to **define-method-combination**.

A *define-method-combination arguments lambda list* can contain the *lambda list keywords* shown in Figure 3–21.

&allow-other-keys	&key	&rest
&aux	&optional	&whole

Figure 3–21. Lambda List Keywords used by Define-method-combination arguments Lambda Lists

Define-method-combination arguments lambda lists are similar to *ordinary lambda lists*, but also permit the use of **&whole**.

3.4.11 Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations

In a number of situations, a *documentation string* can appear amidst a series of **declare** *expressions* prior to a series of *forms*.

In that case, if a *string* S appears where a *documentation string* is permissible and is not followed by either a **declare** *expression* or a *form* then S is taken to be a *form*; otherwise, S is taken as a *documentation string*. The consequences are unspecified if more than one such *documentation string* is present.

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3.5 Error Checking in Function Calls

3.5.1 Argument Mismatch Detection

3.5.1.1 Safe and Unsafe Calls

A *call* is a ***safe call*** if each of the following is either *safe code* or *system code* (other than *system code* that results from *macro expansion* of *programmer code*):

- the *call*.
- the definition of the *function* being *called*.
- the point of *functional evaluation*

The following special cases require some elaboration:

- If the *function* being called is a *generic function*, it is considered *safe* if all of the following are *safe code* or *system code*:
  - its definition (if it was defined explicitly).
  - the *method* definitions for all *applicable methods*.
  - the definition of its *method combination*.
- For the form `(coerce x 'function)`, where *x* is a *lambda expression*, the value of the *optimize quality* **safety** in the global environment at the time the **coerce** is *executed* applies to the resulting *function*.
- For a call to the *function* **ensure-generic-function**, the value of the *optimize quality* **safety** in the *environment object* passed as the `:environment` *argument* applies to the resulting *generic function*.
- For a call to **compile** with a *lambda expression* as the *argument*, the value of the *optimize quality* **safety** in the *global environment* at the time **compile** is *called* applies to the resulting *compiled function*.
- For a call to **compile** with only one argument, if the original definition of the *function* was *safe*, then the resulting *compiled function* must also be *safe*.
- A *call* to a *method* by **call-next-method** must be considered *safe* if each of the following is *safe code* or *system code*:
  - the definition of the *generic function* (if it was defined explicitly).

– the *method* definitions for all *applicable methods*.
– the definition of the *method combination*.
– the point of entry into the body of the *method defining form*, where the *binding* of **call-next-method** is established.
– the point of *functional evaluation* of the name **call-next-method**.

An ***unsafe call*** is a *call* that is not a *safe call*.

The informal intent is that the *programmer* can rely on a *call* to be *safe*, even when *system code* is involved, if all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure that the *call* is *safe*. For example, if a *programmer* calls **mapcar** from *safe code* and supplies a *function* that was *compiled* as *safe*, the *implementation* is required to ensure that **mapcar** makes a *safe call* as well.

3.5.1.1.1 Error Detection Time in Safe Calls

If an error is signaled in a *safe call*, the exact point of the *signal* is *implementation-dependent*. In particular, it might be signaled at compile time or at run time, and if signaled at run time, it might be prior to, during, or after *executing* the *call*. However, it is always prior to the execution of the body of the *function* being *called*.

3.5.1.2 Too Few Arguments

It is not permitted to supply too few *arguments* to a *function*. Too few arguments means fewer *arguments* than the number of *required parameters* for the *function*.

If this *situation* occurs in a *safe call*, an error of *type* **program-error** must be signaled; and in an *unsafe call* the *situation* has undefined consequences.

3.5.1.3 Too Many Arguments

It is not permitted to supply too many *arguments* to a *function*. Too many arguments means more *arguments* than the number of *required parameters* plus the number of *optional parameters*; however, if the *function* uses **&rest** or **&key**, it is not possible for it to receive too many arguments.

If this *situation* occurs in a *safe call*, an error of *type* **program-error** must be signaled; and in an *unsafe call* the *situation* has undefined consequences.

3.5.1.4 Unrecognized Keyword Arguments

It is not permitted to supply a keyword argument to a *function* using a name that is not recognized by that *function* unless keyword argument checking is suppressed as described in Section 3.4.1.4.1 (Suppressing Keyword Argument Checking).

If this *situation* occurs in a *safe call*, an error of *type* **program-error** must be signaled; and in an *unsafe call* the *situation* has undefined consequences.

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3.5.1.5 Invalid Keyword Arguments

It is not permitted to supply a keyword argument to a *function* using a name that is not a *symbol*.

If this *situation* occurs in a *safe call*, an error of *type* **program-error** must be signaled unless keyword argument checking is suppressed as described in Section 3.4.1.4.1 (Suppressing Keyword Argument Checking); and in an *unsafe call* the *situation* has undefined consequences.

3.5.1.6 Odd Number of Keyword Arguments

An odd number of *arguments* must not be supplied for the *keyword parameters*.

If this *situation* occurs in a *safe call*, an error of *type* **program-error** must be signaled unless keyword argument checking is suppressed as described in Section 3.4.1.4.1 (Suppressing Keyword Argument Checking); and in an *unsafe call* the *situation* has undefined consequences.

3.5.1.7 Destructuring Mismatch

When matching a *destructuring lambda list* against a *form*, the pattern and the *form* must have compatible *tree structure*, as described in Section 3.4.4 (Macro Lambda Lists).

Otherwise, in a *safe call*, an error of *type* **program-error** must be signaled; and in an *unsafe call* the *situation* has undefined consequences.

3.5.1.8 Errors When Calling a Next Method

If **call-next-method** is called with *arguments*, the ordered set of *applicable methods* for the changed set of *arguments* for **call-next-method** must be the same as the ordered set of *applicable methods* for the original *arguments* to the *generic function*, or else an error should be signaled.

The comparison between the set of methods applicable to the new arguments and the set applicable to the original arguments is insensitive to order differences among methods with the same specializers.

If **call-next-method** is called with *arguments* that specify a different ordered set of *applicable* methods and there is no *next method* available, the test for different methods and the associated error signaling (when present) takes precedence over calling **no-next-method**.

3.6 Traversal Rules and Side Effects

The consequences are undefined when *code* executed during an *object-traversing* operation destructively modifies the *object* in a way that might affect the ongoing traversal operation. In particular, the following rules apply.

List traversal

For *list* traversal operations, the *cdr* chain of the *list* is not allowed to be destructively modified.

Array traversal

For *array* traversal operations, the *array* is not allowed to be adjusted and its *fill pointer*, if any, is not allowed to be changed.

Hash-table traversal

For *hash table* traversal operations, new elements may not be added or deleted except that the element corresponding to the current hash key may be changed or removed.

Package traversal

For *package* traversal operations (*e.g.*, **do-symbols**), new *symbols* may not be *interned* in or *uninterned* from the *package* being traversed or any *package* that it uses except that the current *symbol* may be *uninterned* from the *package* being traversed.

3.7 Destructive Operations

3.7.1 Modification of Literal Objects

The consequences are undefined if *literal objects* are destructively modified. For this purpose, the following operations are considered *destructive*:

random-state

Using it as an *argument* to the *function* **random**.

cons

Changing the car_1 or cdr_1 of the *cons*, or performing a *destructive* operation on an *object* which is either the car_2 or the cdr_2 of the *cons*.

array

Storing a new value into some element of the *array*, or performing a *destructive* operation on an *object* that is already such an *element*.

Changing the *fill pointer*, *dimensions*, or displacement of the *array* (regardless of whether the *array* is *actually adjustable*).

Performing a *destructive* operation on another *array* that is displaced to the *array* or that otherwise shares its contents with the *array*.

hash-table

Performing a *destructive* operation on any *key*.

Storing a new $value_4$ for any *key*, or performing a *destructive* operation on any *object* that is such a *value*.

Adding or removing entries from the *hash table*.

structure-object

Storing a new value into any slot, or performing a *destructive* operation on an *object* that is the value of some slot.

standard-object

Storing a new value into any slot, or performing a *destructive* operation on an *object* that is the value of some slot.

Changing the class of the *object* (*e.g.*, using the *function* **change-class**).

readtable

Altering the *readtable case*.

Altering the syntax type of any character in this readtable.

Altering the *reader macro function* associated with any *character* in the *readtable*, or altering the *reader macro functions* associated with *characters* defined as *dispatching macro characters* in the *readtable*.

stream

Performing I/O operations on the *stream*, or *closing* the *stream*.

All other standardized types

[This category includes, for example, **character**, **condition**, **function**, **method-combination**, **method**, **number**, **package**, **pathname**, **restart**, and **symbol**.]

There are no *standardized destructive* operations defined on *objects* of these *types*.

3.7.2 Transfer of Control during a Destructive Operation

Should a transfer of control out of a *destructive* operation occur (*e.g.*, due to an error) the state of the *object* being modified is *implementation-dependent*.

3.7.2.1 Examples of Transfer of Control during a Destructive Operation

The following examples illustrate some of the many ways in which the *implementation-dependent* nature of the modification can manifest itself.

```
 (let ((a (list 2 1 4 3 7 6 'five)))
   (ignore-errors (sort a #'<))
   a)
→ (1 2 3 4 6 7 FIVE)
or→ (2 1 4 3 7 6 FIVE)
or→ (2)

 (prog foo ((a (list 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10)))
   (sort a #'(lambda (x y) (if (zerop (random 5)) (return-from foo a) (> x y)))))
→ (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10)
or→ (3 4 5 6 2 7 8 9 10 1)
or→ (1 2 4 3)
```


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lambda *Symbol*

Syntax:

lambda *lambda-list* ⟦ {*declaration*}* | *documentation* ⟧ {*form*}*

Arguments:

lambda-list—an *ordinary lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

Description:

A *lambda expression* is a *list* that can be used in place of a *function name* in certain contexts to denote a *function* by directly describing its behavior rather than indirectly by referring to the name of an *established function*.

Documentation is attached to the denoted *function* (if any is actually created) as a *documentation string*.

See Also:

function, **documentation**, Section 3.1.3 (Lambda Expressions), Section 3.1.2.1.2.4 (Lambda Forms), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

Notes:

The *lambda form*

```
((lambda lambda-list . body) . arguments)
```

is semantically equivalent to the *function form*

```
(funcall #'(lambda lambda-list . body) . arguments)
```

lambda *Macro*

Syntax:

lambda *lambda-list* ⟦ {*declaration*}* | *documentation* ⟧ {*form*}* → *function*

Arguments and Values:

lambda-list—an *ordinary lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

function—a *function*.

Description:

Provides a shorthand notation for a **function** *special form* involving a *lambda expression* such that:

```
  (lambda lambda-list [[{declaration}* | documentation]] {form}*)
≡ (function (lambda lambda-list [[{declaration}* | documentation]] {form}*))
≡ #'(lambda lambda-list [[{declaration}* | documentation]] {form}*)
```

Examples:

```
(funcall (lambda (x) (+ x 3)) 4) → 7
```

See Also:

lambda (symbol)

Notes:

This macro could be implemented by:

```
(defmacro lambda (&whole form &rest bvl-decls-and-body)
  (declare (ignore bvl-decls-and-body))
  `#',form)
```

compile *Function*

Syntax:

compile *name* &optional *definition* → *function*, *warnings-p*, *failure-p*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *function name*, or **nil**.

definition—a *lambda expression* or a *function*. The default is the function definition of *name* if it names a *function*, or the *macro function* of *name* if it names a *macro*. The consequences are undefined if no *definition* is supplied when the *name* is **nil**.

function—the *function-name*, or a *compiled function*.

warnings-p—a *generalized boolean*.

failure-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Compiles an *interpreted function*.

compile produces a *compiled function* from *definition*. If the *definition* is a *lambda expression*, it is coerced to a *function*. If the *definition* is already a *compiled function*, **compile** either produces that function itself (*i.e.*, is an identity operation) or an equivalent function.

If the *name* is **nil**, the resulting *compiled function* is returned directly as the *primary value*. If a *non-nil name* is given, then the resulting *compiled function* replaces the existing *function* definition of *name* and the *name* is returned as the *primary value*; if *name* is a *symbol* that names a *macro*, its *macro function* is updated and the *name* is returned as the *primary value*.

Literal objects appearing in code processed by the **compile** function are neither copied nor *coalesced*. The code resulting from the execution of **compile** references *objects* that are **eql** to the corresponding *objects* in the source code.

compile is permitted, but not required, to *establish* a *handler* for *conditions* of *type* **error**. For example, the *handler* might issue a warning and restart compilation from some *implementation-dependent* point in order to let the compilation proceed without manual intervention.

The *secondary value*, *warnings-p*, is *false* if no *conditions* of *type* **error** or **warning** were detected by the compiler, and *true* otherwise.

The *tertiary value*, *failure-p*, is *false* if no *conditions* of *type* **error** or **warning** (other than **style-warning**) were detected by the compiler, and *true* otherwise.

Examples:

```
(defun foo () "bar") → FOO
(compiled-function-p #'foo) → implementation-dependent
(compile 'foo) → FOO
(compiled-function-p #'foo) → true
(setf (symbol-function 'foo)
      (compile nil '(lambda () "replaced"))) → #<Compiled-Function>
(foo) → "replaced"
```

Affected By:

error-output, ***macroexpand-hook***.

The presence of macro definitions and proclamations.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if the *lexical environment* surrounding the *function* to be compiled contains any *bindings* other than those for *macros*, *symbol macros*, or *declarations*.

For information about errors detected during the compilation process, see Section 3.2.5 (Exceptional Situations in the Compiler).

See Also:

compile-file

eval *Function*

Syntax:

eval *form* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*.

results—the *values yielded* by the *evaluation* of *form*.

Description:

Evaluates *form* in the current *dynamic environment* and the *null lexical environment*.

eval is a user interface to the evaluator.

The evaluator expands macro calls as if through the use of **macroexpand-1**.

Constants appearing in code processed by **eval** are not copied nor coalesced. The code resulting from the execution of **eval** references *objects* that are **eql** to the corresponding *objects* in the source code.

Examples:

```
(setq form '(1+ a) a 999) → 999
(eval form) → 1000
(eval 'form) → (1+ A)
(let ((a '(this would break if eval used local value))) (eval form))
→ 1000
```

See Also:

macroexpand-1, Section 3.1.2 (The Evaluation Model)

Notes:

To obtain the current dynamic value of a *symbol*, use of **symbol-value** is equivalent (and usually preferable) to use of **eval**.

Note that an **eval** *form* involves two levels of *evaluation* for its *argument*. First, *form* is *evaluated* by the normal argument evaluation mechanism as would occur with any *call*. The *object* that results from this normal *argument evaluation* becomes the *value* of the *form parameter*, and is then *evaluated* as part of the **eval** *form*. For example:

```
(eval (list 'cdr (car '((quote (a . b)) c)))) → b
```

The *argument form* `(list 'cdr (car '((quote (a . b)) c)))` is evaluated in the usual way to produce the *argument* `(cdr (quote (a . b)))`; **eval** then evaluates its *argument*, `(cdr (quote (a . b)))`, to produce `b`. Since a single *evaluation* already occurs for any *argument form* in any *function form*, **eval** is sometimes said to perform "an extra level of evaluation."

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eval-when *Special Operator*

Syntax:

eval-when ({*situation*}*) {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

situation—One of the *symbols* `:compile-toplevel`, `:load-toplevel`, `:execute`, **compile**, **load**, or **eval**.

The use of **eval**, **compile**, and **load** is deprecated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* of the *forms* if they are executed, or **nil** if they are not.

Description:

The body of an **eval-when** form is processed as an *implicit progn*, but only in the *situations* listed.

The use of the *situations* `:compile-toplevel` (or `compile`) and `:load-toplevel` (or `load`) controls whether and when *evaluation* occurs when **eval-when** appears as a *top level form* in code processed by **compile-file**. See Section 3.2.3 (File Compilation).

The use of the *situation* `:execute` (or `eval`) controls whether evaluation occurs for other **eval-when** *forms*; that is, those that are not *top level forms*, or those in code processed by **eval** or **compile**. If the `:execute` situation is specified in such a *form*, then the body *forms* are processed as an *implicit progn*; otherwise, the **eval-when** *form* returns **nil**.

eval-when normally appears as a *top level form*, but it is meaningful for it to appear as a *non-top-level form*. However, the compile-time side effects described in Section 3.2 (Compilation) only take place when **eval-when** appears as a *top level form*.

Examples:

One example of the use of **eval-when** is that for the compiler to be able to read a file properly when it uses user-defined *reader macros*, it is necessary to write

```
(eval-when (:compile-toplevel :load-toplevel :execute)
  (set-macro-character #\$ #'(lambda (stream char)
                               (declare (ignore char))
                               (list 'dollar (read stream))))) → T
```

This causes the call to **set-macro-character** to be executed in the compiler's execution environment, thereby modifying its reader syntax table.

```
;;;     The EVAL-WHEN in this case is not at toplevel, so only the :EXECUTE
;;;     keyword is considered. At compile time, this has no effect.
;;;     At load time (if the LET is at toplevel), or at execution time
;;;     (if the LET is embedded in some other form which does not execute
;;;     until later) this sets (SYMBOL-FUNCTION 'FOO1) to a function which
;;;     returns 1.
 (let ((x 1))
   (eval-when (:execute :load-toplevel :compile-toplevel)
     (setf (symbol-function 'foo1) #'(lambda () x))))

;;;     If this expression occurs at the toplevel of a file to be compiled,
;;;     it has BOTH a compile time AND a load-time effect of setting
;;;     (SYMBOL-FUNCTION 'FOO2) to a function which returns 2.
 (eval-when (:execute :load-toplevel :compile-toplevel)
   (let ((x 2))
     (eval-when (:execute :load-toplevel :compile-toplevel)
       (setf (symbol-function 'foo2) #'(lambda () x)))))

;;;     If this expression occurs at the toplevel of a file to be compiled,
;;;     it has BOTH a compile time AND a load-time effect of setting the
;;;     function cell of FOO3 to a function which returns 3.
 (eval-when (:execute :load-toplevel :compile-toplevel)
   (setf (symbol-function 'foo3) #'(lambda () 3)))

;;; #4: This always does nothing. It simply returns NIL.
 (eval-when (:compile-toplevel)
   (eval-when (:compile-toplevel)
     (print 'foo4)))

;;;     If this form occurs at toplevel of a file to be compiled, FOO5 is
;;;     printed at compile time. If this form occurs in a non-top-level
;;;     position, nothing is printed at compile time. Regardless of context,
;;;     nothing is ever printed at load time or execution time.
 (eval-when (:compile-toplevel)
   (eval-when (:execute)
     (print 'foo5)))

;;;     If this form occurs at toplevel of a file to be compiled, FOO6 is
```



```
;;;     printed at compile time.  If this form occurs in a non-top-level
;;;     position, nothing is printed at compile time. Regardless of context,
;;;     nothing is ever printed at load time or execution time.
 (eval-when (:execute :load-toplevel)
   (eval-when (:compile-toplevel)
     (print 'foo6)))
```

See Also:

compile-file, Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

The following effects are logical consequences of the definition of **eval-when**:

- Execution of a single **eval-when** expression executes the body code at most once.

- *Macros* intended for use in *top level forms* should be written so that side-effects are done by the *forms* in the macro expansion. The macro-expander itself should not do the side-effects.

  For example:

  Wrong:

  ```
  (defmacro foo ()
    (really-foo)
    `(really-foo))
  ```

  Right:

  ```
  (defmacro foo ()
    `(eval-when (:compile-toplevel :execute :load-toplevel) (really-foo)))
  ```

  Adherence to this convention means that such *macros* behave intuitively when appearing as *non-top-level forms*.

- Placing a variable binding around an **eval-when** reliably captures the binding because the compile-time-too mode cannot occur (*i.e.*, introducing a variable binding means that the **eval-when** is not a *top level form*). For example,

  ```
  (let ((x 3))
    (eval-when (:execute :load-toplevel :compile-toplevel) (print x)))
  ```

  prints 3 at execution (*i.e.*, load) time, and does not print anything at compile time. This is important so that expansions of **defun** and **defmacro** can be done in terms of **eval-when** and can correctly capture the *lexical environment*.

  ```
  (defun bar (x) (defun foo () (+ x 3)))
  ```

might expand into

```
(defun bar (x)
  (progn (eval-when (:compile-toplevel)
           (compiler::notice-function-definition 'foo '(x)))
         (eval-when (:execute :load-toplevel)
           (setf (symbol-function 'foo) #'(lambda () (+ x 3))))))
```

which would be treated by the above rules the same as

```
(defun bar (x)
  (setf (symbol-function 'foo) #'(lambda () (+ x 3))))
```

when the definition of `bar` is not a *top level form*.

load-time-value *Special Operator*

Syntax:

load-time-value *form* `&optional` *read-only-p* → *object*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

read-only-p—a *boolean*; not evaluated.

object—the *primary value* resulting from evaluating *form*.

Description:

load-time-value provides a mechanism for delaying evaluation of *form* until the expression is in the run-time environment; see Section 3.2 (Compilation).

Read-only-p designates whether the result can be considered a *constant object*. If `t`, the result is a read-only quantity that can, if appropriate to the *implementation*, be copied into read-only space and/or *coalesced* with *similar constant objects* from other *programs*. If **nil** (the default), the result must be neither copied nor coalesced; it must be considered to be potentially modifiable data.

If a **load-time-value** expression is processed by **compile-file**, the compiler performs its normal semantic processing (such as macro expansion and translation into machine code) on *form*, but arranges for the execution of *form* to occur at load time in a *null lexical environment*, with the result of this *evaluation* then being treated as a *literal object* at run time. It is guaranteed that the evaluation of *form* will take place only once when the *file* is *loaded*, but the order of evaluation with respect to the evaluation of *top level forms* in the file is *implementation-dependent*.

If a **load-time-value** expression appears within a function compiled with **compile**, the *form* is evaluated at compile time in a *null lexical environment*. The result of this compile-time evaluation is treated as a *literal object* in the compiled code.

If a **load-time-value** expression is processed by **eval**, *form* is evaluated in a *null lexical environment*, and one value is returned. Implementations that implicitly compile (or partially compile) expressions processed by **eval** might evaluate *form* only once, at the time this compilation is performed.

If the *same list* `(load-time-value` *form*`)` is evaluated or compiled more than once, it is *implementation-dependent* whether *form* is evaluated only once or is evaluated more than once. This can happen both when an expression being evaluated or compiled shares substructure, and when the *same form* is processed by **eval** or **compile** multiple times. Since a **load-time-value** expression can be referenced in more than one place and can be evaluated multiple times by **eval**, it is *implementation-dependent* whether each execution returns a fresh *object* or returns the same *object* as some other execution. Users must use caution when destructively modifying the resulting *object*.

If two lists `(load-time-value` *form*`)` that are the *same* under **equal** but are not *identical* are evaluated or compiled, their values always come from distinct evaluations of *form*. Their *values* may not be coalesced unless *read-only-p* is `t`.

Examples:

```
;;; The function INCR1 always returns the same value, even in different images.
;;; The function INCR2 always returns the same value in a given image,
;;; but the value it returns might vary from image to image.
(defun incr1 (x) (+ x #.(random 17)))
(defun incr2 (x) (+ x (load-time-value (random 17))))

;;; The function FOO1-REF references the nth element of the first of
;;; the *FOO-ARRAYS* that is available at load time.  It is permissible for
;;; that array to be modified (e.g., by SET-FOO1-REF); FOO1-REF will see the
;;; updated values.
(defvar *foo-arrays* (list (make-array 7) (make-array 8)))
(defun foo1-ref (n) (aref (load-time-value (first *my-arrays*) nil) n))
(defun set-foo1-ref (n val)
  (setf (aref (load-time-value (first *my-arrays*) nil) n) val))

;;; The function BAR1-REF references the nth element of the first of
;;; the *BAR-ARRAYS* that is available at load time.  The programmer has
;;; promised that the array will be treated as read-only, so the system
;;; can copy or coalesce the array.
(defvar *bar-arrays* (list (make-array 7) (make-array 8)))
(defun bar1-ref (n) (aref (load-time-value (first *my-arrays*) t) n))
```

```
;;; This use of LOAD-TIME-VALUE permits the indicated vector to be coalesced
;;; even though NIL was specified, because the object was already read-only
;;; when it was written as a literal vector rather than created by a constructor.
;;; User programs must treat the vector v as read-only.
(defun baz-ref (n)
  (let ((v (load-time-value #(A B C) nil)))
    (values (svref v n) v)))

;;; This use of LOAD-TIME-VALUE permits the indicated vector to be coalesced
;;; even though NIL was specified in the outer situation because T was specified
;;; in the inner situation.  User programs must treat the vector v as read-only.
(defun baz-ref (n)
  (let ((v (load-time-value (load-time-value (vector 1 2 3) t) nil)))
    (values (svref v n) v)))
```

See Also:

compile-file, **compile**, **eval**, Section 3.2.2.2 (Minimal Compilation), Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

load-time-value must appear outside of quoted structure in a "for *evaluation*" position. In situations which would appear to call for use of **load-time-value** within a quoted structure, the *backquote reader macro* is probably called for; see Section 2.4.6 (Backquote).

Specifying **nil** for *read-only-p* is not a way to force an object to become modifiable if it has already been made read-only. It is only a way to say that, for an object that is modifiable, this operation is not intended to make that object read-only.

quote — *Special Operator*

Syntax:

quote *object* → *object*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*; not evaluated.

Description:

The **quote** *special operator* just returns *object*.

The consequences are undefined if *literal objects* (including *quoted objects*) are destructively modified.

Examples:

```
(setq a 1) → 1
(quote (setq a 3)) → (SETQ A 3)
a → 1
'a → A
''a → (QUOTE A)
'''a → (QUOTE (QUOTE A))
(setq a 43) → 43
(list a (cons a 3)) → (43 (43 . 3))
(list (quote a) (quote (cons a 3))) → (A (CONS A 3))
1 → 1
'1 → 1
"foo" → "foo"
'"foo" → "foo"
(car '(a b)) → A
'(car '(a b)) → (CAR (QUOTE (A B)))
#(car '(a b)) → #(CAR (QUOTE (A B)))
'#(car '(a b)) → #(CAR (QUOTE (A B)))
```

See Also:

Section 3.1 (Evaluation), Section 2.4.3 (Single-Quote), Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology)

Notes:

The textual notation `'`*object* is equivalent to `(quote` *object*`)`; see Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology).

Some *objects*, called *self-evaluating objects*, do not require quotation by **quote**. However, *symbols* and *lists* are used to represent parts of programs, and so would not be useable as constant data in a program without **quote**. Since **quote** suppresses the *evaluation* of these *objects*, they become data rather than program.

compiler-macro-function — *Accessor*

Syntax:

compiler-macro-function *name* `&optional` *environment* → *function*

(setf (compiler-macro-function *name* `&optional` *environment*) *new-function*)

Arguments and Values:

name—a *function name*.

environment—an *environment object*.

function, *new-function*—a *compiler macro function*, or **nil**.

Description:

Accesses the *compiler macro function* named *name*, if any, in the *environment*.

A value of **nil** denotes the absence of a *compiler macro function* named *name*.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if *environment* is *non-nil* in a use of **setf** of **compiler-macro-function**.

See Also:

define-compiler-macro, Section 3.2.2.1 (Compiler Macros)

define-compiler-macro *Macro*

Syntax:

define-compiler-macro *name lambda-list* ⟦ {*declaration*}* | *documentation* ⟧ {*form*}*
→ *name*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *function name*.

lambda-list—a *macro lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

Description:

This is the normal mechanism for defining a *compiler macro function*. Its manner of definition is the same as for **defmacro**; the only differences are:

- The *name* can be a *function name* naming any *function* or *macro*.
- The expander function is installed as a *compiler macro function* for the *name*, rather than as a *macro function*.

- The **&whole** argument is bound to the form argument that is passed to the *compiler macro function*. The remaining lambda-list parameters are specified as if this form contained the function name in the *car* and the actual arguments in the *cdr*, but if the *car* of the actual form is the symbol **funcall**, then the destructuring of the arguments is actually performed using its *cddr* instead.
- *Documentation* is attached as a *documentation string* to *name* (as kind **compiler-macro**) and to the *compiler macro function*.
- Unlike an ordinary *macro*, a *compiler macro* can decline to provide an expansion merely by returning a form that is the *same* as the original (which can be obtained by using **&whole**).

Examples:

```
 (defun square (x) (expt x 2)) → SQUARE
 (define-compiler-macro square (&whole form arg)
   (if (atom arg)
       `(expt ,arg 2)
       (case (car arg)
         (square (if (= (length arg) 2)
                     `(expt ,(nth 1 arg) 4)
                     form))
         (expt   (if (= (length arg) 3)
                     (if (numberp (nth 2 arg))
                         `(expt ,(nth 1 arg) ,(* 2 (nth 2 arg)))
                         `(expt ,(nth 1 arg) (* 2 ,(nth 2 arg))))
                     form))
         (otherwise `(expt ,arg 2))))) → SQUARE
 (square (square 3)) → 81
 (macroexpand '(square x)) → (SQUARE X), false
 (funcall (compiler-macro-function 'square) '(square x) nil)
→ (EXPT X 2)
 (funcall (compiler-macro-function 'square) '(square (square x)) nil)
→ (EXPT X 4)
 (funcall (compiler-macro-function 'square) '(funcall #'square x) nil)
→ (EXPT X 2)

 (defun distance-positional (x1 y1 x2 y2)
   (sqrt (+ (expt (- x2 x1) 2) (expt (- y2 y1) 2))))
→ DISTANCE-POSITIONAL
 (defun distance (&key (x1 0) (y1 0) (x2 x1) (y2 y1))
   (distance-positional x1 y1 x2 y2))
→ DISTANCE
 (define-compiler-macro distance (&whole form
                                  &rest key-value-pairs
```

```
                                 &key (x1 0  x1-p)
                                      (y1 0  y1-p)
                                      (x2 x1 x2-p)
                                      (y2 y1 y2-p)
                                 &allow-other-keys
                                 &environment env)
  (flet ((key (n) (nth (* n 2) key-value-pairs))
         (arg (n) (nth (1+ (* n 2)) key-value-pairs))
         (simplep (x)
           (let ((expanded-x (macroexpand x env)))
             (or (constantp expanded-x env)
                 (symbolp expanded-x)))))
    (let ((n (/ (length key-value-pairs) 2)))
      (multiple-value-bind (x1s y1s x2s y2s others)
          (loop for (key) on key-value-pairs by #'cddr
                count (eq key ':x1) into x1s
                count (eq key ':y1) into y1s
                count (eq key ':x2) into x2s
                count (eq key ':y1) into y2s
                count (not (member key '(:x1 :x2 :y1 :y2)))
                  into others
                finally (return (values x1s y1s x2s y2s others)))
        (cond ((and (= n 4)
                    (eq (key 0) :x1)
                    (eq (key 1) :y1)
                    (eq (key 2) :x2)
                    (eq (key 3) :y2))
               `(distance-positional ,x1 ,y1 ,x2 ,y2))
              ((and (if x1-p (and (= x1s 1) (simplep x1)) t)
                    (if y1-p (and (= y1s 1) (simplep y1)) t)
                    (if x2-p (and (= x2s 1) (simplep x2)) t)
                    (if y2-p (and (= y2s 1) (simplep y2)) t)
                    (zerop others))
               `(distance-positional ,x1 ,y1 ,x2 ,y2))
              ((and (< x1s 2) (< y1s 2) (< x2s 2) (< y2s 2)
                    (zerop others))
               (let ((temps (loop repeat n collect (gensym))))
                 `(let ,(loop for i below n
                              collect (list (nth i temps) (arg i)))
                    (distance
                      ,@(loop for i below n
                              append (list (key i) (nth i temps)))))))
              (t form))))))
→ DISTANCE
 (dolist (form
```


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```
           '((distance :x1 (setq x 7) :x2 (decf x) :y1 (decf x) :y2 (decf x))
             (distance :x1 (setq x 7) :y1 (decf x) :x2 (decf x) :y2 (decf x))
             (distance :x1 (setq x 7) :y1 (incf x))
             (distance :x1 (setq x 7) :y1 (incf x) :x1 (incf x))
             (distance :x1 a1 :y1 b1 :x2 a2 :y2 b2)
             (distance :x1 a1 :x2 a2 :y1 b1 :y2 b2)
             (distance :x1 a1 :y1 b1 :z1 c1 :x2 a2 :y2 b2 :z2 c2)))
   (print (funcall (compiler-macro-function 'distance) form nil)))
▷ (LET ((#:G6558 (SETQ X 7))
▷       (#:G6559 (DECF X))
▷       (#:G6560 (DECF X))
▷       (#:G6561 (DECF X)))
▷   (DISTANCE :X1 #:G6558 :X2 #:G6559 :Y1 #:G6560 :Y2 #:G6561))
▷ (DISTANCE-POSITIONAL (SETQ X 7) (DECF X) (DECF X) (DECF X))
▷ (LET ((#:G6567 (SETQ X 7))
▷       (#:G6568 (INCF X)))
▷   (DISTANCE :X1 #:G6567 :Y1 #:G6568))
▷ (DISTANCE :X1 (SETQ X 7) :Y1 (INCF X) :X1 (INCF X))
▷ (DISTANCE-POSITIONAL A1 B1 A2 B2)
▷ (DISTANCE-POSITIONAL A1 B1 A2 B2)
▷ (DISTANCE :X1 A1 :Y1 B1 :Z1 C1 :X2 A2 :Y2 B2 :Z2 C2)
→ NIL
```

See Also:

compiler-macro-function, **defmacro**, **documentation**, Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

Notes:

The consequences of writing a *compiler macro* definition for a function in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* are undefined; it is quite possible that in some *implementations* such an attempt would override an equivalent or equally important definition. In general, it is recommended that a programmer only write *compiler macro* definitions for *functions* he or she personally maintains–writing a *compiler macro* definition for a function maintained elsewhere is normally considered a violation of traditional rules of modularity and data abstraction.

defmacro *Macro*

Syntax:

defmacro *name lambda-list* ⟦ {*declaration*}* | *documentation* ⟧ {*form*}*
  → *name*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*.

lambda-list—a *macro lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

Description:

Defines *name* as a *macro* by associating a *macro function* with that *name* in the global environment. The *macro function* is defined in the same *lexical environment* in which the **defmacro** *form* appears.

The parameter variables in *lambda-list* are bound to destructured portions of the macro call.

The expansion function accepts two arguments, a *form* and an *environment*. The expansion function returns a *form*. The body of the expansion function is specified by *forms*. *Forms* are executed in order. The value of the last *form* executed is returned as the expansion of the *macro*. The body *forms* of the expansion function (but not the *lambda-list*) are implicitly enclosed in a *block* whose name is *name*.

The *lambda-list* conforms to the requirements described in Section 3.4.4 (Macro Lambda Lists).

Documentation is attached as a *documentation string* to *name* (as kind **function**) and to the *macro function*.

defmacro can be used to redefine a *macro* or to replace a *function* definition with a *macro* definition.

Recursive expansion of the *form* returned must terminate, including the expansion of other *macros* which are *subforms* of other *forms* returned.

The consequences are undefined if the result of fully macroexpanding a *form* contains any *circular list structure* except in *literal objects*.

If a **defmacro** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must store the *macro* definition at compile time, so that occurrences of the macro later on in the file can be expanded correctly. Users must ensure that the body of the *macro* can be evaluated at compile time if it is referenced within the *file* being *compiled*.

Examples:

```
(defmacro mac1 (a b) "Mac1 multiplies and adds"
           `(+ ,a (* ,b 3))) → MAC1
(mac1 4 5) → 19
(documentation 'mac1 'function) → "Mac1 multiplies and adds"
(defmacro mac2 (&optional (a 2 b) (c 3 d) &rest x) `'(,a ,b ,c ,d ,x)) → MAC2
(mac2 6) → (6 T 3 NIL NIL)
```



```
(mac2 6 3 8) → (6 T 3 T (8))
(defmacro mac3 (&whole r a &optional (b 3) &rest x &key c (d a))
   `'(,r ,a ,b ,c ,d ,x)) → MAC3
(mac3 1 6 :d 8 :c 9 :d 10) → ((MAC3 1 6 :D 8 :C 9 :D 10) 1 6 9 8 (:D 8 :C 9 :D 10))
```

The stipulation that an embedded *destructuring lambda list* is permitted only where *ordinary lambda list* syntax would permit a parameter name but not a *list* is made to prevent ambiguity. For example, the following is not valid:

```
(defmacro loser (x &optional (a b &rest c) &rest z)
  ...)
```

because *ordinary lambda list* syntax does permit a *list* following `&optional`; the list `(a b &rest c)` would be interpreted as describing an optional parameter named `a` whose default value is that of the form `b`, with a supplied-p parameter named `&rest` (not valid), and an extraneous symbol `c` in the list (also not valid). An almost correct way to express this is

```
(defmacro loser (x &optional ((a b &rest c)) &rest z)
  ...)
```

The extra set of parentheses removes the ambiguity. However, the definition is now incorrect because a macro call such as `(loser (car pool))` would not provide any argument form for the lambda list `(a b &rest c)`, and so the default value against which to match the *lambda list* would be **nil** because no explicit default value was specified. The consequences of this are unspecified since the empty list, **nil**, does not have *forms* to satisfy the parameters `a` and `b`. The fully correct definition would be either

```
(defmacro loser (x &optional ((a b &rest c) '(nil nil)) &rest z)
  ...)
```

or

```
(defmacro loser (x &optional ((&optional a b &rest c)) &rest z)
  ...)
```

These differ slightly: the first requires that if the macro call specifies `a` explicitly then it must also specify `b` explicitly, whereas the second does not have this requirement. For example,

```
(loser (car pool) ((+ x 1)))
```

would be a valid call for the second definition but not for the first.

```
(defmacro dm1a (&whole x) `',x)
(macroexpand '(dm1a))  → (QUOTE (DM1A))
(macroexpand '(dm1a a)) is an error.

(defmacro dm1b (&whole x a &optional b) `'(,x ,a ,b))
(macroexpand '(dm1b))  is an error.
(macroexpand '(dm1b q))  → (QUOTE ((DM1B Q) Q NIL))
```

```
(macroexpand '(dm1b q r)) → (QUOTE ((DM1B Q R) Q R))
(macroexpand '(dm1b q r s)) is an error.

(defmacro dm2a (&whole form a b) ''(form ,form a ,a b ,b))
(macroexpand '(dm2a x y)) → (QUOTE (FORM (DM2A X Y) A X B Y))
(dm2a x y) → (FORM (DM2A X Y) A X B Y)

(defmacro dm2b (&whole form a (&whole b (c . d) &optional (e 5))
                &body f &environment env)
  ``(,',form ,,a ,',b ,',(macroexpand c env) ,',d ,',e ,',f))
;Note that because backquote is involved, implementations may differ
;slightly in the nature (though not the functionality) of the expansion.
(macroexpand '(dm2b x1 (((incf x2) x3 x4)) x5 x6))
→ (LIST* '(DM2B X1 (((INCF X2) X3 X4))
                 X5 X6)
          X1
          '((((INCF X2) X3 X4)) (SETQ X2 (+ X2 1)) (X3 X4) 5 (X5 X6))),
   T
(let ((x1 5))
  (macrolet ((segundo (x) `(cadr ,x)))
    (dm2b x1 (((segundo x2) x3 x4)) x5 x6)))
→ ((DM2B X1 (((SEGUNDO X2) X3 X4)) X5 X6)
    5 (((SEGUNDO X2) X3 X4)) (CADR X2) (X3 X4) 5 (X5 X6))
```

See Also:

define-compiler-macro, **destructuring-bind**, **documentation**, **macroexpand**, ***macroexpand-hook***, **macrolet**, **macro-function**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation), Section 3.2 (Compilation), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

macro-function *Accessor*

Syntax:

macro-function *symbol* `&optional` *environment* → *function*

(**setf** (**macro-function** *symbol* `&optional` *environment*) *new-function*)

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

environment—an *environment object*.

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function—a *macro function* or **nil**.

new-function—a *macro function*.

Description:

Determines whether *symbol* has a function definition as a macro in the specified *environment*.

If so, the macro expansion function, a function of two arguments, is returned. If *symbol* has no function definition in the lexical environment *environment*, or its definition is not a *macro*, **macro-function** returns **nil**.

It is possible for both **macro-function** and **special-operator-p** to return *true* of *symbol*. The *macro* definition must be available for use by programs that understand only the standard Common Lisp *special forms*.

Examples:

```
(defmacro macfun (x) '(macro-function 'macfun)) → MACFUN
(not (macro-function 'macfun)) → false


(macrolet ((foo (&environment env)
              (if (macro-function 'bar env)
                 ''yes
                 ''no)))
   (list (foo)
         (macrolet ((bar () :beep))
            (foo))))

→ (NO YES)
```

Affected By:

`(setf macro-function)`, **defmacro**, and **macrolet**.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if *environment* is *non-nil* in a use of **setf** of **macro-function**.

See Also:

defmacro, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

setf can be used with **macro-function** to install a *macro* as a symbol's global function definition:

```
(setf (macro-function symbol) fn)
```

The value installed must be a *function* that accepts two arguments, the entire macro call and an *environment*, and computes the expansion for that call. Performing this operation causes *symbol* to have only that macro definition as its global function definition; any previous definition, whether as a *macro* or as a *function*, is lost.

macroexpand, macroexpand-1 *Function*

Syntax:

macroexpand *form* &optional *env* → *expansion, expanded-p*

macroexpand-1 *form* &optional *env* → *expansion, expanded-p*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*.

env—an *environment object*. The default is **nil**.

expansion—a *form*.

expanded-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

macroexpand and **macroexpand-1** expand *macros*.

If *form* is a *macro form*, then **macroexpand-1** expands the *macro form* call once.

macroexpand repeatedly expands *form* until it is no longer a *macro form*. In effect, **macroexpand** calls **macroexpand-1** repeatedly until the *secondary value* it returns is **nil**.

If *form* is a *macro form*, then the *expansion* is a *macro expansion* and *expanded-p* is *true*. Otherwise, the *expansion* is the given *form* and *expanded-p* is *false*.

Macro expansion is carried out as follows. Once **macroexpand-1** has determined that the *form* is a *macro form*, it obtains an appropriate expansion *function* for the *macro* or *symbol macro*. The value of ***macroexpand-hook*** is coerced to a *function* and then called as a *function* of three arguments: the expansion *function*, the *form*, and the *env*. The *value* returned from this call is taken to be the expansion of the *form*.

In addition to *macro* definitions in the global environment, any local macro definitions established within *env* by **macrolet** or **symbol-macrolet** are considered. If only *form* is supplied as an argument, then the environment is effectively null, and only global macro definitions as established by **defmacro** are considered. *Macro* definitions are shadowed by local *function* definitions.

Examples:

```
 (defmacro alpha (x y) `(beta ,x ,y)) → ALPHA
```



```
 (defmacro beta (x y) `(gamma ,x ,y)) → BETA
 (defmacro delta (x y) `(gamma ,x ,y)) → EPSILON
 (defmacro expand (form &environment env)
   (multiple-value-bind (expansion expanded-p)
       (macroexpand form env)
     `(values ',expansion ',expanded-p))) → EXPAND
 (defmacro expand-1 (form &environment env)
   (multiple-value-bind (expansion expanded-p)
       (macroexpand-1 form env)
     `(values ',expansion ',expanded-p))) → EXPAND-1


;; Simple examples involving just the global environment
 (macroexpand-1 '(alpha a b)) → (BETA A B), true
 (expand-1 (alpha a b)) → (BETA A B), true
 (macroexpand '(alpha a b)) → (GAMMA A B), true
 (expand (alpha a b)) → (GAMMA A B), true
 (macroexpand-1 'not-a-macro) → NOT-A-MACRO, false
 (expand-1 not-a-macro) → NOT-A-MACRO, false
 (macroexpand '(not-a-macro a b)) → (NOT-A-MACRO A B), false
 (expand (not-a-macro a b)) → (NOT-A-MACRO A B), false


;; Examples involving lexical environments
 (macrolet ((alpha (x y) `(delta ,x ,y)))
   (macroexpand-1 '(alpha a b))) → (BETA A B), true
 (macrolet ((alpha (x y) `(delta ,x ,y)))
   (expand-1 (alpha a b))) → (DELTA A B), true
 (macrolet ((alpha (x y) `(delta ,x ,y)))
   (macroexpand '(alpha a b))) → (GAMMA A B), true
 (macrolet ((alpha (x y) `(delta ,x ,y)))
   (expand (alpha a b))) → (GAMMA A B), true
 (macrolet ((beta (x y) `(epsilon ,x ,y)))
   (expand (alpha a b))) → (EPSILON A B), true
 (let ((x (list 1 2 3)))
   (symbol-macrolet ((a (first x)))
     (expand a))) → (FIRST X), true
 (let ((x (list 1 2 3)))
   (symbol-macrolet ((a (first x)))
     (macroexpand 'a))) → A, false
 (symbol-macrolet ((b (alpha x y)))
   (expand-1 b)) → (ALPHA X Y), true
 (symbol-macrolet ((b (alpha x y)))
   (expand b)) → (GAMMA X Y), true
 (symbol-macrolet ((b (alpha x y))
```

```
                  (a b))
   (expand-1 a)) → B, true
 (symbol-macrolet ((b (alpha x y))
                  (a b))
   (expand a)) → (GAMMA X Y), true


;; Examples of shadowing behavior
 (flet ((beta (x y) (+ x y)))
   (expand (alpha a b))) → (BETA A B), true
 (macrolet ((alpha (x y) `(delta ,x ,y)))
   (flet ((alpha (x y) (+ x y)))
     (expand (alpha a b)))) → (ALPHA A B), false
 (let ((x (list 1 2 3)))
   (symbol-macrolet ((a (first x)))
     (let ((a x))
       (expand a)))) → A, false
```

Affected By:

defmacro, **setf** of **macro-function**, **macrolet**, **symbol-macrolet**

See Also:

macroexpand-hook, **defmacro**, **setf** of **macro-function**, **macrolet**, **symbol-macrolet**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

Neither **macroexpand** nor **macroexpand-1** makes any explicit attempt to expand *macro forms* that are either *subforms* of the *form* or *subforms* of the *expansion*. Such expansion might occur implicitly, however, due to the semantics or implementation of the *macro function*.

define-symbol-macro *Macro*

Syntax:

define-symbol-macro *symbol expansion*
  → *symbol*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

expansion—a *form*.

Description:

Provides a mechanism for globally affecting the *macro expansion* of the indicated *symbol*.

Globally establishes an expansion function for the *symbol macro* named by *symbol*. The only guaranteed property of an expansion *function* for a *symbol macro* is that when it is applied to the *form* and the *environment* it returns the correct expansion. (In particular, it is *implementation-dependent* whether the expansion is conceptually stored in the expansion function, the *environment*, or both.)

Each global reference to *symbol* (*i.e.*, not *shadowed*$_2$ by a *binding* for a *variable* or *symbol macro* named by the same *symbol*) is expanded by the normal macro expansion process; see Section 3.1.2.1.1 (Symbols as Forms). The expansion of a *symbol macro* is subject to further *macro expansion* in the same *lexical environment* as the *symbol macro* reference, exactly analogous to normal *macros*.

The consequences are unspecified if a **special** declaration is made for *symbol* while in the scope of this definition (*i.e.*, when it is not *shadowed*$_2$ by a *binding* for a *variable* or *symbol macro* named by the same *symbol*).

Any use of **setq** to set the value of the *symbol* while in the scope of this definition is treated as if it were a **setf**. **psetq** of *symbol* is treated as if it were a **psetf**, and **multiple-value-setq** is treated as if it were a **setf** of **values**.

A *binding* for a *symbol macro* can be *shadowed*$_2$ by **let** or **symbol-macrolet**.

Examples:

```
(defvar *things* (list 'alpha 'beta 'gamma)) → *THINGS*

(define-symbol-macro thing1 (first *things*)) → THING1
(define-symbol-macro thing2 (second *things*)) → THING2
(define-symbol-macro thing3 (third *things*)) → THING3

thing1 → ALPHA
(setq thing1 'ONE) → ONE
*things* → (ONE BETA GAMMA)
(multiple-value-setq (thing2 thing3) (values 'two 'three)) → TWO
thing3 → THREE
*things* → (ONE TWO THREE)

(list thing2 (let ((thing2 2)) thing2)) → (TWO 2)
```

Exceptional Situations:

If *symbol* is already defined as a *global variable*, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

See Also:

symbol-macrolet, **macroexpand**

symbol-macrolet *Special Operator*

Syntax:

symbol-macrolet ({(*symbol expansion*)}*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

expansion—a *form*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

symbol-macrolet provides a mechanism for affecting the *macro expansion* environment for *symbols*.

symbol-macrolet lexically establishes expansion functions for each of the *symbol macros* named by *symbols*. The only guaranteed property of an expansion *function* for a *symbol macro* is that when it is applied to the *form* and the *environment* it returns the correct expansion. (In particular, it is *implementation-dependent* whether the expansion is conceptually stored in the expansion function, the *environment*, or both.)

Each reference to *symbol* as a variable within the lexical *scope* of **symbol-macrolet** is expanded by the normal macro expansion process; see Section 3.1.2.1.1 (Symbols as Forms). The expansion of a symbol macro is subject to further macro expansion in the same lexical environment as the symbol macro invocation, exactly analogous to normal *macros*.

Exactly the same *declarations* are allowed as for **let** with one exception: **symbol-macrolet** signals an error if a **special** declaration names one of the *symbols* being defined by **symbol-macrolet**.

When the *forms* of the **symbol-macrolet** form are expanded, any use of **setq** to set the value of one of the specified variables is treated as if it were a **setf**. **psetq** of a *symbol* defined as a symbol macro is treated as if it were a **psetf**, and **multiple-value-setq** is treated as if it were a **setf** of **values**.

The use of **symbol-macrolet** can be shadowed by **let**. In other words, **symbol-macrolet** only substitutes for occurrences of *symbol* that would be in the *scope* of a lexical binding of *symbol* surrounding the *forms*.

Examples:

```
;;; The following is equivalent to
;;;   (list 'foo (let ((x 'bar)) x)),
;;; not
;;;   (list 'foo (let (('foo 'bar)) 'foo))
 (symbol-macrolet ((x 'foo))
   (list x (let ((x 'bar)) x)))
→ (foo bar)
not→ (foo foo)

 (symbol-macrolet ((x '(foo x)))
   (list x))
→ ((FOO X))
```

Exceptional Situations:

If an attempt is made to bind a *symbol* that is defined as a *global variable*, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

If *declaration* contains a **special** declaration that names one of the *symbols* being bound by **symbol-macrolet**, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

See Also:

with-slots, **macroexpand**

Notes:

The special form **symbol-macrolet** is the basic mechanism that is used to implement **with-slots**.

If a **symbol-macrolet** *form* is a *top level form*, the *forms* are also processed as *top level forms*. See Section 3.2.3 (File Compilation).

∗macroexpand-hook∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *designator* for a *function* of three *arguments*: a *macro function*, a *macro form*, and an *environment object*.

Initial Value:

a *designator* for a function that is equivalent to the *function* **funcall**, but that might have additional *implementation-dependent* side-effects.

Description:

Used as the expansion interface hook by **macroexpand-1** to control the *macro expansion* process. When a *macro form* is to be expanded, this *function* is called with three arguments: the *macro function*, the *macro form*, and the *environment* in which the *macro form* is to be expanded. The *environment object* has *dynamic extent*; the consequences are undefined if the *environment object* is referred to outside the *dynamic extent* of the macro expansion function.

Examples:

```
(defun hook (expander form env)
   (format t "Now expanding: ~S~%" form)
   (funcall expander form env)) → HOOK
(defmacro machook (x y) `(/ (+ ,x ,y) 2)) → MACHOOK
(macroexpand '(machook 1 2)) → (/ (+ 1 2) 2), true
(let ((*macroexpand-hook* #'hook)) (macroexpand '(machook 1 2)))
▷ Now expanding (MACHOOK 1 2)
→ (/ (+ 1 2) 2), true
```

See Also:

macroexpand, **macroexpand-1**, **funcall**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

The net effect of the chosen initial value is to just invoke the *macro function*, giving it the *macro form* and *environment* as its two arguments.

Users or user programs can *assign* this *variable* to customize or trace the *macro expansion* mechanism. Note, however, that this *variable* is a global resource, potentially shared by multiple *programs*; as such, if any two *programs* depend for their correctness on the setting of this *variable*, those *programs* may not be able to run in the same *Lisp image*. For this reason, it is frequently best to confine its uses to debugging situations.

Users who put their own function into ***macroexpand-hook*** should consider saving the previous value of the hook, and calling that value from their own.

proclaim *Function*

Syntax:

proclaim *declaration-specifier* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

declaration-specifier—a *declaration specifier*.

Description:

Establishes the *declaration* specified by *declaration-specifier* in the *global environment*.

Such a *declaration*, sometimes called a *global declaration* or a *proclamation*, is always in force unless locally *shadowed*.

Names of *variables* and *functions* within *declaration-specifier* refer to *dynamic variables* and global *function* definitions, respectively.

Figure 3–22 shows a list of *declaration identifiers* that can be used with **proclaim**.

declaration	inline	optimize	type
ftype	notinline	special	

Figure 3–22. Global Declaration Specifiers

An implementation is free to support other (*implementation-defined*) *declaration identifiers* as well.

Examples:

```
(defun declare-variable-types-globally (type vars)
  (proclaim `(type ,type ,@vars))
  type)

;; Once this form is executed, the dynamic variable *TOLERANCE*
;; must always contain a float.
(declare-variable-types-globally 'float '(*tolerance*))
→ FLOAT
```

See Also:

declaim, **declare**, Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

Although the *execution* of a **proclaim** *form* has effects that might affect compilation, the compiler does not make any attempt to recognize and specially process **proclaim** *forms*. A *proclamation* such as the following, even if a *top level form*, does not have any effect until it is executed:

```
(proclaim '(special *x*))
```

If compile time side effects are desired, **eval-when** may be useful. For example:

```
(eval-when (:execute :compile-toplevel :load-toplevel)
  (proclaim '(special *x*)))
```

In most such cases, however, it is preferrable to use **declaim** for this purpose.

Since **proclaim** *forms* are ordinary *function forms*, *macro forms* can expand into them.

declaim *Macro*

Syntax:

declaim {*declaration-specifier*}* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

declaration-specifier—a *declaration specifier*; not evaluated.

Description:

Establishes the *declarations* specified by the *declaration-specifiers*.

If a use of this macro appears as a *top level form* in a *file* being processed by the *file compiler*, the proclamations are also made at compile-time. As with other defining macros, it is unspecified whether or not the compile-time side-effects of a **declaim** persist after the *file* has been *compiled*.

Examples:

See Also:

declare, **proclaim**

declare *Symbol*

Syntax:

declare {*declaration-specifier*}*

Arguments:

declaration-specifier—a *declaration specifier*; not evaluated.

Description:

A **declare** *expression*, sometimes called a *declaration*, can occur only at the beginning of the bodies of certain *forms*; that is, it may be preceded only by other **declare** *expressions*, or by a *documentation string* if the context permits.

A **declare** *expression* can occur in a *lambda expression* or in any of the *forms* listed in Figure 3–23.

defgeneric	**do-external-symbols**	**prog**
define-compiler-macro	**do-symbols**	**prog***
define-method-combination	**dolist**	**restart-case**
define-setf-expander	**dotimes**	**symbol-macrolet**
defmacro	**flet**	**with-accessors**
defmethod	**handler-case**	**with-hash-table-iterator**
defsetf	**labels**	**with-input-from-string**
deftype	**let**	**with-open-file**
defun	**let***	**with-open-stream**
destructuring-bind	**locally**	**with-output-to-string**
do	**macrolet**	**with-package-iterator**
do*	**multiple-value-bind**	**with-slots**
do-all-symbols	**pprint-logical-block**	

Figure 3–23. Standardized Forms In Which Declarations Can Occur

A **declare** *expression* can only occur where specified by the syntax of these *forms*. The consequences of attempting to evaluate a **declare** *expression* are undefined. In situations where such *expressions* can appear, explicit checks are made for their presence and they are never actually evaluated; it is for this reason that they are called "**declare** *expressions*" rather than "**declare** *forms*."

Macro forms cannot expand into declarations; **declare** *expressions* must appear as actual *subexpressions* of the *form* to which they refer.

Figure 3–24 shows a list of *declaration identifiers* that can be used with **declare**.

dynamic-extent	**ignore**	**optimize**
ftype	**inline**	**special**
ignorable	**notinline**	**type**

Figure 3–24. Local Declaration Specifiers

An implementation is free to support other (*implementation-defined*) *declaration identifiers* as well.

Examples:

```
(defun nonsense (k x z)
  (foo z x)                     ;First call to foo
  (let ((j (foo k x))           ;Second call to foo
        (x (* k k)))
    (declare (inline foo) (special x z))
    (foo x j z)))               ;Third call to foo
```

In this example, the **inline** declaration applies only to the third call to `foo`, but not to the first or second ones. The **special** declaration of `x` causes **let** to make a dynamic *binding* for `x`, and causes the reference to `x` in the body of **let** to be a dynamic reference. The reference to `x` in the second call to `foo` is a local reference to the second parameter of `nonsense`. The reference to `x` in the first call to `foo` is a local reference, not a **special** one. The **special** declaration of `z` causes the reference to `z` in the third call to `foo` to be a dynamic reference; it does not refer to the parameter to `nonsense` named `z`, because that parameter *binding* has not been declared to be **special**. (The **special** declaration of `z` does not appear in the body of **defun**, but in an inner *form*, and therefore does not affect the *binding* of the *parameter*.)

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences of trying to use a **declare** *expression* as a *form* to be *evaluated* are undefined.

See Also:

proclaim, Section 4.2.3 (Type Specifiers), **declaration**, **dynamic-extent**, **ftype**, **ignorable**, **ignore**, **inline**, **notinline**, **optimize**, **type**

ignore, ignorable *Declaration*

Syntax:

(ignore {*var* | (**function** *fn*)}*)

(ignorable {*var* | (**function** *fn*)}*)

Arguments:

var—a *variable name*.

fn—a *function name*.

Valid Context:

declaration

Binding Types Affected:

variable, *function*

Description:

The **ignore** and **ignorable** declarations refer to *for-value references* to *variable bindings* for the *vars* and to *function bindings* for the *fns*.

An **ignore** *declaration* specifies that *for-value references* to the indicated *bindings* will not occur within the scope of the *declaration*. Within the *scope* of such a *declaration*, it is desirable for a compiler to issue a warning about the presence of either a *for-value reference* to any *var* or *fn*, or a **special** *declaration* for any *var*.

An **ignorable** *declaration* specifies that *for-value references* to the indicated *bindings* might or might not occur within the scope of the *declaration*. Within the *scope* of such a *declaration*, it is not desirable for a compiler to issue a warning about the presence or absence of either a *for-value reference* to any *var* or *fn*, or a **special** *declaration* for any *var*.

When not within the *scope* of a **ignore** or **ignorable** *declaration*, it is desirable for a compiler to issue a warning about any *var* for which there is neither a *for-value reference* nor a **special** *declaration*, or about any *fn* for which there is no *for-value reference*.

Any warning about a "used" or "unused" *binding* must be of *type* **style-warning**, and may not affect program semantics.

The *stream variables* established by **with-open-file**, **with-open-stream**, **with-input-from-string**, and **with-output-to-string**, and all *iteration variables* are, by definition, always "used". Using `(declare (ignore v))`, for such a *variable* v has unspecified consequences.

See Also:

declare

dynamic-extent *Declaration*

Syntax:

(dynamic-extent ⟦{*var*}* | (**function** *fn*)*⟧)

Arguments:

var—a *variable name*.

fn—a *function name*.

Valid Context:

declaration

Binding Types Affected:

variable, *function*

Description:

In some containing *form*, *F*, this declaration asserts for each var_i (which need not be bound by *F*), and for each *value* v_{ij} that var_i takes on, and for each *object* x_{ijk} that is an *otherwise inaccessible part* of v_{ij} at any time when v_{ij} becomes the value of var_i, that just after the execution of *F* terminates, x_{ijk} is either *inaccessible* (if *F* established a *binding* for var_i) or still an *otherwise inaccessible part* of the current value of var_i (if *F* did not establish a *binding* for var_i). The same relation holds for each fn_i, except that the *bindings* are in the *function namespace*.

The compiler is permitted to use this information in any way that is appropriate to the *implementation* and that does not conflict with the semantics of Common Lisp.

dynamic-extent declarations can be *free declarations* or *bound declarations*.

The *vars* and *fns* named in a **dynamic-extent** declaration must not refer to *symbol macro* or *macro* bindings.

Examples:

Since stack allocation of the initial value entails knowing at the *object*'s creation time that the *object* can be *stack-allocated*, it is not generally useful to make a **dynamic-extent** *declaration* for *variables* which have no lexically apparent initial value. For example, it is probably useful to write:

```
(defun f ()
  (let ((x (list 1 2 3)))
    (declare (dynamic-extent x))
        ...))
```

This would permit those compilers that wish to do so to *stack allocate* the list held by the local variable `x`. It is permissible, but in practice probably not as useful, to write:

```
(defun g (x) (declare (dynamic-extent x)) ...)
(defun f () (g (list 1 2 3)))
```

Most compilers would probably not *stack allocate* the *argument* to `g` in `f` because it would be a modularity violation for the compiler to assume facts about `g` from within `f`. Only an implementation that was willing to be responsible for recompiling `f` if the definition of `g` changed incompatibly could legitimately *stack allocate* the *list* argument to `g` in `f`.

Here is another example:

```
(declaim (inline g))
(defun g (x) (declare (dynamic-extent x)) ...)
(defun f () (g (list 1 2 3)))

(defun f ()
  (flet ((g (x) (declare (dynamic-extent x)) ...))
    (g (list 1 2 3))))
```

In the previous example, some compilers might determine that optimization was possible and others might not.

A variant of this is the so-called "stack allocated rest list" that can be achieved (in implementations supporting the optimization) by:

```
(defun f (&rest x)
```



```
  (declare (dynamic-extent x))
  ...)
```

Note that although the initial value of `x` is not explicit, the `f` function is responsible for assembling the list `x` from the passed arguments, so the `f` function can be optimized by the compiler to construct a *stack-allocated* list instead of a heap-allocated list in implementations that support such.

In the following example,

```
(let ((x (list 'a1 'b1 'c1))
      (y (cons 'a2 (cons 'b2 (cons 'c2 nil)))))
  (declare (dynamic-extent x y))
  ...)
```

The *otherwise inaccessible parts* of `x` are three *conses*, and the *otherwise inaccessible parts* of `y` are three other *conses*. None of the symbols `a1`, `b1`, `c1`, `a2`, `b2`, `c2`, or **nil** is an *otherwise inaccessible part* of `x` or `y` because each is *interned* and hence *accessible* by the *package* (or *packages*) in which it is *interned*. However, if a freshly allocated *uninterned symbol* had been used, it would have been an *otherwise inaccessible part* of the *list* which contained it.

```
;; In this example, the implementation is permitted to stack allocate
;; the list that is bound to X.
 (let ((x (list 1 2 3)))
   (declare (dynamic-extent x))
   (print x)
   :done)
▷ (1 2 3)
→ :DONE

;; In this example, the list to be bound to L can be stack-allocated.
 (defun zap (x y z)
   (do ((l (list x y z) (cdr l)))
       ((null l))
     (declare (dynamic-extent l))
     (prin1 (car l)))) → ZAP
 (zap 1 2 3)
▷ 123
→ NIL

;; Some implementations might open-code LIST-ALL-PACKAGES in a way
;; that permits using stack allocation of the list to be bound to L.
 (do ((l (list-all-packages) (cdr l)))
     ((null l))
   (declare (dynamic-extent l))
   (let ((name (package-name (car l))))
     (when (string-search "COMMON-LISP" name) (print name))))
```

```
▷ "COMMON-LISP"
▷ "COMMON-LISP-USER"
→ NIL

;; Some implementations might have the ability to stack allocate
;; rest lists.  A declaration such as the following should be a cue
;; to such implementations that stack-allocation of the rest list
;; would be desirable.
 (defun add (&rest x)
   (declare (dynamic-extent x))
   (apply #'+ x)) → ADD
 (add 1 2 3) → 6

 (defun zap (n m)
   ;; Computes (RANDOM (+ M 1)) at relative speed of roughly O(N).
   ;; It may be slow, but with a good compiler at least it
   ;; doesn't waste much heap storage.  :-}
   (let ((a (make-array n)))
     (declare (dynamic-extent a))
     (dotimes (i n)
       (declare (dynamic-extent i))
       (setf (aref a i) (random (+ i 1))))
     (aref a m))) → ZAP
 (< (zap 5 3) 3) → true
```

The following are in error, since the value of `x` is used outside of its *extent*:

```
 (length (list (let ((x (list 1 2 3)))  ; Invalid
                (declare (dynamic-extent x))
                x)))

 (progn (let ((x (list 1 2 3)))  ; Invalid
          (declare (dynamic-extent x))
          x)
        nil)
```

See Also:

declare

Notes:

The most common optimization is to *stack allocate* the initial value of the *objects* named by the *vars*.

It is permissible for an implementation to simply ignore this declaration.

type *Declaration*

Syntax:

(type *typespec* {*var*}*)

(*typespec* {*var*}*)

Arguments:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

var—a *variable name*.

Valid Context:

declaration or *proclamation*

Binding Types Affected:

variable

Description:

Affects only variable *bindings* and specifies that the *vars* take on values only of the specified *typespec*. In particular, values assigned to the variables by **setq**, as well as the initial values of the *vars* must be of the specified *typespec*. **type** declarations never apply to function *bindings* (see **ftype**).

A type declaration of a *symbol* defined by **symbol-macrolet** is equivalent to wrapping a **the** expression around the expansion of that *symbol*, although the *symbol*'s *macro expansion* is not actually affected.

The meaning of a type declaration is equivalent to changing each reference to a variable (*var*) within the scope of the declaration to (the *typespec var*), changing each expression assigned to the variable (*new-value*) within the scope of the declaration to (the *typespec new-value*), and executing (the *typespec var*) at the moment the scope of the declaration is entered.

A *type* declaration is valid in all declarations. The interpretation of a type declaration is as follows:

1. During the execution of any reference to the declared variable within the scope of the declaration, the consequences are undefined if the value of the declared variable is not of the declared *type*.

2. During the execution of any **setq** of the declared variable within the scope of the declaration, the consequences are undefined if the newly assigned value of the declared variable is not of the declared *type*.

3. At the moment the scope of the declaration is entered, the consequences are undefined if

the value of the declared variable is not of the declared *type*.

A *type* declaration affects only variable references within its scope.

If nested *type* declarations refer to the same variable, then the value of the variable must be a member of the intersection of the declared *types*.

If there is a local `type` declaration for a dynamic variable, and there is also a global `type` proclamation for that same variable, then the value of the variable within the scope of the local declaration must be a member of the intersection of the two declared *types*.

type declarations can be *free declarations* or *bound declarations*.

A *symbol* cannot be both the name of a *type* and the name of a declaration. Defining a *symbol* as the *name* of a *class*, *structure*, *condition*, or *type*, when the *symbol* has been *declared* as a declaration name, or vice versa, signals an error.

Within the *lexical scope* of an **array** type declaration, all references to *array elements* are assumed to satisfy the *expressed array element type* (as opposed to the *upgraded array element type*). A compiler can treat the code within the scope of the **array** type declaration as if each *access* of an *array element* were surrounded by an appropriate **the** form.

Examples:

```
(defun f (x y)
  (declare (type fixnum x y))
  (let ((z (+ x y)))
    (declare (type fixnum z))
    z)) → F
(f 1 2) → 3
;; The previous definition of F is equivalent to
(defun f (x y)
  ;; This declaration is a shorthand form of the TYPE declaration
  (declare (fixnum x y))
  ;; To declare the type of a return value, it's not necessary to
  ;; create a named variable.  A THE special form can be used instead.
  (the fixnum (+ x y))) → F
(f 1 2) → 3


(defvar *one-array* (make-array 10 :element-type '(signed-byte 5)))
(defvar *another-array* (make-array 10 :element-type '(signed-byte 8)))

(defun frob (an-array)
  (declare (type (array (signed-byte 5) 1) an-array))
  (setf (aref an-array 1) 31)
  (setf (aref an-array 2) 127)
```



```
  (setf (aref an-array 3) (* 2 (aref an-array 3)))
  (let ((foo 0))
    (declare (type (signed-byte 5) foo))
    (setf foo (aref an-array 0))))

(frob *one-array*)
(frob *another-array*)
```

The above definition of `frob` is equivalent to:

```
(defun frob (an-array)
  (setf (the (signed-byte 5) (aref an-array 1)) 31)
  (setf (the (signed-byte 5) (aref an-array 2)) 127)
  (setf (the (signed-byte 5) (aref an-array 3))
        (* 2 (the (signed-byte 5) (aref an-array 3))))
  (let ((foo 0))
    (declare (type (signed-byte 5) foo))
    (setf foo (the (signed-byte 5) (aref an-array 0)))))
```

Given an implementation in which *fixnums* are 29 bits but **fixnum** *arrays* are upgraded to signed 32-bit *arrays*, the following could be compiled with all *fixnum* arithmetic:

```
(defun bump-counters (counters)
  (declare (type (array fixnum *) bump-counters))
  (dotimes (i (length counters))
    (incf (aref counters i))))
```

See Also:

declare, **declaim**, **proclaim**

Notes:

(*typespec* {*var*}*) is an abbreviation for (`type` *typespec* {*var*}*).

A **type** declaration for the arguments to a function does not necessarily imply anything about the type of the result. The following function is not permitted to be compiled using *implementation-dependent fixnum*-only arithmetic:

```
(defun f (x y) (declare (fixnum x y)) (+ x y))
```

To see why, consider `(f most-positive-fixnum 1)`. Common Lisp defines that `F` must return a *bignum* here, rather than signal an error or produce a mathematically incorrect result. If you have special knowledge such "*fixnum* overflow" cases will not come up, you can declare the result value to be in the *fixnum* range, enabling some compilers to use more efficient arithmetic:

```
(defun f (x y)
  (declare (fixnum x y))
  (the fixnum (+ x y)))
```

Note, however, that in the three-argument case, because of the possibility of an implicit intermediate value growing too large, the following will not cause *implementation-dependent fixnum*-only arithmetic to be used:

```
(defun f (x y)
  (declare (fixnum x y z))
  (the fixnum (+ x y z)))
```

To see why, consider `(f most-positive-fixnum 1 -1)`. Although the arguments and the result are all *fixnums*, an intermediate value is not a *fixnum*. If it is important that *implementation-dependent fixnum*-only arithmetic be selected in *implementations* that provide it, consider writing something like this instead:

```
(defun f (x y)
  (declare (fixnum x y z))
  (the fixnum (+ (the fixnum (+ x y)) z)))
```

inline, notinline *Declaration*

Syntax:

(inline {*function-name*}*)

(notinline {*function-name*}*)

Arguments:

function-name—a *function name*.

Valid Context:

declaration or *proclamation*

Binding Types Affected:

function

Description:

inline specifies that it is desirable for the compiler to produce inline calls to the *functions* named by *function-names*; that is, the code for a specified *function-name* should be integrated into the calling routine, appearing "in line" in place of a procedure call. A compiler is free to ignore this declaration. **inline** declarations never apply to variable *bindings*.

If one of the *functions* mentioned has a lexically apparent local definition (as made by **flet** or **labels**), then the declaration applies to that local definition and not to the global function definition.

While no *conforming implementation* is required to perform inline expansion of user-defined functions, those *implementations* that do attempt to recognize the following paradigm:

To define a *function* `f` that is not **inline** by default but for which `(declare (inline f))` will make *f* be locally inlined, the proper definition sequence is:

```
(declaim (inline f))
(defun f ...)
(declaim (notinline f))
```

The **inline** proclamation preceding the **defun** *form* ensures that the *compiler* has the opportunity save the information necessary for inline expansion, and the **notinline** proclamation following the **defun** *form* prevents `f` from being expanded inline everywhere.

notinline specifies that it is undesirable to compile the *functions* named by *function-names* in-line. A compiler is not free to ignore this declaration; calls to the specified functions must be implemented as out-of-line subroutine calls.

If one of the *functions* mentioned has a lexically apparent local definition (as made by **flet** or **labels**), then the declaration applies to that local definition and not to the global function definition.

In the presence of a *compiler macro* definition for *function-name*, a **notinline** declaration prevents that *compiler macro* from being used. An **inline** declaration may be used to encourage use of *compiler macro* definitions. **inline** and **notinline** declarations otherwise have no effect when the lexically visible definition of *function-name* is a *macro* definition.

inline and **notinline** declarations can be *free declarations* or *bound declarations*. **inline** and **notinline** declarations of functions that appear before the body of a **flet** or **labels** *form* that defines that function are *bound declarations*. Such declarations in other contexts are *free declarations*.

Examples:

```
;; The globally defined function DISPATCH should be open-coded,
;; if the implementation supports inlining, unless a NOTINLINE
;; declaration overrides this effect.
(declaim (inline dispatch))
(defun dispatch (x) (funcall (get (car x) 'dispatch) x))
;; Here is an example where inlining would be encouraged.
(defun top-level-1 () (dispatch (read-command)))
;; Here is an example where inlining would be prohibited.
(defun top-level-2 ()
  (declare (notinline dispatch))
  (dispatch (read-command)))
;; Here is an example where inlining would be prohibited.
(declaim (notinline dispatch))
(defun top-level-3 () (dispatch (read-command)))
```

```
;; Here is an example where inlining would be encouraged.
(defun top-level-4 ()
  (declare (inline dispatch))
  (dispatch (read-command)))
```

See Also:

declare, **declaim**, **proclaim**

ftype *Declaration*

Syntax:

(ftype *type* {*function-name*}*)

Arguments:

function-name—a *function name*.

type—a *type specifier*.

Valid Context:

declaration or *proclamation*

Binding Types Affected:

function

Description:

Specifies that the *functions* named by *function-names* are of the functional type *type*. For example:

```
(declare (ftype (function (integer list) t) ith)
         (ftype (function (number) float) sine cosine))
```

If one of the *functions* mentioned has a lexically apparent local definition (as made by **flet** or **labels**), then the declaration applies to that local definition and not to the global function definition. **ftype** declarations never apply to variable *bindings* (see type).

The lexically apparent bindings of *function-names* must not be *macro* definitions. (This is because **ftype** declares the functional definition of each *function name* to be of a particular subtype of **function**, and *macros* do not denote *functions*.)

ftype declarations can be *free declarations* or *bound declarations*. **ftype** declarations of functions that appear before the body of a **flet** or **labels** *form* that defines that function are *bound declarations*. Such declarations in other contexts are *free declarations*.

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See Also:

declare, **declaim**, **proclaim**

declaration *Declaration*

Syntax:

(declaration {*name*}*)

Arguments:

name—a *symbol*.

Valid Context:

proclamation only

Description:

Advises the compiler that each *name* is a valid but potentially non-standard declaration name. The purpose of this is to tell one compiler not to issue warnings for declarations meant for another compiler or other program processor.

Examples:

```
(declaim (declaration author target-language target-machine))
(declaim (target-language ada))
(declaim (target-machine IBM-650))
(defun strangep (x)
  (declare (author "Harry Tweeker"))
  (member x '(strange weird odd peculiar)))
```

See Also:

declaim, **proclaim**

optimize *Declaration*

Syntax:

(optimize {*quality* | (*quality value*)}*)

Arguments:

quality—an *optimize quality*.

value—one of the *integers* 0, 1, 2, or 3.

Valid Context:

declaration or *proclamation*

Description:

Advises the compiler that each *quality* should be given attention according to the specified corresponding *value*. Each *quality* must be a *symbol* naming an *optimize quality*; the names and meanings of the standard *optimize qualities* are shown in Figure 3–25.

Name	Meaning
compilation-speed	speed of the compilation process
debug	ease of debugging
safety	run-time error checking
space	both code size and run-time space
speed	speed of the object code

Figure 3–25. Optimize qualities

There may be other, *implementation-defined optimize qualities*.

A *value* 0 means that the corresponding *quality* is totally unimportant, and 3 that the *quality* is extremely important; 1 and 2 are intermediate values, with 1 the neutral value. (*quality* 3) can be abbreviated to *quality*.

Note that *code* which has the optimization (safety 3), or just **safety**, is called *safe code*.

The consequences are unspecified if a *quality* appears more than once with *different values*.

Examples:

```
(defun often-used-subroutine (x y)
  (declare (optimize (safety 2)))
  (error-check x y)
  (hairy-setup x)
  (do ((i 0 (+ i 1))
       (z x (cdr z)))
      ((null z))
    ;; This inner loop really needs to burn.
    (declare (optimize speed))
    (declare (fixnum i))
    ))
```

See Also:

declare, **declaim**, **proclaim**, Section 3.3.4 (Declaration Scope)

Notes:

An **optimize** declaration never applies to either a *variable* or a *function binding*. An **optimize** declaration can only be a *free declaration*. For more information, see Section 3.3.4 (Declaration Scope).

special *Declaration*

Syntax:

(special {*var*}*)

Arguments:

var—a *symbol*.

Valid Context:

declaration or *proclamation*

Binding Types Affected:

variable

Description:

Specifies that all of the *vars* named are dynamic. This specifier affects variable *bindings* and affects references. All variable *bindings* affected are made to be dynamic *bindings*, and affected variable references refer to the current dynamic *binding*. For example:

```
(defun hack (thing *mod*)    ;The binding of the parameter
  (declare (special *mod*))  ; *mod* is visible to hack1,
  (hack1 (car thing)))       ; but not that of thing.
(defun hack1 (arg)
  (declare (special *mod*))  ;Declare references to *mod*
                             ;within hack1 to be special.
  (if (atom arg) *mod*
      (cons (hack1 (car arg)) (hack1 (cdr arg)))))
```

A **special** declaration does not affect inner *bindings* of a *var*; the inner *bindings* implicitly shadow a **special** declaration and must be explicitly re-declared to be **special**. **special** declarations never apply to function *bindings*.

special declarations can be either *bound declarations*, affecting both a binding and references, or *free declarations*, affecting only references, depending on whether the declaration is attached to a variable binding.

When used in a *proclamation*, a **special** *declaration specifier* applies to all *bindings* as well as to all references of the mentioned variables. For example, after

```
(declaim (special x))
```

then in a function definition such as

```
(defun example (x) ...)
```

the parameter `x` is bound as a dynamic variable rather than as a lexical variable.

Examples:

```
(defun declare-eg (y)                 ;this y is special
 (declare (special y))
 (let ((y t))                         ;this y is lexical
      (list y
            (locally (declare (special y)) y)))) ;this y refers to the
                                                 ;special binding of y
→ DECLARE-EG
 (declare-eg nil) → (T NIL)

(setf (symbol-value 'x) 6)
(defun foo (x)                         ;a lexical binding of x
  (print x)
  (let ((x (1+ x)))                    ;a special binding of x
    (declare (special x))              ;and a lexical reference
    (bar))
  (1+ x))
(defun bar ()
  (print (locally (declare (special x))
           x)))
(foo 10)
▷ 10
▷ 11
→ 11

(setf (symbol-value 'x) 6)
(defun bar (x y)            ;[1] 1st occurrence of x
  (let ((old-x x)           ;[2] 2nd occurrence of x -- same as 1st occurrence
```


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```
        (x y))              ;[3] 3rd occurrence of x
    (declare (special x))
    (list old-x x)))
(bar 'first 'second) → (FIRST SECOND)

 (defun few (x &optional (y *foo*))
   (declare (special *foo*))
   ...)
```

The reference to `*foo*` in the first line of this example is not **special** even though there is a **special** declaration in the second line.

```
 (declaim (special prosp)) → implementation-dependent
 (setq prosp 1 reg 1) → 1
 (let ((prosp 2) (reg 2))         ;the binding of prosp is special
    (set 'prosp 3) (set 'reg 3)   ;due to the preceding proclamation,
    (list prosp reg))             ;whereas the variable reg is lexical
→ (3 2)
 (list prosp reg) → (1 3)

 (declaim (special x))          ;x is always special.
 (defun example (x y)
   (declare (special y))
   (let ((y 3) (x (* x 2)))
     (print (+ y (locally (declare (special y)) y)))
     (let ((y 4)) (declare (special y)) (foo x)))) → EXAMPLE
```

In the contorted code above, the outermost and innermost *bindings* of `y` are dynamic, but the middle binding is lexical. The two arguments to `+` are different, one being the value, which is `3`, of the lexical variable `y`, and the other being the value of the dynamic variable named `y` (a *binding* of which happens, coincidentally, to lexically surround it at an outer level). All the *bindings* of `x` and references to `x` are dynamic, however, because of the proclamation that `x` is always **special**.

See Also:

defparameter, **defvar**

locally *Special Operator*

Syntax:

locally {*declaration*}* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

Declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

locally

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* of the *forms*.

Description:

Sequentially evaluates a body of *forms* in a *lexical environment* where the given *declarations* have effect.

Examples:

```
(defun sample-function (y)  ;this y is regarded as special
  (declare (special y))
  (let ((y t))              ;this y is regarded as lexical
    (list y
          (locally (declare (special y))
            ;; this next y is regarded as special
            y))))
→ SAMPLE-FUNCTION
(sample-function nil) → (T NIL)
(setq x '(1 2 3) y '(4 . 5)) → (4 . 5)

;;; The following declarations are not notably useful in specific.
;;; They just offer a sample of valid declaration syntax using LOCALLY.
(locally (declare (inline floor) (notinline car cdr))
         (declare (optimize space))
   (floor (car x) (cdr y))) → 0, 1


;;; This example shows a definition of a function that has a particular set
;;; of OPTIMIZE settings made locally to that definition.
(locally (declare (optimize (safety 3) (space 3) (speed 0)))
  (defun frob (w x y &optional (z (foo x y)))
    (mumble x y z w)))
→ FROB

;;; This is like the previous example, except that the optimize settings
;;; remain in effect for subsequent definitions in the same compilation unit.
(declaim (optimize (safety 3) (space 3) (speed 0)))
(defun frob (w x y &optional (z (foo x y)))
  (mumble x y z w))
→ FROB
```

See Also:

declare

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Notes:

The **special** declaration may be used with **locally** to affect references to, rather than *bindings* of, *variables*.

If a **locally** *form* is a *top level form*, the body *forms* are also processed as *top level forms*. See Section 3.2.3 (File Compilation).

the *Special Operator*

Syntax:

the *value-type form* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

value-type—a *type specifier*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*; evaluated.

results—the *values* resulting from the *evaluation* of *form*. These *values* must conform to the *type* supplied by *value-type*; see below.

Description:

the specifies that the $values_{1a}$ returned by *form* are of the *types* specified by *value-type*. The consequences are undefined if any *result* is not of the declared type.

It is permissible for *form* to *yield* a different number of *values* than are specified by *value-type*, provided that the values for which *types* are declared are indeed of those *types*. Missing values are treated as **nil** for the purposes of checking their *types*.

Regardless of number of *values* declared by *value-type*, the number of *values* returned by the **the** *special form* is the same as the number of *values* returned by *form*.

Examples:

```
(the symbol (car (list (gensym)))) → #:G9876
(the fixnum (+ 5 7)) → 12
(the (values) (truncate 3.2 2)) → 1, 1.2
(the integer (truncate 3.2 2)) → 1, 1.2
(the (values integer) (truncate 3.2 2)) → 1, 1.2
(the (values integer float) (truncate 3.2 2))   → 1, 1.2
(the (values integer float symbol) (truncate 3.2 2)) → 1, 1.2
(the (values integer float symbol t null list)
    (truncate 3.2 2)) → 1, 1.2
(let ((i 100))
   (declare (fixnum i))
```

```
   (the fixnum (1+ i))) → 101
(let* ((x (list 'a 'b 'c))
       (y 5))
   (setf (the fixnum (car x)) y)
   x) → (5 B C)
```

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if the *values yielded* by the *form* are not of the *type* specified by *value-type*.

See Also:

values

Notes:

The **values** *type specifier* can be used to indicate the types of *multiple values*:

```
(the (values integer integer) (floor x y))
(the (values string t)
     (gethash the-key the-string-table))
```

setf can be used with **the** type declarations. In this case the declaration is transferred to the form that specifies the new value. The resulting **setf** *form* is then analyzed.

special-operator-p *Function*

Syntax:

special-operator-p *symbol* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *symbol* is a *special operator*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(special-operator-p 'if) → true
(special-operator-p 'car) → false
(special-operator-p 'one) → false
```


Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if its argument is not a *symbol*.

Notes:

Historically, this function was called `special-form-p`. The name was finally declared a misnomer and changed, since it returned true for *special operators*, not *special forms*.

constantp *Function*

Syntax:

constantp *form* `&optional` *environment* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*.

environment—an *environment object*. The default is **nil**.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *form* can be determined by the *implementation* to be a *constant form* in the indicated *environment*; otherwise, it returns *false* indicating either that the *form* is not a *constant form* or that it cannot be determined whether or not *form* is a *constant form*.

The following kinds of *forms* are considered *constant forms*:

- *Self-evaluating objects* (such as *numbers*, *characters*, and the various kinds of *arrays*) are always considered *constant forms* and must be recognized as such by **constantp**.

- *Constant variables*, such as *keywords*, symbols defined by Common Lisp as constant (such as **nil**, **t**, and **pi**), and symbols declared as constant by the user in the indicated *environment* using **defconstant** are always considered *constant forms* and must be recognized as such by **constantp**.

- **quote** *forms* are always considered *constant forms* and must be recognized as such by **constantp**.

- An *implementation* is permitted, but not required, to detect additional *constant forms*. If it does, it is also permitted, but not required, to make use of information in the *environment*. Examples of *constant forms* for which **constantp** might or might not return *true* are: `(sqrt pi)`, `(+ 3 2)`, `(length '(a b c))`, and `(let ((x 7)) (zerop x))`.

constantp

If an *implementation* chooses to make use of the *environment* information, such actions as expanding *macros* or performing function inlining are permitted to be used, but not required; however, expanding *compiler macros* is not permitted.

Examples:

```
(constantp 1) → true
(constantp 'temp) → false
(constantp ''temp)) → true
(defconstant this-is-a-constant 'never-changing) → THIS-IS-A-CONSTANT
(constantp 'this-is-a-constant) → true
(constantp "temp") → true
(setq a 6) → 6
(constantp a) → true
(constantp '(sin pi)) → implementation-dependent
(constantp '(car '(x))) → implementation-dependent
(constantp '(eql x x)) → implementation-dependent
(constantp '(typep x 'nil)) → implementation-dependent
(constantp '(typep x 't)) → implementation-dependent
(constantp '(values this-is-a-constant)) → implementation-dependent
(constantp '(values 'x 'y)) → implementation-dependent
(constantp '(let ((a '(a b c))) (+ (length a) 6))) → implementation-dependent
```

Affected By:

The state of the global environment (*e.g.*, which *symbols* have been declared to be the *names* of *constant variables*).

See Also:

defconstant

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

4. Types and Classes

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4.1 Introduction

A *type* is a (possibly infinite) set of *objects*. An *object* can belong to more than one *type*. *Types* are never explicitly represented as *objects* by Common Lisp. Instead, they are referred to indirectly by the use of *type specifiers*, which are *objects* that denote *types*.

New *types* can be defined using **deftype**, **defstruct**, **defclass**, and **define-condition**.

The *function* **typep**, a set membership test, is used to determine whether a given *object* is of a given *type*. The function **subtypep**, a subset test, is used to determine whether a given *type* is a *subtype* of another given *type*. The function **type-of** returns a particular *type* to which a given *object* belongs, even though that *object* must belong to one or more other *types* as well. (For example, every *object* is of *type* **t**, but **type-of** always returns a *type specifier* for a *type* more specific than **t**.)

Objects, not *variables*, have *types*. Normally, any *variable* can have any *object* as its *value*. It is possible to declare that a *variable* takes on only values of a given *type* by making an explicit *type declaration*. *Types* are arranged in a directed acyclic graph, except for the presence of equivalences.

Declarations can be made about *types* using **declare**, **proclaim**, **declaim**, or **the**. For more information about *declarations*, see Section 3.3 (Declarations).

Among the fundamental *objects* of the object system are *classes*. A *class* determines the structure and behavior of a set of other *objects*, which are called its *instances*. Every *object* is a *direct instance* of a *class*. The *class* of an *object* determines the set of operations that can be performed on the *object*. For more information, see Section 4.3 (Classes).

It is possible to write *functions* that have behavior *specialized* to the class of the *objects* which are their *arguments*. For more information, see Section 7.6 (Generic Functions and Methods).

The *class* of the *class* of an *object* is called its ***metaclass***. For more information about *metaclasses*, see Section 7.4 (Meta-Objects).

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4.2 Types

4.2.1 Data Type Definition

Information about *type* usage is located in the sections specified in Figure 4–1. Figure 4–7 lists some *classes* that are particularly relevant to the object system. Figure 9–1 lists the defined *condition types*.

Section	Data Type
Section 4.3 (Classes)	Object System types
Section 7.5 (Slots)	Object System types
Chapter 7 (Objects)	Object System types
Section 7.6 (Generic Functions and Methods)	Object System types
Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)	Condition System types
Chapter 4 (Types and Classes)	Miscellaneous types
Chapter 2 (Syntax)	All types—read and print syntax
Section 22.1 (The Lisp Printer)	All types—print syntax
Section 3.2 (Compilation)	All types—compilation issues

Figure 4–1. Cross-References to Data Type Information

4.2.2 Type Relationships

- The *types* **cons**, **symbol**, **array**, **number**, **character**, **hash-table**, **function**, **readtable**, **package**, **pathname**, **stream**, **random-state**, **condition**, **restart**, and any single other *type* created by **defstruct**, **define-condition**, or **defclass** are *pairwise disjoint*, except for type relations explicitly established by specifying *superclasses* in **defclass** or **define-condition** or the `:include` option of **destruct**.

- Any two *types* created by **defstruct** are *disjoint* unless one is a *supertype* of the other by virtue of the **defstruct** `:include` option.

- Any two *distinct classes* created by **defclass** or **define-condition** are *disjoint* unless they have a common *subclass* or one *class* is a *subclass* of the other.

- An implementation may be extended to add other *subtype* relationships between the specified *types*, as long as they do not violate the type relationships and disjointness requirements specified here. An implementation may define additional *types* that are *subtypes* or *supertypes* of any specified *types*, as long as each additional *type* is a *subtype* of *type* **t** and a *supertype* of *type* **nil** and the disjointness requirements are not violated.

At the discretion of the implementation, either **standard-object** or **structure-object** might appear in any class precedence list for a *system class* that does not already specify either **standard-object** or **structure-object**. If it does, it must precede the *class* **t** and follow all other *standardized classes*.

4.2.3 Type Specifiers

Type specifiers can be *symbols*, *classes*, or *lists*. Figure 4–2 lists *symbols* that are *standardized atomic type specifiers*, and Figure 4–3 lists *standardized compound type specifier names*. For syntax information, see the dictionary entry for the corresponding *type specifier*. It is possible to define new *type specifiers* using **defclass**, **define-condition**, **defstruct**, or **deftype**.

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arithmetic-error	**function**	**simple-condition**
array	**generic-function**	**simple-error**
atom	**hash-table**	**simple-string**
base-char	**integer**	**simple-type-error**
base-string	**keyword**	**simple-vector**
bignum	**list**	**simple-warning**
bit	**logical-pathname**	**single-float**
bit-vector	**long-float**	**standard-char**
broadcast-stream	**method**	**standard-class**
built-in-class	**method-combination**	**standard-generic-function**
cell-error	**nil**	**standard-method**
character	**null**	**standard-object**
class	**number**	**storage-condition**
compiled-function	**package**	**stream**
complex	**package-error**	**stream-error**
concatenated-stream	**parse-error**	**string**
condition	**pathname**	**string-stream**
cons	**print-not-readable**	**structure-class**
control-error	**program-error**	**structure-object**
division-by-zero	**random-state**	**style-warning**
double-float	**ratio**	**symbol**
echo-stream	**rational**	**synonym-stream**
end-of-file	**reader-error**	**t**
error	**readtable**	**two-way-stream**
extended-char	**real**	**type-error**
file-error	**restart**	**unbound-slot**
file-stream	**sequence**	**unbound-variable**
fixnum	**serious-condition**	**undefined-function**
float	**short-float**	**unsigned-byte**
floating-point-inexact	**signed-byte**	**vector**
floating-point-invalid-operation	**simple-array**	**warning**
floating-point-overflow	**simple-base-string**	
floating-point-underflow	**simple-bit-vector**	

Figure 4–2. Standardized Atomic Type Specifiers

If a *type specifier* is a *list*, the *car* of the *list* is a *symbol*, and the rest of the *list* is subsidiary *type* information. Such a *type specifier* is called a ***compound type specifier***. Except as explicitly stated otherwise, the subsidiary items can be unspecified. The unspecified subsidiary items are indicated by writing *. For example, to completely specify a *vector*, the *type* of the elements and the length of the *vector* must be present.

```
(vector double-float 100)
```

The following leaves the length unspecified:

```
(vector double-float *)
```

The following leaves the element type unspecified:

```
(vector * 100)
```

Suppose that two *type specifiers* are the same except that the first has a `*` where the second has a more explicit specification. Then the second denotes a *subtype* of the *type* denoted by the first.

If a *list* has one or more unspecified items at the end, those items can be dropped. If dropping all occurrences of `*` results in a *singleton list*, then the parentheses can be dropped as well (the list can be replaced by the *symbol* in its *car*). For example, `(vector double-float *)` can be abbreviated to `(vector double-float)`, and `(vector * *)` can be abbreviated to `(vector)` and then to `vector`.

and	**long-float**	**simple-base-string**
array	**member**	**simple-bit-vector**
base-string	**mod**	**simple-string**
bit-vector	**not**	**simple-vector**
complex	**or**	**single-float**
cons	**rational**	**string**
double-float	**real**	**unsigned-byte**
eql	**satisfies**	**values**
float	**short-float**	**vector**
function	**signed-byte**	
integer	**simple-array**	

Figure 4–3. Standardized Compound Type Specifier Names

Figure 4–4 show the *defined names* that can be used as *compound type specifier names* but that cannot be used as *atomic type specifiers*.

and	**mod**	**satisfies**
eql	**not**	**values**
member	**or**	

Figure 4–4. Standardized Compound-Only Type Specifier Names

New *type specifiers* can come into existence in two ways.

- Defining a structure by using **defstruct** without using the `:type` specifier or defining a *class* by using **defclass** or **define-condition** automatically causes the name of the structure or class to be a new *type specifier symbol*.
- **deftype** can be used to define ***derived type specifiers***, which act as 'abbreviations' for other *type specifiers*.

A *class object* can be used as a *type specifier*. When used this way, it denotes the set of all members of that *class*.

Figure 4–5 shows some *defined names* relating to *types* and *declarations*.

coerce	**defstruct**	**subtypep**
declaim	**deftype**	**the**
declare	**ftype**	**type**
defclass	**locally**	**type-of**
define-condition	**proclaim**	**typep**

Figure 4–5. Defined names relating to types and declarations.

Figure 4–6 shows all *defined names* that are *type specifier names*, whether for *atomic type specifiers* or *compound type specifiers*; this list is the union of the lists in Figure 4–2 and Figure 4–3.

and	**function**	**simple-array**
arithmetic-error	**generic-function**	**simple-base-string**
array	**hash-table**	**simple-bit-vector**
atom	**integer**	**simple-condition**
base-char	**keyword**	**simple-error**
base-string	**list**	**simple-string**
bignum	**logical-pathname**	**simple-type-error**
bit	**long-float**	**simple-vector**
bit-vector	**member**	**simple-warning**
broadcast-stream	**method**	**single-float**
built-in-class	**method-combination**	**standard-char**
cell-error	**mod**	**standard-class**
character	**nil**	**standard-generic-function**
class	**not**	**standard-method**
compiled-function	**null**	**standard-object**
complex	**number**	**storage-condition**
concatenated-stream	**or**	**stream**
condition	**package**	**stream-error**
cons	**package-error**	**string**
control-error	**parse-error**	**string-stream**
division-by-zero	**pathname**	**structure-class**
double-float	**print-not-readable**	**structure-object**
echo-stream	**program-error**	**style-warning**
end-of-file	**random-state**	**symbol**
eql	**ratio**	**synonym-stream**
error	**rational**	**t**
extended-char	**reader-error**	**two-way-stream**
file-error	**readtable**	**type-error**
file-stream	**real**	**unbound-slot**
fixnum	**restart**	**unbound-variable**
float	**satisfies**	**undefined-function**
floating-point-inexact	**sequence**	**unsigned-byte**
floating-point-invalid-operation	**serious-condition**	**values**
floating-point-overflow	**short-float**	**vector**
floating-point-underflow	**signed-byte**	**warning**

Figure 4–6. Standardized Type Specifier Names

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4.3 Classes

While the object system is general enough to describe all *standardized classes* (including, for example, **number**, **hash-table**, and **symbol**), Figure 4–7 contains a list of *classes* that are especially relevant to understanding the object system.

built-in-class	**method-combination**	**standard-object**
class	**standard-class**	**structure-class**
generic-function	**standard-generic-function**	**structure-object**
method	**standard-method**	

Figure 4–7. Object System Classes

4.3.1 Introduction to Classes

A ***class*** is an *object* that determines the structure and behavior of a set of other *objects*, which are called its ***instances***.

A *class* can inherit structure and behavior from other *classes*. A *class* whose definition refers to other *classes* for the purpose of inheriting from them is said to be a *subclass* of each of those *classes*. The *classes* that are designated for purposes of inheritance are said to be *superclasses* of the inheriting *class*.

A *class* can have a *name*. The *function* **class-name** takes a *class object* and returns its *name*. The *name* of an anonymous *class* is **nil**. A *symbol* can *name* a *class*. The *function* **find-class** takes a *symbol* and returns the *class* that the *symbol* names. A *class* has a *proper name* if the *name* is a *symbol* and if the *name* of the *class* names that *class*. That is, a *class* C has the *proper name* S if $S =$ `(class-name` C`)` and $C =$ `(find-class` S`)`. Notice that it is possible for `(find-class` S_1`)` = `(find-class` S_2`)` and $S_1 \neq S_2$. If $C =$ `(find-class` S`)`, we say that C is the *class named* S.

A *class* C_1 is a ***direct superclass*** of a *class* C_2 if C_2 explicitly designates C_1 as a *superclass* in its definition. In this case C_2 is a ***direct subclass*** of C_1. A *class* C_n is a ***superclass*** of a *class* C_1 if there exists a series of *classes* $C_2, \ldots, C_{n-1}$ such that C_{i+1} is a *direct superclass* of C_i for $1 \le i < n$. In this case, C_1 is a ***subclass*** of C_n. A *class* is considered neither a *superclass* nor a *subclass* of itself. That is, if C_1 is a *superclass* of C_2, then $C_1 \neq C_2$. The set of *classes* consisting of some given *class* C along with all of its *superclasses* is called "C and its superclasses."

Each *class* has a ***class precedence list***, which is a total ordering on the set of the given *class* and its *superclasses*. The total ordering is expressed as a list ordered from most specific to least specific. The *class precedence list* is used in several ways. In general, more specific *classes* can ***shadow***$_1$ features that would otherwise be inherited from less specific *classes*. The *method* selection and combination process uses the *class precedence list* to order *methods* from most specific to least specific.

When a *class* is defined, the order in which its direct *superclasses* are mentioned in the defining form is important. Each *class* has a ***local precedence order***, which is a *list* consisting of the *class* followed by its *direct superclasses* in the order mentioned in the defining *form*.

A *class precedence list* is always consistent with the *local precedence order* of each *class* in the list. The *classes* in each *local precedence order* appear within the *class precedence list* in the same order. If the *local precedence orders* are inconsistent with each other, no *class precedence list* can be constructed, and an error is signaled. The *class precedence list* and its computation is discussed in Section 4.3.5 (Determining the Class Precedence List).

classes are organized into a directed acyclic graph. There are two distinguished *classes*, named **t** and **standard-object**. The *class* named **t** has no *superclasses*. It is a *superclass* of every *class* except itself. The *class* named **standard-object** is an *instance* of the *class* **standard-class** and is a *superclass* of every *class* that is an *instance* of the *class* **standard-class** except itself.

There is a mapping from the object system *class* space into the *type* space. Many of the standard *types* specified in this document have a corresponding *class* that has the same *name* as the *type*. Some *types* do not have a corresponding *class*. The integration of the *type* and *class* systems is discussed in Section 4.3.7 (Integrating Types and Classes).

Classes are represented by *objects* that are themselves *instances* of *classes*. The *class* of the *class* of an *object* is termed the ***metaclass*** of that *object*. When no misinterpretation is possible, the term *metaclass* is used to refer to a *class* that has *instances* that are themselves *classes*. The *metaclass* determines the form of inheritance used by the *classes* that are its *instances* and the representation of the *instances* of those *classes*. The object system provides a default *metaclass*, **standard-class**, that is appropriate for most programs.

Except where otherwise specified, all *classes* mentioned in this standard are *instances* of the *class* **standard-class**, all *generic functions* are *instances* of the *class* **standard-generic-function**, and all *methods* are *instances* of the *class* **standard-method**.

4.3.1.1 Standard Metaclasses

The object system provides a number of predefined *metaclasses*. These include the *classes* **standard-class**, **built-in-class**, and **structure-class**:

- The *class* **standard-class** is the default *class* of *classes* defined by **defclass**.

- The *class* **built-in-class** is the *class* whose *instances* are *classes* that have special implementations with restricted capabilities. Any *class* that corresponds to a standard *type* might be an *instance* of **built-in-class**. The predefined *type* specifiers that are required to have corresponding *classes* are listed in Figure 4–8. It is *implementation-dependent* whether each of these *classes* is implemented as a *built-in class*.

- All *classes* defined by means of **defstruct** are *instances* of the *class* **structure-class**.

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4.3.2 Defining Classes

The macro **defclass** is used to define a new named *class*.

The definition of a *class* includes:

- The *name* of the new *class*. For newly-defined *classes* this *name* is a *proper name*.

- The list of the direct *superclasses* of the new *class*.

- A set of ***slot specifiers***. Each *slot specifier* includes the *name* of the *slot* and zero or more *slot* options. A *slot* option pertains only to a single *slot*. If a *class* definition contains two *slot specifiers* with the same *name*, an error is signaled.

- A set of *class* options. Each *class* option pertains to the *class* as a whole.

The *slot* options and *class* options of the **defclass** form provide mechanisms for the following:

- Supplying a default initial value *form* for a given *slot*.

- Requesting that *methods* for *generic functions* be automatically generated for reading or writing *slots*.

- Controlling whether a given *slot* is shared by all *instances* of the *class* or whether each *instance* of the *class* has its own *slot*.

- Supplying a set of initialization arguments and initialization argument defaults to be used in *instance* creation.

- Indicating that the *metaclass* is to be other than the default. The `:metaclass` option is reserved for future use; an implementation can be extended to make use of the `:metaclass` option.

- Indicating the expected *type* for the value stored in the *slot*.

- Indicating the *documentation string* for the *slot*.

4.3.3 Creating Instances of Classes

The generic function **make-instance** creates and returns a new *instance* of a *class*. The object system provides several mechanisms for specifying how a new *instance* is to be initialized. For example, it is possible to specify the initial values for *slots* in newly created *instances* either by giving arguments to **make-instance** or by providing default initial values. Further initialization activities can be performed by *methods* written for *generic functions* that are part of the initialization protocol. The complete initialization protocol is described in Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization).

4.3.4 Inheritance

A *class* can inherit *methods*, *slots*, and some **defclass** options from its *superclasses*. Other sections describe the inheritance of *methods*, the inheritance of *slots* and *slot* options, and the inheritance of *class* options.

4.3.4.1 Examples of Inheritance

```
(defclass C1 ()
    ((S1 :initform 5.4 :type number)
     (S2 :allocation :class)))

(defclass C2 (C1)
    ((S1 :initform 5 :type integer)
     (S2 :allocation :instance)
     (S3 :accessor C2-S3)))
```

Instances of the class `C1` have a *local slot* named `S1`, whose default initial value is 5.4 and whose *value* should always be a *number*. The class `C1` also has a *shared slot* named `S2`.

There is a *local slot* named `S1` in *instances* of `C2`. The default initial value of `S1` is 5. The value of `S1` should always be of type `(and integer number)`. There are also *local slots* named `S2` and `S3` in *instances* of `C2`. The class `C2` has a *method* for `C2-S3` for reading the value of slot `S3`; there is also a *method* for `(setf C2-S3)` that writes the value of `S3`.

4.3.4.2 Inheritance of Class Options

The `:default-initargs` class option is inherited. The set of defaulted initialization arguments for a *class* is the union of the sets of initialization arguments supplied in the `:default-initargs` class options of the *class* and its *superclasses*. When more than one default initial value *form* is supplied for a given initialization argument, the default initial value *form* that is used is the one supplied by the *class* that is most specific according to the *class precedence list*.

If a given `:default-initargs` class option specifies an initialization argument of the same *name* more than once, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

4.3.5 Determining the Class Precedence List

The **defclass** form for a *class* provides a total ordering on that *class* and its direct *superclasses*. This ordering is called the ***local precedence order***. It is an ordered list of the *class* and its direct *superclasses*. The ***class precedence list*** for a class C is a total ordering on C and its *superclasses* that is consistent with the *local precedence orders* for each of C and its *superclasses*.

A *class* precedes its direct *superclasses*, and a direct *superclass* precedes all other direct *superclasses* specified to its right in the *superclasses* list of the **defclass** form. For every class C, define

$$R_C = \{(C, C_1), (C_1, C_2), \ldots, (C_{n-1}, C_n)\}$$

where $C_1, \ldots, C_n$ are the direct *superclasses* of C in the order in which they are mentioned in the **defclass** form. These ordered pairs generate the total ordering on the class C and its direct *superclasses*.

Let S_C be the set of C and its *superclasses*. Let R be

$$R = \bigcup_{c \in S_C} R_c$$

.

The set R might or might not generate a partial ordering, depending on whether the R_c, $c \in S_C$, are consistent; it is assumed that they are consistent and that R generates a partial ordering. When the R_c are not consistent, it is said that R is inconsistent.

To compute the *class precedence list* for C, topologically sort the elements of S_C with respect to the partial ordering generated by R. When the topological sort must select a *class* from a set of two or more *classes*, none of which are preceded by other *classes* with respect to R, the *class* selected is chosen deterministically, as described below.

If R is inconsistent, an error is signaled.

4.3.5.1 Topological Sorting

Topological sorting proceeds by finding a class C in S_C such that no other *class* precedes that element according to the elements in R. The class C is placed first in the result. Remove C from S_C, and remove all pairs of the form (C, D), $D \in S_C$, from R. Repeat the process, adding *classes* with no predecessors to the end of the result. Stop when no element can be found that has no predecessor.

If S_C is not empty and the process has stopped, the set R is inconsistent. If every *class* in the finite set of *classes* is preceded by another, then R contains a loop. That is, there is a chain of classes $C_1, \ldots, C_n$ such that C_i precedes C_{i+1}, $1 \le i < n$, and C_n precedes C_1.

Sometimes there are several *classes* from S_C with no predecessors. In this case select the one that has a direct *subclass* rightmost in the *class precedence list* computed so far. (If there is no such candidate *class*, R does not generate a partial ordering—the R_c, $c \in S_C$, are inconsistent.)

In more precise terms, let $\{N_1, \ldots, N_m\}$, $m \geq 2$, be the *classes* from S_C with no predecessors. Let $(C_1 \ldots C_n)$, $n \geq 1$, be the *class precedence list* constructed so far. C_1 is the most specific *class*, and C_n is the least specific. Let $1 \leq j \leq n$ be the largest number such that there exists an i where $1 \leq i \leq m$ and N_i is a direct *superclass* of C_j; N_i is placed next.

The effect of this rule for selecting from a set of *classes* with no predecessors is that the *classes* in a simple *superclass* chain are adjacent in the *class precedence list* and that *classes* in each relatively separated subgraph are adjacent in the *class precedence list*. For example, let T_1 and T_2 be subgraphs whose only element in common is the class J. Suppose that no superclass of J appears in either T_1 or T_2, and that J is in the superclass chain of every class in both T_1 and T_2. Let C_1 be the bottom of T_1; and let C_2 be the bottom of T_2. Suppose C is a *class* whose direct *superclasses* are C_1 and C_2 in that order, then the *class precedence list* for C starts with C and is followed by all *classes* in T_1 except J. All the *classes* of T_2 are next. The *class* J and its *superclasses* appear last.

4.3.5.2 Examples of Class Precedence List Determination

This example determines a *class precedence list* for the class `pie`. The following *classes* are defined:

```
(defclass pie (apple cinnamon) ())

(defclass apple (fruit) ())

(defclass cinnamon (spice) ())

(defclass fruit (food) ())

(defclass spice (food) ())

(defclass food () ())
```

The set S_{pie} = {`pie, apple, cinnamon, fruit, spice, food, standard-object, t`}. The set R = {`(pie, apple), (apple, cinnamon), (apple, fruit), (cinnamon, spice), (fruit, food), (spice, food), (food, standard-object), (standard-object, t)`}.

The class `pie` is not preceded by anything, so it comes first; the result so far is `(pie)`. Remove `pie` from S and pairs mentioning `pie` from R to get S = {`apple, cinnamon, fruit, spice, food, standard-object, t`} and R = {`(apple, cinnamon), (apple, fruit), (cinnamon, spice), (fruit, food), (spice, food), (food, standard-object), (standard-object, t)`}.

The class `apple` is not preceded by anything, so it is next; the result is `(pie apple)`. Removing `apple` and the relevant pairs results in S = {`cinnamon, fruit, spice, food, standard-object, t`} and R = {`(cinnamon, spice), (fruit, food), (spice, food), (food, standard-object), (standard-object, t)`}.

The classes `cinnamon` and `fruit` are not preceded by anything, so the one with a direct *subclass* rightmost in the *class precedence list* computed so far goes next. The class `apple` is a direct *subclass* of `fruit`, and the class `pie` is a direct *subclass* of `cinnamon`. Because `apple` appears to the right of `pie` in the *class precedence list*, `fruit` goes next, and the result so far is `(pie apple fruit)`. S = {`cinnamon, spice, food, standard-object, t`}; R = {`(cinnamon, spice), (spice, food), (food, standard-object), (standard-object, t)`}.

The class `cinnamon` is next, giving the result so far as `(pie apple fruit cinnamon)`. At this point S = {`spice, food, standard-object, t`}; R = {`(spice, food), (food, standard-object), (standard-object, t)`}.

The classes `spice`, `food`, **standard-object**, and `t` are added in that order, and the *class precedence list* is `(pie apple fruit cinnamon spice food standard-object t)`.

It is possible to write a set of *class* definitions that cannot be ordered. For example:

```
(defclass new-class (fruit apple) ())

(defclass apple (fruit) ())
```

The class `fruit` must precede `apple` because the local ordering of *superclasses* must be preserved. The class `apple` must precede `fruit` because a *class* always precedes its own *superclasses*. When this situation occurs, an error is signaled, as happens here when the system tries to compute the *class precedence list* of `new-class`.

The following might appear to be a conflicting set of definitions:

```
(defclass pie (apple cinnamon) ())

(defclass pastry (cinnamon apple) ())

(defclass apple () ())

(defclass cinnamon () ())
```

The *class precedence list* for `pie` is `(pie apple cinnamon standard-object t)`.

The *class precedence list* for `pastry` is `(pastry cinnamon apple standard-object t)`.

It is not a problem for `apple` to precede `cinnamon` in the ordering of the *superclasses* of `pie` but not in the ordering for `pastry`. However, it is not possible to build a new *class* that has both `pie` and `pastry` as *superclasses*.

4.3.6 Redefining Classes

A *class* that is a *direct instance* of **standard-class** can be redefined if the new *class* is also a *direct instance* of **standard-class**. Redefining a *class* modifies the existing *class object* to reflect the new *class* definition; it does not create a new *class object* for the *class*. Any *method object* created by a `:reader`, `:writer`, or `:accessor` option specified by the old **defclass** form is removed from the corresponding *generic function*. *Methods* specified by the new **defclass** form are added.

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When the class C is redefined, changes are propagated to its *instances* and to *instances* of any of its *subclasses*. Updating such an *instance* occurs at an *implementation-dependent* time, but no later than the next time a *slot* of that *instance* is read or written. Updating an *instance* does not change its identity as defined by the *function* **eq**. The updating process may change the *slots* of that particular *instance*, but it does not create a new *instance*. Whether updating an *instance* consumes storage is *implementation-dependent*.

Note that redefining a *class* may cause *slots* to be added or deleted. If a *class* is redefined in a way that changes the set of *local slots accessible* in *instances*, the *instances* are updated. It is *implementation-dependent* whether *instances* are updated if a *class* is redefined in a way that does not change the set of *local slots accessible* in *instances*.

The value of a *slot* that is specified as shared both in the old *class* and in the new *class* is retained. If such a *shared slot* was unbound in the old *class*, it is unbound in the new *class*. *Slots* that were local in the old *class* and that are shared in the new *class* are initialized. Newly added *shared slots* are initialized.

Each newly added *shared slot* is set to the result of evaluating the *captured initialization form* for the *slot* that was specified in the **defclass** *form* for the new *class*. If there was no *initialization form*, the *slot* is unbound.

If a *class* is redefined in such a way that the set of *local slots accessible* in an *instance* of the *class* is changed, a two-step process of updating the *instances* of the *class* takes place. The process may be explicitly started by invoking the generic function **make-instances-obsolete**. This two-step process can happen in other circumstances in some implementations. For example, in some implementations this two-step process is triggered if the order of *slots* in storage is changed.

The first step modifies the structure of the *instance* by adding new *local slots* and discarding *local slots* that are not defined in the new version of the *class*. The second step initializes the newly-added *local slots* and performs any other user-defined actions. These two steps are further specified in the next two sections.

4.3.6.1 Modifying the Structure of Instances

The first step modifies the structure of *instances* of the redefined *class* to conform to its new *class* definition. *Local slots* specified by the new *class* definition that are not specified as either local or shared by the old *class* are added, and *slots* not specified as either local or shared by the new *class* definition that are specified as local by the old *class* are discarded. The *names* of these added and discarded *slots* are passed as arguments to **update-instance-for-redefined-class** as described in the next section.

The values of *local slots* specified by both the new and old *classes* are retained. If such a *local slot* was unbound, it remains unbound.

The value of a *slot* that is specified as shared in the old *class* and as local in the new *class* is retained. If such a *shared slot* was unbound, the *local slot* is unbound.

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4.3.6.2 Initializing Newly Added Local Slots

The second step initializes the newly added *local slots* and performs any other user-defined actions. This step is implemented by the generic function **update-instance-for-redefined-class**, which is called after completion of the first step of modifying the structure of the *instance*.

The generic function **update-instance-for-redefined-class** takes four required arguments: the *instance* being updated after it has undergone the first step, a list of the names of *local slots* that were added, a list of the names of *local slots* that were discarded, and a property list containing the *slot* names and values of *slots* that were discarded and had values. Included among the discarded *slots* are *slots* that were local in the old *class* and that are shared in the new *class*.

The generic function **update-instance-for-redefined-class** also takes any number of initialization arguments. When it is called by the system to update an *instance* whose *class* has been redefined, no initialization arguments are provided.

There is a system-supplied primary *method* for **update-instance-for-redefined-class** whose *parameter specializer* for its *instance* argument is the *class* **standard-object**. First this *method* checks the validity of initialization arguments and signals an error if an initialization argument is supplied that is not declared as valid. (For more information, see Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments).) Then it calls the generic function **shared-initialize** with the following arguments: the *instance*, the list of *names* of the newly added *slots*, and the initialization arguments it received.

4.3.6.3 Customizing Class Redefinition

Methods for **update-instance-for-redefined-class** may be defined to specify actions to be taken when an *instance* is updated. If only *after methods* for **update-instance-for-redefined-class** are defined, they will be run after the system-supplied primary *method* for initialization and therefore will not interfere with the default behavior of **update-instance-for-redefined-class**. Because no initialization arguments are passed to **update-instance-for-redefined-class** when it is called by the system, the *initialization forms* for *slots* that are filled by *before methods* for **update-instance-for-redefined-class** will not be evaluated by **shared-initialize**.

Methods for **shared-initialize** may be defined to customize *class* redefinition. For more information, see Section 7.1.5 (Shared-Initialize).

4.3.7 Integrating Types and Classes

The object system maps the space of *classes* into the space of *types*. Every *class* that has a proper name has a corresponding *type* with the same *name*.

The proper name of every *class* is a valid *type specifier*. In addition, every *class object* is a valid *type specifier*. Thus the expression `(typep object class)` evaluates to *true* if the *class* of *object* is *class* itself or a *subclass* of *class*. The evaluation of the expression `(subtypep class1 class2)` returns the values *true* and *true* if `class1` is a subclass of `class2` or if they are the same *class*; otherwise it returns the values *false* and *true*. If I is an *instance* of some *class* C named S and

C is an *instance* of **standard-class**, the evaluation of the expression `(type-of` I`)` returns S if S is the *proper name* of C; otherwise, it returns C.

Because the names of *classes* and *class objects* are *type specifiers*, they may be used in the special form **the** and in type declarations.

Many but not all of the predefined *type specifiers* have a corresponding *class* with the same proper name as the *type*. These type specifiers are listed in Figure 4–8. For example, the *type* **array** has a corresponding *class* named **array**. No *type specifier* that is a list, such as `(vector double-float 100)`, has a corresponding *class*. The *operator* **deftype** does not create any *classes*.

Each *class* that corresponds to a predefined *type specifier* can be implemented in one of three ways, at the discretion of each implementation. It can be a *standard class*, a *structure class*, or a *system class*.

A *built-in class* is one whose *generalized instances* have restricted capabilities or special representations. Attempting to use **defclass** to define *subclasses* of a **built-in-class** signals an error. Calling **make-instance** to create a *generalized instance* of a *built-in class* signals an error. Calling **slot-value** on a *generalized instance* of a *built-in class* signals an error. Redefining a *built-in class* or using **change-class** to change the *class* of an *object* to or from a *built-in class* signals an error. However, *built-in classes* can be used as *parameter specializers* in *methods*.

It is possible to determine whether a *class* is a *built-in class* by checking the *metaclass*. A *standard class* is an *instance* of the *class* **standard-class**, a *built-in class* is an *instance* of the *class* **built-in-class**, and a *structure class* is an *instance* of the *class* **structure-class**.

Each *structure type* created by **defstruct** without using the `:type` option has a corresponding *class*. This *class* is a *generalized instance* of the *class* **structure-class**. The `:include` option of **defstruct** creates a direct *subclass* of the *class* that corresponds to the included *structure type*.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether *slots* are involved in the operation of *functions* defined in this specification on *instances* of *classes* defined in this specification, except when *slots* are explicitly defined by this specification.

If in a particular *implementation* a *class* defined in this specification has *slots* that are not defined by this specfication, the names of these *slots* must not be *external symbols* of *packages* defined in this specification nor otherwise *accessible* in the `CL-USER` *package*.

The purpose of specifying that many of the standard *type specifiers* have a corresponding *class* is to enable users to write *methods* that discriminate on these *types*. *Method* selection requires that a *class precedence list* can be determined for each *class*.

The hierarchical relationships among the *type specifiers* are mirrored by relationships among the *classes* corresponding to those *types*.

Figure 4–8 lists the set of *classes* that correspond to predefined *type specifiers*.

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arithmetic-error	**generic-function**	**simple-error**
array	**hash-table**	**simple-type-error**
bit-vector	**integer**	**simple-warning**
broadcast-stream	**list**	**standard-class**
built-in-class	**logical-pathname**	**standard-generic-function**
cell-error	**method**	**standard-method**
character	**method-combination**	**standard-object**
class	**null**	**storage-condition**
complex	**number**	**stream**
concatenated-stream	**package**	**stream-error**
condition	**package-error**	**string**
cons	**parse-error**	**string-stream**
control-error	**pathname**	**structure-class**
division-by-zero	**print-not-readable**	**structure-object**
echo-stream	**program-error**	**style-warning**
end-of-file	**random-state**	**symbol**
error	**ratio**	**synonym-stream**
file-error	**rational**	**t**
file-stream	**reader-error**	**two-way-stream**
float	**readtable**	**type-error**
floating-point-inexact	**real**	**unbound-slot**
floating-point-invalid-operation	**restart**	**unbound-variable**
floating-point-overflow	**sequence**	**undefined-function**
floating-point-underflow	**serious-condition**	**vector**
function	**simple-condition**	**warning**

Figure 4–8. Classes that correspond to pre-defined type specifiers

The *class precedence list* information specified in the entries for each of these *classes* are those that are required by the object system.

Individual implementations may be extended to define other type specifiers to have a corresponding *class*. Individual implementations may be extended to add other *subclass* relationships and to add other *elements* to the *class precedence lists* as long as they do not violate the type relationships and disjointness requirements specified by this standard. A standard *class* defined with no direct *superclasses* is guaranteed to be disjoint from all of the *classes* in the table, except for the class named **t**.

nil *Type*

Supertypes:

all *types*

Description:

The *type* **nil** contains no *objects* and so is also called the *empty type*. The *type* **nil** is a *subtype* of every *type*. No *object* is of *type* **nil**.

Notes:

The *type* containing the *object* **nil** is the *type* **null**, not the *type* **nil**.

boolean *Type*

Supertypes:

boolean, **symbol**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **boolean** contains the *symbols* **t** and **nil**, which represent true and false, respectively.

See Also:

t (*constant variable*), **nil** (*constant variable*), **if**, **not**, **complement**

Notes:

Conditional operations, such as **if**, permit the use of *generalized booleans*, not just *booleans*; any *non-nil* value, not just **t**, counts as true for a *generalized boolean*. However, as a matter of convention, the *symbol* **t** is considered the canonical value to use even for a *generalized boolean* when no better choice presents itself.

function *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

function, **t**

Description:

A *function* is an *object* that represents code to be executed when an appropriate number of arguments is supplied. A *function* is produced by the **function** *special form*, the *function* **coerce**, or the *function* **compile**. A *function* can be directly invoked by using it as the first argument to **funcall**, **apply**, or **multiple-value-call**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(function [*arg-typespec* [*value-typespec*]])

arg-typespec::=({*typespec*}*
[&optional {*typespec*}*]
[&rest *typespec*]
[&key {(*keyword typespec*)}*])

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

value-typespec—a *type specifier*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

The list form of the **function** *type-specifier* can be used only for declaration and not for discrimination. Every element of this *type* is a *function* that accepts arguments of the types specified by the *argj-types* and returns values that are members of the *types* specified by *value-type*. The **&optional**, **&rest**, **&key**, and **&allow-other-keys** markers can appear in the list of argument types. The *type specifier* provided with **&rest** is the *type* of each actual argument, not the *type* of the corresponding variable.

The **&key** parameters should be supplied as lists of the form (*keyword type*). The *keyword* must be a valid keyword-name symbol as must be supplied in the actual arguments of a call. This is usually a *symbol* in the KEYWORD *package* but can be any *symbol*. When **&key** is given in a **function** *type specifier lambda list*, the *keyword parameters* given are exhaustive unless **&allow-other-keys** is also present. **&allow-other-keys** is an indication that other keyword arguments might actually be supplied and, if supplied, can be used. For example, the *type* of the *function* **make-list** could be declared as follows:

```
(function ((integer 0) &key (:initial-element t)) list)
```

The *value-type* can be a **values** *type specifier* in order to indicate the *types* of *multiple values*.

Consider a declaration of the following form:

```
(ftype (function (arg0-type arg1-type ...) val-type) f))
```

Any *form* (f arg0 arg1 ...) within the scope of that declaration is equivalent to the following:

```
(the val-type (f (the arg0-type arg0) (the arg1-type arg1) ...))
```

That is, the consequences are undefined if any of the arguments are not of the specified *types* or the result is not of the specified *type*. In particular, if any argument is not of the correct *type*, the result is not guaranteed to be of the specified *type*.

Thus, an **ftype** declaration for a *function* describes *calls* to the *function*, not the actual definition of the *function*.

Consider a declaration of the following form:

```
(type (function (arg0-type arg1-type ...) val-type) fn-valued-variable)
```

This declaration has the interpretation that, within the scope of the declaration, the consequences are unspecified if the value of fn-valued-variable is called with arguments not of the specified *types*; the value resulting from a valid call will be of type val-type.

As with variable type declarations, nested declarations imply intersections of *types*, as follows:

- Consider the following two declarations of **ftype**:

  ```
  (ftype (function (arg0-type1 arg1-type1 ...) val-type1) f))
  ```

  and

  ```
  (ftype (function (arg0-type2 arg1-type2 ...) val-type2) f))
  ```

  If both these declarations are in effect, then within the shared scope of the declarations, calls to f can be treated as if f were declared as follows:

  ```
  (ftype (function ((and arg0-type1 arg0-type2) (and arg1-type1 arg1-type2 ...) ...)
                   (and val-type1 val-type2))
         f))
  ```

  It is permitted to ignore one or all of the **ftype** declarations in force.

- If two (or more) type declarations are in effect for a variable, and they are both function declarations, the declarations combine similarly.

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compiled-function *Type*

Supertypes:

compiled-function, **function**, **t**

Description:

Any *function* may be considered by an *implementation* to be a a *compiled function* if it contains no references to *macros* that must be expanded at run time, and it contains no unresolved references to *load time values*. See Section 3.2.2 (Compilation Semantics).

Functions whose definitions appear lexically within a *file* that has been *compiled* with **compile-file** and then *loaded* with **load** are of *type* **compiled-function**. *Functions* produced by the **compile** function are of *type* **compiled-function**. Other *functions* might also be of *type* **compiled-function**.

generic-function *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

generic-function, **function**, **t**

Description:

A ***generic function*** is a *function* whose behavior depends on the *classes* or identities of the *arguments* supplied to it. A generic function object contains a set of *methods*, a *lambda list*, a *method combination type*, and other information. The *methods* define the class-specific behavior and operations of the *generic function*; a *method* is said to *specialize* a *generic function*. When invoked, a *generic function* executes a subset of its *methods* based on the *classes* or identities of its *arguments*.

A *generic function* can be used in the same ways that an ordinary *function* can be used; specifically, a *generic function* can be used as an argument to **funcall** and **apply**, and can be given a global or a local name.

standard-generic-function *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

standard-generic-function, **generic-function**, **function**, **t**

Description:

The *class* **standard-generic-function** is the default *class* of *generic functions established* by **defmethod**, **ensure-generic-function**, **defgeneric**, and **defclass** *forms*.

class *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

class, **standard-object**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **class** represents *objects* that determine the structure and behavior of their *instances*. Associated with an *object* of *type* **class** is information describing its place in the directed acyclic graph of *classes*, its *slots*, and its options.

built-in-class *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

built-in-class, **class**, **standard-object**, **t**

Description:

A *built-in class* is a *class* whose *instances* have restricted capabilities or special representations. Attempting to use **defclass** to define *subclasses* of a *built-in class* signals an error of *type* **error**. Calling **make-instance** to create an *instance* of a *built-in class* signals an error of *type* **error**. Calling **slot-value** on an *instance* of a *built-in class* signals an error of *type* **error**. Redefining a *built-in class* or using **change-class** to change the *class* of an *instance* to or from a *built-in class* signals an error of *type* **error**. However, *built-in classes* can be used as *parameter specializers* in *methods*.

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structure-class *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

structure-class, **class**, **standard-object**, **t**

Description:

All *classes* defined by means of **defstruct** are *instances* of the *class* **structure-class**.

standard-class *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

standard-class, **class**, **standard-object**, **t**

Description:

The *class* **standard-class** is the default *class* of *classes* defined by **defclass**.

method *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

method, **t**

Description:

A *method* is an *object* that represents a modular part of the behavior of a *generic function*.

A *method* contains *code* to implement the *method*'s behavior, a sequence of *parameter specializers* that specify when the given *method* is applicable, and a sequence of *qualifiers* that is used by the method combination facility to distinguish among *methods*. Each required parameter of each *method* has an associated *parameter specializer*, and the *method* will be invoked only on arguments that satisfy its *parameter specializers*.

The method combination facility controls the selection of *methods*, the order in which they are run, and the values that are returned by the generic function. The object system offers a default method combination type and provides a facility for declaring new types of method combination.

See Also:

Section 7.6 (Generic Functions and Methods)

standard-method *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

standard-method, **method**, **standard-object**, **t**

Description:

The *class* **standard-method** is the default *class* of *methods* defined by the **defmethod** and **defgeneric** *forms*.

structure-object *Class*

Class Precedence List:

structure-object, **t**

Description:

The *class* **structure-object** is an *instance* of **structure-class** and is a *superclass* of every *class* that is an *instance* of **structure-class** except itself, and is a *superclass* of every *class* that is defined by **defstruct**.

See Also:

defstruct, Section 2.4.8.13 (Sharpsign S), Section 22.1.3.12 (Printing Structures)

standard-object *Class*

Class Precedence List:

standard-object, **t**

Description:

The *class* **standard-object** is an *instance* of **standard-class** and is a *superclass* of every *class* that is an *instance* of **standard-class** except itself.

method-combination *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

method-combination, **t**

Description:

Every *method combination object* is an *indirect instance* of the *class* **method-combination**. A *method combination object* represents the information about the *method combination* being used by a *generic function*. A *method combination object* contains information about both the type of *method combination* and the arguments being used with that *type*.

t *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

t

Description:

The set of all *objects*. The *type* **t** is a *supertype* of every *type*, including itself. Every *object* is of *type* **t**.

satisfies *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Predicating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(satisfies` *predicate-name*`)`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

predicate-name—a *symbol*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of all *objects* that satisfy the *predicate* *predicate-name*, which must be a *symbol* whose global *function* definition is a one-argument predicate. A name is required for *predicate-name*; *lambda expressions* are not allowed. For example, the *type specifier* `(and integer (satisfies evenp))` denotes the set of all even integers. The form `(typep` *x* `'(satisfies` *p*`))` is equivalent to `(if (`*p* *x*`) t nil)`.

The argument is required. The *symbol* * can be the argument, but it denotes itself (the *symbol* *), and does not represent an unspecified value.

The symbol **satisfies** is not valid as a *type specifier*.

member *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Combining.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(member {*object*}*)

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

object—an *object*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set containing the named *objects*. An *object* is of this *type* if and only if it is **eql** to one of the specified *objects*.

The *type specifiers* (member) and **nil** are equivalent. * can be among the *objects*, but if so it denotes itself (the symbol *) and does not represent an unspecified value. The symbol **member** is not valid as a *type specifier*; and, specifically, it is not an abbreviation for either (member) or (member *).

See Also:

the *type* **eql**

not *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Combining.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(not *typespec*)

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

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Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of all *objects* that are not of the *type* *typespec*.

The argument is required, and cannot be *.

The symbol **not** is not valid as a *type specifier*.

and *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Combining.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(and {*typespec*}*)

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of all *objects* of the *type* determined by the intersection of the *typespecs*.

* is not permitted as an argument.

The *type specifiers* (and) and **t** are equivalent. The symbol **and** is not valid as a *type specifier*, and, specifically, it is not an abbreviation for (and).

or *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Combining.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(or {*typespec*}*)

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of all *objects* of the *type* determined by the union of the *typespecs*. For example, the *type* **list** by definition is the same as (or null cons). Also, the value returned by **position** is an *object* of *type* (or null (integer 0 *)); *i.e.*, either **nil** or a non-negative *integer*.

* is not permitted as an argument.

The *type specifiers* (or) and **nil** are equivalent. The symbol **or** is not valid as a *type specifier*; and, specifically, it is not an abbreviation for (or).

values *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(values ↓*value-typespec*)

value-typespec::={*typespec*}* [&optional {*typespec*}*] [&rest *typespec*] [**&allow-other-keys**]

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This *type specifier* can be used only as the *value-type* in a **function** *type specifier* or a **the** *special form*. It is used to specify individual *types* when *multiple values* are involved. The **&optional** and **&rest** markers can appear in the *value-type* list; they indicate the parameter list of a *function* that, when given to **multiple-value-call** along with the values, would correctly receive those values.

The symbol * may not be among the *value-types*.

The symbol **values** is not valid as a *type specifier*; and, specifically, it is not an abbreviation for (values).

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eql *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Combining.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(eql *object*)

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

object—an *object*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

Represents the *type* of all *x* for which (eql *object x*) is true.

The argument *object* is required. The *object* can be *, but if so it denotes itself (the symbol *) and does not represent an unspecified value. The *symbol* **eql** is not valid as an *atomic type specifier*.

coerce *Function*

Syntax:

coerce *object result-type* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

result-type—a *type specifier*.

result—an *object*, of *type result-type* except in situations described in Section 12.1.5.3 (Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals).

Description:

Coerces the *object* to *type result-type*.

If *object* is already of *type result-type*, the *object* itself is returned, regardless of whether it would have been possible in general to coerce an *object* of some other *type* to *result-type*.

Otherwise, the *object* is *coerced* to *type result-type* according to the following rules:

sequence

If the *result-type* is a *recognizable subtype* of **list**, and the *object* is a *sequence*, then the *result* is a *list* that has the *same elements* as *object*.

If the *result-type* is a *recognizable subtype* of **vector**, and the *object* is a *sequence*, then the *result* is a *vector* that has the *same elements* as *object*. If *result-type* is a specialized *type*, the *result* has an *actual array element type* that is the result of *upgrading* the element type part of that *specialized type*. If no element type is specified, the element type defaults to **t**. If the *implementation* cannot determine the element type, an error is signaled.

character

If the *result-type* is **character** and the *object* is a *character designator*, the *result* is the *character* it denotes.

complex

If the *result-type* is **complex** and the *object* is a *real*, then the *result* is obtained by constructing a *complex* whose real part is the *object* and whose imaginary part is the result of *coercing* an *integer* zero to the *type* of the *object* (using **coerce**). (If the real part is a *rational*, however, then the result must be represented as a *rational* rather than a *complex*; see Section 12.1.5.3 (Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals). So, for example, `(coerce 3 'complex)` is permissible, but will return `3`, which is not a *complex*.)

float

If the *result-type* is any of **float**, **short-float**, **single-float**, **double-float**, **long-float**, and the *object* is a *real*, then the *result* is a *float* of *type* *result-type* which is equal in sign and magnitude to the *object* to whatever degree of representational precision is permitted by that *float* representation. (If the *result-type* is **float** and *object* is not already a *float*, then the *result* is a *single float*.)

function

If the *result-type* is **function**, and *object* is any *function name* that is *fbound* but that is globally defined neither as a *macro name* nor as a *special operator*, then the *result* is the *functional value* of *object*.

If the *result-type* is **function**, and *object* is a *lambda expression*, then the *result* is a *closure* of *object* in the *null lexical environment*.

t

Any *object* can be *coerced* to an *object* of *type* **t**. In this case, the *object* is simply returned.

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Examples:

```
(coerce '(a b c) 'vector) → #(A B C)
(coerce 'a 'character) → #\A
(coerce 4.56 'complex) → #C(4.56 0.0)
(coerce 4.5s0 'complex) → #C(4.5s0 0.0s0)
(coerce 7/2 'complex) → 7/2
(coerce 0 'short-float) → 0.0s0
(coerce 3.5L0 'float) → 3.5L0
(coerce 7/2 'float) → 3.5
(coerce (cons 1 2) t) → (1 . 2)
```

All the following *forms* should signal an error:

```
(coerce '(a b c) '(vector * 4))
(coerce #(a b c) '(vector * 4))
(coerce '(a b c) '(vector * 2))
(coerce #(a b c) '(vector * 2))
(coerce "foo" '(string 2))
(coerce #(#\a #\b #\c) '(string 2))
(coerce '(0 1) '(simple-bit-vector 3))
```

Exceptional Situations:

If a coercion is not possible, an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

`(coerce x 'nil)` always signals an error of *type* **type-error**.

An error of *type* **error** is signaled if the *result-type* is **function** but *object* is a *symbol* that is not *fbound* or if the *symbol* names a *macro* or a *special operator*.

An error of *type* **type-error** should be signaled if *result-type* specifies the number of elements and *object* is of a different length.

See Also:

rational, **floor**, **char-code**, **char-int**

Notes:

Coercions from *floats* to *rationals* and from *ratios* to *integers* are not provided because of rounding problems.

```
(coerce x 't) ≡ (identity x) ≡ x
```

deftype *Macro*

Syntax:

deftype *name lambda-list* ⟦{*declaration*}* | *documentation*⟧ {*form*}* → *name*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*.

lambda-list—a *deftype lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

Description:

deftype defines a *derived type specifier* named *name*.

The meaning of the new *type specifier* is given in terms of a function which expands the *type specifier* into another *type specifier*, which itself will be expanded if it contains references to another *derived type specifier*.

The newly defined *type specifier* may be referenced as a list of the form (*name* arg_1 arg_2 ...). The number of arguments must be appropriate to the *lambda-list*. If the new *type specifier* takes no arguments, or if all of its arguments are optional, the *type specifier* may be used as an *atomic type specifier*.

The *argument expressions* to the *type specifier*, arg_1 ... arg_n, are not *evaluated*. Instead, these *literal objects* become the *objects* to which corresponding *parameters* become *bound*.

The body of the **deftype** *form* (but not the *lambda-list*) is implicitly enclosed in a *block* named *name*, and is evaluated as an *implicit progn*, returning a new *type specifier*.

The *lexical environment* of the body is the one which was current at the time the **deftype** form was evaluated, augmented by the *variables* in the *lambda-list*.

Recursive expansion of the *type specifier* returned as the expansion must terminate, including the expansion of *type specifiers* which are nested within the expansion.

The consequences are undefined if the result of fully expanding a *type specifier* contains any circular structure, except within the *objects* referred to by **member** and **eql** *type specifiers*.

Documentation is attached to *name* as a *documentation string* of kind **type**.

If a **deftype** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must ensure that the *name* is recognized in subsequent *type* declarations. The *programmer* must ensure that the body of a **deftype** form can be *evaluated* at compile time if the *name* is referenced in subsequent *type* declarations.

If the expansion of a *type specifier* is not defined fully at compile time (perhaps because it expands into an unknown *type specifier* or a **satisfies** of a named *function* that isn't defined in the compile-time environment), an *implementation* may ignore any references to this *type* in declarations and/or signal a warning.

Examples:

```
(defun equidimensional (a)
  (or (< (array-rank a) 2)
      (apply #'= (array-dimensions a)))) → EQUIDIMENSIONAL
(deftype square-matrix (&optional type size)
  `(and (array ,type (,size ,size))
        (satisfies equidimensional))) → SQUARE-MATRIX
```

See Also:

declare, **defmacro**, **documentation**, Section 4.2.3 (Type Specifiers), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

subtypep *Function*

Syntax:

subtypep *type-1 type-2* &optional *environment* → *subtype-p, valid-p*

Arguments and Values:

type-1—a *type specifier*.

type-2—a *type specifier*.

environment—an *environment object*. The default is **nil**, denoting the *null lexical environment* and the current *global environment*.

subtype-p—a *generalized boolean*.

valid-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

If *type-1* is a *recognizable subtype* of *type-2*, the first *value* is *true*. Otherwise, the first *value* is *false*, indicating that either *type-1* is not a *subtype* of *type-2*, or else *type-1* is a *subtype* of *type-2* but is not a *recognizable subtype*.

A second *value* is also returned indicating the 'certainty' of the first *value*. If this value is *true*, then the first value is an accurate indication of the *subtype* relationship. (The second *value* is always *true* when the first *value* is *true*.)

Figure 4–9 summarizes the possible combinations of *values* that might result.

Value 1	Value 2	Meaning
true	*true*	*type-1* is definitely a *subtype* of *type-2*.
false	*true*	*type-1* is definitely not a *subtype* of *type-2*.
false	*false*	**subtypep** could not determine the relationship, so *type-1* might or might not be a *subtype* of *type-2*.

Figure 4–9. Result possibilities for subtypep

subtypep is permitted to return the *values* *false* and *false* only when at least one argument involves one of these *type specifiers*: **and**, **eql**, the list form of **function**, **member**, **not**, **or**, **satisfies**, or **values**. (A *type specifier* 'involves' such a *symbol* if, after being *type expanded*, it contains that *symbol* in a position that would call for its meaning as a *type specifier* to be used.) One consequence of this is that if neither *type-1* nor *type-2* involves any of these *type specifiers*, then **subtypep** is obliged to determine the relationship accurately. In particular, **subtypep** returns the *values* *true* and *true* if the arguments are **equal** and do not involve any of these *type specifiers*.

subtypep never returns a second value of **nil** when both *type-1* and *type-2* involve only the names in Figure 4–2, or names of *types* defined by **defstruct**, **define-condition**, or **defclass**, or *derived types* that expand into only those names. While *type specifiers* listed in Figure 4–2 and names of **defclass** and **defstruct** can in some cases be implemented as *derived types*, **subtypep** regards them as primitive.

The relationships between *types* reflected by **subtypep** are those specific to the particular implementation. For example, if an implementation supports only a single type of floating-point numbers, in that implementation `(subtypep 'float 'long-float)` returns the *values* *true* and *true* (since the two *types* are identical).

For all *T1* and *T2* other than `*`, `(array` *T1*`)` and `(array` *T2*`)` are two different *type specifiers* that always refer to the same sets of things if and only if they refer to *arrays* of exactly the same specialized representation, *i.e.*, if `(upgraded-array-element-type '`*T1*`)` and `(upgraded-array-element-type '`*T2*`)` return two different *type specifiers* that always refer to the same sets of *objects*. This is another way of saying that `` `(array `` *type-specifier*`)` and `` `(array ,(upgraded-array-element-type ' ``*type-specifier*`))` refer to the same set of specialized *array* representations. For all *T1* and *T2* other than `*`, the intersection of `(array` *T1*`)` and `(array` *T2*`)` is the empty set if and only if they refer to *arrays* of different, distinct specialized representations.

Therefore,

```
(subtypep '(array T1) '(array T2)) → true
```

if and only if

```
(upgraded-array-element-type 'T1)  and
(upgraded-array-element-type 'T2)
```


return two different *type specifiers* that always refer to the same sets of *objects*.

For all type-specifiers *T1* and *T2* other than `*`,

```
(subtypep '(complex T1) '(complex T2)) → true, true
```

if:

1. `T1` is a *subtype* of `T2`, or
2. `(upgraded-complex-part-type '`*T1*`)` and `(upgraded-complex-part-type '`*T2*`)` return two different *type specifiers* that always refer to the same sets of *objects*; in this case, `(complex` *T1*`)` and `(complex` *T2*`)` both refer to the same specialized representation.

The *values* are *false* and *true* otherwise.

The form

```
(subtypep '(complex single-float) '(complex float))
```

must return *true* in all implementations, but

```
(subtypep '(array single-float) '(array float))
```

returns *true* only in implementations that do not have a specialized *array* representation for *single floats* distinct from that for other *floats*.

Examples:

```
(subtypep 'compiled-function 'function) → true, true
(subtypep 'null 'list) → true, true
(subtypep 'null 'symbol) → true, true
(subtypep 'integer 'string) → false, true
(subtypep '(satisfies dummy) nil) → false, implementation-dependent
(subtypep '(integer 1 3) '(integer 1 4)) → true, true
(subtypep '(integer (0) (0)) 'nil) → true, true
(subtypep 'nil '(integer (0) (0))) → true, true
(subtypep '(integer (0) (0)) '(member)) → true, true ;or false, false
(subtypep '(member) 'nil) → true, true ;or false, false
(subtypep 'nil '(member)) → true, true ;or false, false
```

Let `<aet-x>` and `<aet-y>` be two distinct *type specifiers* that do not always refer to the same sets of *objects* in a given implementation, but for which **make-array**, will return an *object* of the same *array type*.

Thus, in each case,

```
 (subtypep (array-element-type (make-array 0 :element-type '<aet-x>))
           (array-element-type (make-array 0 :element-type '<aet-y>)))
→ true, true
```

```
(subtypep (array-element-type (make-array 0 :element-type '<aet-y>))
          (array-element-type (make-array 0 :element-type '<aet-x>)))
→ true, true
```

If (array <aet-x>) and (array <aet-y>) are different names for exactly the same set of *objects*, these names should always refer to the same sets of *objects*. That implies that the following set of tests are also true:

```
(subtypep '(array <aet-x>) '(array <aet-y>)) → true, true
(subtypep '(array <aet-y>) '(array <aet-x>)) → true, true
```

See Also:

Section 4.2 (Types)

Notes:

The small differences between the **subtypep** specification for the **array** and **complex** types are necessary because there is no creation function for *complexes* which allows the specification of the resultant part type independently of the actual types of the parts. Thus in the case of the *type* **complex**, the actual type of the parts is referred to, although a *number* can be a member of more than one *type*. For example, 17 is of *type* (mod 18) as well as *type* (mod 256) and *type* **integer**; and 2.3f5 is of *type* **single-float** as well as *type* **float**.

type-of *Function*

Syntax:

type-of *object* → *typespec*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

typespec—a *type specifier*.

Description:

Returns a *type specifier*, *typespec*, for a *type* that has the *object* as an *element*. The *typespec* satisfies the following:

1. For any *object* that is an *element* of some *built-in type*:

   a. the *type* returned is a *recognizable subtype* of that *built-in type*.

   b. the *type* returned does not involve and, eql, member, not, or, satisfies, or values.

2. For all *objects*, (typep *object* (type-of *object*)) returns *true*. Implicit in this is that *type specifiers* which are not valid for use with **typep**, such as the *list* form of the **function** *type specifier*, are never returned by **type-of**.

3. The *type* returned by **type-of** is always a *recognizable subtype* of the *class* returned by **class-of**. That is,

   (subtypep (type-of *object*) (class-of *object*)) → *true*, *true*

4. For *objects* of metaclass **structure-class** or **standard-class**, and for *conditions*, **type-of** returns the *proper name* of the *class* returned by **class-of** if it has a *proper name*, and otherwise returns the *class* itself. In particular, for *objects* created by the constructor function of a structure defined with **defstruct** without a :type option, **type-of** returns the structure name; and for *objects* created by **make-condition**, the *typespec* is the *name* of the *condition type*.

5. For each of the *types* **short-float**, **single-float**, **double-float**, or **long-float** of which the *object* is an *element*, the *typespec* is a *recognizable subtype* of that *type*.

Examples:

```
 (type-of 'a) → SYMBOL
 (type-of '(1 . 2))
→ CONS
or→ (CONS FIXNUM FIXNUM)
 (type-of #c(0 1))
→ COMPLEX
or→ (COMPLEX INTEGER)
 (defstruct temp-struct x y z) → TEMP-STRUCT
 (type-of (make-temp-struct)) → TEMP-STRUCT
 (type-of "abc")
→ STRING
or→ (STRING 3)
 (subtypep (type-of "abc") 'string) → true, true
 (type-of (expt 2 40))
→ BIGNUM
or→ INTEGER
or→ (INTEGER 1099511627776 1099511627776)
or→ SYSTEM::TWO-WORD-BIGNUM
or→ FIXNUM
 (subtypep (type-of 112312) 'integer) → true, true
 (defvar *foo* (make-array 5 :element-type t)) → *FOO*
 (class-name (class-of *foo*)) → VECTOR
```

```
(type-of *foo*)
→ VECTOR
or
→ (VECTOR T 5)
```

See Also:

array-element-type, **class-of**, **defstruct**, **typecase**, **typep**, Section 4.2 (Types)

Notes:

Implementors are encouraged to arrange for **type-of** to return a portable value.

typep *Function*

Syntax:

typep *object type-specifier* &optional *environment* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

type-specifier—any *type specifier* except **values**, or a *type specifier* list whose first element is either **function** or **values**.

environment—an *environment object*. The default is **nil**, denoting the *null lexical environment* and the and current *global environment*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of the *type* specified by *type-specifier*; otherwise, returns *false*.

A *type-specifier* of the form (satisfies fn) is handled by applying the function fn to *object*.

(typep *object* '(array *type-specifier*)), where *type-specifier* is not *, returns *true* if and only if *object* is an *array* that could be the result of supplying *type-specifier* as the :element-type argument to **make-array**. (array *) refers to all *arrays* regardless of element type, while (array *type-specifier*) refers only to those *arrays* that can result from giving *type-specifier* as the :element-type argument to **make-array**. A similar interpretation applies to (simple-array *type-specifier*) and (vector *type-specifier*). See Section 15.1.2.1 (Array Upgrading).

(typep *object* '(complex *type-specifier*)) returns *true* for all *complex* numbers that can result from giving *numbers* of type *type-specifier* to the *function* **complex**, plus all other *complex* numbers of the same specialized representation. Both the real and the imaginary parts of any such *complex* number must satisfy:

```
(typep realpart 'type-specifier)
```



```
(typep imagpart 'type-specifier)
```

See the *function* **upgraded-complex-part-type**.

Examples:

```
(typep 12 'integer) → true
(typep (1+ most-positive-fixnum) 'fixnum) → false
(typep nil t) → true
(typep nil nil) → false
(typep 1 '(mod 2)) → true
(typep #c(1 1) '(complex (eql 1))) → true
;; To understand this next example, you might need to refer to
;; Section 12.1.5.3 (Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals).
(typep #c(0 0) '(complex (eql 0))) → false
```

Let A_x and A_y be two *type specifiers* that denote different *types*, but for which

```
(upgraded-array-element-type 'Ax)
```

and

```
(upgraded-array-element-type 'Ay)
```

denote the same *type*. Notice that

```
(typep (make-array 0 :element-type 'Ax) '(array Ax)) → true
(typep (make-array 0 :element-type 'Ay) '(array Ay)) → true
(typep (make-array 0 :element-type 'Ax) '(array Ay)) → true
(typep (make-array 0 :element-type 'Ay) '(array Ax)) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **error** is signaled if *type-specifier* is values, or a *type specifier* list whose first element is either **function** or **values**.

The consequences are undefined if the *type-specifier* is not a *type specifier*.

See Also:

type-of, **upgraded-array-element-type**, **upgraded-complex-part-type**, Section 4.2.3 (Type Specifiers)

Notes:

Implementations are encouraged to recognize and optimize the case of (typep *x* (the class *y*)), since it does not involve any need for expansion of **deftype** information at runtime.

type-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

type-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **type-error** represents a situation in which an *object* is not of the expected type. The "offending datum" and "expected type" are initialized by the initialization arguments named `:datum` and `:expected-type` to **make-condition**, and are *accessed* by the functions **type-error-datum** and **type-error-expected-type**.

See Also:

type-error-datum, **type-error-expected-type**

type-error-datum, type-error-expected-type *Function*

Syntax:

type-error-datum *condition* → *datum*

type-error-expected-type *condition* → *expected-type*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **type-error**.

datum—an *object*.

expected-type—a *type specifier*.

Description:

type-error-datum returns the offending datum in the *situation* represented by the *condition*.

type-error-expected-type returns the expected type of the offending datum in the *situation* represented by the *condition*.

Examples:

```
(defun fix-digits (condition)
  (check-type condition type-error)
  (let* ((digits '(zero one two three four
                   five six seven eight nine))
         (val (position (type-error-datum condition) digits)))
    (if (and val (subtypep 'fixnum (type-error-expected-type condition)))
        (store-value 7))))

(defun foo (x)
  (handler-bind ((type-error #'fix-digits))
    (check-type x number)
    (+ x 3)))

(foo 'seven)
→ 10
```

See Also:

type-error, Chapter 9 (Conditions)

simple-type-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

simple-type-error, **simple-condition**, **type-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

Conditions of *type* **simple-type-error** are like *conditions* of *type* **type-error**, except that they provide an alternate mechanism for specifying how the *condition* is to be *reported*; see the *type* **simple-condition**.

See Also:

simple-condition, **simple-condition-format-control**, **simple-condition-format-arguments**, **type-error-datum**, **type-error-expected-type**

Programming Language—Common Lisp

5. Data and Control Flow

5.1 Generalized Reference

5.1.1 Overview of Places and Generalized Reference

A ***generalized reference*** is the use of a *form*, sometimes called a **place**, as if it were a *variable* that could be read and written. The *value* of a *place* is the *object* to which the *place form* evaluates. The *value* of a *place* can be changed by using **setf**. The concept of binding a *place* is not defined in Common Lisp, but an *implementation* is permitted to extend the language by defining this concept.

Figure 5–1 contains examples of the use of **setf**. Note that the values returned by evaluating the *forms* in column two are not necessarily the same as those obtained by evaluating the *forms* in column three. In general, the exact *macro expansion* of a **setf** *form* is not guaranteed and can even be *implementation-dependent*; all that is guaranteed is that the expansion is an update form that works for that particular *implementation*, that the left-to-right evaluation of *subforms* is preserved, and that the ultimate result of evaluating **setf** is the value or values being stored.

Access function	Update Function	Update using setf
`x`	`(setq x datum)`	`(setf x datum)`
`(car x)`	`(rplaca x datum)`	`(setf (car x) datum)`
`(symbol-value x)`	`(set x datum)`	`(setf (symbol-value x) datum)`

Figure 5–1. Examples of setf

Figure 5–2 shows *operators* relating to *places* and *generalized reference*.

assert	**defsetf**	**push**
ccase	**get-setf-expansion**	**remf**
ctypecase	**getf**	**rotatef**
decf	**incf**	**setf**
define-modify-macro	**pop**	**shiftf**
define-setf-expander	**psetf**	

Figure 5–2. Operators relating to places and generalized reference.

Some of the *operators* above manipulate *places* and some manipulate *setf expanders*. A *setf expansion* can be derived from any *place*. New *setf expanders* can be defined by using **defsetf** and **define-setf-expander**.

5.1.1.1 Evaluation of Subforms to Places

The following rules apply to the *evaluation* of *subforms* in a *place*:

1. The evaluation ordering of *subforms* within a *place* is determined by the order specified by the second value returned by **get-setf-expansion**. For all *places* defined by this specification (*e.g.*, **getf**, **ldb**, ...), this order of evaluation is left-to-right. When a *place* is derived from a macro expansion, this rule is applied after the macro is expanded to find the appropriate *place*.

   Places defined by using **defmacro** or **define-setf-expander** use the evaluation order defined by those definitions. For example, consider the following:

   ```
   (defmacro wrong-order (x y) `(getf ,y ,x))
   ```

   This following *form* evaluates `place2` first and then `place1` because that is the order they are evaluated in the macro expansion:

   ```
   (push value (wrong-order place1 place2))
   ```

2. For the *macros* that manipulate *places* (**push**, **pushnew**, **remf**, **incf**, **decf**, **shiftf**, **rotatef**, **psetf**, **setf**, **pop**, and those defined by **define-modify-macro**) the *subforms* of the macro call are evaluated exactly once in left-to-right order, with the *subforms* of the *places* evaluated in the order specified in (1).

   push, **pushnew**, **remf**, **incf**, **decf**, **shiftf**, **rotatef**, **psetf**, **pop** evaluate all *subforms* before modifying any of the *place* locations. **setf** (in the case when **setf** has more than two arguments) performs its operation on each pair in sequence. For example, in

   ```
   (setf place1 value1 place2 value2 ...)
   ```

   the *subforms* of `place1` and `value1` are evaluated, the location specified by `place1` is modified to contain the value returned by `value1`, and then the rest of the **setf** form is processed in a like manner.

3. For **check-type**, **ctypecase**, and **ccase**, *subforms* of the *place* are evaluated once as in (1), but might be evaluated again if the type check fails in the case of **check-type** or none of the cases hold in **ctypecase** and **ccase**.

4. For **assert**, the order of evaluation of the generalized references is not specified.

Rules 2, 3 and 4 cover all *standardized macros* that manipulate *places*.

5.1.1.1.1 Examples of Evaluation of Subforms to Places

```
(let ((ref2 (list '())))
  (push (progn (princ "1") 'ref-1)
```

```
        (car (progn (princ "2") ref2))))
▷ 12
→ (REF1)

 (let (x)
    (push (setq x (list 'a))
          (car (setq x (list 'b))))
     x)
→ (((A) . B))
```

push first evaluates `(setq x (list 'a))` → `(a)`, then evaluates `(setq x (list 'b))` → `(b)`, then modifies the *car* of this latest value to be `((a) . b)`.

5.1.1.2 Setf Expansions

Sometimes it is possible to avoid evaluating *subforms* of a *place* multiple times or in the wrong order. A *setf expansion* for a given access form can be expressed as an ordered collection of five *objects*:

List of temporary variables

a list of symbols naming temporary variables to be bound sequentially, as if by **let***, to *values* resulting from value forms.

List of value forms

a list of forms (typically, *subforms* of the *place*) which when evaluated yield the values to which the corresponding temporary variables should be bound.

List of store variables

a list of symbols naming temporary store variables which are to hold the new values that will be assigned to the *place*.

Storing form

a form which can reference both the temporary and the store variables, and which changes the *value* of the *place* and guarantees to return as its values the values of the store variables, which are the correct values for **setf** to return.

Accessing form

a *form* which can reference the temporary variables, and which returns the *value* of the *place*.

The value returned by the accessing form is affected by execution of the storing form, but either of these forms might be evaluated any number of times.

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It is possible to do more than one **setf** in parallel via **psetf**, **shiftf**, and **rotatef**. Because of this, the *setf expander* must produce new temporary and store variable names every time. For examples of how to do this, see **gensym**.

For each *standardized* accessor function *F*, unless it is explicitly documented otherwise, it is *implementation-dependent* whether the ability to use an *F form* as a **setf** *place* is implemented by a *setf expander* or a *setf function*. Also, it follows from this that it is *implementation-dependent* whether the name `(setf F)` is *fbound*.

5.1.1.2.1 Examples of Setf Expansions

Examples of the contents of the constituents of *setf expansions* follow.

For a variable *x*:

`()`	;list of temporary variables
`()`	;list of value forms
`(g0001)`	;list of store variables
`(setq x g0001)`	;storing form
x	;accessing form

Figure 5–3. Sample Setf Expansion of a Variable

For `(car exp)`:

`(g0002)`	;list of temporary variables
`(exp)`	;list of value forms
`(g0003)`	;list of store variables
`(progn (rplaca g0002 g0003) g0003)`	;storing form
`(car g0002)`	;accessing form

Figure 5–4. Sample Setf Expansion of a CAR Form

For `(subseq seq s e)`:

`(g0004 g0005 g0006)`	;list of temporary variables
`(seq s e)`	;list of value forms
`(g0007)`	;list of store variables
`(progn (replace g0004 g0007 :start1 g0005 :end1 g0006) g0007)`	;storing form
`(subseq g0004 g0005 g0006)`	; accessing form

Figure 5–5. Sample Setf Expansion of a SUBSEQ Form

In some cases, if a *subform* of a *place* is itself a *place*, it is necessary to expand the *subform* in order to compute some of the values in the expansion of the outer *place*. For `(ldb bs (car exp))`:

```
(g0001 g0002)                          ;list of temporary variables
(bs exp)                               ;list of value forms
(g0003)                                ;list of store variables
(progn (rplaca g0002 (dpb g0003 g0001 (car g0002))) g0003)
                                       ;storing form
(ldb g0001 (car g0002))                ; accessing form
```

Figure 5–6. Sample Setf Expansion of a LDB Form

5.1.2 Kinds of Places

Several kinds of *places* are defined by Common Lisp; this section enumerates them. This set can be extended by *implementations* and by *programmer code*.

5.1.2.1 Variable Names as Places

The name of a *lexical variable* or *dynamic variable* can be used as a *place*.

5.1.2.2 Function Call Forms as Places

A *function form* can be used as a *place* if it falls into one of the following categories:

- A function call form whose first element is the name of any one of the functions in Figure 5–7.

aref	**cdadr**	**get**
bit	**cdar**	**gethash**
caaaar	**cddaar**	**logical-pathname-translations**
caaadr	**cddadr**	**macro-function**
caaar	**cddar**	**ninth**
caadar	**cdddar**	**nth**
caaddr	**cddddr**	**readtable-case**
caadr	**cdddr**	**rest**
caar	**cddr**	**row-major-aref**
cadaar	**cdr**	**sbit**
cadadr	**char**	**schar**
cadar	**class-name**	**second**
caddar	**compiler-macro-function**	**seventh**
cadddr	**documentation**	**sixth**
caddr	**eighth**	**slot-value**
cadr	**elt**	**subseq**
car	**fdefinition**	**svref**
cdaaar	**fifth**	**symbol-function**
cdaadr	**fill-pointer**	**symbol-plist**
cdaar	**find-class**	**symbol-value**
cdadar	**first**	**tenth**
cdaddr	**fourth**	**third**

Figure 5–7. Functions that setf can be used with—1

In the case of **subseq**, the replacement value must be a *sequence* whose elements might be contained by the sequence argument to **subseq**, but does not have to be a *sequence* of the same *type* as the *sequence* of which the subsequence is specified. If the length of the replacement value does not equal the length of the subsequence to be replaced, then the shorter length determines the number of elements to be stored, as for **replace**.

- A function call form whose first element is the name of a selector function constructed by **defstruct**. The function name must refer to the global function definition, rather than a locally defined *function*.

- A function call form whose first element is the name of any one of the functions in Figure 5–8, provided that the supplied argument to that function is in turn a *place* form; in this case the new *place* has stored back into it the result of applying the supplied "update" function.

Function name	Argument that is a *place*	Update function used
ldb	second	**dpb**
mask-field	second	**deposit-field**
getf	first	*implementation-dependent*

Figure 5–8. Functions that setf can be used with—2

During the **setf** expansion of these *forms*, it is necessary to call **get-setf-expansion** in order to figure out how the inner, nested generalized variable must be treated.

The information from **get-setf-expansion** is used as follows.

ldb

In a form such as:

`(setf (ldb byte-spec place-form) value-form)`

the place referred to by the *place-form* must always be both *read* and *written*; note that the update is to the generalized variable specified by *place-form*, not to any object of *type* **integer**.

Thus this **setf** should generate code to do the following:

1. Evaluate *byte-spec* (and bind it into a temporary variable).
2. Bind the temporary variables for *place-form*.
3. Evaluate *value-form* (and bind its value or values into the store variable).
4. Do the *read* from *place-form*.
5. Do the *write* into *place-form* with the given bits of the *integer* fetched in step 4 replaced with the value from step 3.

If the evaluation of *value-form* in step 3 alters what is found in *place-form*, such as setting different bits of *integer*, then the change of the bits denoted by *byte-spec* is to that altered *integer*, because step 4 is done after the *value-form* evaluation. Nevertheless, the evaluations required for *binding* the temporary variables are done in steps 1 and 2, and thus the expected left-to-right evaluation order is seen. For example:

```
 (setq integer #x69) → #x69
 (rotatef (ldb (byte 4 4) integer)
          (ldb (byte 4 0) integer))
 integer → #x96
;;; This example is trying to swap two independent bit fields
;;; in an integer.  Note that the generalized variable of
;;; interest here is just the (possibly local) program variable
;;; integer.
```

mask-field

This case is the same as **ldb** in all essential aspects.

getf

In a form such as:

`(setf (getf place-form ind-form) value-form)`

the place referred to by *place-form* must always be both *read* and *written*; note that the update is to the generalized variable specified by *place-form*, not necessarily to the particular *list* that is the property list in question.

Thus this **setf** should generate code to do the following:

1. Bind the temporary variables for *place-form*.
2. Evaluate *ind-form* (and bind it into a temporary variable).
3. Evaluate *value-form* (and bind its value or values into the store variable).
4. Do the *read* from *place-form*.
5. Do the *write* into *place-form* with a possibly-new property list obtained by combining the values from steps 2, 3, and 4. (Note that the phrase "possibly-new property list" can mean that the former property list is somehow destructively re-used, or it can mean partial or full copying of it. Since either copying or destructive re-use can occur, the treatment of the resultant value for the possibly-new property list must proceed as if it were a different copy needing to be stored back into the generalized variable.)

If the evaluation of *value-form* in step 3 alters what is found in *place-form*, such as setting a different named property in the list, then the change of the property denoted by *ind-form* is to that altered list, because step 4 is done after the *value-form* evaluation. Nevertheless, the evaluations required for *binding* the temporary variables are done in steps 1 and 2, and thus the expected left-to-right evaluation order is seen.

For example:

```
 (setq s (setq r (list (list 'a 1 'b 2 'c 3)))) → ((a 1 b 2 c 3))
 (setf (getf (car r) 'b)
       (progn (setq r nil) 6)) → 6
 r → NIL
```

```
 s → ((A 1 B 6 C 3))
;;; Note that the (setq r nil) does not affect the actions of
;;; the SETF because the value of R had already been saved in
;;; a temporary variable as part of the step 1. Only the CAR
;;; of this value will be retrieved, and subsequently modified
;;; after the value computation.
```

5.1.2.3 VALUES Forms as Places

A **values** *form* can be used as a *place*, provided that each of its *subforms* is also a *place* form.

A form such as

(setf (values *place-1* ...*place-n*) *values-form*)

does the following:

1. The *subforms* of each nested *place* are evaluated in left-to-right order.
2. The *values-form* is evaluated, and the first store variable from each *place* is bound to its return values as if by **multiple-value-bind**.
3. If the *setf expansion* for any *place* involves more than one store variable, then the additional store variables are bound to **nil**.
4. The storing forms for each *place* are evaluated in left-to-right order.

The storing form in the *setf expansion* of **values** returns as *multiple values*$_2$ the values of the store variables in step 2. That is, the number of values returned is the same as the number of *place* forms. This may be more or fewer values than are produced by the *values-form*.

5.1.2.4 THE Forms as Places

A **the** *form* can be used as a *place*, in which case the declaration is transferred to the *newvalue* form, and the resulting **setf** is analyzed. For example,

```
(setf (the integer (cadr x)) (+ y 3))
```

is processed as if it were

```
(setf (cadr x) (the integer (+ y 3)))
```


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5.1.2.5 APPLY Forms as Places

The following situations involving **setf** of **apply** must be supported:

- (setf (apply #'aref *array* {*subscript*}* *more-subscripts*) *new-element*)
- (setf (apply #'bit *array* {*subscript*}* *more-subscripts*) *new-element*)
- (setf (apply #'sbit *array* {*subscript*}* *more-subscripts*) *new-element*)

In all three cases, the *element* of *array* designated by the concatenation of *subscripts* and *more-subscripts* (*i.e.*, the same *element* which would be *read* by the call to *apply* if it were not part of a **setf** *form*) is changed to have the *value* given by *new-element*. For these usages, the function name (**aref**, **bit**, or **sbit**) must refer to the global function definition, rather than a locally defined *function*.

No other *standardized function* is required to be supported, but an *implementation* may define such support. An *implementation* may also define support for *implementation-defined operators*.

If a user-defined *function* is used in this context, the following equivalence is true, except that care is taken to preserve proper left-to-right evaluation of argument *subforms*:

(setf (apply #'*name* {*arg*}*) *val*)
≡ (apply #'(setf *name*) *val* {*arg*}*)

5.1.2.6 Setf Expansions and Places

Any *compound form* for which the *operator* has a *setf expander* defined can be used as a *place*. The *operator* must refer to the global function definition, rather than a locally defined *function* or *macro*.

5.1.2.7 Macro Forms as Places

A *macro form* can be used as a *place*, in which case Common Lisp expands the *macro form* as if by **macroexpand-1** and then uses the *macro expansion* in place of the original *place*. Such *macro expansion* is attempted only after exhausting all other possibilities other than expanding into a call to a function named (setf *reader*).

5.1.2.8 Symbol Macros as Places

A reference to a *symbol* that has been *established* as a *symbol macro* can be used as a *place*. In this case, **setf** expands the reference and then analyzes the resulting *form*.

5.1.2.9 Other Compound Forms as Places

For any other *compound form* for which the *operator* is a *symbol* *f*, the **setf** *form* expands into a call to the *function* named (setf *f*). The first *argument* in the newly constructed *function form* is *newvalue* and the remaining *arguments* are the remaining *elements* of *place*. This expansion occurs regardless of whether *f* or (setf *f*) is defined as a *function* locally, globally, or not at all. For example,

```
(setf (f arg1 arg2 ...) new-value)
```

expands into a form with the same effect and value as

```
 (let ((#:temp-1 arg1)          ;force correct order of evaluation
       (#:temp-2 arg2)
       ...
       (#:temp-0 new-value))
   (funcall (function (setf f)) #:temp-0 #:temp-1 #:temp-2...))
```

A *function* named (setf *f*) must return its first argument as its only value in order to preserve the semantics of **setf**.

5.1.3 Treatment of Other Macros Based on SETF

For each of the "read-modify-write" *operators* in Figure 5–9, and for any additional *macros* defined by the *programmer* using **define-modify-macro**, an exception is made to the normal rule of left-to-right evaluation of arguments. Evaluation of *argument forms* occurs in left-to-right order, with the exception that for the *place argument*, the actual *read* of the "old value" from that *place* happens after all of the *argument form evaluations*, and just before a "new value" is computed and *written* back into the *place*.

Specifically, each of these *operators* can be viewed as involving a *form* with the following general syntax:

(*operator* {*preceding-form*}* *place* {*following-form*}*)

The evaluation of each such *form* proceeds like this:

1. *Evaluate* each of the *preceding-forms*, in left-to-right order.
2. *Evaluate* the *subforms* of the *place*, in the order specified by the second value of the *setf expansion* for that *place*.
3. *Evaluate* each of the *following-forms*, in left-to-right order.
4. *Read* the old value from *place*.
5. Compute the new value.
6. Store the new value into *place*.

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decf	**pop**	**pushnew**
incf	**push**	**remf**

Figure 5–9. Read-Modify-Write Macros

5.2 Transfer of Control to an Exit Point

When a transfer of control is initiated by **go**, **return-from**, or **throw** the following events occur in order to accomplish the transfer of control. Note that for **go**, the *exit point* is the *form* within the **tagbody** that is being executed at the time the **go** is performed; for **return-from**, the *exit point* is the corresponding **block** *form*; and for **throw**, the *exit point* is the corresponding **catch** *form*.

1. Intervening *exit points* are "abandoned" (*i.e.*, their *extent* ends and it is no longer valid to attempt to transfer control through them).

2. The cleanup clauses of any intervening **unwind-protect** clauses are evaluated.

3. Intervening dynamic *bindings* of **special** variables, *catch tags*, *condition handlers*, and *restarts* are undone.

4. The *extent* of the *exit point* being invoked ends, and control is passed to the target.

The extent of an exit being "abandoned" because it is being passed over ends as soon as the transfer of control is initiated. That is, event 1 occurs at the beginning of the initiation of the transfer of control. The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to transfer control to an *exit point* whose *dynamic extent* has ended.

Events 2 and 3 are actually performed interleaved, in the order corresponding to the reverse order in which they were established. The effect of this is that the cleanup clauses of an **unwind-protect** see the same dynamic *bindings* of variables and *catch tags* as were visible when the **unwind-protect** was entered.

Event 4 occurs at the end of the transfer of control.

apply *Function*

Syntax:

apply *function* &rest *args*+ → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

function—a *function designator*.

args—a *spreadable argument list designator*.

results—the *values* returned by *function*.

Description:

Applies the *function* to the *args*.

When the *function* receives its arguments via **&rest**, it is permissible (but not required) for the *implementation* to *bind* the *rest parameter* to an *object* that shares structure with the last argument to **apply**. Because a *function* can neither detect whether it was called via **apply** nor whether (if so) the last argument to **apply** was a *constant*, *conforming programs* must neither rely on the *list* structure of a *rest list* to be freshly consed, nor modify that *list* structure.

setf can be used with **apply** in certain circumstances; see Section 5.1.2.5 (APPLY Forms as Places).

Examples:

```
(setq f '+) → +
(apply f '(1 2)) → 3
(setq f #'-) → #<FUNCTION ->
(apply f '(1 2)) → -1
(apply #'max 3 5 '(2 7 3)) → 7
(apply 'cons '((+ 2 3) 4)) → ((+ 2 3) . 4)
(apply #'+ '()) → 0

(defparameter *some-list* '(a b c))
(defun strange-test (&rest x) (eq x *some-list*))
(apply #'strange-test *some-list*) → implementation-dependent

(defun bad-boy (&rest x) (rplacd x 'y))
(bad-boy 'a 'b 'c) has undefined consequences.
(apply #'bad-boy *some-list*) has undefined consequences.


(defun foo (size &rest keys &key double &allow-other-keys)
  (let ((v (apply #'make-array size :allow-other-keys t keys)))
    (if double (concatenate (type-of v) v v) v)))
```

```
(foo 4 :initial-contents '(a b c d) :double t)
  → #(A B C D A B C D)
```

See Also:

funcall, **fdefinition**, **function**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation), Section 5.1.2.5 (APPLY Forms as Places)

defun *Macro*

Syntax:

defun *function-name lambda-list* ⟦{*declaration*}* | *documentation*⟧ {*form*}*
→ *function-name*

Arguments and Values:

function-name—a *function name*.

lambda-list—an *ordinary lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

block-name—the *function block name* of the *function-name*.

Description:

Defines a new *function* named *function-name* in the *global environment*. The body of the *function* defined by **defun** consists of *forms*; they are executed as an *implicit progn* when the *function* is called. **defun** can be used to define a new *function*, to install a corrected version of an incorrect definition, to redefine an already-defined *function*, or to redefine a *macro* as a *function*.

defun implicitly puts a **block** named *block-name* around the body *forms* (but not the *forms* in the *lambda-list*) of the *function* defined.

Documentation is attached as a *documentation string* to *name* (as kind **function**) and to the *function object*.

Evaluating **defun** causes *function-name* to be a global name for the *function* specified by the *lambda expression*

```
(lambda lambda-list
  ⟦{declaration}* | documentation⟧
  (block block-name {form}*))
```

processed in the *lexical environment* in which **defun** was executed.

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(None of the arguments are evaluated at macro expansion time.)

defun is not required to perform any compile-time side effects. In particular, **defun** does not make the *function* definition available at compile time. An *implementation* may choose to store information about the *function* for the purposes of compile-time error-checking (such as checking the number of arguments on calls), or to enable the *function* to be expanded inline.

Examples:

```
(defun recur (x)
 (when (> x 0)
   (recur (1- x)))) → RECUR
(defun ex (a b &optional c (d 66) &rest keys &key test (start 0))
   (list a b c d keys test start)) → EX
(ex 1 2) → (1 2 NIL 66 NIL NIL 0)
(ex 1 2 3 4 :test 'equal :start 50)
→ (1 2 3 4 (:TEST EQUAL :START 50) EQUAL 50)
(ex :test 1 :start 2) → (:TEST 1 :START 2 NIL NIL 0)

;; This function assumes its callers have checked the types of the
;; arguments, and authorizes the compiler to build in that assumption.
(defun discriminant (a b c)
  (declare (number a b c))
  "Compute the discriminant for a quadratic equation."
  (- (* b b) (* 4 a c))) → DISCRIMINANT
(discriminant 1 2/3 -2) → 76/9

;; This function assumes its callers have not checked the types of the
;; arguments, and performs explicit type checks before making any assumptions.
(defun careful-discriminant (a b c)
  "Compute the discriminant for a quadratic equation."
  (check-type a number)
  (check-type b number)
  (check-type c number)
  (locally (declare (number a b c))
    (- (* b b) (* 4 a c)))) → CAREFUL-DISCRIMINANT
(careful-discriminant 1 2/3 -2) → 76/9
```

See Also:

flet, **labels**, **block**, **return-from**, **declare**, **documentation**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation), Section 3.4.1 (Ordinary Lambda Lists), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

Notes:

return-from can be used to return prematurely from a *function* defined by **defun**.

Additional side effects might take place when additional information (typically debugging information) about the function definition is recorded.

fdefinition *Accessor*

Syntax:

fdefinition *function-name* → *definition*

(**setf** (**fdefinition** *function-name*) *new-definition*)

Arguments and Values:

function-name—a *function name*. In the non-**setf** case, the *name* must be *fbound* in the *global environment*.

definition—Current global function definition named by *function-name*.

new-definition—a *function*.

Description:

fdefinition *accesses* the current global function definition named by *function-name*. The definition may be a *function* or may be an *object* representing a *special form* or *macro*. The value returned by **fdefinition** when **fboundp** returns true but the *function-name* denotes a *macro* or *special form* is not well-defined, but **fdefinition** does not signal an error.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *function-name* is not a *function name*.

An error of *type* **undefined-function** is signaled in the non-**setf** case if *function-name* is not *fbound*.

See Also:

fboundp, **fmakunbound**, **macro-function**, **special-operator-p**, **symbol-function**

Notes:

fdefinition cannot *access* the value of a lexical function name produced by **flet** or **labels**; it can *access* only the global function value.

setf can be used with **fdefinition** to replace a global function definition when the *function-name*'s function definition does not represent a *special form*. **setf** of **fdefinition** requires a *function* as the new value. It is an error to set the **fdefinition** of a *function-name* to a *symbol*, a *list*, or the value returned by **fdefinition** on the name of a *macro* or *special form*.

fboundp *Function*

Syntax:

fboundp *name* → *generalized-boolean*

Pronunciation:

[ˌefˈbau̇ndpē]

Arguments and Values:

name—a *function name*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *name* is *fbound*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(fboundp 'car) → true
(fboundp 'nth-value) → false
(fboundp 'with-open-file) → true
(fboundp 'unwind-protect) → true
(defun my-function (x) x) → MY-FUNCTION
(fboundp 'my-function) → true
(let ((saved-definition (symbol-function 'my-function)))
  (unwind-protect (progn (fmakunbound 'my-function)
                         (fboundp 'my-function))
    (setf (symbol-function 'my-function) saved-definition)))
→ false
(fboundp 'my-function) → true
(defmacro my-macro (x) `',x) → MY-MACRO
(fboundp 'my-macro) → true
(fmakunbound 'my-function) → MY-FUNCTION
(fboundp 'my-function) → false
(flet ((my-function (x) x))
  (fboundp 'my-function)) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *name* is not a *function name*.

See Also:

symbol-function, **fmakunbound**, **fdefinition**

Notes:

It is permissible to call **symbol-function** on any *symbol* that is *fbound*.

fboundp is sometimes used to "guard" an access to the *function cell*, as in: `(if (fboundp x) (symbol-function x))`

Defining a *setf expander* *F* does not cause the *setf function* `(setf F)` to become defined.

fmakunbound *Function*

Syntax:

fmakunbound *name* → *name*

Pronunciation:

[ˌefˈmakənˌbau̇nd] or [ˌefˈmākənˌbau̇nd]

Arguments and Values:

name—a *function name*.

Description:

Removes the *function* or *macro* definition, if any, of *name* in the *global environment*.

Examples:

```
(defun add-some (x) (+ x 19)) → ADD-SOME
 (fboundp 'add-some) → true
 (flet ((add-some (x) (+ x 37)))
    (fmakunbound 'add-some)
    (add-some 1)) → 38
 (fboundp 'add-some) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *name* is not a *function name*.

The consequences are undefined if *name* is a *special operator*.

See Also:

fboundp, **makunbound**

flet, labels, macrolet

flet, labels, macrolet *Special Operator*

Syntax:

flet ({(*function-name lambda-list* ⟦{*local-declaration*}* | *local-documentation*⟧ {*local-form*}*)}*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*

→ {*result*}*

labels ({(*function-name lambda-list* ⟦{*local-declaration*}* | *local-documentation*⟧ {*local-form*}*)}*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*

→ {*result*}*

macrolet ({(*name lambda-list* ⟦{*local-declaration*}* | *local-documentation*⟧ {*local-form*}*)}*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*

→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

function-name—a *function name*.

name—a *symbol*.

lambda-list—a *lambda list*; for **flet** and **labels**, it is an *ordinary lambda list*; for **macrolet**, it is a *macro lambda list*.

local-declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

local-documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

local-forms, *forms*—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* of the *forms*.

Description:

flet, **labels**, and **macrolet** define local *functions* and *macros*, and execute *forms* using the local definitions. *Forms* are executed in order of occurrence.

The body forms (but not the *lambda list*) of each *function* created by **flet** and **labels** and each *macro* created by **macrolet** are enclosed in an *implicit block* whose name is the *function block name* of the *function-name* or *name*, as appropriate.

The scope of the *declarations* between the list of local function/macro definitions and the body *forms* in **flet** and **labels** does not include the bodies of the locally defined *functions*, except that

flet, labels, macrolet

for **labels**, any **inline**, **notinline**, or **ftype** declarations that refer to the locally defined functions do apply to the local function bodies. That is, their *scope* is the same as the function name that they affect. The scope of these *declarations* does not include the bodies of the macro expander functions defined by **macrolet**.

flet

flet defines locally named *functions* and executes a series of *forms* with these definition *bindings*. Any number of such local *functions* can be defined.

The *scope* of the name *binding* encompasses only the body. Within the body of **flet**, *function-names* matching those defined by **flet** refer to the locally defined *functions* rather than to the global function definitions of the same name. Also, within the scope of **flet**, global *setf expander* definitions of the *function-name* defined by **flet** do not apply. Note that this applies to `(defsetf f ...)`, not `(defmethod (setf f) ...)`.

The names of *functions* defined by **flet** are in the *lexical environment*; they retain their local definitions only within the body of **flet**. The function definition bindings are visible only in the body of **flet**, not the definitions themselves. Within the function definitions, local function names that match those being defined refer to *functions* or *macros* defined outside the **flet**. **flet** can locally *shadow* a global function name, and the new definition can refer to the global definition.

Any *local-documentation* is attached to the corresponding local *function* (if one is actually created) as a *documentation string*.

labels

labels is equivalent to **flet** except that the scope of the defined function names for **labels** encompasses the function definitions themselves as well as the body.

macrolet

macrolet establishes local *macro* definitions, using the same format used by **defmacro**.

Within the body of **macrolet**, global *setf expander* definitions of the *names* defined by the **macrolet** do not apply; rather, **setf** expands the *macro form* and recursively process the resulting *form*.

The macro-expansion functions defined by **macrolet** are defined in the *lexical environment* in which the **macrolet** form appears. Declarations and **macrolet** and **symbol-macrolet** definitions affect the local macro definitions in a **macrolet**, but the consequences are undefined if the local macro definitions reference any local *variable* or *function bindings* that are visible in that *lexical environment*.

Any *local-documentation* is attached to the corresponding local *macro function* as a *documentation string*.

flet, labels, macrolet

Examples:

```
(defun foo (x flag)
  (macrolet ((fudge (z)
                ;The parameters x and flag are not accessible
                ; at this point; a reference to flag would be to
                ; the global variable of that name.
                `(if flag (* ,z ,z) ,z)))
   ;The parameters x and flag are accessible here.
    (+ x
       (fudge x)
       (fudge (+ x 1)))))
≡
(defun foo (x flag)
  (+ x
     (if flag (* x x) x)
     (if flag (* (+ x 1) (+ x 1)) (+ x 1))))
```

after macro expansion. The occurrences of `x` and `flag` legitimately refer to the parameters of the function `foo` because those parameters are visible at the site of the macro call which produced the expansion.

```
(flet ((flet1 (n) (+ n n)))
   (flet ((flet1 (n) (+ 2 (flet1 n))))
     (flet1 2))) → 6

(defun dummy-function () 'top-level) → DUMMY-FUNCTION
(funcall #'dummy-function) → TOP-LEVEL
(flet ((dummy-function () 'shadow))
     (funcall #'dummy-function)) → SHADOW
(eq (funcall #'dummy-function) (funcall 'dummy-function))
→ true
(flet ((dummy-function () 'shadow))
  (eq (funcall #'dummy-function)
      (funcall 'dummy-function)))
→ false

(defun recursive-times (k n)
  (labels ((temp (n)
             (if (zerop n) 0 (+ k (temp (1- n))))))
    (temp n))) → RECURSIVE-TIMES
(recursive-times 2 3) → 6

(defmacro mlets (x &environment env)
   (let ((form `(babbit ,x)))
     (macroexpand form env))) → MLETS
```

```
(macrolet ((babbit (z) `(+ ,z ,z))) (mlets 5)) → 10

(flet ((safesqrt (x) (sqrt (abs x))))
 ;; The safesqrt function is used in two places.
  (safesqrt (apply #'+ (map 'list #'safesqrt '(1 2 3 4 5 6)))))
→ 3.291173

(defun integer-power (n k)
  (declare (integer n))
  (declare (type (integer 0 *) k))
  (labels ((expt0 (x k a)
             (declare (integer x a) (type (integer 0 *) k))
             (cond ((zerop k) a)
                   ((evenp k) (expt1 (* x x) (floor k 2) a))
                   (t (expt0 (* x x) (floor k 2) (* x a)))))
           (expt1 (x k a)
             (declare (integer x a) (type (integer 0 *) k))
             (cond ((evenp k) (expt1 (* x x) (floor k 2) a))
                   (t (expt0 (* x x) (floor k 2) (* x a))))))
   (expt0 n k 1))) → INTEGER-POWER


(defun example (y l)
  (flet ((attach (x)
           (setq l (append l (list x)))))
    (declare (inline attach))
    (dolist (x y)
      (unless (null (cdr x))
        (attach x)))
    l))

(example '((a apple apricot) (b banana) (c cherry) (d) (e))
         '((1) (2) (3) (4 2) (5) (6 3 2)))
→ ((1) (2) (3) (4 2) (5) (6 3 2) (A APPLE APRICOT) (B BANANA) (C CHERRY))
```

See Also:

declare, **defmacro**, **defun**, **documentation**, **let**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

Notes:

It is not possible to define recursive *functions* with **flet**. **labels** can be used to define mutually recursive *functions*.

If a **macrolet** *form* is a *top level form*, the body *forms* are also processed as *top level forms*. See Section 3.2.3 (File Compilation).

funcall *Function*

Syntax:

funcall *function* &rest *args* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

function—a *function designator*.

args—*arguments* to the *function*.

results—the *values* returned by the *function*.

Description:

funcall applies *function* to *args*. If *function* is a *symbol*, it is coerced to a *function* as if by finding its *functional value* in the *global environment*.

Examples:

```
(funcall #'+ 1 2 3) → 6
(funcall 'car '(1 2 3)) → 1
(funcall 'position 1 '(1 2 3 2 1) :start 1) → 4
(cons 1 2) → (1 . 2)
(flet ((cons (x y) `(kons ,x ,y)))
  (let ((cons (symbol-function '+)))
    (funcall #'cons
             (funcall 'cons 1 2)
             (funcall cons 1 2))))
→ (KONS (1 . 2) 3)
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **undefined-function** should be signaled if *function* is a *symbol* that does not have a global definition as a *function* or that has a global definition as a *macro* or a *special operator*.

See Also:

apply, **function**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

```
(funcall function arg1 arg2 ...)
≡ (apply function arg1 arg2 ... nil)
≡ (apply function (list arg1 arg2 ...))
```

The difference between **funcall** and an ordinary function call is that in the former case the *function* is obtained by ordinary *evaluation* of a *form*, and in the latter case it is obtained by the special interpretation of the function position that normally occurs.

function *Special Operator*

Syntax:

function *name* → *function*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *function name* or *lambda expression*.

function—a *function object*.

Description:

The *value* of **function** is the *functional value* of *name* in the current *lexical environment*.

If *name* is a *function name*, the functional definition of that name is that established by the innermost lexically enclosing **flet**, **labels**, or **macrolet** *form*, if there is one. Otherwise the global functional definition of the *function name* is returned.

If *name* is a *lambda expression*, then a *lexical closure* is returned. In situations where a *closure* over the same set of *bindings* might be produced more than once, the various resulting *closures* might or might not be **eq**.

It is an error to use **function** on a *function name* that does not denote a *function* in the lexical environment in which the **function** form appears. Specifically, it is an error to use **function** on a *symbol* that denotes a *macro* or *special form*. An implementation may choose not to signal this error for performance reasons, but implementations are forbidden from defining the failure to signal an error as a useful behavior.

Examples:

```
(defun adder (x) (function (lambda (y) (+ x y))))
```

The result of `(adder 3)` is a function that adds `3` to its argument:

```
(setq add3 (adder 3))
(funcall add3 5) → 8
```

This works because **function** creates a *closure* of the *lambda expression* that is able to refer to the *value* `3` of the variable `x` even after control has returned from the function `adder`.

See Also:

defun, **fdefinition**, **flet**, **labels**, **symbol-function**, Section 3.1.2.1.1 (Symbols as Forms), Section 2.4.8.2 (Sharpsign Single-Quote), Section 22.1.3.13 (Printing Other Objects)

Notes:

The notation `#'`*name* may be used as an abbreviation for `(function` *name*`)`.

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function-lambda-expression *Function*

Syntax:

function-lambda-expression *function*
→ *lambda-expression, closure-p, name*

Arguments and Values:

function—a *function*.

lambda-expression—a *lambda expression* or **nil**.

closure-p—a *generalized boolean*.

name—an *object*.

Description:

Returns information about *function* as follows:

The *primary value*, *lambda-expression*, is *function*'s defining *lambda expression*, or **nil** if the information is not available. The *lambda expression* may have been pre-processed in some ways, but it should remain a suitable argument to **compile** or **function**. Any *implementation* may legitimately return **nil** as the *lambda-expression* of any *function*.

The *secondary value*, *closure-p*, is **nil** if *function*'s definition was enclosed in the *null lexical environment* or something *non-nil* if *function*'s definition might have been enclosed in some *non-null lexical environment*. Any *implementation* may legitimately return *true* as the *closure-p* of any *function*.

The *tertiary value*, *name*, is the "name" of *function*. The name is intended for debugging only and is not necessarily one that would be valid for use as a name in **defun** or **function**, for example. By convention, **nil** is used to mean that *function* has no name. Any *implementation* may legitimately return **nil** as the *name* of any *function*.

Examples:

The following examples illustrate some possible return values, but are not intended to be exhaustive:

```
 (function-lambda-expression #'(lambda (x) x))
→ NIL, false, NIL
or→ NIL, true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) X), true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) X), false, NIL

 (function-lambda-expression
    (funcall #'(lambda () #'(lambda (x) x))))
→ NIL, false, NIL
or→ NIL, true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) X), true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) X), false, NIL

 (function-lambda-expression
    (funcall #'(lambda (x) #'(lambda () x)) nil))
→ NIL, true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA () X), true, NIL
not→ NIL, false, NIL
not→ (LAMBDA () X), false, NIL

 (flet ((foo (x) x))
   (setf (symbol-function 'bar) #'foo)
   (function-lambda-expression #'bar))
→ NIL, false, NIL
or→ NIL, true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) (BLOCK FOO X)), true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) (BLOCK FOO X)), false, FOO
or→ (SI::BLOCK-LAMBDA FOO (X) X), false, FOO

 (defun foo ()
   (flet ((bar (x) x))
     #'bar))
 (function-lambda-expression (foo))
→ NIL, false, NIL
or→ NIL, true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) (BLOCK BAR X)), true, NIL
or→ (LAMBDA (X) (BLOCK BAR X)), true, (:INTERNAL FOO 0 BAR)
or→ (LAMBDA (X) (BLOCK BAR X)), false, "BAR in FOO"
```

Notes:

Although *implementations* are free to return "**nil**, *true*, **nil**" in all cases, they are encouraged to return a *lambda expression* as the *primary value* in the case where the argument was created by a call to **compile** or **eval** (as opposed to being created by *loading* a *compiled file*).

functionp *Function*

Syntax:

functionp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **function**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
 (functionp 'append) → false
 (functionp #'append) → true
 (functionp (symbol-function 'append)) → true
 (flet ((f () 1)) (functionp #'f)) → true
 (functionp (compile nil '(lambda () 259))) → true
 (functionp nil) → false
 (functionp 12) → false
 (functionp '(lambda (x) (* x x))) → false
 (functionp #'(lambda (x) (* x x))) → true
```

Notes:

```
 (functionp object) ≡ (typep object 'function)
```

compiled-function-p *Function*

Syntax:

compiled-function-p *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **compiled-function**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(defun f (x) x) → F
(compiled-function-p #'f)
→ false
or→ true
(compiled-function-p 'f) → false
(compile 'f) → F
(compiled-function-p #'f) → true
(compiled-function-p 'f) → false
(compiled-function-p (compile nil '(lambda (x) x)))
→ true
(compiled-function-p #'(lambda (x) x))
→ false
or→ true
(compiled-function-p '(lambda (x) x)) → false
```

See Also:

compile, **compile-file**, **compiled-function**

Notes:

```
(compiled-function-p object) ≡ (typep object 'compiled-function)
```

call-arguments-limit *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

An integer not smaller than 50 and at least as great as the *value* of **lambda-parameters-limit**, the exact magnitude of which is *implementation-dependent*.

Description:

The upper exclusive bound on the number of *arguments* that may be passed to a *function*.

See Also:

lambda-parameters-limit, **multiple-values-limit**

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lambda-list-keywords *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

a *list*, the *elements* of which are *implementation-dependent*, but which must contain at least the *symbols* **&allow-other-keys**, **&aux**, **&body**, **&environment**, **&key**, **&optional**, **&rest**, and **&whole**.

Description:

A *list* of all the *lambda list keywords* used in the *implementation*, including the additional ones used only by *macro* definition *forms*.

See Also:

defun, **flet**, **defmacro**, **macrolet**, Section 3.1.2 (The Evaluation Model)

lambda-parameters-limit *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

implementation-dependent, but not smaller than 50.

Description:

A positive *integer* that is the upper exclusive bound on the number of *parameter names* that can appear in a single *lambda list*.

See Also:

call-arguments-limit

Notes:

Implementors are encouraged to make the *value* of **lambda-parameters-limit** as large as possible.

defconstant *Macro*

Syntax:

defconstant *name initial-value* [*documentation*] → *name*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*; not evaluated.

initial-value—a *form*; evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

Description:

defconstant causes the global variable named by *name* to be given a value that is the result of evaluating *initial-value*.

A constant defined by **defconstant** can be redefined with **defconstant**. However, the consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to assign a *value* to the *symbol* using another operator, or to assign it to a *different value* using a subsequent **defconstant**.

If *documentation* is supplied, it is attached to *name* as a *documentation string* of kind **variable**.

defconstant normally appears as a *top level form*, but it is meaningful for it to appear as a *non-top-level form*. However, the compile-time side effects described below only take place when **defconstant** appears as a *top level form*.

The consequences are undefined if there are any *bindings* of the variable named by *name* at the time **defconstant** is executed or if the value is not **eql** to the value of *initial-value*.

The consequences are undefined when constant *symbols* are rebound as either lexical or dynamic variables. In other words, a reference to a *symbol* declared with **defconstant** always refers to its global value.

The side effects of the execution of **defconstant** must be equivalent to at least the side effects of the execution of the following code:

```
(setf (symbol-value 'name) initial-value)
(setf (documentation 'name 'variable) 'documentation)
```

If a **defconstant** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must recognize that *name* names a *constant variable*. An implementation may choose to evaluate the value-form at compile time, load time, or both. Therefore, users must ensure that the *initial-value* can be *evaluated* at compile time (regardless of whether or not references to *name* appear in the file) and that it always *evaluates* to the same value.

Examples:

```
(defconstant this-is-a-constant 'never-changing "for a test") → THIS-IS-A-CONSTANT
this-is-a-constant → NEVER-CHANGING
(documentation 'this-is-a-constant 'variable) → "for a test"
(constantp 'this-is-a-constant) → true
```

See Also:

declaim, **defparameter**, **defvar**, **documentation**, **proclaim**, Section 3.1.2.1.1.3 (Constant Variables), Section 3.2 (Compilation)

defparameter, defvar *Macro*

Syntax:

defparameter *name initial-value* [*documentation*] → *name*

defvar *name* [*initial-value* [*documentation*]] → *name*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*; not evaluated.

initial-value—a *form*; for **defparameter**, it is always *evaluated*, but for **defvar** it is *evaluated* only if *name* is not already *bound*.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

Description:

defparameter and **defvar** *establish* *name* as a *dynamic variable*.

defparameter unconditionally *assigns* the *initial-value* to the *dynamic variable* named *name*. **defvar**, by contrast, *assigns* *initial-value* (if supplied) to the *dynamic variable* named *name* only if *name* is not already *bound*.

If no *initial-value* is supplied, **defvar** leaves the *value cell* of the *dynamic variable* named *name* undisturbed; if *name* was previously *bound*, its old *value* persists, and if it was previously *unbound*, it remains *unbound*.

If *documentation* is supplied, it is attached to *name* as a *documentation string* of kind **variable**.

defparameter and **defvar** normally appear as a *top level form*, but it is meaningful for them to appear as *non-top-level forms*. However, the compile-time side effects described below only take place when they appear as *top level forms*.

Examples:

```
(defparameter *p* 1) → *P*
*p* → 1
(constantp '*p*) → false
(setq *p* 2) → 2
(defparameter *p* 3) → *P*
*p* → 3

(defvar *v* 1) → *V*
*v* → 1
(constantp '*v*) → false
(setq *v* 2) → 2
(defvar *v* 3) → *V*
*v* → 2

(defun foo ()
  (let ((*p* 'p) (*v* 'v))
    (bar))) → FOO
(defun bar () (list *p* *v*)) → BAR
(foo) → (P V)
```

The principal operational distinction between **defparameter** and **defvar** is that **defparameter** makes an unconditional assignment to *name*, while **defvar** makes a conditional one. In practice, this means that **defparameter** is useful in situations where loading or reloading the definition would want to pick up a new value of the variable, while **defvar** is used in situations where the old value would want to be retained if the file were loaded or reloaded. For example, one might create a file which contained:

```
(defvar *the-interesting-numbers* '())
(defmacro define-interesting-number (name n)
  `(progn (defvar ,name ,n)
          (pushnew ,name *the-interesting-numbers*)
          ',name))
(define-interesting-number *my-height* 168) ;cm
(define-interesting-number *my-weight* 13)  ;stones
```

Here the initial value, (), for the variable `*the-interesting-numbers*` is just a seed that we are never likely to want to reset to something else once something has been grown from it. As such, we have used **defvar** to avoid having the `*interesting-numbers*` information reset if the file is loaded a second time. It is true that the two calls to **define-interesting-number** here would be reprocessed, but if there were additional calls in another file, they would not be and that information would be lost. On the other hand, consider the following code:

```
(defparameter *default-beep-count* 3)
(defun beep (&optional (n *default-beep-count*))
  (dotimes (i n) (si:%beep 1000. 100000.) (sleep 0.1)))
```


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defparameter, defvar

Here we could easily imagine editing the code to change the initial value of `*default-beep-count*`, and then reloading the file to pick up the new value. In order to make value updating easy, we have used **defparameter**.

On the other hand, there is potential value to using **defvar** in this situation. For example, suppose that someone had predefined an alternate value for `*default-beep-count*`, or had loaded the file and then manually changed the value. In both cases, if we had used **defvar** instead of **defparameter**, those user preferences would not be overridden by (re)loading the file.

The choice of whether to use **defparameter** or **defvar** has visible consequences to programs, but is nevertheless often made for subjective reasons.

Side Effects:

If a **defvar** or **defparameter** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must recognize that the *name* has been proclaimed **special**. However, it must neither *evaluate* the *initial-value form* nor *assign* the *dynamic variable* named *name* at compile time.

There may be additional (*implementation-defined*) compile-time or run-time side effects, as long as such effects do not interfere with the correct operation of *conforming programs*.

Affected By:

defvar is affected by whether *name* is already *bound*.

See Also:

declaim, **defconstant**, **documentation**, Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

It is customary to name *dynamic variables* with an *asterisk* at the beginning and end of the name. e.g., `*foo*` is a good name for a *dynamic variable*, but not for a *lexical variable*; `foo` is a good name for a *lexical variable*, but not for a *dynamic variable*. This naming convention is observed for all *defined names* in Common Lisp; however, neither *conforming programs* nor *conforming implementations* are obliged to adhere to this convention.

The intent of the permission for additional side effects is to allow *implementations* to do normal "bookkeeping" that accompanies definitions. For example, the *macro expansion* of a **defvar** or **defparameter** *form* might include code that arranges to record the name of the source file in which the definition occurs.

defparameter and **defvar** might be defined as follows:

```
(defmacro defparameter (name initial-value
                        &optional (documentation nil documentation-p))
  `(progn (declaim (special ,name))
          (setf (symbol-value ',name) ,initial-value)
          ,(when documentation-p
             `(setf (documentation ',name 'variable) ',documentation))
          ',name))
```

```
(defmacro defvar (name &optional
                       (initial-value nil initial-value-p)
                       (documentation nil documentation-p))
  `(progn (declaim (special ,name))
          ,(when initial-value-p
             `(unless (boundp ',name)
                (setf (symbol-value ',name) ,initial-value)))
          ,(when documentation-p
             `(setf (documentation ',name 'variable) ',documentation))
          ',name))
```

destructuring-bind *Macro*

Syntax:

destructuring-bind *lambda-list expression* {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

lambda-list—a *destructuring lambda list*.

expression—a *form*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

destructuring-bind binds the variables specified in *lambda-list* to the corresponding values in the tree structure resulting from the evaluation of *expression*; then **destructuring-bind** evaluates *forms*.

The *lambda-list* supports destructuring as described in Section 3.4.5 (Destructuring Lambda Lists).

Examples:

```
(defun iota (n) (loop for i from 1 to n collect i))       ;helper
(destructuring-bind ((a &optional (b 'bee)) one two three)
    `((alpha) ,@(iota 3))
  (list a b three two one)) → (ALPHA BEE 3 2 1)
```


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Exceptional Situations:

If the result of evaluating the *expression* does not match the destructuring pattern, an error of *type* **error** should be signaled.

See Also:

macrolet, **defmacro**

let, let* *Special Operator*

Syntax:

let ({*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

let* ({*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *symbol*.

init-form—a *form*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

let and **let*** create new variable *bindings* and execute a series of *forms* that use these *bindings*. **let** performs the *bindings* in parallel and **let*** does them sequentially.

The form

```
(let ((var1 init-form-1)
      (var2 init-form-2)
      ...
      (varm init-form-m))
  declaration1
  declaration2
  ...
  declarationp
  form1
  form2
  ...
  formn)
```

first evaluates the expressions *init-form-1*, *init-form-2*, and so on, in that order, saving the resulting values. Then all of the variables *varj* are bound to the corresponding values; each *binding* is lexical unless there is a **special** declaration to the contrary. The expressions *formk* are then evaluated in order; the values of all but the last are discarded (that is, the body of a **let** is an *implicit progn*).

let* is similar to **let**, but the *bindings* of variables are performed sequentially rather than in parallel. The expression for the *init-form* of a *var* can refer to *vars* previously bound in the **let***.

The form

```
(let* ((var1 init-form-1)
       (var2 init-form-2)
       ...
       (varm init-form-m))
  declaration1
  declaration2
  ...
  declarationp
  form1
  form2
  ...
  formn)
```

first evaluates the expression *init-form-1*, then binds the variable *var1* to that value; then it evaluates *init-form-2* and binds *var2*, and so on. The expressions *formj* are then evaluated in order; the values of all but the last are discarded (that is, the body of **let*** is an implicit **progn**).

For both **let** and **let***, if there is not an *init-form* associated with a *var*, *var* is initialized to **nil**.

The special form **let** has the property that the *scope* of the name binding does not include any initial value form. For **let***, a variable's *scope* also includes the remaining initial value forms for subsequent variable bindings.

Examples:

```
(setq a 'top) → TOP
(defun dummy-function () a) → DUMMY-FUNCTION
(let ((a 'inside) (b a))
   (format nil "~S ~S ~S" a b (dummy-function))) → "INSIDE TOP TOP"
(let* ((a 'inside) (b a))
   (format nil "~S ~S ~S" a b (dummy-function))) → "INSIDE INSIDE TOP"
(let ((a 'inside) (b a))
   (declare (special a))
   (format nil "~S ~S ~S" a b (dummy-function))) → "INSIDE TOP INSIDE"
```

The code


```
(let (x)
  (declare (integer x))
  (setq x (gcd y z))
  ...)
```

is incorrect; although x is indeed set before it is used, and is set to a value of the declared type *integer*, nevertheless x initially takes on the value **nil** in violation of the type declaration.

See Also:

progv

progv *Special Operator*

Syntax:

progv *symbols values* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

symbols—a *list* of *symbols*; evaluated.

values—a *list* of *objects*; evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

progv creates new dynamic variable *bindings* and executes each *form* using those *bindings*. Each *form* is evaluated in order.

progv allows *binding* one or more dynamic variables whose names may be determined at run time. Each *form* is evaluated in order with the dynamic variables whose names are in *symbols* bound to corresponding *values*. If too few *values* are supplied, the remaining *symbols* are bound and then made to have no value. If too many *values* are supplied, the excess values are ignored. The *bindings* of the dynamic variables are undone on exit from **progv**.

Examples:

```
(setq *x* 1) → 1
(progv '(*x*) '(2) *x*) → 2
*x* → 1

Assuming *x* is not globally special,

(let ((*x* 3))
   (progv '(*x*) '(4)
```

```
(list *x* (symbol-value '*x*)))) → (3 4)
```

See Also:

let, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

Among other things, **progv** is useful when writing interpreters for languages embedded in Lisp; it provides a handle on the mechanism for *binding dynamic variables*.

setq *Special Form*

Syntax:

setq {↓*pair*}* → *result*

pair::=*var form*

Pronunciation:

[ˈset͵kyü]

Arguments and Values:

var—a *symbol* naming a *variable* other than a *constant variable*.

form—a *form*.

result—the *primary value* of the last *form*, or **nil** if no *pairs* were supplied.

Description:

Assigns values to *variables*.

(setq *var1 form1 var2 form2* ...) is the simple variable assignment statement of Lisp. First *form1* is evaluated and the result is stored in the variable *var1*, then *form2* is evaluated and the result stored in *var2*, and so forth. **setq** may be used for assignment of both lexical and dynamic variables.

If any *var* refers to a *binding* made by **symbol-macrolet**, then that *var* is treated as if **setf** (not **setq**) had been used.

Examples:

```
;; A simple use of SETQ to establish values for variables.
(setq a 1 b 2 c 3) → 3
a → 1
b → 2
c → 3
```



```
;; Use of SETQ to update values by sequential assignment.
(setq a (1+ b) b (1+ a) c (+ a b)) → 7
a → 3
b → 4
c → 7

;; This illustrates the use of SETQ on a symbol macro.
(let ((x (list 10 20 30)))
  (symbol-macrolet ((y (car x)) (z (cadr x)))
    (setq y (1+ z) z (1+ y))
    (list x y z)))
→ ((21 22 30) 21 22)
```

Side Effects:

The *primary value* of each *form* is assigned to the corresponding *var*.

See Also:

psetq, **set**, **setf**

psetq *Macro*

Syntax:

psetq {↓*pair*}* → **nil**

pair::=*var form*

Pronunciation:

psetq: [ˌpēˈset͵kyü]

Arguments and Values:

var—a *symbol* naming a *variable* other than a *constant variable*.

form—a *form*.

Description:

Assigns values to *variables*.

This is just like **setq**, except that the assignments happen "in parallel." That is, first all of the forms are evaluated, and only then are the variables set to the resulting values. In this way, the assignment to one variable does not affect the value computation of another in the way that would occur with **setq**'s sequential assignment.

If any *var* refers to a *binding* made by **symbol-macrolet**, then that *var* is treated as if **psetf** (not **psetq**) had been used.

Examples:

```
;; A simple use of PSETQ to establish values for variables.
;; As a matter of style, many programmers would prefer SETQ
;; in a simple situation like this where parallel assignment
;; is not needed, but the two have equivalent effect.
(psetq a 1 b 2 c 3) → NIL
a → 1
b → 2
c → 3

;; Use of PSETQ to update values by parallel assignment.
;; The effect here is very different than if SETQ had been used.
(psetq a (1+ b) b (1+ a) c (+ a b)) → NIL
a → 3
b → 2
c → 3

;; Use of PSETQ on a symbol macro.
(let ((x (list 10 20 30)))
  (symbol-macrolet ((y (car x)) (z (cadr x)))
    (psetq y (1+ z) z (1+ y))
    (list x y z)))
→ ((21 11 30) 21 11)

;; Use of parallel assignment to swap values of A and B.
(let ((a 1) (b 2))
  (psetq a b  b a)
  (values a b))
→ 2, 1
```

Side Effects:

The values of *forms* are assigned to *vars*.

See Also:

psetf, **setq**

block

block *Special Operator*

Syntax:

block *name form** → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*.

form—a *form*.

results—the *values* of the *forms* if a *normal return* occurs, or else, if an *explicit return* occurs, the *values* that were transferred.

Description:

block *establishes* a *block* named *name* and then evaluates *forms* as an *implicit progn*.

The *special operators* **block** and **return-from** work together to provide a structured, lexical, non-local exit facility. At any point lexically contained within *forms*, **return-from** can be used with the given *name* to return control and values from the **block** *form*, except when an intervening *block* with the same name has been *established*, in which case the outer *block* is shadowed by the inner one.

The *block* named *name* has *lexical scope* and *dynamic extent*.

Once established, a *block* may only be exited once, whether by *normal return* or *explicit return*.

Examples:

```
(block empty) → NIL
(block whocares (values 1 2) (values 3 4)) → 3, 4
(let ((x 1))
  (block stop (setq x 2) (return-from stop) (setq x 3))
  x) → 2
(block early (return-from early (values 1 2)) (values 3 4)) → 1, 2
(block outer (block inner (return-from outer 1)) 2) → 1
(block twin (block twin (return-from twin 1)) 2) → 2
;; Contrast behavior of this example with corresponding example of CATCH.
(block b
  (flet ((b1 () (return-from b 1)))
    (block b (b1) (print 'unreachable))
    2)) → 1
```

See Also:

return, **return-from**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

catch *Special Operator*

Syntax:

catch *tag* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

tag—a *catch tag*; evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—if the *forms* exit normally, the *values* returned by the *forms*; if a throw occurs to the *tag*, the *values* that are thrown.

Description:

catch is used as the destination of a non-local control transfer by **throw**. *Tags* are used to find the **catch** to which a **throw** is transferring control. `(catch 'foo` *form*`)` catches a `(throw 'foo` *form*`)` but not a `(throw 'bar` *form*`)`.

The order of execution of **catch** follows:

1. *Tag* is evaluated. It serves as the name of the **catch**.

2. *Forms* are then evaluated as an implicit **progn**, and the results of the last *form* are returned unless a **throw** occurs.

3. If a **throw** occurs during the execution of one of the *forms*, control is transferred to the **catch** *form* whose *tag* is **eq** to the tag argument of the **throw** and which is the most recently established **catch** with that *tag*. No further evaluation of *forms* occurs.

4. The *tag established* by **catch** is *disestablished* just before the results are returned.

If during the execution of one of the *forms*, a **throw** is executed whose tag is **eq** to the **catch** tag, then the values specified by the **throw** are returned as the result of the dynamically most recently established **catch** form with that tag.

The mechanism for **catch** and **throw** works even if **throw** is not within the lexical scope of **catch**. **throw** must occur within the *dynamic extent* of the *evaluation* of the body of a **catch** with a corresponding *tag*.

Examples:

```
(catch 'dummy-tag 1 2 (throw 'dummy-tag 3) 4) → 3
```



```
(catch 'dummy-tag 1 2 3 4) → 4
(defun throw-back (tag) (throw tag t)) → THROW-BACK
(catch 'dummy-tag (throw-back 'dummy-tag) 2) → T

;; Contrast behavior of this example with corresponding example of BLOCK.
(catch 'c
  (flet ((c1 () (throw 'c 1)))
    (catch 'c (c1) (print 'unreachable))
    2)) → 2
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **control-error** is signaled if **throw** is done when there is no suitable **catch** *tag*.

See Also:

throw, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

It is customary for *symbols* to be used as *tags*, but any *object* is permitted. However, numbers should not be used because the comparison is done using **eq**.

catch differs from **block** in that **catch** tags have dynamic *scope* while **block** names have *lexical scope*.

go *Special Operator*

Syntax:

go *tag* →|

Arguments and Values:

tag—a *go tag*.

Description:

go transfers control to the point in the body of an enclosing **tagbody** form labeled by a tag **eql** to *tag*. If there is no such *tag* in the body, the bodies of lexically containing **tagbody** *forms* (if any) are examined as well. If several tags are **eql** to *tag*, control is transferred to whichever matching *tag* is contained in the innermost **tagbody** form that contains the **go**. The consequences are undefined if there is no matching *tag* lexically visible to the point of the **go**.

The transfer of control initiated by **go** is performed as described in Section 5.2 (Transfer of Control to an Exit Point).

Examples:

```
(tagbody
```

```
   (setq val 2)
   (go lp)
   (incf val 3)
   lp (incf val 4)) → NIL
 val → 6
```

The following is in error because there is a normal exit of the **tagbody** before the **go** is executed.

```
(let ((a nil))
  (tagbody t (setq a #'(lambda () (go t))))
  (funcall a))
```

The following is in error because the **tagbody** is passed over before the **go** *form* is executed.

```
(funcall (block nil
           (tagbody a (return #'(lambda () (go a))))))
```

See Also:

tagbody

return-from *Special Operator*

Syntax:

return-from *name* [*result*] →|

Arguments and Values:

name—a *block tag*; not evaluated.

result—a *form*; evaluated. The default is **nil**.

Description:

Returns control and *multiple values*$_2$ from a lexically enclosing *block*.

A **block** *form* named *name* must lexically enclose the occurrence of **return-from**; any *values yielded* by the *evaluation* of *result* are immediately returned from the innermost such lexically enclosing *block*.

The transfer of control initiated by **return-from** is performed as described in Section 5.2 (Transfer of Control to an Exit Point).

Examples:

```
(block alpha (return-from alpha) 1) → NIL
(block alpha (return-from alpha 1) 2) → 1
```



```
 (block alpha (return-from alpha (values 1 2)) 3) → 1, 2
 (let ((a 0))
    (dotimes (i 10) (incf a) (when (oddp i) (return)))
    a) → 2
 (defun temp (x)
    (if x (return-from temp 'dummy))
    44) → TEMP
 (temp nil) → 44
 (temp t) → DUMMY
 (block out
   (flet ((exit (n) (return-from out n)))
     (block out (exit 1)))
   2) → 1
 (block nil
   (unwind-protect (return-from nil 1)
     (return-from nil 2)))
→ 2
 (dolist (flag '(nil t))
   (block nil
     (let ((x 5))
       (declare (special x))
       (unwind-protect (return-from nil)
         (print x))))
   (print 'here))
▷ 5
▷ HERE
▷ 5
▷ HERE
→ NIL
 (dolist (flag '(nil t))
   (block nil
     (let ((x 5))
       (declare (special x))
       (unwind-protect
           (if flag (return-from nil))
         (print x))))
   (print 'here))
▷ 5
▷ HERE
▷ 5
▷ HERE
→ NIL
```

The following has undefined consequences because the **block** *form* exits normally before the **return-from** *form* is attempted.

```
(funcall (block nil #'(lambda () (return-from nil)))) is an error.
```

See Also:

block, **return**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

return *Macro*

Syntax:

return [*result*] →|

Arguments and Values:

result—a *form*; evaluated. The default is **nil**.

Description:

Returns, as if by **return-from**, from the *block* named **nil**.

Examples:

```
(block nil (return) 1) → NIL
(block nil (return 1) 2) → 1
(block nil (return (values 1 2)) 3) → 1, 2
(block nil (block alpha (return 1) 2)) → 1
(block alpha (block nil (return 1)) 2) → 2
(block nil (block nil (return 1) 2)) → 1
```

See Also:

block, **return-from**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

```
(return) ≡ (return-from nil)
(return form) ≡ (return-from nil form)
```

The *implicit blocks established* by *macros* such as **do** are often named **nil**, so that **return** can be used to exit from such *forms*.

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tagbody *Special Operator*

Syntax:

tagbody {*tag* | *statement*}* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

tag—a *go tag*; not evaluated.

statement—a *compound form*; evaluated as described below.

Description:

Executes zero or more *statements* in a *lexical environment* that provides for control transfers to labels indicated by the *tags*.

The *statements* in a **tagbody** are *evaluated* in order from left to right, and their *values* are discarded. If at any time there are no remaining *statements*, **tagbody** returns **nil**. However, if (go *tag*) is *evaluated*, control jumps to the part of the body labeled with the *tag*. (Tags are compared with **eql**.)

A *tag* established by **tagbody** has *lexical scope* and has *dynamic extent*. Once **tagbody** has been exited, it is no longer valid to **go** to a *tag* in its body. It is permissible for **go** to jump to a **tagbody** that is not the innermost **tagbody** containing that **go**; the *tags* established by a **tagbody** only shadow other *tags* of like name.

The determination of which elements of the body are *tags* and which are *statements* is made prior to any *macro expansion* of that element. If a *statement* is a *macro form* and its *macro expansion* is an *atom*, that *atom* is treated as a *statement*, not a *tag*.

Examples:

```
(let (val)
   (tagbody
     (setq val 1)
     (go point-a)
     (incf val 16)
    point-c
     (incf val 04)
     (go point-b)
     (incf val 32)
    point-a
     (incf val 02)
     (go point-c)
     (incf val 64)
    point-b
     (incf val 08))
```

```
    val)
→ 15
 (defun f1 (flag)
   (let ((n 1))
     (tagbody
       (setq n (f2 flag #'(lambda () (go out))))
      out
       (prin1 n))))
→ F1
 (defun f2 (flag escape)
   (if flag (funcall escape) 2))
→ F2
 (f1 nil)
▷ 2
→ NIL
 (f1 t)
▷ 1
→ NIL
```

See Also:

go

Notes:

The *macros* in Figure 5–10 have *implicit tagbodies*.

do	do-external-symbols	dotimes
do*	do-symbols	prog
do-all-symbols	dolist	prog*

Figure 5–10. Macros that have implicit tagbodies.

throw *Special Operator*

Syntax:

throw *tag result-form* →|

Arguments and Values:

tag—a *catch tag*; evaluated.

result-form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

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Description:

throw causes a non-local control transfer to a **catch** whose tag is **eq** to *tag*.

Tag is evaluated first to produce an *object* called the throw tag; then *result-form* is evaluated, and its results are saved. If the *result-form* produces multiple values, then all the values are saved. The most recent outstanding **catch** whose *tag* is **eq** to the throw tag is exited; the saved results are returned as the value or values of **catch**.

The transfer of control initiated by **throw** is performed as described in Section 5.2 (Transfer of Control to an Exit Point).

Examples:

```
 (catch 'result
    (setq i 0 j 0)
    (loop (incf j 3) (incf i)
          (if (= i 3) (throw 'result (values i j))))) → 3, 9
```

```
 (catch nil
   (unwind-protect (throw nil 1)
     (throw nil 2))) → 2
```

The consequences of the following are undefined because the **catch** of b is passed over by the first **throw**, hence portable programs must assume that its *dynamic extent* is terminated. The *binding* of the *catch tag* is not yet *disestablished* and therefore it is the target of the second **throw**.

```
 (catch 'a
   (catch 'b
     (unwind-protect (throw 'a 1)
       (throw 'b 2))))
```

The following prints "`The inner catch returns :SECOND-THROW`" and then returns `:outer-catch`.

```
 (catch 'foo
         (format t "The inner catch returns ~s.~%"
                 (catch 'foo
                     (unwind-protect (throw 'foo :first-throw)
                         (throw 'foo :second-throw))))
         :outer-catch)
▷ The inner catch returns :SECOND-THROW
→ :OUTER-CATCH
```

Exceptional Situations:

If there is no outstanding *catch tag* that matches the throw tag, no unwinding of the stack is performed, and an error of *type* **control-error** is signaled. When the error is signaled, the *dynamic environment* is that which was in force at the point of the **throw**.

See Also:

block, **catch**, **return-from**, **unwind-protect**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

catch and **throw** are normally used when the *exit point* must have *dynamic scope* (*e.g.*, the **throw** is not lexically enclosed by the **catch**), while **block** and **return** are used when *lexical scope* is sufficient.

unwind-protect *Special Operator*

Syntax:

unwind-protect *protected-form* {*cleanup-form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

protected-form—a *form*.

cleanup-form—a *form*.

results—the *values* of the *protected-form*.

Description:

unwind-protect evaluates *protected-form* and guarantees that *cleanup-forms* are executed before **unwind-protect** exits, whether it terminates normally or is aborted by a control transfer of some kind. **unwind-protect** is intended to be used to make sure that certain side effects take place after the evaluation of *protected-form*.

If a *non-local exit* occurs during execution of *cleanup-forms*, no special action is taken. The *cleanup-forms* of **unwind-protect** are not protected by that **unwind-protect**.

unwind-protect protects against all attempts to exit from *protected-form*, including **go**, **handler-case**, **ignore-errors**, **restart-case**, **return-from**, **throw**, and **with-simple-restart**.

Undoing of *handler* and *restart bindings* during an exit happens in parallel with the undoing of the bindings of *dynamic variables* and **catch** tags, in the reverse order in which they were established. The effect of this is that *cleanup-form* sees the same *handler* and *restart bindings*, as well as *dynamic variable bindings* and **catch** tags, as were visible when the **unwind-protect** was entered.

Examples:

```
(tagbody
```


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```
  (let ((x 3))
    (unwind-protect
      (if (numberp x) (go out))
      (print x)))
 out
  ...)
```

When **go** is executed, the call to **print** is executed first, and then the transfer of control to the tag `out` is completed.

```
(defun dummy-function (x)
   (setq state 'running)
   (unless (numberp x) (throw 'abort 'not-a-number))
   (setq state (1+ x))) → DUMMY-FUNCTION
(catch 'abort (dummy-function 1)) → 2
state → 2
(catch 'abort (dummy-function 'trash)) → NOT-A-NUMBER
state → RUNNING
(catch 'abort (unwind-protect (dummy-function 'trash)
                 (setq state 'aborted))) → NOT-A-NUMBER
state → ABORTED
```

The following code is not correct:

```
(unwind-protect
  (progn (incf *access-count*)
         (perform-access))
  (decf *access-count*))
```

If an exit occurs before completion of **incf**, the **decf** *form* is executed anyway, resulting in an incorrect value for `*access-count*`. The correct way to code this is as follows:

```
(let ((old-count *access-count*))
  (unwind-protect
    (progn (incf *access-count*)
           (perform-access))
    (setq *access-count* old-count)))


;;; The following returns 2.
(block nil
  (unwind-protect (return 1)
    (return 2)))

;;; The following has undefined consequences.
(block a
  (block b
```

unwind-protect

```
    (unwind-protect (return-from a 1)
      (return-from b 2))))

;;; The following returns 2.
 (catch nil
   (unwind-protect (throw nil 1)
     (throw nil 2)))

;;; The following has undefined consequences because the catch of B is
;;; passed over by the first THROW, hence portable programs must assume
;;; its dynamic extent is terminated.  The binding of the catch tag is not
;;; yet disestablished and therefore it is the target of the second throw.
 (catch 'a
   (catch 'b
     (unwind-protect (throw 'a 1)
       (throw 'b 2))))

;;; The following prints "The inner catch returns :SECOND-THROW"
;;; and then returns :OUTER-CATCH.
 (catch 'foo
         (format t "The inner catch returns ~s.~%"
                 (catch 'foo
                     (unwind-protect (throw 'foo :first-throw)
                         (throw 'foo :second-throw))))
         :outer-catch)


;;; The following returns 10. The inner CATCH of A is passed over, but
;;; because that CATCH is disestablished before the THROW to A is executed,
;;; it isn't seen.
 (catch 'a
   (catch 'b
     (unwind-protect (1+ (catch 'a (throw 'b 1)))
       (throw 'a 10))))


;;; The following has undefined consequences because the extent of
;;; the (CATCH 'BAR ...) exit ends when the (THROW 'FOO ...)
;;; commences.
 (catch 'foo
   (catch 'bar
       (unwind-protect (throw 'foo 3)
         (throw 'bar 4)
         (print 'xxx))))
```



```
;;; The following returns 4; XXX is not printed.
;;; The (THROW 'FOO ...) has no effect on the scope of the BAR
;;; catch tag or the extent of the (CATCH 'BAR ...) exit.
 (catch 'bar
   (catch 'foo
       (unwind-protect (throw 'foo 3)
         (throw 'bar 4)
         (print 'xxx))))


;;; The following prints 5.
 (block nil
   (let ((x 5))
     (declare (special x))
     (unwind-protect (return)
       (print x))))
```

See Also:

catch, **go**, **handler-case**, **restart-case**, **return**, **return-from**, **throw**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

nil *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

nil.

Description:

nil represents both *boolean* (and *generalized boolean*) *false* and the *empty list*.

Examples:

```
nil → NIL
```

See Also:

t

not *Function*

Syntax:

not *x* → *boolean*

Arguments and Values:

x—a *generalized boolean* (*i.e.*, any *object*).

boolean—a *boolean*.

Description:

Returns **t** if *x* is *false*; otherwise, returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
(not nil) → T
(not '()) → T
(not (integerp 'sss)) → T
(not (integerp 1)) → NIL
(not 3.7) → NIL
(not 'apple) → NIL
```

See Also:

null

Notes:

not is intended to be used to invert the 'truth value' of a *boolean* (or *generalized boolean*) whereas **null** is intended to be used to test for the *empty list*. Operationally, **not** and **null** compute the same result; which to use is a matter of style.

t *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

t.

Description:

The *boolean* representing true, and the canonical *generalized boolean* representing true. Although any *object* other than **nil** is considered *true*, **t** is generally used when there is no special reason to prefer one such *object* over another.

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The *symbol* **t** is also sometimes used for other purposes as well. For example, as the *name* of a *class*, as a *designator* (*e.g.*, a *stream designator*) or as a special symbol for some syntactic reason (*e.g.*, in **case** and **typecase** to label the *otherwise-clause*).

Examples:

```
t → T
(eq t 't) → true
(find-class 't) → #<CLASS T 610703333>
(case 'a (a 1) (t 2)) → 1
(case 'b (a 1) (t 2)) → 2
(prin1 'hello t)
▷ HELLO
→ HELLO
```

See Also:

nil

eq *Function*

Syntax:

eq *x y* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

x—an *object*.

y—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if its *arguments* are the same, identical *object*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(eq 'a 'b) → false
(eq 'a 'a) → true
(eq 3 3)
→ true
or→ false
(eq 3 3.0) → false
(eq 3.0 3.0)
→ true
or→ false
```

```
(eq #c(3 -4) #c(3 -4))
→ true
or→ false
(eq #c(3 -4.0) #c(3 -4)) → false
(eq (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'c)) → false
(eq (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'b)) → false
(eq '(a . b) '(a . b))
→ true
or→ false
(progn (setq x (cons 'a 'b)) (eq x x)) → true
(progn (setq x '(a . b)) (eq x x)) → true
(eq #\A #\A)
→ true
or→ false
(let ((x "Foo")) (eq x x)) → true
(eq "Foo" "Foo")
→ true
or→ false
(eq "Foo" (copy-seq "Foo")) → false
(eq "FOO" "foo") → false
(eq "string-seq" (copy-seq "string-seq")) → false
(let ((x 5)) (eq x x))
→ true
or→ false
```

See Also:

eql, **equal**, **equalp**, **=**, Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

Objects that appear the same when printed are not necessarily **eq** to each other. *Symbols* that print the same usually are **eq** to each other because of the use of the **intern** function. However, *numbers* with the same value need not be **eq**, and two similar *lists* are usually not *identical*.

An implementation is permitted to make "copies" of *characters* and *numbers* at any time. The effect is that Common Lisp makes no guarantee that **eq** is true even when both its arguments are "the same thing" if that thing is a *character* or *number*.

Most Common Lisp *operators* use **eql** rather than **eq** to compare objects, or else they default to **eql** and only use **eq** if specifically requested to do so. However, the following *operators* are defined to use **eq** rather than **eql** in a way that cannot be overridden by the *code* which employs them:

catch	**getf**	**throw**
get	**remf**	
get-properties	**remprop**	

Figure 5–11. Operators that always prefer EQ over EQL

eql *Function*

Syntax:

eql *x y* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

x—an *object*.

y—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

The value of **eql** is *true* of two objects, *x* and *y*, in the folowing cases:

1. If *x* and *y* are **eq**.
2. If *x* and *y* are both *numbers* of the same *type* and the same value.
3. If they are both *characters* that represent the same character.

Otherwise the value of **eql** is *false*.

If an implementation supports positive and negative zeros as *distinct* values, then `(eql 0.0 -0.0)` returns *false*. Otherwise, when the syntax `-0.0` is read it is interpreted as the value `0.0`, and so `(eql 0.0 -0.0)` returns *true*.

Examples:

```
(eql 'a 'b) → false
(eql 'a 'a) → true
(eql 3 3) → true
(eql 3 3.0) → false
(eql 3.0 3.0) → true
(eql #c(3 -4) #c(3 -4)) → true
(eql #c(3 -4.0) #c(3 -4)) → false
(eql (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'c)) → false
(eql (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'b)) → false
(eql '(a . b) '(a . b))
→ true
or→ false
(progn (setq x (cons 'a 'b)) (eql x x)) → true
(progn (setq x '(a . b)) (eql x x)) → true
(eql #\A #\A) → true
```

```
(eql "Foo" "Foo")
```
→ *true*
or
→ *false*
```
(eql "Foo" (copy-seq "Foo"))
```
→ *false*
```
(eql "FOO" "foo")
```
→ *false*

Normally `(eql 1.0s0 1.0d0)` is false, under the assumption that `1.0s0` and `1.0d0` are of distinct data types. However, implementations that do not provide four distinct floating-point formats are permitted to "collapse" the four formats into some smaller number of them; in such an implementation `(eql 1.0s0 1.0d0)` might be true.

See Also:

eq, **equal**, **equalp**, **=**, **char=**

Notes:

eql is the same as **eq**, except that if the arguments are *characters* or *numbers* of the same type then their values are compared. Thus **eql** tells whether two *objects* are conceptually the same, whereas **eq** tells whether two *objects* are implementationally identical. It is for this reason that **eql**, not **eq**, is the default comparison predicate for *operators* that take *sequences* as arguments.

eql may not be true of two *floats* even when they represent the same value. **=** is used to compare mathematical values.

Two *complex* numbers are considered to be **eql** if their real parts are **eql** and their imaginary parts are **eql**. For example, `(eql #C(4 5) #C(4 5))` is *true* and `(eql #C(4 5) #C(4.0 5.0))` is *false*. Note that while `(eql #C(5.0 0.0) 5.0)` is *false*, `(eql #C(5 0) 5)` is *true*. In the case of `(eql #C(5.0 0.0) 5.0)` the two arguments are of different types, and so cannot satisfy **eql**. In the case of `(eql #C(5 0) 5)`, `#C(5 0)` is not a *complex* number, but is automatically reduced to the *integer* `5`.

equal *Function*

Syntax:

equal *x y* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

x—an *object*.

y—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *x* and *y* are structurally similar (isomorphic) *objects*. *Objects* are treated as follows by **equal**.

Symbols, *Numbers*, and *Characters*

equal is *true* of two *objects* if they are *symbols* that are **eq**, if they are *numbers* that are **eql**, or if they are *characters* that are **eql**.

Conses

For *conses*, **equal** is defined recursively as the two *cars* being **equal** and the two *cdrs* being **equal**.

Arrays

Two *arrays* are **equal** only if they are **eq**, with one exception: *strings* and *bit vectors* are compared element-by-element (using **eql**). If either *x* or *y* has a *fill pointer*, the *fill pointer* limits the number of elements examined by **equal**. Uppercase and lowercase letters in *strings* are considered by **equal** to be different.

Pathnames

Two *pathnames* are **equal** if and only if all the corresponding components (host, device, and so on) are equivalent. Whether or not uppercase and lowercase letters are considered equivalent in *strings* appearing in components is *implementation-dependent*. *pathnames* that are **equal** should be functionally equivalent.

Other (Structures, hash-tables, instances, ...)

Two other *objects* are **equal** only if they are **eq**.

equal does not descend any *objects* other than the ones explicitly specified above. Figure 5–12 summarizes the information given in the previous list. In addition, the figure specifies the priority of the behavior of **equal**, with upper entries taking priority over lower ones.

Type	Behavior
number	uses **eql**
character	uses **eql**
cons	descends
bit vector	descends
string	descends
pathname	"functionally equivalent"
structure	uses **eq**
Other *array*	uses **eq**
hash table	uses **eq**
Other *object*	uses **eq**

Figure 5–12. Summary and priorities of behavior of equal

Any two *objects* that are **eql** are also **equal**.

equal may fail to terminate if *x* or *y* is circular.

Examples:

```
(equal 'a 'b) → false
(equal 'a 'a) → true
(equal 3 3) → true
(equal 3 3.0) → false
(equal 3.0 3.0) → true
(equal #c(3 -4) #c(3 -4)) → true
(equal #c(3 -4.0) #c(3 -4)) → false
(equal (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'c)) → false
(equal (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'b)) → true
(equal #\A #\A) → true
(equal #\A #\a) → false
(equal "Foo" "Foo") → true
(equal "Foo" (copy-seq "Foo")) → true
(equal "FOO" "foo") → false
(equal "This-string" "This-string") → true
(equal "This-string" "this-string") → false
```

See Also:

eq, **eql**, **equalp**, **=**, **string=**, **string-equal**, **char=**, **char-equal**, **tree-equal**

Notes:

Object equality is not a concept for which there is a uniquely determined correct algorithm. The appropriateness of an equality predicate can be judged only in the context of the needs of some particular program. Although these functions take any type of argument and their names sound

very generic, **equal** and **equalp** are not appropriate for every application.

A rough rule of thumb is that two *objects* are **equal** if and only if their printed representations are the same.

equalp *Function*

Syntax:

equalp *x y* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

x—an *object*.

y—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *x* and *y* are **equal**, or if they have components that are of the same *type* as each other and if those components are **equalp**; specifically, **equalp** returns *true* in the following cases:

Characters

If two *characters* are **char-equal**.

Numbers

If two *numbers* are the *same* under **=**.

Conses

If the two *cars* in the *conses* are **equalp** and the two *cdrs* in the *conses* are **equalp**.

Arrays

If two *arrays* have the same number of dimensions, the dimensions match, and the corresponding *active elements* are **equalp**. The *types* for which the *arrays* are *specialized* need not match; for example, a *string* and a general *array* that happens to contain the same *characters* are **equalp**. Because **equalp** performs *element*-by-*element* comparisons of *strings* and ignores the *case* of *characters*, *case* distinctions are ignored when **equalp** compares *strings*.

Structures

If two *structures* S_1 and S_2 have the same *class* and the value of each *slot* in S_1 is the *same* under **equalp** as the value of the corresponding *slot* in S_2.

Hash Tables

equalp descends *hash-tables* by first comparing the count of entries and the `:test` function; if those are the same, it compares the keys of the tables using the `:test` function and then the values of the matching keys using **equalp** recursively.

equalp does not descend any *objects* other than the ones explicitly specified above. Figure 5–13 summarizes the information given in the previous list. In addition, the figure specifies the priority of the behavior of **equalp**, with upper entries taking priority over lower ones.

Type	Behavior
number	uses **=**
character	uses **char-equal**
cons	descends
bit vector	descends
string	descends
pathname	same as **equal**
structure	descends, as described above
Other *array*	descends
hash table	descends, as described above
Other *object*	uses **eq**

Figure 5–13. Summary and priorities of behavior of equalp

Examples:

```
(equalp 'a 'b) → false
(equalp 'a 'a) → true
(equalp 3 3) → true
(equalp 3 3.0) → true
(equalp 3.0 3.0) → true
(equalp #c(3 -4) #c(3 -4)) → true
(equalp #c(3 -4.0) #c(3 -4)) → true
(equalp (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'c)) → false
(equalp (cons 'a 'b) (cons 'a 'b)) → true
(equalp #\A #\A) → true
(equalp #\A #\a) → true
(equalp "Foo" "Foo") → true
(equalp "Foo" (copy-seq "Foo")) → true
```



```
 (equalp "FOO" "foo") → true
 (setq array1 (make-array 6 :element-type 'integer
                            :initial-contents '(1 1 1 3 5 7)))
→ #(1 1 1 3 5 7)
 (setq array2 (make-array 8 :element-type 'integer
                            :initial-contents '(1 1 1 3 5 7 2 6)
                            :fill-pointer 6))
→ #(1 1 1 3 5 7)
 (equalp array1 array2) → true
 (setq vector1 (vector 1 1 1 3 5 7)) → #(1 1 1 3 5 7)
 (equalp array1 vector1) → true
```

See Also:

eq, **eql**, **equal**, **=**, **string=**, **string-equal**, **char=**, **char-equal**

Notes:

Object equality is not a concept for which there is a uniquely determined correct algorithm. The appropriateness of an equality predicate can be judged only in the context of the needs of some particular program. Although these functions take any type of argument and their names sound very generic, **equal** and **equalp** are not appropriate for every application.

identity *Function*

Syntax:

identity *object* → *object*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

Description:

Returns its argument *object*.

Examples:

```
(identity 101) → 101
(mapcan #'identity (list (list 1 2 3) '(4 5 6))) → (1 2 3 4 5 6)
```

Notes:

identity is intended for use with functions that require a *function* as an argument.

`(eql x (identity x))` returns *true* for all possible values of *x*, but `(eq x (identity x))` might return *false* when *x* is a *number* or *character*.

identity could be defined by

```
(defun identity (x) x)
```

complement *Function*

Syntax:

complement *function* → *complement-function*

Arguments and Values:

function—a *function*.

complement-function—a *function*.

Description:

Returns a *function* that takes the same *arguments* as *function*, and has the same side-effect behavior as *function*, but returns only a single value: a *generalized boolean* with the opposite truth value of that which would be returned as the *primary value* of *function*. That is, when the *function* would have returned *true* as its *primary value* the *complement-function* returns *false*, and when the *function* would have returned *false* as its *primary value* the *complement-function* returns *true*.

Examples:

```
(funcall (complement #'zerop) 1) → true
(funcall (complement #'characterp) #\A) → false
(funcall (complement #'member) 'a '(a b c)) → false
(funcall (complement #'member) 'd '(a b c)) → true
```

See Also:

not

Notes:

```
(complement x) ≡ #'(lambda (&rest arguments) (not (apply x arguments)))
```

In Common Lisp, functions with names like "*xxx*-if-not" are related to functions with names like "*xxx*-if" in that

```
(xxx-if-not f . arguments) ≡ (xxx-if (complement f) . arguments)
```

For example,

```
(find-if-not #'zerop '(0 0 3)) ≡
(find-if (complement #'zerop) '(0 0 3)) → 3
```

Note that since the "*xxx*-if-not" *functions* and the :test-not arguments have been deprecated, uses of "*xxx*-if" *functions* or :test arguments with **complement** are preferred.

constantly *Function*

Syntax:

constantly *value* → *function*

Arguments and Values:

value—an *object*.

function—a *function*.

Description:

constantly returns a *function* that accepts any number of arguments, that has no side-effects, and that always returns *value*.

Examples:

```
(mapcar (constantly 3) '(a b c d)) → (3 3 3 3)
(defmacro with-vars (vars &body forms)
  `((lambda ,vars ,@forms) ,@(mapcar (constantly nil) vars)))
→ WITH-VARS
(macroexpand '(with-vars (a b) (setq a 3 b (* a a)) (list a b)))
→ ((LAMBDA (A B) (SETQ A 3 B (* A A)) (LIST A B)) NIL NIL), true
```

See Also:

identity

Notes:

constantly could be defined by:

```
(defun constantly (object)
  #'(lambda (&rest arguments) object))
```

every, some, notevery, notany *Function*

Syntax:

every *predicate* &rest *sequences*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

some *predicate* &rest *sequences*$^+$ → *result*

notevery *predicate* &rest *sequences*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

notany *predicate* &rest *sequences*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of as many *arguments* as there are *sequences*.

sequence—a *sequence*.

result—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

every, **some**, **notevery**, and **notany** test *elements* of *sequences* for satisfaction of a given *predicate*. The first argument to *predicate* is an *element* of the first *sequence*; each succeeding argument is an *element* of a succeeding *sequence*.

Predicate is first applied to the elements with index `0` in each of the *sequences*, and possibly then to the elements with index `1`, and so on, until a termination criterion is met or the end of the shortest of the *sequences* is reached.

every returns *false* as soon as any invocation of *predicate* returns *false*. If the end of a *sequence* is reached, **every** returns *true*. Thus, **every** returns *true* if and only if every invocation of *predicate* returns *true*.

some returns the first *non-nil* value which is returned by an invocation of *predicate*. If the end of a *sequence* is reached without any invocation of the *predicate* returning *true*, **some** returns *false*. Thus, **some** returns *true* if and only if some invocation of *predicate* returns *true*.

notany returns *false* as soon as any invocation of *predicate* returns *true*. If the end of a *sequence* is reached, **notany** returns *true*. Thus, **notany** returns *true* if and only if it is not the case that any invocation of *predicate* returns *true*.

notevery returns *true* as soon as any invocation of *predicate* returns *false*. If the end of a *sequence* is reached, **notevery** returns *false*. Thus, **notevery** returns *true* if and only if it is not the case that every invocation of *predicate* returns *true*.

Examples:

```
(every #'characterp "abc") → true
(some #'= '(1 2 3 4 5) '(5 4 3 2 1)) → true
(notevery #'< '(1 2 3 4) '(5 6 7 8) '(9 10 11 12)) → false
(notany #'> '(1 2 3 4) '(5 6 7 8) '(9 10 11 12)) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if its first argument is neither a *symbol* nor a *function* or if any subsequent argument is not a *proper sequence*.

Other exceptional situations are possible, depending on the nature of the *predicate*.

See Also:

and, **or**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

```
(notany predicate {sequence}*) ≡ (not (some predicate {sequence}*))
(notevery predicate {sequence}*) ≡ (not (every predicate {sequence}*))
```

and *Macro*

Syntax:

and {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*.

results—the *values* resulting from the evaluation of the last *form*, or the symbols **nil** or **t**.

Description:

The macro **and** evaluates each *form* one at a time from left to right. As soon as any *form* evaluates to **nil**, **and** returns **nil** without evaluating the remaining *forms*. If all *forms* but the last evaluate to *true* values, **and** returns the results produced by evaluating the last *form*.

If no *forms* are supplied, `(and)` returns **t**.

and passes back multiple values from the last *subform* but not from subforms other than the last.

Examples:

```
(if (and (>= n 0)
```

```
        (< n (length a-simple-vector))
        (eq (elt a-simple-vector n) 'foo))
    (princ "Foo!"))
```

The above expression prints Foo! if element n of a-simple-vector is the symbol foo, provided also that n is indeed a valid index for a-simple-vector. Because **and** guarantees left-to-right testing of its parts, **elt** is not called if n is out of range.

```
(setq temp1 1 temp2 1 temp3 1) → 1
(and (incf temp1) (incf temp2) (incf temp3)) → 2
(and (eql 2 temp1) (eql 2 temp2) (eql 2 temp3)) → true
(decf temp3) → 1
(and (decf temp1) (decf temp2) (eq temp3 'nil) (decf temp3)) → NIL
(and (eql temp1 temp2) (eql temp2 temp3)) → true
(and) → T
```

See Also:

cond, **every**, **if**, **or**, **when**

Notes:

(and *form*) ≡ (let () *form*)
(and *form1* *form2* ...) ≡ (when *form1* (and *form2* ...))

cond *Macro*

Syntax:

cond {↓*clause*}* → {*result*}*

clause::=(*test-form* {*form*}*)

Arguments and Values:

test-form—a *form*.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* of the *forms* in the first *clause* whose *test-form yields true*, or the *primary value* of the *test-form* if there are no *forms* in that *clause*, or else **nil** if no *test-form yields true*.

Description:

cond allows the execution of *forms* to be dependent on *test-form*.

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Test-forms are evaluated one at a time in the order in which they are given in the argument list until a *test-form* is found that evaluates to *true*.

If there are no *forms* in that clause, the *primary value* of the *test-form* is returned by the **cond** *form*. Otherwise, the *forms* associated with this *test-form* are evaluated in order, left to right, as an *implicit progn*, and the *values* returned by the last *form* are returned by the **cond** *form*.

Once one *test-form* has *yielded true*, no additional *test-forms* are *evaluated*. If no *test-form yields true*, **nil** is returned.

Examples:

```
(defun select-options ()
  (cond ((= a 1) (setq a 2))
        ((= a 2) (setq a 3))
        ((and (= a 3) (floor a 2)))
        (t (floor a 3)))) → SELECT-OPTIONS
(setq a 1) → 1
(select-options) → 2
a → 2
(select-options) → 3
a → 3
(select-options) → 1
(setq a 5) → 5
(select-options) → 1, 2
```

See Also:

if, **case**.

if *Special Operator*

Syntax:

if *test-form then-form* [*else-form*] → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

Test-form—a *form*.

Then-form—a *form*.

Else-form—a *form*. The default is **nil**.

results—if the *test-form yielded true*, the *values* returned by the *then-form*; otherwise, the *values* returned by the *else-form*.

Description:

if allows the execution of a *form* to be dependent on a single *test-form*.

First *test-form* is evaluated. If the result is *true*, then *then-form* is selected; otherwise *else-form* is selected. Whichever form is selected is then evaluated.

Examples:

```
(if t 1) → 1
(if nil 1 2) → 2
(defun test ()
  (dolist (truth-value '(t nil 1 (a b c)))
    (if truth-value (print 'true) (print 'false))
    (prin1 truth-value))) → TEST
(test)
▷ TRUE T
▷ FALSE NIL
▷ TRUE 1
▷ TRUE (A B C)
→ NIL
```

See Also:

cond, **unless**, **when**

Notes:

(if *test-form then-form else-form*)
≡ (cond (*test-form then-form*) (t *else-form*))

or *Macro*

Syntax:

or {*form*}* → {*results*}*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*.

results—the *values* or *primary value* (see below) resulting from the evaluation of the last *form* executed or **nil**.

Description:

or evaluates each *form*, one at a time, from left to right. The evaluation of all *forms* terminates when a *form* evaluates to *true* (*i.e.*, something other than **nil**).

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If the *evaluation* of any *form* other than the last returns a *primary value* that is *true*, **or** immediately returns that *value* (but no additional *values*) without evaluating the remaining *forms*. If every *form* but the last returns *false* as its *primary value*, **or** returns all *values* returned by the last *form*. If no *forms* are supplied, **or** returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
(or) → NIL
(setq temp0 nil temp1 10 temp2 20 temp3 30) → 30
(or temp0 temp1 (setq temp2 37)) → 10
temp2 → 20
(or (incf temp1) (incf temp2) (incf temp3)) → 11
temp1 → 11
temp2 → 20
temp3 → 30
(or (values) temp1) → 11
(or (values temp1 temp2) temp3) → 11
(or temp0 (values temp1 temp2)) → 11, 20
(or (values temp0 temp1) (values temp2 temp3)) → 20, 30
```

See Also:

and, **some**, **unless**

when, unless *Macro*

Syntax:

when *test-form* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

unless *test-form* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

test-form—a *form*.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* of the *forms* in a **when** *form* if the *test-form yields true* or in an **unless** *form* if the *test-form yields false*; otherwise **nil**.

Description:

when and **unless** allow the execution of *forms* to be dependent on a single *test-form*.

In a **when** *form*, if the *test-form yields true*, the *forms* are *evaluated* in order from left to right and the *values* returned by the *forms* are returned from the **when** *form*. Otherwise, if the *test-form yields false*, the *forms* are not *evaluated*, and the **when** *form* returns **nil**.

when, unless

In an **unless** *form*, if the *test-form* *yields false*, the *forms* are *evaluated* in order from left to right and the *values* returned by the *forms* are returned from the **unless** *form*. Otherwise, if the *test-form* *yields false*, the *forms* are not *evaluated*, and the **unless** *form* returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
 (when t 'hello) → HELLO
 (unless t 'hello) → NIL
 (when nil 'hello) → NIL
 (unless nil 'hello) → HELLO
 (when t) → NIL
 (unless nil) → NIL
 (when t (prin1 1) (prin1 2) (prin1 3))
▷ 123
→ 3
 (unless t (prin1 1) (prin1 2) (prin1 3)) → NIL
 (when nil (prin1 1) (prin1 2) (prin1 3)) → NIL
 (unless nil (prin1 1) (prin1 2) (prin1 3))
▷ 123
→ 3
 (let ((x 3))
   (list (when (oddp x) (incf x) (list x))
         (when (oddp x) (incf x) (list x))
         (unless (oddp x) (incf x) (list x))
         (unless (oddp x) (incf x) (list x))
         (if (oddp x) (incf x) (list x))
         (if (oddp x) (incf x) (list x))
         (if (not (oddp x)) (incf x) (list x))
         (if (not (oddp x)) (incf x) (list x))))
→ ((4) NIL (5) NIL 6 (6) 7 (7))
```

See Also:

and, **cond**, **if**, **or**

Notes:

```
 (when test {form}+) ≡ (and test (progn {form}+))
 (when test {form}+) ≡ (cond (test {form}+))
 (when test {form}+) ≡ (if test (progn {form}+) nil)
 (when test {form}+) ≡ (unless (not test) {form}+)
 (unless test {form}+) ≡ (cond ((not test) {form}+))
 (unless test {form}+) ≡ (if test nil (progn {form}+))
 (unless test {form}+) ≡ (when (not test) {form}+)
```


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case, ccase, ecase *Macro*

Syntax:

case *keyform* {↓*normal-clause*}* [↓*otherwise-clause*] → {*result*}*

ccase *keyplace* {↓*normal-clause*}* → {*result*}*

ecase *keyform* {↓*normal-clause*}* → {*result*}*

normal-clause::=(*keys* {*form*}*)

otherwise-clause::=({**otherwise** | **t**} {*form*}*)

clause::=*normal-clause* | *otherwise-clause*

Arguments and Values:

keyform—a *form*; evaluated to produce a *test-key*.

keyplace—a *form*; evaluated initially to produce a *test-key*. Possibly also used later as a *place* if no *keys* match.

test-key—an object produced by evaluating *keyform* or *keyplace*.

keys—a *designator* for a *list* of *objects*. In the case of **case**, the *symbols* **t** and **otherwise** may not be used as the *keys designator*. To refer to these *symbols* by themselves as *keys*, the designators (t) and (otherwise), respectively, must be used instead.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms* in the matching *clause*.

Description:

These *macros* allow the conditional execution of a body of *forms* in a *clause* that is selected by matching the *test-key* on the basis of its identity.

The *keyform* or *keyplace* is *evaluated* to produce the *test-key*.

Each of the *normal-clauses* is then considered in turn. If the *test-key* is the *same* as any *key* for that *clause*, the *forms* in that *clause* are *evaluated* as an *implicit progn*, and the *values* it returns are returned as the value of the **case**, **ccase**, or **ecase** *form*.

These *macros* differ only in their *behavior* when no *normal-clause* matches; specifically:

case

If no *normal-clause* matches, and there is an *otherwise-clause*, then that *otherwise-clause* automatically matches; the *forms* in that *clause* are *evaluated* as an *implicit progn*, and the *values* it returns are returned as the value of the **case**.

If there is no *otherwise-clause*, **case** returns **nil**.

ccase

If no *normal-clause* matches, a *correctable error* of *type* **type-error** is signaled. The offending datum is the *test-key* and the expected type is *type equivalent* to `(member key1 key2 ...)`. The **store-value** *restart* can be used to correct the error.

If the **store-value** *restart* is invoked, its *argument* becomes the new *test-key*, and is stored in *keyplace* as if by `(setf keyplace test-key)`. Then **ccase** starts over, considering each *clause* anew.

The subforms of *keyplace* might be evaluated again if none of the cases holds.

ecase

If no *normal-clause* matches, a *non-correctable error* of *type* **type-error** is signaled. The offending datum is the *test-key* and the expected type is *type equivalent* to `(member key1 key2 ...)`.

Note that in contrast with **ccase**, the caller of **ecase** may rely on the fact that **ecase** does not return if a *normal-clause* does not match.

Examples:

```
 (dolist (k '(1 2 3 :four #\v () t 'other))
    (format t "~S "
       (case k ((1 2) 'clause1)
               (3 'clause2)
               (nil 'no-keys-so-never-seen)
               ((nil) 'nilslot)
               ((:four #\v) 'clause4)
               ((t) 'tslot)
               (otherwise 'others))))
▷ CLAUSE1 CLAUSE1 CLAUSE2 CLAUSE4 CLAUSE4 NILSLOT TSLOT OTHERS
→ NIL
 (defun add-em (x) (apply #'+ (mapcar #'decode x)))
→ ADD-EM
 (defun decode (x)
   (ccase x
     ((i uno) 1)
     ((ii dos) 2)
     ((iii tres) 3)
     ((iv cuatro) 4)))
→ DECODE
```



```
 (add-em '(uno iii)) → 4
 (add-em '(uno iiii))
▷ Error: The value of X, IIII, is not I, UNO, II, DOS, III,
▷        TRES, IV, or CUATRO.
▷  1: Supply a value to use instead.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Value to evaluate and use for X: 'IV
→ 5
```

Side Effects:

The debugger might be entered. If the **store-value** *restart* is invoked, the *value* of *keyplace* might be changed.

Affected By:

ccase and **ecase**, since they might signal an error, are potentially affected by existing *handlers* and ***debug-io***.

Exceptional Situations:

ccase and **ecase** signal an error of *type* **type-error** if no *normal-clause* matches.

See Also:

cond, **typecase**, **setf**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

```
(case test-key
  {(({key}*) {form}*)}*)
≡
(let ((#1=#:g0001 test-key))
  (cond {((member #1# '({key}*)) {form}*)}*))
```

The specific error message used by **ecase** and **ccase** can vary between implementations. In situations where control of the specific wording of the error message is important, it is better to use **case** with an *otherwise-clause* that explicitly signals an error with an appropriate message.

typecase, ctypecase, etypecase *Macro*

Syntax:

typecase *keyform* {↓*normal-clause*}* [↓*otherwise-clause*] → {*result*}*

ctypecase *keyplace* {↓*normal-clause*}* → {*result*}*

etypecase *keyform* {↓*normal-clause*}* → {*result*}* *normal-clause*::=(*type* {*form*}*)

otherwise-clause::=({*otherwise* | *t*} {*form*}*)

clause::=*normal-clause* | *otherwise-clause*

Arguments and Values:

keyform—a *form*; evaluated to produce a *test-key*.

keyplace—a *form*; evaluated initially to produce a *test-key*. Possibly also used later as a *place* if no *types* match.

test-key—an object produced by evaluating *keyform* or *keyplace*.

type—a *type specifier*.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms* in the matching *clause*.

Description:

These *macros* allow the conditional execution of a body of *forms* in a *clause* that is selected by matching the *test-key* on the basis of its *type*.

The *keyform* or *keyplace* is *evaluated* to produce the *test-key*.

Each of the *normal-clauses* is then considered in turn. If the *test-key* is of the *type* given by the *clauses*'s *type*, the *forms* in that *clause* are *evaluated* as an *implicit progn*, and the *values* it returns are returned as the value of the **typecase**, **ctypecase**, or **etypecase** *form*.

These *macros* differ only in their *behavior* when no *normal-clause* matches; specifically:

typecase

If no *normal-clause* matches, and there is an *otherwise-clause*, then that *otherwise-clause* automatically matches; the *forms* in that *clause* are *evaluated* as an *implicit progn*, and the *values* it returns are returned as the value of the **typecase**.

If there is no *otherwise-clause*, **typecase** returns **nil**.

ctypecase

If no *normal-clause* matches, a *correctable error* of *type* **type-error** is signaled. The offending datum is the *test-key* and the expected type is *type equivalent* to (or *type1 type2* ...). The **store-value** *restart* can be used to correct the error.

If the **store-value** *restart* is invoked, its *argument* becomes the new *test-key*, and is stored in *keyplace* as if by (setf *keyplace test-key*). Then **ctypecase** starts over, considering each *clause* anew.

typecase, ctypecase, etypecase

If the **store-value** *restart* is invoked interactively, the user is prompted for a new *test-key* to use.

The subforms of *keyplace* might be evaluated again if none of the cases holds.

etypecase

If no *normal-clause* matches, a *non-correctable error* of *type* **type-error** is signaled. The offending datum is the *test-key* and the expected type is *type equivalent* to (or *type1 type2* ...).

Note that in contrast with **ctypecase**, the caller of **etypecase** may rely on the fact that **etypecase** does not return if a *normal-clause* does not match.

In all three cases, is permissible for more than one *clause* to specify a matching *type*, particularly if one is a *subtype* of another; the earliest applicable *clause* is chosen.

Examples:

```
;;; (Note that the parts of this example which use TYPE-OF
;;;  are implementation-dependent.)
 (defun what-is-it (x)
   (format t "~&~S is ~A.~%"
           x (typecase x
               (float "a float")
               (null "a symbol, boolean false, or the empty list")
               (list "a list")
               (t (format nil "a(n) ~(~A~)" (type-of x))))))
→ WHAT-IS-IT
 (map 'nil #'what-is-it '(nil (a b) 7.0 7 box))
▷ NIL is a symbol, boolean false, or the empty list.
▷ (A B) is a list.
▷ 7.0 is a float.
▷ 7 is a(n) integer.
▷ BOX is a(n) symbol.
→ NIL
 (setq x 1/3)
→ 1/3
 (ctypecase x
     (integer (* x 4))
     (symbol  (symbol-value x)))
▷ Error: The value of X, 1/3, is neither an integer nor a symbol.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a value to use instead.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Use value: 3.7
```

```
▷ Error: The value of X, 3.7, is neither an integer nor a symbol.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a value to use instead.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Use value: 12
→ 48
 x → 12
```

Affected By:

ctypecase and **etypecase**, since they might signal an error, are potentially affected by existing *handlers* and ***debug-io***.

Exceptional Situations:

ctypecase and **etypecase** signal an error of *type* **type-error** if no *normal-clause* matches.

The *compiler* may choose to issue a warning of *type* **style-warning** if a *clause* will never be selected because it is completely shadowed by earlier clauses.

See Also:

case, **cond**, **setf**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

```
(typecase test-key
  {(type {form}*)}*)
≡
(let ((#1=#:g0001 test-key))
  (cond {((typep #1# 'type) {form}*)}*))
```

The specific error message used by **etypecase** and **ctypecase** can vary between implementations. In situations where control of the specific wording of the error message is important, it is better to use **typecase** with an *otherwise-clause* that explicitly signals an error with an appropriate message.

multiple-value-bind *Macro*

Syntax:

multiple-value-bind ({*var*}*) *values-form* {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *symbol* naming a variable; not evaluated.

values-form—a *form*; evaluated.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

Creates new variable *bindings* for the *vars* and executes a series of *forms* that use these *bindings*.

The variable *bindings* created are lexical unless **special** declarations are specified.

Values-form is evaluated, and each of the *vars* is bound to the respective value returned by that *form*. If there are more *vars* than values returned, extra values of **nil** are given to the remaining *vars*. If there are more values than *vars*, the excess values are discarded. The *vars* are bound to the values over the execution of the *forms*, which make up an implicit **progn**. The consequences are unspecified if a type *declaration* is specified for a *var*, but the value to which that *var* is bound is not consistent with the type *declaration*.

The *scopes* of the name binding and *declarations* do not include the *values-form*.

Examples:

```
(multiple-value-bind (f r)
    (floor 130 11)
  (list f r)) → (11 9)
```

See Also:

let, **multiple-value-call**

Notes:

```
(multiple-value-bind ({var}*) values-form {form}*)
≡ (multiple-value-call #'(lambda (&optional {var}* &rest #1=#:ignore)
                           (declare (ignore #1#))
                           {form}*)
                       values-form)
```

multiple-value-call *Special Operator*

Syntax:

multiple-value-call *function-form form** → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

function-form—a *form*; evaluated to produce *function*.

function—a *function designator* resulting from the evaluation of *function-form*.

form—a *form*.

results—the *values* returned by the *function*.

Description:

Applies *function* to a *list* of the *objects* collected from groups of *multiple values*$_2$.

multiple-value-call first evaluates the *function-form* to obtain *function*, and then evaluates each *form*. All the values of each *form* are gathered together (not just one value from each) and given as arguments to the *function*.

Examples:

```
 (multiple-value-call #'list 1 '/ (values 2 3) '/ (values) '/ (floor 2.5))
→ (1 / 2 3 / / 2 0.5)
 (+ (floor 5 3) (floor 19 4)) ≡ (+ 1 4)
→ 5
 (multiple-value-call #'+ (floor 5 3) (floor 19 4)) ≡ (+ 1 2 4 3)
→ 10
```

See Also:

multiple-value-list, **multiple-value-bind**

multiple-value-list *Macro*

Syntax:

multiple-value-list *form* → *list*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

list—a *list* of the *values* returned by *form*.

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Description:

multiple-value-list evaluates *form* and creates a *list* of the *multiple values*$_2$ it returns.

Examples:

```
 (multiple-value-list (floor -3 4)) → (-1 1)
```

See Also:

values-list, **multiple-value-call**

Notes:

multiple-value-list and **values-list** are inverses of each other.

```
 (multiple-value-list form) ≡ (multiple-value-call #'list form)
```

multiple-value-prog1 *Special Operator*

Syntax:

multiple-value-prog1 *first-form* {*form*}* → *first-form-results*

Arguments and Values:

first-form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

first-form-results—the *values* resulting from the *evaluation* of *first-form*.

Description:

multiple-value-prog1 evaluates *first-form* and saves all the values produced by that *form*. It then evaluates each *form* from left to right, discarding their values.

Examples:

```
 (setq temp '(1 2 3)) → (1 2 3)
 (multiple-value-prog1
    (values-list temp)
    (setq temp nil)
    (values-list temp)) → 1, 2, 3
```

See Also:

prog1

multiple-value-setq *Macro*

Syntax:

multiple-value-setq *vars form* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

vars—a *list* of *symbols* that are either *variable names* or *names* of *symbol macros*.

form—a *form*.

result—The *primary value* returned by the *form*.

Description:

multiple-value-setq assigns values to *vars*.

The *form* is evaluated, and each *var* is *assigned* to the corresponding *value* returned by that *form*. If there are more *vars* than *values* returned, **nil** is *assigned* to the extra *vars*. If there are more *values* than *vars*, the extra *values* are discarded.

If any *var* is the *name* of a *symbol macro*, then it is *assigned* as if by **setf**. Specifically,

(multiple-value-setq ($symbol_1$ ... $symbol_n$) *value-producing-form*)

is defined to always behave in the same way as

(values (setf (values $symbol_1$ ... $symbol_n$) *value-producing-form*))

in order that the rules for order of evaluation and side-effects be consistent with those used by **setf**. See Section 5.1.2.3 (VALUES Forms as Places).

Examples:

```
(multiple-value-setq (quotient remainder) (truncate 3.2 2)) → 1
quotient → 1
remainder → 1.2
(multiple-value-setq (a b c) (values 1 2)) → 1
a → 1
b → 2
c → NIL
(multiple-value-setq (a b) (values 4 5 6)) → 4
a → 4
b → 5
```

See Also:

setq, **symbol-macrolet**

values *Accessor*

Syntax:

values &rest *object* → {*object*}*

(setf (values &rest *place*) *new-values*)

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

place—a *place*.

new-value—an *object*.

Description:

values returns the *objects* as *multiple* $values_2$.

setf of **values** is used to store the *multiple* $values_2$ *new-values* into the *places*. See Section 5.1.2.3 (VALUES Forms as Places).

Examples:

```
(values) → ⟨no values⟩
(values 1) → 1
(values 1 2) → 1, 2
(values 1 2 3) → 1, 2, 3
(values (values 1 2 3) 4 5) → 1, 4, 5
(defun polar (x y)
  (values (sqrt (+ (* x x) (* y y))) (atan y x))) → POLAR
(multiple-value-bind (r theta) (polar 3.0 4.0)
  (vector r theta))
→ #(5.0 0.927295)
```

Sometimes it is desirable to indicate explicitly that a function returns exactly one value. For example, the function

```
(defun foo (x y)
  (floor (+ x y) y)) → FOO
```

returns two values because **floor** returns two values. It may be that the second value makes no sense, or that for efficiency reasons it is desired not to compute the second value. **values** is the standard idiom for indicating that only one value is to be returned:

```
(defun foo (x y)
  (values (floor (+ x y) y))) → FOO
```

This works because **values** returns exactly one value for each of *args*; as for any function call, if any of *args* produces more than one value, all but the first are discarded.

See Also:

values-list, **multiple-value-bind**, **multiple-values-limit**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

Since **values** is a *function*, not a *macro* or *special form*, it receives as *arguments* only the *primary values* of its *argument forms*.

values-list *Function*

Syntax:

values-list *list* → {*element*}*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *list*.

elements—the *elements* of the *list*.

Description:

Returns the *elements* of the *list* as *multiple values*$_2$.

Examples:

```
(values-list nil) → ⟨no values⟩
(values-list '(1)) → 1
(values-list '(1 2)) → 1, 2
(values-list '(1 2 3)) → 1, 2, 3
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if its argument is not a *proper list*.

See Also:

multiple-value-bind, **multiple-value-list**, **multiple-values-limit**, **values**

Notes:

```
(values-list list) ≡ (apply #'values list)
```

(equal *x* (multiple-value-list (values-list *x*))) returns *true* for all *lists* *x*.

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multiple-values-limit *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

An *integer* not smaller than 20, the exact magnitude of which is *implementation-dependent*.

Description:

The upper exclusive bound on the number of *values* that may be returned from a *function*, bound or assigned by **multiple-value-bind** or **multiple-value-setq**, or passed as a first argument to **nth-value**. (If these individual limits might differ, the minimum value is used.)

See Also:

lambda-parameters-limit, **call-arguments-limit**

Notes:

Implementors are encouraged to make this limit as large as possible.

nth-value *Macro*

Syntax:

nth-value *n form* → *object*

Arguments and Values:

n—a non-negative *integer*; evaluated.

form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

object—an *object*.

Description:

Evaluates *n* and then *form*, returning as its only value the *n*th value *yielded* by *form*, or **nil** if *n* is greater than or equal to the number of *values* returned by *form*. (The first returned value is numbered 0.)

Examples:

```
(nth-value 0 (values 'a 'b)) → A
(nth-value 1 (values 'a 'b)) → B
(nth-value 2 (values 'a 'b)) → NIL
(let* ((x 83927472397238947423879243432432432)
       (y 32423489732)
```

```
        (a (nth-value 1 (floor x y)))
        (b (mod x y)))
    (values a b (= a b)))
→ 3332987528, 3332987528, true
```

See Also:

multiple-value-list, **nth**

Notes:

Operationally, the following relationship is true, although **nth-value** might be more efficient in some *implementations* because, for example, some *consing* might be avoided.

(nth-value *n form*) ≡ (nth *n* (multiple-value-list *form*))

prog, prog∗ *Macro*

Syntax:

prog ({*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*) {*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*
→ {*result*}*

prog* ({*var* | (*var* [*init-form*])}*) {*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—variable name.

init-form—a *form*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

tag—a *go tag*; not evaluated.

statement—a *compound form*; evaluated as described below.

results—**nil** if a *normal return* occurs, or else, if an *explicit return* occurs, the *values* that were transferred.

Description:

Three distinct operations are performed by **prog** and **prog***: they bind local variables, they permit use of the **return** statement, and they permit use of the **go** statement. A typical **prog** looks like this:

```
(prog (var1 var2 (var3 init-form-3) var4 (var5 init-form-5))
     {declaration}*
```



```
      statement1
  tag1
      statement2
      statement3
      statement4
  tag2
      statement5
      ...
      )
```

For **prog**, *init-forms* are evaluated first, in the order in which they are supplied. The *vars* are then bound to the corresponding values in parallel. If no *init-form* is supplied for a given *var*, that *var* is bound to **nil**.

The body of **prog** is executed as if it were a **tagbody** *form*; the **go** statement can be used to transfer control to a *tag*. *Tags* label *statements*.

prog implicitly establishes a **block** named **nil** around the entire **prog** *form*, so that **return** can be used at any time to exit from the **prog** *form*.

The difference between **prog*** and **prog** is that in **prog*** the *binding* and initialization of the *vars* is done *sequentially*, so that the *init-form* for each one can use the values of previous ones.

Examples:

```
(prog* ((y z) (x (car y)))
       (return x))
```

returns the *car* of the value of z.

```
(setq a 1) → 1
(prog ((a 2) (b a)) (return (if (= a b) '= '/=))) → /=
(prog* ((a 2) (b a)) (return (if (= a b) '= '/=))) → =
(prog () 'no-return-value) → NIL

(defun king-of-confusion (w)
  "Take a cons of two lists and make a list of conses.
   Think of this function as being like a zipper."
  (prog (x y z)          ;Initialize x, y, z to NIL
       (setq y (car w) z (cdr w))
   loop
       (cond ((null y) (return x))
             ((null z) (go err)))
   rejoin
       (setq x (cons (cons (car y) (car z)) x))
       (setq y (cdr y) z (cdr z))
       (go loop)
   err
```

```
          (cerror "Will self-pair extraneous items"
                  "Mismatch - gleep!  ~S" y)
          (setq z y)
          (go rejoin))) → KING-OF-CONFUSION
```

This can be accomplished more perspicuously as follows:

```
 (defun prince-of-clarity (w)
   "Take a cons of two lists and make a list of conses.
    Think of this function as being like a zipper."
   (do ((y (car w) (cdr y))
        (z (cdr w) (cdr z))
        (x '() (cons (cons (car y) (car z)) x)))
       ((null y) x)
     (when (null z)
       (cerror "Will self-pair extraneous items"
              "Mismatch - gleep!  ~S" y)
       (setq z y)))) → PRINCE-OF-CLARITY
```

See Also:

block, **let**, **tagbody**, **go**, **return**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

prog can be explained in terms of **block**, **let**, and **tagbody** as follows:

```
 (prog variable-list declaration . body)
    ≡ (block nil (let variable-list declaration (tagbody . body)))
```

prog1, prog2 *Macro*

Syntax:

prog1 *first-form* {*form*}* → *result-1*

prog2 *first-form second-form* {*form*}* → *result-2*

Arguments and Values:

first-form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

second-form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

forms—an *implicit progn*; evaluated as described below.

result-1—the *primary value* resulting from the *evaluation* of *first-form*.

result-2—the *primary value* resulting from the *evaluation* of *second-form*.

Description:

prog1 *evaluates* *first-form* and then *forms*, *yielding* as its only *value* the *primary value yielded* by *first-form*.

prog2 *evaluates* *first-form*, then *second-form*, and then *forms*, *yielding* as its only *value* the *primary value yielded* by *first-form*.

Examples:

```
 (setq temp 1) → 1
 (prog1 temp (print temp) (incf temp) (print temp))
▷ 1
▷ 2
→ 1
 (prog1 temp (setq temp nil)) → 2
 temp → NIL
 (prog1 (values 1 2 3) 4) → 1
 (setq temp (list 'a 'b 'c))
 (prog1 (car temp) (setf (car temp) 'alpha)) → A
 temp → (ALPHA B C)
 (flet ((swap-symbol-values (x y)
          (setf (symbol-value x)
                (prog1 (symbol-value y)
                       (setf (symbol-value y) (symbol-value x))))))
   (let ((*foo* 1) (*bar* 2))
     (declare (special *foo* *bar*))
     (swap-symbol-values '*foo* '*bar*)
     (values *foo* *bar*)))
→ 2, 1
 (setq temp 1) → 1
 (prog2 (incf temp) (incf temp) (incf temp)) → 3
 temp → 4
 (prog2 1 (values 2 3 4) 5) → 2
```

See Also:

multiple-value-prog1, **progn**

Notes:

prog1 and **prog2** are typically used to *evaluate* one or more *forms* with side effects and return a *value* that must be computed before some or all of the side effects happen.

```
 (prog1 {form}*) ≡ (values (multiple-value-prog1 {form}*))
 (prog2 form1 {form}*) ≡ (let () form1 (prog1 {form}*))
```

progn *Special Operator*

Syntax:

progn {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* of the *forms*.

Description:

progn evaluates *forms*, in the order in which they are given.

The values of each *form* but the last are discarded.

If **progn** appears as a *top level form*, then all *forms* within that **progn** are considered by the compiler to be *top level forms*.

Examples:

```
(progn) → NIL
(progn 1 2 3) → 3
(progn (values 1 2 3)) → 1, 2, 3
(setq a 1) → 1
(if a
     (progn (setq a nil) 'here)
     (progn (setq a t) 'there)) → HERE
a → NIL
```

See Also:

prog1, **prog2**, Section 3.1 (Evaluation)

Notes:

Many places in Common Lisp involve syntax that uses *implicit progns*. That is, part of their syntax allows many *forms* to be written that are to be evaluated sequentially, discarding the results of all *forms* but the last and returning the results of the last *form*. Such places include, but are not limited to, the following: the body of a *lambda expression*; the bodies of various control and conditional *forms* (*e.g.*, **case**, **catch**, **progn**, and **when**).

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define-modify-macro *Macro*

Syntax:

define-modify-macro *name lambda-list function* [*documentation*] → *name*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*.

lambda-list—a *define-modify-macro lambda list*

function—a *symbol*.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

Description:

define-modify-macro defines a *macro* named *name* to *read* and *write* a *place*.

The arguments to the new *macro* are a *place*, followed by the arguments that are supplied in *lambda-list*. *Macros* defined with **define-modify-macro** correctly pass the *environment parameter* to **get-setf-expansion**.

When the *macro* is invoked, *function* is applied to the old contents of the *place* and the *lambda-list* arguments to obtain the new value, and the *place* is updated to contain the result.

Except for the issue of avoiding multiple evaluation (see below), the expansion of a **define-modify-macro** is equivalent to the following:

```
(defmacro name (reference . lambda-list)
  documentation
  `(setf ,reference
         (function ,reference ,arg1 ,arg2 ...)))
```

where *arg1*, *arg2*, ..., are the parameters appearing in *lambda-list*; appropriate provision is made for a *rest parameter*.

The *subforms* of the macro calls defined by **define-modify-macro** are evaluated as specified in Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

Documentation is attached as a *documentation string* to *name* (as kind **function**) and to the *macro function*.

If a **define-modify-macro** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must store the *macro* definition at compile time, so that occurrences of the macro later on in the file can be expanded correctly.

Examples:

```
(define-modify-macro appendf (&rest args)
   append "Append onto list") → APPENDF
(setq x '(a b c) y x) → (A B C)
(appendf x '(d e f) '(1 2 3)) → (A B C D E F 1 2 3)
x → (A B C D E F 1 2 3)
y → (A B C)
(define-modify-macro new-incf (&optional (delta 1)) +)
(define-modify-macro unionf (other-set &rest keywords) union)
```

Side Effects:

A macro definition is assigned to *name*.

See Also:

defsetf, **define-setf-expander**, **documentation**, Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

defsetf *Macro*

Syntax:

The "short form":

defsetf *access-fn update-fn* [*documentation*]
  → *access-fn*

The "long form":

defsetf *access-fn lambda-list* ({*store-variable*}*) ⟦{*declaration*}* | *documentation*⟧ {*form*}*
  → *access-fn*

Arguments and Values:

access-fn—a *symbol* which names a *function* or a *macro*.

update-fn—a *symbol* naming a *function* or *macro*.

lambda-list—a *defsetf lambda list*.

store-variable—a *symbol* (a *variable name*).

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

Description:

defsetf defines how to **setf** a *place* of the form (*access-fn* ...) for relatively simple cases. (See **define-setf-expander** for more general access to this facility.) It must be the case that the *function* or *macro* named by *access-fn* evaluates all of its arguments.

defsetf may take one of two forms, called the "short form" and the "long form," which are distinguished by the *type* of the second *argument*.

When the short form is used, *update-fn* must name a *function* (or *macro*) that takes one more argument than *access-fn* takes. When **setf** is given a *place* that is a call on *access-fn*, it expands into a call on *update-fn* that is given all the arguments to *access-fn* and also, as its last argument, the new value (which must be returned by *update-fn* as its value).

The long form **defsetf** resembles **defmacro**. The *lambda-list* describes the arguments of *access-fn*. The *store-variables* describe the value or values to be stored into the *place*. The *body* must compute the expansion of a **setf** of a call on *access-fn*. The expansion function is defined in the same *lexical environment* in which the **defsetf** *form* appears.

During the evaluation of the *forms*, the variables in the *lambda-list* and the *store-variables* are bound to names of temporary variables, generated as if by **gensym** or **gentemp**, that will be bound by the expansion of **setf** to the values of those *subforms*. This binding permits the *forms* to be written without regard for order-of-evaluation issues. **defsetf** arranges for the temporary variables to be optimized out of the final result in cases where that is possible.

The body code in **defsetf** is implicitly enclosed in a *block* whose name is *access-fn*

defsetf ensures that *subforms* of the *place* are evaluated exactly once.

Documentation is attached to *access-fn* as a *documentation string* of kind **setf**.

If a **defsetf** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must make the *setf expander* available so that it may be used to expand calls to **setf** later on in the *file*. Users must ensure that the *forms*, if any, can be evaluated at compile time if the *access-fn* is used in a *place* later in the same *file*. The *compiler* must make these *setf expanders* available to compile-time calls to **get-setf-expansion** when its *environment* argument is a value received as the *environment parameter* of a *macro*.

Examples:

The effect of

```
(defsetf symbol-value set)
```

is built into the Common Lisp system. This causes the form `(setf (symbol-value foo) fu)` to expand into `(set foo fu)`.

Note that

```
(defsetf car rplaca)
```

would be incorrect because **rplaca** does not return its last argument.

```
(defun middleguy (x) (nth (truncate (1- (list-length x)) 2) x)) → MIDDLEGUY
(defun set-middleguy (x v)
   (unless (null x)
     (rplaca (nthcdr (truncate (1- (list-length x)) 2) x) v))
   v) → SET-MIDDLEGUY
(defsetf middleguy set-middleguy) → MIDDLEGUY
(setq a (list 'a 'b 'c 'd)
      b (list 'x)
      c (list 1 2 3 (list 4 5 6) 7 8 9)) → (1 2 3 (4 5 6) 7 8 9)
(setf (middleguy a) 3) → 3
(setf (middleguy b) 7) → 7
(setf (middleguy (middleguy c)) 'middleguy-symbol) → MIDDLEGUY-SYMBOL
a → (A 3 C D)
b → (7)
c → (1 2 3 (4 MIDDLEGUY-SYMBOL 6) 7 8 9)
```

An example of the use of the long form of **defsetf**:

```
(defsetf subseq (sequence start &optional end) (new-sequence)
  `(progn (replace ,sequence ,new-sequence
                   :start1 ,start :end1 ,end)
          ,new-sequence)) → SUBSEQ

(defvar *xy* (make-array '(10 10)))
(defun xy (&key ((x x) 0) ((y y) 0)) (aref *xy* x y)) → XY
(defun set-xy (new-value &key ((x x) 0) ((y y) 0))
  (setf (aref *xy* x y) new-value)) → SET-XY
(defsetf xy (&key ((x x) 0) ((y y) 0)) (store)
  `(set-xy ,store 'x ,x 'y ,y)) → XY
(get-setf-expansion '(xy a b))
→ (#:t0 #:t1),
  (a b),
  (#:store),
  ((lambda (&key ((x #:x)) ((y #:y)))
     (set-xy #:store 'x #:x 'y #:y))
   #:t0 #:t1),
  (xy #:t0 #:t1)
(xy 'x 1) → NIL
(setf (xy 'x 1) 1) → 1
(xy 'x 1) → 1
(let ((a 'x) (b 'y))
  (setf (xy a 1 b 2) 3)
  (setf (xy b 5 a 9) 14))
→ 14
(xy 'y 0 'x 1) → 1
(xy 'x 1 'y 2) → 3
```

See Also:

documentation, **setf**, **define-setf-expander**, **get-setf-expansion**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

Notes:

forms must include provision for returning the correct value (the value or values of *store-variable*). This is handled by *forms* rather than by **defsetf** because in many cases this value can be returned at no extra cost, by calling a function that simultaneously stores into the *place* and returns the correct value.

A **setf** of a call on *access-fn* also evaluates all of *access-fn*'s arguments; it cannot treat any of them specially. This means that **defsetf** cannot be used to describe how to store into a *generalized reference* to a byte, such as `(ldb field reference)`. **define-setf-expander** is used to handle situations that do not fit the restrictions imposed by **defsetf** and gives the user additional control.

define-setf-expander *Macro*

Syntax:

define-setf-expander *access-fn lambda-list*
⟦{*declaration*}* | *documentation*⟧ {*form*}*

→ *access-fn*

Arguments and Values:

access-fn—a *symbol* that *names* a *function* or *macro*.

lambda-list – *macro lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

Description:

define-setf-expander specifies the means by which **setf** updates a *place* that is referenced by *access-fn*.

When **setf** is given a *place* that is specified in terms of *access-fn* and a new value for the *place*, it is expanded into a form that performs the appropriate update.

The *lambda-list* supports destructuring. See Section 3.4.4 (Macro Lambda Lists).

Documentation is attached to *access-fn* as a *documentation string* of kind **setf**.

Forms constitute the body of the *setf expander* definition and must compute the *setf expansion* for a call on **setf** that references the *place* by means of the given *access-fn*. The *setf expander* function is defined in the same *lexical environment* in which the **define-setf-expander** *form* appears. While *forms* are being executed, the variables in *lambda-list* are bound to parts of the *place form*. The body *forms* (but not the *lambda-list*) in a **define-setf-expander** *form* are implicitly enclosed in a *block* whose name is *access-fn*.

The evaluation of *forms* must result in the five values described in Section 5.1.1.2 (Setf Expansions).

If a **define-setf-expander** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must make the *setf expander* available so that it may be used to expand calls to **setf** later on in the *file*. *Programmers* must ensure that the *forms* can be evaluated at compile time if the *access-fn* is used in a *place* later in the same *file*. The *compiler* must make these *setf expanders* available to compile-time calls to **get-setf-expansion** when its *environment* argument is a value received as the *environment parameter* of a *macro*.

Examples:

```
(defun lastguy (x) (car (last x))) → LASTGUY
(define-setf-expander lastguy (x &environment env)
  "Set the last element in a list to the given value."
  (multiple-value-bind (dummies vals newval setter getter)
      (get-setf-expansion x env)
    (let ((store (gensym)))
      (values dummies
              vals
              `(,store)
              `(progn (rplaca (last ,getter) ,store) ,store)
              `(lastguy ,getter))))) → LASTGUY
(setq a (list 'a 'b 'c 'd)
      b (list 'x)
      c (list 1 2 3 (list 4 5 6))) → (1 2 3 (4 5 6))
(setf (lastguy a) 3) → 3
(setf (lastguy b) 7) → 7
(setf (lastguy (lastguy c)) 'lastguy-symbol) → LASTGUY-SYMBOL
a → (A B C 3)
b → (7)
c → (1 2 3 (4 5 LASTGUY-SYMBOL))


;;; Setf expander for the form (LDB bytespec int).
;;; Recall that the int form must itself be suitable for SETF.
(define-setf-expander ldb (bytespec int &environment env)
  (multiple-value-bind (temps vals stores
                         store-form access-form)
      (get-setf-expansion int env);Get setf expansion for int.
    (let ((btemp (gensym))     ;Temp var for byte specifier.
          (store (gensym))     ;Temp var for byte to store.
          (stemp (first stores))) ;Temp var for int to store.
      (if (cdr stores) (error "Can't expand this."))
;;; Return the setf expansion for LDB as five values.
      (values (cons btemp temps)       ;Temporary variables.
              (cons bytespec vals)     ;Value forms.
              (list store)             ;Store variables.
              `(let ((,stemp (dpb ,store ,btemp ,access-form)))
                 ,store-form
                 ,store)               ;Storing form.
              `(ldb ,btemp ,access-form) ;Accessing form.
             ))))
```


See Also:

setf, **defsetf**, **documentation**, **get-setf-expansion**, Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

Notes:

define-setf-expander differs from the long form of **defsetf** in that while the body is being executed the *variables* in *lambda-list* are bound to parts of the *place form*, not to temporary variables that will be bound to the values of such parts. In addition, **define-setf-expander** does not have **defsetf**'s restriction that *access-fn* must be a *function* or a function-like *macro*; an arbitrary **defmacro** destructuring pattern is permitted in *lambda-list*.

get-setf-expansion *Function*

Syntax:

get-setf-expansion *place* `&optional` *environment*
→ *vars, vals, store-vars, writer-form, reader-form*

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*.

environment—an *environment object*.

vars, vals, store-vars, writer-form, reader-form—a *setf expansion*.

Description:

Determines five values constituting the *setf expansion* for *place* in *environment*; see Section 5.1.1.2 (Setf Expansions).

If *environment* is not supplied or **nil**, the environment is the *null lexical environment*.

Examples:

```
 (get-setf-expansion 'x)
→ NIL, NIL, (#:G0001), (SETQ X #:G0001), X


;;; This macro is like POP

 (defmacro xpop (place &environment env)
   (multiple-value-bind (dummies vals new setter getter)
                        (get-setf-expansion place env)
      `(let* (,@(mapcar #'list dummies vals) (,(car new) ,getter))
         (if (cdr new) (error "Can't expand this."))
         (prog1 (car ,(car new))
                (setq ,(car new) (cdr ,(car new)))
                ,setter))))

 (defsetf frob (x) (value)
     `(setf (car ,x) ,value)) → FROB
;;; The following is an error; an error might be signaled at macro expansion time
 (flet ((frob (x) (cdr x)))  ;Invalid
   (xpop (frob z)))
```

See Also:

defsetf, **define-setf-expander**, **setf**

Notes:

Any *compound form* is a valid *place*, since any *compound form* whose *operator f* has no *setf expander* are expanded into a call to (setf *f*).

setf, psetf *Macro*

Syntax:

setf {↓*pair*}* → {*result*}*

psetf {↓*pair*}* → **nil**

pair::=*place newvalue*

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*.

newvalue—a *form*.

results—the *multiple values*$_2$ returned by the storing form for the last *place*, or **nil** if there are no *pairs*.

Description:

setf changes the *value* of *place* to be *newvalue*.

(setf place newvalue) expands into an update form that stores the result of evaluating *newvalue* into the location referred to by *place*. Some *place* forms involve uses of accessors that take optional arguments. Whether those optional arguments are permitted by **setf**, or what their use is, is up to the **setf** expander function and is not under the control of **setf**. The documentation for any *function* that accepts **&optional**, **&rest**, or **&key** arguments and that claims to be usable with **setf** must specify how those arguments are treated.

If more than one *pair* is supplied, the *pairs* are processed sequentially; that is,

```
(setf place-1 newvalue-1
      place-2 newvalue-2
      ...
      place-N newvalue-N)
```

is precisely equivalent to

```
(progn (setf place-1 newvalue-1)
       (setf place-2 newvalue-2)
       ...
       (setf place-N newvalue-N))
```

For **psetf**, if more than one *pair* is supplied then the assignments of new values to places are done in parallel. More precisely, all *subforms* (in both the *place* and *newvalue forms*) that are to be evaluated are evaluated from left to right; after all evaluations have been performed, all of the assignments are performed in an unpredictable order.

For detailed treatment of the expansion of **setf** and **psetf**, see Section 5.1.2 (Kinds of Places).

Examples:

```
(setq x (cons 'a 'b) y (list 1 2 3)) → (1 2 3)
(setf (car x) 'x (cadr y) (car x) (cdr x) y) → (1 X 3)
x → (X 1 X 3)
```

```
y → (1 X 3)
(setq x (cons 'a 'b) y (list 1 2 3)) → (1 2 3)
(psetf (car x) 'x (cadr y) (car x) (cdr x) y) → NIL
x → (X 1 A 3)
y → (1 A 3)
```

Affected By:

define-setf-expander, **defsetf**, ***macroexpand-hook***

See Also:

define-setf-expander, **defsetf**, **macroexpand-1**, **rotatef**, **shiftf**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

shiftf *Macro*

Syntax:

shiftf {*place*}$^+$ *newvalue* → *old-value-1*

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*.

newvalue—a *form*; evaluated.

old-value-1—an *object* (the old *value* of the first *place*).

Description:

shiftf modifies the values of each *place* by storing *newvalue* into the last *place*, and shifting the values of the second through the last *place* into the remaining *places*.

If *newvalue* produces more values than there are store variables, the extra values are ignored. If *newvalue* produces fewer values than there are store variables, the missing values are set to **nil**.

In the form (shiftf *place1 place2 ... placen newvalue*), the values in *place1* through *placen* are *read* and saved, and *newvalue* is evaluated, for a total of n+1 values in all. Values 2 through n+1 are then stored into *place1* through *placen*, respectively. It is as if all the *places* form a shift register; the *newvalue* is shifted in from the right, all values shift over to the left one place, and the value shifted out of *place1* is returned.

For information about the *evaluation* of *subforms* of *places*, see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

Examples:

```
(setq x (list 1 2 3) y 'trash) → TRASH
```


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```
(shiftf y x (cdr x) '(hi there)) → TRASH
x → (2 3)
y → (1 HI THERE)

(setq x (list 'a 'b 'c)) → (A B C)
(shiftf (cadr x) 'z) → B
x → (A Z C)
(shiftf (cadr x) (cddr x) 'q) → Z
x → (A (C) . Q)
(setq n 0) → 0
(setq x (list 'a 'b 'c 'd)) → (A B C D)
(shiftf (nth (setq n (+ n 1)) x) 'z) → B
x → (A Z C D)
```

Affected By:

define-setf-expander, **defsetf**, ***macroexpand-hook***

See Also:

setf, **rotatef**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

The effect of (shiftf *place1 place2 ... placen newvalue*) is roughly equivalent to

```
(let ((var1 place1)
      (var2 place2)
      ...
      (varn placen)
      (var0 newvalue))
  (setf place1 var2)
  (setf place2 var3)
  ...
  (setf placen var0)
  var1)
```

except that the latter would evaluate any *subforms* of each place twice, whereas **shiftf** evaluates them once. For example,

```
(setq n 0) → 0
(setq x (list 'a 'b 'c 'd)) → (A B C D)
(prog1 (nth (setq n (+ n 1)) x)
       (setf (nth (setq n (+ n 1)) x) 'z)) → B
x → (A B Z D)
```

rotatef *Macro*

Syntax:

rotatef {*place*}* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*.

Description:

rotatef modifies the values of each *place* by rotating values from one *place* into another.

If a *place* produces more values than there are store variables, the extra values are ignored. If a *place* produces fewer values than there are store variables, the missing values are set to **nil**.

In the form (rotatef *place1 place2* ... *placen*), the values in *place1* through *placen* are *read* and *written*. Values 2 through *n* and value 1 are then stored into *place1* through *placen*. It is as if all the places form an end-around shift register that is rotated one place to the left, with the value of *place1* being shifted around the end to *placen*.

For information about the *evaluation* of *subforms* of *places*, see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

Examples:

```
(let ((n 0)
      (x (list 'a 'b 'c 'd 'e 'f 'g)))
  (rotatef (nth (incf n) x)
           (nth (incf n) x)
           (nth (incf n) x))
  x) → (A C D B E F G)
```

See Also:

define-setf-expander, **defsetf**, **setf**, **shiftf**, ***macroexpand-hook***, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

The effect of (rotatef *place1 place2* ... *placen*) is roughly equivalent to

```
(psetf place1 place2
       place2 place3
       ...
       placen place1)
```

except that the latter would evaluate any *subforms* of each place twice, whereas **rotatef** evaluates them once.

control-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

control-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **control-error** consists of error conditions that result from invalid dynamic transfers of control in a program. The errors that result from giving **throw** a tag that is not active or from giving **go** or **return-from** a tag that is no longer dynamically available are of *type* **control-error**.

program-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

program-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **program-error** consists of error conditions related to incorrect program syntax. The errors that result from naming a *go tag* or a *block tag* that is not lexically apparent are of *type* **program-error**.

undefined-function *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

undefined-function, **cell-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **undefined-function** consists of *error conditions* that represent attempts to *read* the definition of an *undefined function*.

The name of the cell (see **cell-error**) is the *function name* which was *funbound*.

See Also:

cell-error-name

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6. Iteration

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6.1 The LOOP Facility

6.1.1 Overview of the Loop Facility

The **loop** *macro* performs iteration.

6.1.1.1 Simple vs Extended Loop

loop *forms* are partitioned into two categories: simple **loop** *forms* and extended **loop** *forms*.

6.1.1.1.1 Simple Loop

A simple **loop** *form* is one that has a body containing only *compound forms*. Each *form* is *evaluated* in turn from left to right. When the last *form* has been *evaluated*, then the first *form* is evaluated again, and so on, in a never-ending cycle. A simple **loop** *form* establishes an *implicit block* named **nil**. The execution of a simple **loop** can be terminated by explicitly transfering control to the *implicit block* (using **return** or **return-from**) or to some *exit point* outside of the *block* (*e.g.*, using **throw**, **go**, or **return-from**).

6.1.1.1.2 Extended Loop

An extended **loop** *form* is one that has a body containing *atomic expressions*. When the **loop** *macro* processes such a *form*, it invokes a facility that is commonly called "the Loop Facility."

The Loop Facility provides standardized access to mechanisms commonly used in iterations through Loop schemas, which are introduced by *loop keywords*.

The body of an extended **loop** *form* is divided into **loop** clauses, each which is in turn made up of *loop keywords* and *forms*.

6.1.1.2 Loop Keywords

Loop keywords are not true *keywords*$_1$; they are special *symbols*, recognized by *name* rather than *object* identity, that are meaningful only to the **loop** facility. A *loop keyword* is a *symbol* but is recognized by its *name* (not its identity), regardless of the *packages* in which it is *accessible*.

In general, *loop keywords* are not *external symbols* of the `COMMON-LISP` *package*, except in the coincidental situation that a *symbol* with the same name as a *loop keyword* was needed for some other purpose in Common Lisp. For example, there is a *symbol* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* whose *name* is `"UNLESS"` but not one whose *name* is `"UNTIL"`.

If no *loop keywords* are supplied in a **loop** *form*, the Loop Facility executes the loop body repeatedly; see Section 6.1.1.1.1 (Simple Loop).

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6.1.1.3 Parsing Loop Clauses

The syntactic parts of an extended **loop** *form* are called clauses; the rules for parsing are determined by that clause's keyword. The following example shows a **loop** *form* with six clauses:

```
(loop for i from 1 to (compute-top-value)       ; first clause
      while (not (unacceptable i))              ; second clause
      collect (square i)                        ; third clause
      do (format t "Working on ~D now" i)       ; fourth clause
      when (evenp i)                            ; fifth clause
        do (format t "~D is a non-odd number" i)
      finally (format t "About to exit!"))      ; sixth clause
```

Each *loop keyword* introduces either a compound loop clause or a simple loop clause that can consist of a *loop keyword* followed by a single *form*. The number of *forms* in a clause is determined by the *loop keyword* that begins the clause and by the auxiliary keywords in the clause. The keywords `do`, `doing`, `initially`, and `finally` are the only loop keywords that can take any number of *forms* and group them as an *implicit progn*.

Loop clauses can contain auxiliary keywords, which are sometimes called prepositions. For example, the first clause in the code above includes the prepositions `from` and `to`, which mark the value from which stepping begins and the value at which stepping ends.

For detailed information about **loop** syntax, see the *macro* **loop**.

6.1.1.4 Expanding Loop Forms

A **loop** *macro form* expands into a *form* containing one or more binding forms (that *establish bindings* of loop variables) and a **block** and a **tagbody** (that express a looping control structure). The variables established in **loop** are bound as if by **let** or **lambda**.

Implementations can interleave the setting of initial values with the *bindings*. However, the assignment of the initial values is always calculated in the order specified by the user. A variable is thus sometimes bound to a meaningless value of the correct *type*, and then later in the prologue it is set to the true initial value by using **setq**. One implication of this interleaving is that it is *implementation-dependent* whether the *lexical environment* in which the initial value *forms* (variously called the *form1*, *form2*, *form3*, *step-fun*, *vector*, *hash-table*, and *package*) in any *for-as-subclause*, except *for-as-equals-then*, are *evaluated* includes only the loop variables preceding that *form* or includes more or all of the loop variables; the *form1* and *form2* in a *for-as-equals-then* form includes the *lexical environment* of all the loop variables.

After the *form* is expanded, it consists of three basic parts in the **tagbody**: the loop prologue, the loop body, and the loop epilogue.

Loop prologue

The loop prologue contains *forms* that are executed before iteration begins, such as any automatic variable initializations prescribed by the *variable* clauses, along with any `initially` clauses in the order they appear in the source.

Loop body

The loop body contains those *forms* that are executed during iteration, including application-specific calculations, termination tests, and variable *stepping*$_1$.

Loop epilogue

The loop epilogue contains *forms* that are executed after iteration terminates, such as `finally` clauses, if any, along with any implicit return value from an *accumulation* clause or an *termination-test* clause.

Some clauses from the source *form* contribute code only to the loop prologue; these clauses must come before other clauses that are in the main body of the **loop** form. Others contribute code only to the loop epilogue. All other clauses contribute to the final translated *form* in the same order given in the original source *form* of the **loop**.

Expansion of the **loop** macro produces an *implicit block* named **nil** unless `named` is supplied. Thus, **return-from** (and sometimes **return**) can be used to return values from **loop** or to exit **loop**.

6.1.1.5 Summary of Loop Clauses

Loop clauses fall into one of the following categories:

6.1.1.5.1 Summary of Variable Initialization and Stepping Clauses

The `for` and `as` constructs provide iteration control clauses that establish a variable to be initialized. `for` and `as` clauses can be combined with the loop keyword `and` to get *parallel* initialization and *stepping*$_1$. Otherwise, the initialization and *stepping*$_1$ are *sequential*.

The `with` construct is similar to a single **let** clause. `with` clauses can be combined using the *loop keyword* `and` to get *parallel* initialization.

For more information, see Section 6.1.2 (Variable Initialization and Stepping Clauses).

6.1.1.5.2 Summary of Value Accumulation Clauses

The `collect` (or `collecting`) construct takes one *form* in its clause and adds the value of that *form* to the end of a *list* of values. By default, the *list* of values is returned when the **loop** finishes.

The `append` (or `appending`) construct takes one *form* in its clause and appends the value of that *form* to the end of a *list* of values. By default, the *list* of values is returned when the **loop** finishes.

The `nconc` (or `nconcing`) construct is similar to the `append` construct, but its *list* values are concatenated as if by the function `nconc`. By default, the *list* of values is returned when the **loop** finishes.

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The `sum` (or `summing`) construct takes one *form* in its clause that must evaluate to a *number* and accumulates the sum of all these *numbers*. By default, the cumulative sum is returned when the **loop** finishes.

The `count` (or `counting`) construct takes one *form* in its clause and counts the number of times that the *form* evaluates to *true*. By default, the count is returned when the **loop** finishes.

The `minimize` (or `minimizing`) construct takes one *form* in its clause and determines the minimum value obtained by evaluating that *form*. By default, the minimum value is returned when the **loop** finishes.

The `maximize` (or `maximizing`) construct takes one *form* in its clause and determines the maximum value obtained by evaluating that *form*. By default, the maximum value is returned when the **loop** finishes.

For more information, see Section 6.1.3 (Value Accumulation Clauses).

6.1.1.5.3 Summary of Termination Test Clauses

The `for` and `as` constructs provide a termination test that is determined by the iteration control clause.

The `repeat` construct causes termination after a specified number of iterations. (It uses an internal variable to keep track of the number of iterations.)

The `while` construct takes one *form*, a *test*, and terminates the iteration if the *test* evaluates to *false*. A `while` clause is equivalent to the expression `(if (not test) (loop-finish))`.

The `until` construct is the inverse of `while`; it terminates the iteration if the *test* evaluates to any *non-nil* value. An `until` clause is equivalent to the expression `(if test (loop-finish))`.

The `always` construct takes one *form* and terminates the **loop** if the *form* ever evaluates to *false*; in this case, the **loop** *form* returns **nil**. Otherwise, it provides a default return value of **t**.

The `never` construct takes one *form* and terminates the **loop** if the *form* ever evaluates to *true*; in this case, the **loop** *form* returns **nil**. Otherwise, it provides a default return value of **t**.

The `thereis` construct takes one *form* and terminates the **loop** if the *form* ever evaluates to a *non-nil object*; in this case, the **loop** *form* returns that *object*. Otherwise, it provides a default return value of **nil**.

If multiple termination test clauses are specified, the **loop** *form* terminates if any are satisfied.

For more information, see Section 6.1.4 (Termination Test Clauses).

6.1.1.5.4 Summary of Unconditional Execution Clauses

The `do` (or `doing`) construct evaluates all *forms* in its clause.

The `return` construct takes one *form*. Any *values* returned by the *form* are immediately returned by the **loop** form. It is equivalent to the clause `do (return-from` *block-name value*`)`, where *block-name* is the name specified in a `named` clause, or **nil** if there is no `named` clause.

For more information, see Section 6.1.5 (Unconditional Execution Clauses).

6.1.1.5.5 Summary of Conditional Execution Clauses

The `if` and `when` constructs take one *form* as a test and a clause that is executed when the test *yields true*. The clause can be a value accumulation, unconditional, or another conditional clause; it can also be any combination of such clauses connected by the **loop** `and` keyword.

The **loop** `unless` construct is similar to the **loop** `when` construct except that it complements the test result.

The **loop** `else` construct provides an optional component of `if`, `when`, and `unless` clauses that is executed when an `if` or `when` test *yields false* or when an `unless` test *yields true*. The component is one of the clauses described under `if`.

The **loop** `end` construct provides an optional component to mark the end of a conditional clause.

For more information, see Section 6.1.6 (Conditional Execution Clauses).

6.1.1.5.6 Summary of Miscellaneous Clauses

The **loop** `named` construct gives a name for the *block* of the loop.

The **loop** `initially` construct causes its *forms* to be evaluated in the loop prologue, which precedes all **loop** code except for initial settings supplied by the constructs `with`, `for`, or `as`.

The **loop** `finally` construct causes its *forms* to be evaluated in the loop epilogue after normal iteration terminates.

For more information, see Section 6.1.7 (Miscellaneous Clauses).

6.1.1.6 Order of Execution

With the exceptions listed below, clauses are executed in the loop body in the order in which they appear in the source. Execution is repeated until a clause terminates the **loop** or until a **return**, **go**, or **throw** form is encountered which transfers control to a point outside of the loop. The following actions are exceptions to the linear order of execution:

- All variables are initialized first, regardless of where the establishing clauses appear in the source. The order of initialization follows the order of these clauses.

- The code for any `initially` clauses is collected into one **progn** in the order in which the clauses appear in the source. The collected code is executed once in the loop prologue after any implicit variable initializations.

- The code for any `finally` clauses is collected into one **progn** in the order in which the clauses appear in the source. The collected code is executed once in the loop epilogue before any implicit values from the accumulation clauses are returned. Explicit returns anywhere in the source, however, will exit the **loop** without executing the epilogue code.

- A `with` clause introduces a variable *binding* and an optional initial value. The initial values are calculated in the order in which the `with` clauses occur.

- Iteration control clauses implicitly perform the following actions:

  – initialize variables;

  – *step* variables, generally between each execution of the loop body;

  – perform termination tests, generally just before the execution of the loop body.

6.1.1.7 Destructuring

The *d-type-spec* argument is used for destructuring. If the *d-type-spec* argument consists solely of the *type* **fixnum**, **float**, **t**, or **nil**, the `of-type` keyword is optional. The `of-type` construct is optional in these cases to provide backwards compatibility; thus, the following two expressions are the same:

```
;;; This expression uses the old syntax for type specifiers.
 (loop for i fixnum upfrom 3 ...)

;;; This expression uses the new syntax for type specifiers.
 (loop for i of-type fixnum upfrom 3 ...)

;; Declare X and Y to be of type VECTOR and FIXNUM respectively.
 (loop for (x y) of-type (vector fixnum)
       in l do ...)
```

A *type specifier* for a destructuring pattern is a *tree* of *type specifiers* with the same shape as the *tree* of *variable names*, with the following exceptions:

- When aligning the *trees*, an *atom* in the *tree* of *type specifiers* that matches a *cons* in the variable tree declares the same *type* for each variable in the subtree rooted at the *cons*.

- A *cons* in the *tree* of *type specifiers* that matches an *atom* in the *tree* of *variable names* is a *compound type specifer*.

Destructuring allows *binding* of a set of variables to a corresponding set of values anywhere that a value can normally be bound to a single variable. During **loop** expansion, each variable in the variable list is matched with the values in the values list. If there are more variables in the variable list than there are values in the values list, the remaining variables are given a value of **nil**. If there are more values than variables listed, the extra values are discarded.

To assign values from a list to the variables `a`, `b`, and `c`, the `for` clause could be used to bind the variable `numlist` to the *car* of the supplied *form*, and then another `for` clause could be used to bind the variables `a`, `b`, and `c` *sequentially*.

```
;; Collect values by using FOR constructs.
 (loop for numlist in '((1 2 4.0) (5 6 8.3) (8 9 10.4))
       for a of-type integer = (first numlist)
       and b of-type integer = (second numlist)
       and c of-type float = (third numlist)
       collect (list c b a))
→ ((4.0 2 1) (8.3 6 5) (10.4 9 8))
```

Destructuring makes this process easier by allowing the variables to be bound in each loop iteration. *Types* can be declared by using a list of *type-spec* arguments. If all the *types* are the same, a shorthand destructuring syntax can be used, as the second example illustrates.

```
;; Destructuring simplifies the process.
 (loop for (a b c) of-type (integer integer float) in
       '((1 2 4.0) (5 6 8.3) (8 9 10.4))
       collect (list c b a))
→ ((4.0 2 1) (8.3 6 5) (10.4 9 8))


;; If all the types are the same, this way is even simpler.
 (loop for (a b c) of-type float in
       '((1.0 2.0 4.0) (5.0 6.0 8.3) (8.0 9.0 10.4))
       collect (list c b a))
→ ((4.0 2.0 1.0) (8.3 6.0 5.0) (10.4 9.0 8.0))
```

If destructuring is used to declare or initialize a number of groups of variables into *types*, the *loop keyword* `and` can be used to simplify the process further.

```
;; Initialize and declare variables in parallel by using the AND construct.
 (loop with (a b) of-type float = '(1.0 2.0)
       and (c d) of-type integer = '(3 4)
       and (e f)
       return (list a b c d e f))
→ (1.0 2.0 3 4 NIL NIL)
```

If **nil** is used in a destructuring list, no variable is provided for its place.

```
 (loop for (a nil b) = '(1 2 3)
       do (return (list a b)))
→ (1 3)
```


Note that *dotted lists* can specify destructuring.

```
 (loop for (x . y) = '(1 . 2)
       do (return y))
→ 2
 (loop for ((a . b) (c . d)) of-type ((float . float) (integer . integer)) in
       '(((1.2 . 2.4) (3 . 4)) ((3.4 . 4.6) (5 . 6)))
       collect (list a b c d))
→ ((1.2 2.4 3 4) (3.4 4.6 5 6))
```

An error of *type* **program-error** is signaled (at macro expansion time) if the same variable is bound twice in any variable-binding clause of a single **loop** expression. Such variables include local variables, iteration control variables, and variables found by destructuring.

6.1.1.8 Restrictions on Side-Effects

See Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects).

6.1.2 Variable Initialization and Stepping Clauses

6.1.2.1 Iteration Control

Iteration control clauses allow direction of **loop** iteration. The *loop keywords* `for` and `as` designate iteration control clauses. Iteration control clauses differ with respect to the specification of termination tests and to the initialization and *stepping*$_1$ of loop variables. Iteration clauses by themselves do not cause the Loop Facility to return values, but they can be used in conjunction with value-accumulation clauses to return values.

All variables are initialized in the loop prologue. A *variable binding* has *lexical scope* unless it is proclaimed **special**; thus, by default, the variable can be *accessed* only by *forms* that lie textually within the **loop**. Stepping assignments are made in the loop body before any other *forms* are evaluated in the body.

The variable argument in iteration control clauses can be a destructuring list. A destructuring list is a *tree* whose *non-nil atoms* are *variable names*. See Section 6.1.1.7 (Destructuring).

The iteration control clauses `for`, `as`, and `repeat` must precede any other loop clauses, except `initially`, `with`, and `named`, since they establish variable *bindings*. When iteration control clauses are used in a **loop**, the corresponding termination tests in the loop body are evaluated before any other loop body code is executed.

If multiple iteration clauses are used to control iteration, variable initialization and *stepping*$_1$ occur *sequentially* by default. The `and` construct can be used to connect two or more iteration clauses when *sequential binding* and *stepping*$_1$ are not necessary. The iteration behavior of clauses joined by `and` is analogous to the behavior of the macro **do** with respect to **do***.

The `for` and `as` clauses iterate by using one or more local loop variables that are initialized to some value and that can be modified or *stepped*$_1$ after each iteration. For these clauses, iteration terminates when a local variable reaches some supplied value or when some other loop clause terminates iteration. At each iteration, variables can be *stepped*$_1$ by an increment or a decrement or can be assigned a new value by the evaluation of a *form*). Destructuring can be used to assign values to variables during iteration.

The `for` and `as` keywords are synonyms; they can be used interchangeably. There are seven syntactic formats for these constructs. In each syntactic format, the *type* of *var* can be supplied by the optional *type-spec* argument. If *var* is a destructuring list, the *type* supplied by the *type-spec* argument must appropriately match the elements of the list. By convention, `for` introduces new iterations and `as` introduces iterations that depend on a previous iteration specification.

6.1.2.1.1 The for-as-arithmetic subclause

In the *for-as-arithmetic* subclause, the `for` or `as` construct iterates from the value supplied by *form1* to the value supplied by *form2* in increments or decrements denoted by *form3*. Each expression is evaluated only once and must evaluate to a *number*. The variable *var* is bound to the value of *form1* in the first iteration and is *stepped*$_1$ by the value of *form3* in each succeeding iteration, or by 1 if *form3* is not provided. The following *loop keywords* serve as valid prepositions within this syntax. At least one of the prepositions must be used; and at most one from each line may be used in a single subclause.

```
from | downfrom | upfrom

to | downto | upto | below | above

by
```

The prepositional phrases in each subclause may appear in any order. For example, either "`from x by y`" or "`by y from x`" is permitted. However, because left-to-right order of evaluation is preserved, the effects will be different in the case of side effects. Consider:

```
(let ((x 1)) (loop for i from x by (incf x) to 10 collect i))
→ (1 3 5 7 9)
(let ((x 1)) (loop for i by (incf x) from x to 10 collect i))
→ (2 4 6 8 10)
```

The descriptions of the prepositions follow:

`from`

The *loop keyword* `from` specifies the value from which *stepping*$_1$ begins, as supplied by *form1*. *Stepping*$_1$ is incremental by default. If decremental *stepping*$_1$ is desired, the preposition `downto` or `above` must be used with *form2*. For incremental *stepping*$_1$, the default `from` value is 0.

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`downfrom, upfrom`

The *loop keyword* `downfrom` indicates that the variable *var* is decreased in decrements supplied by *form3*; the *loop keyword* `upfrom` indicates that *var* is increased in increments supplied by *form3*.

`to`

The *loop keyword* `to` marks the end value for *stepping*$_1$ supplied in *form2*. *Stepping*$_1$ is incremental by default. If decremental *stepping*$_1$ is desired, the preposition `downfrom` must be used with *form1*, or else the preposition `downto` or `above` should be used instead of `to` with *form2*.

`downto, upto`

The *loop keyword* `downto` specifies decremental *stepping*; the *loop keyword* `upto` specifies incremental *stepping*. In both cases, the amount of change on each step is specified by *form3*, and the **loop** terminates when the variable *var* passes the value of *form2*. Since there is no default for *form1* in decremental *stepping*$_1$, a *form1* value must be supplied (using `from` or `downfrom`) when `downto` is supplied.

`below, above`

The *loop keywords* `below` and `above` are analogous to `upto` and `downto` respectively. These keywords stop iteration just before the value of the variable *var* reaches the value supplied by *form2*; the end value of *form2* is not included. Since there is no default for *form1* in decremental *stepping*$_1$, a *form1* value must be supplied (using `from` or `downfrom`) when `above` is supplied.

`by`

The *loop keyword* `by` marks the increment or decrement supplied by *form3*. The value of *form3* can be any positive *number*. The default value is 1.

In an iteration control clause, the `for` or `as` construct causes termination when the supplied limit is reached. That is, iteration continues until the value *var* is stepped to the exclusive or inclusive limit supplied by *form2*. The range is exclusive if *form3* increases or decreases *var* to the value of *form2* without reaching that value; the loop keywords `below` and `above` provide exclusive limits. An inclusive limit allows *var* to attain the value of *form2*; `to`, `downto`, and `upto` provide inclusive limits.

6.1.2.1.1.1 Examples of for-as-arithmetic subclause

```
;; Print some numbers.
 (loop for i from 1 to 3
      do (print i))
▷ 1
```

```
▷ 2
▷ 3
→ NIL

;; Print every third number.
 (loop for i from 10 downto 1 by 3
       do (print i))
▷ 10
▷ 7
▷ 4
▷ 1
→ NIL

;; Step incrementally from the default starting value.
 (loop for i below 3
       do (print i))
▷ 0
▷ 1
▷ 2
→ NIL
```

6.1.2.1.2 The for-as-in-list subclause

In the *for-as-in-list* subclause, the `for` or `as` construct iterates over the contents of a *list*. It checks for the end of the *list* as if by using **endp**. The variable *var* is bound to the successive elements of the *list* in *form1* before each iteration. At the end of each iteration, the function *step-fun* is applied to the *list*; the default value for *step-fun* is **cdr**. The *loop keywords* `in` and `by` serve as valid prepositions in this syntax. The `for` or `as` construct causes termination when the end of the *list* is reached.

6.1.2.1.2.1 Examples of for-as-in-list subclause

```
;; Print every item in a list.
 (loop for item in '(1 2 3) do (print item))
▷ 1
▷ 2
▷ 3
→ NIL

;; Print every other item in a list.
 (loop for item in '(1 2 3 4 5) by #'cddr
       do (print item))
▷ 1
▷ 3
▷ 5
→ NIL
```


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```
;; Destructure a list, and sum the x values using fixnum arithmetic.
 (loop for (item . x) of-type (t . fixnum) in '((A . 1) (B . 2) (C . 3))
       unless (eq item 'B) sum x)
→ 4
```

6.1.2.1.3 The for-as-on-list subclause

In the *for-as-on-list* subclause, the `for` or `as` construct iterates over a *list*. It checks for the end of the *list* as if by using **atom**. The variable *var* is bound to the successive tails of the *list* in *form1*. At the end of each iteration, the function *step-fun* is applied to the *list*; the default value for *step-fun* is **cdr**. The *loop keywords* `on` and `by` serve as valid prepositions in this syntax. The `for` or `as` construct causes termination when the end of the *list* is reached.

6.1.2.1.3.1 Examples of for-as-on-list subclause

```
;; Collect successive tails of a list.
 (loop for sublist on '(a b c d)
       collect sublist)
→ ((A B C D) (B C D) (C D) (D))

;; Print a list by using destructuring with the loop keyword ON.
 (loop for (item) on '(1 2 3)
       do (print item))
▷ 1
▷ 2
▷ 3
→ NIL
```

6.1.2.1.4 The for-as-equals-then subclause

In the *for-as-equals-then* subclause the `for` or `as` construct initializes the variable *var* by setting it to the result of evaluating *form1* on the first iteration, then setting it to the result of evaluating *form2* on the second and subsequent iterations. If *form2* is omitted, the construct uses *form1* on the second and subsequent iterations. The *loop keywords* = and `then` serve as valid prepositions in this syntax. This construct does not provide any termination tests.

6.1.2.1.4.1 Examples of for-as-equals-then subclause

```
;; Collect some numbers.
 (loop for item = 1 then (+ item 10)
       for iteration from 1 to 5
       collect item)
→ (1 11 21 31 41)
```

6.1.2.1.5 The for-as-across subclause

In the *for-as-across* subclause the `for` or `as` construct binds the variable *var* to the value of each element in the array *vector*. The *loop keyword* `across` marks the array *vector*; `across` is used as a preposition in this syntax. Iteration stops when there are no more elements in the supplied *array* that can be referenced. Some implementations might recognize a **the** special form in the *vector* form to produce more efficient code.

6.1.2.1.5.1 Examples of for-as-across subclause

```
(loop for char across (the simple-string (find-message channel))
      do (write-char char stream))
```

6.1.2.1.6 The for-as-hash subclause

In the *for-as-hash* subclause the `for` or `as` construct iterates over the elements, keys, and values of a *hash-table*. In this syntax, a compound preposition is used to designate access to a *hash table*. The variable *var* takes on the value of each hash key or hash value in the supplied *hash-table*. The following *loop keywords* serve as valid prepositions within this syntax:

`being`

The keyword `being` introduces either the Loop schema `hash-key` or `hash-value`.

`each`, `the`

The *loop keyword* `each` follows the *loop keyword* `being` when `hash-key` or `hash-value` is used. The *loop keyword* `the` is used with `hash-keys` and `hash-values` only for ease of reading. This agreement isn't required.

`hash-key`, `hash-keys`

These *loop keywords* access each key entry of the *hash table*. If the name `hash-value` is supplied in a `using` construct with one of these Loop schemas, the iteration can optionally access the keyed value. The order in which the keys are accessed is undefined; empty slots in the *hash table* are ignored.

`hash-value`, `hash-values`

These *loop keywords* access each value entry of a *hash table*. If the name `hash-key` is supplied in a `using` construct with one of these Loop schemas, the iteration can optionally access the key that corresponds to the value. The order in which the keys are accessed is undefined; empty slots in the *hash table* are ignored.

`using`

The *loop keyword* `using` introduces the optional key or the keyed value to be accessed. It allows access to the hash key if iteration is over the hash values, and the hash value if iteration is over the hash keys.

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`in`, `of`

These loop prepositions introduce *hash-table*.

In effect

`being` {`each` | `the`} {`hash-value` | `hash-values` | `hash-key` | `hash-keys`} {`in` | `of`}

is a compound preposition.

Iteration stops when there are no more hash keys or hash values to be referenced in the supplied *hash-table*.

6.1.2.1.7 The for-as-package subclause

In the *for-as-package* subclause the `for` or `as` construct iterates over the *symbols* in a *package*. In this syntax, a compound preposition is used to designate access to a *package*. The variable *var* takes on the value of each *symbol* in the supplied *package*. The following *loop keywords* serve as valid prepositions within this syntax:

`being`

The keyword `being` introduces either the Loop schema `symbol`, `present-symbol`, or `external-symbol`.

`each`, `the`

The *loop keyword* `each` follows the *loop keyword* `being` when `symbol`, `present-symbol`, or `external-symbol` is used. The *loop keyword* `the` is used with `symbols`, `present-symbols`, and `external-symbols` only for ease of reading. This agreement isn't required.

`present-symbol`, `present-symbols`

These Loop schemas iterate over the *symbols* that are *present* in a *package*. The *package* to be iterated over is supplied in the same way that *package* arguments to **find-package** are supplied. If the *package* for the iteration is not supplied, the *current package* is used. If a *package* that does not exist is supplied, an error of *type* **package-error** is signaled.

`symbol`, `symbols`

These Loop schemas iterate over *symbols* that are *accessible* in a given *package*. The *package* to be iterated over is supplied in the same way that *package* arguments to **find-package** are supplied. If the *package* for the iteration is not supplied, the *current package* is used. If a *package* that does not exist is supplied, an error of *type* **package-error** is signaled.

`external-symbol`, `external-symbols`

These Loop schemas iterate over the *external symbols* of a *package*. The *package* to be iterated over is supplied in the same way that *package* arguments to **find-package** are supplied. If the *package* for the iteration is not supplied, the *current package* is used. If a *package* that does not exist is supplied, an error of *type* **package-error** is signaled.

in, of

These loop prepositions introduce *package*.

In effect

being {each | the} {symbol | symbols | present-symbol | present-symbols | external-symbol | external-symbols} {in | of}

is a compound preposition.

Iteration stops when there are no more *symbols* to be referenced in the supplied *package*.

6.1.2.1.7.1 Examples of for-as-package subclause

```
 (let ((*package* (make-package "TEST-PACKAGE-1")))
   ;; For effect, intern some symbols
   (read-from-string "(THIS IS A TEST)")
   (export (intern "THIS"))
   (loop for x being each present-symbol of *package*
          do (print x)))
▷ A
▷ TEST
▷ THIS
▷ IS
→ NIL
```

6.1.2.2 Local Variable Initializations

When a **loop** *form* is executed, the local variables are bound and are initialized to some value. These local variables exist until **loop** iteration terminates, at which point they cease to exist. Implicit variables are also established by iteration control clauses and the into preposition of accumulation clauses.

The with construct initializes variables that are local to a loop. The variables are initialized one time only. If the optional *type-spec* argument is supplied for the variable *var*, but there is no related expression to be evaluated, *var* is initialized to an appropriate default value for its *type*. For example, for the types **t**, **number**, and **float**, the default values are **nil**, 0, and 0.0 respectively. The consequences are undefined if a *type-spec* argument is supplied for *var* if the related expression returns a value that is not of the supplied *type*. By default, the with construct initializes variables *sequentially*; that is, one variable is assigned a value before the next expression is evaluated. However, by using the *loop keyword* and to join several with clauses,

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initializations can be forced to occur in *parallel*; that is, all of the supplied *forms* are evaluated, and the results are bound to the respective variables simultaneously.

Sequential binding is used when it is desireable for the initialization of some variables to depend on the values of previously bound variables. For example, suppose the variables a, b, and c are to be bound in sequence:

```
 (loop with a = 1
       with b = (+ a 2)
       with c = (+ b 3)
       return (list a b c))
→ (1 3 6)
```

The execution of the above **loop** is equivalent to the execution of the following code:

```
 (block nil
   (let* ((a 1)
          (b (+ a 2))
          (c (+ b 3)))
     (tagbody
         (next-loop (return (list a b c))
                    (go next-loop)
                    end-loop))))
```

If the values of previously bound variables are not needed for the initialization of other local variables, an and clause can be used to specify that the bindings are to occur in *parallel*:

```
 (loop with a = 1
       and b = 2
       and c = 3
       return (list a b c))
→ (1 2 3)
```

The execution of the above loop is equivalent to the execution of the following code:

```
 (block nil
   (let ((a 1)
         (b 2)
         (c 3))
     (tagbody
         (next-loop (return (list a b c))
                    (go next-loop)
                    end-loop))))
```

6.1.2.2.1 Examples of WITH clause

```
;; These bindings occur in sequence.
```

```
 (loop with a = 1
       with b = (+ a 2)
       with c = (+ b 3)
       return (list a b c))
→ (1 3 6)

;; These bindings occur in parallel.
 (setq a 5 b 10)
→ 10
 (loop with a = 1
       and b = (+ a 2)
       and c = (+ b 3)
       return (list a b c))
→ (1 7 13)

;; This example shows a shorthand way to declare local variables
;; that are of different types.
 (loop with (a b c) of-type (float integer float)
       return (format nil "~A ~A ~A" a b c))
→ "0.0 0 0.0"

;; This example shows a shorthand way to declare local variables
;; that are the same type.
 (loop with (a b c) of-type float
       return (format nil "~A ~A ~A" a b c))
→ "0.0 0.0 0.0"
```

6.1.3 Value Accumulation Clauses

The constructs `collect`, `collecting`, `append`, `appending`, `nconc`, `nconcing`, `count`, `counting`, `maximize`, `maximizing`, `minimize`, `minimizing`, `sum`, and `summing`, allow values to be accumulated in a **loop**.

The constructs `collect`, `collecting`, `append`, `appending`, `nconc`, and `nconcing`, designate clauses that accumulate values in *lists* and return them. The constructs `count`, `counting`, `maximize`, `maximizing`, `minimize`, `minimizing`, `sum`, and `summing` designate clauses that accumulate and return numerical values.

During each iteration, the constructs `collect` and `collecting` collect the value of the supplied *form* into a *list*. When iteration terminates, the *list* is returned. The argument *var* is set to the *list* of collected values; if *var* is supplied, the **loop** does not return the final *list* automatically. If *var* is not supplied, it is equivalent to supplying an internal name for *var* and returning its value in a `finally` clause. The *var* argument is bound as if by the construct `with`. No mechanism is provided for declaring the *type* of *var*; it must be of *type* **list**.

The constructs `append`, `appending`, `nconc`, and `nconcing` are similar to `collect` except that the values of the supplied *form* must be *lists*.

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- The `append` keyword causes its *list* values to be concatenated into a single *list*, as if they were arguments to the *function* **append**.
- The `nconc` keyword causes its *list* values to be concatenated into a single *list*, as if they were arguments to the *function* **nconc**.

The argument *var* is set to the *list* of concatenated values; if *var* is supplied, **loop** does not return the final *list* automatically. The *var* argument is bound as if by the construct `with`. A *type* cannot be supplied for *var*; it must be of *type* **list**. The construct `nconc` destructively modifies its argument *lists*.

The `count` construct counts the number of times that the supplied *form* returns *true*. The argument *var* accumulates the number of occurrences; if *var* is supplied, **loop** does not return the final count automatically. The *var* argument is bound as if by the construct `with` to a zero of the appropriate type. Subsequent values (including any necessary coercions) are computed as if by the function **1+**. If `into` *var* is used, a *type* can be supplied for *var* with the *type-spec* argument; the consequences are unspecified if a nonnumeric *type* is supplied. If there is no `into` variable, the optional *type-spec* argument applies to the internal variable that is keeping the count. The default *type* is *implementation-dependent*; but it must be a *supertype* of *type* **fixnum**.

The `maximize` and `minimize` constructs compare the value of the supplied *form* obtained during the first iteration with values obtained in successive iterations. The maximum (for `maximize`) or minimum (for `minimize`) value encountered is determined (as if by the *function* **max** for `maximize` and as if by the *function* **min** for `minimize`) and returned. If the `maximize` or `minimize` clause is never executed, the accumulated value is unspecified. The argument *var* accumulates the maximum or minimum value; if *var* is supplied, **loop** does not return the maximum or minimum automatically. The *var* argument is bound as if by the construct `with`. If `into` *var* is used, a *type* can be supplied for *var* with the *type-spec* argument; the consequences are unspecified if a nonnumeric *type* is supplied. If there is no `into` variable, the optional *type-spec* argument applies to the internal variable that is keeping the maximum or minimum value. The default *type* is *implementation-dependent*; but it must be a *supertype* of *type* **real**.

The `sum` construct forms a cumulative sum of the successive *primary values* of the supplied *form* at each iteration. The argument *var* is used to accumulate the sum; if *var* is supplied, **loop** does not return the final sum automatically. The *var* argument is bound as if by the construct `with` to a zero of the appropriate type. Subsequent values (including any necessary coercions) are computed as if by the *function* **+**. If `into` *var* is used, a *type* can be supplied for *var* with the *type-spec* argument; the consequences are unspecified if a nonnumeric *type* is supplied. If there is no `into` variable, the optional *type-spec* argument applies to the internal variable that is keeping the sum. The default *type* is *implementation-dependent*; but it must be a *supertype* of *type* **number**.

If `into` is used, the construct does not provide a default return value; however, the variable is available for use in any `finally` clause.

Certain kinds of accumulation clauses can be combined in a **loop** if their destination is the same (the result of **loop** or an `into` *var*) because they are considered to accumulate conceptually compatible quantities. In particular, any elements of following sets of accumulation clauses can be mixed with other elements of the same set for the same destination in a **loop** *form*:

- collect, append, nconc
- sum, count
- maximize, minimize

```
;; Collect every name and the kids in one list by using
;; COLLECT and APPEND.
 (loop for name in '(fred sue alice joe june)
       for kids in '((bob ken) () () (kris sunshine) ())
       collect name
       append kids)
→ (FRED BOB KEN SUE ALICE JOE KRIS SUNSHINE JUNE)
```

Any two clauses that do not accumulate the same *type* of *object* can coexist in a **loop** only if each clause accumulates its values into a different *variable*.

6.1.3.1 Examples of COLLECT clause

```
;; Collect all the symbols in a list.
 (loop for i in '(bird 3 4 turtle (1 . 4) horse cat)
       when (symbolp i) collect i)
→ (BIRD TURTLE HORSE CAT)

;; Collect and return odd numbers.
 (loop for i from 1 to 10
       if (oddp i) collect i)
→ (1 3 5 7 9)

;; Collect items into local variable, but don't return them.
 (loop for i in '(a b c d) by #'cddr
       collect i into my-list
       finally (print my-list))
▷ (A C)
→ NIL
```


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6.1.3.2 Examples of APPEND and NCONC clauses

```
;; Use APPEND to concatenate some sublists.
  (loop for x in '((a) (b) ((c)))
        append x)
→ (A B (C))

;; NCONC some sublists together.  Note that only lists made by the
;; call to LIST are modified.
  (loop for i upfrom 0
        as x in '(a b (c))
        nconc (if (evenp i) (list x) nil))
→ (A (C))
```

6.1.3.3 Examples of COUNT clause

```
 (loop for i in '(a b nil c nil d e)
       count i)
→ 5
```

6.1.3.4 Examples of MAXIMIZE and MINIMIZE clauses

```
 (loop for i in '(2 1 5 3 4)
       maximize i)
→ 5
 (loop for i in '(2 1 5 3 4)
       minimize i)
→ 1

;; In this example, FIXNUM applies to the internal variable that holds
;; the maximum value.
 (setq series '(1.2 4.3 5.7))
→ (1.2 4.3 5.7)
 (loop for v in series
       maximize (round v) of-type fixnum)
→ 6

;; In this example, FIXNUM applies to the variable RESULT.
 (loop for v of-type float in series
       minimize (round v) into result of-type fixnum
       finally (return result))
→ 1
```

6.1.3.5 Examples of SUM clause

```
 (loop for i of-type fixnum in '(1 2 3 4 5)
       sum i)
→ 15
 (setq series '(1.2 4.3 5.7))
→ (1.2 4.3 5.7)
 (loop for v in series
       sum (* 2.0 v))
→ 22.4
```

6.1.4 Termination Test Clauses

The `repeat` construct causes iteration to terminate after a specified number of times. The loop body executes *n* times, where *n* is the value of the expression *form*. The *form* argument is evaluated one time in the loop prologue. If the expression evaluates to 0 or to a negative *number*, the loop body is not evaluated.

The constructs `always`, `never`, `thereis`, `while`, `until`, and the macro **loop-finish** allow conditional termination of iteration within a **loop**.

The constructs `always`, `never`, and `thereis` provide specific values to be returned when a **loop** terminates. Using `always`, `never`, or `thereis` in a loop with value accumulation clauses that are not `into` causes an error of *type* **program-error** to be signaled (at macro expansion time). Since `always`, `never`, and `thereis` use the **return-from** *special operator* to terminate iteration, any `finally` clause that is supplied is not evaluated when exit occurs due to any of these constructs. In all other respects these constructs behave like the `while` and `until` constructs.

The `always` construct takes one *form* and terminates the **loop** if the *form* ever evaluates to **nil**; in this case, it returns **nil**. Otherwise, it provides a default return value of **t**. If the value of the supplied *form* is never **nil**, some other construct can terminate the iteration.

The `never` construct terminates iteration the first time that the value of the supplied *form* is *non-nil*; the **loop** returns **nil**. If the value of the supplied *form* is always **nil**, some other construct can terminate the iteration. Unless some other clause contributes a return value, the default value returned is **t**.

The `thereis` construct terminates iteration the first time that the value of the supplied *form* is *non-nil*; the **loop** returns the value of the supplied *form*. If the value of the supplied *form* is always **nil**, some other construct can terminate the iteration. Unless some other clause contributes a return value, the default value returned is **nil**.

There are two differences between the `thereis` and `until` constructs:

- The `until` construct does not return a value or **nil** based on the value of the supplied *form*.

- The `until` construct executes any `finally` clause. Since `thereis` uses the **return-from** *special operator* to terminate iteration, any `finally` clause that is supplied is not evaluated when exit occurs due to `thereis`.

The `while` construct allows iteration to continue until the supplied *form* evaluates to *false*. The supplied *form* is reevaluated at the location of the `while` clause.

The `until` construct is equivalent to `while (not` *form*`)`.... If the value of the supplied *form* is *non-nil*, iteration terminates.

Termination-test control constructs can be used anywhere within the loop body. The termination tests are used in the order in which they appear. If an `until` or `while` clause causes termination, any clauses that precede it in the source are still evaluated. If the `until` and `while` constructs cause termination, control is passed to the loop epilogue, where any `finally` clauses will be executed.

There are two differences between the `never` and `until` constructs:

- The `until` construct does not return **t** or **nil** based on the value of the supplied *form*.

- The `until` construct does not bypass any `finally` clauses. Since `never` uses the **return-from** *special operator* to terminate iteration, any `finally` clause that is supplied is not evaluated when exit occurs due to `never`.

In most cases it is not necessary to use **loop-finish** because other loop control clauses terminate the **loop**. The macro **loop-finish** is used to provide a normal exit from a nested conditional inside a **loop**. Since **loop-finish** transfers control to the loop epilogue, using **loop-finish** within a `finally` expression can cause infinite looping.

6.1.4.1 Examples of REPEAT clause

```
 (loop repeat 3
       do (format t "~&What I say three times is true.~%"))
▷ What I say three times is true.
▷ What I say three times is true.
▷ What I say three times is true.
→ NIL
 (loop repeat -15
   do (format t "What you see is what you expect~%"))
→ NIL
```

6.1.4.2 Examples of ALWAYS, NEVER, and THEREIS clauses

```
;; Make sure I is always less than 11 (two ways).
;; The FOR construct terminates these loops.
 (loop for i from 0 to 10
       always (< i 11))
→ T
 (loop for i from 0 to 10
       never (> i 11))
→ T

;; If I exceeds 10 return I; otherwise, return NIL.
;; The THEREIS construct terminates this loop.
 (loop for i from 0
       thereis (when (> i 10) i) )
→ 11

;;; The FINALLY clause is not evaluated in these examples.
 (loop for i from 0 to 10
       always (< i 9)
       finally (print "you won't see this"))
→ NIL
 (loop never t
       finally (print "you won't see this"))
→ NIL
 (loop thereis "Here is my value"
       finally (print "you won't see this"))
→ "Here is my value"

;; The FOR construct terminates this loop, so the FINALLY clause
;; is evaluated.
 (loop for i from 1 to 10
       thereis (> i 11)
       finally (prin1 'got-here))
▷ GOT-HERE
→ NIL

;; If this code could be used to find a counterexample to Fermat's
;; last theorem, it would still not return the value of the
;; counterexample because all of the THEREIS clauses in this example
;; only return T.  But if Fermat is right, that won't matter
;; because this won't terminate.

 (loop for z upfrom 2
```



```
       thereis
         (loop for n upfrom 3 below (log z 2)
               thereis
                 (loop for x below z
                       thereis
                         (loop for y below z
                               thereis (= (+ (expt x n) (expt y n))
                                          (expt z n))))))
```

6.1.4.3 Examples of WHILE and UNTIL clauses

```
 (loop while (hungry-p) do (eat))

;; UNTIL NOT is equivalent to WHILE.
 (loop until (not (hungry-p)) do (eat))

;; Collect the length and the items of STACK.
 (let ((stack '(a b c d e f)))
   (loop for item = (length stack) then (pop stack)
         collect item
         while stack))
→ (6 A B C D E F)

;; Use WHILE to terminate a loop that otherwise wouldn't terminate.
;; Note that WHILE occurs after the WHEN.
 (loop for i fixnum from 3
       when (oddp i) collect i
       while (< i 5))
→ (3 5)
```

6.1.5 Unconditional Execution Clauses

The `do` and `doing` constructs evaluate the supplied *forms* wherever they occur in the expanded form of **loop**. The *form* argument can be any *compound form*. Each *form* is evaluated in every iteration. Because every loop clause must begin with a *loop keyword*, the keyword `do` is used when no control action other than execution is required.

The `return` construct takes one *form*. Any *values* returned by the *form* are immediately returned by the **loop** form. It is equivalent to the clause `do (return-from` *block-name value*`)`, where *block-name* is the name specified in a `named` clause, or **nil** if there is no `named` clause.

6.1.5.1 Examples of unconditional execution

```
;; Print numbers and their squares.
;; The DO construct applies to multiple forms.
 (loop for i from 1 to 3
       do (print i)
          (print (* i i)))
▷ 1
▷ 1
▷ 2
▷ 4
▷ 3
▷ 9
→ NIL
```

6.1.6 Conditional Execution Clauses

The `if`, `when`, and `unless` constructs establish conditional control in a **loop**. If the test passes, the succeeding loop clause is executed. If the test does not pass, the succeeding clause is skipped, and program control moves to the clause that follows the *loop keyword* `else`. If the test does not pass and no `else` clause is supplied, control is transferred to the clause or construct following the entire conditional clause.

If conditional clauses are nested, each `else` is paired with the closest preceding conditional clause that has no associated `else` or `end`.

In the `if` and `when` clauses, which are synonymous, the test passes if the value of *form* is *true*.

In the `unless` clause, the test passes if the value of *form* is *false*.

Clauses that follow the test expression can be grouped by using the *loop keyword* `and` to produce a conditional block consisting of a compound clause.

The *loop keyword* `it` can be used to refer to the result of the test expression in a clause. Use the *loop keyword* `it` in place of the form in a `return` clause or an *accumulation* clause that is inside a conditional execution clause. If multiple clauses are connected with `and`, the `it` construct must be in the first clause in the block.

The optional *loop keyword* `end` marks the end of the clause. If this keyword is not supplied, the next *loop keyword* marks the end. The construct `end` can be used to distinguish the scoping of compound clauses.

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6.1.6.1 Examples of WHEN clause

```
;; Signal an exceptional condition.
 (loop for item in '(1 2 3 a 4 5)
       when (not (numberp item))
        return (cerror "enter new value" "non-numeric value: ~s" item))
Error: non-numeric value: A

;; The previous example is equivalent to the following one.
 (loop for item in '(1 2 3 a 4 5)
       when (not (numberp item))
        do (return
            (cerror "Enter new value" "non-numeric value: ~s" item)))
Error: non-numeric value: A

;; This example parses a simple printed string representation from
;; BUFFER (which is itself a string) and returns the index of the
;; closing double-quote character.
 (let ((buffer "\"a\" \"b\""))
   (loop initially (unless (char= (char buffer 0) #\")
                     (loop-finish))
         for i of-type fixnum from 1 below (length (the string buffer))
         when (char= (char buffer i) #\")
          return i))
→ 2

;; The collected value is returned.
 (loop for i from 1 to 10
       when (> i 5)
         collect i
       finally (prin1 'got-here))
▷ GOT-HERE
→ (6 7 8 9 10)

;; Return both the count of collected numbers and the numbers.
 (loop for i from 1 to 10
       when (> i 5)
         collect i into number-list
         and count i into number-count
       finally (return (values number-count number-list)))
→ 5, (6 7 8 9 10)
```

6.1.7 Miscellaneous Clauses

6.1.7.1 Control Transfer Clauses

The `named` construct establishes a name for an *implicit block* surrounding the entire **loop** so that the **return-from** *special operator* can be used to return values from or to exit **loop**. Only one name per **loop** *form* can be assigned. If used, the `named` construct must be the first clause in the loop expression.

The `return` construct takes one *form*. Any *values* returned by the *form* are immediately returned by the **loop** form. This construct is similar to the **return-from** *special operator* and the **return** *macro*. The `return` construct does not execute any `finally` clause that the **loop** *form* is given.

6.1.7.1.1 Examples of NAMED clause

```
;; Just name and return.
 (loop named max
       for i from 1 to 10
       do (print i)
       do (return-from max 'done))
▷ 1
→ DONE
```

6.1.7.2 Initial and Final Execution

The `initially` and `finally` constructs evaluate forms that occur before and after the loop body.

The `initially` construct causes the supplied *compound-forms* to be evaluated in the loop prologue, which precedes all loop code except for initial settings supplied by constructs `with`, `for`, or `as`. The code for any `initially` clauses is executed in the order in which the clauses appeared in the **loop**.

The `finally` construct causes the supplied *compound-forms* to be evaluated in the loop epilogue after normal iteration terminates. The code for any `finally` clauses is executed in the order in which the clauses appeared in the **loop**. The collected code is executed once in the loop epilogue before any implicit values are returned from the accumulation clauses. An explicit transfer of control (*e.g.*, by **return**, **go**, or **throw**) from the loop body, however, will exit the **loop** without executing the epilogue code.

Clauses such as `return`, `always`, `never`, and `thereis` can bypass the `finally` clause. **return** (or **return-from**, if the `named` option was supplied) can be used after `finally` to return values from a **loop**. Such an *explicit return* inside the `finally` clause takes precedence over returning the accumulation from clauses supplied by such keywords as `collect`, `nconc`, `append`, `sum`, `count`, `maximize`, and `minimize`; the accumulation values for these preempted clauses are not returned by **loop** if **return** or **return-from** is used.

6.1.8 Examples of Miscellaneous Loop Features

```
 (let ((i 0))                     ; no loop keywords are used
    (loop (incf i) (if (= i 3) (return i)))) → 3
 (let ((i 0)(j 0))
    (tagbody
      (loop (incf j 3) (incf i) (if (= i 3) (go exit)))
      exit)
    j) → 9
```

In the following example, the variable `x` is stepped before `y` is stepped; thus, the value of `y` reflects the updated value of `x`:

```
 (loop for x from 1 to 10
       for y = nil then x
       collect (list x y))
→ ((1 NIL) (2 2) (3 3) (4 4) (5 5) (6 6) (7 7) (8 8) (9 9) (10 10))
```

In this example, `x` and `y` are stepped in *parallel*:

```
 (loop for x from 1 to 10
       and y = nil then x
       collect (list x y))
→ ((1 NIL) (2 1) (3 2) (4 3) (5 4) (6 5) (7 6) (8 7) (9 8) (10 9))
```

6.1.8.1 Examples of clause grouping

```
;; Group conditional clauses.
 (loop for i in '(1 324 2345 323 2 4 235 252)
       when (oddp i)
         do (print i)
         and collect i into odd-numbers
         and do (terpri)
       else                              ; I is even.
         collect i into even-numbers
       finally
         (return (values odd-numbers even-numbers)))
▷ 1
▷
▷ 2345
▷
▷ 323
▷
▷ 235
→ (1 2345 323 235), (324 2 4 252)
```

```
;; Collect numbers larger than 3.
 (loop for i in '(1 2 3 4 5 6)
       when (and (> i 3) i)
       collect it)                      ; IT refers to (and (> i 3) i).
→ (4 5 6)

;; Find a number in a list.
 (loop for i in '(1 2 3 4 5 6)
       when (and (> i 3) i)
       return it)
→ 4

;; The above example is similar to the following one.
 (loop for i in '(1 2 3 4 5 6)
       thereis (and (> i 3) i))
→ 4



;; Nest conditional clauses.
 (let ((list '(0 3.0 apple 4 5 9.8 orange banana)))
   (loop for i in list
         when (numberp i)
           when (floatp i)
             collect i into float-numbers
           else                                  ; Not (floatp i)
             collect i into other-numbers
         else                                    ; Not (numberp i)
           when (symbolp i)
             collect i into symbol-list
           else                                  ; Not (symbolp i)
             do (error "found a funny value in list ~S, value ~S~%" list i)
         finally (return (values float-numbers other-numbers symbol-list))))
→ (3.0 9.8), (0 4 5), (APPLE ORANGE BANANA)

;; Without the END preposition, the last AND would apply to the
;; inner IF rather than the outer one.
 (loop for x from 0 to 3
       do (print x)
       if (zerop (mod x 2))
         do (princ " a")
          and if (zerop (floor x 2))
                do (princ " b")
                end
```



```
          and do (princ " c"))
▷ 0  a b c
▷ 1
▷ 2  a c
▷ 3
→ NIL
```

6.1.9 Notes about Loop

Types can be supplied for loop variables. It is not necessary to supply a *type* for any variable, but supplying the *type* can ensure that the variable has a correctly typed initial value, and it can also enable compiler optimizations (depending on the *implementation*).

The clause `repeat` *n* ... is roughly equivalent to a clause such as

`(loop for` *internal-variable* `downfrom (-` *n* `1) to 0 ...)`

but in some *implementations*, the `repeat` construct might be more efficient.

Within the executable parts of the loop clauses and around the entire **loop** form, variables can be bound by using **let**.

Use caution when using a variable named `IT` (in any *package*) in connection with **loop**, since `it` is a *loop keyword* that can be used in place of a *form* in certain contexts.

There is no *standardized* mechanism for users to add extensions to **loop**.

do, do* *Macro*

Syntax:

do ({*var* | (*var* [*init-form* [*step-form*]])}*)
(*end-test-form* {*result-form*}*)
{*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*

→ {*result*}*

do* ({*var* | (*var* [*init-form* [*step-form*]])}*)
(*end-test-form* {*result-form*}*)
{*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*

→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *symbol*.

init-form—a *form*.

step-form—a *form*.

end-test-form—a *form*.

result-forms—an *implicit progn*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

tag—a *go tag*; not evaluated.

statement—a *compound form*; evaluated as described below.

results—if a **return** or **return-from** form is executed, the *values* passed from that *form*; otherwise, the *values* returned by the *result-forms*.

Description:

do iterates over a group of *statements* while a test condition holds. **do** accepts an arbitrary number of iteration *vars* which are bound within the iteration and stepped in parallel. An initial value may be supplied for each iteration variable by use of an *init-form*. *Step-forms* may be used to specify how the *vars* should be updated on succeeding iterations through the loop. *Step-forms* may be used both to generate successive values or to accumulate results. If the *end-test-form* condition is met prior to an execution of the body, the iteration terminates. *Tags* label *statements*.

do* is exactly like **do** except that the *bindings* and steppings of the *vars* are performed sequentially rather than in parallel.

Before the first iteration, all the *init-forms* are evaluated, and each *var* is bound to the value of its respective *init-form*, if supplied. This is a *binding*, not an assignment; when the loop terminates, the old values of those variables will be restored. For **do**, all of the *init-forms* are evaluated before any *var* is bound. The *init-forms* can refer to the *bindings* of the *vars* visible before beginning execution of **do**. For **do***, the first *init-form* is evaluated, then the first *var* is bound to that value, then the second *init-form* is evaluated, then the second *var* is bound, and so on; in general, the kth *init-form* can refer to the new binding of the jth *var* if $j < k$, and otherwise to the old binding of the jth *var*.

At the beginning of each iteration, after processing the variables, the *end-test-form* is evaluated. If the result is *false*, execution proceeds with the body of the **do** (or **do***) form. If the result is *true*, the *result-forms* are evaluated in order as an *implicit progn*, and then **do** or **do*** returns.

At the beginning of each iteration other than the first, *vars* are updated as follows. All the *step-forms*, if supplied, are evaluated, from left to right, and the resulting values are assigned to the respective *vars*. Any *var* that has no associated *step-form* is not assigned to. For **do**, all the *step-forms* are evaluated before any *var* is updated; the assignment of values to *vars* is done in parallel, as if by **psetq**. Because all of the *step-forms* are evaluated before any of the *vars* are altered, a *step-form* when evaluated always has access to the old values of all the *vars*, even if other *step-forms* precede it. For **do***, the first *step-form* is evaluated, then the value is assigned to the first *var*, then the second *step-form* is evaluated, then the value is assigned to the second *var*, and so on; the assignment of values to variables is done sequentially, as if by **setq**. For either **do** or **do***, after the *vars* have been updated, the *end-test-form* is evaluated as described above, and the iteration continues.

The remainder of the **do** (or **do***) form constitutes an *implicit tagbody*. *Tags* may appear within the body of a **do** loop for use by **go** statements appearing in the body (but such **go** statements may not appear in the variable specifiers, the *end-test-form*, or the *result-forms*). When the end of a **do** body is reached, the next iteration cycle (beginning with the evaluation of *step-forms*) occurs.

An *implicit block* named **nil** surrounds the entire **do** (or **do***) form. A **return** statement may be used at any point to exit the loop immediately.

Init-form is an initial value for the *var* with which it is associated. If *init-form* is omitted, the initial value of *var* is **nil**. If a *declaration* is supplied for a *var*, *init-form* must be consistent with the *declaration*.

Declarations can appear at the beginning of a **do** (or **do***) body. They apply to code in the **do** (or **do***) body, to the *bindings* of the **do** (or **do***) *vars*, to the *step-forms*, to the *end-test-form*, and to the *result-forms*.

Examples:

```
(do ((temp-one 1 (1+ temp-one))
     (temp-two 0 (1- temp-two)))
    ((> (- temp-one temp-two) 5) temp-one)) → 4
```

```
 (do ((temp-one 1 (1+ temp-one))
       (temp-two 0 (1+ temp-one)))
      ((= 3 temp-two) temp-one)) → 3

 (do* ((temp-one 1 (1+ temp-one))
        (temp-two 0 (1+ temp-one)))
       ((= 3 temp-two) temp-one)) → 2

 (do ((j 0 (+ j 1)))
     (nil)                       ;Do forever.
   (format t "~%Input ~D:" j)
   (let ((item (read)))
     (if (null item) (return)   ;Process items until NIL seen.
         (format t "~&Output ~D: ~S" j item))))
▷ Input 0: banana
▷ Output 0: BANANA
▷ Input 1: (57 boxes)
▷ Output 1: (57 BOXES)
▷ Input 2: NIL
→ NIL

 (setq a-vector (vector 1 nil 3 nil))
 (do ((i 0 (+ i 1))     ;Sets every null element of a-vector to zero.
      (n (array-dimension a-vector 0)))
     ((= i n))
   (when (null (aref a-vector i))
     (setf (aref a-vector i) 0))) → NIL
a-vector → #(1 0 3 0)

 (do ((x e (cdr x))
      (oldx x x))
     ((null x))
   body)
```

is an example of parallel assignment to index variables. On the first iteration, the value of `oldx` is whatever value `x` had before the **do** was entered. On succeeding iterations, `oldx` contains the value that `x` had on the previous iteration.

```
 (do ((x foo (cdr x))
      (y bar (cdr y))
      (z '() (cons (f (car x) (car y)) z)))
     ((or (null x) (null y))
      (nreverse z)))
```

does the same thing as `(mapcar #'f foo bar)`. The step computation for `z` is an example of the

fact that variables are stepped in parallel. Also, the body of the loop is empty.

```
 (defun list-reverse (list)
        (do ((x list (cdr x))
             (y '() (cons (car x) y)))
            ((endp x) y)))
```

As an example of nested iterations, consider a data structure that is a *list* of *conses*. The *car* of each *cons* is a *list* of *symbols*, and the *cdr* of each *cons* is a *list* of equal length containing corresponding values. Such a data structure is similar to an association list, but is divided into "frames"; the overall structure resembles a rib-cage. A lookup function on such a data structure might be:

```
 (defun ribcage-lookup (sym ribcage)
        (do ((r ribcage (cdr r)))
            ((null r) nil)
          (do ((s (caar r) (cdr s))
               (v (cdar r) (cdr v)))
              ((null s))
            (when (eq (car s) sym)
              (return-from ribcage-lookup (car v)))))) → RIBCAGE-LOOKUP
```

See Also:

other iteration functions (**dolist**, **dotimes**, and **loop**) and more primitive functionality (**tagbody**, **go**, **block**, **return**, **let**, and **setq**)

Notes:

If *end-test-form* is **nil**, the test will never succeed. This provides an idiom for "do forever": the body of the **do** or **do*** is executed repeatedly. The infinite loop can be terminated by the use of **return**, **return-from**, **go** to an outer level, or **throw**.

A **do** *form* may be explained in terms of the more primitive *forms* **block**, **return**, **let**, **loop**, **tagbody**, and **psetq** as follows:

```
 (block nil
   (let ((var1 init1)
         (var2 init2)
         ...
         (varn initn))
     declarations
     (loop (when end-test (return (progn . result)))
           (tagbody . tagbody)
           (psetq var1 step1
                  var2 step2
                  ...
                  varn stepn))))
```

do* is similar, except that **let*** and **setq** replace the **let** and **psetq**, respectively.

dotimes *Macro*

Syntax:

dotimes (*var count-form* [*result-form*]) {*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *symbol*.

count-form—a *form*.

result-form—a *form*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

tag—a *go tag*; not evaluated.

statement—a *compound form*; evaluated as described below.

results—if a **return** or **return-from** form is executed, the *values* passed from that *form*; otherwise, the *values* returned by the *result-form* or **nil** if there is no *result-form*.

Description:

dotimes iterates over a series of *integers*.

dotimes evaluates *count-form*, which should produce an *integer*. If *count-form* is zero or negative, the body is not executed. **dotimes** then executes the body once for each *integer* from 0 up to but not including the value of *count-form*, in the order in which the *tags* and *statements* occur, with *var* bound to each *integer*. Then *result-form* is evaluated. At the time *result-form* is processed, *var* is bound to the number of times the body was executed. *Tags* label *statements*.

An *implicit block* named **nil** surrounds **dotimes**. **return** may be used to terminate the loop immediately without performing any further iterations, returning zero or more *values*.

The body of the loop is an *implicit tagbody*; it may contain tags to serve as the targets of **go** statements. Declarations may appear before the body of the loop.

The *scope* of the binding of *var* does not include the *count-form*, but the *result-form* is included.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether **dotimes** *establishes* a new *binding* of *var* on each iteration or whether it *establishes* a binding for *var* once at the beginning and then *assigns* it on any subsequent iterations.

Examples:

```
(dotimes (temp-one 10 temp-one)) → 10
(setq temp-two 0) → 0
(dotimes (temp-one 10 t) (incf temp-two)) → T
temp-two → 10
```

Here is an example of the use of `dotimes` in processing strings:

```
;;; True if the specified subsequence of the string is a
;;; palindrome (reads the same forwards and backwards).
(defun palindromep (string &optional
                           (start 0)
                           (end (length string)))
  (dotimes (k (floor (- end start) 2) t)
   (unless (char-equal (char string (+ start k))
                       (char string (- end k 1)))
     (return nil))))
(palindromep "Able was I ere I saw Elba") → T
(palindromep "A man, a plan, a canal--Panama!") → NIL
(remove-if-not #'alpha-char-p          ;Remove punctuation.
             "A man, a plan, a canal--Panama!")
→ "AmanaplanacanalPanama"
(palindromep
 (remove-if-not #'alpha-char-p
               "A man, a plan, a canal--Panama!")) → T
(palindromep
 (remove-if-not
  #'alpha-char-p
  "Unremarkable was I ere I saw Elba Kramer, nu?")) → T
(palindromep
 (remove-if-not
  #'alpha-char-p
  "A man, a plan, a cat, a ham, a yak,
                a yam, a hat, a canal--Panama!")) → T
```

See Also:

do, **dolist**, **tagbody**

Notes:

go may be used within the body of **dotimes** to transfer control to a statement labeled by a *tag*.

dolist *Macro*

Syntax:

dolist (*var list-form* [*result-form*]) {*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *symbol*.

list-form—a *form*.

result-form—a *form*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

tag—a *go tag*; not evaluated.

statement—a *compound form*; evaluated as described below.

results—if a **return** or **return-from** form is executed, the *values* passed from that *form*; otherwise, the *values* returned by the *result-form* or **nil** if there is no *result-form*.

Description:

dolist iterates over the elements of a *list*. The body of **dolist** is like a **tagbody**. It consists of a series of *tags* and *statements*.

dolist evaluates *list-form*, which should produce a *list*. It then executes the body once for each element in the *list*, in the order in which the *tags* and *statements* occur, with *var* bound to the element. Then *result-form* is evaluated. *tags* label *statements*.

At the time *result-form* is processed, *var* is bound to **nil**.

An *implicit block* named **nil** surrounds **dolist**. **return** may be used to terminate the loop immediately without performing any further iterations, returning zero or more *values*.

The *scope* of the binding of *var* does not include the *list-form*, but the *result-form* is included.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether **dolist** *establishes* a new *binding* of *var* on each iteration or whether it *establishes* a binding for *var* once at the beginning and then *assigns* it on any subsequent iterations.

Examples:

```
(setq temp-two '()) → NIL
(dolist (temp-one '(1 2 3 4) temp-two) (push temp-one temp-two)) → (4 3 2 1)

(setq temp-two 0) → 0
```



```
(dolist (temp-one '(1 2 3 4)) (incf temp-two)) → NIL
temp-two → 4

(dolist (x '(a b c d)) (prin1 x) (princ " "))
▷ A B C D
→ NIL
```

See Also:

do, **dotimes**, **tagbody**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

go may be used within the body of **dolist** to transfer control to a statement labeled by a *tag*.

loop *Macro*

Syntax:

The "simple" **loop** *form*:

loop {*compound-form*}* → {*result*}*

The "extended" **loop** *form*:

loop [↓*name-clause*] {↓*variable-clause*}* {↓*main-clause*}* → {*result*}*

name-clause::=`named` *name*

variable-clause::=↓*with-clause* | ↓*initial-final* | ↓*for-as-clause*

with-clause::=`with` *var1* [*type-spec*] [= *form1*] {`and` *var2* [*type-spec*] [= *form2*]}*

main-clause::=↓*unconditional* | ↓*accumulation* | ↓*conditional* | ↓*termination-test* | ↓*initial-final*

initial-final::=`initially` {*compound-form*}+ | `finally` {*compound-form*}+

unconditional::={`do` | `doing`} {*compound-form*}+ | `return` {*form* | `it`}

accumulation::=↓*list-accumulation* | ↓*numeric-accumulation*

list-accumulation::={`collect` | `collecting` | `append` | `appending` | `nconc` | `nconcing`} {*form* | `it`}
[`into` *simple-var*]

numeric-accumulation::={`count` | `counting` | `sum` | `summing` |
`maximize` | `maximizing` | `minimize` | `minimizing`} {*form* | `it`}
[`into` *simple-var*] [*type-spec*]

conditional::={`if` | `when` | `unless`} *form* ↓*selectable-clause* {`and` ↓*selectable-clause*}*
[`else` ↓*selectable-clause* {`and` ↓*selectable-clause*}*]
[`end`]

selectable-clause::=↓*unconditional* | ↓*accumulation* | ↓*conditional*

termination-test::=`while` *form* | `until` *form* | `repeat` *form* | `always` *form* | `never` *form* | `thereis` *form*

for-as-clause::={`for` | `as`} ↓*for-as-subclause* {`and` ↓*for-as-subclause*}*

for-as-subclause::=↓*for-as-arithmetic* | ↓*for-as-in-list* | ↓*for-as-on-list* | ↓*for-as-equals-then* |
↓*for-as-across* | ↓*for-as-hash* | ↓*for-as-package*

for-as-arithmetic::=*var* [*type-spec*] ↓*for-as-arithmetic-subclause*

for-as-arithmetic-subclause::=↓*arithmetic-up* | ↓*arithmetic-downto* | ↓*arithmetic-downfrom*

arithmetic-up::=⟦{`from` | `upfrom`} *form1* | {`to` | `upto` | `below`} *form2* | `by` *form3*⟧+

arithmetic-downto::=⟦{`from` *form1*}¹ | {{`downto` | `above`} *form2*}¹ | `by` *form3*⟧

arithmetic-downfrom::=⟦{`downfrom` *form1*}¹ | {`to` | `downto` | `above`} *form2* | `by` *form3*⟧

for-as-in-list::=*var* [*type-spec*] `in` *form1* [`by` *step-fun*]

for-as-on-list::=*var* [*type-spec*] `on` *form1* [`by` *step-fun*]

for-as-equals-then::=*var* [*type-spec*] = *form1* [`then` *form2*]

for-as-across::=*var* [*type-spec*] `across` *vector*

for-as-hash::=*var* [*type-spec*] `being` {`each` | `the`}
{{`hash-key` | `hash-keys`} {`in` | `of`} *hash-table*
[`using` (`hash-value` *other-var*)] |
{`hash-value` | `hash-values`} {`in` | `of`} *hash-table*
[`using` (`hash-key` *other-var*)]}

for-as-package::=*var* [*type-spec*] `being` {`each` | `the`}
{`symbol` | `symbols` |
`present-symbol` | `present-symbols` |
`external-symbol` | `external-symbols`}
[{`in` | `of`} *package*]

type-spec::=↓*simple-type-spec* | ↓*destructured-type-spec*

simple-type-spec::=**fixnum** | **float** | **t** | **nil**

destructured-type-spec::=`of-type` *d-type-spec*

d-type-spec::=*type-specifier* | (*d-type-spec* . *d-type-spec*)

var::=↓*d-var-spec*

var1::=↓*d-var-spec*

var2::=↓*d-var-spec*

other-var::=↓*d-var-spec*

d-var-spec::=*simple-var* | **nil** | (↓*d-var-spec* . ↓*d-var-spec*)

Arguments and Values:

compound-form—a *compound form*.

name—a *symbol*.

simple-var—a *symbol* (a *variable* name).

form, *form1*, *form2*, *form3*—a *form*.

step-fun—a *form* that evaluates to a *function* of one *argument*.

vector—a *form* that evaluates to a *vector*.

hash-table—a *form* that evaluates to a *hash table*.

package—a *form* that evaluates to a *package designator*.

type-specifier—a *type specifier*. This might be either an *atomic type specifier* or a *compound type specifier*, which introduces some additional complications to proper parsing in the face of destructuring; for further information, see Section 6.1.1.7 (Destructuring).

result—an *object*.

Description:

For details, see Section 6.1 (The LOOP Facility).

Examples:

```
;; An example of the simple form of LOOP.
 (defun sqrt-advisor ()
   (loop (format t "~&Number: ")
```

```
        (let ((n (parse-integer (read-line) :junk-allowed t)))
          (when (not n) (return))
          (format t "~&The square root of ~D is ~D.~%" n (sqrt n)))))
→ SQRT-ADVISOR
 (sqrt-advisor)
▷ Number: 5↩
▷ The square root of 5 is 2.236068.
▷ Number: 4↩
▷ The square root of 4 is 2.
▷ Number: done↩
→ NIL

;; An example of the extended form of LOOP.
 (defun square-advisor ()
   (loop as n = (progn (format t "~&Number: ")
                       (parse-integer (read-line) :junk-allowed t))
         while n
         do (format t "~&The square of ~D is ~D.~%" n (* n n))))
→ SQUARE-ADVISOR
 (square-advisor)
▷ Number: 4↩
▷ The square of 4 is 16.
▷ Number: 23↩
▷ The square of 23 is 529.
▷ Number: done↩
→ NIL

;; Another example of the extended form of LOOP.
 (loop for n from 1 to 10
       when (oddp n)
         collect n)
→ (1 3 5 7 9)
```

See Also:

do, **dolist**, **dotimes**, **return**, **go**, **throw**, Section 6.1.1.7 (Destructuring)

Notes:

Except that **loop-finish** cannot be used within a simple **loop** *form*, a simple **loop** *form* is related to an extended **loop** *form* in the following way:

(loop {*compound-form*}*) ≡ (loop do {*compound-form*}*)

loop-finish *Local Macro*

Syntax:

loop-finish ⟨*no arguments*⟩ →|

Description:

The **loop-finish** *macro* can be used lexically within an extended **loop** *form* to terminate that *form* "normally." That is, it transfers control to the loop epilogue of the lexically innermost extended **loop** *form*. This permits execution of any **finally** clause (for effect) and the return of any accumulated result.

Examples:

```
;; Terminate the loop, but return the accumulated count.
 (loop for i in '(1 2 3 stop-here 4 5 6)
      when (symbolp i) do (loop-finish)
      count i)
→ 3

;; The preceding loop is equivalent to:
 (loop for i in '(1 2 3 stop-here 4 5 6)
      until (symbolp i)
      count i)
→ 3

;; While LOOP-FINISH can be used can be used in a variety of
;; situations it is really most needed in a situation where a need
;; to exit is detected at other than the loop's 'top level'
;; (where UNTIL or WHEN often work just as well), or where some
;; computation must occur between the point where a need to exit is
;; detected and the point where the exit actually occurs.  For example:
 (defun tokenize-sentence (string)
   (macrolet ((add-word (wvar svar)
                `(when ,wvar
                   (push (coerce (nreverse ,wvar) 'string) ,svar)
                   (setq ,wvar nil))))
     (loop with word = '() and sentence = '() and endpos = nil
           for i below (length string)
           do (let ((char (aref string i)))
                (case char
                  (#\Space (add-word word sentence))
                  (#\. (setq endpos (1+ i)) (loop-finish))
                  (otherwise (push char word))))
           finally (add-word word sentence)
```

```
                   (return (values (nreverse sentence) endpos)))))
→ TOKENIZE-SENTENCE

 (tokenize-sentence "this is a sentence. this is another sentence.")
→ ("this" "is" "a" "sentence"), 19

 (tokenize-sentence "this is a sentence")
→ ("this" "is" "a" "sentence"), NIL
```

Side Effects:

Transfers control.

Exceptional Situations:

Whether or not **loop-finish** is *fbound* in the *global environment* is *implementation-dependent*; however, the restrictions on redefinition and *shadowing* of **loop-finish** are the same as for *symbols* in the COMMON-LISP *package* which are *fbound* in the *global environment*. The consequences of attempting to use **loop-finish** outside of **loop** are undefined.

See Also:

loop, Section 6.1 (The LOOP Facility)

Notes:

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7. Objects

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7.1 Object Creation and Initialization

The *generic function* **make-instance** creates and returns a new *instance* of a *class*. The first argument is a *class* or the *name* of a *class*, and the remaining arguments form an ***initialization argument list***.

The initialization of a new *instance* consists of several distinct steps, including the following: combining the explicitly supplied initialization arguments with default values for the unsupplied initialization arguments, checking the validity of the initialization arguments, allocating storage for the *instance*, filling *slots* with values, and executing user-supplied *methods* that perform additional initialization. Each step of **make-instance** is implemented by a *generic function* to provide a mechanism for customizing that step. In addition, **make-instance** is itself a *generic function* and thus also can be customized.

The object system specifies system-supplied primary *methods* for each step and thus specifies a well-defined standard behavior for the entire initialization process. The standard behavior provides four simple mechanisms for controlling initialization:

- Declaring a *symbol* to be an initialization argument for a *slot*. An initialization argument is declared by using the `:initarg` slot option to **defclass**. This provides a mechanism for supplying a value for a *slot* in a call to **make-instance**.

- Supplying a default value form for an initialization argument. Default value forms for initialization arguments are defined by using the `:default-initargs` class option to **defclass**. If an initialization argument is not explicitly provided as an argument to **make-instance**, the default value form is evaluated in the lexical environment of the **defclass** form that defined it, and the resulting value is used as the value of the initialization argument.

- Supplying a default initial value form for a *slot*. A default initial value form for a *slot* is defined by using the `:initform` slot option to **defclass**. If no initialization argument associated with that *slot* is given as an argument to **make-instance** or is defaulted by `:default-initargs`, this default initial value form is evaluated in the lexical environment of the **defclass** form that defined it, and the resulting value is stored in the *slot*. The `:initform` form for a *local slot* may be used when creating an *instance*, when updating an *instance* to conform to a redefined *class*, or when updating an *instance* to conform to the definition of a different *class*. The `:initform` form for a *shared slot* may be used when defining or re-defining the *class*.

- Defining *methods* for **initialize-instance** and **shared-initialize**. The slot-filling behavior described above is implemented by a system-supplied primary *method* for **initialize-instance** which invokes **shared-initialize**. The *generic function* **shared-initialize** implements the parts of initialization shared by these four situations: when making an *instance*, when re-initializing an *instance*, when updating an *instance* to conform to a redefined *class*, and when updating an *instance* to conform to the definition of a different *class*. The system-supplied primary *method* for **shared-initialize** directly implements the slot-filling behavior described above, and **initialize-instance** simply invokes **shared-initialize**.

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7.1.1 Initialization Arguments

An initialization argument controls *object* creation and initialization. It is often convenient to use keyword *symbols* to name initialization arguments, but the *name* of an initialization argument can be any *symbol*, including **nil**. An initialization argument can be used in two ways: to fill a *slot* with a value or to provide an argument for an initialization *method*. A single initialization argument can be used for both purposes.

An *initialization argument list* is a *property list* of initialization argument names and values. Its structure is identical to a *property list* and also to the portion of an argument list processed for **&key** parameters. As in those lists, if an initialization argument name appears more than once in an initialization argument list, the leftmost occurrence supplies the value and the remaining occurrences are ignored. The arguments to **make-instance** (after the first argument) form an *initialization argument list*.

An initialization argument can be associated with a *slot*. If the initialization argument has a value in the *initialization argument list*, the value is stored into the *slot* of the newly created *object*, overriding any `:initform` form associated with the *slot*. A single initialization argument can initialize more than one *slot*. An initialization argument that initializes a *shared slot* stores its value into the *shared slot*, replacing any previous value.

An initialization argument can be associated with a *method*. When an *object* is created and a particular initialization argument is supplied, the *generic functions* **initialize-instance**, **shared-initialize**, and **allocate-instance** are called with that initialization argument's name and value as a keyword argument pair. If a value for the initialization argument is not supplied in the *initialization argument list*, the *method*'s *lambda list* supplies a default value.

Initialization arguments are used in four situations: when making an *instance*, when re-initializing an *instance*, when updating an *instance* to conform to a redefined *class*, and when updating an *instance* to conform to the definition of a different *class*.

Because initialization arguments are used to control the creation and initialization of an *instance* of some particular *class*, we say that an initialization argument is "an initialization argument for" that *class*.

7.1.2 Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments

Initialization arguments are checked for validity in each of the four situations that use them. An initialization argument may be valid in one situation and not another. For example, the system-supplied primary *method* for **make-instance** defined for the *class* **standard-class** checks the validity of its initialization arguments and signals an error if an initialization argument is supplied that is not declared as valid in that situation.

There are two means for declaring initialization arguments valid.

- Initialization arguments that fill *slots* are declared as valid by the `:initarg` slot option to **defclass**. The `:initarg` slot option is inherited from *superclasses*. Thus the set of valid initialization arguments that fill *slots* for a *class* is the union of the initialization arguments that fill *slots* declared as valid by that *class* and its *superclasses*. Initialization arguments that fill *slots* are valid in all four contexts.

- Initialization arguments that supply arguments to *methods* are declared as valid by defining those *methods*. The keyword name of each keyword parameter specified in the *method*'s *lambda list* becomes an initialization argument for all *classes* for which the *method* is applicable. The presence of `&allow-other-keys` in the *lambda list* of an applicable method disables validity checking of initialization arguments. Thus *method* inheritance controls the set of valid initialization arguments that supply arguments to *methods*. The *generic functions* for which *method* definitions serve to declare initialization arguments valid are as follows:

  – Making an *instance* of a *class*: **allocate-instance**, **initialize-instance**, and **shared-initialize**. Initialization arguments declared as valid by these *methods* are valid when making an *instance* of a *class*.

  – Re-initializing an *instance*: **reinitialize-instance** and **shared-initialize**. Initialization arguments declared as valid by these *methods* are valid when re-initializing an *instance*.

  – Updating an *instance* to conform to a redefined *class*: **update-instance-for-redefined-class** and **shared-initialize**. Initialization arguments declared as valid by these *methods* are valid when updating an *instance* to conform to a redefined *class*.

  – Updating an *instance* to conform to the definition of a different *class*: **update-instance-for-different-class** and **shared-initialize**. Initialization arguments declared as valid by these *methods* are valid when updating an *instance* to conform to the definition of a different *class*.

The set of valid initialization arguments for a *class* is the set of valid initialization arguments that either fill *slots* or supply arguments to *methods*, along with the predefined initialization argument `:allow-other-keys`. The default value for `:allow-other-keys` is **nil**. Validity checking of initialization arguments is disabled if the value of the initialization argument `:allow-other-keys` is *true*.

7.1.3 Defaulting of Initialization Arguments

A default value *form* can be supplied for an initialization argument by using the `:default-initargs` *class* option. If an initialization argument is declared valid by some particular *class*, its default value form might be specified by a different *class*. In this case `:default-initargs` is used to supply a default value for an inherited initialization argument.

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The `:default-initargs` option is used only to provide default values for initialization arguments; it does not declare a *symbol* as a valid initialization argument name. Furthermore, the `:default-initargs` option is used only to provide default values for initialization arguments when making an *instance*.

The argument to the `:default-initargs` class option is a list of alternating initialization argument names and *forms*. Each *form* is the default value form for the corresponding initialization argument. The default value *form* of an initialization argument is used and evaluated only if that initialization argument does not appear in the arguments to **make-instance** and is not defaulted by a more specific *class*. The default value *form* is evaluated in the lexical environment of the **defclass** form that supplied it; the resulting value is used as the initialization argument's value.

The initialization arguments supplied to **make-instance** are combined with defaulted initialization arguments to produce a *defaulted initialization argument list*. A *defaulted initialization argument list* is a list of alternating initialization argument names and values in which unsupplied initialization arguments are defaulted and in which the explicitly supplied initialization arguments appear earlier in the list than the defaulted initialization arguments. Defaulted initialization arguments are ordered according to the order in the *class precedence list* of the *classes* that supplied the default values.

There is a distinction between the purposes of the `:default-initargs` and the `:initform` options with respect to the initialization of *slots*. The `:default-initargs` class option provides a mechanism for the user to give a default value *form* for an initialization argument without knowing whether the initialization argument initializes a *slot* or is passed to a *method*. If that initialization argument is not explicitly supplied in a call to **make-instance**, the default value *form* is used, just as if it had been supplied in the call. In contrast, the `:initform` slot option provides a mechanism for the user to give a default initial value form for a *slot*. An `:initform` form is used to initialize a *slot* only if no initialization argument associated with that *slot* is given as an argument to **make-instance** or is defaulted by `:default-initargs`.

The order of evaluation of default value *forms* for initialization arguments and the order of evaluation of `:initform` forms are undefined. If the order of evaluation is important, **initialize-instance** or **shared-initialize** *methods* should be used instead.

7.1.4 Rules for Initialization Arguments

The `:initarg` slot option may be specified more than once for a given *slot*.

The following rules specify when initialization arguments may be multiply defined:

- A given initialization argument can be used to initialize more than one *slot* if the same initialization argument name appears in more than one `:initarg` slot option.

- A given initialization argument name can appear in the *lambda list* of more than one initialization *method*.

- A given initialization argument name can appear both in an `:initarg` slot option and in the *lambda list* of an initialization *method*.

If two or more initialization arguments that initialize the same *slot* are given in the arguments to **make-instance**, the leftmost of these initialization arguments in the *initialization argument list* supplies the value, even if the initialization arguments have different names.

If two or more different initialization arguments that initialize the same *slot* have default values and none is given explicitly in the arguments to **make-instance**, the initialization argument that appears in a `:default-initargs` class option in the most specific of the *classes* supplies the value. If a single `:default-initargs` class option specifies two or more initialization arguments that initialize the same *slot* and none is given explicitly in the arguments to **make-instance**, the leftmost in the `:default-initargs` class option supplies the value, and the values of the remaining default value *forms* are ignored.

Initialization arguments given explicitly in the arguments to **make-instance** appear to the left of defaulted initialization arguments. Suppose that the classes C_1 and C_2 supply the values of defaulted initialization arguments for different *slots*, and suppose that C_1 is more specific than C_2; then the defaulted initialization argument whose value is supplied by C_1 is to the left of the defaulted initialization argument whose value is supplied by C_2 in the *defaulted initialization argument list*. If a single `:default-initargs` class option supplies the values of initialization arguments for two different *slots*, the initialization argument whose value is specified farther to the left in the `:default-initargs` class option appears farther to the left in the *defaulted initialization argument list*.

If a *slot* has both an `:initform` form and an `:initarg` slot option, and the initialization argument is defaulted using `:default-initargs` or is supplied to **make-instance**, the captured `:initform` form is neither used nor evaluated.

The following is an example of the above rules:

```
(defclass q () ((x :initarg a)))
(defclass r (q) ((x :initarg b))
  (:default-initargs a 1 b 2))
```

Form	Defaulted Initialization Argument List	Contents of Slot X
`(make-instance 'r)`	`(a 1 b 2)`	1
`(make-instance 'r 'a 3)`	`(a 3 b 2)`	3
`(make-instance 'r 'b 4)`	`(b 4 a 1)`	4
`(make-instance 'r 'a 1 'a 2)`	`(a 1 a 2 b 2)`	1

7.1.5 Shared-Initialize

The *generic function* **shared-initialize** is used to fill the *slots* of an *instance* using initialization arguments and `:initform` forms when an *instance* is created, when an *instance* is re-initialized, when an *instance* is updated to conform to a redefined *class*, and when an *instance* is updated to conform to a different *class*. It uses standard *method* combination. It takes the following arguments: the *instance* to be initialized, a specification of a set of *names* of *slots accessible* in that *instance*, and any number of initialization arguments. The arguments after the first two must form an *initialization argument list*.

The second argument to **shared-initialize** may be one of the following:

- It can be a (possibly empty) *list* of *slot* names, which specifies the set of those *slot* names.

- It can be the symbol **t**, which specifies the set of all of the *slots*.

There is a system-supplied primary *method* for **shared-initialize** whose first *parameter specializer* is the *class* **standard-object**. This *method* behaves as follows on each *slot*, whether shared or local:

- If an initialization argument in the *initialization argument list* specifies a value for that *slot*, that value is stored into the *slot*, even if a value has already been stored in the *slot* before the *method* is run. The affected *slots* are independent of which *slots* are indicated by the second argument to **shared-initialize**.

- Any *slots* indicated by the second argument that are still unbound at this point are initialized according to their `:initform` forms. For any such *slot* that has an `:initform` form, that *form* is evaluated in the lexical environment of its defining **defclass** form and the result is stored into the *slot*. For example, if a *before method* stores a value in the *slot*, the `:initform` form will not be used to supply a value for the *slot*. If the second argument specifies a *name* that does not correspond to any *slots accessible* in the *instance*, the results are unspecified.

- The rules mentioned in Section 7.1.4 (Rules for Initialization Arguments) are obeyed.

The generic function **shared-initialize** is called by the system-supplied primary *methods* for **reinitialize-instance**, **update-instance-for-different-class**, **update-instance-for-redefined-class**, and **initialize-instance**. Thus, *methods* can be written for **shared-initialize** to specify actions that should be taken in all of these contexts.

7.1.6 Initialize-Instance

The *generic function* **initialize-instance** is called by **make-instance** to initialize a newly created *instance*. It uses *standard method combination*. *Methods* for **initialize-instance** can be defined in order to perform any initialization that cannot be achieved simply by supplying initial values for *slots*.

During initialization, **initialize-instance** is invoked after the following actions have been taken:

- The *defaulted initialization argument list* has been computed by combining the supplied *initialization argument list* with any default initialization arguments for the *class*.
- The validity of the *defaulted initialization argument list* has been checked. If any of the initialization arguments has not been declared as valid, an error is signaled.
- A new *instance* whose *slots* are unbound has been created.

The generic function **initialize-instance** is called with the new *instance* and the defaulted initialization arguments. There is a system-supplied primary *method* for **initialize-instance** whose *parameter specializer* is the *class* **standard-object**. This *method* calls the generic function **shared-initialize** to fill in the *slots* according to the initialization arguments and the `:initform` forms for the *slots*; the generic function **shared-initialize** is called with the following arguments: the *instance*, **t**, and the defaulted initialization arguments.

Note that **initialize-instance** provides the *defaulted initialization argument list* in its call to **shared-initialize**, so the first step performed by the system-supplied primary *method* for **shared-initialize** takes into account both the initialization arguments provided in the call to **make-instance** and the *defaulted initialization argument list*.

Methods for **initialize-instance** can be defined to specify actions to be taken when an *instance* is initialized. If only *after methods* for **initialize-instance** are defined, they will be run after the system-supplied primary *method* for initialization and therefore will not interfere with the default behavior of **initialize-instance**.

The object system provides two *functions* that are useful in the bodies of **initialize-instance** methods. The *function* **slot-boundp** returns a *generic boolean* value that indicates whether a specified *slot* has a value; this provides a mechanism for writing *after methods* for **initialize-instance** that initialize *slots* only if they have not already been initialized. The *function* **slot-makunbound** causes the *slot* to have no value.

7.1.7 Definitions of Make-Instance and Initialize-Instance

The generic function **make-instance** behaves as if it were defined as follows, except that certain optimizations are permitted:

```
(defmethod make-instance ((class standard-class) &rest initargs)
  ...
```


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```
  (let ((instance (apply #'allocate-instance class initargs)))
    (apply #'initialize-instance instance initargs)
    instance))

(defmethod make-instance ((class-name symbol) &rest initargs)
  (apply #'make-instance (find-class class-name) initargs))
```

The elided code in the definition of **make-instance** augments the `initargs` with any *defaulted initialization arguments* and checks the resulting initialization arguments to determine whether an initialization argument was supplied that neither filled a *slot* nor supplied an argument to an applicable *method*.

The generic function **initialize-instance** behaves as if it were defined as follows, except that certain optimizations are permitted:

```
(defmethod initialize-instance ((instance standard-object) &rest initargs)
  (apply #'shared-initialize instance t initargs)))
```

These procedures can be customized.

Customizing at the Programmer Interface level includes using the `:initform`, `:initarg`, and `:default-initargs` options to **defclass**, as well as defining *methods* for **make-instance**, **allocate-instance**, and **initialize-instance**. It is also possible to define *methods* for **shared-initialize**, which would be invoked by the generic functions **reinitialize-instance**, **update-instance-for-redefined-class**, **update-instance-for-different-class**, and **initialize-instance**. The meta-object level supports additional customization.

Implementations are permitted to make certain optimizations to **initialize-instance** and **shared-initialize**. The description of **shared-initialize** in Chapter 7 mentions the possible optimizations.

7.2 Changing the Class of an Instance

The *function* **change-class** can be used to change the *class* of an *instance* from its current class, C_{from}, to a different class, C_{to}; it changes the structure of the *instance* to conform to the definition of the class C_{to}.

Note that changing the *class* of an *instance* may cause *slots* to be added or deleted. Changing the *class* of an *instance* does not change its identity as defined by the **eq** function.

When **change-class** is invoked on an *instance*, a two-step updating process takes place. The first step modifies the structure of the *instance* by adding new *local slots* and discarding *local slots* that are not specified in the new version of the *instance*. The second step initializes the newly added *local slots* and performs any other user-defined actions. These two steps are further described in the two following sections.

7.2.1 Modifying the Structure of the Instance

In order to make the *instance* conform to the class C_{to}, *local slots* specified by the class C_{to} that are not specified by the class C_{from} are added, and *local slots* not specified by the class C_{to} that are specified by the class C_{from} are discarded.

The values of *local slots* specified by both the class C_{to} and the class C_{from} are retained. If such a *local slot* was unbound, it remains unbound.

The values of *slots* specified as shared in the class C_{from} and as local in the class C_{to} are retained.

This first step of the update does not affect the values of any *shared slots*.

7.2.2 Initializing Newly Added Local Slots

The second step of the update initializes the newly added *slots* and performs any other user-defined actions. This step is implemented by the generic function **update-instance-for-different-class**. The generic function **update-instance-for-different-class** is invoked by **change-class** after the first step of the update has been completed.

The generic function **update-instance-for-different-class** is invoked on arguments computed by **change-class**. The first argument passed is a copy of the *instance* being updated and is an *instance* of the class C_{from}; this copy has *dynamic extent* within the generic function **change-class**. The second argument is the *instance* as updated so far by **change-class** and is an *instance* of the class C_{to}. The remaining arguments are an *initialization argument list*.

There is a system-supplied primary *method* for **update-instance-for-different-class** that has two parameter specializers, each of which is the *class* **standard-object**. First this *method* checks the validity of initialization arguments and signals an error if an initialization argument is supplied that is not declared as valid. (For more information, see Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments).) Then it calls the generic function **shared-initialize** with the following arguments: the new *instance*, a list of *names* of the newly added *slots*, and the initialization arguments it received.

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7.2.3 Customizing the Change of Class of an Instance

Methods for **update-instance-for-different-class** may be defined to specify actions to be taken when an *instance* is updated. If only *after methods* for **update-instance-for-different-class** are defined, they will be run after the system-supplied primary *method* for initialization and will not interfere with the default behavior of **update-instance-for-different-class**.

Methods for **shared-initialize** may be defined to customize *class* redefinition. For more information, see Section 7.1.5 (Shared-Initialize).

7.3 Reinitializing an Instance

The generic function **reinitialize-instance** may be used to change the values of *slots* according to initialization arguments.

The process of reinitialization changes the values of some *slots* and performs any user-defined actions. It does not modify the structure of an *instance* to add or delete *slots*, and it does not use any `:initform` forms to initialize *slots*.

The generic function **reinitialize-instance** may be called directly. It takes one required argument, the *instance*. It also takes any number of initialization arguments to be used by *methods* for **reinitialize-instance** or for **shared-initialize**. The arguments after the required *instance* must form an *initialization argument list*.

There is a system-supplied primary *method* for **reinitialize-instance** whose *parameter specializer* is the *class* **standard-object**. First this *method* checks the validity of initialization arguments and signals an error if an initialization argument is supplied that is not declared as valid. (For more information, see Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments).) Then it calls the generic function **shared-initialize** with the following arguments: the *instance*, **nil**, and the initialization arguments it received.

7.3.1 Customizing Reinitialization

Methods for **reinitialize-instance** may be defined to specify actions to be taken when an *instance* is updated. If only *after methods* for **reinitialize-instance** are defined, they will be run after the system-supplied primary *method* for initialization and therefore will not interfere with the default behavior of **reinitialize-instance**.

Methods for **shared-initialize** may be defined to customize *class* redefinition. For more information, see Section 7.1.5 (Shared-Initialize).

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7.4 Meta-Objects

The implementation of the object system manipulates *classes*, *methods*, and *generic functions*. The object system contains a set of *generic functions* defined by *methods* on *classes*; the behavior of those *generic functions* defines the behavior of the object system. The *instances* of the *classes* on which those *methods* are defined are called meta-objects.

7.4.1 Standard Meta-objects

The object system supplies a set of meta-objects, called standard meta-objects. These include the *class* **standard-object** and *instances* of the classes **standard-method**, **standard-generic-function**, and **method-combination**.

- The *class* **standard-method** is the default *class* of *methods* defined by the **defmethod** and **defgeneric** *forms*.
- The *class* **standard-generic-function** is the default *class* of *generic functions* defined by the forms **defmethod**, **defgeneric**, and **defclass**.
- The *class* named **standard-object** is an *instance* of the *class* **standard-class** and is a *superclass* of every *class* that is an *instance* of **standard-class** except itself and **structure-class**.
- Every *method* combination object is an *instance* of a *subclass* of *class* **method-combination**.

7.5 Slots

7.5.1 Introduction to Slots

An *object* of *metaclass* **standard-class** has zero or more named *slots*. The *slots* of an *object* are determined by the *class* of the *object*. Each *slot* can hold one value. The *name* of a *slot* is a *symbol* that is syntactically valid for use as a variable name.

When a *slot* does not have a value, the *slot* is said to be *unbound*. When an unbound *slot* is read, the *generic function* **slot-unbound** is invoked. The system-supplied primary *method* for **slot-unbound** on *class* **t** signals an error. If **slot-unbound** returns, its *primary value* is used that time as the *value* of the *slot*.

The default initial value form for a *slot* is defined by the `:initform` slot option. When the `:initform` form is used to supply a value, it is evaluated in the lexical environment in which the **defclass** form was evaluated. The `:initform` along with the lexical environment in which the **defclass** form was evaluated is called a *captured initialization form*. For more details, see Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization).

A *local slot* is defined to be a *slot* that is *accessible* to exactly one *instance*, namely the one in which the *slot* is allocated. A *shared slot* is defined to be a *slot* that is visible to more than one *instance* of a given *class* and its *subclasses*.

A *class* is said to define a *slot* with a given *name* when the **defclass** form for that *class* contains a *slot specifier* with that *name*. Defining a *local slot* does not immediately create a *slot*; it causes a *slot* to be created each time an *instance* of the *class* is created. Defining a *shared slot* immediately creates a *slot*.

The `:allocation` slot option to **defclass** controls the kind of *slot* that is defined. If the value of the `:allocation` slot option is `:instance`, a *local slot* is created. If the value of `:allocation` is `:class`, a *shared slot* is created.

A *slot* is said to be *accessible* in an *instance* of a *class* if the *slot* is defined by the *class* of the *instance* or is inherited from a *superclass* of that *class*. At most one *slot* of a given *name* can be *accessible* in an *instance*. A *shared slot* defined by a *class* is *accessible* in all *instances* of that *class*. A detailed explanation of the inheritance of *slots* is given in Section 7.5.3 (Inheritance of Slots and Slot Options).

7.5.2 Accessing Slots

Slots can be *accessed* in two ways: by use of the primitive function **slot-value** and by use of *generic functions* generated by the **defclass** form.

The *function* **slot-value** can be used with any of the *slot* names specified in the **defclass** form to *access* a specific *slot accessible* in an *instance* of the given *class*.

The macro **defclass** provides syntax for generating *methods* to read and write *slots*. If a reader *method* is requested, a *method* is automatically generated for reading the value of the *slot*, but no *method* for storing a value into it is generated. If a writer *method* is requested, a *method* is automatically generated for storing a value into the *slot*, but no *method* for reading its value is generated. If an accessor *method* is requested, a *method* for reading the value of the *slot* and a *method* for storing a value into the *slot* are automatically generated. Reader and writer *methods* are implemented using **slot-value**.

When a reader or writer *method* is specified for a *slot*, the name of the *generic function* to which the generated *method* belongs is directly specified. If the *name* specified for the writer *method* is the symbol `name`, the *name* of the *generic function* for writing the *slot* is the symbol `name`, and the *generic function* takes two arguments: the new value and the *instance*, in that order. If the *name* specified for the accessor *method* is the symbol `name`, the *name* of the *generic function* for reading the *slot* is the symbol `name`, and the *name* of the *generic function* for writing the *slot* is the list `(setf name)`.

A *generic function* created or modified by supplying `:reader`, `:writer`, or `:accessor` *slot* options can be treated exactly as an ordinary *generic function*.

Note that **slot-value** can be used to read or write the value of a *slot* whether or not reader or writer *methods* exist for that *slot*. When **slot-value** is used, no reader or writer *methods* are invoked.

The macro **with-slots** can be used to establish a *lexical environment* in which specified *slots* are lexically available as if they were variables. The macro **with-slots** invokes the *function* **slot-value** to *access* the specified *slots*.

The macro **with-accessors** can be used to establish a lexical environment in which specified *slots* are lexically available through their accessors as if they were variables. The macro **with-accessors** invokes the appropriate accessors to *access* the specified *slots*.

7.5.3 Inheritance of Slots and Slot Options

The set of the *names* of all *slots accessible* in an *instance* of a *class* C is the union of the sets of *names* of *slots* defined by C and its *superclasses*. The structure of an *instance* is the set of *names* of *local slots* in that *instance*.

In the simplest case, only one *class* among C and its *superclasses* defines a *slot* with a given *slot* name. If a *slot* is defined by a *superclass* of C, the *slot* is said to be inherited. The characteristics of the *slot* are determined by the *slot specifier* of the defining *class*. Consider the defining *class* for a slot S. If the value of the `:allocation` slot option is `:instance`, then S is a *local slot* and each *instance* of C has its own *slot* named S that stores its own value. If the value of the `:allocation` slot option is `:class`, then S is a *shared slot*, the *class* that defined S stores the value, and all *instances* of C can *access* that single *slot*. If the `:allocation` slot option is omitted, `:instance` is used.

In general, more than one *class* among C and its *superclasses* can define a *slot* with a given *name*. In such cases, only one *slot* with the given name is *accessible* in an *instance* of C, and the characteristics of that *slot* are a combination of the several *slot* specifiers, computed as follows:

- All the *slot specifiers* for a given *slot* name are ordered from most specific to least specific, according to the order in C's *class precedence list* of the *classes* that define them. All references to the specificity of *slot specifiers* immediately below refers to this ordering.

- The allocation of a *slot* is controlled by the most specific *slot specifier*. If the most specific *slot specifier* does not contain an `:allocation` slot option, `:instance` is used. Less specific *slot specifiers* do not affect the allocation.

- The default initial value form for a *slot* is the value of the `:initform` slot option in the most specific *slot specifier* that contains one. If no *slot specifier* contains an `:initform` slot option, the *slot* has no default initial value form.

- The contents of a *slot* will always be of type `(and` T_1 ... T_n`)` where $T_1 \ldots T_n$ are the values of the `:type` slot options contained in all of the *slot specifiers*. If no *slot specifier* contains the `:type` slot option, the contents of the *slot* will always be of *type* `t`. The consequences of attempting to store in a *slot* a value that does not satisfy the *type* of the *slot* are undefined.

- The set of initialization arguments that initialize a given *slot* is the union of the initialization arguments declared in the `:initarg` slot options in all the *slot specifiers*.

- The *documentation string* for a *slot* is the value of the `:documentation` slot option in the most specific *slot* specifier that contains one. If no *slot specifier* contains a `:documentation` slot option, the *slot* has no *documentation string*.

A consequence of the allocation rule is that a *shared slot* can be *shadowed*. For example, if a class C_1 defines a *slot* named S whose value for the `:allocation` slot option is `:class`, that *slot* is *accessible* in *instances* of C_1 and all of its *subclasses*. However, if C_2 is a *subclass* of C_1 and also defines a *slot* named S, C_1's *slot* is not shared by *instances* of C_2 and its *subclasses*. When a class C_1 defines a *shared slot*, any subclass C_2 of C_1 will share this single *slot* unless the **defclass** form for C_2 specifies a *slot* of the same *name* or there is a *superclass* of C_2 that precedes C_1 in the *class precedence list* of C_2 that defines a *slot* of the same name.

A consequence of the type rule is that the value of a *slot* satisfies the type constraint of each *slot specifier* that contributes to that *slot*. Because the result of attempting to store in a *slot* a value that does not satisfy the type constraint for the *slot* is undefined, the value in a *slot* might fail to satisfy its type constraint.

The `:reader`, `:writer`, and `:accessor` slot options create *methods* rather than define the characteristics of a *slot*. Reader and writer *methods* are inherited in the sense described in Section 7.6.7 (Inheritance of Methods).

Methods that *access slots* use only the name of the *slot* and the *type* of the *slot*'s value. Suppose a *superclass* provides a *method* that expects to *access* a *shared slot* of a given *name*, and a

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subclass defines a *local slot* with the same *name*. If the *method* provided by the *superclass* is used on an *instance* of the *subclass*, the *method accesses* the *local slot*.

7.6 Generic Functions and Methods

7.6.1 Introduction to Generic Functions

A ***generic function*** is a function whose behavior depends on the *classes* or identities of the *arguments* supplied to it. A *generic function object* is associated with a set of *methods*, a *lambda list*, a *method combination*$_2$, and other information.

Like an *ordinary function*, a *generic function* takes *arguments*, performs a series of operations, and perhaps returns useful *values*. An *ordinary function* has a single body of *code* that is always *executed* when the *function* is called. A *generic function* has a set of bodies of *code* of which a subset is selected for *execution*. The selected bodies of *code* and the manner of their combination are determined by the *classes* or identities of one or more of the *arguments* to the *generic function* and by its *method combination*.

Ordinary functions and *generic functions* are called with identical syntax.

Generic functions are true *functions* that can be passed as *arguments* and used as the first *argument* to **funcall** and **apply**.

A *binding* of a *function name* to a *generic function* can be *established* in one of several ways. It can be *established* in the *global environment* by **ensure-generic-function**, **defmethod** (implicitly, due to **ensure-generic-function**) or **defgeneric** (also implicitly, due to **ensure-generic-function**). No *standardized* mechanism is provided for *establishing* a *binding* of a *function name* to a *generic function* in the *lexical environment*.

When a **defgeneric** form is evaluated, one of three actions is taken (due to **ensure-generic-function**):

- If a generic function of the given name already exists, the existing generic function object is modified. Methods specified by the current **defgeneric** form are added, and any methods in the existing generic function that were defined by a previous **defgeneric** form are removed. Methods added by the current **defgeneric** form might replace methods defined by **defmethod**, **defclass**, **define-condition**, or **defstruct**. No other methods in the generic function are affected or replaced.

- If the given name names an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error is signaled.

- Otherwise a generic function is created with the methods specified by the method definitions in the **defgeneric** form.

Some *operators* permit specification of the options of a *generic function*, such as the *type* of *method combination* it uses or its *argument precedence order*. These *operators* will be referred to as "operators that specify generic function options." The only *standardized operator* in this category is **defgeneric**.

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Some *operators* define *methods* for a *generic function*. These *operators* will be referred to as ***method-defining operators***; their associated *forms* are called *method-defining forms*. The *standardized method-defining operators* are listed in Figure 7–1.

defgeneric	**defmethod**	**defclass**
define-condition	**defstruct**	

Figure 7–1. Standardized Method-Defining Operators

Note that of the *standardized method-defining operators* only **defgeneric** can specify *generic function* options. **defgeneric** and any *implementation-defined operators* that can specify *generic function* options are also referred to as "operators that specify generic function options."

7.6.2 Introduction to Methods

Methods define the class-specific or identity-specific behavior and operations of a *generic function*.

A *method object* is associated with *code* that implements the method's behavior, a sequence of *parameter specializers* that specify when the given *method* is applicable, a *lambda list*, and a sequence of *qualifiers* that are used by the method combination facility to distinguish among *methods*.

A method object is not a function and cannot be invoked as a function. Various mechanisms in the object system take a method object and invoke its method function, as is the case when a generic function is invoked. When this occurs it is said that the method is invoked or called.

A method-defining form contains the *code* that is to be run when the arguments to the generic function cause the method that it defines to be invoked. When a method-defining form is evaluated, a method object is created and one of four actions is taken:

- If a *generic function* of the given name already exists and if a *method object* already exists that agrees with the new one on *parameter specializers* and *qualifiers*, the new *method object* replaces the old one. For a definition of one method agreeing with another on *parameter specializers* and *qualifiers*, see Section 7.6.3 (Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers).

- If a *generic function* of the given name already exists and if there is no *method object* that agrees with the new one on *parameter specializers* and *qualifiers*, the existing *generic function object* is modified to contain the new *method object*.

- If the given *name* names an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error is signaled.

- Otherwise a *generic function* is created with the *method* specified by the *method-defining form*.

If the *lambda list* of a new *method* is not *congruent* with the *lambda list* of the *generic function*, an error is signaled. If a *method-defining operator* that cannot specify *generic function* options creates a new *generic function*, a *lambda list* for that *generic function* is derived from the *lambda list* of the *method* in the *method-defining form* in such a way as to be *congruent* with it. For a discussion of ***congruence***, see Section 7.6.4 (Congruent Lambda-lists for all Methods of a Generic Function).

Each method has a *specialized lambda list*, which determines when that method can be applied. A *specialized lambda list* is like an *ordinary lambda list* except that a specialized parameter may occur instead of the name of a required parameter. A specialized parameter is a list (*variable-name parameter-specializer-name*), where *parameter-specializer-name* is one of the following:

a *symbol*

denotes a *parameter specializer* which is the *class* named by that *symbol*.

a *class*

denotes a *parameter specializer* which is the *class* itself.

`(eql` *form*`)`

denotes a *parameter specializer* which satisfies the *type specifier* `(eql` *object*`)`, where *object* is the result of evaluating *form*. The form *form* is evaluated in the lexical environment in which the method-defining form is evaluated. Note that *form* is evaluated only once, at the time the method is defined, not each time the generic function is called.

Parameter specializer names are used in macros intended as the user-level interface (**defmethod**), while *parameter specializers* are used in the functional interface.

Only required parameters may be specialized, and there must be a *parameter specializer* for each required parameter. For notational simplicity, if some required parameter in a *specialized lambda list* in a method-defining form is simply a variable name, its *parameter specializer* defaults to the *class* `t`.

Given a generic function and a set of arguments, an applicable method is a method for that generic function whose parameter specializers are satisfied by their corresponding arguments. The following definition specifies what it means for a method to be applicable and for an argument to satisfy a *parameter specializer*.

Let $\langle A_1, \ldots, A_n \rangle$ be the required arguments to a generic function in order. Let $\langle P_1, \ldots, P_n \rangle$ be the *parameter specializers* corresponding to the required parameters of the method M in order. The method M is applicable when each A_i is of the *type* specified by the *type specifier* P_i. Because every valid *parameter specializer* is also a valid *type specifier*, the *function* **typep** can be used during method selection to determine whether an argument satisfies a *parameter specializer*.

A method all of whose *parameter specializers* are the *class* `t` is called a ***default method***; it is

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always applicable but may be shadowed by a more specific method.

Methods can have *qualifiers*, which give the method combination procedure a way to distinguish among methods. A method that has one or more *qualifiers* is called a *qualified method*. A method with no *qualifiers* is called an *unqualified method*. A *qualifier* is any *non-list*. The *qualifiers* defined by the *standardized* method combination types are *symbols*.

In this specification, the terms "*primary method*" and "*auxiliary method*" are used to partition *methods* within a method combination type according to their intended use. In standard method combination, *primary methods* are *unqualified methods* and *auxiliary methods* are methods with a single *qualifier* that is one of `:around`, `:before`, or `:after`. *Methods* with these *qualifiers* are called *around methods*, *before methods*, and *after methods*, respectively. When a method combination type is defined using the short form of **define-method-combination**, *primary methods* are methods qualified with the name of the type of method combination, and auxiliary methods have the *qualifier* `:around`. Thus the terms "*primary method*" and "*auxiliary method*" have only a relative definition within a given method combination type.

7.6.3 Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers

Two *methods* are said to agree with each other on *parameter specializers* and *qualifiers* if the following conditions hold:

1. Both methods have the same number of required parameters. Suppose the *parameter specializers* of the two methods are $P_{1,1} \ldots P_{1,n}$ and $P_{2,1} \ldots P_{2,n}$.

2. For each $1 \leq i \leq n$, $P_{1,i}$ agrees with $P_{2,i}$. The *parameter specializer* $P_{1,i}$ agrees with $P_{2,i}$ if $P_{1,i}$ and $P_{2,i}$ are the same class or if $P_{1,i}$ = (**eql** *object*$_1$), $P_{2,i}$ = (**eql** *object*$_2$), and (**eql** *object*$_1$ *object*$_2$). Otherwise $P_{1,i}$ and $P_{2,i}$ do not agree.

3. The two *lists* of *qualifiers* are the *same* under **equal**.

7.6.4 Congruent Lambda-lists for all Methods of a Generic Function

These rules define the congruence of a set of *lambda lists*, including the *lambda list* of each method for a given generic function and the *lambda list* specified for the generic function itself, if given.

1. Each *lambda list* must have the same number of required parameters.

2. Each *lambda list* must have the same number of optional parameters. Each method can supply its own default for an optional parameter.

3. If any *lambda list* mentions **&rest** or **&key**, each *lambda list* must mention one or both of them.

4. If the *generic function lambda list* mentions **&key**, each method must accept all of the keyword names mentioned after **&key**, either by accepting them explicitly, by specifying **&allow-other-keys**, or by specifying **&rest** but not **&key**. Each method can accept additional keyword arguments of its own. The checking of the validity of keyword names is done in the generic function, not in each method. A method is invoked as if the keyword argument pair whose name is `:allow-other-keys` and whose value is *true* were supplied, though no such argument pair will be passed.

5. The use of **&allow-other-keys** need not be consistent across *lambda lists*. If **&allow-other-keys** is mentioned in the *lambda list* of any applicable *method* or of the *generic function*, any keyword arguments may be mentioned in the call to the *generic function*.

6. The use of **&aux** need not be consistent across methods.

   If a *method-defining operator* that cannot specify *generic function* options creates a *generic function*, and if the *lambda list* for the method mentions keyword arguments, the *lambda list* of the generic function will mention **&key** (but no keyword arguments).

7.6.5 Keyword Arguments in Generic Functions and Methods

When a generic function or any of its methods mentions **&key** in a *lambda list*, the specific set of keyword arguments accepted by the generic function varies according to the applicable methods. The set of keyword arguments accepted by the generic function for a particular call is the union of the keyword arguments accepted by all applicable methods and the keyword arguments mentioned after **&key** in the generic function definition, if any. A method that has **&rest** but not **&key** does not affect the set of acceptable keyword arguments. If the *lambda list* of any applicable method or of the generic function definition contains **&allow-other-keys**, all keyword arguments are accepted by the generic function.

The *lambda list* congruence rules require that each method accept all of the keyword arguments mentioned after **&key** in the generic function definition, by accepting them explicitly, by specifying **&allow-other-keys**, or by specifying **&rest** but not **&key**. Each method can accept additional keyword arguments of its own, in addition to the keyword arguments mentioned in the generic function definition.

If a *generic function* is passed a keyword argument that no applicable method accepts, an error should be signaled; see Section 3.5 (Error Checking in Function Calls).

7.6.5.1 Examples of Keyword Arguments in Generic Functions and Methods

For example, suppose there are two methods defined for `width` as follows:

```
(defmethod width ((c character-class) &key font) ...)

(defmethod width ((p picture-class) &key pixel-size) ...)
```


Assume that there are no other methods and no generic function definition for `width`. The evaluation of the following form should signal an error because the keyword argument `:pixel-size` is not accepted by the applicable method.

```
(width (make-instance `character-class :char #\Q)
       :font 'baskerville :pixel-size 10)
```

The evaluation of the following form should signal an error.

```
(width (make-instance `picture-class :glyph (glyph #\Q))
       :font 'baskerville :pixel-size 10)
```

The evaluation of the following form will not signal an error if the class named `character-picture-class` is a subclass of both `picture-class` and `character-class`.

```
(width (make-instance `character-picture-class :char #\Q)
       :font 'baskerville :pixel-size 10)
```

7.6.6 Method Selection and Combination

When a *generic function* is called with particular arguments, it must determine the code to execute. This code is called the ***effective method*** for those *arguments*. The *effective method* is a combination of the *applicable methods* in the *generic function* that *calls* some or all of the *methods*.

If a *generic function* is called and no *methods* are *applicable*, the *generic function* **no-applicable-method** is invoked, with the *results* from that call being used as the *results* of the call to the original *generic function*. Calling **no-applicable-method** takes precedence over checking for acceptable keyword arguments; see Section 7.6.5 (Keyword Arguments in Generic Functions and Methods).

When the *effective method* has been determined, it is invoked with the same *arguments* as were passed to the *generic function*. Whatever *values* it returns are returned as the *values* of the *generic function*.

7.6.6.1 Determining the Effective Method

The effective method is determined by the following three-step procedure:

1. Select the applicable methods.

2. Sort the applicable methods by precedence order, putting the most specific method first.

3. Apply method combination to the sorted list of applicable methods, producing the effective method.

7.6.6.1.1 Selecting the Applicable Methods

This step is described in Section 7.6.2 (Introduction to Methods).

7.6.6.1.2 Sorting the Applicable Methods by Precedence Order

To compare the precedence of two methods, their *parameter specializers* are examined in order. The default examination order is from left to right, but an alternative order may be specified by the `:argument-precedence-order` option to **defgeneric** or to any of the other operators that specify generic function options.

The corresponding *parameter specializers* from each method are compared. When a pair of *parameter specializers* agree, the next pair are compared for agreement. If all corresponding parameter specializers agree, the two methods must have different *qualifiers*; in this case, either method can be selected to precede the other. For information about agreement, see Section 7.6.3 (Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers).

If some corresponding *parameter specializers* do not agree, the first pair of *parameter specializers* that do not agree determines the precedence. If both *parameter specializers* are classes, the more specific of the two methods is the method whose *parameter specializer* appears earlier in the *class precedence list* of the corresponding argument. Because of the way in which the set of applicable methods is chosen, the *parameter specializers* are guaranteed to be present in the class precedence list of the class of the argument.

If just one of a pair of corresponding *parameter specializers* is `(eql` *object*`)`, the *method* with that *parameter specializer* precedes the other *method*. If both *parameter specializers* are **eql** *expressions*, the specializers must agree (otherwise the two *methods* would not both have been applicable to this argument).

The resulting list of *applicable methods* has the most specific *method* first and the least specific *method* last.

7.6.6.1.3 Applying method combination to the sorted list of applicable methods

In the simple case—if standard method combination is used and all applicable methods are primary methods—the effective method is the most specific method. That method can call the next most specific method by using the *function* **call-next-method**. The method that **call-next-method** will call is referred to as the ***next method***. The predicate **next-method-p** tests whether a next method exists. If **call-next-method** is called and there is no next most specific method, the generic function **no-next-method** is invoked.

In general, the effective method is some combination of the applicable methods. It is described by a *form* that contains calls to some or all of the applicable methods, returns the value or values that will be returned as the value or values of the generic function, and optionally makes some of the methods accessible by means of **call-next-method**.

The role of each method in the effective method is determined by its *qualifiers* and the specificity of the method. A *qualifier* serves to mark a method, and the meaning of a *qualifier* is determined by the way that these marks are used by this step of the procedure. If an applicable method has an unrecognized *qualifier*, this step signals an error and does not include that method in the effective method.

When standard method combination is used together with qualified methods, the effective method is produced as described in Section 7.6.6.2 (Standard Method Combination).

Another type of method combination can be specified by using the `:method-combination` option of **defgeneric** or of any of the other operators that specify generic function options. In this way this step of the procedure can be customized.

New types of method combination can be defined by using the **define-method-combination** *macro*.

7.6.6.2 Standard Method Combination

Standard method combination is supported by the *class* **standard-generic-function**. It is used if no other type of method combination is specified or if the built-in method combination type **standard** is specified.

Primary methods define the main action of the effective method, while auxiliary methods modify that action in one of three ways. A primary method has no method *qualifiers*.

An auxiliary method is a method whose *qualifier* is `:before`, `:after`, or `:around`. Standard method combination allows no more than one *qualifier* per method; if a method definition specifies more than one *qualifier* per method, an error is signaled.

- A *before method* has the keyword `:before` as its only *qualifier*. A *before method* specifies *code* that is to be run before any *primary methods*.
- An *after method* has the keyword `:after` as its only *qualifier*. An *after method* specifies *code* that is to be run after *primary methods*.
- An *around method* has the keyword `:around` as its only *qualifier*. An *around method* specifies *code* that is to be run instead of other *applicable methods*, but which might contain explicit *code* which calls some of those *shadowed methods* (via **call-next-method**).

The semantics of standard method combination is as follows:

- If there are any *around methods*, the most specific *around method* is called. It supplies the value or values of the generic function.
- Inside the body of an *around method*, **call-next-method** can be used to call the *next method*. When the next method returns, the *around method* can execute more code, perhaps based on the returned value or values. The *generic function* **no-next-method** is invoked if **call-next-method** is used and there is no *applicable method* to call. The *function* **next-method-p** may be used to determine whether a *next method* exists.

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- If an *around method* invokes **call-next-method**, the next most specific *around method* is called, if one is applicable. If there are no *around methods* or if **call-next-method** is called by the least specific *around method*, the other methods are called as follows:
  - All the *before methods* are called, in most-specific-first order. Their values are ignored. An error is signaled if **call-next-method** is used in a *before method*.
  - The most specific primary method is called. Inside the body of a primary method, **call-next-method** may be used to call the next most specific primary method. When that method returns, the previous primary method can execute more code, perhaps based on the returned value or values. The generic function **no-next-method** is invoked if **call-next-method** is used and there are no more applicable primary methods. The *function* **next-method-p** may be used to determine whether a *next method* exists. If **call-next-method** is not used, only the most specific *primary method* is called.
  - All the *after methods* are called in most-specific-last order. Their values are ignored. An error is signaled if **call-next-method** is used in an *after method*.
- If no *around methods* were invoked, the most specific primary method supplies the value or values returned by the generic function. The value or values returned by the invocation of **call-next-method** in the least specific *around method* are those returned by the most specific primary method.

In standard method combination, if there is an applicable method but no applicable primary method, an error is signaled.

The *before methods* are run in most-specific-first order while the *after methods* are run in least-specific-first order. The design rationale for this difference can be illustrated with an example. Suppose class C_1 modifies the behavior of its superclass, C_2, by adding *before methods* and *after methods*. Whether the behavior of the class C_2 is defined directly by methods on C_2 or is inherited from its superclasses does not affect the relative order of invocation of methods on instances of the class C_1. Class C_1's *before method* runs before all of class C_2's methods. Class C_1's *after method* runs after all of class C_2's methods.

By contrast, all *around methods* run before any other methods run. Thus a less specific *around method* runs before a more specific primary method.

If only primary methods are used and if **call-next-method** is not used, only the most specific method is invoked; that is, more specific methods shadow more general ones.

7.6.6.3 Declarative Method Combination

The macro **define-method-combination** defines new forms of method combination. It provides a mechanism for customizing the production of the effective method. The default procedure for producing an effective method is described in Section 7.6.6.1 (Determining the Effective Method).

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There are two forms of **define-method-combination**. The short form is a simple facility while the long form is more powerful and more verbose. The long form resembles **defmacro** in that the body is an expression that computes a Lisp form; it provides mechanisms for implementing arbitrary control structures within method combination and for arbitrary processing of method *qualifiers*.

7.6.6.4 Built-in Method Combination Types

The object system provides a set of built-in method combination types. To specify that a generic function is to use one of these method combination types, the name of the method combination type is given as the argument to the `:method-combination` option to **defgeneric** or to the `:method-combination` option to any of the other operators that specify generic function options.

The names of the built-in method combination types are listed in Figure 7–2.

+	**append**	**max**	**nconc**	**progn**
and	**list**	**min**	**or**	**standard**

Figure 7–2. Built-in Method Combination Types

The semantics of the **standard** built-in method combination type is described in Section 7.6.6.2 (Standard Method Combination). The other built-in method combination types are called simple built-in method combination types.

The simple built-in method combination types act as though they were defined by the short form of **define-method-combination**. They recognize two roles for *methods*:

- An *around method* has the keyword symbol `:around` as its sole *qualifier*. The meaning of `:around` *methods* is the same as in standard method combination. Use of the functions **call-next-method** and **next-method-p** is supported in *around methods*.
- A primary method has the name of the method combination type as its sole *qualifier*. For example, the built-in method combination type `and` recognizes methods whose sole *qualifier* is `and`; these are primary methods. Use of the functions **call-next-method** and **next-method-p** is not supported in *primary methods*.

The semantics of the simple built-in method combination types is as follows:

- If there are any *around methods*, the most specific *around method* is called. It supplies the value or values of the *generic function*.
- Inside the body of an *around method*, the function **call-next-method** can be used to call the *next method*. The *generic function* **no-next-method** is invoked if **call-next-method** is used and there is no applicable method to call. The *function* **next-method-p** may be used to determine whether a *next method* exists. When the *next method* returns, the *around method* can execute more code, perhaps based on the returned value or values.

- If an *around method* invokes **call-next-method**, the next most specific *around method* is called, if one is applicable. If there are no *around methods* or if **call-next-method** is called by the least specific *around method*, a Lisp form derived from the name of the built-in method combination type and from the list of applicable primary methods is evaluated to produce the value of the generic function. Suppose the name of the method combination type is *operator* and the call to the generic function is of the form

  $$(\textit{generic-function}\ a_1 \ldots a_n)$$

  Let $M_1, \ldots, M_k$ be the applicable primary methods in order; then the derived Lisp form is

  $$(\textit{operator}\ \langle M_1\ a_1 \ldots a_n\rangle \ldots \langle M_k\ a_1 \ldots a_n\rangle)$$

  If the expression $\langle M_i\ a_1 \ldots a_n\rangle$ is evaluated, the method M_i will be applied to the arguments $a_1 \ldots a_n$. For example, if *operator* is `or`, the expression $\langle M_i\ a_1 \ldots a_n\rangle$ is evaluated only if $\langle M_j\ a_1 \ldots a_n\rangle$, $1 \le j < i$, returned `nil`.

  The default order for the primary methods is `:most-specific-first`. However, the order can be reversed by supplying `:most-specific-last` as the second argument to the `:method-combination` option.

The simple built-in method combination types require exactly one *qualifier* per method. An error is signaled if there are applicable methods with no *qualifiers* or with *qualifiers* that are not supported by the method combination type. An error is signaled if there are applicable *around methods* and no applicable primary methods.

7.6.7 Inheritance of Methods

A subclass inherits methods in the sense that any method applicable to all instances of a class is also applicable to all instances of any subclass of that class.

The inheritance of methods acts the same way regardless of which of the *method-defining operators* created the methods.

The inheritance of methods is described in detail in Section 7.6.6 (Method Selection and Combination).

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function-keywords *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

function-keywords *method* → *keys, allow-other-keys-p*

Method Signatures:

function-keywords (*method* **standard-method**)

Arguments and Values:

method—a *method*.

keys—a *list*.

allow-other-keys-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns the keyword parameter specifiers for a *method*.

Two values are returned: a *list* of the explicitly named keywords and a *generalized boolean* that states whether **&allow-other-keys** had been specified in the *method* definition.

Examples:

```
 (defmethod gf1 ((a integer) &optional (b 2)
                 &key (c 3) ((:dee d) 4) e ((eff f)))
   (list a b c d e f))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD GF1 (INTEGER) 36324653>
 (find-method #'gf1 '() (list (find-class 'integer)))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD GF1 (INTEGER) 36324653>
 (function-keywords *)
→ (:C :DEE :E EFF), false
 (defmethod gf2 ((a integer))
   (list a b c d e f))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD GF2 (INTEGER) 42701775>
 (function-keywords (find-method #'gf1 '() (list (find-class 'integer))))
→ (), false
 (defmethod gf3 ((a integer) &key b c d &allow-other-keys)
   (list a b c d e f))
 (function-keywords *)
→ (:B :C :D), true
```

Affected By:

defmethod

See Also:

defmethod

ensure-generic-function *Function*

Syntax:

ensure-generic-function *function-name* &key *argument-precedence-order declare documentation environment generic-function-class lambda-list method-class method-combination*

→ *generic-function*

Arguments and Values:

function-name—a *function name*.

The keyword arguments correspond to the *option* arguments of **defgeneric**, except that the :method-class and :generic-function-class arguments can be *class objects* as well as names.

Method-combination – method combination object.

Environment – the same as the **&environment** argument to macro expansion functions and is used to distinguish between compile-time and run-time environments.

generic-function—a *generic function object*.

Description:

The *function* **ensure-generic-function** is used to define a globally named *generic function* with no *methods* or to specify or modify options and declarations that pertain to a globally named *generic function* as a whole.

If *function-name* is not *fbound* in the *global environment*, a new *generic function* is created. If (fdefinition *function-name*) is an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error is signaled.

If *function-name* is a *list*, it must be of the form (setf *symbol*). If *function-name* specifies a *generic function* that has a different value for any of the following arguments, the *generic function* is modified to have the new value: :argument-precedence-order, :declare, :documentation, :method-combination.

If *function-name* specifies a *generic function* that has a different value for the :lambda-list argument, and the new value is congruent with the *lambda lists* of all existing *methods* or there are no *methods*, the value is changed; otherwise an error is signaled.

If *function-name* specifies a *generic function* that has a different value for the :generic-function-class argument and if the new generic function class is compatible with the old, **change-class** is called to change the *class* of the *generic function*; otherwise an error is signaled.

If *function-name* specifies a *generic function* that has a different value for the :method-class argument, the value is changed, but any existing *methods* are not changed.

Affected By:

Existing function binding of *function-name*.

Exceptional Situations:

If (fdefinition *function-name*) is an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If *function-name* specifies a *generic function* that has a different value for the :lambda-list argument, and the new value is not congruent with the *lambda list* of any existing *method*, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If *function-name* specifies a *generic function* that has a different value for the :generic-function-class argument and if the new generic function class not is compatible with the old, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

defgeneric

allocate-instance *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

allocate-instance *class* &rest *initargs* &key &allow-other-keys → *new-instance*

Method Signatures:

allocate-instance (*class* **standard-class**) &rest *initargs*

allocate-instance (*class* **structure-class**) &rest *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

class—a *class*.

initargs—a *list* of *keyword/value pairs* (initialization argument *names* and *values*).

new-instance—an *object* whose *class* is *class*.

Description:

The generic function **allocate-instance** creates and returns a new instance of the *class*, without initializing it. When the *class* is a *standard class*, this means that the *slots* are *unbound*; when the *class* is a *structure class*, this means the *slots*' *values* are unspecified.

The caller of **allocate-instance** is expected to have already checked the initialization arguments.

The *generic function* **allocate-instance** is called by **make-instance**, as described in Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization).

See Also:

defclass, **make-instance**, **class-of**, Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization)

Notes:

The consequences of adding *methods* to **allocate-instance** is unspecified. This capability might be added by the *Metaobject Protocol*.

reinitialize-instance *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

reinitialize-instance *instance* `&rest` *initargs* `&key` `&allow-other-keys` → *instance*

Method Signatures:

reinitialize-instance (*instance* **standard-object**) `&rest` *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

instance—an *object*.

initargs—an *initialization argument list*.

Description:

The *generic function* **reinitialize-instance** can be used to change the values of *local slots* of an *instance* according to *initargs*. This *generic function* can be called by users.

The system-supplied primary *method* for **reinitialize-instance** checks the validity of *initargs* and signals an error if an *initarg* is supplied that is not declared as valid. The *method* then calls the generic function **shared-initialize** with the following arguments: the *instance*, **nil** (which means no *slots* should be initialized according to their initforms), and the *initargs* it received.

Side Effects:

The *generic function* **reinitialize-instance** changes the values of *local slots*.

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Exceptional Situations:

The system-supplied primary *method* for **reinitialize-instance** signals an error if an *initarg* is supplied that is not declared as valid.

See Also:

initialize-instance, **shared-initialize**, **update-instance-for-redefined-class**, **update-instance-for-different-class**, **slot-boundp**, **slot-makunbound**, Section 7.3 (Reinitializing an Instance), Section 7.1.4 (Rules for Initialization Arguments), Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments)

Notes:

Initargs are declared as valid by using the `:initarg` option to **defclass**, or by defining *methods* for **reinitialize-instance** or **shared-initialize**. The keyword name of each keyword parameter specifier in the *lambda list* of any *method* defined on **reinitialize-instance** or **shared-initialize** is declared as a valid initialization argument name for all *classes* for which that *method* is applicable.

shared-initialize *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

shared-initialize *instance slot-names* `&rest` *initargs* `&key` `&allow-other-keys` → *instance*

Method Signatures:

shared-initialize (*instance* **standard-object**) *slot-names* `&rest` *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

instance—an *object*.

slot-names—a *list* or **t**.

initargs—a *list* of *keyword/value pairs* (of initialization argument *names* and *values*).

Description:

The generic function **shared-initialize** is used to fill the *slots* of an *instance* using *initargs* and `:initform` forms. It is called when an instance is created, when an instance is re-initialized, when an instance is updated to conform to a redefined *class*, and when an instance is updated to conform to a different *class*. The generic function **shared-initialize** is called by the system-supplied primary *method* for **initialize-instance**, **reinitialize-instance**, **update-instance-for-redefined-class**, and **update-instance-for-different-class**.

The generic function **shared-initialize** takes the following arguments: the *instance* to be initialized, a specification of a set of *slot-names accessible* in that *instance*, and any number of *initargs*. The arguments after the first two must form an *initialization argument list*. The system-supplied primary *method* on **shared-initialize** initializes the *slots* with values according to the *initargs* and supplied `:initform` forms. *Slot-names* indicates which *slots* should be initialized according to their `:initform` forms if no *initargs* are provided for those *slots*.

The system-supplied primary *method* behaves as follows, regardless of whether the *slots* are local or shared:

- If an *initarg* in the *initialization argument list* specifies a value for that *slot*, that value is stored into the *slot*, even if a value has already been stored in the *slot* before the *method* is run.

- Any *slots* indicated by *slot-names* that are still unbound at this point are initialized according to their `:initform` forms. For any such *slot* that has an `:initform` form, that *form* is evaluated in the lexical environment of its defining **defclass** *form* and the result is stored into the *slot*. For example, if a *before method* stores a value in the *slot*, the `:initform` form will not be used to supply a value for the *slot*.

- The rules mentioned in Section 7.1.4 (Rules for Initialization Arguments) are obeyed.

The *slots-names* argument specifies the *slots* that are to be initialized according to their `:initform` forms if no initialization arguments apply. It can be a *list* of slot *names*, which specifies the set of those slot *names*; or it can be the *symbol* `t`, which specifies the set of all of the *slots*.

See Also:

initialize-instance, **reinitialize-instance**, **update-instance-for-redefined-class**, **update-instance-for-different-class**, **slot-boundp**, **slot-makunbound**, Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization), Section 7.1.4 (Rules for Initialization Arguments), Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments)

Notes:

Initargs are declared as valid by using the `:initarg` option to **defclass**, or by defining *methods* for **shared-initialize**. The keyword name of each keyword parameter specifier in the *lambda list* of any *method* defined on **shared-initialize** is declared as a valid *initarg* name for all *classes* for which that *method* is applicable.

Implementations are permitted to optimize `:initform` forms that neither produce nor depend on side effects, by evaluating these *forms* and storing them into slots before running any **initialize-instance** methods, rather than by handling them in the primary **initialize-instance** method. (This optimization might be implemented by having the **allocate-instance** method copy a prototype instance.)

Implementations are permitted to optimize default initial value forms for *initargs* associated with slots by not actually creating the complete initialization argument *list* when the only *method* that would receive the complete *list* is the *method* on **standard-object**. In this case default initial value forms can be treated like `:initform` forms. This optimization has no visible effects other than a performance improvement.

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update-instance-for-different-class *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

update-instance-for-different-class *previous current* `&rest` *initargs* `&key &allow-other-keys`
→ *implementation-dependent*

Method Signatures:

update-instance-for-different-class (*previous* **standard-object**)
(*current* **standard-object**)
`&rest` *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

previous—a copy of the original *instance*.

current—the original *instance* (altered).

initargs—an *initialization argument list*.

Description:

The generic function **update-instance-for-different-class** is not intended to be called by programmers. Programmers may write *methods* for it. The *function* **update-instance-for-different-class** is called only by the *function* **change-class**.

The system-supplied primary *method* on **update-instance-for-different-class** checks the validity of *initargs* and signals an error if an *initarg* is supplied that is not declared as valid. This *method* then initializes *slots* with values according to the *initargs*, and initializes the newly added *slots* with values according to their `:initform` forms. It does this by calling the generic function **shared-initialize** with the following arguments: the instance (*current*), a list of *names* of the newly added *slots*, and the *initargs* it received. Newly added *slots* are those *local slots* for which no *slot* of the same name exists in the *previous* class.

Methods for **update-instance-for-different-class** can be defined to specify actions to be taken when an *instance* is updated. If only *after methods* for **update-instance-for-different-class** are defined, they will be run after the system-supplied primary *method* for initialization and therefore will not interfere with the default behavior of **update-instance-for-different-class**.

Methods on **update-instance-for-different-class** can be defined to initialize *slots* differently from **change-class**. The default behavior of **change-class** is described in Section 7.2 (Changing the Class of an Instance).

The arguments to **update-instance-for-different-class** are computed by **change-class**. When **change-class** is invoked on an *instance*, a copy of that *instance* is made; **change-class** then destructively alters the original *instance*. The first argument to **update-instance-for-different-class**, *previous*, is that copy; it holds the old *slot* values temporarily. This argument has dynamic extent within **change-class**; if it is referenced in any way once **update-instance-for-different-class** returns, the results are undefined. The second argument to **update-instance-for-different-class**, *current*, is the altered original *instance*. The intended use of *previous* is to extract old *slot* values by using **slot-value** or **with-slots** or by invoking a reader generic function, or to run other *methods* that were applicable to *instances* of the original *class*.

Examples:

See the example for the *function* **change-class**.

Exceptional Situations:

The system-supplied primary *method* on **update-instance-for-different-class** signals an error if an initialization argument is supplied that is not declared as valid.

See Also:

change-class, **shared-initialize**, Section 7.2 (Changing the Class of an Instance), Section 7.1.4 (Rules for Initialization Arguments), Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments)

Notes:

Initargs are declared as valid by using the `:initarg` option to **defclass**, or by defining *methods* for **update-instance-for-different-class** or **shared-initialize**. The keyword name of each keyword parameter specifier in the *lambda list* of any *method* defined on **update-instance-for-different-class** or **shared-initialize** is declared as a valid *initarg* name for all *classes* for which that *method* is applicable.

The value returned by **update-instance-for-different-class** is ignored by **change-class**.

update-instance-for-redefined-class *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

update-instance-for-redefined-class *instance*
added-slots discarded-slots
property-list
`&rest` *initargs* `&key` `&allow-other-keys`

→ {*result*}*

update-instance-for-redefined-class

Method Signatures:

update-instance-for-redefined-class (*instance* **standard-object**)
added-slots discarded-slots
property-list
`&rest` *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

instance—an *object*.

added-slots—a *list*.

discarded-slots—a *list*.

property-list—a *list*.

initargs—an *initialization argument list*.

result—an *object*.

Description:

The *generic function* **update-instance-for-redefined-class** is not intended to be called by programmers. Programmers may write *methods* for it. The *generic function* **update-instance-for-redefined-class** is called by the mechanism activated by **make-instances-obsolete**.

The system-supplied primary *method* on **update-instance-for-redefined-class** checks the validity of *initargs* and signals an error if an *initarg* is supplied that is not declared as valid. This *method* then initializes *slots* with values according to the *initargs*, and initializes the newly *added-slots* with values according to their `:initform` forms. It does this by calling the generic function **shared-initialize** with the following arguments: the *instance*, a list of names of the newly *added-slots* to *instance*, and the *initargs* it received. Newly *added-slots* are those *local slots* for which no *slot* of the same name exists in the old version of the *class*.

When **make-instances-obsolete** is invoked or when a *class* has been redefined and an *instance* is being updated, a *property-list* is created that captures the slot names and values of all the *discarded-slots* with values in the original *instance*. The structure of the *instance* is transformed so that it conforms to the current class definition. The arguments to **update-instance-for-redefined-class** are this transformed *instance*, a list of *added-slots* to the *instance*, a list *discarded-slots* from the *instance*, and the *property-list* containing the slot names and values for *slots* that were discarded and had values. Included in this list of discarded *slots* are *slots* that were local in the old *class* and are shared in the new *class*.

The value returned by **update-instance-for-redefined-class** is ignored.

Examples:

```
(defclass position () ())

(defclass x-y-position (position)
    ((x :initform 0 :accessor position-x)
     (y :initform 0 :accessor position-y)))

;;; It turns out polar coordinates are used more than Cartesian
;;; coordinates, so the representation is altered and some new
;;; accessor methods are added.

(defmethod update-instance-for-redefined-class :before
   ((pos x-y-position) added deleted plist &key)
  ;; Transform the x-y coordinates to polar coordinates
  ;; and store into the new slots.
  (let ((x (getf plist 'x))
        (y (getf plist 'y)))
    (setf (position-rho pos) (sqrt (+ (* x x) (* y y)))
          (position-theta pos) (atan y x))))

(defclass x-y-position (position)
    ((rho :initform 0 :accessor position-rho)
     (theta :initform 0 :accessor position-theta)))

;;; All instances of the old x-y-position class will be updated
;;; automatically.

;;; The new representation is given the look and feel of the old one.

(defmethod position-x ((pos x-y-position))
   (with-slots (rho theta) pos (* rho (cos theta))))

(defmethod (setf position-x) (new-x (pos x-y-position))
   (with-slots (rho theta) pos
     (let ((y (position-y pos)))
       (setq rho (sqrt (+ (* new-x new-x) (* y y)))
             theta (atan y new-x))
       new-x)))

(defmethod position-y ((pos x-y-position))
   (with-slots (rho theta) pos (* rho (sin theta))))

(defmethod (setf position-y) (new-y (pos x-y-position))
   (with-slots (rho theta) pos
     (let ((x (position-x pos)))
       (setq rho (sqrt (+ (* x x) (* new-y new-y)))
```


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```
             theta (atan new-y x))
       new-y)))
```

Exceptional Situations:

The system-supplied primary *method* on **update-instance-for-redefined-class** signals an error if an *initarg* is supplied that is not declared as valid.

See Also:

make-instances-obsolete, **shared-initialize**, Section 4.3.6 (Redefining Classes), Section 7.1.4 (Rules for Initialization Arguments), Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments)

Notes:

Initargs are declared as valid by using the `:initarg` option to **defclass**, or by defining *methods* for **update-instance-for-redefined-class** or **shared-initialize**. The keyword name of each keyword parameter specifier in the *lambda list* of any *method* defined on **update-instance-for-redefined-class** or **shared-initialize** is declared as a valid *initarg* name for all *classes* for which that *method* is applicable.

change-class *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

change-class *instance new-class* `&key &allow-other-keys` → *instance*

Method Signatures:

change-class (*instance* **standard-object**) (*new-class* **standard-class**) `&rest` *initargs*

change-class (*instance* **t**) (*new-class* **symbol**) `&rest` *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

instance—an *object*.

new-class—a *class designator*.

initargs—an *initialization argument list*.

Description:

The *generic function* **change-class** changes the *class* of an *instance* to *new-class*. It destructively modifies and returns the *instance*.

If in the old *class* there is any *slot* of the same name as a local *slot* in the *new-class*, the value of that *slot* is retained. This means that if the *slot* has a value, the value returned by **slot-value** after **change-class** is invoked is **eql** to the value returned by **slot-value** before **change-class** is invoked. Similarly, if the *slot* was unbound, it remains unbound. The other *slots* are initialized as described in Section 7.2 (Changing the Class of an Instance).

After completing all other actions, **change-class** invokes **update-instance-for-different-class**. The generic function **update-instance-for-different-class** can be used to assign values to slots in the transformed instance. See Section 7.2.2 (Initializing Newly Added Local Slots).

If the second of the above *methods* is selected, that *method* invokes **change-class** on *instance*, (find-class *new-class*), and the *initargs*.

Examples:

```
 (defclass position () ())

 (defclass x-y-position (position)
     ((x :initform 0 :initarg :x)
      (y :initform 0 :initarg :y)))

 (defclass rho-theta-position (position)
     ((rho :initform 0)
      (theta :initform 0)))

 (defmethod update-instance-for-different-class :before ((old x-y-position)
                                                         (new rho-theta-position)
                                                         &key)
   ;; Copy the position information from old to new to make new
   ;; be a rho-theta-position at the same position as old.
   (let ((x (slot-value old 'x))
         (y (slot-value old 'y)))
     (setf (slot-value new 'rho) (sqrt (+ (* x x) (* y y)))
           (slot-value new 'theta) (atan y x))))

;;; At this point an instance of the class x-y-position can be
;;; changed to be an instance of the class rho-theta-position using
;;; change-class:

 (setq p1 (make-instance 'x-y-position :x 2 :y 0))

 (change-class p1 'rho-theta-position)

;;; The result is that the instance bound to p1 is now an instance of
;;; the class rho-theta-position.   The update-instance-for-different-class
;;; method performed the initialization of the rho and theta slots based
```



```
;;; on the value of the x and y slots, which were maintained by
;;; the old instance.
```

See Also:

update-instance-for-different-class, Section 7.2 (Changing the Class of an Instance)

Notes:

The generic function **change-class** has several semantic difficulties. First, it performs a destructive operation that can be invoked within a *method* on an *instance* that was used to select that *method*. When multiple *methods* are involved because *methods* are being combined, the *methods* currently executing or about to be executed may no longer be applicable. Second, some implementations might use compiler optimizations of slot *access*, and when the *class* of an *instance* is changed the assumptions the compiler made might be violated. This implies that a programmer must not use **change-class** inside a *method* if any *methods* for that *generic function access* any *slots*, or the results are undefined.

slot-boundp *Function*

Syntax:

slot-boundp *instance slot-name* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

instance—an *object*.

slot-name—a *symbol* naming a *slot* of *instance*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if the *slot* named *slot-name* in *instance* is bound; otherwise, returns *false*.

Exceptional Situations:

If no *slot* of the *name* *slot-name* exists in the *instance*, **slot-missing** is called as follows:

```
 (slot-missing (class-of instance)
               instance
               slot-name
               'slot-boundp)
```

(If **slot-missing** is invoked and returns a value, a *boolean equivalent* to its *primary value* is returned by **slot-boundp**.)

The specific behavior depends on *instance*'s *metaclass*. An error is never signaled if *instance* has *metaclass* **standard-class**. An error is always signaled if *instance* has *metaclass* **built-in-class**. The consequences are undefined if *instance* has any other *metaclass*–an error might or might not be signaled in this situation. Note in particular that the behavior for *conditions* and *structures* is not specified.

See Also:

slot-makunbound, **slot-missing**

Notes:

The *function* **slot-boundp** allows for writing *after methods* on **initialize-instance** in order to initialize only those *slots* that have not already been bound.

Although no *implementation* is required to do so, implementors are strongly encouraged to implement the *function* **slot-boundp** using the *function* `slot-boundp-using-class` described in the *Metaobject Protocol*.

slot-exists-p *Function*

Syntax:

slot-exists-p *object slot-name* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

slot-name—a *symbol*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if the *object* has a *slot* named *slot-name*.

Affected By:

defclass, **defstruct**

See Also:

defclass, **slot-missing**

Notes:

Although no *implementation* is required to do so, implementors are strongly encouraged to implement the *function* **slot-exists-p** using the *function* `slot-exists-p-using-class` described in the *Metaobject Protocol*.

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slot-makunbound *Function*

Syntax:

slot-makunbound *instance slot-name* → *instance*

Arguments and Values:

instance – instance.

Slot-name—a *symbol*.

Description:

The *function* **slot-makunbound** restores a *slot* of the name *slot-name* in an *instance* to the unbound state.

Exceptional Situations:

If no *slot* of the name *slot-name* exists in the *instance*, **slot-missing** is called as follows:

```
(slot-missing (class-of instance)
              instance
              slot-name
              'slot-makunbound)
```

(Any values returned by **slot-missing** in this case are ignored by **slot-makunbound**.)

The specific behavior depends on *instance*'s *metaclass*. An error is never signaled if *instance* has *metaclass* **standard-class**. An error is always signaled if *instance* has *metaclass* **built-in-class**. The consequences are undefined if *instance* has any other *metaclass*–an error might or might not be signaled in this situation. Note in particular that the behavior for *conditions* and *structures* is not specified.

See Also:

slot-boundp, **slot-missing**

Notes:

Although no *implementation* is required to do so, implementors are strongly encouraged to implement the *function* **slot-makunbound** using the *function* `slot-makunbound-using-class` described in the *Metaobject Protocol*.

slot-missing *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

slot-missing *class object slot-name operation* &optional *new-value* → {*result*}*

Method Signatures:

slot-missing (*class* t) *object slot-name*
operation &optional *new-value*

Arguments and Values:

class—the *class* of *object*.

object—an *object*.

slot-name—a *symbol* (the *name* of a would-be *slot*).

operation—one of the *symbols* **setf**, **slot-boundp**, **slot-makunbound**, or **slot-value**.

new-value—an *object*.

result—an *object*.

Description:

The generic function **slot-missing** is invoked when an attempt is made to *access* a *slot* in an *object* whose *metaclass* is **standard-class** and the *slot* of the name *slot-name* is not a *name* of a *slot* in that *class*. The default *method* signals an error.

The generic function **slot-missing** is not intended to be called by programmers. Programmers may write *methods* for it.

The generic function **slot-missing** may be called during evaluation of **slot-value**, `(setf slot-value)`, **slot-boundp**, and **slot-makunbound**. For each of these operations the corresponding *symbol* for the *operation* argument is **slot-value**, **setf**, **slot-boundp**, and **slot-makunbound** respectively.

The optional *new-value* argument to **slot-missing** is used when the operation is attempting to set the value of the *slot*.

If **slot-missing** returns, its values will be treated as follows:

- If the *operation* is **setf** or **slot-makunbound**, any *values* will be ignored by the caller.
- If the *operation* is **slot-value**, only the *primary value* will be used by the caller, and all other values will be ignored.
- If the *operation* is **slot-boundp**, any *boolean equivalent* of the *primary value* of the *method* might be is used, and all other values will be ignored.

Exceptional Situations:

The default *method* on **slot-missing** signals an error of *type* **error**.

See Also:

defclass, **slot-exists-p**, **slot-value**

Notes:

The set of arguments (including the *class* of the instance) facilitates defining methods on the metaclass for **slot-missing**.

slot-unbound *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

slot-unbound *class instance slot-name* → {*result*}*

Method Signatures:

slot-unbound (*class* t) *instance slot-name*

Arguments and Values:

class—the *class* of the *instance*.

instance—the *instance* in which an attempt was made to *read* the *unbound slot*.

slot-name—the *name* of the *unbound slot*.

result—an *object*.

Description:

The generic function **slot-unbound** is called when an unbound *slot* is read in an *instance* whose metaclass is **standard-class**. The default *method* signals an error of *type* **unbound-slot**. The name slot of the **unbound-slot** *condition* is initialized to the name of the offending variable, and the instance slot of the **unbound-slot** *condition* is initialized to the offending instance.

The generic function **slot-unbound** is not intended to be called by programmers. Programmers may write *methods* for it. The *function* **slot-unbound** is called only indirectly by **slot-value**.

If **slot-unbound** returns, only the *primary value* will be used by the caller, and all other values will be ignored.

Exceptional Situations:

The default *method* on **slot-unbound** signals an error of *type* **unbound-slot**.

See Also:

slot-makunbound

Notes:

An unbound *slot* may occur if no `:initform` form was specified for the *slot* and the *slot* value has not been set, or if **slot-makunbound** has been called on the *slot*.

slot-value *Function*

Syntax:

slot-value *object slot-name* → *value*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

name—a *symbol*.

value—an *object*.

Description:

The *function* **slot-value** returns the *value* of the *slot* named *slot-name* in the *object*. If there is no *slot* named *slot-name*, **slot-missing** is called. If the *slot* is unbound, **slot-unbound** is called.

The macro **setf** can be used with **slot-value** to change the value of a *slot*.

Examples:

```
 (defclass foo ()
   ((a :accessor foo-a :initarg :a :initform 1)
    (b :accessor foo-b :initarg :b)
    (c :accessor foo-c :initform 3)))
→ #<STANDARD-CLASS FOO 244020371>
 (setq foo1 (make-instance 'foo :a 'one :b 'two))
→ #<FOO 36325624>
 (slot-value foo1 'a) → ONE
 (slot-value foo1 'b) → TWO
 (slot-value foo1 'c) → 3
 (setf (slot-value foo1 'a) 'uno) → UNO
 (slot-value foo1 'a) → UNO
 (defmethod foo-method ((x foo))
   (slot-value x 'a))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD FOO-METHOD (FOO) 42720573>
 (foo-method foo1) → UNO
```


Exceptional Situations:

If an attempt is made to read a *slot* and no *slot* of the name *slot-name* exists in the *object*, **slot-missing** is called as follows:

```
 (slot-missing (class-of instance)
               instance
               slot-name
               'slot-value)
```

(If **slot-missing** is invoked, its *primary value* is returned by **slot-value**.)

If an attempt is made to write a *slot* and no *slot* of the name *slot-name* exists in the *object*, **slot-missing** is called as follows:

```
 (slot-missing (class-of instance)
               instance
               slot-name
               'setf
               new-value)
```

(If **slot-missing** returns in this case, any *values* are ignored.)

The specific behavior depends on *object*'s *metaclass*. An error is never signaled if *object* has *metaclass* **standard-class**. An error is always signaled if *object* has *metaclass* **built-in-class**. The consequences are unspecified if *object* has any other *metaclass*–an error might or might not be signaled in this situation. Note in particular that the behavior for *conditions* and *structures* is not specified.

See Also:

slot-missing, **slot-unbound**, **with-slots**

Notes:

Although no *implementation* is required to do so, implementors are strongly encouraged to implement the *function* **slot-value** using the *function* `slot-value-using-class` described in the *Metaobject Protocol*.

Implementations may optimize **slot-value** by compiling it inline.

method-qualifiers *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

method-qualifiers *method* → *qualifiers*

Method Signatures:

method-qualifiers (*method* **standard-method**)

Arguments and Values:

method—a *method*.

qualifiers—a *proper list*.

Description:

Returns a *list* of the *qualifiers* of the *method*.

Examples:

```
(defmethod some-gf :before ((a integer)) a)
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD SOME-GF (:BEFORE) (INTEGER) 42736540>
(method-qualifiers *) → (:BEFORE)
```

See Also:

define-method-combination

no-applicable-method *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

no-applicable-method *generic-function* &rest *function-arguments* → {*result*}*

Method Signatures:

no-applicable-method (*generic-function* **t**)
&rest *function-arguments*

Arguments and Values:

generic-function—a *generic function* on which no *applicable method* was found.

function-arguments—*arguments* to the *generic-function*.

result—an *object*.

Description:

The generic function **no-applicable-method** is called when a *generic function* is invoked and no *method* on that *generic function* is applicable. The *default method* signals an error.

The generic function **no-applicable-method** is not intended to be called by programmers. Programmers may write *methods* for it.

Exceptional Situations:

The default *method* signals an error of *type* **error**.

See Also:

no-next-method *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

no-next-method *generic-function method* &rest *args* → {*result*}*

Method Signatures:

no-next-method (*generic-function* **standard-generic-function**)
(*method* **standard-method**)
&rest *args*

Arguments and Values:

generic-function – *generic function* to which *method* belongs.

method – *method* that contained the call to **call-next-method** for which there is no next *method*.

args – arguments to **call-next-method**.

result—an *object*.

Description:

The *generic function* **no-next-method** is called by **call-next-method** when there is no *next method*.

The *generic function* **no-next-method** is not intended to be called by programmers. Programmers may write *methods* for it.

Exceptional Situations:

The system-supplied *method* on **no-next-method** signals an error of *type* **error**.

See Also:

call-next-method

remove-method *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

remove-method *generic-function method* → *generic-function*

Method Signatures:

remove-method (*generic-function* **standard-generic-function**)
method

Arguments and Values:

generic-function—a *generic function*.

method—a *method*.

Description:

The *generic function* **remove-method** removes a *method* from *generic-function* by modifying the *generic-function* (if necessary).

remove-method must not signal an error if the *method* is not one of the *methods* on the *generic-function*.

See Also:

find-method

make-instance *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

make-instance *class* `&rest` *initargs* `&key` `&allow-other-keys` → *instance*

Method Signatures:

make-instance (*class* **standard-class**) `&rest` *initargs*

make-instance (*class* **symbol**) `&rest` *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

class—a *class*, or a *symbol* that names a *class*.

initargs—an *initialization argument list*.

instance—a *fresh instance* of *class class*.

Description:

The *generic function* **make-instance** creates and returns a new *instance* of the given *class*.

If the second of the above *methods* is selected, that *method* invokes **make-instance** on the arguments `(find-class` *class*`)` and *initargs*.

The initialization arguments are checked within **make-instance**.

The *generic function* **make-instance** may be used as described in Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization).

Exceptional Situations:

If any of the initialization arguments has not been declared as valid, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

defclass, **class-of**, **allocate-instance**, **initialize-instance**, Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization)

make-instances-obsolete *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

make-instances-obsolete *class* → *class*

Method Signatures:

make-instances-obsolete (*class* **standard-class**)

make-instances-obsolete (*class* **symbol**)

Arguments and Values:

class—a *class designator*.

Description:

The *function* **make-instances-obsolete** has the effect of initiating the process of updating the instances of the *class*. During updating, the generic function **update-instance-for-redefined-class** will be invoked.

The generic function **make-instances-obsolete** is invoked automatically by the system when **defclass** has been used to redefine an existing standard class and the set of local *slots accessible* in an instance is changed or the order of *slots* in storage is changed. It can also be explicitly invoked by the user.

If the second of the above *methods* is selected, that *method* invokes **make-instances-obsolete** on `(find-class class)`.

Examples:

See Also:

update-instance-for-redefined-class, Section 4.3.6 (Redefining Classes)

make-load-form *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

make-load-form *object* `&optional` *environment* → *creation-form*[, *initialization-form*]

Method Signatures:

make-load-form (*object* **standard-object**) `&optional` *environment*

make-load-form (*object* **structure-object**) `&optional` *environment*

make-load-form (*object* **condition**) `&optional` *environment*

make-load-form (*object* **class**) `&optional` *environment*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

environment—an *environment object*.

creation-form—a *form*.

initialization-form—a *form*.

Description:

The *generic function* **make-load-form** creates and returns one or two *forms*, a *creation-form* and an *initialization-form*, that enable **load** to construct an *object* equivalent to *object*. *Environment* is an *environment object* corresponding to the *lexical environment* in which the *forms* will be processed.

The *file compiler* calls **make-load-form** to process certain *classes* of *literal objects*; see Section 3.2.4.4 (Additional Constraints on Externalizable Objects).

Conforming programs may call **make-load-form** directly, providing *object* is a *generalized instance* of **standard-object**, **structure-object**, or **condition**.

The creation form is a *form* that, when evaluated at **load** time, should return an *object* that is equivalent to *object*. The exact meaning of equivalent depends on the *type* of *object* and is up to

the programmer who defines a *method* for **make-load-form**; see Section 3.2.4 (Literal Objects in Compiled Files).

The initialization form is a *form* that, when evaluated at **load** time, should perform further initialization of the *object*. The value returned by the initialization form is ignored. If **make-load-form** returns only one value, the initialization form is **nil**, which has no effect. If *object* appears as a constant in the initialization form, at **load** time it will be replaced by the equivalent *object* constructed by the creation form; this is how the further initialization gains access to the *object*.

Both the *creation-form* and the *initialization-form* may contain references to any *externalizable object*. However, there must not be any circular dependencies in creation forms. An example of a circular dependency is when the creation form for the object `X` contains a reference to the object `Y`, and the creation form for the object `Y` contains a reference to the object `X`. Initialization forms are not subject to any restriction against circular dependencies, which is the reason that initialization forms exist; see the example of circular data structures below.

The creation form for an *object* is always *evaluated* before the initialization form for that *object*. When either the creation form or the initialization form references other *objects* that have not been referenced earlier in the *file* being *compiled*, the *compiler* ensures that all of the referenced *objects* have been created before *evaluating* the referencing *form*. When the referenced *object* is of a *type* which the *file compiler* processes using **make-load-form**, this involves *evaluating* the creation form returned for it. (This is the reason for the prohibition against circular references among creation forms).

Each initialization form is *evaluated* as soon as possible after its associated creation form, as determined by data flow. If the initialization form for an *object* does not reference any other *objects* not referenced earlier in the *file* and processed by the *file compiler* using **make-load-form**, the initialization form is evaluated immediately after the creation form. If a creation or initialization form F does contain references to such *objects*, the creation forms for those other objects are evaluated before F, and the initialization forms for those other *objects* are also evaluated before F whenever they do not depend on the *object* created or initialized by F. Where these rules do not uniquely determine an order of *evaluation* between two creation/initialization forms, the order of *evaluation* is unspecified.

While these creation and initialization forms are being evaluated, the *objects* are possibly in an uninitialized state, analogous to the state of an *object* between the time it has been created by **allocate-instance** and it has been processed fully by **initialize-instance**. Programmers writing *methods* for **make-load-form** must take care in manipulating *objects* not to depend on *slots* that have not yet been initialized.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether **load** calls **eval** on the *forms* or does some other operation that has an equivalent effect. For example, the *forms* might be translated into different but equivalent *forms* and then evaluated, they might be compiled and the resulting functions called by **load**, or they might be interpreted by a special-purpose function different from **eval**. All that is required is that the effect be equivalent to evaluating the *forms*.

The *method specialized* on **class** returns a creation *form* using the *name* of the *class* if the *class* has a *proper name* in *environment*, signaling an error of *type* **error** if it does not have a *proper name*. *Evaluation* of the creation *form* uses the *name* to find the *class* with that *name*, as if by *calling* **find-class**. If a *class* with that *name* has not been defined, then a *class* may be computed in an *implementation-defined* manner. If a *class* cannot be returned as the result of *evaluating* the creation *form*, then an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

Both *conforming implementations* and *conforming programs* may further *specialize* **make-load-form**.

Examples:

```
(defclass obj ()
   ((x :initarg :x :reader obj-x)
    (y :initarg :y :reader obj-y)
    (dist :accessor obj-dist)))
→ #<STANDARD-CLASS OBJ 250020030>
(defmethod shared-initialize :after ((self obj) slot-names &rest keys)
  (declare (ignore slot-names keys))
  (unless (slot-boundp self 'dist)
    (setf (obj-dist self)
          (sqrt (+ (expt (obj-x self) 2) (expt (obj-y self) 2))))))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD SHARED-INITIALIZE (:AFTER) (OBJ T) 26266714>
(defmethod make-load-form ((self obj) &optional environment)
  (declare (ignore environment))
  ;; Note that this definition only works because X and Y do not
  ;; contain information which refers back to the object itself.
  ;; For a more general solution to this problem, see revised example below.
  `(make-instance ',(class-of self)
                  :x ',(obj-x self) :y ',(obj-y self)))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD MAKE-LOAD-FORM (OBJ) 26267532>
(setq obj1 (make-instance 'obj :x 3.0 :y 4.0)) → #<OBJ 26274136>
(obj-dist obj1) → 5.0
(make-load-form obj1) → (MAKE-INSTANCE 'OBJ :X '3.0 :Y '4.0)
```

In the above example, an equivalent *instance* of `obj` is reconstructed by using the values of two of its *slots*. The value of the third *slot* is derived from those two values.

Another way to write the **make-load-form** *method* in that example is to use **make-load-form-saving-slots**. The code it generates might yield a slightly different result from the **make-load-form** *method* shown above, but the operational effect will be the same. For example:

```
;; Redefine method defined above.
(defmethod make-load-form ((self obj) &optional environment)
   (make-load-form-saving-slots self
```



```
                                :slot-names '(x y)
                                :environment environment))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD MAKE-LOAD-FORM (OBJ) 42755655>
;; Try MAKE-LOAD-FORM on object created above.
(make-load-form obj1)
→ (ALLOCATE-INSTANCE '#<STANDARD-CLASS OBJ 250020030>),
   (PROGN
     (SETF (SLOT-VALUE '#<OBJ 26274136> 'X) '3.0)
     (SETF (SLOT-VALUE '#<OBJ 26274136> 'Y) '4.0)
     (INITIALIZE-INSTANCE '#<OBJ 26274136>))
```

In the following example, *instances* of `my-frob` are "interned" in some way. An equivalent *instance* is reconstructed by using the value of the name slot as a key for searching existing *objects*. In this case the programmer has chosen to create a new *object* if no existing *object* is found; alternatively an error could have been signaled in that case.

```
(defclass my-frob ()
   ((name :initarg :name :reader my-name)))
(defmethod make-load-form ((self my-frob) &optional environment)
  (declare (ignore environment))
  `(find-my-frob ',(my-name self) :if-does-not-exist :create))
```

In the following example, the data structure to be dumped is circular, because each parent has a list of its children and each child has a reference back to its parent. If **make-load-form** is called on one *object* in such a structure, the creation form creates an equivalent *object* and fills in the children slot, which forces creation of equivalent *objects* for all of its children, grandchildren, etc. At this point none of the parent *slots* have been filled in. The initialization form fills in the parent *slot*, which forces creation of an equivalent *object* for the parent if it was not already created. Thus the entire tree is recreated at **load** time. At compile time, **make-load-form** is called once for each *object* in the tree. All of the creation forms are evaluated, in *implementation-dependent* order, and then all of the initialization forms are evaluated, also in *implementation-dependent* order.

```
(defclass tree-with-parent () ((parent :accessor tree-parent)
                               (children :initarg :children)))
(defmethod make-load-form ((x tree-with-parent) &optional environment)
  (declare (ignore environment))
  (values
    ;; creation form
    `(make-instance ',(class-of x) :children ',(slot-value x 'children))
    ;; initialization form
    `(setf (tree-parent ',x) ',(slot-value x 'parent))))
```

In the following example, the data structure to be dumped has no special properties and an equivalent structure can be reconstructed simply by reconstructing the *slots*' contents.

```
(defstruct my-struct a b c)
```

```
(defmethod make-load-form ((s my-struct) &optional environment)
  (make-load-form-saving-slots s :environment environment))
```

Exceptional Situations:

The *methods specialized* on **standard-object**, **structure-object**, and **condition** all signal an error of *type* **error**.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether *calling* **make-load-form** on a *generalized instance* of a *system class* signals an error or returns creation and initialization *forms*.

See Also:

compile-file, **make-load-form-saving-slots**, Section 3.2.4.4 (Additional Constraints on Externalizable Objects) Section 3.1 (Evaluation), Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

The *file compiler* calls **make-load-form** in specific circumstances detailed in Section 3.2.4.4 (Additional Constraints on Externalizable Objects).

Some *implementations* may provide facilities for defining new *subclasses* of *classes* which are specified as *system classes*. (Some likely candidates include **generic-function**, **method**, and **stream**). Such *implementations* should document how the *file compiler* processes *instances* of such *classes* when encountered as *literal objects*, and should document any relevant *methods* for **make-load-form**.

make-load-form-saving-slots *Function*

Syntax:

make-load-form-saving-slots *object* &key *slot-names environment*
→ *creation-form, initialization-form*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

slot-names—a *list*.

environment—an *environment object*.

creation-form—a *form*.

initialization-form—a *form*.

Description:

Returns *forms* that, when *evaluated*, will construct an *object* equivalent to *object*, without *executing initialization forms*. The *slots* in the new *object* that correspond to initialized *slots* in *object* are initialized using the values from *object*. Uninitialized *slots* in *object* are not initialized in the new *object*. **make-load-form-saving-slots** works for any *instance* of **standard-object** or **structure-object**.

Slot-names is a *list* of the names of the *slots* to preserve. If *slot-names* is not supplied, its value is all of the *local slots*.

make-load-form-saving-slots returns two values, thus it can deal with circular structures. Whether the result is useful in an application depends on whether the *object*'s *type* and slot contents fully capture the application's idea of the *object*'s state.

Environment is the environment in which the forms will be processed.

See Also:

make-load-form, **make-instance**, **setf**, **slot-value**, **slot-makunbound**

Notes:

make-load-form-saving-slots can be useful in user-written **make-load-form** methods.

When the *object* is an *instance* of **standard-object**, **make-load-form-saving-slots** could return a creation form that *calls* **allocate-instance** and an initialization form that contains *calls* to **setf** of **slot-value** and **slot-makunbound**, though other *functions* of similar effect might actually be used.

with-accessors *Macro*

Syntax:

with-accessors ({*slot-entry*}*) *instance-form* {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

slot-entry::=(*variable-name accessor-name*)

Arguments and Values:

variable-name—a *variable name*; not evaluated.

accessor-name—a *function name*; not evaluated.

instance-form—a *form*; evaluated.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

with-accessors

Description:

Creates a lexical environment in which the slots specified by *slot-entry* are lexically available through their accessors as if they were variables. The macro **with-accessors** invokes the appropriate accessors to *access* the *slots* specified by *slot-entry*. Both **setf** and **setq** can be used to set the value of the *slot*.

Examples:

```
 (defclass thing ()
           ((x :initarg :x :accessor thing-x)
            (y :initarg :y :accessor thing-y)))
→ #<STANDARD-CLASS THING 250020173>
 (defmethod (setf thing-x) :before (new-x (thing thing))
   (format t "~&Changing X from ~D to ~D in ~S.~%"
           (thing-x thing) new-x thing))
 (setq thing1 (make-instance 'thing :x 1 :y 2)) → #<THING 43135676>
 (setq thing2 (make-instance 'thing :x 7 :y 8)) → #<THING 43147374>
 (with-accessors ((x1 thing-x) (y1 thing-y))
                 thing1
   (with-accessors ((x2 thing-x) (y2 thing-y))
                   thing2
     (list (list x1 (thing-x thing1) y1 (thing-y thing1)
                 x2 (thing-x thing2) y2 (thing-y thing2))
           (setq x1 (+ y1 x2))
           (list x1 (thing-x thing1) y1 (thing-y thing1)
                 x2 (thing-x thing2) y2 (thing-y thing2))
           (setf (thing-x thing2) (list x1))
           (list x1 (thing-x thing1) y1 (thing-y thing1)
                 x2 (thing-x thing2) y2 (thing-y thing2)))))
▷ Changing X from 1 to 9 in #<THING 43135676>.
▷ Changing X from 7 to (9) in #<THING 43147374>.
→ ((1 1 2 2 7 7 8 8)
     9
     (9 9 2 2 7 7 8 8)
     (9)
     (9 9 2 2 (9) (9) 8 8))
```

Affected By:

defclass

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if any *accessor-name* is not the name of an accessor for the *instance*.

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See Also:

with-slots, **symbol-macrolet**

Notes:

A **with-accessors** expression of the form:

(with-accessors ($slot\text{-}entry_1 \ldots slot\text{-}entry_n$) *instance-form* $form_1 \ldots form_k$)

expands into the equivalent of

(let ((*in* *instance-form*))
 (symbol-macrolet ($Q_1 \ldots Q_n$) $form_1 \ldots form_k$))

where Q_i is

($variable\text{-}name_i$ () ($accessor\text{-}name_i$ *in*))

with-slots *Macro*

Syntax:

with-slots ({*slot-entry*}*) *instance-form* {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
 → {*result*}*

slot-entry::=*slot-name* | (*variable-name* *slot-name*)

Arguments and Values:

slot-name—a *slot name*; not evaluated.

variable-name—a *variable name*; not evaluated.

instance-form—a *form*; evaluted to produce *instance*.

instance—an *object*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

with-slots

Description:

The macro **with-slots** *establishes* a *lexical environment* for referring to the *slots* in the *instance* named by the given *slot-names* as though they were *variables*. Within such a context the value of the *slot* can be specified by using its slot name, as if it were a lexically bound variable. Both **setf** and **setq** can be used to set the value of the *slot*.

The macro **with-slots** translates an appearance of the slot name as a *variable* into a call to **slot-value**.

Examples:

```
 (defclass thing ()
           ((x :initarg :x :accessor thing-x)
            (y :initarg :y :accessor thing-y)))
→ #<STANDARD-CLASS THING 250020173>
 (defmethod (setf thing-x) :before (new-x (thing thing))
   (format t "~&Changing X from ~D to ~D in ~S.~%"
           (thing-x thing) new-x thing))
 (setq thing (make-instance 'thing :x 0 :y 1)) → #<THING 62310540>
 (with-slots (x y) thing (incf x) (incf y)) → 2
 (values (thing-x thing) (thing-y thing)) → 1, 2
 (setq thing1 (make-instance 'thing :x 1 :y 2)) → #<THING 43135676>
 (setq thing2 (make-instance 'thing :x 7 :y 8)) → #<THING 43147374>
 (with-slots ((x1 x) (y1 y))
             thing1
   (with-slots ((x2 x) (y2 y))
               thing2
     (list (list x1 (thing-x thing1) y1 (thing-y thing1)
                 x2 (thing-x thing2) y2 (thing-y thing2))
           (setq x1 (+ y1 x2))
           (list x1 (thing-x thing1) y1 (thing-y thing1)
                 x2 (thing-x thing2) y2 (thing-y thing2))
           (setf (thing-x thing2) (list x1))
           (list x1 (thing-x thing1) y1 (thing-y thing1)
                 x2 (thing-x thing2) y2 (thing-y thing2)))))
▷ Changing X from 7 to (9) in #<THING 43147374>.
→ ((1 1 2 2 7 7 8 8)
     9
     (9 9 2 2 7 7 8 8)
     (9)
     (9 9 2 2 (9) (9) 8 8))
```

Affected By:

defclass

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if any *slot-name* is not the name of a *slot* in the *instance*.

See Also:

with-accessors, **slot-value**, **symbol-macrolet**

Notes:

A **with-slots** expression of the form:

`(with-slots` ($slot\text{-}entry_1 \ldots slot\text{-}entry_n$) *instance-form* $form_1 \ldots form_k$)

expands into the equivalent of

`(let ((`*in instance-form*`))`
` (symbol-macrolet (`$Q_1 \ldots Q_n$`)` $form_1 \ldots form_k$`))`

where Q_i is

($slot\text{-}entry_i$ () `(slot-value` *in* '$slot\text{-}entry_i$`))`

if $slot\text{-}entry_i$ is a *symbol* and is

($variable\text{-}name_i$ () `(slot-value` *in* '$slot\text{-}name_i$`))`

if $slot\text{-}entry_i$ is of the form

($variable\text{-}name_i$ $slot\text{-}name_i$)

defclass *Macro*

Syntax:

defclass *class-name* ({*superclass-name*}*) ({*slot-specifier*}*) [[↓ *class-option*]]
→ *new-class*

slot-specifier::= *slot-name* | (*slot-name* [[↓ *slot-option*]])

slot-name::= *symbol*

slot-option::= {`:reader` *reader-function-name*}* |
{`:writer` *writer-function-name*}* |

{`:accessor` *reader-function-name*}* |
{`:allocation` *allocation-type*} |
{`:initarg` *initarg-name*}* |
{`:initform` *form*} |
{`:type` *type-specifier*} |
{`:documentation` *string*}

function-name::= {*symbol* | (`setf` *symbol*)}

class-option::= (`:default-initargs` . *initarg-list*) |
(`:documentation` *string*) |
(`:metaclass` *class-name*)

Arguments and Values:

Class-name—a *non-nil symbol*.

Superclass-name–a *non-nil symbol*.

Slot-name–a *symbol*. The *slot-name* argument is a *symbol* that is syntactically valid for use as a variable name.

Reader-function-name—a *non-nil symbol*. `:reader` can be supplied more than once for a given *slot*.

Writer-function-name—a *generic function* name. `:writer` can be supplied more than once for a given *slot*.

Reader-function-name—a *non-nil symbol*. `:accessor` can be supplied more than once for a given *slot*.

Allocation-type—(member `:instance` `:class`). `:allocation` can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*.

Initarg-name—a *symbol*. `:initarg` can be supplied more than once for a given *slot*.

Form—a *form*. `:init-form` can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*.

Type-specifier—a *type specifier*. `:type` can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*.

Class-option— refers to the *class* as a whole or to all class *slots*.

Initarg-list—a *list* of alternating initialization argument *names* and default initial value *forms*. `:default-initargs` can be supplied at most once.

Class-name—a *non-nil symbol*. `:metaclass` can be supplied once at most.

new-class—the new *class object*.

Description:

The macro **defclass** defines a new named *class*. It returns the new *class object* as its result.

The syntax of **defclass** provides options for specifying initialization arguments for *slots*, for specifying default initialization values for *slots*, and for requesting that *methods* on specified *generic functions* be automatically generated for reading and writing the values of *slots*. No reader or writer functions are defined by default; their generation must be explicitly requested. However, *slots* can always be *accessed* using **slot-value**.

Defining a new *class* also causes a *type* of the same name to be defined. The predicate (`typep` *object class-name*) returns true if the *class* of the given *object* is the *class* named by *class-name* itself or a subclass of the class *class-name*. A *class object* can be used as a *type specifier*. Thus (`typep` *object class*) returns *true* if the *class* of the *object* is *class* itself or a subclass of *class*.

The *class-name* argument specifies the *proper name* of the new *class*. If a *class* with the same *proper name* already exists and that *class* is an *instance* of **standard-class**, and if the **defclass** form for the definition of the new *class* specifies a *class* of *class* **standard-class**, the existing *class* is redefined, and instances of it (and its *subclasses*) are updated to the new definition at the time that they are next *accessed*. For details, see Section 4.3.6 (Redefining Classes).

Each *superclass-name* argument specifies a direct *superclass* of the new *class*. If the *superclass* list is empty, then the *superclass* defaults depending on the *metaclass*, with **standard-object** being the default for **standard-class**.

The new *class* will inherit *slots* and *methods* from each of its direct *superclasses*, from their direct *superclasses*, and so on. For a discussion of how *slots* and *methods* are inherited, see Section 4.3.4 (Inheritance).

The following slot options are available:

- The `:reader` slot option specifies that an *unqualified method* is to be defined on the *generic function* named *reader-function-name* to read the value of the given *slot*.

- The `:writer` slot option specifies that an *unqualified method* is to be defined on the *generic function* named *writer-function-name* to write the value of the *slot*.

- The `:accessor` slot option specifies that an *unqualified method* is to be defined on the generic function named *reader-function-name* to read the value of the given *slot* and that an *unqualified method* is to be defined on the *generic function* named (`setf` *reader-function-name*) to be used with **setf** to modify the value of the *slot*.

- The `:allocation` slot option is used to specify where storage is to be allocated for the given *slot*. Storage for a *slot* can be located in each instance or in the *class object* itself. The value of the *allocation-type* argument can be either the keyword `:instance` or the keyword `:class`. If the `:allocation` slot option is not specified, the effect is the same as specifying `:allocation :instance`.

  – If *allocation-type* is `:instance`, a *local slot* of the name *slot-name* is allocated in each instance of the *class*.

– If *allocation-type* is `:class`, a shared *slot* of the given name is allocated in the *class object* created by this **defclass** form. The value of the *slot* is shared by all *instances* of the *class*. If a class C_1 defines such a *shared slot*, any subclass C_2 of C_1 will share this single *slot* unless the **defclass** form for C_2 specifies a *slot* of the same *name* or there is a superclass of C_2 that precedes C_1 in the class precedence list of C_2 and that defines a *slot* of the same *name*.

- The `:initform` slot option is used to provide a default initial value form to be used in the initialization of the *slot*. This *form* is evaluated every time it is used to initialize the *slot*. The lexical environment in which this *form* is evaluated is the lexical environment in which the **defclass** form was evaluated. Note that the lexical environment refers both to variables and to functions. For *local slots*, the dynamic environment is the dynamic environment in which **make-instance** is called; for shared *slots*, the dynamic environment is the dynamic environment in which the **defclass** form was evaluated. See Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization).

  No implementation is permitted to extend the syntax of **defclass** to allow (*slot-name form*) as an abbreviation for (*slot-name* `:initform` *form*).

- The `:initarg` slot option declares an initialization argument named *initarg-name* and specifies that this initialization argument initializes the given *slot*. If the initialization argument has a value in the call to **initialize-instance**, the value will be stored into the given *slot*, and the slot's `:initform` slot option, if any, is not evaluated. If none of the initialization arguments specified for a given *slot* has a value, the *slot* is initialized according to the `:initform` slot option, if specified.

- The `:type` slot option specifies that the contents of the *slot* will always be of the specified data type. It effectively declares the result type of the reader generic function when applied to an *object* of this *class*. The consequences of attempting to store in a *slot* a value that does not satisfy the type of the *slot* are undefined. The `:type` slot option is further discussed in Section 7.5.3 (Inheritance of Slots and Slot Options).

- The `:documentation` slot option provides a *documentation string* for the *slot*. `:documentation` can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*.

Each class option is an option that refers to the *class* as a whole. The following class options are available:

- The `:default-initargs` class option is followed by a list of alternating initialization argument *names* and default initial value forms. If any of these initialization arguments does not appear in the initialization argument list supplied to **make-instance**, the corresponding default initial value form is evaluated, and the initialization argument *name* and the *form*'s value are added to the end of the initialization argument list before the instance is created; see Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization). The default initial value form is evaluated each time it is used. The lexical environment in which this *form* is evaluated is the lexical environment in which the **defclass** form was evaluated. The

  dynamic environment is the dynamic environment in which **make-instance** was called. If an initialization argument *name* appears more than once in a `:default-initargs` class option, an error is signaled.

- The `:documentation` class option causes a *documentation string* to be attached with the *class object*, and attached with kind **type** to the *class-name*. `:documentation` can be supplied once at most.

- The `:metaclass` class option is used to specify that instances of the *class* being defined are to have a different metaclass than the default provided by the system (the *class* **standard-class**).

Note the following rules of **defclass** for *standard classes*:

- It is not required that the *superclasses* of a *class* be defined before the **defclass** form for that *class* is evaluated.

- All the *superclasses* of a *class* must be defined before an *instance* of the *class* can be made.

- A *class* must be defined before it can be used as a parameter specializer in a **defmethod** form.

The object system can be extended to cover situations where these rules are not obeyed.

Some slot options are inherited by a *class* from its *superclasses*, and some can be shadowed or altered by providing a local slot description. No class options except `:default-initargs` are inherited. For a detailed description of how *slots* and slot options are inherited, see Section 7.5.3 (Inheritance of Slots and Slot Options).

The options to **defclass** can be extended. It is required that all implementations signal an error if they observe a class option or a slot option that is not implemented locally.

It is valid to specify more than one reader, writer, accessor, or initialization argument for a *slot*. No other slot option can appear more than once in a single slot description, or an error is signaled.

If no reader, writer, or accessor is specified for a *slot*, the *slot* can only be *accessed* by the *function* **slot-value**.

If a **defclass** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must make the *class name* be recognized as a valid *type name* in subsequent declarations (as for **deftype**) and be recognized as a valid *class name* for **defmethod** *parameter specializers* and for use as the `:metaclass` option of a subsequent **defclass**. The *compiler* must make the *class* definition available to be returned by **find-class** when its *environment argument* is a value received as the *environment parameter* of a *macro*.

Exceptional Situations:

If there are any duplicate slot names, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

If an initialization argument *name* appears more than once in `:default-initargs` class option, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

If any of the following slot options appears more than once in a single slot description, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled: `:allocation`, `:initform`, `:type`, `:documentation`.

It is required that all implementations signal an error of *type* **program-error** if they observe a class option or a slot option that is not implemented locally.

See Also:

documentation, **initialize-instance**, **make-instance**, **slot-value**, Section 4.3 (Classes), Section 4.3.4 (Inheritance), Section 4.3.6 (Redefining Classes), Section 4.3.5 (Determining the Class Precedence List), Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization)

defgeneric *Macro*

Syntax:

defgeneric *function-name gf-lambda-list* ⟦↓*option* | {↓*method-description*}*⟧
→ *new-generic*

option::=(`:argument-precedence-order` {*parameter-name*}+) |
(**declare** {*gf-declaration*}+) |
(`:documentation` *gf-documentation*) |
(`:method-combination` *method-combination* {*method-combination-argument*}*) |
(`:generic-function-class` *generic-function-class*) |
(`:method-class` *method-class*)

method-description::=(`:method` {*method-qualifier*}* *specialized-lambda-list*
⟦{*declaration*}* | *documentation*⟧ {*form*}*)

Arguments and Values:

function-name—a *function name*.

generic-function-class—a *non-nil symbol* naming a *class*.

gf-declaration—an **optimize** *declaration specifier*; other *declaration specifiers* are not permitted.

gf-documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

gf-lambda-list—a *generic function lambda list*.

method-class—a *non-nil symbol* naming a *class*.

method-combination-argument—an *object*.

method-combination-name—a *symbol* naming a *method combination type*.

method-qualifiers, *specialized-lambda-list*, *declarations*, *documentation*, *forms*—as per **defmethod**.

new-generic—the *generic function object*.

parameter-name—a *symbol* that names a *required parameter* in the *lambda-list*. (If the `:argument-precedence-order` option is specified, each *required parameter* in the *lambda-list* must be used exactly once as a *parameter-name*.)

Description:

The macro **defgeneric** is used to define a *generic function* or to specify options and declarations that pertain to a *generic function* as a whole.

If *function-name* is a *list* it must be of the form (`setf` *symbol*). If (`fboundp` *function-name*) is *false*, a new *generic function* is created. If (`fdefinition` *function-name*) is a *generic function*, that *generic function* is modified. If *function-name* names an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error is signaled.

The effect of the **defgeneric** macro is as if the following three steps were performed: first, *methods* defined by previous **defgeneric** *forms* are removed; second, **ensure-generic-function** is called; and finally, *methods* specified by the current **defgeneric** *form* are added to the *generic function*.

Each *method-description* defines a *method* on the *generic function*. The *lambda list* of each *method* must be congruent with the *lambda list* specified by the *gf-lambda-list* option. If no *method* descriptions are specified and a *generic function* of the same name does not already exist, a *generic function* with no *methods* is created.

The *gf-lambda-list* argument of **defgeneric** specifies the shape of *lambda lists* for the *methods* on this *generic function*. All *methods* on the resulting *generic function* must have *lambda lists* that are congruent with this shape. If a **defgeneric** form is evaluated and some *methods* for that *generic function* have *lambda lists* that are not congruent with that given in the **defgeneric** form, an error is signaled. For further details on method congruence, see Section 7.6.4 (Congruent Lambda-lists for all Methods of a Generic Function).

The *generic function* passes to the *method* all the argument values passed to it, and only those; default values are not supported. Note that optional and keyword arguments in method definitions, however, can have default initial value forms and can use supplied-p parameters.

The following options are provided. Except as otherwise noted, a given option may occur only once.

- The `:argument-precedence-order` option is used to specify the order in which the required arguments in a call to the *generic function* are tested for specificity when selecting a particular *method*. Each required argument, as specified in the *gf-lambda-list* argument, must be included exactly once as a *parameter-name* so that the full and unambiguous precedence order is supplied. If this condition is not met, an error is signaled.

- The **declare** option is used to specify declarations that pertain to the *generic function*.

  An **optimize** *declaration specifier* is allowed. It specifies whether method selection should be optimized for speed or space, but it has no effect on *methods*. To control how a *method* is optimized, an **optimize** declaration must be placed directly in the **defmethod** *form* or method description. The optimization qualities **speed** and **space** are the only qualities this standard requires, but an implementation can extend the object system to recognize other qualities. A simple implementation that has only one method selection technique and ignores **optimize** *declaration specifiers* is valid.

  The **special**, **ftype**, **function**, **inline**, **notinline**, and **declaration** declarations are not permitted. Individual implementations can extend the **declare** option to support additional declarations. If an implementation notices a *declaration specifier* that it does not support and that has not been proclaimed as a non-standard *declaration identifier* name in a **declaration** *proclamation*, it should issue a warning.

  The **declare** option may be specified more than once. The effect is the same as if the lists of *declaration specifiers* had been appended together into a single list and specified as a single **declare** option.

- The `:documentation` argument is a *documentation string* to be attached to the *generic function object*, and to be attached with kind **function** to the *function-name*.

- The `:generic-function-class` option may be used to specify that the *generic function* is to have a different *class* than the default provided by the system (the *class* **standard-generic-function**). The *class-name* argument is the name of a *class* that can be the *class* of a *generic function*. If *function-name* specifies an existing *generic function* that has a different value for the `:generic-function-class` argument and the new generic function *class* is compatible with the old, **change-class** is called to change the *class* of the *generic function*; otherwise an error is signaled.

- The `:method-class` option is used to specify that all *methods* on this *generic function* are to have a different *class* from the default provided by the system (the *class* **standard-method**). The *class-name* argument is the name of a *class* that is capable of being the *class* of a *method*.

- The `:method-combination` option is followed by a symbol that names a type of method combination. The arguments (if any) that follow that symbol depend on the type of method combination. Note that the standard method combination type does not support any arguments. However, all types of method combination defined by the short form of **define-method-combination** accept an optional argument named *order*, defaulting to `:most-specific-first`, where a value of `:most-specific-last` reverses the order of the primary *methods* without affecting the order of the auxiliary *methods*.

The *method-description* arguments define *methods* that will be associated with the *generic function*. The *method-qualifier* and *specialized-lambda-list* arguments in a method description are the same as for **defmethod**.

The *form* arguments specify the method body. The body of the *method* is enclosed in an *implicit block*. If *function-name* is a *symbol*, this block bears the same name as the *generic function*. If *function-name* is a *list* of the form (`setf` *symbol*), the name of the block is *symbol*.

Implementations can extend **defgeneric** to include other options. It is required that an implementation signal an error if it observes an option that is not implemented locally.

defgeneric is not required to perform any compile-time side effects. In particular, the *methods* are not installed for invocation during compilation. An *implementation* may choose to store information about the *generic function* for the purposes of compile-time error-checking (such as checking the number of arguments on calls, or noting that a definition for the function name has been seen).

Examples:

Exceptional Situations:

If *function-name* names an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

Each required argument, as specified in the *gf-lambda-list* argument, must be included exactly once as a *parameter-name*, or an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

The *lambda list* of each *method* specified by a *method-description* must be congruent with the *lambda list* specified by the *gf-lambda-list* option, or an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If a **defgeneric** form is evaluated and some *methods* for that *generic function* have *lambda lists* that are not congruent with that given in the **defgeneric** form, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

A given *option* may occur only once, or an error of *type* **program-error** is signaled.

If *function-name* specifies an existing *generic function* that has a different value for the `:generic-function-class` argument and the new generic function *class* is compatible with the old, **change-class** is called to change the *class* of the *generic function*; otherwise an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

Implementations can extend **defgeneric** to include other options. It is required that an implementation signal an error of *type* **program-error** if it observes an option that is not implemented locally.

See Also:

defmethod, **documentation**, **ensure-generic-function**, **generic-function**, Section 7.6.4 (Congruent Lambda-lists for all Methods of a Generic Function)

defmethod *Macro*

Syntax:

defmethod *function-name* {*method-qualifier*}* *specialized-lambda-list*
⟦ {*declaration*}* | *documentation* ⟧ {*form*}*

→ *new-method*

function-name::= {*symbol* | (setf *symbol*)}

method-qualifier::= *non-list*

specialized-lambda-list::= ({*var* | (*var parameter-specializer-name*)}*
[&optional {*var* | (var [*initform* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*]
[&rest *var*]
[&key{*var* | ({*var* | (*keywordvar*)} [*initform* [*supplied-p-parameter*]])}*
[**&allow-other-keys**]]
[&aux {*var* | (*var* [*initform*])}*])

parameter-specializer-name::= *symbol* | (eql *eql-specializer-form*)

Arguments and Values:

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

var—a *variable name*.

eql-specializer-form—a *form*.

Form—a *form*.

Initform—a *form*.

Supplied-p-parameter—variable name.

new-method—the new *method object*.

Description:

The macro **defmethod** defines a *method* on a *generic function*.

If (fboundp *function-name*) is **nil**, a *generic function* is created with default values for the argument precedence order (each argument is more specific than the arguments to its right in the argument list), for the generic function class (the *class* **standard-generic-function**), for the method class (the *class* **standard-method**), and for the method combination type (the standard method combination type). The *lambda list* of the *generic function* is congruent with the *lambda list* of the *method* being defined; if the **defmethod** form mentions keyword arguments, the *lambda list* of the *generic function* will mention &key (but no keyword arguments). If *function-name* names an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error is signaled.

If a *generic function* is currently named by *function-name*, the *lambda list* of the *method* must be congruent with the *lambda list* of the *generic function*. If this condition does not hold, an error is signaled. For a definition of congruence in this context, see Section 7.6.4 (Congruent Lambda-lists for all Methods of a Generic Function).

Each *method-qualifier* argument is an *object* that is used by method combination to identify the given *method*. The method combination type might further restrict what a method *qualifier* can be. The standard method combination type allows for *unqualified methods* and *methods* whose sole *qualifier* is one of the keywords :before, :after, or :around.

The *specialized-lambda-list* argument is like an ordinary *lambda list* except that the *names* of required parameters can be replaced by specialized parameters. A specialized parameter is a list of the form (*var parameter-specializer-name*). Only required parameters can be specialized. If *parameter-specializer-name* is a *symbol* it names a *class*; if it is a *list*, it is of the form (eql *eql-specializer-form*). The parameter specializer name (eql *eql-specializer-form*) indicates that the corresponding argument must be **eql** to the *object* that is the value of *eql-specializer-form* for the *method* to be applicable. The *eql-specializer-form* is evaluated at the time that the expansion of the **defmethod** macro is evaluated. If no *parameter specializer name* is specified for a given required parameter, the *parameter specializer* defaults to the *class* **t**. For further discussion, see Section 7.6.2 (Introduction to Methods).

The *form* arguments specify the method body. The body of the *method* is enclosed in an *implicit block*. If *function-name* is a *symbol*, this block bears the same *name* as the *generic function*. If *function-name* is a *list* of the form (setf *symbol*), the *name* of the block is *symbol*.

The *class* of the *method object* that is created is that given by the method class option of the *generic function* on which the *method* is defined.

If the *generic function* already has a *method* that agrees with the *method* being defined on *parameter specializers* and *qualifiers*, **defmethod** replaces the existing *method* with the one now being defined. For a definition of agreement in this context. see Section 7.6.3 (Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers).

The *parameter specializers* are derived from the *parameter specializer names* as described in Section 7.6.2 (Introduction to Methods).

The expansion of the **defmethod** macro "refers to" each specialized parameter (see the description of **ignore** within the description of **declare**). This includes parameters that have an explicit *parameter specializer name* of **t**. This means that a compiler warning does not occur if the body of the *method* does not refer to a specialized parameter, while a warning might occur if the body of the *method* does not refer to an unspecialized parameter. For this reason, a parameter that specializes on **t** is not quite synonymous with an unspecialized parameter in this context.

Declarations at the head of the method body that apply to the method's *lambda variables* are treated as *bound declarations* whose *scope* is the same as the corresponding *bindings*.

Declarations at the head of the method body that apply to the functional bindings of **call-next-method** or **next-method-p** apply to references to those functions within the method body *forms*. Any outer *bindings* of the *function names* **call-next-method** and **next-method-p**, and declarations associated with such *bindings* are *shadowed*$_2$ within the method body *forms*.

The *scope* of *free declarations* at the head of the method body is the entire method body, which includes any implicit local function definitions but excludes *initialization forms* for the *lambda variables*.

defmethod is not required to perform any compile-time side effects. In particular, the *methods* are not installed for invocation during compilation. An *implementation* may choose to store information about the *generic function* for the purposes of compile-time error-checking (such as checking the number of arguments on calls, or noting that a definition for the function name has been seen).

Documentation is attached as a *documentation string* to the *method object*.

Affected By:

The definition of the referenced *generic function*.

Exceptional Situations:

If *function-name* names an *ordinary function*, a *macro*, or a *special operator*, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If a *generic function* is currently named by *function-name*, the *lambda list* of the *method* must be congruent with the *lambda list* of the *generic function*, or an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

defgeneric, **documentation**, Section 7.6.2 (Introduction to Methods), Section 7.6.4 (Congruent Lambda-lists for all Methods of a Generic Function), Section 7.6.3 (Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

find-class *Accessor*

Syntax:

find-class *symbol* `&optional` *errorp environment* → *class*

(**setf** (**find-class** *symbol* `&optional` *errorp environment*) *new-class*)

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Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

errorp—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

environment – same as the **&environment** argument to macro expansion functions and is used to distinguish between compile-time and run-time environments. The **&environment** argument has *dynamic extent*; the consequences are undefined if the **&environment** argument is referred to outside the *dynamic extent* of the macro expansion function.

class—a *class object*, or **nil**.

Description:

Returns the *class object* named by the *symbol* in the *environment*. If there is no such *class*, **nil** is returned if *errorp* is *false*; otherwise, if *errorp* is *true*, an error is signaled.

The *class* associated with a particular *symbol* can be changed by using **setf** with **find-class**; or, if the new *class* given to **setf** is **nil**, the *class* association is removed (but the *class object* itself is not affected). The results are undefined if the user attempts to change or remove the *class* associated with a *symbol* that is defined as a *type specifier* in this standard. See Section 4.3.7 (Integrating Types and Classes).

When using **setf** of **find-class**, any *errorp* argument is *evaluated* for effect, but any *values* it returns are ignored; the *errorp parameter* is permitted primarily so that the *environment parameter* can be used.

The *environment* might be used to distinguish between a compile-time and a run-time environment.

Exceptional Situations:

If there is no such *class* and *errorp* is *true*, **find-class** signals an error of *type* **error**.

See Also:

defmacro, Section 4.3.7 (Integrating Types and Classes)

next-method-p *Local Function*

Syntax:

next-method-p ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

The locally defined function **next-method-p** can be used within the body *forms* (but not the *lambda list*) defined by a *method-defining form* to determine whether a next *method* exists.

The *function* **next-method-p** has *lexical scope* and *indefinite extent*.

Whether or not **next-method-p** is *fbound* in the *global environment* is *implementation-dependent*; however, the restrictions on redefinition and *shadowing* of **next-method-p** are the same as for *symbols* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* which are *fbound* in the *global environment*. The consequences of attempting to use **next-method-p** outside of a *method-defining form* are undefined.

See Also:

call-next-method, **defmethod**, **call-method**

call-method, make-method *Local Macro*

Syntax:

call-method *method* `&optional` *next-method-list* → {*result*}*

make-method *form* → *method-object*

Arguments and Values:

method—a *method object*, or a *list* (see below); not evaluated.

method-object—a *method object*.

next-method-list—a *list* of *method objects*; not evaluated.

results—the *values* returned by the *method* invocation.

Description:

The macro **call-method** is used in method combination. It hides the *implementation-dependent* details of how *methods* are called. The macro **call-method** has *lexical scope* and can only be used within an *effective method form*.

Whether or not **call-method** is *fbound* in the *global environment* is *implementation-dependent*; however, the restrictions on redefinition and *shadowing* of **call-method** are the same as for *symbols* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* which are *fbound* in the *global environment*. The consequences of attempting to use **call-method** outside of an *effective method form* are undefined.

The macro **call-method** invokes the specified *method*, supplying it with arguments and with definitions for **call-next-method** and for **next-method-p**. If the invocation of **call-method** is lexically inside of a **make-method**, the arguments are those that were supplied to that method.

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Otherwise the arguments are those that were supplied to the generic function. The definitions of **call-next-method** and **next-method-p** rely on the specified *next-method-list*.

If *method* is a *list*, the first element of the *list* must be the symbol **make-method** and the second element must be a *form*. Such a *list* specifies a *method object* whose *method* function has a body that is the given *form*.

Next-method-list can contain *method objects* or *lists*, the first element of which must be the symbol **make-method** and the second element of which must be a *form*.

Those are the only two places where **make-method** can be used. The *form* used with **make-method** is evaluated in the *null lexical environment* augmented with a local macro definition for **call-method** and with bindings named by symbols not *accessible* from the `COMMON-LISP-USER` *package*.

The **call-next-method** function available to *method* will call the first *method* in *next-method-list*. The **call-next-method** function available in that *method*, in turn, will call the second *method* in *next-method-list*, and so on, until the list of next *methods* is exhausted.

If *next-method-list* is not supplied, the **call-next-method** function available to *method* signals an error of *type* **control-error** and the **next-method-p** function available to *method* returns **nil**.

Examples:

See Also:

call-next-method, **define-method-combination**, **next-method-p**

call-next-method *Local Function*

Syntax:

call-next-method `&rest` *args* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

arg—an *object*.

results—the *values* returned by the *method* it calls.

Description:

The *function* **call-next-method** can be used within the body *forms* (but not the *lambda list*) of a *method* defined by a *method-defining form* to call the *next method*.

If there is no next *method*, the generic function **no-next-method** is called.

The type of method combination used determines which *methods* can invoke **call-next-method**. The standard *method combination* type allows **call-next-method** to be used within primary *methods* and *around methods*. For generic functions using a type of method combination defined by the short form of **define-method-combination**, **call-next-method** can be used in *around methods* only.

When **call-next-method** is called with no arguments, it passes the current *method*'s original arguments to the next *method*. Neither argument defaulting, nor using **setq**, nor rebinding variables with the same *names* as parameters of the *method* affects the values **call-next-method** passes to the *method* it calls.

When **call-next-method** is called with arguments, the *next method* is called with those arguments.

If **call-next-method** is called with arguments but omits optional arguments, the *next method* called defaults those arguments.

The *function* **call-next-method** returns any *values* that are returned by the *next method*.

The *function* **call-next-method** has *lexical scope* and *indefinite extent* and can only be used within the body of a *method* defined by a *method-defining form*.

Whether or not **call-next-method** is *fbound* in the *global environment* is *implementation-dependent*; however, the restrictions on redefinition and *shadowing* of **call-next-method** are the same as for *symbols* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* which are *fbound* in the *global environment*. The consequences of attempting to use **call-next-method** outside of a *method-defining form* are undefined.

Affected By:

defmethod, **call-method**, **define-method-combination**.

Exceptional Situations:

When providing arguments to **call-next-method**, the following rule must be satisfied or an error of *type* **error** should be signaled: the ordered set of *applicable methods* for a changed set of arguments for **call-next-method** must be the same as the ordered set of *applicable methods* for the original arguments to the *generic function*. Optimizations of the error checking are possible, but they must not change the semantics of **call-next-method**.

See Also:

define-method-combination, **defmethod**, **next-method-p**, **no-next-method**, **call-method**, Section 7.6.6 (Method Selection and Combination), Section 7.6.6.2 (Standard Method Combination), Section 7.6.6.4 (Built-in Method Combination Types)

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compute-applicable-methods — *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

compute-applicable-methods *generic-function function-arguments* → *methods*

Method Signatures:

compute-applicable-methods (*generic-function* **standard-generic-function**)

Arguments and Values:

generic-function—a *generic function*.

function-arguments—a *list* of arguments for the *generic-function*.

methods—a *list* of *method objects*.

Description:

Given a *generic-function* and a set of *function-arguments*, the function **compute-applicable-methods** returns the set of *methods* that are applicable for those arguments sorted according to precedence order. See Section 7.6.6 (Method Selection and Combination).

Affected By:

defmethod

See Also:

Section 7.6.6 (Method Selection and Combination)

define-method-combination — *Macro*

Syntax:

define-method-combination *name* ⟦↓*short-form-option*⟧
  → *name*

define-method-combination *name lambda-list*
  ({*method-group-specifier*}*)
  [(`:arguments` . *args-lambda-list*)]
  [(`:generic-function` *generic-function-symbol*)]
  ⟦{*declaration*}* | *documentation*⟧
  {*form*}*

  → *name*

define-method-combination

short-form-option::=:documentation *documentation* |
:identity-with-one-argument *identity-with-one-argument* |
:operator *operator*

method-group-specifier::=(*name* {{*qualifier-pattern*}$^+$ | *predicate*} [[↓*long-form-option*]])

long-form-option::=:description *description* |
:order *order* |
:required *required-p*

Arguments and Values:

args-lambda-list—a *define-method-combination arguments lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

description—a *format control*.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn* that must compute and return the *form* that specifies how the *methods* are combined, that is, the *effective method*.

generic-function-symbol—a *symbol*.

identity-with-one-argument—a *generalized boolean*.

lambda-list—*ordinary lambda list*.

name—a *symbol*. Non-*keyword*, *non-nil symbols* are usually used.

operator—an *operator*. *Name* and *operator* are often the *same symbol*. This is the default, but it is not required.

order—:most-specific-first or :most-specific-last; evaluated.

predicate—a *symbol* that names a *function* of one argument that returns a *generalized boolean*.

qualifier-pattern—a *list*, or the *symbol* *.

required-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

The macro **define-method-combination** is used to define new types of method combination.

There are two forms of **define-method-combination**. The short form is a simple facility for the cases that are expected to be most commonly needed. The long form is more powerful but more verbose. It resembles **defmacro** in that the body is an expression, usually using backquote, that computes a *form*. Thus arbitrary control structures can be implemented. The long form also

define-method-combination

allows arbitrary processing of method *qualifiers*.

Short Form

The short form syntax of **define-method-combination** is recognized when the second *subform* is a *non-nil* symbol or is not present. When the short form is used, *name* is defined as a type of method combination that produces a Lisp form (*operator method-call method-call* ...). The *operator* is a *symbol* that can be the *name* of a *function*, *macro*, or *special operator*. The *operator* can be supplied by a keyword option; it defaults to *name*.

Keyword options for the short form are the following:

- The :documentation option is used to document the method-combination type; see description of long form below.

- The :identity-with-one-argument option enables an optimization when its value is *true* (the default is *false*). If there is exactly one applicable method and it is a primary method, that method serves as the effective method and *operator* is not called. This optimization avoids the need to create a new effective method and avoids the overhead of a *function* call. This option is designed to be used with operators such as **progn**, **and**, **+**, and **max**.

- The :operator option specifies the *name* of the operator. The *operator* argument is a *symbol* that can be the *name* of a *function*, *macro*, or *special form*.

These types of method combination require exactly one *qualifier* per method. An error is signaled if there are applicable methods with no *qualifiers* or with *qualifiers* that are not supported by the method combination type.

A method combination procedure defined in this way recognizes two roles for methods. A method whose one *qualifier* is the symbol naming this type of method combination is defined to be a primary method. At least one primary method must be applicable or an error is signaled. A method with :around as its one *qualifier* is an auxiliary method that behaves the same as an *around method* in standard method combination. The *function* **call-next-method** can only be used in *around methods*; it cannot be used in primary methods defined by the short form of the **define-method-combination** macro.

A method combination procedure defined in this way accepts an optional argument named *order*, which defaults to :most-specific-first. A value of :most-specific-last reverses the order of the primary methods without affecting the order of the auxiliary methods.

The short form automatically includes error checking and support for *around methods*.

For a discussion of built-in method combination types, see Section 7.6.6.4 (Built-in Method Combination Types).

Long Form

The long form syntax of **define-method-combination** is recognized when the second *subform* is a list.

The *lambda-list* receives any arguments provided after the *name* of the method combination type in the `:method-combination` option to **defgeneric**.

A list of method group specifiers follows. Each specifier selects a subset of the applicable methods to play a particular role, either by matching their *qualifiers* against some patterns or by testing their *qualifiers* with a *predicate*. These method group specifiers define all method *qualifiers* that can be used with this type of method combination.

The *car* of each *method-group-specifier* is a *symbol* which *names* a *variable*. During the execution of the *forms* in the body of **define-method-combination**, this *variable* is bound to a list of the *methods* in the method group. The *methods* in this list occur in the order specified by the `:order` option.

If *qualifier-pattern* is a *symbol* it must be *. A method matches a *qualifier-pattern* if the method's list of *qualifiers* is **equal** to the *qualifier-pattern* (except that the symbol * in a *qualifier-pattern* matches anything). Thus a *qualifier-pattern* can be one of the following: the *empty list*, which matches *unqualified methods*; the symbol *, which matches all methods; a true list, which matches methods with the same number of *qualifiers* as the length of the list when each *qualifier* matches the corresponding list element; or a dotted list that ends in the symbol * (the * matches any number of additional *qualifiers*).

Each applicable method is tested against the *qualifier-patterns* and *predicates* in left-to-right order. As soon as a *qualifier-pattern* matches or a *predicate* returns true, the method becomes a member of the corresponding method group and no further tests are made. Thus if a method could be a member of more than one method group, it joins only the first such group. If a method group has more than one *qualifier-pattern*, a method need only satisfy one of the *qualifier-patterns* to be a member of the group.

The *name* of a *predicate* function can appear instead of *qualifier-patterns* in a method group specifier. The *predicate* is called for each method that has not been assigned to an earlier method group; it is called with one argument, the method's *qualifier list*. The *predicate* should return true if the method is to be a member of the method group. A *predicate* can be distinguished from a *qualifier-pattern* because it is a *symbol* other than **nil** or *.

If there is an applicable method that does not fall into any method group, the *function* **invalid-method-error** is called.

Method group specifiers can have keyword options following the *qualifier* patterns or predicate. Keyword options can be distinguished from additional *qualifier* patterns because they are neither lists nor the symbol *. The keyword options are as follows:

- The `:description` option is used to provide a description of the role of methods in the method group. Programming environment tools use `(apply #'format stream` *format-control* `(method-qualifiers` *method*`))` to print this description, which is expected to be concise. This keyword option allows the description of a method *qualifier* to be defined in the same module that defines the meaning of the method *qualifier*. In most cases, *format-control* will not contain any **format** directives, but they are available for generality. If `:description` is not supplied, a default description is generated based on the variable name and the *qualifier* patterns and on whether this method group includes the *unqualified methods*.

- The `:order` option specifies the order of methods. The *order* argument is a *form* that evaluates to `:most-specific-first` or `:most-specific-last`. If it evaluates to any other value, an error is signaled. If `:order` is not supplied, it defaults to `:most-specific-first`.

- The `:required` option specifies whether at least one method in this method group is required. If its value is *true* and the method group is empty (that is, no applicable methods match the *qualifier* patterns or satisfy the predicate), an error is signaled. If `:required` is not supplied, it defaults to **nil**.

The use of method group specifiers provides a convenient syntax to select methods, to divide them among the possible roles, and to perform the necessary error checking. It is possible to perform further filtering of methods in the body *forms* by using normal list-processing operations and the functions **method-qualifiers** and **invalid-method-error**. It is permissible to use **setq** on the variables named in the method group specifiers and to bind additional variables. It is also possible to bypass the method group specifier mechanism and do everything in the body *forms*. This is accomplished by writing a single method group with * as its only *qualifier-pattern*; the variable is then bound to a *list* of all of the *applicable methods*, in most-specific-first order.

The body *forms* compute and return the *form* that specifies how the methods are combined, that is, the effective method. The effective method is evaluated in the *null lexical environment* augmented with a local macro definition for **call-method** and with bindings named by symbols not *accessible* from the `COMMON-LISP-USER` *package*. Given a method object in one of the *lists* produced by the method group specifiers and a *list* of next methods, **call-method** will invoke the method such that **call-next-method** has available the next methods.

When an effective method has no effect other than to call a single method, some implementations employ an optimization that uses the single method directly as the effective method, thus avoiding the need to create a new effective method. This optimization is active when the effective method form consists entirely of an invocation of the **call-method** macro whose first *subform* is a method object and whose second *subform* is **nil** or unsupplied. Each **define-method-combination** body is responsible for stripping off redundant invocations of **progn**, **and**, **multiple-value-prog1**, and the like, if this optimization is desired.

The list `(:arguments .` *lambda-list*`)` can appear before any declarations or *documentation* *string*. This form is useful when the method combination type performs some specific behavior as part of the combined method and that behavior needs access to the arguments to the *generic function*. Each parameter variable defined by *lambda-list* is bound to a *form* that can be inserted into the effective method. When this *form* is evaluated during execution of the effective method, its value is the corresponding argument to the *generic function*; the consequences of using such a *form* as the *place* in a **setf** *form* are undefined. Argument correspondence is computed by dividing the `:arguments` *lambda-list* and the *generic function* *lambda-list* into three sections: the *required parameters*, the *optional parameters*, and the *keyword* and *rest parameters*. The *arguments* supplied to the *generic function* for a particular *call* are also divided into three sections; the required *arguments* section contains as many *arguments* as the *generic function* has *required parameters*, the optional *arguments* section contains as many arguments as the *generic function* has *optional parameters*, and the keyword/rest *arguments* section contains the remaining arguments. Each *parameter* in the required and optional sections of the `:arguments` *lambda-list* accesses the argument at the same position in the corresponding section of the *arguments*. If the section of the `:arguments` *lambda-list* is shorter, extra *arguments* are ignored. If the section of the `:arguments` *lambda-list* is longer, excess *required parameters* are bound to forms that evaluate to **nil** and excess *optional parameters* are *bound* to their initforms. The *keyword parameters* and *rest parameters* in the `:arguments` *lambda-list* access the keyword/rest section of the *arguments*. If the `:arguments` *lambda-list* contains **&key**, it behaves as if it also contained **&allow-other-keys**.

In addition, **&whole** *var* can be placed first in the `:arguments` *lambda-list*. It causes *var* to be *bound* to a *form* that *evaluates* to a *list* of all of the *arguments* supplied to the *generic function*. This is different from **&rest** because it accesses all of the arguments, not just the keyword/rest *arguments*.

Erroneous conditions detected by the body should be reported with **method-combination-error** or **invalid-method-error**; these *functions* add any necessary contextual information to the error message and will signal the appropriate error.

The body *forms* are evaluated inside of the *bindings* created by the *lambda list* and method group specifiers. Declarations at the head of the body are positioned directly inside of *bindings* created by the *lambda list* and outside of the *bindings* of the method group variables. Thus method group variables cannot be declared in this way. **locally** may be used around the body, however.

Within the body *forms*, *generic-function-symbol* is bound to the *generic function object*.

Documentation is attached as a *documentation string* to *name* (as kind **method-combination**) and to the *method combination object*.

Note that two methods with identical specializers, but with different *qualifiers*, are not ordered by the algorithm described in Step 2 of the method selection and combination process described in Section 7.6.6 (Method Selection and Combination). Normally the two methods play different roles in the effective method because they have different *qualifiers*, and no matter how they are ordered in the result of Step 2, the

effective method is the same. If the two methods play the same role and their order matters, an error is signaled. This happens as part of the *qualifier* pattern matching in **define-method-combination**.

If a **define-method-combination** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must make the *method combination name* be recognized as a valid *method combination name* in subsequent **defgeneric** *forms*. However, the *method combination* is executed no earlier than when the **define-method-combination** *form* is executed, and possibly as late as the time that *generic functions* that use the *method combination* are executed.

Examples:

Most examples of the long form of **define-method-combination** also illustrate the use of the related *functions* that are provided as part of the declarative method combination facility.

```
;;; Examples of the short form of define-method-combination

 (define-method-combination and :identity-with-one-argument t)

 (defmethod func and ((x class1) y) ...)

;;; The equivalent of this example in the long form is:

 (define-method-combination and
         (&optional (order :most-specific-first))
         ((around (:around))
          (primary (and) :order order :required t))
   (let ((form (if (rest primary)
                   `(and ,@(mapcar #'(lambda (method)
                                       `(call-method ,method))
                                   primary))
                   `(call-method ,(first primary)))))
     (if around
         `(call-method ,(first around)
                       (,@(rest around)
                        (make-method ,form)))
         form)))

;;; Examples of the long form of define-method-combination

;The default method-combination technique
 (define-method-combination standard ()
         ((around (:around))
          (before (:before))
          (primary () :required t)
          (after (:after)))
   (flet ((call-methods (methods)
```

```
             (mapcar #'(lambda (method)
                         `(call-method ,method))
                     methods)))
      (let ((form (if (or before after (rest primary))
                      `(multiple-value-prog1
                         (progn ,@(call-methods before)
                                (call-method ,(first primary)
                                             ,(rest primary)))
                         ,@(call-methods (reverse after)))
                      `(call-method ,(first primary)))))
        (if around
            `(call-method ,(first around)
                          (,@(rest around)
                           (make-method ,form)))
            form))))

;A simple way to try several methods until one returns non-nil
 (define-method-combination or ()
         ((methods (or)))
   `(or ,@(mapcar #'(lambda (method)
                      `(call-method ,method))
                  methods)))

;A more complete version of the preceding
 (define-method-combination or
         (&optional (order ':most-specific-first))
         ((around (:around))
          (primary (or)))
   ;; Process the order argument
   (case order
     (:most-specific-first)
     (:most-specific-last (setq primary (reverse primary)))
     (otherwise (method-combination-error "~S is an invalid order.~@
     :most-specific-first and :most-specific-last are the possible values."
                                          order)))
   ;; Must have a primary method
   (unless primary
     (method-combination-error "A primary method is required."))
   ;; Construct the form that calls the primary methods
   (let ((form (if (rest primary)
                   `(or ,@(mapcar #'(lambda (method)
                                      `(call-method ,method))
                                  primary))
                   `(call-method ,(first primary)))))
     ;; Wrap the around methods around that form
```



```
     (if around
         `(call-method ,(first around)
                       (,@(rest around)
                        (make-method ,form)))
         form)))

;The same thing, using the :order and :required keyword options
 (define-method-combination or
         (&optional (order ':most-specific-first))
         ((around (:around))
          (primary (or) :order order :required t))
   (let ((form (if (rest primary)
                   `(or ,@(mapcar #'(lambda (method)
                                      `(call-method ,method))
                                  primary))
                   `(call-method ,(first primary)))))
     (if around
         `(call-method ,(first around)
                       (,@(rest around)
                        (make-method ,form)))
         form)))

;This short-form call is behaviorally identical to the preceding
 (define-method-combination or :identity-with-one-argument t)

;Order methods by positive integer qualifiers
;:around methods are disallowed to keep the example small
 (define-method-combination example-method-combination ()
         ((methods positive-integer-qualifier-p))
   `(progn ,@(mapcar #'(lambda (method)
                         `(call-method ,method))
                     (stable-sort methods #'<
                       :key #'(lambda (method)
                                (first (method-qualifiers method)))))))

 (defun positive-integer-qualifier-p (method-qualifiers)
   (and (= (length method-qualifiers) 1)
        (typep (first method-qualifiers) '(integer 0 *))))

;;; Example of the use of :arguments
 (define-method-combination progn-with-lock ()
         ((methods ()))
   (:arguments object)
   `(unwind-protect
        (progn (lock (object-lock ,object))
```

```
             ,@(mapcar #'(lambda (method)
                           `(call-method ,method))
                         methods))
        (unlock (object-lock ,object))))
```

Side Effects:

The *compiler* is not required to perform any compile-time side-effects.

Exceptional Situations:

Method combination types defined with the short form require exactly one *qualifier* per method. An error of *type* **error** is signaled if there are applicable methods with no *qualifiers* or with *qualifiers* that are not supported by the method combination type. At least one primary method must be applicable or an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If an applicable method does not fall into any method group, the system signals an error of *type* **error** indicating that the method is invalid for the kind of method combination in use.

If the value of the `:required` option is *true* and the method group is empty (that is, no applicable methods match the *qualifier* patterns or satisfy the predicate), an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If the `:order` option evaluates to a value other than `:most-specific-first` or `:most-specific-last`, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

call-method, **call-next-method**, **documentation**, **method-qualifiers**, **method-combination-error**, **invalid-method-error**, **defgeneric**, Section 7.6.6 (Method Selection and Combination), Section 7.6.6.4 (Built-in Method Combination Types), Section 3.4.11 (Syntactic Interaction of Documentation Strings and Declarations)

Notes:

The `:method-combination` option of **defgeneric** is used to specify that a *generic function* should use a particular method combination type. The first argument to the `:method-combination` option is the *name* of a method combination type and the remaining arguments are options for that type.

find-method *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

find-method *generic-function method-qualifiers specializers* `&optional` *errorp*
→ *method*

Method Signatures:

find-method (*generic-function* **standard-generic-function**)
method-qualifiers specializers `&optional` *errorp*

Arguments and Values:

generic-function—a *generic function*.

method-qualifiers—a *list*.

specializers—a *list*.

errorp—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

method—a *method object*, or **nil**.

Description:

The *generic function* **find-method** takes a *generic function* and returns the *method object* that agrees on *qualifiers* and *parameter specializers* with the *method-qualifiers* and *specializers* arguments of **find-method**. *Method-qualifiers* contains the method *qualifiers* for the *method*. The order of the method *qualifiers* is significant. For a definition of agreement in this context, see Section 7.6.3 (Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers).

The *specializers* argument contains the parameter specializers for the *method*. It must correspond in length to the number of required arguments of the *generic function*, or an error is signaled. This means that to obtain the default *method* on a given *generic-function*, a *list* whose elements are the *class* `t` must be given.

If there is no such *method* and *errorp* is *true*, **find-method** signals an error. If there is no such *method* and *errorp* is *false*, **find-method** returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
 (defmethod some-operation ((a integer) (b float)) (list a b))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD SOME-OPERATION (INTEGER FLOAT) 26723357>
 (find-method #'some-operation '() (mapcar #'find-class '(integer float)))
→ #<STANDARD-METHOD SOME-OPERATION (INTEGER FLOAT) 26723357>
 (find-method #'some-operation '() (mapcar #'find-class '(integer integer)))
▷ Error: No matching method
 (find-method #'some-operation '() (mapcar #'find-class '(integer integer)) nil)
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

add-method, **defclass**, **defgeneric**, **defmethod**

Exceptional Situations:

If the *specializers* argument does not correspond in length to the number of required arguments of the *generic-function*, an an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If there is no such *method* and *errorp* is *true*, **find-method** signals an error of *type* **error**.

See Also:

Section 7.6.3 (Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers)

add-method *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

add-method *generic-function method* → *generic-function*

Method Signatures:

add-method (*generic-function* **standard-generic-function**)
(*method* **method**)

Arguments and Values:

generic-function—a *generic function object*.

method—a *method object*.

Description:

The generic function **add-method** adds a *method* to a *generic function*.

If *method* agrees with an existing *method* of *generic-function* on *parameter specializers* and *qualifiers*, the existing *method* is replaced.

Exceptional Situations:

The *lambda list* of the method function of *method* must be congruent with the *lambda list* of *generic-function*, or an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

If *method* is a *method object* of another *generic function*, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

defmethod, **defgeneric**, **find-method**, **remove-method**, Section 7.6.3 (Agreement on Parameter Specializers and Qualifiers)

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initialize-instance *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

initialize-instance *instance* `&rest` *initargs* `&key` `&allow-other-keys` → *instance*

Method Signatures:

initialize-instance (*instance* **standard-object**) `&rest` *initargs*

Arguments and Values:

instance—an *object*.

initargs—a *defaulted initialization argument list*.

Description:

Called by **make-instance** to initialize a newly created *instance*. The generic function is called with the new *instance* and the *defaulted initialization argument list*.

The system-supplied primary *method* on **initialize-instance** initializes the *slots* of the *instance* with values according to the *initargs* and the `:initform` forms of the *slots*. It does this by calling the generic function **shared-initialize** with the following arguments: the *instance*, **t** (this indicates that all *slots* for which no initialization arguments are provided should be initialized according to their `:initform` forms), and the *initargs*.

Programmers can define *methods* for **initialize-instance** to specify actions to be taken when an instance is initialized. If only *after methods* are defined, they will be run after the system-supplied primary *method* for initialization and therefore will not interfere with the default behavior of **initialize-instance**.

See Also:

shared-initialize, **make-instance**, **slot-boundp**, **slot-makunbound**, Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization), Section 7.1.4 (Rules for Initialization Arguments), Section 7.1.2 (Declaring the Validity of Initialization Arguments)

class-name *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

class-name *class* → *name*

Method Signatures:

class-name (*class* **class**)

Arguments and Values:

class—a *class object*.

name—a *symbol*.

Description:

Returns the *name* of the given *class*.

See Also:

find-class, Section 4.3 (Classes)

Notes:

If S is a *symbol* such that S =(`class-name` C) and C =(`find-class` S), then S is the proper name of C. For further discussion, see Section 4.3 (Classes).

The name of an anonymous *class* is **nil**.

(setf class-name) *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

(setf class-name) *new-value class* → *new-value*

Method Signatures:

(setf class-name) *new-value* (*class* **class**)

Arguments and Values:

new-value—a *symbol*.

class—a *class*.

Description:

The generic function `(setf class-name)` sets the name of a *class* object.

See Also:

find-class, *proper name*, Section 4.3 (Classes)

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class-of *Function*

Syntax:

class-of *object* → *class*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

class—a *class object*.

Description:

Returns the *class* of which the *object* is a *direct instance*.

Examples:

```
(class-of 'fred) → #<BUILT-IN-CLASS SYMBOL 610327300>
(class-of 2/3) → #<BUILT-IN-CLASS RATIO 610326642>

(defclass book () ()) → #<STANDARD-CLASS BOOK 33424745>
(class-of (make-instance 'book)) → #<STANDARD-CLASS BOOK 33424745>

(defclass novel (book) ()) → #<STANDARD-CLASS NOVEL 33424764>
(class-of (make-instance 'novel)) → #<STANDARD-CLASS NOVEL 33424764>

(defstruct kons kar kdr) → KONS
(class-of (make-kons :kar 3 :kdr 4)) → #<STRUCTURE-CLASS KONS 250020317>
```

See Also:

make-instance, **type-of**

unbound-slot *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

unbound-slot, **cell-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *object* having the unbound slot is initialized by the `:instance` initialization argument to **make-condition**, and is *accessed* by the *function* **unbound-slot-instance**.

The name of the cell (see **cell-error**) is the name of the slot.

See Also:

cell-error-name, **unbound-slot-object**, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

unbound-slot-instance *Function*

Syntax:

unbound-slot-instance *condition* → *instance*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **unbound-slot**.

instance—an *object*.

Description:

Returns the instance which had the unbound slot in the *situation* represented by the *condition*.

See Also:

cell-error-name, **unbound-slot**, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

8. Structures

defstruct *Macro*

Syntax:

defstruct *name-and-options* [*documentation*] {↓*slot-description*}*
→ *structure-name*

name-and-options::=*structure-name* | (*structure-name* ⟦↓*options*⟧)

options::=↓*conc-name-option* |
{↓*constructor-option*}* |
↓*copier-option* |
↓*include-option* |
↓*initial-offset-option* |
↓*named-option* |
↓*predicate-option* |
↓*printer-option* |
↓*type-option*

conc-name-option::=`:conc-name` | (`:conc-name`) | (`:conc-name` *conc-name*)

constructor-option::=`:constructor` |
(`:constructor`) |
(`:constructor` *constructor-name*) |
(`:constructor` *constructor-name constructor-arglist*)

copier-option::=`:copier` | (`:copier`) | (`:copier` *copier-name*)

predicate-option::=`:predicate` | (`:predicate`) | (`:predicate` *predicate-name*)

include-option::=(`:include` *included-structure-name* {↓*slot-description*}*)

printer-option::=↓*print-object-option* | ↓*print-function-option*

print-object-option::=(`:print-object` *printer-name*) | (`:print-object`)

print-function-option::=(`:print-function` *printer-name*) | (`:print-function`)

type-option::=(`:type` *type*)

named-option::=`:named`

initial-offset-option::=(`:initial-offset` *initial-offset*)

slot-description::=*slot-name* |
(*slot-name* [*slot-initform* ⟦↓*slot-option*⟧])

slot-option::=`:type` *slot-type* |
`:read-only` *slot-read-only-p*

Arguments and Values:

conc-name—a *string designator*.

constructor-arglist—a *boa lambda list*.

constructor-name—a *symbol*.

copier-name—a *symbol*.

included-structure-name—an already-defined *structure name*. Note that a *derived type* is not permissible, even if it would expand into a *structure name*.

initial-offset—a non-negative *integer*.

predicate-name—a *symbol*.

printer-name—a *function name* or a *lambda expression*.

slot-name—a *symbol*.

slot-initform—a *form*.

slot-read-only-p—a *generalized boolean*.

structure-name—a *symbol*.

type—one of the *type specifiers* **list**, **vector**, or (`vector` *size*), or some other *type specifier* defined by the *implementation* to be appropriate.

documentation—a *string*; not evaluated.

Description:

defstruct defines a structured *type*, named *structure-type*, with named slots as specified by the *slot-options*.

defstruct defines *readers* for the slots and arranges for **setf** to work properly on such *reader* functions. Also, unless overridden, it defines a predicate named *name*-`p`, defines a constructor function named `make-`*constructor-name*, and defines a copier function named `copy-`*constructor-name*. All names of automatically created functions might automatically be declared **inline** (at the discretion of the *implementation*).

If *documentation* is supplied, it is attached to *structure-name* as a *documentation string* of kind **structure**, and unless `:type` is used, the *documentation* is also attached to *structure-name* as a *documentation string* of kind **type** and as a *documentation string* to the *class object* for the *class* named *structure-name*.

defstruct defines a constructor function that is used to create instances of the structure created by **defstruct**. The default name is `make-`*structure-name*. A different name can be supplied by giving the name as the argument to the *constructor* option. **nil** indicates that no constructor function will be created.

After a new structure type has been defined, instances of that type normally can be created by using the constructor function for the type. A call to a constructor function is of the following form:

```
(constructor-function-name
 slot-keyword-1 form-1
 slot-keyword-2 form-2
 ...)
```

The arguments to the constructor function are all keyword arguments. Each slot keyword argument must be a keyword whose name corresponds to the name of a structure slot. All the *keywords* and *forms* are evaluated. If a slot is not initialized in this way, it is initialized by evaluating *slot-initform* in the slot description at the time the constructor function is called. If no *slot-initform* is supplied, the consequences are undefined if an attempt is later made to read the slot's value before a value is explicitly assigned.

Each *slot-initform* supplied for a **defstruct** component, when used by the constructor function for an otherwise unsupplied component, is re-evaluated on every call to the constructor function. The *slot-initform* is not evaluated unless it is needed in the creation of a particular structure instance. If it is never needed, there can be no type-mismatch error, even if the *type* of the slot is specified; no warning should be issued in this case. For example, in the following sequence, only the last call is an error.

```
(defstruct person (name 007 :type string))
(make-person :name "James")
(make-person)
```

It is as if the *slot-initforms* were used as *initialization forms* for the *keyword parameters* of the constructor function.

The *symbols* which name the slots must not be used by the *implementation* as the *names* for the *lambda variables* in the constructor function, since one or more of those *symbols* might have been proclaimed **special** or might be defined as the name of a *constant variable*. The slot default init forms are evaluated in the *lexical environment* in which the **defstruct** form itself appears and in the *dynamic environment* in which the call to the constructor function appears.

For example, if the form `(gensym)` were used as an initialization form, either in the constructor-function call or as the default initialization form in **defstruct**, then every call to the constructor function would call **gensym** once to generate a new *symbol*.

Each *slot-description* in **defstruct** can specify zero or more *slot-options*. A *slot-option* consists of a pair of a keyword and a value (which is not a form to be evaluated, but the value itself). For example:

```
(defstruct ship
  (x-position 0.0 :type short-float)
  (y-position 0.0 :type short-float)
  (x-velocity 0.0 :type short-float)
  (y-velocity 0.0 :type short-float)
  (mass *default-ship-mass* :type short-float :read-only t))
```

This specifies that each slot always contains a *short float*, and that the last slot cannot be altered once a ship is constructed.

The available slot-options are:

`:type` *type*

This specifies that the contents of the slot is always of type *type*. This is entirely analogous to the declaration of a variable or function; it effectively declares the result type of the *reader* function. It is *implementation-dependent* whether the *type* is checked when initializing a slot or when assigning to it. *Type* is not evaluated; it must be a valid *type specifier*.

`:read-only` *x*

When *x* is *true*, this specifies that this slot cannot be altered; it will always contain the value supplied at construction time. **setf** will not accept the *reader* function for this slot. If *x* is *false*, this slot-option has no effect. *X* is not evaluated.

When this option is *false* or unsupplied, it is *implementation-dependent* whether the ability to *write* the slot is implemented by a *setf function* or a *setf expander*.

The following keyword options are available for use with **defstruct**. A **defstruct** option can be either a keyword or a *list* of a keyword and arguments for that keyword; specifying the keyword by itself is equivalent to specifying a list consisting of the keyword and no arguments. The syntax for **defstruct** options differs from the pair syntax used for slot-options. No part of any of these options is evaluated.

`:conc-name`

This provides for automatic prefixing of names of *reader* (or *access*) functions. The default behavior is to begin the names of all the *reader* functions of a structure with the name of the structure followed by a hyphen.

`:conc-name` supplies an alternate prefix to be used. If a hyphen is to be used as a separator, it must be supplied as part of the prefix. If `:conc-name` is **nil** or no argument is supplied, then no prefix is used; then the names of the *reader* functions are the same as the slot names. If a *non-nil* prefix is given, the name of the *reader function* for each slot is constructed by concatenating that prefix and the name of the slot, and interning the resulting *symbol* in the *package* that is current at the time the **defstruct** form is expanded.

Note that no matter what is supplied for `:conc-name`, slot keywords that match the slot names with no prefix attached are used with a constructor function. The *reader* function name is used in conjunction with **setf**. Here is an example:

```
(defstruct (door (:conc-name dr-)) knob-color width material) → DOOR
(setq my-door (make-door :knob-color 'red :width 5.0))
→ #S(DOOR :KNOB-COLOR RED :WIDTH 5.0 :MATERIAL NIL)
(dr-width my-door) → 5.0
(setf (dr-width my-door) 43.7) → 43.7
(dr-width my-door) → 43.7
```

Whether or not the `:conc-name` option is explicitly supplied, the following rule governs name conflicts of generated *reader* (or *accessor*) names: For any *structure type* S_1 having a *reader* function named R for a slot named X_1 that is inherited by another *structure type* S_2 that would have a *reader* function with the same name R for a slot named X_2, no definition for R is generated by the definition of S_2; instead, the definition of R is inherited from the definition of S_1. (In such a case, if X_1 and X_2 are different slots, the *implementation* might signal a style warning.)

`:constructor`

This option takes zero, one, or two arguments. If at least one argument is supplied and the first argument is not **nil**, then that argument is a *symbol* which specifies the name of the constructor function. If the argument is not supplied (or if the option itself is not supplied), the name of the constructor is produced by concatenating the string `"MAKE-"` and the name of the structure, interning the name in whatever *package* is current at the time **defstruct** is expanded. If the argument is provided and is **nil**, no constructor function is defined.

If `:constructor` is given as `(:constructor` *name arglist*`)`, then instead of making a keyword driven constructor function, **defstruct** defines a "positional" constructor function, taking arguments whose meaning is determined by the argument's position and possibly by keywords. *Arglist* is used to describe what the arguments to the constructor will be. In the simplest case something like `(:constructor make-foo (a b c))` defines `make-foo` to be a three-argument constructor function whose arguments are used to initialize the slots named `a`, `b`, and `c`.

Because a constructor of this type operates "By Order of Arguments," it is sometimes known as a "boa constructor."

For information on how the *arglist* for a "boa constructor" is processed, see Section 3.4.6 (Boa Lambda Lists).

It is permissible to use the `:constructor` option more than once, so that you can define several different constructor functions, each taking different parameters.

defstruct creates the default-named keyword constructor function only if no explicit `:constructor` options are specified, or if the `:constructor` option is specified without a *name* argument.

`(:constructor nil)` is meaningful only when there are no other `:constructor` options specified. It prevents **defstruct** from generating any constructors at all.

Otherwise, **defstruct** creates a constructor function corresponding to each supplied `:constructor` option. It is permissible to specify multiple keyword constructor functions as well as multiple "boa constructors".

`:copier`

This option takes one argument, a *symbol*, which specifies the name of the copier function. If the argument is not provided or if the option itself is not provided, the name of the copier is produced by concatenating the string `"COPY-"` and the name of the structure, interning the name in whatever *package* is current at the time **defstruct** is expanded. If the argument is provided and is **nil**, no copier function is defined.

The automatically defined copier function is a function of one *argument*, which must be of the structure type being defined. The copier function creates a *fresh* structure that has the same *type* as its *argument*, and that has the *same* component values as the original structure; that is, the component values are not copied recursively. If the **defstruct** `:type` option was not used, the following equivalence applies:

```
(copier-name x) = (copy-structure (the structure-name x))
```

`:include`

This option is used for building a new structure definition as an extension of another structure definition. For example:

```
(defstruct person name age sex)
```

To make a new structure to represent an astronaut that has the attributes of name, age, and sex, and *functions* that operate on `person` structures, `astronaut` is defined with `:include` as follows:

```
(defstruct (astronaut (:include person)
                      (:conc-name astro-))
   helmet-size
   (favorite-beverage 'tang))
```

`:include` causes the structure being defined to have the same slots as the included structure. This is done in such a way that the *reader* functions for the included structure also work on the structure being defined. In this example, an `astronaut` therefore has five slots: the three defined in `person` and the two defined in `astronaut` itself. The *reader* functions defined by the `person` structure can be applied to instances of the `astronaut` structure, and they work correctly. Moreover, `astronaut` has its own *reader* functions for components defined by the `person` structure. The following examples illustrate the use of `astronaut` structures:

```
(setq x (make-astronaut :name 'buzz
                        :age 45.
                        :sex t
                        :helmet-size 17.5))
(person-name x) → BUZZ
(astro-name x) → BUZZ
(astro-favorite-beverage x) → TANG

(reduce #'+ astros :key #'person-age) ; obtains the total of the ages
                                      ; of the possibly empty
                                      ; sequence of astros
```

The difference between the *reader* functions `person-name` and `astro-name` is that `person-name` can be correctly applied to any `person`, including an `astronaut`, while `astro-name` can be correctly applied only to an `astronaut`. An implementation might check for incorrect use of *reader* functions.

At most one `:include` can be supplied in a single **defstruct**. The argument to `:include` is required and must be the name of some previously defined structure. If the structure being defined has no `:type` option, then the included structure must also have had no `:type` option supplied for it. If the structure being defined has a `:type` option, then the included structure must have been declared with a `:type` option specifying the same representation *type*.

If no `:type` option is involved, then the structure name of the including structure definition becomes the name of a *data type*, and therefore a valid *type specifier* recognizable by **typep**; it becomes a *subtype* of the included structure. In the above example, `astronaut` is a *subtype* of `person`; hence

```
(typep (make-astronaut) 'person) → true
```

indicating that all operations on persons also work on astronauts.

The structure using `:include` can specify default values or slot-options for the included slots different from those the included structure specifies, by giving the `:include` option as:

(`:include` *included-structure-name* {*slot-description*}*)

Each *slot-description* must have a *slot-name* that is the same as that of some slot in the included structure. If a *slot-description* has no *slot-initform*, then in the new structure the

slot has no initial value. Otherwise its initial value form is replaced by the *slot-initform* in the *slot-description*. A normally writable slot can be made read-only. If a slot is read-only in the included structure, then it must also be so in the including structure. If a *type* is supplied for a slot, it must be a *subtype* of the *type* specified in the included structure.

For example, if the default age for an astronaut is `45`, then

```
(defstruct (astronaut (:include person (age 45)))
   helmet-size
   (favorite-beverage 'tang))
```

If `:include` is used with the `:type` option, then the effect is first to skip over as many representation elements as needed to represent the included structure, then to skip over any additional elements supplied by the `:initial-offset` option, and then to begin allocation of elements from that point. For example:

```
(defstruct (binop (:type list) :named (:initial-offset 2))
  (operator '? :type symbol)
  operand-1
  operand-2) → BINOP
(defstruct (annotated-binop (:type list)
                            (:initial-offset 3)
                            (:include binop))
 commutative associative identity) → ANNOTATED-BINOP
(make-annotated-binop :operator '*
                      :operand-1 'x
                      :operand-2 5
                      :commutative t
                      :associative t
                      :identity 1)
  → (NIL NIL BINOP * X 5 NIL NIL NIL T T 1)
```

The first two **nil** elements stem from the `:initial-offset` of `2` in the definition of `binop`. The next four elements contain the structure name and three slots for `binop`. The next three **nil** elements stem from the `:initial-offset` of `3` in the definition of `annotated-binop`. The last three list elements contain the additional slots for an `annotated-binop`.

`:initial-offset`

`:initial-offset` instructs **defstruct** to skip over a certain number of slots before it starts allocating the slots described in the body. This option's argument is the number of slots **defstruct** should skip. `:initial-offset` can be used only if `:type` is also supplied.

`:initial-offset` allows slots to be allocated beginning at a representational element other than the first. For example, the form

```
(defstruct (binop (:type list) (:initial-offset 2))
```

```
  (operator '? :type symbol)
  operand-1
  operand-2) → BINOP
```

would result in the following behavior for make-binop:

```
(make-binop :operator '+ :operand-1 'x :operand-2 5)
→ (NIL NIL + X 5)
(make-binop :operand-2 4 :operator '*)
→ (NIL NIL * NIL 4)
```

The selector functions binop-operator, binop-operand-1, and binop-operand-2 would be essentially equivalent to **third**, **fourth**, and **fifth**, respectively. Similarly, the form

```
(defstruct (binop (:type list) :named (:initial-offset 2))
  (operator '? :type symbol)
  operand-1
  operand-2) → BINOP
```

would result in the following behavior for make-binop:

```
(make-binop :operator '+ :operand-1 'x :operand-2 5) → (NIL NIL BINOP + X 5)
(make-binop :operand-2 4 :operator '*) → (NIL NIL BINOP * NIL 4)
```

The first two **nil** elements stem from the :initial-offset of 2 in the definition of binop. The next four elements contain the structure name and three slots for binop.

:named

:named specifies that the structure is named. If no :type is supplied, then the structure is always named.

For example:

```
(defstruct (binop (:type list))
  (operator '? :type symbol)
  operand-1
  operand-2) → BINOP
```

This defines a constructor function make-binop and three selector functions, namely binop-operator, binop-operand-1, and binop-operand-2. (It does not, however, define a predicate binop-p, for reasons explained below.)

The effect of make-binop is simply to construct a list of length three:

```
(make-binop :operator '+ :operand-1 'x :operand-2 5) → (+ X 5)
(make-binop :operand-2 4 :operator '*) → (* NIL 4)
```

It is just like the function list except that it takes keyword arguments and performs slot defaulting appropriate to the binop conceptual data type. Similarly, the selector functions

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defstruct

binop-operator, binop-operand-1, and binop-operand-2 are essentially equivalent to **car**, **cadr**, and **caddr**, respectively. They might not be completely equivalent because, for example, an implementation would be justified in adding error-checking code to ensure that the argument to each selector function is a length-3 list.

binop is a conceptual data type in that it is not made a part of the Common Lisp type system. **typep** does not recognize binop as a *type specifier*, and **type-of** returns list when given a binop structure. There is no way to distinguish a data structure constructed by make-binop from any other *list* that happens to have the correct structure.

There is not any way to recover the structure name binop from a structure created by make-binop. This can only be done if the structure is named. A named structure has the property that, given an instance of the structure, the structure name (that names the type) can be reliably recovered. For structures defined with no :type option, the structure name actually becomes part of the Common Lisp data-type system. **type-of**, when applied to such a structure, returns the structure name as the *type* of the *object*; **typep** recognizes the structure name as a valid *type specifier*.

For structures defined with a :type option, **type-of** returns a *type specifier* such as list or (vector t), depending on the type supplied to the :type option. The structure name does not become a valid *type specifier*. However, if the :named option is also supplied, then the first component of the structure (as created by a **defstruct** constructor function) always contains the structure name. This allows the structure name to be recovered from an instance of the structure and allows a reasonable predicate for the conceptual type to be defined: the automatically defined *name-p* predicate for the structure operates by first checking that its argument is of the proper type (**list**, (vector t), or whatever) and then checking whether the first component contains the appropriate type name.

Consider the binop example shown above, modified only to include the :named option:

```
(defstruct (binop (:type list) :named)
  (operator '? :type symbol)
  operand-1
  operand-2) → BINOP
```

As before, this defines a constructor function make-binop and three selector functions binop-operator, binop-operand-1, and binop-operand-2. It also defines a predicate binop-p. The effect of make-binop is now to construct a list of length four:

```
(make-binop :operator '+ :operand-1 'x :operand-2 5) → (BINOP + X 5)
(make-binop :operand-2 4 :operator '*) → (BINOP * NIL 4)
```

The structure has the same layout as before except that the structure name binop is included as the first list element. The selector functions binop-operator, binop-operand-1, and binop-operand-2 are essentially equivalent to **cadr**, **caddr**, and **cadddr**, respectively. The predicate binop-p is more or less equivalent to this definition:

```
(defun binop-p (x)
```

```
(and (consp x) (eq (car x) 'binop))) → BINOP-P
```

The name `binop` is still not a valid *type specifier* recognizable to **typep**, but at least there is a way of distinguishing `binop` structures from other similarly defined structures.

`:predicate`

This option takes one argument, which specifies the name of the type predicate. If the argument is not supplied or if the option itself is not supplied, the name of the predicate is made by concatenating the name of the structure to the string `"-P"`, interning the name in whatever *package* is current at the time **defstruct** is expanded. If the argument is provided and is **nil**, no predicate is defined. A predicate can be defined only if the structure is named; if `:type` is supplied and `:named` is not supplied, then `:predicate` must either be unsupplied or have the value **nil**.

`:print-function`, `:print-object`

The `:print-function` and `:print-object` options specify that a **print-object** *method* for *structures* of type *structure-name* should be generated. These options are not synonyms, but do perform a similar service; the choice of which option (`:print-function` or `:print-object`) is used affects how the function named *printer-name* is called. Only one of these options may be used, and these options may be used only if `:type` is not supplied.

If the `:print-function` option is used, then when a structure of type *structure-name* is to be printed, the designated printer function is called on three *arguments*:

– the structure to be printed (a *generalized instance* of *structure-name*).

– a *stream* to print to.

– an *integer* indicating the current depth. The magnitude of this integer may vary between *implementations*; however, it can reliably be compared against ***print-level*** to determine whether depth abbreviation is appropriate.

Specifying (`:print-function` *printer-name*) is approximately equivalent to specifying:

```
(defmethod print-object ((object structure-name) stream)
  (funcall (function printer-name) object stream ⟨⟨current-print-depth⟩⟩))
```

where the ⟨⟨*current-print-depth*⟩⟩ represents the printer's belief of how deep it is currently printing. It is *implementation-dependent* whether ⟨⟨*current-print-depth*⟩⟩ is always 0 and **print-level**, if *non-nil*, is re-bound to successively smaller values as printing descends recursively, or whether *current-print-depth* varies in value as printing descends recursively and **print-level** remains constant during the same traversal.

If the `:print-object` option is used, then when a structure of type *structure-name* is to be printed, the designated printer function is called on two arguments:

– the structure to be printed.

– the stream to print to.

Specifying (`:print-object` *printer-name*) is equivalent to specifying:

```
(defmethod print-object ((object structure-name) stream)
  (funcall (function printer-name) object stream))
```

If no `:type` option is supplied, and if either a `:print-function` or a `:print-object` option is supplied, and if no *printer-name* is supplied, then a **print-object** *method specialized* for *structure-name* is generated that calls a function that implements the default printing behavior for structures using `#S` notation; see Section 22.1.3.12 (Printing Structures).

If neither a `:print-function` nor a `:print-object` option is supplied, then **defstruct** does not generate a **print-object** *method specialized* for *structure-name* and some default behavior is inherited either from a structure named in an `:include` option or from the default behavior for printing structures; see the *function* **print-object** and Section 22.1.3.12 (Printing Structures).

When ***print-circle*** is *true*, a user-defined print function can print *objects* to the supplied *stream* using **write**, **prin1**, **princ**, or **format** and expect circularities to be detected and printed using the `#n#` syntax. This applies to *methods* on **print-object** in addition to `:print-function` options. If a user-defined print function prints to a *stream* other than the one that was supplied, then circularity detection starts over for that *stream*. See the *variable* ***print-circle***.

`:type`

`:type` explicitly specifies the representation to be used for the structure. Its argument must be one of these *types*:

vector

This produces the same result as specifying `(vector t)`. The structure is represented as a general *vector*, storing components as vector elements. The first component is vector element 1 if the structure is `:named`, and element 0 otherwise.

`(vector` *element-type*`)`

The structure is represented as a (possibly specialized) *vector*, storing components as vector elements. Every component must be of a *type* that can be stored in a *vector* of the *type* specified. The first component is vector element 1 if the structure is `:named`, and element 0 otherwise. The structure can be `:named` only if the *type* **symbol** is a *subtype* of the supplied *element-type*.

list

The structure is represented as a *list*. The first component is the *cadr* if the structure is `:named`, and the *car* if it is not `:named`.

Specifying this option has the effect of forcing a specific representation and of forcing the components to be stored in the order specified in **defstruct** in corresponding successive elements of the specified representation. It also prevents the structure name from becoming a valid *type specifier* recognizable by **typep**.

For example:

```
(defstruct (quux (:type list) :named) x y)
```

should make a constructor that builds a *list* exactly like the one that **list** produces, with `quux` as its *car*.

If this type is defined:

```
(deftype quux () '(satisfies quux-p))
```

then this form

```
(typep (make-quux) 'quux)
```

should return precisely what this one does

```
(typep (list 'quux nil nil) 'quux)
```

If `:type` is not supplied, the structure is represented as an *object* of *type* **structure-object**.

defstruct without a `:type` option defines a *class* with the structure name as its name. The *metaclass* of structure *instances* is **structure-class**.

The consequences of redefining a **defstruct** structure are undefined.

In the case where no **defstruct** options have been supplied, the following functions are automatically defined to operate on instances of the new structure:

Predicate

A predicate with the name *structure-name*`-p` is defined to test membership in the structure type. The predicate `(`*structure-name*`-p` *object*`)` is *true* if an *object* is of this *type*; otherwise it is *false*. **typep** can also be used with the name of the new *type* to test whether an *object* belongs to the *type*. Such a function call has the form `(typep` *object* `'`*structure-name*`)`.

Component reader functions

Reader functions are defined to *read* the components of the structure. For each slot name, there is a corresponding *reader* function with the name *structure-name*`-`*slot-name*.

This function *reads* the contents of that slot. Each *reader* function takes one argument, which is an instance of the structure type. **setf** can be used with any of these *reader* functions to alter the slot contents.

Constructor function

A constructor function with the name `make-`*structure-name* is defined. This function creates and returns new instances of the structure type.

Copier function

A copier function with the name `copy-`*structure-name* is defined. The copier function takes an object of the structure type and creates a new object of the same type that is a copy of the first. The copier function creates a new structure with the same component entries as the original. Corresponding components of the two structure instances are **eql**.

If a **defstruct** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must make the *structure type* name recognized as a valid *type* name in subsequent declarations (as for **deftype**) and make the structure slot readers known to **setf**. In addition, the *compiler* must save enough information about the *structure type* so that further **defstruct** definitions can use `:include` in a subsequent **deftype** in the same *file* to refer to the *structure type* name. The functions which **defstruct** generates are not defined in the compile time environment, although the *compiler* may save enough information about the functions to code subsequent calls inline. The `#S` *reader macro* might or might not recognize the newly defined *structure type* name at compile time.

Examples:

An example of a structure definition follows:

```
(defstruct ship
  x-position
  y-position
  x-velocity
  y-velocity
  mass)
```

This declares that every `ship` is an *object* with five named components. The evaluation of this form does the following:

1. It defines `ship-x-position` to be a function of one argument, a ship, that returns the `x-position` of the ship; `ship-y-position` and the other components are given similar function definitions. These functions are called the *access* functions, as they are used to *access* elements of the structure.

2. `ship` becomes the name of a *type* of which instances of ships are elements. `ship` becomes acceptable to **typep**, for example; `(typep x 'ship)` is *true* if `x` is a ship and false if `x` is any *object* other than a ship.

3. A function named `ship-p` of one argument is defined; it is a predicate that is *true* if its argument is a ship and is *false* otherwise.

4. A function called `make-ship` is defined that, when invoked, creates a data structure with five components, suitable for use with the *access* functions. Thus executing

```
(setq ship2 (make-ship))
```

sets `ship2` to a newly created `ship` *object*. One can supply the initial values of any desired component in the call to `make-ship` by using keyword arguments in this way:

```
(setq ship2 (make-ship :mass *default-ship-mass*
                       :x-position 0
                       :y-position 0))
```

This constructs a new ship and initializes three of its components. This function is called the "constructor function" because it constructs a new structure.

5. A function called `copy-ship` of one argument is defined that, when given a `ship` *object*, creates a new `ship` *object* that is a copy of the given one. This function is called the "copier function."

setf can be used to alter the components of a `ship`:

```
(setf (ship-x-position ship2) 100)
```

This alters the `x-position` of `ship2` to be `100`. This works because **defstruct** behaves as if it generates an appropriate **defsetf** for each *access* function.

```
;;;
;;; Example 1
;;; define town structure type
;;; area, watertowers, firetrucks, population, elevation are its components
;;;
 (defstruct town
             area
             watertowers
             (firetrucks 1 :type fixnum)    ;an initialized slot
             population
             (elevation 5128 :read-only t)) ;a slot that can't be changed
→ TOWN
;create a town instance
 (setq town1 (make-town :area 0 :watertowers 0)) → #S(TOWN...)
;town's predicate recognizes the new instance
 (town-p town1) → true
;new town's area is as specified by make-town
 (town-area town1) → 0
;new town's elevation has initial value
```



```
 (town-elevation town1) → 5128
;setf recognizes reader function
 (setf (town-population town1) 99) → 99
 (town-population town1) → 99
;copier function makes a copy of town1
 (setq town2 (copy-town town1)) → #S(TOWN...)
 (= (town-population town1) (town-population town2))  → true
;since elevation is a read-only slot, its value can be set only
;when the structure is created
 (setq town3 (make-town :area 0 :watertowers 3 :elevation 1200))
→ #S(TOWN...)
;;;
;;; Example 2
;;; define clown structure type
;;; this structure uses a nonstandard prefix
;;;
 (defstruct (clown (:conc-name bozo-))
            (nose-color 'red)
            frizzy-hair-p polkadots) → CLOWN
 (setq funny-clown (make-clown)) → #S(CLOWN)
;use non-default reader name
 (bozo-nose-color funny-clown) → RED
 (defstruct (klown (:constructor make-up-klown) ;similar def using other
            (:copier clone-klown)               ;customizing keywords
            (:predicate is-a-bozo-p))
            nose-color frizzy-hair-p polkadots) → klown
;custom constructor now exists
 (fboundp 'make-up-klown) → true
;;;
;;; Example 3
;;; define a vehicle structure type
;;; then define a truck structure type that includes
;;; the vehicle structure
;;;
 (defstruct vehicle name year (diesel t :read-only t)) → VEHICLE
 (defstruct (truck (:include vehicle (year 79)))
            load-limit
            (axles 6)) → TRUCK
 (setq x (make-truck :name 'mac :diesel t :load-limit 17))
→ #S(TRUCK...)
;vehicle readers work on trucks
 (vehicle-name x)
→ MAC
;default taken from :include clause
```

```
 (vehicle-year x)
→ 79
 (defstruct (pickup (:include truck))     ;pickup type includes truck
            camper long-bed four-wheel-drive) → PICKUP
 (setq x (make-pickup :name 'king :long-bed t)) → #S(PICKUP...)
;:include default inherited
 (pickup-year x) → 79
;;;
;;; Example 4
;;; use of BOA constructors
;;;
 (defstruct (dfs-boa                      ;BOA constructors
              (:constructor make-dfs-boa (a b c))
              (:constructor create-dfs-boa
                (a &optional b (c 'cc) &rest d &aux e (f 'ff))))
            a b c d e f) → DFS-BOA
;a, b, and c set by position, and the rest are uninitialized
 (setq x (make-dfs-boa 1 2 3)) → #(DFS-BOA...)
 (dfs-boa-a x) → 1
;a and b set, c and f defaulted
 (setq x (create-dfs-boa 1 2)) → #(DFS-BOA...)
 (dfs-boa-b x) → 2
 (eq (dfs-boa-c x) 'cc) → true
;a, b, and c set, and the rest are collected into d
 (setq x (create-dfs-boa 1 2 3 4 5 6)) → #(DFS-BOA...)
 (dfs-boa-d x) → (4 5 6)
```

Exceptional Situations:

If any two slot names (whether present directly or inherited by the `:include` option) are the *same* under **string=**, **defstruct** should signal an error of *type* **program-error**.

The consequences are undefined if the *included-structure-name* does not name a *structure type*.

See Also:

documentation, **print-object**, **setf**, **subtypep**, **type-of**, **typep**, Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

The *printer-name* should observe the values of such printer-control variables as ***print-escape***.

The restriction against issuing a warning for type mismatches between a *slot-initform* and the corresponding slot's `:type` option is necessary because a *slot-initform* must be specified in order to specify slot options; in some cases, no suitable default may exist.

The mechanism by which **defstruct** arranges for slot accessors to be usable with **setf** is *implementation-dependent*; for example, it may use *setf functions*, *setf expanders*, or some other *implementation-dependent* mechanism known to that *implementation*'s *code* for **setf**.

copy-structure *Function*

Syntax:

copy-structure *structure* → *copy*

Arguments and Values:

structure—a *structure*.

copy—a copy of the *structure*.

Description:

Returns a $copy_6$ of the *structure*.

Only the *structure* itself is copied; not the values of the slots.

See Also:

the `:copier` option to **defstruct**

Notes:

The *copy* is the *same* as the given *structure* under **equalp**, but not under **equal**.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

9. Conditions

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9.1 Condition System Concepts

Common Lisp constructs are described not only in terms of their behavior in situations during which they are intended to be used (see the "Description" part of each *operator* specification), but in all other situations (see the "Exceptional Situations" part of each *operator* specification).

A situation is the evaluation of an expression in a specific context. A *condition* is an *object* that represents a specific situation that has been detected. *Conditions* are *generalized instances* of the *class* **condition**. A hierarchy of *condition* classes is defined in Common Lisp. A *condition* has *slots* that contain data relevant to the situation that the *condition* represents.

An error is a situation in which normal program execution cannot continue correctly without some form of intervention (either interactively by the user or under program control). Not all errors are detected. When an error goes undetected, the effects can be *implementation-dependent*, *implementation-defined*, unspecified, or undefined. See Section 1.4 (Definitions). All detected errors can be represented by *conditions*, but not all *conditions* represent errors.

Signaling is the process by which a *condition* can alter the flow of control in a program by raising the *condition* which can then be *handled*. The functions **error**, **cerror**, **signal**, and **warn** are used to signal *conditions*.

The process of signaling involves the selection and invocation of a *handler* from a set of *active handlers*. A *handler* is a *function* of one argument (the *condition*) that is invoked to handle a *condition*. Each *handler* is associated with a *condition type*, and a *handler* will be invoked only on a *condition* of the *handler*'s associated *type*.

Active handlers are *established* dynamically (see **handler-bind** or **handler-case**). *Handlers* are invoked in a *dynamic environment* equivalent to that of the signaler, except that the set of *active handlers* is bound in such a way as to include only those that were *active* at the time the *handler* being invoked was *established*. Signaling a *condition* has no side-effect on the *condition*, and there is no dynamic state contained in a *condition*.

If a *handler* is invoked, it can address the *situation* in one of three ways:

Decline

It can decline to *handle* the *condition*. It does this by simply returning rather than transferring control. When this happens, any values returned by the handler are ignored and the next most recently established handler is invoked. If there is no such handler and the signaling function is **error** or **cerror**, the debugger is entered in the *dynamic environment* of the signaler. If there is no such handler and the signaling function is either **signal** or **warn**, the signaling function simply returns **nil**.

Handle

It can *handle* the *condition* by performing a non-local transfer of control. This can be done either primitively by using **go**, **return**, **throw** or more abstractly by using a function such as **abort** or **invoke-restart**.

Defer

It can put off a decision about whether to *handle* or *decline*, by any of a number of actions, but most commonly by signaling another condition, resignaling the same condition, or forcing entry into the debugger.

9.1.1 Condition Types

Figure 9–1 lists the *standardized condition types*. Additional *condition types* can be defined by using **define-condition**.

arithmetic-error	**floating-point-overflow**	**simple-type-error**
cell-error	**floating-point-underflow**	**simple-warning**
condition	**package-error**	**storage-condition**
control-error	**parse-error**	**stream-error**
division-by-zero	**print-not-readable**	**style-warning**
end-of-file	**program-error**	**type-error**
error	**reader-error**	**unbound-slot**
file-error	**serious-condition**	**unbound-variable**
floating-point-inexact	**simple-condition**	**undefined-function**
floating-point-invalid-operation	**simple-error**	**warning**

Figure 9–1. Standardized Condition Types

All *condition* types are *subtypes* of *type* **condition**. That is,

`(typep c 'condition)` $\rightarrow$ *true*

if and only if *c* is a *condition*.

Implementations must define all specified *subtype* relationships. Except where noted, all *subtype* relationships indicated in this document are not mutually exclusive. A *condition* inherits the structure of its *supertypes*.

The metaclass of the *class* **condition** is not specified. *Names* of *condition types* may be used to specify *supertype* relationships in **define-condition**, but the consequences are not specified if an attempt is made to use a *condition type* as a *superclass* in a **defclass** *form*.

Figure 9–2 shows *operators* that define *condition types* and creating *conditions*.

define-condition	**make-condition**

Figure 9–2. Operators that define and create conditions.

Figure 9–3 shows *operators* that *read* the *value* of *condition slots*.

arithmetic-error-operands	**simple-condition-format-arguments**
arithmetic-error-operation	**simple-condition-format-control**
cell-error-name	**stream-error-stream**
file-error-pathname	**type-error-datum**
package-error-package	**type-error-expected-type**
print-not-readable-object	**unbound-slot-instance**

Figure 9–3. Operators that read condition slots.

9.1.1.1 Serious Conditions

A *serious condition* is a *condition* serious enough to require interactive intervention if not handled. *Serious conditions* are typically signaled with **error** or **cerror**; non-serious *conditions* are typically signaled with **signal** or **warn**.

9.1.2 Creating Conditions

The function **make-condition** can be used to construct a *condition object* explicitly. Functions such as **error**, **cerror**, **signal**, and **warn** operate on *conditions* and might create *condition objects* implicitly. Macros such as **ccase**, **ctypecase**, **ecase**, **etypecase**, **check-type**, and **assert** might also implicitly create (and *signal*) *conditions*.

9.1.2.1 Condition Designators

A number of the functions in the condition system take arguments which are identified as ***condition designators***. By convention, those arguments are notated as

datum &rest *arguments*

Taken together, the *datum* and the *arguments* are "*designators* for a *condition* of default type *default-type*." How the denoted *condition* is computed depends on the type of the *datum*:

- If the *datum* is a *symbol* naming a *condition type* ...

  The denoted *condition* is the result of

  ```
  (apply #'make-condition datum arguments)
  ```


- If the *datum* is a *format control* ...

  The denoted *condition* is the result of

  ```
  (make-condition defaulted-type
                  :format-control datum
                  :format-arguments arguments)
  ```

  where the *defaulted-type* is a *subtype* of *default-type*.

- If the *datum* is a *condition* ...

  The denoted *condition* is the *datum* itself. In this case, unless otherwise specified by the description of the *operator* in question, the *arguments* must be *null*; that is, the consequences are undefined if any *arguments* were supplied.

Note that the *default-type* gets used only in the case where the *datum string* is supplied. In the other situations, the resulting condition is not necessarily of *type default-type*.

Here are some illustrations of how different *condition designators* can denote equivalent *condition objects*:

```
(let ((c (make-condition 'arithmetic-error :operator '/ :operands '(7 0))))
  (error c))
≡ (error 'arithmetic-error :operator '/ :operands '(7 0))

(error "Bad luck.")
≡ (error 'simple-error :format-control "Bad luck." :format-arguments '())
```

9.1.3 Printing Conditions

If the :report argument to **define-condition** is used, a print function is defined that is called whenever the defined *condition* is printed while the *value* of ***print-escape*** is *false*. This function is called the ***condition reporter***; the text which it outputs is called a ***report message***.

When a *condition* is printed and ***print-escape*** is *false*, the *condition reporter* for the *condition* is invoked. *Conditions* are printed automatically by functions such as **invoke-debugger**, **break**, and **warn**.

When ***print-escape*** is *true*, the *object* should print in an abbreviated fashion according to the style of the implementation (*e.g.*, by **print-unreadable-object**). It is not required that a *condition* can be recreated by reading its printed representation.

No *function* is provided for directly *accessing* or invoking *condition reporters*.

9.1.3.1 Recommended Style in Condition Reporting

In order to ensure a properly aesthetic result when presenting *report messages* to the user, certain stylistic conventions are recommended.

There are stylistic recommendations for the content of the messages output by *condition reporters*, but there are no formal requirements on those *programs*. If a *program* violates the recommendations for some message, the display of that message might be less aesthetic than if the guideline had been observed, but the *program* is still considered a *conforming program*.

The requirements on a *program* or *implementation* which invokes a *condition reporter* are somewhat stronger. A *conforming program* must be permitted to assume that if these style guidelines are followed, proper aesthetics will be maintained. Where appropriate, any specific requirements on such routines are explicitly mentioned below.

9.1.3.1.1 Capitalization and Punctuation in Condition Reports

It is recommended that a *report message* be a complete sentences, in the proper case and correctly punctuated. In English, for example, this means the first letter should be uppercase, and there should be a trailing period.

```
(error "This is a message")  ; Not recommended
(error "this is a message.") ; Not recommended

(error "This is a message.") ; Recommended instead
```

9.1.3.1.2 Leading and Trailing Newlines in Condition Reports

It is recommended that a *report message* not begin with any introductory text, such as "`Error: `" or "`Warning: `" or even just *freshline* or *newline*. Such text is added, if appropriate to the context, by the routine invoking the *condition reporter*.

It is recommended that a *report message* not be followed by a trailing *freshline* or *newline*. Such text is added, if appropriate to the context, by the routine invoking the *condition reporter*.

```
(error "This is a message.~%")   ; Not recommended
(error "~&This is a message.")   ; Not recommended
(error "~&This is a message.~%") ; Not recommended

(error "This is a message.")     ; Recommended instead
```

9.1.3.1.3 Embedded Newlines in Condition Reports

Especially if it is long, it is permissible and appropriate for a *report message* to contain one or more embedded *newlines*.

If the calling routine conventionally inserts some additional prefix (such as "`Error: `" or "`;; Error: `") on the first line of the message, it must also assure that an appropriate prefix will be added to each subsequent line of the output, so that the left edge of the message output by the *condition reporter* will still be properly aligned.

```
(defun test ()
  (error "This is an error message.~%It has two lines."))

;; Implementation A
(test)
This is an error message.
It has two lines.

;; Implementation B
(test)
;; Error: This is an error message.
;;        It has two lines.

;; Implementation C
(test)
>> Error: This is an error message.
          It has two lines.
```

9.1.3.1.4 Note about Tabs in Condition Reports

Because the indentation of a *report message* might be shifted to the right or left by an arbitrary amount, special care should be taken with the semi-standard *character* ⟨*Tab*⟩ (in those *implementations* that support such a *character*). Unless the *implementation* specifically defines its behavior in this context, its use should be avoided.

9.1.3.1.5 Mentioning Containing Function in Condition Reports

The name of the containing function should generally not be mentioned in *report messages*. It is assumed that the *debugger* will make this information accessible in situations where it is necessary and appropriate.

9.1.4 Signaling and Handling Conditions

The operation of the condition system depends on the ordering of active *applicable handlers* from most recent to least recent.

Each *handler* is associated with a *type specifier* that must designate a *subtype* of *type* **condition**. A *handler* is said to be *applicable* to a *condition* if that *condition* is of the *type* designated by the associated *type specifier*.

Active handlers are *established* by using **handler-bind** (or an abstraction based on **handler-bind**, such as **handler-case** or **ignore-errors**).

Active handlers can be *established* within the dynamic scope of other *active handlers*. At any point during program execution, there is a set of *active handlers*. When a *condition* is signaled,

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the *most recent* active *applicable handler* for that *condition* is selected from this set. Given a *condition*, the order of recentness of active *applicable handlers* is defined by the following two rules:

1. Each handler in a set of active handlers H_1 is more recent than every handler in a set H_2 if the handlers in H_2 were active when the handlers in H_1 were established.

2. Let h_1 and h_2 be two applicable active handlers established by the same *form*. Then h_1 is more recent than h_2 if h_1 was defined to the left of h_2 in the *form* that established them.

Once a handler in a handler binding *form* (such as **handler-bind** or **handler-case**) has been selected, all handlers in that *form* become inactive for the remainder of the signaling process. While the selected *handler* runs, no other *handler* established by that *form* is active. That is, if the *handler* declines, no other handler established by that *form* will be considered for possible invocation.

Figure 9–4 shows *operators* relating to the *handling* of *conditions*.

handler-bind	**handler-case**	**ignore-errors**

Figure 9–4. Operators relating to handling conditions.

9.1.4.1 Signaling

When a *condition* is signaled, the most recent applicable *active handler* is invoked. Sometimes a handler will decline by simply returning without a transfer of control. In such cases, the next most recent applicable active handler is invoked.

If there are no applicable handlers for a *condition* that has been signaled, or if all applicable handlers decline, the *condition* is unhandled.

The functions **cerror** and **error** invoke the interactive *condition* handler (the debugger) rather than return if the *condition* being signaled, regardless of its *type*, is unhandled. In contrast, **signal** returns **nil** if the *condition* being signaled, regardless of its *type*, is unhandled.

The *variable* ***break-on-signals*** can be used to cause the debugger to be entered before the signaling process begins.

Figure 9–5 shows *defined names* relating to the *signaling* of *conditions*.

break-on-signals	**error**	**warn**
cerror	**signal**	

Figure 9–5. Defined names relating to signaling conditions.

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9.1.4.1.1 Resignaling a Condition

During the *dynamic extent* of the *signaling* process for a particular *condition object*, **signaling** the same *condition object* again is permitted if and only if the *situation* represented in both cases are the same.

For example, a *handler* might legitimately *signal* the *condition object* that is its *argument* in order to allow outer *handlers* first opportunity to *handle* the condition. (Such a *handlers* is sometimes called a "default handler.") This action is permitted because the *situation* which the second *signaling* process is addressing is really the same *situation*.

On the other hand, in an *implementation* that implemented asynchronous keyboard events by interrupting the user process with a call to **signal**, it would not be permissible for two distinct asynchronous keyboard events to *signal identical condition objects* at the same time for different situations.

9.1.4.2 Restarts

The interactive condition handler returns only through non-local transfer of control to specially defined *restarts* that can be set up either by the system or by user code. Transferring control to a restart is called "invoking" the restart. Like handlers, active *restarts* are *established* dynamically, and only active *restarts* can be invoked. An active *restart* can be invoked by the user from the debugger or by a program by using **invoke-restart**.

A *restart* contains a *function* to be *called* when the *restart* is invoked, an optional name that can be used to find or invoke the *restart*, and an optional set of interaction information for the debugger to use to enable the user to manually invoke a *restart*.

The name of a *restart* is used by **invoke-restart**. *Restarts* that can be invoked only within the debugger do not need names.

Restarts can be established by using **restart-bind**, **restart-case**, and **with-simple-restart**. A *restart* function can itself invoke any other *restart* that was active at the time of establishment of the *restart* of which the *function* is part.

The *restarts established* by a **restart-bind** *form*, a **restart-case** *form*, or a **with-simple-restart** *form* have *dynamic extent* which extends for the duration of that *form*'s execution.

Restarts of the same name can be ordered from least recent to most recent according to the following two rules:

1. Each *restart* in a set of active restarts R_1 is more recent than every *restart* in a set R_2 if the *restarts* in R_2 were active when the *restarts* in R_1 were established.

2. Let r_1 and r_2 be two active *restarts* with the same name established by the same *form*. Then r_1 is more recent than r_2 if r_1 was defined to the left of r_2 in the *form* that established them.

If a *restart* is invoked but does not transfer control, the values resulting from the *restart* function are returned by the function that invoked the restart, either **invoke-restart** or **invoke-restart-interactively**.

9.1.4.2.1 Interactive Use of Restarts

For interactive handling, two pieces of information are needed from a *restart*: a report function and an interactive function.

The report function is used by a program such as the debugger to present a description of the action the *restart* will take. The report function is specified and established by the `:report-function` keyword to **restart-bind** or the `:report` keyword to **restart-case**.

The interactive function, which can be specified using the `:interactive-function` keyword to **restart-bind** or `:interactive` keyword to **restart-case**, is used when the *restart* is invoked interactively, such as from the debugger, to produce a suitable list of arguments.

invoke-restart invokes the most recently *established restart* whose name is the same as the first argument to **invoke-restart**. If a *restart* is invoked interactively by the debugger and does not transfer control but rather returns values, the precise action of the debugger on those values is *implementation-defined*.

9.1.4.2.2 Interfaces to Restarts

Some *restarts* have functional interfaces, such as **abort**, **continue**, **muffle-warning**, **store-value**, and **use-value**. They are ordinary functions that use **find-restart** and **invoke-restart** internally, that have the same name as the *restarts* they manipulate, and that are provided simply for notational convenience.

Figure 9–6 shows *defined names* relating to *restarts*.

abort	invoke-restart-interactively	store-value
compute-restarts	muffle-warning	use-value
continue	restart-bind	with-simple-restart
find-restart	restart-case	
invoke-restart	restart-name	

Figure 9–6. Defined names relating to restarts.

9.1.4.2.3 Restart Tests

Each *restart* has an associated test, which is a function of one argument (a *condition* or **nil**) which returns *true* if the *restart* should be visible in the current *situation*. This test is created by the `:test-function` option to **restart-bind** or the `:test` option to **restart-case**.

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9.1.4.2.4 Associating a Restart with a Condition

A *restart* can be "associated with" a *condition* explicitly by **with-condition-restarts**, or implicitly by **restart-case**. Such an assocation has *dynamic extent*.

A single *restart* may be associated with several *conditions* at the same time. A single *condition* may have several associated *restarts* at the same time.

Active restarts associated with a particular *condition* can be detected by *calling* a *function* such as **find-restart**, supplying that *condition* as the *condition argument*. Active restarts can also be detected without regard to any associated *condition* by calling such a function without a *condition argument*, or by supplying a value of **nil** for such an *argument*.

9.1.5 Assertions

Conditional signaling of *conditions* based on such things as key match, form evaluation, and *type* are handled by assertion *operators*. Figure 9–7 shows *operators* relating to assertions.

assert	check-type	ecase
ccase	ctypecase	etypecase

Figure 9–7. Operators relating to assertions.

9.1.6 Notes about the Condition System's Background

For a background reference to the abstract concepts detailed in this section, see *Exceptional Situations in Lisp*. The details of that paper are not binding on this document, but may be helpful in establishing a conceptual basis for understanding this material.

condition *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

condition, **t**

Description:

All types of *conditions*, whether error or non-error, must inherit from this *type*.

No additional *subtype* relationships among the specified *subtypes* of *type* **condition** are allowed, except when explicitly mentioned in the text; however implementations are permitted to introduce additional *types* and one of these *types* can be a *subtype* of any number of the *subtypes* of *type* **condition**.

Whether a user-defined *condition type* has *slots* that are accessible by *with-slots* is *implementation-dependent*. Furthermore, even in an *implementation* in which user-defined *condition types* would have *slots*, it is *implementation-dependent* whether any *condition types* defined in this document have such *slots* or, if they do, what their *names* might be; only the reader functions documented by this specification may be relied upon by portable code.

Conforming code must observe the following restrictions related to *conditions*:

- **define-condition**, not **defclass**, must be used to define new *condition types*.
- **make-condition**, not **make-instance**, must be used to create *condition objects* explicitly.
- The `:report` option of **define-condition**, not **defmethod** for **print-object**, must be used to define a condition reporter.
- **slot-value**, **slot-boundp**, **slot-makunbound**, and **with-slots** must not be used on *condition objects*. Instead, the appropriate accessor functions (defined by **define-condition**) should be used.

warning *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

warning, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **warning** consists of all types of warnings.

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See Also:

style-warning

style-warning *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

style-warning, **warning**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **style-warning** includes those *conditions* that represent *situations* involving *code* that is *conforming code* but that is nevertheless considered to be faulty or substandard.

See Also:

muffle-warning

Notes:

An *implementation* might signal such a *condition* if it encounters *code* that uses deprecated features or that appears unaesthetic or inefficient.

An 'unused variable' warning must be of *type* **style-warning**.

In general, the question of whether *code* is faulty or substandard is a subjective decision to be made by the facility processing that *code*. The intent is that whenever such a facility wishes to complain about *code* on such subjective grounds, it should use this *condition type* so that any clients who wish to redirect or muffle superfluous warnings can do so without risking that they will be redirecting or muffling other, more serious warnings.

serious-condition *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

serious-condition, **condition**, **t**

Description:

All *conditions* serious enough to require interactive intervention if not handled should inherit from the *type* **serious-condition**. This condition type is provided primarily so that it may be included as a *superclass* of other *condition types*; it is not intended to be signaled directly.

Notes:

Signaling a *serious condition* does not itself force entry into the debugger. However, except in the unusual situation where the programmer can assure that no harm will come from failing to *handle* a *serious condition*, such a *condition* is usually signaled with **error** rather than **signal** in order to assure that the program does not continue without *handling* the *condition*. (And conversely, it is conventional to use **signal** rather than **error** to signal conditions which are not *serious conditions*, since normally the failure to handle a non-serious condition is not reason enough for the debugger to be entered.)

error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

error, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **error** consists of all *conditions* that represent *errors*.

cell-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

cell-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **cell-error** consists of error conditions that occur during a location *access*. The name of the offending cell is initialized by the `:name` initialization argument to **make-condition**, and is *accessed* by the *function* **cell-error-name**.

See Also:

cell-error-name

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cell-error-name *Function*

Syntax:

cell-error-name *condition* → *name*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **cell-error**.

name—an *object*.

Description:

Returns the *name* of the offending cell involved in the *situation* represented by *condition*.

The nature of the result depends on the specific *type* of *condition*. For example, if the *condition* is of *type* **unbound-variable**, the result is the *name* of the *unbound variable* which was being *accessed*, if the *condition* is of *type* **undefined-function**, this is the *name* of the *undefined function* which was being *accessed*, and if the *condition* is of *type* **unbound-slot**, this is the *name* of the *slot* which was being *accessed*.

See Also:

cell-error, **unbound-slot**, **unbound-variable**, **undefined-function**, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

parse-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

parse-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **parse-error** consists of error conditions that are related to parsing.

See Also:

parse-namestring, **reader-error**

storage-condition *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

storage-condition, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **storage-condition** consists of serious conditions that relate to problems with memory management that are potentially due to *implementation-dependent* limits rather than semantic errors in *conforming programs*, and that typically warrant entry to the debugger if not handled. Depending on the details of the *implementation*, these might include such problems as stack overflow, memory region overflow, and storage exhausted.

Notes:

While some Common Lisp operations might signal *storage-condition* because they are defined to create *objects*, it is unspecified whether operations that are not defined to create *objects* create them anyway and so might also signal **storage-condition**. Likewise, the evaluator itself might create *objects* and so might signal **storage-condition**. (The natural assumption might be that such *object* creation is naturally inefficient, but even that is *implementation-dependent*.) In general, the entire question of how storage allocation is done is *implementation-dependent*, and so any operation might signal **storage-condition** at any time. Because such a *condition* is indicative of a limitation of the *implementation* or of the *image* rather than an error in a *program*, *objects* of *type* **storage-condition** are not of *type* **error**.

assert *Macro*

Syntax:

assert *test-form* [({*place*}*) [*datum-form* {*argument-form*}*]]
→ **nil**

Arguments and Values:

test-form—a *form*; always evaluated.

place—a *place*; evaluated if an error is signaled.

datum-form—a *form* that evaluates to a *datum*. Evaluated each time an error is to be signaled, or not at all if no error is to be signaled.

argument-form—a *form* that evaluates to an *argument*. Evaluated each time an error is to be signaled, or not at all if no error is to be signaled.

datum, *arguments*—*designators* for a *condition* of default type **error**. (These *designators* are the result of evaluating *datum-form* and each of the *argument-forms*.)

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assert

Description:

assert assures that *test-form* evaluates to *true*. If *test-form* evaluates to *false*, **assert** signals a *correctable error* (denoted by *datum* and *arguments*). Continuing from this error using the **continue** *restart* makes it possible for the user to alter the values of the *places* before **assert** evaluates *test-form* again. If the value of *test-form* is *non-nil*, **assert** returns **nil**.

The *places* are *generalized references* to data upon which *test-form* depends, whose values can be changed by the user in attempting to correct the error. *Subforms* of each *place* are only evaluated if an error is signaled, and might be re-evaluated if the error is re-signaled (after continuing without actually fixing the problem). The order of evaluation of the *places* is not specified; see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places). If a *place form* is supplied that produces more values than there are store variables, the extra values are ignored. If the supplied *form* produces fewer values than there are store variables, the missing values are set to **nil**.

Examples:

```
 (setq x (make-array '(3 5) :initial-element 3))
→ #2A((3 3 3 3 3) (3 3 3 3 3) (3 3 3 3 3))
 (setq y (make-array '(3 5) :initial-element 7))
→ #2A((7 7 7 7 7) (7 7 7 7 7) (7 7 7 7 7))
 (defun matrix-multiply (a b)
   (let ((*print-array* nil))
     (assert (and (= (array-rank a) (array-rank b) 2)
                  (= (array-dimension a 1) (array-dimension b 0)))
             (a b)
             "Cannot multiply ~S by ~S." a b)
            (really-matrix-multiply a b))) → MATRIX-MULTIPLY
 (matrix-multiply x y)
▷ Correctable error in MATRIX-MULTIPLY:
▷ Cannot multiply #<ARRAY ...> by #<ARRAY ...>.
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: You will be prompted for one or more new values.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Value for A: x
▷ Value for B: (make-array '(5 3) :initial-element 6)
→ #2A((54 54 54 54 54)
      (54 54 54 54 54)
      (54 54 54 54 54)
      (54 54 54 54 54)
      (54 54 54 54 54))

 (defun double-safely (x) (assert (numberp x) (x)) (+ x x))
 (double-safely 4)
→ 8
```

```
 (double-safely t)
▷ Correctable error in DOUBLE-SAFELY: The value of (NUMBERP X) must be non-NIL.
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: You will be prompted for one or more new values.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Value for X: 7
→ 14
```

Affected By:

break-on-signals

The set of active *condition handlers*.

See Also:

check-type, **error**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

The debugger need not include the *test-form* in the error message, and the *places* should not be included in the message, but they should be made available for the user's perusal. If the user gives the "continue" command, the values of any of the references can be altered. The details of this depend on the implementation's style of user interface.

error *Function*

Syntax:

error *datum* &rest *arguments* → |

Arguments and Values:

datum, *arguments*—*designators* for a *condition* of default type **simple-error**.

Description:

error effectively invokes **signal** on the denoted *condition*.

If the *condition* is not handled, (invoke-debugger *condition*) is done. As a consequence of calling **invoke-debugger**, **error** cannot directly return; the only exit from **error** can come by non-local transfer of control in a handler or by use of an interactive debugging command.

Examples:

```
 (defun factorial (x)
   (cond ((or (not (typep x 'integer)) (minusp x))
          (error "~S is not a valid argument to FACTORIAL." x))
         ((zerop x) 1)
```



```
         (t (* x (factorial (- x 1))))))
→ FACTORIAL
(factorial 20)
→ 2432902008176640000
(factorial -1)
▷ Error: -1 is not a valid argument to FACTORIAL.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug>

 (setq a 'fred)
→ FRED
 (if (numberp a) (1+ a) (error "~S is not a number." A))
▷ Error: FRED is not a number.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :Continue 1
▷ Return to Lisp Toplevel.

 (define-condition not-a-number (error)
                   ((argument :reader not-a-number-argument :initarg :argument))
   (:report (lambda (condition stream)
              (format stream "~S is not a number."
                      (not-a-number-argument condition)))))
→ NOT-A-NUMBER

 (if (numberp a) (1+ a) (error 'not-a-number :argument a))
▷ Error: FRED is not a number.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :Continue 1
▷ Return to Lisp Toplevel.
```

Side Effects:

Handlers for the specified condition, if any, are invoked and might have side effects. Program execution might stop, and the debugger might be entered.

Affected By:

Existing handler bindings.

break-on-signals

Signals an error of *type* **type-error** if *datum* and *arguments* are not *designators* for a *condition*.

See Also:

cerror, **signal**, **format**, **ignore-errors**, ***break-on-signals***, **handler-bind**, Section 9.1 (Condition

System Concepts)

Notes:

Some implementations may provide debugger commands for interactively returning from individual stack frames. However, it should be possible for the programmer to feel confident about writing code like:

```
(defun wargames:no-win-scenario ()
  (if (error "pushing the button would be stupid."))
  (push-the-button))
```

In this scenario, there should be no chance that **error** will return and the button will get pushed.

While the meaning of this program is clear and it might be proven 'safe' by a formal theorem prover, such a proof is no guarantee that the program is safe to execute. Compilers have been known to have bugs, computers to have signal glitches, and human beings to manually intervene in ways that are not always possible to predict. Those kinds of errors, while beyond the scope of the condition system to formally model, are not beyond the scope of things that should seriously be considered when writing code that could have the kinds of sweeping effects hinted at by this example.

cerror *Function*

Syntax:

cerror *continue-format-control datum* &rest *arguments* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

Continue-format-control—a *format control*.

datum, *arguments*—*designators* for a *condition* of default type **simple-error**.

Description:

cerror effectively invokes **error** on the *condition* named by *datum*. As with any function that implicitly calls **error**, if the *condition* is not handled, (invoke-debugger *condition*) is executed. While signaling is going on, and while in the debugger if it is reached, it is possible to continue code execution (*i.e.*, to return from **cerror**) using the **continue** *restart*.

If *datum* is a *condition*, *arguments* can be supplied, but are used only in conjunction with the *continue-format-control*.

Examples:

```
(defun real-sqrt (n)
  (when (minusp n)
    (setq n (- n))
```



```
    (cerror "Return sqrt(~D) instead." "Tried to take sqrt(-~D)." n))
  (sqrt n))

 (real-sqrt 4)
→ 2.0

 (real-sqrt -9)
▷ Correctable error in REAL-SQRT: Tried to take sqrt(-9).
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: Return sqrt(9) instead.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
→ 3.0

 (define-condition not-a-number (error)
   ((argument :reader not-a-number-argument :initarg :argument))
   (:report (lambda (condition stream)
              (format stream "~S is not a number."
                      (not-a-number-argument condition)))))

 (defun assure-number (n)
   (loop (when (numberp n) (return n))
         (cerror "Enter a number."
                 'not-a-number :argument n)
         (format t "~&Type a number: ")
         (setq n (read))
         (fresh-line)))

 (assure-number 'a)
▷ Correctable error in ASSURE-NUMBER: A is not a number.
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: Enter a number.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Type a number: 1/2
→ 1/2

 (defun assure-large-number (n)
   (loop (when (and (numberp n) (> n 73)) (return n))
         (cerror "Enter a number~:[~; a bit larger than ~D~]."
                 "~*~A is not a large number."
                 (numberp n) n)
         (format t "~&Type a large number: ")
         (setq n (read))
         (fresh-line)))
```

```
 (assure-large-number 10000)
→ 10000

 (assure-large-number 'a)
▷ Correctable error in ASSURE-LARGE-NUMBER: A is not a large number.
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: Enter a number.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Type a large number: 88
→ 88

 (assure-large-number 37)
▷ Correctable error in ASSURE-LARGE-NUMBER: 37 is not a large number.
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: Enter a number a bit larger than 37.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Type a large number: 259
→ 259

 (define-condition not-a-large-number (error)
   ((argument :reader not-a-large-number-argument :initarg :argument))
   (:report (lambda (condition stream)
              (format stream "~S is not a large number."
                      (not-a-large-number-argument condition)))))

 (defun assure-large-number (n)
   (loop (when (and (numberp n) (> n 73)) (return n))
         (cerror "Enter a number~3*~:[~; a bit larger than ~*~D~]."
                 'not-a-large-number
                 :argument n
                 :ignore (numberp n)
                 :ignore n
                 :allow-other-keys t)
         (format t "~&Type a large number: ")
         (setq n (read))
         (fresh-line)))


 (assure-large-number 'a)
▷ Correctable error in ASSURE-LARGE-NUMBER: A is not a large number.
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: Enter a number.
```



```
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Type a large number: 88
→ 88

 (assure-large-number 37)
▷ Correctable error in ASSURE-LARGE-NUMBER: A is not a large number.
▷ Restart options:
▷  1: Enter a number a bit larger than 37.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Type a large number: 259
→ 259
```

Affected By:

break-on-signals.

Existing handler bindings.

See Also:

error, **format**, **handler-bind**, ***break-on-signals***, **simple-type-error**

Notes:

If *datum* is a *condition type* rather than a *string*, the **format** directive `~*` may be especially useful in the *continue-format-control* in order to ignore the *keywords* in the *initialization argument list*. For example:

```
(cerror "enter a new value to replace ~*~s"
        'not-a-number
        :argument a)
```

check-type *Macro*

Syntax:

check-type *place typespec* [*string*] → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*.

typespec—a *type specifier*.

string—a *string*; evaluated.

check-type

Description:

check-type signals a *correctable error* of *type* **type-error** if the contents of *place* are not of the type *typespec*.

check-type can return only if the **store-value** *restart* is invoked, either explicitly from a handler or implicitly as one of the options offered by the debugger. If the **store-value** *restart* is invoked, **check-type** stores the new value that is the argument to the *restart* invocation (or that is prompted for interactively by the debugger) in *place* and starts over, checking the type of the new value and signaling another error if it is still not of the desired *type*.

The first time *place* is *evaluated*, it is *evaluated* by normal evaluation rules. It is later *evaluated* as a *place* if the type check fails and the **store-value** *restart* is used; see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

string should be an English description of the type, starting with an indefinite article ("a" or "an"). If *string* is not supplied, it is computed automatically from *typespec*. The automatically generated message mentions *place*, its contents, and the desired type. An implementation may choose to generate a somewhat differently worded error message if it recognizes that *place* is of a particular form, such as one of the arguments to the function that called **check-type**. *string* is allowed because some applications of **check-type** may require a more specific description of what is wanted than can be generated automatically from *typespec*.

Examples:

```
 (setq aardvarks '(sam harry fred))
→ (SAM HARRY FRED)
 (check-type aardvarks (array * (3)))
▷ Error: The value of AARDVARKS, (SAM HARRY FRED),
▷        is not a 3-long array.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a value to use instead.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Use Value: #(SAM FRED HARRY)
→ NIL
 aardvarks
→ #<ARRAY-T-3 13571>
 (map 'list #'identity aardvarks)
→ (SAM FRED HARRY)
 (setq aardvark-count 'foo)
→ FOO
 (check-type aardvark-count (integer 0 *) "A positive integer")
▷ Error: The value of AARDVARK-COUNT, FOO, is not a positive integer.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a value to use instead.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 2

 (defmacro define-adder (name amount)
   (check-type name (and symbol (not null)) "a name for an adder function")
   (check-type amount integer)
   `(defun ,name (x) (+ x ,amount)))

 (macroexpand '(define-adder add3 3))
→ (defun add3 (x) (+ x 3))

 (macroexpand '(define-adder 7 7))
▷ Error: The value of NAME, 7, is not a name for an adder function.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a value to use instead.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :Continue 1
▷ Specify a value to use instead.
▷ Type a form to be evaluated and used instead: 'ADD7
→ (defun add7 (x) (+ x 7))

 (macroexpand '(define-adder add5 something))
▷ Error: The value of AMOUNT, SOMETHING, is not an integer.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a value to use instead.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :Continue 1
▷ Type a form to be evaluated and used instead: 5
→ (defun add5 (x) (+ x 5))
```

Control is transferred to a handler.

Side Effects:

The debugger might be entered.

Affected By:

break-on-signals

The implementation.

See Also:

Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

Notes:

```
 (check-type place typespec)
```

```
≡ (assert (typep place 'typespec) (place)
          'type-error :datum place :expected-type 'typespec)
```

simple-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

simple-error, **simple-condition**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **simple-error** consists of *conditions* that are signaled by **error** or **cerror** when a *format control* is supplied as the function's first argument.

invalid-method-error *Function*

Syntax:

invalid-method-error *method format-control* &rest *args* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

method—a *method*.

format-control—a *format control*.

args—*format arguments* for the *format-control*.

Description:

The *function* **invalid-method-error** is used to signal an error of *type* **error** when there is an applicable *method* whose *qualifiers* are not valid for the method combination type. The error message is constructed by using the *format-control* suitable for **format** and any *args* to it. Because an implementation may need to add additional contextual information to the error message, **invalid-method-error** should be called only within the dynamic extent of a method combination function.

The *function* **invalid-method-error** is called automatically when a *method* fails to satisfy every *qualifier* pattern and predicate in a **define-method-combination** *form*. A method combination function that imposes additional restrictions should call **invalid-method-error** explicitly if it encounters a *method* it cannot accept.

Whether **invalid-method-error** returns to its caller or exits via **throw** is *implementation-dependent*.

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Side Effects:

The debugger might be entered.

Affected By:

break-on-signals

See Also:

define-method-combination

method-combination-error *Function*

Syntax:

method-combination-error *format-control* &rest *args* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

format-control—a *format control*.

args—*format arguments* for *format-control*.

Description:

The *function* **method-combination-error** is used to signal an error in method combination.

The error message is constructed by using a *format-control* suitable for **format** and any *args* to it. Because an implementation may need to add additional contextual information to the error message, **method-combination-error** should be called only within the dynamic extent of a method combination function.

Whether **method-combination-error** returns to its caller or exits via **throw** is *implementation-dependent*.

Side Effects:

The debugger might be entered.

Affected By:

break-on-signals

See Also:

define-method-combination

signal *Function*

Syntax:

signal *datum* &rest *arguments* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

datum, *arguments*—*designators* for a *condition* of default type **simple-condition**.

Description:

Signals the *condition* denoted by the given *datum* and *arguments*. If the *condition* is not handled, **signal** returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
 (defun handle-division-conditions (condition)
   (format t "Considering condition for division condition handling~%")
   (when (and (typep condition 'arithmetic-error)
              (eq '/ (arithmetic-error-operation condition)))
     (invoke-debugger condition)))
HANDLE-DIVISION-CONDITIONS
 (defun handle-other-arithmetic-errors (condition)
   (format t "Considering condition for arithmetic condition handling~%")
   (when (typep condition 'arithmetic-error)
     (abort)))
HANDLE-OTHER-ARITHMETIC-ERRORS
 (define-condition a-condition-with-no-handler (condition) ())
A-CONDITION-WITH-NO-HANDLER
 (signal 'a-condition-with-no-handler)
NIL
 (handler-bind ((condition #'handle-division-conditions)
                  (condition #'handle-other-arithmetic-errors))
   (signal 'a-condition-with-no-handler))
Considering condition for division condition handling
Considering condition for arithmetic condition handling
NIL
 (handler-bind ((arithmetic-error #'handle-division-conditions)
                  (arithmetic-error #'handle-other-arithmetic-errors))
   (signal 'arithmetic-error :operation '* :operands '(1.2 b)))
Considering condition for division condition handling
Considering condition for arithmetic condition handling
Back to Lisp Toplevel
```

Side Effects:

The debugger might be entered due to ***break-on-signals***.

Handlers for the condition being signaled might transfer control.

Affected By:

Existing handler bindings.

break-on-signals

See Also:

break-on-signals, **error**, **simple-condition**, Section 9.1.4 (Signaling and Handling Conditions)

Notes:

If (typep *datum* *break-on-signals*) *yields true*, the debugger is entered prior to beginning the signaling process. The **continue** *restart* can be used to continue with the signaling process. This is also true for all other *functions* and *macros* that should, might, or must *signal conditions*.

simple-condition *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

simple-condition, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **simple-condition** represents *conditions* that are signaled by **signal** whenever a *format-control* is supplied as the function's first argument. The *format control* and *format arguments* are initialized with the initialization arguments named :format-control and :format-arguments to **make-condition**, and are *accessed* by the *functions* **simple-condition-format-control** and **simple-condition-format-arguments**. If format arguments are not supplied to **make-condition**, **nil** is used as a default.

See Also:

simple-condition-format-control, **simple-condition-format-arguments**

simple-condition-format-control, simple-condition-format-arguments *Function*

Syntax:

simple-condition-format-control *condition* → *format-control*

simple-condition-format-arguments *condition* → *format-arguments*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **simple-condition**.

format-control—a *format control*.

format-arguments—a *list*.

Description:

simple-condition-format-control returns the *format control* needed to process the *condition*'s *format arguments*.

simple-condition-format-arguments returns a *list* of *format arguments* needed to process the *condition*'s *format control*.

Examples:

```
 (setq foo (make-condition 'simple-condition
                           :format-control "Hi ~S"
                           :format-arguments '(ho)))
→ #<SIMPLE-CONDITION 26223553>
 (apply #'format nil (simple-condition-format-control foo)
                     (simple-condition-format-arguments foo))
→ "Hi HO"
```

See Also:

simple-condition, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

warn *Function*

Syntax:

warn *datum* &rest *arguments* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

datum, *arguments*—*designators* for a *condition* of default type **simple-warning**.

Description:

Signals a *condition* of *type* **warning**. If the *condition* is not *handled*, reports the *condition* to *error output*.

The precise mechanism for warning is as follows:

The warning condition is signaled

While the **warning** *condition* is being signaled, the **muffle-warning** *restart* is established for use by a *handler*. If invoked, this *restart* bypasses further action by **warn**, which in turn causes **warn** to immediately return **nil**.

If no handler for the warning condition is found

If no handlers for the warning condition are found, or if all such handlers decline, then the *condition* is reported to *error output* by **warn** in an *implementation-dependent* format.

nil is returned

The value returned by **warn** if it returns is **nil**.

Examples:

```
  (defun foo (x)
    (let ((result (* x 2)))
      (if (not (typep result 'fixnum))
          (warn "You're using very big numbers."))
      result))
→ FOO

  (foo 3)
→ 6

  (foo most-positive-fixnum)
▷ Warning: You're using very big numbers.
→ 4294967294

  (setq *break-on-signals* t)
→ T

  (foo most-positive-fixnum)
▷ Break: Caveat emptor.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number.
▷  1: Return from Break.
▷  2: Abort to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
```

```
▷ Warning: You're using very big numbers.
→ 4294967294
```

Side Effects:

A warning is issued. The debugger might be entered.

Affected By:

Existing handler bindings.

break-on-signals, ***error-output***.

Exceptional Situations:

If *datum* is a *condition* and if the *condition* is not of *type* **warning**, or *arguments* is *non-nil*, an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

If *datum* is a condition type, the result of `(apply #'make-condition datum arguments)` must be of *type* **warning** or an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

See Also:

break-on-signals, **muffle-warning**, **signal**

simple-warning *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

simple-warning, **simple-condition**, **warning**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **simple-warning** represents *conditions* that are signaled by **warn** whenever a *format control* is supplied as the function's first argument.

invoke-debugger *Function*

Syntax:

invoke-debugger *condition* →|

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition object*.

Description:

invoke-debugger attempts to enter the debugger with *condition*.

If ***debugger-hook*** is not **nil**, it should be a *function* (or the name of a *function*) to be called prior to entry to the standard debugger. The *function* is called with ***debugger-hook*** bound to **nil**, and the *function* must accept two arguments: the *condition* and the *value* of ***debugger-hook*** prior to binding it to **nil**. If the *function* returns normally, the standard debugger is entered.

The standard debugger never directly returns. Return can occur only by a non-local transfer of control, such as the use of a restart function.

Examples:

```
 (ignore-errors ;Normally, this would suppress debugger entry
   (handler-bind ((error #'invoke-debugger)) ;But this forces debugger entry
     (error "Foo.")))
Debug: Foo.
To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
 1: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
Debug>
```

Side Effects:

debugger-hook is bound to **nil**, program execution is discontinued, and the debugger is entered.

Affected By:

debug-io and ***debugger-hook***.

See Also:

error, **break**

break *Function*

Syntax:

break &optional *format-control* &rest *format-arguments* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

format-control—a *format control*. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

format-arguments—*format arguments* for the *format-control*.

Description:

break *formats* *format-control* and *format-arguments* and then goes directly into the debugger without allowing any possibility of interception by programmed error-handling facilities.

If the **continue** *restart* is used while in the debugger, **break** immediately returns **nil** without taking any unusual recovery action.

break binds ***debugger-hook*** to **nil** before attempting to enter the debugger.

Examples:

```
 (break "You got here with arguments: ~:S." '(FOO 37 A))
▷ BREAK: You got here with these arguments: FOO, 37, A.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Return from BREAK.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Return from BREAK.
→ NIL
```

Side Effects:

The debugger is entered.

Affected By:

debug-io.

See Also:

error, **invoke-debugger**.

Notes:

break is used as a way of inserting temporary debugging "breakpoints" in a program, not as a way of signaling errors. For this reason, **break** does not take the *continue-format-control argument* that **cerror** takes. This and the lack of any possibility of interception by *condition handling* are the only program-visible differences between **break** and **cerror**.

The user interface aspects of **break** and **cerror** are permitted to vary more widely, in order to accomodate the interface needs of the *implementation*. For example, it is permissible for a *Lisp read-eval-print loop* to be entered by **break** rather than the conventional debugger.

break could be defined by:

```
 (defun break (&optional (format-control "Break") &rest format-arguments)
   (with-simple-restart (continue "Return from BREAK.")
     (let ((*debugger-hook* nil))
       (invoke-debugger
           (make-condition 'simple-condition
                           :format-control format-control
                           :format-arguments format-arguments))))
   nil)
```

∗debugger-hook∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* (a *condition* and the *value* of ***debugger-hook*** at the time the debugger was entered), or **nil**.

Initial Value:

nil.

Description:

When the *value* of ***debugger-hook*** is *non-nil*, it is called prior to normal entry into the debugger, either due to a call to **invoke-debugger** or due to automatic entry into the debugger from a call to **error** or **cerror** with a condition that is not handled. The *function* may either handle the *condition* (transfer control) or return normally (allowing the standard debugger to run). To minimize recursive errors while debugging, ***debugger-hook*** is bound to **nil** by **invoke-debugger** prior to calling the *function*.

Examples:

```
 (defun one-of (choices &optional (prompt "Choice"))
   (let ((n (length choices)) (i))
     (do ((c choices (cdr c)) (i 1 (+ i 1)))
         ((null c))
       (format t "~&[~D] ~A~%" i (car c)))
     (do () ((typep i `(integer 1 ,n)))
       (format t "~&~A: " prompt)
       (setq i (read))
```

```
      (fresh-line))
    (nth (- i 1) choices)))

(defun my-debugger (condition me-or-my-encapsulation)
  (format t "~&Fooey: ~A" condition)
  (let ((restart (one-of (compute-restarts))))
    (if (not restart) (error "My debugger got an error."))
    (let ((*debugger-hook* me-or-my-encapsulation))
      (invoke-restart-interactively restart))))

(let ((*debugger-hook* #'my-debugger))
  (+ 3 'a))
▷ Fooey: The argument to +, A, is not a number.
▷  [1] Supply a replacement for A.
▷  [2] Return to Cloe Toplevel.
▷ Choice: 1
▷  Form to evaluate and use: (+ 5 'b)
▷  Fooey: The argument to +, B, is not a number.
▷  [1] Supply a replacement for B.
▷  [2] Supply a replacement for A.
▷  [3] Return to Cloe Toplevel.
▷ Choice: 1
▷  Form to evaluate and use: 1
→ 9
```

Affected By:

invoke-debugger

Notes:

When evaluating code typed in by the user interactively, it is sometimes useful to have the hook function bind ***debugger-hook*** to the *function* that was its second argument so that recursive errors can be handled using the same interactive facility.

∗break-on-signals∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *type specifier*.

Initial Value:

nil.

Description:

When (typep *condition* *break-on-signals*) returns *true*, calls to **signal**, and to other *operators* such as **error** that implicitly call **signal**, enter the debugger prior to *signaling* the *condition*.

The **continue** *restart* can be used to continue with the normal *signaling* process when a break occurs process due to ***break-on-signals***.

Examples:

```
*break-on-signals* → NIL
(ignore-errors (error 'simple-error :format-control "Fooey!"))
→ NIL, #<SIMPLE-ERROR 32207172>

(let ((*break-on-signals* 'error))
  (ignore-errors (error 'simple-error :format-control "Fooey!")))
▷ Break: Fooey!
▷ BREAK entered because of *BREAK-ON-SIGNALS*.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Continue to signal.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Continue to signal.
→ NIL, #<SIMPLE-ERROR 32212257>

(let ((*break-on-signals* 'error))
  (error 'simple-error :format-control "Fooey!"))
▷ Break: Fooey!
▷ BREAK entered because of *BREAK-ON-SIGNALS*.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Continue to signal.
▷  2: Top level.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Continue to signal.
▷ Error: Fooey!
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Top level.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE 1
▷ Top level.
```

See Also:

break, **signal**, **warn**, **error**, **typep**, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

Notes:

break-on-signals is intended primarily for use in debugging code that does signaling. When setting ***break-on-signals***, the user is encouraged to choose the most restrictive specification that suffices. Setting ***break-on-signals*** effectively violates the modular handling of *condition* signaling. In practice, the complete effect of setting ***break-on-signals*** might be unpredictable in some cases since the user might not be aware of the variety or number of calls to **signal** that are used in code called only incidentally.

break-on-signals enables an early entry to the debugger but such an entry does not preclude an additional entry to the debugger in the case of operations such as **error** and **cerror**.

handler-bind *Macro*

Syntax:

handler-bind ({↓*binding*}*) {*form*}* → {*result*}*

binding::=(*type handler*)

Arguments and Values:

type—a *type specifier*.

handler—a *form*; evaluated to produce a *handler-function*.

handler-function—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument*.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

Executes *forms* in a *dynamic environment* where the indicated *handler bindings* are in effect.

Each *handler* should evaluate to a *handler-function*, which is used to handle *conditions* of the given *type* during execution of the *forms*. This *function* should take a single argument, the *condition* being signaled.

If more than one *handler binding* is supplied, the *handler bindings* are searched sequentially from top to bottom in search of a match (by visual analogy with **typecase**). If an appropriate *type* is found, the associated handler is run in a *dynamic environment* where none of these *handler* bindings are visible (to avoid recursive errors). If the *handler declines*, the search continues for another *handler*.

If no appropriate *handler* is found, other *handlers* are sought from dynamically enclosing contours. If no *handler* is found outside, then **signal** returns or **error** enters the debugger.

Examples:

In the following code, if an unbound variable error is signaled in the body (and not handled by an intervening handler), the first function is called.


```
(handler-bind ((unbound-variable #'(lambda ...))
               (error #'(lambda ...)))
  ...)
```

If any other kind of error is signaled, the second function is called. In either case, neither handler is active while executing the code in the associated function.

```
(defun trap-error-handler (condition)
  (format *error-output* "~&~A~&" condition)
  (throw 'trap-errors nil))

(defmacro trap-errors (&rest forms)
  `(catch 'trap-errors
     (handler-bind ((error #'trap-error-handler))
       ,@forms)))

(list (trap-errors (signal "Foo.") 1)
      (trap-errors (error  "Bar.") 2)
      (+ 1 2))
▷ Bar.
→ (1 NIL 3)
```

Note that "Foo." is not printed because the condition made by **signal** is a *simple condition*, which is not of *type* **error**, so it doesn't trigger the handler for **error** set up by `trap-errors`.

See Also:

handler-case

handler-case *Macro*

Syntax:

handler-case *expression* ⟦{↓*error-clause*}* | ↓*no-error-clause*⟧ → {*result*}*

clause::=↓*error-clause* | ↓*no-error-clause*

error-clause::=(*typespec* ([*var*]) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*)

no-error-clause::=(`:no-error` *lambda-list* {*declaration*}* {*form*}*)

Arguments and Values:

expression—a *form*.

typespec—a *type specifier*.

var—a *variable name*.

lambda-list—an *ordinary lambda list*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

results—In the normal situation, the values returned are those that result from the evaluation of *expression*; in the exceptional situation when control is transferred to a *clause*, the value of the last *form* in that *clause* is returned.

Description:

handler-case executes *expression* in a *dynamic environment* where various handlers are active. Each *error-clause* specifies how to handle a *condition* matching the indicated *typespec*. A *no-error-clause* allows the specification of a particular action if control returns normally.

If a *condition* is signaled for which there is an appropriate *error-clause* during the execution of *expression* (*i.e.*, one for which (typep *condition* '*typespec*) returns *true*) and if there is no intervening handler for a *condition* of that *type*, then control is transferred to the body of the relevant *error-clause*. In this case, the dynamic state is unwound appropriately (so that the handlers established around the *expression* are no longer active), and *var* is bound to the *condition* that had been signaled. If more than one case is provided, those cases are made accessible in parallel. That is, in

```
(handler-case form
  (typespec1 (var1) form1)
  (typespec2 (var2) form2))
```

if the first *clause* (containing *form1*) has been selected, the handler for the second is no longer visible (or vice versa).

The *clauses* are searched sequentially from top to bottom. If there is *type* overlap between *typespecs*, the earlier of the *clauses* is selected.

If *var* is not needed, it can be omitted. That is, a *clause* such as:

```
(typespec (var) (declare (ignore var)) form)
```

can be written (*typespec* () *form*).

If there are no *forms* in a selected *clause*, the case, and therefore **handler-case**, returns **nil**. If execution of *expression* returns normally and no *no-error-clause* exists, the values returned by *expression* are returned by **handler-case**. If execution of *expression* returns normally and a *no-error-clause* does exist, the values returned are used as arguments to the function described by constructing (lambda *lambda-list* {*form*}*) from the *no-error-clause*, and the *values* of that function call are returned by **handler-case**. The handlers which were established around the *expression* are no longer active at the time of this call.

Examples:

```
(defun assess-condition (condition)
  (handler-case (signal condition)
    (warning () "Lots of smoke, but no fire.")
    ((or arithmetic-error control-error cell-error stream-error)
       (condition)
      (format nil "~S looks especially bad." condition))
    (serious-condition (condition)
      (format nil "~S looks serious." condition))
    (condition () "Hardly worth mentioning.")))
→ ASSESS-CONDITION
(assess-condition (make-condition 'stream-error :stream *terminal-io*))
→ "#<STREAM-ERROR 12352256> looks especially bad."
(define-condition random-condition (condition) ()
  (:report (lambda (condition stream)
             (declare (ignore condition))
             (princ "Yow" stream))))
→ RANDOM-CONDITION
(assess-condition (make-condition 'random-condition))
→ "Hardly worth mentioning."
```

See Also:

handler-bind, **ignore-errors**, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

Notes:

```
(handler-case form
  (type1 (var1) . body1)
  (type2 (var2) . body2) ...)
```

is approximately equivalent to:

```
(block #1=#:g0001
  (let ((#2=#:g0002 nil))
    (tagbody
      (handler-bind ((type1 #'(lambda (temp)
                                (setq #1# temp)
                                (go #3=#:g0003)))
                     (type2 #'(lambda (temp)
                                (setq #2# temp)
                                (go #4=#:g0004))) ...)
      (return-from #1# form))
        #3# (return-from #1# (let ((var1 #2#)) . body1))
        #4# (return-from #1# (let ((var2 #2#)) . body2)) ...)))
```

```
(handler-case form
```

```
(type1 (var1) . body1)
...
(:no-error (varN-1 varN-2 ...) . bodyN))
```

is approximately equivalent to:

```
(block #1=#:error-return
 (multiple-value-call #'(lambda (varN-1 varN-2 ...) . bodyN)
    (block #2=#:normal-return
      (return-from #1#
        (handler-case (return-from #2# form)
          (type1 (var1) . body1) ...)))))
```

ignore-errors *Macro*

Syntax:

ignore-errors {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—In the normal situation, the *values* of the *forms* are returned; in the exceptional situation, two values are returned: **nil** and the *condition*.

Description:

ignore-errors is used to prevent *conditions* of *type* **error** from causing entry into the debugger.

Specifically, **ignore-errors** *executes forms* in a *dynamic environment* where a *handler* for *conditions* of *type* **error** has been established; if invoked, it *handles* such *conditions* by returning two *values*, **nil** and the *condition* that was *signaled*, from the **ignore-errors** *form*.

If a *normal return* from the *forms* occurs, any *values* returned are returned by **ignore-errors**.

Examples:

```
(defun load-init-file (program)
  (let ((win nil))
    (ignore-errors ;if this fails, don't enter debugger
      (load (merge-pathnames (make-pathname :name program :type :lisp)
                             (user-homedir-pathname)))
      (setq win t))
    (unless win (format t "~&Init file failed to load.~%"))
    win))
```



```
(load-init-file "no-such-program")
▷ Init file failed to load.
NIL
```

See Also:

handler-case, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

Notes:

```
(ignore-errors . forms)
```

is equivalent to:

```
(handler-case (progn . forms)
  (error (condition) (values nil condition)))
```

Because the second return value is a *condition* in the exceptional case, it is common (but not required) to arrange for the second return value in the normal case to be missing or **nil** so that the two situations can be distinguished.

define-condition *Macro*

Syntax:

define-condition *name* ({*parent-type*}*) ({↓*slot-spec*}*) {*option*}*
→ *name*

slot-spec::=*slot-name* | (*slot-name* ↓*slot-option*)

slot-option::=⟦{:reader *symbol*}* |
{:writer ↓*function-name*}* |
{:accessor *symbol*}* |
{:allocation ↓*allocation-type*} |
{:initarg *symbol*}* |
{:initform *form*} |
{:type *type-specifier*} ⟧

option::=⟦(:default-initargs . *initarg-list*) |
(:documentation *string*) |
(:report *report-name*) ⟧

function-name::=$\{$*symbol* | (setf *symbol*)$\}$

allocation-type::=:instance | :class

report-name::=*string* | *symbol* | *lambda expression*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*.

parent-type—a *symbol* naming a *condition type*. If no *parent-types* are supplied, the *parent-types* default to (condition).

default-initargs—a *list* of *keyword/value pairs*.

Slot-spec – the *name* of a *slot* or a *list* consisting of the *slot-name* followed by zero or more *slot-options*.

Slot-name – a slot name (a *symbol*), the *list* of a slot name, or the *list* of slot name/slot form pairs.

Option – Any of the following:

:reader

:reader can be supplied more than once for a given *slot* and cannot be **nil**.

:writer

:writer can be supplied more than once for a given *slot* and must name a *generic function*.

:accessor

:accessor can be supplied more than once for a given *slot* and cannot be **nil**.

:allocation

:allocation can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*. The default if :allocation is not supplied is :instance.

:initarg

:initarg can be supplied more than once for a given *slot*.

:initform

:initform can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*.

:type

:type can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*.

:documentation

:documentation can be supplied once at most for a given *slot*.

:report

:report can be supplied once at most.

Description:

define-condition defines a new condition type called *name*, which is a *subtype* of the *type* or *types* named by *parent-type*. Each *parent-type* argument specifies a direct *supertype* of the new *condition*. The new *condition* inherits *slots* and *methods* from each of its direct *supertypes*, and so on.

If a slot name/slot form pair is supplied, the slot form is a *form* that can be evaluated by **make-condition** to produce a default value when an explicit value is not provided. If no slot form is supplied, the contents of the *slot* is initialized in an *implementation-dependent* way.

If the *type* being defined and some other *type* from which it inherits have a slot by the same name, only one slot is allocated in the *condition*, but the supplied slot form overrides any slot form that might otherwise have been inherited from a *parent-type*. If no slot form is supplied, the inherited slot form (if any) is still visible.

Accessors are created according to the same rules as used by **defclass**.

A description of *slot-options* follows:

:reader

The :reader slot option specifies that an *unqualified method* is to be defined on the *generic function* named by the argument to :reader to read the value of the given *slot*.

- The :initform slot option is used to provide a default initial value form to be used in the initialization of the *slot*. This *form* is evaluated every time it is used to initialize the *slot*. The *lexical environment* in which this *form* is evaluated is the lexical *environment* in which the **define-condition** form was evaluated. Note that the *lexical environment* refers both to variables and to *functions*. For *local slots*, the *dynamic environment* is the dynamic *environment* in which **make-condition** was called; for *shared slots*, the *dynamic environment* is the *dynamic environment* in which the **define-condition** form was evaluated.

  No implementation is permitted to extend the syntax of **define-condition** to allow (*slot-name form*) as an abbreviation for (*slot-name* :initform *form*).

:initarg

The :initarg slot option declares an initialization argument named by its *symbol* argument and specifies that this initialization argument initializes the given *slot*. If the initialization argument has a value in the call to **initialize-instance**, the value is stored into the given *slot*, and the slot's `:initform` slot option, if any, is not evaluated. If none of the initialization arguments specified for a given *slot* has a value, the *slot* is initialized according to the `:initform` slot option, if specified.

`:type`

The `:type` slot option specifies that the contents of the *slot* is always of the specified *type*. It effectively declares the result type of the reader generic function when applied to an *object* of this *condition* type. The consequences of attempting to store in a *slot* a value that does not satisfy the type of the *slot* is undefined.

`:default-initargs`

This option is treated the same as it would be **defclass**.

`:documentation`

The `:documentation` slot option provides a *documentation string* for the *slot*.

`:report`

Condition reporting is mediated through the **print-object** method for the *condition* type in question, with ***print-escape*** always being **nil**. Specifying `(:report` *report-name*`)` in the definition of a condition type `C` is equivalent to:

```
(defmethod print-object ((x c) stream)
  (if *print-escape* (call-next-method) (report-name x stream)))
```

If the value supplied by the argument to `:report` (*report-name*) is a *symbol* or a *lambda expression*, it must be acceptable to **function**. `(function` *report-name*`)` is evaluated in the current *lexical environment*. It should return a *function* of two arguments, a *condition* and a *stream*, that prints on the *stream* a description of the *condition*. This *function* is called whenever the *condition* is printed while ***print-escape*** is **nil**.

If *report-name* is a *string*, it is a shorthand for

```
(lambda (condition stream)
  (declare (ignore condition))
  (write-string report-name stream))
```

This option is processed after the new *condition* type has been defined, so use of the *slot* accessors within the `:report` function is permitted. If this option is not supplied, information about how to report this type of *condition* is inherited from the *parent-type*.

The consequences are unspecifed if an attempt is made to *read* a *slot* that has not been explicitly initialized and that has not been given a default value.

The consequences are unspecified if an attempt is made to assign the *slots* by using **setf**.

If a **define-condition** *form* appears as a *top level form*, the *compiler* must make *name* recognizable as a valid *type* name, and it must be possible to reference the *condition type* as the *parent-type* of another *condition type* in a subsequent **define-condition** *form* in the *file* being compiled.

Examples:

The following form defines a condition of *type* `peg/hole-mismatch` which inherits from a condition type called `blocks-world-error`:

```
(define-condition peg/hole-mismatch
                  (blocks-world-error)
                  ((peg-shape  :initarg :peg-shape
                               :reader peg/hole-mismatch-peg-shape)
                   (hole-shape :initarg :hole-shape
                               :reader peg/hole-mismatch-hole-shape))
  (:report (lambda (condition stream)
             (format stream "A ~A peg cannot go in a ~A hole."
                     (peg/hole-mismatch-peg-shape  condition)
                     (peg/hole-mismatch-hole-shape condition)))))
```

The new type has slots `peg-shape` and `hole-shape`, so **make-condition** accepts `:peg-shape` and `:hole-shape` keywords. The *readers* `peg/hole-mismatch-peg-shape` and `peg/hole-mismatch-hole-shape` apply to objects of this type, as illustrated in the `:report` information.

The following form defines a *condition type* named `machine-error` which inherits from **error**:

```
(define-condition machine-error
                  (error)
                  ((machine-name :initarg :machine-name
                                 :reader machine-error-machine-name))
  (:report (lambda (condition stream)
             (format stream "There is a problem with ~A."
                     (machine-error-machine-name condition)))))
```

Building on this definition, a new error condition can be defined which is a subtype of `machine-error` for use when machines are not available:

```
(define-condition machine-not-available-error (machine-error) ()
  (:report (lambda (condition stream)
             (format stream "The machine ~A is not available."
                     (machine-error-machine-name condition)))))
```

This defines a still more specific condition, built upon `machine-not-available-error`, which provides a slot initialization form for `machine-name` but which does not provide any new slots or report information. It just gives the `machine-name` slot a default initialization:

```
(define-condition my-favorite-machine-not-available-error
                  (machine-not-available-error)
  ((machine-name :initform "mc.lcs.mit.edu")))
```

Note that since no `:report` clause was given, the information inherited from `machine-not-available-error` is used to report this type of condition.

```
 (define-condition ate-too-much (error)
     ((person :initarg :person :reader ate-too-much-person)
      (weight :initarg :weight :reader ate-too-much-weight)
      (kind-of-food :initarg :kind-of-food
                    :reader :ate-too-much-kind-of-food)))
→ ATE-TOO-MUCH
 (define-condition ate-too-much-ice-cream (ate-too-much)
   ((kind-of-food :initform 'ice-cream)
    (flavor       :initarg :flavor
                  :reader ate-too-much-ice-cream-flavor
                  :initform 'vanilla ))
   (:report (lambda (condition stream)
              (format stream "~A ate too much ~A ice-cream"
                      (ate-too-much-person condition)
                      (ate-too-much-ice-cream-flavor condition)))))
→ ATE-TOO-MUCH-ICE-CREAM
 (make-condition 'ate-too-much-ice-cream
                 :person 'fred
                 :weight 300
                 :flavor 'chocolate)
→ #<ATE-TOO-MUCH-ICE-CREAM 32236101>
 (format t "~A" *)
▷ FRED ate too much CHOCOLATE ice-cream
→ NIL
```

See Also:

make-condition, **defclass**, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

make-condition *Function*

Syntax:

make-condition *type* `&rest` *slot-initializations* → *condition*

Arguments and Values:

type—a *type specifier* (for a *subtype* of **condition**).

slot-initializations—an *initialization argument list*.

condition—a *condition*.

Description:

Constructs and returns a *condition* of type *type* using *slot-initializations* for the initial values of the slots. The newly created *condition* is returned.

Examples:

```
 (defvar *oops-count* 0)

 (setq a (make-condition 'simple-error
                         :format-control "This is your ~:R error."
                         :format-arguments (list (incf *oops-count*))))
→ #<SIMPLE-ERROR 32245104>

 (format t "~&~A~%" a)
▷ This is your first error.
→ NIL

 (error a)
▷ Error: This is your first error.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug>
```

Affected By:

The set of defined *condition types*.

See Also:

define-condition, Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts)

restart *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

restart, **t**

Description:

An *object* of *type* **restart** represents a *function* that can be called to perform some form of recovery action, usually a transfer of control to an outer point in the running program.

An *implementation* is free to implement a *restart* in whatever manner is most convenient; a *restart* has only *dynamic extent* relative to the scope of the binding *form* which *establishes* it.

compute-restarts *Function*

Syntax:

compute-restarts &optional *condition* → *restarts*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition object*, or **nil**.

restarts—a *list* of *restarts*.

Description:

compute-restarts uses the dynamic state of the program to compute a *list* of the *restarts* which are currently active.

The resulting *list* is ordered so that the innermost (more-recently established) restarts are nearer the head of the *list*.

When *condition* is *non-nil*, only those *restarts* are considered that are either explicitly associated with that *condition*, or not associated with any *condition*; that is, the excluded *restarts* are those that are associated with a non-empty set of *conditions* of which the given *condition* is not an *element*. If *condition* is **nil**, all *restarts* are considered.

compute-restarts returns all *applicable restarts*, including anonymous ones, even if some of them have the same name as others and would therefore not be found by **find-restart** when given a *symbol* argument.

Implementations are permitted, but not required, to return *distinct lists* from repeated calls to **compute-restarts** while in the same dynamic environment. The consequences are undefined if the *list* returned by **compute-restarts** is every modified.

Examples:

```
;; One possible way in which an interactive debugger might present
;; restarts to the user.
(defun invoke-a-restart ()
  (let ((restarts (compute-restarts)))
    (do ((i 0 (+ i 1)) (r restarts (cdr r))) ((null r))
      (format t "~&~D: ~A~%" i (car r)))
    (let ((n nil) (k (length restarts)))
      (loop (when (and (typep n 'integer) (>= n 0) (< n k))
              (return t))
            (format t "~&Option: ")
            (setq n (read))
            (fresh-line))
        (invoke-restart-interactively (nth n restarts)))))

(restart-case (invoke-a-restart)
  (one () 1)
  (two () 2)
  (nil () :report "Who knows?" 'anonymous)
  (one () 'I)
  (two () 'II))
▷ 0: ONE
▷ 1: TWO
▷ 2: Who knows?
▷ 3: ONE
▷ 4: TWO
▷ 5: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Option: 4
→ II

;; Note that in addition to user-defined restart points, COMPUTE-RESTARTS
;; also returns information about any system-supplied restarts, such as
;; the "Return to Lisp Toplevel" restart offered above.
```


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Affected By:

Existing restarts.

See Also:

find-restart, **invoke-restart**, **restart-bind**

find-restart *Function*

Syntax:

find-restart *identifier* &optional *condition*

restart

Arguments and Values:

identifier—a *non-nil symbol*, or a *restart*.

condition—a *condition object*, or **nil**.

restart—a *restart* or **nil**.

Description:

find-restart searches for a particular *restart* in the current *dynamic environment*.

When *condition* is *non-nil*, only those *restarts* are considered that are either explicitly associated with that *condition*, or not associated with any *condition*; that is, the excluded *restarts* are those that are associated with a non-empty set of *conditions* of which the given *condition* is not an *element*. If *condition* is **nil**, all *restarts* are considered.

If *identifier* is a *symbol*, then the innermost (most recently established) *applicable restart* with that *name* is returned. **nil** is returned if no such restart is found.

If *identifier* is a currently active restart, then it is returned. Otherwise, **nil** is returned.

Examples:

```
 (restart-case
     (let ((r (find-restart 'my-restart)))
       (format t "~S is named ~S" r (restart-name r)))
   (my-restart () nil))
▷ #<RESTART 32307325> is named MY-RESTART
→ NIL
 (find-restart 'my-restart)
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

Existing restarts.

restart-case, **restart-bind**, **with-condition-restarts**.

See Also:

compute-restarts

Notes:

```
 (find-restart identifier)
 ≡ (find identifier (compute-restarts) :key :restart-name)
```

Although anonymous restarts have a name of **nil**, the consequences are unspecified if **nil** is given as an *identifier*. Occasionally, programmers lament that **nil** is not permissible as an *identifier* argument. In most such cases, **compute-restarts** can probably be used to simulate the desired effect.

invoke-restart *Function*

Syntax:

invoke-restart *restart* &rest *arguments* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

restart—a *restart designator*.

argument—an *object*.

results—the *values* returned by the *function* associated with *restart*, if that *function* returns.

Description:

Calls the *function* associated with *restart*, passing *arguments* to it. *Restart* must be valid in the current *dynamic environment*.

Examples:

```
 (defun add3 (x) (check-type x number) (+ x 3))

 (foo 'seven)
▷ Error: The value SEVEN was not of type NUMBER.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a different value to use.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> (invoke-restart 'store-value 7)
→ 10
```

Side Effects:

A non-local transfer of control might be done by the restart.

Affected By:

Existing restarts.

Exceptional Situations:

If *restart* is not valid, an error of *type* **control-error** is signaled.

See Also:

find-restart, **restart-bind**, **restart-case**, **invoke-restart-interactively**

Notes:

The most common use for **invoke-restart** is in a *handler*. It might be used explicitly, or implicitly through **invoke-restart-interactively** or a *restart function*.

Restart functions call **invoke-restart**, not vice versa. That is, *invoke-restart* provides primitive functionality, and *restart functions* are non-essential "syntactic sugar."

invoke-restart-interactively *Function*

Syntax:

invoke-restart-interactively *restart* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

restart—a *restart designator*.

results—the *values* returned by the *function* associated with *restart*, if that *function* returns.

Description:

invoke-restart-interactively calls the *function* associated with *restart*, prompting for any necessary arguments. If *restart* is a name, it must be valid in the current *dynamic environment*.

invoke-restart-interactively prompts for arguments by executing the code provided in the `:interactive` keyword to **restart-case** or `:interactive-function` keyword to **restart-bind**.

If no such options have been supplied in the corresponding **restart-bind** or **restart-case**, then the consequences are undefined if the *restart* takes required arguments. If the arguments are optional, an argument list of **nil** is used.

Once the arguments have been determined, **invoke-restart-interactively** executes the following:

```
(apply #'invoke-restart restart arguments)
```

Examples:

```
(defun add3 (x) (check-type x number) (+ x 3))

(add3 'seven)
▷ Error: The value SEVEN was not of type NUMBER.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a different value to use.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> (invoke-restart-interactively 'store-value)
▷ Type a form to evaluate and use: 7
→ 10
```

Side Effects:

If prompting for arguments is necesary, some typeout may occur (on *query I/O*).

A non-local transfer of control might be done by the restart.

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Affected By:

query-io, active *restarts*

Exceptional Situations:

If *restart* is not valid, an error of *type* **control-error** is signaled.

See Also:

find-restart, **invoke-restart**, **restart-case**, **restart-bind**

Notes:

invoke-restart-interactively is used internally by the debugger and may also be useful in implementing other portable, interactive debugging tools.

restart-bind *Macro*

Syntax:

restart-bind ({(*name function* {↓*key-val-pair*}*)}) {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

key-val-pair::=`:interactive-function` *interactive-function* |
`:report-function` *report-function* |
`:test-function` *test-function*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*; not evaluated.

function—a *form*; evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

interactive-function—a *form*; evaluated.

report-function—a *form*; evaluated.

test-function—a *form*; evaluated.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

restart-bind executes the body of *forms* in a *dynamic environment* where *restarts* with the given *names* are in effect.

restart-bind

If a *name* is **nil**, it indicates an anonymous restart; if a *name* is a *non-nil symbol*, it indicates a named restart.

The *function*, *interactive-function*, and *report-function* are unconditionally evaluated in the current lexical and dynamic environment prior to evaluation of the body. Each of these *forms* must evaluate to a *function*.

If **invoke-restart** is done on that restart, the *function* which resulted from evaluating *function* is called, in the *dynamic environment* of the **invoke-restart**, with the *arguments* given to **invoke-restart**. The *function* may either perform a non-local transfer of control or may return normally.

If the restart is invoked interactively from the debugger (using **invoke-restart-interactively**), the arguments are defaulted by calling the *function* which resulted from evaluating *interactive-function*. That *function* may optionally prompt interactively on *query I/O*, and should return a *list* of arguments to be used by **invoke-restart-interactively** when invoking the restart.

If a restart is invoked interactively but no *interactive-function* is used, then an argument list of **nil** is used. In that case, the *function* must be compatible with an empty argument list.

If the restart is presented interactively (*e.g.*, by the debugger), the presentation is done by calling the *function* which resulted from evaluating *report-function*. This *function* must be a *function* of one argument, a *stream*. It is expected to print a description of the action that the restart takes to that *stream*. This *function* is called any time the restart is printed while ***print-escape*** is **nil**.

In the case of interactive invocation, the result is dependent on the value of `:interactive-function` as follows.

`:interactive-function`

Value is evaluated in the current lexical environment and should return a *function* of no arguments which constructs a *list* of arguments to be used by **invoke-restart-interactively** when invoking this restart. The *function* may prompt interactively using *query I/O* if necessary.

`:report-function`

Value is evaluated in the current lexical environment and should return a *function* of one argument, a *stream*, which prints on the *stream* a summary of the action that this restart takes. This *function* is called whenever the restart is reported (printed while ***print-escape*** is **nil**). If no `:report-function` option is provided, the manner in which the *restart* is reported is *implementation-dependent*.

`:test-function`

Value is evaluated in the current lexical environment and should return a *function* of one argument, a *condition*, which returns *true* if the restart is to be considered visible.

Affected By:

query-io.

See Also:

restart-case, **with-simple-restart**

Notes:

restart-bind is primarily intended to be used to implement **restart-case** and might be useful in implementing other macros. Programmers who are uncertain about whether to use **restart-case** or **restart-bind** should prefer **restart-case** for the cases where it is powerful enough, using **restart-bind** only in cases where its full generality is really needed.

restart-case *Macro*

Syntax:

restart-case *restartable-form* {↓*clause*} → {*result*}*

clause::=(*case-name lambda-list*
⟦`:interactive` *interactive-expression* | `:report` *report-expression* | `:test` *test-expression*⟧
{*declaration*}* {*form*}*)

Arguments and Values:

restartable-form—a *form*.

case-name—a *symbol* or **nil**.

lambda-list—an *ordinary lambda list*.

interactive-expression—a *symbol* or a *lambda expression*.

report-expression—a *string*, a *symbol*, or a *lambda expression*.

test-expression—a *symbol* or a *lambda expression*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

form—a *form*.

results—the *values* resulting from the *evaluation* of *restartable-form*, or the *values* returned by the last *form* executed in a chosen *clause*, or **nil**.

Description:

restart-case evaluates *restartable-form* in a *dynamic environment* where the clauses have special meanings as points to which control may be transferred. If *restartable-form* finishes executing and returns any values, all values returned are returned by **restart-case** and processing has completed. While *restartable-form* is executing, any code may transfer control to one of the clauses (see **invoke-restart**). If a transfer occurs, the forms in the body of that clause is evaluated and any values returned by the last such form are returned by **restart-case**. In this case, the dynamic state is unwound appropriately (so that the restarts established around the *restartable-form* are no longer active) prior to execution of the clause.

If there are no *forms* in a selected clause, **restart-case** returns **nil**.

If *case-name* is a *symbol*, it names this restart.

It is possible to have more than one clause use the same *case-name*. In this case, the first clause with that name is found by **find-restart**. The other clauses are accessible using **compute-restarts**.

Each *arglist* is an *ordinary lambda list* to be bound during the execution of its corresponding *forms*. These parameters are used by the **restart-case** clause to receive any necessary data from a call to **invoke-restart**.

By default, **invoke-restart-interactively** passes no arguments and all arguments must be optional in order to accomodate interactive restarting. However, the arguments need not be optional if the `:interactive` keyword has been used to inform **invoke-restart-interactively** about how to compute a proper argument list.

Keyword options have the following meaning.

`:interactive`

The *value* supplied by `:interactive` *value* must be a suitable argument to **function**. `(function` *value*`)` is evaluated in the current lexical environment. It should return a *function* of no arguments which returns arguments to be used by **invoke-restart-interactively** when it is invoked. **invoke-restart-interactively** is called in the dynamic environment available prior to any restart attempt, and uses *query I/O* for user interaction.

If a restart is invoked interactively but no `:interactive` option was supplied, the argument list used in the invocation is the empty list.

`:report`

If the *value* supplied by `:report` *value* is a *lambda expression* or a *symbol*, it must be acceptable to **function**. `(function` *value*`)` is evaluated in the current lexical environment. It should return a *function* of one argument, a *stream*, which prints on the *stream* a description of the restart. This *function* is called whenever the restart is printed while ***print-escape*** is **nil**.

If *value* is a *string*, it is a shorthand for

```
(lambda (stream) (write-string value stream))
```

If a named restart is asked to report but no report information has been supplied, the name of the restart is used in generating default report text.

When ***print-escape*** is **nil**, the printer uses the report information for a restart. For example, a debugger might announce the action of typing a "continue" command by:

```
(format t "~&~S -- ~A~%" ':continue some-restart)
```

which might then display as something like:

```
:CONTINUE -- Return to command level
```

The consequences are unspecified if an unnamed restart is specified but no `:report` option is provided.

`:test`

The *value* supplied by `:test` *value* must be a suitable argument to **function**. `(function` *value*`)` is evaluated in the current lexical environment. It should return a *function* of one *argument*, the *condition*, that returns *true* if the restart is to be considered visible.

The default for this option is equivalent to `(lambda (c) (declare (ignore c)) t)`.

If the *restartable-form* is a *list* whose *car* is any of the *symbols* **signal**, **error**, **cerror**, or **warn** (or is a *macro form* which macroexpands into such a *list*), then **with-condition-restarts** is used implicitly to associate the indicated *restarts* with the *condition* to be signaled.

Examples:

```
 (restart-case
     (handler-bind ((error #'(lambda (c)
                             (declare (ignore condition))
                             (invoke-restart 'my-restart 7))))
       (error "Foo."))
   (my-restart (&optional v) v))
→ 7

 (define-condition food-error (error) ())
→ FOOD-ERROR
 (define-condition bad-tasting-sundae (food-error)
   ((ice-cream :initarg :ice-cream :reader bad-tasting-sundae-ice-cream)
    (sauce :initarg :sauce :reader bad-tasting-sundae-sauce)
    (topping :initarg :topping :reader bad-tasting-sundae-topping))
   (:report (lambda (condition stream)
```

```
             (format stream "Bad tasting sundae with ~S, ~S, and ~S"
                     (bad-tasting-sundae-ice-cream condition)
                     (bad-tasting-sundae-sauce condition)
                     (bad-tasting-sundae-topping condition)))))
→ BAD-TASTING-SUNDAE
 (defun all-start-with-same-letter (symbol1 symbol2 symbol3)
   (let ((first-letter (char (symbol-name symbol1) 0)))
     (and (eql first-letter (char (symbol-name symbol2) 0))
          (eql first-letter (char (symbol-name symbol3) 0)))))
→ ALL-START-WITH-SAME-LETTER
 (defun read-new-value ()
   (format t "Enter a new value: ")
   (multiple-value-list (eval (read))))
→ READ-NEW-VALUE
```



```
 (defun verify-or-fix-perfect-sundae (ice-cream sauce topping)
   (do ()
      ((all-start-with-same-letter ice-cream sauce topping))
     (restart-case
       (error 'bad-tasting-sundae
              :ice-cream ice-cream
              :sauce sauce
              :topping topping)
       (use-new-ice-cream (new-ice-cream)
         :report "Use a new ice cream."
         :interactive read-new-value
         (setq ice-cream new-ice-cream))
       (use-new-sauce (new-sauce)
         :report "Use a new sauce."
         :interactive read-new-value
         (setq sauce new-sauce))
       (use-new-topping (new-topping)
         :report "Use a new topping."
         :interactive read-new-value
         (setq topping new-topping))))
   (values ice-cream sauce topping))
→ VERIFY-OR-FIX-PERFECT-SUNDAE
 (verify-or-fix-perfect-sundae 'vanilla 'caramel 'cherry)
▷ Error: Bad tasting sundae with VANILLA, CARAMEL, and CHERRY.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Use a new ice cream.
▷  2: Use a new sauce.
▷  3: Use a new topping.
▷  4: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> :continue 1
▷ Use a new ice cream.
▷ Enter a new ice cream: 'chocolate
→ CHOCOLATE, CARAMEL, CHERRY
```

See Also:

restart-bind, **with-simple-restart**.

Notes:

(restart-case *expression*
   (*name1 arglist1* ...*options1*... . *body1*)
   (*name2 arglist2* ...*options2*... . *body2*))

is essentially equivalent to

```
(block #1=#:g0001
  (let ((#2=#:g0002 nil))
       (tagbody
       (restart-bind ((name1 #'(lambda (&rest temp)
                                 (setq #2# temp)
                                 (go #3=#:g0003))
                              ...slightly-transformed-options1...)
                      (name2 #'(lambda (&rest temp)
                                 (setq #2# temp)
                                 (go #4=#:g0004))
                              ...slightly-transformed-options2...))
       (return-from #1# expression))
         #3# (return-from #1#
                 (apply #'(lambda arglist1 . body1) #2#))
         #4# (return-from #1#
                 (apply #'(lambda arglist2 . body2) #2#)))))
```

Unnamed restarts are generally only useful interactively and an interactive option which has no description is of little value. Implementations are encouraged to warn if an unnamed restart is used and no report information is provided at compilation time. At runtime, this error might be noticed when entering the debugger. Since signaling an error would probably cause recursive entry into the debugger (causing yet another recursive error, etc.) it is suggested that the debugger print some indication of such problems when they occur but not actually signal errors.

```
(restart-case (signal fred)
  (a ...)
  (b ...))
≡
(restart-case
    (with-condition-restarts fred
                             (list (find-restart 'a)
                                   (find-restart 'b))
      (signal fred))
  (a ...)
  (b ...))
```

restart-name *Function*

Syntax:

restart-name *restart* → *name*

Arguments and Values:

restart—a *restart*.

name—a *symbol*.

Description:

Returns the name of the *restart*, or **nil** if the *restart* is not named.

Examples:

```
 (restart-case
     (loop for restart in (compute-restarts)
               collect (restart-name restart))
   (case1 () :report "Return 1." 1)
   (nil   () :report "Return 2." 2)
   (case3 () :report "Return 3." 3)
   (case1 () :report "Return 4." 4))
→ (CASE1 NIL CASE3 CASE1 ABORT)
 ;; In the example above the restart named ABORT was not created
 ;; explicitly, but was implicitly supplied by the system.
```

See Also:

compute-restarts **find-restart**

with-condition-restarts *Macro*

Syntax:

with-condition-restarts *condition-form restarts-form* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

condition-form—a *form*; *evaluated* to produce a *condition*.

condition—a *condition object* resulting from the *evaluation* of *condition-form*.

restart-form—a *form*; *evaluated* to produce a *restart-list*.

restart-list—a *list* of *restart objects* resulting from the *evaluation* of *restart-form*.

forms—an *implicit progn*; evaluated.

results—the *values* returned by *forms*.

Description:

First, the *condition-form* and *restarts-form* are *evaluated* in normal left-to-right order; the *primary values* yielded by these *evaluations* are respectively called the *condition* and the *restart-list*.

Next, the *forms* are *evaluated* in a *dynamic environment* in which each *restart* in *restart-list* is associated with the *condition*. See Section 9.1.4.2.4 (Associating a Restart with a Condition).

See Also:

restart-case

Notes:

Usually this *macro* is not used explicitly in code, since **restart-case** handles most of the common cases in a way that is syntactically more concise.

with-simple-restart *Macro*

Syntax:

with-simple-restart (*name format-control* {*format-argument*}*) {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*.

format-control—a *format control*.

format-argument—an *object* (*i.e.*, a *format argument*).

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—in the normal situation, the *values* returned by the *forms*; in the exceptional situation where the *restart* named *name* is invoked, two values—**nil** and **t**.

Description:

with-simple-restart establishes a restart.

If the restart designated by *name* is not invoked while executing *forms*, all values returned by the last of *forms* are returned. If the restart designated by *name* is invoked, control is transferred to **with-simple-restart**, which returns two values, **nil** and **t**.

If *name* is **nil**, an anonymous restart is established.

The *format-control* and *format-arguments* are used report the *restart*.

Examples:

```
 (defun read-eval-print-loop (level)
   (with-simple-restart (abort "Exit command level ~D." level)
     (loop
       (with-simple-restart (abort "Return to command level ~D." level)
         (let ((form (prog2 (fresh-line) (read) (fresh-line))))
           (prin1 (eval form)))))))
→ READ-EVAL-PRINT-LOOP
 (read-eval-print-loop 1)
 (+ 'a 3)
▷ Error: The argument, A, to the function + was of the wrong type.
▷        The function expected a number.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Specify a value to use this time.
▷  2: Return to command level 1.
▷  3: Exit command level 1.
▷  4: Return to Lisp Toplevel.

 (defun compute-fixnum-power-of-2 (x)
   (with-simple-restart (nil "Give up on computing 2^~D." x)
     (let ((result 1))
       (dotimes (i x result)
         (setq result (* 2 result))
         (unless (fixnump result)
           (error "Power of 2 is too large."))))))
COMPUTE-FIXNUM-POWER-OF-2
 (defun compute-power-of-2 (x)
   (or (compute-fixnum-power-of-2 x) 'something big))
COMPUTE-POWER-OF-2
 (compute-power-of-2 10)
1024
 (compute-power-of-2 10000)
▷ Error: Power of 2 is too large.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number.
▷  1: Give up on computing 2^10000.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel
▷ Debug> :continue 1
→ SOMETHING-BIG
```

See Also:

restart-case

Notes:

with-simple-restart is shorthand for one of the most common uses of **restart-case**.

with-simple-restart could be defined by:

```
(defmacro with-simple-restart ((restart-name format-control
                                             &rest format-arguments)
                               &body forms)
  `(restart-case (progn ,@forms)
     (,restart-name ()
         :report (lambda (stream)
                   (format stream ,format-control ,@format-arguments))
        (values nil t))))
```

Because the second return value is **t** in the exceptional case, it is common (but not required) to arrange for the second return value in the normal case to be missing or **nil** so that the two situations can be distinguished.

abort *Restart*

Data Arguments Required:

None.

Description:

The intent of the **abort** restart is to allow return to the innermost "command level." Implementors are encouraged to make sure that there is always a restart named **abort** around any user code so that user code can call **abort** at any time and expect something reasonable to happen; exactly what the reasonable thing is may vary somewhat. Typically, in an interactive listener, the invocation of **abort** returns to the *Lisp reader* phase of the *Lisp read-eval-print loop*, though in some batch or multi-processing situations there may be situations in which having it kill the running process is more appropriate.

See Also:

Section 9.1.4.2 (Restarts), Section 9.1.4.2.2 (Interfaces to Restarts), **invoke-restart**, **abort** (*function*)

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continue *Restart*

Data Arguments Required:

None.

Description:

The **continue** *restart* is generally part of protocols where there is a single "obvious" way to continue, such as in **break** and **cerror**. Some user-defined protocols may also wish to incorporate it for similar reasons. In general, however, it is more reliable to design a special purpose restart with a name that more directly suits the particular application.

Examples:

```
(let ((x 3))
  (handler-bind ((error #'(lambda (c)
                            (let ((r (find-restart 'continue c)))
                              (when r (invoke-restart r))))))
    (cond ((not (floatp x))
           (cerror "Try floating it." "~D is not a float." x)
           (float x))
          (t x)))) → 3.0
```

See Also:

Section 9.1.4.2 (Restarts), Section 9.1.4.2.2 (Interfaces to Restarts), **invoke-restart**, **continue** (*function*), **assert**, **cerror**

muffle-warning *Restart*

Data Arguments Required:

None.

Description:

This *restart* is established by **warn** so that *handlers* of **warning** *conditions* have a way to tell **warn** that a warning has already been dealt with and that no further action is warranted.

Examples:

```
(defvar *all-quiet* nil) → *ALL-QUIET*
(defvar *saved-warnings* '()) → *SAVED-WARNINGS*
(defun quiet-warning-handler (c)
  (when *all-quiet*
    (let ((r (find-restart 'muffle-warning c)))
```

```
        (when r
          (push c *saved-warnings*)
          (invoke-restart r)))))
→ CUSTOM-WARNING-HANDLER
 (defmacro with-quiet-warnings (&body forms)
   `(let ((*all-quiet* t)
          (*saved-warnings* '()))
      (handler-bind ((warning #'quiet-warning-handler))
        ,@forms
        *saved-warnings*)))
→ WITH-QUIET-WARNINGS
 (setq saved
   (with-quiet-warnings
     (warn "Situation #1.")
     (let ((*all-quiet* nil))
       (warn "Situation #2."))
     (warn "Situation #3.")))
▷ Warning: Situation #2.
→ (#<SIMPLE-WARNING 42744421> #<SIMPLE-WARNING 42744365>)
 (dolist (s saved) (format t "~&~A~%" s))
▷ Situation #3.
▷ Situation #1.
→ NIL
```

See Also:

Section 9.1.4.2 (Restarts), Section 9.1.4.2.2 (Interfaces to Restarts), **invoke-restart**, **muffle-warning** (*function*), **warn**

store-value *Restart*

Data Arguments Required:

a value to use instead (on an ongoing basis).

Description:

The **store-value** *restart* is generally used by *handlers* trying to recover from errors of *types* such as **cell-error** or **type-error**, which may wish to supply a replacement datum to be stored permanently.

Examples:

```
 (defun type-error-auto-coerce (c)
   (when (typep c 'type-error)
     (let ((r (find-restart 'store-value c)))
       (handler-case (let ((v (coerce (type-error-datum c)
                                      (type-error-expected-type c))))
                       (invoke-restart r v))
         (error ()))))) → TYPE-ERROR-AUTO-COERCE
 (let ((x 3))
   (handler-bind ((type-error #'type-error-auto-coerce))
     (check-type x float)
     x)) → 3.0
```


See Also:

Section 9.1.4.2 (Restarts), Section 9.1.4.2.2 (Interfaces to Restarts), **invoke-restart**, **store-value** (*function*), **ccase**, **check-type**, **ctypecase**, **use-value** (*function* and *restart*)

use-value *Restart*

Data Arguments Required:

a value to use instead (once).

Description:

The **use-value** *restart* is generally used by *handlers* trying to recover from errors of *types* such as **cell-error**, where the handler may wish to supply a replacement datum for one-time use.

See Also:

Section 9.1.4.2 (Restarts), Section 9.1.4.2.2 (Interfaces to Restarts), **invoke-restart**, **use-value** (*function*), **store-value** (*function* and *restart*)

abort, continue, muffle-warning, store-value, use-value *Function*

Syntax:

abort &optional *condition* →|

continue &optional *condition* → **nil**

muffle-warning &optional *condition* →|

store-value *value* &optional *condition* → **nil**

use-value *value* &optional *condition* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

value—an *object*.

condition—a *condition object*, or **nil**.

Description:

Transfers control to the most recently established *applicable restart* having the same name as the function. That is, the *function* **abort** searches for an *applicable* **abort** *restart*, the *function* **continue** searches for an *applicable* **continue** *restart*, and so on.

If no such *restart* exists, the functions **continue**, **store-value**, and **use-value** return **nil**, and the functions **abort** and **muffle-warning** signal an error of *type* **control-error**.

When *condition* is *non-nil*, only those *restarts* are considered that are either explicitly associated with that *condition*, or not associated with any *condition*; that is, the excluded *restarts* are those that are associated with a non-empty set of *conditions* of which the given *condition* is not an *element*. If *condition* is **nil**, all *restarts* are considered.

Examples:

```
;;; Example of the ABORT retart

 (defmacro abort-on-error (&body forms)
   `(handler-bind ((error #'abort))
      ,@forms)) → ABORT-ON-ERROR
 (abort-on-error (+ 3 5)) → 8
 (abort-on-error (error "You lose."))
▷ Returned to Lisp Top Level.

;;; Example of the CONTINUE restart

 (defun real-sqrt (n)
   (when (minusp n)
     (setq n (- n))
     (cerror "Return sqrt(~D) instead." "Tried to take sqrt(-~D)." n))
   (sqrt n))

 (real-sqrt 4) → 2
 (real-sqrt -9)
▷ Error: Tried to take sqrt(-9).
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number:
▷  1: Return sqrt(9) instead.
▷  2: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> (continue)
▷ Return sqrt(9) instead.
→ 3
```



```
 (handler-bind ((error #'(lambda (c) (continue))))
   (real-sqrt -9)) → 3

;;; Example of the MUFFLE-WARNING restart

 (defun count-down (x)
   (do ((counter x (1- counter)))
       ((= counter 0) 'done)
     (when (= counter 1)
       (warn "Almost done"))
     (format t "~&~D~%" counter)))
→ COUNT-DOWN
 (count-down 3)
▷ 3
▷ 2
▷ Warning: Almost done
▷ 1
→ DONE
 (defun ignore-warnings-while-counting (x)
   (handler-bind ((warning #'ignore-warning))
     (count-down x)))
→ IGNORE-WARNINGS-WHILE-COUNTING
 (defun ignore-warning (condition)
   (declare (ignore condition))
   (muffle-warning))
→ IGNORE-WARNING
 (ignore-warnings-while-counting 3)
▷ 3
▷ 2
▷ 1
→ DONE

;;; Example of the STORE-VALUE and USE-VALUE restarts

 (defun careful-symbol-value (symbol)
   (check-type symbol symbol)
   (restart-case (if (boundp symbol)
                     (return-from careful-symbol-value
                                  (symbol-value symbol))
                     (error 'unbound-variable
                            :name symbol))
     (use-value (value)
       :report "Specify a value to use this time."
       value)
```

```
    (store-value (value)
      :report "Specify a value to store and use in the future."
      (setf (symbol-value symbol) value))))
 (setq a 1234) → 1234
 (careful-symbol-value 'a) → 1234
 (makunbound 'a) → A
 (careful-symbol-value 'a)
▷ Error: A is not bound.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number.
▷  1: Specify a value to use this time.
▷  2: Specify a value to store and use in the future.
▷  3: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> (use-value 12)
→ 12
 (careful-symbol-value 'a)
▷ Error: A is not bound.
▷ To continue, type :CONTINUE followed by an option number.
▷   1: Specify a value to use this time.
▷   2: Specify a value to store and use in the future.
▷   3: Return to Lisp Toplevel.
▷ Debug> (store-value 24)
→ 24
 (careful-symbol-value 'a)
→ 24

;;; Example of the USE-VALUE restart

 (defun add-symbols-with-default (default &rest symbols)
   (handler-bind ((sys:unbound-symbol
                   #'(lambda (c)
                       (declare (ignore c))
                       (use-value default))))
     (apply #'+ (mapcar #'careful-symbol-value symbols))))
→ ADD-SYMBOLS-WITH-DEFAULT
 (setq x 1 y 2) → 2
 (add-symbols-with-default 3 'x 'y 'z) → 6
```

Side Effects:

A transfer of control may occur if an appropriate *restart* is available, or (in the case of the *function* **abort** or the *function* **muffle-warning**) execution may be stopped.

Affected By:

Each of these functions can be affected by the presence of a *restart* having the same name.

Exceptional Situations:

If an appropriate **abort** *restart* is not available for the *function* **abort**, or an appropriate **muffle-warning** *restart* is not available for the *function* **muffle-warning**, an error of *type* **control-error** is signaled.

See Also:

invoke-restart, Section 9.1.4.2 (Restarts), Section 9.1.4.2.2 (Interfaces to Restarts), **assert**, **ccase**, **cerror**, **check-type**, **ctypecase**, **use-value**, **warn**

Notes:

```
(abort condition) ≡ (invoke-restart 'abort)
(muffle-warning)  ≡ (invoke-restart 'muffle-warning)
(continue)        ≡ (let ((r (find-restart 'continue))) (if r (invoke-restart r)))
(use-value x) ≡ (let ((r (find-restart 'use-value))) (if r (invoke-restart r x)))
(store-value x) ≡ (let ((r (find-restart 'store-value))) (if r (invoke-restart r x)))
```

No functions defined in this specification are required to provide a **use-value** *restart*.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

10. Symbols

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10.1 Symbol Concepts

Figure 10–1 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to the *property lists* of *symbols*.

get	**remprop**	**symbol-plist**

Figure 10–1. Property list defined names

Figure 10–2 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to the creation of and inquiry about *symbols*.

copy-symbol	**keywordp**	**symbol-package**
gensym	**make-symbol**	**symbol-value**
gentemp	**symbol-name**	

Figure 10–2. Symbol creation and inquiry defined names

symbol *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

symbol, **t**

Description:

Symbols are used for their *object* identity to name various entities in Common Lisp, including (but not limited to) linguistic entities such as *variables* and *functions*.

Symbols can be collected together into *packages*. A *symbol* is said to be *interned* in a *package* if it is *accessible* in that *package*; the same *symbol* can be *interned* in more than one *package*. If a *symbol* is not *interned* in any *package*, it is called *uninterned*.

An *interned symbol* is uniquely identifiable by its *name* from any *package* in which it is *accessible*.

Symbols have the following attributes. For historical reasons, these are sometimes referred to as *cells*, although the actual internal representation of *symbols* and their attributes is *implementation-dependent*.

Name

The *name* of a *symbol* is a *string* used to identify the *symbol*. Every *symbol* has a *name*, and the consequences are undefined if that *name* is altered. The *name* is used as part of the external, printed representation of the *symbol*; see Section 2.1 (Character Syntax). The *function* **symbol-name** returns the *name* of a given *symbol*. A *symbol* may have any *character* in its *name*.

Package

The *object* in this *cell* is called the *home package* of the *symbol*. If the *home package* is **nil**, the *symbol* is sometimes said to have no *home package*.

When a *symbol* is first created, it has no *home package*. When it is first *interned*, the *package* in which it is initially *interned* becomes its *home package*. The *home package* of a *symbol* can be *accessed* by using the *function* **symbol-package**.

If a *symbol* is *uninterned* from the *package* which is its *home package*, its *home package* is set to **nil**. Depending on whether there is another *package* in which the *symbol* is *interned*, the symbol might or might not really be an *uninterned symbol*. A *symbol* with no *home package* is therefore called *apparently uninterned*.

The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to alter the *home package* of a *symbol* external in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* or the `KEYWORD` *package*.

Property list

The *property list* of a *symbol* provides a mechanism for associating named attributes with that *symbol*. The operations for adding and removing entries are *destructive* to the *property list*. Common Lisp provides *operators* both for direct manipulation of *property list objects* (*e.g.*, see **getf**, **remf**, and **symbol-plist**) and for implicit manipulation of a *symbol*'s *property list* by reference to the *symbol* (*e.g.*, see **get** and **remprop**). The *property list* associated with a *fresh symbol* is initially *null*.

Value

If a symbol has a value attribute, it is said to be *bound*, and that fact can be detected by the *function* **boundp**. The *object* contained in the *value cell* of a *bound symbol* is the *value* of the *global variable* named by that *symbol*, and can be *accessed* by the *function* **symbol-value**. A *symbol* can be made to be *unbound* by the *function* **makunbound**.

The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to change the *value* of a *symbol* that names a *constant variable*, or to make such a *symbol* be *unbound*.

Function

If a symbol has a function attribute, it is said to be *fbound*, and that fact can be detected by the *function* **fboundp**. If the *symbol* is the *name* of a *function* in the *global environment*, the *function cell* contains the *function*, and can be *accessed* by the *function* **symbol-function**. If the *symbol* is the *name* of either a *macro* in the *global environment* (see **macro-function**) or a *special operator* (see **special-operator-p**), the *symbol* is *fbound*, and can be *accessed* by the *function* **symbol-function**, but the *object* which the *function cell* contains is of *implementation-dependent type* and purpose. A *symbol* can be made to be *funbound* by the *function* **fmakunbound**.

The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to change the *functional value* of a *symbol* that names a *special form*.

Operations on a *symbol*'s *value cell* and *function cell* are sometimes described in terms of their effect on the *symbol* itself, but the user should keep in mind that there is an intimate relationship between the contents of those *cells* and the *global variable* or global *function* definition, respectively.

Symbols are used as identifiers for *lexical variables* and lexical *function* definitions, but in that role, only their *object* identity is significant. Common Lisp provides no operation on a *symbol* that can have any effect on a *lexical variable* or on a lexical *function* definition.

See Also:

Section 2.3.4 (Symbols as Tokens), Section 2.3.1.1 (Potential Numbers as Tokens), Section 22.1.3.3 (Printing Symbols)

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keyword *Type*

Supertypes:

keyword, **symbol**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **keyword** includes all *symbols interned* the `KEYWORD` *package*.

Interning a *symbol* in the `KEYWORD` *package* has three automatic effects:

1. It causes the *symbol* to become *bound* to itself.
2. It causes the *symbol* to become an *external symbol* of the `KEYWORD` *package*.
3. It causes the *symbol* to become a *constant variable*.

See Also:

keywordp

symbolp *Function*

Syntax:

symbolp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **symbol**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(symbolp 'elephant) → true
(symbolp 12) → false
(symbolp nil) → true
(symbolp '()) → true
(symbolp :test) → true
(symbolp "hello") → false
```

See Also:

keywordp, **symbol**, **typep**

Notes:

```
(symbolp object) ≡ (typep object 'symbol)
```

keywordp *Function*

Syntax:

keywordp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is a $keyword_1$; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(keywordp 'elephant) → false
(keywordp 12) → false
(keywordp :test) → true
(keywordp ':test) → true
(keywordp nil) → false
(keywordp :nil) → true
(keywordp '(:test)) → false
(keywordp "hello") → false
(keywordp ":hello") → false
(keywordp '&optional) → false
```

See Also:

constantp, **keyword**, **symbolp**, **symbol-package**

make-symbol *Function*

Syntax:

make-symbol *name* → *new-symbol*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *string*.

new-symbol—a *fresh*, *uninterned symbol*.

Description:

make-symbol creates and returns a *fresh*, *uninterned symbol* whose *name* is the given *name*. The *new-symbol* is neither *bound* nor *fbound* and has a *null property list*.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether the *string* that becomes the *new-symbol*'s *name* is the given *name* or a copy of it. Once a *string* has been given as the *name argument* to *make-symbol*, the consequences are undefined if a subsequent attempt is made to alter that *string*.

Examples:

```
(setq temp-string "temp") → "temp"
(setq temp-symbol (make-symbol temp-string)) → #:|temp|
(symbol-name temp-symbol) → "temp"
(eq (symbol-name temp-symbol) temp-string) → implementation-dependent
(find-symbol "temp") → NIL, NIL
(eq (make-symbol temp-string) (make-symbol temp-string)) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *name* is not a *string*.

See Also:

copy-symbol

Notes:

No attempt is made by **make-symbol** to convert the case of the *name* to uppercase. The only case conversion which ever occurs for *symbols* is done by the *Lisp reader*. The program interface to *symbol* creation retains case, and the program interface to interning symbols is case-sensitive.

copy-symbol *Function*

Syntax:

copy-symbol *symbol* &optional *copy-properties* → *new-symbol*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

copy-properties—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

new-symbol—a *fresh*, *uninterned symbol*.

Description:

copy-symbol returns a *fresh*, *uninterned symbol*, the *name* of which is **string=** to and possibly the *same* as the *name* of the given *symbol*.

If *copy-properties* is *false*, the *new-symbol* is neither *bound* nor *fbound* and has a *null property list*. If *copy-properties* is *true*, then the initial *value* of *new-symbol* is the *value* of *symbol*, the initial *function* definition of *new-symbol* is the *functional value* of *symbol*, and the *property list* of *new-symbol* is a $copy_2$ of the *property list* of *symbol*.

Examples:

```
(setq fred 'fred-smith) → FRED-SMITH
(setf (symbol-value fred) 3) → 3
(setq fred-clone-1a (copy-symbol fred nil)) → #:FRED-SMITH
(setq fred-clone-1b (copy-symbol fred nil)) → #:FRED-SMITH
(setq fred-clone-2a (copy-symbol fred t))   → #:FRED-SMITH
(setq fred-clone-2b (copy-symbol fred t))   → #:FRED-SMITH
(eq fred fred-clone-1a) → false
(eq fred-clone-1a fred-clone-1b) → false
(eq fred-clone-2a fred-clone-2b) → false
(eq fred-clone-1a fred-clone-2a) → false
(symbol-value fred) → 3
(boundp fred-clone-1a) → false
(symbol-value fred-clone-2a) → 3
(setf (symbol-value fred-clone-2a) 4) → 4
(symbol-value fred) → 3
(symbol-value fred-clone-2a) → 4
(symbol-value fred-clone-2b) → 3
(boundp fred-clone-1a) → false
(setf (symbol-function fred) #'(lambda (x) x)) → #<FUNCTION anonymous>
(fboundp fred) → true
(fboundp fred-clone-1a) → false
(fboundp fred-clone-2a) → false
```


Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

See Also:

make-symbol

Notes:

Implementors are encouraged not to copy the *string* which is the *symbol*'s *name* unnecessarily. Unless there is a good reason to do so, the normal implementation strategy is for the *new-symbol*'s *name* to be *identical* to the given *symbol*'s *name*.

gensym *Function*

Syntax:

gensym &optional *x* → *new-symbol*

Arguments and Values:

x—a *string* or a non-negative *integer*. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

new-symbol—a *fresh*, *uninterned symbol*.

Description:

Creates and returns a *fresh*, *uninterned symbol*, as if by calling **make-symbol**. (The only difference between **gensym** and **make-symbol** is in how the *new-symbol*'s *name* is determined.)

The *name* of the *new-symbol* is the concatenation of a prefix, which defaults to "G", and a suffix, which is the decimal representation of a number that defaults to the *value* of ***gensym-counter***.

If *x* is supplied, and is a *string*, then that *string* is used as a prefix instead of "G" for this call to **gensym** only.

If *x* is supplied, and is an *integer*, then that *integer*, instead of the *value* of ***gensym-counter***, is used as the suffix for this call to **gensym** only.

If and only if no explicit suffix is supplied, ***gensym-counter*** is incremented after it is used.

Examples:

```
(setq sym1 (gensym)) → #:G3142
(symbol-package sym1) → NIL
(setq sym2 (gensym 100)) → #:G100
(setq sym3 (gensym 100)) → #:G100
(eq sym2 sym3) → false
(find-symbol "G100") → NIL, NIL
```

```
(gensym "T") → #:T3143
(gensym) → #:G3144
```

Side Effects:

Might increment ***gensym-counter***.

Affected By:

gensym-counter

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *x* is not a *string* or a non-negative *integer*.

See Also:

gentemp, ***gensym-counter***

Notes:

The ability to pass a numeric argument to **gensym** has been deprecated; explicitly *binding* ***gensym-counter*** is now stylistically preferred. (The somewhat baroque conventions for the optional argument are historical in nature, and supported primarily for compatibility with older dialects of Lisp. In modern code, it is recommended that the only kind of argument used be a string prefix. In general, though, to obtain more flexible control of the *new-symbol*'s *name*, consider using **make-symbol** instead.)

∗gensym-counter∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a non-negative *integer*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

A number which will be used in constructing the *name* of the next *symbol* generated by the *function* **gensym**.

gensym-counter can be either *assigned* or *bound* at any time, but its value must always be a non-negative *integer*.

Affected By:

gensym.

See Also:

gensym

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Notes:

The ability to pass a numeric argument to **gensym** has been deprecated; explicitly *binding* ***gensym-counter*** is now stylistically preferred.

gentemp *Function*

Syntax:

gentemp &optional *prefix package* → *new-symbol*

Arguments and Values:

prefix—a *string*. The default is "T".

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

new-symbol—a *fresh*, *interned symbol*.

Description:

gentemp creates and returns a *fresh symbol*, *interned* in the indicated *package*. The *symbol* is guaranteed to be one that was not previously *accessible* in *package*. It is neither *bound* nor *fbound*, and has a *null property list*.

The *name* of the *new-symbol* is the concatenation of the *prefix* and a suffix, which is taken from an internal counter used only by **gentemp**. (If a *symbol* by that name is already *accessible* in *package*, the counter is incremented as many times as is necessary to produce a *name* that is not already the *name* of a *symbol accessible* in *package*.)

Examples:

```
(gentemp) → T1298
(gentemp "FOO") → FOO1299
(find-symbol "FOO1300") → NIL, NIL
(gentemp "FOO") → FOO1300
(find-symbol "FOO1300") → FOO1300, :INTERNAL
(intern "FOO1301") → FOO1301, :INTERNAL
(gentemp "FOO") → FOO1302
(gentemp) → T1303
```

Side Effects:

Its internal counter is incremented one or more times.

Interns the *new-symbol* in *package*.

Affected By:

The current state of its internal counter, and the current state of the *package*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *prefix* is not a *string*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *package* is not a *package designator*.

See Also:

gensym

Notes:

The function **gentemp** is deprecated.

If *package* is the KEYWORD *package*, the result is an *external symbol* of *package*. Otherwise, the result is an *internal symbol* of *package*.

The **gentemp** internal counter is independent of ***gensym-counter***, the counter used by **gensym**. There is no provision for accessing the **gentemp** internal counter.

Just because **gentemp** creates a *symbol* which did not previously exist does not mean that such a *symbol* might not be seen in the future (*e.g.*, in a data file—perhaps even created by the same program in another session). As such, this symbol is not truly unique in the same sense as a *gensym* would be. In particular, programs which do automatic code generation should be careful not to attach global attributes to such generated *symbols* (*e.g.*, **special** *declarations*) and then write them into a file because such global attributes might, in a different session, end up applying to other *symbols* that were automatically generated on another day for some other purpose.

symbol-function *Accessor*

Syntax:

symbol-function *symbol* → *contents*

(setf (symbol-function *symbol*) *new-contents*)

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

contents— If the *symbol* is globally defined as a *macro* or a *special operator*, an *object* of *implementation-dependent* nature and identity is returned. If the *symbol* is not globally defined as either a *macro* or a *special operator*, and if the *symbol* is *fbound*, a *function object* is returned.

new-contents—a *function*.

Description:

Accesses the *symbol*'s *function cell*.

Examples:

```
 (symbol-function 'car) → #<FUNCTION CAR>
 (symbol-function 'twice) is an error   ;because TWICE isn't defined.
 (defun twice (n) (* n 2)) → TWICE
 (symbol-function 'twice) → #<FUNCTION TWICE>
 (list (twice 3)
       (funcall (function twice) 3)
       (funcall (symbol-function 'twice) 3))
→ (6 6 6)
 (flet ((twice (x) (list x x)))
   (list (twice 3)
         (funcall (function twice) 3)
         (funcall (symbol-function 'twice) 3)))
→ ((3 3) (3 3) 6)
 (setf (symbol-function 'twice) #'(lambda (x) (list x x)))
→ #<FUNCTION anonymous>
 (list (twice 3)
       (funcall (function twice) 3)
       (funcall (symbol-function 'twice) 3))
→ ((3 3) (3 3) (3 3))
 (fboundp 'defun) → true
 (symbol-function 'defun)
→ implementation-dependent
 (functionp (symbol-function 'defun))
→ implementation-dependent
 (defun symbol-function-or-nil (symbol)
   (if (and (fboundp symbol)
            (not (macro-function symbol))
            (not (special-operator-p symbol)))
       (symbol-function symbol)
       nil)) → SYMBOL-FUNCTION-OR-NIL
 (symbol-function-or-nil 'car) → #<FUNCTION CAR>
 (symbol-function-or-nil 'defun) → NIL
```

Affected By:

defun

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

Should signal **undefined-function** if *symbol* is not *fbound* and an attempt is made to *read* its definition. (No such error is signaled on an attempt to *write* its definition.)

See Also:

fboundp, **fmakunbound**, **macro-function**, **special-operator-p**

Notes:

symbol-function cannot *access* the value of a lexical function name produced by **flet** or **labels**; it can *access* only the global function value.

setf may be used with **symbol-function** to replace a global function definition when the *symbol*'s function definition does not represent a *special operator*.

`(symbol-function` *symbol*`)` ≡ `(fdefinition` *symbol*`)`

However, **fdefinition** accepts arguments other than just *symbols*.

symbol-name *Function*

Syntax:

symbol-name *symbol* → *name*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

name—a *string*.

Description:

symbol-name returns the *name* of *symbol*. The consequences are undefined if *name* is ever modified.

Examples:

```
(symbol-name 'temp) → "TEMP"
(symbol-name :start) → "START"
(symbol-name (gensym)) → "G1234" ;for example
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

symbol-package *Function*

Syntax:

symbol-package *symbol* → *contents*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

contents—a *package object* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns the *home package* of *symbol*.

Examples:

```
(in-package "CL-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(symbol-package 'car) → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP">
(symbol-package 'bus) → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(symbol-package :optional) → #<PACKAGE "KEYWORD">
;; Gensyms are uninterned, so have no home package.
(symbol-package (gensym)) → NIL
(make-package 'pk1) → #<PACKAGE "PK1">
(intern "SAMPLE1" "PK1") → PK1::SAMPLE1, NIL
(export (find-symbol "SAMPLE1" "PK1") "PK1") → T
(make-package 'pk2 :use '(pk1)) → #<PACKAGE "PK2">
(find-symbol "SAMPLE1" "PK2") → PK1:SAMPLE1, :INHERITED
(symbol-package 'pk1::sample1) → #<PACKAGE "PK1">
(symbol-package 'pk2::sample1) → #<PACKAGE "PK1">
(symbol-package 'pk1::sample2) → #<PACKAGE "PK1">
(symbol-package 'pk2::sample2) → #<PACKAGE "PK2">
;; The next several forms create a scenario in which a symbol
;; is not really uninterned, but is "apparently uninterned",
;; and so SYMBOL-PACKAGE still returns NIL.
(setq s3 'pk1::sample3) → PK1::SAMPLE3
(import s3 'pk2) → T
(unintern s3 'pk1) → T
(symbol-package s3) → NIL
(eq s3 'pk2::sample3) → T
```

Affected By:

import, **intern**, **unintern**

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

See Also:

intern

symbol-plist *Accessor*

Syntax:

symbol-plist *symbol* → *plist*

(setf (symbol-plist *symbol*) *new-plist*)

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

plist, *new-plist*—a *property list*.

Description:

Accesses the *property list* of *symbol*.

Examples:

```
(setq sym (gensym)) → #:G9723
(symbol-plist sym) → ()
(setf (get sym 'prop1) 'val1) → VAL1
(symbol-plist sym) → (PROP1 VAL1)
(setf (get sym 'prop2) 'val2) → VAL2
(symbol-plist sym) → (PROP2 VAL2 PROP1 VAL1)
(setf (symbol-plist sym) (list 'prop3 'val3)) → (PROP3 VAL3)
(symbol-plist sym) → (PROP3 VAL3)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

See Also:

get, **remprop**

Notes:

The use of **setf** should be avoided, since a *symbol*'s *property list* is a global resource that can contain information established and depended upon by unrelated programs in the same *Lisp image*.

symbol-value *Accessor*

Syntax:

symbol-value *symbol* → *value*

(setf (symbol-value *symbol*) *new-value*)

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol* that must have a *value*.

value, *new-value*—an *object*.

Description:

Accesses the *symbol*'s *value cell*.

Examples:

```
(setf (symbol-value 'a) 1) → 1
(symbol-value 'a) → 1
;; SYMBOL-VALUE cannot see lexical variables.
(let ((a 2)) (symbol-value 'a)) → 1
(let ((a 2)) (setq a 3) (symbol-value 'a)) → 1
;; SYMBOL-VALUE can see dynamic variables.
(let ((a 2))
  (declare (special a))
  (symbol-value 'a)) → 2
(let ((a 2))
  (declare (special a))
  (setq a 3)
  (symbol-value 'a)) → 3
(let ((a 2))
  (setf (symbol-value 'a) 3)
  a) → 2
a → 3
(symbol-value 'a) → 3
(let ((a 4))
  (declare (special a))
  (let ((b (symbol-value 'a)))
    (setf (symbol-value 'a) 5)
    (values a b))) → 5, 4
a → 3
(symbol-value :any-keyword) → :ANY-KEYWORD
(symbol-value 'nil) → NIL
(symbol-value '()) → NIL
```

```
;; The precision of this next one is implementation-dependent.
(symbol-value 'pi) → 3.141592653589793d0
```

Affected By:

makunbound, **set**, **setq**

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

Should signal **unbound-variable** if *symbol* is *unbound* and an attempt is made to *read* its *value*. (No such error is signaled on an attempt to *write* its *value*.)

See Also:

boundp, **makunbound**, **set**, **setq**

Notes:

symbol-value can be used to get the value of a *constant variable*. **symbol-value** cannot *access* the value of a *lexical variable*.

get *Accessor*

Syntax:

get *symbol indicator* &optional *default* → *value*

(**setf** (**get** *symbol indicator* &optional *default*) *new-value*)

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

indicator—an *object*.

default—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

value—if the indicated property exists, the *object* that is its *value*; otherwise, the specified *default*.

new-value—an *object*.

Description:

get finds a *property* on the *property list*$_2$ of *symbol* whose *property indicator* is *identical* to *indicator*, and returns its corresponding *property value*. If there are multiple *properties*$_1$ with that *property indicator*, **get** uses the first such *property*. If there is no *property* with that *property indicator*, *default* is returned.

setf of **get** may be used to associate a new *object* with an existing indicator already on the *symbol*'s *property list*, or to create a new assocation if none exists. If there are multiple *properties*$_1$ with that *property indicator*, **setf** of **get** associates the *new-value* with the first such *property*. When a **get** *form* is used as a **setf** *place*, any *default* which is supplied is evaluated according to normal left-to-right evaluation rules, but its *value* is ignored.

Examples:

```
(defun make-person (first-name last-name)
  (let ((person (gensym "PERSON")))
    (setf (get person 'first-name) first-name)
    (setf (get person 'last-name) last-name)
    person)) → MAKE-PERSON
(defvar *john* (make-person "John" "Dow")) → *JOHN*
*john* → #:PERSON4603
(defvar *sally* (make-person "Sally" "Jones")) → *SALLY*
(get *john* 'first-name) → "John"
(get *sally* 'last-name) → "Jones"
(defun marry (man woman married-name)
  (setf (get man 'wife) woman)
  (setf (get woman 'husband) man)
  (setf (get man 'last-name) married-name)
  (setf (get woman 'last-name) married-name)
  married-name) → MARRY
(marry *john* *sally* "Dow-Jones") → "Dow-Jones"
(get *john* 'last-name) → "Dow-Jones"
(get (get *john* 'wife) 'first-name) → "Sally"
(symbol-plist *john*)
→ (WIFE #:PERSON4604 LAST-NAME "Dow-Jones" FIRST-NAME "John")
(defmacro age (person &optional (default ''thirty-something))
  `(get ,person 'age ,default)) → AGE
(age *john*) → THIRTY-SOMETHING
(age *john* 20) → 20
(setf (age *john*) 25) → 25
(age *john*) → 25
(age *john* 20) → 25
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

See Also:

getf, **symbol-plist**, **remprop**

Notes:

```
(get x y) ≡ (getf (symbol-plist x) y)
```

Numbers and *characters* are not recommended for use as *indicators* in portable code since **get** tests with **eq** rather than **eql**, and consequently the effect of using such *indicators* is *implementation-dependent*.

There is no way using **get** to distinguish an absent property from one whose value is *default*. However, see **get-properties**.

remprop *Function*

Syntax:

remprop *symbol indicator* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

indicator—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

remprop removes from the *property list*$_2$ of *symbol* a *property*$_1$ with a *property indicator identical* to *indicator*. If there are multiple *properties*$_1$ with the *identical* key, **remprop** only removes the first such *property*. **remprop** returns *false* if no such *property* was found, or *true* if a property was found.

The *property indicator* and the corresponding *property value* are removed in an undefined order by destructively splicing the property list. The permissible side-effects correspond to those permitted for **remf**, such that:

```
(remprop x y) ≡ (remf (symbol-plist x) y)
```

Examples:

```
(setq test (make-symbol "PSEUDO-PI")) → #:PSEUDO-PI
(symbol-plist test) → ()
(setf (get test 'constant) t) → T
(setf (get test 'approximation) 3.14) → 3.14
(setf (get test 'error-range) 'noticeable) → NOTICEABLE
(symbol-plist test)
→ (ERROR-RANGE NOTICEABLE APPROXIMATION 3.14 CONSTANT T)
(setf (get test 'approximation) nil) → NIL
(symbol-plist test)
→ (ERROR-RANGE NOTICEABLE APPROXIMATION NIL CONSTANT T)
(get test 'approximation) → NIL
```


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```
(remprop test 'approximation) → true
(get test 'approximation) → NIL
(symbol-plist test)
→ (ERROR-RANGE NOTICEABLE CONSTANT T)
(remprop test 'approximation) → NIL
(symbol-plist test)
→ (ERROR-RANGE NOTICEABLE CONSTANT T)
(remprop test 'error-range) → true
(setf (get test 'approximation) 3) → 3
(symbol-plist test)
→ (APPROXIMATION 3 CONSTANT T)
```

Side Effects:

The *property list* of *symbol* is modified.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

See Also:

remf, **symbol-plist**

Notes:

Numbers and *characters* are not recommended for use as *indicators* in portable code since **remprop** tests with **eq** rather than **eql**, and consequently the effect of using such *indicators* is *implementation-dependent*. Of course, if you've gotten as far as needing to remove such a *property*, you don't have much choice—the time to have been thinking about this was when you used **setf** of **get** to establish the *property*.

boundp *Function*

Syntax:

boundp *symbol* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *symbol* is *bound*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(setq x 1) → 1
(boundp 'x) → true
(makunbound 'x) → X
(boundp 'x) → false
(let ((x 2)) (boundp 'x)) → false
(let ((x 2)) (declare (special x)) (boundp 'x)) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

See Also:

set, **setq**, **symbol-value**, **makunbound**

Notes:

The *function* **bound** determines only whether a *symbol* has a value in the *global environment*; any *lexical bindings* are ignored.

makunbound *Function*

Syntax:

makunbound *symbol* → *symbol*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*

Description:

Makes the *symbol* be *unbound*, regardless of whether it was previously *bound*.

Examples:

```
(setf (symbol-value 'a) 1)
(boundp 'a) → true
a → 1
(makunbound 'a) → A
(boundp 'a) → false
```

Side Effects:

The *value cell* of *symbol* is modified.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *symbol* is not a *symbol*.

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See Also:

boundp, **fmakunbound**

set *Function*

Syntax:

set *symbol value* → *value*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

value—an *object*.

Description:

set changes the contents of the *value cell* of *symbol* to the given *value*.

(set *symbol value*) ≡ (setf (symbol-value *symbol*) *value*)

Examples:

```
(setf (symbol-value 'n) 1) → 1
(set 'n 2) → 2
(symbol-value 'n) → 2
(let ((n 3))
  (declare (special n))
  (setq n (+ n 1))
  (setf (symbol-value 'n) (* n 10))
  (set 'n (+ (symbol-value 'n) n))
  n) → 80
n → 2
(let ((n 3))
  (setq n (+ n 1))
  (setf (symbol-value 'n) (* n 10))
  (set 'n (+ (symbol-value 'n) n))
  n) → 4
n → 44
(defvar *n* 2)
(let ((*n* 3))
  (setq *n* (+ *n* 1))
  (setf (symbol-value '*n*) (* *n* 10))
  (set '*n* (+ (symbol-value '*n*) *n*))
  *n*) → 80
 *n* → 2
```

```
(defvar *even-count* 0) → *EVEN-COUNT*
(defvar *odd-count* 0) → *ODD-COUNT*
(defun tally-list (list)
  (dolist (element list)
    (set (if (evenp element) '*even-count* '*odd-count*)
         (+ element (if (evenp element) *even-count* *odd-count*)))))
(tally-list '(1 9 4 3 2 7)) → NIL
*even-count* → 6
*odd-count* → 20
```

Side Effects:

The *value* of *symbol* is changed.

See Also:

setq, **progv**, **symbol-value**

Notes:

The function **set** is deprecated.

set cannot change the value of a *lexical variable*.

unbound-variable *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

unbound-variable, **cell-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **unbound-variable** consists of *error conditions* that represent attempts to *read* the *value* of an *unbound variable*.

The name of the cell (see **cell-error**) is the *name* of the *variable* that was *unbound*.

See Also:

cell-error-name

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

11. Packages

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11.1 Package Concepts

11.1.1 Introduction to Packages

A ***package*** establishes a mapping from names to *symbols*. At any given time, one *package* is current. The ***current package*** is the one that is the *value* of ***package***. When using the *Lisp reader*, it is possible to refer to *symbols* in *packages* other than the current one through the use of *package prefixes* in the printed representation of the *symbol*.

Figure 11–1 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *packages*. Where an *operator* takes an argument that is either a *symbol* or a *list* of *symbols*, an argument of **nil** is treated as an empty *list* of *symbols*. Any package argument may be either a *string*, a *symbol*, or a *package*. If a *symbol* is supplied, its name will be used as the *package* name.

modules	**import**	**provide**
package	**in-package**	**rename-package**
defpackage	**intern**	**require**
do-all-symbols	**list-all-packages**	**shadow**
do-external-symbols	**make-package**	**shadowing-import**
do-symbols	**package-name**	**unexport**
export	**package-nicknames**	**unintern**
find-all-symbols	**package-shadowing-symbols**	**unuse-package**
find-package	**package-use-list**	**use-package**
find-symbol	**package-used-by-list**	

Figure 11–1. Some Defined Names related to Packages

11.1.1.1 Package Names and Nicknames

Each *package* has a *name* (a *string*) and perhaps some *nicknames* (also *strings*). These are assigned when the *package* is created and can be changed later.

There is a single namespace for *packages*. The *function* **find-package** translates a package *name* or *nickname* into the associated *package*. The *function* **package-name** returns the *name* of a *package*. The *function* **package-nicknames** returns a *list* of all *nicknames* for a *package*. **rename-package** removes a *package*'s current *name* and *nicknames* and replaces them with new ones specified by the caller.

11.1.1.2 Symbols in a Package

11.1.1.2.1 Internal and External Symbols

The mappings in a *package* are divided into two classes, external and internal. The *symbols* targeted by these different mappings are called *external symbols* and *internal symbols* of the *package*. Within a *package*, a name refers to one *symbol* or to none; if it does refer to a *symbol*, then it is either external or internal in that *package*, but not both. ***External symbols*** are part of the package's public interface to other *packages*. *Symbols* become *external symbols* of a given *package* if they have been *exported* from that *package*.

A *symbol* has the same *name* no matter what *package* it is *present* in, but it might be an *external symbol* of some *packages* and an *internal symbol* of others.

11.1.1.2.2 Package Inheritance

Packages can be built up in layers. From one point of view, a *package* is a single collection of mappings from *strings* into *internal symbols* and *external symbols*. However, some of these mappings might be established within the *package* itself, while other mappings are inherited from other *packages* via **use-package**. A *symbol* is said to be ***present*** in a *package* if the mapping is in the *package* itself and is not inherited from somewhere else.

There is no way to inherit the *internal symbols* of another *package*; to refer to an *internal symbol* using the *Lisp reader*, a *package* containing the *symbol* must be made to be the *current package*, a *package prefix* must be used, or the *symbol* must be *imported* into the *current package*.

11.1.1.2.3 Accessibility of Symbols in a Package

A *symbol* becomes ***accessible*** in a *package* if that is its *home package* when it is created, or if it is *imported* into that *package*, or by inheritance via **use-package**.

If a *symbol* is *accessible* in a *package*, it can be referred to when using the *Lisp reader* without a *package prefix* when that *package* is the *current package*, regardless of whether it is *present* or inherited.

Symbols from one *package* can be made *accessible* in another *package* in two ways.

– Any individual *symbol* can be added to a *package* by use of **import**. After the call to **import** the *symbol* is *present* in the importing *package*. The status of the *symbol* in the *package* it came from (if any) is unchanged, and the *home package* for this *symbol* is unchanged. Once *imported*, a *symbol* is *present* in the importing *package* and can be removed only by calling **unintern**.

  A *symbol* is *shadowed*$_3$ by another *symbol* in some *package* if the first *symbol* would be *accessible* by inheritance if not for the presence of the second *symbol*. See **shadowing-import**.

– The second mechanism for making *symbols* from one *package accessible* in another is provided by **use-package**. All of the *external symbols* of the used *package* are inherited by the using *package*. The *function* **unuse-package** undoes the effects of a previous **use-package**.

11.1.1.2.4 Locating a Symbol in a Package

When a *symbol* is to be located in a given *package* the following occurs:

– The *external symbols* and *internal symbols* of the *package* are searched for the *symbol*.
– The *external symbols* of the used *packages* are searched in some unspecified order. The order does not matter; see the rules for handling name conflicts listed below.

11.1.1.2.5 Prevention of Name Conflicts in Packages

Within one *package*, any particular name can refer to at most one *symbol*. A name conflict is said to occur when there would be more than one candidate *symbol*. Any time a name conflict is about to occur, a *correctable error* is signaled.

The following rules apply to name conflicts:

– Name conflicts are detected when they become possible, that is, when the package structure is altered. Name conflicts are not checked during every name lookup.

– If the *same symbol* is *accessible* to a *package* through more than one path, there is no name conflict. A *symbol* cannot conflict with itself. Name conflicts occur only between *distinct symbols* with the same name (under **string=**).

– Every *package* has a list of shadowing *symbols*. A shadowing *symbol* takes precedence over any other *symbol* of the same name that would otherwise be *accessible* in the *package*. A name conflict involving a shadowing symbol is always resolved in favor of the shadowing *symbol*, without signaling an error (except for one exception involving **import**). See **shadow** and **shadowing-import**.

– The functions **use-package**, **import**, and **export** check for name conflicts.

– **shadow** and **shadowing-import** never signal a name-conflict error.

– **unuse-package** and **unexport** do not need to do any name-conflict checking. **unintern** does name-conflict checking only when a *symbol* being *uninterned* is a *shadowing symbol*.

– Giving a shadowing symbol to **unintern** can uncover a name conflict that had previously been resolved by the shadowing.

– Package functions signal name-conflict errors of *type* **package-error** before making any change to the package structure. When multiple changes are to be made, it is permissible for the implementation to process each change separately. For example, when **export** is

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given a *list* of *symbols*, aborting from a name conflict caused by the second *symbol* in the *list* might still export the first *symbol* in the *list*. However, a name-conflict error caused by **export** of a single *symbol* will be signaled before that *symbol*'s *accessibility* in any *package* is changed.

– Continuing from a name-conflict error must offer the user a chance to resolve the name conflict in favor of either of the candidates. The *package* structure should be altered to reflect the resolution of the name conflict, via **shadowing-import**, **unintern**, or **unexport**.

– A name conflict in **use-package** between a *symbol present* in the using *package* and an *external symbol* of the used *package* is resolved in favor of the first *symbol* by making it a shadowing *symbol*, or in favor of the second *symbol* by uninterning the first *symbol* from the using *package*.

– A name conflict in **export** or **unintern** due to a *package*'s inheriting two *distinct symbols* with the *same name* (under **string=**) from two other *packages* can be resolved in favor of either *symbol* by importing it into the using *package* and making it a *shadowing symbol*, just as with **use-package**.

11.1.2 Standardized Packages

This section describes the *packages* that are available in every *conforming implementation*. A summary of the *names* and *nicknames* of those *standardized packages* is given in Figure 11–2.

Name	Nicknames
`COMMON-LISP`	`CL`
`COMMON-LISP-USER`	`CL-USER`
`KEYWORD`	*none*

Figure 11–2. Standardized Package Names

11.1.2.1 The COMMON-LISP Package

The `COMMON-LISP` *package* contains the primitives of the Common Lisp system as defined by this specification. Its *external symbols* include all of the *defined names* (except for *defined names* in the `KEYWORD` *package*) that are present in the Common Lisp system, such as **car**, **cdr**, ***package***, etc. The `COMMON-LISP` *package* has the *nickname* `CL`.

The `COMMON-LISP` *package* has as *external symbols* those symbols enumerated in the figures in Section 1.9 (Symbols in the COMMON-LISP Package), and no others. These *external symbols* are *present* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* but their *home package* need not be the `COMMON-LISP` *package*.

For example, the symbol `HELP` cannot be an *external symbol* of the `COMMON-LISP` *package* because it is not mentioned in Section 1.9 (Symbols in the COMMON-LISP Package). In contrast, the *symbol* **variable** must be an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* even though it has no definition because it is listed in that section (to support its use as a valid second *argument* to the *function* **documentation**).

The COMMON-LISP *package* can have additional *internal symbols*.

11.1.2.1.1 Constraints on the COMMON-LISP Package for Conforming Implementations

In a *conforming implementation*, an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* can have a *function*, *macro*, or *special operator* definition, a *global variable* definition (or other status as a *dynamic variable* due to a **special** *proclamation*), or a *type* definition only if explicitly permitted in this standard. For example, **fboundp** *yields false* for any *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* that is not the *name* of a *standardized function*, *macro* or *special operator*, and **boundp** returns *false* for any *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* that is not the *name* of a *standardized global variable*. It also follows that *conforming programs* can use *external symbols* of the COMMON-LISP *package* as the *names* of local *lexical variables* with confidence that those *names* have not been *proclaimed* **special** by the *implementation* unless those *symbols* are *names* of *standardized global variables*.

A *conforming implementation* must not place any *property* on an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* using a *property indicator* that is either an *external symbol* of any *standardized package* or a *symbol* that is otherwise *accessible* in the COMMON-LISP-USER *package*.

11.1.2.1.2 Constraints on the COMMON-LISP Package for Conforming Programs

Except where explicitly allowed, the consequences are undefined if any of the following actions are performed on an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package*:

1. *Binding* or altering its value (lexically or dynamically). (Some exceptions are noted below.)
2. Defining, undefining, or *binding* it as a *function*. (Some exceptions are noted below.)
3. Defining, undefining, or *binding* it as a *macro* or *compiler macro*. (Some exceptions are noted below.)
4. Defining it as a *type specifier* (via **defstruct**, **defclass**, **deftype**, **define-condition**).
5. Defining it as a structure (via **defstruct**).
6. Defining it as a *declaration* with a **declaration** *proclamation*.
7. Defining it as a *symbol macro*.
8. Altering its *home package*.

9. Tracing it (via **trace**).
10. Declaring or proclaiming it **special** (via **declare**, **declaim**, or **proclaim**).
11. Declaring or proclaiming its **type** or **ftype** (via **declare**, **declaim**, or **proclaim**). (Some exceptions are noted below.)
12. Removing it from the COMMON-LISP *package*.
13. Defining a *setf expander* for it (via **defsetf** or **define-setf-method**).
14. Defining, undefining, or binding its *setf function name*.
15. Defining it as a *method combination* type (via **define-method-combination**).
16. Using it as the class-name argument to **setf** of **find-class**.
17. Binding it as a *catch tag*.
18. Binding it as a *restart name*.
19. Defining a *method* for a *standardized generic function* which is *applicable* when all of the *arguments* are *direct instances* of *standardized classes*.

11.1.2.1.2.1 Some Exceptions to Constraints on the COMMON-LISP Package for Conforming Programs

If an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* is not globally defined as a *standardized dynamic variable* or *constant variable*, it is allowed to lexically *bind* it and to declare the **type** of that *binding*, and it is allowed to locally *establish* it as a *symbol macro* (*e.g.*, with **symbol-macrolet**).

Unless explicitly specified otherwise, if an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* is globally defined as a *standardized dynamic variable*, it is permitted to *bind* or *assign* that *dynamic variable* provided that the "Value Type" constraints on the *dynamic variable* are maintained, and that the new *value* of the *variable* is consistent with the stated purpose of the *variable*.

If an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* is not defined as a *standardized function*, *macro*, or *special operator*, it is allowed to lexically *bind* it as a *function* (*e.g.*, with **flet**), to declare the **ftype** of that *binding*, and (in *implementations* which provide the ability to do so) to **trace** that *binding*.

If an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* is not defined as a *standardized function*, *macro*, or *special operator*, it is allowed to lexically *bind* it as a *macro* (*e.g.*, with **macrolet**).

If an *external symbol* of the COMMON-LISP *package* is not defined as a *standardized function*, *macro*, or *special operator*, it is allowed to lexically *bind* its *setf function name* as a *function*, and to declare the **ftype** of that *binding*.

11.1.2.2 The COMMON-LISP-USER Package

The `COMMON-LISP-USER` *package* is the *current package* when a Common Lisp system starts up. This *package uses* the `COMMON-LISP` *package*. The `COMMON-LISP-USER` *package* has the *nickname* `CL-USER`. The `COMMON-LISP-USER` *package* can have additional *symbols interned* within it; it can *use* other *implementation-defined packages*.

11.1.2.3 The KEYWORD Package

The `KEYWORD` *package* contains *symbols*, called *keywords*$_1$, that are typically used as special markers in *programs* and their associated data *expressions*$_1$.

Symbol tokens that start with a *package marker* are parsed by the *Lisp reader* as *symbols* in the `KEYWORD` *package*; see Section 2.3.4 (Symbols as Tokens). This makes it notationally convenient to use *keywords* when communicating between programs in different *packages*. For example, the mechanism for passing *keyword parameters* in a *call* uses *keywords*$_1$ to name the corresponding *arguments*; see Section 3.4.1 (Ordinary Lambda Lists).

Symbols in the `KEYWORD` *package* are, by definition, of *type* **keyword**.

11.1.2.3.1 Interning a Symbol in the KEYWORD Package

The `KEYWORD` *package* is treated differently than other *packages* in that special actions are taken when a *symbol* is *interned* in it. In particular, when a *symbol* is *interned* in the `KEYWORD` *package*, it is automatically made to be an *external symbol* and is automatically made to be a *constant variable* with itself as a *value*.

11.1.2.3.2 Notes about The KEYWORD Package

It is generally best to confine the use of *keywords* to situations in which there are a finitely enumerable set of names to be selected between. For example, if there were two states of a light switch, they might be called `:on` and `:off`.

In situations where the set of names is not finitely enumerable (*i.e.*, where name conflicts might arise) it is frequently best to use *symbols* in some *package* other than `KEYWORD` so that conflicts will be naturally avoided. For example, it is generally not wise for a *program* to use a *keyword*$_1$ as a *property indicator*, since if there were ever another *program* that did the same thing, each would clobber the other's data.

11.1.2.4 Implementation-Defined Packages

Other, *implementation-defined packages* might be present in the initial Common Lisp environment.

It is recommended, but not required, that the documentation for a *conforming implementation* contain a full list of all *package* names initially present in that *implementation* but not specified in this specification. (See also the *function* **list-all-packages**.)

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package *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

package, **t**

Description:

A *package* is a *namespace* that maps *symbol names* to *symbols*; see Section 11.1 (Package Concepts).

See Also:

Section 11.1 (Package Concepts), Section 22.1.3.13 (Printing Other Objects), Section 2.3.4 (Symbols as Tokens)

export *Function*

Syntax:

export *symbols* `&optional` *package* → **t**

Arguments and Values:

symbols—a *designator* for a *list* of *symbols*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

Description:

export makes one or more *symbols* that are *accessible* in *package* (whether directly or by inheritance) be *external symbols* of that *package*.

If any of the *symbols* is already *accessible* as an *external symbol* of *package*, **export** has no effect on that *symbol*. If the *symbol* is *present* in *package* as an internal symbol, it is simply changed to external status. If it is *accessible* as an *internal symbol* via **use-package**, it is first *imported* into *package*, then *exported*. (The *symbol* is then *present* in the *package* whether or not *package* continues to use the *package* through which the *symbol* was originally inherited.)

export makes each *symbol accessible* to all the *packages* that use *package*. All of these *packages* are checked for name conflicts: `(export s p)` does `(find-symbol (symbol-name s) q)` for each package *q* in `(package-used-by-list p)`. Note that in the usual case of an **export** during the initial definition of a *package*, the result of **package-used-by-list** is **nil** and the name-conflict checking takes negligible time. When multiple changes are to be made, for example when **export** is given a *list* of *symbols*, it is permissible for the implementation to process each change separately, so that aborting from a name conflict caused by any but the first *symbol* in the *list* does not unexport the first *symbol* in the *list*. However, aborting from a name-conflict error caused by **export** of one of *symbols* does not leave that *symbol accessible* to some *packages* and *inaccessible* to others; with respect to each of *symbols* processed, **export** behaves as if it were as an atomic operation.

A name conflict in **export** between one of *symbols* being exported and a *symbol* already *present* in a *package* that would inherit the newly-exported *symbol* may be resolved in favor of the exported *symbol* by uninterning the other one, or in favor of the already-present *symbol* by making it a shadowing symbol.

Examples:

```
(make-package 'temp :use nil) → #<PACKAGE "TEMP">
(use-package 'temp) → T
(intern "TEMP-SYM" 'temp) → TEMP::TEMP-SYM, NIL
(find-symbol "TEMP-SYM") → NIL, NIL
(export (find-symbol "TEMP-SYM" 'temp) 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "TEMP-SYM") → TEMP-SYM, :INHERITED
```

Side Effects:

The package system is modified.

Affected By:

Accessible symbols.

Exceptional Situations:

If any of the *symbols* is not *accessible* at all in *package*, an error of *type* **package-error** is signaled that is *correctable* by permitting the *user* to interactively specify whether that *symbol* should be *imported*.

See Also:

import, **unexport**, Section 11.1 (Package Concepts)

find-symbol *Function*

Syntax:

find-symbol *string* `&optional` *package* → *symbol, status*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

symbol—a *symbol* accessible in the *package*, or **nil**.

status—one of `:inherited`, `:external`, `:internal`, or **nil**.

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Description:

find-symbol locates a *symbol* whose *name* is *string* in a *package*. If a *symbol* named *string* is found in *package*, directly or by inheritance, the *symbol* found is returned as the first value; the second value is as follows:

`:internal`

If the *symbol* is *present* in *package* as an *internal symbol*.

`:external`

If the *symbol* is *present* in *package* as an *external symbol*.

`:inherited`

If the *symbol* is inherited by *package* through **use-package**, but is not *present* in *package*.

If no such *symbol* is *accessible* in *package*, both values are **nil**.

Examples:

```
(find-symbol "NEVER-BEFORE-USED") → NIL, NIL
(find-symbol "NEVER-BEFORE-USED") → NIL, NIL
(intern "NEVER-BEFORE-USED") → NEVER-BEFORE-USED, NIL
(intern "NEVER-BEFORE-USED") → NEVER-BEFORE-USED, :INTERNAL
(find-symbol "NEVER-BEFORE-USED") → NEVER-BEFORE-USED, :INTERNAL
(find-symbol "never-before-used") → NIL, NIL
(find-symbol "CAR" 'common-lisp-user) → CAR, :INHERITED
(find-symbol "CAR" 'common-lisp) → CAR, :EXTERNAL
(find-symbol "NIL" 'common-lisp-user) → NIL, :INHERITED
(find-symbol "NIL" 'common-lisp) → NIL, :EXTERNAL
(find-symbol "NIL" (prog1 (make-package "JUST-TESTING" :use '())
                          (intern "NIL" "JUST-TESTING")))
→ JUST-TESTING::NIL, :INTERNAL
(export 'just-testing::nil 'just-testing)
(find-symbol "NIL" 'just-testing) → JUST-TESTING:NIL, :EXTERNAL
(find-symbol "NIL" "KEYWORD")
→ NIL, NIL
or→ :NIL, :EXTERNAL
(find-symbol (symbol-name :nil) "KEYWORD") → :NIL, :EXTERNAL
```

Affected By:

intern, **import**, **export**, **use-package**, **unintern**, **unexport**, **unuse-package**

See Also:

intern, **find-all-symbols**

Notes:

find-symbol is operationally equivalent to **intern**, except that it never creates a new *symbol*.

find-package *Function*

Syntax:

find-package *name* → *package*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *string designator* or a *package object*.

package—a *package object* or **nil**.

Description:

If *name* is a *string designator*, **find-package** locates and returns the *package* whose name or nickname is *name*. This search is case sensitive. If there is no such *package*, **find-package** returns **nil**.

If *name* is a *package object*, that *package object* is returned.

Examples:

```
(find-package 'common-lisp) → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP">
(find-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(find-package 'not-there) → NIL
```

Affected By:

The set of *packages* created by the *implementation*.

defpackage, **delete-package**, **make-package**, **rename-package**

See Also:

make-package

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find-all-symbols *Function*

Syntax:

find-all-symbols *string* → *symbols*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string designator*.

symbols—a *list* of *symbols*.

Description:

find-all-symbols searches every *registered package* for *symbols* that have a *name* that is the *same* (under **string=**) as *string*. A *list* of all such *symbols* is returned. Whether or how the *list* is ordered is *implementation-dependent*.

Examples:

```
 (find-all-symbols 'car)
→ (CAR)
or→ (CAR VEHICLES:CAR)
or→ (VEHICLES:CAR CAR)
 (intern "CAR" (make-package 'temp :use nil)) → TEMP::CAR, NIL
 (find-all-symbols 'car)
→ (TEMP::CAR CAR)
or→ (CAR TEMP::CAR)
or→ (TEMP::CAR CAR VEHICLES:CAR)
or→ (CAR TEMP::CAR VEHICLES:CAR)
```

See Also:

find-symbol

import *Function*

Syntax:

import *symbols* &optional *package* → t

Arguments and Values:

symbols—a *designator* for a *list* of *symbols*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

Description:

import adds *symbol* or *symbols* to the internals of *package*, checking for name conflicts with existing *symbols* either *present* in *package* or *accessible* to it. Once the *symbols* have been *imported*, they may be referenced in the *importing* *package* without the use of a *package prefix* when using the *Lisp reader*.

A name conflict in **import** between the *symbol* being imported and a symbol inherited from some other *package* can be resolved in favor of the *symbol* being *imported* by making it a shadowing symbol, or in favor of the *symbol* already *accessible* by not doing the **import**. A name conflict in **import** with a *symbol* already *present* in the *package* may be resolved by uninterning that *symbol*, or by not doing the **import**.

The imported *symbol* is not automatically exported from the *current package*, but if it is already *present* and external, then the fact that it is external is not changed. If any *symbol* to be *imported* has no home package (*i.e.*, `(symbol-package symbol)` → `nil`), **import** sets the *home package* of the *symbol* to *package*.

If the *symbol* is already *present* in the importing *package*, **import** has no effect.

Examples:

```
(import 'common-lisp::car (make-package 'temp :use nil)) → T
(find-symbol "CAR" 'temp) → CAR, :INTERNAL
(find-symbol "CDR" 'temp) → NIL, NIL
```

The form `(import 'editor:buffer)` takes the external symbol named `buffer` in the `EDITOR` *package* (this symbol was located when the form was read by the *Lisp reader*) and adds it to the *current package* as an *internal symbol*. The symbol `buffer` is then *present* in the *current package*.

Side Effects:

The package system is modified.

Affected By:

Current state of the package system.

Exceptional Situations:

import signals a *correctable* error of *type* **package-error** if any of the *symbols* to be *imported* has the *same name* (under **string=**) as some distinct *symbol* (under **eql**) already *accessible* in the *package*, even if the conflict is with a *shadowing symbol* of the *package*.

See Also:

shadow, **export**

list-all-packages *Function*

Syntax:

list-all-packages ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *packages*

Arguments and Values:

packages—a *list* of *package objects*.

Description:

list-all-packages returns a *fresh list* of all *registered packages*.

Examples:

```
(let ((before (list-all-packages)))
   (make-package 'temp)
   (set-difference (list-all-packages) before)) → (#<PACKAGE "TEMP">)
```

Affected By:

defpackage, **delete-package**, **make-package**

rename-package *Function*

Syntax:

rename-package *package new-name* `&optional` *new-nicknames* → *package-object*

Arguments and Values:

package—a *package designator*.

new-name—a *package designator*.

new-nicknames—a *list* of *string designators*. The default is the *empty list*.

package-object—the renamed *package object*.

Description:

Replaces the name and nicknames of *package*. The old name and all of the old nicknames of *package* are eliminated and are replaced by *new-name* and *new-nicknames*.

The consequences are undefined if *new-name* or any *new-nickname* conflicts with any existing package names.

Examples:

```
(make-package 'temporary :nicknames '("TEMP")) → #<PACKAGE "TEMPORARY">
(rename-package 'temp 'ephemeral) → #<PACKAGE "EPHEMERAL">
(package-nicknames (find-package 'ephemeral)) → ()
(find-package 'temporary) → NIL
(rename-package 'ephemeral 'temporary '(temp fleeting))
→ #<PACKAGE "TEMPORARY">
(package-nicknames (find-package 'temp)) → ("TEMP" "FLEETING")
```

See Also:

make-package

shadow *Function*

Syntax:

shadow *symbol-names* &optional *package* → t

Arguments and Values:

symbol-names—a *designator* for a *list* of *string designators*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

Description:

shadow assures that *symbols* with names given by *symbol-names* are *present* in the *package*.

Specifically, *package* is searched for *symbols* with the *names* supplied by *symbol-names*. For each such *name*, if a corresponding *symbol* is not *present* in *package* (directly, not by inheritance), then a corresponding *symbol* is created with that *name*, and inserted into *package* as an *internal symbol*. The corresponding *symbol*, whether pre-existing or newly created, is then added, if not already present, to the *shadowing symbols list* of *package*.

Examples:

```
(package-shadowing-symbols (make-package 'temp)) → NIL
(find-symbol 'car 'temp) → CAR, :INHERITED
(shadow 'car 'temp) → T
(find-symbol 'car 'temp) → TEMP::CAR, :INTERNAL
(package-shadowing-symbols 'temp) → (TEMP::CAR)


(make-package 'test-1) → #<PACKAGE "TEST-1">
(intern "TEST" (find-package 'test-1)) → TEST-1::TEST, NIL
(shadow 'test-1::test (find-package 'test-1)) → T
```



```
(shadow 'TEST (find-package 'test-1)) → T
(assert (not (null (member 'test-1::test (package-shadowing-symbols
                                           (find-package 'test-1))))))

(make-package 'test-2) → #<PACKAGE "TEST-2">
(intern "TEST" (find-package 'test-2)) → TEST-2::TEST, NIL
(export 'test-2::test (find-package 'test-2)) → T
(use-package 'test-2 (find-package 'test-1))    ;should not error
```

Side Effects:

shadow changes the state of the package system in such a way that the package consistency rules do not hold across the change.

Affected By:

Current state of the package system.

See Also:

package-shadowing-symbols, Section 11.1 (Package Concepts)

Notes:

If a *symbol* with a name in *symbol-names* already exists in *package*, but by inheritance, the inherited symbol becomes *shadowed*$_3$ by a newly created *internal symbol*.

shadowing-import *Function*

Syntax:

shadowing-import *symbols* &optional *package* → t

Arguments and Values:

symbols—a *designator* for a *list* of *symbols*.

package —a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

Description:

shadowing-import is like **import**, but it does not signal an error even if the importation of a *symbol* would shadow some *symbol* already *accessible* in *package*.

shadowing-import inserts each of *symbols* into *package* as an internal symbol, regardless of whether another *symbol* of the same name is shadowed by this action. If a different *symbol* of the same name is already *present* in *package*, that *symbol* is first *uninterned* from *package*. The new *symbol* is added to *package*'s shadowing-symbols list.

shadowing-import does name-conflict checking to the extent that it checks whether a distinct existing *symbol* with the same name is *accessible*; if so, it is shadowed by the new *symbol*, which implies that it must be uninterned if it was *present* in *package*.

Examples:

```
(in-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(setq sym (intern "CONFLICT")) → CONFLICT
(intern "CONFLICT" (make-package 'temp)) → TEMP::CONFLICT, NIL
(package-shadowing-symbols 'temp) → NIL
(shadowing-import sym 'temp) → T
(package-shadowing-symbols 'temp) → (CONFLICT)
```

Side Effects:

shadowing-import changes the state of the package system in such a way that the consistency rules do not hold across the change.

package's shadowing-symbols list is modified.

Affected By:

Current state of the package system.

See Also:

import, **unintern**, **package-shadowing-symbols**

delete-package *Function*

Syntax:

delete-package *package* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

package—a *package designator*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

delete-package deletes *package* from all package system data structures. If the operation is successful, **delete-package** returns true, otherwise **nil**. The effect of **delete-package** is that the name and nicknames of *package* cease to be recognized package names. The package *object* is still a *package* (*i.e.*, **packagep** is *true* of it) but **package-name** returns **nil**. The consequences of deleting the COMMON-LISP *package* or the KEYWORD *package* are undefined. The consequences of invoking any other package operation on *package* once it has been deleted are unspecified. In particular, the consequences of invoking **find-symbol**, **intern** and other functions that look for a

symbol name in a *package* are unspecified if they are called with ***package*** bound to the deleted *package* or with the deleted *package* as an argument.

If *package* is a *package object* that has already been deleted, **delete-package** immediately returns **nil**.

After this operation completes, the *home package* of any *symbol* whose *home package* had previously been *package* is *implementation-dependent*. Except for this, *symbols accessible* in *package* are not modified in any other way; *symbols* whose *home package* is not *package* remain unchanged.

Examples:

```
(setq *foo-package* (make-package "FOO" :use nil))
(setq *foo-symbol*  (intern "FOO" *foo-package*))
(export *foo-symbol* *foo-package*)

(setq *bar-package* (make-package "BAR" :use '("FOO")))
(setq *bar-symbol*  (intern "BAR" *bar-package*))
(export *foo-symbol* *bar-package*)
(export *bar-symbol* *bar-package*)

(setq *baz-package* (make-package "BAZ" :use '("BAR")))

(symbol-package *foo-symbol*) → #<PACKAGE "FOO">
(symbol-package *bar-symbol*) → #<PACKAGE "BAR">

(prin1-to-string *foo-symbol*) → "FOO:FOO"
(prin1-to-string *bar-symbol*) → "BAR:BAR"

(find-symbol "FOO" *bar-package*) → FOO:FOO, :EXTERNAL

(find-symbol "FOO" *baz-package*) → FOO:FOO, :INHERITED
(find-symbol "BAR" *baz-package*) → BAR:BAR, :INHERITED

(packagep *foo-package*) → true
(packagep *bar-package*) → true
(packagep *baz-package*) → true

(package-name *foo-package*) → "FOO"
(package-name *bar-package*) → "BAR"
(package-name *baz-package*) → "BAZ"

(package-use-list *foo-package*) → ()
(package-use-list *bar-package*) → (#<PACKAGE "FOO">)
(package-use-list *baz-package*) → (#<PACKAGE "BAR">)
```

```
(package-used-by-list *foo-package*) → (#<PACKAGE "BAR">)
(package-used-by-list *bar-package*) → (#<PACKAGE "BAZ">)
(package-used-by-list *baz-package*) → ()

(delete-package *bar-package*)
▷ Error: Package BAZ uses package BAR.
▷ If continued, BAZ will be made to unuse-package BAR,
▷ and then BAR will be deleted.
▷ Type :CONTINUE to continue.
▷ Debug> :CONTINUE
→ T

(symbol-package *foo-symbol*) → #<PACKAGE "FOO">
(symbol-package *bar-symbol*) is unspecified

(prin1-to-string *foo-symbol*) → "FOO:FOO"
(prin1-to-string *bar-symbol*) is unspecified

(find-symbol "FOO" *bar-package*) is unspecified

(find-symbol "FOO" *baz-package*) → NIL, NIL
(find-symbol "BAR" *baz-package*) → NIL, NIL

(packagep *foo-package*) → T
(packagep *bar-package*) → T
(packagep *baz-package*) → T

(package-name *foo-package*) → "FOO"
(package-name *bar-package*) → NIL
(package-name *baz-package*) → "BAZ"

(package-use-list *foo-package*) → ()
(package-use-list *bar-package*) is unspecified
(package-use-list *baz-package*) → ()

(package-used-by-list *foo-package*) → ()
(package-used-by-list *bar-package*) is unspecified
(package-used-by-list *baz-package*) → ()
```

Exceptional Situations:

If the *package designator* is a *name* that does not currently name a *package*, a *correctable* error of *type* **package-error** is signaled. If correction is attempted, no deletion action is attempted; instead, **delete-package** immediately returns **nil**.

If *package* is used by other *packages*, a *correctable* error of *type* **package-error** is signaled. If correction is attempted, **unuse-package** is effectively called to remove any dependencies, causing *package*'s *external symbols* to cease being *accessible* to those *packages* that use *package*. **delete-package** then deletes *package* just as it would have had there been no *packages* that used it.

See Also:

unuse-package

make-package *Function*

Syntax:

make-package *package-name* &key *nicknames use* → *package*

Arguments and Values:

package-name—a *string designator*.

nicknames—a *list* of *string designators*. The default is the *empty list*.

use—a *list* of *package designators*. The default is *implementation-defined*.

package—a *package*.

Description:

Creates a new *package* with the name *package-name*.

Nicknames are additional *names* which may be used to refer to the new *package*.

use specifies zero or more *packages* the *external symbols* of which are to be inherited by the new *package*. See the *function* **use-package**.

Examples:

```
(make-package 'temporary :nicknames '("TEMP" "temp")) → #<PACKAGE "TEMPORARY">
(make-package "OWNER" :use '("temp")) → #<PACKAGE "OWNER">
(package-used-by-list 'temp) → (#<PACKAGE "OWNER">)
(package-use-list 'owner) → (#<PACKAGE "TEMPORARY">)
```

Affected By:

The existence of other *packages* in the system.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are unspecified if *packages* denoted by *use* do not exist.

A *correctable* error is signaled if the *package-name* or any of the *nicknames* is already the *name* or *nickname* of an existing *package*.

See Also:

defpackage, **use-package**

Notes:

In situations where the *packages* to be used contain symbols which would conflict, it is necessary to first create the package with `:use '()`, then to use **shadow** or **shadowing-import** to address the conflicts, and then after that to use **use-package** once the conflicts have been addressed.

When packages are being created as part of the static definition of a program rather than dynamically by the program, it is generally considered more stylistically appropriate to use **defpackage** rather than **make-package**.

with-package-iterator *Macro*

Syntax:

with-package-iterator (*name package-list-form* `&rest` *symbol-types*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *symbol*.

package-list-form—a *form*; evaluated once to produce a *package-list*.

package-list—a *designator* for a list of *package designators*.

symbol-type—one of the *symbols* `:internal`, `:external`, or `:inherited`.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* of the *forms*.

Description:

Within the lexical scope of the body *forms*, the *name* is defined via **macrolet** such that successive invocations of (*name*) will return the *symbols*, one by one, from the *packages* in *package-list*.

It is unspecified whether *symbols* inherited from multiple *packages* are returned more than once. The order of *symbols* returned does not necessarily reflect the order of *packages* in *package-list*. When *package-list* has more than one element, it is unspecified whether duplicate *symbols* are returned once or more than once.

Symbol-types controls which *symbols* that are *accessible* in a *package* are returned as follows:

`:internal`

The *symbols* that are *present* in the *package*, but that are not *exported*.

`:external`

The *symbols* that are *present* in the *package* and are *exported*.

`:inherited`

The *symbols* that are *exported* by used *packages* and that are not *shadowed*.

When more than one argument is supplied for *symbol-types*, a *symbol* is returned if its *accessibility* matches any one of the *symbol-types* supplied. Implementations may extend this syntax by recognizing additional symbol accessibility types.

An invocation of (*name*) returns four values as follows:

1. A flag that indicates whether a *symbol* is returned (true means that a *symbol* is returned).
2. A *symbol* that is *accessible* in one the indicated *packages*.
3. The accessibility type for that *symbol*; *i.e.*, one of the symbols `:internal`, `:external`, or `:inherited`.
4. The *package* from which the *symbol* was obtained. The *package* is one of the *packages* present or named in *package-list*.

After all *symbols* have been returned by successive invocations of (*name*), then only one value is returned, namely **nil**.

The meaning of the second, third, and fourth *values* is that the returned *symbol* is *accessible* in the returned *package* in the way indicated by the second return value as follows:

`:internal`

Means *present* and not *exported*.

`:external`

Means *present* and *exported*.

`:inherited`

Means not *present* (thus not *shadowed*) but inherited from some used *package*.

It is unspecified what happens if any of the implicit interior state of an iteration is returned outside the dynamic extent of the **with-package-iterator** form such as by returning some *closure* over the invocation *form*.

with-package-iterator

Any number of invocations of **with-package-iterator** can be nested, and the body of the innermost one can invoke all of the locally *established macros*, provided all those *macros* have distinct names.

Examples:

The following function should return **t** on any *package*, and signal an error if the usage of **with-package-iterator** does not agree with the corresponding usage of **do-symbols**.

```
(defun test-package-iterator (package)
  (unless (packagep package)
    (setq package (find-package package)))
  (let ((all-entries '())
        (generated-entries '()))
    (do-symbols (x package)
      (multiple-value-bind (symbol accessibility)
          (find-symbol (symbol-name x) package)
        (push (list symbol accessibility) all-entries)))
    (with-package-iterator (generator-fn package
                            :internal :external :inherited)
      (loop
        (multiple-value-bind (more? symbol accessibility pkg)
            (generator-fn)
          (unless more? (return))
          (let ((l (multiple-value-list (find-symbol (symbol-name symbol)
                                                      package))))
            (unless (equal l (list symbol accessibility))
              (error "Symbol ~S not found as ~S in package ~A [~S]"
                     symbol accessibility (package-name package) l))
            (push l generated-entries)))))
    (unless (and (subsetp all-entries generated-entries :test #'equal)
                 (subsetp generated-entries all-entries :test #'equal))
     (error "Generated entries and Do-Symbols entries don't correspond"))
    t))
```

The following function prints out every *present symbol* (possibly more than once):

```
(defun print-all-symbols ()
  (with-package-iterator (next-symbol (list-all-packages)
                          :internal :external)
    (loop
      (multiple-value-bind (more? symbol) (next-symbol)
        (if more?
           (print symbol)
           (return))))))
```


Exceptional Situations:

with-package-iterator signals an error of *type* **program-error** if no *symbol-types* are supplied or if a *symbol-type* is not recognized by the implementation is supplied.

The consequences are undefined if the local function named *name established* by **with-package-iterator** is called after it has returned *false* as its *primary value*.

See Also:

Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

unexport *Function*

Syntax:

unexport *symbols* &optional *package* → t

Arguments and Values:

symbols—a *designator* for a *list* of *symbols*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

Description:

unexport reverts external *symbols* in *package* to internal status; it undoes the effect of **export**.

unexport works only on *symbols present* in *package*, switching them back to internal status. If **unexport** is given a *symbol* that is already *accessible* as an *internal symbol* in *package*, it does nothing.

Examples:

```
(in-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(export (intern "CONTRABAND" (make-package 'temp)) 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "CONTRABAND") → NIL, NIL
(use-package 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "CONTRABAND") → CONTRABAND, :INHERITED
(unexport 'contraband 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "CONTRABAND") → NIL, NIL
```

Side Effects:

Package system is modified.

Affected By:

Current state of the package system.

Exceptional Situations:

If **unexport** is given a *symbol* not *accessible* in *package* at all, an error of *type* **package-error** is signaled.

The consequences are undefined if *package* is the KEYWORD *package* or the COMMON-LISP *package*.

See Also:

export, Section 11.1 (Package Concepts)

unintern *Function*

Syntax:

unintern *symbol* &optional *package* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

unintern removes *symbol* from *package*. If *symbol* is *present* in *package*, it is removed from *package* and also from *package*'s *shadowing symbols list* if it is present there. If *package* is the *home package* for *symbol*, *symbol* is made to have no *home package*. *Symbol* may continue to be *accessible* in *package* by inheritance.

Use of **unintern** can result in a *symbol* that has no recorded *home package*, but that in fact is *accessible* in some *package*. Common Lisp does not check for this pathological case, and such *symbols* are always printed preceded by #:.

unintern returns *true* if it removes *symbol*, and **nil** otherwise.

Examples:

```
(in-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(setq temps-unpack (intern "UNPACK" (make-package 'temp))) → TEMP::UNPACK
(unintern temps-unpack 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "UNPACK" 'temp) → NIL, NIL
temps-unpack → #:UNPACK
```

Side Effects:

unintern changes the state of the package system in such a way that the consistency rules do not hold across the change.

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Affected By:

Current state of the package system.

Exceptional Situations:

Giving a shadowing symbol to **unintern** can uncover a name conflict that had previously been resolved by the shadowing. If package A uses packages B and C, A contains a shadowing symbol x, and B and C each contain external symbols named x, then removing the shadowing symbol x from A will reveal a name conflict between b:x and c:x if those two *symbols* are distinct. In this case **unintern** will signal an error.

See Also:

Section 11.1 (Package Concepts)

in-package *Macro*

Syntax:

in-package *name* → *package*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *string designator*; not evaluated.

package—the *package* named by *name*.

Description:

Causes the the *package* named by *name* to become the *current package*—that is, the *value* of ***package***. If no such *package* already exists, an error of *type* **package-error** is signaled.

Everything **in-package** does is also performed at compile time if the call appears as a *top level form*.

Side Effects:

The *variable* ***package*** is assigned. If the **in-package** *form* is a *top level form*, this assignment also occurs at compile time.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **package-error** is signaled if the specified *package* does not exist.

See Also:

package

unuse-package *Function*

Syntax:

unuse-package *packages-to-unuse* &optional *package* → t

Arguments and Values:

packages-to-unuse—a *designator* for a *list* of *package designators*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

Description:

unuse-package causes *package* to cease inheriting all the *external symbols* of *packages-to-unuse*; **unuse-package** undoes the effects of **use-package**. The *packages-to-unuse* are removed from the *use list* of *package*.

Any *symbols* that have been *imported* into *package* continue to be *present* in *package*.

Examples:

```
(in-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(export (intern "SHOES" (make-package 'temp)) 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "SHOES") → NIL, NIL
(use-package 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "SHOES") → SHOES, :INHERITED
(find (find-package 'temp) (package-use-list 'common-lisp-user)) → #<PACKAGE "TEMP">
(unuse-package 'temp) → T
(find-symbol "SHOES") → NIL, NIL
```

Side Effects:

The *use list* of *package* is modified.

Affected By:

Current state of the package system.

See Also:

use-package, **package-use-list**

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use-package *Function*

Syntax:

use-package *packages-to-use* &optional *package* → t

Arguments and Values:

packages-to-use—a *designator* for a *list* of *package designators*. The KEYWORD *package* may not be supplied.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*. The *package* cannot be the KEYWORD *package*.

Description:

use-package causes *package* to inherit all the *external symbols* of *packages-to-use*. The inherited *symbols* become *accessible* as *internal symbols* of *package*.

Packages-to-use are added to the *use list* of *package* if they are not there already. All *external symbols* in *packages-to-use* become *accessible* in *package* as *internal symbols*. **use-package** does not cause any new *symbols* to be *present* in *package* but only makes them *accessible* by inheritance.

use-package checks for name conflicts between the newly imported symbols and those already *accessible* in *package*. A name conflict in **use-package** between two external symbols inherited by *package* from *packages-to-use* may be resolved in favor of either *symbol* by *importing* one of them into *package* and making it a shadowing symbol.

Examples:

```
(export (intern "LAND-FILL" (make-package 'trash)) 'trash) → T
(find-symbol "LAND-FILL" (make-package 'temp)) → NIL, NIL
(package-use-list 'temp) → (#<PACKAGE "TEMP">)
(use-package 'trash 'temp) → T
(package-use-list 'temp) → (#<PACKAGE "TEMP"> #<PACKAGE "TRASH">)
(find-symbol "LAND-FILL" 'temp) → TRASH:LAND-FILL, :INHERITED
```

Side Effects:

The *use list* of *package* may be modified.

See Also:

unuse-package, **package-use-list**, Section 11.1 (Package Concepts)

Notes:

It is permissible for a *package* P_1 to *use* a *package* P_2 even if P_2 already uses P_1. The using of *packages* is not transitive, so no problem results from the apparent circularity.

defpackage *Macro*

Syntax:

defpackage *defined-package-name* ⟦↓*option*⟧ → *package*

option::={(:nicknames {*nickname*}*)}* |
(:documentation *string*) |
{(:use {*package-name*}*)}* |
{(:shadow {↓*symbol-name*}*)}* |
{(:shadowing-import-from *package-name* {↓*symbol-name*}*)}* |
{(:import-from *package-name* {↓*symbol-name*}*)}* |
{(:export {↓*symbol-name*}*)}* |
{(:intern {↓*symbol-name*}*)}* |
(:size *integer*)

Arguments and Values:

defined-package-name—a *string designator*.

package-name—a *package designator*.

nickname—a *string designator*.

symbol-name—a *string designator*.

package—the *package* named *package-name*.

Description:

defpackage creates a *package* as specified and returns the *package*.

If *defined-package-name* already refers to an existing *package*, the name-to-package mapping for that name is not changed. If the new definition is at variance with the current state of that *package*, the consequences are undefined; an implementation might choose to modify the existing *package* to reflect the new definition. If *defined-package-name* is a *symbol*, its *name* is used.

The standard *options* are described below.

`:nicknames`

The arguments to `:nicknames` set the *package*'s nicknames to the supplied names.

`:documentation`

The argument to `:documentation` specifies a *documentation string*; it is attached as a

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documentation string to the *package*. At most one `:documentation` option can appear in a single **defpackage** *form*.

`:use`

The arguments to `:use` set the *packages* that the *package* named by *package-name* will inherit from. If `:use` is not supplied, it defaults to the same *implementation-dependent* value as the `:use` *argument* to **make-package**.

`:shadow`

The arguments to `:shadow`, *symbol-names*, name *symbols* that are to be created in the *package* being defined. These *symbols* are added to the list of shadowing *symbols* effectively as if by **shadow**.

`:shadowing-import-from`

The *symbols* named by the argument *symbol-names* are found (involving a lookup as if by **find-symbol**) in the specified *package-name*. The resulting *symbols* are *imported* into the *package* being defined, and placed on the shadowing symbols list as if by **shadowing-import**. In no case are *symbols* created in any *package* other than the one being defined.

`:import-from`

The *symbols* named by the argument *symbol-names* are found in the *package* named by *package-name* and they are *imported* into the *package* being defined. In no case are *symbols* created in any *package* other than the one being defined.

`:export`

The *symbols* named by the argument *symbol-names* are found or created in the *package* being defined and *exported*. The `:export` option interacts with the `:use` option, since inherited *symbols* can be used rather than new ones created. The `:export` option interacts with the `:import-from` and `:shadowing-import-from` options, since *imported* symbols can be used rather than new ones created. If an argument to the `:export` option is *accessible* as an (inherited) *internal symbol* via **use-package**, that the *symbol* named by *symbol-name* is first *imported* into the *package* being defined, and is then *exported* from that *package*.

`:intern`

The *symbols* named by the argument *symbol-names* are found or created in the *package* being defined. The `:intern` option interacts with the `:use` option, since inherited *symbols* can be used rather than new ones created.

`:size`

The argument to the `:size` option declares the approximate number of *symbols* expected in the *package*. This is an efficiency hint only and might be ignored by an implementation.

The order in which the options appear in a **defpackage** form is irrelevant. The order in which they are executed is as follows:

1. `:shadow` and `:shadowing-import-from`.
2. `:use`.
3. `:import-from` and `:intern`.
4. `:export`.

Shadows are established first, since they might be necessary to block spurious name conflicts when the `:use` option is processed. The `:use` option is executed next so that `:intern` and `:export` options can refer to normally inherited *symbols*. The `:export` option is executed last so that it can refer to *symbols* created by any of the other options; in particular, *shadowing symbols* and *imported symbols* can be made external.

If a defpackage *form* appears as a *top level form*, all of the actions normally performed by this *macro* at load time must also be performed at compile time.

Examples:

```
(defpackage "MY-PACKAGE"
  (:nicknames "MYPKG" "MY-PKG")
  (:use "COMMON-LISP")
  (:shadow "CAR" "CDR")
  (:shadowing-import-from "VENDOR-COMMON-LISP"  "CONS")
  (:import-from "VENDOR-COMMON-LISP"  "GC")
  (:export "EQ" "CONS" "FROBOLA")
  )


(defpackage my-package
  (:nicknames mypkg :MY-PKG)  ; remember Common Lisp conventions for case
  (:use common-lisp)          ; conversion on symbols
  (:shadow CAR :cdr #:cons)
  (:export "CONS")            ; this is the shadowed one.
  )
```

Affected By:

Existing *packages*.

Exceptional Situations:

If one of the supplied `:nicknames` already refers to an existing *package*, an error of *type* **package-error** is signaled.

An error of *type* **program-error** should be signaled if `:size` or `:documentation` appears more than once.

Since *implementations* might allow extended *options* an error of *type* **program-error** should be signaled if an *option* is present that is not actually supported in the host *implementation*.

The collection of *symbol-name* arguments given to the options `:shadow`, `:intern`, `:import-from`, and `:shadowing-import-from` must all be disjoint; additionally, the *symbol-name* arguments given to `:export` and `:intern` must be disjoint. Disjoint in this context is defined as no two of the *symbol-names* being **string=** with each other. If either condition is violated, an error of *type* **program-error** should be signaled.

For the `:shadowing-import-from` and `:import-from` options, a *correctable error* of *type* **package-error** is signaled if no *symbol* is *accessible* in the *package* named by *package-name* for one of the argument *symbol-names*.

Name conflict errors are handled by the underlying calls to **make-package**, **use-package**, **import**, and **export**. See Section 11.1 (Package Concepts).

See Also:

documentation, Section 11.1 (Package Concepts), Section 3.2 (Compilation)

Notes:

The `:intern` option is useful if an `:import-from` or a `:shadowing-import-from` option in a subsequent call to **defpackage** (for some other *package*) expects to find these *symbols accessible* but not necessarily external.

It is recommended that the entire *package* definition is put in a single place, and that all the *package* definitions of a program are in a single file. This file can be *loaded* before *loading* or compiling anything else that depends on those *packages*. Such a file can be read in the `COMMON-LISP-USER` *package*, avoiding any initial state issues.

defpackage cannot be used to create two "mutually recursive" packages, such as:

```
(defpackage my-package
  (:use common-lisp your-package)    ;requires your-package to exist first
  (:export "MY-FUN"))
(defpackage your-package
  (:use common-lisp)
  (:import-from my-package "MY-FUN") ;requires my-package to exist first
  (:export "MY-FUN"))
```

However, nothing prevents the user from using the *package*-affecting functions such as **use-package**, **import**, and **export** to establish such links after a more standard use of **defpackage**.

The macroexpansion of **defpackage** could usefully canonicalize the names into *strings*, so that even if a source file has random *symbols* in the **defpackage** form, the compiled file would only contain *strings*.

Frequently additional *implementation-dependent* options take the form of a *keyword* standing by itself as an abbreviation for a list (`keyword T`); this syntax should be properly reported as an unrecognized option in implementations that do not support it.

do-symbols, do-external-symbols, do-all-symbols

Macro

Syntax:

do-symbols (*var* [*package* [*result-form*]])
{*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*

→ {*result*}*

do-external-symbols (*var* [*package* [*result-form*]])
{*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*

→ {*result*}*

do-all-symbols (*var* [*result-form*])
{*declaration*}* {*tag* | *statement*}*

→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *variable name*; not evaluated.

package—a *package designator*; evaluated. The default in **do-symbols** and **do-external-symbols** is the *current package*.

result-form—a *form*; evaluated as described below. The default is **nil**.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

tag—a *go tag*; not evaluated.

statement—a *compound form*; evaluated as described below.

results—the *values* returned by the *result-form* if a *normal return* occurs, or else, if an *explicit return* occurs, the *values* that were transferred.

Description:

do-symbols, **do-external-symbols**, and **do-all-symbols** iterate over the *symbols* of *packages*. For each *symbol* in the set of *packages* chosen, the *var* is bound to the *symbol*, and the *statements* in the body are executed. When all the *symbols* have been processed, *result-form* is evaluated and returned as the value of the macro.

do-symbols iterates over the *symbols accessible* in *package*. *Statements* may execute more than once for *symbols* that are inherited from multiple *packages*.

do-all-symbols iterates on every *registered package*. **do-all-symbols** will not process every *symbol* whatsoever, because a *symbol* not *accessible* in any *registered package* will not be processed. **do-all-symbols** may cause a *symbol* that is *present* in several *packages* to be processed more than once.

do-external-symbols iterates on the external symbols of *package*.

When *result-form* is evaluated, *var* is bound and has the value **nil**.

An *implicit block* named **nil** surrounds the entire **do-symbols**, **do-external-symbols**, or **do-all-symbols** *form*. **return** or **return-from** may be used to terminate the iteration prematurely.

If execution of the body affects which *symbols* are contained in the set of *packages* over which iteration is occurring, other than to remove the *symbol* currently the value of *var* by using **unintern**, the consequences are undefined.

For each of these macros, the *scope* of the name binding does not include any initial value form, but the optional result forms are included.

Any *tag* in the body is treated as with **tagbody**.

Examples:

```
 (make-package 'temp :use nil) → #<PACKAGE "TEMP">
 (intern "SHY" 'temp) → TEMP::SHY, NIL ;SHY will be an internal symbol
                                        ;in the package TEMP
 (export (intern "BOLD" 'temp) 'temp)  → T  ;BOLD will be external
 (let ((lst ()))
   (do-symbols (s (find-package 'temp)) (push s lst))
   lst)
→ (TEMP::SHY TEMP:BOLD)
or→ (TEMP:BOLD TEMP::SHY)
 (let ((lst ()))
   (do-external-symbols (s (find-package 'temp) lst) (push s lst))
   lst)
→ (TEMP:BOLD)
 (let ((lst ()))
   (do-all-symbols (s lst)
     (when (eq (find-package 'temp) (symbol-package s)) (push s lst)))
   lst)
→ (TEMP::SHY TEMP:BOLD)
or→ (TEMP:BOLD TEMP::SHY)
```

See Also:

intern, **export**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

intern *Function*

Syntax:

intern *string* &optional *package* → *symbol, status*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string*.

package—a *package designator*. The default is the *current package*.

symbol—a *symbol*.

status—one of `:inherited`, `:external`, `:internal`, or **nil**.

Description:

intern enters a *symbol* named *string* into *package*. If a *symbol* whose name is the same as *string* is already *accessible* in *package*, it is returned. If no such *symbol* is *accessible* in *package*, a new *symbol* with the given name is created and entered into *package* as an *internal symbol*, or as an *external symbol* if the *package* is the `KEYWORD` *package*; *package* becomes the *home package* of the created *symbol*.

The first value returned by **intern**, *symbol*, is the *symbol* that was found or created. The meaning of the *secondary value*, *status*, is as follows:

`:internal`

The *symbol* was found and is *present* in *package* as an *internal symbol*.

`:external`

The *symbol* was found and is *present* as an *external symbol*.

`:inherited`

The *symbol* was found and is inherited via **use-package** (which implies that the *symbol* is internal).

nil

No pre-existing *symbol* was found, so one was created.

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It is *implementation-dependent* whether the *string* that becomes the new *symbol*'s *name* is the given *string* or a copy of it. Once a *string* has been given as the *string argument* to *intern* in this situation where a new *symbol* is created, the consequences are undefined if a subsequent attempt is made to alter that *string*.

Examples:

```
(in-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(intern "Never-Before") → |Never-Before|, NIL
(intern "Never-Before") → |Never-Before|, :INTERNAL
(intern "NEVER-BEFORE" "KEYWORD") → :NEVER-BEFORE, NIL
(intern "NEVER-BEFORE" "KEYWORD") → :NEVER-BEFORE, :EXTERNAL
```

See Also:

find-symbol, **read**, **symbol**, **unintern**, Section 2.3.4 (Symbols as Tokens)

Notes:

intern does not need to do any name conflict checking because it never creates a new *symbol* if there is already an *accessible symbol* with the name given.

package-name *Function*

Syntax:

package-name *package* → *name*

Arguments and Values:

package—a *package designator*.

name—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

package-name returns the *string* that names *package*, or **nil** if the *package designator* is a *package object* that has no name (see the *function* **delete-package**).

Examples:

```
(in-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(package-name *package*) → "COMMON-LISP-USER"
(package-name (symbol-package :test)) → "KEYWORD"
(package-name (find-package 'common-lisp)) → "COMMON-LISP"


(defvar *foo-package* (make-package "FOO"))
```

```
(rename-package "FOO" "FOO0")
(package-name *foo-package*) → "FOO0"
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *package* is not a *package designator*.

package-nicknames *Function*

Syntax:

package-nicknames *package* → *nicknames*

Arguments and Values:

package—a *package designator*.

nicknames—a *list* of *strings*.

Description:

Returns the *list* of nickname *strings* for *package*, not including the name of *package*.

Examples:

```
(package-nicknames (make-package 'temporary
                                  :nicknames '("TEMP" "temp")))
→ ("temp" "TEMP")
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *package* is not a *package designator*.

package-shadowing-symbols *Function*

Syntax:

package-shadowing-symbols *package* → *symbols*

Arguments and Values:

package—a *package designator*.

symbols—a *list* of *symbols*.

Description:

Returns a *list* of *symbols* that have been declared as *shadowing symbols* in *package* by **shadow** or **shadowing-import** (or the equivalent **defpackage** options). All *symbols* on this *list* are *present* in *package*.

Examples:

```
(package-shadowing-symbols (make-package 'temp)) → ()
(shadow 'cdr 'temp) → T
(package-shadowing-symbols 'temp) → (TEMP::CDR)
(intern "PILL" 'temp) → TEMP::PILL, NIL
(shadowing-import 'pill 'temp) → T
(package-shadowing-symbols 'temp) → (PILL TEMP::CDR)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *package* is not a *package designator*.

See Also:

shadow, **shadowing-import**

Notes:

Whether the list of *symbols* is *fresh* is *implementation-dependent*.

package-use-list *Function*

Syntax:

package-use-list *package* → *use-list*

Arguments and Values:

package—a *package designator*.

use-list—a *list* of *package objects*.

Description:

Returns a *list* of other *packages* used by *package*.

Examples:

```
(package-use-list (make-package 'temp)) → (#<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP">)
(use-package 'common-lisp-user 'temp) → T
(package-use-list 'temp) → (#<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP"> #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *package* is not a *package designator*.

See Also:

use-package, **unuse-package**

package-used-by-list *Function*

Syntax:

package-used-by-list *package* → *used-by-list*

Arguments and Values:

package—a *package designator*.

used-by-list—a *list* of *package objects*.

Description:

package-used-by-list returns a *list* of other *packages* that use *package*.

Examples:

```
(package-used-by-list (make-package 'temp)) → ()
(make-package 'trash :use '(temp)) → #<PACKAGE "TRASH">
(package-used-by-list 'temp) → (#<PACKAGE "TRASH">)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *package* is not a *package*.

See Also:

use-package, **unuse-package**

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packagep *Function*

Syntax:

packagep *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **package**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(packagep *package*) → true
(packagep 'common-lisp) → false
(packagep (find-package 'common-lisp)) → true
```

Notes:

```
(packagep object) ≡ (typep object 'package)
```

∗package∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *package object*.

Initial Value:

the `COMMON-LISP-USER` *package*.

Description:

Whatever *package object* is currently the *value* of ***package*** is referred to as the *current package*.

Examples:

```
(in-package "COMMON-LISP-USER") → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
*package* → #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">
(make-package "SAMPLE-PACKAGE" :use '("COMMON-LISP"))
→ #<PACKAGE "SAMPLE-PACKAGE">
(list
```

```
 (symbol-package
   (let ((*package* (find-package 'sample-package)))
     (setq *some-symbol* (read-from-string "just-testing"))))
   *package*)
→ (#<PACKAGE "SAMPLE-PACKAGE"> #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">)
 (list (symbol-package (read-from-string "just-testing"))
       *package*)
→ (#<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER"> #<PACKAGE "COMMON-LISP-USER">)
 (eq 'foo (intern "FOO")) → true
 (eq 'foo (let ((*package* (find-package 'sample-package)))
            (intern "FOO")))
→ false
```

Affected By:

load, **compile-file**, **in-package**

See Also:

compile-file, **in-package**, **load**, **package**

package-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

package-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **package-error** consists of *error conditions* related to operations on *packages*. The offending *package* (or *package name*) is initialized by the :package initialization argument to **make-condition**, and is *accessed* by the *function* **package-error-package**.

See Also:

package-error-package, Chapter 9 (Conditions)

package-error-package *Function*

Syntax:

package-error-package *condition* → *package*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **package-error**.

package—a *package designator*.

Description:

Returns a *designator* for the offending *package* in the *situation* represented by the *condition*.

Examples:

```
 (package-error-package
   (make-condition 'package-error
     :package (find-package "COMMON-LISP")))
→ #<Package "COMMON-LISP">
```

See Also:

package-error

Programming Language—Common Lisp

12. Numbers

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12.1 Number Concepts

12.1.1 Numeric Operations

Common Lisp provides a large variety of operations related to *numbers*. This section provides an overview of those operations by grouping them into categories that emphasize some of the relationships among them.

Figure 12–1 shows *operators* relating to arithmetic operations.

*	1+	gcd
+	1-	incf
-	conjugate	lcm
/	decf	

Figure 12–1. Operators relating to Arithmetic.

Figure 12–2 shows *defined names* relating to exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric operations.

abs	cos	signum
acos	cosh	sin
acosh	exp	sinh
asin	expt	sqrt
asinh	isqrt	tan
atan	log	tanh
atanh	phase	
cis	pi	

Figure 12–2. Defined names relating to Exponentials, Logarithms, and Trigonometry.

Figure 12–3 shows *operators* relating to numeric comparison and predication.

/=	>=	oddp
<	evenp	plusp
<=	max	zerop
=	min	
>	minusp	

Figure 12–3. Operators for numeric comparison and predication.

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Figure 12–4 shows *defined names* relating to numeric type manipulation and coercion.

ceiling	float-radix	rational
complex	float-sign	rationalize
decode-float	floor	realpart
denominator	fround	rem
fceiling	ftruncate	round
ffloor	imagpart	scale-float
float	integer-decode-float	truncate
float-digits	mod	
float-precision	numerator	

Figure 12–4. Defined names relating to numeric type manipulation and coercion.

12.1.1.1 Associativity and Commutativity in Numeric Operations

For functions that are mathematically associative (and possibly commutative), a *conforming implementation* may process the *arguments* in any manner consistent with associative (and possibly commutative) rearrangement. This does not affect the order in which the *argument forms* are *evaluated*; for a discussion of evaluation order, see Section 3.1.2.1.2.3 (Function Forms). What is unspecified is only the order in which the *parameter values* are processed. This implies that *implementations* may differ in which automatic *coercions* are applied; see Section 12.1.1.2 (Contagion in Numeric Operations).

A *conforming program* can control the order of processing explicitly by separating the operations into separate (possibly nested) *function forms*, or by writing explicit calls to *functions* that perform coercions.

12.1.1.1.1 Examples of Associativity and Commutativity in Numeric Operations

Consider the following expression, in which we assume that `1.0` and `1.0e-15` both denote *single floats*:

```
(+ 1/3 2/3 1.0d0 1.0 1.0e-15)
```

One *conforming implementation* might process the *arguments* from left to right, first adding `1/3` and `2/3` to get `1`, then converting that to a *double float* for combination with `1.0d0`, then successively converting and adding `1.0` and `1.0e-15`.

Another *conforming implementation* might process the *arguments* from right to left, first performing a *single float* addition of `1.0` and `1.0e-15` (perhaps losing accuracy in the process), then converting the sum to a *double float* and adding `1.0d0`, then converting `2/3` to a *double float* and adding it, and then converting `1/3` and adding that.

A third *conforming implementation* might first scan all the *arguments*, process all the *rationals* first to keep that part of the computation exact, then find an *argument* of the largest floating-point format among all the *arguments* and add that, and then add in all other *arguments*, converting each in turn (all in a perhaps misguided attempt to make the computation as accurate as possible).

In any case, all three strategies are legitimate.

A *conforming program* could control the order by writing, for example,

```
(+ (+ 1/3 2/3) (+ 1.0d0 1.0e-15) 1.0)
```

12.1.1.2 Contagion in Numeric Operations

For information about the contagion rules for implicit coercions of *arguments* in numeric operations, see Section 12.1.4.4 (Rule of Float Precision Contagion), Section 12.1.4.1 (Rule of Float and Rational Contagion), and Section 12.1.5.2 (Rule of Complex Contagion).

12.1.1.3 Viewing Integers as Bits and Bytes

12.1.1.3.1 Logical Operations on Integers

Logical operations require *integers* as arguments; an error of *type* **type-error** should be signaled if an argument is supplied that is not an *integer*. *Integer* arguments to logical operations are treated as if they were represented in two's-complement notation.

Figure 12–5 shows *defined names* relating to logical operations on numbers.

ash	**boole-ior**	**logbitp**
boole	**boole-nand**	**logcount**
boole-1	**boole-nor**	**logeqv**
boole-2	**boole-orc1**	**logior**
boole-and	**boole-orc2**	**lognand**
boole-andc1	**boole-set**	**lognor**
boole-andc2	**boole-xor**	**lognot**
boole-c1	**integer-length**	**logorc1**
boole-c2	**logand**	**logorc2**
boole-clr	**logandc1**	**logtest**
boole-eqv	**logandc2**	**logxor**

Figure 12–5. Defined names relating to logical operations on numbers.

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12.1.1.3.2 Byte Operations on Integers

The byte-manipulation *functions* use *objects* called *byte specifiers* to designate the size and position of a specific *byte* within an *integer*. The representation of a *byte specifier* is *implementation-dependent*; it might or might not be a *number*. The *function* **byte** will construct a *byte specifier*, which various other byte-manipulation *functions* will accept.

Figure 12–6 shows *defined names* relating to manipulating *bytes* of *numbers*.

byte	**deposit-field**	**ldb-test**
byte-position	**dpb**	**mask-field**
byte-size	**ldb**	

Figure 12–6. Defined names relating to byte manipulation.

12.1.2 Implementation-Dependent Numeric Constants

Figure 12–7 shows *defined names* relating to *implementation-dependent* details about *numbers*.

double-float-epsilon	**most-negative-fixnum**
double-float-negative-epsilon	**most-negative-long-float**
least-negative-double-float	**most-negative-short-float**
least-negative-long-float	**most-negative-single-float**
least-negative-short-float	**most-positive-double-float**
least-negative-single-float	**most-positive-fixnum**
least-positive-double-float	**most-positive-long-float**
least-positive-long-float	**most-positive-short-float**
least-positive-short-float	**most-positive-single-float**
least-positive-single-float	**short-float-epsilon**
long-float-epsilon	**short-float-negative-epsilon**
long-float-negative-epsilon	**single-float-epsilon**
most-negative-double-float	**single-float-negative-epsilon**

Figure 12–7. Defined names relating to implementation-dependent details about numbers.

12.1.3 Rational Computations

The rules in this section apply to *rational* computations.

12.1.3.1 Rule of Unbounded Rational Precision

Rational computations cannot overflow in the usual sense (though there may not be enough storage to represent a result), since *integers* and *ratios* may in principle be of any magnitude.

12.1.3.2 Rule of Canonical Representation for Rationals

If any computation produces a result that is a mathematical ratio of two integers such that the denominator evenly divides the numerator, then the result is converted to the equivalent *integer*.

If the denominator does not evenly divide the numerator, the canonical representation of a *rational* number is as the *ratio* that numerator and that denominator, where the greatest common divisor of the numerator and denominator is one, and where the denominator is positive and greater than one.

When used as input (in the default syntax), the notation `-0` always denotes the *integer* `0`. A *conforming implementation* must not have a representation of "minus zero" for *integers* that is distinct from its representation of zero for *integers*. However, such a distinction is possible for *floats*; see the *type* **float**.

12.1.3.3 Rule of Float Substitutability

When the arguments to an irrational mathematical *function* are all *rational* and the true mathematical result is also (mathematically) rational, then unless otherwise noted an implementation is free to return either an accurate *rational* result or a *single float* approximation. If the arguments are all *rational* but the result cannot be expressed as a *rational* number, then a *single float* approximation is always returned.

If the arguments to an irrational mathematical *function* are all of type `(or rational (complex rational))` and the true mathematical result is (mathematically) a complex number with rational real and imaginary parts, then unless otherwise noted an implementation is free to return either an accurate result of type `(or rational (complex rational))` or a *single float* (permissible only if the imaginary part of the true mathematical result is zero) or `(complex single-float)`. If the arguments are all of type `(or rational (complex rational))` but the result cannot be expressed as a *rational* or *complex rational*, then the returned value will be of *type* **single-float** (permissible only if the imaginary part of the true mathematical result is zero) or `(complex single-float)`.

Float substitutability applies neither to the rational *functions* **+**, **-**, *****, and **/** nor to the related *operators* **1+**, **1-**, **incf**, **decf**, and **conjugate**. For rational *functions*, if all arguments are *rational*, then the result is *rational*; if all arguments are of type `(or rational (complex rational))`, then the result is of type `(or rational (complex rational))`.

Function	Sample Results
abs	`(abs #c(3 4))` → `5` *or* `5.0`
acos	`(acos 1)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
acosh	`(acosh 1)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
asin	`(asin 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
asinh	`(asinh 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
atan	`(atan 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
atanh	`(atanh 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
cis	`(cis 0)` → `1` *or* `#c(1.0 0.0)`
cos	`(cos 0)` → `1` *or* `1.0`
cosh	`(cosh 0)` → `1` *or* `1.0`
exp	`(exp 0)` → `1` *or* `1.0`
expt	`(expt 8 1/3)` → `2` *or* `2.0`
log	`(log 1)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
	`(log 8 2)` → `3` *or* `3.0`
phase	`(phase 7)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
signum	`(signum #c(3 4))` → `#c(3/5 4/5)` *or* `#c(0.6 0.8)`
sin	`(sin 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
sinh	`(sinh 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
sqrt	`(sqrt 4)` → `2` *or* `2.0`
	`(sqrt 9/16)` → `3/4` *or* `0.75`
tan	`(tan 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`
tanh	`(tanh 0)` → `0` *or* `0.0`

Figure 12–8. Functions Affected by Rule of Float Substitutability

12.1.4 Floating-point Computations

The following rules apply to floating point computations.

12.1.4.1 Rule of Float and Rational Contagion

When *rationals* and *floats* are combined by a numerical function, the *rational* is first converted to a *float* of the same format. For *functions* such as **+** that take more than two arguments, it is permitted that part of the operation be carried out exactly using *rationals* and the rest be done using floating-point arithmetic.

When *rationals* and *floats* are compared by a numerical function, the *function* **rational** is effectively called to convert the *float* to a *rational* and then an exact comparison is performed. In the case of *complex* numbers, the real and imaginary parts are effectively handled individually.

12.1.4.1.1 Examples of Rule of Float and Rational Contagion

```
;;;; Combining rationals with floats.
;;; This example assumes an implementation in which
;;; (float-radix 0.5) is 2 (as in IEEE) or 16 (as in IBM/360),
;;; or else some other implementation in which 1/2 has an exact
;;;  representation in floating point.
(+ 1/2 0.5) → 1.0
(- 1/2 0.5d0) → 0.0d0
(+ 0.5 -0.5 1/2) → 0.5

;;;; Comparing rationals with floats.
;;; This example assumes an implementation in which the default float
;;; format is IEEE single-float, IEEE double-float, or some other format
;;; in which 5/7 is rounded upwards by FLOAT.
(< 5/7 (float 5/7)) → true
(< 5/7 (rational (float 5/7))) → true
(< (float 5/7) (float 5/7)) → false
```

12.1.4.2 Rule of Float Approximation

Computations with *floats* are only approximate, although they are described as if the results were mathematically accurate. Two mathematically identical expressions may be computationally different because of errors inherent in the floating-point approximation process. The precision of a *float* is not necessarily correlated with the accuracy of that number. For instance, 3.142857142857142857 is a more precise approximation to π than 3.14159, but the latter is more accurate. The precision refers to the number of bits retained in the representation. When an operation combines a *short float* with a *long float*, the result will be a *long float*. Common Lisp functions assume that the accuracy of arguments to them does not exceed their precision. Therefore when two *small floats* are combined, the result is a *small float*. Common Lisp functions never convert automatically from a larger size to a smaller one.

12.1.4.3 Rule of Float Underflow and Overflow

An error of *type* **floating-point-overflow** or **floating-point-underflow** should be signaled if a floating-point computation causes exponent overflow or underflow, respectively.

12.1.4.4 Rule of Float Precision Contagion

The result of a numerical function is a *float* of the largest format among all the floating-point arguments to the *function*.

12.1.5 Complex Computations

The following rules apply to *complex* computations:

12.1.5.1 Rule of Complex Substitutability

Except during the execution of irrational and transcendental *functions*, no numerical *function* ever *yields* a *complex* unless one or more of its *arguments* is a *complex*.

12.1.5.2 Rule of Complex Contagion

When a *real* and a *complex* are both part of a computation, the *real* is first converted to a *complex* by providing an imaginary part of `0`.

12.1.5.3 Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals

If the result of any computation would be a *complex* number whose real part is of *type* **rational** and whose imaginary part is zero, the result is converted to the *rational* which is the real part. This rule does not apply to *complex* numbers whose parts are *floats*. For example, `#C(5 0)` and `5` are not *different objects* in Common Lisp(they are always the *same* under **eql**); `#C(5.0 0.0)` and `5.0` are always *different objects* in Common Lisp (they are never the *same* under **eql**, although they are the *same* under **equalp** and **=**).

12.1.5.3.1 Examples of Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals

```
#c(1.0 1.0) → #C(1.0 1.0)
#c(0.0 0.0) → #C(0.0 0.0)
#c(1.0 1) → #C(1.0 1.0)
#c(0.0 0) → #C(0.0 0.0)
#c(1 1) → #C(1 1)
#c(0 0) → 0
(typep #c(1 1) '(complex (eql 1))) → true
(typep #c(0 0) '(complex (eql 0))) → false
```

12.1.5.4 Principal Values and Branch Cuts

Many of the irrational and transcendental functions are multiply defined in the complex domain; for example, there are in general an infinite number of complex values for the logarithm function. In each such case, a *principal value* must be chosen for the function to return. In general, such values cannot be chosen so as to make the range continuous; lines in the domain called branch cuts must be defined, which in turn define the discontinuities in the range. Common Lisp defines the branch cuts, *principal values*, and boundary conditions for the complex functions following "Principal Values and Branch Cuts in Complex APL." The branch cut rules that apply to each function are located with the description of that function.

Figure 12–9 lists the identities that are obeyed throughout the applicable portion of the complex domain, even on the branch cuts:

sin i z = i sinh z	sinh i z = i sin z	arctan i z = i arctanh z
cos i z = cosh z	cosh i z = cos z	arcsinh i z = i arcsin z
tan i z = i tanh z	arcsin i z = i arcsinh z	arctanh i z = i arctan z

Figure 12–9. Trigonometric Identities for Complex Domain

The quadrant numbers referred to in the discussions of branch cuts are as illustrated in Figure 12–10.

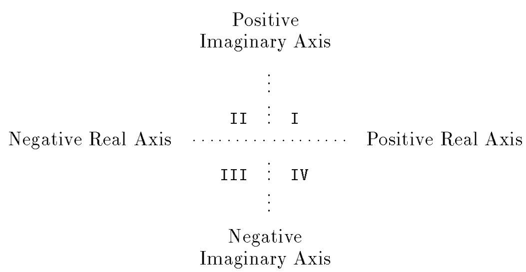

Figure 12–10. Quadrant Numbering for Branch Cuts

12.1.6 Interval Designators

The *compound type specifier* form of the numeric *type specifiers* permit the user to specify an interval on the real number line which describe a *subtype* of the *type* which would be described by the corresponding *atomic type specifier*. A *subtype* of some *type* T is specified using an ordered pair of *objects* called *interval designators* for *type* T.

The first of the two *interval designators* for *type* T can be any of the following:

a number N of *type* T

This denotes a lower inclusive bound of N. That is, *elements* of the *subtype* of T will be greater than or equal to N.

a *singleton list* whose *element* is a number M of *type* T

This denotes a lower exclusive bound of M. That is, *elements* of the *subtype* of T will be greater than M.

the symbol *

This denotes the absence of a lower bound on the interval.

The second of the two *interval designators* for *type* T can be any of the following:

a number N of *type* T

This denotes an upper inclusive bound of N. That is, *elements* of the *subtype* of T will be less than or equal to N.

a *singleton list* whose *element* is a number M of *type* T

This denotes an upper exclusive bound of M. That is, *elements* of the *subtype* of T will be less than M.

the symbol *

This denotes the absence of an upper bound on the interval.

12.1.7 Random-State Operations

Figure 12–11 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *random states*.

random-state	**random**
make-random-state	**random-state-p**

Figure 12–11. Random-state defined names

number *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

number, **t**

Description:

The *type* **number** contains *objects* which represent mathematical numbers. The *types* **real** and **complex** are *disjoint subtypes* of **number**.

The *function* **=** tests for numerical equality. The *function* **eql**, when its arguments are both *numbers*, tests that they have both the same *type* and numerical value. Two *numbers* that are the *same* under **eql** or **=** are not necessarily the *same* under **eq**.

Notes:

Common Lisp differs from mathematics on some naming issues. In mathematics, the set of real numbers is traditionally described as a subset of the complex numbers, but in Common Lisp, the *type* **real** and the *type* **complex** are disjoint. The Common Lisp type which includes all mathematical complex numbers is called **number**. The reasons for these differences include historical precedent, compatibility with most other popular computer languages, and various issues of time and space efficiency.

complex *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

complex, **number**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **complex** includes all mathematical complex numbers other than those included in the *type* **rational**. *Complexes* are expressed in Cartesian form with a real part and an imaginary part, each of which is a *real*. The real part and imaginary part are either both *rational* or both of the same *float type*. The imaginary part can be a *float* zero, but can never be a *rational* zero, for such a number is always represented by Common Lisp as a *rational* rather than a *complex*.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(complex [`*typespec* | `*])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

typespec—a *type specifier* that denotes a *subtype* of *type* **real**.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

Every element of this *type* is a *complex* whose real part and imaginary part are each of type `(upgraded-complex-part-type` *typespec*`)`. This *type* encompasses those *complexes* that can result by giving numbers of *type* *typespec* to **complex**.

`(complex` *type-specifier*`)` refers to all *complexes* that can result from giving *numbers* of *type type-specifier* to the *function* **complex**, plus all other *complexes* of the same specialized representation.

See Also:

Section 12.1.5.3 (Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals), Section 2.3.2 (Constructing Numbers from Tokens), Section 22.1.3.1.4 (Printing Complexes)

Notes:

The input syntax for a *complex* with real part *r* and imaginary part *i* is `#C(`*r i*`)`. For further details, see Section 2.4 (Standard Macro Characters).

For every *float*, *n*, there is a *complex* which represents the same mathematical number and which can be obtained by `(COERCE` *n* `'COMPLEX)`.

real *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

real, **number**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **real** includes all *numbers* that represent mathematical real numbers, though there are mathematical real numbers (*e.g.*, irrational numbers) that do not have an exact representation in Common Lisp. Only *reals* can be ordered using the **<**, **>**, **<=**, and **>=** functions.

The *types* **rational** and **float** are *disjoint subtypes* of *type* **real**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(real [`*lower-limit* `[`*upper-limit*`]])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

lower-limit, *upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **real**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the *reals* on the interval described by *lower-limit* and *upper-limit*.

float *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

float, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

A *float* is a mathematical rational (but *not* a Common Lisp *rational*) of the form $s \cdot f \cdot b^{e-p}$, where s is +1 or −1, the *sign*; b is an *integer* greater than 1, the *base* or *radix* of the representation; p is a positive *integer*, the *precision* (in base-b digits) of the *float*; f is a positive *integer* between b^{p-1} and $b^p - 1$ (inclusive), the significand; and e is an *integer*, the exponent. The value of p and the range of e depends on the implementation and on the type of *float* within that implementation. In addition, there is a floating-point zero; depending on the implementation, there can also be a "minus zero". If there is no minus zero, then 0.0 and −0.0 are both interpreted as simply a floating-point zero. `(= 0.0 -0.0)` is always true. If there is a minus zero, `(eql -0.0 0.0)` is *false*, otherwise it is *true*.

The *types* **short-float**, **single-float**, **double-float**, and **long-float** are *subtypes* of *type* **float**. Any two of them must be either *disjoint types* or the *same type*; if the *same type*, then any other *types* between them in the above ordering must also be the *same type*. For example, if the *type* **single-float** and the *type* **long-float** are the *same type*, then the *type* **double-float** must be the *same type* also.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(float` [*lower-limit* [*upper-limit*]]`)`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

lower-limit, *upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **float**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the *floats* on the interval described by *lower-limit* and *upper-limit*.

See Also:

Figure 2–9, Section 2.3.2 (Constructing Numbers from Tokens), Section 22.1.3.1.3 (Printing Floats)

Notes:

Note that all mathematical integers are representable not only as Common Lisp *reals*, but also as *complex floats*. For example, possible representations of the mathematical number 1 include the *integer* `1`, the *float* `1.0`, or the *complex* `#C(1.0 0.0)`.

short-float, single-float, double-float, long-float *Type*

Supertypes:

short-float: **short-float**, **float**, **real**, **number**, **t**

single-float: **single-float**, **float**, **real**, **number**, **t**

double-float: **double-float**, **float**, **real**, **number**, **t**

long-float: **long-float**, **float**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

For the four defined *subtypes* of *type* **float**, it is true that intermediate between the *type* **short-float** and the *type* **long-float** are the *type* **single-float** and the *type* **double-float**. The precise definition of these categories is *implementation-defined*. The precision (measured in "bits", computed as $p \log_2 b$) and the exponent size (also measured in "bits," computed as $\log_2(n+1)$, where n is the maximum exponent value) is recommended to be at least as great as the values in Figure 12–12. Each of the defined *subtypes* of *type* **float** might or might not have a minus zero.

Format	Minimum Precision	Minimum Exponent Size
Short	13 bits	5 bits
Single	24 bits	8 bits
Double	50 bits	8 bits
Long	50 bits	8 bits

Figure 12–12. Recommended Minimum Floating-Point Precision and Exponent Size

There can be fewer than four internal representations for *floats*. If there are fewer distinct representations, the following rules apply:

– If there is only one, it is the *type* **single-float**. In this representation, an *object* is simultaneously of *types* **single-float**, **double-float**, **short-float**, and **long-float**.

– Two internal representations can be arranged in either of the following ways:

- Two *types* are provided: **single-float** and **short-float**. An *object* is simultaneously of *types* **single-float**, **double-float**, and **long-float**.
- Two *types* are provided: **single-float** and **double-float**. An *object* is simultaneously of *types* **single-float** and **short-float**, or **double-float** and **long-float**.

– Three internal representations can be arranged in either of the following ways:

- Three *types* are provided: **short-float**, **single-float**, and **double-float**. An *object* can simultaneously be of *type* **double-float** and **long-float**.
- Three *types* are provided: **single-float**, **double-float**, and **long-float**. An *object* can simultaneously be of *types* **single-float** and **short-float**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(short-float [*short-lower-limit* [*short-upper-limit*]])

(single-float [*single-lower-limit* [*single-upper-limit*]])

(double-float [*double-lower-limit* [*double-upper-limit*]])

(long-float [*long-lower-limit* [*long-upper-limit*]])

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

short-lower-limit, *short-upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **short-float**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* *.

single-lower-limit, *single-upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **single-float**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* *.

double-lower-limit, *double-upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **double-float**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* *.

long-lower-limit, *long-upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **long-float**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

Each of these denotes the set of *floats* of the indicated *type* that are on the interval specified by the *interval designators*.

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rational *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

rational, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

The canonical representation of a *rational* is as an *integer* if its value is integral, and otherwise as a *ratio*.

The *types* **integer** and **ratio** are *disjoint subtypes* of *type* **rational**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(rational [*lower-limit* [*upper-limit*]])

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

lower-limit, *upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **rational**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the *rationals* on the interval described by *lower-limit* and *upper-limit*.

ratio *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

ratio, **rational**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

A *ratio* is a *number* representing the mathematical ratio of two non-zero integers, the numerator and denominator, whose greatest common divisor is one, and of which the denominator is positive and greater than one.

See Also:

Figure 2–9, Section 2.3.2 (Constructing Numbers from Tokens), Section 22.1.3.1.2 (Printing Ratios)

integer *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

integer, **rational**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

An *integer* is a mathematical integer. There is no limit on the magnitude of an *integer*.

The *types* **fixnum** and **bignum** form an *exhaustive partition* of *type* **integer**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(integer [`*lower-limit* `[`*upper-limit*`]])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

lower-limit, *upper-limit*—*interval designators* for *type* **integer**. The defaults for each of *lower-limit* and *upper-limit* is the *symbol* `*`.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the *integers* on the interval described by *lower-limit* and *upper-limit*.

See Also:

Figure 2–9, Section 2.3.2 (Constructing Numbers from Tokens), Section 22.1.3.1.1 (Printing Integers)

Notes:

The *type* `(integer` *lower upper*`)`, where *lower* and *upper* are **most-negative-fixnum** and **most-positive-fixnum**, respectively, is also called **fixnum**.

The *type* `(integer 0 1)` is also called **bit**. The *type* `(integer 0 *)` is also called **unsigned-byte**.

signed-byte *Type*

Supertypes:

signed-byte, **integer**, **rational**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

The atomic *type specifier* **signed-byte** denotes the same type as is denoted by the *type specifier* **integer**; however, the list forms of these two *type specifiers* have different semantics.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(signed-byte [`*s* | `*])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

s—a positive *integer*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of *integers* that can be represented in two's-complement form in a *byte* of *s* bits. This is equivalent to `(integer` -2^{s-1} $2^{s-1}-1$`)`. The type **signed-byte** or the type `(signed-byte *)` is the same as the *type* **integer**.

unsigned-byte *Type*

Supertypes:

unsigned-byte, **signed-byte**, **integer**, **rational**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

The atomic *type specifier* **unsigned-byte** denotes the same type as is denoted by the *type specifier* `(integer 0 *)`.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(unsigned-byte [`*s* | `*])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

s—a positive *integer*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of non-negative *integers* that can be represented in a byte of size *s* (bits). This is equivalent to `(mod` *m*`)` for $m = 2^s$, or to `(integer 0` *n*`)` for $n = 2^s - 1$. The *type* **unsigned-byte** or the type `(unsigned-byte *)` is the same as the type `(integer 0 *)`, the set of non-negative *integers*.

Notes:

The *type* `(unsigned-byte 1)` is also called **bit**.

mod *Type Specifier*

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(mod n)`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

n—a positive *integer*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of non-negative *integers* less than *n*. This is equivalent to `(integer 0 (n))` or to `(integer 0 m)`, where $m = n - 1$.

The argument is required, and cannot be `*`.

The symbol **mod** is not valid as a *type specifier*.

bit *Type*

Supertypes:

bit, **unsigned-byte**, **signed-byte**, **integer**, **rational**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **bit** is equivalent to the *type* `(integer 0 1)` and `(unsigned-byte 1)`.

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fixnum *Type*

Supertypes:

fixnum, **integer**, **rational**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

A *fixnum* is an *integer* whose value is between **most-negative-fixnum** and **most-positive-fixnum** inclusive. Exactly which *integers* are *fixnums* is *implementation-defined*. The *type* **fixnum** is required to be a supertype of `(signed-byte 16)`.

bignum *Type*

Supertypes:

bignum, **integer**, **rational**, **real**, **number**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **bignum** is defined to be exactly `(and integer (not fixnum))`.

=, /=, <, >, <=, >= *Function*

Syntax:

= `&rest` *numbers*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

/= `&rest` *numbers*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

< `&rest` *numbers*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

> `&rest` *numbers*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

<= `&rest` *numbers*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

>= `&rest` *numbers*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

number—for `<`, `>`, `<=`, `>=`: a *real*; for `=`, `/=`: a *number*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

=, /=, <, >, <=, >=

Description:

=, /=, <, >, <=, and >= perform arithmetic comparisons on their arguments as follows:

=

The value of = is *true* if all *numbers* are the same in value; otherwise it is *false*. Two *complexes* are considered equal by = if their real and imaginary parts are equal according to =.

/=

The value of /= is *true* if no two *numbers* are the same in value; otherwise it is *false*.

<

The value of < is *true* if the *numbers* are in monotonically increasing order; otherwise it is *false*.

>

The value of > is *true* if the *numbers* are in monotonically decreasing order; otherwise it is *false*.

<=

The value of <= is *true* if the *numbers* are in monotonically nondecreasing order; otherwise it is *false*.

>=

The value of >= is *true* if the *numbers* are in monotonically nonincreasing order; otherwise it is *false*.

=, /=, <, >, <=, and >= perform necessary type conversions.

Examples:

The uses of these functions are illustrated in Figure 12–13.

`(= 3 3)` is *true.*	`(/= 3 3)` is *false.*
`(= 3 5)` is *false.*	`(/= 3 5)` is *true.*
`(= 3 3 3 3)` is *true.*	`(/= 3 3 3 3)` is *false.*
`(= 3 3 5 3)` is *false.*	`(/= 3 3 5 3)` is *false.*
`(= 3 6 5 2)` is *false.*	`(/= 3 6 5 2)` is *true.*
`(= 3 2 3)` is *false.*	`(/= 3 2 3)` is *false.*
`(< 3 5)` is *true.*	`(<= 3 5)` is *true.*
`(< 3 -5)` is *false.*	`(<= 3 -5)` is *false.*
`(< 3 3)` is *false.*	`(<= 3 3)` is *true.*
`(< 0 3 4 6 7)` is *true.*	`(<= 0 3 4 6 7)` is *true.*
`(< 0 3 4 4 6)` is *false.*	`(<= 0 3 4 4 6)` is *true.*
`(> 4 3)` is *true.*	`(>= 4 3)` is *true.*
`(> 4 3 2 1 0)` is *true.*	`(>= 4 3 2 1 0)` is *true.*
`(> 4 3 3 2 0)` is *false.*	`(>= 4 3 3 2 0)` is *true.*
`(> 4 3 1 2 0)` is *false.*	`(>= 4 3 1 2 0)` is *false.*
`(= 3)` is *true.*	`(/= 3)` is *true.*
`(< 3)` is *true.*	`(<= 3)` is *true.*
`(= 3.0 #c(3.0 0.0))` is *true.*	`(/= 3.0 #c(3.0 1.0))` is *true.*
`(= 3 3.0)` is *true.*	`(= 3.0s0 3.0d0)` is *true.*
`(= 0.0 -0.0)` is *true.*	`(= 5/2 2.5)` is *true.*
`(> 0.0 -0.0)` is *false.*	`(= 0 -0.0)` is *true.*
`(<= 0 x 9)` is *true* if `x` is between `0` and `9`, inclusive	
`(< 0.0 x 1.0)` is *true* if `x` is between `0.0` and `1.0`, exclusive	
`(< -1 j (length v))` is *true* if `j` is a *valid array index* for a *vector* `v`	

Figure 12–13. Uses of /=, =, <, >, <=, and >=

Exceptional Situations:

Might signal **type-error** if some *argument* is not a *real*. Might signal **arithmetic-error** if otherwise unable to fulfill its contract.

Notes:

= differs from **eql** in that `(= 0.0 -0.0)` is always true, because = compares the mathematical values of its operands, whereas **eql** compares the representational values, so to speak.

max, min *Function*

Syntax:

max `&rest` *reals*$^{+}$ → *max-real*

min &rest *reals*$^+$ → *min-real*

Arguments and Values:

real—a *real*.

max-real, *min-real*—a *real*.

Description:

max returns the *real* that is greatest (closest to positive infinity). **min** returns the *real* that is least (closest to negative infinity).

For **max**, the implementation has the choice of returning the largest argument as is or applying the rules of floating-point *contagion*, taking all the arguments into consideration for *contagion* purposes. Also, if one or more of the arguments are **=**, then any one of them may be chosen as the value to return. For example, if the *reals* are a mixture of *rationals* and *floats*, and the largest argument is a *rational*, then the implementation is free to produce either that *rational* or its *float* approximation; if the largest argument is a *float* of a smaller format than the largest format of any *float* argument, then the implementation is free to return the argument in its given format or expanded to the larger format. Similar remarks apply to **min** (replacing "largest argument" by "smallest argument").

Examples:

```
 (max 3) → 3
 (min 3) → 3
 (max 6 12) → 12
 (min 6 12) → 6
 (max -6 -12) → -6
 (min -6 -12) → -12
 (max 1 3 2 -7) → 3
 (min 1 3 2 -7) → -7
 (max -2 3 0 7) → 7
 (min -2 3 0 7) → -2
 (max 5.0 2) → 5.0
 (min 5.0 2)
→ 2
or→ 2.0
 (max 3.0 7 1)
→ 7
or→ 7.0
 (min 3.0 7 1)
→ 1
or→ 1.0
 (max 1.0s0 7.0d0) → 7.0d0
 (min 1.0s0 7.0d0)
→ 1.0s0
or→ 1.0d0
 (max 3 1 1.0s0 1.0d0)
→ 3
or→ 3.0d0
 (min 3 1 1.0s0 1.0d0)
→ 1
or→ 1.0s0
or→ 1.0d0
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if any *number* is not a *real*.

minusp, plusp *Function*

Syntax:

minusp *real* → *generalized-boolean*

plusp *real* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

real—a *real*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

minusp returns *true* if *real* is less than zero; otherwise, returns *false*.

plusp returns *true* if *real* is greater than zero; otherwise, returns *false*.

Regardless of whether an *implementation* provides distinct representations for positive and negative *float* zeros, (minusp -0.0) always returns *false*.

Examples:

```
 (minusp -1) → true
 (plusp 0) → false
 (plusp least-positive-single-float) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *real* is not a *real*.

zerop *Function*

Syntax:

zerop *number* → *generalized-boolean*

Pronunciation:

[ˈzē(ˌ)rō(ˌ)pē]

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *number* is zero (*integer*, *float*, or *complex*); otherwise, returns *false*.

Regardless of whether an *implementation* provides distinct representations for positive and negative floating-point zeros, (zerop -0.0) always returns *true*.

Examples:

```
(zerop 0) → true
(zerop 1) → false
(zerop -0.0) → true
(zerop 0/100) → true
(zerop #c(0 0.0)) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *number* is not a *number*.

Notes:

```
(zerop number) ≡ (= number 0)
```

floor, ffloor, ceiling, fceiling, truncate, ftruncate, round, fround *Function*

Syntax:

floor *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*
ffloor *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*
ceiling *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*

fceiling *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*
truncate *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*
ftruncate *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*
round *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*
fround *number* &optional *divisor* → *quotient, remainder*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *real*.

divisor—a non-zero *real*. The default is the *integer* 1.

quotient—for **floor**, **ceiling**, **truncate**, and **round**: an *integer*; for **ffloor**, **fceiling**, **ftruncate**, and **fround**: a *float*.

remainder—a *real*.

Description:

These functions divide *number* by *divisor*, returning a *quotient* and *remainder*, such that

quotient·*divisor*+*remainder*=*number*

The *quotient* always represents a mathematical integer. When more than one mathematical integer might be possible (*i.e.*, when the remainder is not zero), the kind of rounding or truncation depends on the *operator*:

floor, **ffloor**

floor and **ffloor** produce a *quotient* that has been truncated toward negative infinity; that is, the *quotient* represents the largest mathematical integer that is not larger than the mathematical quotient.

ceiling, **fceiling**

ceiling and **fceiling** produce a *quotient* that has been truncated toward positive infinity; that is, the *quotient* represents the smallest mathematical integer that is not smaller than the mathematical result.

truncate, **ftruncate**

truncate and **ftruncate** produce a *quotient* that has been truncated towards zero; that is, the *quotient* represents the mathematical integer of the same sign as the mathematical quotient, and that has the greatest integral magnitude not greater than that of the mathematical quotient.

round, **fround**

round and **fround** produce a *quotient* that has been rounded to the nearest mathematical integer; if the mathematical quotient is exactly halfway between two integers, (that is, it has the form *integer*+$\frac{1}{2}$), then the *quotient* has been rounded to the even (divisible by two) integer.

All of these functions perform type conversion operations on *numbers*.

The *remainder* is an *integer* if both x and y are *integers*, is a *rational* if both x and y are *rationals*, and is a *float* if either x or y is a *float*.

ffloor, **fceiling**, **ftruncate**, and **fround** handle arguments of different *types* in the following way: If *number* is a *float*, and *divisor* is not a *float* of longer format, then the first result is a *float* of the same *type* as *number*. Otherwise, the first result is of the *type* determined by *contagion* rules; see Section 12.1.1.2 (Contagion in Numeric Operations).

Examples:

```
(floor 3/2) → 1, 1/2
(ceiling 3 2) → 2, -1
(ffloor 3 2) → 1.0, 1
(ffloor -4.7) → -5.0, 0.3
(ffloor 3.5d0) → 3.0d0, 0.5d0
(fceiling 3/2) → 2.0, -1/2
(truncate 1) → 1, 0
(truncate .5) → 0, 0.5
(round .5) → 0, 0.5
(ftruncate -7 2) → -3.0, -1
(fround -7 2) → -4.0, 1
(dolist (n '(2.6 2.5 2.4 0.7 0.3 -0.3 -0.7 -2.4 -2.5 -2.6))
  (format t "~&~4,1@F ~2,' D ~2,' D ~2,' D ~2,' D"
          n (floor n) (ceiling n) (truncate n) (round n)))
▷ +2.6  2  3  2  3
▷ +2.5  2  3  2  2
▷ +2.4  2  3  2  2
▷ +0.7  0  1  0  1
▷ +0.3  0  1  0  0
▷ -0.3 -1  0  0  0
▷ -0.7 -1  0  0 -1
▷ -2.4 -3 -2 -2 -2
▷ -2.5 -3 -2 -2 -2
▷ -2.6 -3 -2 -2 -3
→ NIL
```

Notes:

When only *number* is given, the two results are exact; the mathematical sum of the two results is always equal to the mathematical value of *number*.

(*function number divisor*) and (*function* (/ *number divisor*)) (where *function* is any of one of **floor**, **ceiling**, **ffloor**, **fceiling**, **truncate**, **round**, **ftruncate**, and **fround**) return the same first value, but they return different remainders as the second value. For example:

```
(floor 5 2) → 2, 1
(floor (/ 5 2)) → 2, 1/2
```

If an effect is desired that is similar to **round**, but that always rounds up or down (rather than toward the nearest even integer) if the mathematical quotient is exactly halfway between two integers, the programmer should consider a construction such as (floor (+ x 1/2)) or (ceiling (- x 1/2)).

sin, cos, tan *Function*

Syntax:

sin *radians* → *number*

cos *radians* → *number*

tan *radians* → *number*

Arguments and Values:

radians—a *number* given in radians.

number—a *number*.

Description:

sin, **cos**, and **tan** return the sine, cosine, and tangent, respectively, of *radians*.

Examples:

```
(sin 0) → 0.0
(cos 0.7853982) → 0.707107
(tan #c(0 1)) → #C(0.0 0.761594)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *radians* is not a *number*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

asin, **acos**, **atan**, Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

asin, acos, atan *Function*

Syntax:

asin *number* → *radians*

acos *number* → *radians*

atan *number1* `&optional` *number2* → *radians*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

number1—a *number* if *number2* is not supplied, or a *real* if *number2* is supplied.

number2—a *real*.

radians—a *number* (of radians).

Description:

asin, **acos**, and **atan** compute the arc sine, arc cosine, and arc tangent respectively.

The arc sine, arc cosine, and arc tangent (with only *number1* supplied) functions can be defined mathematically for *number* or *number1* specified as x as in Figure 12–14.

Function	Definition
Arc sine	$-i\ \texttt{log}\left(ix + \sqrt{1-x^2}\right)$
Arc cosine	$(\pi/2) - \texttt{arcsin}\ x$
Arc tangent	$-i\ \texttt{log}\left((1+ix)\ \sqrt{1/(1+x^2)}\right)$

Figure 12–14. Mathematical definition of arc sine, arc cosine, and arc tangent

These formulae are mathematically correct, assuming completely accurate computation. They are not necessarily the simplest ones for real-valued computations.

If both *number1* and *number2* are supplied for **atan**, the result is the arc tangent of *number1*/*number2*. The value of **atan** is always between $-\pi$ (exclusive) and π (inclusive) when minus zero is not supported. The range of the two-argument arc tangent when minus zero is supported includes $-\pi$.

For a *real* *number1*, the result is a *real* and lies between $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$ (both exclusive). *number1* can be a *complex* if *number2* is not supplied. If both are supplied, *number2* can be zero provided *number1* is not zero.

The following definition for arc sine determines the range and branch cuts:

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$$\texttt{arcsin}\ z = -i\ \texttt{log}\left(iz + \sqrt{1-z^2}\right)$$

The branch cut for the arc sine function is in two pieces: one along the negative real axis to the left of -1 (inclusive), continuous with quadrant II, and one along the positive real axis to the right of 1 (inclusive), continuous with quadrant IV. The range is that strip of the complex plane containing numbers whose real part is between $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$. A number with real part equal to $-\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is non-negative; a number with real part equal to $\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is non-positive.

The following definition for arc cosine determines the range and branch cuts:

$$\texttt{arccos}\ z = \frac{\pi}{2} - \texttt{arcsin}\ z$$

or, which are equivalent,

$$\texttt{arccos}\ z = -i\ \texttt{log}\left(z + i\ \sqrt{1-z^2}\right)$$

$$\texttt{arccos}\ z = \frac{2\ \texttt{log}\left(\sqrt{(1+z)/2} + i\ \sqrt{(1-z)/2}\right)}{i}$$

The branch cut for the arc cosine function is in two pieces: one along the negative real axis to the left of -1 (inclusive), continuous with quadrant II, and one along the positive real axis to the right of 1 (inclusive), continuous with quadrant IV. This is the same branch cut as for arc sine. The range is that strip of the complex plane containing numbers whose real part is between 0 and π. A number with real part equal to 0 is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is non-negative; a number with real part equal to π is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is non-positive.

The following definition for (one-argument) arc tangent determines the range and branch cuts:

$$\texttt{arctan}\ z = \frac{\texttt{log}\ (1+iz) - \texttt{log}\ (1-iz)}{2i}$$

Beware of simplifying this formula; "obvious" simplifications are likely to alter the branch cuts or the values on the branch cuts incorrectly. The branch cut for the arc tangent function is in two pieces: one along the positive imaginary axis above i (exclusive), continuous with quadrant II, and one along the negative imaginary axis below $-i$ (exclusive), continuous with quadrant IV. The points i and $-i$ are excluded from the domain. The range is that strip of the complex plane containing numbers whose real part is between $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$. A number with real part equal to $-\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is strictly positive; a number with real part equal to $\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is strictly negative. Thus the range of arc tangent is identical to that of arc sine with the points $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$ excluded.

asin, acos, atan

For **atan**, the signs of *number1* (indicated as x) and *number2* (indicated as y) are used to derive quadrant information. Figure 12–15 details various special cases. The asterisk (*) indicates that the entry in the figure applies to implementations that support minus zero.

	y Condition	x Condition	Cartesian locus	Range of result
	$y = 0$	$x > 0$	Positive x-axis	0
*	$y = +0$	$x > 0$	Positive x-axis	$+0$
*	$y = -0$	$x > 0$	Positive x-axis	-0
	$y > 0$	$x > 0$	Quadrant I	$0 <$ result $< \pi/2$
	$y > 0$	$x = 0$	Positive y-axis	$\pi/2$
	$y > 0$	$x < 0$	Quadrant II	$\pi/2 <$ result $< \pi$
	$y = 0$	$x < 0$	Negative x-axis	π
*	$y = +0$	$x < 0$	Negative x-axis	$+\pi$
*	$y = -0$	$x < 0$	Negative x-axis	$-\pi$
	$y < 0$	$x < 0$	Quadrant III	$-\pi <$ result $< -\pi/2$
	$y < 0$	$x = 0$	Negative y-axis	$-\pi/2$
	$y < 0$	$x > 0$	Quadrant IV	$-\pi/2 <$ result < 0
	$y = 0$	$x = 0$	Origin	undefined consequences
*	$y = +0$	$x = +0$	Origin	$+0$
*	$y = -0$	$x = +0$	Origin	-0
*	$y = +0$	$x = -0$	Origin	$+\pi$
*	$y = -0$	$x = -0$	Origin	$-\pi$

Figure 12–15. Quadrant information for arc tangent

Examples:

```
(asin 0) → 0.0
(acos #c(0 1))  → #C(1.5707963267948966 -0.8813735870195432)
(/ (atan 1 (sqrt 3)) 6)  → 0.087266
(atan #c(0 2)) → #C(-1.5707964 0.54930615)
```

Exceptional Situations:

acos and **asin** should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *number* is not a *number*. **atan** should signal **type-error** if one argument is supplied and that argument is not a *number*, or if two arguments are supplied and both of those arguments are not *reals*.

acos, **asin**, and **atan** might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

log, **sqrt**, Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

Notes:

The result of either **asin** or **acos** can be a *complex* even if *number* is not a *complex*; this occurs when the absolute value of *number* is greater than one.

pi *Constant Variable*

Value:

an *implementation-dependent long float*.

Description:

The best *long float* approximation to the mathematical constant π.

Examples:

```
;; In each of the following computations, the precision depends
;; on the implementation.  Also, if 'long float' is treated by
;; the implementation as equivalent to some other float format
;; (e.g., 'double float') the exponent marker might be the marker
;; for that equivalent (e.g., 'D' instead of 'L').
pi → 3.141592653589793L0
(cos pi) → -1.0L0

(defun sin-of-degrees (degrees)
  (let ((x (if (floatp degrees) degrees (float degrees pi))))
    (sin (* x (/ (float pi x) 180)))))
```

Notes:

An approximation to π in some other precision can be obtained by writing `(float pi x)`, where `x` is a *float* of the desired precision, or by writing `(coerce pi` *type*`)`, where *type* is the desired type, such as **short-float**.

sinh, cosh, tanh, asinh, acosh, atanh *Function*

Syntax:

sinh *number* → *result*

cosh *number* → *result*

tanh *number* → *result*

asinh *number* → *result*

acosh *number* → *result*

atanh *number* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

result—a *number*.

Description:

These functions compute the hyperbolic sine, cosine, tangent, arc sine, arc cosine, and arc tangent functions, which are mathematically defined for an argument x as given in Figure 12–16.

Function	Definition
Hyperbolic sine	$(e^x - e^{-x})/2$
Hyperbolic cosine	$(e^x + e^{-x})/2$
Hyperbolic tangent	$(e^x - e^{-x})/(e^x + e^{-x})$
Hyperbolic arc sine	$\mathtt{log}\ (x + \sqrt{1 + x^2})$
Hyperbolic arc cosine	$2\ \mathtt{log}\ (\sqrt{(x+1)/2} + \sqrt{(x-1)/2})$
Hyperbolic arc tangent	$(\mathtt{log}\ (1+x) - \mathtt{log}\ (1-x))/2$

Figure 12–16. Mathematical definitions for hyperbolic functions

The following definition for the inverse hyperbolic cosine determines the range and branch cuts:

$$\mathtt{arccosh}\ z = 2\ \mathtt{log}\left(\sqrt{(z+1)/2} + \sqrt{(z-1)/2}\right).$$

The branch cut for the inverse hyperbolic cosine function lies along the real axis to the left of 1 (inclusive), extending indefinitely along the negative real axis, continuous with quadrant II and (between 0 and 1) with quadrant I. The range is that half-strip of the complex plane containing numbers whose real part is non-negative and whose imaginary part is between $-\pi$ (exclusive) and π (inclusive). A number with real part zero is in the range if its imaginary part is between zero (inclusive) and π (inclusive).

The following definition for the inverse hyperbolic sine determines the range and branch cuts:

$$\mathtt{arcsinh}\ z = \mathtt{log}\left(z + \sqrt{1 + z^2}\right).$$

The branch cut for the inverse hyperbolic sine function is in two pieces: one along the positive imaginary axis above i (inclusive), continuous with quadrant I, and one along the negative imaginary axis below $-i$ (inclusive), continuous with quadrant III. The range is that strip of the complex plane containing numbers whose imaginary part is between $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$. A number with imaginary part equal to $-\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its real part is non-positive; a number with imaginary part equal to $\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is non-negative.

The following definition for the inverse hyperbolic tangent determines the range and branch cuts:

$$\mathtt{arctanh}\ z = \frac{\mathtt{log}\ (1+z) - \mathtt{log}\ (1-z)}{2}.$$

Note that:

$$i\ \mathtt{arctan}\ z = \mathtt{arctanh}\ iz.$$

The branch cut for the inverse hyperbolic tangent function is in two pieces: one along the negative real axis to the left of -1 (inclusive), continuous with quadrant III, and one along the positive real axis to the right of 1 (inclusive), continuous with quadrant I. The points -1 and 1 are excluded from the domain. The range is that strip of the complex plane containing numbers whose imaginary part is between $-\pi/2$ and $\pi/2$. A number with imaginary part equal to $-\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its real part is strictly negative; a number with imaginary part equal to $\pi/2$ is in the range if and only if its imaginary part is strictly positive. Thus the range of the inverse hyperbolic tangent function is identical to that of the inverse hyperbolic sine function with the points $-\pi i/2$ and $\pi i/2$ excluded.

Examples:

```
(sinh 0) → 0.0
(cosh (complex 0 -1)) → #C(0.540302 -0.0)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *number* is not a *number*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

log, **sqrt**, Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

Notes:

The result of **acosh** may be a *complex* even if *number* is not a *complex*; this occurs when *number* is less than one. Also, the result of **atanh** may be a *complex* even if *number* is not a *complex*; this occurs when the absolute value of *number* is greater than one.

The branch cut formulae are mathematically correct, assuming completely accurate computation. Implementors should consult a good text on numerical analysis. The formulae given above are not necessarily the simplest ones for real-valued computations; they are chosen to define the branch cuts in desirable ways for the complex case.

* *Function*

Syntax:

***** &rest *numbers* → *product*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

product—a *number*.

Description:

Returns the product of *numbers*, performing any necessary type conversions in the process. If no *numbers* are supplied, 1 is returned.

Examples:

```
(*) → 1
(* 3 5) → 15
(* 1.0 #c(22 33) 55/98) → #C(12.346938775510203 18.520408163265305)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Might signal **type-error** if some *argument* is not a *number*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

Section 12.1.1 (Numeric Operations), Section 12.1.3 (Rational Computations), Section 12.1.4 (Floating-point Computations), Section 12.1.5 (Complex Computations)

+ *Function*

Syntax:

+ &rest *numbers* → *sum*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

sum—a *number*.

Description:

Returns the sum of *numbers*, performing any necessary type conversions in the process. If no *numbers* are supplied, 0 is returned.

Examples:

```
(+) → 0
(+ 1) → 1
(+ 31/100 69/100) → 1
(+ 1/5 0.8) → 1.0
```

Exceptional Situations:

Might signal **type-error** if some *argument* is not a *number*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

Section 12.1.1 (Numeric Operations), Section 12.1.3 (Rational Computations), Section 12.1.4 (Floating-point Computations), Section 12.1.5 (Complex Computations)

− *Function*

Syntax:

− *number* → *negation*

− *minuend* &rest *subtrahends*+ → *difference*

Arguments and Values:

number, *minuend*, *subtrahend*—a *number*.

negation, *difference*—a *number*.

Description:

The *function* **-** performs arithmetic subtraction and negation.

If only one *number* is supplied, the negation of that *number* is returned.

If more than one *argument* is given, it subtracts all of the *subtrahends* from the *minuend* and returns the result.

The *function* **-** performs necessary type conversions.

Examples:

```
(- 55.55) → -55.55
(- #c(3 -5)) → #C(-3 5)
(- 0) → 0
(eql (- 0.0) -0.0) → true
(- #c(100 45) #c(0 45)) → 100
(- 10 1 2 3 4) → 0
```

Exceptional Situations:

Might signal **type-error** if some *argument* is not a *number*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

Section 12.1.1 (Numeric Operations), Section 12.1.3 (Rational Computations), Section 12.1.4 (Floating-point Computations), Section 12.1.5 (Complex Computations)

/ *Function*

Syntax:

/ *number* → *reciprocal*

/ *numerator* `&rest` *denominators*$^+$ → *quotient*

Arguments and Values:

number, *denominator*—a non-zero *number*.

numerator, *quotient*, *reciprocal*—a *number*.

Description:

The *function* **/** performs division or reciprocation.

If no *denominators* are supplied, the *function* **/** returns the reciprocal of *number*.

If at least one *denominator* is supplied, the *function* **/** divides the *numerator* by all of the *denominators* and returns the resulting *quotient*.

If each *argument* is either an *integer* or a *ratio*, and the result is not an *integer*, then it is a *ratio*.

The *function* **/** performs necessary type conversions.

If any *argument* is a *float* then the rules of floating-point contagion apply; see Section 12.1.4 (Floating-point Computations).

Examples:

```
(/ 12 4) → 3
(/ 13 4) → 13/4
(/ -8) → -1/8
(/ 3 4 5) → 3/20
(/ 0.5) → 2.0
(/ 20 5) → 4
(/ 5 20) → 1/4
(/ 60 -2 3 5.0) → -2.0
(/ 2 #c(2 2)) → #C(1/2 -1/2)
```

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are unspecified if any *argument* other than the first is zero. If there is only one *argument*, the consequences are unspecified if it is zero.

Might signal **type-error** if some *argument* is not a *number*. Might signal **division-by-zero** if division by zero is attempted. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

floor, **ceiling**, **truncate**, **round**

1+, 1− *Function*

Syntax:

1+ *number* → *successor*

1− *number* → *predecessor*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

successor, *predecessor*—a *number*.

Description:

1+ returns a *number* that is one more than its argument *number*. **1-** returns a *number* that is one less than its argument *number*.

Examples:

```
(1+ 99) → 100
(1- 100) → 99
(1+ (complex 0.0)) → #C(1.0 0.0)
(1- 5/3) → 2/3
```

Exceptional Situations:

Might signal **type-error** if its *argument* is not a *number*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

incf, **decf**

Notes:

```
(1+ number) ≡ (+ number 1)
(1- number) ≡ (- number 1)
```

Implementors are encouraged to make the performance of both the previous expressions be the same.

abs *Function*

Syntax:

abs *number* → *absolute-value*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

absolute-value—a non-negative *real*.

Description:

abs returns the absolute value of *number*.

If *number* is a *real*, the result is of the same *type* as *number*.

If *number* is a *complex*, the result is a positive *real* with the same magnitude as *number*. The result can be a *float* even if *number*'s components are *rationals* and an exact rational result would have been possible. Thus the result of (abs #c(3 4)) can be either 5 or 5.0, depending on the implementation.

Examples:

```
(abs 0) → 0
```


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```
(abs 12/13) → 12/13
(abs -1.09) → 1.09
(abs #c(5.0 -5.0)) → 7.071068
(abs #c(5 5)) → 7.071068
(abs #c(3/5 4/5)) → 1 or approximately 1.0
(eql (abs -0.0) -0.0) → true
```

See Also:

Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

Notes:

If *number* is a *complex*, the result is equivalent to the following:

```
(sqrt (+ (expt (realpart number) 2) (expt (imagpart number) 2)))
```

An implementation should not use this formula directly for all *complexes* but should handle very large or very small components specially to avoid intermediate overflow or underflow.

evenp, oddp *Function*

Syntax:

evenp *integer* → *generalized-boolean*

oddp *integer* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

integer—an *integer*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

evenp returns *true* if *integer* is even (divisible by two); otherwise, returns *false*.

oddp returns *true* if *integer* is odd (not divisible by two); otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(evenp 0) → true
(oddp 10000000000000000000000) → false
(oddp -1) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *integer* is not an *integer*.

Notes:

```
(evenp integer) ≡ (not (oddp integer))
(oddp integer)  ≡ (not (evenp integer))
```

exp, expt *Function*

Syntax:

exp *number* → *result*

expt *base-number power-number* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

base-number—a *number*.

power-number—a *number*.

result—a *number*.

Description:

exp and **expt** perform exponentiation.

exp returns *e* raised to the power *number*, where *e* is the base of the natural logarithms. **exp** has no branch cut.

expt returns *base-number* raised to the power *power-number*. If the *base-number* is a *rational* and *power-number* is an *integer*, the calculation is exact and the result will be of *type* **rational**; otherwise a floating-point approximation might result. For **expt** of a *complex rational* to an *integer* power, the calculation must be exact and the result is of type `(or rational (complex rational))`.

The result of **expt** can be a *complex*, even when neither argument is a *complex*, if *base-number* is negative and *power-number* is not an *integer*. The result is always the *principal complex value*. For example, `(expt -8 1/3)` is not permitted to return `-2`, even though `-2` is one of the cube roots of `-8`. The *principal* cube root is a *complex* approximately equal to `#C(1.0 1.73205)`, not `-2`.

expt is defined as $b^x = e^{x log b}$. This defines the *principal values* precisely. The range of **expt** is the entire complex plane. Regarded as a function of x, with b fixed, there is no branch cut. Regarded as a function of b, with x fixed, there is in general a branch cut along the negative real axis, continuous with quadrant II. The domain excludes the origin. By definition, 0^0=1. If b=0 and the real part of x is strictly positive, then b^x=0. For all other values of x, 0^x is an error.

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When *power-number* is an *integer* `0`, then the result is always the value one in the *type* of *base-number*, even if the *base-number* is zero (of any *type*). That is:

```
(expt x 0) ≡ (coerce 1 (type-of x))
```

If *power-number* is a zero of any other *type*, then the result is also the value one, in the *type* of the arguments after the application of the contagion rules in Section 12.1.1.2 (Contagion in Numeric Operations), with one exception: the consequences are undefined if *base-number* is zero when *power-number* is zero and not of *type* **integer**.

Examples:

```
(exp 0) → 1.0
(exp 1) → 2.718282
(exp (log 5)) → 5.0
(expt 2 8) → 256
(expt 4 .5) → 2.0
(expt #c(0 1) 2) → -1
(expt #c(2 2) 3) → #C(-16 16)
(expt #c(2 2) 4) → -64
```

See Also:

log, Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

Notes:

Implementations of **expt** are permitted to use different algorithms for the cases of a *power-number* of *type* **rational** and a *power-number* of *type* **float**.

Note that by the following logic, `(sqrt (expt x 3))` is not equivalent to `(expt x 3/2)`.

```
(setq x (exp (/ (* 2 pi #c(0 1)) 3)))         ;exp(2.pi.i/3)
(expt x 3) → 1 ;except for round-off error
(sqrt (expt x 3)) → 1 ;except for round-off error
(expt x 3/2) → -1 ;except for round-off error
```

gcd *Function*

Syntax:

gcd `&rest` *integers* → *greatest-common-denominator*

Arguments and Values:

integer—an *integer*.

greatest-common-denominator—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns the greatest common divisor of *integers*. If only one *integer* is supplied, its absolute value is returned. If no *integers* are given, **gcd** returns `0`, which is an identity for this operation.

Examples:

```
(gcd) → 0
(gcd 60 42) → 6
(gcd 3333 -33 101) → 1
(gcd 3333 -33 1002001) → 11
(gcd 91 -49) → 7
(gcd 63 -42 35) → 7
(gcd 5) → 5
(gcd -4) → 4
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if any *integer* is not an *integer*.

See Also:

lcm

Notes:

For three or more arguments,

```
(gcd b c ... z) ≡ (gcd (gcd a b) c ... z)
```

incf, decf *Macro*

Syntax:

incf *place* [*delta-form*] → *new-value*

decf *place* [*delta-form*] → *new-value*

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*.

delta-form—a *form*; evaluated to produce a *delta*. The default is `1`.

delta—a *number*.

new-value—a *number*.

Description:

incf and **decf** are used for incrementing and decrementing the *value* of *place*, respectively.

The *delta* is added to (in the case of **incf**) or subtracted from (in the case of **decf**) the number in *place* and the result is stored in *place*.

Any necessary type conversions are performed automatically.

For information about the *evaluation* of *subforms* of *places*, see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

Examples:

```
(setq n 0)
(incf n) → 1
n → 1
(decf n 3) → -2
n → -2
(decf n -5) → 3
(decf n) → 2
(incf n 0.5) → 2.5
(decf n) → 1.5
n → 1.5
```

Side Effects:

Place is modified.

See Also:

+, **-**, **1+**, **1-**, **setf**

lcm *Function*

Syntax:

lcm `&rest` *integers* → *least-common-multiple*

Arguments and Values:

integer—an *integer*.

least-common-multiple—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

lcm returns the least common multiple of the *integers*.

If no *integer* is supplied, the *integer* `1` is returned.

If only one *integer* is supplied, the absolute value of that *integer* is returned.

For two arguments that are not both zero,

```
(lcm a b) ≡ (/ (abs (* a b)) (gcd a b))
```

If one or both arguments are zero,

```
(lcm a 0) ≡ (lcm 0 a) ≡ 0
```

For three or more arguments,

```
(lcm a b c ... z) ≡ (lcm (lcm a b) c ... z)
```

Examples:

```
(lcm 10) → 10
(lcm 25 30) → 150
(lcm -24 18 10) → 360
(lcm 14 35) → 70
(lcm 0 5) → 0
(lcm 1 2 3 4 5 6) → 60
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if any argument is not an *integer*.

See Also:

gcd

log *Function*

Syntax:

log *number* `&optional` *base* → *logarithm*

Arguments and Values:

number—a non-zero *number*.

base—a *number*.

logarithm—a *number*.

Description:

log returns the logarithm of *number* in base *base*. If *base* is not supplied its value is e, the base of the natural logarithms.

log may return a *complex* when given a *real* negative *number*.

```
(log -1.0) ≡ (complex 0.0 (float pi 0.0))
```

If *base* is zero, **log** returns zero.

The result of `(log 8 2)` may be either `3` or `3.0`, depending on the implementation. An implementation can use floating-point calculations even if an exact integer result is possible.

The branch cut for the logarithm function of one argument (natural logarithm) lies along the negative real axis, continuous with quadrant II. The domain excludes the origin.

The mathematical definition of a complex logarithm is as follows, whether or not minus zero is supported by the implementation:

`(log` x`)` ≡ `(complex (log (abs` x`)) (phase` x`))`

Therefore the range of the one-argument logarithm function is that strip of the complex plane containing numbers with imaginary parts between $-\pi$ (exclusive) and π (inclusive) if minus zero is not supported, or $-\pi$ (inclusive) and π (inclusive) if minus zero is supported.

The two-argument logarithm function is defined as

```
(log base number)
≡ (/ (log number) (log base))
```

This defines the *principal values* precisely. The range of the two-argument logarithm function is the entire complex plane.

Examples:

```
 (log 100 10)
→ 2.0
→ 2
 (log 100.0 10) → 2.0
 (log #c(0 1) #c(0 -1))
→ #C(-1.0 0.0)
or→ #C(-1 0)
 (log 8.0 2) → 3.0

 (log #c(-16 16) #c(2 2)) → 3 or approximately #c(3.0 0.0)
                              or approximately 3.0 (unlikely)
```

Affected By:

The implementation.

See Also:

exp, **expt**, Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

mod, rem *Function*

Syntax:

mod *number divisor* → *modulus*

rem *number divisor* → *remainder*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *real*.

divisor—a *real*.

modulus, *remainder*—a *real*.

Description:

mod and **rem** are generalizations of the modulus and remainder functions respectively.

mod performs the operation **floor** on *number* and *divisor* and returns the remainder of the **floor** operation.

rem performs the operation **truncate** on *number* and *divisor* and returns the remainder of the **truncate** operation.

mod and **rem** are the modulus and remainder functions when *number* and *divisor* are *integers*.

Examples:

```
(rem -1 5) → -1
(mod -1 5) → 4
(mod 13 4) → 1
(rem 13 4) → 1
(mod -13 4) → 3
(rem -13 4) → -1
(mod 13 -4) → -3
(rem 13 -4) → 1
(mod -13 -4) → -1
(rem -13 -4) → -1
(mod 13.4 1) → 0.4
(rem 13.4 1) → 0.4
(mod -13.4 1) → 0.6
(rem -13.4 1) → -0.4
```


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See Also:

floor, **truncate**

Notes:

The result of **mod** is either zero or a *real* with the same sign as *divisor*.

signum *Function*

Syntax:

signum *number* → *signed-prototype*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

signed-prototype—a *number*.

Description:

signum determines a numerical value that indicates whether *number* is negative, zero, or positive.

For a *rational*, **signum** returns one of `-1`, `0`, or `1` according to whether *number* is negative, zero, or positive. For a *float*, the result is a *float* of the same format whose value is minus one, zero, or one. For a *complex* number `z`, `(signum z)` is a complex number of the same phase but with unit magnitude, unless `z` is a complex zero, in which case the result is `z`.

For *rational arguments*, **signum** is a rational function, but it may be irrational for *complex arguments*.

If *number* is a *float*, the result is a *float*. If *number* is a *rational*, the result is a *rational*. If *number* is a *complex float*, the result is a *complex float*. If *number* is a *complex rational*, the result is a *complex*, but it is *implementation-dependent* whether that result is a *complex rational* or a *complex float*.

Examples:

```
(signum 0) → 0
(signum 99) → 1
(signum 4/5) → 1
(signum -99/100) → -1
(signum 0.0) → 0.0
(signum #c(0 33)) → #C(0.0 1.0)
(signum #c(7.5 10.0)) → #C(0.6 0.8)
(signum #c(0.0 -14.7)) → #C(0.0 -1.0)
(eql (signum -0.0) -0.0) → true
```

See Also:

Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

Notes:

```
(signum x) ≡ (if (zerop x) x (/ x (abs x)))
```

sqrt, isqrt *Function*

Syntax:

sqrt *number* → *root*

isqrt *natural* → *natural-root*

Arguments and Values:

number, *root*—a *number*.

natural, *natural-root*—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

sqrt and **isqrt** compute square roots.

sqrt returns the *principal* square root of *number*. If the *number* is not a *complex* but is negative, then the result is a *complex*.

isqrt returns the greatest *integer* less than or equal to the exact positive square root of *natural*.

If *number* is a positive *rational*, it is *implementation-dependent* whether *root* is a *rational* or a *float*. If *number* is a negative *rational*, it is *implementation-dependent* whether *root* is a *complex rational* or a *complex float*.

The mathematical definition of complex square root (whether or not minus zero is supported) follows:

```
(sqrt x) = (exp (/ (log x) 2))
```

The branch cut for square root lies along the negative real axis, continuous with quadrant II. The range consists of the right half-plane, including the non-negative imaginary axis and excluding the negative imaginary axis.

Examples:

```
(sqrt 9.0) → 3.0
(sqrt -9.0) → #C(0.0 3.0)
```



```
(isqrt 9) → 3
(sqrt 12) → 3.4641016
(isqrt 12) → 3
(isqrt 300) → 17
(isqrt 325) → 18
(sqrt 25)
→ 5
or→ 5.0
(isqrt 25) → 5
(sqrt -1) → #C(0.0 1.0)
(sqrt #c(0 2)) → #C(1.0 1.0)
```

Exceptional Situations:

The *function* **sqrt** should signal **type-error** if its argument is not a *number*.

The *function* **isqrt** should signal **type-error** if its argument is not a non-negative *integer*.

The functions **sqrt** and **isqrt** might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

exp, **log**, Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

Notes:

```
(isqrt x) ≡ (values (floor (sqrt x)))
```

but it is potentially more efficient.

random-state *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

random-state, **t**

Description:

A *random state object* contains state information used by the pseudo-random number generator. The nature of a *random state object* is *implementation-dependent*. It can be printed out and successfully read back in by the same *implementation*, but might not function correctly as a *random state* in another *implementation*.

Implementations are required to provide a read syntax for *objects* of *type* **random-state**, but the specific nature of that syntax is *implementation-dependent*.

See Also:

random-state, **random**, Section 22.1.3.10 (Printing Random States)

make-random-state *Function*

Syntax:

make-random-state &optional *state* → *new-state*

Arguments and Values:

state—a *random state*, or **nil**, or **t**. The default is **nil**.

new-state—a *random state object*.

Description:

Creates a *fresh object* of *type* **random-state** suitable for use as the *value* of ***random-state***.

If *state* is a *random state object*, the *new-state* is a $copy_5$ of that *object*. If *state* is **nil**, the *new-state* is a $copy_5$ of the *current random state*. If *state* is **t**, the *new-state* is a *fresh random state object* that has been randomly initialized by some means.

Examples:

```
(let* ((rs1 (make-random-state nil))
       (rs2 (make-random-state t))
       (rs3 (make-random-state rs2))
       (rs4 nil))
  (list (loop for i from 1 to 10
              collect (random 100)
              when (= i 5)
               do (setq rs4 (make-random-state)))
        (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random 100 rs1))
        (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random 100 rs2))
        (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random 100 rs3))
        (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random 100 rs4))))
→ ((29 25 72 57 55 68 24 35 54 65)
   (29 25 72 57 55 68 24 35 54 65)
   (93 85 53 99 58 62 2 23 23 59)
   (93 85 53 99 58 62 2 23 23 59)
   (68 24 35 54 65 54 55 50 59 49))
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *state* is not a *random state*, or **nil**, or **t**.

See Also:

random, ***random-state***

Notes:

One important use of **make-random-state** is to allow the same series of pseudo-random *numbers* to be generated many times within a single program.

random *Function*

Syntax:

random *limit* &optional *random-state* → *random-number*

Arguments and Values:

limit—a positive *integer*, or a positive *float*.

random-state—a *random state*. The default is the *current random state*.

random-number—a non-negative *number* less than *limit* and of the same *type* as *limit*.

Description:

Returns a pseudo-random number that is a non-negative *number* less than *limit* and of the same *type* as *limit*.

The *random-state*, which is modified by this function, encodes the internal state maintained by the random number generator.

An approximately uniform choice distribution is used. If *limit* is an *integer*, each of the possible results occurs with (approximate) probability 1/*limit*.

Examples:

```
(<= 0 (random 1000) 1000) → true
(let ((state1 (make-random-state))
      (state2 (make-random-state)))
  (= (random 1000 state1) (random 1000 state2))) → true
```

Side Effects:

The *random-state* is modified.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *limit* is not a positive *integer* or a positive *real*.

See Also:

make-random-state, ***random-state***

Notes:

See *Common Lisp: The Language* for information about generating random numbers.

random-state-p *Function*

Syntax:

random-state-p *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **random-state**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(random-state-p *random-state*) → true
(random-state-p (make-random-state)) → true
(random-state-p 'test-function) → false
```

See Also:

make-random-state, ***random-state***

Notes:

```
(random-state-p object) ≡ (typep object 'random-state)
```

∗random-state∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *random state*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *current random state*, which is used, for example, by the *function* **random** when a *random state* is not explicitly supplied.

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Examples:

```
(random-state-p *random-state*) → true
(setq snap-shot (make-random-state))
;; The series from any given point is random,
;; but if you backtrack to that point, you get the same series.
(list (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random))
      (let ((*random-state* snap-shot))
        (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random)))
      (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random))
      (let ((*random-state* snap-shot))
        (loop for i from 1 to 10 collect (random))))
→ ((19 16 44 19 96 15 76 96 13 61)
   (19 16 44 19 96 15 76 96 13 61)
   (16 67 0 43 70 79 58 5 63 50)
   (16 67 0 43 70 79 58 5 63 50))
```

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

random.

See Also:

make-random-state, **random**, **random-state**

Notes:

Binding ***random-state*** to a different *random state object* correctly saves and restores the old *random state object*.

numberp *Function*

Syntax:

numberp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **number**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(numberp 12) → true
(numberp (expt 2 130)) → true
(numberp #c(5/3 7.2)) → true
(numberp nil) → false
(numberp (cons 1 2)) → false
```

Notes:

```
(numberp object) ≡ (typep object 'number)
```

cis *Function*

Syntax:

cis *radians* → *number*

Arguments and Values:

radians—a *real*.

number—a *complex*.

Description:

cis returns the value of $e^{i \cdot \; radians}$, which is a *complex* in which the real part is equal to the cosine of *radians*, and the imaginary part is equal to the sine of *radians*.

Examples:

```
(cis 0) → #C(1.0 0.0)
```

See Also:

Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

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complex *Function*

Syntax:

complex *realpart* &optional *imagpart* → *complex*

Arguments and Values:

realpart—a *real*.

imagpart—a *real*.

complex—a *rational* or a *complex*.

Description:

complex returns a *number* whose real part is *realpart* and whose imaginary part is *imagpart*.

If *realpart* is a *rational* and *imagpart* is the *rational* number zero, the result of **complex** is *realpart*, a *rational*. Otherwise, the result is a *complex*.

If either *realpart* or *imagpart* is a *float*, the non-*float* is converted to a *float* before the *complex* is created. If *imagpart* is not supplied, the imaginary part is a zero of the same *type* as *realpart*; *i.e.*, (coerce 0 (type-of *realpart*)) is effectively used.

Type upgrading implies a movement upwards in the type hierarchy lattice. In the case of *complexes*, the *type-specifier* must be a subtype of (upgraded-complex-part-type *type-specifier*). If *type-specifier1* is a subtype of *type-specifier2*, then (upgraded-complex-element-type '*type-specifier1*) must also be a subtype of (upgraded-complex-element-type '*type-specifier2*). Two disjoint types can be upgraded into the same thing.

Examples:

```
(complex 0) → 0
(complex 0.0) → #C(0.0 0.0)
(complex 1 1/2) → #C(1 1/2)
(complex 1 .99) → #C(1.0 0.99)
(complex 3/2 0.0) → #C(1.5 0.0)
```

See Also:

realpart, **imagpart**, Section 2.4.8.11 (Sharpsign C)

complexp *Function*

Syntax:

complexp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **complex**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(complexp 1.2d2) → false
(complexp #c(5/3 7.2)) → true
```

See Also:

complex (*function* and *type*), **typep**

Notes:

```
(complexp object) ≡ (typep object 'complex)
```

conjugate *Function*

Syntax:

conjugate *number* → *conjugate*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

conjugate—a *number*.

Description:

Returns the complex conjugate of *number*. The conjugate of a *real* number is itself.

Examples:

```
(conjugate #c(0 -1)) → #C(0 1)
(conjugate #c(1 1)) → #C(1 -1)
(conjugate 1.5) → 1.5
(conjugate #C(3/5 4/5)) → #C(3/5 -4/5)
(conjugate #C(0.0D0 -1.0D0)) → #C(0.0D0 1.0D0)
(conjugate 3.7) → 3.7
```

Notes:

For a *complex* number z,

```
(conjugate z) ≡ (complex (realpart z) (- (imagpart z)))
```

phase *Function*

Syntax:

phase *number* → *phase*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

phase—a *number*.

Description:

phase returns the phase of *number* (the angle part of its polar representation) in radians, in the range $-\pi$ (exclusive) if minus zero is not supported, or $-\pi$ (inclusive) if minus zero is supported, to π (inclusive). The phase of a positive *real* number is zero; that of a negative *real* number is π. The phase of zero is defined to be zero.

If *number* is a *complex float*, the result is a *float* of the same *type* as the components of *number*. If *number* is a *float*, the result is a *float* of the same *type*. If *number* is a *rational* or a *complex rational*, the result is a *single float*.

The branch cut for **phase** lies along the negative real axis, continuous with quadrant II. The range consists of that portion of the real axis between $-\pi$ (exclusive) and π (inclusive).

The mathematical definition of **phase** is as follows:

```
(phase x) = (atan (imagpart x) (realpart x))
```

Examples:

```
(phase 1) → 0.0s0
(phase 0) → 0.0s0
(phase (cis 30)) → -1.4159266
(phase #c(0 1)) → 1.5707964
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if its argument is not a *number*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

See Also:

Section 12.1.3.3 (Rule of Float Substitutability)

realpart, imagpart *Function*

Syntax:

realpart *number* → *real*

imagpart *number* → *real*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *number*.

real—a *real*.

Description:

realpart and **imagpart** return the real and imaginary parts of *number* respectively. If *number* is *real*, then **realpart** returns *number* and **imagpart** returns (* 0 *number*), which has the effect that the imaginary part of a *rational* is 0 and that of a *float* is a floating-point zero of the same format.

Examples:

```
(realpart #c(23 41)) → 23
(imagpart #c(23 41.0)) → 41.0
(realpart #c(23 41.0)) → 23.0
(imagpart 23.0) → 0.0
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *number* is not a *number*.

See Also:

complex

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upgraded-complex-part-type *Function*

Syntax:

upgraded-complex-part-type *typespec* &optional *environment* → *upgraded-typespec*

Arguments and Values:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

environment—an *environment object*. The default is **nil**, denoting the *null lexical environment* and the and current *global environment*.

upgraded-typespec—a *type specifier*.

Description:

upgraded-complex-part-type returns the part type of the most specialized *complex* number representation that can hold parts of *type typespec*.

The *typespec* is a *subtype* of (and possibly *type equivalent* to) the *upgraded-typespec*.

The purpose of **upgraded-complex-part-type** is to reveal how an implementation does its *upgrading*.

See Also:

complex (*function* and *type*)

Notes:

realp *Function*

Syntax:

realp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **real**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(realp 12) → true
```

```
(realp #c(5/3 7.2)) → false
(realp nil) → false
(realp (cons 1 2)) → false
```

Notes:

(realp *object*) ≡ (typep *object* 'real)

numerator, denominator *Function*

Syntax:

numerator *rational* → *numerator*

denominator *rational* → *denominator*

Arguments and Values:

rational—a *rational*.

numerator—an *integer*.

denominator—a positive *integer*.

Description:

numerator and **denominator** reduce *rational* to canonical form and compute the numerator or denominator of that number.

numerator and **denominator** return the numerator or denominator of the canonical form of *rational*.

If *rational* is an *integer*, **numerator** returns *rational* and **denominator** returns 1.

Examples:

```
(numerator 1/2) → 1
(denominator 12/36) → 3
(numerator -1) → -1
(denominator (/ -33)) → 33
(numerator (/ 8 -6)) → -4
(denominator (/ 8 -6)) → 3
```

See Also:

/

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Notes:

```
(gcd (numerator x) (denominator x)) → 1
```

rational, rationalize *Function*

Syntax:

rational *number* → *rational*

rationalize *number* → *rational*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *real*.

rational—a *rational*.

Description:

rational and **rationalize** convert *reals* to *rationals*.

If *number* is already *rational*, it is returned.

If *number* is a *float*, **rational** returns a *rational* that is mathematically equal in value to the *float*. **rationalize** returns a *rational* that approximates the *float* to the accuracy of the underlying floating-point representation.

rational assumes that the *float* is completely accurate.

rationalize assumes that the *float* is accurate only to the precision of the floating-point representation.

Examples:

```
(rational 0) → 0
(rationalize -11/100) → -11/100
(rational .1) → 13421773/134217728 ;implementation-dependent
(rationalize .1) → 1/10
```

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *number* is not a *real*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

Notes:

It is always the case that

```
(float (rational x) x) ≡ x
```

and

```
(float (rationalize x) x) ≡ x
```

That is, rationalizing a *float* by either method and then converting it back to a *float* of the same format produces the original *number*.

rationalp *Function*

Syntax:

rationalp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **rational**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(rationalp 12) → true
(rationalp 6/5) → true
(rationalp 1.212) → false
```

See Also:

rational

Notes:

```
(rationalp object) ≡ (typep object 'rational)
```


ash *Function*

Syntax:

ash *integer count* → *shifted-integer*

Arguments and Values:

integer—an *integer*.

count—an *integer*.

shifted-integer—an *integer*.

Description:

ash performs the arithmetic shift operation on the binary representation of *integer*, which is treated as if it were binary.

ash shifts *integer* arithmetically left by *count* bit positions if *count* is positive, or right *count* bit positions if *count* is negative. The shifted value of the same sign as *integer* is returned.

Mathematically speaking, **ash** performs the computation floor($integer \cdot 2^{count}$). Logically, **ash** moves all of the bits in *integer* to the left, adding zero-bits at the right, or moves them to the right, discarding bits.

ash is defined to behave as if *integer* were represented in two's complement form, regardless of how *integers* are represented internally.

Examples:

```
(ash 16 1) → 32
(ash 16 0) → 16
(ash 16 -1) → 8
(ash -100000000000000000000000000000000 -100) → -79
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *integer* is not an *integer*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *count* is not an *integer*. Might signal **arithmetic-error**.

Notes:

```
(logbitp j (ash n k))
≡ (and (>= j k) (logbitp (- j k) n))
```

integer-length *Function*

Syntax:

integer-length *integer* → *number-of-bits*

Arguments and Values:

integer—an *integer*.

number-of-bits—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns the number of bits needed to represent *integer* in binary two's-complement format.

Examples:

```
(integer-length 0) → 0
(integer-length 1) → 1
(integer-length 3) → 2
(integer-length 4) → 3
(integer-length 7) → 3
(integer-length -1) → 0
(integer-length -4) → 2
(integer-length -7) → 3
(integer-length -8) → 3
(integer-length (expt 2 9)) → 10
(integer-length (1- (expt 2 9))) → 9
(integer-length (- (expt 2 9))) → 9
(integer-length (- (1+ (expt 2 9)))) → 10
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *integer* is not an *integer*.

Notes:

This function could have been defined by:

```
(defun integer-length (integer)
  (ceiling (log (if (minusp integer)
                    (- integer)
                    (1+ integer))
                2)))
```

If *integer* is non-negative, then its value can be represented in unsigned binary form in a field whose width in bits is no smaller than (integer-length *integer*). Regardless of the sign of *integer*, its value can be represented in signed binary two's-complement form in a field whose width in bits is no smaller than (+ (integer-length *integer*) 1).

integerp *Function*

Syntax:

integerp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **integer**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(integerp 1) → true
(integerp (expt 2 130)) → true
(integerp 6/5) → false
(integerp nil) → false
```

Notes:

(integerp *object*) ≡ (typep *object* 'integer)

parse-integer *Function*

Syntax:

parse-integer *string* &key *start end radix junk-allowed* → *integer, pos*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *string*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

radix—a *radix*. The default is 10.

junk-allowed—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

integer—an *integer* or *false*.

pos—a *bounding index* of *string*.

Description:

parse-integer parses an *integer* in the specified *radix* from the substring of *string* delimited by *start* and *end*.

parse-integer expects an optional sign (`+` or `-`) followed by a a non-empty sequence of digits to be interpreted in the specified *radix*. Optional leading and trailing *whitespace*$_1$ is ignored.

parse-integer does not recognize the syntactic radix-specifier prefixes `#O`, `#B`, `#X`, and `#nR`, nor does it recognize a trailing decimal point.

If *junk-allowed* is *false*, an error of *type* **parse-error** is signaled if substring does not consist entirely of the representation of a signed *integer*, possibly surrounded on either side by *whitespace*$_1$ *characters*.

The first *value* returned is either the *integer* that was parsed, or else **nil** if no syntactically correct *integer* was seen but *junk-allowed* was *true*.

The second *value* is either the index into the *string* of the delimiter that terminated the parse, or the upper *bounding index* of the substring if the parse terminated at the end of the substring (as is always the case if *junk-allowed* is *false*).

Examples:

```
(parse-integer "123") → 123, 3
(parse-integer "123" :start 1 :radix 5) → 13, 3
(parse-integer "no-integer" :junk-allowed t) → NIL, 0
```

Exceptional Situations:

If *junk-allowed* is *false*, an error is signaled if substring does not consist entirely of the representation of an *integer*, possibly surrounded on either side by *whitespace*$_1$ characters.

boole *Function*

Syntax:

boole *op integer-1 integer-2* → *result-integer*

Arguments and Values:

Op—a *bit-wise logical operation specifier*.

integer-1—an *integer*.

integer-2—an *integer*.

result-integer—an *integer*.

Description:

boole performs bit-wise logical operations on *integer-1* and *integer-2*, which are treated as if they were binary and in two's complement representation.

The operation to be performed and the return value are determined by *op*.

boole returns the values specified for any *op* in Figure 12–17.

Op	Result
boole-1	*integer-1*
boole-2	*integer-2*
boole-andc1	and complement of *integer-1* with *integer-2*
boole-andc2	and *integer-1* with complement of *integer-2*
boole-and	and
boole-c1	complement of *integer-1*
boole-c2	complement of *integer-2*
boole-clr	always 0 (all zero bits)
boole-eqv	equivalence (exclusive nor)
boole-ior	inclusive or
boole-nand	not-and
boole-nor	not-or
boole-orc1	or complement of *integer-1* with *integer-2*
boole-orc2	or *integer-1* with complement of *integer-2*
boole-set	always -1 (all one bits)
boole-xor	exclusive or

Figure 12–17. Bit-Wise Logical Operations

Examples:

```
(boole boole-ior 1 16) → 17
(boole boole-and -2 5) → 4
(boole boole-eqv 17 15) → -31

;;; These examples illustrate the result of applying BOOLE and each
;;; of the possible values of OP to each possible combination of bits.
(progn
  (format t "~&Results of (BOOLE <op> #b0011 #b0101) ...~
          ~%---Op-------Decimal-----Binary----Bits---~%")
  (dolist (symbol '(boole-1     boole-2    boole-and  boole-andc1
                    boole-andc2 boole-c1   boole-c2   boole-clr
                    boole-eqv   boole-ior  boole-nand boole-nor
```

```
                      boole-orc1  boole-orc2 boole-set  boole-xor))
      (let ((result (boole (symbol-value symbol) #b0011 #b0101)))
        (format t "~& ~A~13T~3,' D~23T~:*~5,' B~31T ...~4,'0B~%"
                symbol result (logand result #b1111)))))
▷ Results of (BOOLE <op> #b0011 #b0101) ...
▷ ---Op-------Decimal-----Binary----Bits---
▷  BOOLE-1       3          11    ...0011
▷  BOOLE-2       5         101    ...0101
▷  BOOLE-AND     1           1    ...0001
▷  BOOLE-ANDC1   4         100    ...0100
▷  BOOLE-ANDC2   2          10    ...0010
▷  BOOLE-C1     -4        -100    ...1100
▷  BOOLE-C2     -6        -110    ...1010
▷  BOOLE-CLR     0           0    ...0000
▷  BOOLE-EQV    -7        -111    ...1001
▷  BOOLE-IOR     7         111    ...0111
▷  BOOLE-NAND   -2         -10    ...1110
▷  BOOLE-NOR    -8       -1000    ...1000
▷  BOOLE-ORC1   -3         -11    ...1101
▷  BOOLE-ORC2   -5        -101    ...1011
▷  BOOLE-SET    -1          -1    ...1111
▷  BOOLE-XOR     6         110    ...0110
→ NIL
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if its first argument is not a *bit-wise logical operation specifier* or if any subsequent argument is not an *integer*.

See Also:

logand

Notes:

In general,

```
(boole boole-and x y) ≡ (logand x y)
```

Programmers who would prefer to use numeric indices rather than *bit-wise logical operation specifiers* can get an equivalent effect by a technique such as the following:

```
;; The order of the values in this 'table' are such that
;; (logand (boole (elt boole-n-vector n) #b0101 #b0011) #b1111) => n
 (defconstant boole-n-vector
    (vector boole-clr   boole-and  boole-andc1 boole-2
            boole-andc2 boole-1    boole-xor   boole-ior
            boole-nor   boole-eqv  boole-c1    boole-orc1
            boole-c2    boole-orc2 boole-nand  boole-set))
→ BOOLE-N-VECTOR
 (proclaim '(inline boole-n))
→ implementation-dependent
 (defun boole-n (n integer &rest more-integers)
   (apply #'boole (elt boole-n-vector n) integer more-integers))
→ BOOLE-N
 (boole-n #b0111 5 3) → 7
 (boole-n #b0001 5 3) → 1
 (boole-n #b1101 5 3) → -3
 (loop for n from #b0000 to #b1111 collect (boole-n n 5 3))
→ (0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 -8 -7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1)
```


boole-1, boole-2, boole-and, boole-andc1, boole-andc2, boole-c1, boole-c2, boole-clr, boole-eqv, boole-ior, boole-nand, boole-nor, boole-orc1, boole-orc2, boole-set, boole-xor *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

The identity and nature of the *values* of each of these *variables* is *implementation-dependent*, except that it must be *distinct* from each of the *values* of the others, and it must be a valid first *argument* to the *function* **boole**.

Description:

Each of these *constants* has a *value* which is one of the sixteen possible *bit-wise logical operation specifiers*.

Examples:

```
(boole boole-ior 1 16) → 17
(boole boole-and -2 5) → 4
(boole boole-eqv 17 15) → -31
```

See Also:

boole

logand, logandc1, logandc2, logeqv, logior, lognand, lognor, lognot, logorc1, logorc2, logxor *Function*

Syntax:

logand &rest *integers* → *result-integer*

logandc1 *integer-1 integer-2* → *result-integer*

logandc2 *integer-1 integer-2* → *result-integer*

logeqv &rest *integers* → *result-integer*

logior &rest *integers* → *result-integer*

lognand *integer-1 integer-2* → *result-integer*

lognor *integer-1 integer-2* → *result-integer*

lognot *integer* → *result-integer*

logorc1 *integer-1 integer-2* → *result-integer*

logorc2 *integer-1 integer-2* → *result-integer*

logxor &rest *integers* → *result-integer*

Arguments and Values:

integers—*integers*.

integer—an *integer*.

integer-1—an *integer*.

integer-2—an *integer*.

result-integer—an *integer*.

Description:

The *functions* **logandc1**, **logandc2**, **logand**, **logeqv**, **logior**, **lognand**, **lognor**, **lognot**, **logorc1**, **logorc2**, and **logxor** perform bit-wise logical operations on their *arguments*, that are treated as if they were binary.

Figure 12–18 lists the meaning of each of the *functions*. Where an 'identity' is shown, it indicates the *value yielded* by the *function* when no *arguments* are supplied.

Function	Identity	Operation performed
logandc1	—	and complement of *integer-1* with *integer-2*
logandc2	—	and *integer-1* with complement of *integer-2*
logand	-1	and
logeqv	-1	equivalence (exclusive nor)
logior	0	inclusive or
lognand	—	complement of *integer-1* and *integer-2*
lognor	—	complement of *integer-1* or *integer-2*
lognot	—	complement
logorc1	—	or complement of *integer-1* with *integer-2*
logorc2	—	or *integer-1* with complement of *integer-2*
logxor	0	exclusive or

Figure 12–18. Bit-wise Logical Operations on Integers

Negative *integers* are treated as if they were in two's-complement notation.

Examples:

```
 (logior 1 2 4 8) → 15
 (logxor 1 3 7 15) → 10
 (logeqv) → -1
 (logand 16 31) → 16
 (lognot 0) → -1
 (lognot 1) → -2
 (lognot -1) → 0
 (lognot (1+ (lognot 1000))) → 999

;;; In the following example, m is a mask.  For each bit in
;;; the mask that is a 1, the corresponding bits in x and y are
;;; exchanged.  For each bit in the mask that is a 0, the
;;; corresponding bits of x and y are left unchanged.
 (flet ((show (m x y)
          (format t "~%m = #o~6,'0O~%x = #o~6,'0O~%y = #o~6,'0O~%"
                  m x y)))
   (let ((m #o007750)
         (x #o452576)
         (y #o317407))
     (show m x y)
     (let ((z (logand (logxor x y) m)))
       (setq x (logxor z x))
       (setq y (logxor z y))
       (show m x y))))
▷ m = #o007750
```

```
▷ x = #o452576
▷ y = #o317407
▷
▷ m = #o007750
▷ x = #o457426
▷ y = #o312557
→ NIL
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if any argument is not an *integer*.

See Also:

boole

Notes:

(logbitp *k* -1) returns *true* for all values of *k*.

Because the following functions are not associative, they take exactly two arguments rather than any number of arguments.

```
(lognand n1 n2) ≡ (lognot (logand n1 n2))
(lognor n1 n2) ≡ (lognot (logior n1 n2))
(logandc1 n1 n2) ≡ (logand (lognot n1) n2)
(logandc2 n1 n2) ≡ (logand n1 (lognot n2))
(logiorc1 n1 n2) ≡ (logior (lognot n1) n2)
(logiorc2 n1 n2) ≡ (logior n1 (lognot n2))
(logbitp j (lognot x)) ≡ (not (logbitp j x))
```

logbitp *Function*

Syntax:

logbitp *index integer* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

index—a non-negative *integer*.

integer—an *integer*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

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Description:

logbitp is used to test the value of a particular bit in *integer*, that is treated as if it were binary. The value of **logbitp** is *true* if the bit in *integer* whose index is *index* (that is, its weight is 2^{index}) is a one-bit; otherwise it is *false*.

Negative *integers* are treated as if they were in two's-complement notation.

Examples:

```
(logbitp 1 1) → false
(logbitp 0 1) → true
(logbitp 3 10) → true
(logbitp 1000000 -1) → true
(logbitp 2 6) → true
(logbitp 0 6) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *index* is not a non-negative *integer*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *integer* is not an *integer*.

Notes:

```
(logbitp k n) ≡ (ldb-test (byte 1 k) n)
```

logcount *Function*

Syntax:

logcount *integer* → *number-of-on-bits*

Arguments and Values:

integer—an *integer*.

number-of-on-bits—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Computes and returns the number of bits in the two's-complement binary representation of *integer* that are 'on' or 'set'. If *integer* is negative, the 0 bits are counted; otherwise, the 1 bits are counted.

Examples:

```
(logcount 0) → 0
(logcount -1) → 0
```

```
(logcount 7) → 3
(logcount  13) → 3 ;Two's-complement binary: ...0001101
(logcount -13) → 2 ;Two's-complement binary: ...1110011
(logcount  30) → 4 ;Two's-complement binary: ...0011110
(logcount -30) → 4 ;Two's-complement binary: ...1100010
(logcount (expt 2 100)) → 1
(logcount (- (expt 2 100))) → 100
(logcount (- (1+ (expt 2 100)))) → 1
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if its argument is not an *integer*.

Notes:

Even if the *implementation* does not represent *integers* internally in two's complement binary, **logcount** behaves as if it did.

The following identity always holds:

```
   (logcount x)
≡ (logcount (- (+ x 1)))
≡ (logcount (lognot x))
```

logtest *Function*

Syntax:

logtest *integer-1 integer-2* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

integer-1—an *integer*.

integer-2—an *integer*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if any of the bits designated by the 1's in *integer-1* is 1 in *integer-2*; otherwise it is *false*. *integer-1* and *integer-2* are treated as if they were binary.

Negative *integer-1* and *integer-2* are treated as if they were represented in two's-complement binary.

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Examples:

```
(logtest 1 7) → true
(logtest 1 2) → false
(logtest -2 -1) → true
(logtest 0 -1) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *integer-1* is not an *integer*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *integer-2* is not an *integer*.

Notes:

```
(logtest x y) ≡ (not (zerop (logand x y)))
```

byte, byte-size, byte-position *Function*

Syntax:

byte *size position* → *bytespec*

byte-size *bytespec* → *size*

byte-position *bytespec* → *position*

Arguments and Values:

size, *position*—a non-negative *integer*.

bytespec—a *byte specifier*.

Description:

byte returns a *byte specifier* that indicates a *byte* of width *size* and whose bits have weights $2^{position+size-1}$ through $2^{position}$, and whose representation is *implementation-dependent*.

byte-size returns the number of bits specified by *bytespec*.

byte-position returns the position specified by *bytespec*.

Examples:

```
(setq b (byte 100 200)) → #<BYTE-SPECIFIER size 100 position 200>
(byte-size b) → 100
(byte-position b) → 200
```

See Also:

ldb, **dpb**

Notes:

```
(byte-size (byte j k)) ≡ j
(byte-position (byte j k)) ≡ k
```

A *byte* of *size* of 0 is permissible; it refers to a *byte* of width zero. For example,

```
(ldb (byte 0 3) #o7777) → 0
(dpb #o7777 (byte 0 3) 0) → 0
```

deposit-field *Function*

Syntax:

deposit-field *newbyte bytespec integer* → *result-integer*

Arguments and Values:

newbyte—an *integer*.

bytespec—a *byte specifier*.

integer—an *integer*.

result-integer—an *integer*.

Description:

Replaces a field of bits within *integer*; specifically, returns an *integer* that contains the bits of *newbyte* within the *byte* specified by *bytespec*, and elsewhere contains the bits of *integer*.

Examples:

```
(deposit-field 7 (byte 2 1) 0) → 6
(deposit-field -1 (byte 4 0) 0) → 15
(deposit-field 0 (byte 2 1) -3) → -7
```

See Also:

byte, **dpb**

Notes:

```
(logbitp j (deposit-field m (byte s p) n))
≡ (if (and (>= j p) (< j (+ p s)))
```


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```
      (logbitp j m)
      (logbitp j n))
```

deposit-field is to **mask-field** as **dpb** is to **ldb**.

dpb *Function*

Syntax:

dpb *newbyte bytespec integer* → *result-integer*

Pronunciation:

[ˌdəˈpib] or [ˌdəˈpəb] or [ˈdēˈpēˈbē]

Arguments and Values:

newbyte—an *integer*.

bytespec—a *byte specifier*.

integer—an *integer*.

result-integer—an *integer*.

Description:

dpb (deposit byte) is used to replace a field of bits within *integer*. **dpb** returns an *integer* that is the same as *integer* except in the bits specified by *bytespec*.

Let s be the size specified by *bytespec*; then the low s bits of *newbyte* appear in the result in the byte specified by *bytespec*. *Newbyte* is interpreted as being right-justified, as if it were the result of **ldb**.

Examples:

```
(dpb 1 (byte 1 10) 0) → 1024
(dpb -2 (byte 2 10) 0) → 2048
(dpb 1 (byte 2 10) 2048) → 1024
```

See Also:

byte, **deposit-field**, **ldb**

Notes:

```
(logbitp j (dpb m (byte s p) n))
≡ (if (and (>= j p) (< j (+ p s)))
      (logbitp (- j p) m)
```

```
(logbitp j n))
```

In general,

```
(dpb x (byte 0 y) z) → z
```

for all valid values of *x*, *y*, and *z*.

Historically, the name "dpb" comes from a DEC PDP-10 assembly language instruction meaning "deposit byte."

ldb *Accessor*

Syntax:

ldb *bytespec integer* → *byte*

(**setf** (**ldb** *bytespec place*) *new-byte*)

Pronunciation:

[ˈlidib] or [ˈlidεb] or [ˈelˈdēˈbē]

Arguments and Values:

bytespec—a *byte specifier*.

integer—an *integer*.

byte, *new-byte*—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

ldb extracts and returns the *byte* of *integer* specified by *bytespec*.

ldb returns an *integer* in which the bits with weights $2^{(s-1)}$ through 2^0 are the same as those in *integer* with weights $2^{(p+s-1)}$ through 2^p, and all other bits zero; s is (byte-size *bytespec*) and p is (byte-position *bytespec*).

setf may be used with **ldb** to modify a byte within the *integer* that is stored in a given *place*. The order of evaluation, when an **ldb** form is supplied to **setf**, is exactly left-to-right. The effect is to perform a **dpb** operation and then store the result back into the *place*.

Examples:

```
(ldb (byte 2 1) 10) → 1
(setq a (list 8)) → (8)
(setf (ldb (byte 2 1) (car a)) 1) → 1
a → (10)
```

See Also:

byte, **byte-position**, **byte-size**, **dpb**

Notes:

```
(logbitp j (ldb (byte s p) n))
   ≡ (and (< j s) (logbitp (+ j p) n))
```

In general,

```
(ldb (byte 0 x) y) → 0
```

for all valid values of *x* and *y*.

Historically, the name "ldb" comes from a DEC PDP-10 assembly language instruction meaning "load byte."

ldb-test *Function*

Syntax:

ldb-test *bytespec integer* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

bytespec—a *byte specifier*.

integer—an *integer*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if any of the bits of the byte in *integer* specified by *bytespec* is non-zero; otherwise returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(ldb-test (byte 4 1) 16) → true
(ldb-test (byte 3 1) 16) → false
(ldb-test (byte 3 2) 16) → true
```

See Also:

byte, **ldb**, **zerop**

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Notes:

```
(ldb-test bytespec n) ≡
(not (zerop (ldb bytespec n))) ≡
(logtest (ldb bytespec -1) n)
```

mask-field *Accessor*

Syntax:

mask-field *bytespec integer* → *masked-integer*

(**setf** (**mask-field** *bytespec place*) *new-masked-integer*)

Arguments and Values:

bytespec—a *byte specifier*.

integer—an *integer*.

masked-integer, *new-masked-integer*—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

mask-field performs a "mask" operation on *integer*. It returns an *integer* that has the same bits as *integer* in the *byte* specified by *bytespec*, but that has zero-bits everywhere else.

setf may be used with **mask-field** to modify a byte within the *integer* that is stored in a given *place*. The effect is to perform a **deposit-field** operation and then store the result back into the *place*.

Examples:

```
(mask-field (byte 1 5) -1) → 32
(setq a 15) → 15
(mask-field (byte 2 0) a) → 3
a → 15
(setf (mask-field (byte 2 0) a) 1) → 1
a → 13
```

See Also:

byte, **ldb**

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Notes:

```
(ldb bs (mask-field bs n)) ≡ (ldb bs n)
(logbitp j (mask-field (byte s p) n))
  ≡ (and (>= j p) (< j s) (logbitp j n))
(mask-field bs n) ≡ (logand n (dpb -1 bs 0))
```

most-positive-fixnum, most-negative-fixnum *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

most-positive-fixnum is that *fixnum* closest in value to positive infinity provided by the implementation, and greater than or equal to both 2^{15} - 1 and **array-dimension-limit**.

most-negative-fixnum is that *fixnum* closest in value to negative infinity provided by the implementation, and less than or equal to -2^{15}.

decode-float, scale-float, float-radix, float-sign, float-digits, float-precision, integer-decode-float *Function*

Syntax:

decode-float *float* → *significand, exponent, sign*

scale-float *float integer* → *scaled-float*

float-radix *float* → *float-radix*

float-sign *float-1* &optional *float-2* → *signed-float*

float-digits *float* → *digits1*

float-precision *float* → *digits2*

integer-decode-float *float* → *significand, exponent, integer-sign*

Arguments and Values:

digits1—a non-negative *integer*.

digits2—a non-negative *integer*.

exponent—an *integer*.

float—a *float*.

float-1—a *float*.

float-2—a *float*.

float-radix—an *integer*.

integer—a non-negative *integer*.

integer-sign—the *integer* `-1`, or the *integer* `1`.

scaled-float—a *float*.

sign—A *float* of the same *type* as *float* but numerically equal to `1.0` or `-1.0`.

signed-float—a *float*.

significand—a *float*.

Description:

decode-float computes three values that characterize *float*. The first value is of the same *type* as *float* and represents the significand. The second value represents the exponent to which the radix (notated in this description by *b*) must be raised to obtain the value that, when multiplied with the first result, produces the absolute value of *float*. If *float* is zero, any *integer* value may be returned, provided that the identity shown for **scale-float** holds. The third value is of the same *type* as *float* and is 1.0 if *float* is greater than or equal to zero or -1.0 otherwise.

decode-float divides *float* by an integral power of *b* so as to bring its value between $1/b$ (inclusive) and 1 (exclusive), and returns the quotient as the first value. If *float* is zero, however, the result equals the absolute value of *float* (that is, if there is a negative zero, its significand is considered to be a positive zero).

scale-float returns `(* float (expt (float b float) integer))`, where *b* is the radix of the floating-point representation. *float* is not necessarily between $1/b$ and 1.

float-radix returns the radix of *float*.

float-sign returns a number `z` such that `z` and *float-1* have the same sign and also such that `z` and *float-2* have the same absolute value. If *float-2* is not supplied, its value is `(float 1 float-1)`. If an implementation has distinct representations for negative zero and positive zero, then `(float-sign -0.0)` → `-1.0`.

float-digits returns the number of radix *b* digits used in the representation of *float* (including any implicit digits, such as a "hidden bit").

float-precision returns the number of significant radix *b* digits present in *float*; if *float* is a *float* zero, then the result is an *integer* zero.

For *normalized floats*, the results of **float-digits** and **float-precision** are the same, but the precision is less than the number of representation digits for a *denormalized* or zero number.

integer-decode-float computes three values that characterize *float* - the significand scaled so as to be an *integer*, and the same last two values that are returned by **decode-float**. If *float* is zero, **integer-decode-float** returns zero as the first value. The second value bears the same relationship to the first value as for **decode-float**:

```
(multiple-value-bind (signif expon sign)
                     (integer-decode-float f)
  (scale-float (float signif f) expon)) ≡ (abs f)
```

Examples:

```
;; Note that since the purpose of this functionality is to expose
;; details of the implementation, all of these examples are necessarily
;; very implementation-dependent.  Results may vary widely.
;; Values shown here are chosen consistently from one particular implementation.
(decode-float .5) → 0.5, 0, 1.0
(decode-float 1.0) → 0.5, 1, 1.0
(scale-float 1.0 1) → 2.0
(scale-float 10.01 -2) → 2.5025
(scale-float 23.0 0) → 23.0
(float-radix 1.0) → 2
(float-sign 5.0) → 1.0
(float-sign -5.0) → -1.0
(float-sign 0.0) → 1.0
(float-sign 1.0 0.0) → 0.0
(float-sign 1.0 -10.0) → 10.0
(float-sign -1.0 10.0) → -10.0
(float-digits 1.0) → 24
(float-precision 1.0) → 24
(float-precision least-positive-single-float) → 1
(integer-decode-float 1.0) → 8388608, -23, 1
```

Affected By:

The implementation's representation for *floats*.

Exceptional Situations:

The functions **decode-float**, **float-radix**, **float-digits**, **float-precision**, and **integer-decode-float** should signal an error if their only argument is not a *float*.

The *function* **scale-float** should signal an error if its first argument is not a *float* or if its second argument is not an *integer*.

The *function* **float-sign** should signal an error if its first argument is not a *float* or if its second argument is supplied but is not a *float*.

Notes:

The product of the first result of **decode-float** or **integer-decode-float**, of the radix raised to the power of the second result, and of the third result is exactly equal to the value of *float*.

```
(multiple-value-bind (signif expon sign)
                     (decode-float f)
  (scale-float signif expon))
≡ (abs f)
```

and

```
(multiple-value-bind (signif expon sign)
                     (decode-float f)
  (* (scale-float signif expon) sign))
≡ f
```

float *Function*

Syntax:

float *number* &optional *prototype* → *float*

Arguments and Values:

number—a *real*.

prototype—a *float*.

float—a *float*.

Description:

float converts a *real* number to a *float*.

If a *prototype* is supplied, a *float* is returned that is mathematically equal to *number* but has the same format as *prototype*.

If *prototype* is not supplied, then if the *number* is already a *float*, it is returned; otherwise, a *float* is returned that is mathematically equal to *number* but is a *single float*.

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Examples:

```
(float 0) → 0.0
(float 1 .5) → 1.0
(float 1.0) → 1.0
(float 1/2) → 0.5
→ 1.0d0
or→ 1.0
(eql (float 1.0 1.0d0) 1.0d0) → true
```

See Also:

coerce

floatp *Function*

Syntax:

floatp *object*

generalized-boolean

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **float**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(floatp 1.2d2) → true
(floatp 1.212) → true
(floatp 1.2s2) → true
(floatp (expt 2 130)) → false
```

Notes:

```
(floatp object) ≡ (typep object 'float)
```

most-positive-short-float, least-positive-short-float, least-positive-normalized-short-float, most-positive-double-float, least-positive-double-float, least-positive-normalized-double-float, most-positive-long-float, least-positive-long-float, least-positive-normalized-long-float, most-positive-single-float, least-positive-single-float, least-positive-normalized-single-float, most-negative-short-float, least-negative-short-float, least-negative-normalized-short-float, most-negative-single-float, least-negative-single-float, least-negative-normalized-single-float, most-negative-double-float, least-negative-double-float, least-negative-normalized-double-float, most-negative-long-float, least-negative-long-float, least-negative-normalized-long-float *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

These *constant variables* provide a way for programs to examine the *implementation-defined* limits for the various float formats.

Of these *variables*, each which has "`-normalized`" in its *name* must have a *value* which is a *normalized float*, and each which does not have "`-normalized`" in its name may have a *value* which is either a *normalized float* or a *denormalized float*, as appropriate.

Of these *variables*, each which has "`short-float`" in its name must have a *value* which is a *short float*, each which has "`single-float`" in its name must have a *value* which is a *single float*, each which has "`double-float`" in its name must have a *value* which is a *double float*, and each which has "`long-float`" in its name must have a *value* which is a *long float*.

- **most-positive-short-float**, **most-positive-single-float**, **most-positive-double-float**, **most-positive-long-float**

  Each of these *constant variables* has as its *value* the positive *float* of the largest magnitude (closest in value to, but not equal to, positive infinity) for the float format implied by its name.

- **least-positive-short-float**, **least-positive-normalized-short-float**, **least-positive-single-float**, **least-positive-normalized-single-float**, **least-positive-double-float**, **least-positive-normalized-double-float**, **least-positive-long-float**, **least-positive-normalized-long-float**

  Each of these *constant variables* has as its *value* the smallest positive (nonzero) *float* for the float format implied by its name.

- **least-negative-short-float**, **least-negative-normalized-short-float**, **least-negative-single-float**, **least-negative-normalized-single-float**, **least-negative-double-float**, **least-negative-normalized-double-float**, **least-negative-long-float**, **least-negative-normalized-long-float**

  Each of these *constant variables* has as its *value* the negative (nonzero) *float* of the smallest magnitude for the float format implied by its name. (If an implementation supports minus zero as a *different object* from positive zero, this value must not be minus zero.)

- **most-negative-short-float**, **most-negative-single-float**, **most-negative-double-float**, **most-negative-long-float**

  Each of these *constant variables* has as its *value* the negative *float* of the largest magnitude (closest in value to, but not equal to, negative infinity) for the float format implied by its name.

Notes:

short-float-epsilon, short-float-negative-epsilon, single-float-epsilon, single-float-negative-epsilon, double-float-epsilon, double-float-negative-epsilon, long-float-epsilon, long-float-negative-epsilon *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The value of each of the constants **short-float-epsilon**, **single-float-epsilon**, **double-float-epsilon**, and **long-float-epsilon** is the smallest positive *float* ϵ of the given format, such that the following expression is *true* when evaluated:

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```
(not (= (float 1 ε) (+ (float 1 ε) ε)))
```

The value of each of the constants **short-float-negative-epsilon**, **single-float-negative-epsilon**, **double-float-negative-epsilon**, and **long-float-negative-epsilon** is the smallest positive *float* ϵ of the given format, such that the following expression is *true* when evaluated:

```
(not (= (float 1 ε) (- (float 1 ε) ε)))
```

arithmetic-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

arithmetic-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **arithmetic-error** consists of error conditions that occur during arithmetic operations. The operation and operands are initialized with the initialization arguments named `:operation` and `:operands` to **make-condition**, and are *accessed* by the functions **arithmetic-error-operation** and **arithmetic-error-operands**.

See Also:

arithmetic-error-operation, **arithmetic-error-operands**

arithmetic-error-operands, arithmetic-error-operation *Function*

Syntax:

arithmetic-error-operands *condition* → *operands*

arithmetic-error-operation *condition* → *operation*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **arithmetic-error**.

operands—a *list*.

operation—a *function designator*.

Description:

arithmetic-error-operands returns a *list* of the operands which were used in the offending call to the operation that signaled the *condition*.

arithmetic-error-operation returns a *list* of the offending operation in the offending call that signaled the *condition*.

See Also:

arithmetic-error, Chapter 9 (Conditions)

Notes:

division-by-zero *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

division-by-zero, **arithmetic-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **division-by-zero** consists of error conditions that occur because of division by zero.

floating-point-invalid-operation *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

floating-point-invalid-operation, **arithmetic-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **floating-point-invalid-operation** consists of error conditions that occur because of certain floating point traps.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether floating point traps occur, and whether or how they may be enabled or disabled. Therefore, conforming code may establish handlers for this condition, but must not depend on its being *signaled*.

floating-point-inexact *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

floating-point-inexact, **arithmetic-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **floating-point-inexact** consists of error conditions that occur because of certain floating point traps.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether floating point traps occur, and whether or how they may be enabled or disabled. Therefore, conforming code may establish handlers for this condition, but must not depend on its being *signaled*.

floating-point-overflow *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

floating-point-overflow, **arithmetic-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **floating-point-overflow** consists of error conditions that occur because of floating-point overflow.

floating-point-underflow *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

floating-point-underflow, **arithmetic-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **floating-point-underflow** consists of error conditions that occur because of floating-point underflow.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

13. Characters

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13.1 Character Concepts

13.1.1 Introduction to Characters

A ***character*** is an *object* that represents a unitary token (*e.g.*, a letter, a special symbol, or a "control character") in an aggregate quantity of text (*e.g.*, a *string* or a text *stream*).

Common Lisp allows an implementation to provide support for international language *characters* as well as *characters* used in specialized arenas (*e.g.*, mathematics).

The following figures contain lists of *defined names* applicable to *characters*.

Figure 13–1 lists some *defined names* relating to *character attributes* and *character predicates*.

alpha-char-p	**char-not-equal**	**char>**
alphanumericp	**char-not-greaterp**	**char>=**
both-case-p	**char-not-lessp**	**digit-char-p**
char-code-limit	**char/=**	**graphic-char-p**
char-equal	**char<**	**lower-case-p**
char-greaterp	**char<=**	**standard-char-p**
char-lessp	**char=**	**upper-case-p**

Figure 13–1. Character defined names – 1

Figure 13–2 lists some *character* construction and conversion *defined names*.

char-code	**char-name**	**code-char**
char-downcase	**char-upcase**	**digit-char**
char-int	**character**	**name-char**

Figure 13–2. Character defined names – 2

13.1.2 Introduction to Scripts and Repertoires

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13.1.2.1 Character Scripts

A *script* is one of possibly several sets that form an *exhaustive partition* of the type **character**.

The number of such sets and boundaries between them is *implementation-defined*. Common Lisp does not require these sets to be *types*, but an *implementation* is permitted to define such *types* as an extension. Since no *character* from one *script* can ever be a member of another *script*, it is generally more useful to speak about *character repertoires*.

Although the term "*script*" is chosen for definitional compatibility with ISO terminology, no *conforming implementation* is required to use any particular *scripts* standardized by ISO or by any other standards organization.

Whether and how the *script* or *scripts* used by any given *implementation* are named is *implementation-dependent*.

13.1.2.2 Character Repertoires

A ***repertoire*** is a *type specifier* for a *subtype* of *type* **character**. This term is generally used when describing a collection of *characters* independent of their coding. *Characters* in *repertoires* are only identified by name, by *glyph*, or by character description.

A *repertoire* can contain *characters* from several *scripts*, and a *character* can appear in more than one *repertoire*.

For some examples of *repertoires*, see the coded character standards ISO 8859/1, ISO 8859/2, and ISO 6937/2. Note, however, that although the term "*repertoire*" is chosen for definitional compatibility with ISO terminology, no *conforming implementation* is required to use *repertoires* standardized by ISO or any other standards organization.

13.1.3 Character Attributes

Characters have only one *standardized attribute*: a *code*. A *character*'s *code* is a non-negative *integer*. This *code* is composed from a character *script* and a character label in an *implementation-dependent* way. See the *functions* **char-code** and **code-char**.

Additional, *implementation-defined attributes* of *characters* are also permitted so that, for example, two *characters* with the same *code* may differ in some other, *implementation-defined* way.

For any *implementation-defined attribute* there is a distinguished value called the ***null*** value for that *attribute*. A *character* for which each *implementation-defined attribute* has the null value for that *attribute* is called a *simple character*. If the *implementation* has no *implementation-defined attributes*, then all *characters* are *simple characters*.

13.1.4 Character Categories

There are several (overlapping) categories of *characters* that have no formally associated *type* but that are nevertheless useful to name. They include *graphic characters*, *alphabetic*$_1$ *characters*, *characters* with *case* (*uppercase* and *lowercase characters*), *numeric characters*, *alphanumeric characters*, and *digits* (in a given *radix*).

For each *implementation-defined attribute* of a *character*, the documentation for that *implementation* must specify whether *characters* that differ only in that *attribute* are permitted to differ in whether are not they are members of one of the aforementioned categories.

Note that these terms are defined independently of any special syntax which might have been enabled in the *current readtable*.

13.1.4.1 Graphic Characters

Characters that are classified as ***graphic***, or displayable, are each associated with a glyph, a visual representation of the *character*.

A *graphic character* is one that has a standard textual representation as a single *glyph*, such as `A` or `*` or `=`. *Space*, which effectively has a blank *glyph*, is defined to be a *graphic*.

Of the *standard characters*, *newline* is *non-graphic* and all others are *graphic*; see Section 2.1.3 (Standard Characters).

Characters that are not *graphic* are called ***non-graphic***. *Non-graphic characters* are sometimes informally called "formatting characters" or "control characters."

`#\Backspace`, `#\Tab`, `#\Rubout`, `#\Linefeed`, `#\Return`, and `#\Page`, if they are supported by the *implementation*, are *non-graphic*.

13.1.4.2 Alphabetic Characters

The *alphabetic*$_1$ *characters* are a subset of the *graphic characters*. Of the *standard characters*, only these are the *alphabetic*$_1$ *characters*:

`A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z`

`a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z`

Any *implementation-defined character* that has *case* must be *alphabetic*$_1$. For each *implementation-defined graphic character* that has no *case*, it is *implementation-defined* whether that *character* is *alphabetic*$_1$.

13.1.4.3 Characters With Case

The *characters* with *case* are a subset of the *alphabetic*$_1$ *characters*. A *character* with *case* has the property of being either *uppercase* or *lowercase*. Every *character* with *case* is in one-to-one correspondence with some other *character* with the opposite *case*.

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13.1.4.3.1 Uppercase Characters

An uppercase *character* is one that has a corresponding *lowercase character* that is *different* (and can be obtained using **char-downcase**).

Of the *standard characters*, only these are *uppercase characters*:

`A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z`

13.1.4.3.2 Lowercase Characters

A lowercase *character* is one that has a corresponding *uppercase character* that is *different* (and can be obtained using **char-upcase**).

Of the *standard characters*, only these are *lowercase characters*:

`a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z`

13.1.4.3.3 Corresponding Characters in the Other Case

The *uppercase standard characters* `A` through `Z` mentioned above respectively correspond to the *lowercase standard characters* `a` through `z` mentioned above. For example, the *uppercase character* `E` corresponds to the *lowercase character* `e`, and vice versa.

13.1.4.3.4 Case of Implementation-Defined Characters

An *implementation* may define that other *implementation-defined graphic characters* have *case*. Such definitions must always be done in pairs—one *uppercase character* in one-to-one *correspondence* with one *lowercase character*.

13.1.4.4 Numeric Characters

The *numeric characters* are a subset of the *graphic characters*. Of the *standard characters*, only these are *numeric characters*:

`0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9`

For each *implementation-defined graphic character* that has no *case*, the *implementation* must define whether or not it is a *numeric character*.

13.1.4.5 Alphanumeric Characters

The set of *alphanumeric characters* is the union of the set of *alphabetic*$_1$ *characters* and the set of *numeric characters*.

13.1.4.6 Digits in a Radix

What qualifies as a *digit* depends on the *radix* (an *integer* between `2` and `36`, inclusive). The potential *digits* are:

```
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
```

Their respective weights are `0`, `1`, `2`, ... `35`. In any given radix n, only the first n potential *digits* are considered to be *digits*. For example, the digits in radix `2` are `0` and `1`, the digits in radix `10` are `0` through `9`, and the digits in radix `16` are `0` through `F`.

Case is not significant in *digits*; for example, in radix `16`, both `F` and `f` are *digits* with weight `15`.

13.1.5 Identity of Characters

Two *characters* that are **eql**, **char=**, or **char-equal** are not necessarily **eq**.

13.1.6 Ordering of Characters

The total ordering on *characters* is guaranteed to have the following properties:

- If two *characters* have the same *implementation-defined attributes*, then their ordering by **char<** is consistent with the numerical ordering by the predicate `<` on their code *attributes*.
- If two *characters* differ in any *attribute*, then they are not **char=**.
- The total ordering is not necessarily the same as the total ordering on the *integers* produced by applying **char-int** to the *characters*.
- While *alphabetic*$_1$ *standard characters* of a given *case* must obey a partial ordering, they need not be contiguous; it is permissible for *uppercase* and *lowercase characters* to be interleaved. Thus `(char<= #\a x #\z)` is not a valid way of determining whether or not `x` is a *lowercase character*.

Of the *standard characters*, those which are *alphanumeric* obey the following partial ordering:

```
A<B<C<D<E<F<G<H<I<J<K<L<M<N<O<P<Q<R<S<T<U<V<W<X<Y<Z
a<b<c<d<e<f<g<h<i<j<k<l<m<n<o<p<q<r<s<t<u<v<w<x<y<z
0<1<2<3<4<5<6<7<8<9
either 9<A or Z<0
either 9<a or z<0
```

This implies that, for *standard characters*, *alphabetic*$_1$ ordering holds within each *case* (*uppercase* and *lowercase*), and that the *numeric characters* as a group are not interleaved with *alphabetic characters*. However, the ordering or possible interleaving of *uppercase characters* and *lowercase characters* is *implementation-defined*.

13.1.7 Character Names

The following *character names* must be present in all *conforming implementations*:

`Newline`

The character that represents the division between lines. An implementation must translate between `#\Newline`, a single-character representation, and whatever external representation(s) may be used.

`Space`

The space or blank character.

The following names are *semi-standard*; if an *implementation* supports them, they should be used for the described *characters* and no others.

`Rubout`

The rubout or delete character.

`Page`

The form-feed or page-separator character.

`Tab`

The tabulate character.

`Backspace`

The backspace character.

`Return`

The carriage return character.

`Linefeed`

The line-feed character.

In some *implementations*, one or more of these *character names* might denote a *standard character*; for example, `#\Linefeed` and `#\Newline` might be the *same character* in some *implementations*.

13.1.8 Treatment of Newline during Input and Output

When the character `#\Newline` is written to an output file, the implementation must take the appropriate action to produce a line division. This might involve writing out a record or translating `#\Newline` to a CR/LF sequence. When reading, a corresponding reverse transformation must take place.

13.1.9 Character Encodings

A *character* is sometimes represented merely by its *code*, and sometimes by another *integer* value which is composed from the *code* and all *implementation-defined attributes* (in an *implementation-defined* way that might vary between *Lisp images* even in the same *implementation*). This *integer*, returned by the function **char-int**, is called the character's "encoding." There is no corresponding function from a character's encoding back to the *character*, since its primary intended uses include things like hashing where an inverse operation is not really called for.

13.1.10 Documentation of Implementation-Defined Scripts

An *implementation* must document the *character scripts* it supports. For each *character script* supported, the documentation must describe at least the following:

- Character labels, glyphs, and descriptions. Character labels must be uniquely named using only Latin capital letters A–Z, hyphen (-), and digits 0–9.
- Reader canonicalization. Any mechanisms by which **read** treats *different* characters as equivalent must be documented.
- The impact on **char-upcase**, **char-downcase**, and the case-sensitive *format directives*. In particular, for each *character* with *case*, whether it is *uppercase* or *lowercase*, and which *character* is its equivalent in the opposite case.
- The behavior of the case-insensitive *functions* **char-equal**, **char-not-equal**, **char-lessp**, **char-greaterp**, **char-not-greaterp**, and **char-not-lessp**.
- The behavior of any *character predicates*; in particular, the effects of **alpha-char-p**, **lower-case-p**, **upper-case-p**, **both-case-p**, **graphic-char-p**, and **alphanumericp**.
- The interaction with file I/O, in particular, the supported coded character sets (for example, ISO8859/1-1987) and external encoding schemes supported are documented.

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character *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

character, **t**

Description:

A *character* is an *object* that represents a unitary token in an aggregate quantity of text; see Section 13.1 (Character Concepts).

The *types* **base-char** and **extended-char** form an *exhaustive partition* of the *type* **character**.

See Also:

Section 13.1 (Character Concepts), Section 2.4.8.1 (Sharpsign Backslash), Section 22.1.3.2 (Printing Characters)

base-char *Type*

Supertypes:

base-char, **character**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **base-char** is defined as the *upgraded array element type* of **standard-char**. An *implementation* can support additional *subtypes* of *type* **character** (besides the ones listed in this standard) that might or might not be *supertypes* of *type* **base-char**. In addition, an *implementation* can define **base-char** to be the *same type* as **character**.

Base characters are distinguished in the following respects:

1. The *type* **standard-char** is a *subrepertoire* of the *type* **base-char**.
2. The selection of *base characters* that are not *standard characters* is implementation defined.
3. Only *objects* of the *type* **base-char** can be *elements* of a *base string*.
4. No upper bound is specified for the number of characters in the **base-char** *repertoire*; the size of that *repertoire* is *implementation-defined*. The lower bound is 96, the number of *standard characters*.

Whether a character is a *base character* depends on the way that an *implementation* represents *strings*, and not any other properties of the *implementation* or the host operating system. For example, one implementation might encode all *strings* as characters having 16-bit encodings, and another might have two kinds of *strings*: those with characters having 8-bit encodings and those with characters having 16-bit encodings. In the first *implementation*, the *type* **base-char** is equivalent to the *type* **character**: there is only one kind of *string*. In the second *implementation*, the *base characters* might be those *characters* that could be stored in a *string* of *characters* having 8-bit encodings. In such an implementation, the *type* **base-char** is a *proper subtype* of the *type* **character**.

The *type* **standard-char** is a *subtype* of *type* **base-char**.

standard-char *Type*

Supertypes:

standard-char, **base-char**, **character**, **t**

Description:

A fixed set of 96 *characters* required to be present in all *conforming implementations*. *Standard characters* are defined in Section 2.1.3 (Standard Characters).

Any *character* that is not *simple* is not a *standard character*.

See Also:

Section 2.1.3 (Standard Characters)

extended-char *Type*

Supertypes:

extended-char, **character**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **extended-char** is equivalent to the *type* `(and character (not base-char))`.

Notes:

The *type* **extended-char** might have no *elements*$_4$ in *implementations* in which all *characters* are of *type* **base-char**.

char=, char/=, char<, char>, char<=, char>=, char-equal, char-not-equal, char-lessp, char-greaterp, char-not-greaterp, char-not-lessp *Function*

Syntax:

char= `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char/ = `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char< `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char> `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char<= `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char>= `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

char-equal `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char-not-equal `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char-lessp `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char-greaterp `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char-not-greaterp `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*
char-not-lessp `&rest` *characters*$^+$ → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

These predicates compare *characters*.

char= returns *true* if all *characters* are the *same*; otherwise, it returns *false*. If two *characters* differ in any *implementation-defined attributes*, then they are not **char=**.

char/= returns *true* if all *characters* are different; otherwise, it returns *false*.

char< returns *true* if the *characters* are monotonically increasing; otherwise, it returns *false*. If two *characters* have *identical implementation-defined attributes*, then their ordering by **char<** is consistent with the numerical ordering by the predicate **<** on their *codes*.

char> returns *true* if the *characters* are monotonically decreasing; otherwise, it returns *false*. If two *characters* have *identical implementation-defined attributes*, then their ordering by **char>** is consistent with the numerical ordering by the predicate **>** on their *codes*.

char<= returns *true* if the *characters* are monotonically nondecreasing; otherwise, it returns *false*. If two *characters* have *identical implementation-defined attributes*, then their ordering by **char<=** is consistent with the numerical ordering by the predicate **<=** on their *codes*.

char>= returns *true* if the *characters* are monotonically nonincreasing; otherwise, it returns *false*.

If two *characters* have *identical implementation-defined attributes*, then their ordering by **char>=** is consistent with the numerical ordering by the predicate `>=` on their *codes*.

char-equal, **char-not-equal**, **char-lessp**, **char-greaterp**, **char-not-greaterp**, and **char-not-lessp** are similar to **char=**, **char/=**, **char<**, **char>**, **char<=**, **char>=**, respectively, except that they ignore differences in *case* and might have an *implementation-defined* behavior for *non-simple characters*. For example, an *implementation* might define that **char-equal**, *etc.* ignore certain *implementation-defined attributes*. The effect, if any, of each *implementation-defined attribute* upon these functions must be specified as part of the definition of that *attribute*.

Examples:

```
(char= #\d #\d) → true
(char= #\A #\a) → false
(char= #\d #\x) → false
(char= #\d #\D) → false
(char/= #\d #\d) → false
(char/= #\d #\x) → true
(char/= #\d #\D) → true
(char= #\d #\d #\d #\d) → true
(char/= #\d #\d #\d #\d) → false
(char= #\d #\d #\x #\d) → false
(char/= #\d #\d #\x #\d) → false
(char= #\d #\y #\x #\c) → false
(char/= #\d #\y #\x #\c) → true
(char= #\d #\c #\d) → false
(char/= #\d #\c #\d) → false
(char< #\d #\x) → true
(char<= #\d #\x) → true
(char< #\d #\d) → false
(char<= #\d #\d) → true
(char< #\a #\e #\y #\z) → true
(char<= #\a #\e #\y #\z) → true
(char< #\a #\e #\e #\y) → false
(char<= #\a #\e #\e #\y) → true
(char> #\e #\d) → true
(char>= #\e #\d) → true
(char> #\d #\c #\b #\a) → true
(char>= #\d #\c #\b #\a) → true
(char> #\d #\d #\c #\a) → false
(char>= #\d #\d #\c #\a) → true
(char> #\e #\d #\b #\c #\a) → false
(char>= #\e #\d #\b #\c #\a) → false
(char> #\z #\A) → implementation-dependent
(char> #\Z #\a) → implementation-dependent
(char-equal #\A #\a) → true
```



```
 (stable-sort (list #\b #\A #\B #\a #\c #\C) #'char-lessp)
→ (#\A #\a #\b #\B #\c #\C)
 (stable-sort (list #\b #\A #\B #\a #\c #\C) #'char<)
→ (#\A #\B #\C #\a #\b #\c) ;Implementation A
→ (#\a #\b #\c #\A #\B #\C) ;Implementation B
→ (#\a #\A #\b #\B #\c #\C) ;Implementation C
→ (#\A #\a #\B #\b #\C #\c) ;Implementation D
→ (#\A #\B #\a #\b #\C #\c) ;Implementation E
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **program-error** if at least one *character* is not supplied.

See Also:

Section 2.1 (Character Syntax), Section 13.1.10 (Documentation of Implementation-Defined Scripts)

Notes:

If characters differ in their *code attribute* or any *implementation-defined attribute*, they are considered to be different by **char=**.

There is no requirement that `(eq c1 c2)` be true merely because `(char= c1 c2)` is *true*. While **eq** can distinguish two *characters* that **char=** does not, it is distinguishing them not as *characters*, but in some sense on the basis of a lower level implementation characteristic. If `(eq c1 c2)` is *true*, then `(char= c1 c2)` is also true. **eql** and **equal** compare *characters* in the same way that **char=** does.

The manner in which *case* is used by **char-equal**, **char-not-equal**, **char-lessp**, **char-greaterp**, **char-not-greaterp**, and **char-not-lessp** implies an ordering for *standard characters* such that `A=a`, `B=b`, and so on, up to `Z=z`, and furthermore either `9<A` or `Z<0`.

character *Function*

Syntax:

character *character* → *denoted-character*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character designator*.

denoted-character—a *character*.

Description:

Returns the *character* denoted by the *character designator*.

Examples:

```
(character #\a) → #\a
(character "a") → #\a
(character 'a) → #\A
(character '\a) → #\a
(character 65.) is an error.
(character 'apple) is an error.
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *object* is not a *character designator*.

See Also:

coerce

Notes:

```
(character object) ≡ (coerce object 'character)
```

characterp *Function*

Syntax:

characterp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **character**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(characterp #\a) → true
(characterp 'a) → false
(characterp "a") → false
(characterp 65.) → false
(characterp #\Newline) → true
;; This next example presupposes an implementation
;; in which #\Rubout is an implementation-defined character.
(characterp #\Rubout) → true
```


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See Also:

character (*type* and *function*), **typep**

Notes:

```
(characterp object) ≡ (typep object 'character)
```

alpha-char-p *Function*

Syntax:

alpha-char-p *character* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *character* is an *alphabetic*$_1$ *character*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(alpha-char-p #\a) → true
(alpha-char-p #\5) → false
(alpha-char-p #\Newline) → false
;; This next example presupposes an implementation
;; in which #\α is a defined character.
(alpha-char-p #\α) → implementation-dependent
```

Affected By:

None. (In particular, the results of this predicate are independent of any special syntax which might have been enabled in the *current readtable*.)

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

See Also:

alphanumericp, Section 13.1.10 (Documentation of Implementation-Defined Scripts)

alphanumericp *Function*

Syntax:

alphanumericp *character* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *character* is an *alphabetic*$_1$ *character* or a *numeric character*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(alphanumericp #\Z) → true
(alphanumericp #\9) → true
(alphanumericp #\Newline) → false
(alphanumericp #\#) → false
```

Affected By:

None. (In particular, the results of this predicate are independent of any special syntax which might have been enabled in the *current readtable*.)

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

See Also:

alpha-char-p, **graphic-char-p**, **digit-char-p**

Notes:

Alphanumeric characters are graphic as defined by **graphic-char-p**. The alphanumeric characters are a subset of the graphic characters. The standard characters A through Z, a through z, and 0 through 9 are alphanumeric characters.

```
(alphanumericp x)
  ≡ (or (alpha-char-p x) (not (null (digit-char-p x))))
```


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digit-char *Function*

Syntax:

digit-char *weight* &optional *radix* → *char*

Arguments and Values:

weight—a non-negative *integer*.

radix—a *radix*. The default is 10.

char—a *character* or *false*.

Description:

If *weight* is less than *radix*, **digit-char** returns a *character* which has that *weight* when considered as a digit in the specified radix. If the resulting *character* is to be an *alphabetic*$_1$ *character*, it will be an uppercase *character*.

If *weight* is greater than or equal to *radix*, **digit-char** returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(digit-char 0) → #\0
(digit-char 10 11) → #\A
(digit-char 10 10) → false
(digit-char 7) → #\7
(digit-char 12) → false
(digit-char 12 16) → #\C  ;not #\c
(digit-char 6 2) → false
(digit-char 1 2) → #\1
```

See Also:

digit-char-p, **graphic-char-p**, Section 2.1 (Character Syntax)

Notes:

digit-char-p *Function*

Syntax:

digit-char-p *char* &optional *radix* → *weight*

Arguments and Values:

char—a *character*.

radix—a *radix*. The default is 10.

weight—either a non-negative *integer* less than *radix*, or *false*.

Description:

Tests whether *char* is a digit in the specified *radix* (*i.e.*, with a weight less than *radix*). If it is a digit in that *radix*, its weight is returned as an *integer*; otherwise **nil** is returned.

Examples:

```
(digit-char-p #\5)    → 5
(digit-char-p #\5 2)  → false
(digit-char-p #\A)    → false
(digit-char-p #\a)    → false
(digit-char-p #\A 11) → 10
(digit-char-p #\a 11) → 10
(mapcar #'(lambda (radix)
            (map 'list #'(lambda (x) (digit-char-p x radix))
                 "059AaFGZ"))
        '(2 8 10 16 36))
→ ((0 NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL)
   (0 5 NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL)
   (0 5 9 NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL)
   (0 5 9 10 10 15 NIL NIL)
   (0 5 9 10 10 15 16 35))
```

Affected By:

None. (In particular, the results of this predicate are independent of any special syntax which might have been enabled in the *current readtable*.)

See Also:

alphanumericp

Notes:

Digits are *graphic characters*.

graphic-char-p *Function*

Syntax:

graphic-char-p *char* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

char—a *character*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *character* is a *graphic character*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(graphic-char-p #\G) → true
(graphic-char-p #\#) → true
(graphic-char-p #\Space) → true
(graphic-char-p #\Newline) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

See Also:

read, Section 2.1 (Character Syntax), Section 13.1.10 (Documentation of Implementation-Defined Scripts)

standard-char-p *Function*

Syntax:

standard-char-p *character* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *character* is of *type* **standard-char**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(standard-char-p #\Space) → true
(standard-char-p #\~) → true
;; This next example presupposes an implementation
;; in which #\Bell is a defined character.
(standard-char-p #\Bell) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

char-upcase, char-downcase *Function*

Syntax:

char-upcase *character* → *corresponding-character*
char-downcase *character* → *corresponding-character*

Arguments and Values:

character, *corresponding-character*—a *character*.

Description:

If *character* is a *lowercase character*, **char-upcase** returns the corresponding *uppercase character*. Otherwise, **char-upcase** just returns the given *character*.

If *character* is an *uppercase character*, **char-downcase** returns the corresponding *lowercase character*. Otherwise, **char-downcase** just returns the given *character*.

The result only ever differs from *character* in its *code attribute*; all *implementation-defined attributes* are preserved.

Examples:

```
(char-upcase #\a) → #\A
(char-upcase #\A) → #\A
(char-downcase #\a) → #\a
(char-downcase #\A) → #\a
(char-upcase #\9) → #\9
(char-downcase #\9) → #\9
(char-upcase #\@) → #\@
(char-downcase #\@) → #\@
;; Note that this next example might run for a very long time in
;; some implementations if CHAR-CODE-LIMIT happens to be very large
;; for that implementation.
(dotimes (code char-code-limit)
  (let ((char (code-char code)))
    (when char
      (unless (cond ((upper-case-p char) (char= (char-upcase (char-downcase char)) char))
                    ((lower-case-p char) (char= (char-downcase (char-upcase char)) char))
                    (t (and (char= (char-upcase (char-downcase char)) char)
                            (char= (char-downcase (char-upcase char)) char))))
        (return char)))))
→ NIL
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

See Also:

upper-case-p, **alpha-char-p**, Section 13.1.4.3 (Characters With Case), Section 13.1.10 (Documentation of Implementation-Defined Scripts)

Notes:

If the *corresponding-char* is *different* than *character*, then both the *character* and the *corresponding-char* have *case*.

Since **char-equal** ignores the *case* of the *characters* it compares, the *corresponding-character* is always the *same* as *character* under **char-equal**.

upper-case-p, lower-case-p, both-case-p *Function*

Syntax:

upper-case-p *character* → *generalized-boolean*
lower-case-p *character* → *generalized-boolean*
both-case-p *character* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

These functions test the case of a given *character*.

upper-case-p returns *true* if *character* is an *uppercase character*; otherwise, returns *false*.

lower-case-p returns *true* if *character* is a *lowercase character*; otherwise, returns *false*.

both-case-p returns *true* if *character* is a *character* with *case*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(upper-case-p #\A) → true
(upper-case-p #\a) → false
(both-case-p #\a) → true
(both-case-p #\5) → false
(lower-case-p #\5) → false
(upper-case-p #\5) → false
;; This next example presupposes an implementation
;; in which #\Bell is an implementation-defined character.
(lower-case-p #\Bell) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

See Also:

char-upcase, **char-downcase**, Section 13.1.4.3 (Characters With Case), Section 13.1.10 (Documentation of Implementation-Defined Scripts)

char-code *Function*

Syntax:

char-code *character* → *code*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

code—a *character code*.

Description:

char-code returns the *code attribute* of *character*.

Examples:

```
;; An implementation using ASCII character encoding
;; might return these values:
(char-code #\$) → 36
(char-code #\a) → 97
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

See Also:

char-code-limit

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char-int *Function*

Syntax:

char-int *character* → *integer*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

integer—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns a non-negative *integer* encoding the *character* object. The manner in which the *integer* is computed is *implementation-dependent*. In contrast to **sxhash**, the result is not guaranteed to be independent of the particular *Lisp image*.

If *character* has no *implementation-defined attributes*, the results of **char-int** and **char-code** are the same.

```
(char= c1 c2) ≡ (= (char-int c1) (char-int c2))
```

for characters *c1* and *c2*.

Examples:

```
(char-int #\A) → 65       ; implementation A
(char-int #\A) → 577      ; implementation B
(char-int #\A) → 262145   ; implementation C
```

See Also:

char-code

code-char *Function*

Syntax:

code-char *code* → *char-p*

Arguments and Values:

code—a *character code*.

char-p—a *character* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns a *character* with the *code attribute* given by *code*. If no such *character* exists and one cannot be created, **nil** is returned.

Examples:

```
(code-char 65.) → #\A  ;in an implementation using ASCII codes
(code-char (char-code #\Space)) → #\Space  ;in any implementation
```

Affected By:

The *implementation*'s character encoding.

See Also:

char-code

Notes:

char-code-limit *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

A non-negative *integer*, the exact magnitude of which is *implementation-dependent*, but which is not less than 96 (the number of *standard characters*).

Description:

The upper exclusive bound on the *value* returned by the *function* **char-code**.

See Also:

char-code

Notes:

The *value* of **char-code-limit** might be larger than the actual number of *characters* supported by the *implementation*.

char-name

char-name *Function*

Syntax:

char-name *character* → *name*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

name—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns a *string* that is the *name* of the *character*, or **nil** if the *character* has no *name*.

All *non-graphic* characters are required to have *names* unless they have some *implementation-defined attribute* which is not *null*. Whether or not other *characters* have *names* is *implementation-dependent*.

The *standard characters* ⟨*Newline*⟩ and ⟨*Space*⟩ have the respective names "Newline" and "Space". The *semi-standard characters* ⟨*Tab*⟩, ⟨*Page*⟩, ⟨*Rubout*⟩, ⟨*Linefeed*⟩, ⟨*Return*⟩, and ⟨*Backspace*⟩ (if they are supported by the *implementation*) have the respective names "Tab", "Page", "Rubout", "Linefeed", "Return", and "Backspace" (in the indicated case, even though name lookup by "#\" and by the *function* **name-char** is not case sensitive).

Examples:

```
(char-name #\ ) → "Space"
(char-name #\Space) → "Space"
(char-name #\Page) → "Page"

(char-name #\a)
→ NIL
→or "LOWERCASE-a"
→or "Small-A"
→or "LA01"

(char-name #\A)
→ NIL
→or "UPPERCASE-A"
→or "Capital-A"
→or "LA02"

;; Even though its CHAR-NAME can vary, #\A prints as #\A
(prin1-to-string (read-from-string (format nil "#\\~A" (or (char-name #\A) "A"))))
→ "#\\A"
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *character* is not a *character*.

See Also:

name-char, Section 22.1.3.2 (Printing Characters)

Notes:

Non-graphic characters having *names* are written by the *Lisp printer* as "#\" followed by the their *name*; see Section 22.1.3.2 (Printing Characters).

name-char *Function*

Syntax:

name-char *name* → *char-p*

Arguments and Values:

name—a *string designator*.

char-p—a *character* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns the *character object* whose *name* is *name* (as determined by **string-equal**—*i.e.*, lookup is not case sensitive). If such a *character* does not exist, **nil** is returned.

Examples:

```
(name-char 'space) → #\Space
(name-char "space") → #\Space
(name-char "Space") → #\Space
(let ((x (char-name #\a)))
  (or (not x) (eql (name-char x) #\a))) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *name* is not a *string designator*.

See Also:

char-name

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14. Conses

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14.1 Cons Concepts

A ***cons*** is a compound data *object* having two components called the *car* and the *cdr*.

car	**cons**	**rplacd**
cdr	**rplaca**	

Figure 14–1. Some defined names relating to conses.

Depending on context, a group of connected *conses* can be viewed in a variety of different ways. A variety of operations is provided to support each of these various views.

14.1.1 Conses as Trees

A ***tree*** is a binary recursive data structure made up of *conses* and *atoms*: the *conses* are themselves also *trees* (sometimes called "subtrees" or "branches"), and the *atoms* are terminal nodes (sometimes called ***leaves***). Typically, the *leaves* represent data while the branches establish some relationship among that data.

caaaar	**caddar**	**cdar**	**nsubst**
caaadr	**cadddr**	**cddaar**	**nsubst-if**
caaar	**caddr**	**cddadr**	**nsubst-if-not**
caadar	**cadr**	**cddar**	**nthcdr**
caaddr	**cdaaar**	**cdddar**	**sublis**
caadr	**cdaadr**	**cddddr**	**subst**
caar	**cdaar**	**cdddr**	**subst-if**
cadaar	**cdadar**	**cddr**	**subst-if-not**
cadadr	**cdaddr**	**copy-tree**	**tree-equal**
cadar	**cdadr**	**nsublis**	

Figure 14–2. Some defined names relating to trees.

14.1.1.1 General Restrictions on Parameters that must be Trees

Except as explicitly stated otherwise, for any *standardized function* that takes a *parameter* that is required to be a *tree*, the consequences are undefined if that *tree* is circular.

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14.1.2 Conses as Lists

A ***list*** is a chain of *conses* in which the *car* of each *cons* is an *element* of the *list*, and the *cdr* of each *cons* is either the next link in the chain or a terminating *atom*.

A ***proper list*** is a *list* terminated by the *empty list*. The *empty list* is a *proper list*, but is not a *cons*.

An ***improper list*** is a *list* that is not a *proper list*; that is, it is a *circular list* or a *dotted list*.

A ***dotted list*** is a *list* that has a terminating *atom* that is not the *empty list*. A *non-nil atom* by itself is not considered to be a *list* of any kind—not even a *dotted list*.

A ***circular list*** is a chain of *conses* that has no termination because some *cons* in the chain is the *cdr* of a later *cons*.

append	**last**	**nbutlast**	**rest**
butlast	**ldiff**	**nconc**	**revappend**
copy-alist	**list**	**ninth**	**second**
copy-list	**list***	**nreconc**	**seventh**
eighth	**list-length**	**nth**	**sixth**
endp	**make-list**	**nthcdr**	**tailp**
fifth	**member**	**pop**	**tenth**
first	**member-if**	**push**	**third**
fourth	**member-if-not**	**pushnew**	

Figure 14–3. Some defined names relating to lists.

14.1.2.1 Lists as Association Lists

An ***association list*** is a *list* of *conses* representing an association of *keys* with *values*, where the *car* of each *cons* is the *key* and the *cdr* is the *value* associated with that *key*.

acons	**assoc-if**	**pairlis**	**rassoc-if**
assoc	**assoc-if-not**	**rassoc**	**rassoc-if-not**

Figure 14–4. Some defined names related to assocation lists.

14.1.2.2 Lists as Sets

Lists are sometimes viewed as sets by considering their elements unordered and by assuming there is no duplication of elements.

adjoin	**nset-difference**	**set-difference**	**union**
intersection	**nset-exclusive-or**	**set-exclusive-or**	
nintersection	**nunion**	**subsetp**	

Figure 14–5. Some defined names related to sets.

14.1.2.3 General Restrictions on Parameters that must be Lists

Except as explicitly specified otherwise, any *standardized function* that takes a *parameter* that is required to be a *list* should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if the *value* received is a *dotted list*.

Except as explicitly specified otherwise, for any *standardized function* that takes a *parameter* that is required to be a *list*, the consequences are undefined if that *list* is *circular*.

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list *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

list, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

A ***list*** is a chain of *conses* in which the *car* of each *cons* is an *element* of the *list*, and the *cdr* of each *cons* is either the next link in the chain or a terminating *atom*.

A ***proper list*** is a chain of *conses* terminated by the ***empty list***, (), which is itself a *proper list*. A ***dotted list*** is a *list* which has a terminating *atom* that is not the *empty list*. A ***circular list*** is a chain of *conses* that has no termination because some *cons* in the chain is the *cdr* of a later *cons*.

Dotted lists and *circular lists* are also *lists*, but usually the unqualified term "list" within this specification means *proper list*. Nevertheless, the *type* **list** unambiguously includes *dotted lists* and *circular lists*.

For each *element* of a *list* there is a *cons*. The *empty list* has no *elements* and is not a *cons*.

The *types* **cons** and **null** form an *exhaustive partition* of the *type* **list**.

See Also:

Section 2.4.1 (Left-Parenthesis), Section 22.1.3.5 (Printing Lists and Conses)

null *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

null, **symbol**, **list**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

The only *object* of *type* **null** is **nil**, which represents the *empty list* and can also be notated ().

See Also:

Section 2.3.4 (Symbols as Tokens), Section 2.4.1 (Left-Parenthesis), Section 22.1.3.3 (Printing Symbols)

cons *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

cons, **list**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

A *cons* is a compound *object* having two components, called the *car* and *cdr*. These form a *dotted pair*. Each component can be any *object*.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(cons [*car-typespec* [*cdr-typespec*]])

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

car-typespec—a *type specifier*, or the *symbol* *. The default is the *symbol* *.

cdr-typespec—a *type specifier*, or the *symbol* *. The default is the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of *conses* whose *car* is constrained to be of *type* *car-typespec* and whose *cdr* is constrained to be of *type* *cdr-typespec*. (If either *car-typespec* or *cdr-typespec* is *, it is as if the *type* t had been denoted.)

See Also:

Section 2.4.1 (Left-Parenthesis), Section 22.1.3.5 (Printing Lists and Conses)

atom *Type*

Supertypes:

atom, **t**

Description:

It is equivalent to (not cons).

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cons *Function*

Syntax:

cons *object-1 object-2* → *cons*

Arguments and Values:

object-1—an *object*.

object-2—an *object*.

cons—a *cons*.

Description:

Creates a *fresh cons*, the *car* of which is *object-1* and the *cdr* of which is *object-2*.

Examples:

```
(cons 1 2) → (1 . 2)
(cons 1 nil) → (1)
(cons nil 2) → (NIL . 2)
(cons nil nil) → (NIL)
(cons 1 (cons 2 (cons 3 (cons 4 nil)))) → (1 2 3 4)
(cons 'a 'b) → (A . B)
(cons 'a (cons 'b (cons 'c '()))) → (A B C)
(cons 'a '(b c d)) → (A B C D)
```

See Also:

list

Notes:

If *object-2* is a *list*, **cons** can be thought of as producing a new *list* which is like it but has *object-1* prepended.

consp *Function*

Syntax:

consp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **cons**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(consp nil) → false
(consp (cons 1 2)) → true
```

The *empty list* is not a *cons*, so

```
(consp '()) ≡ (consp 'nil) → false
```

See Also:

listp

Notes:

```
(consp object) ≡ (typep object 'cons) ≡ (not (typep object 'atom)) ≡ (typep object '(not
atom))
```

atom *Function*

Syntax:

atom *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **atom**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(atom 'sss) → true
(atom (cons 1 2)) → false
(atom nil) → true
(atom '()) → true
(atom 3) → true
```


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Notes:

```
(atom object) ≡ (typep object 'atom) ≡ (not (consp object))
≡ (not (typep object 'cons)) ≡ (typep object '(not cons))
```

rplaca, rplacd *Function*

Syntax:

rplaca *cons object* → *cons*

rplacd *cons object* → *cons*

Pronunciation:

rplaca: [ˌ**rē**ˈ**plak**ϵ] or [ˌ**r**ϵˈ**plak**ϵ]

rplacd: [ˌ**rē**ˈ**plakd**ϵ] or [ˌ**r**ϵˈ**plakd**ϵ] or [ˌ**rē**ˈ**plakdē**] or [ˌ**r**ϵˈ**plakdē**]

Arguments and Values:

cons—a *cons*.

object—an *object*.

Description:

rplaca replaces the *car* of the *cons* with *object*.

rplacd replaces the *cdr* of the *cons* with *object*.

Examples:

```
(defparameter *some-list* (list* 'one 'two 'three 'four)) → *some-list*
*some-list* → (ONE TWO THREE . FOUR)
(rplaca *some-list* 'uno) → (UNO TWO THREE . FOUR)
*some-list* → (UNO TWO THREE . FOUR)
(rplacd (last *some-list*) (list 'IV)) → (THREE IV)
*some-list* → (UNO TWO THREE IV)
```

Side Effects:

The *cons* is modified.

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *cons* is not a *cons*.

car, cdr, caar, cadr, cdar, cddr, caaar, caadr, cadar, caddr, cdaar, cdadr, cddar, cdddr, caaaar, caaadr, caadar, caaddr, cadaar, cadadr, caddar, cadddr, cdaaar, cdaadr, cdadar, cdaddr, cddaar, cddadr, cdddar, cddddr *Accessor*

Syntax:

car *x*	→ *object*	(setf (car *x*) *new-object*)
cdr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdr *x*) *new-object*)
caar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caar *x*) *new-object*)
cadr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cadr *x*) *new-object*)
cdar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdar *x*) *new-object*)
cddr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cddr *x*) *new-object*)
caaar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caaar *x*) *new-object*)
caadr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caadr *x*) *new-object*)
cadar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cadar *x*) *new-object*)
caddr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caddr *x*) *new-object*)
cdaar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdaar *x*) *new-object*)
cdadr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdadr *x*) *new-object*)
cddar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cddar *x*) *new-object*)
cdddr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdddr *x*) *new-object*)
caaaar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caaaar *x*) *new-object*)
caaadr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caaadr *x*) *new-object*)
caadar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caadar *x*) *new-object*)
caaddr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caaddr *x*) *new-object*)
cadaar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cadaar *x*) *new-object*)
cadadr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cadadr *x*) *new-object*)
caddar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (caddar *x*) *new-object*)
cadddr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cadddr *x*) *new-object*)
cdaaar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdaaar *x*) *new-object*)
cdaadr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdaadr *x*) *new-object*)
cdadar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdadar *x*) *new-object*)
cdaddr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdaddr *x*) *new-object*)
cddaar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cddaar *x*) *new-object*)
cddadr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cddadr *x*) *new-object*)
cdddar *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cdddar *x*) *new-object*)
cddddr *x*	→ *object*	(setf (cddddr *x*) *new-object*)

Pronunciation:

cadr: [ˈkaˌdǝr]

caddr: [ˈkadǝˌdǝr] or [ˈkaˌdu̇dǝr]

cdr: [ˈku̇ˌdǝr]

cddr: [ˈku̇dǝˌdǝr] or [ˈkǝˌdu̇dǝr]

Arguments and Values:

x—a *list*.

object—an *object*.

new-object—an *object*.

Description:

If *x* is a *cons*, **car** returns the *car* of that *cons*. If *x* is **nil**, **car** returns **nil**.

If *x* is a *cons*, **cdr** returns the *cdr* of that *cons*. If *x* is **nil**, **cdr** returns **nil**.

Functions are provided which perform compositions of up to four **car** and **cdr** operations. Their *names* consist of a `C`, followed by two, three, or four occurrences of `A` or `D`, and finally an `R`. The series of `A`'s and `D`'s in each *function*'s *name* is chosen to identify the series of **car** and **cdr** operations that is performed by the function. The order in which the `A`'s and `D`'s appear is the inverse of the order in which the corresponding operations are performed. Figure 14–6 defines the relationships precisely.

This *place* ...	Is equivalent to this *place* ...
(caar *x*)	(car (car *x*))
(cadr *x*)	(car (cdr *x*))
(cdar *x*)	(cdr (car *x*))
(cddr *x*)	(cdr (cdr *x*))
(caaar *x*)	(car (car (car *x*)))
(caadr *x*)	(car (car (cdr *x*)))
(cadar *x*)	(car (cdr (car *x*)))
(caddr *x*)	(car (cdr (cdr *x*)))
(cdaar *x*)	(cdr (car (car *x*)))
(cdadr *x*)	(cdr (car (cdr *x*)))
(cddar *x*)	(cdr (cdr (car *x*)))
(cdddr *x*)	(cdr (cdr (cdr *x*)))
(caaaar *x*)	(car (car (car (car *x*))))
(caaadr *x*)	(car (car (car (cdr *x*))))
(caadar *x*)	(car (car (cdr (car *x*))))
(caaddr *x*)	(car (car (cdr (cdr *x*))))
(cadaar *x*)	(car (cdr (car (car *x*))))
(cadadr *x*)	(car (cdr (car (cdr *x*))))
(caddar *x*)	(car (cdr (cdr (car *x*))))
(cadddr *x*)	(car (cdr (cdr (cdr *x*))))
(cdaaar *x*)	(cdr (car (car (car *x*))))
(cdaadr *x*)	(cdr (car (car (cdr *x*))))
(cdadar *x*)	(cdr (car (cdr (car *x*))))
(cdaddr *x*)	(cdr (car (cdr (cdr *x*))))
(cddaar *x*)	(cdr (cdr (car (car *x*))))
(cddadr *x*)	(cdr (cdr (car (cdr *x*))))
(cdddar *x*)	(cdr (cdr (cdr (car *x*))))
(cddddr *x*)	(cdr (cdr (cdr (cdr *x*))))

Figure 14–6. CAR and CDR variants

setf can also be used with any of these functions to change an existing component of *x*, but **setf** will not make new components. So, for example, the *car* of a *cons* can be assigned with **setf** of **car**, but the *car* of **nil** cannot be assigned with **setf** of **car**. Similarly, the *car* of the *car* of a *cons* whose *car* is a *cons* can be assigned with **setf** of **caar**, but neither **nil**nor a *cons* whose car is **nil** can be assigned with **setf** of **caar**.

The argument *x* is permitted to be a *dotted list* or a *circular list*.

Examples:

```
(car nil) → NIL
(cdr '(1 . 2)) → 2
(cdr '(1 2)) → (2)
```



```
(cadr '(1 2)) → 2
(car '(a b c)) → A
(cdr '(a b c)) → (B C)
```

Exceptional Situations:

The functions **car** and **cdr** should signal **type-error** if they receive an argument which is not a *list*. The other functions (**caar**, **cadr**, ... **cddddr**) should behave for the purpose of error checking as if defined by appropriate calls to **car** and **cdr**.

See Also:

rplaca, **first**, **rest**

Notes:

The *car* of a *cons* can also be altered by using **rplaca**, and the *cdr* of a *cons* can be altered by using **rplacd**.

```
(car x)     ≡ (first x)
(cadr x)    ≡ (second x) ≡ (car (cdr x))
(caddr x)   ≡ (third x)  ≡ (car (cdr (cdr x)))
(cadddr x)  ≡ (fourth x) ≡ (car (cdr (cdr (cdr x))))
```

copy-tree *Function*

Syntax:

copy-tree *tree* → *new-tree*

Arguments and Values:

tree—a *tree*.

new-tree—a *tree*.

Description:

Creates a *copy* of a *tree* of *conses*.

If *tree* is not a *cons*, it is returned; otherwise, the result is a new *cons* of the results of calling **copy-tree** on the *car* and *cdr* of *tree*. In other words, all *conses* in the *tree* represented by *tree* are copied recursively, stopping only when non-*conses* are encountered.

copy-tree does not preserve circularities and the sharing of substructure.

Examples:

```
(setq object (list (cons 1 "one")
```

```
                   (cons 2 (list 'a 'b 'c))))
→ ((1 . "one") (2 A B C))
 (setq object-too object) → ((1 . "one") (2 A B C))
 (setq copy-as-list (copy-list object))
 (setq copy-as-alist (copy-alist object))
 (setq copy-as-tree (copy-tree object))
 (eq object object-too) → true
 (eq copy-as-tree object) → false
 (eql copy-as-tree object) → false
 (equal copy-as-tree object) → true
 (setf (first (cdr (second object))) "a"
      (car (second object)) "two"
      (car object) '(one . 1)) → (ONE . 1)
 object → ((ONE . 1) ("two" "a" B C))
 object-too → ((ONE . 1) ("two" "a" B C))
 copy-as-list → ((1 . "one") ("two" "a" B C))
 copy-as-alist → ((1 . "one") (2 "a" B C))
 copy-as-tree → ((1 . "one") (2 A B C))
```

See Also:

tree-equal

sublis, nsublis *Function*

Syntax:

sublis *alist tree* &key *key test test-not* → *new-tree*

nsublis *alist tree* &key *key test test-not* → *new-tree*

Arguments and Values:

alist—an *association list*.

tree—a *tree*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

new-tree—a *tree*.

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Description:

sublis makes substitutions for *objects* in *tree* (a structure of *conses*). **nsublis** is like **sublis** but destructively modifies the relevant parts of the *tree*.

sublis looks at all subtrees and leaves of *tree*; if a subtree or leaf appears as a key in *alist* (that is, the key and the subtree or leaf *satisfy the test*), it is replaced by the *object* with which that key is associated. This operation is non-destructive. In effect, **sublis** can perform several **subst** operations simultaneously.

If **sublis** succeeds, a new copy of *tree* is returned in which each occurrence of such a subtree or leaf is replaced by the *object* with which it is associated. If no changes are made, the original tree is returned. The original *tree* is left unchanged, but the result tree may share cells with it.

nsublis is permitted to modify *tree* but otherwise returns the same values as **sublis**.

Examples:

```
 (sublis '((x . 100) (z . zprime))
         '(plus x (minus g z x p) 4 . x))
→ (PLUS 100 (MINUS G ZPRIME 100 P) 4 . 100)
 (sublis '(((+ x y) . (- x y)) ((- x y) . (+ x y)))
         '(* (/ (+ x y) (+ x p)) (- x y))
         :test #'equal)
→ (* (/ (- X Y) (+ X P)) (+ X Y))
 (setq tree1 '(1 (1 2) ((1 2 3)) (((1 2 3 4)))))
→ (1 (1 2) ((1 2 3)) (((1 2 3 4))))
 (sublis '((3 . "three")) tree1)
→ (1 (1 2) ((1 2 "three")) (((1 2 "three" 4))))
 (sublis '((t . "string"))
          (sublis '((1 . "") (4 . 44)) tree1)
          :key #'stringp)
→ ("string" ("string" 2) (("string" 2 3)) ((("string" 2 3 44))))
 tree1 → (1 (1 2) ((1 2 3)) (((1 2 3 4))))
 (setq tree2 '("one" ("one" "two") (("one" "Two" "three"))))
→ ("one" ("one" "two") (("one" "Two" "three")))
 (sublis '(("two" . 2)) tree2)
→ ("one" ("one" "two") (("one" "Two" "three")))
 tree2 → ("one" ("one" "two") (("one" "Two" "three")))
 (sublis '(("two" . 2)) tree2 :test 'equal)
→ ("one" ("one" 2) (("one" "Two" "three")))

 (nsublis '((t . 'temp))
           tree1
           :key #'(lambda (x) (or (atom x) (< (list-length x) 3))))
→ ((QUOTE TEMP) (QUOTE TEMP) QUOTE TEMP)
```

Side Effects:

nsublis modifies *tree*.

See Also:

subst, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

Because the side-effecting variants (*e.g.*, **nsublis**) potentially change the path that is being traversed, their effects in the presence of shared or circular structure structure may vary in surprising ways when compared to their non-side-effecting alternatives. To see this, consider the following side-effect behavior, which might be exhibited by some implementations:

```
(defun test-it (fn)
  (let* ((shared-piece (list 'a 'b))
         (data (list shared-piece shared-piece)))
    (funcall fn '((a . b) (b . a)) data)))
(test-it #'sublis) → ((B A) (B A))
(test-it #'nsublis) → ((A B) (A B))
```

subst, subst-if, subst-if-not, nsubst, nsubst-if, nsubst-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

subst *new old tree* &key *key test test-not* → *new-tree*

subst-if *new predicate tree* &key *key* → *new-tree*

subst-if-not *new predicate tree* &key *key* → *new-tree*

nsubst *new old tree* &key *key test test-not* → *new-tree*

nsubst-if *new predicate tree* &key *key* → *new-tree*

nsubst-if-not *new predicate tree* &key *key* → *new-tree*

Arguments and Values:

new—an *object*.

old—an *object*.

predicate—a *symbol* that names a *function*, or a *function* of one argument that returns a *generalized boolean* value.

tree—a *tree*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

new-tree—a *tree*.

Description:

subst, **subst-if**, and **subst-if-not** perform substitution operations on *tree*. Each function searches *tree* for occurrences of a particular *old* item of an element or subexpression that *satisfies the test*.

nsubst, **nsubst-if**, and **nsubst-if-not** are like **subst**, **subst-if**, and **subst-if-not** respectively, except that the original *tree* is modified.

subst makes a copy of *tree*, substituting *new* for every subtree or leaf of *tree* (whether the subtree or leaf is a *car* or a *cdr* of its parent) such that *old* and the subtree or leaf *satisfy the test*.

nsubst is a destructive version of **subst**. The list structure of *tree* is altered by destructively replacing with *new* each leaf of the *tree* such that *old* and the leaf *satisfy the test*.

For **subst**, **subst-if**, and **subst-if-not**, if the functions succeed, a new copy of the tree is returned in which each occurrence of such an element is replaced by the *new* element or subexpression. If no changes are made, the original *tree* may be returned. The original *tree* is left unchanged, but the result tree may share storage with it.

For **nsubst**, **nsubst-if**, and **nsubst-if-not** the original *tree* is modified and returned as the function result, but the result may not be **eq** to *tree*.

Examples:

```
 (setq tree1 '(1 (1 2) (1 2 3) (1 2 3 4))) → (1 (1 2) (1 2 3) (1 2 3 4))
 (subst "two" 2 tree1) → (1 (1 "two") (1 "two" 3) (1 "two" 3 4))
 (subst "five" 5 tree1) → (1 (1 2) (1 2 3) (1 2 3 4))
 (eq tree1 (subst "five" 5 tree1)) → implementation-dependent
 (subst 'tempest 'hurricane
        '(shakespeare wrote (the hurricane)))
→ (SHAKESPEARE WROTE (THE TEMPEST))
 (subst 'foo 'nil '(shakespeare wrote (twelfth night)))
→ (SHAKESPEARE WROTE (TWELFTH NIGHT . FOO) . FOO)
 (subst '(a . cons) '(old . pair)
        '((old . spice) ((old . shoes) old . pair) (old . pair))
```

```
       :test #'equal)
→ ((OLD . SPICE) ((OLD . SHOES) A . CONS) (A . CONS))

 (subst-if 5 #'listp tree1) → 5
 (subst-if-not '(x) #'consp tree1)
→ (1 X)

 tree1 → (1 (1 2) (1 2 3) (1 2 3 4))
 (nsubst 'x 3 tree1 :key #'(lambda (y) (and (listp y) (third y))))
→ (1 (1 2) X X)
 tree1 → (1 (1 2) X X)
```

Side Effects:

nsubst, **nsubst-if**, and **nsubst-if-not** might alter the *tree structure* of *tree*.

See Also:

substitute, **nsubstitute**, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

The functions **subst-if-not** and **nsubst-if-not** are deprecated.

One possible definition of **subst**:

```
 (defun subst (old new tree &rest x &key test test-not key)
   (cond ((satisfies-the-test old tree :test test
                              :test-not test-not :key key)
          new)
         ((atom tree) tree)
         (t (let ((a (apply #'subst old new (car tree) x))
                  (d (apply #'subst old new (cdr tree) x)))
              (if (and (eql a (car tree))
                       (eql d (cdr tree)))
                  tree
                  (cons a d))))))
```


tree-equal *Function*

Syntax:

tree-equal *tree-1 tree-2* `&key` *test test-not* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

tree-1—a *tree*.

tree-2—a *tree*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

tree-equal tests whether two trees are of the same shape and have the same leaves. **tree-equal** returns *true* if *tree-1* and *tree-2* are both *atoms* and *satisfy the test*, or if they are both *conses* and the *car* of *tree-1* is **tree-equal** to the *car* of *tree-2* and the *cdr* of *tree-1* is **tree-equal** to the *cdr* of *tree-2*. Otherwise, **tree-equal** returns *false*.

tree-equal recursively compares *conses* but not any other *objects* that have components.

The first argument to the `:test` or `:test-not` function is *tree-1* or a *car* or *cdr* of *tree-1*; the second argument is *tree-2* or a *car* or *cdr* of *tree-2*.

Examples:

```
 (setq tree1 '(1 (1 2))
       tree2 '(1 (1 2))) → (1 (1 2))
 (tree-equal tree1 tree2) → true
 (eql tree1 tree2) → false
 (setq tree1 '('a ('b 'c))
       tree2 '('a ('b 'c))) → ('a ('b 'c))
→ ((QUOTE A) ((QUOTE B) (QUOTE C)))
 (tree-equal tree1 tree2 :test 'eq) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if both *tree-1* and *tree-2* are circular.

See Also:

equal, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

copy-list *Function*

Syntax:

copy-list *list* → *copy*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *proper list* or a *dotted list*.

copy—a *list*.

Description:

Returns a *copy* of *list*. If *list* is a *dotted list*, the resulting *list* will also be a *dotted list*.

Only the *list structure* of *list* is copied; the *elements* of the resulting list are the *same* as the corresponding *elements* of the given *list*.

Examples:

```
(setq lst (list 1 (list 2 3))) → (1 (2 3))
(setq slst lst) → (1 (2 3))
(setq clst (copy-list lst)) → (1 (2 3))
(eq slst lst) → true
(eq clst lst) → false
(equal clst lst) → true
(rplaca lst "one") → ("one" (2 3))
slst → ("one" (2 3))
clst → (1 (2 3))
(setf (caadr lst) "two") → "two"
lst → ("one" ("two" 3))
slst → ("one" ("two" 3))
clst → (1 ("two" 3))
```

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if *list* is a *circular list*.

See Also:

copy-alist, **copy-seq**, **copy-tree**

Notes:

The copy created is **equal** to *list*, but not **eq**.

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list, list∗ *Function*

Syntax:

list &rest *objects* → *list*

list* &rest *objects*$^+$ → *result*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

list—a *list*.

result—an *object*.

Description:

list returns a *list* containing the supplied *objects*.

list* is like **list** except that the last *argument* to **list** becomes the *car* of the last *cons* constructed, while the last *argument* to **list*** becomes the *cdr* of the last *cons* constructed. Hence, any given call to **list*** always produces one fewer *conses* than a call to **list** with the same number of arguments.

If the last *argument* to **list*** is a *list*, the effect is to construct a new *list* which is similar, but which has additional elements added to the front corresponding to the preceding *arguments* of **list***.

If **list*** receives only one *object*, that *object* is returned, regardless of whether or not it is a *list*.

Examples:

```
(list 1) → (1)
(list* 1) → 1
(setq a 1) → 1
(list a 2) → (1 2)
'(a 2) → (A 2)
(list 'a 2) → (A 2)
(list* a 2) → (1 . 2)
(list) → NIL ;i.e.,  ()
(setq a '(1 2)) → (1 2)
(eq a (list* a)) → true
(list 3 4 'a (car '(b . c)) (+ 6 -2)) → (3 4 A B 4)
(list* 'a 'b 'c 'd) ≡ (cons 'a (cons 'b (cons 'c 'd))) → (A B C . D)
(list* 'a 'b 'c '(d e f)) → (A B C D E F)
```

See Also:

cons

Notes:

(list* *x*) ≡ *x*

list-length *Function*

Syntax:

list-length *list* → *length*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *proper list* or a *circular list*.

length—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

Description:

Returns the *length* of *list* if *list* is a *proper list*. Returns **nil** if *list* is a *circular list*.

Examples:

```
(list-length '(a b c d)) → 4
(list-length '(a (b c) d)) → 3
(list-length '()) → 0
(list-length nil) → 0
(defun circular-list (&rest elements)
  (let ((cycle (copy-list elements)))
    (nconc cycle cycle)))
(list-length (circular-list 'a 'b)) → NIL
(list-length (circular-list 'a)) → NIL
(list-length (circular-list)) → 0
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list* is not a *proper list* or a *circular list*.

See Also:

length

Notes:

list-length could be implemented as follows:

```
(defun list-length (x)
  (do ((n 0 (+ n 2))           ;Counter.
       (fast x (cddr fast))    ;Fast pointer: leaps by 2.
       (slow x (cdr slow)))    ;Slow pointer: leaps by 1.
      (nil)
    ;; If fast pointer hits the end, return the count.
    (when (endp fast) (return n))
    (when (endp (cdr fast)) (return (+ n 1)))
    ;; If fast pointer eventually equals slow pointer,
    ;;  then we must be stuck in a circular list.
    ;; (A deeper property is the converse: if we are
    ;;  stuck in a circular list, then eventually the
    ;;  fast pointer will equal the slow pointer.
    ;;  That fact justifies this implementation.)
    (when (and (eq fast slow) (> n 0)) (return nil))))
```


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listp *Function*

Syntax:

listp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **list**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(listp nil) → true
(listp (cons 1 2)) → true
(listp (make-array 6)) → false
(listp t) → false
```

See Also:

consp

Notes:

If *object* is a *cons*, **listp** does not check whether *object* is a *proper list*; it returns *true* for any kind of *list*.

(listp *object*) ≡ (typep *object* 'list) ≡ (typep *object* '(or cons null))

make-list *Function*

Syntax:

make-list *size* &key *initial-element* → *list*

Arguments and Values:

size—a non-negative *integer*.

initial-element—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

list—a *list*.

Description:

Returns a *list* of *length* given by *size*, each of the *elements* of which is *initial-element*.

Examples:

```
(make-list 5) → (NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL)
(make-list 3 :initial-element 'rah) → (RAH RAH RAH)
(make-list 2 :initial-element '(1 2 3)) → ((1 2 3) (1 2 3))
(make-list 0) → NIL ;i.e.,  ()
(make-list 0 :initial-element 'new-element) → NIL
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *size* is not a non-negative *integer*.

See Also:

cons, **list**

push *Macro*

Syntax:

push *item place* → *new-place-value*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

place—a *place*, the *value* of which may be any *object*.

new-place-value—a *list* (the new *value* of *place*).

Description:

push prepends *item* to the *list* that is stored in *place*, stores the resulting *list* in *place*, and returns the *list*.

For information about the *evaluation* of *subforms* of *place*, see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

Examples:

```
(setq llst '(nil)) → (NIL)
(push 1 (car llst)) → (1)
llst → ((1))
(push 1 (car llst)) → (1 1)
llst → ((1 1))
(setq x '(a (b c) d)) → (A (B C) D)
(push 5 (cadr x)) → (5 B C)
x → (A (5 B C) D)
```

Side Effects:

The contents of *place* are modified.

See Also:

pop, **pushnew**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

The effect of (push *item place*) is equivalent to

```
(setf place (cons item place))
```

except that the *subforms* of *place* are evaluated only once, and *item* is evaluated before *place*.

pop *Macro*

Syntax:

pop *place* → *element*

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*, the *value* of which is a *list* (possibly, but necessarily, a *dotted list* or *circular list*).

element—an *object* (the *car* of the contents of *place*).

Description:

pop *reads* the *value* of *place*, remembers the *car* of the *list* which was retrieved, *writes* the *cdr* of the *list* back into the *place*, and finally *yields* the *car* of the originally retrieved *list*.

For information about the *evaluation* of *subforms* of *place*, see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

Examples:

```
(setq stack '(a b c)) → (A B C)
(pop stack) → A
stack → (B C)
(setq llst '((1 2 3 4))) → ((1 2 3 4))
(pop (car llst)) → 1
llst → ((2 3 4))
```

Side Effects:

The contents of *place* are modified.

See Also:

push, **pushnew**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

The effect of (pop *place*) is roughly equivalent to

```
(prog1 (car place) (setf place (cdr place)))
```

except that the latter would evaluate any *subforms* of *place* three times, while **pop** evaluates them only once.

first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth *Accessor*

Syntax:

first *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**first** *list*) *new-object*)
second *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**second** *list*) *new-object*)
third *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**third** *list*) *new-object*)
fourth *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**fourth** *list*) *new-object*)
fifth *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**fifth** *list*) *new-object*)
sixth *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**sixth** *list*) *new-object*)
seventh *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**seventh** *list*) *new-object*)
eighth *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**eighth** *list*) *new-object*)
ninth *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**ninth** *list*) *new-object*)
tenth *list*	→ *object*	(setf (**tenth** *list*) *new-object*)

Arguments and Values:

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list* or a *circular list*.

object, *new-object*—an *object*.

Description:

The functions **first**, **second**, **third**, **fourth**, **fifth**, **sixth**, **seventh**, **eighth**, **ninth**, and **tenth** *access* the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth *elements* of *list*, respectively. Specifically,

```
(first list)    ≡ (car list)
(second list)   ≡ (car (cdr list))
(third list)    ≡ (car (cddr list))
(fourth list)   ≡ (car (cdddr list))
(fifth list)    ≡ (car (cddddr list))
(sixth list)    ≡ (car (cdr (cddddr list)))
(seventh list)  ≡ (car (cddr (cddddr list)))
(eighth list)   ≡ (car (cdddr (cddddr list)))
(ninth list)    ≡ (car (cddddr (cddddr list)))
(tenth list)    ≡ (car (cdr (cddddr (cddddr list))))
```

setf can also be used with any of these functions to change an existing component. The same equivalences apply. For example:

```
(setf (fifth list) new-object) ≡ (setf (car (cddddr list)) new-object)
```

Examples:

```
 (setq lst '(1 2 3 (4 5 6) ((V)) vi 7 8 9 10))
→ (1 2 3 (4 5 6) ((V)) VI 7 8 9 10)
 (first lst) → 1
 (tenth lst) → 10
 (fifth lst) → ((V))
 (second (fourth lst)) → 5
 (sixth '(1 2 3)) → NIL
 (setf (fourth lst) "four") → "four"
 lst → (1 2 3 "four" ((V)) VI 7 8 9 10)
```

See Also:

car, **nth**

Notes:

first is functionally equivalent to **car**, **second** is functionally equivalent to **cadr**, **third** is functionally equivalent to **caddr**, and **fourth** is functionally equivalent to **cadddr**.

The ordinal numbering used here is one-origin, as opposed to the zero-origin numbering used by **nth**:

```
(fifth x) ≡ (nth 4 x)
```

nth *Accessor*

Syntax:

nth *n list* → *object*

(**setf** (**nth** *n list*) *new-object*)

Arguments and Values:

n—a non-negative *integer*.

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list* or a *circular list*.

object—an *object*.

new-object—an *object*.

Description:

nth locates the *n*th element of *list*, where the *car* of the *list* is the "zeroth" element. Specifically,

```
(nth n list) ≡ (car (nthcdr n list))
```

nth may be used to specify a *place* to **setf**. Specifically,

```
(setf (nth n list) new-object) ≡ (setf (car (nthcdr n list)) new-object)
```

Examples:

```
(nth 0 '(foo bar baz)) → FOO
(nth 1 '(foo bar baz)) → BAR
(nth 3 '(foo bar baz)) → NIL
(setq 0-to-3 (list 0 1 2 3)) → (0 1 2 3)
(setf (nth 2 0-to-3) "two") → "two"
0-to-3 → (0 1 "two" 3)
```

See Also:

elt, **first**, **nthcdr**

endp *Function*

Syntax:

endp *list* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list* or a *circular list*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *list* is the *empty list*. Returns *false* if *list* is a *cons*.

Examples:

```
(endp nil) → true
(endp '(1 2)) → false
(endp (cddr '(1 2))) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list* is not a *list*.

Notes:

The purpose of **endp** is to test for the end of *proper list*. Since **endp** does not descend into a *cons*, it is well-defined to pass it a *dotted list*. However, if shorter "lists" are iteratively produced by calling **cdr** on such a *dotted list* and those "lists" are tested with **endp**, a situation that has undefined consequences will eventually result when the *non-nil atom* (which is not in fact a *list*) finally becomes the argument to **endp**. Since this is the usual way in which **endp** is used, it is conservative programming style and consistent with the intent of **endp** to treat **endp** as simply a function on *proper lists* which happens not to enforce an argument type of *proper list* except when the argument is *atomic*.

null *Function*

Syntax:

null *object* → *boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

boolean—a *boolean*.

Description:

Returns **t** if *object* is the *empty list*; otherwise, returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
(null '()) → T
(null nil) → T
(null t) → NIL
(null 1) → NIL
```

See Also:

not

Notes:

null is intended to be used to test for the *empty list* whereas **not** is intended to be used to invert a *boolean* (or *generalized boolean*). Operationally, **null** and **not** compute the same result; which to use is a matter of style.

```
(null object) ≡ (typep object 'null) ≡ (eq object '())
```

nconc *Function*

Syntax:

nconc &rest *lists* → *concatenated-list*

Arguments and Values:

list—each but the last must be a *list* (which might be a *dotted list* but must not be a *circular list*); the last *list* may be any *object*.

concatenated-list—a *list*.

Description:

Returns a *list* that is the concatenation of *lists*. If no *lists* are supplied, (nconc) returns **nil**. **nconc** is defined using the following recursive relationship:

```
(nconc) → ()
(nconc nil . lists) ≡ (nconc . lists)
(nconc list) → list
(nconc list-1 list-2) ≡ (progn (rplacd (last list-1) list-2) list-1)
(nconc list-1 list-2 . lists) ≡ (nconc (nconc list-1 list-2) . lists)
```


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Examples:

```
(nconc) → NIL
(setq x '(a b c)) → (A B C)
(setq y '(d e f)) → (D E F)
(nconc x y) → (A B C D E F)
x → (A B C D E F)
```

Note, in the example, that the value of x is now different, since its last *cons* has been **rplacd**'d to the value of y. If (nconc x y) were evaluated again, it would yield a piece of a *circular list*, whose printed representation would be (A B C D E F D E F D E F ...), repeating forever; if the ***print-circle*** switch were *non-nil*, it would be printed as (A B C . #1=(D E F . #1#)).

```
(setq foo (list 'a 'b 'c 'd 'e)
      bar (list 'f 'g 'h 'i 'j)
      baz (list 'k 'l 'm)) → (K L M)
(setq foo (nconc foo bar baz)) → (A B C D E F G H I J K L M)
foo → (A B C D E F G H I J K L M)
bar → (F G H I J K L M)
baz → (K L M)

(setq foo (list 'a 'b 'c 'd 'e)
      bar (list 'f 'g 'h 'i 'j)
      baz (list 'k 'l 'm)) → (K L M)
(setq foo (nconc nil foo bar nil baz)) → (A B C D E F G H I J K L M)
foo → (A B C D E F G H I J K L M)
bar → (F G H I J K L M)
baz → (K L M)
```

Side Effects:

The *lists* are modified rather than copied.

See Also:

append, **concatenate**

append *Function*

Syntax:

append &rest *lists* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

list—each must be a *proper list* except the last, which may be any *object*.

result—an *object*. This will be a *list* unless the last *list* was not a *list* and all preceding *lists* were *null*.

Description:

append returns a new *list* that is the concatenation of the copies. *lists* are left unchanged; the *list structure* of each of *lists* except the last is copied. The last argument is not copied; it becomes the *cdr* of the final *dotted pair* of the concatenation of the preceding *lists*, or is returned directly if there are no preceding *non-empty lists*.

Examples:

```
(append '(a b c) '(d e f) '() '(g)) → (A B C D E F G)
(append '(a b c) 'd) → (A B C . D)
(setq lst '(a b c)) → (A B C)
(append lst '(d)) → (A B C D)
lst → (A B C)
(append) → NIL
(append 'a) → A
```

See Also:

nconc, **concatenate**

revappend, nreconc *Function*

Syntax:

revappend *list tail* → *result-list*

nreconc *list tail* → *result-list*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *proper list*.

tail—an *object*.

result-list—an *object*.

Description:

revappend constructs a $copy_2$ of *list*, but with the *elements* in reverse order. It then appends (as if by **nconc**) the *tail* to that reversed list and returns the result.

nreconc reverses the order of *elements* in *list* (as if by **nreverse**). It then appends (as if by **nconc**) the *tail* to that reversed list and returns the result.

The resulting *list* shares *list structure* with *tail*.

Examples:

```
 (let ((list-1 (list 1 2 3))
       (list-2 (list 'a 'b 'c)))
   (print (revappend list-1 list-2))
   (print (equal list-1 '(1 2 3)))
   (print (equal list-2 '(a b c))))
▷ (3 2 1 A B C)
▷ T
▷ T
→ T

 (revappend '(1 2 3) '()) → (3 2 1)
 (revappend '(1 2 3) '(a . b)) → (3 2 1 A . B)
 (revappend '() '(a b c)) → (A B C)
 (revappend '(1 2 3) 'a) → (3 2 1 . A)
 (revappend '() 'a) → A   ;degenerate case

 (let ((list-1 '(1 2 3))
       (list-2 '(a b c)))
   (print (nreconc list-1 list-2))
   (print (equal list-1 '(1 2 3)))
   (print (equal list-2 '(a b c))))
▷ (3 2 1 A B C)
▷ NIL
▷ T
→ T
```

Side Effects:

revappend does not modify either of its *arguments*. **nreconc** is permitted to modify *list* but not *tail*.

Although it might be implemented differently, **nreconc** is constrained to have side-effect behavior equivalent to:

(nconc (nreverse *list*) *tail*)

See Also:

reverse, **nreverse**, **nconc**

Notes:

The following functional equivalences are true, although good *implementations* will typically use a faster algorithm for achieving the same effect:

```
(revappend list tail) ≡ (nconc (reverse list) tail)
(nreconc list tail) ≡ (nconc (nreverse list) tail)
```

butlast, nbutlast *Function*

Syntax:

butlast *list* &optional *n* → *result-list*

nbutlast *list* &optional *n* → *result-list*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list* but must not be a *circular list*.

n—a non-negative *integer*.

result-list—a *list*.

Description:

butlast returns a copy of *list* from which the last *n* conses have been omitted. If *n* is not supplied, its value is 1. If there are fewer than *n* conses in *list*, **nil** is returned and, in the case of **nbutlast**, *list* is not modified.

nbutlast is like **butlast**, but **nbutlast** may modify *list*. It changes the *cdr* of the *cons* *n*+1 from the end of the *list* to **nil**.

Examples:

```
(setq lst '(1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9)) → (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9)
(butlast lst) → (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8)
(butlast lst 5) → (1 2 3 4)
(butlast lst (+ 5 5)) → NIL
lst → (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9)
(nbutlast lst 3) → (1 2 3 4 5 6)
lst → (1 2 3 4 5 6)
(nbutlast lst 99) → NIL
lst → (1 2 3 4 5 6)
(butlast '(a b c d)) → (A B C)
(butlast '((a b) (c d))) → ((A B))
(butlast '(a)) → NIL
(butlast nil) → NIL
(setq foo (list 'a 'b 'c 'd)) → (A B C D)
(nbutlast foo) → (A B C)
foo → (A B C)
```



```
(nbutlast (list 'a)) → NIL
(nbutlast '()) → NIL
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list* is not a *proper list* or a *dotted list*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *n* is not a non-negative *integer*.

Notes:

```
(butlast list n) ≡ (ldiff list (last list n))
```

last *Function*

Syntax:

last *list* &optional *n* → *tail*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list* but must not be a *circular list*.

n—a non-negative *integer*. The default is 1.

tail—an *object*.

Description:

last returns the last *n conses* (not the last *n* elements) of *list*). If *list* is (), **last** returns ().

If *n* is zero, the atom that terminates *list* is returned. If *n* is greater than or equal to the number of *cons* cells in *list*, the result is *list*.

Examples:

```
(last nil) → NIL
(last '(1 2 3)) → (3)
(last '(1 2 . 3)) → (2 . 3)
(setq x (list 'a 'b 'c 'd)) → (A B C D)
(last x) → (D)
(rplacd (last x) (list 'e 'f)) x → (A B C D E F)
(last x) → (F)

(last '(a b c))   → (C)

(last '(a b c) 0) → ()
(last '(a b c) 1) → (C)
```

```
(last '(a b c) 2) → (B C)
(last '(a b c) 3) → (A B C)
(last '(a b c) 4) → (A B C)

(last '(a . b) 0) → B
(last '(a . b) 1) → (A . B)
(last '(a . b) 2) → (A . B)
```

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if *list* is a *circular list*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *n* is not a non-negative *integer*.

See Also:

butlast, **nth**

Notes:

The following code could be used to define **last**.

```
(defun last (list &optional (n 1))
  (check-type n (integer 0))
  (do ((l list (cdr l))
       (r list)
       (i 0 (+ i 1)))
      ((atom l) r)
    (if (>= i n) (pop r))))
```

ldiff, tailp *Function*

Syntax:

ldiff *list object* → *result-list*

tailp *object list* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list*.

object—an *object*.

result-list—a *list*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

If *object* is the *same* as some *tail* of *list*, **tailp** returns *true*; otherwise, it returns *false*.

If *object* is the *same* as some *tail* of *list*, **ldiff** returns a *fresh list* of the *elements* of *list* that precede **object** in the *list structure* of *list*; otherwise, it returns a $copy_2$ of *list*.

Examples:

```
 (let ((lists '#((a b c) (a b c . d))))
   (dotimes (i (length lists)) ()
     (let ((list (aref lists i)))
       (format t "~2&list=~S ~21T(tailp object list)~
                  ~44T(ldiff list object)~%" list)
         (let ((objects (vector list (cddr list) (copy-list (cddr list))
                                '(f g h) '() 'd 'x)))
           (dotimes (j (length objects)) ()
             (let ((object (aref objects j)))
               (format t "~& object=~S ~21T~S ~44T~S"
                       object (tailp object list) (ldiff list object))))))))
▷
▷ list=(A B C)         (tailp object list)    (ldiff list object)
▷  object=(A B C)      T                      NIL
▷  object=(C)          T                      (A B)
▷  object=(C)          NIL                    (A B C)
▷  object=(F G H)      NIL                    (A B C)
▷  object=NIL          T                      (A B C)
▷  object=D            NIL                    (A B C)
▷  object=X            NIL                    (A B C)
▷
▷ list=(A B C . D)     (tailp object list)    (ldiff list object)
▷  object=(A B C . D)  T                      NIL
▷  object=(C . D)      T                      (A B)
▷  object=(C . D)      NIL                    (A B C . D)
▷  object=(F G H)      NIL                    (A B C . D)
▷  object=NIL          NIL                    (A B C . D)
▷  object=D            T                      (A B C)
▷  object=X            NIL                    (A B C . D)
→ NIL
```

Side Effects:

Neither **ldiff** nor **tailp** modifies either of its *arguments*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list* is not a *proper list* or a *dotted list*.

See Also:

set-difference

Notes:

If the *list* is a *circular list*, **tailp** will reliably *yield* a *value* only if the given *object* is in fact a *tail* of *list*. Otherwise, the consequences are unspecified: a given *implementation* which detects the circularity must return *false*, but since an *implementation* is not obliged to detect such a *situation*, **tailp** might just loop indefinitely without returning in that case.

tailp could be defined as follows:

```
 (defun tailp (object list)
   (do ((list list (cdr list)))
       ((atom list) (eql list object))
      (if (eql object list)
          (return t))))
```

and **ldiff** could be defined by:

```
(defun ldiff (list object)
  (do ((list list (cdr list))
       (r '() (cons (car list) r)))
      ((atom list)
       (if (eql list object) (nreverse r) (nreconc r list)))
    (when (eql object list)
      (return (nreverse r)))))
```

nthcdr *Function*

Syntax:

nthcdr *n list* → *tail*

Arguments and Values:

n—a non-negative *integer*.

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list* or a *circular list*.

tail—an *object*.

Description:

Returns the *tail* of *list* that would be obtained by calling **cdr** *n* times in succession.

Examples:

```
(nthcdr 0 '()) → NIL
(nthcdr 3 '()) → NIL
(nthcdr 0 '(a b c)) → (A B C)
(nthcdr 2 '(a b c)) → (C)
(nthcdr 4 '(a b c)) → ()
(nthcdr 1 '(0 . 1)) → 1

(locally (declare (optimize (safety 3)))
  (nthcdr 3 '(0 . 1)))
Error: Attempted to take CDR of 1.
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *n* is not a non-negative *integer*.

For *n* being an integer greater than 1, the error checking done by (nthcdr *n list*) is the same as for (nthcdr (- *n* 1) (cdr *list*)); see the *function* **cdr**.

See Also:

cdr, **nth**, **rest**

rest *Accessor*

Syntax:

rest *list* → *tail*

(**setf** (**rest** *list*) *new-tail*)

Arguments and Values:

list—a *list*, which might be a *dotted list* or a *circular list*.

tail—an *object*.

Description:

rest performs the same operation as **cdr**, but mnemonically complements **first**. Specifically,

```
(rest list) ≡ (cdr list)
(setf (rest list) new-tail) ≡ (setf (cdr list) new-tail)
```

Examples:

```
(rest '(1 2)) → (2)
```

```
(rest '(1 . 2)) → 2
(rest '(1)) → NIL
(setq *cons* '(1 . 2)) → (1 . 2)
(setf (rest *cons*) "two") → "two"
*cons* → (1 . "two")
```

See Also:

cdr, **nthcdr**

Notes:

rest is often preferred stylistically over **cdr** when the argument is to being subjectively viewed as a *list* rather than as a *cons*.

member, member-if, member-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

member *item list* &key *key test test-not* → *tail*

member-if *predicate list* &key *key* → *tail*

member-if-not *predicate list* &key *key* → *tail*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

list—a *proper list*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

tail—a *list*.

Description:

member, **member-if**, and **member-if-not** each search *list* for *item* or for a top-level element that *satisfies the test*. The argument to the *predicate* function is an element of *list*.

If some element *satisfies the test*, the tail of *list* beginning with this element is returned; otherwise **nil** is returned.

list is searched on the top level only.

Examples:

```
(member 2 '(1 2 3)) → (2 3)
(member 2 '((1 . 2) (3 . 4)) :test-not #'= :key #'cdr) → ((3 . 4))
(member 'e '(a b c d)) → NIL

(member-if #'listp '(a b nil c d)) → (NIL C D)
(member-if #'numberp '(a #\Space 5/3 foo)) → (5/3 FOO)
(member-if-not #'zerop
               '(3 6 9 11 . 12)
               :key #'(lambda (x) (mod x 3))) → (11 . 12)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list* is not a *proper list*.

See Also:

find, **position**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The :test-not parameter is deprecated.

The *function* **member-if-not** is deprecated.

In the following

```
(member 'a '(g (a y) c a d e a f)) → (A D E A F)
```

the value returned by **member** is *identical* to the portion of the *list* beginning with a. Thus **rplaca** on the result of **member** can be used to alter the part of the *list* where a was found (assuming a check has been made that **member** did not return **nil**).

mapc, mapcar, mapcan, mapl, maplist, mapcon
Function

Syntax:

mapc *function* &rest *lists*$^+$ → *list-1*

mapcar *function* &rest *lists*$^+$ → *result-list*

mapcan *function* &rest *lists*$^+$ → *concatenated-results*

mapl *function* &rest *lists*$^+$ → *list-1*

maplist *function* &rest *lists*$^+$ → *result-list*

mapc, mapcar, mapcan, mapl, maplist, mapcon

mapcon *function* &rest *lists*+ → *concatenated-results*

Arguments and Values:

function—a *designator* for a *function* that must take as many *arguments* as there are *lists*.

list—a *proper list*.

list-1—the first *list* (which must be a *proper list*).

result-list—a *list*.

concatenated-results—a *list*.

Description:

The mapping operation involves applying *function* to successive sets of arguments in which one argument is obtained from each *sequence*. Except for **mapc** and **mapl**, the result contains the results returned by *function*. In the cases of **mapc** and **mapl**, the resulting *sequence* is *list*.

function is called first on all the elements with index 0, then on all those with index 1, and so on. *result-type* specifies the *type* of the resulting *sequence*. If *function* is a *symbol*, it is **coerce**d to a *function* as if by **symbol-function**.

mapcar operates on successive *elements* of the *lists*. *function* is applied to the first *element* of each *list*, then to the second *element* of each *list*, and so on. The iteration terminates when the shortest *list* runs out, and excess elements in other lists are ignored. The value returned by **mapcar** is a *list* of the results of successive calls to *function*.

mapc is like **mapcar** except that the results of applying *function* are not accumulated. The *list* argument is returned.

maplist is like **mapcar** except that *function* is applied to successive sublists of the *lists*. *function* is first applied to the *lists* themselves, and then to the *cdr* of each *list*, and then to the *cdr* of the *cdr* of each *list*, and so on.

mapl is like **maplist** except that the results of applying *function* are not accumulated; *list-1* is returned.

mapcan and **mapcon** are like **mapcar** and **maplist** respectively, except that the results of applying *function* are combined into a *list* by the use of **nconc** rather than **list**. That is,

```
(mapcon f x1 ... xn)
  ≡ (apply #'nconc (maplist f x1 ... xn))
```

and similarly for the relationship between **mapcan** and **mapcar**.

Examples:

```
(mapcar #'car '((1 a) (2 b) (3 c))) → (1 2 3)
(mapcar #'abs '(3 -4 2 -5 -6)) → (3 4 2 5 6)
```


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```
(mapcar #'cons '(a b c) '(1 2 3)) → ((A . 1) (B . 2) (C . 3))

(maplist #'append '(1 2 3 4) '(1 2) '(1 2 3))
→ ((1 2 3 4 1 2 1 2 3) (2 3 4 2 2 3))
 (maplist #'(lambda (x) (cons 'foo x)) '(a b c d))
→ ((FOO A B C D) (FOO B C D) (FOO C D) (FOO D))
 (maplist #'(lambda (x) (if (member (car x) (cdr x)) 0 1)) '(a b a c d b c))
→ (0 0 1 0 1 1 1)
;An entry is 1 if the corresponding element of the input
;  list was the last instance of that element in the input list.

 (setq dummy nil) → NIL
 (mapc #'(lambda (&rest x) (setq dummy (append dummy x)))
        '(1 2 3 4)
        '(a b c d e)
        '(x y z)) → (1 2 3 4)
 dummy → (1 A X 2 B Y 3 C Z)

 (setq dummy nil) → NIL
 (mapl #'(lambda (x) (push x dummy)) '(1 2 3 4)) → (1 2 3 4)
 dummy → ((4) (3 4) (2 3 4) (1 2 3 4))

 (mapcan #'(lambda (x y) (if (null x) nil (list x y)))
          '(nil nil nil d e)
          '(1 2 3 4 5 6)) → (D 4 E 5)
 (mapcan #'(lambda (x) (and (numberp x) (list x)))
          '(a 1 b c 3 4 d 5))
→ (1 3 4 5)
```

In this case the function serves as a filter; this is a standard Lisp idiom using **mapcan**.

```
(mapcon #'list '(1 2 3 4)) → ((1 2 3 4) (2 3 4) (3 4) (4))
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if any *list* is not a *proper list*.

See Also:

dolist, **map**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

acons *Function*

Syntax:

acons *key datum alist* → *new-alist*

Arguments and Values:

key—an *object*.

datum—an *object*.

alist—an *association list*.

new-alist—an *association list*.

Description:

Creates a *fresh cons*, the *cdr* of which is *alist* and the *car* of which is another *fresh cons*, the *car* of which is *key* and the *cdr* of which is *datum*.

Examples:

```
(setq alist '()) → NIL
(acons 1 "one" alist) → ((1 . "one"))
alist → NIL
(setq alist (acons 1 "one" (acons 2 "two" alist))) → ((1 . "one") (2 . "two"))
(assoc 1 alist) → (1 . "one")
(setq alist (acons 1 "uno" alist)) → ((1 . "uno") (1 . "one") (2 . "two"))
(assoc 1 alist) → (1 . "uno")
```

See Also:

assoc, **pairlis**

Notes:

(acons *key datum alist*) ≡ (cons (cons *key datum*) *alist*)

assoc, assoc-if, assoc-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

assoc *item alist* &key *key test test-not* → *entry*

assoc-if *predicate alist* &key *key* → *entry*

assoc-if-not *predicate alist* &key *key* → *entry*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

alist—an *association list*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

entry—a *cons* that is an *element* of *alist*, or **nil**.

Description:

assoc, **assoc-if**, and **assoc-if-not** return the first *cons* in *alist* whose *car satisfies the test*, or **nil** if no such *cons* is found.

For **assoc**, **assoc-if**, and **assoc-if-not**, if **nil** appears in *alist* in place of a pair, it is ignored.

Examples:

```
(setq values '((x . 100) (y . 200) (z . 50))) → ((X . 100) (Y . 200) (Z . 50))
(assoc 'y values) → (Y . 200)
(rplacd (assoc 'y values) 201) → (Y . 201)
(assoc 'y values) → (Y . 201)
(setq alist '((1 . "one")(2 . "two")(3 . "three")))
→ ((1 . "one") (2 . "two") (3 . "three"))
(assoc 2 alist) → (2 . "two")
(assoc-if #'evenp alist) → (2 . "two")
(assoc-if-not #'(lambda(x) (< x 3)) alist) → (3 . "three")
(setq alist '(("one" . 1)("two" . 2))) → (("one" . 1) ("two" . 2))
(assoc "one" alist) → NIL
(assoc "one" alist :test #'equalp) → ("one" . 1)
(assoc "two" alist :key #'(lambda(x) (char x 2))) → NIL
(assoc #\o alist :key #'(lambda(x) (char x 2))) → ("two" . 2)
(assoc 'r '((a . b) (c . d) (r . x) (s . y) (r . z))) → (R . X)
(assoc 'goo '((foo . bar) (zoo . goo))) → NIL
(assoc '2 '((1 a b c) (2 b c d) (-7 x y z))) → (2 B C D)
(setq alist '(("one" . 1) ("2" . 2) ("three" . 3)))
→ (("one" . 1) ("2" . 2) ("three" . 3))
(assoc-if-not #'alpha-char-p alist
              :key #'(lambda (x) (char x 0))) → ("2" . 2)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *alist* is not an *association list*.

See Also:

rassoc, **find**, **member**, **position**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

The *function* **assoc-if-not** is deprecated.

It is possible to **rplacd** the result of **assoc**, provided that it is not **nil**, in order to "update" *alist*.

The two expressions

```
(assoc item list :test fn)
```

and

```
(find item list :test fn :key #'car)
```

are equivalent in meaning with one exception: if **nil** appears in *alist* in place of a pair, and *item* is **nil**, **find** will compute the *car* of the **nil** in *alist*, find that it is equal to *item*, and return **nil**, whereas **assoc** will ignore the **nil** in *alist* and continue to search for an actual *cons* whose *car* is **nil**.

copy-alist *Function*

Syntax:

copy-alist *alist* → *new-alist*

Arguments and Values:

alist—an *association list*.

new-alist—an *association list*.

Description:

copy-alist returns a *copy* of *alist*.

The *list structure* of *alist* is copied, and the *elements* of *alist* which are *conses* are also copied (as *conses* only). Any other *objects* which are referred to, whether directly or indirectly, by the *alist* continue to be shared.

Examples:

```
(defparameter *alist* (acons 1 "one" (acons 2 "two" '())))
*alist* → ((1 . "one") (2 . "two"))
(defparameter *list-copy* (copy-list *alist*))
*list-copy* → ((1 . "one") (2 . "two"))
(defparameter *alist-copy* (copy-alist *alist*))
*alist-copy* → ((1 . "one") (2 . "two"))
(setf (cdr (assoc 2 *alist-copy*)) "deux") → "deux"
*alist-copy* → ((1 . "one") (2 . "deux"))
*alist* → ((1 . "one") (2 . "two"))
(setf (cdr (assoc 1 *list-copy*)) "uno") → "uno"
*list-copy* → ((1 . "uno") (2 . "two"))
*alist* → ((1 . "uno") (2 . "two"))
```

See Also:

copy-list

pairlis *Function*

Syntax:

pairlis *keys data* `&optional` *alist* → *new-alist*

Arguments and Values:

keys—a *proper list*.

data—a *proper list*.

alist—an *association list*. The default is the *empty list*.

new-alist—an *association list*.

Description:

Returns an *association list* that associates elements of *keys* to corresponding elements of *data*. The consequences are undefined if *keys* and *data* are not of the same *length*.

If *alist* is supplied, **pairlis** returns a modified *alist* with the new pairs prepended to it. The new pairs may appear in the resulting *association list* in either forward or backward order. The result of

```
(pairlis '(one two) '(1 2) '((three . 3) (four . 19)))
```

might be

```
((one . 1) (two . 2) (three . 3) (four . 19))
```

or

```
((two . 2) (one . 1) (three . 3) (four . 19))
```

Examples:

```
(setq keys '(1 2 3)
       data '("one" "two" "three")
       alist '((4 . "four"))) → ((4 . "four"))
(pairlis keys data) → ((3 . "three") (2 . "two") (1 . "one"))
(pairlis keys data alist)
→ ((3 . "three") (2 . "two") (1 . "one") (4 . "four"))
alist → ((4 . "four"))
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *keys* and *data* are not *proper lists*.

See Also:

acons

rassoc, rassoc-if, rassoc-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

rassoc *item alist* &key *key test test-not* → *entry*

rassoc-if *predicate alist* &key *key* → *entry*

rassoc-if-not *predicate alist* &key *key* → *entry*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

alist—an *association list*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

entry—a *cons* that is an *element* of the *alist*, or **nil**.

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Description:

rassoc, **rassoc-if**, and **rassoc-if-not** return the first *cons* whose *cdr satisfies the test*. If no such *cons* is found, **nil** is returned.

If **nil** appears in *alist* in place of a pair, it is ignored.

Examples:

```
 (setq alist '((1 . "one") (2 . "two") (3 . 3)))
→ ((1 . "one") (2 . "two") (3 . 3))
 (rassoc 3 alist) → (3 . 3)
 (rassoc "two" alist) → NIL
 (rassoc "two" alist :test 'equal) → (2 . "two")
 (rassoc 1 alist :key #'(lambda (x) (if (numberp x) (/ x 3)))) → (3 . 3)
 (rassoc 'a '((a . b) (b . c) (c . a) (z . a))) → (C . A)
 (rassoc-if #'stringp alist) → (1 . "one")
 (rassoc-if-not #'vectorp alist) → (3 . 3)
```

See Also:

assoc, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

The *function* **rassoc-if-not** is deprecated.

It is possible to **rplaca** the result of **rassoc**, provided that it is not **nil**, in order to "update" *alist*.

The expressions

```
(rassoc item list :test fn)
```

and

```
(find item list :test fn :key #'cdr)
```

are equivalent in meaning, except when the `item` is **nil** and **nil** appears in place of a pair in the *alist*. See the *function* **assoc**.

get-properties *Function*

Syntax:

get-properties *plist indicator-list* → *indicator, value, tail*

Arguments and Values:

plist—a *property list*.

indicator-list—a *proper list* (of *indicators*).

indicator—an *object* that is an *element* of *indicator-list*.

value—an *object*.

tail—a *list*.

Description:

get-properties is used to look up any of several *property list* entries all at once.

It searches the *plist* for the first entry whose *indicator* is *identical* to one of the *objects* in *indicator-list*. If such an entry is found, the *indicator* and *value* returned are the *property indicator* and its associated *property value*, and the *tail* returned is the *tail* of the *plist* that begins with the found entry (*i.e.*, whose *car* is the *indicator*). If no such entry is found, the *indicator*, *value*, and *tail* are all **nil**.

Examples:

```
(setq x '()) → NIL
(setq *indicator-list* '(prop1 prop2)) → (PROP1 PROP2)
(getf x 'prop1) → NIL
(setf (getf x 'prop1) 'val1) → VAL1
(eq (getf x 'prop1) 'val1) → true
(get-properties x *indicator-list*) → PROP1, VAL1, (PROP1 VAL1)
x → (PROP1 VAL1)
```

See Also:

get, **getf**

getf *Accessor*

Syntax:

getf *plist indicator* &optional *default* → *value*

(**setf** (**getf** *place indicator* &optional *default*) *new-value*)

Arguments and Values:

plist—a *property list*.

place—a *place*, the *value* of which is a *property list*.

indicator—an *object*.

default—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

value—an *object*.

new-value—an *object*.

Description:

getf finds a *property* on the *plist* whose *property indicator* is *identical* to *indicator*, and returns its corresponding *property value*. If there are multiple *properties*$_1$ with that *property indicator*, **getf** uses the first such *property*. If there is no *property* with that *property indicator*, *default* is returned.

setf of **getf** may be used to associate a new *object* with an existing indicator in the *property list* held by *place*, or to create a new assocation if none exists. If there are multiple *properties*$_1$ with that *property indicator*, **setf** of **getf** associates the *new-value* with the first such *property*. When a **getf** *form* is used as a **setf** *place*, any *default* which is supplied is evaluated according to normal left-to-right evaluation rules, but its *value* is ignored.

setf of **getf** is permitted to either *write* the *value* of *place* itself, or modify of any part, *car* or *cdr*, of the *list structure* held by *place*.

Examples:

```
(setq x '()) → NIL
(getf x 'prop1) → NIL
(getf x 'prop1 7) → 7
(getf x 'prop1) → NIL
(setf (getf x 'prop1) 'val1) → VAL1
(eq (getf x 'prop1) 'val1) → true
(getf x 'prop1) → VAL1
(getf x 'prop1 7) → VAL1
x → (PROP1 VAL1)

;; Examples of implementation variation permitted.
(setq foo (list 'a 'b 'c 'd 'e 'f)) → (A B C D E F)
(setq bar (cddr foo)) → (C D E F)
(remf foo 'c) → true
foo → (A B E F)
bar
→ (C D E F)
or→ (C)
or→ (NIL)
or→ (C NIL)
or→ (C D)
```

See Also:

get, **get-properties**, **setf**, Section 5.1.2.2 (Function Call Forms as Places)

Notes:

There is no way (using **getf**) to distinguish an absent property from one whose value is *default*; but see **get-properties**.

Note that while supplying a *default* argument to **getf** in a **setf** situation is sometimes not very interesting, it is still important because some macros, such as **push** and **incf**, require a *place* argument which data is both *read* from and *written* to. In such a context, if a *default* argument is to be supplied for the *read* situation, it must be syntactically valid for the *write* situation as well. For example,

```
(let ((plist '()))
  (incf (getf plist 'count 0))
  plist) → (COUNT 1)
```

remf *Macro*

Syntax:

remf *place indicator* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

place—a *place*.

indicator—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

remf removes from the *property list* stored in *place* a $property_1$ with a *property indicator identical* to *indicator*. If there are multiple $properties_1$ with the *identical* key, **remf** only removes the first such *property*. **remf** returns *false* if no such *property* was found, or *true* if a property was found.

The *property indicator* and the corresponding *property value* are removed in an undefined order by destructively splicing the property list. **remf** is permitted to either **setf** *place* or to **setf** any part, **car** or **cdr**, of the *list structure* held by that *place*.

For information about the *evaluation* of *subforms* of *place*, see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

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Examples:

```
(setq x (cons () ())) → (NIL)
(setf (getf (car x) 'prop1) 'val1) → VAL1
(remf (car x) 'prop1) → true
(remf (car x) 'prop1) → false
```

Side Effects:

The property list stored in *place* is modified.

See Also:

remprop, **getf**

intersection, nintersection *Function*

Syntax:

intersection *list-1 list-2* &key *key test test-not* → *result-list*

nintersection *list-1 list-2* &key *key test test-not* → *result-list*

Arguments and Values:

list-1—a *proper list*.

list-2—a *proper list*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-list—a *list*.

Description:

intersection and **nintersection** return a *list* that contains every element that occurs in both *list-1* and *list-2*.

nintersection is the destructive version of **intersection**. It performs the same operation, but may destroy *list-1* using its cells to construct the result. *list-2* is not destroyed.

The intersection operation is described as follows. For all possible ordered pairs consisting of one *element* from *list-1* and one *element* from *list-2*, `:test` or `:test-not` are used to determine whether they *satisfy the test*. The first argument to the `:test` or `:test-not` function is an element of *list-1*; the second argument is an element of *list-2*. If `:test` or `:test-not` is not supplied, **eql** is used. It is an error if `:test` and `:test-not` are supplied in the same function call.

If `:key` is supplied (and not **nil**), it is used to extract the part to be tested from the *list* element. The argument to the `:key` function is an element of either *list-1* or *list-2*; the `:key` function typically returns part of the supplied element. If `:key` is not supplied or **nil**, the *list-1* and *list-2* elements are used.

For every pair that *satifies the test*, exactly one of the two elements of the pair will be put in the result. No element from either *list* appears in the result that does not *satisfy the test* for an element from the other *list*. If one of the *lists* contains duplicate elements, there may be duplication in the result.

There is no guarantee that the order of elements in the result will reflect the ordering of the arguments in any particular way. The result *list* may share cells with, or be **eq** to, either *list-1* or *list-2* if appropriate.

Examples:

```
(setq list1 (list 1 1 2 3 4 a b c "A" "B" "C" "d")
      list2 (list 1 4 5 b c d "a" "B" "c" "D"))
 → (1 4 5 B C D "a" "B" "c" "D")
(intersection list1 list2) → (C B 4 1 1)
(intersection list1 list2 :test 'equal) → ("B" C B 4 1 1)
(intersection list1 list2 :test #'equalp) → ("d" "C" "B" "A" C B 4 1 1)
(nintersection list1 list2) → (1 1 4 B C)
list1 → implementation-dependent ;e.g., (1 1 4 B C)
list2 → implementation-dependent ;e.g., (1 4 5 B C D "a" "B" "c" "D")
(setq list1 (copy-list '((1 . 2) (2 . 3) (3 . 4) (4 . 5))))
→ ((1 . 2) (2 . 3) (3 . 4) (4 . 5))
(setq list2 (copy-list '((1 . 3) (2 . 4) (3 . 6) (4 . 8))))
→ ((1 . 3) (2 . 4) (3 . 6) (4 . 8))
(nintersection list1 list2 :key #'cdr) → ((2 . 3) (3 . 4))
list1 → implementation-dependent ;e.g., ((1 . 2) (2 . 3) (3 . 4))
list2 → implementation-dependent ;e.g., ((1 . 3) (2 . 4) (3 . 6) (4 . 8))
```

Side Effects:

nintersection can modify *list-1*, but not *list-2*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list-1* and *list-2* are not *proper lists*.

See Also:

union, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

Since the **nintersection** side effect is not required, it should not be used in for-effect-only positions in portable code.

adjoin *Function*

Syntax:

adjoin *item list* `&key` *key test test-not* → *new-list*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

list—a *proper list*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

new-list—a *list*.

Description:

Tests whether *item* is the same as an existing element of *list*. If the *item* is not an existing element, **adjoin** adds it to *list* (as if by **cons**) and returns the resulting *list*; otherwise, nothing is added and the original *list* is returned.

The *test*, *test-not*, and *key* affect how it is determined whether *item* is the same as an *element* of *list*. For details, see Section 17.2.1 (Satisfying a Two-Argument Test).

Examples:

```
(setq slist '()) → NIL
(adjoin 'a slist) → (A)
slist → NIL
(setq slist (adjoin '(test-item 1) slist)) → ((TEST-ITEM 1))
(adjoin '(test-item 1) slist) → ((TEST-ITEM 1) (TEST-ITEM 1))
(adjoin '(test-item 1) slist :test 'equal) → ((TEST-ITEM 1))
(adjoin '(new-test-item 1) slist :key #'cadr) → ((TEST-ITEM 1))
(adjoin '(new-test-item 1) slist) → ((NEW-TEST-ITEM 1) (TEST-ITEM 1))
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list* is not a *proper list*.

See Also:

pushnew, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

```
(adjoin item list :key fn)
  ≡ (if (member (fn item) list :key fn) list (cons item list))
```

pushnew *Macro*

Syntax:

pushnew *item place* &key *key test test-not*
→ *new-place-value*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

place—a *place*, the *value* of which is a *proper list*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

new-place-value—a *list* (the new *value* of *place*).

Description:

pushnew tests whether *item* is the same as any existing element of the *list* stored in *place*. If *item* is not, it is prepended to the *list*, and the new *list* is stored in *place*.

pushnew returns the new *list* that is stored in *place*.

Whether or not *item* is already a member of the *list* that is in *place* is determined by comparisons using `:test` or `:test-not`. The first argument to the `:test` or `:test-not` function is *item*; the second argument is an element of the *list* in *place* as returned by the `:key` function (if supplied).

If `:key` is supplied, it is used to extract the part to be tested from both *item* and the *list* element, as for **adjoin**.

The argument to the `:key` function is an element of the *list* stored in *place*. The `:key` function typically returns part part of the element of the *list*. If `:key` is not supplied or **nil**, the *list* element is used.

For information about the *evaluation* of *subforms* of *place*, see Section 5.1.1.1 (Evaluation of Subforms to Places).

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It is *implementation-dependent* whether or not **pushnew** actually executes the storing form for its *place* in the situation where the *item* is already a member of the *list* held by *place*.

Examples:

```
(setq x '(a (b c) d)) → (A (B C) D)
(pushnew 5 (cadr x)) → (5 B C)
x → (A (5 B C) D)
(pushnew 'b (cadr x)) → (5 B C)
x → (A (5 B C) D)
(setq lst '((1) (1 2) (1 2 3))) → ((1) (1 2) (1 2 3))
(pushnew '(2) lst) → ((2) (1) (1 2) (1 2 3))
(pushnew '(1) lst) → ((1) (2) (1) (1 2) (1 2 3))
(pushnew '(1) lst :test 'equal) → ((1) (2) (1) (1 2) (1 2 3))
(pushnew '(1) lst :key #'car) → ((1) (2) (1) (1 2) (1 2 3))
```

Side Effects:

The contents of *place* may be modified.

See Also:

push, **adjoin**, Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference)

Notes:

The effect of `(pushnew item place :test p)`

is roughly equivalent to `(setf place (adjoin item place :test p))`

except that the *subforms* of `place` are evaluated only once, and `item` is evaluated before `place`.

set-difference, nset-difference *Function*

Syntax:

set-difference *list-1 list-2* &key *key test test-not* → *result-list*

nset-difference *list-1 list-2* &key *key test test-not* → *result-list*

Arguments and Values:

list-1—a *proper list*.

list-2—a *proper list*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-list—a *list*.

Description:

set-difference returns a *list* of elements of *list-1* that do not appear in *list-2*.

nset-difference is the destructive version of **set-difference**. It may destroy *list-1*.

For all possible ordered pairs consisting of one element from *list-1* and one element from *list-2*, the `:test` or `:test-not` function is used to determine whether they *satisfy the test*. The first argument to the `:test` or `:test-not` function is the part of an element of *list-1* that is returned by the `:key` function (if supplied); the second argument is the part of an element of *list-2* that is returned by the `:key` function (if supplied).

If `:key` is supplied, its argument is a *list-1* or *list-2* element. The `:key` function typically returns part of the supplied element. If `:key` is not supplied, the *list-1* or *list-2* element is used.

An element of *list-1* appears in the result if and only if it does not match any element of *list-2*.

There is no guarantee that the order of elements in the result will reflect the ordering of the arguments in any particular way. The result *list* may share cells with, or be **eq** to, either of *list-1* or *list-2*, if appropriate.

Examples:

```
 (setq lst1 (list "A" "b" "C" "d")
       lst2 (list "a" "B" "C" "d")) → ("a" "B" "C" "d")
 (set-difference lst1 lst2) → ("d" "C" "b" "A")
 (set-difference lst1 lst2 :test 'equal) → ("b" "A")
 (set-difference lst1 lst2 :test #'equalp) → NIL
 (nset-difference lst1 lst2 :test #'string=) → ("A" "b")
 (setq lst1 '(("a" . "b") ("c" . "d") ("e" . "f")))
→ (("a" . "b") ("c" . "d") ("e" . "f"))
 (setq lst2 '(("c" . "a") ("e" . "b") ("d" . "a")))
→ (("c" . "a") ("e" . "b") ("d" . "a"))
 (nset-difference lst1 lst2 :test #'string= :key #'cdr)
→ (("c" . "d") ("e" . "f"))
 lst1 → (("a" . "b") ("c" . "d") ("e" . "f"))
 lst2 → (("c" . "a") ("e" . "b") ("d" . "a"))

;; Remove all flavor names that contain "c" or "w".
 (set-difference '("strawberry" "chocolate" "banana"
                  "lemon" "pistachio" "rhubarb")
          '(#\c #\w)
          :test #'(lambda (s c) (find c s)))
→ ("banana" "rhubarb" "lemon")    ;One possible ordering.
```


Side Effects:

nset-difference may destroy *list-1*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list-1* and *list-2* are not *proper lists*.

See Also:

Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

set-exclusive-or, nset-exclusive-or *Function*

Syntax:

set-exclusive-or *list-1 list-2* `&key` *key test test-not* → *result-list*

nset-exclusive-or *list-1 list-2* `&key` *key test test-not* → *result-list*

Arguments and Values:

list-1—a *proper list*.

list-2—a *proper list*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-list—a *list*.

Description:

set-exclusive-or returns a *list* of elements that appear in exactly one of *list-1* and *list-2*.

nset-exclusive-or is the *destructive* version of **set-exclusive-or**.

For all possible ordered pairs consisting of one element from *list-1* and one element from *list-2*, the `:test` or `:test-not` function is used to determine whether they *satisfy the test*.

If `:key` is supplied, it is used to extract the part to be tested from the *list-1* or *list-2* element. The first argument to the `:test` or `:test-not` function is the part of an element of *list-1* extracted by the `:key` function (if supplied); the second argument is the part of an element of *list-2* extracted by the `:key` function (if supplied). If `:key` is not supplied or **nil**, the *list-1* or *list-2* element is used.

The result contains precisely those elements of *list-1* and *list-2* that appear in no matching pair.

The result *list* of **set-exclusive-or** might share storage with one of *list-1* or *list-2*.

Examples:

```
 (setq lst1 (list 1 "a" "b")
       lst2 (list 1 "A" "b")) → (1 "A" "b")
 (set-exclusive-or lst1 lst2) → ("b" "A" "b" "a")
 (set-exclusive-or lst1 lst2 :test #'equal) → ("A" "a")
 (set-exclusive-or lst1 lst2 :test 'equalp) → NIL
 (nset-exclusive-or lst1 lst2) → ("a" "b" "A" "b")
 (setq lst1 (list (("a" . "b") ("c" . "d") ("e" . "f"))))
→ (("a" . "b") ("c" . "d") ("e" . "f"))
 (setq lst2 (list (("c" . "a") ("e" . "b") ("d" . "a"))))
→ (("c" . "a") ("e" . "b") ("d" . "a"))
 (nset-exclusive-or lst1 lst2 :test #'string= :key #'cdr)
→ (("c" . "d") ("e" . "f") ("c" . "a") ("d" . "a"))
 lst1 → (("a" . "b") ("c" . "d") ("e" . "f"))
 lst2 → (("c" . "a") ("d" . "a"))
```

Side Effects:

nset-exclusive-or is permitted to modify any part, *car* or *cdr*, of the *list structure* of *list-1* or *list-2*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list-1* and *list-2* are not *proper lists*.

See Also:

Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

Since the **nset-exclusive-or** side effect is not required, it should not be used in for-effect-only positions in portable code.

subsetp *Function*

Syntax:

subsetp *list-1 list-2* `&key` *key test test-not* → *generalized-boolean*

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Arguments and Values:

list-1—a *proper list*.

list-2—a *proper list*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

subsetp returns *true* if every element of *list-1* matches some element of *list-2*, and *false* otherwise.

Whether a list element is the same as another list element is determined by the functions specified by the keyword arguments. The first argument to the `:test` or `:test-not` function is typically part of an element of *list-1* extracted by the `:key` function; the second argument is typically part of an element of *list-2* extracted by the `:key` function.

The argument to the `:key` function is an element of either *list-1* or *list-2*; the return value is part of the element of the supplied list element. If `:key` is not supplied or **nil**, the *list-1* or *list-2* element itself is supplied to the `:test` or `:test-not` function.

Examples:

```
 (setq cosmos '(1 "a" (1 2))) → (1 "a" (1 2))
 (subsetp '(1) cosmos) → true
 (subsetp '((1 2)) cosmos) → false
 (subsetp '((1 2)) cosmos :test 'equal) → true
 (subsetp '(1 "A") cosmos :test #'equalp) → true
 (subsetp '((1) (2)) '((1) (2))) → false
 (subsetp '((1) (2)) '((1) (2)) :key #'car) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list-1* and *list-2* are not *proper lists*.

See Also:

Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

union, nunion *Function*

Syntax:

union *list-1 list-2* &key *key test test-not* → *result-list*

nunion *list-1 list-2* &key *key test test-not* → *result-list*

Arguments and Values:

list-1—a *proper list*.

list-2—a *proper list*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-list—a *list*.

Description:

union and **nunion** return a *list* that contains every element that occurs in either *list-1* or *list-2*.

For all possible ordered pairs consisting of one element from *list-1* and one element from *list-2*, `:test` or `:test-not` is used to determine whether they *satisfy the test*. The first argument to the `:test` or `:test-not` function is the part of the element of *list-1* extracted by the `:key` function (if supplied); the second argument is the part of the element of *list-2* extracted by the `:key` function (if supplied).

The argument to the `:key` function is an element of *list-1* or *list-2*; the return value is part of the supplied element. If `:key` is not supplied or **nil**, the element of *list-1* or *list-2* itself is supplied to the `:test` or `:test-not` function.

For every matching pair, one of the two elements of the pair will be in the result. Any element from either *list-1* or *list-2* that matches no element of the other will appear in the result.

If there is a duplication between *list-1* and *list-2*, only one of the duplicate instances will be in the result. If either *list-1* or *list-2* has duplicate entries within it, the redundant entries might or might not appear in the result.

The order of elements in the result do not have to reflect the ordering of *list-1* or *list-2* in any way. The result *list* may be **eq** to either *list-1* or *list-2* if appropriate.

Examples:

```
 (union '(a b c) '(f a d))
→ (A B C F D)
or→ (B C F A D)
or→ (D F A B C)
 (union '((x 5) (y 6)) '((z 2) (x 4)) :key #'car)
→ ((X 5) (Y 6) (Z 2))
or→ ((X 4) (Y 6) (Z 2))

 (setq lst1 (list 1 2 '(1 2) "a" "b")
       lst2 (list 2 3 '(2 3) "B" "C"))
→ (2 3 (2 3) "B" "C")
 (nunion lst1 lst2)
→ (1 (1 2) "a" "b" 2 3 (2 3) "B" "C")
or→ (1 2 (1 2) "a" "b" "C" "B" (2 3) 3)
```

Side Effects:

nunion is permitted to modify any part, *car* or *cdr*, of the *list structure* of *list-1* or *list-2*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *list-1* and *list-2* are not *proper lists*.

See Also:

intersection, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` parameter is deprecated.

Since the **nunion** side effect is not required, it should not be used in for-effect-only positions in portable code.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

15. Arrays

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15.1 Array Concepts

15.1.1 Array Elements

An *array* contains a set of *objects* called *elements* that can be referenced individually according to a rectilinear coordinate system.

15.1.1.1 Array Indices

An *array element* is referred to by a (possibly empty) series of indices. The length of the series must equal the *rank* of the *array*. Each index must be a non-negative *fixnum* less than the corresponding *array dimension*. *Array* indexing is zero-origin.

15.1.1.2 Array Dimensions

An axis of an *array* is called a ***dimension***.

Each *dimension* is a non-negative *fixnum*; if any dimension of an *array* is zero, the *array* has no elements. It is permissible for a *dimension* to be zero, in which case the *array* has no elements, and any attempt to *access* an *element* is an error. However, other properties of the *array*, such as the *dimensions* themselves, may be used.

15.1.1.2.1 Implementation Limits on Individual Array Dimensions

An *implementation* may impose a limit on *dimensions* of an *array*, but there is a minimum requirement on that limit. See the *variable* **array-dimension-limit**.

15.1.1.3 Array Rank

An *array* can have any number of *dimensions* (including zero). The number of *dimensions* is called the ***rank***.

If the rank of an *array* is zero then the *array* is said to have no *dimensions*, and the product of the dimensions (see **array-total-size**) is then 1; a zero-rank *array* therefore has a single element.

15.1.1.3.1 Vectors

An *array* of *rank* one (*i.e.*, a one-dimensional *array*) is called a ***vector***.

15.1.1.3.1.1 Fill Pointers

A ***fill pointer*** is a non-negative *integer* no larger than the total number of *elements* in a *vector*. Not all *vectors* have *fill pointers*. See the *functions* **make-array** and **adjust-array**.

An *element* of a *vector* is said to be ***active*** if it has an index that is greater than or equal to zero, but less than the *fill pointer* (if any). For an *array* that has no *fill pointer*, all *elements* are considered *active*.

Only *vectors* may have *fill pointers*; multidimensional *arrays* may not. A multidimensional *array* that is displaced to a *vector* that has a *fill pointer* can be created.

15.1.1.3.2 Multidimensional Arrays

15.1.1.3.2.1 Storage Layout for Multidimensional Arrays

Multidimensional *arrays* store their components in row-major order; that is, internally a multidimensional *array* is stored as a one-dimensional *array*, with the multidimensional index sets ordered lexicographically, last index varying fastest.

15.1.1.3.2.2 Implementation Limits on Array Rank

An *implementation* may impose a limit on the *rank* of an *array*, but there is a minimum requirement on that limit. See the *variable* **array-rank-limit**.

15.1.2 Specialized Arrays

An *array* can be a *general array*, meaning each *element* may be any *object*, or it may be a *specialized array*, meaning that each *element* must be of a restricted *type*.

The phrasing "an *array specialized* to *type* ⟨⟨*type*⟩⟩" is sometimes used to emphasize the *element type* of an *array*. This phrasing is tolerated even when the ⟨⟨*type*⟩⟩ is **t**, even though an *array specialized* to *type t* is a *general array*, not a *specialized array*.

Figure 15–1 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *array* creation, *access*, and information operations.

adjust-array	**array-has-fill-pointer-p**	**make-array**
adjustable-array-p	**array-in-bounds-p**	**svref**
aref	**array-rank**	**upgraded-array-element-type**
array-dimension	**array-rank-limit**	**upgraded-complex-part-type**
array-dimension-limit	**array-row-major-index**	**vector**
array-dimensions	**array-total-size**	**vector-pop**
array-displacement	**array-total-size-limit**	**vector-push**
array-element-type	**fill-pointer**	**vector-push-extend**

Figure 15–1. General Purpose Array-Related Defined Names

15.1.2.1 Array Upgrading

The ***upgraded array element type*** of a *type* T_1 is a *type* T_2 that is a *supertype* of T_1 and that is used instead of T_1 whenever T_1 is used as an *array element type* for object creation or type discrimination.

During creation of an *array*, the *element type* that was requested is called the ***expressed array element type***. The *upgraded array element type* of the *expressed array element type* becomes the ***actual array element type*** of the *array* that is created.

Type upgrading implies a movement upwards in the type hierarchy lattice. A *type* is always a *subtype* of its *upgraded array element type*. Also, if a *type* T_x is a *subtype* of another *type* T_y, then the *upgraded array element type* of T_x must be a *subtype* of the *upgraded array element type* of T_y. Two *disjoint types* can be *upgraded* to the same *type*.

The *upgraded array element type* T_2 of a *type* T_1 is a function only of T_1 itself; that is, it is independent of any other property of the *array* for which T_2 will be used, such as *rank*, *adjustability*, *fill pointers*, or displacement. The *function* **upgraded-array-element-type** can be used by *conforming programs* to predict how the *implementation* will *upgrade* a given *type*.

15.1.2.2 Required Kinds of Specialized Arrays

Vectors whose *elements* are restricted to *type* **character** or a *subtype* of **character** are called ***strings***. *Strings* are of *type* **string**. Figure 15–2 lists some *defined names* related to *strings*.

Strings are *specialized arrays* and might logically have been included in this chapter. However, for purposes of readability most information about *strings* does not appear in this chapter; see instead Chapter 16 (Strings).

char	**string-equal**	**string-upcase**
make-string	**string-greaterp**	**string/=**
nstring-capitalize	**string-left-trim**	**string<**
nstring-downcase	**string-lessp**	**string<=**
nstring-upcase	**string-not-equal**	**string=**
schar	**string-not-greaterp**	**string>**
string	**string-not-lessp**	**string>=**
string-capitalize	**string-right-trim**	
string-downcase	**string-trim**	

Figure 15–2. Operators that Manipulate Strings

Vectors whose *elements* are restricted to *type* **bit** are called ***bit vectors***. *Bit vectors* are of *type* **bit-vector**. Figure 15–3 lists some *defined names* for operations on *bit arrays*.

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bit	**bit-ior**	**bit-orc2**
bit-and	**bit-nand**	**bit-xor**
bit-andc1	**bit-nor**	**sbit**
bit-andc2	**bit-not**	
bit-eqv	**bit-orc1**	

Figure 15–3. Operators that Manipulate Bit Arrays

array *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

array, **t**

Description:

An *array* contains *objects* arranged according to a Cartesian coordinate system. An *array* provides mappings from a set of *fixnums* $\{i_0, i_1, \ldots, i_{r-1}\}$ to corresponding *elements* of the *array*, where $0 \le i_j < d_j$, r is the rank of the array, and d_j is the size of *dimension* j of the array.

When an *array* is created, the program requesting its creation may declare that all *elements* are of a particular *type*, called the *expressed array element type*. The implementation is permitted to *upgrade* this type in order to produce the *actual array element type*, which is the *element type* for the *array* is actually *specialized*. See the *function* **upgraded-array-element-type**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(array [{*element-type* | *} [*dimension-spec*]])

dimension-spec::=*rank* | * | ({*dimension* | *}*)

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

dimension—a *valid array dimension*.

element-type—a *type specifier*.

rank—a non-negative *fixnum*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of *arrays* whose *element type*, *rank*, and *dimensions* match any given *element-type*, *rank*, and *dimensions*. Specifically:

If *element-type* is the *symbol* *, *arrays* are not excluded on the basis of their *element type*. Otherwise, only those *arrays* are included whose *actual array element type* is the result of *upgrading* *element-type*; see Section 15.1.2.1 (Array Upgrading).

If the *dimension-spec* is a *rank*, the set includes only those *arrays* having that *rank*. If the *dimension-spec* is a *list* of *dimensions*, the set includes only those *arrays* having a *rank* given by the *length* of the *dimensions*, and having the indicated *dimensions*; in this case, * matches any value for the corresponding *dimension*. If the *dimension-spec* is the *symbol* *, the set is not restricted on the basis of *rank* or *dimension*.

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See Also:

print-array, **aref**, **make-array**, **vector**, Section 2.4.8.12 (Sharpsign A), Section 22.1.3.8 (Printing Other Arrays)

Notes:

Note that the type `(array t)` is a proper *subtype* of the type `(array *)`. The reason is that the type `(array t)` is the set of *arrays* that can hold any *object* (the *elements* are of *type* **t**, which includes all *objects*). On the other hand, the type `(array *)` is the set of all *arrays* whatsoever, including for example *arrays* that can hold only *characters*. The type `(array character)` is not a *subtype* of the type `(array t)`; the two sets are *disjoint* because the type `(array character)` is not the set of all *arrays* that can hold *characters*, but rather the set of *arrays* that are specialized to hold precisely *characters* and no other *objects*.

simple-array *Type*

Supertypes:

simple-array, **array**, **t**

Description:

The *type* of an *array* that is not displaced to another *array*, has no *fill pointer*, and is not *expressly adjustable* is a *subtype* of *type* **simple-array**. The concept of a *simple array* exists to allow the implementation to use a specialized representation and to allow the user to declare that certain values will always be *simple arrays*.

The *types* **simple-vector**, **simple-string**, and **simple-bit-vector** are *disjoint subtypes* of *type* **simple-array**, for they respectively mean `(simple-array t (*))`, the union of all `(simple-array` *c* `(*))` for any *c* being a *subtype* of *type* **character**, and `(simple-array bit (*))`.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(simple-array [{*element-type* | *} [*dimension-spec*]])

dimension-spec::=*rank* | * | ({*dimension* | *}*)

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

dimension—a *valid array dimension*.

element-type—a *type specifier*.

rank—a non-negative *fixnum*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This *compound type specifier* is treated exactly as the corresponding *compound type specifier* for *type* **array** would be treated, except that the set is further constrained to include only *simple arrays*.

Notes:

It is *implementation-dependent* whether *displaced arrays*, *vectors* with *fill pointers*, or arrays that are *actually adjustable* are *simple arrays*.

`(simple-array *)` refers to all *simple arrays* regardless of element type, `(simple-array` *type-specifier*`)` refers only to those *simple arrays* that can result from giving *type-specifier* as the `:element-type` argument to **make-array**.

vector *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

vector, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

Any one-dimensional *array* is a *vector*.

The *type* **vector** is a *subtype* of *type* **array**; for all *types* `x`, `(vector x)` is the same as `(array x (*))`.

The *type* `(vector t)`, the *type* **string**, and the *type* **bit-vector** are *disjoint subtypes* of *type* **vector**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(vector` [{*element-type* | `*`} [{*size* | `*`}]]`)`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*.

element-type—a *type specifier*.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the set of specialized *vectors* whose *element type* and *dimension* match the specified values. Specifically:

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If *element-type* is the *symbol* `*`, *vectors* are not excluded on the basis of their *element type*. Otherwise, only those *vectors* are included whose *actual array element type* is the result of *upgrading element-type*; see Section 15.1.2.1 (Array Upgrading).

If a *size* is specified, the set includes only those *vectors* whose only *dimension* is *size*. If the *symbol* `*` is specified instead of a *size*, the set is not restricted on the basis of *dimension*.

See Also:

Section 15.1.2.2 (Required Kinds of Specialized Arrays), Section 2.4.8.3 (Sharpsign Left-Parenthesis), Section 22.1.3.7 (Printing Other Vectors), Section 2.4.8.12 (Sharpsign A)

Notes:

The *type* `(vector` *e s*`)` is equivalent to the *type* `(array` *e* `(`*s*`))`.

The type `(vector bit)` has the name **bit-vector**.

The union of all *types* `(vector` *C*`)`, where *C* is any *subtype* of **character**, has the name **string**.

`(vector *)` refers to all *vectors* regardless of element type, `(vector` *type-specifier*`)` refers only to those *vectors* that can result from giving *type-specifier* as the `:element-type` argument to **make-array**.

simple-vector *Type*

Supertypes:

simple-vector, **vector**, **simple-array**, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

The *type* of a *vector* that is not displaced to another *array*, has no *fill pointer*, is not *expressly adjustable* and is able to hold elements of any *type* is a *subtype* of *type* **simple-vector**.

The *type* **simple-vector** is a *subtype* of *type* **vector**, and is a *subtype* of *type* `(vector t)`.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Specializing.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(simple-vector` [*size*]`)`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*, or the *symbol* `*`. The default is the *symbol* `*`.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This is the same as (simple-array t (*size*)).

bit-vector *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

bit-vector, **vector**, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

A *bit vector* is a *vector* the *element type* of which is *bit*.

The *type* **bit-vector** is a *subtype* of *type* **vector**, for **bit-vector** means (vector bit).

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(bit-vector [*size*])

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*, or the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the same *type* as the *type* (array bit (*size*)); that is, the set of *bit vectors* of size *size*.

See Also:

Section 2.4.8.4 (Sharpsign Asterisk), Section 22.1.3.6 (Printing Bit Vectors), Section 15.1.2.2 (Required Kinds of Specialized Arrays)

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simple-bit-vector *Type*

Supertypes:

simple-bit-vector, **bit-vector**, **vector**, **simple-array**, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

The *type* of a *bit vector* that is not displaced to another *array*, has no *fill pointer*, and is not *expressly adjustable* is a *subtype* of *type* **simple-bit-vector**.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

(simple-bit-vector [*size*])

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*, or the *symbol* *. The default is the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the same type as the *type* (simple-array bit (*size*)); that is, the set of *simple bit vectors* of size *size*.

make-array *Function*

Syntax:

make-array *dimensions* &key *element-type*
initial-element
initial-contents
adjustable
fill-pointer
displaced-to
displaced-index-offset

→ *new-array*

Arguments and Values:

dimensions—a *designator* for a *list* of *valid array dimensions*.

element-type—a *type specifier*. The default is **t**.

initial-element—an *object*.

initial-contents—an *object*.

adjustable—a *generalized boolean*. The default is **nil**.

fill-pointer—a *valid fill pointer* for the *array* to be created, or t or **nil**. The default is **nil**.

displaced-to—an *array* or **nil**. The default is **nil**. This option must not be supplied if either *initial-element* or *initial-contents* is supplied.

displaced-index-offset—a *valid array row-major index* for *displaced-to*. The default is 0. This option must not be supplied unless a *non-nil displaced-to* is supplied.

new-array—an *array*.

Description:

Creates and returns an *array* constructed of the most *specialized type* that can accommodate elements of *type* given by *element-type*. If *dimensions* is **nil** then a zero-dimensional *array* is created.

Dimensions represents the dimensionality of the new *array*.

element-type indicates the *type* of the elements intended to be stored in the *new-array*. The *new-array* can actually store any *objects* of the *type* which results from *upgrading element-type*; see Section 15.1.2.1 (Array Upgrading).

If *initial-element* is supplied, it is used to initialize each *element* of *new-array*. If *initial-element* is supplied, it must be of the *type* given by *element-type*. *initial-element* cannot be supplied if either the :initial-contents option is supplied or *displaced-to* is *non-nil*. If *initial-element* is not supplied, the consequences of later reading an uninitialized *element* of *new-array* are undefined unless either *initial-contents* is supplied or *displaced-to* is *non-nil*.

initial-contents is used to initialize the contents of *array*. For example:

```
(make-array '(4 2 3) :initial-contents
            '(((a b c) (1 2 3))
             ((d e f) (3 1 2))
             ((g h i) (2 3 1))
             ((j k l) (0 0 0))))
```

initial-contents is composed of a nested structure of *sequences*. The numbers of levels in the structure must equal the rank of *array*. Each leaf of the nested structure must be of the *type* given by *element-type*. If *array* is zero-dimensional, then *initial-contents* specifies the single *element*. Otherwise, *initial-contents* must be a *sequence* whose length is equal to the first dimension; each element must be a nested structure for an *array* whose dimensions are the remaining dimensions, and so on. *Initial-contents* cannot be supplied if either *initial-element* is supplied or *displaced-to* is *non-nil*. If *initial-contents* is not supplied, the consequences of later reading an uninitialized *element* of *new-array* are undefined unless either *initial-element* is supplied or *displaced-to* is *non-nil*.

If *adjustable* is *non-nil*, the array is *expressly adjustable* (and so *actually adjustable*); otherwise,

the array is not *expressly adjustable* (and it is *implementation-dependent* whether the array is *actually adjustable*).

If *fill-pointer* is *non-nil*, the *array* must be one-dimensional; that is, the *array* must be a *vector*. If *fill-pointer* is t, the length of the *vector* is used to initialize the *fill pointer*. If *fill-pointer* is an *integer*, it becomes the initial *fill pointer* for the *vector*.

If *displaced-to* is *non-nil*, **make-array** will create a *displaced array* and *displaced-to* is the *target* of that *displaced array*. In that case, the consequences are undefined if the *actual array element type* of *displaced-to* is not *type equivalent* to the *actual array element type* of the *array* being created. If *displaced-to* is **nil**, the *array* is not a *displaced array*.

The *displaced-index-offset* is made to be the index offset of the *array*. When an array A is given as the :displaced-to *argument* to **make-array** when creating array B, then array B is said to be displaced to array A. The total number of elements in an *array*, called the total size of the *array*, is calculated as the product of all the dimensions. It is required that the total size of A be no smaller than the sum of the total size of B plus the offset n supplied by the *displaced-index-offset*. The effect of displacing is that array B does not have any elements of its own, but instead maps *accesses* to itself into *accesses* to array A. The mapping treats both *arrays* as if they were one-dimensional by taking the elements in row-major order, and then maps an *access* to element k of array B to an *access* to element k+n of array A.

If **make-array** is called with *adjustable*, *fill-pointer*, and *displaced-to* each **nil**, then the result is a *simple array*. If **make-array** is called with one or more of *adjustable*, *fill-pointer*, or *displaced-to* being *true*, whether the resulting *array* is a *simple array* is *implementation-dependent*.

When an array A is given as the :displaced-to *argument* to **make-array** when creating array B, then array B is said to be displaced to array A. The total number of elements in an *array*, called the total size of the *array*, is calculated as the product of all the dimensions. The consequences are unspecified if the total size of A is smaller than the sum of the total size of B plus the offset n supplied by the *displaced-index-offset*. The effect of displacing is that array B does not have any elements of its own, but instead maps *accesses* to itself into *accesses* to array A. The mapping treats both *arrays* as if they were one-dimensional by taking the elements in row-major order, and then maps an *access* to element k of array B to an *access* to *element* k+n of array A.

Examples:

```
(make-array 5) ;; Creates a one-dimensional array of five elements.
(make-array '(3 4) :element-type '(mod 16)) ;; Creates a
               ;;two-dimensional array, 3 by 4, with four-bit elements.
(make-array 5 :element-type 'single-float) ;; Creates an array of single-floats.

(make-array nil :initial-element nil) → #0ANIL
(make-array 4 :initial-element nil) → #(NIL NIL NIL NIL)
(make-array '(2 4)
            :element-type '(unsigned-byte 2)
```

```
             :initial-contents '((0 1 2 3) (3 2 1 0)))
→ #2A((0 1 2 3) (3 2 1 0))
 (make-array 6
             :element-type 'character
             :initial-element #\a
             :fill-pointer 3) → "aaa"
```

The following is an example of making a *displaced array*.

```
 (setq a (make-array '(4 3)))
→ #<ARRAY 4x3 simple 32546632>
 (dotimes (i 4)
   (dotimes (j 3)
     (setf (aref a i j) (list i 'x j '= (* i j)))))
→ NIL
 (setq b (make-array 8 :displaced-to a
                      :displaced-index-offset 2))
→ #<ARRAY 8 indirect 32550757>
 (dotimes (i 8)
   (print (list i (aref b i))))
▷ (0 (0 X 2 = 0))
▷ (1 (1 X 0 = 0))
▷ (2 (1 X 1 = 1))
▷ (3 (1 X 2 = 2))
▷ (4 (2 X 0 = 0))
▷ (5 (2 X 1 = 2))
▷ (6 (2 X 2 = 4))
▷ (7 (3 X 0 = 0))
→ NIL
```

The last example depends on the fact that *arrays* are, in effect, stored in row-major order.

```
 (setq a1 (make-array 50))
→ #<ARRAY 50 simple 32562043>
 (setq b1 (make-array 20 :displaced-to a1 :displaced-index-offset 10))
→ #<ARRAY 20 indirect 32563346>
 (length b1) → 20

 (setq a2 (make-array 50 :fill-pointer 10))
→ #<ARRAY 50 fill-pointer 10 46100216>
 (setq b2 (make-array 20 :displaced-to a2 :displaced-index-offset 10))
→ #<ARRAY 20 indirect 46104010>
 (length a2) → 10
 (length b2) → 20
```


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```
 (setq a3 (make-array 50 :fill-pointer 10))
→ #<ARRAY 50 fill-pointer 10 46105663>
 (setq b3 (make-array 20 :displaced-to a3 :displaced-index-offset 10
                         :fill-pointer 5))
→ #<ARRAY 20 indirect, fill-pointer 5 46107432>
 (length a3) → 10
 (length b3) → 5
```

See Also:

adjustable-array-p, **aref**, **arrayp**, **array-element-type**, **array-rank-limit**, **array-dimension-limit**, **fill-pointer**, **upgraded-array-element-type**

Notes:

There is no specified way to create an *array* for which **adjustable-array-p** definitely returns *false*. There is no specified way to create an *array* that is not a *simple array*.

adjust-array *Function*

Syntax:

adjust-array *array new-dimensions* &key *element-type*
initial-element
initial-contents
fill-pointer
displaced-to
displaced-index-offset

→ *adjusted-array*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

new-dimensions—a *valid array dimension* or a *list* of *valid array dimensions*.

element-type—a *type specifier*.

initial-element—an *object*. *Initial-element* must not be supplied if either *initial-contents* or *displaced-to* is supplied.

initial-contents—an *object*. If *array* has rank greater than zero, then *initial-contents* is composed of nested *sequences*, the depth of which must equal the rank of *array*. Otherwise, *array* is zero-dimensional and *initial-contents* supplies the single element. *initial-contents* must not be supplied if either *initial-element* or *displaced-to* is given.

fill-pointer—a *valid fill pointer* for the *array* to be created, or **t**, or **nil**. The default is **nil**.

displaced-to—an *array* or **nil**. *initial-elements* and *initial-contents* must not be supplied if *displaced-to* is supplied.

displaced-index-offset—an *object* of *type* `(fixnum 0 n)` where *n* is `(array-total-size displaced-to)`. *displaced-index-offset* may be supplied only if *displaced-to* is supplied.

adjusted-array—an *array*.

Description:

adjust-array changes the dimensions or elements of *array*. The result is an *array* of the same *type* and rank as *array*, that is either the modified *array*, or a newly created *array* to which *array* can be displaced, and that has the given *new-dimensions*.

New-dimensions specify the size of each *dimension* of *array*.

Element-type specifies the *type* of the *elements* of the resulting *array*. If *element-type* is supplied, the consequences are unspecified if the *upgraded array element type* of *element-type* is not the same as the *actual array element type* of *array*.

If *initial-contents* is supplied, it is treated as for **make-array**. In this case none of the original contents of *array* appears in the resulting *array*.

If *fill-pointer* is an *integer*, it becomes the *fill pointer* for the resulting *array*. If *fill-pointer* is the symbol **t**, it indicates that the size of the resulting *array* should be used as the *fill pointer*. If *fill-pointer* is **nil**, it indicates that the *fill pointer* should be left as it is.

If *displaced-to* *non-nil*, a *displaced array* is created. The resulting *array* shares its contents with the *array* given by *displaced-to*. The resulting *array* cannot contain more elements than the *array* it is displaced to. If *displaced-to* is not supplied or **nil**, the resulting *array* is not a *displaced array*. If array A is created displaced to array B and subsequently array B is given to **adjust-array**, array A will still be displaced to array B. Although *array* might be a *displaced array*, the resulting *array* is not a *displaced array* unless *displaced-to* is supplied and not **nil**. The interaction between **adjust-array** and displaced *arrays* is as follows given three *arrays*, `A`, `B`, and `C`:

`A` is not displaced before or after the call

```
(adjust-array A ...)
```

The dimensions of `A` are altered, and the contents rearranged as appropriate. Additional elements of `A` are taken from *initial-element*. The use of *initial-contents* causes all old contents to be discarded.

`A` is not displaced before, but is displaced to `C` after the call

```
(adjust-array A ... :displaced-to C)
```

None of the original contents of `A` appears in `A` afterwards; `A` now contains the contents of `C`, without any rearrangement of `C`.

`A` is displaced to `B` before the call, and is displaced to `C` after the call

```
(adjust-array A ... :displaced-to B)
(adjust-array A ... :displaced-to C)
```

`B` and `C` might be the same. The contents of `B` do not appear in `A` afterward unless such contents also happen to be in `C` If *displaced-index-offset* is not supplied in the **adjust-array** call, it defaults to zero; the old offset into `B` is not retained.

`A` is displaced to `B` before the call, but not displaced afterward.

```
(adjust-array A ... :displaced-to B)
(adjust-array A ... :displaced-to nil)
```

`A` gets a new "data region," and contents of `B` are copied into it as appropriate to maintain the existing old contents; additional elements of `A` are taken from *initial-element* if supplied. However, the use of *initial-contents* causes all old contents to be discarded.

If *displaced-index-offset* is supplied, it specifies the offset of the resulting *array* from the beginning of the *array* that it is displaced to. If *displaced-index-offset* is not supplied, the offset is 0. The size of the resulting *array* plus the offset value cannot exceed the size of the *array* that it is displaced to.

If only *new-dimensions* and an *initial-element* argument are supplied, those elements of *array* that are still in bounds appear in the resulting *array*. The elements of the resulting *array* that are not in the bounds of *array* are initialized to *initial-element*; if *initial-element* is not provided, the consequences of later reading any such new *element* of *new-array* before it has been initialized are undefined.

If *initial-contents* or *displaced-to* is supplied, then none of the original contents of *array* appears in the new *array*.

The consequences are unspecified if *array* is adjusted to a size smaller than its *fill pointer* without supplying the *fill-pointer* argument so that its *fill-pointer* is properly adjusted in the process.

If `A` is displaced to `B`, the consequences are unspecified if `B` is adjusted in such a way that it no longer has enough elements to satisfy `A`.

If **adjust-array** is applied to an *array* that is *actually adjustable*, the *array* returned is *identical* to *array*. If the *array* returned by **adjust-array** is *distinct* from *array*, then the argument *array* is unchanged.

Note that if an *array* A is displaced to another *array* B, and B is displaced to another *array* C, and B is altered by **adjust-array**, A must now refer to the adjust contents of B. This means that an implementation cannot collapse the chain to make A refer to C directly and forget that the chain of reference passes through B. However, caching techniques are permitted as long as they preserve the semantics specified here.

Examples:

```
 (adjustable-array-p
  (setq ada (adjust-array
              (make-array '(2 3)
                          :adjustable t
                          :initial-contents '((a b c) (1 2 3)))
              '(4 6)))) → T
 (array-dimensions ada) → (4 6)
 (aref ada 1 1) → 2
 (setq beta (make-array '(2 3) :adjustable t))
→ #2A((NIL NIL NIL) (NIL NIL NIL))
 (adjust-array beta '(4 6) :displaced-to ada)
→ #2A((A B C NIL NIL NIL)
      (1 2 3 NIL NIL NIL)
      (NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL)
      (NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL))
 (array-dimensions beta) → (4 6)
 (aref beta 1 1) → 2
```

Suppose that the 4-by-4 array in m looks like this:

```
#2A(( alpha     beta      gamma     delta )
    ( epsilon   zeta      eta       theta )
    ( iota      kappa     lambda    mu    )
    ( nu        xi        omicron   pi    ))
```

Then the result of

```
 (adjust-array m '(3 5) :initial-element 'baz)
```

is a 3-by-5 array with contents

```
#2A(( alpha     beta      gamma     delta     baz )
    ( epsilon   zeta      eta       theta     baz )
    ( iota      kappa     lambda    mu        baz ))
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **error** is signaled if *fill-pointer* is supplied and *non-nil* but *array* has no *fill pointer*.

See Also:

adjustable-array-p, **make-array**, **array-dimension-limit**, **array-total-size-limit**, **array**

adjustable-array-p *Function*

Syntax:

adjustable-array-p *array* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns true if and only if **adjust-array** could return a *value* which is *identical* to *array* when given that *array* as its first *argument*.

Examples:

```
 (adjustable-array-p
   (make-array 5
               :element-type 'character
               :adjustable t
               :fill-pointer 3)) → true
 (adjustable-array-p (make-array 4)) → implementation-dependent
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its argument is not an *array*.

See Also:

adjust-array, **make-array**

aref *Accessor*

Syntax:

aref *array* &rest *subscripts* → *element*

(setf (**aref** *array* &rest *subscripts*) *new-element*)

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

subscripts—a *list* of *valid array indices* for the *array*.

element, *new-element*—an *object*.

Description:

Accesses the *array element* specified by the *subscripts*. If no *subscripts* are supplied and *array* is zero rank, **aref** *accesses* the sole element of *array*.

aref ignores *fill pointers*. It is permissible to use **aref** to *access* any *array element*, whether *active* or not.

Examples:

If the variable `foo` names a 3-by-5 array, then the first index could be 0, 1, or 2, and then second index could be 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4. The array elements can be referred to by using the *function* **aref**; for example, `(aref foo 2 1)` refers to element (2, 1) of the array.

```
(aref (setq alpha (make-array 4)) 3) → implementation-dependent
(setf (aref alpha 3) 'sirens) → SIRENS
(aref alpha 3) → SIRENS
(aref (setq beta (make-array '(2 4)
                   :element-type '(unsigned-byte 2)
                   :initial-contents '((0 1 2 3) (3 2 1 0))))
      1 2) → 1
(setq gamma '(0 2))
(apply #'aref beta gamma) → 2
(setf (apply #'aref beta gamma) 3) → 3
(apply #'aref beta gamma) → 3
(aref beta 0 2) → 3
```

See Also:

bit, **char**, **elt**, **row-major-aref**, **svref**, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology)

array-dimension *Function*

Syntax:

array-dimension *array axis-number* → *dimension*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

axis-number—an *integer* greater than or equal to zero and less than the *rank* of the *array*.

dimension—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

array-dimension returns the *axis-number* *dimension*$_1$ of *array*. (Any *fill pointer* is ignored.)

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Examples:

```
(array-dimension (make-array 4) 0) → 4
(array-dimension (make-array '(2 3)) 1) → 3
```

Affected By:

None.

See Also:

array-dimensions, **length**

Notes:

```
(array-dimension array n) ≡ (nth n (array-dimensions array))
```

array-dimensions *Function*

Syntax:

array-dimensions *array* → *dimensions*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

dimensions—a *list* of *integers*.

Description:

Returns a *list* of the *dimensions* of *array*. (If *array* is a *vector* with a *fill pointer*, that *fill pointer* is ignored.)

Examples:

```
(array-dimensions (make-array 4)) → (4)
(array-dimensions (make-array '(2 3))) → (2 3)
(array-dimensions (make-array 4 :fill-pointer 2)) → (4)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its argument is not an *array*.

See Also:

array-dimension

array-element-type *Function*

Syntax:

array-element-type *array* → *typespec*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

typespec—a *type specifier*.

Description:

Returns a *type specifier* which represents the *actual array element type* of the array, which is the set of *objects* that such an *array* can hold. (Because of *array upgrading*, this *type specifier* can in some cases denote a *supertype* of the *expressed array element type* of the *array*.)

Examples:

```
(array-element-type (make-array 4)) → T
(array-element-type (make-array 12 :element-type '(unsigned-byte 8)))
→ implementation-dependent
(array-element-type (make-array 12 :element-type '(unsigned-byte 5)))
→ implementation-dependent
```

```
(array-element-type (make-array 5 :element-type '(mod 5)))
```

could be `(mod 5)`, `(mod 8)`, `fixnum`, `t`, or any other type of which `(mod 5)` is a *subtype*.

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its argument is not an *array*.

See Also:

array, **make-array**, **subtypep**, **upgraded-array-element-type**

array-has-fill-pointer-p *Function*

Syntax:

array-has-fill-pointer-p *array* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *array* has a *fill pointer*; otherwise returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(array-has-fill-pointer-p (make-array 4)) → implementation-dependent
(array-has-fill-pointer-p (make-array '(2 3))) → false
(array-has-fill-pointer-p
  (make-array 8
              :fill-pointer 2
              :initial-element 'filler)) → true
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its argument is not an *array*.

See Also:

make-array, **fill-pointer**

Notes:

Since *arrays* of *rank* other than one cannot have a *fill pointer*, **array-has-fill-pointer-p** always returns **nil** when its argument is such an array.

array-displacement *Function*

Syntax:

array-displacement *array* → *displaced-to, displaced-index-offset*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

displaced-to—an *array* or **nil**.

displaced-index-offset—a non-negative *fixnum*.

Description:

If the *array* is a *displaced array*, returns the *values* of the `:displaced-to` and `:displaced-index-offset` options for the *array* (see the *functions* **make-array** and **adjust-array**). If the *array* is not a *displaced array*, **nil** and `0` are returned.

If **array-displacement** is called on an *array* for which a *non-nil object* was provided as the `:displaced-to` *argument* to **make-array** or **adjust-array**, it must return that *object* as its first value. It is *implementation-dependent* whether **array-displacement** returns a *non-nil primary value* for any other *array*.

Examples:

```
 (setq a1 (make-array 5)) → #<ARRAY 5 simple 46115576>
 (setq a2 (make-array 4 :displaced-to a1
                        :displaced-index-offset 1))
→ #<ARRAY 4 indirect 46117134>
 (array-displacement a2)
→ #<ARRAY 5 simple 46115576>, 1
 (setq a3 (make-array 2 :displaced-to a2
                        :displaced-index-offset 2))
→ #<ARRAY 2 indirect 46122527>
 (array-displacement a3)
→ #<ARRAY 4 indirect 46117134>, 2
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *array* is not an *array*.

See Also:

make-array

array-in-bounds-p *Function*

Syntax:

array-in-bounds-p *array* `&rest` *subscripts* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

subscripts—a list of *integers* of length equal to the *rank* of the *array*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if the *subscripts* are all in bounds for *array*; otherwise returns *false*. (If *array* is a *vector* with a *fill pointer*, that *fill pointer* is ignored.)

Examples:

```
 (setq a (make-array '(7 11) :element-type 'string-char))
```


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```
 (array-in-bounds-p a 0  0) → true
 (array-in-bounds-p a 6 10) → true
 (array-in-bounds-p a 0 -1) → false
 (array-in-bounds-p a 0 11) → false
 (array-in-bounds-p a 7  0) → false
```

See Also:

array-dimensions

Notes:

```
 (array-in-bounds-p array subscripts)
 ≡ (and (not (some #'minusp (list subscripts)))
        (every #'< (list subscripts) (array-dimensions array)))
```

array-rank *Function*

Syntax:

array-rank *array* → *rank*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

rank—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns the number of *dimensions* of *array*.

Examples:

```
 (array-rank (make-array '())) → 0
 (array-rank (make-array 4)) → 1
 (array-rank (make-array '(4))) → 1
 (array-rank (make-array '(2 3))) → 2
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its argument is not an *array*.

See Also:

array-rank-limit, **make-array**

array-row-major-index *Function*

Syntax:

array-row-major-index *array* &rest *subscripts* → *index*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

subscripts—a *list* of *valid array indices* for the *array*.

index—a *valid array row-major index* for the *array*.

Description:

Computes the position according to the row-major ordering of *array* for the element that is specified by *subscripts*, and returns the offset of the element in the computed position from the beginning of *array*.

For a one-dimensional *array*, the result of **array-row-major-index** equals *subscript*.

array-row-major-index ignores *fill pointers*.

Examples:

```
(setq a (make-array '(4 7) :element-type '(unsigned-byte 8)))
(array-row-major-index a 1 2) → 9
(array-row-major-index
   (make-array '(2 3 4)
               :element-type '(unsigned-byte 8)
               :displaced-to a
               :displaced-index-offset 4)
   0 2 1) → 9
```

Notes:

A possible definition of **array-row-major-index**, with no error-checking, is

```
(defun array-row-major-index (a &rest subscripts)
  (apply #'+ (maplist #'(lambda (x y)
                          (* (car x) (apply #'* (cdr y))))
                      subscripts
                      (array-dimensions a))))
```


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array-total-size *Function*

Syntax:

array-total-size *array* → *size*

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

size—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns the *array total size* of the *array*.

Examples:

```
(array-total-size (make-array 4)) → 4
(array-total-size (make-array 4 :fill-pointer 2)) → 4
(array-total-size (make-array 0)) → 0
(array-total-size (make-array '(4 2))) → 8
(array-total-size (make-array '(4 0))) → 0
(array-total-size (make-array '())) → 1
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its argument is not an *array*.

See Also:

make-array, **array-dimensions**

Notes:

If the *array* is a *vector* with a *fill pointer*, the *fill pointer* is ignored when calculating the *array total size*.

Since the product of no arguments is one, the *array total size* of a zero-dimensional *array* is one.

```
(array-total-size x)
   ≡ (apply #'* (array-dimensions x))
   ≡ (reduce #'* (array-dimensions x))
```

arrayp *Function*

Syntax:

arrayp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **array**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(arrayp (make-array '(2 3 4) :adjustable t)) → true
(arrayp (make-array 6)) → true
(arrayp #*1011) → true
(arrayp "hi") → true
(arrayp 'hi) → false
(arrayp 12) → false
```

See Also:

typep

Notes:

```
(arrayp object) ≡ (typep object 'array)
```

fill-pointer *Accessor*

Syntax:

fill-pointer *vector* → *fill-pointer*

(setf (fill-pointer *vector*) *new-fill-pointer*)

Arguments and Values:

vector—a *vector* with a *fill pointer*.

fill-pointer, *new-fill-pointer*—a *valid fill pointer* for the *vector*.

Description:

Accesses the *fill pointer* of *vector*.

Examples:

```
(setq a (make-array 8 :fill-pointer 4)) → #(NIL NIL NIL NIL)
(fill-pointer a) → 4
(dotimes (i (length a)) (setf (aref a i) (* i i))) → NIL
a → #(0 1 4 9)
(setf (fill-pointer a) 3) → 3
(fill-pointer a) → 3
a → #(0 1 4)
(setf (fill-pointer a) 8) → 8
a → #(0 1 4 9 NIL NIL NIL NIL)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *vector* is not a *vector* with a *fill pointer*.

See Also:

make-array, **length**

Notes:

There is no *operator* that will remove a *vector*'s *fill pointer*.

row-major-aref *Accessor*

Syntax:

row-major-aref *array index* → *element*

(setf (row-major-aref *array index*) *new-element*)

Arguments and Values:

array—an *array*.

index—a *valid array row-major index* for the *array*.

element, *new-element*—an *object*.

Description:

Considers *array* as a *vector* by viewing its *elements* in row-major order, and returns the *element* of that *vector* which is referred to by the given *index*.

row-major-aref is valid for use with **setf**.

See Also:

aref, **array-row-major-index**

Notes:

```
(row-major-aref array index) ≡
  (aref (make-array (array-total-size array)
                    :displaced-to array
                    :element-type (array-element-type array))
        index)

(aref array i1 i2 ...) ≡
    (row-major-aref array (array-row-major-index array i1 i2))
```

upgraded-array-element-type *Function*

Syntax:

upgraded-array-element-type *typespec* &optional *environment* → *upgraded-typespec*

Arguments and Values:

typespec—a *type specifier*.

environment—an *environment object*. The default is **nil**, denoting the *null lexical environment* and the current *global environment*.

upgraded-typespec—a *type specifier*.

Description:

Returns the *element type* of the most *specialized array* representation capable of holding items of the *type* denoted by *typespec*.

The *typespec* is a *subtype* of (and possibly *type equivalent* to) the *upgraded-typespec*.

If *typespec* is **bit**, the result is *type equivalent* to bit. If *typespec* is **base-char**, the result is *type equivalent* to base-char. If *typespec* is **character**, the result is *type equivalent* to character.

The purpose of **upgraded-array-element-type** is to reveal how an implementation does its *upgrading*.

The *environment* is used to expand any *derived type specifiers* that are mentioned in the *typespec*.

See Also:

array-element-type, **make-array**

Notes:

Except for storage allocation consequences and dealing correctly with the optional *environment argument*, **upgraded-array-element-type** could be defined as:

```
(defun upgraded-array-element-type (type &optional environment)
  (array-element-type (make-array 0 :element-type type)))
```

array-dimension-limit *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

A positive *fixnum*, the exact magnitude of which is *implementation-dependent*, but which is not less than 1024.

Description:

The upper exclusive bound on each individual *dimension* of an *array*.

See Also:

make-array

array-rank-limit *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

A positive *fixnum*, the exact magnitude of which is *implementation-dependent*, but which is not less than 8.

Description:

The upper exclusive bound on the *rank* of an *array*.

See Also:

make-array

array-total-size-limit *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

A positive *fixnum*, the exact magnitude of which is *implementation-dependent*, but which is not less than `1024`.

Description:

The upper exclusive bound on the *array total size* of an *array*.

The actual limit on the *array total size* imposed by the *implementation* might vary according the *element type* of the *array*; in this case, the value of **array-total-size-limit** will be the smallest of these possible limits.

See Also:

make-array, **array-element-type**

simple-vector-p *Function*

Syntax:

simple-vector-p *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **simple-vector**; otherwise, returns *false*..

Examples:

```
(simple-vector-p (make-array 6)) → true
(simple-vector-p "aaaaaa") → false
(simple-vector-p (make-array 6 :fill-pointer t)) → false
```

See Also:

simple-vector

Notes:

```
(simple-vector-p object) ≡ (typep object 'simple-vector)
```


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svref *Accessor*

Syntax:

svref *simple-vector index* → *element*

(**setf** (**svref** *simple-vector index*) *new-element*)

Arguments and Values:

simple-vector—a *simple vector*.

index—a *valid array index* for the *simple-vector*.

element, *new-element*—an *object* (whose *type* is a *subtype* of the *array element type* of the *simple-vector*).

Description:

Accesses the *element* of *simple-vector* specified by *index*.

Examples:

```
(simple-vector-p (setq v (vector 1 2 'sirens))) → true
(svref v 0) → 1
(svref v 2) → SIRENS
(setf (svref v 1) 'newcomer) → NEWCOMER
v → #(1 NEWCOMER SIRENS)
```

See Also:

aref, **sbit**, **schar**, **vector**, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology)

Notes:

svref is identical to **aref** except that it requires its first argument to be a *simple vector*.

```
(svref v i) ≡ (aref (the simple-vector v) i)
```

vector *Function*

Syntax:

vector &rest *objects* → *vector*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

vector—a *vector* of *type* (vector t *).

Description:

Creates a *fresh simple general vector* whose size corresponds to the number of *objects*.

The *vector* is initialized to contain the *objects*.

Examples:

```
(arrayp (setq v (vector 1 2 'sirens))) → true
(vectorp v) → true
(simple-vector-p v) → true
(length v) → 3
```

See Also:

make-array

Notes:

vector is analogous to **list**.

```
(vector a1 a2 ... an)
 ≡ (make-array (list n) :element-type t
                        :initial-contents
                          (list a1 a2 ... an))
```

vector-pop *Function*

Syntax:

vector-pop *vector* → *element*

Arguments and Values:

vector—a *vector* with a *fill pointer*.

element—an *object*.

Description:

Decreases the *fill pointer* of *vector* by one, and retrieves the *element* of *vector* that is designated by the new *fill pointer*.

Examples:

```
(vector-push (setq fable (list 'fable))
             (setq fa (make-array 8
                                  :fill-pointer 2
                                  :initial-element 'sisyphus))) → 2
(fill-pointer fa) → 3
(eq (vector-pop fa) fable) → true
(vector-pop fa) → SISYPHUS
(fill-pointer fa) → 1
```

Side Effects:

The *fill pointer* is decreased by one.

Affected By:

The value of the *fill pointer*.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **type-error** is signaled if *vector* does not have a *fill pointer*.

If the *fill pointer* is zero, **vector-pop** signals an error of *type* **error**.

See Also:

vector-push, **vector-push-extend**, **fill-pointer**

vector-push, vector-push-extend *Function*

Syntax:

vector-push *new-element vector* → *new-index-p*

vector-push-extend *new-element vector* &optional *extension* → *new-index*

Arguments and Values:

new-element—an *object*.

vector—a *vector* with a *fill pointer*.

extension—a positive *integer*. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

new-index-p—a *valid array index* for *vector*, or **nil**.

vector-push, vector-push-extend

new-index—a *valid array index* for *vector*.

Description:

vector-push and **vector-push-extend** store *new-element* in *vector*. **vector-push** attempts to store *new-element* in the element of *vector* designated by the *fill pointer*, and to increase the *fill pointer* by one. If the `(>= (fill-pointer vector) (array-dimension vector 0))`, neither *vector* nor its *fill pointer* are affected. Otherwise, the store and increment take place and **vector-push** returns the former value of the *fill pointer* which is one less than the one it leaves in *vector*.

vector-push-extend is just like **vector-push** except that if the *fill pointer* gets too large, *vector* is extended using **adjust-array** so that it can contain more elements. *Extension* is the minimum number of elements to be added to *vector* if it must be extended.

vector-push and **vector-push-extend** return the index of *new-element* in *vector*. If `(>= (fill-pointer vector) (array-dimension vector 0))`, **vector-push** returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
(vector-push (setq fable (list 'fable))
             (setq fa (make-array 8
                                  :fill-pointer 2
                                  :initial-element 'first-one))) → 2
(fill-pointer fa) → 3
(eq (aref fa 2) fable) → true
(vector-push-extend #\X
                   (setq aa
                         (make-array 5
                                     :element-type 'character
                                     :adjustable t
                                     :fill-pointer 3))) → 3
(fill-pointer aa) → 4
(vector-push-extend #\Y aa 4) → 4
(array-total-size aa) → at least 5
(vector-push-extend #\Z aa 4) → 5
(array-total-size aa) → 9 ;(or more)
```

Affected By:

The value of the *fill pointer*.

How *vector* was created.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **error** is signaled by **vector-push-extend** if it tries to extend *vector* and *vector* is not *actually adjustable*.

An error of *type* **error** is signaled if *vector* does not have a *fill pointer*.

See Also:

adjustable-array-p, **fill-pointer**, **vector-pop**

vectorp *Function*

Syntax:

vectorp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **vector**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(vectorp "aaaaaa") → true
(vectorp (make-array 6 :fill-pointer t)) → true
(vectorp (make-array '(2 3 4))) → false
(vectorp #*11) → true
(vectorp #b11) → false
```

Notes:

```
(vectorp object) ≡ (typep object 'vector)
```

bit, sbit *Accessor*

Syntax:

bit *bit-array* &rest *subscripts* → *bit*
sbit *bit-array* &rest *subscripts* → *bit*

(setf (**bit** *bit-array* &rest *subscripts*) *new-bit*)
(setf (**sbit** *bit-array* &rest *subscripts*) *new-bit*)

Arguments and Values:

bit-array—for **bit**, a *bit array*; for **sbit**, a *simple bit array*.

subscripts—a *list* of *valid array indices* for the *bit-array*.

bit—a *bit*.

Description:

bit and **sbit** *access* the *bit-array element* specified by *subscripts*.

These *functions* ignore the *fill pointer* when *accessing elements*.

Examples:

```
(bit (setq ba (make-array 8
                          :element-type 'bit
                          :initial-element 1))
     3) → 1
(setf (bit ba 3) 0) → 0
(bit ba 3) → 0
(sbit ba 5) → 1
(setf (sbit ba 5) 1) → 1
(sbit ba 5) → 1
```

See Also:

aref, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology)

Notes:

bit and **sbit** are like **aref** except that they require *arrays* to be a *bit array* and a *simple bit array*, respectively.

bit and **sbit**, unlike **char** and **schar**, allow the first argument to be an *array* of any *rank*.

bit-and, bit-andc1, bit-andc2, bit-eqv, bit-ior, bit-nand, bit-nor, bit-not, bit-orc1, bit-orc2, bit-xor

Function

Syntax:

bit-and *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-andc1 *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-andc2 *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-eqv *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-ior *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-nand *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-nor *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-orc1 *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*

bit-orc2 *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*
bit-xor *bit-array1 bit-array2* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*

bit-not *bit-array* &optional *opt-arg* → *resulting-bit-array*

Arguments and Values:

bit-array, *bit-array1*, *bit-array2*—a *bit array*.

Opt-arg—a *bit array*, or **t**, or **nil**. The default is **nil**.

Bit-array, *bit-array1*, *bit-array2*, and *opt-arg* (if an *array*) must all be of the same *rank* and *dimensions*.

resulting-bit-array—a *bit array*.

Description:

These functions perform bit-wise logical operations on *bit-array1* and *bit-array2* and return an *array* of matching *rank* and *dimensions*, such that any given bit of the result is produced by operating on corresponding bits from each of the arguments.

In the case of **bit-not**, an *array* of *rank* and *dimensions* matching *bit-array* is returned that contains a copy of *bit-array* with all the bits inverted.

If *opt-arg* is of type (array bit) the contents of the result are destructively placed into *opt-arg*. If *opt-arg* is the symbol **t**, *bit-array* or *bit-array1* is replaced with the result; if *opt-arg* is **nil** or omitted, a new *array* is created to contain the result.

Figure 15–4 indicates the logical operation performed by each of the *functions*.

Function	Operation
bit-and	and
bit-eqv	equivalence (exclusive nor)
bit-not	complement
bit-ior	inclusive or
bit-xor	exclusive or
bit-nand	complement of *bit-array1* and *bit-array2*
bit-nor	complement of *bit-array1* or *bit-array2*
bit-andc1	and complement of *bit-array1* with *bit-array2*
bit-andc2	and *bit-array1* with complement of *bit-array2*
bit-orc1	or complement of *bit-array1* with *bit-array2*
bit-orc2	or *bit-array1* with complement of *bit-array2*

Figure 15–4. Bit-wise Logical Operations on Bit Arrays

Examples:

```
(bit-and (setq ba #*11101010) #*01101011) → #*01101010
(bit-and #*1100 #*1010) → #*1000
(bit-andc1 #*1100 #*1010) → #*0010
(setq rba (bit-andc2 ba #*00110011 t)) → #*11001000
(eq rba ba) → true
(bit-not (setq ba #*11101010)) → #*00010101
(setq rba (bit-not ba
                   (setq tba (make-array 8
                                         :element-type 'bit))))
→ #*00010101
(equal rba tba) → true
(bit-xor #*1100 #*1010) → #*0110
```

See Also:

lognot, **logand**

bit-vector-p *Function*

Syntax:

bit-vector-p *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **bit-vector**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(bit-vector-p (make-array 6
                          :element-type 'bit
                          :fill-pointer t)) → true
(bit-vector-p #*) → true
(bit-vector-p (make-array 6)) → false
```

See Also:

typep

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Notes:

```
(bit-vector-p object) ≡ (typep object 'bit-vector)
```

simple-bit-vector-p *Function*

Syntax:

simple-bit-vector-p *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **simple-bit-vector**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(simple-bit-vector-p (make-array 6)) → false
(simple-bit-vector-p #*) → true
```

See Also:

simple-vector-p

Notes:

```
(simple-bit-vector-p object) ≡ (typep object 'simple-bit-vector)
```

Programming Language—Common Lisp

16. Strings

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16.1 String Concepts

16.1.1 Implications of Strings Being Arrays

Since all *strings* are *arrays*, all rules which apply generally to *arrays* also apply to *strings*. See Section 15.1 (Array Concepts).

For example, *strings* can have *fill pointers*, and *strings* are also subject to the rules of *element type upgrading* that apply to *arrays*.

16.1.2 Subtypes of STRING

All functions that operate on *strings* will operate on *subtypes* of *string* as well.

However, the consequences are undefined if a *character* is inserted into a *string* for which the *element type* of the *string* does not include that *character*.

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string *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

string, **vector**, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

A *string* is a *specialized vector* whose *elements* are of *type* **character** or a *subtype* of *type* **character**. When used as a *type specifier* for object creation, **string** means `(vector character)`.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(string [size])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*, or the *symbol* `*`.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the union of all *types* `(array c (size))` for all *subtypes* *c* of **character**; that is, the set of *strings* of size *size*.

See Also:

Section 16.1 (String Concepts), Section 2.4.5 (Double-Quote), Section 22.1.3.4 (Printing Strings)

base-string *Type*

Supertypes:

base-string, **string**, **vector**, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **base-string** is equivalent to `(vector base-char)`. The *base string* representation is the most efficient *string* representation that can hold an arbitrary sequence of *standard characters*.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(base-string [size])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*, or the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This is equivalent to the type `(vector base-char size)`; that is, the set of *base strings* of size *size*.

simple-string *Type*

Supertypes:

simple-string, **string**, **vector**, **simple-array**, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

A *simple string* is a specialized one-dimensional *simple array* whose *elements* are of *type* **character** or a *subtype* of *type* **character**. When used as a *type specifier* for object creation, **simple-string** means `(simple-array character (size))`.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(simple-string [size])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*, or the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This denotes the union of all *types* `(simple-array c (size))` for all *subtypes* *c* of **character**; that is, the set of *simple strings* of size *size*.

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simple-base-string *Type*

Supertypes:

simple-base-string, **base-string**, **simple-string**, **string**, **vector**, **simple-array**, **array**, **sequence**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **simple-base-string** is equivalent to `(simple-array base-char (*))`.

Compound Type Specifier Kind:

Abbreviating.

Compound Type Specifier Syntax:

`(simple-base-string [size])`

Compound Type Specifier Arguments:

size—a non-negative *fixnum*, or the *symbol* *.

Compound Type Specifier Description:

This is equivalent to the type `(simple-array base-char (size))`; that is, the set of *simple base strings* of size *size*.

simple-string-p *Function*

Syntax:

simple-string-p *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **simple-string**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(simple-string-p "aaaaaa") → true
(simple-string-p (make-array 6
                             :element-type 'character
                             :fill-pointer t)) → false
```

Notes:

```
(simple-string-p object) ≡ (typep object 'simple-string)
```

char, schar *Accessor*

Syntax:

char *string index* → *character*
schar *string index* → *character*

(setf (**char** *string index*) *new-character*)
(setf (**schar** *string index*) *new-character*)

Arguments and Values:

string—for **char**, a *string*; for **schar**, a *simple string*.

index—a *valid array index* for the *string*.

character, *new-character*—a *character*.

Description:

char and **schar** *access* the *element* of *string* specified by *index*.

char ignores *fill pointers* when *accessing elements*.

Examples:

```
(setq my-simple-string (make-string 6 :initial-element #\A)) → "AAAAAA"
(schar my-simple-string 4) → #\A
(setf (schar my-simple-string 4) #\B) → #\B
my-simple-string → "AAAABA"
(setq my-filled-string
      (make-array 6 :element-type 'character
                    :fill-pointer 5
                    :initial-contents my-simple-string))
→ "AAAAB"
(char my-filled-string 4) → #\B
(char my-filled-string 5) → #\A
(setf (char my-filled-string 3) #\C) → #\C
(setf (char my-filled-string 5) #\D) → #\D
(setf (fill-pointer my-filled-string) 6) → 6
my-filled-string → "AAACBD"
```


See Also:

aref, **elt**, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology)

Notes:

```
(char s j) ≡ (aref (the string s) j)
```

string *Function*

Syntax:

string *x* → *string*

Arguments and Values:

x—a *string*, a *symbol*, or a *character*.

string—a *string*.

Description:

Returns a *string* described by *x*; specifically:

- If *x* is a *string*, it is returned.
- If *x* is a *symbol*, its *name* is returned.
- If *x* is a *character*, then a *string* containing that one *character* is returned.
- **string** might perform additional, *implementation-defined* conversions.

Examples:

```
(string "already a string") → "already a string"
(string 'elm) → "ELM"
(string #\c) → "c"
```

Exceptional Situations:

In the case where a conversion is defined neither by this specification nor by the *implementation*, an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

See Also:

coerce, **string** (*type*).

Notes:

coerce can be used to convert a *sequence* of *characters* to a *string*.

prin1-to-string, **princ-to-string**, **write-to-string**, or **format** (with a first argument of **nil**) can be used to get a *string* representation of a *number* or any other *object*.

string-upcase, string-downcase, string-capitalize, nstring-upcase, nstring-downcase, nstring-capitalize *Function*

Syntax:

string-upcase *string* &key *start end* → *cased-string*
string-downcase *string* &key *start end* → *cased-string*
string-capitalize *string* &key *start end* → *cased-string*

nstring-upcase *string* &key *start end* → *string*
nstring-downcase *string* &key *start end* → *string*
nstring-capitalize *string* &key *start end* → *string*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string designator*. For **nstring-upcase**, **nstring-downcase**, and **nstring-capitalize**, the *string designator* must be a *string*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *string*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

cased-string—a *string*.

Description:

string-upcase, **string-downcase**, **string-capitalize**, **nstring-upcase**, **nstring-downcase**, **nstring-capitalize** change the case of the subsequence of *string bounded* by *start* and *end* as follows:

string-upcase

string-upcase returns a *string* just like *string* with all lowercase characters replaced by the corresponding uppercase characters. More precisely, each character of the result *string* is produced by applying the *function* **char-upcase** to the corresponding character of *string*.

string-downcase

string-downcase is like **string-upcase** except that all uppercase characters are replaced by the corresponding lowercase characters (using **char-downcase**).

string-capitalize

string-capitalize produces a copy of *string* such that, for every word in the copy, the first *character* of the "word," if it has *case*, is *uppercase* and any other *characters* with *case* in the word are *lowercase*. For the purposes of **string-capitalize**, a "word" is defined to be a consecutive subsequence consisting of *alphanumeric characters*, delimited at each end either by a non-*alphanumeric character* or by an end of the *string*.

nstring-upcase, nstring-downcase, nstring-capitalize

nstring-upcase, **nstring-downcase**, and **nstring-capitalize** are identical to **string-upcase**, **string-downcase**, and **string-capitalize** respectively except that they modify *string*.

For **string-upcase**, **string-downcase**, and **string-capitalize**, *string* is not modified. However, if no characters in *string* require conversion, the result may be either *string* or a copy of it, at the implementation's discretion.

Examples:

```
 (string-upcase "abcde") → "ABCDE"
 (string-upcase "Dr. Livingston, I presume?")
→ "DR. LIVINGSTON, I PRESUME?"
 (string-upcase "Dr. Livingston, I presume?" :start 6 :end 10)
→ "Dr. LiVINGston, I presume?"
 (string-downcase "Dr. Livingston, I presume?")
→ "dr. livingston, i presume?"

 (string-capitalize "elm 13c arthur;fig don't") → "Elm 13c Arthur;Fig Don'T"
 (string-capitalize " hello ") → " Hello "
 (string-capitalize "occlUDeD cASEmenTs FOreSTAll iNADVertent DEFenestraTION")
→  "Occluded Casements Forestall Inadvertent Defenestration"
 (string-capitalize 'kludgy-hash-search) → "Kludgy-Hash-Search"
 (string-capitalize "DON'T!") → "Don'T!"    ;not "Don't!"
 (string-capitalize "pipe 13a, foo16c") → "Pipe 13a, Foo16c"

 (setq str (copy-seq "0123ABCD890a")) → "0123ABCD890a"
 (nstring-downcase str :start 5 :end 7) → "0123AbcD890a"
 str → "0123AbcD890a"
```

Side Effects:

nstring-upcase, **nstring-downcase**, and **nstring-capitalize** modify *string* as appropriate rather than constructing a new *string*.

See Also:

char-upcase, **char-downcase**

Notes:

The result is always of the same length as *string*.

string-trim, string-left-trim, string-right-trim *Function*

Syntax:

string-trim *character-bag string* → *trimmed-string*
string-left-trim *character-bag string* → *trimmed-string*
string-right-trim *character-bag string* → *trimmed-string*

Arguments and Values:

character-bag—a *sequence* containing *characters*.

string—a *string designator*.

trimmed-string—a *string*.

Description:

string-trim returns a substring of *string*, with all characters in *character-bag* stripped off the beginning and end. **string-left-trim** is similar but strips characters off only the beginning; **string-right-trim** strips off only the end.

If no *characters* need to be trimmed from the *string*, then either *string* itself or a copy of it may be returned, at the discretion of the implementation.

All of these *functions* observe the *fill pointer*.

Examples:

```
 (string-trim "abc" "abcaakaaakabcaaa") → "kaaak"
 (string-trim '(#\Space #\Tab #\Newline) " garbanzo beans
       ") → "garbanzo beans"
 (string-trim " (*)" " ( *three (silly) words* ) ")
→ "three (silly) words"

 (string-left-trim "abc" "labcabcabc") → "labcabcabc"
 (string-left-trim " (*)" " ( *three (silly) words* ) ")
→ "three (silly) words* ) "

 (string-right-trim " (*)" " ( *three (silly) words* ) ")
→ " ( *three (silly) words"
```


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Affected By:

The *implementation*.

string=, string/=, string<, string>, string<=, string>=, string-equal, string-not-equal, string-lessp, string-greaterp, string-not-greaterp, string-not-lessp *Function*

Syntax:

string= *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *generalized-boolean*

string/= *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string< *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string> *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string<= *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string>= *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*

string-equal *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *generalized-boolean*

string-not-equal *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string-lessp *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string-greaterp *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string-not-greaterp *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*
string-not-lessp *string1 string2* &key *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *mismatch-index*

Arguments and Values:

string1—a *string designator*.

string2—a *string designator*.

start1, *end1*—*bounding index designators* of *string1*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

start2, *end2*—*bounding index designators* of *string2*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

mismatch-index—a *bounding index* of *string1*, or **nil**.

Description:

These functions perform lexicographic comparisons on *string1* and *string2*. **string=** and **string-equal** are called equality functions; the others are called inequality functions. The comparison operations these *functions* perform are restricted to the subsequence of ***string1*** *bounded* by *start1* and ***end1*** and to the subsequence of ***string2*** *bounded* by *start2* and ***end2***.

A string *a* is equal to a string *b* if it contains the same number of characters, and the corresponding characters are the *same* under **char=** or **char-equal**, as appropriate.

A string *a* is less than a string *b* if in the first position in which they differ the character of *a* is less than the corresponding character of *b* according to **char<** or **char-lessp** as appropriate, or if string *a* is a proper prefix of string *b* (of shorter length and matching in all the characters of *a*).

The equality functions return a *generalized boolean* that is *true* if the strings are equal, or *false* otherwise.

The inequality functions return a *mismatch-index* that is *true* if the strings are not equal, or *false* otherwise. When the *mismatch-index* is *true*, it is an *integer* representing the first character position at which the two substrings differ, as an offset from the beginning of *string1*.

The comparison has one of the following results:

string=

string= is *true* if the supplied substrings are of the same length and contain the *same* characters in corresponding positions; otherwise it is *false*.

string/=

string/= is *true* if the supplied substrings are different; otherwise it is *false*.

string-equal

string-equal is just like **string=** except that differences in case are ignored; two characters are considered to be the same if **char-equal** is *true* of them.

string<

string< is *true* if substring1 is less than substring2; otherwise it is *false*.

string>

string> is *true* if substring1 is greater than substring2; otherwise it is *false*.

string-lessp, **string-greaterp**

string-lessp and **string-greaterp** are exactly like **string<** and **string>**, respectively, except that distinctions between uppercase and lowercase letters are ignored. It is as if **char-lessp** were used instead of **char<** for comparing characters.

string<=

string<= is *true* if substring1 is less than or equal to substring2; otherwise it is *false*.

string>=

string>= is *true* if substring1 is greater than or equal to substring2; otherwise it is *false*.

string-not-greaterp, **string-not-lessp**

string-not-greaterp and **string-not-lessp** are exactly like **string<=** and **string>=**, respectively, except that distinctions between uppercase and lowercase letters are ignored. It is as if **char-lessp** were used instead of **char<** for comparing characters.

Examples:

```
(string= "foo" "foo") → true
(string= "foo" "Foo") → false
(string= "foo" "bar") → false
(string= "together" "frog" :start1 1 :end1 3 :start2 2) → true
(string-equal "foo" "Foo") → true
(string= "abcd" "01234abcd9012" :start2 5 :end2 9) → true
(string< "aaaa" "aaab") → 3
(string>= "aaaaa" "aaaa") → 4
(string-not-greaterp "Abcde" "abcdE") → 5
(string-lessp "012AAAA789" "01aaab6" :start1 3 :end1 7
                                    :start2 2 :end2 6) → 6
(string-not-equal "AAAA" "aaaA") → false
```

See Also:

char=

Notes:

equal calls **string=** if applied to two *strings*.

stringp *Function*

Syntax:

stringp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **string**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(stringp "aaaaaa") → true
(stringp #\a) → false
```

See Also:

typep, **string** (*type*)

Notes:

```
(stringp object) ≡ (typep object 'string)
```

make-string *Function*

Syntax:

make-string *size* &key *initial-element element-type* → *string*

Arguments and Values:

size—a *valid array dimension*.

initial-element—a *character*. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

element-type—a *type specifier*. The default is **character**.

string—a *simple string*.

Description:

make-string returns a *simple string* of length *size* whose elements have been initialized to *initial-element*.

The *element-type* names the *type* of the *elements* of the *string*; a *string* is constructed of the most *specialized type* that can accommodate *elements* of the given *type*.

Examples:

```
(make-string 10 :initial-element #\5) → "5555555555"
(length (make-string 10)) → 10
```

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

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17. Sequences

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17.1 Sequence Concepts

A ***sequence*** is an ordered collection of *elements*, implemented as either a *vector* or a *list*.

Sequences can be created by the *function* **make-sequence**, as well as other *functions* that create *objects* of *types* that are *subtypes* of **sequence** (*e.g.*, **list**, **make-list**, **mapcar**, and **vector**).

A ***sequence function*** is a *function* defined by this specification or added as an extension by the *implementation* that operates on one or more *sequences*. Whenever a *sequence function* must construct and return a new *vector*, it always returns a *simple vector*. Similarly, any *strings* constructed will be *simple strings*.

concatenate	**length**	**remove**
copy-seq	**map**	**remove-duplicates**
count	**map-into**	**remove-if**
count-if	**merge**	**remove-if-not**
count-if-not	**mismatch**	**replace**
delete	**notany**	**reverse**
delete-duplicates	**notevery**	**search**
delete-if	**nreverse**	**some**
delete-if-not	**nsubstitute**	**sort**
elt	**nsubstitute-if**	**stable-sort**
every	**nsubstitute-if-not**	**subseq**
fill	**position**	**substitute**
find	**position-if**	**substitute-if**
find-if	**position-if-not**	**substitute-if-not**
find-if-not	**reduce**	

Figure 17–1. Standardized Sequence Functions

17.1.1 General Restrictions on Parameters that must be Sequences

In general, *lists* (including *association lists* and *property lists*) that are treated as *sequences* must be *proper lists*.

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17.2 Rules about Test Functions

17.2.1 Satisfying a Two-Argument Test

When an *object* O is being considered iteratively against each *element* E_i of a *sequence* S by an *operator* F listed in Figure 17–2, it is sometimes useful to control the way in which the presence of O is tested in S is tested by F. This control is offered on the basis of a *function* designated with either a `:test` or `:test-not` *argument*.

adjoin	**nset-exclusive-or**	**search**
assoc	**nsublis**	**set-difference**
count	**nsubst**	**set-exclusive-or**
delete	**nsubstitute**	**sublis**
find	**nunion**	**subsetp**
intersection	**position**	**subst**
member	**pushnew**	**substitute**
mismatch	**rassoc**	**tree-equal**
nintersection	**remove**	**union**
nset-difference	**remove-duplicates**	

Figure 17–2. Operators that have Two-Argument Tests to be Satisfied

The object O might not be compared directly to E_i. If a `:key` *argument* is provided, it is a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* to be called with each E_i as an *argument*, and *yielding* an *object* Z_i to be used for comparison. (If there is no `:key` *argument*, Z_i is E_i.)

The *function* designated by the `:key` *argument* is never called on O itself. However, if the function operates on multiple sequences (*e.g.*, as happens in **set-difference**), O will be the result of calling the `:key` function on an *element* of the other sequence.

A `:test` *argument*, if supplied to F, is a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments*, O and Z_i. An E_i is said (or, sometimes, an O and an E_i are said) to ***satisfy the test*** if this `:test` *function* returns a *generalized boolean* representing *true*.

A `:test-not` *argument*, if supplied to F, is *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments*, O and Z_i. An E_i is said (or, sometimes, an O and an E_i are said) to ***satisfy the test*** if this `:test-not` *function* returns a *generalized boolean* representing *false*.

If neither a `:test` nor a `:test-not` *argument* is supplied, it is as if a `:test` argument of `#'eql` was supplied.

The consequences are unspecified if both a `:test` and a `:test-not` *argument* are supplied in the same *call* to F.

17.2.1.1 Examples of Satisfying a Two-Argument Test

```
 (remove "FOO" '(foo bar "FOO" "BAR" "foo" "bar") :test #'equal)
→ (foo bar "BAR" "foo" "bar")
 (remove "FOO" '(foo bar "FOO" "BAR" "foo" "bar") :test #'equalp)
→ (foo bar "BAR" "bar")
 (remove "FOO" '(foo bar "FOO" "BAR" "foo" "bar") :test #'string-equal)
→ (bar "BAR" "bar")
 (remove "FOO" '(foo bar "FOO" "BAR" "foo" "bar") :test #'string=)
→ (BAR "BAR" "foo" "bar")

 (remove 1 '(1 1.0 #C(1.0 0.0) 2 2.0 #C(2.0 0.0)) :test-not #'eql)
→ (1)
 (remove 1 '(1 1.0 #C(1.0 0.0) 2 2.0 #C(2.0 0.0)) :test-not #'=)
→ (1 1.0 #C(1.0 0.0))
 (remove 1 '(1 1.0 #C(1.0 0.0) 2 2.0 #C(2.0 0.0)) :test (complement #'=))
→ (1 1.0 #C(1.0 0.0))

 (count 1 '((one 1) (uno 1) (two 2) (dos 2)) :key #'cadr) → 2

 (count 2.0 '(1 2 3) :test #'eql :key #'float) → 1

 (count "FOO" (list (make-pathname :name "FOO" :type "X")
                    (make-pathname :name "FOO" :type "Y"))
        :key #'pathname-name
        :test #'equal)
→ 2
```

17.2.2 Satisfying a One-Argument Test

When using one of the *functions* in Figure 17–3, the elements E of a *sequence* S are filtered not on the basis of the presence or absence of an object O under a two *argument predicate*, as with the *functions* described in Section 17.2.1 (Satisfying a Two-Argument Test), but rather on the basis of a one *argument predicate*.

assoc-if	**member-if**	**rassoc-if**
assoc-if-not	**member-if-not**	**rassoc-if-not**
count-if	**nsubst-if**	**remove-if**
count-if-not	**nsubst-if-not**	**remove-if-not**
delete-if	**nsubstitute-if**	**subst-if**
delete-if-not	**nsubstitute-if-not**	**subst-if-not**
find-if	**position-if**	**substitute-if**
find-if-not	**position-if-not**	**substitute-if-not**

Figure 17–3. Operators that have One-Argument Tests to be Satisfied

The element E_i might not be considered directly. If a `:key` *argument* is provided, it is a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* to be called with each E_i as an *argument*, and *yielding* an *object* Z_i to be used for comparison. (If there is no `:key` *argument*, Z_i is E_i.)

Functions defined in this specification and having a name that ends in "`-if`" accept a first *argument* that is a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument*, Z_i. An E_i is said to ***satisfy the test*** if this `:test` *function* returns a *generalized boolean* representing *true*.

Functions defined in this specification and having a name that ends in "`-if-not`" accept a first *argument* that is a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument*, Z_i. An E_i is said to ***satisfy the test*** if this `:test` *function* returns a *generalized boolean* representing *false*.

17.2.2.1 Examples of Satisfying a One-Argument Test

```
 (count-if #'zerop '(1 #C(0.0 0.0) 0 0.0d0 0.0s0 3)) → 4

 (remove-if-not #'symbolp '(0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F))
→ (A B C D E F)
 (remove-if (complement #'symbolp) '(0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F))
→ (A B C D E F)

 (count-if #'zerop '("foo" "" "bar" "" "" "baz" "quux") :key #'length)
→ 3
```

sequence *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

sequence, **t**

Description:

Sequences are ordered collections of *objects*, called the *elements* of the *sequence*.

The *types* **vector** and the *type* **list** are *disjoint subtypes* of *type* **sequence**, but are not necessarily an *exhaustive partition* of *sequence*.

When viewing a *vector* as a *sequence*, only the *active elements* of that *vector* are considered *elements* of the *sequence*; that is, *sequence* operations respect the *fill pointer* when given *sequences* represented as *vectors*.

copy-seq *Function*

Syntax:

copy-seq *sequence* → *copied-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

copied-sequence—a *proper sequence*.

Description:

Creates a copy of *sequence*. The *elements* of the new *sequence* are the *same* as the corresponding *elements* of the given *sequence*.

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *fresh simple array* of *rank* one that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *fresh list*.

Examples:

```
(setq str "a string") → "a string"
(equalp str (copy-seq str)) → true
(eql str (copy-seq str)) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

copy-list

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Notes:

From a functional standpoint, `(copy-seq x)` ≡ `(subseq x 0)`

However, the programmer intent is typically very different in these two cases.

elt *Accessor*

Syntax:

elt *sequence index* → *object*

(setf (elt *sequence index*) *new-object*)

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

index—a *valid sequence index* for *sequence*.

object—an *object*.

new-object—an *object*.

Description:

Accesses the *element* of *sequence* specified by *index*.

Examples:

```
(setq str (copy-seq "0123456789")) → "0123456789"
(elt str 6) → #\6
(setf (elt str 0) #\#) → #\#
str → "#123456789"
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *index* is not a *valid sequence index* for *sequence*.

See Also:

aref, **nth**, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology)

Notes:

aref may be used to *access vector* elements that are beyond the *vector*'s *fill pointer*.

fill *Function*

Syntax:

fill *sequence item* &key *start end* → *sequence*

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

item—a *sequence*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

Description:

Replaces the *elements* of *sequence* *bounded* by *start* and *end* with *item*.

Examples:

```
(fill (list 0 1 2 3 4 5) '(444)) → ((444) (444) (444) (444) (444) (444))
(fill (copy-seq "01234") #\e :start 3) → "012ee"
(setq x (vector 'a 'b 'c 'd 'e)) → #(A B C D E)
(fill x 'z :start 1 :end 3) → #(A Z Z D E)
x → #(A Z Z D E)
(fill x 'p) → #(P P P P P)
x → #(P P P P P)
```

Side Effects:

Sequence is destructively modified.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *start* is not a non-negative *integer*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *end* is not a non-negative *integer* or **nil**.

See Also:

replace, **nsubstitute**

Notes:

(fill *sequence item*) ≡(nsubstitute-if *item* (constantly t) *sequence*)

make-sequence *Function*

Syntax:

make-sequence *result-type size* &key *initial-element* → *sequence*

Arguments and Values:

result-type—a **sequence** *type specifier*.

size—a non-negative *integer*.

initial-element—an *object*. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

Description:

Returns a *sequence* of the type *result-type* and of length *size*, each of the *elements* of which has been initialized to *initial-element*.

If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **list**, the result will be a *list*.

If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **vector**, then if the implementation can determine the element type specified for the *result-type*, the element type of the resulting array is the result of *upgrading* that element type; or, if the implementation can determine that the element type is unspecified (or *), the element type of the resulting array is **t**; otherwise, an error is signaled.

Examples:

```
 (make-sequence 'list 0) → ()
 (make-sequence 'string 26 :initial-element #\.)
→ ".........................."
 (make-sequence '(vector double-float) 2
                :initial-element 1d0)
→ #(1.0d0 1.0d0)


 (make-sequence '(vector * 2) 3) should signal an error
 (make-sequence '(vector * 4) 3) should signal an error
```

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are unspecified if *initial-element* is not an *object* which can be stored in the resulting *sequence*.

An error of *type* **type-error** must be signaled if the *result-type* is neither a *recognizable subtype* of **list**, nor a *recognizable subtype* of **vector**.

An error of *type* **type-error** should be signaled if *result-type* specifies the number of elements and *size* is different from that number.

See Also:

make-array, **make-list**

Notes:

```
(make-sequence 'string 5) ≡ (make-string 5)
```

subseq *Accessor*

Syntax:

subseq *sequence start* &optional *end* → *subsequence*

(**setf** (**subseq** *sequence start* &optional *end*) *new-subsequence*)

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The default for *end* is **nil**.

subsequence—a *proper sequence*.

new-subsequence—a *proper sequence*.

Description:

subseq creates a *sequence* that is a copy of the subsequence of *sequence bounded* by *start* and *end*.

Start specifies an offset into the original *sequence* and marks the beginning position of the subsequence. *end* marks the position following the last element of the subsequence.

subseq always allocates a new *sequence* for a result; it never shares storage with an old *sequence*. The result subsequence is always of the same *type* as *sequence*.

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *fresh simple array* of *rank* one that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *fresh list*.

setf may be used with **subseq** to destructively replace *elements* of a subsequence with *elements* taken from a *sequence* of new values. If the subsequence and the new sequence are not of equal length, the shorter length determines the number of elements that are replaced. The remaining *elements* at the end of the longer sequence are not modified in the operation.

Examples:

```
(setq str "012345") → "012345"
(subseq str 2) → "2345"
(subseq str 3 5) → "34"
(setf (subseq str 4) "abc") → "abc"
str → "0123ab"
(setf (subseq str 0 2) "A") → "A"
str → "A123ab"
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*. Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *new-subsequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

replace

map *Function*

Syntax:

map *result-type function* &rest *sequences*+ → *result*

Arguments and Values:

result-type – a **sequence** *type specifier*, or **nil**.

function—a *function designator*. *function* must take as many arguments as there are *sequences*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

result—if *result-type* is a *type specifier* other than **nil**, then a *sequence* of the *type* it denotes; otherwise (if the *result-type* is **nil**), **nil**.

Description:

Applies *function* to successive sets of arguments in which one argument is obtained from each *sequence*. The *function* is called first on all the elements with index 0, then on all those with index 1, and so on. The *result-type* specifies the *type* of the resulting *sequence*.

map returns **nil** if *result-type* is **nil**. Otherwise, **map** returns a *sequence* such that element j is the result of applying *function* to element j of each of the *sequences*. The result *sequence* is as long as the shortest of the *sequences*. The consequences are undefined if the result of applying *function* to the successive elements of the *sequences* cannot be contained in a *sequence* of the *type* given by *result-type*.

If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **list**, the result will be a *list*.

If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **vector**, then if the implementation can determine the element type specified for the *result-type*, the element type of the resulting array is the result of *upgrading* that element type; or, if the implementation can determine that the element type is unspecified (or *), the element type of the resulting array is **t**; otherwise, an error is signaled.

Examples:

```
(map 'string #'(lambda (x y)
                 (char "01234567890ABCDEF" (mod (+ x y) 16)))
      '(1 2 3 4)
      '(10 9 8 7)) → "AAAA"
(setq seq '("lower" "UPPER" "" "123")) → ("lower" "UPPER" "" "123")
(map nil #'nstring-upcase seq) → NIL
seq → ("LOWER" "UPPER" "" "123")
(map 'list #'- '(1 2 3 4)) → (-1 -2 -3 -4)
(map 'string
     #'(lambda (x) (if (oddp x) #\1 #\0))
     '(1 2 3 4)) → "1010"


(map '(vector * 4) #'cons "abc" "de") should signal an error
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **type-error** must be signaled if the *result-type* is not a *recognizable subtype* of **list**, not a *recognizable subtype* of **vector**, and not **nil**.

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if any *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

An error of *type* **type-error** should be signaled if *result-type* specifies the number of elements and the minimum length of the *sequences* is different from that number.

See Also:

Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

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map-into *Function*

Syntax:

map-into *result-sequence function* &rest *sequences* → *result-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

result-sequence—a *proper sequence*.

function—a *designator* for a *function* of as many *arguments* as there are *sequences*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

Description:

Destructively modifies *result-sequence* to contain the results of applying *function* to each element in the argument *sequences* in turn.

result-sequence and each element of *sequences* can each be either a *list* or a *vector*. If *result-sequence* and each element of *sequences* are not all the same length, the iteration terminates when the shortest *sequence* (of any of the *sequences* or the *result-sequence*) is exhausted. If *result-sequence* is a *vector* with a *fill pointer*, the *fill pointer* is ignored when deciding how many iterations to perform, and afterwards the *fill pointer* is set to the number of times *function* was applied. If *result-sequence* is longer than the shortest element of *sequences*, extra elements at the end of *result-sequence* are left unchanged. If *result-sequence* is **nil**, **map-into** immediately returns **nil**, since **nil** is a *sequence* of length zero.

If *function* has side effects, it can count on being called first on all of the elements with index 0, then on all of those numbered 1, and so on.

Examples:

```
(setq a (list 1 2 3 4) b (list 10 10 10 10)) → (10 10 10 10)
(map-into a #'+ a b) → (11 12 13 14)
a → (11 12 13 14)
b → (10 10 10 10)
(setq k '(one two three)) → (ONE TWO THREE)
(map-into a #'cons k a) → ((ONE . 11) (TWO . 12) (THREE . 13) 14)
(map-into a #'gensym) → (#:G9090 #:G9091 #:G9092 #:G9093)
a → (#:G9090 #:G9091 #:G9092 #:G9093)
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *result-sequence* is not a *proper sequence*. Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

Notes:

map-into differs from **map** in that it modifies an existing *sequence* rather than creating a new one. In addition, **map-into** can be called with only two arguments, while **map** requires at least three arguments.

map-into could be defined by:

```
(defun map-into (result-sequence function &rest sequences)
  (loop for index below (apply #'min
                               (length result-sequence)
                               (mapcar #'length sequences))
        do (setf (elt result-sequence index)
                 (apply function
                        (mapcar #'(lambda (seq) (elt seq index))
                                sequences))))
  result-sequence)
```

reduce *Function*

Syntax:

reduce *function sequence* &key *key from-end start end initial-value* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

function—a *designator* for a *function* that might be called with either zero or two *arguments*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

initial-value—an *object*.

result—an *object*.

Description:

reduce uses a binary operation, *function*, to combine the *elements* of *sequence bounded* by *start* and *end*.

The *function* must accept as *arguments* two *elements* of *sequence* or the results from combining those *elements*. The *function* must also be able to accept no arguments.

If *key* is supplied, it is used is used to extract the values to reduce. The *key* function is applied exactly once to each element of *sequence* in the order implied by the reduction order but not to the value of *initial-value*, if supplied. The *key* function typically returns part of the *element* of *sequence*. If *key* is not supplied or is **nil**, the *sequence element* itself is used.

The reduction is left-associative, unless *from-end* is *true* in which case it is right-associative.

If *initial-value* is supplied, it is logically placed before the subsequence (or after it if *from-end* is *true*) and included in the reduction operation.

In the normal case, the result of **reduce** is the combined result of *function*'s being applied to successive pairs of *elements* of *sequence*. If the subsequence contains exactly one *element* and no *initial-value* is given, then that *element* is returned and *function* is not called. If the subsequence is empty and an *initial-value* is given, then the *initial-value* is returned and *function* is not called. If the subsequence is empty and no *initial-value* is given, then the *function* is called with zero arguments, and **reduce** returns whatever *function* does. This is the only case where the *function* is called with other than two arguments.

Examples:

```
(reduce #'* '(1 2 3 4 5)) → 120
(reduce #'append '((1) (2)) :initial-value '(i n i t)) → (I N I T 1 2)
(reduce #'append '((1) (2)) :from-end t
                            :initial-value '(i n i t)) → (1 2 I N I T)
(reduce #'- '(1 2 3 4)) ≡ (- (- (- 1 2) 3) 4) → -8
(reduce #'- '(1 2 3 4) :from-end t)    ;Alternating sum.
≡ (- 1 (- 2 (- 3 4))) → -2
(reduce #'+ '()) → 0
(reduce #'+ '(3)) → 3
(reduce #'+ '(foo)) → FOO
(reduce #'list '(1 2 3 4)) → (((1 2) 3) 4)
(reduce #'list '(1 2 3 4) :from-end t) → (1 (2 (3 4)))
(reduce #'list '(1 2 3 4) :initial-value 'foo) → ((((foo 1) 2) 3) 4)
(reduce #'list '(1 2 3 4)
       :from-end t :initial-value 'foo) → (1 (2 (3 (4 foo))))
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

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count, count-if, count-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

count *item sequence* &key *from-end start end key test test-not* → *n*

count-if *predicate sequence* &key *from-end start end key* → *n*

count-if-not *predicate sequence* &key *from-end start end key* → *n*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

n—a non-negative *integer* less than or equal to the *length* of *sequence*.

Description:

count, **count-if**, and **count-if-not** count and return the number of *elements* in the *sequence* *bounded* by *start* and *end* that *satisfy the test*.

The *from-end* has no direct effect on the result. However, if *from-end* is *true*, the *elements* of *sequence* will be supplied as *arguments* to the *test*, *test-not*, and *key* in reverse order, which may change the side-effects, if any, of those functions.

Examples:

```
(count #\a "how many A's are there in here?") → 2
(count-if-not #'oddp '((1) (2) (3) (4)) :key #'car) → 2
(count-if #'upper-case-p "The Crying of Lot 49" :start 4) → 2
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

Section 17.2 (Rules about Test Functions), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The :test-not *argument* is deprecated.

The *function* **count-if-not** is deprecated.

length *Function*

Syntax:

length *sequence* → *n*

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

n—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns the number of *elements* in *sequence*.

If *sequence* is a *vector* with a *fill pointer*, the active length as specified by the *fill pointer* is returned.

Examples:

```
(length "abc") → 3
(setq str (make-array '(3) :element-type 'character
                           :initial-contents "abc"
                           :fill-pointer t)) → "abc"
(length str) → 3
(setf (fill-pointer str) 2) → 2
(length str) → 2
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

list-length, **sequence**

reverse, nreverse *Function*

Syntax:

reverse *sequence* → *reversed-sequence*

nreverse *sequence* → *reversed-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

reversed-sequence—a *sequence*.

Description:

reverse and **nreverse** return a new *sequence* of the same kind as *sequence*, containing the same *elements*, but in reverse order.

reverse and **nreverse** differ in that **reverse** always creates and returns a new *sequence*, whereas **nreverse** might modify and return the given *sequence*. **reverse** never modifies the given *sequence*.

For **reverse**, if *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *fresh simple array* of *rank* one that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *fresh list*.

For **nreverse**, if *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *vector* that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *list*.

For **nreverse**, *sequence* might be destroyed and re-used to produce the result. The result might or might not be *identical* to *sequence*. Specifically, when *sequence* is a *list*, **nreverse** is permitted to **setf** any part, **car** or **cdr**, of any *cons* that is part of the *list structure* of *sequence*. When *sequence* is a *vector*, **nreverse** is permitted to re-order the elements of *sequence* in order to produce the resulting *vector*.

Examples:

```
(setq str "abc") → "abc"
(reverse str) → "cba"
str → "abc"
(setq str (copy-seq str)) → "abc"
(nreverse str) → "cba"
str → implementation-dependent
(setq l (list 1 2 3)) → (1 2 3)
(nreverse l) → (3 2 1)
l → implementation-dependent
```

Side Effects:

nreverse might either create a new *sequence*, modify the argument *sequence*, or both. (**reverse** does not modify *sequence*.)

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

sort, stable-sort *Function*

Syntax:

sort *sequence predicate* &key *key* → *sorted-sequence*

stable-sort *sequence predicate* &key *key* → *sorted-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of two arguments that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

sorted-sequence—a *sequence*.

Description:

sort and **stable-sort** destructively sort *sequences* according to the order determined by the *predicate* function.

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *vector* that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *list*.

sort determines the relationship between two elements by giving keys extracted from the elements to the *predicate*. The first argument to the *predicate* function is the part of one element of *sequence* extracted by the *key* function (if supplied); the second argument is the part of another element of *sequence* extracted by the *key* function (if supplied). *Predicate* should return *true* if and only if the first argument is strictly less than the second (in some appropriate sense). If the first argument is greater than or equal to the second (in the appropriate sense), then the *predicate* should return *false*.

The argument to the *key* function is the *sequence* element. The return value of the *key* function becomes an argument to *predicate*. If *key* is not supplied or **nil**, the *sequence* element itself is used. There is no guarantee on the number of times the *key* will be called.

If the *key* and *predicate* always return, then the sorting operation will always terminate, producing a *sequence* containing the same *elements* as *sequence* (that is, the result is a permutation of *sequence*). This is guaranteed even if the *predicate* does not really consistently represent a total order (in which case the *elements* will be scrambled in some unpredictable way, but no *element* will be lost). If the *key* consistently returns meaningful keys, and the *predicate* does reflect some total ordering criterion on those keys, then the *elements* of the *sorted-sequence* will be properly sorted according to that ordering.

sort, stable-sort

The sorting operation performed by **sort** is not guaranteed stable. Elements considered equal by the *predicate* might or might not stay in their original order. The *predicate* is assumed to consider two elements `x` and `y` to be equal if `(funcall` *predicate x y*`)` and `(funcall` *predicate y x*`)` are both *false*. **stable-sort** guarantees stability.

The sorting operation can be destructive in all cases. In the case of a *vector* argument, this is accomplished by permuting the elements in place. In the case of a *list*, the *list* is destructively reordered in the same manner as for **nreverse**.

Examples:

```
 (setq tester (copy-seq "lkjashd")) → "lkjashd"
 (sort tester #'char-lessp) → "adhjkls"
 (setq tester (list '(1 2 3) '(4 5 6) '(7 8 9))) → ((1 2 3) (4 5 6) (7 8 9))
 (sort tester #'> :key #'car)  → ((7 8 9) (4 5 6) (1 2 3))
 (setq tester (list 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0)) → (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0)
 (stable-sort tester #'(lambda (x y) (and (oddp x) (evenp y))))
→ (1 3 5 7 9 2 4 6 8 0)
 (sort (setq committee-data
             (vector (list (list "JonL" "White") "Iteration")
                     (list (list "Dick" "Waters") "Iteration")
                     (list (list "Dick" "Gabriel") "Objects")
                     (list (list "Kent" "Pitman") "Conditions")
                     (list (list "Gregor" "Kiczales") "Objects")
                     (list (list "David" "Moon") "Objects")
                     (list (list "Kathy" "Chapman") "Editorial")
                     (list (list "Larry" "Masinter") "Cleanup")
                     (list (list "Sandra" "Loosemore") "Compiler")))
       #'string-lessp :key #'cadar)
→ #((("Kathy" "Chapman") "Editorial")
    (("Dick" "Gabriel") "Objects")
    (("Gregor" "Kiczales") "Objects")
    (("Sandra" "Loosemore") "Compiler")
    (("Larry" "Masinter") "Cleanup")
    (("David" "Moon") "Objects")
    (("Kent" "Pitman") "Conditions")
    (("Dick" "Waters") "Iteration")
    (("JonL" "White") "Iteration"))
 ;; Note that individual alphabetical order within `committees'
 ;; is preserved.
 (setq committee-data
       (stable-sort committee-data #'string-lessp :key #'cadr))
→ #((("Larry" "Masinter") "Cleanup")
    (("Sandra" "Loosemore") "Compiler")
    (("Kent" "Pitman") "Conditions")
    (("Kathy" "Chapman") "Editorial")
```


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```
    (("Dick" "Waters") "Iteration")
    (("JonL" "White") "Iteration")
    (("Dick" "Gabriel") "Objects")
    (("Gregor" "Kiczales") "Objects")
    (("David" "Moon") "Objects"))
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

merge, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects), Section 3.7 (Destructive Operations)

Notes:

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result might or might not be simple, and might or might not be *identical* to *sequence*.

find, find-if, find-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

find *item sequence* `&key` *from-end test test-not start end key* → *element*

find-if *predicate sequence* `&key` *from-end start end key* → *element*

find-if-not *predicate sequence* `&key` *from-end start end key* → *element*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are `0` and **nil**, respectively.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

element—an *element* of the *sequence*, or **nil**.

Description:

find, **find-if**, and **find-if-not** each search for an *element* of the *sequence* *bounded* by *start* and *end* that *satisfies the predicate predicate* or that *satisfies the test test* or *test-not*, as appropriate.

If *from-end* is *true*, then the result is the rightmost *element* that *satisfies the test*.

If the *sequence* contains an *element* that *satisfies the test*, then the leftmost or rightmost *sequence* element, depending on *from-end*, is returned; otherwise **nil** is returned.

Examples:

```
 (find #\d "here are some letters that can be looked at" :test #'char>)
→ #\Space
 (find-if #'oddp '(1 2 3 4 5) :end 3 :from-end t) → 3
 (find-if-not #'complexp
             '#(3.5 2 #C(1.0 0.0) #C(0.0 1.0))
             :start 2) → NIL
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

position, Section 17.2 (Rules about Test Functions), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` *argument* is deprecated.

The *function* **find-if-not** is deprecated.

position, position-if, position-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

position *item sequence* &key *from-end test test-not start end key* → *position*

position-if *predicate sequence* &key *from-end start end key* → *position*

position-if-not *predicate sequence* &key *from-end start end key* → *position*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument that returns a *generalized boolean*.

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from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are `0` and **nil**, respectively.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

position—a *bounding index* of *sequence*, or **nil**.

Description:

position, **position-if**, and **position-if-not** each search *sequence* for an *element* that *satisfies the test*.

The *position* returned is the index within *sequence* of the leftmost (if *from-end* is *true*) or of the rightmost (if *from-end* is *false*) *element* that *satisfies the test*; otherwise **nil** is returned. The index returned is relative to the left-hand end of the entire *sequence*, regardless of the value of *start*, *end*, or *from-end*.

Examples:

```
 (position #\a "baobab" :from-end t) → 4
 (position-if #'oddp '((1) (2) (3) (4)) :start 1 :key #'car) → 2
 (position 595 '()) → NIL
 (position-if-not #'integerp '(1 2 3 4 5.0)) → 4
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

find, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` *argument* is deprecated.

The *function* **position-if-not** is deprecated.

search *Function*

Syntax:

search *sequence-1 sequence-2* &key *from-end test test-not key start1 start2 end1 end2*

→ *position*

Arguments and Values:

Sequence-1—a *sequence*.

Sequence-2—a *sequence*.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

start1, *end1*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence-1*. The defaults for *start1* and *end1* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

start2, *end2*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence-2*. The defaults for *start2* and *end2* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

position—a *bounding index* of *sequence-2*, or **nil**.

Description:

Searches *sequence-2* for a subsequence that matches *sequence-1*.

The implementation may choose to search *sequence-2* in any order; there is no guarantee on the number of times the test is made. For example, when *start-end* is *true*, the *sequence* might actually be searched from left to right instead of from right to left (but in either case would return the rightmost matching subsequence). If the search succeeds, **search** returns the offset into *sequence-2* of the first element of the leftmost or rightmost matching subsequence, depending on *from-end*; otherwise **search** returns **nil**.

If *from-end* is *true*, the index of the leftmost element of the rightmost matching subsequence is returned.

Examples:

```
(search "dog" "it's a dog's life") → 7
(search '(0 1) '(2 4 6 1 3 5) :key #'oddp) → 2
```


See Also:

Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The :test-not *argument* is deprecated.

mismatch *Function*

Syntax:

mismatch *sequence-1 sequence-2* &key *from-end test test-not key start1 start2 end1 end2*

→ *position*

Arguments and Values:

Sequence-1—a *sequence*.

Sequence-2—a *sequence*.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

start1, *end1*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence-1*. The defaults for *start1* and *end1* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

start2, *end2*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence-2*. The defaults for *start2* and *end2* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

position—a *bounding index* of *sequence-1*, or **nil**.

Description:

The specified subsequences of *sequence-1* and *sequence-2* are compared element-wise.

The *key* argument is used for both the *sequence-1* and the *sequence-2*.

If *sequence-1* and *sequence-2* are of equal length and match in every element, the result is *false*. Otherwise, the result is a non-negative *integer*, the index within *sequence-1* of the leftmost or rightmost position, depending on *from-end*, at which the two subsequences fail to match. If one subsequence is shorter than and a matching prefix of the other, the result is the index relative to *sequence-1* beyond the last position tested.

If *from-end* is *true*, then one plus the index of the rightmost position in which the *sequences* differ is returned. In effect, the subsequences are aligned at their right-hand ends; then, the last elements are compared, the penultimate elements, and so on. The index returned is an index relative to *sequence-1*.

Examples:

```
(mismatch "abcd" "ABCDE" :test #'char-equal) → 4
(mismatch '(3 2 1 1 2 3) '(1 2 3) :from-end t) → 3
(mismatch '(1 2 3) '(2 3 4) :test-not #'eq :key #'oddp) → NIL
(mismatch '(1 2 3 4 5 6) '(3 4 5 6 7) :start1 2 :end2 4) → NIL
```

See Also:

Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

The `:test-not` *argument* is deprecated.

replace *Function*

Syntax:

replace *sequence-1 sequence-2* `&key` *start1 end1 start2 end2* → *sequence-1*

Arguments and Values:

sequence-1—a *sequence*.

sequence-2—a *sequence*.

start1, *end1*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence-1*. The defaults for *start1* and *end1* are `0` and **nil**, respectively.

start2, *end2*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence-2*. The defaults for *start2* and *end2* are `0` and **nil**, respectively.

Description:

Destructively modifies *sequence-1* by replacing the *elements* of *subsequence-1 bounded* by *start1* and *end1* with the *elements* of *subsequence-2 bounded* by *start2* and *end2*.

Sequence-1 is destructively modified by copying successive *elements* into it from *sequence-2*. *Elements* of the subsequence of *sequence-2 bounded* by *start2* and *end2* are copied into the subsequence of *sequence-1 bounded* by *start1* and *end1*. If these subsequences are not of the same length, then the shorter length determines how many *elements* are copied; the extra *elements* near the end of the longer subsequence are not involved in the operation. The number of elements copied can be expressed as:


```
(min (- end1 start1) (- end2 start2))
```

If *sequence-1* and *sequence-2* are the *same object* and the region being modified overlaps the region being copied from, then it is as if the entire source region were copied to another place and only then copied back into the target region. However, if *sequence-1* and *sequence-2* are not the same, but the region being modified overlaps the region being copied from (perhaps because of shared list structure or displaced *arrays*), then after the **replace** operation the subsequence of *sequence-1* being modified will have unpredictable contents. It is an error if the elements of *sequence-2* are not of a *type* that can be stored into *sequence-1*.

Examples:

```
(replace "abcdefghij" "0123456789" :start1 4 :end1 7 :start2 4)
→ "abcd456hij"
(setq lst "012345678") → "012345678"
(replace lst lst :start1 2 :start2 0) → "010123456"
lst → "010123456"
```

Side Effects:

The *sequence-1* is modified.

See Also:

fill

substitute, substitute-if, substitute-if-not, nsubstitute, nsubstitute-if, nsubstitute-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

substitute *newitem olditem sequence* `&key` *from-end test test-not start end count key*
→ *result-sequence*

substitute-if *newitem predicate sequence* `&key` *from-end start end count key*
→ *result-sequence*

substitute-if-not *newitem predicate sequence* `&key` *from-end start end count key*
→ *result-sequence*

nsubstitute *newitem olditem sequence* `&key` *from-end test test-not start end count key*
→ *sequence*

nsubstitute-if *newitem predicate sequence* &key *from-end start end count key*
→ *sequence*

nsubstitute-if-not *newitem predicate sequence* &key *from-end start end count key*
→ *sequence*

Arguments and Values:

newitem—an *object*.

olditem—an *object*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

count—an *integer* or **nil**. The default is **nil**.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-sequence—a *sequence*.

Description:

substitute, **substitute-if**, and **substitute-if-not** return a copy of *sequence* in which each *element* that *satisfies the test* has been replaced with *newitem*.

nsubstitute, **nsubstitute-if**, and **nsubstitute-if-not** are like **substitute**, **substitute-if**, and **substitute-if-not** respectively, but they may modify *sequence*.

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *vector* that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *list*.

Count, if supplied, limits the number of elements altered; if more than *count elements satisfy the test*, then of these *elements* only the leftmost or rightmost, depending on *from-end*, are replaced, as many as specified by *count*. If *count* is supplied and negative, the behavior is as if zero had been supplied instead. If *count* is **nil**, all matching items are affected.

Supplying a *from-end* of *true* matters only when the *count* is provided (and *non-nil*); in that case, only the rightmost *count elements satisfying the test* are removed (instead of the leftmost).

predicate, *test*, and *test-not* might be called more than once for each *sequence element*, and their side effects can happen in any order.

The result of all these functions is a *sequence* of the same *type* as *sequence* that has the same elements except that those in the subsequence *bounded* by *start* and *end* and *satisfying the test* have been replaced by *newitem*.

substitute, **substitute-if**, and **substitute-if-not** return a *sequence* which can share with *sequence* or may be *identical* to the input *sequence* if no elements need to be changed.

nsubstitute and **nsubstitute-if** are required to **setf** any **car** (if *sequence* is a *list*) or **aref** (if *sequence* is a *vector*) of *sequence* that is required to be replaced with *newitem*. If *sequence* is a *list*, none of the *cdrs* of the top-level *list* can be modified.

Examples:

```
(substitute #\. #\SPACE "0 2 4 6") → "0.2.4.6"
(substitute 9 4 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 9 1 3 9 5)
(substitute 9 4 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :count 1) → (1 2 9 1 3 4 5)
(substitute 9 4 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :count 1 :from-end t)
→ (1 2 4 1 3 9 5)
(substitute 9 3 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :test #'>) → (9 9 4 9 3 4 5)

(substitute-if 0 #'evenp '((1) (2) (3) (4)) :start 2 :key #'car)
→ ((1) (2) (3) 0)
(substitute-if 9 #'oddp '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (9 2 4 9 9 4 9)
(substitute-if 9 #'evenp '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :count 1 :from-end t)
→ (1 2 4 1 3 9 5)

(setq some-things (list 'a 'car 'b 'cdr 'c)) → (A CAR B CDR C)
(nsubstitute-if "function was here" #'fboundp some-things
                :count 1 :from-end t) → (A CAR B "function was here" C)
some-things → (A CAR B "function was here" C)
(setq alpha-tester (copy-seq "ab ")) → "ab "
(nsubstitute-if-not #\z #'alpha-char-p alpha-tester) → "abz"
alpha-tester → "abz"
```

Side Effects:

nsubstitute, **nsubstitute-if**, and **nsubstitute-if-not** modify *sequence*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

subst, **nsubst**, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result might or might not be simple, and might or might not be *identical* to *sequence*.

The `:test-not` *argument* is deprecated.

The functions **substitute-if-not** and **nsubstitute-if-not** are deprecated.

nsubstitute and **nsubstitute-if** can be used in for-effect-only positions in code.

Because the side-effecting variants (*e.g.*, **nsubstitute**) potentially change the path that is being traversed, their effects in the presence of shared or circular structure may vary in surprising ways when compared to their non-side-effecting alternatives. To see this, consider the following side-effect behavior, which might be exhibited by some implementations:

```
(defun test-it (fn)
  (let ((x (cons 'b nil)))
    (rplacd x x)
    (funcall fn 'a 'b x :count 1)))
(test-it #'substitute) → (A . #1=(B . #1#))
(test-it #'nsubstitute) → (A . #1#)
```

concatenate *Function*

Syntax:

concatenate *result-type* `&rest` *sequences* → *result-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

result-type—a **sequence** *type specifier*.

sequences—a *sequence*.

result-sequence—a *proper sequence* of *type* *result-type*.

Description:

concatenate returns a *sequence* that contains all the individual elements of all the *sequences* in the order that they are supplied. The *sequence* is of type *result-type*, which must be a *subtype* of *type* **sequence**.

All of the *sequences* are copied from; the result does not share any structure with any of the *sequences*. Therefore, if only one *sequence* is provided and it is of type *result-type*, **concatenate** is required to copy *sequence* rather than simply returning it.

It is an error if any element of the *sequences* cannot be an element of the *sequence* result.

If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **list**, the result will be a *list*.

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If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **vector**, then if the implementation can determine the element type specified for the *result-type*, the element type of the resulting array is the result of *upgrading* that element type; or, if the implementation can determine that the element type is unspecified (or `*`), the element type of the resulting array is **t**; otherwise, an error is signaled.

Examples:

```
(concatenate 'string "all" " " "together" " " "now") → "all together now"
(concatenate 'list "ABC" '(d e f) #(1 2 3) #*1011)
→ (#\A #\B #\C D E F 1 2 3 1 0 1 1)
(concatenate 'list) → NIL

 (concatenate '(vector * 2) "a" "bc") should signal an error
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error is signaled if the *result-type* is neither a *recognizable subtype* of **list**, nor a *recognizable subtype* of **vector**.

An error of *type* **type-error** should be signaled if *result-type* specifies the number of elements and the sum of *sequences* is different from that number.

See Also:

append

merge *Function*

Syntax:

merge *result-type sequence-1 sequence-2 predicate* `&key` *key* → *result-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

result-type—a **sequence** *type specifier*.

sequence-1—a *sequence*.

sequence-2—a *sequence*.

predicate—a *designator* for a *function* of two arguments that returns a *generalized boolean*.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-sequence—a *proper sequence* of *type* *result-type*.

Description:

Destructively merges *sequence-1* with *sequence-2* according to an order determined by the *predicate*. **merge** determines the relationship between two elements by giving keys extracted from the sequence elements to the *predicate*.

The first argument to the *predicate* function is an element of *sequence-1* as returned by the *key* (if supplied); the second argument is an element of *sequence-2* as returned by the *key* (if supplied). *Predicate* should return *true* if and only if its first argument is strictly less than the second (in some appropriate sense). If the first argument is greater than or equal to the second (in the appropriate sense), then *predicate* should return *false*. **merge** considers two elements `x` and `y` to be equal if `(funcall predicate x y)` and `(funcall predicate y x)` both *yield false*.

The argument to the *key* is the *sequence* element. Typically, the return value of the *key* becomes the argument to *predicate*. If *key* is not supplied or **nil**, the sequence element itself is used. The *key* may be executed more than once for each *sequence element*, and its side effects may occur in any order.

If *key* and *predicate* return, then the merging operation will terminate. The result of merging two *sequences* `x` and `y` is a new *sequence* of type *result-type* `z`, such that the length of `z` is the sum of the lengths of `x` and `y`, and `z` contains all the elements of `x` and `y`. If `x1` and `x2` are two elements of `x`, and `x1` precedes `x2` in `x`, then `x1` precedes `x2` in `z`, and similarly for elements of `y`. In short, `z` is an interleaving of `x` and `y`.

If `x` and `y` were correctly sorted according to the *predicate*, then `z` will also be correctly sorted. If `x` or `y` is not so sorted, then `z` will not be sorted, but will nevertheless be an interleaving of `x` and `y`.

The merging operation is guaranteed stable; if two or more elements are considered equal by the *predicate*, then the elements from *sequence-1* will precede those from *sequence-2* in the result.

sequence-1 and/or *sequence-2* may be destroyed.

If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **list**, the result will be a *list*.

If the *result-type* is a *subtype* of **vector**, then if the implementation can determine the element type specified for the *result-type*, the element type of the resulting array is the result of *upgrading* that element type; or, if the implementation can determine that the element type is unspecified (or `*`), the element type of the resulting array is **t**; otherwise, an error is signaled.

Examples:

```
(setq test1 (list 1 3 4 6 7))
(setq test2 (list 2 5 8))
(merge 'list test1 test2 #'<) → (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8)
(setq test1 (copy-seq "BOY"))
(setq test2 (copy-seq :nosy"))
(merge 'string test1 test2 #'char-lessp) → "BnOosYy"
```



```
 (setq test1 (vector ((red . 1) (blue . 4))))
 (setq test2 (vector ((yellow . 2) (green . 7))))
 (merge 'vector test1 test2 #'< :key #'cdr)
→ #((RED . 1) (YELLOW . 2) (BLUE . 4) (GREEN . 7))

 (merge '(vector * 4) '(1 5) '(2 4 6) #'<) should signal an error
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error must be signaled if the *result-type* is neither a *recognizable subtype* of **list**, nor a *recognizable subtype* of **vector**.

An error of *type* **type-error** should be signaled if *result-type* specifies the number of elements and the sum of the lengths of *sequence-1* and *sequence-2* is different from that number.

See Also:

sort, **stable-sort**, Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

remove, remove-if, remove-if-not, delete, delete-if, delete-if-not *Function*

Syntax:

remove *item sequence* `&key` *from-end test test-not start end count key* → *result-sequence*

remove-if *test sequence* `&key` *from-end start end count key* → *result-sequence*

remove-if-not *test sequence* `&key` *from-end start end count key* → *result-sequence*

delete *item sequence* `&key` *from-end test test-not start end count key* → *result-sequence*

delete-if *test sequence* `&key` *from-end start end count key* → *result-sequence*

delete-if-not *test sequence* `&key` *from-end start end count key* → *result-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

item—an *object*.

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of one *argument* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

count—an *integer* or **nil**. The default is **nil**.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-sequence—a *sequence*.

Description:

remove, **remove-if**, and **remove-if-not** return a *sequence* from which the elements that *satisfy the test* have been removed.

delete, **delete-if**, and **delete-if-not** are like **remove**, **remove-if**, and **remove-if-not** respectively, but they may modify *sequence*.

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *vector* that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *list*.

Supplying a *from-end* of *true* matters only when the *count* is provided; in that case only the rightmost *count* elements *satisfying the test* are deleted.

Count, if supplied, limits the number of elements removed or deleted; if more than *count* elements *satisfy the test*, then of these elements only the leftmost or rightmost, depending on *from-end*, are deleted or removed, as many as specified by *count*. If *count* is supplied and negative, the behavior is as if zero had been supplied instead. If *count* is **nil**, all matching items are affected.

For all these functions, elements not removed or deleted occur in the same order in the result as they did in *sequence*.

remove, **remove-if**, **remove-if-not** return a *sequence* of the same *type* as *sequence* that has the same elements except that those in the subsequence *bounded* by *start* and *end* and *satisfying the test* have been removed. This is a non-destructive operation. If any elements need to be removed, the result will be a copy. The result of **remove** may share with *sequence*; the result may be *identical* to the input *sequence* if no elements need to be removed.

delete, **delete-if**, and **delete-if-not** return a *sequence* of the same *type* as *sequence* that has the same elements except that those in the subsequence *bounded* by *start* and *end* and *satisfying the test* have been deleted. *Sequence* may be destroyed and used to construct the result; however, the result might or might not be *identical* to *sequence*.

delete, when *sequence* is a *list*, is permitted to **setf** any part, **car** or **cdr**, of the top-level list structure in that *sequence*. When *sequence* is a *vector*, **delete** is permitted to change the dimensions of the *vector* and to slide its elements into new positions without permuting them to produce the resulting *vector*.

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remove, remove-if, remove-if-not, delete, delete-if, ...

delete-if is constrained to behave exactly as follows:

```
(delete nil sequence
          :test #'(lambda (ignore item) (funcall test item))
          ...)
```

Examples:

```
(remove 4 '(1 3 4 5 9)) → (1 3 5 9)
(remove 4 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 1 3 5)
(remove 4 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :count 1) → (1 2 1 3 4 5)
(remove 4 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :count 1 :from-end t) → (1 2 4 1 3 5)
(remove 3 '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :test #'>) → (4 3 4 5)
(setq lst '(list of four elements)) → (LIST OF FOUR ELEMENTS)
(setq lst2 (copy-seq lst)) → (LIST OF FOUR ELEMENTS)
(setq lst3 (delete 'four lst)) → (LIST OF ELEMENTS)
(equal lst lst2) → false
(remove-if #'oddp '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (2 4 4)
(remove-if #'evenp '(1 2 4 1 3 4 5) :count 1 :from-end t)
→ (1 2 4 1 3 5)
(remove-if-not #'evenp '(1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9) :count 2 :from-end t)
→ (1 2 3 4 5 6 8)
(setq tester (list 1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 4 1 3 4 5)
(delete 4 tester) → (1 2 1 3 5)
(setq tester (list 1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 4 1 3 4 5)
(delete 4 tester :count 1) → (1 2 1 3 4 5)
(setq tester (list 1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 4 1 3 4 5)
(delete 4 tester :count 1 :from-end t) → (1 2 4 1 3 5)
(setq tester (list 1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 4 1 3 4 5)
(delete 3 tester :test #'>) → (4 3 4 5)
(setq tester (list 1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 4 1 3 4 5)
(delete-if #'oddp tester) → (2 4 4)
(setq tester (list 1 2 4 1 3 4 5)) → (1 2 4 1 3 4 5)
(delete-if #'evenp tester :count 1 :from-end t) → (1 2 4 1 3 5)
(setq tester (list 1 2 3 4 5 6)) → (1 2 3 4 5 6)
(delete-if #'evenp tester) → (1 3 5)
tester → implementation-dependent
```

```
(setq foo (list 'a 'b 'c)) → (A B C)
(setq bar (cdr foo)) → (B C)
(setq foo (delete 'b foo)) → (A C)
bar → ((C)) or ...
(eq (cdr foo) (car bar)) → T or ...
```

Side Effects:

For **delete**, **delete-if**, and **delete-if-not**, *sequence* may be destroyed and used to construct the result.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

Notes:

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result might or might not be simple, and might or might not be *identical* to *sequence*.

The `:test-not` *argument* is deprecated.

The functions **delete-if-not** and **remove-if-not** are deprecated.

remove-duplicates, delete-duplicates *Function*

Syntax:

remove-duplicates *sequence* `&key` *from-end test test-not start end key*

→ *result-sequence*

delete-duplicates *sequence* `&key` *from-end test test-not start end key*

→ *result-sequence*

Arguments and Values:

sequence—a *proper sequence*.

from-end—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

test—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

test-not—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments* that returns a *generalized boolean*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are `0` and **nil**, respectively.

key—a *designator* for a *function* of one argument, or **nil**.

result-sequence—a *sequence*.

Description:

remove-duplicates returns a modified copy of *sequence* from which any element that matches another element occurring in *sequence* has been removed.

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result is a *vector* that has the same *actual array element type* as *sequence*. If *sequence* is a *list*, the result is a *list*.

delete-duplicates is like **remove-duplicates**, but **delete-duplicates** may modify *sequence*.

The elements of *sequence* are compared *pairwise*, and if any two match, then the one occurring earlier in *sequence* is discarded, unless *from-end* is *true*, in which case the one later in *sequence* is discarded.

remove-duplicates and **delete-duplicates** return a *sequence* of the same *type* as *sequence* with enough elements removed so that no two of the remaining elements match. The order of the elements remaining in the result is the same as the order in which they appear in *sequence*.

remove-duplicates returns a *sequence* that may share with *sequence* or may be *identical* to *sequence* if no elements need to be removed.

delete-duplicates, when *sequence* is a *list*, is permitted to **setf** any part, **car** or **cdr**, of the top-level list structure in that *sequence*. When *sequence* is a *vector*, **delete-duplicates** is permitted to change the dimensions of the *vector* and to slide its elements into new positions without permuting them to produce the resulting *vector*.

Examples:

```
(remove-duplicates "aBcDAbCd" :test #'char-equal :from-end t) → "aBcD"
(remove-duplicates '(a b c b d d e)) → (A C B D E)
(remove-duplicates '(a b c b d d e) :from-end t) → (A B C D E)
(remove-duplicates '((foo #\a) (bar #\%) (baz #\A))
    :test #'char-equal :key #'cadr) → ((BAR #\%) (BAZ #\A))
(remove-duplicates '((foo #\a) (bar #\%) (baz #\A))
    :test #'char-equal :key #'cadr :from-end t) → ((FOO #\a) (BAR #\%))
(setq tester (list 0 1 2 3 4 5 6))
(delete-duplicates tester :key #'oddp :start 1 :end 6) → (0 4 5 6)
```

Side Effects:

delete-duplicates might destructively modify *sequence*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*.

See Also:

Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

remove-duplicates, delete-duplicates

Notes:

If *sequence* is a *vector*, the result might or might not be simple, and might or might not be *identical* to *sequence*.

The `:test-not` *argument* is deprecated.

These functions are useful for converting *sequence* into a canonical form suitable for representing a set.

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

18. Hash Tables

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18.1 Hash Table Concepts

18.1.1 Hash-Table Operations

Figure 18–1 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *hash tables*. The following rules apply to *hash tables*.

– A *hash table* can only associate one value with a given key. If an attempt is made to add a second value for a given key, the second value will replace the first. Thus, adding a value to a *hash table* is a destructive operation; the *hash table* is modified.

– There are four kinds of *hash tables*: those whose keys are compared with **eq**, those whose keys are compared with **eql**, those whose keys are compared with **equal**, and those whose keys are compared with **equalp**.

– *Hash tables* are created by **make-hash-table**. **gethash** is used to look up a key and find the associated value. New entries are added to *hash tables* using **setf** with **gethash**. **remhash** is used to remove an entry. For example:

```
(setq a (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32536573>
(setf (gethash 'color a) 'brown) → BROWN
(setf (gethash 'name a) 'fred) → FRED
(gethash 'color a) → BROWN, true
(gethash 'name a) → FRED, true
(gethash 'pointy a) → NIL, false
```

In this example, the symbols `color` and `name` are being used as keys, and the symbols `brown` and `fred` are being used as the associated values. The *hash table* has two items in it, one of which associates from `color` to `brown`, and the other of which associates from `name` to `fred`.

– A key or a value may be any *object*.

– The existence of an entry in the *hash table* can be determined from the *secondary value* returned by **gethash**.

clrhash	**hash-table-p**	**remhash**
gethash	**make-hash-table**	**sxhash**
hash-table-count	**maphash**	

Figure 18–1. Hash-table defined names

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18.1.2 Modifying Hash Table Keys

The function supplied as the `:test` argument to **make-hash-table** specifies the 'equivalence test' for the *hash table* it creates.

An *object* is 'visibly modified' with regard to an equivalence test if there exists some set of *objects* (or potential *objects*) which are equivalent to the *object* before the modification but are no longer equivalent afterwards.

If an *object* O_1 is used as a key in a *hash table* H and is then visibly modified with regard to the equivalence test of H, then the consequences are unspecified if O_1, or any *object* O_2 equivalent to O_1 under the equivalence test (either before or after the modification), is used as a key in further operations on H. The consequences of using O_1 as a key are unspecified even if O_1 is visibly modified and then later modified again in such a way as to undo the visible modification.

Following are specifications of the modifications which are visible to the equivalence tests which must be supported by *hash tables*. The modifications are described in terms of modification of components, and are defined recursively. Visible modifications of components of the *object* are visible modifications of the *object*.

18.1.2.1 Visible Modification of Objects with respect to EQ and EQL

No *standardized function* is provided that is capable of visibly modifying an *object* with regard to **eq** or **eql**.

18.1.2.2 Visible Modification of Objects with respect to EQUAL

As a consequence of the behavior for **equal**, the rules for visible modification of *objects* not explicitly mentioned in this section are inherited from those in Section 18.1.2.1 (Visible Modification of Objects with respect to EQ and EQL).

18.1.2.2.1 Visible Modification of Conses with respect to EQUAL

Any visible change to the *car* or the *cdr* of a *cons* is considered a visible modification with regard to **equal**.

18.1.2.2.2 Visible Modification of Bit Vectors and Strings with respect to EQUAL

For a *vector* of *type* **bit-vector** or of *type* **string**, any visible change to an *active element* of the *vector*, or to the *length* of the *vector* (if it is *actually adjustable* or has a *fill pointer*) is considered a visible modification with regard to **equal**.

18.1.2.3 Visible Modification of Objects with respect to EQUALP

As a consequence of the behavior for **equalp**, the rules for visible modification of *objects* not explicitly mentioned in this section are inherited from those in Section 18.1.2.2 (Visible Modification of Objects with respect to EQUAL).

18.1.2.3.1 Visible Modification of Structures with respect to EQUALP

Any visible change to a *slot* of a *structure* is considered a visible modification with regard to **equalp**.

18.1.2.3.2 Visible Modification of Arrays with respect to EQUALP

In an *array*, any visible change to an *active element*, to the *fill pointer* (if the *array* can and does have one), or to the *dimensions* (if the *array* is *actually adjustable*) is considered a visible modification with regard to **equalp**.

18.1.2.3.3 Visible Modification of Hash Tables with respect to EQUALP

In a *hash table*, any visible change to the count of entries in the *hash table*, to the keys, or to the values associated with the keys is considered a visible modification with regard to **equalp**.

Note that the visibility of modifications to the keys depends on the equivalence test of the *hash table*, not on the specification of **equalp**.

18.1.2.4 Visible Modifications by Language Extensions

Implementations that extend the language by providing additional mutator functions (or additional behavior for existing mutator functions) must document how the use of these extensions interacts with equivalence tests and *hash table* searches.

Implementations that extend the language by defining additional acceptable equivalence tests for *hash tables* (allowing additional values for the `:test` argument to **make-hash-table**) must document the visible components of these tests.

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hash-table *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

hash-table, **t**

Description:

Hash tables provide a way of mapping any *object* (a *key*) to an associated *object* (a *value*).

See Also:

Section 18.1 (Hash Table Concepts), Section 22.1.3.13 (Printing Other Objects)

Notes:

The intent is that this mapping be implemented by a hashing mechanism, such as that described in Section 6.4 "Hashing" of *The Art of Computer Programming, Volume 3* (pp506-549). In spite of this intent, no *conforming implementation* is required to use any particular technique to implement the mapping.

make-hash-table *Function*

Syntax:

make-hash-table `&key` *test size rehash-size rehash-threshold* → *hash-table*

Arguments and Values:

test—a *designator* for one of the *functions* **eq**, **eql**, **equal**, or **equalp**. The default is **eql**.

size—a non-negative *integer*. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

rehash-size—a *real* of *type* `(or (integer 1 *) (float (1.0) *))`. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

rehash-threshold—a *real* of *type* `(real 0 1)`. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

hash-table—a *hash table*.

Description:

Creates and returns a new *hash table*.

test determines how *keys* are compared. An *object* is said to be present in the *hash-table* if that *object* is the *same* under the *test* as the *key* for some entry in the *hash-table*.

size is a hint to the *implementation* about how much initial space to allocate in the *hash-table*. This information, taken together with the *rehash-threshold*, controls the approximate number of entries which it should be possible to insert before the table has to grow. The actual size might be rounded up from *size* to the next 'good' size; for example, some *implementations* might round to the next prime number.

rehash-size specifies a minimum amount to increase the size of the *hash-table* when it becomes full enough to require rehashing; see *rehash-theshold* below. If *rehash-size* is an *integer*, the expected growth rate for the table is additive and the *integer* is the number of entries to add; if it is a *float*, the expected growth rate for the table is multiplicative and the *float* is the ratio of the new size to the old size. As with *size*, the actual size of the increase might be rounded up.

rehash-threshold specifies how full the *hash-table* can get before it must grow. It specifies the maximum desired hash-table occupancy level.

The *values* of *rehash-size* and *rehash-threshold* do not constrain the *implementation* to use any particular method for computing when and by how much the size of *hash-table* should be enlarged. Such decisions are *implementation-dependent*, and these *values* only hints from the *programmer* to the *implementation*, and the *implementation* is permitted to ignore them.

Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 46142754>
(setf (gethash "one" table) 1) → 1
(gethash "one" table) → NIL, false
(setq table (make-hash-table :test 'equal)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQUAL 0/139 46145547>
(setf (gethash "one" table) 1) → 1
(gethash "one" table) → 1, T
(make-hash-table :rehash-size 1.5 :rehash-threshold 0.7)
→ #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 46156620>
```

See Also:

gethash, **hash-table**

hash-table-p *Function*

Syntax:

hash-table-p *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **hash-table**; otherwise, returns *false*.

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Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32511220>
(hash-table-p table) → true
(hash-table-p 37) → false
(hash-table-p '((a . 1) (b . 2))) → false
```

Notes:

(hash-table-p *object*) ≡ (typep *object* 'hash-table)

hash-table-count *Function*

Syntax:

hash-table-count *hash-table* → *count*

Arguments and Values:

hash-table—a *hash table*.

count—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns the number of entries in the *hash-table*. If *hash-table* has just been created or newly cleared (see **clrhash**) the entry count is 0.

Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32115135>
(hash-table-count table) → 0
(setf (gethash 57 table) "fifty-seven") → "fifty-seven"
(hash-table-count table) → 1
(dotimes (i 100) (setf (gethash i table) i)) → NIL
(hash-table-count table) → 100
```

Affected By:

clrhash, **remhash**, **setf** of **gethash**

See Also:

hash-table-size

Notes:

The following relationships are functionally correct, although in practice using **hash-table-count** is probably much faster:

```
(hash-table-count table) ≡
(loop for value being the hash-values of table count t) ≡
(let ((total 0))
  (maphash #'(lambda (key value)
               (declare (ignore key value))
               (incf total))
           table)
  total)
```

hash-table-rehash-size *Function*

Syntax:

hash-table-rehash-size *hash-table* → *rehash-size*

Arguments and Values:

hash-table—a *hash table*.

rehash-size—a *real* of *type* (or (integer 1 *) (float (1.0) *)).

Description:

Returns the current rehash size of *hash-table*, suitable for use in a call to **make-hash-table** in order to produce a *hash table* with state corresponding to the current state of the *hash-table*.

Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table :size 100 :rehash-size 1.4))
→ #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/100 2556371>
(hash-table-rehash-size table) → 1.4
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *hash-table* is not a *hash table*.

See Also:

make-hash-table, **hash-table-rehash-threshold**

Notes:

If the hash table was created with an *integer* rehash size, the result is an *integer*, indicating that the rate of growth of the *hash-table* when rehashed is intended to be additive; otherwise, the

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result is a *float*, indicating that the rate of growth of the *hash-table* when rehashed is intended to be multiplicative. However, this value is only advice to the *implementation*; the actual amount by which the *hash-table* will grow upon rehash is *implementation-dependent*.

hash-table-rehash-threshold *Function*

Syntax:

hash-table-rehash-threshold *hash-table* → *rehash-threshold*

Arguments and Values:

hash-table—a *hash table*.

rehash-threshold—a *real* of *type* (real 0 1).

Description:

Returns the current rehash threshold of *hash-table*, which is suitable for use in a call to **make-hash-table** in order to produce a *hash table* with state corresponding to the current state of the *hash-table*.

Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table :size 100 :rehash-threshold 0.5))
→ #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/100 2562446>
(hash-table-rehash-threshold table) → 0.5
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *hash-table* is not a *hash table*.

See Also:

make-hash-table, **hash-table-rehash-size**

hash-table-size *Function*

Syntax:

hash-table-size *hash-table* → *size*

Arguments and Values:

hash-table—a *hash table*.

size—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns the current size of *hash-table*, which is suitable for use in a call to **make-hash-table** in order to produce a *hash table* with state corresponding to the current state of the *hash-table*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *hash-table* is not a *hash table*.

See Also:

hash-table-count, **make-hash-table**

hash-table-test *Function*

Syntax:

hash-table-test *hash-table* → *test*

Arguments and Values:

hash-table—a *hash table*.

test—a *function designator*. For the four *standardized hash table* test *functions* (see **make-hash-table**), the *test* value returned is always a *symbol*. If an *implementation* permits additional tests, it is *implementation-dependent* whether such tests are returned as *function objects* or *function names*.

Description:

Returns the test used for comparing *keys* in *hash-table*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *hash-table* is not a *hash table*.

See Also:

make-hash-table

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gethash *Accessor*

Syntax:

gethash *key hash-table* &optional *default* → *value, present-p*

(**setf** (**gethash** *key hash-table* &optional *default*) *new-value*)

Arguments and Values:

key—an *object*.

hash-table—a *hash table*.

default—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

value—an *object*.

present-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Value is the *object* in *hash-table* whose *key* is the *same* as *key* under the *hash-table*'s equivalence test. If there is no such entry, *value* is the *default*.

Present-p is *true* if an entry is found; otherwise, it is *false*.

setf may be used with **gethash** to modify the *value* associated with a given *key*, or to add a new entry. When a **gethash** *form* is used as a **setf** *place*, any *default* which is supplied is evaluated according to normal left-to-right evaluation rules, but its *value* is ignored.

Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32206334>
(gethash 1 table) → NIL, false
(gethash 1 table 2) → 2, false
(setf (gethash 1 table) "one") → "one"
(setf (gethash 2 table "two") "two") → "two"
(gethash 1 table) → "one", true
(gethash 2 table) → "two", true
(gethash nil table) → NIL, false
(setf (gethash nil table) nil) → NIL
(gethash nil table) → NIL, true
(defvar *counters* (make-hash-table)) → *COUNTERS*
(gethash 'foo *counters*) → NIL, false
(gethash 'foo *counters* 0) → 0, false
```

```
(defmacro how-many (obj) `(values (gethash ,obj *counters* 0))) → HOW-MANY
(defun count-it (obj) (incf (how-many obj))) → COUNT-IT
(dolist (x '(bar foo foo bar bar baz)) (count-it x))
(how-many 'foo) → 2
(how-many 'bar) → 3
(how-many 'quux) → 0
```

See Also:

remhash

Notes:

The *secondary value*, *present-p*, can be used to distinguish the absence of an entry from the presence of an entry that has a value of *default*.

remhash *Function*

Syntax:

remhash *key hash-table* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

key—an *object*.

hash-table—a *hash table*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Removes the entry for *key* in *hash-table*, if any. Returns *true* if there was such an entry, or *false* otherwise.

Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32115666>
(setf (gethash 100 table) "C") → "C"
(gethash 100 table) → "C", true
(remhash 100 table) → true
(gethash 100 table) → NIL, false
(remhash 100 table) → false
```

Side Effects:

The *hash-table* is modified.

maphash *Function*

Syntax:

maphash *function hash-table* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

function—a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments*, the *key* and the *value*.

hash-table—a *hash table*.

Description:

Iterates over all entries in the *hash-table*. For each entry, the *function* is called with two *arguments*–the *key* and the *value* of that entry.

The consequences are unspecified if any attempt is made to add or remove an entry from the *hash-table* while a **maphash** is in progress, with two exceptions: the *function* can use can use **setf** of **gethash** to change the *value* part of the entry currently being processed, or it can use **remhash** to remove that entry.

Examples:

```
 (setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32304110>
 (dotimes (i 10) (setf (gethash i table) i)) → NIL
 (let ((sum-of-squares 0))
    (maphash #'(lambda (key val)
                 (let ((square (* val val)))
                   (incf sum-of-squares square)
                   (setf (gethash key table) square)))
             table)
    sum-of-squares) → 285
 (hash-table-count table) → 10
 (maphash #'(lambda (key val)
               (when (oddp val) (remhash key table)))
           table) → NIL
 (hash-table-count table) → 5
 (maphash #'(lambda (k v) (print (list k v))) table)
(0 0)
(8 64)
(2 4)
(6 36)
(4 16)
→ NIL
```

Side Effects:

None, other than any which might be done by the *function*.

See Also:

loop, **with-hash-table-iterator**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

with-hash-table-iterator *Macro*

Syntax:

with-hash-table-iterator (*name hash-table*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

name—a name suitable for the first argument to **macrolet**.

hash-table—a *form*, evaluated once, that should produce a *hash table*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by *forms*.

Description:

Within the lexical scope of the body, *name* is defined via **macrolet** such that successive invocations of (*name*) return the items, one by one, from the *hash table* that is obtained by evaluating *hash-table* only once.

An invocation (*name*) returns three values as follows:

1. A *generalized boolean* that is *true* if an entry is returned.
2. The key from the *hash-table* entry.
3. The value from the *hash-table* entry.

After all entries have been returned by successive invocations of (*name*), then only one value is returned, namely **nil**.

It is unspecified what happens if any of the implicit interior state of an iteration is returned outside the dynamic extent of the **with-hash-table-iterator** *form* such as by returning some *closure* over the invocation *form*.

Any number of invocations of **with-hash-table-iterator** can be nested, and the body of the innermost one can invoke all of the locally *established macros*, provided all of those *macros* have *distinct* names.

Examples:

The following function should return **t** on any *hash table*, and signal an error if the usage of **with-hash-table-iterator** does not agree with the corresponding usage of **maphash**.

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```
(defun test-hash-table-iterator (hash-table)
  (let ((all-entries '())
        (generated-entries '())
        (unique (list nil)))
    (maphash #'(lambda (key value) (push (list key value) all-entries))
             hash-table)
    (with-hash-table-iterator (generator-fn hash-table)
      (loop
        (multiple-value-bind (more? key value) (generator-fn)
          (unless more? (return))
          (unless (eql value (gethash key hash-table unique))
            (error "Key ~S not found for value ~S" key value))
          (push (list key value) generated-entries))))
    (unless (= (length all-entries)
               (length generated-entries)
               (length (union all-entries generated-entries
                              :key #'car :test (hash-table-test hash-table))))
      (error "Generated entries and Maphash entries don't correspond"))
    t))
```

The following could be an acceptable definition of **maphash**, implemented by **with-hash-table-iterator**.

```
(defun maphash (function hash-table)
  (with-hash-table-iterator (next-entry hash-table)
    (loop (multiple-value-bind (more key value) (next-entry)
            (unless more (return nil))
            (funcall function key value)))))
```

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if the local function named *name established* by **with-hash-table-iterator** is called after it has returned *false* as its *primary value*.

See Also:

Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

clrhash *Function*

Syntax:

clrhash *hash-table* → *hash-table*

Arguments and Values:

hash-table—a *hash table*.

Description:

Removes all entries from *hash-table*, and then returns that empty *hash table*.

Examples:

```
(setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32004073>
(dotimes (i 100) (setf (gethash i table) (format nil "~R" i))) → NIL
(hash-table-count table) → 100
(gethash 57 table) → "fifty-seven", true
(clrhash table) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32004073>
(hash-table-count table) → 0
(gethash 57 table) → NIL, false
```

Side Effects:

The *hash-table* is modified.

sxhash *Function*

Syntax:

sxhash *object* → *hash-code*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

hash-code—a non-negative *fixnum*.

Description:

sxhash returns a hash code for *object*.

The manner in which the hash code is computed is *implementation-dependent*, but subject to certain constraints:

1. (equal *x* *y*) implies (= (sxhash *x*) (sxhash *y*)).

2. For any two *objects*, *x* and *y*, both of which are *bit vectors*, *characters*, *conses*, *numbers*, *pathnames*, *strings*, or *symbols*, and which are *similar*, (sxhash *x*) and (sxhash *y*) *yield* the same mathematical value even if *x* and *y* exist in different *Lisp images* of the same *implementation*. See Section 3.2.4 (Literal Objects in Compiled Files).

3. The *hash-code* for an *object* is always the *same* within a single *session* provided that the *object* is not visibly modified with regard to the equivalence test **equal**. See Section 18.1.2 (Modifying Hash Table Keys).

4. The *hash-code* is intended for hashing. This places no verifiable constraint on a *conforming implementation*, but the intent is that an *implementation* should make a good-faith effort to produce *hash-codes* that are well distributed within the range of non-negative *fixnums*.

5. Computation of the *hash-code* must terminate, even if the *object* contains circularities.

Examples:

```
(= (sxhash (list 'list "ab")) (sxhash (list 'list "ab"))) → true
(= (sxhash "a") (sxhash (make-string 1 :initial-element #\a))) → true
(let ((r (make-random-state)))
  (= (sxhash r) (sxhash (make-random-state r))))
→ implementation-dependent
```

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

Notes:

Many common hashing needs are satisfied by **make-hash-table** and the related functions on *hash tables*. **sxhash** is intended for use where the pre-defined abstractions are insufficient. Its main intent is to allow the user a convenient means of implementing more complicated hashing paradigms than are provided through *hash tables*.

The hash codes returned by **sxhash** are not necessarily related to any hashing strategy used by any other *function* in Common Lisp.

For *objects* of *types* that **equal** compares with **eq**, item 3 requires that the *hash-code* be based on some immutable quality of the identity of the object. Another legitimate implementation technique would be to have **sxhash** assign (and cache) a random hash code for these *objects*, since there is no requirement that *similar* but non-**eq** objects have the same hash code.

Although *similarity* is defined for *symbols* in terms of both the *symbol*'s *name* and the *packages* in which the *symbol* is *accessible*, item 3 disallows using *package* information to compute the hash code, since changes to the package status of a symbol are not visible to *equal*.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

19. Filenames

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19.1 Overview of Filenames

There are many kinds of *file systems*, varying widely both in their superficial syntactic details, and in their underlying power and structure. The facilities provided by Common Lisp for referring to and manipulating *files* has been chosen to be compatible with many kinds of *file systems*, while at the same time minimizing the program-visible differences between kinds of *file systems*.

Since *file systems* vary in their conventions for naming *files*, there are two distinct ways to represent *filenames*: as *namestrings* and as *pathnames*.

19.1.1 Namestrings as Filenames

A ***namestring*** is a *string* that represents a *filename*.

In general, the syntax of *namestrings* involves the use of *implementation-defined* conventions, usually those customary for the *file system* in which the named *file* resides. The only exception is the syntax of a *logical pathname namestring*, which is defined in this specification; see Section 19.3.1 (Syntax of Logical Pathname Namestrings).

A *conforming program* must never unconditionally use a *literal namestring* other than a *logical pathname namestring* because Common Lisp does not define any *namestring* syntax other than that for *logical pathnames* that would be guaranteed to be portable. However, a *conforming program* can, if it is careful, successfully manipulate user-supplied data which contains or refers to non-portable *namestrings*.

A *namestring* can be *coerced* to a *pathname* by the *functions* **pathname** or **parse-namestring**.

19.1.2 Pathnames as Filenames

Pathnames are structured *objects* that can represent, in an *implementation-independent* way, the *filenames* that are used natively by an underlying *file system*.

In addition, *pathnames* can also represent certain partially composed *filenames* for which an underlying *file system* might not have a specific *namestring* representation.

A *pathname* need not correspond to any file that actually exists, and more than one *pathname* can refer to the same file. For example, the *pathname* with a version of `:newest` might refer to the same file as a *pathname* with the same components except a certain number as the version. Indeed, a *pathname* with version `:newest` might refer to different files as time passes, because the meaning of such a *pathname* depends on the state of the file system.

Some *file systems* naturally use a structural model for their *filenames*, while others do not. Within the Common Lisp *pathname* model, all *filenames* are seen as having a particular structure, even if that structure is not reflected in the underlying *file system*. The nature of the mapping between structure imposed by *pathnames* and the structure, if any, that is used by the underlying *file system* is *implementation-defined*.

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Every *pathname* has six components: a host, a device, a directory, a name, a type, and a version. By naming *files* with *pathnames*, Common Lisp programs can work in essentially the same way even in *file systems* that seem superficially quite different. For a detailed description of these components, see Section 19.2.1 (Pathname Components).

The mapping of the *pathname* components into the concepts peculiar to each *file system* is *implementation-defined*. There exist conceivable *pathnames* for which there is no mapping to a syntactically valid *filename* in a particular *implementation*. An *implementation* may use various strategies in an attempt to find a mapping; for example, an *implementation* may quietly truncate *filenames* that exceed length limitations imposed by the underlying *file system*, or ignore certain *pathname* components for which the *file system* provides no support. If such a mapping cannot be found, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

The time at which this mapping and associated error signaling occurs is *implementation-dependent*. Specifically, it may occur at the time the *pathname* is constructed, when coercing a *pathname* to a *namestring*, or when an attempt is made to *open* or otherwise access the *file* designated by the *pathname*.

Figure 19–1 lists some *defined names* that are applicable to *pathnames*.

default-pathname-defaults	**namestring**	**pathname-name**
directory-namestring	**open**	**pathname-type**
enough-namestring	**parse-namestring**	**pathname-version**
file-namestring	**pathname**	**pathnamep**
file-string-length	**pathname-device**	**translate-pathname**
host-namestring	**pathname-directory**	**truename**
make-pathname	**pathname-host**	**user-homedir-pathname**
merge-pathnames	**pathname-match-p**	**wild-pathname-p**

Figure 19–1. Pathname Operations

19.1.3 Parsing Namestrings Into Pathnames

Parsing is the operation used to convert a *namestring* into a *pathname*. Except in the case of parsing *logical pathname namestrings*, this operation is *implementation-dependent*, because the format of *namestrings* is *implementation-dependent*.

A *conforming implementation* is free to accommodate other *file system* features in its *pathname* representation and provides a parser that can process such specifications in *namestrings*. *Conforming programs* must not depend on any such features, since those features will not be portable.

19.2 Pathnames

19.2.1 Pathname Components

A *pathname* has six components: a host, a device, a directory, a name, a type, and a version.

19.2.1.1 The Pathname Host Component

The name of the file system on which the file resides, or the name of a *logical host*.

19.2.1.2 The Pathname Device Component

Corresponds to the "device" or "file structure" concept in many host file systems: the name of a logical or physical device containing files.

19.2.1.3 The Pathname Directory Component

Corresponds to the "directory" concept in many host file systems: the name of a group of related files.

19.2.1.4 The Pathname Name Component

The "name" part of a group of *files* that can be thought of as conceptually related.

19.2.1.5 The Pathname Type Component

Corresponds to the "filetype" or "extension" concept in many host file systems. This says what kind of file this is. This component is always a *string*, **nil**, `:wild`, or `:unspecific`.

19.2.1.6 The Pathname Version Component

Corresponds to the "version number" concept in many host file systems.

The version is either a positive *integer* or a *symbol* from the following list: **nil**, `:wild`, `:unspecific`, or `:newest` (refers to the largest version number that already exists in the file system when reading a file, or to a version number greater than any already existing in the file system when writing a new file). Implementations can define other special version *symbols*.

19.2.2 Interpreting Pathname Component Values

19.2.2.1 Strings in Component Values

19.2.2.1.1 Special Characters in Pathname Components

Strings in *pathname* component values never contain special *characters* that represent separation between *pathname* fields, such as *slash* in Unix *filenames*. Whether separator *characters* are permitted as part of a *string* in a *pathname* component is *implementation-defined*; however, if the *implementation* does permit it, it must arrange to properly "quote" the character for the *file system* when constructing a *namestring*. For example,

```
;; In a TOPS-20 implementation, which uses ^V to quote
(NAMESTRING (MAKE-PATHNAME :HOST "OZ" :NAME "<TEST>"))
→ #P"OZ:PS:^V<TEST^V>"
not→ #P"OZ:PS:<TEST>"
```

19.2.2.1.2 Case in Pathname Components

Namestrings always use local file system *case* conventions, but Common Lisp *functions* that manipulate *pathname* components allow the caller to select either of two conventions for representing *case* in component values by supplying a value for the `:case` keyword argument. Figure 19–2 lists the functions relating to *pathnames* that permit a `:case` argument:

make-pathname	**pathname-directory**	**pathname-name**
pathname-device	**pathname-host**	**pathname-type**

Figure 19–2. Pathname functions using a :CASE argument

19.2.2.1.2.1 Local Case in Pathname Components

For the functions in Figure 19–2, a value of `:local` for the `:case` argument (the default for these functions) indicates that the functions should receive and yield *strings* in component values as if they were already represented according to the host *file system*'s convention for *case*.

If the *file system* supports both *cases*, *strings* given or received as *pathname* component values under this protocol are to be used exactly as written. If the file system only supports one *case*, the *strings* will be translated to that *case*.

19.2.2.1.2.2 Common Case in Pathname Components

For the functions in Figure 19–2, a value of `:common` for the `:case` argument that these *functions* should receive and yield *strings* in component values according to the following conventions:

- All *uppercase* means to use a file system's customary *case*.
- All *lowercase* means to use the opposite of the customary *case*.
- Mixed *case* represents itself.

Note that these conventions have been chosen in such a way that translation from `:local` to `:common` and back to `:local` is information-preserving.

19.2.2.2 Special Pathname Component Values

19.2.2.2.1 NIL as a Component Value

As a *pathname* component value, **nil**represents that the component is "unfilled"; see Section 19.2.3 (Merging Pathnames).

The value of any *pathname* component can be **nil**.

When constructing a *pathname*, **nil** in the host component might mean a default host rather than an actual **nil** in some *implementations*.

19.2.2.2.2 :WILD as a Component Value

If `:wild` is the value of a *pathname* component, that component is considered to be a wildcard, which matches anything.

A *conforming program* must be prepared to encounter a value of `:wild` as the value of any *pathname* component, or as an *element* of a *list* that is the value of the directory component.

When constructing a *pathname*, a *conforming program* may use `:wild` as the value of any or all of the directory, name, type, or version component, but must not use `:wild` as the value of the host, or device component.

If `:wild` is used as the value of the directory component in the construction of a *pathname*, the effect is equivalent to specifying the list `(:absolute :wild-inferiors)`, or the same as `(:absolute :wild)` in a *file system* that does not support `:wild-inferiors`.

19.2.2.2.3 :UNSPECIFIC as a Component Value

If `:unspecific` is the value of a *pathname* component, the component is considered to be "absent" or to "have no meaning" in the *filename* being represented by the *pathname*.

Whether a value of `:unspecific` is permitted for any component on any given *file system* accessible to the *implementation* is *implementation-defined*. A *conforming program* must never unconditionally use a `:unspecific` as the value of a *pathname* component because such a value is not guaranteed to be permissible in all implementations. However, a *conforming program* can, if it is careful, successfully manipulate user-supplied data which contains or refers to non-portable *pathname* components. And certainly a *conforming program* should be prepared for the possibility that any components of a *pathname* could be `:unspecific`.

When *reading*$_1$ the value of any *pathname* component, *conforming programs* should be prepared for the value to be `:unspecific`.

When *writing*$_1$ the value of any *pathname* component, the consequences are undefined if `:unspecific` is given for a *pathname* in a *file system* for which it does not make sense.

19.2.2.2.3.1 Relation between component values NIL and :UNSPECIFIC

If a *pathname* is converted to a *namestring*, the *symbols* **nil** and `:unspecific` cause the field to be treated as if it were empty. That is, both **nil** and `:unspecific` cause the component not to appear in the *namestring*.

However, when merging a *pathname* with a set of defaults, only a **nil** value for a component will be replaced with the default for that component, while a value of `:unspecific` will be left alone as if the field were "filled"; see the *function* **merge-pathnames** and Section 19.2.3 (Merging Pathnames).

19.2.2.3 Restrictions on Wildcard Pathnames

Wildcard *pathnames* can be used with **directory** but not with **open**, and return true from **wild-pathname-p**. When examining wildcard components of a wildcard *pathname*, conforming programs must be prepared to encounter any of the following additional values in any component or any element of a *list* that is the directory component:

- The *symbol* `:wild`, which matches anything.
- A *string* containing *implementation-dependent* special wildcard *characters*.
- Any *object*, representing an *implementation-dependent* wildcard pattern.

19.2.2.4 Restrictions on Examining Pathname Components

The space of possible *objects* that a *conforming program* must be prepared to *read*$_1$ as the value of a *pathname* component is substantially larger than the space of possible *objects* that a *conforming program* is permitted to *write*$_1$ into such a component.

While the values discussed in the subsections of this section, in Section 19.2.2.2 (Special Pathname Component Values), and in Section 19.2.2.3 (Restrictions on Wildcard Pathnames) apply to values that might be seen when reading the component values, substantially more restrictive rules apply to constructing pathnames; see Section 19.2.2.5 (Restrictions on Constructing Pathnames).

When examining *pathname* components, *conforming programs* should be aware of the following restrictions.

19.2.2.4.1 Restrictions on Examining a Pathname Host Component

It is *implementation-dependent* what *object* is used to represent the host.

19.2.2.4.2 Restrictions on Examining a Pathname Device Component

The device might be a *string*, `:wild`, `:unspecific`, or **nil**.

Note that `:wild` might result from an attempt to *read*$_1$ the *pathname* component, even though portable programs are restricted from *writing*$_1$ such a component value; see Section 19.2.2.3 (Restrictions on Wildcard Pathnames) and Section 19.2.2.5 (Restrictions on Constructing Pathnames).

19.2.2.4.3 Restrictions on Examining a Pathname Directory Component

The directory might be a *string*, `:wild`, `:unspecific`, or **nil**.

The directory can be a *list* of *strings* and *symbols*. The *car* of the *list* is one of the symbols `:absolute` or `:relative`, meaning:

`:absolute`

A *list* whose *car* is the symbol `:absolute` represents a directory path starting from the root directory. The list `(:absolute)` represents the root directory. The list `(:absolute "foo" "bar" "baz")` represents the directory called `"/foo/bar/baz"` in Unix (except possibly for *case*).

`:relative`

A *list* whose *car* is the symbol `:relative` represents a directory path starting from a default directory. The list `(:relative)` has the same meaning as **nil** and hence is not used. The list `(:relative "foo" "bar")` represents the directory named `"bar"` in the directory named `"foo"` in the default directory.

Each remaining element of the *list* is a *string* or a *symbol*.

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Each *string* names a single level of directory structure. The *strings* should contain only the directory names themselves—no punctuation characters.

In place of a *string*, at any point in the *list*, *symbols* can occur to indicate special file notations. Figure 19–3 lists the *symbols* that have standard meanings. Implementations are permitted to add additional *objects* of any *type* that is disjoint from **string** if necessary to represent features of their file systems that cannot be represented with the standard *strings* and *symbols*.

Supplying any non-*string*, including any of the *symbols* listed below, to a file system for which it does not make sense signals an error of *type* **file-error**. For example, Unix does not support `:wild-inferiors` in most implementations.

Symbol	Meaning
`:wild`	Wildcard match of one level of directory structure
`:wild-inferiors`	Wildcard match of any number of directory levels
`:up`	Go upward in directory structure (semantic)
`:back`	Go upward in directory structure (syntactic)

Figure 19–3. Special Markers In Directory Component

The following notes apply to the previous figure:

Invalid Combinations

Using `:absolute` or `:wild-inferiors` immediately followed by `:up` or `:back` signals an error of *type* **file-error**.

Syntactic vs Semantic

"Syntactic" means that the action of `:back` depends only on the *pathname* and not on the contents of the file system.

"Semantic" means that the action of `:up` depends on the contents of the file system; to resolve a *pathname* containing `:up` to a *pathname* whose directory component contains only `:absolute` and *strings* requires probing the file system.

`:up` differs from `:back` only in file systems that support multiple names for directories, perhaps via symbolic links. For example, suppose that there is a directory `(:absolute "X" "Y" "Z")` linked to `(:absolute "A" "B" "C")` and there also exist directories `(:absolute "A" "B" "Q")` and `(:absolute "X" "Y" "Q")`. Then `(:absolute "X" "Y" "Z" :up "Q")` designates `(:absolute "A" "B" "Q")` while `(:absolute "X" "Y" "Z" :back "Q")` designates `(:absolute "X" "Y" "Q")`

19.2.2.4.3.1 Directory Components in Non-Hierarchical File Systems

In non-hierarchical *file systems*, the only valid *list* values for the directory component of a *pathname* are `(:absolute` *string*`)` and `(:absolute :wild)`. `:relative` directories and the keywords `:wild-inferiors`, `:up`, and `:back` are not used in non-hierarchical *file systems*.

19.2.2.4.4 Restrictions on Examining a Pathname Name Component

The name might be a *string*, `:wild`, `:unspecific`, or **nil**.

19.2.2.4.5 Restrictions on Examining a Pathname Type Component

The type might be a *string*, `:wild`, `:unspecific`, or **nil**.

19.2.2.4.6 Restrictions on Examining a Pathname Version Component

The version can be any *symbol* or any *integer*.

The symbol `:newest` refers to the largest version number that already exists in the *file system* when reading, overwriting, appending, superseding, or directory listing an existing *file*. The symbol `:newest` refers to the smallest version number greater than any existing version number when creating a new file.

The symbols **nil**, `:unspecific`, and `:wild` have special meanings and restrictions; see Section 19.2.2.2 (Special Pathname Component Values) and Section 19.2.2.5 (Restrictions on Constructing Pathnames).

Other *symbols* and *integers* have *implementation-defined* meaning.

19.2.2.4.7 Notes about the Pathname Version Component

It is suggested, but not required, that implementations do the following:

- Use positive *integers* starting at 1 as version numbers.
- Recognize the symbol `:oldest` to designate the smallest existing version number.
- Use *keywords* for other special versions.

19.2.2.5 Restrictions on Constructing Pathnames

When constructing a *pathname* from components, conforming programs must follow these rules:

- Any component can be **nil**. **nil** in the host might mean a default host rather than an actual **nil** in some implementations.
- The host, device, directory, name, and type can be *strings*. There are *implementation-dependent* limits on the number and type of *characters* in these *strings*.
- The directory can be a *list* of *strings* and *symbols*. There are *implementation-dependent* limits on the *list*'s length and contents.
- The version can be `:newest`.
- Any component can be taken from the corresponding component of another *pathname*. When the two *pathnames* are for different file systems (in implementations that support multiple file systems), an appropriate translation occurs. If no meaningful translation is possible, an error is signaled. The definitions of "appropriate" and "meaningful" are *implementation-dependent*.
- An implementation might support other values for some components, but a portable program cannot use those values. A conforming program can use *implementation-dependent* values but this can make it non-portable; for example, it might work only with Unix file systems.

19.2.3 Merging Pathnames

Merging takes a *pathname* with unfilled components and supplies values for those components from a source of defaults.

If a component's value is **nil**, that component is considered to be unfilled. If a component's value is any *non-nil object*, including `:unspecific`, that component is considered to be filled.

Except as explicitly specified otherwise, for functions that manipulate or inquire about *files* in the *file system*, the pathname argument to such a function is merged with ***default-pathname-defaults*** before accessing the *file system* (as if by **merge-pathnames**).

19.2.3.1 Examples of Merging Pathnames

Although the following examples are possible to execute only in *implementations* which permit `:unspecific` in the indicated position andwhich permit four-letter type components, they serve to illustrate the basic concept of *pathname* merging.

```
(pathname-type
  (merge-pathnames (make-pathname :type "LISP")
                   (make-pathname :type "TEXT")))
→ "LISP"

(pathname-type
  (merge-pathnames (make-pathname :type nil)
                   (make-pathname :type "LISP")))
→ "LISP"

(pathname-type
  (merge-pathnames (make-pathname :type :unspecific)
                   (make-pathname :type "LISP")))
→ :UNSPECIFIC
```


19.3 Logical Pathnames

19.3.1 Syntax of Logical Pathname Namestrings

The syntax of a *logical pathname namestring* is as follows. (Note that unlike many notational descriptions in this document, this is a syntactic description of character sequences, not a structural description of *objects*.)

logical-pathname::=[↓*host host-marker*]
[↓*relative-directory-marker*] {↓*directory directory-marker*}*
[↓*name*] [*type-marker* ↓*type* [*version-marker* ↓*version*]]

host::=↓*word*

directory::=↓*word* | ↓*wildcard-word* | ↓*wild-inferiors-word*

name::=↓*word* | ↓*wildcard-word*

type::=↓*word* | ↓*wildcard-word*

version::=↓*pos-int* | *newest-word* | *wildcard-version*

host-marker—a *colon*.

relative-directory-marker—a *semicolon*.

directory-marker—a *semicolon*.

type-marker—a *dot*.

version-marker—a *dot*.

wild-inferiors-word—The two character sequence "`**`" (two *asterisks*).

newest-word—The six character sequence "`newest`" or the six character sequence "`NEWEST`".

wildcard-version—an *asterisk*.

wildcard-word—one or more *asterisks*, uppercase letters, digits, and hyphens, including at least one *asterisk*, with no two *asterisks* adjacent.

word—one or more uppercase letters, digits, and hyphens.

pos-int—a positive *integer*.

19.3.1.1 Additional Information about Parsing Logical Pathname Namestrings

19.3.1.1.1 The Host part of a Logical Pathname Namestring

The *host* must have been defined as a *logical pathname* host; this can be done by using **setf** of **logical-pathname-translations**.

The *logical pathname* host name `"SYS"` is reserved for the implementation. The existence and meaning of `SYS:` *logical pathnames* is *implementation-defined*.

19.3.1.1.2 The Device part of a Logical Pathname Namestring

There is no syntax for a *logical pathname* device since the device component of a *logical pathname* is always `:unspecific`; see Section 19.3.2.1 (Unspecific Components of a Logical Pathname).

19.3.1.1.3 The Directory part of a Logical Pathname Namestring

If a *relative-directory-marker* precedes the *directories*, the directory component parsed is as *relative*; otherwise, the directory component is parsed as *absolute*.

If a *wild-inferiors-marker* is specified, it parses into `:wild-inferiors`.

19.3.1.1.4 The Type part of a Logical Pathname Namestring

The *type* of a *logical pathname* for a *source file* is `"LISP"`. This should be translated into whatever type is appropriate in a physical pathname.

19.3.1.1.5 The Version part of a Logical Pathname Namestring

Some *file systems* do not have *versions*. *Logical pathname* translation to such a *file system* ignores the *version*. This implies that a program cannot rely on being able to store more than one version of a file named by a *logical pathname*.

If a *wildcard-version* is specified, it parses into `:wild`.

19.3.1.1.6 Wildcard Words in a Logical Pathname Namestring

Each *asterisk* in a *wildcard-word* matches a sequence of zero or more characters. The *wildcard-word* "`*`" parses into `:wild`; other *wildcard-words* parse into *strings*.

19.3.1.1.7 Lowercase Letters in a Logical Pathname Namestring

When parsing *words* and *wildcard-words*, lowercase letters are translated to uppercase.

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19.3.1.1.8 Other Syntax in a Logical Pathname Namestring

The consequences of using characters other than those specified here in a *logical pathname namestring* are unspecified.

The consequences of using any value not specified here as a *logical pathname* component are unspecified.

19.3.2 Logical Pathname Components

19.3.2.1 Unspecific Components of a Logical Pathname

The device component of a *logical pathname* is always `:unspecific`; no other component of a *logical pathname* can be `:unspecific`.

19.3.2.2 Null Strings as Components of a Logical Pathname

The null string, `""`, is not a valid value for any component of a *logical pathname*.

pathname *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

pathname, **t**

Description:

A *pathname* is a structured *object* which represents a *filename*.

There are two kinds of *pathnames*—*physical pathnames* and *logical pathnames*.

logical-pathname *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

logical-pathname, **pathname**, **t**

Description:

A *pathname* that uses a *namestring* syntax that is *implementation-independent*, and that has component values that are *implementation-independent*. *Logical pathnames* do not refer directly to *filenames*

See Also:

Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 2.4.8.14 (Sharpsign P), Section 22.1.3.11 (Printing Pathnames)

pathname *Function*

Syntax:

pathname *pathspec* → *pathname*

Arguments and Values:

pathspec—a *pathname designator*.

pathname—a *pathname*.

Description:

Returns the *pathname* denoted by *pathspec*.

If the *pathspec designator* is a *stream*, the *stream* can be either open or closed; in both cases, the **pathname** returned corresponds to the *filename* used to open the *file*. **pathname** returns the same *pathname* for a *file stream* after it is closed as it did when it was open.

If the *pathspec designator* is a *file stream* created by opening a *logical pathname*, a *logical pathname* is returned.

Examples:

```
;; There is a great degree of variability permitted here.  The next
;; several examples are intended to illustrate just a few of the many
;; possibilities.  Whether the name is canonicalized to a particular
;; case (either upper or lower) depends on both the file system and the
;; implementation since two different implementations using the same
;; file system might differ on many issues.  How information is stored
;; internally (and possibly presented in #S notation) might vary,
;; possibly requiring `accessors' such as PATHNAME-NAME to perform case
;; conversion upon access.  The format of a namestring is dependent both
;; on the file system and the implementation since, for example, one
;; implementation might include the host name in a namestring, and
;; another might not.  #S notation would generally only be used in a
;; situation where no appropriate namestring could be constructed for use
;; with #P.
 (setq p1 (pathname "test"))
→ #P"CHOCOLATE:TEST" ; with case canonicalization (e.g., VMS)
or→ #P"VANILLA:test"   ; without case canonicalization (e.g., Unix)
or→ #P"test"
or→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST "STRAWBERRY" :NAME "TEST")
or→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST "BELGIAN-CHOCOLATE" :NAME "test")
 (setq p2 (pathname "test"))
→ #P"CHOCOLATE:TEST"
or→ #P"VANILLA:test"
or→ #P"test"
or→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST "STRAWBERRY" :NAME "TEST")
or→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST "BELGIAN-CHOCOLATE" :NAME "test")
 (pathnamep p1) → true
 (eq p1 (pathname p1)) → true
 (eq p1 p2)
→ true
or→ false
 (with-open-file (stream "test" :direction :output)
   (pathname stream))
→ #P"ORANGE-CHOCOLATE:>Gus>test.lisp.newest"
```

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as

Filenames)

make-pathname *Function*

Syntax:

make-pathname &key *host device directory name type version defaults case*
→ *pathname*

Arguments and Values:

host—a *valid physical pathname host*. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

device—a *valid pathname device*. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

directory—a *valid pathname directory*. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

name—a *valid pathname name*. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

type—a *valid pathname type*. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

version—a *valid pathname version*. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

defaults—a *pathname designator*. The default is a *pathname* whose host component is the same as the host component of the *value* of ***default-pathname-defaults***, and whose other components are all **nil**.

case—one of `:common` or `:local`. The default is `:local`.

pathname—a *pathname*.

Description:

Constructs and returns a *pathname* from the supplied keyword arguments.

After the components supplied explicitly by *host*, *device*, *directory*, *name*, *type*, and *version* are filled in, the merging rules used by **merge-pathnames** are used to fill in any unsupplied components from the defaults supplied by *defaults*.

Whenever a *pathname* is constructed the components may be canonicalized if appropriate. For the explanation of the arguments that can be supplied for each component, see Section 19.2.1 (Pathname Components).

If *case* is supplied, it is treated as described in Section 19.2.2.1.2 (Case in Pathname Components).

The resulting *pathname* is a *logical pathname* if and only its host component is a *logical host* or a *string* that names a defined *logical host*.

If the *directory* is a *string*, it should be the name of a top level directory, and should not contain any punctuation characters; that is, specifying a *string*, *str*, is equivalent to specifying the list (`:absolute` *str*). Specifying the symbol `:wild` is equivalent to specifying the list `(:absolute :wild-inferiors)`, or `(:absolute :wild)` in a file system that does not support `:wild-inferiors`.

Examples:

```
;; Implementation A -- an implementation with access to a single
;;  Unix file system.  This implementation happens to never display
;;  the 'host' information in a namestring, since there is only one host.
(make-pathname :directory '(:absolute "public" "games")
               :name "chess" :type "db")
→ #P"/public/games/chess.db"


;; Implementation B -- an implementation with access to one or more
;;  VMS file systems.  This implementation displays 'host' information
;;  in the namestring only when the host is not the local host.
;;  It uses a double colon to separate a host name from the host's local
;;  file name.
(make-pathname :directory '(:absolute "PUBLIC" "GAMES")
               :name "CHESS" :type "DB")
→ #P"SYS$DISK:[PUBLIC.GAMES]CHESS.DB"
(make-pathname :host "BOBBY"
               :directory '(:absolute "PUBLIC" "GAMES")
               :name "CHESS" :type "DB")
→ #P"BOBBY::SYS$DISK:[PUBLIC.GAMES]CHESS.DB"


;; Implementation C -- an implementation with simultaneous access to
;;  multiple file systems from the same Lisp image.  In this
;;  implementation, there is a convention that any text preceding the
;;  first colon in a pathname namestring is a host name.
(dolist (case '(:common :local))
  (dolist (host '("MY-LISPM" "MY-VAX" "MY-UNIX"))
    (print (make-pathname :host host :case case
                          :directory '(:absolute "PUBLIC" "GAMES")
                          :name "CHESS" :type "DB"))))
▷ #P"MY-LISPM:>public>games>chess.db"
▷ #P"MY-VAX:SYS$DISK:[PUBLIC.GAMES]CHESS.DB"
▷ #P"MY-UNIX:/public/games/chess.db"
▷ #P"MY-LISPM:>public>games>chess.db"
▷ #P"MY-VAX:SYS$DISK:[PUBLIC.GAMES]CHESS.DB"
```

```
▷ #P"MY-UNIX:/PUBLIC/GAMES/CHESS.DB"
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

The *file system*.

See Also:

merge-pathnames, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

Portable programs should not supply `:unspecific` for any component. See Section 19.2.2.2.3 (:UNSPECIFIC as a Component Value).

pathnamep *Function*

Syntax:

pathnamep *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **pathname**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(setq q "test")  → "test"
(pathnamep q) → false
(setq q (pathname "test"))
→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST NIL :DEVICE NIL :DIRECTORY NIL :NAME "test" :TYPE NIL
      :VERSION NIL)
(pathnamep q) → true
(setq q (logical-pathname "SYS:SITE;FOO.SYSTEM"))
→ #P"SYS:SITE;FOO.SYSTEM"
(pathnamep q) → true
```

Notes:

```
(pathnamep object) ≡ (typep object 'pathname)
```


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pathname-host, pathname-device, pathname-directory, pathname-name, pathname-type, pathname-version *Function*

Syntax:

pathname-host *pathname* &key *case* → *host*

pathname-device *pathname* &key *case* → *device*

pathname-directory *pathname* &key *case* → *directory*

pathname-name *pathname* &key *case* → *name*

pathname-type *pathname* &key *case* → *type*

pathname-version *pathname* → *version*

Arguments and Values:

pathname—a *pathname designator*.

case—one of `:local` or `:common`. The default is `:local`.

host—a *valid pathname host*.

device—a *valid pathname device*.

directory—a *valid pathname directory*.

name—a *valid pathname name*.

type—a *valid pathname type*.

version—a *valid pathname version*.

Description:

These functions return the components of *pathname*.

If the *pathname designator* is a *pathname*, it represents the name used to open the file. This may be, but is not required to be, the actual name of the file.

If *case* is supplied, it is treated as described in Section 19.2.2.1.2 (Case in Pathname Components).

Examples:

```
 (setq q (make-pathname :host "KATHY"
                        :directory "CHAPMAN"
                        :name "LOGIN" :type "COM"))
→ #P"KATHY::[CHAPMAN]LOGIN.COM"
 (pathname-host q) → "KATHY"
 (pathname-name q) → "LOGIN"
 (pathname-type q) → "COM"

 ;; Because namestrings are used, the results shown in the remaining
 ;; examples are not necessarily the only possible results.  Mappings
 ;; from namestring representation to pathname representation are
 ;; dependent both on the file system involved and on the implementation
 ;; (since there may be several implementations which can manipulate the
 ;; the same file system, and those implementations are not constrained
 ;; to agree on all details). Consult the documentation for each
 ;; implementation for specific information on how namestrings are treated
 ;; that implementation.

 ;; VMS
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring "[FOO.*.BAR]BAZ.LSP"))
→ (:ABSOLUTE "FOO" "BAR")
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring "[FOO.*.BAR]BAZ.LSP") :case :common)
→ (:ABSOLUTE "FOO" "BAR")

 ;; Unix
 (pathname-directory "foo.l") → NIL
 (pathname-device "foo.l") → :UNSPECIFIC
 (pathname-name "foo.l") → "foo"
 (pathname-name "foo.l" :case :local) → "foo"
 (pathname-name "foo.l" :case :common) → "FOO"
 (pathname-type "foo.l") → "l"
 (pathname-type "foo.l" :case :local) → "l"
 (pathname-type "foo.l" :case :common) → "L"
 (pathname-type "foo") → :UNSPECIFIC
 (pathname-type "foo" :case :common) → :UNSPECIFIC
 (pathname-type "foo.") → ""
 (pathname-type "foo." :case :common) → ""
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring "/foo/bar/baz.lisp") :case :local)
→ (:ABSOLUTE "foo" "bar")
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring "/foo/bar/baz.lisp") :case :local)
→ (:ABSOLUTE "FOO" "BAR")
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring "../baz.lisp"))
→ (:RELATIVE :UP)
 (PATHNAME-DIRECTORY (PARSE-NAMESTRING "/foo/BAR/../Mum/baz"))
→ (:ABSOLUTE "foo" "BAR" :UP "Mum")
```



```
 (PATHNAME-DIRECTORY (PARSE-NAMESTRING "/foo/BAR/../Mum/baz") :case :common)
→ (:ABSOLUTE "FOO" "bar" :UP "Mum")
 (PATHNAME-DIRECTORY (PARSE-NAMESTRING "/foo/*/bar/baz.l"))
→ (:ABSOLUTE "foo" :WILD "bar")
 (PATHNAME-DIRECTORY (PARSE-NAMESTRING "/foo/*/bar/baz.l") :case :common)
→ (:ABSOLUTE "FOO" :WILD "BAR")

 ;; Symbolics LMFS
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring ">foo>**>bar>baz.lisp"))
→ (:ABSOLUTE "foo" :WILD-INFERIORS "bar")
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring ">foo>*>bar>baz.lisp"))
→ (:ABSOLUTE "foo" :WILD "bar")
 (pathname-directory (parse-namestring ">foo>*>bar>baz.lisp") :case :common)
→ (:ABSOLUTE "FOO" :WILD "BAR")
 (pathname-device (parse-namestring ">foo>baz.lisp")) → :UNSPECIFIC
```

Affected By:

The *implementation* and the host *file system*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if its first argument is not a *pathname*.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

load-logical-pathname-translations *Function*

Syntax:

load-logical-pathname-translations *host* → *just-loaded*

Arguments and Values:

host—a *string*.

just-loaded—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Searches for and loads the definition of a *logical host* named *host*, if it is not already defined. The specific nature of the search is *implementation-defined*.

If the *host* is already defined, no attempt to find or load a definition is attempted, and *false* is returned. If the *host* is not already defined, but a definition is successfully found and loaded, *true* is returned. Otherwise, an error is signaled.

Examples:

```
 (translate-logical-pathname "hacks:weather;barometer.lisp.newest")
▷ Error: The logical host HACKS is not defined.
 (load-logical-pathname-translations "HACKS")
▷ ;; Loading SYS:SITE;HACKS.TRANSLATIONS
▷ ;; Loading done.
→ true
 (translate-logical-pathname "hacks:weather;barometer.lisp.newest")
→ #P"HELIUM:[SHARED.HACKS.WEATHER]BAROMETER.LSP;0"
 (load-logical-pathname-translations "HACKS")
→ false
```

Exceptional Situations:

If no definition is found, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

logical-pathname

Notes:

Logical pathname definitions will be created not just by *implementors* but also by *programmers*. As such, it is important that the search strategy be documented. For example, an *implementation* might define that the definition of a *host* is to be found in a file called "*host*.translations" in some specifically named directory.

logical-pathname-translations *Accessor*

Syntax:

logical-pathname-translations *host* → *translations*

(setf (logical-pathname-translations *host*) *new-translations*)

Arguments and Values:

host—a *logical host designator*.

translations, *new-translations*—a *list*.

Description:

Returns the host's *list* of translations. Each translation is a *list* of at least two elements: *from-wildcard* and *to-wildcard*. Any additional elements are *implementation-defined*. *From-wildcard* is a *logical pathname* whose host is *host*. *To-wildcard* is a *pathname*.

(setf (logical-pathname-translations *host*) *translations*) sets a *logical pathname* host's *list* of *translations*. If *host* is a *string* that has not been previously used as a *logical pathname* host, a new *logical pathname* host is defined; otherwise an existing host's translations are replaced. *logical pathname* host names are compared with **string-equal**.

When setting the translations list, each *from-wildcard* can be a *logical pathname* whose host is *host* or a *logical pathname* namestring parseable by (parse-namestring *string host*), where *host* represents the appropriate *object* as defined by **parse-namestring**. Each *to-wildcard* can be anything coercible to a *pathname* by (pathname *to-wildcard*). If *to-wildcard* coerces to a *logical pathname*, **translate-logical-pathname** will perform repeated translation steps when it uses it.

host is either the host component of a *logical pathname* or a *string* that has been defined as a *logical pathname* host name by **setf** of **logical-pathname-translations**.

Examples:

```
 ;;;A very simple example of setting up a logical pathname host.  No
 ;;;translations are necessary to get around file system restrictions, so
 ;;;all that is necessary is to specify the root of the physical directory
 ;;;tree that contains the logical file system.
 ;;;The namestring syntax on the right-hand side is implementation-dependent.
 (setf (logical-pathname-translations "foo")
       '(("**;*.*.*"              "MY-LISPM:>library>foo>**>")))


 ;;;Sample use of that logical pathname.  The return value
 ;;;is implementation-dependent.
 (translate-logical-pathname "foo:bar;baz;mum.quux.3")
→ #P"MY-LISPM:>library>foo>bar>baz>mum.quux.3"


 ;;;A more complex example, dividing the files among two file servers
 ;;;and several different directories.  This Unix doesn't support
 ;;;:WILD-INFERIORS in the directory, so each directory level must
 ;;;be translated individually.  No file name or type translations
 ;;;are required except for .MAIL to .MBX.
 ;;;The namestring syntax on the right-hand side is implementation-dependent.
 (setf (logical-pathname-translations "prog")
       '(("RELEASED;*.*.*"        "MY-UNIX:/sys/bin/my-prog/")
         ("RELEASED;*;*.*.*"      "MY-UNIX:/sys/bin/my-prog/*/")
         ("EXPERIMENTAL;*.*.*"    "MY-UNIX:/usr/Joe/development/prog/")
```

```
        ("EXPERIMENTAL;DOCUMENTATION;*.*.*"
                                  "MY-VAX:SYS$DISK:[JOE.DOC]")
        ("EXPERIMENTAL;*;*.*.*"  "MY-UNIX:/usr/Joe/development/prog/*/")
        ("MAIL;**;*.MAIL"        "MY-VAX:SYS$DISK:[JOE.MAIL.PROG...]*.MBX")))


;;;Sample use of that logical pathname.  The return value
;;;is implementation-dependent.
(translate-logical-pathname "prog:mail;save;ideas.mail.3")
→ #P"MY-VAX:SYS$DISK:[JOE.MAIL.PROG.SAVE]IDEAS.MBX.3"


;;;Example translations for a program that uses three files main.lisp,
;;;auxiliary.lisp, and documentation.lisp.  These translations might be
;;;supplied by a software supplier as examples.


;;;For Unix with long file names
(setf (logical-pathname-translations "prog")
      '(("CODE;*.*.*"             "/lib/prog/")))


;;;Sample use of that logical pathname.  The return value
;;;is implementation-dependent.
(translate-logical-pathname "prog:code;documentation.lisp")
→ #P"/lib/prog/documentation.lisp"


;;;For Unix with 14-character file names, using .lisp as the type
(setf (logical-pathname-translations "prog")
      '(("CODE;DOCUMENTATION.*.*" "/lib/prog/docum.*")
        ("CODE;*.*.*"             "/lib/prog/")))

;;;Sample use of that logical pathname.  The return value
;;;is implementation-dependent.
(translate-logical-pathname "prog:code;documentation.lisp")
→ #P"/lib/prog/docum.lisp"


;;;For Unix with 14-character file names, using .l as the type
;;;The second translation shortens the compiled file type to .b
(setf (logical-pathname-translations "prog")
      `(("**;*.LISP.*"            ,(logical-pathname "PROG:**;*.L.*"))
        (,(compile-file-pathname (logical-pathname "PROG:**;*.LISP.*"))
```



```
                                  ,(logical-pathname "PROG:**;*.B.*"))
        ("CODE;DOCUMENTATION.*.*" "/lib/prog/documentatio.*")
        ("CODE;*.*.*"             "/lib/prog/")))


;;;Sample use of that logical pathname.  The return value
;;;is implementation-dependent.
(translate-logical-pathname "prog:code;documentation.lisp")
→ #P"/lib/prog/documentatio.l"


;;;For a Cray with 6 character names and no directories, types, or versions.
(setf (logical-pathname-translations "prog")
      (let ((l '(("MAIN" "PGMN")
                 ("AUXILIARY" "PGAUX")
                 ("DOCUMENTATION" "PGDOC")))
            (logpath (logical-pathname "prog:code;"))
            (phypath (pathname "XXX")))
        (append
          ;; Translations for source files
          (mapcar #'(lambda (x)
                      (let ((log (first x))
                            (phy (second x)))
                        (list (make-pathname :name log
                                             :type "LISP"
                                             :version :wild
                                             :defaults logpath)
                              (make-pathname :name phy
                                             :defaults phypath))))
                  l)
          ;; Translations for compiled files
          (mapcar #'(lambda (x)
                      (let* ((log (first x))
                             (phy (second x))
                             (com (compile-file-pathname
                                    (make-pathname :name log
                                                   :type "LISP"
                                                   :version :wild
                                                   :defaults logpath))))
                        (setq phy (concatenate 'string phy "B"))
                        (list com
                              (make-pathname :name phy
                                             :defaults phypath))))
                  l))))
```

```
;;;Sample use of that logical pathname.  The return value
;;;is implementation-dependent.
(translate-logical-pathname "prog:code;documentation.lisp")
→ #P"PGDOC"
```

Exceptional Situations:

If *host* is incorrectly supplied, an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

See Also:

logical-pathname, Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

Implementations can define additional *functions* that operate on *logical pathname* hosts, for example to specify additional translation rules or options.

logical-pathname *Function*

Syntax:

logical-pathname *pathspec* → *logical-pathname*

Arguments and Values:

pathspec—a *logical pathname*, a *logical pathname namestring*, or a *stream*.

logical-pathname—a *logical pathname*.

Description:

logical-pathname converts *pathspec* to a *logical pathname* and returns the new *logical pathname*. If *pathspec* is a *logical pathname namestring*, it should contain a host component and its following *colon*. If *pathspec* is a *stream*, it should be one for which **pathname** returns a *logical pathname*.

If *pathspec* is a *stream*, the *stream* can be either open or closed. **logical-pathname** returns the same *logical pathname* after a file is closed as it did when the file was open. It is an error if *pathspec* is a *stream* that is created with **make-two-way-stream**, **make-echo-stream**, **make-broadcast-stream**, **make-concatenated-stream**, **make-string-input-stream**, or **make-string-output-stream**.

Exceptional Situations:

Signals an error of *type* **type-error** if *pathspec* isn't supplied correctly.

See Also:

logical-pathname, **translate-logical-pathname**, Section 19.3 (Logical Pathnames)

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default-pathname-defaults *Variable*

Value Type:

a *pathname object*.

Initial Value:

An *implementation-dependent pathname*, typically in the working directory that was current when Common Lisp was started up.

Description:

a *pathname*, used as the default whenever a *function* needs a default *pathname* and one is not supplied.

Examples:

```
;; This example illustrates a possible usage for a hypothetical Lisp running on a
;; DEC TOPS-20 file system.  Since pathname conventions vary between Lisp
;; implementations and host file system types, it is not possible to provide a
;; general-purpose, conforming example.
*default-pathname-defaults* → #P"PS:<FRED>"
(merge-pathnames (make-pathname :name "CALENDAR"))
→ #P"PS:<FRED>CALENDAR"
(let ((*default-pathname-defaults* (pathname "<MARY>")))
  (merge-pathnames (make-pathname :name "CALENDAR")))
→ #P"<MARY>CALENDAR"
```

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

namestring, file-namestring, directory-namestring, host-namestring, enough-namestring *Function*

Syntax:

namestring *pathname* → *namestring*

file-namestring *pathname* → *namestring*

directory-namestring *pathname* → *namestring*

host-namestring *pathname* → *namestring*

enough-namestring *pathname* `&optional` *defaults* → *namestring*

namestring, file-namestring, directory-namestring, ...

Arguments and Values:

pathname—a *pathname designator*.

defaults—a *pathname designator*. The default is the *value* of ***default-pathname-defaults***.

namestring—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

These functions convert *pathname* into a namestring. The name represented by *pathname* is returned as a *namestring* in an *implementation-dependent* canonical form.

namestring returns the full form of *pathname*.

file-namestring returns just the name, type, and version components of *pathname*.

directory-namestring returns the directory name portion.

host-namestring returns the host name.

enough-namestring returns an abbreviated namestring that is just sufficient to identify the file named by *pathname* when considered relative to the *defaults*. It is required that

```
 (merge-pathnames (enough-namestring pathname defaults) defaults)
≡ (merge-pathnames (parse-namestring pathname nil defaults) defaults)
```

in all cases, and the result of **enough-namestring** is the shortest reasonable *string* that will satisfy this criterion.

It is not necessarily possible to construct a valid *namestring* by concatenating some of the three shorter *namestrings* in some order.

Examples:

```
 (namestring "getty")
→ "getty"
 (setq q (make-pathname :host "kathy"
                        :directory
                          (pathname-directory *default-pathname-defaults*)
                        :name "getty"))
→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST "kathy" :DEVICE NIL :DIRECTORY directory-name
       :NAME "getty" :TYPE NIL :VERSION NIL)
 (file-namestring q) → "getty"
 (directory-namestring q) → directory-name
 (host-namestring q) → "kathy"

 ;;;Using Unix syntax and the wildcard conventions used by the
 ;;;particular version of Unix on which this example was created:
```



```
 (namestring
   (translate-pathname "/usr/dmr/hacks/frob.l"
                       "/usr/d*/hacks/*.l"
                       "/usr/d*/backup/hacks/backup-*.*"))
→ "/usr/dmr/backup/hacks/backup-frob.l"
 (namestring
   (translate-pathname "/usr/dmr/hacks/frob.l"
                       "/usr/d*/hacks/fr*.l"
                       "/usr/d*/backup/hacks/backup-*.*"))
→ "/usr/dmr/backup/hacks/backup-ob.l"

 ;;;This is similar to the above example but uses two different hosts,
 ;;;U: which is a Unix and V: which is a VMS.  Note the translation
 ;;;of file type and alphabetic case conventions.
 (namestring
   (translate-pathname "U:/usr/dmr/hacks/frob.l"
                       "U:/usr/d*/hacks/*.l"
                       "V:SYS$DISK:[D*.BACKUP.HACKS]BACKUP-*.*"))
→ "V:SYS$DISK:[DMR.BACKUP.HACKS]BACKUP-FROB.LSP"
 (namestring
   (translate-pathname "U:/usr/dmr/hacks/frob.l"
                       "U:/usr/d*/hacks/fr*.l"
                       "V:SYS$DISK:[D*.BACKUP.HACKS]BACKUP-*.*"))
→ "V:SYS$DISK:[DMR.BACKUP.HACKS]BACKUP-OB.LSP"
```

See Also:

truename, **merge-pathnames**, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

parse-namestring *Function*

Syntax:

parse-namestring *thing* &optional *host default-pathname* &key *start end junk-allowed*
→ *pathname, position*

Arguments and Values:

thing—a *string*, a *pathname*, or a *stream associated with a file*.

host—a *valid pathname host*, a *logical host*, or **nil**.

default-pathname—a *pathname designator*. The default is the *value* of ***default-pathname-defaults***.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *thing*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

junk-allowed—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

pathname—a *pathname*, or **nil**.

position—a *bounding index designator* for *thing*.

Description:

Converts *thing* into a *pathname*.

The *host* supplies a host name with respect to which the parsing occurs.

If *thing* is a *stream associated with a file*, processing proceeds as if the *pathname* used to open that *file* had been supplied instead.

If *thing* is a *pathname*, the *host* and the host component of *thing* are compared. If they match, two values are immediately returned: *thing* and *start*; otherwise (if they do not match), an error is signaled.

Otherwise (if *thing* is a *string*), **parse-namestring** parses the name of a *file* within the substring of *thing* bounded by *start* and *end*.

If *thing* is a *string* then the substring of *thing* *bounded* by *start* and *end* is parsed into a *pathname* as follows:

- If *host* is a *logical host* then *thing* is parsed as a *logical pathname namestring* on the *host*.
- If *host* is **nil** and *thing* is a syntactically valid *logical pathname namestring* containing an explicit host, then it is parsed as a *logical pathname namestring*.
- If *host* is **nil**, *default-pathname* is a *logical pathname*, and *thing* is a syntactically valid *logical pathname namestring* without an explicit host, then it is parsed as a *logical pathname namestring* on the host that is the host component of *default-pathname*.
- Otherwise, the parsing of *thing* is *implementation-defined*.

In the first of these cases, the host portion of the *logical pathname* namestring and its following *colon* are optional.

If the host portion of the namestring and *host* are both present and do not match, an error is signaled.

If *junk-allowed* is *true*, then the *primary value* is the *pathname* parsed or, if no syntactically correct *pathname* was seen, **nil**. If *junk-allowed* is *false*, then the entire substring is scanned, and the *primary value* is the *pathname* parsed.

In either case, the *secondary value* is the index into *thing* of the delimiter that terminated the

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parse, or the index beyond the substring if the parse terminated at the end of the substring (as will always be the case if *junk-allowed* is *false*).

Parsing a *null string* always succeeds, producing a *pathname* with all components (except the host) equal to **nil**.

If *thing* contains an explicit host name and no explicit device name, then it is *implementation-defined* whether **parse-namestring** will supply the standard default device for that host as the device component of the resulting *pathname*.

Examples:

```
 (setq q (parse-namestring "test"))
→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST NIL :DEVICE NIL :DIRECTORY NIL :NAME "test"
       :TYPE NIL :VERSION NIL)
 (pathnamep q) → true
 (parse-namestring "test")
→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST NIL :DEVICE NIL :DIRECTORY NIL :NAME "test"
       :TYPE NIL :VERSION NIL), 4
 (setq s (open xxx)) → #<Input File Stream...>
 (parse-namestring s)
→ #S(PATHNAME :HOST NIL :DEVICE NIL :DIRECTORY NIL :NAME xxx
       :TYPE NIL :VERSION NIL), 0
 (parse-namestring "test" nil nil :start 2 :end 4 )
 → #S(PATHNAME ...), 15
 (parse-namestring "foo.lisp")
→ #P"foo.lisp"
```

Exceptional Situations:

If *junk-allowed* is *false*, an error of *type* **parse-error** is signaled if *thing* does not consist entirely of the representation of a *pathname*, possibly surrounded on either side by *whitespace*$_1$ characters if that is appropriate to the cultural conventions of the implementation.

If *host* is supplied and not **nil**, and *thing* contains a manifest host name, an error of *type* **error** is signaled if the hosts do not match.

If *thing* is a *logical pathname* namestring and if the host portion of the namestring and *host* are both present and do not match, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.2.2.2.3 (:UNSPECIFIC as a Component Value), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

wild-pathname-p *Function*

Syntax:

wild-pathname-p *pathname* `&optional` *field-key* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

pathname—a *pathname designator*.

Field-key—one of `:host`, `:device` `:directory`, `:name`, `:type`, `:version`, or **nil**.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

wild-pathname-p tests *pathname* for the presence of wildcard components.

If *pathname* is a *pathname* (as returned by **pathname**) it represents the name used to open the file. This may be, but is not required to be, the actual name of the file.

If *field-key* is not supplied or **nil**, **wild-pathname-p** returns true if *pathname* has any wildcard components, **nil** if *pathname* has none. If *field-key* is *non-nil*, **wild-pathname-p** returns true if the indicated component of *pathname* is a wildcard, **nil** if the component is not a wildcard.

Examples:

```
;;;The following examples are not portable.  They are written to run
;;;with particular file systems and particular wildcard conventions.
;;;Other implementations will behave differently.  These examples are
;;;intended to be illustrative, not to be prescriptive.

(wild-pathname-p (make-pathname :name :wild)) → true
(wild-pathname-p (make-pathname :name :wild) :name) → true
(wild-pathname-p (make-pathname :name :wild) :type) → false
(wild-pathname-p (pathname "s:>foo>**>")) → true ;Lispm
(wild-pathname-p (pathname :name "F*O")) → true ;Most places
```

Exceptional Situations:

If *pathname* is not a *pathname*, a *string*, or a *stream associated with a file* an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

Not all implementations support wildcards in all fields. See Section 19.2.2.2.2 (:WILD as a Component Value) and Section 19.2.2.3 (Restrictions on Wildcard Pathnames).

pathname-match-p *Function*

Syntax:

pathname-match-p *pathname wildcard* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

pathname—a *pathname designator*.

wildcard—a *designator* for a *wild pathname*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

pathname-match-p returns true if *pathname* matches *wildcard*, otherwise **nil**. The matching rules are *implementation-defined* but should be consistent with **directory**. Missing components of *wildcard* default to `:wild`.

It is valid for *pathname* to be a wild *pathname*; a wildcard field in *pathname* only matches a wildcard field in *wildcard* (*i.e.*, **pathname-match-p** is not commutative). It is valid for *wildcard* to be a non-wild *pathname*.

Exceptional Situations:

If *pathname* or *wildcard* is not a *pathname*, *string*, or *stream associated with a file* an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

See Also:

directory, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

translate-logical-pathname *Function*

Syntax:

translate-logical-pathname *pathname* &key → *physical-pathname*

Arguments and Values:

pathname—a *pathname designator*, or a *logical pathname namestring*.

physical-pathname—a *physical pathname*.

Description:

Translates *pathname* to a *physical pathname*, which it returns.

If *pathname* is a *stream*, the *stream* can be either open or closed. **translate-logical-pathname** returns the same physical pathname after a file is closed as it did when the file was open. It is an error if *pathname* is a *stream* that is created with **make-two-way-stream**, **make-echo-stream**, **make-broadcast-stream**, **make-concatenated-stream**, **make-string-input-stream**, **make-string-output-stream**.

If *pathname* is a *logical pathname* namestring, the host portion of the *logical pathname* namestring and its following *colon* are required.

Pathname is first coerced to a *pathname*. If the coerced *pathname* is a physical pathname, it is returned. If the coerced *pathname* is a *logical pathname*, the first matching translation (according to **pathname-match-p**) of the *logical pathname* host is applied, as if by calling **translate-pathname**. If the result is a *logical pathname*, this process is repeated. When the result is finally a physical pathname, it is returned. If no translation matches, an error is signaled.

translate-logical-pathname might perform additional translations, typically to provide translation of file types to local naming conventions, to accomodate physical file systems with limited length names, or to deal with special character requirements such as translating hyphens to underscores or uppercase letters to lowercase. Any such additional translations are *implementation-defined*. Some implementations do no additional translations.

There are no specified keyword arguments for **translate-logical-pathname**, but implementations are permitted to extend it by adding keyword arguments.

Examples:

See **logical-pathname-translations**.

Exceptional Situations:

If *pathname* is incorrectly supplied, an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

If no translation matches, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

See Also:

logical-pathname, **logical-pathname-translations**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

translate-pathname *Function*

Syntax:

translate-pathname *source from-wildcard to-wildcard* &key
→ *translated-pathname*

Arguments and Values:

source—a *pathname designator*.

from-wildcard—a *pathname designator*.

to-wildcard—a *pathname designator*.

translated-pathname—a *pathname*.

Description:

translate-pathname translates *source* (that matches *from-wildcard*) into a corresponding *pathname* that matches *to-wildcard*, and returns the corresponding *pathname*.

The resulting *pathname* is *to-wildcard* with each wildcard or missing field replaced by a portion of *source*. A "wildcard field" is a *pathname* component with a value of `:wild`, a `:wild` element of a *list*-valued directory component, or an *implementation-defined* portion of a component, such as the `"*"` in the complex wildcard string `"foo*bar"` that some implementations support. An implementation that adds other wildcard features, such as regular expressions, must define how **translate-pathname** extends to those features. A "missing field" is a *pathname* component with a value of **nil**.

The portion of *source* that is copied into the resulting *pathname* is *implementation-defined*. Typically it is determined by the user interface conventions of the file systems involved. Usually it is the portion of *source* that matches a wildcard field of *from-wildcard* that is in the same position as the wildcard or missing field of *to-wildcard*. If there is no wildcard field in *from-wildcard* at that position, then usually it is the entire corresponding *pathname* component of *source*, or in the case of a *list*-valued directory component, the entire corresponding *list* element.

During the copying of a portion of *source* into the resulting *pathname*, additional *implementation-defined* translations of *case* or file naming conventions might occur, especially when *from-wildcard* and *to-wildcard* are for different hosts.

It is valid for *source* to be a wild *pathname*; in general this will produce a wild result. It is valid for *from-wildcard* and/or *to-wildcard* to be non-wild *pathnames*.

translate-pathname

There are no specified keyword arguments for **translate-pathname**, but implementations are permitted to extend it by adding keyword arguments.

translate-pathname maps customary case in *source* into customary case in the output *pathname*.

Examples:

```
 ;; The results of the following five forms are all implementation-dependent.
 ;; The second item in particular is shown with multiple results just to
 ;; emphasize one of many particular variations which commonly occurs.
 (pathname-name (translate-pathname "foobar" "foo*" "*baz")) → "barbaz"
 (pathname-name (translate-pathname "foobar" "foo*" "*"))
→ "foobar"
or→ "bar"
 (pathname-name (translate-pathname "foobar" "*"    "foo*")) → "foofoobar"
 (pathname-name (translate-pathname "bar"    "*"    "foo*")) → "foobar"
 (pathname-name (translate-pathname "foobar" "foo*" "baz*")) → "bazbar"

 (defun translate-logical-pathname-1 (pathname rules)
   (let ((rule (assoc pathname rules :test #'pathname-match-p)))
     (unless rule (error "No translation rule for ~A" pathname))
     (translate-pathname pathname (first rule) (second rule))))
 (translate-logical-pathname-1 "FOO:CODE;BASIC.LISP"
                      '(("FOO:DOCUMENTATION;" "MY-UNIX:/doc/foo/")
                        ("FOO:CODE;"          "MY-UNIX:/lib/foo/")
                        ("FOO:PATCHES;*;"     "MY-UNIX:/lib/foo/patch/*/")))
→ #P"MY-UNIX:/lib/foo/basic.l"

;;;This example assumes one particular set of wildcard conventions
;;;Not all file systems will run this example exactly as written
 (defun rename-files (from to)
   (dolist (file (directory from))
     (rename-file file (translate-pathname file from to))))
 (rename-files "/usr/me/*.lisp" "/dev/her/*.l")
   ;Renames /usr/me/init.lisp to /dev/her/init.l
 (rename-files "/usr/me/pcl*/*" "/sys/pcl/*/")
   ;Renames /usr/me/pcl-5-may/low.lisp to /sys/pcl/pcl-5-may/low.lisp
   ;In some file systems the result might be /sys/pcl/5-may/low.lisp
 (rename-files "/usr/me/pcl*/*" "/sys/library/*/")
   ;Renames /usr/me/pcl-5-may/low.lisp to /sys/library/pcl-5-may/low.lisp
   ;In some file systems the result might be /sys/library/5-may/low.lisp
 (rename-files "/usr/me/foo.bar" "/usr/me2/")
   ;Renames /usr/me/foo.bar to /usr/me2/foo.bar
 (rename-files "/usr/joe/*-recipes.text" "/usr/jim/cookbook/joe's-*-rec.text")
   ;Renames /usr/joe/lamb-recipes.text to /usr/jim/cookbook/joe's-lamb-rec.text
```


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```
   ;Renames /usr/joe/pork-recipes.text to /usr/jim/cookbook/joe's-pork-rec.text
   ;Renames /usr/joe/veg-recipes.text to /usr/jim/cookbook/joe's-veg-rec.text
```

Exceptional Situations:

If any of *source*, *from-wildcard*, or *to-wildcard* is not a *pathname*, a *string*, or a *stream associated with a file* an error of *type* **type-error** is signaled.

(pathname-match-p *source from-wildcard*) must be true or an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

See Also:

namestring, **pathname-host**, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

The exact behavior of **translate-pathname** cannot be dictated by the Common Lisp language and must be allowed to vary, depending on the user interface conventions of the file systems involved.

The following is an implementation guideline. One file system performs this operation by examining each piece of the three *pathnames* in turn, where a piece is a *pathname* component or a *list* element of a structured component such as a hierarchical directory. Hierarchical directory elements in *from-wildcard* and *to-wildcard* are matched by whether they are wildcards, not by depth in the directory hierarchy. If the piece in *to-wildcard* is present and not wild, it is copied into the result. If the piece in *to-wildcard* is :wild or **nil**, the piece in *source* is copied into the result. Otherwise, the piece in *to-wildcard* might be a complex wildcard such as "foo*bar" and the piece in *from-wildcard* should be wild; the portion of the piece in *source* that matches the wildcard portion of the piece in *from-wildcard* replaces the wildcard portion of the piece in *to-wildcard* and the value produced is used in the result.

merge-pathnames *Function*

Syntax:

merge-pathnames *pathname* &optional *default-pathname default-version*
→ *merged-pathname*

Arguments and Values:

pathname—a *pathname designator*.

default-pathname—a *pathname designator*. The default is the *value* of ***default-pathname-defaults***.

default-version—a *valid pathname version*. The default is :newest.

merged-pathname—a *pathname*.

merge-pathnames

Description:

Constructs a *pathname* from *pathname* by filling in any unsupplied components with the corresponding values from *default-pathname* and *default-version*.

Defaulting of pathname components is done by filling in components taken from another *pathname*. This is especially useful for cases such as a program that has an input file and an output file. Unspecified components of the output pathname will come from the input pathname, except that the type should not default to the type of the input pathname but rather to the appropriate default type for output from the program; for example, see the *function* **compile-file-pathname**.

If no version is supplied, *default-version* is used. If *default-version* is **nil**, the version component will remain unchanged.

If *pathname* explicitly specifies a host and not a device, and if the host component of *default-pathname* matches the host component of *pathname*, then the device is taken from the *default-pathname*; otherwise the device will be the default file device for that host. If *pathname* does not specify a host, device, directory, name, or type, each such component is copied from *default-pathname*. If *pathname* does not specify a name, then the version, if not provided, will come from *default-pathname*, just like the other components. If *pathname* does specify a name, then the version is not affected by *default-pathname*. If this process leaves the version missing, the *default-version* is used. If the host's file name syntax provides a way to input a version without a name or type, the user can let the name and type default but supply a version different from the one in *default-pathname*.

If *pathname* is a *stream*, *pathname* effectively becomes (pathname *pathname*). **merge-pathnames** can be used on either an open or a closed *stream*.

If *pathname* is a *pathname* it represents the name used to open the file. This may be, but is not required to be, the actual name of the file.

merge-pathnames recognizes a *logical pathname namestring* when *default-pathname* is a *logical pathname*, or when the *namestring* begins with the name of a defined *logical host* followed by a *colon*. In the first of these two cases, the host portion of the *logical pathname namestring* and its following *colon* are optional.

merge-pathnames returns a *logical pathname* if and only if its first argument is a *logical pathname*, or its first argument is a *logical pathname namestring* with an explicit host, or its first argument does not specify a host and the *default-pathname* is a *logical pathname*.

Pathname merging treats a relative directory specially. If (pathname-directory *pathname*) is a *list* whose *car* is :relative, and (pathname-directory *default-pathname*) is a *list*, then the merged directory is the value of

```
(append (pathname-directory default-pathname)
        (cdr  ;remove :relative from the front
          (pathname-directory pathname)))
```

except that if the resulting *list* contains a *string* or :wild immediately followed by

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:back, both of them are removed. This removal of redundant :back *keywords* is repeated as many times as possible. If (pathname-directory *default-pathname*) is not a *list* or (pathname-directory *pathname*) is not a *list* whose *car* is :relative, the merged directory is (or (pathname-directory *pathname*) (pathname-directory *default-pathname*))

merge-pathnames maps customary case in *pathname* into customary case in the output *pathname*.

Examples:

```
(merge-pathnames "CMUC::FORMAT"
                 "CMUC::PS:<LISPIO>.FASL")
→ #P"CMUC::PS:<LISPIO>FORMAT.FASL.0"
```

See Also:

default-pathname-defaults, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

The net effect is that if just a name is supplied, the host, device, directory, and type will come from *default-pathname*, but the version will come from *default-version*. If nothing or just a directory is supplied, the name, type, and version will come from *default-pathname* together.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

20. Files

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20.1 File System Concepts

This section describes the Common Lisp interface to file systems. The model used by this interface assumes that ***files*** are named by ***filenames***, that a *filename* can be represented by a *pathname object*, and that given a *pathname* a ***stream*** can be constructed that connects to a *file* whose *filename* it represents.

For information about opening and closing *files*, and manipulating their contents, see Chapter 21 (Streams).

Figure 20–1 lists some *operators* that are applicable to *files* and directories.

compile-file	**file-length**	**open**
delete-file	**file-position**	**probe-file**
directory	**file-write-date**	**rename-file**
file-author	**load**	**with-open-file**

Figure 20–1. File and Directory Operations

20.1.1 Coercion of Streams to Pathnames

A ***stream associated with a file*** is either a *file stream* or a *synonym stream* whose target is a ***stream associated with a file***. Such streams can be used as *pathname designators*.

Normally, when a *stream associated with a file* is used as a *pathname designator*, it denotes the *pathname* used to open the *file*; this may be, but is not required to be, the actual name of the *file*.

Some functions, such as **truename** and **delete-file**, coerce *streams* to *pathnames* in a different way that involves referring to the actual *file* that is open, which might or might not be the file whose name was opened originally. Such special situations are always notated specifically and are not the default.

20.1.2 File Operations on Open and Closed Streams

Many *functions* that perform *file* operations accept either *open* or *closed streams* as *arguments*; see Section 21.1.3 (Stream Arguments to Standardized Functions).

Of these, the *functions* in Figure 20–2 treat *open* and *closed streams* differently.

delete-file	**file-author**	**probe-file**
directory	**file-write-date**	**truename**

Figure 20–2. File Functions that Treat Open and Closed Streams Differently

Since treatment of *open streams* by the *file system* may vary considerably between *implementations*, however, a *closed stream* might be the most reliable kind of *argument* for some of these functions—in particular, those in Figure 20–3. For example, in some *file systems*, *open files* are written under temporary names and not renamed until *closed* and/or are held invisible until *closed*. In general, any code that is intended to be portable should use such *functions* carefully.

directory	**probe-file**	**truename**

Figure 20–3. File Functions where Closed Streams Might Work Best

20.1.3 Truenames

Many *file systems* permit more than one *filename* to designate a particular *file*.

Even where multiple names are possible, most *file systems* have a convention for generating a canonical *filename* in such situations. Such a canonical *filename* (or the *pathname* representing such a *filename*) is called a ***truename***.

The *truename* of a *file* may differ from other *filenames* for the file because of symbolic links, version numbers, logical device translations in the *file system*, *logical pathname* translations within Common Lisp, or other artifacts of the *file system*.

The *truename* for a *file* is often, but not necessarily, unique for each *file*. For instance, a Unix *file* with multiple hard links could have several *truenames*.

20.1.3.1 Examples of Truenames

For example, a DEC TOPS-20 system with *files* `PS:<JOE>FOO.TXT.1` and `PS:<JOE>FOO.TXT.2` might permit the second *file* to be referred to as `PS:<JOE>FOO.TXT.0`, since the "`.0`" notation denotes "newest" version of several *files*. In the same *file system*, a "logical device" "`JOE:`" might be taken to refer to `PS:<JOE>`" and so the names `JOE:FOO.TXT.2` or `JOE:FOO.TXT.0` might refer to `PS:<JOE>FOO.TXT.2`. In all of these cases, the *truename* of the file would probably be `PS:<JOE>FOO.TXT.2`.

If a *file* is a symbolic link to another *file* (in a *file system* permitting such a thing), it is conventional for the *truename* to be the canonical name of the *file* after any symbolic links have been followed; that is, it is the canonical name of the *file* whose contents would become available if an *input stream* to that *file* were opened.

In the case of a *file* still being created (that is, of an *output stream* open to such a *file*), the exact *truename* of the file might not be known until the *stream* is closed. In this case, the *function* **truename** might return different values for such a *stream* before and after it was closed. In fact, before it is closed, the name returned might not even be a valid name in the *file system*—for example, while a file is being written, it might have version `:newest` and might only take on a specific numeric value later when the file is closed even in a *file system* where all files have numeric versions.

directory *Function*

Syntax:

directory *pathspec* &key → *pathnames*

Arguments and Values:

pathspec—a *pathname designator*, which may contain *wild* components.

pathnames—a *list* of *physical pathnames*.

Description:

Determines which, if any, *files* that are present in the file system have names matching *pathspec*, and returns a *fresh list* of *pathnames* corresponding to the *truenames* of those *files*.

An *implementation* may be extended to accept *implementation-defined* keyword arguments to **directory**.

Affected By:

The host computer's file system.

Exceptional Situations:

If the attempt to obtain a directory listing is not successful, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, **ensure-directories-exist**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 21.1.1.1.2 (Open and Closed Streams), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

If the *pathspec* is not *wild*, the resulting list will contain either zero or one elements.

Common Lisp specifies "`&key`" in the argument list to **directory** even though no *standardized* keyword arguments to **directory** are defined. "`:allow-other-keys t`" may be used in *conforming programs* in order to quietly ignore any additional keywords which are passed by the program but not supported by the *implementation*.

probe-file *Function*

Syntax:

probe-file *pathspec* → *truename*

Arguments and Values:

pathspec—a *pathname designator*.

truename—a *physical pathname* or **nil**.

Description:

probe-file tests whether a file exists.

probe-file returns *false* if there is no file named *pathspec*, and otherwise returns the *truename* of *pathspec*.

If the *pathspec designator* is an open *stream*, then **probe-file** produces the *truename* of its associated *file*. If *pathspec* is a *stream*, whether open or closed, it is coerced to a *pathname* as if by the *function* **pathname**.

Affected By:

The host computer's file system.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if *pathspec* is *wild*.

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if the *file system* cannot perform the requested operation.

See Also:

truename, **open**, **ensure-directories-exist**, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 21.1.1.1.2 (Open and Closed Streams), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

ensure-directories-exist *Function*

Syntax:

ensure-directories-exist *pathspec* &key *verbose* → *pathspec, created*

Arguments and Values:

pathspec—a *pathname designator*.

verbose—a *generalized boolean*.

created—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Tests whether the directories containing the specified *file* actually exist, and attempts to create them if they do not.

If the containing directories do not exist and if *verbose* is *true*, then the *implementation* is permitted (but not required) to perform output to *standard output* saying what directories were created. If the containing directories exist, or if *verbose* is *false*, this function performs no output.

The *primary value* is the given *pathspec* so that this operation can be straightforwardly composed with other file manipulation expressions. The *secondary value*, *created*, is *true* if any directories were created.

Affected By:

The host computer's file system.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if the host, device, or directory part of *pathspec* is *wild*.

If the directory creation attempt is not successful, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled; if this occurs, it might be the case that none, some, or all of the requested creations have actually occurred within the *file system*.

See Also:

probe-file, **open**, Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

truename *Function*

Syntax:

truename *filespec* → *truename*

Arguments and Values:

filespec—a *pathname designator*.

truename—a *physical pathname*.

Description:

truename tries to find the *file* indicated by *filespec* and returns its *truename*. If the *filespec designator* is an open *stream*, its associated *file* is used. If *filespec* is a *stream*, **truename** can be used whether the *stream* is open or closed. It is permissible for **truename** to return more specific information after the *stream* is closed than when the *stream* was open. If *filespec* is a *pathname* it represents the name used to open the file. This may be, but is not required to be, the actual name of the file.

Examples:

```
;; An example involving version numbers.  Note that the precise nature of
;; the truename is implementation-dependent while the file is still open.
 (with-open-file (stream ">vistor>test.text.newest")
   (values (pathname stream)
           (truename stream)))
→ #P"S:>vistor>test.text.newest", #P"S:>vistor>test.text.1"
or→ #P"S:>vistor>test.text.newest", #P"S:>vistor>test.text.newest"
or→ #P"S:>vistor>test.text.newest", #P"S:>vistor>_temp_._temp_.1"

;; In this case, the file is closed when the truename is tried, so the
;; truename information is reliable.
 (with-open-file (stream ">vistor>test.text.newest")
   (close stream)
   (values (pathname stream)
           (truename stream)))
→ #P"S:>vistor>test.text.newest", #P"S:>vistor>test.text.1"

;; An example involving TOP-20's implementation-dependent concept
;; of logical devices -- in this case, "DOC:" is shorthand for
;; "PS:<DOCUMENTATION>" ...
 (with-open-file (stream "CMUC::DOC:DUMPER.HLP")
   (values (pathname stream)
           (truename stream)))
→ #P"CMUC::DOC:DUMPER.HLP", #P"CMUC::PS:<DOCUMENTATION>DUMPER.HLP.13"
```

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if an appropriate *file* cannot be located within the *file system* for the given *filespec*, or if the *file system* cannot perform the requested operation.

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if *pathname* is *wild*.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

truename may be used to account for any *filename* translations performed by the *file system*.

file-author *Function*

Syntax:

file-author *pathspec* → *author*

Arguments and Values:

pathspec—a *pathname designator*.

author—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns a *string* naming the author of the *file* specified by *pathspec*, or **nil** if the author's name cannot be determined.

Examples:

```
(with-open-file (stream ">relativity>general.text")
  (file-author s))
→ "albert"
```

Affected By:

The host computer's file system.

Other users of the *file* named by *pathspec*.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if *pathspec* is *wild*.

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if the *file system* cannot perform the requested operation.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

file-write-date *Function*

Syntax:

file-write-date *pathspec* → *date*

Arguments and Values:

pathspec—a *pathname designator*.

date—a *universal time* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns a *universal time* representing the time at which the *file* specified by *pathspec* was last written (or created), or returns **nil** if such a time cannot be determined.

Examples:

```
(with-open-file (s "noel.text"
                   :direction :output :if-exists :error)
  (format s "~&Dear Santa,~2%I was good this year.  ~
                Please leave lots of toys.~2%Love, Sue~
             ~2%attachments: milk, cookies~%")
  (truename s))
→ #P"CUPID:/susan/noel.text"
(with-open-file (s "noel.text")
  (file-write-date s))
→ 2902600800
```

Affected By:

The host computer's file system.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if *pathspec* is *wild*.

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if the *file system* cannot perform the requested operation.

See Also:

Section 25.1.4.2 (Universal Time), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

rename-file *Function*

Syntax:

rename-file *filespec new-name* → *defaulted-new-name, old-truename, new-truename*

Arguments and Values:

filespec—a *pathname designator*.

new-name—a *pathname designator* other than a *stream*.

defaulted-new-name—a *pathname*

old-truename—a *physical pathname*.

new-truename—a *physical pathname*.

Description:

rename-file modifies the file system in such a way that the file indicated by *filespec* is renamed to *defaulted-new-name*.

It is an error to specify a filename containing a *wild* component, for *filespec* to contain a **nil** component where the file system does not permit a **nil** component, or for the result of defaulting missing components of *new-name* from *filespec* to contain a **nil** component where the file system does not permit a **nil** component.

If *new-name* is a *logical pathname*, **rename-file** returns a *logical pathname* as its *primary value*.

rename-file returns three values if successful. The *primary value*, *defaulted-new-name*, is the resulting name which is composed of *new-name* with any missing components filled in by performing a **merge-pathnames** operation using *filespec* as the defaults. The *secondary value*, *old-truename*, is the *truename* of the *file* before it was renamed. The *tertiary value*, *new-truename*, is the *truename* of the *file* after it was renamed.

If the *filespec designator* is an open *stream*, then the *stream* itself and the file associated with it are affected (if the *file system* permits).

Examples:

```
;; An example involving logical pathnames.
 (with-open-file (stream "sys:chemistry;lead.text"
                         :direction :output :if-exists :error)
   (princ "eureka" stream)
   (values (pathname stream) (truename stream)))
→ #P"SYS:CHEMISTRY;LEAD.TEXT.NEWEST", #P"Q:>sys>chem>lead.text.1"
 (rename-file "sys:chemistry;lead.text" "gold.text")
→ #P"SYS:CHEMISTRY;GOLD.TEXT.NEWEST",
   #P"Q:>sys>chem>lead.text.1",
   #P"Q:>sys>chem>gold.text.1"
```

Exceptional Situations:

If the renaming operation is not successful, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if *filespec* is *wild*.

See Also:

truename, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

delete-file *Function*

Syntax:

delete-file *filespec* → **t**

Arguments and Values:

filespec—a *pathname designator*.

Description:

Deletes the *file* specified by *filespec*.

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If the *filespec designator* is an open *stream*, then *filespec* and the file associated with it are affected (if the file system permits), in which case *filespec* might be closed immediately, and the deletion might be immediate or delayed until *filespec* is explicitly closed, depending on the requirements of the file system.

It is *implementation-dependent* whether an attempt to delete a nonexistent file is considered to be successful.

delete-file returns *true* if it succeeds, or signals an error of *type* **file-error** if it does not.

The consequences are undefined if *filespec* has a *wild* component, or if *filespec* has a **nil** component and the file system does not permit a **nil** component.

Examples:

```
 (with-open-file (s "delete-me.text" :direction :output :if-exists :error))
→ NIL
 (setq p (probe-file "delete-me.text")) → #P"R:>fred>delete-me.text.1"
 (delete-file p) → T
 (probe-file "delete-me.text") → false
 (with-open-file (s "delete-me.text" :direction :output :if-exists :error)
   (delete-file s))
→ T
 (probe-file "delete-me.text") → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

If the deletion operation is not successful, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if *filespec* is *wild*.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

file-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

file-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **file-error** consists of error conditions that occur during an attempt to open or close a file, or during some low-level transactions with a file system. The "offending pathname" is initialized by the `:pathname` initialization argument to **make-condition**, and is *accessed* by the *function* **file-error-pathname**.

See Also:

file-error-pathname, **open**, **probe-file**, **directory**, **ensure-directories-exist**

file-error-pathname *Function*

Syntax:

file-error-pathname *condition* → *pathspec*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **file-error**.

pathspec—a *pathname designator*.

Description:

Returns the "offending pathname" of a *condition* of *type* **file-error**.

Exceptional Situations:

See Also:

file-error, Chapter 9 (Conditions)

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

21. Streams

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21.1 Stream Concepts

21.1.1 Introduction to Streams

A ***stream*** is an *object* that can be used with an input or output function to identify an appropriate source or sink of *characters* or *bytes* for that operation. A ***character stream*** is a source or sink of *characters*. A ***binary stream*** is a source or sink of *bytes*.

Some operations may be performed on any kind of *stream*; Figure 21–1 provides a list of *standardized* operations that are potentially useful with any kind of *stream*.

close	**stream-element-type**
input-stream-p	**streamp**
interactive-stream-p	**with-open-stream**
output-stream-p	

Figure 21–1. Some General-Purpose Stream Operations

Other operations are only meaningful on certain *stream types*. For example, **read-char** is only defined for *character streams* and **read-byte** is only defined for *binary streams*.

21.1.1.1 Abstract Classifications of Streams

21.1.1.1.1 Input, Output, and Bidirectional Streams

A *stream*, whether a *character stream* or a *binary stream*, can be an ***input stream*** (source of data), an ***output stream*** (sink for data), both, or (*e.g.*, when "`:direction :probe`" is given to **open**) neither.

Figure 21–2 shows *operators* relating to *input streams*.

clear-input	**read-byte**	**read-from-string**
listen	**read-char**	**read-line**
peek-char	**read-char-no-hang**	**read-preserving-whitespace**
read	**read-delimited-list**	**unread-char**

Figure 21–2. Operators relating to Input Streams.

Figure 21–3 shows *operators* relating to *output streams*.

clear-output	**prin1**	**write**
finish-output	**prin1-to-string**	**write-byte**
force-output	**princ**	**write-char**
format	**princ-to-string**	**write-line**
fresh-line	**print**	**write-string**
pprint	**terpri**	**write-to-string**

Figure 21–3. Operators relating to Output Streams.

A *stream* that is both an *input stream* and an *output stream* is called a ***bidirectional stream***. See the *functions* **input-stream-p** and **output-stream-p**.

Any of the *operators* listed in Figure 21–2 or Figure 21–3 can be used with *bidirectional streams*. In addition, Figure 21–4 shows a list of *operators* that relate specificaly to *bidirectional streams*.

y-or-n-p	**yes-or-no-p**

Figure 21–4. Operators relating to Bidirectional Streams.

21.1.1.1.2 Open and Closed Streams

Streams are either ***open*** or ***closed***.

Except as explicitly specified otherwise, operations that create and return *streams* return *open streams*.

The action of *closing* a *stream* marks the end of its use as a source or sink of data, permitting the *implementation* to reclaim its internal data structures, and to free any external resources which might have been locked by the *stream* when it was opened.

Except as explicitly specified otherwise, the consequences are undefined when a *closed stream* is used where a *stream* is called for.

Coercion of *streams* to *pathnames* is permissible for *closed streams*; in some situations, such as for a *truename* computation, the result might be different for an *open stream* and for that same *stream* once it has been *closed*.

21.1.1.1.3 Interactive Streams

An ***interactive stream*** is one on which it makes sense to perform interactive querying.

The precise meaning of an *interactive stream* is *implementation-defined*, and may depend on the underlying operating system. Some examples of the things that an *implementation* might choose to use as identifying characteristics of an *interactive stream* include:

- The *stream* is connected to a person (or equivalent) in such a way that the program can prompt for information and expect to receive different input depending on the prompt.

- The program is expected to prompt for input and support "normal input editing".

- **read-char** might wait for the user to type something before returning instead of immediately returning a character or end-of-file.

The general intent of having some *streams* be classified as *interactive streams* is to allow them to be distinguished from streams containing batch (or background or command-file) input. Output to batch streams is typically discarded or saved for later viewing, so interactive queries to such streams might not have the expected effect.

Terminal I/O might or might not be an *interactive stream*.

21.1.1.2 Abstract Classifications of Streams

21.1.1.2.1 File Streams

Some *streams*, called ***file streams***, provide access to *files*. An *object* of *class* **file-stream** is used to represent a *file stream*.

The basic operation for opening a *file* is **open**, which typically returns a *file stream* (see its dictionary entry for details). The basic operation for closing a *stream* is **close**. The macro **with-open-file** is useful to express the common idiom of opening a *file* for the duration of a given body of *code*, and assuring that the resulting *stream* is closed upon exit from that body.

21.1.1.3 Other Subclasses of Stream

The *class* **stream** has a number of *subclasses* defined by this specification. Figure 21–5 shows some information about these subclasses.

Class	Related Operators
broadcast-stream	make-broadcast-stream
	broadcast-stream-streams
concatenated-stream	make-concatenated-stream
	concatenated-stream-streams
echo-stream	make-echo-stream
	echo-stream-input-stream
	echo-stream-output-stream
string-stream	make-string-input-stream
	with-input-from-string
	make-string-output-stream
	with-output-to-string
	get-output-stream-string
synonym-stream	make-synonym-stream
	synonym-stream-symbol
two-way-stream	make-two-way-stream
	two-way-stream-input-stream
	two-way-stream-output-stream

Figure 21–5. Defined Names related to Specialized Streams

21.1.2 Stream Variables

Variables whose *values* must be *streams* are sometimes called ***stream variables***.

Certain *stream variables* are defined by this specification to be the proper source of input or output in various *situations* where no specific *stream* has been specified instead. A complete list of such *standardized stream variables* appears in Figure 21–6. The consequences are undefined if at any time the *value* of any of these *variables* is not an *open stream*.

Glossary Term	Variable Name
debug I/O	*debug-io*
error output	*error-output*
query I/O	*query-io*
standard input	*standard-input*
standard output	*standard-output*
terminal I/O	*terminal-io*
trace output	*trace-output*

Figure 21–6. Standardized Stream Variables

Note that, by convention, *standardized stream variables* have names ending in "`-input*`" if they must be *input streams*, ending in "`-output*`" if they must be *output streams*, or ending in "`-io*`" if they must be *bidirectional streams*.

User programs may *assign* or *bind* any *standardized stream variable* except ***terminal-io***.

21.1.3 Stream Arguments to Standardized Functions

The *operators* in Figure 21–7 accept *stream arguments* that might be either *open* or *closed streams*.

broadcast-stream-streams	**file-author**	**pathnamep**
close	**file-namestring**	**probe-file**
compile-file	**file-write-date**	**rename-file**
compile-file-pathname	**host-namestring**	**streamp**
concatenated-stream-streams	**load**	**synonym-stream-symbol**
delete-file	**logical-pathname**	**translate-logical-pathname**
directory	**merge-pathnames**	**translate-pathname**
directory-namestring	**namestring**	**truename**
dribble	**open**	**two-way-stream-input-stream**
echo-stream-input-stream	**open-stream-p**	**two-way-stream-output-stream**
echo-stream-ouput-stream	**parse-namestring**	**wild-pathname-p**
ed	**pathname**	**with-open-file**
enough-namestring	**pathname-match-p**	

Figure 21–7. Operators that accept either Open or Closed Streams

The *operators* in Figure 21–8 accept *stream arguments* that must be *open streams*.

clear-input	**output-stream-p**	**read-char-no-hang**
clear-output	**peek-char**	**read-delimited-list**
file-length	**pprint**	**read-line**
file-position	**pprint-fill**	**read-preserving-whitespace**
file-string-length	**pprint-indent**	**stream-element-type**
finish-output	**pprint-linear**	**stream-external-format**
force-output	**pprint-logical-block**	**terpri**
format	**pprint-newline**	**unread-char**
fresh-line	**pprint-tab**	**with-open-stream**
get-output-stream-string	**pprint-tabular**	**write**
input-stream-p	**prin1**	**write-byte**
interactive-stream-p	**princ**	**write-char**
listen	**print**	**write-line**
make-broadcast-stream	**print-object**	**write-string**
make-concatenated-stream	**print-unreadable-object**	**y-or-n-p**
make-echo-stream	**read**	**yes-or-no-p**
make-synonym-stream	**read-byte**	
make-two-way-stream	**read-char**	

Figure 21–8. Operators that accept Open Streams only

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21.1.4 Restrictions on Composite Streams

The consequences are undefined if any *component* of a *composite stream* is *closed* before the *composite stream* is *closed*.

The consequences are undefined if the *synonym stream symbol* is not *bound* to an *open stream* from the time of the *synonym stream*'s creation until the time it is *closed*.

stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

stream, **t**

Description:

A *stream* is an *object* that can be used with an input or output function to identify an appropriate source or sink of *characters* or *bytes* for that operation.

For more complete information, see Section 21.1 (Stream Concepts).

See Also:

Section 21.1 (Stream Concepts), Section 22.1.3.13 (Printing Other Objects), Chapter 22 (Printer), Chapter 23 (Reader)

broadcast-stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

broadcast-stream, **stream**, **t**

Description:

A *broadcast stream* is an *output stream* which has associated with it a set of zero or more *output streams* such that any output sent to the *broadcast stream* gets passed on as output to each of the associated *output streams*. (If a *broadcast stream* has no *component streams*, then all output to the *broadcast stream* is discarded.)

The set of operations that may be performed on a *broadcast stream* is the intersection of those for its associated *output streams*.

Some output operations (*e.g.*, **fresh-line**) return *values* based on the state of the *stream* at the time of the operation. Since these *values* might differ for each of the *component streams*, it is necessary to describe their return value specifically:

- **stream-element-type** returns the value from the last component stream, or **t** if there are no component streams.

- **fresh-line** returns the value from the last component stream, or **nil** if there are no component streams.

- The functions **file-length**, **file-position**, **file-string-length**, and **stream-external-format** return the value from the last component stream; if there are no component streams, **file-length** and **file-position** return `0`, **file-string-length** returns `1`, and **stream-external-format** returns `:default`.

- The functions **streamp** and **output-stream-p** always return *true* for *broadcast streams*.

- The functions **open-stream-p** tests whether the *broadcast stream* is $open_2$, not whether its component streams are *open*.

- The functions **input-stream-p** and *interactive-stream-p* return an *implementation-defined*, *generalized boolean* value.

- For the input operations **clear-input listen**, **peek-char**, **read-byte**, **read-char-no-hang**, **read-char**, **read-line**, and **unread-char**, the consequences are undefined if the indicated operation is performed. However, an *implementation* is permitted to define such a behavior as an *implementation-dependent* extension.

For any output operations not having their return values explicitly specified above or elsewhere in this document, it is defined that the *values* returned by such an operation are the *values* resulting from performing the operation on the last of its *component streams*; the *values* resulting from performing the operation on all preceding *streams* are discarded. If there are no *component streams*, the value is *implementation-dependent*.

See Also:

broadcast-stream-streams, **make-broadcast-stream**

concatenated-stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

concatenated-stream, **stream**, **t**

Description:

A *concatenated stream* is an *input stream* which is a *composite stream* of zero or more other *input streams*, such that the sequence of data which can be read from the *concatenated stream* is the same as the concatenation of the sequences of data which could be read from each of the constituent *streams*.

Input from a *concatenated stream* is taken from the first of the associated *input streams* until it reaches *end of* $file_1$; then that *stream* is discarded, and subsequent input is taken from the next *input stream*, and so on. An *end of file* on the associated *input streams* is always managed invisibly by the *concatenated stream*—the only time a client of a *concatenated stream* sees an *end* *of file* is when an attempt is made to obtain data from the *concatenated stream* but it has no remaining *input streams* from which to obtain such data.

See Also:

concatenated-stream-streams, **make-concatenated-stream**

echo-stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

echo-stream, **stream**, **t**

Description:

An *echo stream* is a *bidirectional stream* that gets its input from an associated *input stream* and sends its output to an associated *output stream*.

All input taken from the *input stream* is echoed to the *output stream*. Whether the input is echoed immediately after it is encountered, or after it has been read from the *input stream* is *implementation-dependent*.

See Also:

echo-stream-input-stream, **echo-stream-output-stream**, **make-echo-stream**

file-stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

file-stream, **stream**, **t**

Description:

An *object* of *type* **file-stream** is a *stream* the direct source or sink of which is a *file*. Such a *stream* is created explicitly by **open** and **with-open-file**, and implicitly by *functions* such as **load** that process *files*.

See Also:

load, **open**, **with-open-file**

string-stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

string-stream, **stream**, **t**

Description:

A *string stream* is a *stream* which reads input from or writes output to an associated *string*.

The *stream element type* of a *string stream* is always a *subtype* of *type* **character**.

See Also:

make-string-input-stream, **make-string-output-stream**, **with-input-from-string**, **with-output-to-string**

synonym-stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

synonym-stream, **stream**, **t**

Description:

A *stream* that is an alias for another *stream*, which is the *value* of a *dynamic variable* whose *name* is the *synonym stream symbol* of the *synonym stream*.

Any operations on a *synonym stream* will be performed on the *stream* that is then the *value* of the *dynamic variable* named by the *synonym stream symbol*. If the *value* of the *variable* should change, or if the *variable* should be *bound*, then the *stream* will operate on the new *value* of the *variable*.

See Also:

make-synonym-stream, **synonym-stream-symbol**

two-way-stream *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

two-way-stream, **stream**, **t**

Description:

A *bidirectional composite stream* that receives its input from an associated *input stream* and sends its output to an associated *output stream*.

See Also:

make-two-way-stream, **two-way-stream-input-stream**, **two-way-stream-output-stream**

input-stream-p, output-stream-p *Function*

Syntax:

input-stream-p *stream* → *generalized-boolean*

output-stream-p *stream* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *stream*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

input-stream-p returns *true* if *stream* is an *input stream*; otherwise, returns *false*.

output-stream-p returns *true* if *stream* is an *output stream*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(input-stream-p *standard-input*) → true
(input-stream-p *terminal-io*) → true
(input-stream-p (make-string-output-stream)) → false

(output-stream-p *standard-output*) → true
(output-stream-p *terminal-io*) → true
(output-stream-p (make-string-input-stream "jr")) → false
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *stream* is not a *stream*.

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interactive-stream-p *Function*

Syntax:

interactive-stream-p *stream* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *stream*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *stream* is an *interactive stream*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(when (> measured limit)
  (let ((error (round (* (- measured limit) 100)
                      limit)))
    (unless (if (interactive-stream-p *query-io*)
                (yes-or-no-p "The frammis is out of tolerance by ~D%.~@
                              Is it safe to proceed? " error)
                (< error 15))  ;15% is acceptable
      (error "The frammis is out of tolerance by ~D%." error))))
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *stream* is not a *stream*.

See Also:

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open-stream-p *Function*

Syntax:

open-stream-p *stream* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *stream*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *stream* is an *open stream*; otherwise, returns *false*.

Streams are open until they have been explicitly closed with **close**, or until they are implicitly closed due to exit from a **with-output-to-string**, **with-open-file**, **with-input-from-string**, or **with-open-stream** *form*.

Examples:

```
(open-stream-p *standard-input*) → true
```

Affected By:

close.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *stream* is not a *stream*.

stream-element-type *Function*

Syntax:

stream-element-type *stream* → *typespec*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *stream*.

typespec—a *type specifier*.

Description:

stream-element-type returns a *type specifier* that indicates the *types* of *objects* that may be read from or written to *stream*.

Streams created by **open** have an *element type* restricted to **integer** or a *subtype* of *type* **character**.

Examples:

```
;; Note that the stream must accomodate at least the specified type,
;; but might accomodate other types.  Further note that even if it does
;; accomodate exactly the specified type, the type might be specified in
;; any of several ways.
 (with-open-file (s "test" :element-type '(integer 0 1)
                           :if-exists :error
                           :direction :output)
   (stream-element-type s))
→ INTEGER
or→ (UNSIGNED-BYTE 16)
or→ (UNSIGNED-BYTE 8)
or→ BIT
or→ (UNSIGNED-BYTE 1)
or→ (INTEGER 0 1)
or→ (INTEGER 0 (2))
```


Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *stream* is not a *stream*.

streamp *Function*

Syntax:

streamp *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **stream**; otherwise, returns *false*.

streamp is unaffected by whether *object*, if it is a *stream*, is *open* or closed.

Examples:

```
(streamp *terminal-io*) → true
(streamp 1) → false
```

Notes:

```
(streamp object) ≡ (typep object 'stream)
```

read-byte *Function*

Syntax:

read-byte *stream* &optional *eof-error-p eof-value* → *byte*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *binary input stream*.

eof-error-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

eof-value—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

byte—an *integer*, or the *eof-value*.

Description:

read-byte reads and returns one byte from *stream*.

If an *end of file*$_2$ occurs and *eof-error-p* is *false*, the *eof-value* is returned.

Examples:

```
(with-open-file (s "temp-bytes"
                   :direction :output
                   :element-type 'unsigned-byte)
   (write-byte 101 s)) → 101
(with-open-file (s "temp-bytes" :element-type 'unsigned-byte)
   (format t "~S ~S" (read-byte s) (read-byte s nil 'eof)))
▷ 101 EOF
→ NIL
```

Side Effects:

Modifies *stream*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *stream* is not a *stream*.

Should signal an error of *type* **error** if *stream* is not a *binary input stream*.

If there are no *bytes* remaining in the *stream* and *eof-error-p* is *true*, an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled.

See Also:

read-char, **read-sequence**, **write-byte**

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write-byte *Function*

Syntax:

write-byte *byte stream* → *byte*

Arguments and Values:

byte—an *integer* of the *stream element type* of *stream*.

stream—a *binary output stream*.

Description:

write-byte writes one byte, *byte*, to *stream*.

Examples:

```
(with-open-file (s "temp-bytes"
                   :direction :output
                   :element-type 'unsigned-byte)
   (write-byte 101 s)) → 101
```

Side Effects:

stream is modified.

Affected By:

The *element type* of the *stream*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *stream* is not a *stream*. Should signal an error of *type* **error** if *stream* is not a *binary output stream*.

Might signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *byte* is not an *integer* of the *stream element type* of *stream*.

See Also:

read-byte, **write-char**, **write-sequence**

peek-char *Function*

Syntax:

peek-char &optional *peek-type input-stream eof-error-p* → *char*
eof-value recursive-p

Arguments and Values:

peek-type—a *character* or **t** or **nil**.

input-stream—*input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

eof-error-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

eof-value—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

recursive-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

char—a *character* or the *eof-value*.

Description:

peek-char obtains the next character in *input-stream* without actually reading it, thus leaving the character to be read at a later time. It can also be used to skip over and discard intervening characters in the *input-stream* until a particular character is found.

If *peek-type* is not supplied or **nil**, **peek-char** returns the next character to be read from *input-stream*, without actually removing it from *input-stream*. The next time input is done from *input-stream*, the character will still be there. If *peek-type* is **t**, then **peek-char** skips over *whitespace*$_2$ *characters*, but not comments, and then performs the peeking operation on the next character. The last character examined, the one that starts an *object*, is not removed from *input-stream*. If *peek-type* is a *character*, then **peek-char** skips over input characters until a character that is **char=** to that *character* is found; that character is left in *input-stream*.

If an *end of file*$_2$ occurs and *eof-error-p* is *false*, *eof-value* is returned.

If *recursive-p* is *true*, this call is expected to be embedded in a higher-level call to **read** or a similar *function* used by the *Lisp reader*.

When *input-stream* is an *echo stream*, characters that are only peeked at are not echoed. In the case that *peek-type* is not **nil**, the characters that are passed by **peek-char** are treated as if by **read-char**, and so are echoed unless they have been marked otherwise by **unread-char**.

Examples:

```
 (with-input-from-string (input-stream "    1 2 3 4 5")
   (format t "~S ~S ~S"
           (peek-char t input-stream)
           (peek-char #\4 input-stream)
           (peek-char nil input-stream)))
▷ #\1 #\4 #\4
→ NIL
```


Affected By:

readtable, ***standard-input***, ***terminal-io***.

Exceptional Situations:

If *eof-error-p* is *true* and an *end of file*$_2$ occurs an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled.

If *peek-type* is a *character*, an *end of file*$_2$ occurs, and *eof-error-p* is *true*, an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled.

If *recursive-p* is *true* and an *end of file*$_2$ occurs, an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled.

read-char *Function*

Syntax:

read-char &optional *input-stream eof-error-p eof-value recursive-p* → *char*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—an *input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

eof-error-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

eof-value—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

recursive-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

char—a *character* or the *eof-value*.

Description:

read-char returns the next *character* from *input-stream*.

When *input-stream* is an *echo stream*, the character is echoed on *input-stream* the first time the character is seen. Characters that are not echoed by **read-char** are those that were put there by **unread-char** and hence are assumed to have been echoed already by a previous call to **read-char**.

If *recursive-p* is *true*, this call is expected to be embedded in a higher-level call to **read** or a similar *function* used by the *Lisp reader*.

If an *end of file*$_2$ occurs and *eof-error-p* is *false*, *eof-value* is returned.

Examples:

```
(with-input-from-string (is "0123")
   (do ((c (read-char is) (read-char is nil 'the-end)))
       ((not (characterp c)))
    (format t "~S " c)))
▷ #\0 #\1 #\2 #\3
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

standard-input, ***terminal-io***.

Exceptional Situations:

If an *end of file*$_2$ occurs before a character can be read, and *eof-error-p* is *true*, an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled.

See Also:

read-byte, **read-sequence**, **write-char**, **read**

Notes:

The corresponding output function is **write-char**.

read-char-no-hang *Function*

Syntax:

read-char-no-hang &optional *input-stream eof-error-p eof-value recursive-p* → *char*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream – an *input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

eof-error-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

eof-value—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

recursive-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

char—a *character* or **nil** or the *eof-value*.

Description:

read-char-no-hang returns a character from *input-stream* if such a character is available. If no character is available, **read-char-no-hang** returns **nil**.

If *recursive-p* is *true*, this call is expected to be embedded in a higher-level call to **read** or a similar *function* used by the *Lisp reader*.

If an *end of file*$_2$ occurs and *eof-error-p* is *false*, *eof-value* is returned.

Examples:

```
;; This code assumes an implementation in which a newline is not
;; required to terminate input from the console.
 (defun test-it ()
   (unread-char (read-char))
   (list (read-char-no-hang)
         (read-char-no-hang)
         (read-char-no-hang)))
→ TEST-IT
;; Implementation A, where a Newline is not required to terminate
;; interactive input on the console.
 (test-it)
▷ a
→ (#\a NIL NIL)
;; Implementation B, where a Newline is required to terminate
;; interactive input on the console, and where that Newline remains
;; on the input stream.
 (test-it)
▷ a↩
→ (#\a #\Newline NIL)
```

Affected By:

standard-input, ***terminal-io***.

Exceptional Situations:

If an *end of file*$_2$ occurs when *eof-error-p* is *true*, an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled .

See Also:

listen

Notes:

read-char-no-hang is exactly like **read-char**, except that if it would be necessary to wait in order to get a character (as from a keyboard), **nil** is immediately returned without waiting.

terpri, fresh-line *Function*

Syntax:

terpri &optional *output-stream* → **nil**

fresh-line &optional *output-stream* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

output-stream – an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

terpri outputs a *newline* to *output-stream*.

fresh-line is similar to **terpri** but outputs a *newline* only if the *output-stream* is not already at the start of a line. If for some reason this cannot be determined, then a *newline* is output anyway. **fresh-line** returns *true* if it outputs a *newline*; otherwise it returns *false*.

Examples:

```
 (with-output-to-string (s)
    (write-string "some text" s)
    (terpri s)
    (terpri s)
    (write-string "more text" s))
→ "some text

more text"
 (with-output-to-string (s)
    (write-string "some text" s)
    (fresh-line s)
    (fresh-line s)
    (write-string "more text" s))
→ "some text
more text"
```

Side Effects:

The *output-stream* is modified.

Affected By:

standard-output, ***terminal-io***.

Exceptional Situations:

None.

Notes:

terpri is identical in effect to

```
 (write-char #\Newline output-stream)
```

unread-char *Function*

Syntax:

unread-char *character* &optional *input-stream* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*; must be the last *character* that was read from *input-stream*.

input-stream—an *input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

Description:

unread-char places *character* back onto the front of *input-stream* so that it will again be the next character in *input-stream*.

When *input-stream* is an *echo stream*, no attempt is made to undo any echoing of the character that might already have been done on *input-stream*. However, characters placed on *input-stream* by **unread-char** are marked in such a way as to inhibit later re-echo by **read-char**.

It is an error to invoke **unread-char** twice consecutively on the same *stream* without an intervening call to **read-char** (or some other input operation which implicitly reads characters) on that *stream*.

Invoking **peek-char** or **read-char** commits all previous characters. The consequences of invoking **unread-char** on any character preceding that which is returned by **peek-char** (including those passed over by **peek-char** that has a *non-nil peek-type*) are unspecified. In particular, the consequences of invoking **unread-char** after **peek-char** are unspecified.

Examples:

```
 (with-input-from-string (is "0123")
    (dotimes (i 6)
      (let ((c (read-char is)))
        (if (evenp i) (format t "~&~S ~S~%" i c) (unread-char c is)))))
▷ 0 #\0
▷ 2 #\1
▷ 4 #\2
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

standard-input, ***terminal-io***.

See Also:

peek-char, **read-char**, Section 21.1 (Stream Concepts)

Notes:

unread-char is intended to be an efficient mechanism for allowing the *Lisp reader* and other parsers to perform one-character lookahead in *input-stream*.

write-char *Function*

Syntax:

write-char *character* &optional *output-stream* → *character*

Arguments and Values:

character—a *character*.

output-stream – an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

Description:

write-char outputs *character* to *output-stream*.

Examples:

```
 (write-char #\a)
▷ a
→ #\a
 (with-output-to-string (s)
   (write-char #\a s)
   (write-char #\Space s)
   (write-char #\b s))
→ "a b"
```

Side Effects:

The *output-stream* is modified.

Affected By:

standard-output, ***terminal-io***.

See Also:

read-char, **write-byte**, **write-sequence**

read-line *Function*

Syntax:

read-line &optional *input-stream eof-error-p eof-value recursive-p*
→ *line, missing-newline-p*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—an *input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

eof-error-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

eof-value—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

recursive-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

line—a *string* or the *eof-value*.

missing-newline-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Reads from *input-stream* a line of text that is terminated by a *newline* or *end of file*.

If *recursive-p* is *true*, this call is expected to be embedded in a higher-level call to **read** or a similar *function* used by the *Lisp reader*.

The *primary value*, *line*, is the line that is read, represented as a *string* (without the trailing *newline*, if any). If *eof-error-p* is *false* and the *end of file* for *input-stream* is reached before any *characters* are read, *eof-value* is returned as the *line*.

The *secondary value*, *missing-newline-p*, is a *generalized boolean* that is *false* if the *line* was terminated by a *newline*, or *true* if the *line* was terminated by the *end of file* for *input-stream* (or if the *line* is the *eof-value*).

Examples:

```
 (setq a "line 1
 line2")
→ "line 1
 line2"
 (read-line (setq input-stream (make-string-input-stream a)))
→ "line 1", false
 (read-line input-stream)
→ "line2", true
 (read-line input-stream nil nil)
→ NIL, true
```

Affected By:

standard-input, ***terminal-io***.

Exceptional Situations:

If an *end of file*$_2$ occurs before any characters are read in the line, an error is signaled if *eof-error-p* is *true*.

See Also:

read

Notes:

The corresponding output function is **write-line**.

write-string, write-line *Function*

Syntax:

write-string *string* &optional *output-stream* &key *start end* → *string*

write-line *string* &optional *output-stream* &key *start end* → *string*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string*.

output-stream – an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *string*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

Description:

write-string writes the *characters* of the subsequence of *string bounded* by *start* and *end* to *output-stream*. **write-line** does the same thing, but then outputs a newline afterwards.

Examples:

```
 (prog1 (write-string "books" nil :end 4) (write-string "worms"))
▷ bookworms
→ "books"
 (progn (write-char #\*)
        (write-line "test12" *standard-output* :end 5)
        (write-line "*test2")
        (write-char #\*)
        nil)
▷ *test1
▷ *test2
▷ *
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

standard-output, ***terminal-io***.

See Also:

read-line, **write-char**

Notes:

write-line and **write-string** return *string*, not the substring *bounded* by *start* and *end*.

```
 (write-string string)
≡ (dotimes (i (length string)
      (write-char (char string i)))

 (write-line string)
≡ (prog1 (write-string string) (terpri))
```

read-sequence *Function*

Syntax:

read-sequence *sequence stream* &key *start end* → *position*

sequence—a *sequence*.

stream—an *input stream*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

position—an *integer* greater than or equal to zero, and less than or equal to the *length* of the *sequence*.

Description:

Destructively modifies *sequence* by replacing the *elements* of *sequence bounded* by *start* and *end* with *elements* read from *stream*.

Sequence is destructively modified by copying successive *elements* into it from *stream*. If the *end of file* for *stream* is reached before copying all *elements* of the subsequence, then the extra *elements* near the end of *sequence* are not updated.

Position is the index of the first *element* of *sequence* that was not updated, which might be less than *end* because the *end of file* was reached.

Examples:

```
(defvar *data* (make-array 15 :initial-element nil))
(values (read-sequence *data* (make-string-input-stream "test string")) *data*)
→ 11, #(#\t #\e #\s #\t #\Space #\s #\t #\r #\i #\n #\g NIL NIL NIL NIL)
```

Side Effects:

Modifies *stream* and *sequence*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *start* is not a non-negative *integer*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *end* is not a non-negative *integer* or **nil**.

Might signal an error of *type* **type-error** if an *element* read from the *stream* is not a member of the *element type* of the *sequence*.

See Also:

Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), **write-sequence**, **read-line**

Notes:

read-sequence is identical in effect to iterating over the indicated subsequence and reading one *element* at a time from *stream* and storing it into *sequence*, but may be more efficient than the equivalent loop. An efficient implementation is more likely to exist for the case where the *sequence* is a *vector* with the same *element type* as the *stream*.

write-sequence *Function*

Syntax:

write-sequence *sequence stream* &key *start end* → *sequence*

sequence—a *sequence*.

stream—an *output stream*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *sequence*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

Description:

write-sequence writes the *elements* of the subsequence of *sequence bounded* by *start* and *end* to *stream*.

Examples:

```
(write-sequence "bookworms" *standard-output* :end 4)
▷ book
→ "bookworms"
```

Side Effects:

Modifies *stream*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should be prepared to signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *sequence* is not a *proper sequence*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *start* is not a non-negative *integer*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *end* is not a non-negative *integer* or **nil**.

Might signal an error of *type* **type-error** if an *element* of the *bounded sequence* is not a member of the *stream element type* of the *stream*.

See Also:

Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology), **read-sequence**, **write-string**, **write-line**

Notes:

write-sequence is identical in effect to iterating over the indicated subsequence and writing one *element* at a time to *stream*, but may be more efficient than the equivalent loop. An efficient implementation is more likely to exist for the case where the *sequence* is a *vector* with the same *element type* as the *stream*.

file-length *Function*

Syntax:

file-length *stream* → *length*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *stream associated with a file*.

length—a non-negative *integer* or **nil**.

Description:

file-length returns the length of *stream*, or **nil** if the length cannot be determined.

For a binary file, the length is measured in units of the *element type* of the *stream*.

Examples:

```
(with-open-file (s "decimal-digits.text"
```

```
                    :direction :output :if-exists :error)
   (princ "0123456789" s)
   (truename s))
→ #P"A:>Joe>decimal-digits.text.1"
 (with-open-file (s "decimal-digits.text")
   (file-length s))
→ 10
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *stream* is not a *stream associated with a file*.

See Also:

open

file-position *Function*

Syntax:

file-position *stream* → *position*

file-position *stream position-spec* → *success-p*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *stream*.

position-spec—a *file position designator*.

position—a *file position* or **nil**.

success-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns or changes the current position within a *stream*.

When *position-spec* is not supplied, **file-position** returns the current *file position* in the *stream*, or **nil** if this cannot be determined.

When *position-spec* is supplied, the *file position* in *stream* is set to that *file position* (if possible). **file-position** returns *true* if the repositioning is performed successfully, or *false* if it is not.

An *integer* returned by **file-position** of one argument should be acceptable as *position-spec* for use with the same file.

For a character file, performing a single **read-char** or **write-char** operation may cause the file position to be increased by more than 1 because of character-set translations (such as translating between the Common Lisp #\Newline character and an external ASCII carriage-return/line-feed sequence) and other aspects of the implementation. For a binary file, every **read-byte** or **write-byte** operation increases the file position by 1.

Examples:

```
 (defun tester ()
   (let ((noticed '()) file-written)
     (flet ((notice (x) (push x noticed) x))
       (with-open-file (s "test.bin"
                          :element-type '(unsigned-byte 8)
                          :direction :output
                          :if-exists :error)
          (notice (file-position s)) ;1
          (write-byte 5 s)
          (write-byte 6 s)
          (let ((p (file-position s)))
            (notice p) ;2
            (notice (when p (file-position s (1- p))))) ;3
          (write-byte 7 s)
          (notice (file-position s)) ;4
          (setq file-written (truename s)))
        (with-open-file (s file-written
                           :element-type '(unsigned-byte 8)
                           :direction :input)
          (notice (file-position s)) ;5
          (let ((length (file-length s)))
            (notice length) ;6
            (when length
              (dotimes (i length)
                (notice (read-byte s)))))) ;7,...
        (nreverse noticed))))
→ tester
 (tester)
→ (0 2 T 2 0 2 5 7)
or→ (0 2 NIL 3 0 3 5 6 7)
or→ (NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL)
```

Side Effects:

When the *position-spec* argument is supplied, the *file position* in the *stream* might be moved.

Affected By:

The value returned by **file-position** increases monotonically as input or output operations are performed.

Exceptional Situations:

If *position-spec* is supplied, but is too large or otherwise inappropriate, an error is signaled.

See Also:

file-length, **file-string-length**, **open**

Notes:

Implementations that have character files represented as a sequence of records of bounded size might choose to encode the file position as, for example, ⟨⟨*record-number*⟩⟩*⟨⟨*max-record-size*⟩⟩+⟨⟨*character-within-record*⟩⟩. This is a valid encoding because it increases monotonically as each character is read or written, though not necessarily by 1 at each step. An *integer* might then be considered "inappropriate" as *position-spec* to **file-position** if, when decoded into record number and character number, it turned out that the supplied record was too short for the specified character number.

file-string-length *Function*

Syntax:

file-string-length *stream object* → *length*

Arguments and Values:

stream—an *output character file stream*.

object—a *string* or a *character*.

length—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

Description:

file-string-length returns the difference between what `(file-position` *stream*`)` would be after writing *object* and its current value, or **nil** if this cannot be determined.

The returned value corresponds to the current state of *stream* at the time of the call and might not be the same if it is called again when the state of the *stream* has changed.

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open *Function*

Syntax:

open *filespec* `&key` *direction element-type*
if-exists if-does-not-exist external-format

→ *stream*

Arguments and Values:

filespec—a *pathname designator*.

direction—one of `:input`, `:output`, `:io`, or `:probe`. The default is `:input`.

element-type—a *type specifier* for *recognizable subtype* of **character**; or a *type specifier* for a *finite recognizable subtype* of *integer*; or one of the *symbols* **signed-byte**, **unsigned-byte**, or `:default`. The default is **character**.

if-exists—one of `:error`, `:new-version`, `:rename`, `:rename-and-delete`, `:overwrite`, `:append`, `:supersede`, or **nil**. The default is `:new-version` if the version component of *filespec* is `:newest`, or `:error` otherwise.

if-does-not-exist—one of `:error`, `:create`, or **nil**. The default is `:error` if *direction* is `:input` or *if-exists* is `:overwrite` or `:append`; `:create` if *direction* is `:output` or `:io`, and *if-exists* is neither `:overwrite` nor `:append`; or **nil** when *direction* is `:probe`.

external-format—an *external file format designator*. The default is `:default`.

stream—a *file stream* or **nil**.

Description:

open creates, opens, and returns a *file stream* that is connected to the file specified by *filespec*. *Filespec* is the name of the file to be opened. If the *filespec designator* is a *stream*, that *stream* is not closed first or otherwise affected.

The keyword arguments to **open** specify the characteristics of the *file stream* that is returned, and how to handle errors.

If *direction* is `:input` or `:probe`, or if *if-exists* is not `:new-version` and the version component of the *filespec* is `:newest`, then the file opened is that file already existing in the file system that has a version greater than that of any other file in the file system whose other pathname components are the same as those of *filespec*.

An implementation is required to recognize all of the **open** keyword options and to do something reasonable in the context of the host operating system. For example, if a file system does not support distinct file versions and does not distinguish the notions of deletion and expunging, `:new-version` might be treated the same as `:rename` or `:supersede`, and `:rename-and-delete` might be treated the same as `:supersede`.

`:direction`

These are the possible values for *direction*, and how they affect the nature of the *stream* that is created:

`:input`

Causes the creation of an *input file stream*.

`:output`

Causes the creation of an *output file stream*.

`:io`

Causes the creation of a *bidirectional file stream*.

`:probe`

Causes the creation of a "no-directional" *file stream*; in effect, the *file stream* is created and then closed prior to being returned by **open**.

`:element-type`

The *element-type* specifies the unit of transaction for the *file stream*. If it is `:default`, the unit is determined by *file system*, possibly based on the *file*.

`:if-exists`

if-exists specifies the action to be taken if *direction* is `:output` or `:io` and a file of the name *filespec* already exists. If *direction* is `:input`, not supplied, or `:probe`, *if-exists* is ignored. These are the results of **open** as modified by *if-exists*:

`:error`

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

`:new-version`

A new file is created with a larger version number.

`:rename`

The existing file is renamed to some other name and then a new file is created.

`:rename-and-delete`

The existing file is renamed to some other name, then it is deleted but not expunged, and then a new file is created.

`:overwrite`

Output operations on the *stream* destructively modify the existing file. If *direction* is `:io` the file is opened in a bidirectional mode that allows both reading and writing. The file pointer is initially positioned at the beginning of the file; however, the file is not truncated back to length zero when it is opened.

`:append`

Output operations on the *stream* destructively modify the existing file. The file pointer is initially positioned at the end of the file.

If *direction* is `:io`, the file is opened in a bidirectional mode that allows both reading and writing.

`:supersede`

The existing file is superseded; that is, a new file with the same name as the old one is created. If possible, the implementation should not destroy the old file until the new *stream* is closed.

nil

No file or *stream* is created; instead, **nil** is returned to indicate failure.

`:if-does-not-exist`

if-does-not-exist specifies the action to be taken if a file of name *filespec* does not already exist. These are the results of **open** as modified by *if-does-not-exist*:

`:error`

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

`:create`

An empty file is created. Processing continues as if the file had already existed but no processing as directed by *if-exists* is performed.

nil

No file or *stream* is created; instead, **nil** is returned to indicate failure.

`:external-format`

This option selects an *external file format* for the *file*: The only *standardized* value for this option is `:default`, although *implementations* are permitted to define additional *external file formats* and *implementation-dependent* values returned by **stream-external-format** can also be used by *conforming programs*.

The *external-format* is meaningful for any kind of *file stream* whose *element type* is a *subtype* of *character*. This option is ignored for *streams* for which it is not meaningful; however, *implementations* may define other *element types* for which it is meaningful. The consequences are unspecified if a *character* is written that cannot be represented by the given *external file format*.

When a file is opened, a *file stream* is constructed to serve as the file system's ambassador to the Lisp environment; operations on the *file stream* are reflected by operations on the file in the file system.

A file can be deleted, renamed, or destructively modified by **open**.

For information about opening relative pathnames, see Section 19.2.3 (Merging Pathnames).

Examples:

```
 (open filespec :direction :probe)  → #<Closed Probe File Stream...>
 (setq q (merge-pathnames (user-homedir-pathname) "test"))
→ #<PATHNAME :HOST NIL :DEVICE device-name :DIRECTORY directory-name
    :NAME "test" :TYPE NIL :VERSION :NEWEST>
 (open filespec :if-does-not-exist :create) → #<Input File Stream...>
 (setq s (open filespec :direction :probe)) → #<Closed Probe File Stream...>
 (truename s) → #<PATHNAME :HOST NIL :DEVICE device-name :DIRECTORY
    directory-name :NAME filespec :TYPE extension :VERSION 1>
 (open s :direction :output :if-exists nil) → NIL
```

Affected By:

The nature and state of the host computer's *file system*.

Exceptional Situations:

If *if-exists* is `:error`, (subject to the constraints on the meaning of *if-exists* listed above), an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

If *if-does-not-exist* is `:error` (subject to the constraints on the meaning of *if-does-not-exist* listed above), an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

If it is impossible for an implementation to handle some option in a manner close to what is specified here, an error of *type* **error** might be signaled.

An error of *type* **file-error** is signaled if `(wild-pathname-p filespec)` returns true.

An error of *type* **error** is signaled if the *external-format* is not understood by the *implementation*.

The various *file systems* in existence today have widely differing capabilities, and some aspects of the *file system* are beyond the scope of this specification to define. A given *implementation* might not be able to support all of these options in exactly the manner stated. An *implementation* is required to recognize all of these option keywords and to try to do something "reasonable" in the context of the host *file system*. Where necessary to accomodate the *file system*, an *implementation* deviate slightly from the semantics specified here without being disqualified for consideration as a *conforming implementation*. If it is utterly impossible for an *implementation* to handle some option in a manner similar to what is specified here, it may simply signal an error.

With regard to the `:element-type` option, if a *type* is requested that is not supported by the *file system*, a substitution of types such as that which goes on in *upgrading* is permissible. As a minimum requirement, it should be the case that opening an *output stream* to a *file* in a given *element type* and later opening an *input stream* to the same *file* in the same *element type* should work compatibly.

See Also:

with-open-file, **close**, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 19.2.3 (Merging Pathnames), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

open does not automatically close the file when an abnormal exit occurs.

When *element-type* is a *subtype* of **character**, **read-char** and/or **write-char** can be used on the resulting *file stream*.

When *element-type* is a *subtype* of *integer*, **read-byte** and/or **write-byte** can be used on the resulting *file stream*.

When *element-type* is `:default`, the *type* can be determined by using **stream-element-type**.

stream-external-format *Function*

Syntax:

stream-external-format *stream* → *format*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *file stream*.

format—an *external file format*.

Description:

Returns an *external file format designator* for the *stream*.

Examples:

```
 (with-open-file (stream "test" :direction :output)
```

```
 (stream-external-format stream))
→ :DEFAULT
or→ :ISO8859/1-1987
or→ (:ASCII :SAIL)
or→ ACME::PROPRIETARY-FILE-FORMAT-17
or→ #<FILE-FORMAT :ISO646-1983 2343673>
```

See Also:

the `:external-format` *argument* to the *function* **open** and the **with-open-file** *macro*.

Notes:

The *format* returned is not necessarily meaningful to other *implementations*.

with-open-file *macro*

Syntax:

with-open-file (*stream filespec* {*options*}*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ *results*

Arguments and Values:

stream – a variable.

filespec—a *pathname designator*.

options – *forms*; evaluated.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

with-open-file uses **open** to create a *file stream* to *file* named by *filespec*. *Filespec* is the name of the file to be opened. *Options* are used as keyword arguments to **open**.

The *stream object* to which the *stream variable* is *bound* has *dynamic extent*; its *extent* ends when the *form* is exited.

with-open-file evaluates the *forms* as an *implicit progn* with *stream* bound to the value returned by **open**.

When control leaves the body, either normally or abnormally (such as by use of **throw**), the file is automatically closed. If a new output file is being written, and control leaves abnormally, the file is aborted and the file system is left, so far as possible, as if the file had never been opened.

It is possible by the use of `:if-exists nil` or `:if-does-not-exist nil` for *stream* to be bound to **nil**. Users of `:if-does-not-exist nil` should check for a valid *stream*.

The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to *assign* the *stream variable*. The compiler may choose to issue a warning if such an attempt is detected.

Examples:

```
 (setq p (merge-pathnames "test"))
→ #<PATHNAME :HOST NIL :DEVICE device-name :DIRECTORY directory-name
    :NAME "test" :TYPE NIL :VERSION :NEWEST>
 (with-open-file (s p :direction :output :if-exists :supersede)
    (format s "Here are a couple~%of test data lines~%")) → NIL
 (with-open-file (s p)
    (do ((l (read-line s) (read-line s nil 'eof)))
        ((eq l 'eof) "Reached end of file.")
     (format t "~&*** ~A~%" l)))
▷ *** Here are a couple
▷ *** of test data lines
→ "Reached end of file."

;; Normally one would not do this intentionally because it is
;; not perspicuous, but beware when using :IF-DOES-NOT-EXIST NIL
;; that this doesn't happen to you accidentally...
 (with-open-file (foo "no-such-file" :if-does-not-exist nil)
   (read foo))
▷ hello?
→ HELLO? ;This value was read from the terminal, not a file!

;; Here's another bug to avoid...
 (with-open-file (foo "no-such-file" :direction :output :if-does-not-exist nil)
   (format foo "Hello"))
→ "Hello" ;FORMAT got an argument of NIL!
```

Side Effects:

Creates a *stream* to the *file* named by *filename* (upon entry), and closes the *stream* (upon exit). In some *implementations*, the *file* might be locked in some way while it is open. If the *stream* is an *output stream*, a *file* might be created.

Affected By:

The host computer's file system.

Exceptional Situations:

See the *function* **open**.

See Also:

open, **close**, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

close *Function*

Syntax:

close *stream* &key *abort* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

stream—a *stream* (either *open* or *closed*).

abort—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

result—**t** if the *stream* was *open* at the time it was received as an *argument*, or *implementation-dependent* otherwise.

Description:

close closes *stream*. Closing a *stream* means that it may no longer be used in input or output operations. The act of *closing* a *file stream* ends the association between the *stream* and its associated *file*; the transaction with the *file system* is terminated, and input/output may no longer be performed on the *stream*.

If *abort* is *true*, an attempt is made to clean up any side effects of having created *stream*. If *stream* performs output to a file that was created when the *stream* was created, the file is deleted and any previously existing file is not superseded.

It is permissible to close an already closed *stream*, but in that case the *result* is *implementation-dependent*.

After *stream* is closed, it is still possible to perform the following query operations upon it: **streamp**, **pathname**, **truename**, **merge-pathnames**, **pathname-host**, **pathname-device**, **pathname-directory**,**pathname-name**, **pathname-type**, **pathname-version**, **namestring**, **file-namestring**, **directory-namestring**, **host-namestring**, **enough-namestring**, **open**, **probe-file**, and **directory**.

The effect of **close** on a *constructed stream* is to close the argument *stream* only. There is no effect on the *constituents* of *composite streams*.

For a *stream* created with **make-string-output-stream**, the result of **get-output-stream-string** is unspecified after **close**.

Examples:

```
(setq s (make-broadcast-stream)) → #<BROADCAST-STREAM>
```



```
(close s) → T
(output-stream-p s) → true
```

Side Effects:

The *stream* is *closed* (if necessary). If *abort* is *true* and the *stream* is an *output file stream*, its associated *file* might be deleted.

See Also:

open

with-open-stream *Macro*

Syntax:

with-open-stream (*var stream*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *variable name*.

stream—a *form*; evaluated to produce a *stream*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

with-open-stream performs a series of operations on *stream*, returns a value, and then closes the *stream*.

Var is bound to the value of *stream*, and then *forms* are executed as an *implicit progn*. *stream* is automatically closed on exit from **with-open-stream**, no matter whether the exit is normal or abnormal. The *stream* has *dynamic extent*; its *extent* ends when the *form* is exited.

The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to *assign* the the *variable var* with the *forms*.

Examples:

```
(with-open-stream (s (make-string-input-stream "1 2 3 4"))
   (+ (read s) (read s) (read s))) → 6
```

Side Effects:

The *stream* is closed (upon exit).

See Also:

close

listen *Function*

Syntax:

listen &optional *input-stream* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—an *input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if there is a character immediately available from *input-stream*; otherwise, returns *false*. On a non-interactive *input-stream*, **listen** returns *true* except when at *end of file*$_1$. If an *end of file* is encountered, **listen** returns *false*. **listen** is intended to be used when *input-stream* obtains characters from an interactive device such as a keyboard.

Examples:

```
 (progn (unread-char (read-char)) (list (listen) (read-char)))
▷ 1
→ (T #\1)
 (progn (clear-input) (listen))
→ NIL ;Unless you're a very fast typist!
```

Affected By:

standard-input

See Also:

interactive-stream-p, **read-char-no-hang**

clear-input *Function*

Syntax:

clear-input &optional *input-stream* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—an *input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

Description:

Clears any available input from *input-stream*.

If **clear-input** does not make sense for *input-stream*, then **clear-input** does nothing.

Examples:

```
;; The exact I/O behavior of this example might vary from implementation
;; to implementation depending on the kind of interactive buffering that
;; occurs.  (The call to SLEEP here is intended to help even out the
;; differences in implementations which do not do line-at-a-time buffering.)

(defun read-sleepily (&optional (clear-p nil) (zzz 0))
  (list (progn (print '>) (read))
        ;; Note that input typed within the first ZZZ seconds
        ;; will be discarded.
        (progn (print '>)
               (if zzz (sleep zzz))
               (print '>>)
               (if clear-p (clear-input))
               (read))))

(read-sleepily)
▷ > 10
▷ >
▷ >> 20
→ (10 20)

(read-sleepily t)
▷ > 10
▷ >
▷ >> 20
→ (10 20)

(read-sleepily t 10)
▷ > 10
▷ > 20  ; Some implementations won't echo typeahead here.
```

```
▷ >> 30
→ (10 30)
```

Side Effects:

The *input-stream* is modified.

Affected By:

standard-input

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *input-stream* is not a *stream designator*.

See Also:

clear-output

finish-output, force-output, clear-output *Function*

Syntax:

finish-output &optional *output-stream* → **nil**

force-output &optional *output-stream* → **nil**

clear-output &optional *output-stream* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

output-stream—an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

Description:

finish-output, **force-output**, and **clear-output** exercise control over the internal handling of buffered stream output.

finish-output attempts to ensure that any buffered output sent to *output-stream* has reached its destination, and then returns.

force-output initiates the emptying of any internal buffers but does not wait for completion or acknowledgment to return.

clear-output attempts to abort any outstanding output operation in progress in order to allow as little output as possible to continue to the destination.

If any of these operations does not make sense for *output-stream*, then it does nothing. The precise actions of these *functions* are *implementation-dependent*.

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Examples:

```
;; Implementation A
 (progn (princ "am i seen?") (clear-output))
→ NIL

;; Implementation B
 (progn (princ "am i seen?") (clear-output))
▷ am i seen?
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

standard-output

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *output-stream* is not a *stream designator*.

See Also:

clear-input

y-or-n-p, yes-or-no-p *Function*

Syntax:

y-or-n-p &optional *control* &rest *arguments* → *generalized-boolean*

yes-or-no-p &optional *control* &rest *arguments* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

control—a *format control*.

arguments—*format arguments* for *control*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

These functions ask a question and parse a response from the user. They return *true* if the answer is affirmative, or *false* if the answer is negative.

y-or-n-p is for asking the user a question whose answer is either "yes" or "no." It is intended that the reply require the user to answer a yes-or-no question with a single character. **yes-or-no-p** is also for asking the user a question whose answer is either "Yes" or "No." It is intended that the reply require the user to take more action than just a single keystroke, such as typing the full word `yes` or `no` followed by a newline.

y-or-n-p types out a message (if supplied), reads an answer in some *implementation-dependent* manner (intended to be short and simple, such as reading a single character such as `Y` or `N`). **yes-or-no-p** types out a message (if supplied), attracts the user's attention (for example, by ringing the terminal's bell), and reads an answer in some *implementation-dependent* manner (intended to be multiple characters, such as `YES` or `NO`).

If *format-control* is supplied and not **nil**, then a **fresh-line** operation is performed; then a message is printed as if *format-control* and *arguments* were given to **format**. In any case, **yes-or-no-p** and **y-or-n-p** will provide a prompt such as "`(Y or N)`" or "`(Yes or No)`" if appropriate.

All input and output are performed using *query I/O*.

Examples:

```
 (y-or-n-p "(t or nil) given by")
▷ (t or nil) given by (Y or N) Y
→ true
 (yes-or-no-p "a ~S message" 'frightening)
▷ a FRIGHTENING message (Yes or No) no
→ false
 (y-or-n-p "Produce listing file?")
▷ Produce listing file?
▷ Please respond with Y or N. n
→ false
```

Side Effects:

Output to and input from *query I/O* will occur.

Affected By:

query-io.

See Also:

format

Notes:

yes-or-no-p and **yes-or-no-p** do not add question marks to the end of the prompt string, so any desired question mark or other punctuation should be explicitly included in the text query.

make-synonym-stream *Function*

Syntax:

make-synonym-stream *symbol* → *synonym-stream*

Arguments and Values:

symbol—a *symbol* that names a *dynamic variable*.

synonym-stream—a *synonym stream*.

Description:

Returns a *synonym stream* whose *synonym stream symbol* is *symbol*.

Examples:

```
 (setq a-stream (make-string-input-stream "a-stream")
        b-stream (make-string-input-stream "b-stream"))
→ #<String Input Stream>
 (setq s-stream (make-synonym-stream 'c-stream))
→ #<SYNONYM-STREAM for C-STREAM>
 (setq c-stream a-stream)
→ #<String Input Stream>
 (read s-stream) → A-STREAM
 (setq c-stream b-stream)
→ #<String Input Stream>
 (read s-stream) → B-STREAM
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if its argument is not a *symbol*.

See Also:

Section 21.1 (Stream Concepts)

synonym-stream-symbol *Function*

Syntax:

synonym-stream-symbol *synonym-stream* → *symbol*

Arguments and Values:

synonym-stream—a *synonym stream*.

symbol—a *symbol*.

Description:

Returns the *symbol* whose **symbol-value** the *synonym-stream* is using.

See Also:

make-synonym-stream

broadcast-stream-streams *Function*

Syntax:

broadcast-stream-streams *broadcast-stream* → *streams*

Arguments and Values:

broadcast-stream—a *broadcast stream*.

streams—a *list* of *streams*.

Description:

Returns a *list* of output *streams* that constitute all the *streams* to which the *broadcast-stream* is broadcasting.

make-broadcast-stream *Function*

Syntax:

make-broadcast-stream &rest *streams* → *broadcast-stream*

Arguments and Values:

stream—an *output stream*.

broadcast-stream—a *broadcast stream*.

Description:

Returns a *broadcast stream*.

Examples:

```
(setq a-stream (make-string-output-stream)
      b-stream (make-string-output-stream)) → #<String Output Stream>
(format (make-broadcast-stream a-stream b-stream)
        "this will go to both streams") → NIL
(get-output-stream-string a-stream) → "this will go to both streams"
(get-output-stream-string b-stream) → "this will go to both streams"
```


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Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if any *stream* is not an *output stream*.

See Also:

broadcast-stream-streams

make-two-way-stream *Function*

Syntax:

make-two-way-stream *input-stream output-stream* → *two-way-stream*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—a *stream*.

output-stream—a *stream*.

two-way-stream—a *two-way stream*.

Description:

Returns a *two-way stream* that gets its input from *input-stream* and sends its output to *output-stream*.

Examples:

```
(with-output-to-string (out)
   (with-input-from-string (in "input...")
     (let ((two (make-two-way-stream in out)))
       (format two "output...")
       (setq what-is-read (read two))))) → "output..."
what-is-read → INPUT...
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *input-stream* is not an *input stream*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *output-stream* is not an *output stream*.

two-way-stream-input-stream, two-way-stream-output-stream *Function*

Syntax:

two-way-stream-input-stream *two-way-stream* → *input-stream*

two-way-stream-output-stream *two-way-stream* → *output-stream*

Arguments and Values:

two-way-stream—a *two-way stream*.

input-stream—an *input stream*.

output-stream—an *output stream*.

Description:

two-way-stream-input-stream returns the *stream* from which *two-way-stream* receives input.

two-way-stream-output-stream returns the *stream* to which *two-way-stream* sends output.

echo-stream-input-stream, echo-stream-output-stream *Function*

Syntax:

echo-stream-input-stream *echo-stream* → *input-stream*

echo-stream-output-stream *echo-stream* → *output-stream*

Arguments and Values:

echo-stream—an *echo stream*.

input-stream—an *input stream*.

output-stream—an *output stream*.

Description:

echo-stream-input-stream returns the *input stream* from which *echo-stream* receives input.

echo-stream-output-stream returns the *output stream* to which *echo-stream* sends output.

make-echo-stream *Function*

Syntax:

make-echo-stream *input-stream output-stream* → *echo-stream*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—an *input stream*.

output-stream—an *output stream*.

echo-stream—an *echo stream*.

Description:

Creates and returns an *echo stream* that takes input from *input-stream* and sends output to *output-stream*.

Examples:

```
 (let ((out (make-string-output-stream)))
    (with-open-stream
        (s (make-echo-stream
            (make-string-input-stream "this-is-read-and-echoed")
            out))
      (read s)
      (format s " * this-is-direct-output")
      (get-output-stream-string out)))
→ "this-is-read-and-echoed * this-is-direct-output"
```

See Also:

echo-stream-input-stream, **echo-stream-output-stream**, **make-two-way-stream**

concatenated-stream-streams *Function*

Syntax:

concatenated-stream-streams *concatenated-stream* → *streams*

Arguments and Values:

concatenated-stream – a *concatenated stream*.

streams—a *list* of *input streams*.

Description:

Returns a *list* of *input streams* that constitute the ordered set of *streams* the *concatenated-stream* still has to read from, starting with the current one it is reading from. The list may be *empty* if no more *streams* remain to be read.

The consequences are undefined if the *list structure* of the *streams* is ever modified.

make-concatenated-stream *Function*

Syntax:

make-concatenated-stream &rest *input-streams* → *concatenated-stream*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—an *input stream*.

concatenated-stream—a *concatenated stream*.

Description:

Returns a *concatenated stream* that has the indicated *input-streams* initially associated with it.

Examples:

```
(read (make-concatenated-stream
        (make-string-input-stream "1")
        (make-string-input-stream "2"))) → 12
```

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal **type-error** if any argument is not an *input stream*.

See Also:

concatenated-stream-streams

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get-output-stream-string *Function*

Syntax:

get-output-stream-string *string-output-stream* → *string*

Arguments and Values:

string-output-stream—a *stream*.

string—a *string*.

Description:

Returns a *string* containing, in order, all the *characters* that have been output to *string-output-stream*. This operation clears any *characters* on *string-output-stream*, so the *string* contains only those *characters* which have been output since the last call to **get-output-stream-string** or since the creation of the *string-output-stream*, whichever occurred most recently.

Examples:

```
(setq a-stream (make-string-output-stream)
      a-string "abcdefghijklm") → "abcdefghijklm"
(write-string a-string a-stream) → "abcdefghijklm"
(get-output-stream-string a-stream) → "abcdefghijklm"
(get-output-stream-string a-stream) → ""
```

Side Effects:

The *string-output-stream* is cleared.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if *stream-output-string* is *closed*.

The consequences are undefined if *string-output-stream* is a *stream* that was not produced by **make-string-output-stream**. The consequences are undefined if *string-output-stream* was created implicitly by **with-output-to-string** or **format**.

See Also:

make-string-output-stream

make-string-input-stream *Function*

Syntax:

make-string-input-stream *string* &optional *start end* → *string-stream*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *string*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

string-stream—an *input string stream*.

Description:

Returns an *input string stream*. This *stream* will supply, in order, the *characters* in the substring of *string bounded* by *start* and *end*. After the last *character* has been supplied, the *string stream* will then be at *end of file*.

Examples:

```
(let ((string-stream (make-string-input-stream "1 one ")))
  (list (read string-stream nil nil)
        (read string-stream nil nil)
        (read string-stream nil nil)))
→ (1 ONE NIL)

(read (make-string-input-stream "prefixtargetsuffix" 6 12)) → TARGET
```

See Also:

with-input-from-string

make-string-output-stream *Function*

Syntax:

make-string-output-stream &key *element-type* → *string-stream*

Arguments and Values:

element-type—a *type specifier*. The default is **character**.

string-stream—an *output string stream*.

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Description:

Returns an *output string stream* that accepts *characters* and makes available (via **get-output-stream-string**) a *string* that contains the *characters* that were actually output.

The *element-type* names the *type* of the *elements* of the *string*; a *string* is constructed of the most specialized *type* that can accommodate *elements* of that *element-type*.

Examples:

```
(let ((s (make-string-output-stream)))
  (write-string "testing... " s)
  (prin1 1234 s)
  (get-output-stream-string s))
→ "testing... 1234"
```

None..

See Also:

get-output-stream-string, **with-output-to-string**

with-input-from-string *Macro*

Syntax:

with-input-from-string (*var string* &key *index start end*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *variable name*.

string—a *form*; evaluated to produce a *string*.

index—a *place*.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *string*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are 0 and **nil**, respectively.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

result—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

Creates an *input string stream*, provides an opportunity to perform operations on the *stream* (returning zero or more *values*), and then closes the *string stream*.

String is evaluated first, and *var* is bound to a character *input string stream* that supplies *characters* from the subsequence of the resulting *string bounded* by *start* and *end*. The body is executed as an *implicit progn*.

The *input string stream* is automatically closed on exit from **with-input-from-string**, no matter whether the exit is normal or abnormal. The *input string stream* to which the *variable var* is *bound* has *dynamic extent*; its *extent* ends when the *form* is exited.

The *index* is a pointer within the *string* to be advanced. If **with-input-from-string** is exited normally, then *index* will have as its *value* the index into the *string* indicating the first character not read which is (length *string*) if all characters were used. The place specified by *index* is not updated as reading progresses, but only at the end of the operation.

start and *index* may both specify the same variable, which is a pointer within the *string* to be advanced, perhaps repeatedly by some containing loop.

The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to *assign* the *variable var*.

Examples:

```
(with-input-from-string (s "XXX1 2 3 4xxx"
                           :index ind
                           :start 3 :end 10)
   (+ (read s) (read s) (read s))) → 6
ind → 9
(with-input-from-string (s "Animal Crackers" :index j :start 6)
  (read s)) → CRACKERS
```

The variable j is set to 15.

Side Effects:

The *value* of the *place* named by *index*, if any, is modified.

See Also:

make-string-input-stream, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

with-output-to-string *Macro*

Syntax:

with-output-to-string (*var* &optional *string-form* &key *element-type*) {*declaration*}* {*form*}*
→ {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

var—a *variable name*.

string-form—a *form* or **nil**; if *non-nil*, evaluated to produce *string*.

string—a *string* that has a *fill pointer*.

element-type—a *type specifier*; evaluated. The default is **character**.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—If a *string-form* is not supplied or **nil**, a *string*; otherwise, the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

with-output-to-string creates a character *output stream*, performs a series of operations that may send results to this *stream*, and then closes the *stream*.

The *element-type* names the *type* of the elements of the *stream*; a *stream* is constructed of the most specialized *type* that can accommodate elements of the given *type*.

The body is executed as an *implicit progn* with *var* bound to an *output string stream*. All output to that *string stream* is saved in a *string*.

If *string* is supplied, *element-type* is ignored, and the output is incrementally appended to *string* as if by use of **vector-push-extend**.

The *output stream* is automatically closed on exit from **with-output-from-string**, no matter whether the exit is normal or abnormal. The *output string stream* to which the *variable var* is *bound* has *dynamic extent*; its *extent* ends when the *form* is exited.

If no *string* is provided, then **with-output-from-string** produces a *stream* that accepts characters and returns a *string* of the indicated *element-type*. If *string* is provided, **with-output-to-string** returns the results of evaluating the last *form*.

The consequences are undefined if an attempt is made to *assign* the *variable var*.

Examples:

```
(setq fstr (make-array '(0) :element-type 'base-char
                            :fill-pointer 0 :adjustable t)) → ""
(with-output-to-string (s fstr)
   (format s "here's some output")
   (input-stream-p s)) → false
fstr → "here's some output"
```

Side Effects:

The *string* is modified.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if destructive modifications are performed directly on the *string* during the *dynamic extent* of the call.

See Also:

make-string-output-stream, **vector-push-extend**, Section 3.6 (Traversal Rules and Side Effects)

debug-io, *error-output*, *query-io*, *standard-input*, *standard-output*, *trace-output* *Variable*

Value Type:

For ***standard-input***: an *input stream*

For ***error-output***, ***standard-output***, and ***trace-output***: an *output stream*.

For ***debug-io***, ***query-io***: a *bidirectional stream*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent, but it must be an *open stream* that is not a *generalized synonym stream* to an *I/O customization variables* but that might be a *generalized synonym stream* to the value of some *I/O customization variable*. The initial value might also be a *generalized synonym stream* to either the *symbol* ***terminal-io*** or to the *stream* that is its *value*.

Description:

These *variables* are collectively called the *standardized I/O customization variables*. They can be *bound* or *assigned* in order to change the default destinations for input and/or output used by various *standardized operators* and facilities.

The *value* of ***debug-io***, called *debug I/O*, is a *stream* to be used for interactive debugging purposes.

The *value* of ***error-output***, called *error output*, is a *stream* to which warnings and non-interactive error messages should be sent.

The *value* of ***query-io***, called *query I/O*, is a *bidirectional stream* to be used when asking questions of the user. The question should be output to this *stream*, and the answer read from it.

The *value* of ***standard-input***, called *standard input*, is a *stream* that is used by many *operators* as a default source of input when no specific *input stream* is explicitly supplied.

The *value* of ***standard-output***, called *standard output*, is a *stream* that is used by many *operators* as a default destination for output when no specific *output stream* is explicitly supplied.

The *value* of ***trace-output***, called *trace output*, is the *stream* on which traced functions (see **trace**) and the **time** *macro* print their output.

Examples:

```
 (with-output-to-string (*error-output*)
   (warn "this string is sent to *error-output*"))
 → "Warning: this string is sent to *error-output*
" ;The exact format of this string is implementation-dependent.


 (with-input-from-string (*standard-input* "1001")
    (+ 990 (read))) → 1991


 (progn (setq out (with-output-to-string (*standard-output*)
                     (print "print and format t send things to")
                     (format t "*standard-output* now going to a string")))
        :done)
→ :DONE
 out
→ "
\"print and format t send things to\" *standard-output* now going to a string"


 (defun fact (n) (if (< n 2) 1 (* n (fact (- n 1)))))
→ FACT
 (trace fact)
→ (FACT)
;; Of course, the format of traced output is implementation-dependent.
 (with-output-to-string (*trace-output*)
   (fact 3))
→ "
1 Enter FACT 3
| 2 Enter FACT 2
|   3 Enter FACT 1
|   3 Exit FACT 1
| 2 Exit FACT 2
1 Exit FACT 6"
```

See Also:

terminal-io, **synonym-stream**, **time**, **trace**, Chapter 9 (Conditions), Chapter 23 (Reader), Chapter 22 (Printer)

Notes:

The intent of the constraints on the initial *value* of the *I/O customization variables* is to ensure that it is always safe to *bind* or *assign* such a *variable* to the *value* of another *I/O customization variable*, without unduly restricting *implementation* flexibility.

It is common for an *implementation* to make the initial *values* of ***debug-io*** and ***query-io*** be the *same stream*, and to make the initial *values* of ***error-output*** and ***standard-output*** be the *same stream*.

The functions **y-or-n-p** and **yes-or-no-p** use *query I/O* for their input and output.

In the normal *Lisp read-eval-print loop*, input is read from *standard input*. Many input functions, including **read** and **read-char**, take a *stream* argument that defaults to *standard input*.

In the normal *Lisp read-eval-print loop*, output is sent to *standard output*. Many output functions, including **print** and **write-char**, take a *stream* argument that defaults to *standard output*.

A program that wants, for example, to divert output to a file should do so by *binding* ***standard-output***; that way error messages sent to ***error-output*** can still get to the user by going through ***terminal-io*** (if ***error-output*** is bound to ***terminal-io***), which is usually what is desired.

∗terminal-io∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *bidirectional stream*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent, but it must be an *open stream* that is not a *generalized synonym stream* to an *I/O customization variables* but that might be a *generalized synonym stream* to the *value* of some *I/O customization variable*.

Description:

The *value* of ***terminal-io***, called *terminal I/O*, is ordinarily a *bidirectional stream* that connects to the user's console. Typically, writing to this *stream* would cause the output to appear on a display screen, for example, and reading from the *stream* would accept input from a keyboard. It is intended that standard input functions such as **read** and **read-char**, when used with this *stream*, cause echoing of the input into the output side of the *stream*. The means by which this is accomplished are *implementation-dependent*.

The effect of changing the *value* of ***terminal-io***, either by *binding* or *assignment*, is *implementation-defined*.

Examples:

```
 (progn (prin1 'foo) (prin1 'bar *terminal-io*))
▷ FOOBAR
→ BAR
 (with-output-to-string (*standard-output*)
   (prin1 'foo)
   (prin1 'bar *terminal-io*))
▷ BAR
→ "FOO"
```

See Also:

debug-io, ***error-output***, ***query-io***, ***standard-input***, ***standard-output***, ***trace-output***

stream-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

stream-error, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **stream-error** consists of error conditions that are related to receiving input from or sending output to a *stream*. The "offending stream" is initialized by the `:stream` initialization argument to **make-condition**, and is *accessed* by the *function* **stream-error-stream**.

See Also:

stream-error-stream

stream-error-stream *Function*

Syntax:

stream-error-stream *condition* → *stream*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **stream-error**.

stream—a *stream*.

Description:

Returns the offending *stream* of a *condition* of *type* **stream-error**.

Examples:

```
 (with-input-from-string (s "(FOO")
   (handler-case (read s)
     (end-of-file (c)
       (format nil "~&End of file on ~S." (stream-error-stream c)))))
"End of file on #<String Stream>."
```

See Also:

stream-error, Chapter 9 (Conditions)

end-of-file *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

end-of-file, **stream-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **end-of-file** consists of error conditions related to read operations that are done on *streams* that have no more data.

See Also:

stream-error-stream

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

22. Printer

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22.1 The Lisp Printer

22.1.1 Overview of The Lisp Printer

Common Lisp provides a representation of most *objects* in the form of printed text called the printed representation. Functions such as **print** take an *object* and send the characters of its printed representation to a *stream*. The collection of routines that does this is known as the (Common Lisp) printer.

Reading a printed representation typically produces an *object* that is **equal** to the originally printed *object*.

22.1.1.1 Multiple Possible Textual Representations

Most *objects* have more than one possible textual representation. For example, the positive *integer* with a magnitude of twenty-seven can be textually expressed in any of these ways:

```
27    27.    #o33    #x1B    #b11011    #.(* 3 3 3)    81/3
```

A list containing the two symbols A and B can also be textually expressed in a variety of ways:

```
 (A B)    (a b)    (  a  b )    (\A |B|)
(|\A|
  B
)
```

In general, from the point of view of the *Lisp reader*, wherever *whitespace* is permissible in a textual representation, any number of *spaces* and *newlines* can appear in *standard syntax*.

When a function such as **print** produces a printed representation, it must choose from among many possible textual representations. In most cases, it chooses a program readable representation, but in certain cases it might use a more compact notation that is not program-readable.

A number of option variables, called ***printer control variables***, are provided to permit control of individual aspects of the printed representation of *objects*. Figure 22–1 shows the *standardized printer control variables*; there might also be *implementation-defined printer control variables*.

print-array	***print-gensym***	***print-pprint-dispatch***
print-base	***print-length***	***print-pretty***
print-case	***print-level***	***print-radix***
print-circle	***print-lines***	***print-readably***
print-escape	***print-miser-width***	***print-right-margin***

Figure 22–1. Standardized Printer Control Variables

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In addition to the *printer control variables*, the following additional *defined names* relate to or affect the behavior of the *Lisp printer*:

package	***read-eval***	**readtable-case**
read-default-float-format	***readtable***	

Figure 22–2. Additional Influences on the Lisp printer.

22.1.1.1.1 Printer Escaping

The *variable* ***print-escape*** controls whether the *Lisp printer* tries to produce notations such as escape characters and package prefixes.

The *variable* ***print-readably*** can be used to override many of the individual aspects controlled by the other *printer control variables* when program-readable output is especially important.

One of the many effects of making the *value* of ***print-readably*** be *true* is that the *Lisp printer* behaves as if ***print-escape*** were also *true*. For notational convenience, we say that if the value of either ***print-readably*** or ***print-escape*** is *true*, then ***printer escaping*** is "enabled"; and we say that if the values of both ***print-readably*** and ***print-escape*** are *false*, then *printer escaping* is "disabled".

22.1.2 Printer Dispatching

The *Lisp printer* makes its determination of how to print an *object* as follows:

If the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *true*, printing is controlled by the *current pprint dispatch table*; see Section 22.2.1.4 (Pretty Print Dispatch Tables).

Otherwise (if the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *false*), the object's **print-object** method is used; see Section 22.1.3 (Default Print-Object Methods).

22.1.3 Default Print-Object Methods

This section describes the default behavior of **print-object** methods for the *standardized types*.

22.1.3.1 Printing Numbers

22.1.3.1.1 Printing Integers

Integers are printed in the radix specified by the *current output base* in positional notation, most significant digit first. If appropriate, a radix specifier can be printed; see ***print-radix***. If an *integer* is negative, a minus sign is printed and then the absolute value of the *integer* is printed. The *integer* zero is represented by the single digit `0` and never has a sign. A decimal point might be printed, depending on the *value* of ***print-radix***.

For related information about the syntax of an *integer*, see Section 2.3.2.1.1 (Syntax of an Integer).

22.1.3.1.2 Printing Ratios

Ratios are printed as follows: the absolute value of the numerator is printed, as for an *integer*; then a `/`; then the denominator. The numerator and denominator are both printed in the radix specified by the *current output base*; they are obtained as if by **numerator** and **denominator**, and so *ratios* are printed in reduced form (lowest terms). If appropriate, a radix specifier can be printed; see ***print-radix***. If the ratio is negative, a minus sign is printed before the numerator.

For related information about the syntax of a *ratio*, see Section 2.3.2.1.2 (Syntax of a Ratio).

22.1.3.1.3 Printing Floats

If the magnitude of the *float* is either zero or between 10^{-3} (inclusive) and 10^{7} (exclusive), it is printed as the integer part of the number, then a decimal point, followed by the fractional part of the number; there is always at least one digit on each side of the decimal point. If the sign of the number (as determined by **float-sign**) is negative, then a minus sign is printed before the number. If the format of the number does not match that specified by ***read-default-float-format***, then the *exponent marker* for that format and the digit `0` are also printed. For example, the base of the natural logarithms as a *short float* might be printed as `2.71828S0`.

For non-zero magnitudes outside of the range 10^{-3} to 10^{7}, a *float* is printed in computerized scientific notation. The representation of the number is scaled to be between 1 (inclusive) and 10 (exclusive) and then printed, with one digit before the decimal point and at least one digit after the decimal point. Next the *exponent marker* for the format is printed, except that if the format of the number matches that specified by ***read-default-float-format***, then the *exponent marker* `E` is used. Finally, the power of ten by which the fraction must be multiplied to equal the original number is printed as a decimal integer. For example, Avogadro's number as a *short float* is printed as `6.02S23`.

For related information about the syntax of a *float*, see Section 2.3.2.2 (Syntax of a Float).

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22.1.3.1.4 Printing Complexes

A *complex* is printed as `#C`, an open parenthesis, the printed representation of its real part, a space, the printed representation of its imaginary part, and finally a close parenthesis.

For related information about the syntax of a *complex*, see Section 2.3.2.3 (Syntax of a Complex) and Section 2.4.8.11 (Sharpsign C).

22.1.3.1.5 Note about Printing Numbers

The printed representation of a number must not contain *escape characters*; see Section 2.3.1.1.1 (Escape Characters and Potential Numbers).

22.1.3.2 Printing Characters

When *printer escaping* is disabled, a *character* prints as itself; it is sent directly to the output *stream*. When *printer escaping* is enabled, then `#\` syntax is used.

When the printer types out the name of a *character*, it uses the same table as the `#\` *reader macro* would use; therefore any *character* name that is typed out is acceptable as input (in that *implementation*). If a *non-graphic character* has a *standardized* $name_5$, that *name* is preferred over non-standard *names* for printing in `#\` notation. For the *graphic standard characters*, the *character* itself is always used for printing in `#\` notation—even if the *character* also has a $name_5$.

For details about the `#\` *reader macro*, see Section 2.4.8.1 (Sharpsign Backslash).

22.1.3.3 Printing Symbols

When *printer escaping* is disabled, only the characters of the *symbol*'s *name* are output (but the case in which to print characters in the *name* is controlled by ***print-case***; see Section 22.1.3.3.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Printer)).

The remainder of this section applies only when *printer escaping* is enabled.

When printing a *symbol*, the printer inserts enough *single escape* and/or *multiple escape* characters (*backslashes* and/or *vertical-bars*) so that if **read** were called with the same ***readtable*** and with ***read-base*** bound to the *current output base*, it would return the same *symbol* (if it is not *apparently uninterned*) or an *uninterned symbol* with the same *print name* (otherwise).

For example, if the *value* of ***print-base*** were `16` when printing the symbol `face`, it would have to be printed as `\FACE` or `\Face` or `|FACE|`, because the token `face` would be read as a hexadecimal number (decimal value 64206) if the *value* of ***read-base*** were `16`.

For additional restrictions concerning characters with nonstandard *syntax types* in the *current readtable*, see the *variable* ***print-readably***

For information about how the *Lisp reader* parses *symbols*, see Section 2.3.4 (Symbols as Tokens) and Section 2.4.8.5 (Sharpsign Colon).

nil might be printed as `()` when ***print-pretty*** is *true* and *printer escaping* is enabled.

22.1.3.3.1 Package Prefixes for Symbols

Package prefixes are printed if necessary. The rules for *package prefixes* are as follows. When the *symbol* is printed, if it is in the `KEYWORD` *package*, then it is printed with a preceding *colon*; otherwise, if it is *accessible* in the *current package*, it is printed without any *package prefix*; otherwise, it is printed with a *package prefix*.

A *symbol* that is *apparently uninterned* is printed preceded by "`#:`" if ***print-gensym*** is *true* and *printer escaping* is enabled; if ***print-gensym*** is *false* or *printer escaping* is disabled, then the *symbol* is printed without a prefix, as if it were in the *current package*.

Because the `#:` syntax does not intern the following symbol, it is necessary to use circular-list syntax if ***print-circle*** is *true* and the same uninterned symbol appears several times in an expression to be printed. For example, the result of

```
(let ((x (make-symbol "FOO"))) (list x x))
```

would be printed as `(#:foo #:foo)` if ***print-circle*** were *false*, but as `(#1=#:foo #1#)` if ***print-circle*** were *true*.

A summary of the preceding package prefix rules follows:

`foo:bar`

`foo:bar` is printed when *symbol* `bar` is external in its *home package* `foo` and is not *accessible* in the *current package*.

`foo::bar`

`foo::bar` is printed when `bar` is internal in its *home package* `foo` and is not *accessible* in the *current package*.

`:bar`

`:bar` is printed when the home package of `bar` is the `KEYWORD` *package*.

`#:bar`

`#:bar` is printed when `bar` is *apparently uninterned*, even in the pathological case that `bar` has no *home package* but is nevertheless somehow *accessible* in the *current package*.

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22.1.3.3.2 Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Printer

When *printer escaping* is disabled, or the characters under consideration are not already quoted specifically by *single escape* or *multiple escape* syntax, the *readtable case* of the *current readtable* affects the way the *Lisp printer* writes *symbols* in the following ways:

`:upcase`

When the *readtable case* is `:upcase`, *uppercase characters* are printed in the case specified by ***print-case***, and *lowercase characters* are printed in their own case.

`:downcase`

When the *readtable case* is `:downcase`, *uppercase characters* are printed in their own case, and *lowercase characters* are printed in the case specified by ***print-case***.

`:preserve`

When the *readtable case* is `:preserve`, all *alphabetic characters* are printed in their own case.

`:invert`

When the *readtable case* is `:invert`, the case of all *alphabetic characters* in single case symbol names is inverted. Mixed-case symbol names are printed as is.

The rules for escaping *alphabetic characters* in symbol names are affected by the **readtable-case** if *printer escaping* is enabled. *Alphabetic characters* are escaped as follows:

`:upcase`

When the *readtable case* is `:upcase`, all *lowercase characters* must be escaped.

`:downcase`

When the *readtable case* is `:downcase`, all *uppercase characters* must be escaped.

`:preserve`

When the *readtable case* is `:preserve`, no *alphabetic characters* need be escaped.

`:invert`

When the *readtable case* is `:invert`, no *alphabetic characters* need be escaped.

22.1.3.3.2.1 Examples of Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Printer

```
(defun test-readtable-case-printing ()
  (let ((*readtable* (copy-readtable nil))
        (*print-case* *print-case*))
    (format t "READTABLE-CASE *PRINT-CASE*  Symbol-name  Output~
             ~%--------------------------------------------------~
             ~%")
    (dolist (readtable-case '(:upcase :downcase :preserve :invert))
      (setf (readtable-case *readtable*) readtable-case)
      (dolist (print-case '(:upcase :downcase :capitalize))
        (dolist (symbol '(|ZEBRA| |Zebra| |zebra|))
          (setq *print-case* print-case)
          (format t "~&:~A~15T:~A~29T~A~42T~A"
                  (string-upcase readtable-case)
                  (string-upcase print-case)
                  (symbol-name symbol)
                  (prin1-to-string symbol)))))))
```

The output from `(test-readtable-case-printing)` should be as follows:

```
READTABLE-CASE *PRINT-CASE*  Symbol-name  Output
--------------------------------------------------
:UPCASE        :UPCASE       ZEBRA        ZEBRA
:UPCASE        :UPCASE       Zebra        |Zebra|
:UPCASE        :UPCASE       zebra        |zebra|
:UPCASE        :DOWNCASE     ZEBRA        zebra
:UPCASE        :DOWNCASE     Zebra        |Zebra|
:UPCASE        :DOWNCASE     zebra        |zebra|
:UPCASE        :CAPITALIZE   ZEBRA        Zebra
:UPCASE        :CAPITALIZE   Zebra        |Zebra|
:UPCASE        :CAPITALIZE   zebra        |zebra|
:DOWNCASE      :UPCASE       ZEBRA        |ZEBRA|
:DOWNCASE      :UPCASE       Zebra        |Zebra|
:DOWNCASE      :UPCASE       zebra        ZEBRA
:DOWNCASE      :DOWNCASE     ZEBRA        |ZEBRA|
:DOWNCASE      :DOWNCASE     Zebra        |Zebra|
:DOWNCASE      :DOWNCASE     zebra        zebra
:DOWNCASE      :CAPITALIZE   ZEBRA        |ZEBRA|
:DOWNCASE      :CAPITALIZE   Zebra        |Zebra|
:DOWNCASE      :CAPITALIZE   zebra        Zebra
:PRESERVE      :UPCASE       ZEBRA        ZEBRA
:PRESERVE      :UPCASE       Zebra        Zebra
:PRESERVE      :UPCASE       zebra        zebra
:PRESERVE      :DOWNCASE     ZEBRA        ZEBRA
```


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```
:PRESERVE      :DOWNCASE     Zebra        Zebra
:PRESERVE      :DOWNCASE     zebra        zebra
:PRESERVE      :CAPITALIZE   ZEBRA        ZEBRA
:PRESERVE      :CAPITALIZE   Zebra        Zebra
:PRESERVE      :CAPITALIZE   zebra        zebra
:INVERT        :UPCASE       ZEBRA        zebra
:INVERT        :UPCASE       Zebra        Zebra
:INVERT        :UPCASE       zebra        ZEBRA
:INVERT        :DOWNCASE     ZEBRA        zebra
:INVERT        :DOWNCASE     Zebra        Zebra
:INVERT        :DOWNCASE     zebra        ZEBRA
:INVERT        :CAPITALIZE   ZEBRA        zebra
:INVERT        :CAPITALIZE   Zebra        Zebra
:INVERT        :CAPITALIZE   zebra        ZEBRA
```

22.1.3.4 Printing Strings

The characters of the *string* are output in order. If *printer escaping* is enabled, a *double-quote* is output before and after, and all *double-quotes* and *single escapes* are preceded by *backslash*. The printing of *strings* is not affected by ***print-array***. Only the *active elements* of the *string* are printed.

For information on how the *Lisp reader* parses *strings*, see Section 2.4.5 (Double-Quote).

22.1.3.5 Printing Lists and Conses

Wherever possible, list notation is preferred over dot notation. Therefore the following algorithm is used to print a *cons* x:

1. A *left-parenthesis* is printed.

2. The *car* of x is printed.

3. If the *cdr* of x is itself a *cons*, it is made to be the current *cons* (*i.e.*, x becomes that *cons*), a *space* is printed, and step 2 is re-entered.

4. If the *cdr* of x is not *null*, a *space*, a *dot*, a *space*, and the *cdr* of x are printed.

5. A *right-parenthesis* is printed.

Actually, the above algorithm is only used when ***print-pretty*** is *false*. When ***print-pretty*** is *true* (or when **pprint** is used), additional *whitespace*$_1$ may replace the use of a single *space*, and a more elaborate algorithm with similar goals but more presentational flexibility is used; see Section 22.1.2 (Printer Dispatching).

Although the two expressions below are equivalent, and the reader accepts either one and produces the same *cons*, the printer always prints such a *cons* in the second form.

```
(a . (b . ((c . (d . nil)) . (e . nil))))
(a b (c d) e)
```

The printing of *conses* is affected by ***print-level***, ***print-length***, and ***print-circle***.

Following are examples of printed representations of *lists*:

```
(a . b)     ;A dotted pair of a and b
(a.b)       ;A list of one element, the symbol named a.b
(a. b)      ;A list of two elements a. and b
(a .b)      ;A list of two elements a and .b
(a b . c)   ;A dotted list of a and b with c at the end; two conses
.iot        ;The symbol whose name is .iot
(. b)       ;Invalid -- an error is signaled if an attempt is made to read
            ;this syntax.
(a .)       ;Invalid -- an error is signaled.
(a .. b)    ;Invalid -- an error is signaled.
(a . . b)   ;Invalid -- an error is signaled.
(a b c ...) ;Invalid -- an error is signaled.
(a \. b)    ;A list of three elements a, ., and b
(a |.| b)   ;A list of three elements a, ., and b
(a \... b)  ;A list of three elements a, ..., and b
(a |...| b) ;A list of three elements a, ..., and b
```

For information on how the *Lisp reader* parses *lists* and *conses*, see Section 2.4.1 (Left-Parenthesis).

22.1.3.6 Printing Bit Vectors

A *bit vector* is printed as `#*` followed by the bits of the *bit vector* in order. If ***print-array*** is *false*, then the *bit vector* is printed in a format (using `#<`) that is concise but not readable. Only the *active elements* of the *bit vector* are printed.

For information on *Lisp reader* parsing of *bit vectors*, see Section 2.4.8.4 (Sharpsign Asterisk).

22.1.3.7 Printing Other Vectors

If ***print-array*** is *true* and ***print-readably*** is *false*, any *vector* other than a *string* or *bit vector* is printed using general-vector syntax; this means that information about specialized vector representations does not appear. The printed representation of a zero-length *vector* is `#()`. The printed representation of a non-zero-length *vector* begins with `#(`. Following that, the first

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element of the *vector* is printed. If there are any other elements, they are printed in turn, with each such additional element preceded by a *space* if ***print-pretty*** is *false*, or *whitespace*$_1$ if ***print-pretty*** is *true*. A *right-parenthesis* after the last element terminates the printed representation of the *vector*. The printing of *vectors* is affected by ***print-level*** and ***print-length***. If the *vector* has a *fill pointer*, then only those elements below the *fill pointer* are printed.

If both ***print-array*** and ***print-readably*** are *false*, the *vector* is not printed as described above, but in a format (using `#<`) that is concise but not readable.

If ***print-readably*** is *true*, the *vector* prints in an *implementation-defined* manner; see the *variable* ***print-readably***.

For information on how the *Lisp reader* parses these "other *vectors*," see Section 2.4.8.3 (Sharpsign Left-Parenthesis).

22.1.3.8 Printing Other Arrays

If ***print-array*** is *true* and ***print-readably*** is *false*, any *array* other than a *vector* is printed using `#nA` format. Let `n` be the *rank* of the *array*. Then `#` is printed, then `n` as a decimal integer, then `A`, then `n` open parentheses. Next the *elements* are scanned in row-major order, using **write** on each *element*, and separating *elements* from each other with *whitespace*$_1$. The array's dimensions are numbered 0 to `n`-1 from left to right, and are enumerated with the rightmost index changing fastest. Every time the index for dimension `j` is incremented, the following actions are taken:

- If `j` < `n`-1, then a close parenthesis is printed.
- If incrementing the index for dimension `j` caused it to equal dimension `j`, that index is reset to zero and the index for dimension `j`-1 is incremented (thereby performing these three steps recursively), unless `j`=0, in which case the entire algorithm is terminated. If incrementing the index for dimension `j` did not cause it to equal dimension `j`, then a space is printed.
- If `j` < `n`-1, then an open parenthesis is printed.

This causes the contents to be printed in a format suitable for `:initial-contents` to **make-array**. The lists effectively printed by this procedure are subject to truncation by ***print-level*** and ***print-length***.

If the *array* is of a specialized *type*, containing bits or characters, then the innermost lists generated by the algorithm given above can instead be printed using bit-vector or string syntax, provided that these innermost lists would not be subject to truncation by ***print-length***.

If both ***print-array*** and ***print-readably*** are *false*, then the *array* is printed in a format (using `#<`) that is concise but not readable.

If ***print-readably*** is *true*, the *array* prints in an *implementation-defined* manner; see the *variable* ***print-readably***. In particular, this may be important for arrays having some dimension

`0`.

For information on how the *Lisp reader* parses these "other *arrays*," see Section 2.4.8.12 (Sharpsign A).

22.1.3.9 Examples of Printing Arrays

```
 (let ((a (make-array '(3 3)))
       (*print-pretty* t)
       (*print-array* t))
   (dotimes (i 3) (dotimes (j 3) (setf (aref a i j) (format nil "<~D,~D>" i j))))
   (print a)
   (print (make-array 9 :displaced-to a)))
▷ #2A(("<0,0>" "<0,1>" "<0,2>")
▷     ("<1,0>" "<1,1>" "<1,2>")
▷     ("<2,0>" "<2,1>" "<2,2>"))
▷ #("<0,0>" "<0,1>" "<0,2>" "<1,0>" "<1,1>" "<1,2>" "<2,0>" "<2,1>" "<2,2>")
→ #<ARRAY 9 indirect 36363476>
```

22.1.3.10 Printing Random States

A specific syntax for printing *objects* of *type* **random-state** is not specified. However, every *implementation* must arrange to print a *random state object* in such a way that, within the same implementation, **read** can construct from the printed representation a copy of the *random state* object as if the copy had been made by **make-random-state**.

If the type *random state* is effectively implemented by using the machinery for **defstruct**, the usual structure syntax can then be used for printing *random state* objects; one might look something like

```
#S(RANDOM-STATE :DATA #(14 49 98436589 786345 8734658324 ... ))
```

where the components are *implementation-dependent*.

22.1.3.11 Printing Pathnames

When *printer escaping* is enabled, the syntax `#P"..."` is how a *pathname* is printed by **write** and the other functions herein described. The `"..."` is the namestring representation of the pathname.

When *printer escaping* is disabled, **write** writes a *pathname* P by writing (`namestring` P) instead.

For information on how the *Lisp reader* parses *pathnames*, see Section 2.4.8.14 (Sharpsign P).

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22.1.3.12 Printing Structures

By default, a *structure* of type S is printed using `#S` syntax. This behavior can be customized by specifying a `:print-function` or `:print-object` option to the **defstruct** *form* that defines S, or by writing a **print-object** *method* that is *specialized* for *objects* of type S.

Different structures might print out in different ways; the default notation for structures is:

`#S(`*structure-name* {*slot-key slot-value*}*`)`

where `#S` indicates structure syntax, *structure-name* is a *structure name*, each *slot-key* is an initialization argument *name* for a *slot* in the *structure*, and each corresponding *slot-value* is a representation of the *object* in that *slot*.

For information on how the *Lisp reader* parses *structures*, see Section 2.4.8.13 (Sharpsign S).

22.1.3.13 Printing Other Objects

Other *objects* are printed in an *implementation-dependent* manner. It is not required that an *implementation* print those *objects readably*.

For example, *hash tables*, *readtables*, *packages*, *streams*, and *functions* might not print *readably*.

A common notation to use in this circumstance is `#<...>`. Since `#<` is not readable by the *Lisp reader*, the precise format of the text which follows is not important, but a common format to use is that provided by the **print-unreadable-object** *macro*.

For information on how the *Lisp reader* treats this notation, see Section 2.4.8.20 (Sharpsign Less-Than-Sign). For information on how to notate *objects* that cannot be printed *readably*, see Section 2.4.8.6 (Sharpsign Dot).

22.1.4 Examples of Printer Behavior

```
 (let ((*print-escape* t)) (fresh-line) (write #\a))
▷ #\a
→ #\a
 (let ((*print-escape* nil) (*print-readably* nil))
   (fresh-line)
   (write #\a))
▷ a
→ #\a
 (progn (fresh-line) (prin1 #\a))
▷ #\a
→ #\a
 (progn (fresh-line) (print #\a))
▷
```

```
▷ #\a
→ #\a
 (progn (fresh-line) (princ #\a))
▷ a
→ #\a
```

```
 (dolist (val '(t nil))
   (let ((*print-escape* val) (*print-readably* val))
     (print '#\a)
     (prin1 #\a) (write-char #\Space)
     (princ #\a) (write-char #\Space)
     (write #\a)))
▷ #\a #\a a #\a
▷ #\a #\a a a
→ NIL
```

```
 (progn (fresh-line) (write '(let ((a 1) (b 2)) (+ a b))))
▷ (LET ((A 1) (B 2)) (+ A B))
→ (LET ((A 1) (B 2)) (+ A B))
```

```
 (progn (fresh-line) (pprint '(let ((a 1) (b 2)) (+ a b))))
▷ (LET ((A 1)
▷       (B 2))
▷   (+ A B))
→ (LET ((A 1) (B 2)) (+ A B))
```

```
 (progn (fresh-line)
        (write '(let ((a 1) (b 2)) (+ a b)) :pretty t))
▷ (LET ((A 1)
▷       (B 2))
▷   (+ A B))
→ (LET ((A 1) (B 2)) (+ A B))
```

```
 (with-output-to-string (s)
    (write 'write :stream s)
    (prin1 'prin1 s))
→ "WRITEPRIN1"
```


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22.2 The Lisp Pretty Printer

22.2.1 Pretty Printer Concepts

The facilities provided by the ***pretty printer*** permit *programs* to redefine the way in which *code* is displayed, and allow the full power of *pretty printing* to be applied to complex combinations of data structures.

Whether any given style of output is in fact "pretty" is inherently a somewhat subjective issue. However, since the effect of the *pretty printer* can be customized by *conforming programs*, the necessary flexibility is provided for individual *programs* to achieve an arbitrary degree of aesthetic control.

By providing direct access to the mechanisms within the pretty printer that make dynamic decisions about layout, the macros and functions **pprint-logical-block**, **pprint-newline**, and **pprint-indent** make it possible to specify pretty printing layout rules as a part of any function that produces output. They also make it very easy for the detection of circularity and sharing, and abbreviation based on length and nesting depth to be supported by the function.

The *pretty printer* is driven entirely by dispatch based on the *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch***. The *function* **set-pprint-dispatch** makes it possible for *conforming programs* to associate new pretty printing functions with a *type*.

22.2.1.1 Dynamic Control of the Arrangement of Output

The actions of the *pretty printer* when a piece of output is too large to fit in the space available can be precisely controlled. Three concepts underlie the way these operations work—***logical blocks***, ***conditional newlines***, and ***sections***. Before proceeding further, it is important to define these terms.

The first line of Figure 22–3 shows a schematic piece of output. Each of the characters in the output is represented by "-". The positions of conditional newlines are indicated by digits. The beginnings and ends of logical blocks are indicated by "<" and ">" respectively.

The output as a whole is a logical block and the outermost section. This section is indicated by the `0`'s on the second line of Figure 1. Logical blocks nested within the output are specified by the macro **pprint-logical-block**. Conditional newline positions are specified by calls to **pprint-newline**. Each conditional newline defines two sections (one before it and one after it) and is associated with a third (the section immediately containing it).

The section after a conditional newline consists of: all the output up to, but not including, (a) the next conditional newline immediately contained in the same logical block; or if (a) is not applicable, (b) the next newline that is at a lesser level of nesting in logical blocks; or if (b) is not applicable, (c) the end of the output.

The section before a conditional newline consists of: all the output back to, but not including, (a) the previous conditional newline that is immediately contained in the same logical block; or if

(a) is not applicable, (b) the beginning of the immediately containing logical block. The last four lines in Figure 1 indicate the sections before and after the four conditional newlines.

The section immediately containing a conditional newline is the shortest section that contains the conditional newline in question. In Figure 22–3, the first conditional newline is immediately contained in the section marked with 0's, the second and third conditional newlines are immediately contained in the section before the fourth conditional newline, and the fourth conditional newline is immediately contained in the section after the first conditional newline.

```
<-1---<--<--2---3->--4-->->
000000000000000000000000000
11 111111111111111111111111
          22 222
             333 3333
       44444444444444 44444
```

Figure 22–3. Example of Logical Blocks, Conditional Newlines, and Sections

Whenever possible, the pretty printer displays the entire contents of a section on a single line. However, if the section is too long to fit in the space available, line breaks are inserted at conditional newline positions within the section.

22.2.1.2 Format Directive Interface

The primary interface to operations for dynamically determining the arrangement of output is provided through the functions and macros of the pretty printer. Figure 22–4 shows the defined names related to *pretty printing*.

print-lines	**pprint-dispatch**	**pprint-pop**
print-miser-width	**pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted**	**pprint-tab**
print-pprint-dispatch	**pprint-fill**	**pprint-tabular**
print-right-margin	**pprint-indent**	**set-pprint-dispatch**
copy-pprint-dispatch	**pprint-linear**	**write**
format	**pprint-logical-block**	
formatter	**pprint-newline**	

Figure 22–4. Defined names related to pretty printing.

Figure 22–5 identifies a set of *format directives* which serve as an alternate interface to the same pretty printing operations in a more textually compact form.

`~I`	`~W`	`~<...~:>`
`~:T`	`~/.../`	`~_`

Figure 22–5. Format directives related to Pretty Printing

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22.2.1.3 Compiling Format Strings

A *format string* is essentially a program in a special-purpose language that performs printing, and that is interpreted by the *function* **format**. The **formatter** *macro* provides the efficiency of using a *compiled function* to do that same printing but without losing the textual compactness of *format strings*.

A ***format control*** is either a *format string* or a *function* that was returned by the the **formatter** *macro*.

22.2.1.4 Pretty Print Dispatch Tables

A ***pprint dispatch table*** is a mapping from keys to pairs of values. Each key is a *type specifier*. The values associated with a key are a "function" (specifically, a *function designator* or **nil**) and a "numerical priority" (specifically, a *real*). Basic insertion and retrieval is done based on the keys with the equality of keys being tested by **equal**.

When ***print-pretty*** is *true*, the ***current pprint dispatch table*** (in ***print-pprint-dispatch***) controls how *objects* are printed. The information in this table takes precedence over all other mechanisms for specifying how to print *objects*. In particular, it has priority over user-defined **print-object** *methods* because the *current pprint dispatch table* is consulted first.

The function is chosen from the *current pprint dispatch table* by finding the highest priority function that is associated with a *type specifier* that matches the *object*; if there is more than one such function, it is *implementation-dependent* which is used.

However, if there is no information in the table about how to *pretty print* a particular kind of *object*, a *function* is invoked which uses **print-object** to print the *object*. The value of ***print-pretty*** is still *true* when this function is *called*, and individual methods for **print-object** might still elect to produce output in a special format conditional on the *value* of ***print-pretty***.

22.2.1.5 Pretty Printer Margins

A primary goal of pretty printing is to keep the output between a pair of margins. The column where the output begins is taken as the left margin. If the current column cannot be determined at the time output begins, the left margin is assumed to be zero. The right margin is controlled by ***print-right-margin***.

22.2.2 Examples of using the Pretty Printer

As an example of the interaction of logical blocks, conditional newlines, and indentation, consider the function `simple-pprint-defun` below. This function prints out lists whose *cars* are **defun** in the standard way assuming that the list has exactly length `4`.

```
(defun simple-pprint-defun (*standard-output* list)
  (pprint-logical-block (*standard-output* list :prefix "(" :suffix ")")
    (write (first list))
    (write-char #\Space)
    (pprint-newline :miser)
    (pprint-indent :current 0)
    (write (second list))
    (write-char #\Space)
    (pprint-newline :fill)
    (write (third list))
    (pprint-indent :block 1)
    (write-char #\Space)
    (pprint-newline :linear)
    (write (fourth list))))
```

Suppose that one evaluates the following:

```
(simple-pprint-defun *standard-output* '(defun prod (x y) (* x y)))
```

If the line width available is greater than or equal to `26`, then all of the output appears on one line. If the line width available is reduced to `25`, a line break is inserted at the linear-style conditional newline before the *expression* `(* x y)`, producing the output shown. The `(pprint-indent :block 1)` causes `(* x y)` to be printed at a relative indentation of `1` in the logical block.

```
 (DEFUN PROD (X Y)
   (* X Y))
```

If the line width available is `15`, a line break is also inserted at the fill style conditional newline before the argument list. The call on `(pprint-indent :current 0)` causes the argument list to line up under the function name.

```
(DEFUN PROD
       (X Y)
  (* X Y))
```

If ***print-miser-width*** were greater than or equal to 14, the example output above would have been as follows, because all indentation changes are ignored in miser mode and line breaks are inserted at miser-style conditional newlines.

```
 (DEFUN
  PROD
```



```
  (X Y)
  (* X Y))
```

As an example of a per-line prefix, consider that evaluating the following produces the output shown with a line width of `20` and ***print-miser-width*** of **nil**.

```
 (pprint-logical-block (*standard-output* nil :per-line-prefix ";;; ")
   (simple-pprint-defun *standard-output* '(defun prod (x y) (* x y))))

 ;;; (DEFUN PROD
 ;;;        (X Y)
 ;;;   (* X Y))
```

As a more complex (and realistic) example, consider the function `pprint-let` below. This specifies how to print a **let** *form* in the traditional style. It is more complex than the example above, because it has to deal with nested structure. Also, unlike the example above it contains complete code to readably print any possible list that begins with the *symbol* **let**. The outermost **pprint-logical-block** *form* handles the printing of the input list as a whole and specifies that parentheses should be printed in the output. The second **pprint-logical-block** *form* handles the list of binding pairs. Each pair in the list is itself printed by the innermost **pprint-logical-block**. (A **loop** *form* is used instead of merely decomposing the pair into two *objects* so that readable output will be produced no matter whether the list corresponding to the pair has one element, two elements, or (being malformed) has more than two elements.) A space and a fill-style conditional newline are placed after each pair except the last. The loop at the end of the topmost **pprint-logical-block** *form* prints out the forms in the body of the **let** *form* separated by spaces and linear-style conditional newlines.

```
 (defun pprint-let (*standard-output* list)
   (pprint-logical-block (nil list :prefix "(" :suffix ")")
     (write (pprint-pop))
     (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
     (write-char #\Space)
     (pprint-logical-block (nil (pprint-pop) :prefix "(" :suffix ")")
       (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
       (loop (pprint-logical-block (nil (pprint-pop) :prefix "(" :suffix ")")
               (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
               (loop (write (pprint-pop))
                     (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
                     (write-char #\Space)
                     (pprint-newline :linear)))
             (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
             (write-char #\Space)
             (pprint-newline :fill)))
     (pprint-indent :block 1)
     (loop (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
           (write-char #\Space)
```

```
            (pprint-newline :linear)
            (write (pprint-pop)))))
```

Suppose that one evaluates the following with ***print-level*** being 4, and ***print-circle*** being *true*.

```
(pprint-let *standard-output*
            '#1=(let (x (*print-length* (f (g 3)))
                      (z . 2) (k (car y)))
                  (setq x (sqrt z)) #1#))
```

If the line length is greater than or equal to 77, the output produced appears on one line. However, if the line length is 76, line breaks are inserted at the linear-style conditional newlines separating the forms in the body and the output below is produced. Note that, the degenerate binding pair `x` is printed readably even though it fails to be a list; a depth abbreviation marker is printed in place of `(g 3)`; the binding pair `(z . 2)` is printed readably even though it is not a proper list; and appropriate circularity markers are printed.

```
#1=(LET (X (*PRINT-LENGTH* (F #)) (Z . 2) (K (CAR Y)))
     (SETQ X (SQRT Z))
     #1#)
```

If the line length is reduced to 35, a line break is inserted at one of the fill-style conditional newlines separating the binding pairs.

```
#1=(LET (X (*PRINT-PRETTY* (F #))
         (Z . 2) (K (CAR Y)))
     (SETQ X (SQRT Z))
     #1#)
```

Suppose that the line length is further reduced to 22 and ***print-length*** is set to 3. In this situation, line breaks are inserted after both the first and second binding pairs. In addition, the second binding pair is itself broken across two lines. Clause (b) of the description of fill-style conditional newlines (see the *function* **pprint-newline**) prevents the binding pair `(z . 2)` from being printed at the end of the third line. Note that the length abbreviation hides the circularity from view and therefore the printing of circularity markers disappears.

```
(LET (X
      (*PRINT-LENGTH*
       (F #))
      (Z . 2) ...)
  (SETQ X (SQRT Z))
  ...)
```

The next function prints a vector using "`#(...)`" notation.

```
(defun pprint-vector (*standard-output* v)
  (pprint-logical-block (nil nil :prefix "#(" :suffix ")")
```


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```
    (let ((end (length v)) (i 0))
      (when (plusp end)
        (loop (pprint-pop)
              (write (aref v i))
              (if (= (incf i) end) (return nil))
              (write-char #\Space)
              (pprint-newline :fill))))))
```

Evaluating the following with a line length of 15 produces the output shown.

```
(pprint-vector *standard-output* '#(12 34 567 8 9012 34 567 89 0 1 23))

#(12 34 567 8
  9012 34 567
  89 0 1 23)
```

As examples of the convenience of specifying pretty printing with *format strings*, consider that the functions `simple-pprint-defun` and `pprint-let` used as examples above can be compactly defined as follows. (The function `pprint-vector` cannot be defined using **format** because the data structure it traverses is not a list.)

```
(defun simple-pprint-defun (*standard-output* list)
  (format T "~:<~W ~@_~:I~W ~:_~W~1I ~_~W~:>" list))

(defun pprint-let (*standard-output* list)
  (format T "~:<~W~^~:<~@{~:<~@{~W~^~_~}~:>~^~:_~}~:>~1I~@{~^~_~W~}~:>" list))
```

In the following example, the first *form* restores ***print-pprint-dispatch*** to the equivalent of its initial value. The next two forms then set up a special way to pretty print ratios. Note that the more specific *type specifier* has to be associated with a higher priority.

```
(setq *print-pprint-dispatch* (copy-pprint-dispatch nil))

(set-pprint-dispatch 'ratio
  #'(lambda (s obj)
      (format s "#.(/ ~W ~W)"
                (numerator obj) (denominator obj))))

(set-pprint-dispatch '(and ratio (satisfies minusp))
  #'(lambda (s obj)
      (format s "#.(- (/ ~W ~W))"
              (- (numerator obj)) (denominator obj)))
  5)

(pprint '(1/3 -2/3))
(#.(/ 1 3) #.(- (/ 2 3)))
```

The following two *forms* illustrate the definition of pretty printing functions for types of *code*. The first *form* illustrates how to specify the traditional method for printing quoted objects using *single-quote*. Note the care taken to ensure that data lists that happen to begin with **quote** will be printed readably. The second form specifies that lists beginning with the symbol `my-let` should print the same way that lists beginning with **let** print when the initial *pprint dispatch table* is in effect.

```
(set-pprint-dispatch '(cons (member quote)) ()
  #'(lambda (s list)
      (if (and (consp (cdr list)) (null (cddr list)))
         (funcall (formatter "'~W") s (cadr list))
         (pprint-fill s list))))

(set-pprint-dispatch '(cons (member my-let))
                     (pprint-dispatch '(let) nil))
```

The next example specifies a default method for printing lists that do not correspond to function calls. Note that the functions **pprint-linear**, **pprint-fill**, and **pprint-tabular** are all defined with optional *colon-p* and *at-sign-p* arguments so that they can be used as **pprint dispatch functions** as well as `~/.../` functions.

```
(set-pprint-dispatch '(cons (not (and symbol (satisfies fboundp))))
                     #'pprint-fill -5)

;; Assume a line length of 9
(pprint '(0 b c d e f g h i j k))
(0 b c d
 e f g h
 i j k)
```

This final example shows how to define a pretty printing function for a user defined data structure.

```
(defstruct family mom kids)

(set-pprint-dispatch 'family
  #'(lambda (s f)
      (funcall (formatter "~@<#<~;~W and ~2I~_~/pprint-fill/~;>~:>")
              s (family-mom f) (family-kids f))))
```

The pretty printing function for the structure `family` specifies how to adjust the layout of the output so that it can fit aesthetically into a variety of line widths. In addition, it obeys the printer control variables ***print-level***, ***print-length***, ***print-lines***, ***print-circle*** and ***print-escape***, and can tolerate several different kinds of malformity in the data structure. The output below shows what is printed out with a right margin of `25`, ***print-pretty*** being *true*, ***print-escape*** being *false*, and a malformed `kids` list.

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```
(write (list 'principal-family
             (make-family :mom "Lucy"
                          :kids '("Mark" "Bob" . "Dan")))
       :right-margin 25 :pretty T :escape nil :miser-width nil)
(PRINCIPAL-FAMILY
 #<Lucy and
     Mark Bob . Dan>)
```

Note that a pretty printing function for a structure is different from the structure's **print-object** *method*. While **print-object** *methods* are permanently associated with a structure, pretty printing functions are stored in *pprint dispatch tables* and can be rapidly changed to reflect different printing needs. If there is no pretty printing function for a structure in the current *pprint dispatch table*, its **print-object** *method* is used instead.

22.2.3 Notes about the Pretty Printer's Background

For a background reference to the abstract concepts detailed in this section, see *XP: A Common Lisp Pretty Printing System*. The details of that paper are not binding on this document, but may be helpful in establishing a conceptual basis for understanding this material.

22.3 Formatted Output

format is useful for producing nicely formatted text, producing good-looking messages, and so on. **format** can generate and return a *string* or output to *destination*.

The *control-string* argument to **format** is actually a *format control*. That is, it can be either a *format string* or a *function*, for example a *function* returned by the **formatter** *macro*.

If it is a *function*, the *function* is called with the appropriate output stream as its first argument and the data arguments to **format** as its remaining arguments. The function should perform whatever output is necessary and return the unused tail of the arguments (if any).

The compilation process performed by **formatter** produces a *function* that would do with its *arguments* as the **format** interpreter would do with those *arguments*.

The remainder of this section describes what happens if the *control-string* is a *format string*.

Control-string is composed of simple text (*characters*) and embedded directives.

format writes the simple text as is; each embedded directive specifies further text output that is to appear at the corresponding point within the simple text. Most directives use one or more elements of *args* to create their output.

A directive consists of a *tilde*, optional prefix parameters separated by commas, optional *colon* and *at-sign* modifiers, and a single character indicating what kind of directive this is. There is no required ordering between the *at-sign* and *colon* modifier. The *case* of the directive character is ignored. Prefix parameters are notated as signed (sign is optional) decimal numbers, or as a *single-quote* followed by a character. For example, `~5,'0d` can be used to print an *integer* in decimal radix in five columns with leading zeros, or `~5,'*d` to get leading asterisks.

In place of a prefix parameter to a directive, `V` (or `v`) can be used. In this case, **format** takes an argument from *args* as a parameter to the directive. The argument should be an *integer* or *character*. If the *arg* used by a `V` parameter is **nil**, the effect is as if the parameter had been omitted. `#` can be used in place of a prefix parameter; it represents the number of *args* remaining to be processed. When used within a recursive format, in the context of `~?` or `~{`, the `#` prefix parameter represents the number of *format arguments* remaining within the recursive call.

Examples of *format strings*:

`"~S"`	;This is an S directive with no parameters or modifiers.
`"~3,-4:@s"`	;This is an S directive with two parameters, `3` and `-4`,
	; and both the *colon* and *at-sign* flags.
`"~,+4S"`	;Here the first prefix parameter is omitted and takes
	; on its default value, while the second parameter is `4`.

Figure 22–6. Examples of format control strings

format sends the output to *destination*. If *destination* is **nil**, **format** creates and returns a *string* containing the output from *control-string*. If *destination* is *non-nil*, it must be a *string* with a *fill pointer*, a *stream*, or the symbol **t**. If *destination* is a *string* with a *fill pointer*, the output is added to the end of the *string*. If *destination* is a *stream*, the output is sent to that *stream*. If *destination* is **t**, the output is sent to *standard output*.

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In the description of the directives that follows, the term *arg* in general refers to the next item of the set of *args* to be processed. The word or phrase at the beginning of each description is a mnemonic for the directive. **format** directives do not bind any of the printer control variables (***print-...***) except as specified in the following descriptions. Implementations may specify the binding of new, implementation-specific printer control variables for each **format** directive, but they may neither bind any standard printer control variables not specified in description of a **format** directive nor fail to bind any standard printer control variables as specified in the description.

22.3.1 FORMAT Basic Output

22.3.1.1 Tilde C: Character

The next *arg* should be a *character*; it is printed according to the modifier flags.

`~C` prints the *character* as if by using **write-char** if it is a *simple character*. *Characters* that are not *simple* are not necessarily printed as if by **write-char**, but are displayed in an *implementation-defined*, abbreviated format. For example,

```
(format nil "~C" #\A) → "A"
(format nil "~C" #\Space) → " "
```

`~:C` is the same as `~C` for *printing characters*, but other *characters* are "spelled out." The intent is that this is a "pretty" format for printing characters. For *simple characters* that are not *printing*, what is spelled out is the *name* of the *character* (see **char-name**). For *characters* that are not *simple* and not *printing*, what is spelled out is *implementation-defined*. For example,

```
(format nil "~:C" #\A) → "A"
(format nil "~:C" #\Space) → "Space"
;; This next example assumes an implementation-defined "Control" attribute.
(format nil "~:C" #\Control-Space)
→ "Control-Space"
or→ "c-Space"
```

`~:@C` prints what `~:C` would, and then if the *character* requires unusual shift keys on the keyboard to type it, this fact is mentioned. For example,

```
(format nil "~:@C" #\Control-Partial) → "Control-∂ (Top-F)"
```

This is the format used for telling the user about a key he is expected to type, in prompts, for instance. The precise output may depend not only on the implementation, but on the particular I/O devices in use.

`~@C` prints the *character* in a way that the *Lisp reader* can understand, using `#\` syntax.

`~@C` binds ***print-escape*** to `t`.

22.3.1.2 Tilde Percent: Newline

This outputs a `#\Newline` character, thereby terminating the current output line and beginning a new one. `~`*n*`%` outputs *n* newlines. No *arg* is used.

22.3.1.3 Tilde Ampersand: Fresh-Line

Unless it can be determined that the output stream is already at the beginning of a line, this outputs a newline. `~`*n*`&` calls **fresh-line** and then outputs $n-1$ newlines. `~0&` does nothing.

22.3.1.4 Tilde Vertical-Bar: Page

This outputs a page separator character, if possible. `~`*n*`|` does this *n* times.

22.3.1.5 Tilde Tilde: Tilde

This outputs a *tilde*. `~`*n*`~` outputs *n* tildes.

22.3.2 FORMAT Radix Control

22.3.2.1 Tilde R: Radix

`~`*n*`R` prints *arg* in radix *n*. The modifier flags and any remaining parameters are used as for the `~D` directive. `~D` is the same as `~10R`. The full form is `~`*radix*`,`*mincol*`,`*padchar*`,`*commachar*`,`*comma-interval*`R`.

If no prefix parameters are given to `~R`, then a different interpretation is given. The argument should be an *integer*. For example, if *arg* is 4:

- `~R` prints *arg* as a cardinal English number: `four`.
- `~:R` prints *arg* as an ordinal English number: `fourth`.
- `~@R` prints *arg* as a Roman numeral: `IV`.

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- `~:@R` prints *arg* as an old Roman numeral: `IIII`.

For example:

```
(format nil "~,,' ,4:B" 13) → "1101"
(format nil "~,,' ,4:B" 17) → "1 0001"
(format nil "~19,0,' ,4:B" 3333) → "0000 1101 0000 0101"
(format nil "~3,,,' ,2:R" 17) → "1 22"
(format nil "~,,'|,2:D" #xFFFF) →  "6|55|35"
```

If and only if the first parameter, *n*, is supplied, `~R` binds ***print-escape*** to *false*, ***print-radix*** to *false*, ***print-base*** to *n*, and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

If and only if no parameters are supplied, `~R` binds ***print-base*** to `10`.

22.3.2.2 Tilde D: Decimal

An *arg*, which should be an *integer*, is printed in decimal radix. `~D` will never put a decimal point after the number.

`~`*mincol*`D` uses a column width of *mincol*; spaces are inserted on the left if the number requires fewer than *mincol* columns for its digits and sign. If the number doesn't fit in *mincol* columns, additional columns are used as needed.

`~`*mincol*`,`*padchar*`D` uses *padchar* as the pad character instead of space.

If *arg* is not an *integer*, it is printed in `~A` format and decimal base.

The `@` modifier causes the number's sign to be printed always; the default is to print it only if the number is negative. The `:` modifier causes commas to be printed between groups of digits; *commachar* may be used to change the character used as the comma. *comma-interval* must be an *integer* and defaults to 3. When the `:` modifier is given to any of these directives, the *commachar* is printed between groups of *comma-interval* digits.

Thus the most general form of `~D` is `~`*mincol*`,`*padchar*`,`*commachar*`,`*comma-interval*`D`.

`~D` binds ***print-escape*** to *false*, ***print-radix*** to *false*, ***print-base*** to `10`, and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.2.3 Tilde B: Binary

This is just like `~D` but prints in binary radix (radix 2) instead of decimal. The full form is therefore `~`*mincol*`,`*padchar*`,`*commachar*`,`*comma-interval*`B`.

`~B` binds ***print-escape*** to *false*, ***print-radix*** to *false*, ***print-base*** to `2`, and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.2.4 Tilde O: Octal

This is just like `~D` but prints in octal radix (radix 8) instead of decimal. The full form is therefore `~`*mincol*`,`*padchar*`,`*commachar*`,`*comma-interval*`O`.

`~O` binds ***print-escape*** to *false*, ***print-radix*** to *false*, ***print-base*** to `8`, and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.2.5 Tilde X: Hexadecimal

This is just like `~D` but prints in hexadecimal radix (radix 16) instead of decimal. The full form is therefore `~`*mincol*`,`*padchar*`,`*commachar*`,`*comma-interval*`X`.

`~X` binds ***print-escape*** to *false*, ***print-radix*** to *false*, ***print-base*** to `16`, and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.3 FORMAT Floating-Point Printers

22.3.3.1 Tilde F: Fixed-Format Floating-Point

The next *arg* is printed as a *float*.

The full form is `~`*w*`,`*d*`,`*k*`,`*overflowchar*`,`*padchar*`F`. The parameter *w* is the width of the field to be printed; *d* is the number of digits to print after the decimal point; *k* is a scale factor that defaults to zero.

Exactly *w* characters will be output. First, leading copies of the character *padchar* (which defaults to a space) are printed, if necessary, to pad the field on the left. If the *arg* is negative, then a minus sign is printed; if the *arg* is not negative, then a plus sign is printed if and only if the `@` modifier was supplied. Then a sequence of digits, containing a single embedded decimal point, is printed; this represents the magnitude of the value of *arg* times 10^k, rounded to *d* fractional digits. When rounding up and rounding down would produce printed values equidistant from the scaled value of *arg*, then the implementation is free to use either one. For example, printing the argument `6.375` using the format `~4,2F` may correctly produce either `6.37` or `6.38`. Leading zeros are not permitted, except that a single zero digit is output before the decimal point if the printed value is less than one, and this single zero digit is not output at all if $w=d+1$.

If it is impossible to print the value in the required format in a field of width *w*, then one of two actions is taken. If the parameter *overflowchar* is supplied, then *w* copies of that parameter are printed instead of the scaled value of *arg*. If the *overflowchar* parameter is omitted, then the scaled value is printed using more than *w* characters, as many more as may be needed.

If the *w* parameter is omitted, then the field is of variable width. In effect, a value is chosen for *w* in such a way that no leading pad characters need to be printed and exactly *d* characters will follow the decimal point. For example, the directive `~,2F` will print exactly two digits after the decimal point and as many as necessary before the decimal point.

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If the parameter *d* is omitted, then there is no constraint on the number of digits to appear after the decimal point. A value is chosen for *d* in such a way that as many digits as possible may be printed subject to the width constraint imposed by the parameter *w* and the constraint that no trailing zero digits may appear in the fraction, except that if the fraction to be printed is zero, then a single zero digit should appear after the decimal point if permitted by the width constraint.

If both *w* and *d* are omitted, then the effect is to print the value using ordinary free-format output; **prin1** uses this format for any number whose magnitude is either zero or between 10^{-3} (inclusive) and 10^7 (exclusive).

If *w* is omitted, then if the magnitude of *arg* is so large (or, if *d* is also omitted, so small) that more than 100 digits would have to be printed, then an implementation is free, at its discretion, to print the number using exponential notation instead, as if by the directive `~E` (with all parameters to `~E` defaulted, not taking their values from the `~F` directive).

If *arg* is a *rational* number, then it is coerced to be a *single float* and then printed. Alternatively, an implementation is permitted to process a *rational* number by any other method that has essentially the same behavior but avoids loss of precision or overflow because of the coercion. If *w* and *d* are not supplied and the number has no exact decimal representation, for example `1/3`, some precision cutoff must be chosen by the implementation since only a finite number of digits may be printed.

If *arg* is a *complex* number or some non-numeric *object*, then it is printed using the format directive `~`*w*`D`, thereby printing it in decimal radix and a minimum field width of *w*.

`~F` binds ***print-escape*** to *false* and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.3.2 Tilde E: Exponential Floating-Point

The next *arg* is printed as a *float* in exponential notation.

The full form is `~`*w*`,`*d*`,`*e*`,`*k*`,`*overflowchar*`,`*padchar*`,`*exponentchar*`E`. The parameter *w* is the width of the field to be printed; *d* is the number of digits to print after the decimal point; *e* is the number of digits to use when printing the exponent; *k* is a scale factor that defaults to one (not zero).

Exactly *w* characters will be output. First, leading copies of the character *padchar* (which defaults to a space) are printed, if necessary, to pad the field on the left. If the *arg* is negative, then a minus sign is printed; if the *arg* is not negative, then a plus sign is printed if and only if the `@` modifier was supplied. Then a sequence of digits containing a single embedded decimal point is printed. The form of this sequence of digits depends on the scale factor *k*. If *k* is zero, then *d* digits are printed after the decimal point, and a single zero digit appears before the decimal point if the total field width will permit it. If *k* is positive, then it must be strictly less than $d+2$; *k* significant digits are printed before the decimal point, and $d-k+1$ digits are printed after the decimal point. If *k* is negative, then it must be strictly greater than $-d$; a single zero digit appears before the decimal point if the total field width will permit it, and after the decimal point are printed first $-k$ zeros and then $d{+}k$ significant digits. The printed fraction must be properly rounded. When rounding up and rounding down would produce printed values equidistant from the scaled value of *arg*, then the implementation is free to use either one. For example, printing the argument `637.5` using the format `~8,2E` may correctly produce either `6.37E+2` or `6.38E+2`.

Following the digit sequence, the exponent is printed. First the character parameter *exponentchar* is printed; if this parameter is omitted, then the *exponent marker* that **prin1** would use is printed, as determined from the type of the *float* and the current value of ***read-default-float-format***. Next, either a plus sign or a minus sign is printed, followed by e digits representing the power of ten by which the printed fraction must be multiplied to properly represent the rounded value of *arg*.

If it is impossible to print the value in the required format in a field of width w, possibly because k is too large or too small or because the exponent cannot be printed in e character positions, then one of two actions is taken. If the parameter *overflowchar* is supplied, then w copies of that parameter are printed instead of the scaled value of *arg*. If the *overflowchar* parameter is omitted, then the scaled value is printed using more than w characters, as many more as may be needed; if the problem is that d is too small for the supplied k or that e is too small, then a larger value is used for d or e as may be needed.

If the w parameter is omitted, then the field is of variable width. In effect a value is chosen for w in such a way that no leading pad characters need to be printed.

If the parameter d is omitted, then there is no constraint on the number of digits to appear. A value is chosen for d in such a way that as many digits as possible may be printed subject to the width constraint imposed by the parameter w, the constraint of the scale factor k, and the constraint that no trailing zero digits may appear in the fraction, except that if the fraction to be printed is zero then a single zero digit should appear after the decimal point.

If the parameter e is omitted, then the exponent is printed using the smallest number of digits necessary to represent its value.

If all of w, d, and e are omitted, then the effect is to print the value using ordinary free-format exponential-notation output; **prin1** uses a similar format for any non-zero number whose magnitude is less than 10^{-3} or greater than or equal to 10^7. The only difference is that the `~E` directive always prints a plus or minus sign in front of the exponent, while **prin1** omits the plus sign if the exponent is non-negative.

If *arg* is a *rational* number, then it is coerced to be a *single float* and then printed. Alternatively, an implementation is permitted to process a *rational* number by any other method that has essentially the same behavior but avoids loss of precision or overflow because of the coercion. If w and d are unsupplied and the number has no exact decimal representation, for example `1/3`, some precision cutoff must be chosen by the implementation since only a finite number of digits may be printed.

If *arg* is a *complex* number or some non-numeric *object*, then it is printed using the format directive `~`w`D`, thereby printing it in decimal radix and a minimum field width of w.

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`~E` binds ***print-escape*** to *false* and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.3.3 Tilde G: General Floating-Point

The next *arg* is printed as a *float* in either fixed-format or exponential notation as appropriate.

The full form is `~`w`,`d`,`e`,`k`,`*overflowchar*`,`*padchar*`,`*exponentchar*`G`. The format in which to print *arg* depends on the magnitude (absolute value) of the *arg*. Let n be an integer such that $10^{n-1} \leq |arg| < 10^n$. Let ee equal $e{+}2$, or 4 if e is omitted. Let ww equal $w{-}ee$, or **nil** if w is omitted. If d is omitted, first let q be the number of digits needed to print *arg* with no loss of information and without leading or trailing zeros; then let d equal `(max` q `(min` n `7))`. Let dd equal $d{-}n$.

If $0 \leq dd \leq d$, then *arg* is printed as if by the format directives

`~`ww`,`dd`,,`*overflowchar*`,`*padchar*`F~`ee`@T`

Note that the scale factor k is not passed to the `~F` directive. For all other values of dd, *arg* is printed as if by the format directive

`~`w`,`d`,`e`,`k`,`*overflowchar*`,`*padchar*`,`*exponentchar*`E`

In either case, an `@` modifier is supplied to the `~F` or `~E` directive if and only if one was supplied to the `~G` directive.

`~G` binds ***print-escape*** to *false* and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.3.4 Tilde Dollarsign: Monetary Floating-Point

The next *arg* is printed as a *float* in fixed-format notation.

The full form is `~`d`,`n`,`w`,`*padchar*`$`. The parameter d is the number of digits to print after the decimal point (default value 2); n is the minimum number of digits to print before the decimal point (default value 1); w is the minimum total width of the field to be printed (default value 0).

First padding and the sign are output. If the *arg* is negative, then a minus sign is printed; if the *arg* is not negative, then a plus sign is printed if and only if the `@` modifier was supplied. If the `:` modifier is used, the sign appears before any padding, and otherwise after the padding. If w is supplied and the number of other characters to be output is less than w, then copies of *padchar* (which defaults to a space) are output to make the total field width equal w. Then n digits are printed for the integer part of *arg*, with leading zeros if necessary; then a decimal point; then d digits of fraction, properly rounded.

If the magnitude of *arg* is so large that more than m digits would have to be printed, where m is the larger of w and 100, then an implementation is free, at its discretion, to print the number using exponential notation instead, as if by the directive `~`w`,`q`,,,,`*padchar*`E`, where w and *padchar* are present or omitted according to whether they were present or omitted in the `~$` directive, and where $q{=}d{+}n{-}1$, where d and n are the (possibly default) values given to the `~$` directive.

If *arg* is a *rational* number, then it is coerced to be a *single float* and then printed. Alternatively, an implementation is permitted to process a *rational* number by any other method that has essentially the same behavior but avoids loss of precision or overflow because of the coercion.

If *arg* is a *complex* number or some non-numeric *object*, then it is printed using the format directive `~`*w*`D`, thereby printing it in decimal radix and a minimum field width of *w*.

`~$` binds ***print-escape*** to *false* and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.4 FORMAT Printer Operations

22.3.4.1 Tilde A: Aesthetic

An *arg*, any *object*, is printed without escape characters (as by **princ**). If *arg* is a *string*, its *characters* will be output verbatim. If *arg* is **nil** it will be printed as **nil**; the *colon* modifier (`~:A`) will cause an *arg* of **nil** to be printed as `()`, but if *arg* is a composite structure, such as a *list* or *vector*, any contained occurrences of **nil** will still be printed as **nil**.

`~`*mincol*`A` inserts spaces on the right, if necessary, to make the width at least *mincol* columns. The `@` modifier causes the spaces to be inserted on the left rather than the right.

`~`*mincol*`,`*colinc*`,`*minpad*`,`*padchar*`A` is the full form of `~A`, which allows control of the padding. The *string* is padded on the right (or on the left if the `@` modifier is used) with at least *minpad* copies of *padchar*; padding characters are then inserted *colinc* characters at a time until the total width is at least *mincol*. The defaults are `0` for *mincol* and *minpad*, `1` for *colinc*, and the space character for *padchar*.

`~A` binds ***print-escape*** to *false*, and ***print-readably*** to *false*.

22.3.4.2 Tilde S: Standard

This is just like `~A`, but *arg* is printed with escape characters (as by **prin1** rather than `princ`). The output is therefore suitable for input to **read**. `~S` accepts all the arguments and modifiers that `~A` does.

`~S` binds ***print-escape*** to **t**.

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22.3.4.3 Tilde W: Write

An argument, any *object*, is printed obeying every printer control variable (as by **write**). In addition, `~W` interacts correctly with depth abbreviation, by not resetting the depth counter to zero. `~W` does not accept parameters. If given the *colon* modifier, `~W` binds ***print-pretty*** to *true*. If given the *at-sign* modifier, `~W` binds ***print-level*** and ***print-length*** to **nil**.

`~W` provides automatic support for the detection of circularity and sharing. If the *value* of ***print-circle*** is not **nil** and `~W` is applied to an argument that is a circular (or shared) reference, an appropriate `#`*n*`#` marker is inserted in the output instead of printing the argument.

22.3.5 FORMAT Pretty Printer Operations

The following constructs provide access to the *pretty printer*:

22.3.5.1 Tilde Underscore: Conditional Newline

Without any modifiers, `~_` is the same as `(pprint-newline :linear)`. `~@_` is the same as `(pprint-newline :miser)`. `~:_` is the same as `(pprint-newline :fill)`. `~:@_` is the same as `(pprint-newline :mandatory)`.

22.3.5.2 Tilde Less-Than-Sign: Logical Block

`~<...~:>`

If `~:>` is used to terminate a `~<...~>`, the directive is equivalent to a call to **pprint-logical-block**. The argument corresponding to the `~<...~:>` directive is treated in the same way as the *list* argument to **pprint-logical-block**, thereby providing automatic support for non-*list* arguments and the detection of circularity, sharing, and depth abbreviation. The portion of the *control-string* nested within the `~<...~:>` specifies the `:prefix` (or `:per-line-prefix`), `:suffix`, and body of the **pprint-logical-block**.

The *control-string* portion enclosed by `~<...~:>` can be divided into segments `~<`*prefix*`~;`*body*`~;`*suffix*`~:>` by `~;` directives. If the first section is terminated by `~@;`, it specifies a per-line prefix rather than a simple prefix. The *prefix* and *suffix* cannot contain format directives. An error is signaled if either the prefix or suffix fails to be a constant string or if the enclosed portion is divided into more than three segments.

If the enclosed portion is divided into only two segments, the *suffix* defaults to the null string. If the enclosed portion consists of only a single segment, both the *prefix* and the *suffix* default to the null string. If the *colon* modifier is used (*i.e.*, `~:<...~:>`), the *prefix* and *suffix* default to `"("` and `")"` (respectively) instead of the null string.

The body segment can be any arbitrary *format string*. This *format string* is applied to the elements of the list corresponding to the `~<...~:>` directive as a whole. Elements are extracted from this list using **pprint-pop**, thereby providing automatic support for malformed lists, and the detection of circularity, sharing, and length abbreviation. Within the body segment, ~^ acts like **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted**.

~<...~:> supports a feature not supported by **pprint-logical-block**. If ~:@> is used to terminate the directive (*i.e.*, ~<...~:@>), then a fill-style conditional newline is automatically inserted after each group of blanks immediately contained in the body (except for blanks after a ⟨*Newline*⟩ directive). This makes it easy to achieve the equivalent of paragraph filling.

If the *at-sign* modifier is used with ~<...~:>, the entire remaining argument list is passed to the directive as its argument. All of the remaining arguments are always consumed by ~@<...~:>, even if they are not all used by the *format string* nested in the directive. Other than the difference in its argument, ~@<...~:> is exactly the same as ~<...~:> except that circularity detection is not applied if ~@<...~:> is encountered at top level in a *format string*. This ensures that circularity detection is applied only to data lists, not to *format argument lists*.

" . #*n*#" is printed if circularity or sharing has to be indicated for its argument as a whole.

To a considerable extent, the basic form of the directive ~<...~> is incompatible with the dynamic control of the arrangement of output by ~W, ~_, ~<...~:>, ~I, and ~:T. As a result, an error is signaled if any of these directives is nested within ~<...~>. Beyond this, an error is also signaled if the ~<...~:;...~> form of ~<...~> is used in the same *format string* with ~W, ~_, ~<...~:>, ~I, or ~:T.

See also Section 22.3.6.2 (Tilde Less-Than-Sign: Justification).

22.3.5.3 Tilde I: Indent

~*n*I is the same as (pprint-indent :block n).

~*n*:I is the same as (pprint-indent :current n). In both cases, *n* defaults to zero, if it is omitted.

22.3.5.4 Tilde Slash: Call Function

~/*name*/

User defined functions can be called from within a format string by using the directive ~/*name*/. The *colon* modifier, the *at-sign* modifier, and arbitrarily many parameters can be specified with the ~/*name*/ directive. *name* can be any arbitrary string that does not contain a "/". All of the characters in *name* are treated as if they were upper case. If *name* contains a single *colon* (:) or double *colon* (::), then everything up to but not including the first ":" or "::" is taken to be a *string* that names a *package*. Everything after the first ":" or "::" (if any) is taken to be a *string* that names a symbol. The function corresponding to a ~/name/ directive is obtained by looking up the *symbol* that has the indicated name in the indicated *package*. If *name* does not contain a ":" or "::", then the whole *name* string is looked up in the COMMON-LISP-USER *package*.

When a ~/name/ directive is encountered, the indicated function is called with four or more arguments. The first four arguments are: the output stream, the *format argument* corresponding to the directive, a *generalized boolean* that is *true* if the *colon* modifier was used, and a *generalized*

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boolean that is *true* if the *at-sign* modifier was used. The remaining arguments consist of any parameters specified with the directive. The function should print the argument appropriately. Any values returned by the function are ignored.

The three *functions* **pprint-linear**, **pprint-fill**, and **pprint-tabular** are specifically designed so that they can be called by ~/.../ (*i.e.*, ~/pprint-linear/, ~/pprint-fill/, and ~/pprint-tabular/). In particular they take *colon* and *at-sign* arguments.

22.3.6 FORMAT Layout Control

22.3.6.1 Tilde T: Tabulate

This spaces over to a given column. ~*colnum*,*colinc*T will output sufficient spaces to move the cursor to column *colnum*. If the cursor is already at or beyond column *colnum*, it will output spaces to move it to column *colnum*+*k***colinc* for the smallest positive integer *k* possible, unless *colinc* is zero, in which case no spaces are output if the cursor is already at or beyond column *colnum*. *colnum* and *colinc* default to 1.

If for some reason the current absolute column position cannot be determined by direct inquiry, **format** may be able to deduce the current column position by noting that certain directives (such as ~%, or ~&, or ~A with the argument being a string containing a newline) cause the column position to be reset to zero, and counting the number of characters emitted since that point. If that fails, **format** may attempt a similar deduction on the riskier assumption that the destination was at column zero when **format** was invoked. If even this heuristic fails or is implementationally inconvenient, at worst the ~T operation will simply output two spaces.

~@T performs relative tabulation. ~*colrel*,*colinc*@T outputs *colrel* spaces and then outputs the smallest non-negative number of additional spaces necessary to move the cursor to a column that is a multiple of *colinc*. For example, the directive ~3,8@T outputs three spaces and then moves the cursor to a "standard multiple-of-eight tab stop" if not at one already. If the current output column cannot be determined, however, then *colinc* is ignored, and exactly *colrel* spaces are output.

If the *colon* modifier is used with the ~T directive, the tabbing computation is done relative to the horizontal position where the section immediately containing the directive begins, rather than with respect to a horizontal position of zero. The numerical parameters are both interpreted as being in units of *ems* and both default to 1. ~*n*,*m*:T is the same as (pprint-tab :section *n m*). ~*n*,*m*:@T is the same as (pprint-tab :section-relative *n m*).

22.3.6.2 Tilde Less-Than-Sign: Justification

~*mincol*,*colinc*,*minpad*,*padchar*<*str*~>

This justifies the text produced by processing *str* within a field at least *mincol* columns wide. *str* may be divided up into segments with ~;, in which case the spacing is evenly divided between the text segments.

With no modifiers, the leftmost text segment is left justified in the field, and the rightmost text segment is right justified. If there is only one text element, as a special case, it is right justified. The : modifier causes spacing to be introduced before the first text segment; the @ modifier causes spacing to be added after the last. The *minpad* parameter (default 0) is the minimum number of padding characters to be output between each segment. The padding character is supplied by *padchar*, which defaults to the space character. If the total width needed to satisfy these constraints is greater than *mincol*, then the width used is *mincol*+*k***colinc* for the smallest possible non-negative integer value *k*. *colinc* defaults to 1, and *mincol* defaults to 0.

Note that *str* may include **format** directives. All the clauses in *str* are processed in order; it is the resulting pieces of text that are justified.

The ~^ directive may be used to terminate processing of the clauses prematurely, in which case only the completely processed clauses are justified.

If the first clause of a ~< is terminated with ~:; instead of ~;, then it is used in a special way. All of the clauses are processed (subject to ~^, of course), but the first one is not used in performing the spacing and padding. When the padded result has been determined, then if it will fit on the current line of output, it is output, and the text for the first clause is discarded. If, however, the padded text will not fit on the current line, then the text segment for the first clause is output before the padded text. The first clause ought to contain a newline (such as a ~% directive). The first clause is always processed, and so any arguments it refers to will be used; the decision is whether to use the resulting segment of text, not whether to process the first clause. If the ~:; has a prefix parameter *n*, then the padded text must fit on the current line with *n* character positions to spare to avoid outputting the first clause's text. For example, the control string

```
"~%;; ~{~<~%;; ~1:; ~S~>~^,~}.~%"
```

can be used to print a list of items separated by commas without breaking items over line boundaries, beginning each line with ;; . The prefix parameter 1 in ~1:; accounts for the width of the comma that will follow the justified item if it is not the last element in the list, or the period if it is. If ~:; has a second prefix parameter, then it is used as the width of the line, thus overriding the natural line width of the output stream. To make the preceding example use a line width of 50, one would write

```
"~%;; ~{~<~%;; ~1,50:; ~S~>~^,~} .~%"
```

If the second argument is not supplied, then **format** uses the line width of the *destination* output stream. If this cannot be determined (for example, when producing a *string* result), then **format** uses 72 as the line length.

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See also Section 22.3.5.2 (Tilde Less-Than-Sign: Logical Block).

22.3.6.3 Tilde Greater-Than-Sign: End of Justification

~> terminates a ~<. The consequences of using it elsewhere are undefined.

22.3.7 FORMAT Control-Flow Operations

22.3.7.1 Tilde Asterisk: Go-To

The next *arg* is ignored. ~*n** ignores the next *n* arguments.

~:* backs up in the list of arguments so that the argument last processed will be processed again. ~*n*:* backs up *n* arguments.

When within a ~{ construct (see below), the ignoring (in either direction) is relative to the list of arguments being processed by the iteration.

~*n*@* goes to the *n*th *arg*, where 0 means the first one; *n* defaults to 0, so ~@* goes back to the first *arg*. Directives after a ~*n*@* will take arguments in sequence beginning with the one gone to. When within a ~{ construct, the "goto" is relative to the list of arguments being processed by the iteration.

22.3.7.2 Tilde Left-Bracket: Conditional Expression

~[*str0*~;*str1*~;*...*~;*strn*~]

This is a set of control strings, called *clauses*, one of which is chosen and used. The clauses are separated by ~; and the construct is terminated by ~]. For example,

```
"~[Siamese~;Manx~;Persian~] Cat"
```

The *arg*th clause is selected, where the first clause is number 0. If a prefix parameter is given (as ~*n*[), then the parameter is used instead of an argument. If *arg* is out of range then no clause is selected and no error is signaled. After the selected alternative has been processed, the control string continues after the ~].

~[*str0*~;*str1*~;*...*~;*strn*~:;*default*~] has a default case. If the *last* ~; used to separate clauses is ~:; instead, then the last clause is an else clause that is performed if no other clause is selected. For example:

```
"~[Siamese~;Manx~;Persian~:;Alley~] Cat"
```

~:[*alternative*~;*consequent*~] selects the *alternative* control string if *arg* is *false*, and selects the *consequent* control string otherwise.

`~@[`*consequent*`~]` tests the argument. If it is *true*, then the argument is not used up by the `~[` command but remains as the next one to be processed, and the one clause *consequent* is processed. If the *arg* is *false*, then the argument is used up, and the clause is not processed. The clause therefore should normally use exactly one argument, and may expect it to be *non-nil*. For example:

```
 (setq *print-level* nil *print-length* 5)
 (format nil
        "~@[ print level = ~D~]~@[ print length = ~D~]"
        *print-level* *print-length*)
→  " print length = 5"
```

Note also that

```
 (format stream "...~@[str~]..." ...)
≡ (format stream "...~:[~;~:*str~]..." ...)
```

The combination of `~[` and `#` is useful, for example, for dealing with English conventions for printing lists:

```
 (setq foo "Items:~#[ none~; ~S~; ~S and ~S~
           ~:;~@{~#[~; and~] ~S~^,~}~].")
 (format nil foo) →  "Items: none."
 (format nil foo 'foo) →  "Items: FOO."
 (format nil foo 'foo 'bar) →  "Items: FOO and BAR."
 (format nil foo 'foo 'bar 'baz) →  "Items: FOO, BAR, and BAZ."
 (format nil foo 'foo 'bar 'baz 'quux) →  "Items: FOO, BAR, BAZ, and QUUX."
```

22.3.7.3 Tilde Right-Bracket: End of Conditional Expression

`~]` terminates a `~[`. The consequences of using it elsewhere are undefined.

22.3.7.4 Tilde Left-Brace: Iteration

`~{`*str*`~}`

This is an iteration construct. The argument should be a *list*, which is used as a set of arguments as if for a recursive call to **format**. The *string* *str* is used repeatedly as the control string. Each iteration can absorb as many elements of the *list* as it likes as arguments; if *str* uses up two arguments by itself, then two elements of the *list* will get used up each time around the loop. If before any iteration step the *list* is empty, then the iteration is terminated. Also, if a prefix parameter *n* is given, then there will be at most *n* repetitions of processing of *str*. Finally, the `~^` directive can be used to terminate the iteration prematurely.

For example:

```
 (format nil "The winners are:~{ ~S~}."
         '(fred harry jill))
→ "The winners are: FRED HARRY JILL."
 (format nil "Pairs:~{ <~S,~S>~}."
         '(a 1 b 2 c 3))
→ "Pairs: <A,1> <B,2> <C,3>."
```


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`~:{`*str*`~}` is similar, but the argument should be a *list* of sublists. At each repetition step, one sublist is used as the set of arguments for processing *str*; on the next repetition, a new sublist is used, whether or not all of the last sublist had been processed. For example:

```
 (format nil "Pairs:~:{ <~S,~S>~}."
                 '((a 1) (b 2) (c 3)))
→ "Pairs: <A,1> <B,2> <C,3>."
```

`~@{`*str*`~}` is similar to `~{`*str*`~}`, but instead of using one argument that is a list, all the remaining arguments are used as the list of arguments for the iteration. Example:

```
 (format nil "Pairs:~@{ <~S,~S>~}." 'a 1 'b 2 'c 3)
→ "Pairs: <A,1> <B,2> <C,3>."
```

If the iteration is terminated before all the remaining arguments are consumed, then any arguments not processed by the iteration remain to be processed by any directives following the iteration construct.

`~:@{`*str*`~}` combines the features of `~:{`*str*`~}` and `~@{`*str*`~}`. All the remaining arguments are used, and each one must be a *list*. On each iteration, the next argument is used as a *list* of arguments to *str*. Example:

```
 (format nil "Pairs:~:@{ <~S,~S>~}."
              '(a 1) '(b 2) '(c 3))
→ "Pairs: <A,1> <B,2> <C,3>."
```

Terminating the repetition construct with `~:}` instead of `~}` forces *str* to be processed at least once, even if the initial list of arguments is null. However, this will not override an explicit prefix parameter of zero.

If *str* is empty, then an argument is used as *str*. It must be a *format control* and precede any arguments processed by the iteration. As an example, the following are equivalent:

```
    (apply #'format stream string arguments)
 ≡ (format stream "~1{~:}" string arguments)
```

This will use `string` as a formatting string. The `~1{` says it will be processed at most once, and the `~:}` says it will be processed at least once. Therefore it is processed exactly once, using `arguments` as the arguments. This case may be handled more clearly by the `~?` directive, but this general feature of `~{` is more powerful than `~?`.

22.3.7.5 Tilde Right-Brace: End of Iteration

`~}` terminates a `~{`. The consequences of using it elsewhere are undefined.

22.3.7.6 Tilde Question-Mark: Recursive Processing

The next *arg* must be a *format control*, and the one after it a *list*; both are consumed by the `~?` directive. The two are processed as a *control-string*, with the elements of the *list* as the arguments. Once the recursive processing has been finished, the processing of the control string containing the `~?` directive is resumed. Example:

```
(format nil "~? ~D" "<~A ~D>" '("Foo" 5) 7) → "<Foo 5> 7"
(format nil "~? ~D" "<~A ~D>" '("Foo" 5 14) 7) → "<Foo 5> 7"
```

Note that in the second example three arguments are supplied to the *format string* `"<~A ~D>"`, but only two are processed and the third is therefore ignored.

With the `@` modifier, only one *arg* is directly consumed. The *arg* must be a *string*; it is processed as part of the control string as if it had appeared in place of the `~@?` construct, and any directives in the recursively processed control string may consume arguments of the control string containing the `~@?` directive. Example:

```
(format nil "~@? ~D" "<~A ~D>" "Foo" 5 7) → "<Foo 5> 7"
(format nil "~@? ~D" "<~A ~D>" "Foo" 5 14 7) → "<Foo 5> 14"
```

22.3.8 FORMAT Miscellaneous Operations

22.3.8.1 Tilde Left-Paren: Case Conversion

~(*str*~)

The contained control string *str* is processed, and what it produces is subject to case conversion.

With no flags, every *uppercase character* is converted to the corresponding *lowercase character*.

`~:(` capitalizes all words, as if by **string-capitalize**.

`~@(` capitalizes just the first word and forces the rest to lower case.

`~:@(` converts every lowercase character to the corresponding uppercase character.

In this example `~@(` is used to cause the first word produced by `~@R` to be capitalized:

```
(format nil "~@R ~(~@R~)" 14 14)
→ "XIV xiv"
(defun f (n) (format nil "~@(~R~) error~:P detected." n)) → F
(f 0) → "Zero errors detected."
```


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```
(f 1) → "One error detected."
(f 23) → "Twenty-three errors detected."
```

When case conversions appear nested, the outer conversion dominates, as illustrated in the following example:

```
(format nil "~@(how is ~:(BOB SMITH~)?~)")
→ "How is bob smith?"
not→ "How is Bob Smith?"
```

22.3.8.2 Tilde Right-Paren: End of Case Conversion

`~)` terminates a `~(`. The consequences of using it elsewhere are undefined.

22.3.8.3 Tilde P: Plural

If *arg* is not **eql** to the integer `1`, a lowercase `s` is printed; if *arg* is **eql** to `1`, nothing is printed. If *arg* is a floating-point `1.0`, the `s` is printed.

`~:P` does the same thing, after doing a `~:*` to back up one argument; that is, it prints a lowercase `s` if the previous argument was not `1`.

`~@P` prints `y` if the argument is `1`, or `ies` if it is not. `~:@P` does the same thing, but backs up first.

```
(format nil "~D tr~:@P/~D win~:P" 7 1) → "7 tries/1 win"
(format nil "~D tr~:@P/~D win~:P" 1 0) → "1 try/0 wins"
(format nil "~D tr~:@P/~D win~:P" 1 3) → "1 try/3 wins"
```

22.3.9 FORMAT Miscellaneous Pseudo-Operations

22.3.9.1 Tilde Semicolon: Clause Separator

This separates clauses in `~[` and `~<` constructs. The consequences of using it elsewhere are undefined.

22.3.9.2 Tilde Circumflex: Escape Upward

`~^`

This is an escape construct. If there are no more arguments remaining to be processed, then the immediately enclosing `~{` or `~<` construct is terminated. If there is no such enclosing construct, then the entire formatting operation is terminated. In the `~<` case, the formatting is performed, but no more segments are processed before doing the justification. `~^` may appear anywhere in a `~{` construct.

```
 (setq donestr "Done.~^ ~D warning~:P.~^ ~D error~:P.")
→ "Done.~^ ~D warning~:P.~^ ~D error~:P."
 (format nil donestr) → "Done."
 (format nil donestr 3) → "Done. 3 warnings."
 (format nil donestr 1 5) → "Done. 1 warning. 5 errors."
```

If a prefix parameter is given, then termination occurs if the parameter is zero. (Hence `~^` is equivalent to `~#^`.) If two parameters are given, termination occurs if they are equal. If three parameters are given, termination occurs if the first is less than or equal to the second and the second is less than or equal to the third. Of course, this is useless if all the prefix parameters are constants; at least one of them should be a `#` or a `V` parameter.

If `~^` is used within a `~:{` construct, then it terminates the current iteration step because in the standard case it tests for remaining arguments of the current step only; the next iteration step commences immediately. `~:^` is used to terminate the iteration process. `~:^` may be used only if the command it would terminate is `~:{` or `~:@{`. The entire iteration process is terminated if and only if the sublist that is supplying the arguments for the current iteration step is the last sublist in the case of `~:{`, or the last **format** argument in the case of `~:@{`. `~:^` is not equivalent to `~#:^`; the latter terminates the entire iteration if and only if no arguments remain for the current iteration step. For example:

```
 (format nil "~:{~@?~:^...~}" '(("a") ("b"))) → "a...b"
```

If `~^` appears within a control string being processed under the control of a `~?` directive, but not within any `~{` or `~<` construct within that string, then the string being processed will be terminated, thereby ending processing of the `~?` directive. Processing then continues within the string containing the `~?` directive at the point following that directive.

If `~^` appears within a `~[` or `~(` construct, then all the commands up to the `~^` are properly selected or case-converted, the `~[` or `~(` processing is terminated, and the outward search continues for a `~{` or `~<` construct to be terminated. For example:

```
 (setq tellstr "~@(~@[~R~]~^ ~A!~)")
→ "~@(~@[~R~]~^ ~A!~)"
 (format nil tellstr 23) → "Twenty-three!"
 (format nil tellstr nil "losers") → " Losers!"
 (format nil tellstr 23 "losers") → "Twenty-three losers!"
```


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Following are examples of the use of `~^` within a `~<` construct.

```
 (format nil "~15<~S~;~^~S~;~^~S~>" 'foo)
→  "            FOO"
 (format nil "~15<~S~;~^~S~;~^~S~>" 'foo 'bar)
→  "FOO         BAR"
 (format nil "~15<~S~;~^~S~;~^~S~>" 'foo 'bar 'baz)
→  "FOO   BAR   BAZ"
```

22.3.9.3 Tilde Newline: Ignored Newline

Tilde immediately followed by a *newline* ignores the *newline* and any following non-newline *whitespace*$_1$ characters. With a `:`, the *newline* is ignored, but any following *whitespace*$_1$ is left in place. With an `@`, the *newline* is left in place, but any following *whitespace*$_1$ is ignored. For example:

```
 (defun type-clash-error (fn nargs argnum right-type wrong-type)
   (format *error-output*
           "~&~S requires its ~:[~:R~;~*~]~
           argument to be of type ~S,~%but it was called ~
           with an argument of type ~S.~%"
           fn (eql nargs 1) argnum right-type wrong-type))
 (type-clash-error 'aref nil 2 'integer 'vector)  prints:
AREF requires its second argument to be of type INTEGER,
but it was called with an argument of type VECTOR.
NIL
 (type-clash-error 'car 1 1 'list 'short-float)  prints:
CAR requires its argument to be of type LIST,
but it was called with an argument of type SHORT-FLOAT.
NIL
```

Note that in this example newlines appear in the output only as specified by the `~&` and `~%` directives; the actual newline characters in the control string are suppressed because each is preceded by a tilde.

22.3.10 Additional Information about FORMAT Operations

22.3.10.1 Nesting of FORMAT Operations

The case-conversion, conditional, iteration, and justification constructs can contain other formatting constructs by bracketing them. These constructs must nest properly with respect to each other. For example, it is not legitimate to put the start of a case-conversion construct in each arm of a conditional and the end of the case-conversion construct outside the conditional:

```
 (format nil "~:[abc~:@(def~;ghi~
:@(jkl~]mno~)" x) ;Invalid!
```

This notation is invalid because the `~[...~;...~]` and `~(...~)` constructs are not properly nested.

The processing indirection caused by the `~?` directive is also a kind of nesting for the purposes of this rule of proper nesting. It is not permitted to start a bracketing construct within a string processed under control of a `~?` directive and end the construct at some point after the `~?` construct in the string containing that construct, or vice versa. For example, this situation is invalid:

```
 (format nil "~@?ghi~)" "abc~@(def") ;Invalid!
```

This notation is invalid because the `~?` and `~(...~)` constructs are not properly nested.

22.3.10.2 Missing and Additional FORMAT Arguments

The consequences are undefined if no *arg* remains for a directive requiring an argument. However, it is permissible for one or more *args* to remain unprocessed by a directive; such *args* are ignored.

22.3.10.3 Additional FORMAT Parameters

The consequences are undefined if a format directive is given more parameters than it is described here as accepting.

22.3.10.4 Undefined FORMAT Modifier Combinations

The consequences are undefined if *colon* or *at-sign* modifiers are given to a directive in a combination not specifically described here as being meaningful.

22.3.11 Examples of FORMAT

```
 (format nil "foo") → "foo"
 (setq x 5) → 5
 (format nil "The answer is ~D." x) → "The answer is 5."
 (format nil "The answer is ~3D." x) → "The answer is   5."
 (format nil "The answer is ~3,'0D." x) → "The answer is 005."
 (format nil "The answer is ~:D." (expt 47 x))
→ "The answer is 229,345,007."
 (setq y "elephant") → "elephant"
```


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```
 (format nil "Look at the ~A!" y) → "Look at the elephant!"
 (setq n 3) → 3
 (format nil "~D item~:P found." n) → "3 items found."
 (format nil "~R dog~:[s are~; is~] here." n (= n 1))
→ "three dogs are here."
 (format nil "~R dog~:*~[s are~; is~:;s are~] here." n)
→ "three dogs are here."
 (format nil "Here ~[are~;is~:;are~] ~:*~R pupp~:@P." n)
→ "Here are three puppies."
```

```
 (defun foo (x)
   (format nil "~6,2F|~6,2,1,'*F|~6,2,,'?F|~6F|~,2F|~F"
          x x x x x x)) → FOO
 (foo 3.14159)  → "  3.14| 31.42|  3.14|3.1416|3.14|3.14159"
 (foo -3.14159) → " -3.14|-31.42| -3.14|-3.142|-3.14|-3.14159"
 (foo 100.0)    → "100.00|******|100.00| 100.0|100.00|100.0"
 (foo 1234.0)   → "1234.00|******|??????|1234.0|1234.00|1234.0"
 (foo 0.006)    → "  0.01|  0.06|  0.01| 0.006|0.01|0.006"
```

```
 (defun foo (x)
    (format nil
          "~9,2,1,,'*E|~10,3,2,2,'?,,'$E|~
           ~9,3,2,-2,'%@E|~9,2E"
          x x x x))
 (foo 3.14159)  → "  3.14E+0| 31.42$-01|+.003E+03|  3.14E+0"
 (foo -3.14159) → " -3.14E+0|-31.42$-01|-.003E+03| -3.14E+0"
 (foo 1100.0)   → "  1.10E+3| 11.00$+02|+.001E+06|  1.10E+3"
 (foo 1100.0L0) → "  1.10L+3| 11.00$+02|+.001L+06|  1.10L+3"
 (foo 1.1E13)   → "*********| 11.00$+12|+.001E+16| 1.10E+13"
 (foo 1.1L120)  → "*********|??????????|%%%%%%%%%|1.10L+120"
 (foo 1.1L1200) → "*********|??????????|%%%%%%%%%|1.10L+1200"
```

As an example of the effects of varying the scale factor, the code

```
 (dotimes (k 13)
   (format t "~%Scale factor ~2D: |~13,6,2,VE|"
          (- k 5) (- k 5) 3.14159))
```

produces the following output:

```
Scale factor -5: | 0.000003E+06|
Scale factor -4: | 0.000031E+05|
Scale factor -3: | 0.000314E+04|
Scale factor -2: | 0.003142E+03|
Scale factor -1: | 0.031416E+02|
Scale factor  0: | 0.314159E+01|
Scale factor  1: | 3.141590E+00|
```

```
Scale factor  2: | 31.41590E-01|
Scale factor  3: | 314.1590E-02|
Scale factor  4: | 3141.590E-03|
Scale factor  5: | 31415.90E-04|
Scale factor  6: | 314159.0E-05|
Scale factor  7: | 3141590.E-06|
```

```
(defun foo (x)
  (format nil "~9,2,1,,'*G|~9,3,2,3,'?,,'$G|~9,3,2,0,'%G|~9,2G"
         x x x x))
(foo 0.0314159) → "  3.14E-2|314.2$-04|0.314E-01|  3.14E-2"
(foo 0.314159)  → "  0.31   |0.314    |0.314    | 0.31    "
(foo 3.14159)   → "   3.1   | 3.14    | 3.14    |  3.1    "
(foo 31.4159)   → "   31.   | 31.4    | 31.4    |  31.    "
(foo 314.159)   → "  3.14E+2| 314.    | 314.    |  3.14E+2"
(foo 3141.59)   → "  3.14E+3|314.2$+01|0.314E+04|  3.14E+3"
(foo 3141.59L0) → "  3.14L+3|314.2$+01|0.314L+04|  3.14L+3"
(foo 3.14E12)   → "*********|314.0$+10|0.314E+13| 3.14E+12"
(foo 3.14L120)  → "*********|?????????|%%%%%%%%%|3.14L+120"
(foo 3.14L1200) → "*********|?????????|%%%%%%%%%|3.14L+1200"
```

```
(format nil "~10<foo~;bar~>")   → "foo    bar"
(format nil "~10:<foo~;bar~>")  → "  foo  bar"
(format nil "~10<foobar~>")     → "    foobar"
(format nil "~10:<foobar~>")    → "    foobar"
(format nil "~10:@<foo~;bar~>") → "  foo bar "
(format nil "~10@<foobar~>")    → "foobar    "
(format nil "~10:@<foobar~>")   → "  foobar  "
```

```
(FORMAT NIL "Written to ~A." #P"foo.bin")
→ "Written to foo.bin."
```

22.3.12 Notes about FORMAT

Formatted output is performed not only by **format**, but by certain other functions that accept a *format control* the way **format** does. For example, error-signaling functions such as **cerror** accept *format controls*.

Note that the meaning of **nil** and **t** as destinations to **format** are different than those of **nil** and **t** as *stream designators*.

The `~^` should appear only at the beginning of a `~<` clause, because it aborts the entire clause in which it appears (as well as all following clauses).

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copy-pprint-dispatch *Function*

Syntax:

copy-pprint-dispatch `&optional` *table* → *new-table*

Arguments and Values:

table—a *pprint dispatch table*, or **nil**.

new-table—a *fresh pprint dispatch table*.

Description:

Creates and returns a copy of the specified *table*, or of the *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch*** if no *table* is specified, or of the initial *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch*** if **nil** is specified.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *table* is not a *pprint dispatch table*.

formatter *Macro*

Syntax:

formatter *control-string* → *function*

Arguments and Values:

control-string—a *format string*; not evaluated.

function—a *function*.

Description:

Returns a *function* which has behavior equivalent to:

```
#'(lambda (*standard-output* &rest arguments)
    (apply #'format t control-string arguments)
    arguments-tail)
```

where *arguments-tail* is either the tail of *arguments* which has as its *car* the argument that would be processed next if there were more format directives in the *control-string*, or else **nil** if no more *arguments* follow the most recently processed argument.

Examples:

```
(funcall (formatter "~&~A~A") *standard-output* 'a 'b 'c)
▷ AB
→ (C)
```

```
(format t (formatter "~&~A~A") 'a 'b 'c)
▷ AB
→ NIL
```

Exceptional Situations:

Might signal an error (at macro expansion time or at run time) if the argument is not a valid *format string*.

See Also:

format

pprint-dispatch *Function*

Syntax:

pprint-dispatch *object* &optional *table* → *function, found-p*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

table—a *pprint dispatch table*, or **nil**. The default is the *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch***.

function—a *function designator*.

found-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Retrieves the highest priority function in *table* that is associated with a *type specifier* that matches *object*. The function is chosen by finding all of the *type specifiers* in *table* that match the *object* and selecting the highest priority function associated with any of these *type specifiers*. If there is more than one highest priority function, an arbitrary choice is made. If no *type specifiers* match the *object*, a function is returned that prints *object* using **print-object**.

The *secondary value*, *found-p*, is *true* if a matching *type specifier* was found in *table*, or *false* otherwise.

If *table* is **nil**, retrieval is done in the *initial pprint dispatch table*.

Affected By:

The state of the *table*.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *table* is neither a *pprint-dispatch-table* nor **nil**.

Notes:

```
(let ((*print-pretty* t))
  (write object :stream s))
≡ (funcall (pprint-dispatch object) s object)
```

pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted *Local Macro*

Syntax:

pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → **nil**

Description:

Tests whether or not the *list* passed to the *lexically current logical block* has been exhausted; see Section 22.2.1.1 (Dynamic Control of the Arrangement of Output). If this *list* has been reduced to **nil**, **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted** terminates the execution of the *lexically current logical block* except for the printing of the suffix. Otherwise **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted** returns **nil**.

Whether or not **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted** is *fbound* in the *global environment* is *implementation-dependent*; however, the restrictions on redefinition and *shadowing* of **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted** are the same as for *symbols* in the COMMON-LISP *package* which are *fbound* in the *global environment*. The consequences of attempting to use **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted** outside of **pprint-logical-block** are undefined.

Exceptional Situations:

An error is signaled (at macro expansion time or at run time) if **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted** is used anywhere other than lexically within a call on **pprint-logical-block**. Also, the consequences of executing **pprint-if-list-exhausted** outside of the dynamic extent of the **pprint-logical-block** which lexically contains it are undefined.

See Also:

pprint-logical-block, **pprint-pop**.

pprint-fill, pprint-linear, pprint-tabular *Function*

Syntax:

pprint-fill *stream object* &optional *colon-p at-sign-p* → nil

pprint-linear *stream object* &optional *colon-p at-sign-p* → nil

pprint-tabular *stream object* &optional *colon-p at-sign-p tabsize* → nil

Arguments and Values:

stream—an *output stream designator*.

object—an *object*.

colon-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

at-sign-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *implementation-dependent*.

tabsize—a non-negative *integer*. The default is 16.

Description:

The functions **pprint-fill**, **pprint-linear**, and **pprint-tabular** specify particular ways of *pretty printing* a *list* to *stream*. Each function prints parentheses around the output if and only if *colon-p* is *true*. Each function ignores its *at-sign-p* argument. (Both arguments are included even though only one is needed so that these functions can be used via ~/.../ and as **set-pprint-dispatch** functions, as well as directly.) Each function handles abbreviation and the detection of circularity and sharing correctly, and uses **write** to print *object* when it is a *non-list*.

If *object* is a *list* and if the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *false*, each of these functions prints *object* using a minimum of *whitespace*, as described in Section 22.1.3.5 (Printing Lists and Conses). Otherwise (if *object* is a *list* and if the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *true*):

- The *function* **pprint-linear** prints a *list* either all on one line, or with each *element* on a separate line.
- The *function* **pprint-fill** prints a *list* with as many *elements* as possible on each line.
- The *function* **pprint-tabular** is the same as **pprint-fill** except that it prints the *elements* so that they line up in columns. The *tabsize* specifies the column spacing in *ems*, which is the total spacing from the leading edge of one column to the leading edge of the next.

Examples:

Evaluating the following with a line length of 25 produces the output shown.

```
(progn (princ "Roads ")
```



```
       (pprint-tabular *standard-output* '(elm main maple center) nil nil 8))
Roads ELM     MAIN
      MAPLE   CENTER
```

Side Effects:

Performs output to the indicated *stream*.

Affected By:

The cursor position on the indicated *stream*, if it can be determined.

Notes:

The *function* **pprint-tabular** could be defined as follows:

```
(defun pprint-tabular (s list &optional (colon-p t) at-sign-p (tabsize nil))
  (declare (ignore at-sign-p))
  (when (null tabsize) (setq tabsize 16))
  (pprint-logical-block (s list :prefix (if colon-p "(" "")
                               :suffix (if colon-p ")" ""))
    (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
    (loop (write (pprint-pop) :stream s)
          (pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted)
          (write-char #\Space s)
          (pprint-tab :section-relative 0 tabsize s)
          (pprint-newline :fill s))))
```

Note that it would have been inconvenient to specify this function using **format**, because of the need to pass its *tabsize* argument through to a ~:T format directive nested within an iteration over a list.

pprint-indent *Function*

Syntax:

pprint-indent *relative-to n* &optional *stream* → nil

Arguments and Values:

relative-to—either :block or :current.

n—a *real*.

stream—an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

Description:

pprint-indent specifies the indentation to use in a logical block on *stream*. If *stream* is a *pretty printing stream* and the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *true*, **pprint-indent** sets the indentation in the innermost dynamically enclosing logical block; otherwise, **pprint-indent** has no effect.

N specifies the indentation in *ems*. If *relative-to* is `:block`, the indentation is set to the horizontal position of the first character in the *dynamically current logical block* plus *n ems*. If *relative-to* is `:current`, the indentation is set to the current output position plus *n ems*. (For robustness in the face of variable-width fonts, it is advisable to use `:current` with an *n* of zero whenever possible.)

N can be negative; however, the total indentation cannot be moved left of the beginning of the line or left of the end of the rightmost per-line prefix—an attempt to move beyond one of these limits is treated the same as an attempt to move to that limit. Changes in indentation caused by *pprint-indent* do not take effect until after the next line break. In addition, in miser mode all calls to **pprint-indent** are ignored, forcing the lines corresponding to the logical block to line up under the first character in the block.

Exceptional Situations:

An error is signaled if *relative-to* is any *object* other than `:block` or `:current`.

See Also:

Section 22.3.5.3 (Tilde I: Indent)

pprint-logical-block *Macro*

Syntax:

pprint-logical-block (*stream-symbol object* `&key` *prefix per-line-prefix suffix*)
{*declaration*}* {*form*}*

→ **nil**

Arguments and Values:

stream-symbol—a *stream variable designator*.

object—an *object*; evaluated.

`:prefix`—a *string*; evaluated. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

`:per-line-prefix`—a *string*; evaluated. Complicated defaulting behavior; see below.

`:suffix`—a *string*; evaluated. The default is the *null string*.

declaration—a **declare** *expression*; not evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

Description:

Causes printing to be grouped into a logical block.

The logical block is printed to the *stream* that is the *value* of the *variable* denoted by *stream-symbol*. During the execution of the *forms*, that *variable* is *bound* to a *pretty printing stream* that supports decisions about the arrangement of output and then forwards the output to the destination stream. All the standard printing functions (*e.g.*, **write**, **princ**, and **terpri**) can be used to print output to the *pretty printing stream*. All and only the output sent to this *pretty printing stream* is treated as being in the logical block.

The *prefix* specifies a prefix to be printed before the beginning of the logical block. The *per-line-prefix* specifies a prefix that is printed before the block and at the beginning of each new line in the block. The `:prefix` and `:pre-line-prefix` *arguments* are mutually exclusive. If neither `:prefix` nor `:per-line-prefix` is specified, a *prefix* of the *null string* is assumed.

The *suffix* specifies a suffix that is printed just after the logical block.

The *object* is normally a *list* that the body *forms* are responsible for printing. If *object* is not a *list*, it is printed using **write**. (This makes it easier to write printing functions that are robust in the face of malformed arguments.) If ***print-circle*** is *non-nil* and *object* is a circular (or shared) reference to a *cons*, then an appropriate "`#n#`" marker is printed. (This makes it easy to write printing functions that provide full support for circularity and sharing abbreviation.) If ***print-level*** is not **nil** and the logical block is at a dynamic nesting depth of greater than ***print-level*** in logical blocks, "`#`" is printed. (This makes easy to write printing functions that provide full support for depth abbreviation.)

If either of the three conditions above occurs, the indicated output is printed on *stream-symbol* and the body *forms* are skipped along with the printing of the `:prefix` and `:suffix`. (If the body *forms* are not to be responsible for printing a list, then the first two tests above can be turned off by supplying **nil** for the *object* argument.)

In addition to the *object* argument of **pprint-logical-block**, the arguments of the standard printing functions (such as **write**, **print**, **prin1**, and **pprint**, as well as the arguments of the standard *format directives* such as `~A`, `~S`, (and `~W`) are all checked (when necessary) for circularity and sharing. However, such checking is not applied to the arguments of the functions **write-line**, **write-string**, and **write-char** or to the literal text output by **format**. A consequence of this is that you must use one of the latter functions if you want to print some literal text in the output that is not supposed to be checked for circularity or sharing.

The body *forms* of a **pprint-logical-block** *form* must not perform any side-effects on the surrounding environment; for example, no *variables* must be assigned which have not been *bound* within its scope.

The **pprint-logical-block** *macro* may be used regardless of the *value* of ***print-pretty***.

Affected By:

print-circle, ***print-level***.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **type-error** is signaled if any of the `:suffix`, `:prefix`, or `:per-line-prefix` is supplied but does not evaluate to a *string*.

An error is signaled if `:prefix` and `:pre-line-prefix` are both used.

pprint-logical-block and the *pretty printing stream* it creates have *dynamic extent*. The consequences are undefined if, outside of this extent, output is attempted to the *pretty printing stream* it creates.

It is also unspecified what happens if, within this extent, any output is sent directly to the underlying destination stream.

See Also:

pprint-pop, **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted**, Section 22.3.5.2 (Tilde Less-Than-Sign: Logical Block)

Notes:

One reason for using the **pprint-logical-block** *macro* when the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is **nil** would be to allow it to perform checking for *dotted lists*, as well as (in conjunction with **pprint-pop**) checking for ***print-level*** or ***print-length*** being exceeded.

Detection of circularity and sharing is supported by the *pretty printer* by in essence performing requested output twice. On the first pass, circularities and sharing are detected and the actual outputting of characters is suppressed. On the second pass, the appropriate "#*n*=" and "#*n*#" markers are inserted and characters are output. This is why the restriction on side-effects is necessary. Obeying this restriction is facilitated by using **pprint-pop**, instead of an ordinary **pop** when traversing a list being printed by the body *forms* of the **pprint-logical-block** *form*.)

pprint-newline *Function*

Syntax:

pprint-newline *kind* `&optional` *stream* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

kind—one of `:linear`, `:fill`, `:miser`, or `:mandatory`.

stream—a *stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

Description:

If *stream* is a *pretty printing stream* and the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *true*, a line break is inserted in the output when the appropriate condition below is satisfied; otherwise, **pprint-newline** has no effect.

Kind specifies the style of conditional newline. This *parameter* is treated as follows:

`:linear`

This specifies a "linear-style" *conditional newline*. A line break is inserted if and only if the immediately containing *section* cannot be printed on one line. The effect of this is that line breaks are either inserted at every linear-style conditional newline in a logical block or at none of them.

`:miser`

This specifies a "miser-style" *conditional newline*. A line break is inserted if and only if the immediately containing *section* cannot be printed on one line and miser style is in effect in the immediately containing logical block. The effect of this is that miser-style conditional newlines act like linear-style conditional newlines, but only when miser style is in effect. Miser style is in effect for a logical block if and only if the starting position of the logical block is less than or equal to ***print-miser-width*** *ems* from the right margin.

`:fill`

This specifies a "fill-style" *conditional newline*. A line break is inserted if and only if either (a) the following *section* cannot be printed on the end of the current line, (b) the preceding *section* was not printed on a single line, or (c) the immediately containing *section* cannot be printed on one line and miser style is in effect in the immediately containing logical block. If a logical block is broken up into a number of subsections by fill-style conditional newlines, the basic effect is that the logical block is printed with as many subsections as possible on each line. However, if miser style is in effect, fill-style conditional newlines act like linear-style conditional newlines.

`:mandatory`

This specifies a "mandatory-style" *conditional newline*. A line break is always inserted. This implies that none of the containing *sections* can be printed on a single line and will therefore trigger the insertion of line breaks at linear-style conditional newlines in these *sections*.

When a line break is inserted by any type of conditional newline, any blanks that immediately precede the conditional newline are omitted from the output and indentation is introduced at the beginning of the next line. By default, the indentation causes the following line to begin in the same horizontal position as the first character in the immediately containing logical block. (The indentation can be changed via **pprint-indent**.)

There are a variety of ways unconditional newlines can be introduced into the output (*i.e.*, via **terpri** or by printing a string containing a newline character). As with mandatory conditional newlines, this prevents any of the containing *sections* from being printed on one line. In general, when an unconditional newline is encountered, it is printed out without suppression of the preceding blanks and without any indentation following it. However, if a per-line prefix has been specified (see **pprint-logical-block**), this prefix will always be printed no matter how a newline originates.

Examples:

See Section 22.2.2 (Examples of using the Pretty Printer).

Side Effects:

Output to *stream*.

Affected By:

print-pretty, ***print-miser***. The presence of containing logical blocks. The placement of newlines and conditional newlines.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **type-error** is signaled if *kind* is not one of `:linear`, `:fill`, `:miser`, or `:mandatory`.

See Also:

Section 22.3.5.1 (Tilde Underscore: Conditional Newline), Section 22.2.2 (Examples of using the Pretty Printer)

pprint-pop *Local Macro*

Syntax:

pprint-pop ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *object*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *element* of the *list* being printed in the *lexically current logical block*, or **nil**.

Description:

Pops one *element* from the *list* being printed in the *lexically current logical block*, obeying ***print-length*** and ***print-circle*** as described below.

Each time **pprint-pop** is called, it pops the next value off the *list* passed to the *lexically current logical block* and returns it. However, before doing this, it performs three tests:

- If the remaining 'list' is not a *list*, "`. `" is printed followed by the remaining 'list.' (This makes it easier to write printing functions that are robust in the face of malformed arguments.)
- If ***print-length*** is *non-nil*, and **pprint-pop** has already been called ***print-length*** times within the immediately containing logical block, "`...`" is printed. (This makes it easy to write printing functions that properly handle ***print-length***.)
- If ***print-circle*** is *non-nil*, and the remaining list is a circular (or shared) reference, then "`. `" is printed followed by an appropriate "`#n#`" marker. (This catches instances of *cdr* circularity and sharing in lists.)

If either of the three conditions above occurs, the indicated output is printed on the *pretty printing stream* created by the immediately containing **pprint-logical-block** and the execution of the immediately containing **pprint-logical-block** is terminated except for the printing of the suffix.

If **pprint-logical-block** is given a 'list' argument of **nil**—because it is not processing a list—**pprint-pop** can still be used to obtain support for ***print-length***. In this situation, the first and third tests above are disabled and **pprint-pop** always returns **nil**. See Section 22.2.2 (Examples of using the Pretty Printer)—specifically, the **pprint-vector** example.

Whether or not **pprint-pop** is *fbound* in the *global environment* is *implementation-dependent*; however, the restrictions on redefinition and *shadowing* of **pprint-pop** are the same as for *symbols* in the `COMMON-LISP` *package* which are *fbound* in the *global environment*. The consequences of attempting to use **pprint-pop** outside of **pprint-logical-block** are undefined.

Side Effects:

Might cause output to the *pretty printing stream* associated with the lexically current logical block.

Affected By:

print-length, ***print-circle***.

Exceptional Situations:

An error is signaled (either at macro expansion time or at run time) if a usage of **pprint-pop** occurs where there is no lexically containing **pprint-logical-block** *form*.

The consequences are undefined if **pprint-pop** is executed outside of the *dynamic extent* of this **pprint-logical-block**.

See Also:

pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted, **pprint-logical-block**.

Notes:

It is frequently a good idea to call **pprint-exit-if-list-exhausted** before calling **pprint-pop**.

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pprint-tab *Function*

Syntax:

pprint-tab *kind colnum colinc* `&optional` *stream* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

kind—one of `:line`, `:section`, `:line-relative`, or `:section-relative`.

colnum—a non-negative *integer*.

colinc—a non-negative *integer*.

stream—an *output stream designator*.

Description:

Specifies tabbing to *stream* as performed by the standard `~T` format directive. If *stream* is a *pretty printing stream* and the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *true*, tabbing is performed; otherwise, **pprint-tab** has no effect.

The arguments *colnum* and *colinc* correspond to the two *parameters* to `~T` and are in terms of *ems*. The *kind* argument specifies the style of tabbing. It must be one of `:line` (tab as by `~T`), `:section` (tab as by `~:T`, but measuring horizontal positions relative to the start of the dynamically enclosing section), `:line-relative` (tab as by `~@T`), or `:section-relative` (tab as by `~:@T`, but measuring horizontal positions relative to the start of the dynamically enclosing section).

Exceptional Situations:

An error is signaled if *kind* is not one of `:line`, `:section`, `:line-relative`, or `:section-relative`.

See Also:

pprint-logical-block

print-object *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

print-object *object stream* → *object*

Method Signatures:

print-object (*object* **standard-object**) *stream*

print-object (*object* **structure-object**) *stream*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

stream—a *stream*.

Description:

The *generic function* **print-object** writes the printed representation of *object* to *stream*. The *function* **print-object** is called by the *Lisp printer*; it should not be called by the user.

Each implementation is required to provide a *method* on the *class* **standard-object** and on the *class* **structure-object**. In addition, each *implementation* must provide *methods* on enough other *classes* so as to ensure that there is always an applicable *method*. Implementations are free to add *methods* for other *classes*. Users may write *methods* for **print-object** for their own *classes* if they do not wish to inherit an *implementation-dependent method*.

The *method* on the *class* **structure-object** prints the object in the default `#S` notation; see Section 22.1.3.12 (Printing Structures).

Methods on **print-object** are responsible for implementing their part of the semantics of the *printer control variables*, as follows:

print-readably

All methods for **print-object** must obey ***print-readably***. This includes both user-defined methods and *implementation-defined* methods. Readable printing of *structures* and *standard objects* is controlled by their **print-object** method, not by their **make-load-form** *method*. *Similarity* for these *objects* is application dependent and hence is defined to be whatever these *methods* do; see Section 3.2.4.2 (Similarity of Literal Objects).

print-escape

Each *method* must implement ***print-escape***.

print-pretty

The *method* may wish to perform specialized line breaking or other output conditional on the *value* of ***print-pretty***. For further information, see (for example) the *macro* **pprint-fill**. See also Section 22.2.1.4 (Pretty Print Dispatch Tables) and Section 22.2.2 (Examples of using the Pretty Printer).

print-length

Methods that produce output of indefinite length must obey ***print-length***. For further information, see (for example) the *macros* **pprint-logical-block** and **pprint-pop**. See also Section 22.2.1.4 (Pretty Print Dispatch Tables) and Section 22.2.2 (Examples of using the Pretty Printer).

print-level

The printer takes care of ***print-level*** automatically, provided that each *method* handles exactly one level of structure and calls **write** (or an equivalent *function*) recursively if there are more structural levels. The printer's decision of whether an *object* has components (and therefore should not be printed when the printing depth is not less than ***print-level***) is *implementation-dependent*. In some implementations its **print-object** *method* is not called; in others the *method* is called, and the determination that the *object* has components is based on what it tries to write to the *stream*.

print-circle

When the *value* of ***print-circle*** is *true*, a user-defined **print-object** *method* can print *objects* to the supplied *stream* using **write**, **prin1**, **princ**, or **format** and expect circularities to be detected and printed using the **#*n*#** syntax. If a user-defined **print-object** *method* prints to a *stream* other than the one that was supplied, then circularity detection starts over for that *stream*. See ***print-circle***.

print-base, ***print-radix***, ***print-case***, ***print-gensym***, and ***print-array***

These *printer control variables* apply to specific types of *objects* and are handled by the *methods* for those *objects*.

If these rules are not obeyed, the results are undefined.

In general, the printer and the **print-object** methods should not rebind the print control variables as they operate recursively through the structure, but this is *implementation-dependent*.

In some implementations the *stream* argument passed to a **print-object** *method* is not the original *stream*, but is an intermediate *stream* that implements part of the printer. *methods* should therefore not depend on the identity of this *stream*.

See Also:

pprint-fill, **pprint-logical-block**, **pprint-pop**, **write**, ***print-readably***, ***print-escape***, ***print-pretty***, ***print-length***, Section 22.1.3 (Default Print-Object Methods), Section 22.1.3.12 (Printing Structures), Section 22.2.1.4 (Pretty Print Dispatch Tables), Section 22.2.2 (Examples of using the Pretty Printer)

print-unreadable-object *Macro*

Syntax:

print-unreadable-object (*object stream* `&key` *type identity*) {*form*}* → **nil**

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Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*; evaluated.

stream—a *stream designator*; evaluated.

type—a *generalized boolean*; evaluated.

identity—a *generalized boolean*; evaluated.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

Description:

Outputs a printed representation of *object* on *stream*, beginning with "`#<`" and ending with "`>`". Everything output to *stream* by the body *forms* is enclosed in the the angle brackets. If *type* is *true*, the output from *forms* is preceded by a brief description of the *object*'s *type* and a space character. If *identity* is *true*, the output from *forms* is followed by a space character and a representation of the *object*'s identity, typically a storage address.

If either *type* or *identity* is not supplied, its value is *false*. It is valid to omit the body *forms*. If *type* and *identity* are both true and there are no body *forms*, only one space character separates the type and the identity.

Examples:

;; Note that in this example, the precise form of the output ;; is *implementation-dependent*.

```
(defmethod print-object ((obj airplane) stream)
  (print-unreadable-object (obj stream :type t :identity t)
    (princ (tail-number obj) stream)))

(prin1-to-string my-airplane)
→ "#<Airplane NW0773 36000123135>"
or→ "#<FAA:AIRPLANE NW0773 17>"
```

Exceptional Situations:

If ***print-readably*** is *true*, **print-unreadable-object** signals an error of *type* **print-not-readable** without printing anything.

set-pprint-dispatch *Function*

Syntax:

set-pprint-dispatch *type-specifier function* `&optional` *priority table* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

type-specifier—a *type specifier*.

function—a *function*, a *function name*, or **nil**.

priority—a *real*. The default is 0.

table—a *pprint dispatch table*. The default is the *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch***.

Description:

Installs an entry into the *pprint dispatch table* which is *table*.

Type-specifier is the *key* of the entry. The first action of **set-pprint-dispatch** is to remove any pre-existing entry associated with *type-specifier*. This guarantees that there will never be two entries associated with the same *type specifier* in a given *pprint dispatch table*. Equality of *type specifiers* is tested by **equal**.

Two values are associated with each *type specifier* in a *pprint dispatch table*: a *function* and a *priority*. The *function* must accept two arguments: the *stream* to which output is sent and the *object* to be printed. The *function* should *pretty print* the *object* to the *stream*. The *function* can assume that object satisfies the *type* given by *type-specifier*. The *function* must obey ***print-readably***. Any values returned by the *function* are ignored.

Priority is a priority to resolve conflicts when an object matches more than one entry.

It is permissible for *function* to be **nil**. In this situation, there will be no *type-specifier* entry in *table* after **set-pprint-dispatch** returns.

Exceptional Situations:

An error is signaled if *priority* is not a *real*.

Notes:

Since *pprint dispatch tables* are often used to control the pretty printing of Lisp code, it is common for the *type-specifier* to be an *expression* of the form

```
(cons car-type cdr-type)
```

This signifies that the corresponding object must be a cons cell whose *car* matches the *type specifier* *car-type* and whose *cdr* matches the *type specifier* *cdr-type*. The *cdr-type* can be omitted in which case it defaults to **t**.

write, prin1, print, pprint, princ *Function*

Syntax:

write *object* &key *array base case circle escape gensym length level lines miser-width pprint-dispatch pretty radix readably right-margin stream*

→ *object*

prin1 *object* &optional *output-stream* → *object*

princ *object* &optional *output-stream* → *object*

print *object* &optional *output-stream* → *object*

pprint *object* &optional *output-stream* → ⟨*no values*⟩

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

output-stream—an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

array—a *generalized boolean*.

base—a *radix*.

case—a *symbol* of *type* (member :upcase :downcase :capitalize).

circle—a *generalized boolean*.

escape—a *generalized boolean*.

gensym—a *generalized boolean*.

length—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

level—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

lines—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

miser-width—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

pprint-dispatch—a *pprint dispatch table*.

pretty—a *generalized boolean*.

radix—a *generalized boolean*.

readably—a *generalized boolean*.

right-margin—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

stream—an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

Description:

write, **prin1**, **princ**, **print**, and **pprint** write the printed representation of *object* to *output-stream*.

write is the general entry point to the *Lisp printer*. For each explicitly supplied *keyword param-*

eter named in Figure 22–7, the corresponding *printer control variable* is dynamically bound to its *value* while printing goes on; for each *keyword parameter* in Figure 22–7 that is not explicitly supplied, the value of the corresponding *printer control variable* is the same as it was at the time **write** was invoked. Once the appropriate *bindings* are *established*, the *object* is output by the *Lisp printer*.

Parameter	Corresponding Dynamic Variable
array	***print-array***
base	***print-base***
case	***print-case***
circle	***print-circle***
escape	***print-escape***
gensym	***print-gensym***
length	***print-length***
level	***print-level***
lines	***print-lines***
miser-width	***print-miser-width***
pprint-dispatch	***print-pprint-dispatch***
pretty	***print-pretty***
radix	***print-radix***
readably	***print-readably***
right-margin	***print-right-margin***

Figure 22–7. Argument correspondences for the WRITE function.

prin1, **princ**, **print**, and **pprint** implicitly *bind* certain print parameters to particular values. The remaining parameter values are taken from ***print-array***, ***print-base***, ***print-case***, ***print-circle***, ***print-escape***, ***print-gensym***, ***print-length***, ***print-level***, ***print-lines***, ***print-miser-width***, ***print-pprint-dispatch***, ***print-pretty***, ***print-radix***, and ***print-right-margin***.

prin1 produces output suitable for input to **read**. It binds ***print-escape*** to *true*.

princ is just like **prin1** except that the output has no *escape characters*. It binds ***print-escape*** to *false* and ***print-readably*** to *false*. The general rule is that output from **princ** is intended to look good to people, while output from **prin1** is intended to be acceptable to **read**.

print is just like **prin1** except that the printed representation of *object* is preceded by a newline and followed by a space.

pprint is just like **print** except that the trailing space is omitted and *object* is printed with the ***print-pretty*** flag *non-nil* to produce pretty output.

Output-stream specifies the *stream* to which output is to be sent.

Affected By:

standard-output, ***terminal-io***, ***print-escape***, ***print-radix***, ***print-base***, ***print-circle***, ***print-pretty***, ***print-level***, ***print-length***, ***print-case***, ***print-gensym***, ***print-array***, ***read-default-float-format***.

See Also:

readtable-case, Section 22.3.4 (FORMAT Printer Operations)

Notes:

The *functions* **prin1** and **print** do not bind ***print-readably***.

```
 (prin1 object output-stream)
≡ (write object :stream output-stream :escape t)


 (princ object output-stream)
≡ (write object stream output-stream :escape nil :readably nil)


 (print object output-stream)
≡ (progn (terpri output-stream)
         (write object :stream output-stream
                       :escape t)
         (write-char #\space output-stream))

 (pprint object output-stream)
≡ (write object :stream output-stream :escape t :pretty t)
```

write-to-string, prin1-to-string, princ-to-string

Function

Syntax:

write-to-string *object* &key *array base case circle escape gensym*
length level lines miser-width pprint-dispatch
pretty radix readably right-margin

→ *string*

prin1-to-string *object* → *string*

princ-to-string *object* → *string*

write-to-string, prin1-to-string, princ-to-string

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

array—a *generalized boolean*.

base—a *radix*.

case—a *symbol* of *type* `(member :upcase :downcase :capitalize)`.

circle—a *generalized boolean*.

escape—a *generalized boolean*.

gensym—a *generalized boolean*.

length—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

level—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

lines—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

miser-width—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

pprint-dispatch—a *pprint dispatch table*.

pretty—a *generalized boolean*.

radix—a *generalized boolean*.

readably—a *generalized boolean*.

right-margin—a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

string—a *string*.

Description:

write-to-string, **prin1-to-string**, and **princ-to-string** are used to create a *string* consisting of the printed representation of *object*. *Object* is effectively printed as if by **write**, **prin1**, or **princ**, respectively, and the *characters* that would be output are made into a *string*.

write-to-string is the general output function. It has the ability to specify all the parameters applicable to the printing of *object*.

prin1-to-string acts like **write-to-string** with `:escape t`, that is, escape characters are written where appropriate.

princ-to-string acts like **write-to-string** with `:escape nil :readably nil`. Thus no *escape characters* are written.

All other keywords that would be specified to **write-to-string** are default values when **prin1-to-string** or **princ-to-string** is invoked.

The meanings and defaults for the keyword arguments to **write-to-string** are the same as those for **write**.

Examples:

```
(prin1-to-string "abc") → "\"abc\""
(princ-to-string "abc") → "abc"
```

Affected By:

print-escape, ***print-radix***, ***print-base***, ***print-circle***, ***print-pretty***, ***print-level***, ***print-length***, ***print-case***, ***print-gensym***, ***print-array***, ***read-default-float-format***.

See Also:

write

Notes:

```
 (write-to-string object {key argument}*)
≡ (with-output-to-string (#1=#:string-stream)
    (write object :stream #1# {key argument}*))

 (princ-to-string object)
≡ (with-output-to-string (string-stream)
    (princ object string-stream))

 (prin1-to-string object)
≡ (with-output-to-string (string-stream)
    (prin1 object string-stream))
```

∗print-array∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

Controls the format in which *arrays* are printed. If it is *false*, the contents of *arrays* other than *strings* are never printed. Instead, *arrays* are printed in a concise form using `#<` that gives enough information for the user to be able to identify the *array*, but does not include the entire *array* contents. If it is *true*, non-*string arrays* are printed using `#(...)`, `#*`, or `#nA` syntax.

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

See Also:

Section 2.4.8.3 (Sharpsign Left-Parenthesis), Section 2.4.8.20 (Sharpsign Less-Than-Sign)

print-base, *print-radix* *Variable*

Value Type:

print-base—a *radix*. ***print-radix***—a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

The initial *value* of ***print-base*** is 10. The initial *value* of ***print-radix*** is *false*.

Description:

print-base and ***print-radix*** control the printing of *rationals*. The *value* of ***print-base*** is called the ***current output base***.

The *value* of ***print-base*** is the *radix* in which the printer will print *rationals*. For radices above 10, letters of the alphabet are used to represent digits above 9.

If the *value* of ***print-radix*** is *true*, the printer will print a radix specifier to indicate the *radix* in which it is printing a *rational* number. The radix specifier is always printed using lowercase letters. If ***print-base*** is 2, 8, or 16, then the radix specifier used is #b, #o, or #x, respectively. For *integers*, base ten is indicated by a trailing decimal point instead of a leading radix specifier; for *ratios*, #10r is used.

Examples:

```
 (let ((*print-base* 24.) (*print-radix* t))
   (print 23.))
▷ #24rN
→ 23
 (setq *print-base* 10) → 10
 (setq *print-radix* nil) → NIL
 (dotimes (i 35)
    (let ((*print-base* (+ i 2)))           ;print the decimal number 40
      (write 40)                            ;in each base from 2 to 36
      (if (zerop (mod i 10)) (terpri) (format t " "))))
▷ 101000
▷ 1111 220 130 104 55 50 44 40 37 34
▷ 31 2C 2A 28 26 24 22 20 1J 1I
▷ 1H 1G 1F 1E 1D 1C 1B 1A 19 18
```



```
▷ 17 16 15 14
→ NIL
 (dolist (pb '(2 3 8 10 16))
    (let ((*print-radix* t)                    ;print the integer 10 and
          (*print-base* pb))                   ;the ratio 1/10 in bases 2,
     (format t "~&~S  ~S~%" 10 1/10)))           ;3, 8, 10, 16
▷ #b1010  #b1/1010
▷ #3r101  #3r1/101
▷ #o12  #o1/12
▷ 10.  #10r1/10
▷ #xA  #x1/A
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

Might be *bound* by **format**, and **write**, **write-to-string**.

See Also:

format, **write**, **write-to-string**

print-case *Variable*

Value Type:

One of the *symbols* :upcase, :downcase, or :capitalize.

Initial Value:

The *symbol* :upcase.

Description:

The *value* of ***print-case*** controls the case (upper, lower, or mixed) in which to print any uppercase characters in the names of *symbols* when vertical-bar syntax is not used.

print-case has an effect at all times when the *value* of ***print-escape*** is *false*. ***print-case*** also has an effect when the *value* of ***print-escape*** is *true* unless inside an escape context (*i.e.*, unless between *vertical-bars* or after a *slash*).

Examples:

```
 (defun test-print-case ()
   (dolist (*print-case* '(:upcase :downcase :capitalize))
     (format t "~&~S ~S~%" 'this-and-that '|And-something-elSE|)))
→ TEST-PC
;; Although the choice of which characters to escape is specified by
;; *PRINT-CASE*, the choice of how to escape those characters
```

```
;; (i.e., whether single escapes or multiple escapes are used)
;; is implementation-dependent.  The examples here show two of the
;; many valid ways in which escaping might appear.
 (test-print-case) ;Implementation A
▷ THIS-AND-THAT |And-something-elSE|
▷ this-and-that a\n\d-\s\o\m\e\t\h\i\n\g-\e\lse
▷ This-And-That A\n\d-\s\o\m\e\t\h\i\n\g-\e\lse
→ NIL
 (test-print-case) ;Implementation B
▷ THIS-AND-THAT |And-something-elSE|
▷ this-and-that a|nd-something-el|se
▷ This-And-That A|nd-something-el|se
→ NIL
```

See Also:

write

Notes:

read normally converts lowercase characters appearing in *symbols* to corresponding uppercase characters, so that internally print names normally contain only uppercase characters.

If ***print-escape*** is *true*, lowercase characters in the *name* of a *symbol* are always printed in lowercase, and are preceded by a single escape character or enclosed by multiple escape characters; uppercase characters in the *name* of a *symbol* are printed in upper case, in lower case, or in mixed case so as to capitalize words, according to the value of ***print-case***. The convention for what constitutes a "word" is the same as for **string-capitalize**.

print-circle *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

false.

Description:

Controls the attempt to detect circularity and sharing in an *object* being printed.

If *false*, the printing process merely proceeds by recursive descent without attempting to detect circularity and sharing.

If *true*, the printer will endeavor to detect cycles and sharing in the structure to be printed, and to use `#n=` and `#n#` syntax to indicate the circularities or shared components.

If *true*, a user-defined **print-object** *method* can print *objects* to the supplied *stream* using **write**, **prin1**, **princ**, or **format** and expect circularities and sharing to be detected and printed using the `#n#` syntax. If a user-defined **print-object** *method* prints to a *stream* other than the one that was supplied, then circularity detection starts over for that *stream*.

Note that implementations should not use `#n#` notation when the *Lisp reader* would automatically assure sharing without it (*e.g.*, as happens with *interned symbols*).

Examples:

```
 (let ((a (list 1 2 3)))
   (setf (cdddr a) a)
   (let ((*print-circle* t))
     (write a)
     :done))
▷ #1=(1 2 3 . #1#)
→ :DONE
```

See Also:

write

Notes:

An attempt to print a circular structure with ***print-circle*** set to **nil** may lead to looping behavior and failure to terminate.

print-escape *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

true.

Description:

If *false*, escape characters and *package prefixes* are not output when an expression is printed.

If *true*, an attempt is made to print an *expression* in such a way that it can be read again to produce an **equal** *expression*. (This is only a guideline; not a requirement. See ***print-readably***.)

For more specific details of how the *value* of ***print-escape*** affects the printing of certain *types*, see Section 22.1.3 (Default Print-Object Methods).

Examples:

```
 (let ((*print-escape* t)) (write #\a))
▷ #\a
→ #\a
 (let ((*print-escape* nil)) (write #\a))
▷ a
→ #\a
```

Affected By:

princ, **prin1**, **format**

See Also:

write, **readtable-case**

Notes:

princ effectively binds ***print-escape*** to *false*. **prin1** effectively binds ***print-escape*** to *true*.

∗print-gensym∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

true.

Description:

Controls whether the prefix "#:" is printed before *apparently uninterned symbols*. The prefix is printed before such *symbols* if and only if the *value* of ***print-gensym*** is *true*.

Examples:

```
 (let ((*print-gensym* nil))
   (print (gensym)))
▷ G6040
→ #:G6040
```

See Also:

write, ***print-escape***

∗print-level∗, ∗print-length∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

Initial Value:

nil.

Description:

print-level controls how many levels deep a nested *object* will print. If it is *false*, then no control is exercised. Otherwise, it is an *integer* indicating the maximum level to be printed. An *object* to be printed is at level 0; its components (as of a *list* or *vector*) are at level 1; and so on. If an *object* to be recursively printed has components and is at a level equal to or greater than the *value* of ***print-level***, then the *object* is printed as "#".

print-length controls how many elements at a given level are printed. If it is *false*, there is no limit to the number of components printed. Otherwise, it is an *integer* indicating the maximum number of *elements* of an *object* to be printed. If exceeded, the printer will print "..." in place of the other *elements*. In the case of a *dotted list*, if the *list* contains exactly as many *elements* as the *value* of ***print-length***, the terminating *atom* is printed rather than printing "..."

print-level and ***print-length*** affect the printing of an any *object* printed with a list-like syntax. They do not affect the printing of *symbols*, *strings*, and *bit vectors*.

Examples:

```
 (setq a '(1 (2 (3 (4 (5 (6))))))) → (1 (2 (3 (4 (5 (6))))))
 (dotimes (i 8)
   (let ((*print-level* i))
     (format t "~&~D -- ~S~%" i a)))
▷ 0 -- #
▷ 1 -- (1 #)
▷ 2 -- (1 (2 #))
▷ 3 -- (1 (2 (3 #)))
▷ 4 -- (1 (2 (3 (4 #))))
▷ 5 -- (1 (2 (3 (4 (5 #)))))
▷ 6 -- (1 (2 (3 (4 (5 (6))))))
▷ 7 -- (1 (2 (3 (4 (5 (6))))))
→ NIL

 (setq a '(1 2 3 4 5 6)) → (1 2 3 4 5 6)
 (dotimes (i 7)
   (let ((*print-length* i))
```

```
    (format t "~&~D -- ~S~%" i a)))
▷ 0 -- (...)
▷ 1 -- (1 ...)
▷ 2 -- (1 2 ...)
▷ 3 -- (1 2 3 ...)
▷ 4 -- (1 2 3 4 ...)
▷ 5 -- (1 2 3 4 5 6)
▷ 6 -- (1 2 3 4 5 6)
→ NIL
```

```
(dolist (level-length '((0 1) (1 1) (1 2) (1 3) (1 4)
                        (2 1) (2 2) (2 3) (3 2) (3 3) (3 4)))
 (let ((*print-level*  (first  level-length))
       (*print-length* (second level-length)))
   (format t "~&~D ~D -- ~S~%"
           *print-level* *print-length*
           '(if (member x y) (+ (car x) 3) '(foo . #(a b c d "Baz"))))))
▷ 0 1 -- #
▷ 1 1 -- (IF ...)
▷ 1 2 -- (IF # ...)
▷ 1 3 -- (IF # # ...)
▷ 1 4 -- (IF # # #)
▷ 2 1 -- (IF ...)
▷ 2 2 -- (IF (MEMBER X ...) ...)
▷ 2 3 -- (IF (MEMBER X Y) (+ # 3) ...)
▷ 3 2 -- (IF (MEMBER X ...) ...)
▷ 3 3 -- (IF (MEMBER X Y) (+ (CAR X) 3) ...)
▷ 3 4 -- (IF (MEMBER X Y) (+ (CAR X) 3) '(FOO . #(A B C D ...)))
→ NIL
```

See Also:

write

∗print-lines∗ — *Variable*

Value Type:

a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

Initial Value:

nil.

Description:

When the *value* of ***print-lines*** is other than **nil**, it is a limit on the number of output lines produced when something is pretty printed. If an attempt is made to go beyond that many lines, "`..`" is printed at the end of the last line followed by all of the suffixes (closing delimiters) that are pending to be printed.

Examples:

```
 (let ((*print-right-margin* 25) (*print-lines* 3))
   (pprint '(progn (setq a 1 b 2 c 3 d 4))))
▷ (PROGN (SETQ A 1
▷              B 2
▷              C 3 ..))
→ ⟨no values⟩
```

Notes:

The "`..`" notation is intentionally different than the "`...`" notation used for level abbreviation, so that the two different situations can be visually distinguished.

This notation is used to increase the likelihood that the *Lisp reader* will signal an error if an attempt is later made to read the abbreviated output. Note however that if the truncation occurs in a *string*, as in `"This string has been trunc.."`, the problem situation cannot be detected later and no such error will be signaled.

∗print-miser-width∗ — *Variable*

Value Type:

a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent

Description:

If it is not **nil**, the *pretty printer* switches to a compact style of output (called miser style) whenever the width available for printing a substructure is less than or equal to this many *ems*.

∗print-pprint-dispatch∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *pprint dispatch table*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent, but the initial entries all use a special class of priorities that have the property that they are less than every priority that can be specified using **set-pprint-dispatch**, so that the initial contents of any entry can be overridden.

Description:

The *pprint dispatch table* which currently controls the *pretty printer*.

See Also:

print-pretty, Section 22.2.1.4 (Pretty Print Dispatch Tables)

Notes:

The intent is that the initial *value* of this *variable* should cause 'traditional' *pretty printing* of *code*. In general, however, you can put a value in ***print-pprint-dispatch*** that makes pretty-printed output look exactly like non-pretty-printed output. Setting ***print-pretty*** to *true* just causes the functions contained in the *current pprint dispatch table* to have priority over normal **print-object** methods; it has no magic way of enforcing that those functions actually produce pretty output. For details, see Section 22.2.1.4 (Pretty Print Dispatch Tables).

∗print-pretty∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

Controls whether the *Lisp printer* calls the *pretty printer*.

If it is *false*, the *pretty printer* is not used and a minimum of *whitespace*$_1$ is output when printing an expression.

If it is *true*, the *pretty printer* is used, and the *Lisp printer* will endeavor to insert extra *whitespace*$_1$ where appropriate to make *expressions* more readable.

print-pretty has an effect even when the *value* of ***print-escape*** is *false*.

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Examples:

```
 (setq *print-pretty* 'nil) → NIL
 (progn (write '(let ((a 1) (b 2) (c 3)) (+ a b c))) nil)
▷ (LET ((A 1) (B 2) (C 3)) (+ A B C))
→ NIL
 (let ((*print-pretty* t))
   (progn (write '(let ((a 1) (b 2) (c 3)) (+ a b c))) nil))
▷ (LET ((A 1)
▷       (B 2)
▷       (C 3))
▷   (+ A B C))
→ NIL
;; Note that the first two expressions printed by this next form
;; differ from the second two only in whether escape characters are printed.
;; In all four cases, extra whitespace is inserted by the pretty printer.
 (flet ((test (x)
          (let ((*print-pretty* t))
            (print x)
            (format t "~%~S " x)
            (terpri) (princ x) (princ " ")
            (format t "~%~A " x))))
  (test '#'(lambda () (list "a" # 'c #'d))))
▷ #'(LAMBDA ()
▷     (LIST "a" # 'C #'D))
▷ #'(LAMBDA ()
▷     (LIST "a" # 'C #'D))
▷ #'(LAMBDA ()
▷     (LIST a b 'C #'D))
▷ #'(LAMBDA ()
▷     (LIST a b 'C #'D))
→ NIL
```

See Also:

write

∗print-readably∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

print-readably

Initial Value:

false.

Description:

If ***print-readably*** is *true*, some special rules for printing *objects* go into effect. Specifically, printing any *object* O_1 produces a printed representation that, when seen by the *Lisp reader* while the *standard readtable* is in effect, will produce an *object* O_2 that is *similar* to O_1. The printed representation produced might or might not be the same as the printed representation produced when ***print-readably*** is *false*. If printing an *object readably* is not possible, an error of *type* **print-not-readable** is signaled rather than using a syntax (*e.g.*, the "`#<`" syntax) that would not be readable by the same *implementation*. If the *value* of some other *printer control variable* is such that these requirements would be violated, the *value* of that other *variable* is ignored.

Specifically, if ***print-readably*** is *true*, printing proceeds as if ***print-escape***, ***print-array***, and ***print-gensym*** were also *true*, and as if ***print-length***, ***print-level***, and ***print-lines*** were *false*.

If ***print-readably*** is *false*, the normal rules for printing and the normal interpretations of other *printer control variables* are in effect.

Individual *methods* for **print-object**, including user-defined *methods*, are responsible for implementing these requirements.

If ***read-eval*** is *false* and ***print-readably*** is *true*, any such method that would output a reference to the "`#.`" *reader macro* will either output something else or will signal an error (as described above).

Examples:

```
 (let ((x (list "a" '\a (gensym) '((a (b (c))) d e f g)))
       (*print-escape* nil)
       (*print-gensym* nil)
       (*print-level* 3)
       (*print-length* 3))
   (write x)
   (let ((*print-readably* t))
     (terpri)
     (write x)
     :done))
▷ (a a G4581 ((A #) D E ...))
▷ ("a" |a| #:G4581 ((A (B (C))) D E F G))
→ :DONE

;; This is setup code is shared between the examples
;; of three hypothetical implementations which follow.
 (setq table (make-hash-table)) → #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32005763>
```


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```
 (setf (gethash table 1) 'one) → ONE
 (setf (gethash table 2) 'two) → TWO

;; Implementation A
 (let ((*print-readably* t)) (print table))
 Error: Can't print #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32005763> readably.

;; Implementation B
;; No standardized #S notation for hash tables is defined,
;; but there might be an implementation-defined notation.
 (let ((*print-readably* t)) (print table))
▷ #S(HASH-TABLE :TEST EQL :SIZE 120 :CONTENTS (1 ONE 2 TWO))
→ #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32005763>

;; Implementation C
;; Note that #. notation can only be used if *READ-EVAL* is true.
;; If *READ-EVAL* were false, this same implementation might have to
;; signal an error unless it had yet another printing strategy to fall
;; back on.
 (let ((*print-readably* t)) (print table))
▷ #.(LET ((HASH-TABLE (MAKE-HASH-TABLE)))
▷     (SETF (GETHASH 1 HASH-TABLE) ONE)
▷     (SETF (GETHASH 2 HASH-TABLE) TWO)
▷     HASH-TABLE)
→ #<HASH-TABLE EQL 0/120 32005763>
```

See Also:

write, **print-unreadable-object**

Notes:

The rules for "*similarity*" imply that `#A` or `#(` syntax cannot be used for *arrays* of *element type* other than `t`. An implementation will have to use another syntax or signal an error of *type* **print-not-readable**.

print-right-margin *Variable*

Value Type:

a non-negative *integer*, or **nil**.

Initial Value:

nil.

Description:

If it is *non-nil*, it specifies the right margin (as *integer* number of *ems*) to use when the *pretty printer* is making layout decisions.

If it is **nil**, the right margin is taken to be the maximum line length such that output can be displayed without wraparound or truncation. If this cannot be determined, an *implementation-dependent* value is used.

Notes:

This measure is in units of *ems* in order to be compatible with *implementation-defined* variable-width fonts while still not requiring the language to provide support for fonts.

print-not-readable *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

print-not-readable, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **print-not-readable** consists of error conditions that occur during output while ***print-readably*** is *true*, as a result of attempting to write a printed representation with the *Lisp printer* that would not be correctly read back with the *Lisp reader*. The object which could not be printed is initialized by the `:object` initialization argument to **make-condition**, and is *accessed* by the *function* **print-not-readable-object**.

See Also:

print-not-readable-object

print-not-readable-object *Function*

Syntax:

print-not-readable-object *condition* → *object*

Arguments and Values:

condition—a *condition* of *type* **print-not-readable**.

object—an *object*.

Description:

Returns the *object* that could not be printed readably in the situation represented by *condition*.

See Also:

print-not-readable, Chapter 9 (Conditions)

format *Function*

Syntax:

format *destination control-string* `&rest` *args* → *result*

Arguments and Values:

destination—**nil**, **t**, a *stream*, or a *string* with a *fill pointer*.

control-string—a *format control*.

args—*format arguments* for *control-string*.

result—if *destination* is *non-nil*, then **nil**; otherwise, a *string*.

Description:

format produces formatted output by outputting the characters of *control-string* and observing that a *tilde* introduces a directive. The character after the tilde, possibly preceded by prefix parameters and modifiers, specifies what kind of formatting is desired. Most directives use one or more elements of *args* to create their output.

If *destination* is a *string*, a *stream*, or **t**, then the *result* is **nil**. Otherwise, the *result* is a *string* containing the 'output.'

format is useful for producing nicely formatted text, producing good-looking messages, and so on. **format** can generate and return a *string* or output to *destination*.

For details on how the *control-string* is interpreted, see Section 22.3 (Formatted Output).

Affected By:

standard-output, ***print-escape***, ***print-radix***, ***print-base***, ***print-circle***, ***print-pretty***, ***print-level***, ***print-length***, ***print-case***, ***print-gensym***, ***print-array***.

Exceptional Situations:

If *destination* is a *string* with a *fill pointer*, the consequences are undefined if destructive modifications are performed directly on the *string* during the *dynamic extent* of the call.

See Also:

write, Section 13.1.10 (Documentation of Implementation-Defined Scripts)

Programming Language—Common Lisp

23. Reader

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23.1 Reader Concepts

23.1.1 Dynamic Control of the Lisp Reader

Various aspects of the *Lisp reader* can be controlled dynamically. See Section 2.1.1 (Readtables) and Section 2.1.2 (Variables that affect the Lisp Reader).

23.1.2 Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader

The *readtable case* of the *current readtable* affects the *Lisp reader* in the following ways:

`:upcase`

When the *readtable case* is `:upcase`, unescaped constituent *characters* are converted to *uppercase*, as specified in Section 2.2 (Reader Algorithm).

`:downcase`

When the *readtable case* is `:downcase`, unescaped constituent *characters* are converted to *lowercase*.

`:preserve`

When the *readtable case* is `:preserve`, the case of all *characters* remains unchanged.

`:invert`

When the *readtable case* is `:invert`, then if all of the unescaped letters in the extended token are of the same *case*, those (unescaped) letters are converted to the opposite *case*.

23.1.2.1 Examples of Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader

```
(defun test-readtable-case-reading ()
  (let ((*readtable* (copy-readtable nil)))
    (format t "READTABLE-CASE  Input   Symbol-name~
             ~%-----------------------------------~
             ~%")
    (dolist (readtable-case '(:upcase :downcase :preserve :invert))
      (setf (readtable-case *readtable*) readtable-case)
      (dolist (input '("ZEBRA" "Zebra" "zebra"))
        (format t "~&:~A~16T~A~24T~A"
                (string-upcase readtable-case)
                input
                (symbol-name (read-from-string input)))))))
```


The output from `(test-readtable-case-reading)` should be as follows:

```
READTABLE-CASE     Input Symbol-name
-------------------------------------
   :UPCASE         ZEBRA   ZEBRA
   :UPCASE         Zebra   ZEBRA
   :UPCASE         zebra   ZEBRA
   :DOWNCASE       ZEBRA   zebra
   :DOWNCASE       Zebra   zebra
   :DOWNCASE       zebra   zebra
   :PRESERVE       ZEBRA   ZEBRA
   :PRESERVE       Zebra   Zebra
   :PRESERVE       zebra   zebra
   :INVERT         ZEBRA   zebra
   :INVERT         Zebra   Zebra
   :INVERT         zebra   ZEBRA
```

23.1.3 Argument Conventions of Some Reader Functions

23.1.3.1 The EOF-ERROR-P argument

Eof-error-p in input function calls controls what happens if input is from a file (or any other input source that has a definite end) and the end of the file is reached. If *eof-error-p* is *true* (the default), an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled at end of file. If it is *false*, then no error is signaled, and instead the function returns *eof-value*.

Functions such as **read** that read the representation of an *object* rather than a single character always signals an error, regardless of *eof-error-p*, if the file ends in the middle of an object representation. For example, if a file does not contain enough right parentheses to balance the left parentheses in it, **read** signals an error. If a file ends in a *symbol* or a *number* immediately followed by end-of-file, **read** reads the *symbol* or *number* successfully and when called again will act according to *eof-error-p*. Similarly, the *function* **read-line** successfully reads the last line of a file even if that line is terminated by end-of-file rather than the newline character. Ignorable text, such as lines containing only *whitespace*$_2$ or comments, are not considered to begin an *object*; if **read** begins to read an *expression* but sees only such ignorable text, it does not consider the file to end in the middle of an *object*. Thus an *eof-error-p* argument controls what happens when the file ends between *objects*.

23.1.3.2 The RECURSIVE-P argument

If *recursive-p* is supplied and not **nil**, it specifies that this function call is not an outermost call to **read** but an embedded call, typically from a *reader macro function*. It is important to distinguish such recursive calls for three reasons.

1. An outermost call establishes the context within which the `#n=` and `#n#` syntax is scoped. Consider, for example, the expression

   ```
   (cons '#3=(p q r) '(x y . #3#))
   ```

   If the *single-quote reader macro* were defined in this way:

   ```
   (set-macro-character #\'       ;incorrect
      #'(lambda (stream char)
           (declare (ignore char))
           (list 'quote (read stream))))
   ```

   then each call to the *single-quote reader macro function* would establish independent contexts for the scope of **read** information, including the scope of identifications between markers like "`#3=`" and "`#3#`". However, for this expression, the scope was clearly intended to be determined by the outer set of parentheses, so such a definition would be incorrect. The correct way to define the *single-quote reader macro* uses *recursive-p*:

   ```
   (set-macro-character #\'       ;correct
      #'(lambda (stream char)
           (declare (ignore char))
           (list 'quote (read stream t nil t))))
   ```

2. A recursive call does not alter whether the reading process is to preserve *whitespace*$_2$ or not (as determined by whether the outermost call was to **read** or **read-preserving-whitespace**). Suppose again that *single-quote* were to be defined as shown above in the incorrect definition. Then a call to **read-preserving-whitespace** that read the expression `'foo`⟨*Space*⟩ would fail to preserve the space character following the symbol `foo` because the *single-quote reader macro function* calls **read**, not **read-preserving-whitespace**, to read the following expression (in this case `foo`). The correct definition, which passes the value *true* for *recursive-p* to **read**, allows the outermost call to determine whether *whitespace*$_2$ is preserved.

3. When end-of-file is encountered and the *eof-error-p* argument is not **nil**, the kind of error that is signaled may depend on the value of *recursive-p*. If *recursive-p* is *true*, then the end-of-file is deemed to have occurred within the middle of a printed representation; if *recursive-p* is *false*, then the end-of-file may be deemed to have occurred between *objects* rather than within the middle of one.

readtable *System Class*

Class Precedence List:

readtable, **t**

Description:

A *readtable* maps *characters* into *syntax types* for the *Lisp reader*; see Chapter 2 (Syntax). A *readtable* also contains associations between *macro characters* and their *reader macro functions*, and records information about the case conversion rules to be used by the *Lisp reader* when parsing *symbols*.

Each *simple character* must be representable in the *readtable*. It is *implementation-defined* whether *non-simple characters* can have syntax descriptions in the *readtable*.

See Also:

Section 2.1.1 (Readtables), Section 22.1.3.13 (Printing Other Objects)

copy-readtable *Function*

Syntax:

copy-readtable `&optional` *from-readtable to-readtable* → *readtable*

Arguments and Values:

from-readtable—a *readtable designator*. The default is the *current readtable*.

to-readtable—a *readtable* or **nil**. The default is **nil**.

readtable—the *to-readtable* if it is *non-nil*, or else a *fresh readtable*.

Description:

copy-readtable copies *from-readtable*.

If *to-readtable* is **nil**, a new *readtable* is created and returned. Otherwise the *readtable* specified by *to-readtable* is modified and returned.

copy-readtable copies the setting of **readtable-case**.

Examples:

```
(setq zvar 123) → 123
(set-syntax-from-char #\z #\' (setq table2 (copy-readtable))) → T
zvar → 123
(copy-readtable table2 *readtable*) → #<READTABLE 614000277>
```

```
zvar → VAR
(setq *readtable* (copy-readtable)) → #<READTABLE 46210223>
zvar → VAR
(setq *readtable* (copy-readtable nil)) → #<READTABLE 46302670>
zvar → 123
```

See Also:

readtable, ***readtable***

Notes:

```
(setq *readtable* (copy-readtable nil))
```

restores the input syntax to standard Common Lisp syntax, even if the *initial readtable* has been clobbered (assuming it is not so badly clobbered that you cannot type in the above expression).

On the other hand,

```
(setq *readtable* (copy-readtable))
```

replaces the current *readtable* with a copy of itself. This is useful if you want to save a copy of a readtable for later use, protected from alteration in the meantime. It is also useful if you want to locally bind the readtable to a copy of itself, as in:

```
(let ((*readtable* (copy-readtable))) ...)
```

make-dispatch-macro-character *Function*

Syntax:

make-dispatch-macro-character *char* &optional *non-terminating-p readtable* → t

Arguments and Values:

char—a *character*.

non-terminating-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

readtable—a *readtable*. The default is the *current readtable*.

Description:

make-dispatch-macro-character makes *char* be a *dispatching macro character* in *readtable*.

Initially, every *character* in the dispatch table associated with the *char* has an associated function that signals an error of *type* **reader-error**.

If *non-terminating-p* is *true*, the *dispatching macro character* is made a *non-terminating macro character*; if *non-terminating-p* is *false*, the *dispatching macro character* is made a *terminating macro character*.

Examples:

```
(get-macro-character #\{) → NIL, false
(make-dispatch-macro-character #\{) → T
(not (get-macro-character #\{)) → false
```

The *readtable* is altered.

See Also:

readtable, **set-dispatch-macro-character**

read, read-preserving-whitespace *Function*

Syntax:

read &optional *input-stream eof-error-p eof-value recursive-p* → *object*

read-preserving-whitespace &optional *input-stream eof-error-p eof-value recursive-p*

→ *object*

Arguments and Values:

input-stream—an *input stream designator*.

eof-error-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

eof-value—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

recursive-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

object—an *object* (parsed by the *Lisp reader*) or the *eof-value*.

Description:

read parses the printed representation of an *object* from *input-stream* and builds such an *object*.

read-preserving-whitespace is like **read** but preserves any *whitespace*$_2$ *character* that delimits the printed representation of the *object*. **read-preserving-whitespace** is exactly like **read** when the *recursive-p argument* to **read-preserving-whitespace** is *true*.

read, read-preserving-whitespace

When ***read-suppress*** is *false*, **read** throws away the delimiting *character* required by certain printed representations if it is a *whitespace*$_2$ *character*; but **read** preserves the character (using **unread-char**) if it is syntactically meaningful, because it could be the start of the next expression.

If a file ends in a *symbol* or a *number* immediately followed by an *end of file*$_1$, **read** reads the *symbol* or *number* successfully; when called again, it sees the *end of file*$_1$ and only then acts according to *eof-error-p*. If a file contains ignorable text at the end, such as blank lines and comments, **read** does not consider it to end in the middle of an *object*.

If *recursive-p* is *true*, the call to **read** is expected to be made from within some function that itself has been called from **read** or from a similar input function, rather than from the top level.

Both functions return the *object* read from *input-stream*. *Eof-value* is returned if *eof-error-p* is *false* and end of file is reached before the beginning of an *object*.

Examples:

```
 (read)
▷ 'a
→ (QUOTE A)
 (with-input-from-string (is " ") (read is nil 'the-end)) → THE-END
 (defun skip-then-read-char (s c n)
    (if (char= c #\{) (read s t nil t) (read-preserving-whitespace s))
    (read-char-no-hang s)) → SKIP-THEN-READ-CHAR
 (let ((*readtable* (copy-readtable nil)))
    (set-dispatch-macro-character #\# #\{ #'skip-then-read-char)
    (set-dispatch-macro-character #\# #\} #'skip-then-read-char)
    (with-input-from-string (is "#{123 x #}123 y")
      (format t "~S ~S" (read is) (read is)))) → #\x, #\Space, NIL
```

As an example, consider this *reader macro* definition:

```
 (defun slash-reader (stream char)
   (declare (ignore char))
   `(path . ,(loop for dir = (read-preserving-whitespace stream t nil t)
                   then (progn (read-char stream t nil t)
                               (read-preserving-whitespace stream t nil t))
                   collect dir
                   while (eql (peek-char nil stream nil nil t) #\/))))
 (set-macro-character #\/ #'slash-reader)
```

Consider now calling **read** on this expression:

```
 (zyedh /usr/games/zork /usr/games/boggle)
```

The `/` macro reads objects separated by more `/` characters; thus `/usr/games/zork` is intended to read as `(path usr games zork)`. The entire example expression should therefore be read as


```
 (zyedh (path usr games zork) (path usr games boggle))
```

However, if **read** had been used instead of **read-preserving-whitespace**, then after the reading of the symbol `zork`, the following space would be discarded; the next call to **peek-char** would see the following `/`, and the loop would continue, producing this interpretation:

```
 (zyedh (path usr games zork usr games boggle))
```

There are times when *whitespace*$_2$ should be discarded. If a command interpreter takes single-character commands, but occasionally reads an *object* then if the *whitespace*$_2$ after a *symbol* is not discarded it might be interpreted as a command some time later after the *symbol* had been read.

Affected By:

standard-input, ***terminal-io***, ***readtable***, ***read-default-float-format***, ***read-base***, ***read-suppress***, ***package***, ***read-eval***.

Exceptional Situations:

read signals an error of *type* **end-of-file**, regardless of *eof-error-p*, if the file ends in the middle of an *object* representation. For example, if a file does not contain enough right parentheses to balance the left parentheses in it, **read** signals an error. This is detected when **read** or **read-preserving-whitespace** is called with *recursive-p* and *eof-error-p* *non-nil*, and end-of-file is reached before the beginning of an *object*.

If *eof-error-p* is *true*, an error of *type* **end-of-file** is signaled at the end of file.

See Also:

peek-char, **read-char**, **unread-char**, **read-from-string**, **read-delimited-list**, **parse-integer**, Chapter 2 (Syntax), Section 23.1 (Reader Concepts)

read-delimited-list *Function*

Syntax:

read-delimited-list *char* `&optional` *input-stream recursive-p* → *list*

Arguments and Values:

char—a *character*.

input-stream—an *input stream designator*. The default is *standard input*.

recursive-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

list—a *list* of the *objects* read.

read-delimited-list

Description:

read-delimited-list reads *objects* from *input-stream* until the next character after an *object*'s representation (ignoring *whitespace*$_2$ characters and comments) is *char*.

read-delimited-list looks ahead at each step for the next non-*whitespace*$_2$ *character* and peeks at it as if with **peek-char**. If it is *char*, then the *character* is consumed and the *list* of *objects* is returned. If it is a *constituent* or *escape character*, then **read** is used to read an *object*, which is added to the end of the *list*. If it is a *macro character*, its *reader macro function* is called; if the function returns a *value*, that *value* is added to the *list*. The peek-ahead process is then repeated.

If *recursive-p* is *true*, this call is expected to be embedded in a higher-level call to **read** or a similar function.

It is an error to reach end-of-file during the operation of **read-delimited-list**.

The consequences are undefined if *char* has a *syntax type* of *whitespace*$_2$ in the *current readtable*.

Examples:

```
(read-delimited-list #\]) 1 2 3 4 5 6 ]
→ (1 2 3 4 5 6)
```

Suppose you wanted `#{`*a b c ... z*`}` to read as a list of all pairs of the elements *a*, *b*, *c*, ..., *z*, for example.

```
#{p q z a}  reads as  ((p q) (p z) (p a) (q z) (q a) (z a))
```

This can be done by specifying a macro-character definition for `#{` that does two things: reads in all the items up to the `}`, and constructs the pairs. **read-delimited-list** performs the first task.

```
(defun |#{-reader| (stream char arg)
  (declare (ignore char arg))
  (mapcon #'(lambda (x)
             (mapcar #'(lambda (y) (list (car x) y)) (cdr x)))
         (read-delimited-list #\} stream t))) → |#{-reader|

(set-dispatch-macro-character #\# #\{ #'|#{-reader|) → T
(set-macro-character #\} (get-macro-character #\) nil))
```

Note that *true* is supplied for the *recursive-p* argument.

It is necessary here to give a definition to the character `}` as well to prevent it from being a constituent. If the line

```
(set-macro-character #\} (get-macro-character #\) nil))
```

shown above were not included, then the `}` in

```
#{ p q z a}
```

would be considered a constituent character, part of the symbol named `a}`. This could be corrected by putting a space before the `}`, but it is better to call **set-macro-character**.

Giving `}` the same definition as the standard definition of the character `)` has the twin benefit of making it terminate tokens for use with **read-delimited-list** and also making it invalid for use in any other context. Attempting to read a stray `}` will signal an error.

Affected By:

standard-input, ***readtable***, ***terminal-io***.

See Also:

read, **peek-char**, **read-char**, **unread-char**.

Notes:

read-delimited-list is intended for use in implementing *reader macros*. Usually it is desirable for *char* to be a *terminating macro character* so that it can be used to delimit tokens; however, **read-delimited-list** makes no attempt to alter the syntax specified for *char* by the current readtable. The caller must make any necessary changes to the readtable syntax explicitly.

read-from-string *Function*

Syntax:

read-from-string *string* `&optional` *eof-error-p eof-value*
`&key` *start end preserve-whitespace*

→ *object, position*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string*.

eof-error-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

eof-value—an *object*. The default is **nil**.

start, *end*—*bounding index designators* of *string*. The defaults for *start* and *end* are `0` and **nil**, respectively.

preserve-whitespace—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

object—an *object* (parsed by the *Lisp reader*) or the *eof-value*.

position—an *integer* greater than or equal to zero, and less than or equal to one more than the *length* of the *string*.

Description:

Parses the printed representation of an *object* from the subsequence of *string* *bounded* by *start* and *end*, as if **read** had been called on an *input stream* containing those same *characters*.

If *preserve-whitespace* is *true*, the operation will preserve *whitespace*$_2$ as **read-preserving-whitespace** would do.

If an *object* is successfully parsed, the *primary value*, *object*, is the *object* that was parsed. If *eof-error-p* is *false* and if the end of the *substring* is reached, *eof-value* is returned.

The *secondary value*, *position*, is the index of the first *character* in the *bounded* *string* that was not read. The *position* may depend upon the value of *preserve-whitespace*. If the entire *string* was read, the *position* returned is either the *length* of the *string* or one greater than the *length* of the *string*.

Examples:

```
(read-from-string " 1 3 5" t nil :start 2) → 3, 5
(read-from-string "(a b c)") → (A B C), 7
```

Exceptional Situations:

If the end of the supplied substring occurs before an *object* can be read, an error is signaled if *eof-error-p* is *true*. An error is signaled if the end of the *substring* occurs in the middle of an incomplete *object*.

See Also:

read, **read-preserving-whitespace**

Notes:

The reason that *position* is allowed to be beyond the *length* of the *string* is to permit (but not require) the *implementation* to work by simulating the effect of a trailing delimiter at the end of the *bounded* *string*. When *preserve-whitespace* is *true*, the *position* might count the simulated delimiter.

readtable-case *Accessor*

Syntax:

readtable-case *readtable* → *mode*

(setf (readtable-case *readtable*) *mode*)

Arguments and Values:

readtable—a *readtable*.

mode—a *case sensitivity mode*.

Description:

Accesses the *readtable case* of *readtable*, which affects the way in which the *Lisp Reader* reads *symbols* and the way in which the *Lisp Printer* writes *symbols*.

Examples:

See Section 23.1.2.1 (Examples of Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader) and Section 22.1.3.3.2.1 (Examples of Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Printer).

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *readtable* is not a *readtable*. Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *mode* is not a *case sensitivity mode*.

See Also:

readtable, ***print-escape***, Section 2.2 (Reader Algorithm), Section 23.1.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader), Section 22.1.3.3.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Printer)

Notes:

copy-readtable copies the *readtable case* of the *readtable*.

readtablep *Function*

Syntax:

readtablep *object* → *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

Returns *true* if *object* is of *type* **readtable**; otherwise, returns *false*.

Examples:

```
(readtablep *readtable*) → true
(readtablep (copy-readtable)) → true
(readtablep '*readtable*) → false
```

Notes:

```
(readtablep object) ≡ (typep object 'readtable)
```


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set-dispatch-macro-character, get-dispatch-macro-character *Function*

Syntax:

get-dispatch-macro-character *disp-char sub-char* &optional *readtable* → *function*

set-dispatch-macro-character *disp-char sub-char new-function* &optional *readtable* → t

Arguments and Values:

disp-char—a *character*.

sub-char—a *character*.

readtable—a *readtable designator*. The default is the *current readtable*.

function—a *function designator* or **nil**.

new-function—a *function designator*.

Description:

set-dispatch-macro-character causes *new-function* to be called when *disp-char* followed by *sub-char* is read. If *sub-char* is a lowercase letter, it is converted to its uppercase equivalent. It is an error if *sub-char* is one of the ten decimal digits.

set-dispatch-macro-character installs a *new-function* to be called when a particular *dispatching macro character* pair is read. *New-function* is installed as the dispatch function to be called when *readtable* is in use and when *disp-char* is followed by *sub-char*.

For more information about how the *new-function* is invoked, see Section 2.1.4.4 (Macro Characters).

get-dispatch-macro-character retrieves the dispatch function associated with *disp-char* and *sub-char* in *readtable*.

get-dispatch-macro-character returns the macro-character function for *sub-char* under *disp-char*, or **nil** if there is no function associated with *sub-char*. If *sub-char* is a decimal digit, **get-dispatch-macro-character** returns **nil**.

Examples:

```
 (get-dispatch-macro-character #\# #\{) → NIL
 (set-dispatch-macro-character #\# #\{        ;dispatch on #{
    #'(lambda(s c n)
        (let ((list (read s nil (values) t)))  ;list is object after #n{
          (when (consp list)                   ;return nth element of list
            (unless (and n (< 0 n (length list))) (setq n 0))
            (setq list (nth n list)))
         list))) → T
 #{(1 2 3 4) → 1
 #3{(0 1 2 3) → 3
 #{123 → 123
```

If it is desired that `#$`*foo* : as if it were `(dollars` *foo*`)`.

```
(defun |#$-reader| (stream subchar arg)
   (declare (ignore subchar arg))
   (list 'dollars (read stream t nil t))) → |#$-reader|
 (set-dispatch-macro-character #\# #\$ #'|#$-reader|) → T
```

See Also:

Section 2.1.4.4 (Macro Characters)

Side Effects:

The *readtable* is modified.

Affected By:

readtable.

Exceptional Situations:

For either function, an error is signaled if *disp-char* is not a *dispatching macro character* in *readtable*.

See Also:

readtable

Notes:

It is necessary to use **make-dispatch-macro-character** to set up the dispatch character before specifying its sub-characters.

set-macro-character, get-macro-character *Function*

Syntax:

get-macro-character *char* &optional *readtable* → *function, non-terminating-p*

set-macro-character *char new-function* &optional *non-terminating-p readtable* → t

set-macro-character, get-macro-character

Arguments and Values:

char—a *character*.

non-terminating-p—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *false*.

readtable—a *readtable designator*. The default is the *current readtable*.

function—**nil**, or a *designator* for a *function* of two *arguments*.

new-function—a *function designator*.

Description:

get-macro-character returns as its *primary value*, *function*, the *reader macro function* associated with *char* in *readtable* (if any), or else **nil** if *char* is not a *macro character* in *readtable*. The *secondary value*, *non-terminating-p*, is *true* if *char* is a *non-terminating macro character*; otherwise, it is *false*.

set-macro-character causes *char* to be a *macro character* associated with the *reader macro function* *new-function* (or the *designator* for *new-function*) in *readtable*. If *non-terminating-p* is *true*, *char* becomes a *non-terminating macro character*; otherwise it becomes a *terminating macro character*.

Examples:

```
(get-macro-character #\{) → NIL, false
(not (get-macro-character #\;)) → false
```

The following is a possible definition for the *single-quote reader macro* in *standard syntax*:

```
(defun single-quote-reader (stream char)
  (declare (ignore char))
  (list 'quote (read stream t nil t))) → SINGLE-QUOTE-READER
(set-macro-character #\' #'single-quote-reader) → T
```

Here `single-quote-reader` reads an *object* following the *single-quote* and returns a *list* of **quote** and that *object*. The *char* argument is ignored.

The following is a possible definition for the *semicolon reader macro* in *standard syntax*:

```
(defun semicolon-reader (stream char)
  (declare (ignore char))
  ;; First swallow the rest of the current input line.
  ;; End-of-file is acceptable for terminating the comment.
  (do () ((char= (read-char stream nil #\Newline t) #\Newline)))
  ;; Return zero values.
  (values)) → SEMICOLON-READER
(set-macro-character #\; #'semicolon-reader) → T
```


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Side Effects:

The *readtable* is modified.

See Also:

readtable

set-syntax-from-char *Function*

Syntax:

set-syntax-from-char *to-char from-char* `&optional` *to-readtable from-readtable* → t

Arguments and Values:

to-char—a *character*.

from-char—a *character*.

to-readtable—a *readtable*. The default is the *current readtable*.

from-readtable—a *readtable designator*. The default is the *standard readtable*.

Description:

set-syntax-from-char makes the syntax of *to-char* in *to-readtable* be the same as the syntax of *from-char* in *from-readtable*.

set-syntax-from-char copies the *syntax types* of *from-char*. If *from-char* is a *macro character*, its *reader macro function* is copied also. If the character is a *dispatching macro character*, its entire dispatch table of *reader macro functions* is copied. The *constituent traits* of *from-char* are not copied.

A macro definition from a character such as `"` can be copied to another character; the standard definition for `"` looks for another character that is the same as the character that invoked it. The definition of `(` can not be meaningfully copied to `{`, on the other hand. The result is that *lists* are of the form `{a b c)`, not `{a b c}`, because the definition always looks for a closing parenthesis, not a closing brace.

Examples:

```
(set-syntax-from-char #\7 #\;) → T
123579 → 1235
```

Side Effects:

The *to-readtable* is modified.

Affected By:

The existing values in the *from-readtable*.

See Also:

set-macro-character, **make-dispatch-macro-character**, Section 2.1.4 (Character Syntax Types)

Notes:

The *constituent traits* of a *character* are "hard wired" into the parser for extended *tokens*. For example, if the definition of `S` is copied to `*`, then `*` will become a *constituent* that is *alphabetic*$_2$ but that cannot be used as a *short float exponent marker*. For further information, see Section 2.1.4.2 (Constituent Traits).

with-standard-io-syntax *Macro*

Syntax:

with-standard-io-syntax {*form*}* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

Within the dynamic extent of the body of *forms*, all reader/printer control variables, including any *implementation-defined* ones not specified by this standard, are bound to values that produce standard read/print behavior. The values for the variables specified by this standard are listed in Figure 23–1.

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Variable	Value
package	The `CL-USER` *package*
print-array	t
print-base	10
print-case	:upcase
print-circle	nil
print-escape	t
print-gensym	t
print-length	nil
print-level	nil
print-lines	nil
print-miser-width	nil
print-pprint-dispatch	The *standard pprint dispatch table*
print-pretty	nil
print-radix	nil
print-readably	t
print-right-margin	nil
read-base	10
read-default-float-format	single-float
read-eval	t
read-suppress	nil
readtable	The *standard readtable*

Figure 23–1. Values of standard control variables

Examples:

```
 (with-open-file (file pathname :direction :output)
   (with-standard-io-syntax
     (print data file)))

;;; ... Later, in another Lisp:

 (with-open-file (file pathname :direction :input)
   (with-standard-io-syntax
     (setq data (read file))))
```

∗read-base∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *radix*.

Initial Value:

10.

Description:

Controls the interpretation of tokens by **read** as being *integers* or *ratios*.

The *value* of ***read-base***, called the ***current input base***, is the radix in which *integers* and *ratios* are to be read by the *Lisp reader*. The parsing of other numeric *types* (*e.g.*, *floats*) is not affected by this option.

The effect of ***read-base*** on the reading of any particular *rational* number can be locally overridden by explicit use of the `#O`, `#X`, `#B`, or `#nR` syntax or by a trailing decimal point.

Examples:

```
(dotimes (i 6)
  (let ((*read-base* (+ 10. i)))
    (let ((object (read-from-string "(\\DAD DAD |BEE| BEE 123. 123)")))
      (print (list *read-base* object)))))
▷ (10 (DAD DAD BEE BEE 123 123))
▷ (11 (DAD DAD BEE BEE 123 146))
▷ (12 (DAD DAD BEE BEE 123 171))
▷ (13 (DAD DAD BEE BEE 123 198))
▷ (14 (DAD 2701 BEE BEE 123 227))
▷ (15 (DAD 3088 BEE 2699 123 258))
→ NIL
```

Notes:

Altering the input radix can be useful when reading data files in special formats.

∗read-default-float-format∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

one of the *atomic type specifiers* **short-float**, **single-float**, **double-float**, or **long-float**, or else some other *type specifier* defined by the *implementation* to be acceptable.

Initial Value:

The *symbol* **single-float**.

Description:

Controls the floating-point format that is to be used when reading a floating-point number that has no *exponent marker* or that has `e` or `E` for an *exponent marker*. Other *exponent markers* explicitly prescribe the floating-point format to be used.

The printer uses ***read-default-float-format*** to guide the choice of *exponent markers* when printing floating-point numbers.

Examples:

```
(let ((*read-default-float-format* 'double-float))
  (read-from-string "(1.0 1.0e0 1.0s0 1.0f0 1.0d0 1.0L0)"))
→ (1.0   1.0   1.0   1.0 1.0   1.0)   ;Implementation has float format F.
→ (1.0   1.0   1.0s0 1.0 1.0   1.0)   ;Implementation has float formats S and F.
→ (1.0d0 1.0d0 1.0   1.0 1.0d0 1.0d0) ;Implementation has float formats F and D.
→ (1.0d0 1.0d0 1.0s0 1.0 1.0d0 1.0d0) ;Implementation has float formats S, F, D.
→ (1.0d0 1.0d0 1.0   1.0 1.0d0 1.0L0) ;Implementation has float formats F, D, L.
→ (1.0d0 1.0d0 1.0s0 1.0 1.0d0 1.0L0) ;Implementation has formats S, F, D, L.
```

∗read-eval∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

true.

Description:

If it is *true*, the `#.` *reader macro* has its normal effect. Otherwise, that *reader macro* signals an error of *type* **reader-error**.

See Also:

print-readably

Notes:

If ***read-eval*** is *false* and ***print-readably*** is *true*, any *method* for **print-object** that would output a reference to the `#.` *reader macro* either outputs something different or signals an error of *type* **print-not-readable**.

∗read-suppress∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

false.

Description:

This variable is intended primarily to support the operation of the read-time conditional notations #+ and #-. It is important for the *reader macros* which implement these notations to be able to skip over the printed representation of an *expression* despite the possibility that the syntax of the skipped *expression* may not be entirely valid for the current implementation, since #+ and #- exist in order to allow the same program to be shared among several Lisp implementations (including dialects other than Common Lisp) despite small incompatibilities of syntax.

If it is *false*, the *Lisp reader* operates normally.

If the *value* of ***read-suppress*** is *true*, **read**, **read-preserving-whitespace**, **read-delimited-list**, and **read-from-string** all return a *primary value* of **nil** when they complete successfully; however, they continue to parse the representation of an *object* in the normal way, in order to skip over the *object*, and continue to indicate *end of file* in the normal way. Except as noted below, any *standardized reader macro*$_2$ that is defined to *read*$_2$ a following *object* or *token* will do so, but not signal an error if the *object* read is not of an appropriate type or syntax. The *standard syntax* and its associated *reader macros* will not construct any new *objects* (*e.g.*, when reading the representation of a *symbol*, no *symbol* will be constructed or interned).

Extended tokens

All extended tokens are completely uninterpreted. Errors such as those that might otherwise be signaled due to detection of invalid *potential numbers*, invalid patterns of *package markers*, and invalid uses of the *dot* character are suppressed.

Dispatching macro characters (including *sharpsign*)

Dispatching macro characters continue to parse an infix numerical argument, and invoke the dispatch function. The *standardized sharpsign reader macros* do not enforce any constraints on either the presence of or the value of the numerical argument.

#=

The #= notation is totally ignored. It does not read a following *object*. It produces no *object*, but is treated as *whitespace*$_2$.

##

The ## notation always produces **nil**.

No matter what the *value* of ***read-suppress***, parentheses still continue to delimit and construct *lists*; the #(notation continues to delimit *vectors*; and comments, *strings*, and the *single-quote* and *backquote* notations continue to be interpreted properly. Such situations as '), #<, #), and #⟨*Space*⟩ continue to signal errors.

Examples:

```
(let ((*read-suppress* t))
  (mapcar #'read-from-string
          '("#(foo bar baz)" "#P(:type :lisp)" "#c1.2"
            "#.(PRINT 'FOO)" "#3AHELLO" "#S(INTEGER)"
            "#*ABC" "#\GARBAGE" "#RALPHA" "#3R444")))
→ (NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL NIL)
```

See Also:

read, Chapter 2 (Syntax)

Notes:

Programmers and *implementations* that define additional *macro characters* are strongly encouraged to make them respect ***read-suppress*** just as *standardized macro characters* do. That is, when the *value* of ***read-suppress*** is *true*, they should ignore type errors when reading a following *object* and the *functions* that implement *dispatching macro characters* should tolerate **nil** as their infix *parameter* value even if a numeric value would ordinarily be required.

∗readtable∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *readtable*.

Initial Value:

A *readtable* that conforms to the description of Common Lisp syntax in Chapter 2 (Syntax).

Description:

The *value* of ***readtable*** is called the *current readtable*. It controls the parsing behavior of the *Lisp reader*, and can also influence the *Lisp printer* (*e.g.*, see the *function* **readtable-case**).

Examples:

```
(readtablep *readtable*) → true
(setq zvar 123) → 123
```


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```
(set-syntax-from-char #\z #\' (setq table2 (copy-readtable))) → T
zvar → 123
(setq *readtable* table2) → #<READTABLE>
zvar → VAR
(setq *readtable* (copy-readtable nil)) → #<READTABLE>
zvar → 123
```

Affected By:

compile-file, **load**

See Also:

compile-file, **load**, **readtable**, Section 2.1.1.1 (The Current Readtable)

reader-error *Condition Type*

Class Precedence List:

reader-error, **parse-error**, **stream-error**, **error**, **serious-condition**, **condition**, **t**

Description:

The *type* **reader-error** consists of error conditions that are related to tokenization and parsing done by the *Lisp reader*.

See Also:

read, **stream-error-stream**, Section 23.1 (Reader Concepts)

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Programming Language—Common Lisp

24. System Construction

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24.1 System Construction Concepts

24.1.1 Loading

To **load** a *file* is to treat its contents as *code* and *execute* that *code*. The *file* may contain ***source code*** or ***compiled code***.

A *file* containing *source code* is called a **source file**. *Loading* a *source file* is accomplished essentially by sequentially $reading_2$ the *forms* in the file, *evaluating* each immediately after it is *read*.

A *file* containing *compiled code* is called a **compiled file**. *Loading* a *compiled file* is similar to *loading* a *source file*, except that the *file* does not contain text but rather an *implementation-dependent* representation of pre-digested *expressions* created by the *compiler*. Often, a *compiled file* can be *loaded* more quickly than a *source file*. See Section 3.2 (Compilation).

The way in which a *source file* is distinguished from a *compiled file* is *implementation-dependent*.

24.1.2 Features

A ***feature*** is an aspect or attribute of Common Lisp, of the *implementation*, or of the *environment*. A *feature* is identified by a *symbol*.

A *feature* is said to be ***present*** in a *Lisp image* if and only if the *symbol* naming it is an *element* of the *list* held by the *variable* ***features***, which is called the ***features list***.

24.1.2.1 Feature Expressions

Boolean combinations of *features*, called ***feature expressions***, are used by the `#+` and `#-` *reader macros* in order to direct conditional *reading* of *expressions* by the *Lisp reader*.

The rules for interpreting a *feature expression* are as follows:

feature

If a *symbol* naming a *feature* is used as a *feature expression*, the *feature expression* succeeds if that *feature* is *present*; otherwise it fails.

`(not` *feature-conditional*`)`

A **not** *feature expression* succeeds if its argument *feature-conditional* fails; otherwise, it succeeds.

`(and` {*feature-conditional*}*`)`

An **and** *feature expression* succeeds if all of its argument *feature-conditionals* succeed; otherwise, it fails.

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`(or` {*feature-conditional*}*`)`

An **or** *feature expression* succeeds if any of its argument *feature-conditionals* succeed; otherwise, it fails.

24.1.2.1.1 Examples of Feature Expressions

For example, suppose that in *implementation* A, the *features* `spice` and `perq` are *present*, but the *feature* `lispm` is not *present*; in *implementation* B, the feature `lispm` is *present*, but the *features* `spice` and `perq` are not *present*; and in *implementation* C, none of the features `spice`, *lispm*, or `perq` are *present*. Figure 24–1 shows some sample *expressions*, and how they would be $read_2$ in these *implementations*.

```
(cons #+spice "Spice" #-spice "Lispm" x)
  in implementation A ...          (CONS "Spice" X)
  in implementation B ...          (CONS "Lispm" X)
  in implementation C ...          (CONS "Lispm" X)
(cons #+spice "Spice" #+LispM "Lispm" x)
  in implementation A ...          (CONS "Spice" X)
  in implementation B ...          (CONS "Lispm" X)
  in implementation C ...          (CONS X)
(setq a '(1 2 #+perq 43 #+(not perq) 27))
  in implementation A ...          (SETQ A '(1 2 43))
  in implementation B ...          (SETQ A '(1 2 27))
  in implementation C ...          (SETQ A '(1 2 27))
(let ((a 3) #+(or spice lispm) (b 3)) (foo a))
  in implementation A ...          (LET ((A 3) (B 3)) (FOO A))
  in implementation B ...          (LET ((A 3) (B 3)) (FOO A))
  in implementation C ...          (LET ((A 3)) (FOO A))
(cons #+Lispm "#+Spice" #+Spice "foo" #-(or Lispm Spice) 7 x)
  in implementation A ...          (CONS "foo" X)
  in implementation B ...          (CONS "#+Spice" X)
  in implementation C ...          (CONS 7 X)
```

Figure 24–1. Features examples

compile-file *Function*

Syntax:

compile-file *input-file* &key *output-file verbose print external-format*

→ *output-truename, warnings-p, failure-p*

Arguments and Values:

input-file—a *pathname designator*. (Default fillers for unspecified components are taken from ***default-pathname-defaults***.)

output-file—a *pathname designator*. The default is *implementation-defined*.

verbose—a *generalized boolean*. The default is the *value* of ***compile-verbose***.

print—a *generalized boolean*. The default is the *value* of ***compile-print***.

external-format—an *external file format designator*. The default is `:default`.

output-truename—a *pathname* (the **truename** of the output *file*), or **nil**.

warnings-p—a *generalized boolean*.

failure-p—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

compile-file transforms the contents of the file specified by *input-file* into *implementation-dependent* binary data which are placed in the file specified by *output-file*.

The *file* to which *input-file* refers should be a *source file*. *output-file* can be used to specify an output *pathname*; the actual *pathname* of the *compiled file* to which *compiled code* will be output is computed as if by calling **compile-file-pathname**.

If *input-file* or *output-file* is a *logical pathname*, it is translated into a *physical pathname* as if by calling **translate-logical-pathname**.

If *verbose* is *true*, **compile-file** prints a message in the form of a comment (*i.e.*, with a leading *semicolon*) to *standard output* indicating what *file* is being *compiled* and other useful information. If *verbose* is *false*, **compile-file** does not print this information.

If *print* is *true*, information about *top level forms* in the file being compiled is printed to *standard output*. Exactly what is printed is *implementation-dependent*, but nevertheless some information is printed. If *print* is **nil**, no information is printed.

The *external-format* specifies the *external file format* to be used when opening the *file*; see the

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function **open**. **compile-file** and **load** must cooperate in such a way that the resulting *compiled file* can be *loaded* without specifying an *external file format* anew; see the *function* **load**.

compile-file binds ***readtable*** and ***package*** to the values they held before processing the file.

compile-file-truename is bound by **compile-file** to hold the *truename* of the *pathname* of the file being compiled.

compile-file-pathname is bound by **compile-file** to hold a *pathname* denoted by the first argument to **compile-file**, merged against the defaults; that is, `(pathname (merge-pathnames` *input-file*`))`.

The compiled *functions* contained in the *compiled file* become available for use when the *compiled file* is *loaded* into Lisp. Any function definition that is processed by the compiler, including `#'(lambda ...)` forms and local function definitions made by **flet**, **labels** and **defun** forms, result in an *object* of *type* **compiled-function**.

The *primary value* returned by **compile-file**, *output-truename*, is the **truename** of the output file, or **nil** if the file could not be created.

The *secondary value*, *warnings-p*, is *false* if no *conditions* of *type* **error** or **warning** were detected by the compiler, and *true* otherwise.

The *tertiary value*, *failure-p*, is *false* if no *conditions* of *type* **error** or **warning** (other than **style-warning**) were detected by the compiler, and *true* otherwise.

For general information about how *files* are processed by the *file compiler*, see Section 3.2.3 (File Compilation).

Programs to be compiled by the *file compiler* must only contain *externalizable objects*; for details on such *objects*, see Section 3.2.4 (Literal Objects in Compiled Files). For information on how to extend the set of *externalizable objects*, see the *function* **make-load-form** and Section 3.2.4.4 (Additional Constraints on Externalizable Objects).

Affected By:

error-output, ***standard-output***, ***compile-verbose***, ***compile-print***

The computer's file system.

Exceptional Situations:

For information about errors detected during the compilation process, see Section 3.2.5 (Exceptional Situations in the Compiler).

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if `(wild-pathname-p` *input-file*`)` returns true.

If either the attempt to open the *source file* for input or the attempt to open the *compiled file* for output fails, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

See Also:

compile, **declare**, **eval-when**, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

compile-file-pathname *Function*

Syntax:

compile-file-pathname *input-file* `&key` *output-file* `&allow-other-keys` → *pathname*

Arguments and Values:

input-file—a *pathname designator*. (Default fillers for unspecified components are taken from ***default-pathname-defaults***.)

output-file—a *pathname designator*. The default is *implementation-defined*.

pathname—a *pathname*.

Description:

Returns the *pathname* that **compile-file** would write into, if given the same arguments.

The defaults for the *output-file* are taken from the *pathname* that results from merging the *input-file* with the *value* of ***default-pathname-defaults***, except that the type component should default to the appropriate *implementation-defined* default type for *compiled files*.

If *input-file* is a *logical pathname* and *output-file* is unsupplied, the result is a *logical pathname*. If *input-file* is a *logical pathname*, it is translated into a physical pathname as if by calling **translate-logical-pathname**. If *input-file* is a *stream*, the *stream* can be either open or closed. **compile-file-pathname** returns the same *pathname* after a file is closed as it did when the file was open. It is an error if *input-file* is a *stream* that is created with **make-two-way-stream**, **make-echo-stream**, **make-broadcast-stream**, **make-concatenated-stream**, **make-string-input-stream**, **make-string-output-stream**.

If an implementation supports additional keyword arguments to **compile-file**, **compile-file-pathname** must accept the same arguments.

Examples:

See **logical-pathname-translations**.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if either *input-file* or *output-file* is *wild*.

See Also:

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compile-file, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

load *Function*

Syntax:

load *filespec* `&key` *verbose print*
if-does-not-exist external-format
→ *generalized-boolean*

Arguments and Values:

filespec—a *stream*, or a *pathname designator*. The default is taken from ***default-pathname-defaults***.

verbose—a *generalized boolean*. The default is the *value* of ***load-verbose***.

print—a *generalized boolean*. The default is the *value* of ***load-print***.

if-does-not-exist—a *generalized boolean*. The default is *true*.

external-format—an *external file format designator*. The default is `:default`.

generalized-boolean—a *generalized boolean*.

Description:

load *loads* the *file* named by *filespec* into the Lisp environment.

The manner in which a *source file* is distinguished from a *compiled file* is *implementation-dependent*. If the file specification is not complete and both a *source file* and a *compiled file* exist which might match, then which of those files **load** selects is *implementation-dependent*.

If *filespec* is a *stream*, **load** determines what kind of *stream* it is and loads directly from the *stream*. If *filespec* is a *logical pathname*, it is translated into a *physical pathname* as if by calling **translate-logical-pathname**.

load sequentially executes each *form* it encounters in the *file* named by *filespec*. If the *file* is a *source file* and the *implementation* chooses to perform *implicit compilation*, **load** must recognize *top level forms* as described in Section 3.2.3.1 (Processing of Top Level Forms) and arrange for each *top level form* to be executed before beginning *implicit compilation* of the next. (Note, however, that processing of **eval-when** *forms* by **load** is controlled by the `:execute` situation.)

If *verbose* is *true*, **load** prints a message in the form of a comment (*i.e.*, with a leading *semicolon*) to *standard output* indicating what *file* is being *loaded* and other useful information. If *verbose* is *false*, **load** does not print this information.

If *print* is *true*, **load** incrementally prints information to *standard output* showing the progress of the *loading* process. For a *source file*, this information might mean printing the *values yielded* by each *form* in the *file* as soon as those *values* are returned. For a *compiled file*, what is printed might not reflect precisely the contents of the *source file*, but some information is generally printed. If *print* is *false*, **load** does not print this information.

If the file named by *filespec* is successfully loaded, **load** returns *true*.

If the file does not exist, the specific action taken depends on *if-does-not-exist*: if it is **nil**, **load** returns **nil**; otherwise, **load** signals an error.

The *external-format* specifies the *external file format* to be used when opening the *file* (see the *function* **open**), except that when the *file* named by *filespec* is a *compiled file*, the *external-format* is ignored. **compile-file** and **load** cooperate in an *implementation-dependent* way to assure the preservation of the *similarity* of *characters* referred to in the *source file* at the time the *source file* was processed by the *file compiler* under a given *external file format*, regardless of the value of *external-format* at the time the *compiled file* is *loaded*.

load binds ***readtable*** and ***package*** to the values they held before *loading* the file.

load-truename is *bound* by **load** to hold the *truename* of the *pathname* of the file being *loaded*.

load-pathname is *bound* by **load** to hold a *pathname* that represents *filespec* merged against the defaults. That is, `(pathname (merge-pathnames filespec))`.

Examples:

```
;Establish a data file...
 (with-open-file (str "data.in" :direction :output :if-exists :error)
   (print 1 str) (print '(setq a 888) str) t)
→ T
 (load "data.in") → true
 a → 888
 (load (setq p (merge-pathnames "data.in")) :verbose t)
; Loading contents of file /fred/data.in
; Finished loading /fred/data.in
→ true
 (load p :print t)
; Loading contents of file /fred/data.in
;  1
;  888
; Finished loading /fred/data.in
→ true
```

```
 ;----[Begin file SETUP]----
 (in-package "MY-STUFF")
 (defmacro compile-truename () `',*compile-file-truename*)
 (defvar *my-compile-truename* (compile-truename) "Just for debugging.")
 (defvar *my-load-pathname* *load-pathname*)
 (defun load-my-system ()
   (dolist (module-name '("FOO" "BAR" "BAZ"))
     (load (merge-pathnames module-name *my-load-pathname*))))
 ;----[End of file SETUP]----


 (load "SETUP")
 (load-my-system)
```

Affected By:

The implementation, and the host computer's file system.

Exceptional Situations:

If `:if-does-not-exist` is supplied and is *true*, or is not supplied, **load** signals an error of *type* **file-error** if the file named by *filespec* does not exist, or if the *file system* cannot perform the requested operation.

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if `(wild-pathname-p filespec)` returns *true*.

See Also:

error, **merge-pathnames**, ***load-verbose***, ***default-pathname-defaults***, **pathname**, **logical-pathname**, Section 20.1 (File System Concepts), Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

with-compilation-unit *Macro*

Syntax:

with-compilation-unit (⟦↓*option*⟧) {*form*}* → {*result*}*

option::=`:override` *override*

Arguments and Values:

override—a *generalized boolean*; evaluated. The default is **nil**.

forms—an *implicit progn*.

results—the *values* returned by the *forms*.

Description:

Executes *forms* from left to right. Within the *dynamic environment* of **with-compilation-unit**, actions deferred by the compiler until the end of compilation will be deferred until the end of the outermost call to **with-compilation-unit**.

The set of *options* permitted may be extended by the implementation, but the only *standardized* keyword is `:override`.

If nested dynamically only the outer call to **with-compilation-unit** has any effect unless the value associated with `:override` is *true*, in which case warnings are deferred only to the end of the innermost call for which *override* is *true*.

The function **compile-file** provides the effect of

```
(with-compilation-unit (:override nil) ...)
```

around its *code*.

Any *implementation-dependent* extensions can only be provided as the result of an explicit programmer request by use of an *implementation-dependent* keyword. *Implementations* are forbidden from attaching additional meaning to a use of this macro which involves either no keywords or just the keyword `:override`.

Examples:

If an *implementation* would normally defer certain kinds of warnings, such as warnings about undefined functions, to the end of a compilation unit (such as a *file*), the following example shows how to cause those warnings to be deferred to the end of the compilation of several files.

```
(defun compile-files (&rest files)
  (with-compilation-unit ()
    (mapcar #'(lambda (file) (compile-file file)) files)))

(compile-files "A" "B" "C")
```

Note however that if the implementation does not normally defer any warnings, use of *with-compilation-unit* might not have any effect.

See Also:

compile, **compile-file**

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∗features∗

∗features∗ *Variable*

Value Type:

a *proper list*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *value* of ***features*** is called the *features list*. It is a *list* of *symbols*, called *features*, that correspond to some aspect of the *implementation* or *environment*.

Most *features* have *implementation-dependent* meanings; The following meanings have been assigned to feature names:

`:cltl1`

If present, indicates that the `LISP` *package purports to conform* to the 1984 specification *Common Lisp: The Language*. It is possible, but not required, for a *conforming implementation* to have this feature because this specification specifies that its *symbols* are to be in the `COMMON-LISP` *package*, not the `LISP` package.

`:cltl2`

If present, indicates that the implementation *purports to conform* to *Common Lisp: The Language, Second Edition*. This feature must not be present in any *conforming implementation*, since conformance to that document is not compatible with conformance to this specification. The name, however, is reserved by this specification in order to help programs distinguish implementations which conform to that document from implementations which conform to this specification.

`:ieee-floating-point`

If present, indicates that the implementation *purports to conform* to the requirements of *IEEE Standard for Binary Floating-Point Arithmetic*.

`:x3j13`

If present, indicates that the implementation conforms to some particular working draft of this specification, or to some subset of features that approximates a belief about what this specification might turn out to contain. A *conforming implementation* might or might not contain such a feature. (This feature is intended primarily as a stopgap in order to provide implementors something to use prior to the availability of a draft standard, in order to discourage them from introducing the `:draft-ansi-cl` and `:ansi-cl` *features* prematurely.)

`:draft-ansi-cl`

If present, indicates that the *implementation purports to conform* to the first full draft of this specification, which went to public review in 1992. A *conforming implementation* which has the `:draft-ansi-cl-2` or `:ansi-cl` *feature* is not permitted to retain the `:draft-ansi-cl` *feature* since incompatible changes were made subsequent to the first draft.

`:draft-ansi-cl-2`

If present, indicates that a second full draft of this specification has gone to public review, and that the *implementation purports to conform* to that specification. (If additional public review drafts are produced, this keyword will continue to refer to the second draft, and additional keywords will be added to identify conformance with such later drafts. As such, the meaning of this keyword can be relied upon not to change over time.) A *conforming implementation* which has the `:ansi-cl` *feature* is only permitted to retain the `:draft-ansi-cl` *feature* if the finally approved standard is not incompatible with the draft standard.

`:ansi-cl`

If present, indicates that this specification has been adopted by ANSI as an official standard, and that the *implementation purports to conform*.

`:common-lisp`

This feature must appear in ***features*** for any implementation that has one or more of the features `:x3j13`, `:draft-ansi-cl`, or `:ansi-cl`. It is intended that it should also appear in implementations which have the features `:cltl1` or `:cltl2`, but this specification cannot force such behavior. The intent is that this feature should identify the language family named "Common Lisp," rather than some specific dialect within that family.

See Also:

Section 1.5.2.1.1 (Use of Read-Time Conditionals), Section 2.4 (Standard Macro Characters)

Notes:

The *value* of ***features*** is used by the `#+` and `#-` reader syntax.

Symbols in the *features list* may be in any *package*, but in practice they are generally in the `KEYWORD` *package*. This is because `KEYWORD` is the *package* used by default when *reading*$_2$ *feature expressions* in the `#+` and `#-` *reader macros*. *Code* that needs to name a *feature*$_2$ in a *package* P (other than `KEYWORD`) can do so by making explicit use of a *package prefix* for P, but note that such *code* must also assure that the *package* P exists in order for the *feature expression* to be *read*$_2$—even in cases where the *feature expression* is expected to fail.

It is generally considered wise for an *implementation* to include one or more *features* identifying the specific *implementation*, so that conditional expressions can be written which distinguish idiosyncrasies of one *implementation* from those of another. Since features are normally *symbols* in the `KEYWORD` *package* where name collisions might easily result, and since no uniquely defined mechanism is designated for deciding who has the right to use which *symbol* for what reason, a conservative strategy is to prefer names derived from one's own company or product name, since those names are often trademarked and are hence less likely to be used unwittingly by another *implementation*.

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∗compile-file-pathname∗, ∗compile-file-truename∗

Variable

Value Type:

The *value* of ***compile-file-pathname*** must always be a *pathname* or **nil**. The *value* of ***compile-file-truename*** must always be a *physical pathname* or **nil**.

Initial Value:

nil.

Description:

During a call to **compile-file**, ***compile-file-pathname*** is *bound* to the *pathname* denoted by the first argument to **compile-file**, merged against the defaults; that is, it is *bound* to `(pathname (merge-pathnames` *input-file*`))`. During the same time interval, ***compile-file-truename*** is *bound* to the *truename* of the *file* being *compiled*.

At other times, the *value* of these *variables* is **nil**.

If a *break loop* is entered while **compile-file** is ongoing, it is *implementation-dependent* whether these *variables* retain the *values* they had just prior to entering the *break loop* or whether they are *bound* to **nil**.

The consequences are unspecified if an attempt is made to *assign* or *bind* either of these *variables*.

Affected By:

The *file system*.

See Also:

compile-file

load-pathname, *load-truename* *Variable*

Value Type:

The *value* of ***load-pathname*** must always be a *pathname* or **nil**. The *value* of ***load-truename*** must always be a *physical pathname* or **nil**.

Initial Value:

nil.

Description:

During a call to **load**, ***load-pathname*** is *bound* to the *pathname* denoted by the the first argument to **load**, merged against the defaults; that is, it is *bound* to `(pathname (merge-pathnames filespec))`. During the same time interval, ***load-truename*** is *bound* to the *truename* of the *file* being loaded.

At other times, the *value* of these *variables* is **nil**.

If a *break loop* is entered while **load** is ongoing, it is *implementation-dependent* whether these *variables* retain the *values* they had just prior to entering the *break loop* or whether they are *bound* to **nil**.

The consequences are unspecified if an attempt is made to *assign* or *bind* either of these *variables*.

Affected By:

The *file system*.

See Also:

load

compile-print, *compile-verbose* *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *value* of ***compile-print*** is the default value of the `:print` *argument* to **compile-file**. The *value* of ***compile-verbose*** is the default value of the `:verbose` *argument* to **compile-file**.

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See Also:

compile-file

load-print, *load-verbose* *Variable*

Value Type:

a *generalized boolean*.

Initial Value:

The initial *value* of ***load-print*** is *false*. The initial *value* of ***load-verbose*** is *implementation-dependent*.

Description:

The *value* of ***load-print*** is the default value of the `:print` *argument* to **load**. The *value* of ***load-verbose*** is the default value of the `:verbose` *argument* to **load**.

See Also:

load

modules *Variable*

Value Type:

a *list* of *strings*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *value* of ***modules*** is a list of names of the modules that have been loaded into the current *Lisp image*.

Affected By:

provide

See Also:

provide, **require**

Notes:

The variable ***modules*** is deprecated.

provide, require *Function*

Syntax:

provide *module-name* → *implementation-dependent*

require *module-name* &optional *pathname-list* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

module-name—a *string designator*.

pathname-list—**nil**, or a *designator* for a *non-empty list* of *pathname designators*. The default is **nil**.

Description:

provide adds the *module-name* to the *list* held by ***modules***, if such a name is not already present.

require tests for the presence of the *module-name* in the *list* held by ***modules***. If it is present, **require** immediately returns. Otherwise, an attempt is made to load an appropriate set of *files* as follows: The *pathname-list* argument, if *non-nil*, specifies a list of *pathnames* to be loaded in order, from left to right. If the *pathname-list* is **nil**, an *implementation-dependent* mechanism will be invoked in an attempt to load the module named *module-name*; if no such module can be loaded, an error of *type* **error** is signaled.

Both functions use **string=** to test for the presence of a *module-name*.

Examples:

```
;;; This illustrates a nonportable use of REQUIRE, because it
;;; depends on the implementation-dependent file-loading mechanism.

(require "CALCULUS")

;;; This use of REQUIRE is nonportable because of the literal
;;; physical pathname.

(require "CALCULUS" "/usr/lib/lisp/calculus")

;;; One form of portable usage involves supplying a logical pathname,
;;; with appropriate translations defined elsewhere.

(require "CALCULUS" "lib:calculus")
```



```
;;; Another form of portable usage involves using a variable or
;;; table lookup function to determine the pathname, which again
;;; must be initialized elsewhere.

(require "CALCULUS" *calculus-module-pathname*)
```

Side Effects:

provide modifies ***modules***.

Affected By:

The specific action taken by **require** is affected by calls to **provide** (or, in general, any changes to the *value* of ***modules***).

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *module-name* is not a *string designator*.

If **require** fails to perform the requested operation due to a problem while interacting with the *file system*, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if any *pathname* in *pathname-list* is a *designator* for a *wild pathname*.

See Also:

modules, Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

The functions **provide** and **require** are deprecated.

If a module consists of a single *package*, it is customary for the package and module names to be the same.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

25. Environment

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25.1 The External Environment

25.1.1 Top level loop

The top level loop is the Common Lisp mechanism by which the user normally interacts with the Common Lisp system. This loop is sometimes referred to as the *Lisp read-eval-print loop* because it typically consists of an endless loop that reads an expression, evaluates it and prints the results.

The top level loop is not completely specified; thus the user interface is *implementation-defined*. The top level loop prints all values resulting from the evaluation of a *form*. Figure 25–1 lists variables that are maintained by the *Lisp read-eval-print loop*.

*	+	/	-
**	++	//	
***	+++	///	

Figure 25–1. Variables maintained by the Read-Eval-Print Loop

25.1.2 Debugging Utilities

Figure 25–2 shows *defined names* relating to debugging.

debugger-hook	**documentation**	**step**
apropos	**dribble**	**time**
apropos-list	**ed**	**trace**
break	**inspect**	**untrace**
describe	**invoke-debugger**	

Figure 25–2. Defined names relating to debugging

25.1.3 Environment Inquiry

Environment inquiry *defined names* provide information about the hardware and software configuration on which a Common Lisp program is being executed.

Figure 25–3 shows *defined names* relating to environment inquiry.

features	**machine-instance**	**short-site-name**
lisp-implementation-type	**machine-type**	**software-type**
lisp-implementation-version	**machine-version**	**software-version**
long-site-name	**room**	

Figure 25–3. Defined names relating to environment inquiry.

25.1.4 Time

Time is represented in four different ways in Common Lisp: *decoded time*, *universal time*, *internal time*, and seconds. *Decoded time* and *universal time* are used primarily to represent calendar time, and are precise only to one second. *Internal time* is used primarily to represent measurements of computer time (such as run time) and is precise to some *implementation-dependent* fraction of a second called an *internal time unit*, as specified by **internal-time-units-per-second**. An *internal time* can be used for either *absolute* and *relative time* measurements. Both a *universal time* and a *decoded time* can be used only for *absolute time* measurements. In the case of one function, **sleep**, time intervals are represented as a non-negative *real* number of seconds.

Figure 25–4 shows *defined names* relating to *time*.

decode-universal-time	**get-internal-run-time**
encode-universal-time	**get-universal-time**
get-decoded-time	**internal-time-units-per-second**
get-internal-real-time	**sleep**

Figure 25–4. Defined names involving Time.

25.1.4.1 Decoded Time

A ***decoded time*** is an ordered series of nine values that, taken together, represent a point in calendar time (ignoring *leap seconds*):

Second

An *integer* between 0 and 59, inclusive.

Minute

An *integer* between 0 and 59, inclusive.

Hour

An *integer* between 0 and 23, inclusive.

Date

An *integer* between 1 and 31, inclusive (the upper limit actually depends on the month and year, of course).

Month

An *integer* between 1 and 12, inclusive; 1 means January, 2 means February, and so on; 12 means December.

Year

An *integer* indicating the year A.D. However, if this *integer* is between 0 and 99, the "obvious" year is used; more precisely, that year is assumed that is equal to the *integer* modulo 100 and within fifty years of the current year (inclusive backwards and exclusive forwards). Thus, in the year 1978, year 28 is 1928 but year 27 is 2027. (Functions that return time in this format always return a full year number.)

Day of week

An *integer* between 0 and 6, inclusive; 0 means Monday, 1 means Tuesday, and so on; 6 means Sunday.

Daylight saving time flag

A *generalized boolean* that, if *true*, indicates that daylight saving time is in effect.

Time zone

A *time zone*.

Figure 25–5 shows *defined names* relating to *decoded time*.

decode-universal-time	**get-decoded-time**

Figure 25–5. Defined names involving time in Decoded Time.

25.1.4.2 Universal Time

Universal time is an *absolute time* represented as a single non-negative *integer*—the number of seconds since midnight, January 1, 1900 GMT (ignoring *leap seconds*). Thus the time 1 is 00:00:01 (that is, 12:00:01 a.m.) on January 1, 1900 GMT. Similarly, the time 2398291201 corresponds to time 00:00:01 on January 1, 1976 GMT. Recall that the year 1900 was not a leap year; for the purposes of Common Lisp, a year is a leap year if and only if its number is divisible by 4, except that years divisible by 100 are not leap years, except that years divisible by 400 are leap

years. Therefore the year 2000 will be a leap year. Because *universal time* must be a non-negative *integer*, times before the base time of midnight, January 1, 1900 GMT cannot be processed by Common Lisp.

decode-universal-time	**get-universal-time**
encode-universal-time	

Figure 25–6. Defined names involving time in Universal Time.

25.1.4.3 Internal Time

Internal time represents time as a single *integer*, in terms of an *implementation-dependent* unit called an *internal time unit*. Relative time is measured as a number of these units. Absolute time is relative to an arbitrary time base.

Figure 25–7 shows *defined names* related to *internal time*.

get-internal-real-time	**internal-time-units-per-second**
get-internal-run-time	

Figure 25–7. Defined names involving time in Internal Time.

25.1.4.4 Seconds

One function, **sleep**, takes its argument as a non-negative *real* number of seconds. Informally, it may be useful to think of this as a *relative universal time*, but it differs in one important way: *universal times* are always non-negative *integers*, whereas the argument to **sleep** can be any kind of non-negative *real*, in order to allow for the possibility of fractional seconds.

sleep

Figure 25–8. Defined names involving time in Seconds.

decode-universal-time *Function*

Syntax:

decode-universal-time *universal-time* &optional *time-zone*
→ *second, minute, hour, date, month, year, day, daylight-p, zone*

Arguments and Values:

universal-time—a *universal time*.

time-zone—a *time zone*.

second, *minute*, *hour*, *date*, *month*, *year*, *day*, *daylight-p*, *zone*—a *decoded time*.

Description:

Returns the *decoded time* represented by the given *universal time*.

If *time-zone* is not supplied, it defaults to the current time zone adjusted for daylight saving time. If *time-zone* is supplied, daylight saving time information is ignored. The daylight saving time flag is **nil** if *time-zone* is supplied.

Examples:

```
(decode-universal-time 0 0) → 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1900, 0, false, 0

;; The next two examples assume Eastern Daylight Time.
(decode-universal-time 2414296800 5) → 0, 0, 1, 4, 7, 1976, 6, false, 5
(decode-universal-time 2414293200) → 0, 0, 1, 4, 7, 1976, 6, true, 5

;; This example assumes that the time zone is Eastern Daylight Time
;; (and that the time zone is constant throughout the example).
(let* ((here (nth 8 (multiple-value-list (get-decoded-time)))) ;Time zone
       (recently (get-universal-time))
       (a (nthcdr 7 (multiple-value-list (decode-universal-time recently))))
       (b (nthcdr 7 (multiple-value-list (decode-universal-time recently here)))))
  (list a b (equal a b))) → ((T 5) (NIL 5) NIL)
```

Affected By:

Implementation-dependent mechanisms for calculating when or if daylight savings time is in effect for any given session.

See Also:

encode-universal-time, **get-universal-time**, Section 25.1.4 (Time)

encode-universal-time *function*

Syntax:

encode-universal-time *second minute hour date month year*
&optional *time-zone*

→ *universal-time*

Arguments and Values:

second, *minute*, *hour*, *date*, *month*, *year*, *time-zone*—the corresponding parts of a *decoded time*. (Note that some of the nine values in a full *decoded time* are redundant, and so are not used as inputs to this function.)

universal-time—a *universal time*.

Description:

encode-universal-time converts a time from Decoded Time format to a *universal time*.

If *time-zone* is supplied, no adjustment for daylight savings time is performed.

Examples:

```
(encode-universal-time 0 0 0 1 1 1900 0) → 0
(encode-universal-time 0 0 1 4 7 1976 5) → 2414296800
;; The next example assumes Eastern Daylight Time.
(encode-universal-time 0 0 1 4 7 1976) → 2414293200
```

See Also:

decode-universal-time, **get-decoded-time**

get-universal-time, get-decoded-time *Function*

Syntax:

get-universal-time ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *universal-time*

get-decoded-time ⟨*no arguments*⟩
→ *second, minute, hour, date, month, year, day, daylight-p, zone*

Arguments and Values:

universal-time—a *universal time*.

second, *minute*, *hour*, *date*, *month*, *year*, *day*, *daylight-p*, *zone*—a *decoded time*.

Description:

get-universal-time returns the current time, represented as a *universal time*.

get-decoded-time returns the current time, represented as a *decoded time*.

Examples:

```
;; At noon on July 4, 1976 in Eastern Daylight Time.
 (get-decoded-time) → 0, 0, 12, 4, 7, 1976, 6, true, 5
;; At exactly the same instant.
 (get-universal-time) → 2414332800
;; Exactly five minutes later.
 (get-universal-time) → 2414333100
;; The difference is 300 seconds (five minutes)
 (- * **) → 300
```

Affected By:

The time of day (*i.e.*, the passage of time), the system clock's ability to keep accurate time, and the accuracy of the system clock's initial setting.

Exceptional Situations:

An error of *type* **error** might be signaled if the current time cannot be determined.

See Also:

decode-universal-time, **encode-universal-time**, Section 25.1.4 (Time)

Notes:

```
(get-decoded-time) ≡ (decode-universal-time (get-universal-time))
```

No *implementation* is required to have a way to verify that the time returned is correct. However, if an *implementation* provides a validity check (*e.g.*, the failure to have properly initialized the system clock can be reliably detected) and that validity check fails, the *implementation* is strongly encouraged (but not required) to signal an error of *type* **error** (rather than, for example, returning a known-to-be-wrong value) that is *correctable* by allowing the user to interactively set the correct time.

sleep *Function*

Syntax:

sleep *seconds* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

seconds—a non-negative *real*.

Description:

Causes execution to cease and become dormant for approximately the seconds of real time indicated by *seconds*, whereupon execution is resumed.

Examples:

```
 (sleep 1) → NIL

;; Actually, since SLEEP is permitted to use approximate timing,
;; this might not always yield true, but it will often enough that
;; we felt it to be a productive example of the intent.
 (let ((then (get-universal-time))
       (now  (progn (sleep 10) (get-universal-time))))
   (>= (- now then) 10))
→ true
```

Side Effects:

Causes processing to pause.

Affected By:

The granularity of the scheduler.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *seconds* is not a non-negative *real*.

apropos, apropos-list *Function*

Syntax:

apropos *string* &optional *package* → ⟨*no values*⟩

apropos-list *string* &optional *package* → *symbols*

Arguments and Values:

string—a *string designator*.

package—a *package designator* or **nil**. The default is **nil**.

symbols—a *list* of *symbols*.

Description:

These functions search for *interned symbols* whose *names* contain the substring *string*.

For **apropos**, as each such *symbol* is found, its name is printed on *standard output*. In addition, if such a *symbol* is defined as a *function* or *dynamic variable*, information about those definitions might also be printed.

For **apropos-list**, no output occurs as the search proceeds; instead a list of the matching *symbols* is returned when the search is complete.

If *package* is *non-nil*, only the *symbols accessible* in that *package* are searched; otherwise all *symbols accessible* in any *package* are searched.

Because a *symbol* might be available by way of more than one inheritance path, **apropos** might print information about the *same symbol* more than once, or **apropos-list** might return a *list* containing duplicate *symbols*.

Whether or not the search is case-sensitive is *implementation-defined*.

Affected By:

The set of *symbols* which are currently *interned* in any *packages* being searched.

apropos is also affected by ***standard-output***.

describe *Function*

Syntax:

describe *object* &optional *stream* → ⟨*no values*⟩

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

stream—an *output stream designator*. The default is *standard output*.

Description:

describe displays information about *object* to *stream*.

For example, **describe** of a *symbol* might show the *symbol*'s value, its definition, and each of its properties. **describe** of a *float* might show the number's internal representation in a way that is useful for tracking down round-off errors. In all cases, however, the nature and format of the output of **describe** is *implementation-dependent*.

describe can describe something that it finds inside the *object*; in such cases, a notational device such as increased indentation or positioning in a table is typically used in order to visually distinguish such recursive descriptions from descriptions of the argument *object*.

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The actual act of describing the object is implemented by **describe-object**. **describe** exists as an interface primarily to manage argument defaulting (including conversion of arguments **t** and **nil** into *stream objects*) and to inhibit any return values from **describe-object**.

describe is not intended to be an interactive function. In a *conforming implementation*, **describe** must not, by default, prompt for user input. User-defined methods for **describe-object** are likewise restricted.

Side Effects:

Output to *standard output* or *terminal I/O*.

Affected By:

standard-output and ***terminal-io***, methods on **describe-object** and **print-object** for *objects* having user-defined *classes*.

See Also:

inspect, **describe-object**

describe-object *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

describe-object *object stream* → *implementation-dependent*

Method Signatures:

describe-object *(object standard-object) stream*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

stream—a *stream*.

Description:

The generic function **describe-object** prints a description of *object* to a *stream*. **describe-object** is called by **describe**; it must not be called by the user.

Each implementation is required to provide a *method* on the *class* **standard-object** and *methods* on enough other *classes* so as to ensure that there is always an applicable *method*. Implementations are free to add *methods* for other *classes*. Users can write *methods* for **describe-object** for their own *classes* if they do not wish to inherit an implementation-supplied *method*.

Methods on **describe-object** can recursively call **describe**. Indentation, depth limits, and circularity detection are all taken care of automatically, provided that each *method* handles exactly one level of structure and calls **describe** recursively if there are more structural levels. The consequences are undefined if this rule is not obeyed.

In some implementations the *stream* argument passed to a **describe-object** method is not the original *stream*, but is an intermediate *stream* that implements parts of **describe**. *Methods* should therefore not depend on the identity of this *stream*.

Examples:

```
 (defclass spaceship ()
   ((captain :initarg :captain :accessor spaceship-captain)
    (serial# :initarg :serial-number :accessor spaceship-serial-number)))

 (defclass federation-starship (spaceship) ())

 (defmethod describe-object ((s spaceship) stream)
   (with-slots (captain serial#) s
     (format stream "~&~S is a spaceship of type ~S,~
                     ~%with ~A at the helm ~
                       and with serial number ~D.~%"
             s (type-of s) captain serial#)))

 (make-instance 'federation-starship
                :captain "Rachel Garrett"
                :serial-number "NCC-1701-C")
→ #<FEDERATION-STARSHIP 26312465>

 (describe *)
▷ #<FEDERATION-STARSHIP 26312465> is a spaceship of type FEDERATION-STARSHIP,
▷ with Rachel Garrett at the helm and with serial number NCC-1701-C.
→ ⟨no values⟩
```

See Also:

describe

Notes:

The same implementation techniques that are applicable to **print-object** are applicable to **describe-object**.

The reason for making the return values for **describe-object** unspecified is to avoid forcing users to include explicit `(values)` in all of their *methods*. **describe** takes care of that.

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trace, untrace *Macro*

Syntax:

trace {*function-name*}* → *trace-result*

untrace {*function-name*}* → *untrace-result*

Arguments and Values:

function-name—a *function name*.

trace-result—*implementation-dependent*, unless no *function-names* are supplied, in which case *trace-result* is a *list* of *function names*.

untrace-result—*implementation-dependent*.

Description:

trace and **untrace** control the invocation of the trace facility.

Invoking **trace** with one or more *function-names* causes the denoted *functions* to be "traced." Whenever a traced *function* is invoked, information about the call, about the arguments passed, and about any eventually returned values is printed to *trace output*. If **trace** is used with no *function-names*, no tracing action is performed; instead, a list of the *functions* currently being traced is returned.

Invoking **untrace** with one or more function names causes those functions to be "untraced" (*i.e.*, no longer traced). If **untrace** is used with no *function-names*, all *functions* currently being traced are untraced.

If a *function* to be traced has been open-coded (*e.g.*, because it was declared **inline**), a call to that *function* might not produce trace output.

Examples:

```
 (defun fact (n) (if (zerop n) 1 (* n (fact (- n 1)))))
→ FACT
 (trace fact)
→ (FACT)
;; Of course, the format of traced output is implementation-dependent.
 (fact 3)
▷ 1 Enter FACT 3
▷ | 2 Enter FACT 2
▷ |   3 Enter FACT 1
▷ |   | 4 Enter FACT 0
▷ |   | 4 Exit FACT 1
▷ |   3 Exit FACT 1
▷ | 2 Exit FACT 2
```

```
▷ 1 Exit FACT 6
→ 6
```

Side Effects:

Might change the definitions of the *functions* named by *function-names*.

Affected By:

Whether the functions named are defined or already being traced.

Exceptional Situations:

Tracing an already traced function, or untracing a function not currently being traced, should produce no harmful effects, but might signal a warning.

See Also:

trace-output, **step**

Notes:

trace and **untrace** may also accept additional *implementation-dependent* argument formats. The format of the trace output is *implementation-dependent*.

Although **trace** can be extended to permit non-standard options, *implementations* are nevertheless encouraged (but not required) to warn about the use of syntax or options that are neither specified by this standard nor added as an extension by the *implementation*, since they could be symptomatic of typographical errors or of reliance on features supported in *implementations* other than the current *implementation*.

step *Macro*

Syntax:

step *form* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

results—the *values* returned by the *form*.

Description:

step implements a debugging paradigm wherein the programmer is allowed to *step* through the *evaluation* of a *form*. The specific nature of the interaction, including which I/O streams are used and whether the stepping has lexical or dynamic scope, is *implementation-defined*.

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step evaluates *form* in the current *environment*. A call to **step** can be compiled, but it is acceptable for an implementation to interactively step through only those parts of the computation that are interpreted.

It is technically permissible for a *conforming implementation* to take no action at all other than normal *execution* of the *form*. In such a situation, `(step form)` is equivalent to, for example, `(let () form)`. In implementations where this is the case, the associated documentation should mention that fact.

See Also:

trace

Notes:

Implementations are encouraged to respond to the typing of `?` or the pressing of a "help key" by providing help including a list of commands.

time *Macro*

Syntax:

time *form* → {*result*}*

Arguments and Values:

form—a *form*; evaluated as described below.

results—the *values* returned by the *form*.

Description:

time evaluates *form* in the current *environment* (lexical and dynamic). A call to **time** can be compiled.

time prints various timing data and other information to *trace output*. The nature and format of the printed information is *implementation-defined*. Implementations are encouraged to provide such information as elapsed real time, machine run time, and storage management statistics.

Affected By:

The accuracy of the results depends, among other things, on the accuracy of the corresponding functions provided by the underlying operating system.

The magnitude of the results may depend on the hardware, the operating system, the lisp implementation, and the state of the global environment. Some specific issues which frequently affect the outcome are hardware speed, nature of the scheduler (if any), number of competing processes (if any), system paging, whether the call is interpreted or compiled, whether functions called are compiled, the kind of garbage collector involved and whether it runs, whether internal data structures (e.g., hash tables) are implicitly reorganized, *etc.*

See Also:

get-internal-real-time, **get-internal-run-time**

Notes:

In general, these timings are not guaranteed to be reliable enough for marketing comparisons. Their value is primarily heuristic, for tuning purposes.

For useful background information on the complicated issues involved in interpreting timing results, see *Performance and Evaluation of Lisp Programs*.

internal-time-units-per-second *Constant Variable*

Constant Value:

A positive *integer*, the magnitude of which is *implementation-dependent*.

Description:

The number of *internal time units* in one second.

See Also:

get-internal-run-time, **get-internal-real-time**

Notes:

These units form the basis of the Internal Time format representation.

get-internal-real-time *Function*

Syntax:

get-internal-real-time ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *internal-time*

Arguments and Values:

internal-time—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

get-internal-real-time returns as an *integer* the current time in *internal time units*, relative to an arbitrary time base. The difference between the values of two calls to this function is the amount of elapsed real time (*i.e.*, clock time) between the two calls.

Affected By:

Time of day (*i.e.*, the passage of time). The time base affects the result magnitude.

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See Also:

internal-time-units-per-second

get-internal-run-time *Function*

Syntax:

get-internal-run-time ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *internal-time*

Arguments and Values:

internal-time—a non-negative *integer*.

Description:

Returns as an *integer* the current run time in *internal time units*. The precise meaning of this quantity is *implementation-defined*; it may measure real time, run time, CPU cycles, or some other quantity. The intent is that the difference between the values of two calls to this function be the amount of time between the two calls during which computational effort was expended on behalf of the executing program.

Affected By:

The *implementation*, the time of day (*i.e.*, the passage of time).

See Also:

internal-time-units-per-second

Notes:

Depending on the *implementation*, paging time and garbage collection time might be included in this measurement. Also, in a multitasking environment, it might not be possible to show the time for just the running process, so in some *implementations*, time taken by other processes during the same time interval might be included in this measurement as well.

disassemble *Function*

Syntax:

disassemble *fn* → **nil**

Arguments and Values:

fn—an *extended function designator* or a *lambda expression*.

Description:

The *function* **disassemble** is a debugging aid that composes symbolic instructions or expressions in some *implementation-dependent* language which represent the code used to produce the *function* which is or is named by the argument *fn*. The result is displayed to *standard output* in an *implementation-dependent* format.

If *fn* is a *lambda expression* or *interpreted function*, it is compiled first and the result is disassembled.

If the *fn designator* is a *function name*, the *function* that it *names* is disassembled. (If that *function* is an *interpreted function*, it is first compiled but the result of this implicit compilation is not installed.)

Examples:

```
(defun f (a) (1+ a)) → F
(eq (symbol-function 'f)
    (progn (disassemble 'f)
           (symbol-function 'f))) → true
```

Affected By:

standard-output.

Exceptional Situations:

Should signal an error of *type* **type-error** if *fn* is not an *extended function designator* or a *lambda expression*.

documentation, (setf documentation) *Standard Generic Function*

Syntax:

documentation *x doc-type* → *documentation*

(setf documentation) *new-value x doc-type* → *new-value*

Argument Precedence Order:

doc-type, *object*

Method Signatures:

Functions, Macros, and Special Forms:

documentation (*x* **function**) (*doc-type* `(eql 't)`)

documentation (*x* **function**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'function)`)

documentation (*x* **list**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'function)`)

documentation (*x* **list**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'compiler-macro)`)

documentation (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'function)`)

documentation (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'compiler-macro)`)

documentation (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'setf)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **function**) (*doc-type* `(eql 't)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **function**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'function)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **list**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'function)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **list**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'compiler-macro)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'function)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'compiler-macro)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'setf)`)

Method Combinations:

documentation (*x* **method-combination**) (*doc-type* `(eql 't)`)

documentation (*x* **method-combination**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'method-combination)`)

documentation (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'method-combination)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **method-combination**) (*doc-type* `(eql 't)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **method-combination**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'method-combination)`)

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* `(eql 'method-combination)`)

Methods:

documentation (*x* **standard-method**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **standard-method**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

Packages:

documentation (*x* **package**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **package**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

Types, Classes, and Structure Names:

documentation (*x* **standard-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

documentation (*x* **standard-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 'type))

documentation (*x* **structure-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

documentation (*x* **structure-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 'type))

documentation (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* (eql 'type))

documentation (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* (eql 'structure))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **standard-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **standard-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 'type))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **structure-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 't))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **structure-class**) (*doc-type* (eql 'type))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* (eql 'type))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* (eql 'structure))

Variables:

documentation (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* (eql 'variable))

(setf documentation) *new-value* (*x* **symbol**) (*doc-type* (eql 'variable))

Arguments and Values:

x—an *object*.

doc-type—a *symbol*.

documentation—a *string*, or **nil**.

new-value—a *string*.

Description:

The *generic function* **documentation** returns the *documentation string* associated with the given *object* if it is available; otherwise it returns **nil**.

The *generic function* (setf documentation) updates the *documentation string* associated with *x* to *new-value*. If *x* is a *list*, it must be of the form (setf *symbol*).

Documentation strings are made available for debugging purposes. *Conforming programs* are permitted to use *documentation strings* when they are present, but should not depend for their correct behavior on the presence of those *documentation strings*. An *implementation* is permitted to discard *documentation strings* at any time for *implementation-defined* reasons.

The nature of the *documentation string* returned depends on the *doc-type*, as follows:

compiler-macro

Returns the *documentation string* of the *compiler macro* whose *name* is the *function name* *x*.

function

If *x* is a *function name*, returns the *documentation string* of the *function*, *macro*, or *special operator* whose *name* is *x*.

If *x* is a *function*, returns the *documentation string* associated with *x*.

method-combination

If *x* is a *symbol*, returns the *documentation string* of the *method combination* whose *name* is *x*.

If *x* is a *method combination*, returns the *documentation string* associated with *x*.

setf

Returns the *documentation string* of the *setf expander* whose *name* is the *symbol* *x*.

structure

Returns the *documentation string* associated with the *structure name* *x*.

t

Returns a *documentation string* specialized on the *class* of the argument *x* itself. For example, if *x* is a *function*, the *documentation string* associated with the *function* *x* is returned.

type

If *x* is a *symbol*, returns the *documentation string* of the *class* whose *name* is the *symbol* *x*, if there is such a *class*. Otherwise, it returns the *documentation string* of the *type* which is the *type specifier symbol* *x*.

If *x* is a *structure class* or *standard class*, returns the *documentation string* associated with the *class* *x*.

variable

Returns the *documentation string* of the *dynamic variable* or *constant variable* whose *name* is the *symbol* *x*.

A *conforming implementation* or a *conforming program* may extend the set of *symbols* that are acceptable as the *doc-type*.

Notes:

This standard prescribes no means to retrieve the *documentation strings* for individual slots specified in a **defclass** form, but *implementations* might still provide debugging tools and/or programming language extensions which manipulate this information. Implementors wishing to provide such support are encouraged to consult the *Metaobject Protocol* for suggestions about how this might be done.

room *Function*

Syntax:

room `&optional` *x* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

x—one of **t**, **nil**, or `:default`.

Description:

room prints, to *standard output*, information about the state of internal storage and its management. This might include descriptions of the amount of memory in use and the degree of memory compaction, possibly broken down by internal data type if that is appropriate. The nature and format of the printed information is *implementation-dependent*. The intent is to provide information that a *programmer* might use to tune a *program* for a particular *implementation*.

`(room nil)` prints out a minimal amount of information. `(room t)` prints out a maximal amount of information. `(room)` or `(room :default)` prints out an intermediate amount of information that is likely to be useful.

Side Effects:

Output to *standard output*.

Affected By:

standard-output.

ed *Function*

Syntax:

ed `&optional` *x* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

x—**nil**, a *pathname*, a *string*, or a *function name*. The default is **nil**.

Description:

ed invokes the editor if the *implementation* provides a resident editor.

If *x* is **nil**, the editor is entered. If the editor had been previously entered, its prior state is resumed, if possible.

If *x* is a *pathname* or *string*, it is taken as the *pathname designator* for a *file* to be edited.

If *x* is a *function name*, the text of its definition is edited. The means by which the function text is obtained is *implementation-defined*.

Exceptional Situations:

The consequences are undefined if the *implementation* does not provide a resident editor.

Might signal **type-error** if its argument is supplied but is not a *symbol*, a *pathname*, or **nil**.

If a failure occurs when performing some operation on the *file system* while attempting to edit a *file*, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if *x* is a *designator* for a *wild pathname*.

Implementation-dependent additional conditions might be signaled as well.

See Also:

pathname, **logical-pathname**, **compile-file**, **load**, Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

inspect *Function*

Syntax:

inspect *object* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

object—an *object*.

Description:

inspect is an interactive version of **describe**. The nature of the interaction is *implementation-dependent*, but the purpose of **inspect** is to make it easy to wander through a data structure, examining and modifying parts of it.

Side Effects:

implementation-dependent.

Affected By:

implementation-dependent.

Exceptional Situations:

implementation-dependent.

See Also:

describe

Notes:

Implementations are encouraged to respond to the typing of `?` or a "help key" by providing help, including a list of commands.

dribble *Function*

Syntax:

dribble `&optional` *pathname* → *implementation-dependent*

Arguments and Values:

pathname—a *pathname designator*.

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Description:

Either *binds* ***standard-input*** and ***standard-output*** or takes other appropriate action, so as to send a record of the input/output interaction to a file named by *pathname*. **dribble** is intended to create a readable record of an interactive session.

If *pathname* is a *logical pathname*, it is translated into a physical pathname as if by calling **translate-logical-pathname**.

`(dribble)` terminates the recording of input and output and closes the dribble file.

If **dribble** is *called* while a *stream* to a "dribble file" is still open from a previous *call* to **dribble**, the effect is *implementation-defined*. For example, the already-*open stream* might be *closed*, or dribbling might occur both to the old *stream* and to a new one, or the old *stream* might stay open but not receive any further output, or the new request might be ignored, or some other action might be taken.

Affected By:

The *implementation*.

Exceptional Situations:

If a failure occurs when performing some operation on the *file system* while creating the dribble file, an error of *type* **file-error** is signaled.

An error of *type* **file-error** might be signaled if *pathname* is a *designator* for a *wild pathname*.

See Also:

Section 19.1.2 (Pathnames as Filenames)

Notes:

dribble can return before subsequent *forms* are executed. It also can enter a recursive interaction loop, returning only when `(dribble)` is done.

dribble is intended primarily for interactive debugging; its effect cannot be relied upon when used in a program.

— *Variable*

Value Type:

a *form*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *value* of - is the *form* that is currently being evaluated by the *Lisp read-eval-print loop*.

Examples:

```
(format t "~&Evaluating ~S~%" -)
▷ Evaluating (FORMAT T "~&Evaluating ~S~%" -)
→ NIL
```

Affected By:

Lisp read-eval-print loop.

See Also:

+ (*variable*), * (*variable*), / (*variable*), Section 25.1.1 (Top level loop)

+, ++, +++ *Variable*

Value Type:

an *object*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *variables* +, ++, and +++ are maintained by the *Lisp read-eval-print loop* to save *forms* that were recently *evaluated*.

The *value* of + is the last *form* that was *evaluated*, the *value* of ++ is the previous value of +, and the *value* of +++ is the previous value of ++.

Examples:

```
(+ 0 1) → 1
(- 4 2) → 2
(/ 9 3) → 3
(list + ++ +++) → ((/ 9 3) (- 4 2) (+ 0 1))
(setq a 1 b 2 c 3 d (list a b c)) → (1 2 3)
(setq a 4 b 5 c 6 d (list a b c)) → (4 5 6)
(list a b c) → (4 5 6)
(eval +++) → (1 2 3)
#.`(,@++ d) → (1 2 3 (1 2 3))
```

Affected By:

Lisp read-eval-print loop.

See Also:

- (*variable*), * (*variable*), / (*variable*), Section 25.1.1 (Top level loop)

*, **, *** *Variable*

Value Type:

an *object*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *variables* *, **, and *** are maintained by the *Lisp read-eval-print loop* to save the values of results that are printed each time through the loop.

The *value* of * is the most recent *primary value* that was printed, the *value* of ** is the previous value of *, and the *value* of *** is the previous value of **.

If several values are produced, * contains the first value only; * contains **nil** if zero values are produced.

The *values* of *, **, and *** are updated immediately prior to printing the *return value* of a top-level *form* by the *Lisp read-eval-print loop*. If the *evaluation* of such a *form* is aborted prior to its normal return, the values of *, **, and *** are not updated.

Examples:

```
(values 'a1 'a2) → A1, A2
'b → B
(values 'c1 'c2 'c3) → C1, C2, C3
(list * ** ***) → (C1 B A1)

(defun cube-root (x) (expt x 1/3)) → CUBE-ROOT
(compile *) → CUBE-ROOT
(setq a (cube-root 27.0)) → 3.0
(* * 9.0) → 27.0
```

Affected By:

Lisp read-eval-print loop.

See Also:

- (*variable*), + (*variable*), / (*variable*), Section 25.1.1 (Top level loop)

Notes:

```
*   ≡ (car /)
**  ≡ (car //)
*** ≡ (car ///)
```

/, //, /// *Variable*

Value Type:

a *proper list*.

Initial Value:

implementation-dependent.

Description:

The *variables* /, //, and /// are maintained by the *Lisp read-eval-print loop* to save the values of results that were printed at the end of the loop.

The *value* of / is a *list* of the most recent *values* that were printed, the *value* of // is the previous value of /, and the *value* of /// is the previous value of //.

The *values* of /, //, and /// are updated immediately prior to printing the *return value* of a top-level *form* by the *Lisp read-eval-print loop*. If the *evaluation* of such a *form* is aborted prior to its normal return, the values of /, //, and /// are not updated.

Examples:

```
(floor 22 7) → 3, 1
(+ (* (car /) 7) (cadr /)) → 22
```

Affected By:

Lisp read-eval-print loop.

See Also:

- (*variable*), + (*variable*), * (*variable*), Section 25.1.1 (Top level loop)

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lisp-implementation-type, lisp-implementation-version *Function*

Syntax:

lisp-implementation-type ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

lisp-implementation-version ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

Arguments and Values:

description—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

lisp-implementation-type and **lisp-implementation-version** identify the current implementation of Common Lisp.

lisp-implementation-type returns a *string* that identifies the generic name of the particular Common Lisp implementation.

lisp-implementation-version returns a *string* that identifies the version of the particular Common Lisp implementation.

If no appropriate and relevant result can be produced, **nil** is returned instead of a *string*.

Examples:

```
 (lisp-implementation-type)
→ "ACME Lisp"
or→ "Joe's Common Lisp"
 (lisp-implementation-version)
→ "1.3a"
→ "V2"
or→ "Release 17.3, ECO #6"
```

short-site-name, long-site-name *Function*

Syntax:

short-site-name ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

long-site-name ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

Arguments and Values:

description—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

short-site-name and **long-site-name** return a *string* that identifies the physical location of the computer hardware, or **nil** if no appropriate *description* can be produced.

Examples:

```
 (short-site-name)
→ "MIT AI Lab"
or→ "CMU-CSD"
 (long-site-name)
→ "MIT Artificial Intelligence Laboratory"
or→ "CMU Computer Science Department"
```

Affected By:

The implementation, the location of the computer hardware, and the installation/configuration process.

machine-instance *Function*

Syntax:

machine-instance ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

Arguments and Values:

description—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns a *string* that identifies the particular instance of the computer hardware on which Common Lisp is running, or **nil** if no such *string* can be computed.

Examples:

```
 (machine-instance)
→ "ACME.COM"
or→ "S/N 123231"
or→ "18.26.0.179"
or→ "AA-00-04-00-A7-A4"
```

Affected By:

The machine instance, and the *implementation*.

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See Also:

machine-type, **machine-version**

machine-type *Function*

Syntax:

machine-type ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

Arguments and Values:

description—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns a *string* that identifies the generic name of the computer hardware on which Common Lisp is running.

Examples:

```
 (machine-type)
→ "DEC PDP-10"
or→ "Symbolics LM-2"
```

Affected By:

The machine type. The implementation.

See Also:

machine-version

machine-version *Function*

Syntax:

machine-version ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

Arguments and Values:

description—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

Returns a *string* that identifies the version of the computer hardware on which Common Lisp is running, or **nil** if no such value can be computed.

Examples:

```
(machine-version) → "KL-10, microcode 9"
```

Affected By:

The machine version, and the *implementation*.

See Also:

machine-type, **machine-instance**

software-type, software-version *Function*

Syntax:

software-type ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

software-version ⟨*no arguments*⟩ → *description*

Arguments and Values:

description—a *string* or **nil**.

Description:

software-type returns a *string* that identifies the generic name of any relevant supporting software, or **nil** if no appropriate or relevant result can be produced.

software-version returns a *string* that identifies the version of any relevant supporting software, or **nil** if no appropriate or relevant result can be produced.

Examples:

```
(software-type) → "Multics"
(software-version) → "1.3x"
```

Affected By:

Operating system environment.

Notes:

This information should be of use to maintainers of the *implementation*.

user-homedir-pathname *Function*

Syntax:

user-homedir-pathname &optional *host* → *pathname*

Arguments and Values:

host—a *string*, a *list* of *strings*, or :unspecific.

pathname—a *pathname*, or **nil**.

Description:

user-homedir-pathname determines the *pathname* that corresponds to the user's home directory on *host*. If *host* is not supplied, its value is *implementation-dependent*. For a description of :unspecific, see Section 19.2.1 (Pathname Components).

The definition of home directory is *implementation-dependent*, but defined in Common Lisp to mean the directory where the user keeps personal files such as initialization files and mail.

user-homedir-pathname returns a *pathname* without any name, type, or version component (those components are all **nil**) for the user's home directory on *host*.

If it is impossible to determine the user's home directory on *host*, then **nil** is returned. **user-homedir-pathname** never returns **nil** if *host* is not supplied.

Examples:

```
(pathnamep (user-homedir-pathname)) → true
```

Affected By:

The host computer's file system, and the *implementation*.

Programming Language—Common Lisp

26. Glossary

26.1 Glossary

Each entry in this glossary has the following parts:

- the term being defined, set in boldface.
- optional pronunciation, enclosed in square brackets and set in boldface, as in the following example: [**ˈaˌlist**]. The pronunciation key follows *Webster's Third New International Dictionary the English Language, Unabridged*, except that "ϵ" is used to notate the schwa (upside-down "e") character.
- the part or parts of speech, set in italics. If a term can be used as several parts of speech, there is a separate definition for each part of speech.
- one or more definitions, organized as follows:
  - an optional number, present if there are several definitions. Lowercase letters might also be used in cases where subdefinitions of a numbered definition are necessary.
  - an optional part of speech, set in italics, present if the term is one of several parts of speech.
  - an optional discipline, set in italics, present if the term has a standard definition being repeated. For example, "*Math.*"
  - an optional context, present if this definition is meaningful only in that context. For example, "(of a *symbol*)".
  - the definition.
  - an optional example sentence. For example, "This is an example of an example."
  - optional cross references.

In addition, some terms have idiomatic usage in the Common Lisp community which is not shared by other communities, or which is not technically correct. Definitions labeled "*Idiom.*" represent such idiomatic usage; these definitions are sometimes followed by an explanatory note.

Words in *this font* are words with entries in the glossary. Words in example sentences do not follow this convention.

When an ambiguity arises, the longest matching substring has precedence. For example, "*complex float*" refers to a single glossary entry for "*complex float*" rather than the combined meaning of the glossary terms "*complex*" and "*float*."

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Subscript notation, as in "$something_n$" means that the *n*th definition of "*something*" is intended. This notation is used only in situations where the context might be insufficient to disambiguate.

The following are abbreviations used in the glossary:

Abbreviation	Meaning
adj.	adjective
adv.	adverb
ANSI	compatible with one or more ANSI standards
Comp.	computers
Idiom.	idiomatic
IEEE	compatible with one or more IEEE standards
ISO	compatible with one or more ISO standards
Math.	mathematics
Trad.	traditional
n.	noun
v.	verb
v.t.	transitive verb

Non-alphabetic

() [**ˈnil**], *n.* an alternative notation for writing the symbol **nil**, used to emphasize the use of *nil* as an *empty list*.

A

absolute *adj.* 1. (of a *time*) representing a specific point in time. 2. (of a *pathname*) representing a specific position in a directory hierarchy. See *relative*.

access *n.*, *v.t.* 1. *v.t.* (a *place*, or *array*) to $read_1$ or $write_1$ the *value* of the *place* or an *element* of the *array*. 2. *n.* (of a *place*) an attempt to $access_1$ the *value* of the *place*.

accessibility *n.* the state of being *accessible*.

accessible *adj.* 1. (of an *object*) capable of being *referenced*. 2. (of *shared slots* or *local slots* in an *instance* of a *class*) having been defined by the *class* of the *instance* or *inherited* from a *superclass* of that *class*. 3. (of a *symbol* in a *package*) capable of being *referenced* without a *package prefix* when that *package* is current, regardless of whether the *symbol* is *present* in that *package* or is *inherited*.

accessor *n.* an *operator* that performs an *access*. See *reader* and *writer*.

active *adj.* 1. (of a *handler*, a *restart*, or a *catch tag*) having been *established* but not yet *disestablished*. 2. (of an *element* of an *array*) having an index that is greater than or equal to zero, but less than the *fill pointer* (if any). For an *array* that has no *fill pointer*, all *elements* are considered *active*.

actual adjustability *n.* (of an *array*) a *generalized boolean* that is associated with the *array*, representing whether the *array* is *actually adjustable*. See also *expressed adjustability* and **adjustable-array-p**.

actual argument *n. Trad.* an *argument*.

actual array element type *n.* (of an *array*) the *type* for which the *array* is actually specialized, which is the *upgraded array element type* of the *expressed array element type* of the *array*. See the *function* **array-element-type**.

actual complex part type *n.* (of a *complex*) the *type* in which the real and imaginary parts of the *complex* are actually represented, which is the *upgraded complex part type* of the *expressed complex part type* of the *complex*.

actual parameter *n. Trad.* an *argument*.

actually adjustable *adj.* (of an *array*) such that **adjust-array** can adjust its characteristics by direct modification. A *conforming program* may depend on an *array* being *actually adjustable* only if either that *array* is known to have been *expressly adjustable* or if that *array* has been explicitly tested by **adjustable-array-p**.

adjustability *n.* (of an *array*) 1. *expressed adjustability*. 2. *actual adjustability*.

adjustable *adj.* (of an *array*) 1. *expressly adjustable*. 2. *actually adjustable*.

after method *n.* a *method* having the *qualifier* `:after`.

alist [ˈā,list], *n.* an *association list*.

alphabetic *n., adj.* 1. *adj.* (of a *character*) being one of the *standard characters* `A` through `Z` or `a` through `z`, or being any *implementation-defined* character that has *case*, or being some other *graphic character* defined by the *implementation* to be *alphabetic*$_1$. 2. a. *n.* one of several possible *constituent traits* of a *character*. For details, see Section 2.1.4.1 (Constituent Characters) and Section 2.2 (Reader Algorithm). b. *adj.* (of a *character*) being a *character* that has *syntax type constituent* in the *current readtable* and that has the *constituent trait alphabetic*$_{2a}$. See Figure 2–8.

alphanumeric *adj.* (of a *character*) being either an *alphabetic*$_1$ *character* or a *numeric* character.

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ampersand *n.* the *standard character* that is called "ampersand" (`&`). See Figure 2–5.

anonymous *adj.* 1. (of a *class* or *function*) having no *name* 2. (of a *restart*) having a *name* of **nil**.

apparently uninterned *adj.* having a *home package* of **nil**. (An *apparently uninterned symbol* might or might not be an *uninterned symbol*. *Uninterned symbols* have a *home package* of **nil**, but *symbols* which have been *uninterned* from their *home package* also have a *home package* of **nil**, even though they might still be *interned* in some other *package*.)

applicable *adj.* 1. (of a *handler*) being an *applicable handler*. 2. (of a *method*) being an *applicable method*. 3. (of a *restart*) being an *applicable restart*.

applicable handler *n.* (for a *condition* being *signaled*) an *active handler* for which the associated type contains the *condition*.

applicable method *n.* (of a *generic function* called with *arguments*) a *method* of the *generic function* for which the *arguments* satisfy the *parameter specializers* of that *method*. See Section 7.6.6.1.1 (Selecting the Applicable Methods).

applicable restart *n.* 1. (for a *condition*) an *active handler* for which the associated test returns *true* when given the *condition* as an argument. 2. (for no particular *condition*) an *active handler* for which the associated test returns *true* when given **nil** as an argument.

apply *v.t.* (a *function* to a *list*) to *call* the *function* with arguments that are the *elements* of the *list*. "Applying the function **+** to a list of integers returns the sum of the elements of that list."

argument *n.* 1. (of a *function*) an *object* which is offered as data to the *function* when it is *called*. 2. (of a *format control*) a *format argument*.

argument evaluation order *n.* the order in which *arguments* are evaluated in a function call. "The argument evaluation order for Common Lisp is left to right." See Section 3.1 (Evaluation).

argument precedence order *n.* the order in which the *arguments* to a *generic function* are considered when sorting the *applicable methods* into precedence order.

around method *n.* a *method* having the *qualifier* `:around`.

array *n.* an *object* of *type* **array**, which serves as a container for other *objects* arranged in a Cartesian coordinate system.

array element type *n.* (of an *array*) 1. a *type* associated with the *array*, and of which all *elements* of the *array* are constrained to be members. 2. the *actual array element type* of the *array*. 3. the *expressed array element type* of the *array*.

array total size *n.* the total number of *elements* in an *array*, computed by taking the product of the *dimensions* of the *array*. (The size of a zero-dimensional *array* is therefore one.)

assign *v.t.* (a *variable*) to change the *value* of the *variable* in a *binding* that has already been *established*. See the *special operator* **setq**.

association list *n.* a *list* of *conses* representing an association of *keys* with *values*, where the *car* of each *cons* is the *key* and the *cdr* is the *value* associated with that *key*.

asterisk *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "asterisk" or "star" (`*`). See Figure 2–5.

at-sign *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "commercial at" or "at sign" (`@`). See Figure 2–5.

atom *n.* any *object* that is not a *cons*. "A vector is an atom."

atomic *adj.* being an *atom*. "The number 3, the symbol `foo`, and **nil** are atomic."

atomic type specifier *n.* a *type specifier* that is *atomic*. For every *atomic type specifier*, *x*, there is an equivalent *compound type specifier* with no arguments supplied, (*x*).

attribute *n.* (of a *character*) a program-visible aspect of the *character*. The only *standardized attribute* of a *character* is its *code*$_2$, but *implementations* are permitted to have additional *implementation-defined attributes*. See Section 13.1.3 (Character Attributes). "An implementation that support fonts might make font information an attribute of a character, while others might represent font information separately from characters."

aux variable *n.* a *variable* that occurs in the part of a *lambda list* that was introduced by **&aux**. Unlike all other *variables* introduced by a *lambda-list*, *aux variables* are not *parameters*.

auxiliary method *n.* a member of one of two sets of *methods* (the set of *primary methods* is the other) that form an exhaustive partition of the set of *methods* on the *method*'s *generic function*. How these sets are determined is dependent on the *method combination* type; see Section 7.6.2 (Introduction to Methods).

B

backquote *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "grave accent" or "backquote" (`` ` ``). See Figure 2–5.

backslash *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "reverse solidus" or "backslash" (`\`). See Figure 2–5.

base character *n.* a *character* of *type* **base-char**.

base string *n.* a *string* of *type* **base-string**.

before method *n.* a *method* having the *qualifier* `:before`.

bidirectional *adj.* (of a *stream*) being both an *input stream* and an *output stream*.

binary *adj.* 1. (of a *stream*) being a *stream* that has an *element type* that is a *subtype* of *type* **integer**. The most fundamental operation on a *binary input stream* is **read-byte** and on a *binary output stream* is **write-byte**. See *character*. 2. (of a *file*) having been created by opening a *binary stream*. (It is *implementation-dependent* whether this is an detectable aspect of the *file*, or whether any given *character file* can be treated as a *binary file*.)

bind *v.t.* (a *variable*) to establish a *binding* for the *variable*.

binding *n.* an association between a *name* and that which the *name* denotes. "A lexical binding is a lexical association between a name and its value." When the term *binding* is qualified by the name of a *namespace*, such as "variable" or "function," it restricts the binding to the indicated namespace, as in: "**let** establishes variable bindings." or "**let** establishes bindings of variables."

bit *n.* an *object* of *type* **bit**; that is, the *integer* `0` or the *integer* `1`.

bit array *n.* a specialized *array* that is of *type* `(array bit)`, and whose elements are of *type* **bit**.

bit vector *n.* a specialized *vector* that is of *type* **bit-vector**, and whose elements are of *type* **bit**.

bit-wise logical operation specifier *n.* an *object* which names one of the sixteen possible bit-wise logical operations that can be performed by the **boole** function, and which is the *value* of exactly one of the *constant variables* **boole-clr**, **boole-set**, **boole-1**, **boole-2**, **boole-c1**, **boole-c2**, **boole-and**, **boole-ior**, **boole-xor**, **boole-eqv**, **boole-nand**, **boole-nor**, **boole-andc1**, **boole-andc2**, **boole-orc1**, or **boole-orc2**.

block *n.* a named lexical *exit point*, *established* explicitly by **block** or implicitly by *operators* such as **loop**, **do** and **prog**, to which control and values may be transfered by using a **return-from** *form* with the name of the *block*.

block tag *n.* the *symbol* that, within the *lexical scope* of a **block** *form*, names the *block established* by that **block** *form*. See **return** or **return-from**.

boa lambda list *n.* a *lambda list* that is syntactically like an *ordinary lambda list*, but that is processed in "**b**y **o**rder of **a**rgument" style. See Section 3.4.6 (Boa Lambda Lists).

body parameter *n.* a *parameter* available in certain *lambda lists* which from the point of view of *conforming programs* is like a *rest parameter* in every way except that it is introduced by **&body** instead of **&rest**. (*Implementations* are permitted to provide extensions which distinguish *body parameters* and *rest parameters*—*e.g.*, the *forms* for *operators* which were defined using a *body parameter* might be pretty printed slightly differently than *forms* for *operators* which were defined using *rest parameters*.)

boolean *n.* an *object* of *type* **boolean**; that is, one of the following *objects*: the symbol **t** (representing *true*), or the symbol **nil** (representing *false*). See *generalized boolean*.

boolean equivalent *n.* (of an *object* O_1) any *object* O_2 that has the same truth value as O_1 when both O_1 and O_2 are viewed as *generalized booleans*.

bound *adj.*, *v.t.* 1. *adj.* having an associated denotation in a *binding*. "The variables named by a **let** are bound within its body." See *unbound*. 2. *adj.* having a local *binding* which *shadows*$_2$ another. "The variable ***print-escape*** is bound while in the **princ** function." 3. *v.t.* the past tense of *bind*.

bound declaration *n.* a *declaration* that refers to or is associated with a *variable* or *function* and that appears within the *special form* that *establishes* the *variable* or *function*, but before the body of that *special form* (specifically, at the head of that *form*'s body). (If a *bound declaration* refers to a *function binding* or a *lexical variable binding*, the *scope* of the *declaration* is exactly the *scope* of that *binding*. If the *declaration* refers to a *dynamic variable binding*, the *scope* of the *declaration* is what the *scope* of the *binding* would have been if it were lexical rather than dynamic.)

bounded *adj.* (of a *sequence* S, by an ordered pair of *bounding indices* i_{start} and i_{end}) restricted to a subrange of the *elements* of S that includes each *element* beginning with (and including) the one indexed by i_{start} and continuing up to (but not including) the one indexed by i_{end}.

bounding index *n.* (of a *sequence* with *length* n) either of a conceptual pair of *integers*, i_{start} and i_{end}, respectively called the "lower bounding index" and "upper

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bounding index", such that $0 \le i_{start} \le i_{end} \le n$, and which therefore delimit a subrange of the *sequence bounded* by i_{start} and i_{end}.

bounding index designator (for a *sequence*) one of two *objects* that, taken together as an ordered pair, behave as a *designator* for *bounding indices* of the *sequence*; that is, they denote *bounding indices* of the *sequence*, and are either: an *integer* (denoting itself) and **nil** (denoting the *length* of the *sequence*), or two *integers* (each denoting themselves).

break loop *n.* A variant of the normal *Lisp read-eval-print loop* that is recursively entered, usually because the ongoing *evaluation* of some other *form* has been suspended for the purpose of debugging. Often, a *break loop* provides the ability to exit in such a way as to continue the suspended computation. See the *function* **break**.

broadcast stream *n.* an *output stream* of *type* **broadcast-stream**.

built-in class *n.* a *class* that is a *generalized instance* of *class* **built-in-class**.

built-in type *n.* one of the *types* in Figure 4–2.

byte *n.* 1. adjacent bits within an *integer*. (The specific number of bits can vary from point to point in the program; see the *function* **byte**.) 2. an integer in a specified range. (The specific range can vary from point to point in the program; see the *functions* **open** and **write-byte**.)

byte specifier *n.* An *object* of *implementation-dependent* nature that is returned by the *function* **byte** and that specifies the range of bits in an *integer* to be used as a *byte* by *functions* such as **ldb**.

C

cadr [ˈkaˌdər], *n.* (of an *object*) the *car* of the *cdr* of that *object*.

call *v.t.*, *n.* 1. *v.t.* (a *function* with *arguments*) to cause the *code* represented by that *function* to be *executed* in an *environment* where *bindings* for the *values* of its *parameters* have been *established* based on the *arguments*. "Calling the function **+** with the arguments `5` and `1` yields a value of `6`." 2. *n.* a *situation* in which a *function* is called.

captured initialization form *n.* an *initialization form* along with the *lexical environment* in which the *form* that defined the *initialization form* was *evaluated*. "Each newly added shared slot is set to the result of evaluating the captured initialization form for the slot that was specified in the **defclass** form for the new class."

car *n.* 1. a. (of a *cons*) the component of a *cons* corresponding to the first *argument* to **cons**; the other component is the *cdr*. "The function **rplaca** modifies the car of a cons." b. (of a *list*) the first *element* of the *list*, or **nil** if the *list* is the *empty list*. 2. the *object* that is held in the car_1. "The function **car** returns the car of a cons."

case *n.* (of a *character*) the property of being either *uppercase* or *lowercase*. Not all *characters* have *case*. "The characters `#\A` and `#\a` have case, but the character `#\$` has no case." See Section 13.1.4.3 (Characters With Case) and the *function* **both-case-p**.

case sensitivity mode *n.* one of the *symbols* `:upcase`, `:downcase`, `:preserve`, or `:invert`.

catch *n.* an *exit point* which is *established* by a **catch** *form* within the *dynamic scope* of its body, which is named by a *catch tag*, and to which control and *values* may be *thrown*.

catch tag *n.* an *object* which names an *active catch*. (If more than one *catch* is active with the same *catch tag*, it is only possible to *throw* to the innermost such *catch* because the outer one is $shadowed_2$.)

cddr [**ˈkůdϵˌdϵr**] or [**ˈkϵˌdůdϵr**], *n.* (of an *object*) the *cdr* of the *cdr* of that *object*.

cdr [**ˈkůˌdϵr**], *n.* 1. a. (of a *cons*) the component of a *cons* corresponding to the second *argument* to **cons**; the other component is the *car*. "The function **rplacd** modifies the cdr of a cons." b. (of a *list* L_1) either the *list* L_2 that contains the *elements* of L_1 that follow after the first, or else **nil** if L_1 is the *empty list*. 2. the *object* that is held in the cdr_1. "The function **cdr** returns the cdr of a cons."

cell *n.* *Trad.* (of an *object*) a conceptual *slot* of that *object*. The *dynamic variable* and global *function bindings* of a *symbol* are sometimes referred to as its *value cell* and *function cell*, respectively.

character *n.*, *adj.* 1. *n.* an *object* of *type* **character**; that is, an *object* that represents a unitary token in an aggregate quantity of text; see Section 13.1 (Character Concepts). 2. *adj.* a. (of a *stream*) having an *element type* that is a *subtype* of *type* **character**. The most fundamental operation on a *character input stream* is **read-char** and on a *character output stream* is **write-char**. See *binary*. b. (of a *file*) having been created by opening a *character stream*. (It is *implementation-dependent* whether this is an inspectable aspect of the *file*, or whether any given *binary file* can be treated as a *character file*.)

character code *n.* 1. one of possibly several *attributes* of a *character*. 2. a non-negative *integer* less than the *value* of **char-code-limit** that is suitable for use as a $character\ code_1$.

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character designator *n.* a *designator* for a *character*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *character* and that is one of: a *designator* for a *string* of *length* one (denoting the *character* that is its only *element*), or a *character* (denoting itself).

circular *adj.* 1. (of a *list*) a *circular list*. 2. (of an arbitrary *object*) having a *component*, *element*, $constituent_2$, or *subexpression* (as appropriate to the context) that is the *object* itself.

circular list *n.* a chain of *conses* that has no termination because some *cons* in the chain is the *cdr* of a later *cons*.

class *n.* 1. an *object* that uniquely determines the structure and behavior of a set of other *objects* called its *direct instances*, that contributes structure and behavior to a set of other *objects* called its *indirect instances*, and that acts as a *type specifier* for a set of objects called its *generalized instances*. "The class **integer** is a subclass of the class **number**." (Note that the phrase "the *class* `foo`" is often substituted for the more precise phrase "the *class* named `foo`"—in both cases, a *class object* (not a *symbol*) is denoted.) 2. (of an *object*) the uniquely determined *class* of which the *object* is a *direct instance*. See the *function* **class-of**. "The class of the object returned by **gensym** is **symbol**." (Note that with this usage a phrase such as "its *class* is `foo`" is often substituted for the more precise phrase "its *class* is the *class* named `foo`"—in both cases, a *class object* (not a *symbol*) is denoted.)

class designator *n.* a *designator* for a *class*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *class* and that is one of: a *symbol* (denoting the *class* named by that *symbol*; see the *function* **find-class**) or a *class* (denoting itself).

class precedence list *n.* a unique total ordering on a *class* and its *superclasses* that is consistent with the *local precedence orders* for the *class* and its *superclasses*. For detailed information, see Section 4.3.5 (Determining the Class Precedence List).

close *v.t.* (a *stream*) to terminate usage of the *stream* as a source or sink of data, permitting the *implementation* to reclaim its internal data structures, and to free any external resources which might have been locked by the *stream* when it was opened.

closed *adj.* (of a *stream*) having been *closed* (see close). Some (but not all) operations that are valid on *open streams* are not valid on *closed streams*. See Section 21.1.1.1.2 (Open and Closed Streams).

closure *n.* a *lexical closure*.

coalesce *v.t.* (*literal objects* that are *similar*) to consolidate the identity of those *objects*, such that they become the *same object*. See Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology).

code *n.* 1. *Trad.* any representation of actions to be performed, whether conceptual or as an actual *object*, such as *forms*, *lambda expressions*, *objects* of *type* *function*, text in a *source file*, or instruction sequences in a *compiled file*. This is a generic term; the specific nature of the representation depends on its context. 2. (of a *character*) a *character code*.

coerce *v.t.* (an *object* to a *type*) to produce an *object* from the given *object*, without modifying that *object*, by following some set of coercion rules that must be specifically stated for any context in which this term is used. The resulting *object* is necessarily of the indicated *type*, except when that type is a *subtype* of *type* **complex**; in that case, if a *complex rational* with an imaginary part of zero would result, the result is a *rational* rather than a *complex*—see Section 12.1.5.3 (Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals).

colon *n.* the *standard character* that is called "colon" (:). See Figure 2–5.

comma *n.* the *standard character* that is called "comma" (,). See Figure 2–5.

compilation *n.* the process of *compiling code* by the *compiler*.

compilation environment *n.* 1. An *environment* that represents information known by the *compiler* about a *form* that is being *compiled*. See Section 3.2.1 (Compiler Terminology). 2. An *object* that represents the *compilation environment*$_1$ and that is used as a second argument to a *macro function* (which supplies a *value* for any **&environment** *parameter* in the *macro function*'s definition).

compilation unit *n.* an interval during which a single unit of compilation is occurring. See the *macro* **with-compilation-unit**.

compile *v.t.* 1. (*code*) to perform semantic preprocessing of the *code*, usually optimizing one or more qualities of the code, such as run-time speed of *execution* or run-time storage usage. The minimum semantic requirements of compilation are that it must remove all macro calls and arrange for all *load time values* to be resolved prior to run time. 2. (a *function*) to produce a new *object* of *type* **compiled-function** which represents the result of *compiling* the *code* represented by the *function*. See the *function* **compile**. 3. (a *source file*) to produce a *compiled file* from a *source file*. See the *function* **compile-file**.

compile time *n.* the duration of time that the *compiler* is processing *source code*.

compile-time definition *n.* a definition in the *compilation environment*.

compiled code *n.* 1. *compiled functions*. 2. *code* that represents *compiled functions*, such as the contents of a *compiled file*.

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compiled file *n.* a *file* which represents the results of *compiling* the *forms* which appeared in a corresponding *source file*, and which can be *loaded*. See the *function* **compile-file**.

compiled function *n.* an *object* of *type* **compiled-function**, which is a *function* that has been *compiled*, which contains no references to *macros* that must be expanded at run time, and which contains no unresolved references to *load time values*.

compiler *n.* a facility that is part of Lisp and that translates *code* into an *implementation-dependent* form that might be represented or *executed* efficiently. The functions **compile** and **compile-file** permit programs to invoke the *compiler*.

compiler macro *n.* an auxiliary macro definition for a globally defined *function* or *macro* which might or might not be called by any given *conforming implementation* and which must preserve the semantics of the globally defined *function* or *macro* but which might perform some additional optimizations. (Unlike a *macro*, a *compiler macro* does not extend the syntax of Common Lisp; rather, it provides an alternate implementation strategy for some existing syntax or functionality.)

compiler macro expansion *n.* 1. the process of translating a *form* into another *form* by a *compiler macro*. 2. the *form* resulting from this process.

compiler macro form *n.* a *function form* or *macro form* whose *operator* has a definition as a *compiler macro*, or a **funcall** *form* whose first *argument* is a **function** *form* whose *argument* is the *name* of a *function* that has a definition as a *compiler macro*.

compiler macro function *n.* a *function* of two arguments, a *form* and an *environment*, that implements *compiler macro expansion* by producing either a *form* to be used in place of the original argument *form* or else **nil**, indicating that the original *form* should not be replaced. See Section 3.2.2.1 (Compiler Macros).

complex *n.* an *object* of *type* **complex**.

complex float *n.* an *object* of *type* **complex** which has a *complex part type* that is a *subtype* of **float**. A *complex float* is a *complex*, but it is not a *float*.

complex part type *n.* (of a *complex*) 1. the *type* which is used to represent both the real part and the imaginary part of the *complex*. 2. the *actual complex part type* of the *complex*. 3. the *expressed complex part type* of the *complex*.

complex rational *n.* an *object* of *type* **complex** which has a *complex part type* that is a *subtype* of **rational**. A *complex rational* is a *complex*, but it is not a *rational*. No *complex rational* has an imaginary part of zero because such a number is always represented by Common Lisp as an *object* of *type* **rational**; see Section 12.1.5.3 (Rule of Canonical Representation for Complex Rationals).

complex single float *n.* an *object* of *type* **complex** which has a *complex part type* that is a *subtype* of **single-float**. A *complex single float* is a *complex*, but it is not a *single float*.

composite stream *n.* a *stream* that is composed of one or more other *streams*. "**make-synonym-stream** creates a composite stream."

compound form *n.* a *non-empty list* which is a *form*: a *special form*, a *lambda form*, a *macro form*, or a *function form*.

compound type specifier *n.* a *type specifier* that is a *cons*; *i.e.*, a *type specifier* that is not an *atomic type specifier*. "`(vector single-float)` is a compound type specifier."

concatenated stream *n.* an *input stream* of *type* **concatenated-stream**.

condition *n.* 1. an *object* which represents a *situation*—usually, but not necessarily, during *signaling*. 2. an *object* of *type* **condition**.

condition designator *n.* one or more *objects* that, taken together, denote either an existing *condition object* or a *condition object* to be implicitly created. For details, see Section 9.1.2.1 (Condition Designators).

condition handler *n.* a *function* that might be invoked by the act of *signaling*, that receives the *condition* being signaled as its only argument, and that is permitted to *handle* the *condition* or to *decline*. See Section 9.1.4.1 (Signaling).

condition reporter *n.* a *function* that describes how a *condition* is to be printed when the *Lisp printer* is invoked while ***print-escape*** is *false*. See Section 9.1.3 (Printing Conditions).

conditional newline *n.* a point in output where a *newline* might be inserted at the discretion of the *pretty printer*. There are four kinds of *conditional newlines*, called "linear-style," "fill-style," "miser-style," and "mandatory-style." See the *function* **pprint-newline** and Section 22.2.1.1 (Dynamic Control of the Arrangement of Output).

conformance *n.* a state achieved by proper and complete adherence to the requirements of this specification. See Section 1.5 (Conformance).

conforming code *n.* *code* that is all of part of a *conforming program*.

conforming implementation *n.* an *implementation*, used to emphasize complete and correct adherance to all conformance criteria. A *conforming implementation* is

capable of accepting a *conforming program* as input, preparing that *program* for *execution*, and executing the prepared *program* in accordance with this specification. An *implementation* which has been extended may still be a *conforming implementation* provided that no extension interferes with the correct function of any *conforming program*.

conforming processor *n. ANSI* a *conforming implementation*.

conforming program *n.* a *program*, used to emphasize the fact that the *program* depends for its correctness only upon documented aspects of Common Lisp, and can therefore be expected to run correctly in any *conforming implementation*.

congruent *n.* conforming to the rules of *lambda list* congruency, as detailed in Section 7.6.4 (Congruent Lambda-lists for all Methods of a Generic Function).

cons *n.v.* 1. *n.* a compound data *object* having two components called the *car* and the *cdr*. 2. *v.* to create such an *object*. 3. *v. Idiom.* to create any *object*, or to allocate storage.

constant *n.* 1. a *constant form*. 2. a *constant variable*. 3. a *constant object*. 4. a *self-evaluating object*.

constant form *n.* any *form* for which *evaluation* always *yields* the same *value*, that neither affects nor is affected by the *environment* in which it is *evaluated* (except that it is permitted to refer to the names of *constant variables* defined in the *environment*), and that neither affects nor is affected by the state of any *object* except those *objects* that are *otherwise inaccessible parts* of *objects* created by the *form* itself. "A **car** form in which the argument is a **quote** form is a constant form."

constant object *n.* an *object* that is constrained (*e.g.*, by its context in a *program* or by the source from which it was obtained) to be *immutable*. "A literal object that has been processed by **compile-file** is a constant object."

constant variable *n.* a *variable*, the *value* of which can never change; that is, a *keyword*$_1$ or a *named constant*. "The symbols **t**, **nil**, `:direction`, and **most-positive-fixnum** are constant variables."

constituent *n.*, *adj.* 1. a. *n.* the *syntax type* of a *character* that is part of a *token*. For details, see Section 2.1.4.1 (Constituent Characters). b. *adj.* (of a *character*) having the *constituent*$_{1a}$ *syntax type*$_2$. c. *n.* a *constituent*$_{1b}$ *character*. 2. *n.* (of a *composite stream*) one of possibly several *objects* that collectively comprise the source or sink of that *stream*.

constituent trait *n.* (of a *character*) one of several classifications of a *constituent character* in a *readtable*. See Section 2.1.4.1 (Constituent Characters).

constructed stream *n.* a *stream* whose source or sink is a Lisp *object*. Note that since a *stream* is another Lisp *object*, *composite streams* are considered *constructed streams*. "A string stream is a constructed stream."

contagion *n.* a process whereby operations on *objects* of differing *types* (*e.g.*, arithmetic on mixed *types* of *numbers*) produce a result whose *type* is controlled by the dominance of one *argument*'s *type* over the *types* of the other *arguments*. See Section 12.1.1.2 (Contagion in Numeric Operations).

continuable *n.* (of an *error*) an *error* that is *correctable* by the `continue` restart.

control form *n.* 1. a *form* that establishes one or more places to which control can be transferred. 2. a *form* that transfers control.

copy *n.* 1. (of a *cons* C) a *fresh cons* with the *same car* and *cdr* as C. 2. (of a *list* L) a *fresh list* with the *same elements* as L. (Only the *list structure* is *fresh*; the *elements* are the *same*.) See the *function* **copy-list**. 3. (of an *association list* A with *elements* A_i) a *fresh list* B with *elements* B_i, each of which is **nil** if A_i is **nil**, or else a *copy* of the *cons* A_i. See the *function* **copy-alist**. 4. (of a *tree* T) a *fresh tree* with the *same leaves* as T. See the *function* **copy-tree**. 5. (of a *random state* R) a *fresh random state* that, if used as an argument to to the *function* **random** would produce the same series of "random" values as R would produce. 6. (of a *structure* S) a *fresh structure* that has the same *type* as S, and that has slot values, each of which is the *same* as the corresponding slot value of S. (Note that since the difference between a *cons*, a *list*, and a *tree* is a matter of "view" or "intention," there can be no general-purpose *function* which, based solely on the *type* of an *object*, can determine which of these distinct meanings is intended. The distinction rests solely on the basis of the text description within this document. For example, phrases like "a *copy* of the given *list*" or "copy of the *list* *x*" imply the second definition.)

correctable *adj.* (of an *error*) 1. (by a *restart* other than **abort** that has been associated with the *error*) capable of being corrected by invoking that *restart*. "The function **cerror** signals an error that is correctable by the **continue** *restart*." (Note that correctability is not a property of an *error object*, but rather a property of the *dynamic environment* that is in effect when the *error* is *signaled*. Specifically, the *restart* is "associated with" the *error condition object*. See Section 9.1.4.2.4 (Associating a Restart with a Condition).) 2. (when no specific *restart* is mentioned) $correctable_1$ by at least one *restart*. "**import** signals a correctable error of *type* **package-error** if any of the imported symbols has the same name as some distinct symbol already accessible in the package."

current input base *n.* (in a *dynamic environment*) the *radix* that is the *value* of ***read-base*** in that *environment*, and that is the default *radix* employed by the *Lisp reader* and its related *functions*.

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current logical block *n.* the context of the innermost lexically enclosing use of **pprint-logical-block**.

current output base *n.* (in a *dynamic environment*) the *radix* that is the *value* of ***print-base*** in that *environment*, and that is the default *radix* employed by the *Lisp printer* and its related *functions*.

current package *n.* (in a *dynamic environment*) the *package* that is the *value* of ***package*** in that *environment*, and that is the default *package* employed by the *Lisp reader* and *Lisp printer*, and their related *functions*.

current pprint dispatch table *n.* (in a *dynamic environment*) the *pprint dispatch table* that is the *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch*** in that *environment*, and that is the default *pprint dispatch table* employed by the *pretty printer*.

current random state *n.* (in a *dynamic environment*) the *random state* that is the *value* of ***random-state*** in that *environment*, and that is the default *random state* employed by **random**.

current readtable *n.* (in a *dynamic environment*) the *readtable* that is the *value* of ***readtable*** in that *environment*, and that affects the way in which $expressions_2$ are parsed into *objects* by the *Lisp reader*.

D

data type *n.* *Trad.* a *type*.

debug I/O *n.* the *bidirectional stream* that is the *value* of the *variable* ***debug-io***.

debugger *n.* a facility that allows the *user* to handle a *condition* interactively. For example, the *debugger* might permit interactive selection of a *restart* from among the *active restarts*, and it might perform additional *implementation-defined* services for the purposes of debugging.

declaration *n.* a *global declaration* or *local declaration*.

declaration identifier *n.* one of the *symbols* **declaration**, **dynamic-extent**, **ftype**, **function**, **ignore**, **inline**, **notinline**, **optimize**, **special**, or **type**; or a *symbol* which is the *name* of a *type*; or a *symbol* which has been *declared* to be a *declaration identifier* by using a **declaration** *declaration*.

declaration specifier *n.* an *expression* that can appear at top level of a **declare** expression or a **declaim** form, or as the argument to **proclaim**, and which has a *car* which is a *declaration identifier*, and which has a *cdr* that is data interpreted according to rules specific to the *declaration identifier*.

declare *v.* to *establish* a *declaration*. See **declare**, **declaim**, or **proclaim**.

decline *v.* (of a *handler*) to return normally without having *handled* the *condition* being *signaled*, permitting the signaling process to continue as if the *handler* had not been present.

decoded time *n. absolute time*, represented as an ordered series of nine *objects* which, taken together, form a description of a point in calendar time, accurate to the nearest second (except that *leap seconds* are ignored). See Section 25.1.4.1 (Decoded Time).

default method *n.* a *method* having no *parameter specializers* other than the *class* **t**. Such a *method* is always an *applicable method* but might be *shadowed*$_2$ by a more specific *method*.

defaulted initialization argument list *n.* a *list* of alternating initialization argument *names* and *values* in which unsupplied initialization arguments are defaulted, used in the protocol for initializing and reinitializing *instances* of *classes*.

define-method-combination arguments lambda list *n.* a *lambda list* used by the `:arguments` option to **define-method-combination**. See Section 3.4.10 (Define-method-combination Arguments Lambda Lists).

define-modify-macro lambda list *n.* a *lambda list* used by **define-modify-macro**. See Section 3.4.9 (Define-modify-macro Lambda Lists).

defined name *n.* a *symbol* the meaning of which is defined by Common Lisp.

defining form *n.* a *form* that has the side-effect of *establishing* a definition. "**defun** and **defparameter** are defining forms."

defsetf lambda list *n.* a *lambda list* that is like an *ordinary lambda list* except that it does not permit **&aux** and that it permits use of **&environment**. See Section 3.4.7 (Defsetf Lambda Lists).

deftype lambda list *n.* a *lambda list* that is like a *macro lambda list* except that the default *value* for unsupplied *optional parameters* and *keyword parameters* is the *symbol* * (rather than **nil**). See Section 3.4.8 (Deftype Lambda Lists).

denormalized *adj.*, *ANSI*, *IEEE* (of a *float*) conforming to the description of "denormalized" as described by *IEEE Standard for Binary Floating-Point Arithmetic*. For example, in an *implementation* where the minimum possible exponent was `-7` but where `0.001` was a valid mantissa, the number `1.0e-10` might be representable as `0.001e-7` internally even if the *normalized* representation would call for it to be represented instead as `1.0e-10` or `0.1e-9`. By their nature, *denormalized floats* generally have less precision than *normalized floats*.

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derived type *n.* a *type specifier* which is defined in terms of an expansion into another *type specifier*. **deftype** defines *derived types*, and there may be other *implementation-defined operators* which do so as well.

derived type specifier *n.* a *type specifier* for a *derived type*.

designator *n.* an *object* that denotes another *object*. In the dictionary entry for an *operator* if a *parameter* is described as a *designator* for a *type*, the description of the *operator* is written in a way that assumes that appropriate coercion to that *type* has already occurred; that is, that the *parameter* is already of the denoted *type*. For more detailed information, see Section 1.4.1.5 (Designators).

destructive *adj.* (of an *operator*) capable of modifying some program-visible aspect of one or more *objects* that are either explicit *arguments* to the *operator* or that can be obtained directly or indirectly from the *global environment* by the *operator*.

destructuring lambda list *n.* an *extended lambda list* used in **destructuring-bind** and nested within *macro lambda lists*. See Section 3.4.5 (Destructuring Lambda Lists).

different *adj.* not the *same* "The strings `"FOO"` and `"foo"` are different under **equal** but not under **equalp**."

digit *n.* (in a *radix*) a *character* that is among the possible digits (`0` to `9`, `A` to `Z`, and `a` to `z`) and that is defined to have an associated numeric weight as a digit in that *radix*. See Section 13.1.4.6 (Digits in a Radix).

dimension *n.* 1. a non-negative *integer* indicating the number of *objects* an *array* can hold along one axis. If the *array* is a *vector* with a *fill pointer*, the *fill pointer* is ignored. "The second dimension of that array is 7." 2. an axis of an array. "This array has six dimensions."

direct instance *n.* (of a *class* C) an *object* whose *class* is C itself, rather than some *subclass* of C. "The function **make-instance** always returns a direct instance of the class which is (or is named by) its first argument."

direct subclass *n.* (of a *class* C_1) a *class* C_2, such that C_1 is a *direct superclass* of C_2.

direct superclass *n.* (of a *class* C_1) a *class* C_2 which was explicitly designated as a *superclass* of C_1 in the definition of C_1.

disestablish *v.t.* to withdraw the *establishment* of an *object*, a *binding*, an *exit point*, a *tag*, a *handler*, a *restart*, or an *environment*.

disjoint *n.* (of *types*) having no *elements* in common.

dispatching macro character *n.* a *macro character* that has an associated table that specifies the *function* to be called for each *character* that is seen following the *dispatching macro character*. See the *function* **make-dispatch-macro-character**.

displaced array *n.* an *array* which has no storage of its own, but which is instead indirected to the storage of another *array*, called its *target*, at a specified offset, in such a way that any attempt to *access* the *displaced array* implicitly references the *target array*.

distinct *adj.* not *identical*.

documentation string *n.* (in a defining *form*) A *literal string* which because of the context in which it appears (rather than because of some intrinsically observable aspect of the *string*) is taken as documentation. In some cases, the *documentation string* is saved in such a way that it can later be obtained by supplying either an *object*, or by supplying a *name* and a "kind" to the *function* **documentation**. "The body of code in a **defmacro** form can be preceded by a documentation string of kind **function**."

dot *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "full stop," "period," or "dot" (.). See Figure 2–5.

dotted list *n.* a *list* which has a terminating *atom* that is not **nil**. (An *atom* by itself is not a *dotted list*, however.)

dotted pair *n.* 1. a *cons* whose *cdr* is a *non-list*. 2. any *cons*, used to emphasize the use of the *cons* as a symmetric data pair.

double float *n.* an *object* of *type* **double-float**.

double-quote *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "quotation mark" or "double quote" ("). See Figure 2–5.

dynamic binding *n.* a *binding* in a *dynamic environment*.

dynamic environment *n.* that part of an *environment* that contains *bindings* with *dynamic extent*. A *dynamic environment* contains, among other things: *exit points* established by **unwind-protect**, and *bindings* of *dynamic variables*, *exit points* established by **catch**, *condition handlers*, and *restarts*.

dynamic extent *n.* an *extent* whose duration is bounded by points of *establishment* and *disestablishment* within the execution of a particular *form*. See *indefinite extent*. "Dynamic variable bindings have dynamic extent."

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dynamic scope *n.* *indefinite scope* along with *dynamic extent*.

dynamic variable *n.* a *variable* the *binding* for which is in the *dynamic environment*. See **special**.

E

echo stream *n.* a *stream* of *type* **echo-stream**.

effective method *n.* the combination of *applicable methods* that are executed when a *generic function* is invoked with a particular sequence of *arguments*.

element *n.* 1. (of a *list*) an *object* that is the *car* of one of the *conses* that comprise the *list*. 2. (of an *array*) an *object* that is stored in the *array*. 3. (of a *sequence*) an *object* that is an *element* of the *list* or *array* that is the *sequence*. 4. (of a *type*) an *object* that is a member of the set of *objects* designated by the *type*. 5. (of an *input stream*) a *character* or *number* (as appropriate to the *element type* of the *stream*) that is among the ordered series of *objects* that can be read from the *stream* (using **read-char** or **read-byte**, as appropriate to the *stream*). 6. (of an *output stream*) a *character* or *number* (as appropriate to the *element type* of the *stream*) that is among the ordered series of *objects* that has been or will be written to the *stream* (using **write-char** or **write-byte**, as appropriate to the *stream*). 7. (of a *class*) a *generalized instance* of the *class*.

element type *n.* 1. (of an *array*) the *array element type* of the *array*. 2. (of a *stream*) the *stream element type* of the *stream*.

em *n.* *Trad.* a context-dependent unit of measure commonly used in typesetting, equal to the displayed width of of a letter "M" in the current font. (The letter "M" is traditionally chosen because it is typically represented by the widest *glyph* in the font, and other characters' widths are typically fractions of an *em*. In implementations providing non-Roman characters with wider characters than "M," it is permissible for another character to be the *implementation-defined* reference character for this measure, and for "M" to be only a fraction of an *em* wide.) In a fixed width font, a line with *n* characters is *n* *ems* wide; in a variable width font, *n* *ems* is the expected upper bound on the width of such a line.

empty list *n.* the *list* containing no *elements*. See *()*.

empty type *n.* the *type* that contains no *elements*, and that is a *subtype* of all *types* (including itself). See *nil*.

end of file *n.* 1. the point in an *input stream* beyond which there is no further data. Whether or not there is such a point on an *interactive stream* is *implementation-defined*. 2. a *situation* that occurs upon an attempt to obtain data from an *input stream* that is at the *end of file*$_1$.

environment *n.* 1. a set of *bindings*. See Section 3.1.1 (Introduction to Environments). 2. an *environment object*. "**macroexpand** takes an optional environment argument."

environment object *n.* an *object* representing a set of *lexical bindings*, used in the processing of a *form* to provide meanings for *names* within that *form*. "**macroexpand** takes an optional environment argument." (The *object* **nil** when used as an *environment object* denotes the *null lexical environment*; the *values* of *environment parameters* to *macro functions* are *objects* of *implementation-dependent* nature which represent the *environment*$_1$ in which the corresponding *macro form* is to be expanded.) See Section 3.1.1.4 (Environment Objects).

environment parameter *n.* A *parameter* in a *defining form f* for which there is no corresponding *argument*; instead, this *parameter* receives as its value an *environment object* which corresponds to the *lexical environment* in which the *defining form f* appeared.

error *n.* 1. (only in the phrase "is an error") a *situation* in which the semantics of a program are not specified, and in which the consequences are undefined. 2. a *condition* which represents an *error situation*. See Section 1.4.2 (Error Terminology). 3. an *object* of *type* **error**.

error output *n.* the *output stream* which is the *value* of the *dynamic variable* ***error-output***.

escape *n., adj.* 1. *n.* a *single escape* or a *multiple escape*. 2. *adj. single escape* or *multiple escape*.

establish *v.t.* to build or bring into being a *binding*, a *declaration*, an *exit point*, a *tag*, a *handler*, a *restart*, or an *environment*. "**let** establishes lexical bindings."

evaluate *v.t.* (a *form* or an *implicit progn*) to *execute* the *code* represented by the *form* (or the series of *forms* making up the *implicit progn*) by applying the rules of *evaluation*, returning zero or more values.

evaluation *n.* a model whereby *forms* are *executed*, returning zero or more values. Such execution might be implemented directly in one step by an interpreter or in two steps by first *compiling* the *form* and then *executing* the *compiled code*; this choice is dependent both on context and the nature of the *implementation*, but in any case is not in general detectable by any program. The evaluation model is designed in such a way that a *conforming implementation* might legitimately have only a compiler and no interpreter, or vice versa. See Section 3.1.2 (The Evaluation Model).

evaluation environment *n.* a *run-time environment* in which macro expanders and code specified by **eval-when** to be evaluated are evaluated. All evaluations initiated by the *compiler* take place in the *evaluation environment*.

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execute *v.t. Trad.* (*code*) to perform the imperative actions represented by the *code*.

execution time *n.* the duration of time that *compiled code* is being *executed*.

exhaustive partition *n.* (of a *type*) a set of *pairwise disjoint types* that form an *exhaustive union*.

exhaustive union *n.* (of a *type*) a set of *subtypes* of the *type*, whose union contains all *elements* of that *type*.

exit point *n.* a point in a *control form* from which (*e.g.*, **block**), through which (*e.g.*, **unwind-protect**), or to which (*e.g.*, **tagbody**) control and possibly *values* can be transferred both actively by using another *control form* and passively through the normal control and data flow of *evaluation*. "**catch** and **block** establish bindings for exit points to which **throw** and **return-from**, respectively, can transfer control and values; **tagbody** establishes a binding for an exit point with lexical extent to which **go** can transfer control; and **unwind-protect** establishes an exit point through which control might be transferred by operators such as **throw**, **return-from**, and **go**."

explicit return *n.* the act of transferring control (and possibly *values*) to a *block* by using **return-from** (or **return**).

explicit use *n.* (of a *variable V* in a *form F*) a reference to *V* that is directly apparent in the normal semantics of *F*; *i.e.*, that does not expose any undocumented details of the *macro expansion* of the *form* itself. References to *V* exposed by expanding *subforms* of *F* are, however, considered to be *explicit uses* of *V*.

exponent marker *n.* a character that is used in the textual notation for a *float* to separate the mantissa from the exponent. The characters defined as *exponent markers* in the *standard readtable* are shown in Figure 26–1. For more information, see Section 2.1 (Character Syntax). "The exponent marker 'd' in '3.0d7' indicates that this number is to be represented as a double float."

Marker	Meaning
`D` or `d`	**double-float**
`E` or `e`	**float** (see ***read-default-float-format***)
`F` or `f`	**single-float**
`L` or `l`	**long-float**
`S` or `s`	**short-float**

Figure 26–1. Exponent Markers

export *v.t.* (a *symbol* in a *package*) to add the *symbol* to the list of *external symbols* of the *package*.

exported *adj.* (of a *symbol* in a *package*) being an *external symbol* of the *package*.

expressed adjustability *n.* (of an *array*) a *generalized boolean* that is conceptually (but not necessarily actually) associated with the *array*, representing whether the *array* is *expressly adjustable*. See also *actual adjustability*.

expressed array element type *n.* (of an *array*) the *type* which is the *array element type* implied by a *type declaration* for the *array*, or which is the requested *array element type* at its time of creation, prior to any selection of an *upgraded array element type*. (Common Lisp does not provide a way of detecting this *type* directly at run time, but an *implementation* is permitted to make assumptions about the *array*'s contents and the operations which may be performed on the *array* when this *type* is noted during code analysis, even if those assumptions would not be valid in general for the *upgraded array element type* of the *expressed array element type*.)

expressed complex part type *n.* (of a *complex*) the *type* which is implied as the *complex part type* by a *type declaration* for the *complex*, or which is the requested *complex part type* at its time of creation, prior to any selection of an *upgraded complex part type*. (Common Lisp does not provide a way of detecting this *type* directly at run time, but an *implementation* is permitted to make assumptions about the operations which may be performed on the *complex* when this *type* is noted during code analysis, even if those assumptions would not be valid in general for the *upgraded complex part type* of the *expressed complex part type*.)

expression *n.* 1. an *object*, often used to emphasize the use of the *object* to encode or represent information in a specialized format, such as program text. "The second expression in a **let** form is a list of bindings." 2. the textual notation used to notate an *object* in a source file. "The expression `'sample` is equivalent to `(quote sample)`."

expressly adjustable *adj.* (of an *array*) being *actually adjustable* by virtue of an explicit request for this characteristic having been made at the time of its creation. All *arrays* that are *expressly adjustable* are *actually adjustable*, but not necessarily vice versa.

extended character *n.* a *character* of *type* **extended-char**: a *character* that is not a *base character*.

extended function designator *n.* a *designator* for a *function*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *function* and that is one of: a *function name* (denoting the *function* it names in the *global environment*), or a *function* (denoting itself). The consequences are undefined if a *function name* is used as an *extended function designator* but it does not have a global definition as a *function*, or if it is a *symbol* that has a global definition as a *macro* or a *special form*. See also *function designator*.

extended lambda list *n.* a list resembling an *ordinary lambda list* in form and

purpose, but offering additional syntax or functionality not available in an *ordinary lambda list*. "**defmacro** uses extended lambda lists."

extension *n.* a facility in an *implementation* of Common Lisp that is not specified by this standard.

extent *n.* the interval of time during which a *reference* to an *object*, a *binding*, an *exit point*, a *tag*, a *handler*, a *restart*, or an *environment* is defined.

external file format *n.* an *object* of *implementation-dependent* nature which determines one of possibly several *implementation-dependent* ways in which *characters* are encoded externally in a *character file*.

external file format designator *n.* a *designator* for an *external file format*; that is, an *object* that denotes an *external file format* and that is one of: the *symbol* `:default` (denoting an *implementation-dependent* default *external file format* that can accomodate at least the *base characters*), some other *object* defined by the *implementation* to be an *external file format designator* (denoting an *implementation-defined external file format*), or some other *object* defined by the *implementation* to be an *external file format* (denoting itself).

external symbol *n.* (of a *package*) a *symbol* that is part of the 'external interface' to the *package* and that are *inherited*$_3$ by any other *package* that *uses* the *package*. When using the *Lisp reader*, if a *package prefix* is used, the *name* of an *external symbol* is separated from the *package name* by a single *package marker* while the *name* of an *internal symbol* is separated from the *package name* by a double *package marker*; see Section 2.3.4 (Symbols as Tokens).

externalizable object *n.* an *object* that can be used as a *literal object* in *code* to be processed by the *file compiler*.

F

false *n.* the *symbol* **nil**, used to represent the failure of a *predicate* test.

fbound [ˈefˌbaůnd] *adj.* (of a *function name*) *bound* in the *function namespace*. (The *names* of *macros* and *special operators* are *fbound*, but the nature and *type* of the *object* which is their *value* is *implementation-dependent*. Further, defining a *setf expander* *F* does not cause the *setf function* `(setf F)` to become defined; as such, if there is a such a definition of a *setf expander* *F*, the *function* `(setf F)` can be *fbound* if and only if, by design or coincidence, a function binding for `(setf F)` has been independently established.) See the *functions* **fboundp** and **symbol-function**.

feature *n.* 1. an aspect or attribute of Common Lisp, of the *implementation*, or of the *environment*. 2. a *symbol* that names a *feature*$_1$. See Section 24.1.2 (Features). "The `:ansi-cl` feature is present in all conforming implementations."

feature expression *n.* A boolean combination of *features* used by the #+ and #- *reader macros* in order to direct conditional *reading* of *expressions* by the *Lisp reader*. See Section 24.1.2.1 (Feature Expressions).

features list *n.* the *list* that is the *value* of ***features***.

file *n.* a named entry in a *file system*, having an *implementation-defined* nature.

file compiler *n.* any *compiler* which *compiles source code* contained in a *file*, producing a *compiled file* as output. The **compile-file** function is the only interface to such a *compiler* provided by Common Lisp, but there might be other, *implementation-defined* mechanisms for invoking the *file compiler*.

file position *n.* (in a *stream*) a non-negative *integer* that represents a position in the *stream*. Not all *streams* are able to represent the notion of *file position*; in the description of any *operator* which manipulates *file positions*, the behavior for *streams* that don't have this notion must be explicitly stated. For *binary streams*, the *file position* represents the number of preceding *bytes* in the *stream*. For *character streams*, the constraint is more relaxed: *file positions* must increase monotonically, the amount of the increase between *file positions* corresponding to any two successive characters in the *stream* is *implementation-dependent*.

file position designator *n.* (in a *stream*) a *designator* for a *file position* in that *stream*; that is, the symbol `:start` (denoting `0`, the first *file position* in that *stream*), the symbol `:end` (denoting the last *file position* in that *stream*; *i.e.*, the position following the last *element* of the *stream*), or a *file position* (denoting itself).

file stream *n.* an *object* of *type* **file-stream**.

file system *n.* a facility which permits aggregations of data to be stored in named *files* on some medium that is external to the *Lisp image* and that therefore persists from *session* to *session*.

filename *n.* a handle, not necessarily ever directly represented as an *object*, that can be used to refer to a *file* in a *file system*. *Pathnames* and *namestrings* are two kinds of *objects* that substitute for *filenames* in Common Lisp.

fill pointer *n.* (of a *vector*) an *integer* associated with a *vector* that represents the index above which no *elements* are *active*. (A *fill pointer* is a non-negative *integer* no larger than the total number of *elements* in the *vector*. Not all *vectors* have *fill pointers*.)

finite *adj.* (of a *type*) having a finite number of *elements*. "The type specifier `(integer 0 5)` denotes a finite type, but the type specifiers **integer** and `(integer 0)` do not."

fixnum *n.* an *integer* of *type* **fixnum**.

float *n.* an *object* of *type* **float**.

for-value *adj.* (of a *reference* to a *binding*) being a *reference* that $reads_1$ the *value* of the *binding*.

form *n.* 1. any *object* meant to be *evaluated*. 2. a *symbol*, a *compound form*, or a *self-evaluating object*. 3. (for an *operator*, as in "⟨⟨*operator*⟩⟩ *form*") a *compound form* having that *operator* as its first element. "A **quote** form is a constant form."

formal argument *n. Trad.* a *parameter*.

formal parameter *n. Trad.* a *parameter*.

format *v.t.* (a *format control* and *format arguments*) to perform output as if by **format**, using the *format string* and *format arguments*.

format argument *n.* an *object* which is used as data by functions such as **format** which interpret *format controls*.

format control *n.* a *format string*, or a *function* that obeys the *argument* conventions for a *function* returned by the **formatter** *macro*. See Section 22.2.1.3 (Compiling Format Strings).

format directive *n.* 1. a sequence of *characters* in a *format string* which is introduced by a *tilde*, and which is specially interpreted by *code* which processes *format strings* to mean that some special operation should be performed, possibly involving data supplied by the *format arguments* that accompanied the *format string*. See the *function* **format**. "In `"~D base 10 = ~8R"`, the character sequences '`~D`' and '`~8R`' are format directives." 2. the conceptual category of all *format* $directives_1$ which use the same dispatch character. "Both `"~3d"` and `"~3,'0D"` are valid uses of the '`~D`' format directive."

format string *n.* a *string* which can contain both ordinary text and *format directives*, and which is used in conjunction with *format arguments* to describe how text output should be formatted by certain functions, such as **format**.

free declaration *n.* a declaration that is not a *bound declaration*. See **declare**.

fresh *adj.* 1. (of an *object yielded* by a *function*) having been newly-allocated by that *function*. (The caller of a *function* that returns a *fresh object* may freely modify the *object* without fear that such modification will compromise the future correct behavior of that *function*.) 2. (of a *binding* for a *name*) newly-allocated; not shared with other *bindings* for that *name*.

freshline *n.* a conceptual operation on a *stream*, implemented by the *function* **fresh-line** and by the *format directive* ~&, which advances the display position to the beginning of the next line (as if a *newline* had been typed, or the *function* **terpri** had been called) unless the *stream* is already known to be positioned at the beginning of a line. Unlike *newline*, *freshline* is not a *character*.

funbound [ˈefunbaůnd] *n.* (of a *function name*) not *fbound*.

function *n.* 1. an *object* representing code, which can be *called* with zero or more *arguments*, and which produces zero or more *values*. 2. an *object* of *type* **function**.

function block name *n.* (of a *function name*) The *symbol* that would be used as the name of an *implicit block* which surrounds the body of a *function* having that *function name*. If the *function name* is a *symbol*, its *function block name* is the *function name* itself. If the *function name* is a *list* whose *car* is **setf** and whose *cadr* is a *symbol*, its *function block name* is the *symbol* that is the *cadr* of the *function name*. An *implementation* which supports additional kinds of *function names* must specify for each how the corresponding *function block name* is computed.

function cell *n. Trad.* (of a *symbol*) The *place* which holds the *definition* of the global *function binding*, if any, named by that *symbol*, and which is *accessed* by **symbol-function**. See *cell*.

function designator *n.* a *designator* for a *function*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *function* and that is one of: a *symbol* (denoting the *function* named by that *symbol* in the *global environment*), or a *function* (denoting itself). The consequences are undefined if a *symbol* is used as a *function designator* but it does not have a global definition as a *function*, or it has a global definition as a *macro* or a *special form*. See also *extended function designator*.

function form *n.* a *form* that is a *list* and that has a first element which is the *name* of a *function* to be called on *arguments* which are the result of *evaluating* subsequent elements of the *function form*.

function name *n.* 1. (in an *environment*) A *symbol* or a *list* (setf *symbol*) that is the *name* of a *function* in that *environment*. 2. A *symbol* or a *list* (setf *symbol*).

functional evaluation *n.* the process of extracting a *functional value* from a *function name* or a *lambda expression*. The evaluator performs *functional evaluation* implicitly when it encounters a *function name* or a *lambda expression* in the *car* of a *compound form*, or explicitly when it encounters a **function** *special form*. Neither a use of a *symbol* as a *function designator* nor a use of the *function* **symbol-function** to extract the *functional value* of a *symbol* is considered a *functional evaluation*.

functional value *n.* 1. (of a *function name* N in an *environment* E) The *value* of the *binding* named N in the *function namespace* for *environment* E; that is, the contents of the *function cell* named N in *environment* E. 2. (of an *fbound symbol* S) the contents of the *symbol*'s *function cell*; that is, the *value* of the *binding* named S in the *function namespace* of the *global environment*. (A *name* that is a *macro name* in the *global environment* or is a *special operator* might or might not be *fbound*. But if S is such a *name* and is *fbound*, the specific nature of its *functional value* is *implementation-dependent*; in particular, it might or might not be a *function*.)

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further compilation *n.* *implementation-dependent* compilation beyond *minimal compilation*. Further compilation is permitted to take place at *run time*. "Block compilation and generation of machine-specific instructions are examples of further compilation."

G

general *adj.* (of an *array*) having *element type* **t**, and consequently able to have any *object* as an *element*.

generalized boolean *n.* an *object* used as a truth value, where the symbol **nil** represents *false* and all other *objects* represent *true*. See *boolean*.

generalized instance *n.* (of a *class*) an *object* the *class* of which is either that *class* itself, or some subclass of that *class*. (Because of the correspondence between types and classes, the term "generalized instance of X" implies "object of type X" and in cases where X is a *class* (or *class name*) the reverse is also true. The former terminology emphasizes the view of X as a *class* while the latter emphasizes the view of X as a *type specifier*.)

generalized reference *n.* a reference to a location storing an *object* as if to a *variable*. (Such a reference can be either to *read* or *write* the location.) See Section 5.1 (Generalized Reference). See also *place*.

generalized synonym stream *n.* (with a *synonym stream symbol*) 1. (to a *stream*) a *synonym stream* to the *stream*, or a *composite stream* which has as a target a *generalized synonym stream* to the *stream*. 2. (to a *symbol*) a *synonym stream* to the *symbol*, or a *composite stream* which has as a target a *generalized synonym stream* to the *symbol*.

generic function *n.* a *function* whose behavior depends on the *classes* or identities of the arguments supplied to it and whose parts include, among other things, a set of *methods*, a *lambda list*, and a *method combination* type.

generic function lambda list *n.* A *lambda list* that is used to describe data flow into a *generic function*. See Section 3.4.2 (Generic Function Lambda Lists).

gensym *n. Trad.* an *uninterned symbol*. See the *function* **gensym**.

global declaration *n.* a *form* that makes certain kinds of information about code globally available; that is, a **proclaim** *form* or a **declaim** *form*.

global environment *n.* that part of an *environment* that contains *bindings* with *indefinite scope* and *indefinite extent*.

global variable *n.* a *dynamic variable* or a *constant variable*.

glyph *n.* a visual representation. "Graphic characters have associated glyphs."

go *v.* to transfer control to a *go point*. See the *special operator* **go**.

go point one of possibly several *exit points* that are *established* by **tagbody** (or other abstractions, such as **prog**, which are built from **tagbody**).

go tag *n.* the *symbol* or *integer* that, within the *lexical scope* of a **tagbody** *form*, names an *exit point established* by that **tagbody** *form*.

graphic *adj.* (of a *character*) being a "printing" or "displayable" *character* that has a standard visual representation as a single *glyph*, such as `A` or `*` or `=`. *Space* is defined to be *graphic*. Of the *standard characters*, all but *newline* are *graphic*. See *non-graphic*.

H

handle *v.* (of a *condition* being *signaled*) to perform a non-local transfer of control, terminating the ongoing *signaling* of the *condition*.

handler *n.* a *condition handler*.

hash table *n.* an *object* of *type* **hash-table**, which provides a mapping from *keys* to *values*.

home package *n.* (of a *symbol*) the *package*, if any, which is contents of the *package cell* of the *symbol*, and which dictates how the *Lisp printer* prints the *symbol* when it is not *accessible* in the *current package*. (*Symbols* which have **nil** in their *package cell* are said to have no *home package*, and also to be *apparently uninterned*.)

I

I/O customization variable *n.* one of the *stream variables* in Figure 26–2, or some other (*implementation-defined*) *stream variable* that is defined by the *implementation* to be an *I/O customization variable*.

debug-io	*error-io*	query-io*
standard-input	*standard-output*	*trace-output*

Figure 26–2. Standardized I/O Customization Variables

identical *adj.* the *same* under **eq**.

identifier *n.* 1. a *symbol* used to identify or to distinguish *names*. 2. a *string* used the same way.

immutable *adj.* not subject to change, either because no *operator* is provided which is capable of effecting such change or because some constraint exists which prohibits the use of an *operator* that might otherwise be capable of effecting such a change. Except as explicitly indicated otherwise, *implementations* are not required to detect attempts to modify *immutable objects* or *cells*; the consequences of attempting to make such modification are undefined. "Numbers are immutable."

implementation *n.* a system, mechanism, or body of *code* that implements the semantics of Common Lisp.

implementation limit *n.* a restriction imposed by an *implementation*.

implementation-defined *adj. implementation-dependent*, but required by this specification to be defined by each *conforming implementation* and to be documented by the corresponding implementor.

implementation-dependent *adj.* describing a behavior or aspect of Common Lisp which has been deliberately left unspecified, that might be defined in some *conforming implementations* but not in others, and whose details may differ between *implementations*. A *conforming implementation* is encouraged (but not required) to document its treatment of each item in this specification which is marked *implementation-dependent*, although in some cases such documentation might simply identify the item as "undefined."

implementation-independent *adj.* used to identify or emphasize a behavior or aspect of Common Lisp which does not vary between *conforming implementations*.

implicit block *n.* a *block* introduced by a *macro form* rather than by an explicit **block** *form*.

implicit compilation *n.* *compilation* performed during *evaluation*.

implicit progn *n.* an ordered set of adjacent *forms* appearing in another *form*, and defined by their context in that *form* to be executed as if within a **progn**.

implicit tagbody *n.* an ordered set of adjacent *forms* and/or *tags* appearing in another *form*, and defined by their context in that *form* to be executed as if within a **tagbody**.

import *v.t.* (a *symbol* into a *package*) to make the *symbol* be *present* in the *package*.

improper list *n.* a *list* which is not a *proper list*: a *circular list* or a *dotted list*.

inaccessible *adj.* not *accessible*.

indefinite extent *n.* an *extent* whose duration is unlimited. "Most Common Lisp objects have indefinite extent."

indefinite scope *n.* *scope* that is unlimited.

indicator *n.* a *property indicator*.

indirect instance *n.* (of a *class* C_1) an *object* of *class* C_2, where C_2 is a *subclass* of C_1. "An integer is an indirect instance of the class **number**."

inherit *v.t.* 1. to receive or acquire a quality, trait, or characteristic; to gain access to a feature defined elsewhere. 2. (a *class*) to acquire the structure and behavior defined by a *superclass*. 3. (a *package*) to make *symbols exported* by another *package accessible* by using **use-package**.

initial pprint dispatch table *n.* the *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch*** at the time the *Lisp image* is started.

initial readtable *n.* the *value* of ***readtable*** at the time the *Lisp image* is started.

initialization argument list *n.* a *property list* of initialization argument *names* and *values* used in the protocol for initializing and reinitializing *instances* of *classes*. See Section 7.1 (Object Creation and Initialization).

initialization form *n.* a *form* used to supply the initial *value* for a *slot* or *variable*. "The initialization form for a slot in a **defclass** form is introduced by the keyword `:initform`."

input *adj.* (of a *stream*) supporting input operations (*i.e.*, being a "data source"). An *input stream* might also be an *output stream*, in which case it is sometimes called a *bidirectional stream*. See the *function* **input-stream-p**.

instance *n.* 1. a *direct instance*. 2. a *generalized instance*. 3. an *indirect instance*.

integer *n.* an *object* of *type* **integer**, which represents a mathematical integer.

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interactive stream *n.* a *stream* on which it makes sense to perform interactive querying. See Section 21.1.1.1.3 (Interactive Streams).

intern *v.t.* 1. (a *string* in a *package*) to look up the *string* in the *package*, returning either a *symbol* with that *name* which was already *accessible* in the *package* or a newly created *internal symbol* of the *package* with that *name*. 2. *Idiom.* generally, to observe a protocol whereby objects which are equivalent or have equivalent names under some predicate defined by the protocol are mapped to a single canonical object.

internal symbol *n.* (of a *package*) a symbol which is *accessible* in the *package*, but which is not an *external symbol* of the *package*.

internal time *n.* *time*, represented as an *integer* number of *internal time units*. *Absolute internal time* is measured as an offset from an arbitrarily chosen, *implementation-dependent* base. See Section 25.1.4.3 (Internal Time).

internal time unit *n.* a unit of time equal to $1/n$ of a second, for some *implementation-defined integer* value of n. See the *variable* **internal-time-units-per-second**.

interned *adj.* *Trad.* 1. (of a *symbol*) *accessible*$_3$ in any *package*. 2. (of a *symbol* in a specific *package*) *present* in that *package*.

interpreted function *n.* a *function* that is not a *compiled function*. (It is possible for there to be a *conforming implementation* which has no *interpreted functions*, but a *conforming program* must not assume that all *functions* are *compiled functions*.)

interpreted implementation *n.* an *implementation* that uses an execution strategy for *interpreted functions* that does not involve a one-time semantic analysis pre-pass, and instead uses "lazy" (and sometimes repetitious) semantic analysis of *forms* as they are encountered during execution.

interval designator *n.* (of *type* T) an ordered pair of *objects* that describe a *subtype* of T by delimiting an interval on the real number line. See Section 12.1.6 (Interval Designators).

invalid *n.*, *adj.* 1. *n.* a possible *constituent trait* of a *character* which if present signifies that the *character* cannot ever appear in a *token* except under the control of a *single escape character*. For details, see Section 2.1.4.1 (Constituent Characters). 2. *adj.* (of a *character*) being a *character* that has *syntax type constituent* in the *current readtable* and that has the *constituent trait invalid*$_1$. See Figure 2–8.

iteration form *n.* a *compound form* whose *operator* is named in Figure 26–3, or a *compound form* that has an *implementation-defined operator* and that is defined by the *implementation* to be an *iteration form*.

do	**do-external-symbols**	**dotimes**
do*	**do-symbols**	**loop**
do-all-symbols	**dolist**	

Figure 26–3. Standardized Iteration Forms

iteration variable *n.* a *variable V*, the *binding* for which was created by an *explicit use* of *V* in an *iteration form*.

K

key *n.* an *object* used for selection during retrieval. See *association list*, *property list*, and *hash table*. Also, see Section 17.1 (Sequence Concepts).

keyword *n.* 1. a *symbol* the *home package* of which is the `KEYWORD` *package*. 2. any *symbol*, usually but not necessarily in the `KEYWORD` *package*, that is used as an identifying marker in keyword-style argument passing. See **lambda**. 3. *Idiom.* a *lambda list keyword*.

keyword parameter *n.* A *parameter* for which a corresponding keyword *argument* is optional. (There is no such thing as a required keyword *argument*.) If the *argument* is not supplied, a default value is used. See also *supplied-p parameter*.

keyword/value pair *n.* two successive *elements* (a *keyword* and a *value*, respectively) of a *property list*.

L

lambda combination *n.* *Trad.* a *lambda form*.

lambda expression *n.* a *list* which can be used in place of a *function name* in certain contexts to denote a *function* by directly describing its behavior rather than indirectly by referring to the name of an *established function*; its name derives from the fact that its first element is the *symbol* `lambda`. See **lambda**.

lambda form *n.* a *form* that is a *list* and that has a first element which is a *lambda expression* representing a *function* to be called on *arguments* which are the result of *evaluating* subsequent elements of the *lambda form*.

lambda list *n.* a *list* that specifies a set of *parameters* (sometimes called *lambda variables*) and a protocol for receiving *values* for those *parameters*; that is, an *ordinary lambda list*, an *extended lambda list*, or a *modified lambda list*.

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lambda list keyword *n.* a *symbol* whose *name* begins with *ampersand* and that is specially recognized in a *lambda list*. Note that no *standardized lambda list keyword* is in the `KEYWORD` *package*.

lambda variable *n.* a *formal parameter*, used to emphasize the *variable*'s relation to the *lambda list* that *established* it.

leaf *n.* 1. an *atom* in a $tree_1$. 2. a terminal node of a $tree_2$.

leap seconds *n.* additional one-second intervals of time that are occasionally inserted into the true calendar by official timekeepers as a correction similar to "leap years." All Common Lisp *time* representations ignore *leap seconds*; every day is assumed to be exactly 86400 seconds long.

left-parenthesis *n.* the *standard character* "`(`", that is variously called "left parenthesis" or "open parenthesis" See Figure 2–5.

length *n.* (of a *sequence*) the number of *elements* in the *sequence*. (Note that if the *sequence* is a *vector* with a *fill pointer*, its *length* is the same as the *fill pointer* even though the total allocated size of the *vector* might be larger.)

lexical binding *n.* a *binding* in a *lexical environment*.

lexical closure *n.* a *function* that, when invoked on *arguments*, executes the body of a *lambda expression* in the *lexical environment* that was captured at the time of the creation of the *lexical closure*, augmented by *bindings* of the *function*'s *parameters* to the corresponding *arguments*.

lexical environment *n.* that part of the *environment* that contains *bindings* whose names have *lexical scope*. A *lexical environment* contains, among other things: ordinary *bindings* of *variable names* to *values*, lexically *established bindings* of *function names* to *functions*, *macros*, *symbol macros*, *blocks*, *tags*, and *local declarations* (see **declare**).

lexical scope *n.* *scope* that is limited to a spatial or textual region within the establishing *form*. "The names of parameters to a function normally are lexically scoped."

lexical variable *n.* a *variable* the *binding* for which is in the *lexical environment*.

Lisp image *n.* a running instantiation of a Common Lisp *implementation*. A *Lisp image* is characterized by a single address space in which any *object* can directly refer to any another in conformance with this specification, and by a single, common, *global environment*. (External operating systems sometimes call this a "core image," "fork," "incarnation," "job," or "process." Note however, that the issue of a "process" in such an operating system is technically orthogonal to the issue of a *Lisp image* being defined here. Depending on the operating system, a single "process" might have multiple *Lisp images*, and multiple "processes" might reside in a single *Lisp image*. Hence, it is the idea of a fully shared address space for direct reference among all *objects* which is the defining characteristic. Note, too, that two "processes" which have a communication area that permits the sharing of some but not all *objects* are considered to be distinct *Lisp images*.)

Lisp printer *n. Trad.* the procedure that prints the character representation of an *object* onto a *stream*. (This procedure is implemented by the *function* **write**.)

Lisp read-eval-print loop *n. Trad.* an endless loop that *reads*$_2$ a *form*, *evaluates* it, and prints (*i.e.*, *writes*$_2$) the results. In many *implementations*, the default mode of interaction with Common Lisp during program development is through such a loop.

Lisp reader *n. Trad.* the procedure that parses character representations of *objects* from a *stream*, producing *objects*. (This procedure is implemented by the *function* **read**.)

list *n.* 1. a chain of *conses* in which the *car* of each *cons* is an *element* of the *list*, and the *cdr* of each *cons* is either the next link in the chain or a terminating *atom*. See also *proper list*, *dotted list*, or *circular list*. 2. the *type* that is the union of **null** and **cons**.

list designator *n.* a *designator* for a *list* of *objects*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *list* and that is one of: a *non-nil atom* (denoting a *singleton list* whose *element* is that *non-nil atom*) or a *proper list* (denoting itself).

list structure *n.* (of a *list*) the set of *conses* that make up the *list*. Note that while the *car*$_{1b}$ component of each such *cons* is part of the *list structure*, the *objects* that are *elements* of the *list* (*i.e.*, the *objects* that are the *cars*$_2$ of each *cons* in the *list*) are not themselves part of its *list structure*, even if they are *conses*, except in the (*circular*$_2$) case where the *list* actually contains one of its *tails* as an *element*. (The *list structure* of a *list* is sometimes redundantly referred to as its "top-level list structure" in order to emphasize that any *conses* that are *elements* of the *list* are not involved.)

literal *adj.* (of an *object*) referenced directly in a program rather than being computed by the program; that is, appearing as data in a **quote** *form*, or, if the *object* is a *self-evaluating object*, appearing as unquoted data. "In the form `(cons "one" '("two"))`, the expressions `"one"`, `("two")`, and `"two"` are literal objects."

load *v.t.* (a *file*) to cause the *code* contained in the *file* to be *executed*. See the *function* **load**.

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load time *n.* the duration of time that the loader is *loading compiled code*.

load time value *n.* an *object* referred to in *code* by a **load-time-value** *form*. The *value* of such a *form* is some specific *object* which can only be computed in the run-time *environment*. In the case of *file compilation*, the *value* is computed once as part of the process of *loading* the *compiled file*, and not again. See the *special operator* **load-time-value**.

loader *n.* a facility that is part of Lisp and that *loads* a *file*. See the *function* **load**.

local declaration *n.* an *expression* which may appear only in specially designated positions of certain *forms*, and which provides information about the code contained within the containing *form*; that is, a **declare** *expression*.

local precedence order *n.* (of a *class*) a *list* consisting of the *class* followed by its *direct superclasses* in the order mentioned in the defining *form* for the *class*.

local slot *n.* (of a *class*) a *slot accessible* in only one *instance*, namely the *instance* in which the *slot* is allocated.

logical block *n.* a conceptual grouping of related output used by the *pretty printer*. See the *macro* **pprint-logical-block** and Section 22.2.1.1 (Dynamic Control of the Arrangement of Output).

logical host *n.* an *object* of *implementation-dependent* nature that is used as the representation of a "host" in a *logical pathname*, and that has an associated set of translation rules for converting *logical pathnames* belonging to that host into *physical pathnames*. See Section 19.3 (Logical Pathnames).

logical host designator *n.* a *designator* for a *logical host*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *logical host* and that is one of: a *string* (denoting the *logical host* that it names), or a *logical host* (denoting itself). (Note that because the representation of a *logical host* is *implementation-dependent*, it is possible that an *implementation* might represent a *logical host* as the *string* that names it.)

logical pathname *n.* an *object* of *type* **logical-pathname**.

long float *n.* an *object* of *type* **long-float**.

loop keyword *n. Trad.* a symbol that is a specially recognized part of the syntax of an extended **loop** *form*. Such symbols are recognized by their *name* (using **string=**), not by their identity; as such, they may be in any package. A *loop keyword* is not a *keyword*.

lowercase *adj.* (of a *character*) being among *standard characters* corresponding to the small letters a through z, or being some other *implementation-defined character* that is defined by the *implementation* to be *lowercase*. See Section 13.1.4.3 (Characters With Case).

M

macro *n.* 1. a *macro form* 2. a *macro function*. 3. a *macro name*.

macro character *n.* a *character* which, when encountered by the *Lisp reader* in its main dispatch loop, introduces a *reader* $macro_1$. (*Macro characters* have nothing to do with *macros*.)

macro expansion *n.* 1. the process of translating a *macro form* into another *form*. 2. the *form* resulting from this process.

macro form *n.* a *form* that stands for another *form* (*e.g.*, for the purposes of abstraction, information hiding, or syntactic convenience); that is, either a *compound form* whose first element is a *macro name*, or a *form* that is a *symbol* that names a *symbol macro*.

macro function *n.* a *function* of two arguments, a *form* and an *environment*, that implements *macro expansion* by producing a *form* to be evaluated in place of the original argument *form*.

macro lambda list *n.* an *extended lambda list* used in *forms* that *establish macro* definitions, such as **defmacro** and **macrolet**. See Section 3.4.4 (Macro Lambda Lists).

macro name *n.* a *name* for which **macro-function** returns *true* and which when used as the first element of a *compound form* identifies that *form* as a *macro form*.

macroexpand hook *n.* the *function* that is the *value* of ***macroexpand-hook***.

mapping *n.* 1. a type of iteration in which a *function* is successively applied to *objects* taken from corresponding entries in collections such as *sequences* or *hash tables*. 2. *Math.* a relation between two sets in which each element of the first set (the "domain") is assigned one element of the second set (the "range").

metaclass *n.* 1. a *class* whose instances are *classes*. 2. (of an *object*) the *class* of the *class* of the *object*.

Metaobject Protocol *n.* one of many possible descriptions of how a *conforming implementation* might implement various aspects of the object system. This description is beyond the scope of this document, and no *conforming implementation* is required to adhere to it except as noted explicitly in this specification. Nevertheless, its existence helps to establish normative practice, and implementors with no reason to diverge from it are encouraged to consider making their *implementation* adhere to it where possible. It is described in detail in *The Art of the Metaobject Protocol*.

method *n.* an *object* that is part of a *generic function* and which provides information about how that *generic function* should behave when its *arguments* are *objects* of certain *classes* or with certain identities.

method combination *n.* 1. generally, the composition of a set of *methods* to produce an *effective method* for a *generic function*. 2. an object of *type* **method-combination**, which represents the details of how the *method* $combination_1$ for one or more specific *generic functions* is to be performed.

method-defining form *n.* a *form* that defines a *method* for a *generic function*, whether explicitly or implicitly. See Section 7.6.1 (Introduction to Generic Functions).

method-defining operator *n.* an *operator* corresponding to a *method-defining form*. See Figure 7–1.

minimal compilation *n.* actions the *compiler* must take at compile time. See Section 3.2.2 (Compilation Semantics).

modified lambda list *n.* a list resembling an *ordinary lambda list* in form and purpose, but which deviates in syntax or functionality from the definition of an *ordinary lambda list*. See *ordinary lambda list*. "**deftype** uses a modified lambda list."

most recent *adj.* innermost; that is, having been *established* (and not yet *disestablished*) more recently than any other of its kind.

multiple escape *n.*, *adj.* 1. *n.* the *syntax type* of a *character* that is used in pairs to indicate that the enclosed *characters* are to be treated as $alphabetic_2$ *characters* with their *case* preserved. For details, see Section 2.1.4.5 (Multiple Escape Characters). 2. *adj.* (of a *character*) having the *multiple escape syntax type*. 3. *n.* a *multiple* $escape_2$ *character*. (In the *standard readtable*, *vertical-bar* is a *multiple escape character*.)

multiple values *n.* 1. more than one *value*. "The function **truncate** returns multiple values." 2. a variable number of *values*, possibly including zero or one. "The function **values** returns multiple values." 3. a fixed number of values other than one. "The macro **multiple-value-bind** is among the few operators in Common Lisp which can detect and manipulate multiple values."

N

name *n.*, *v.t.* 1. *n.* an *identifier* by which an *object*, a *binding*, or an *exit point* is referred to by association using a *binding*. 2. *v.t.* to give a *name* to. 3. *n.* (of an *object* having a name component) the *object* which is that component. "The string which is a symbol's name is returned by **symbol-name**." 4. *n.* (of a *pathname*) a. the name component, returned by **pathname-name**. b. the entire namestring, returned by **namestring**. 5. *n.* (of a *character*) a *string* that names the *character* and that has *length* greater than one. (All *non-graphic characters* are required to have *names* unless they have some *implementation-defined attribute* which is not *null*. Whether or not other *characters* have *names* is *implementation-dependent*.)

named constant *n.* a *variable* that is defined by Common Lisp, by the *implementation*, or by user code (see the *macro* **defconstant**) to always *yield* the same *value* when *evaluated*. "The value of a named constant may not be changed by assignment or by binding."

namespace *n.* 1. *bindings* whose denotations are restricted to a particular kind. "The bindings of names to tags is the tag namespace." 2. any *mapping* whose domain is a set of *names*. "A package defines a namespace."

namestring *n.* a *string* that represents a *filename* using either the *standardized* notation for naming *logical pathnames* described in Section 19.3.1 (Syntax of Logical Pathname Namestrings), or some *implementation-defined* notation for naming a *physical pathname*.

newline *n.* the *standard character* ⟨*Newline*⟩, notated for the *Lisp reader* as `#\Newline`.

next method *n.* the next *method* to be invoked with respect to a given *method* for a particular set of arguments or argument *classes*. See Section 7.6.6.1.3 (Applying method combination to the sorted list of applicable methods).

nickname *n.* (of a *package*) one of possibly several *names* that can be used to refer to the *package* but that is not the primary *name* of the *package*.

nil *n.* the *object* that is at once the *symbol* named `"NIL"` in the `COMMON-LISP` *package*, the *empty list*, the *boolean* (or *generalized boolean*) representing *false*, and the *name* of the *empty type*.

non-atomic *adj.* being other than an *atom*; *i.e.*, being a *cons*.

non-constant variable *n.* a *variable* that is not a *constant variable*.

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non-correctable *adj.* (of an *error*) not intentionally *correctable*. (Because of the dynamic nature of *restarts*, it is neither possible nor generally useful to completely prohibit an *error* from being *correctable*. This term is used in order to express an intent that no special effort should be made by *code* signaling an *error* to make that *error correctable*; however, there is no actual requirement on *conforming programs* or *conforming implementations* imposed by this term.)

non-empty *adj.* having at least one *element*.

non-generic function *n.* a *function* that is not a *generic function*.

non-graphic *adj.* (of a *character*) not *graphic*. See Section 13.1.4.1 (Graphic Characters).

non-list *n.*, *adj.* other than a *list*; *i.e.*, a *non-nil atom*.

non-local exit *n.* a transfer of control (and sometimes *values*) to an *exit point* for reasons other than a *normal return*. "The operators **go**, **throw**, and **return-from** cause a non-local exit."

non-nil *n.*, *adj.* not **nil**. Technically, any *object* which is not **nil** can be referred to as *true*, but that would tend to imply a unique view of the *object* as a *generalized boolean*. Referring to such an *object* as *non-nil* avoids this implication.

non-null lexical environment *n.* a *lexical environment* that has additional information not present in the *global environment*, such as one or more *bindings*.

non-simple *adj.* not *simple*.

non-terminating *adj.* (of a *macro character*) being such that it is treated as a constituent *character* when it appears in the middle of an extended token. See Section 2.2 (Reader Algorithm).

non-top-level form *n.* a *form* that, by virtue of its position as a *subform* of another *form*, is not a *top level form*. See Section 3.2.3.1 (Processing of Top Level Forms).

normal return *n.* the natural transfer of control and *values* which occurs after the complete *execution* of a *form*.

normalized *adj.*, *ANSI*, *IEEE* (of a *float*) conforming to the description of "normalized" as described by *IEEE Standard for Binary Floating-Point Arithmetic*. See *denormalized*.

null *adj.*, *n.* 1. *adj.* a. (of a *list*) having no *elements*: empty. See *empty list*. b. (of a *string*) having a *length* of zero. (It is common, both within this document and in observed spoken behavior, to refer to an empty string by an apparent definite reference, as in "the *null string*" even though no attempt is made to $intern_2$ null strings. The phrase "a *null string*" is technically more correct, but is generally considered awkward by most Lisp programmers. As such, the phrase "the *null string*" should be treated as an indefinite reference in all cases except for anaphoric references.) c. (of an *implementation-defined attribute* of a *character*) An *object* to which the value of that *attribute* defaults if no specific value was requested. 2. *n.* an *object* of *type* **null** (the only such *object* being **nil**).

null lexical environment *n.* the *lexical environment* which has no *bindings*.

number *n.* an *object* of *type* **number**.

numeric *adj.* (of a *character*) being one of the *standard characters* `0` through *9*, or being some other *graphic character* defined by the *implementation* to be *numeric*.

O

object *n.* 1. any Lisp datum. "The function **cons** creates an object which refers to two other objects." 2. (immediately following the name of a *type*) an *object* which is of that *type*, used to emphasize that the *object* is not just a *name* for an object of that *type* but really an *element* of the *type* in cases where *objects* of that *type* (such as **function** or **class**) are commonly referred to by *name*. "The function **symbol-function** takes a function name and returns a function object."

object-traversing *adj.* operating in succession on components of an *object*. "The operators **mapcar**, **maphash**, **with-package-iterator** and **count** perform object-traversing operations."

open *adj.*, *v.t.* (a *file*) 1. *v.t.* to create and return a *stream* to the *file*. 2. *adj.* (of a *stream*) having been $opened_1$, but not yet *closed*.

operator *n.* 1. a *function*, *macro*, or *special operator*. 2. a *symbol* that names such a *function*, *macro*, or *special operator*. 3. (in a **function** *special form*) the *cadr* of the **function** *special form*, which might be either an $operator_2$ or a *lambda expression*. 4. (of a *compound form*) the *car* of the *compound form*, which might be either an $operator_2$ or a *lambda expression*, and which is never (`setf` *symbol*).

optimize quality *n.* one of several aspects of a program that might be optimizable by certain compilers. Since optimizing one such quality might conflict with optimizing another, relative priorities for qualities can be established in an **optimize** *declaration*. The *standardized optimize qualities* are `compilation-speed` (speed of the compilation process), `debug` (ease of debugging), `safety` (run-time error checking), `space` (both code size and run-time space), and `speed` (of the object code). *Implementations* may define additional *optimize qualities*.

optional parameter *n.* A *parameter* for which a corresponding positional *argument* is optional. If the *argument* is not supplied, a default value is used. See also *supplied-p parameter*.

ordinary function *n.* a *function* that is not a *generic function*.

ordinary lambda list *n.* the kind of *lambda list* used by **lambda**. See *modified lambda list* and *extended lambda list*. "**defun** uses an ordinary lambda list."

otherwise inaccessible part *n.* (of an *object*, O_1) an *object*, O_2, which would be made *inaccessible* if O_1 were made *inaccessible*. (Every *object* is an *otherwise inaccessible part* of itself.)

output *adj.* (of a *stream*) supporting output operations (*i.e.*, being a "data sink"). An *output stream* might also be an *input stream*, in which case it is sometimes called a *bidirectional stream*. See the *function* **output-stream-p**.

P

package *n.* an *object* of *type* **package**.

package cell *n.* *Trad.* (of a *symbol*) The *place* in a *symbol* that holds one of possibly several *packages* in which the *symbol* is *interned*, called the *home package*, or which holds **nil** if no such *package* exists or is known. See the *function* **symbol-package**.

package designator *n.* a *designator* for a *package*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *package* and that is one of: a *string designator* (denoting the *package* that has the *string* that it designates as its *name* or as one of its *nicknames*), or a *package* (denoting itself).

package marker *n.* a character which is used in the textual notation for a symbol to separate the package name from the symbol name, and which is *colon* in the *standard readtable*. See Section 2.1 (Character Syntax).

package prefix *n.* a notation preceding the *name* of a *symbol* in text that is processed by the *Lisp reader*, which uses a *package name* followed by one or more *package markers*, and which indicates that the symbol is looked up in the indicated *package*.

package registry *n.* A mapping of *names* to *package objects*. It is possible for there to be a *package object* which is not in this mapping; such a *package* is called an *unregistered package*. *Operators* such as **find-package** consult this mapping in order to find a *package* from its *name*. *Operators* such as **do-all-symbols**, **find-all-symbols**, and **list-all-packages** operate only on *packages* that exist in the *package registry*.

pairwise *adv.* (of an adjective on a set) applying individually to all possible pairings of elements of the set. "The types A, B, and C are pairwise disjoint if A and B are disjoint, B and C are disjoint, and A and C are disjoint."

parallel *adj. Trad.* (of *binding* or *assignment*) done in the style of **psetq**, **let**, or **do**; that is, first evaluating all of the *forms* that produce *values*, and only then *assigning* or *binding* the *variables* (or *places*). Note that this does not imply traditional computational "parallelism" since the *forms* that produce *values* are evaluated *sequentially*. See *sequential*.

parameter *n.* 1. (of a *function*) a *variable* in the definition of a *function* which takes on the *value* of a corresponding *argument* (or of a *list* of corresponding arguments) to that *function* when it is called, or which in some cases is given a default value because there is no corresponding *argument*. 2. (of a *format directive*) an *object* received as data flow by a *format directive* due to a prefix notation within the *format string* at the *format directive*'s point of use. See Section 22.3 (Formatted Output). "In `"~3,'0D"`, the number `3` and the character `#\0` are parameters to the `~D` format directive."

parameter specializer *n.* 1. (of a *method*) an *expression* which constrains the *method* to be applicable only to *argument* sequences in which the corresponding *argument* matches the *parameter specializer*. 2. a *class*, or a *list* `(eql` *object*`)`.

parameter specializer name *n.* 1. (of a *method* definition) an expression used in code to name a *parameter specializer*. See Section 7.6.2 (Introduction to Methods). 2. a *class*, a *symbol* naming a *class*, or a *list* `(eql` *form*`)`.

pathname *n.* an *object* of *type* **pathname**, which is a structured representation of the name of a *file*. A *pathname* has six components: a "host," a "device," a "directory," a "name," a "type," and a "version."

pathname designator *n.* a *designator* for a *pathname*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *pathname* and that is one of: a *pathname namestring* (denoting the corresponding *pathname*), a *stream associated with a file* (denoting the *pathname* used to open the *file*; this may be, but is not required to be, the actual name of the *file*), or a *pathname* (denoting itself). See Section 21.1.1.1.2 (Open and Closed Streams).

physical pathname *n.* a *pathname* that is not a *logical pathname*.

place *n.* 1. a *form* which is suitable for use as a *generalized reference*. 2. the conceptual location referred to by such a $place_1$.

plist [ˈpē͵list] *n.* a *property list*.

portable *adj.* (of *code*) required to produce equivalent results and observable side effects in all *conforming implementations*.

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potential copy *n.* (of an *object* O_1 subject to constriants) an *object* O_2 that if the specified constraints are satisfied by O_1 without any modification might or might not be *identical* to O_1, or else that must be a *fresh object* that resembles a *copy* of O_1 except that it has been modified as necessary to satisfy the constraints.

potential number *n.* A textual notation that might be parsed by the *Lisp reader* in some *conforming implementation* as a *number* but is not required to be parsed as a *number*. No *object* is a *potential number*—either an *object* is a *number* or it is not. See Section 2.3.1.1 (Potential Numbers as Tokens).

pprint dispatch table *n.* an *object* that can be the *value* of ***print-pprint-dispatch*** and hence can control how *objects* are printed when ***print-pretty*** is *true*. See Section 22.2.1.4 (Pretty Print Dispatch Tables).

predicate *n.* a *function* that returns a *generalized boolean* as its first value.

present *n.* 1. (of a *feature* in a *Lisp image*) a state of being that is in effect if and only if the *symbol* naming the *feature* is an *element* of the *features list*. 2. (of a *symbol* in a *package*) being accessible in that *package* directly, rather than being inherited from another *package*.

pretty print *v.t.* (an *object*) to invoke the *pretty printer* on the *object*.

pretty printer *n.* the procedure that prints the character representation of an *object* onto a *stream* when the *value* of ***print-pretty*** is *true*, and that uses layout techniques (*e.g.*, indentation) that tend to highlight the structure of the *object* in a way that makes it easier for human readers to parse visually. See the *variable* ***print-pprint-dispatch*** and Section 22.2 (The Lisp Pretty Printer).

pretty printing stream *n.* a *stream* that does pretty printing. Such streams are created by the *function* **pprint-logical-block** as a link between the output stream and the logical block.

primary method *n.* a member of one of two sets of *methods* (the set of *auxiliary methods* is the other) that form an exhaustive partition of the set of *methods* on the *method*'s *generic function*. How these sets are determined is dependent on the *method combination* type; see Section 7.6.2 (Introduction to Methods).

primary value *n.* (of *values* resulting from the *evaluation* of a *form*) the first *value*, if any, or else **nil** if there are no *values*. "The primary value returned by **truncate** is an integer quotient, truncated toward zero."

principal *adj.* (of a value returned by a Common Lisp *function* that implements a mathematically irrational or transcendental function defined in the complex domain) of possibly many (sometimes an infinite number of) correct values for the mathematical function, being the particular *value* which the corresponding Common Lisp *function* has been defined to return.

print name *n. Trad.* (usually of a *symbol*) a $name_3$.

printer control variable *n.* a *variable* whose specific purpose is to control some action of the *Lisp printer*; that is, one of the *variables* in Figure 22–1, or else some *implementation-defined variable* which is defined by the *implementation* to be a *printer control variable*.

printer escaping *n.* The combined state of the *printer control variables* ***print-escape*** and ***print-readably***. If the value of either ***print-readably*** or ***print-escape*** is *true*, then ***printer escaping*** is "enabled"; otherwise (if the values of both ***print-readably*** and ***print-escape*** are *false*), then *printer escaping* is "disabled".

printing *adj.* (of a *character*) being a *graphic character* other than *space*.

process *v.t.* (a *form* by the *compiler*) to perform *minimal compilation*, determining the time of evaluation for a *form*, and possibly *evaluating* that *form* (if required).

processor *n., ANSI* an *implementation*.

proclaim *v.t.* (a *proclamation*) to *establish* that *proclamation*.

proclamation *n.* a *global declaration*.

prog tag *n. Trad.* a *go tag*.

program *n. Trad.* Common Lisp *code*.

programmer *n.* an active entity, typically a human, that writes a *program*, and that might or might not also be a *user* of the *program*.

programmer code *n. code* that is supplied by the programmer; that is, *code* that is not *system code*.

proper list *n.* A *list* terminated by the *empty list*. (The *empty list* is a *proper list*.) See *improper list*.

proper name *n.* (of a *class*) a *symbol* that *names* the *class* whose *name* is that *symbol*. See the *functions* **class-name** and **find-class**.

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proper sequence *n.* a *sequence* which is not an *improper list*; that is, a *vector* or a *proper list*.

proper subtype *n.* (of a *type*) a *subtype* of the *type* which is not the *same type* as the *type* (*i.e.*, its *elements* are a "proper subset" of the *type*).

property *n.* (of a *property list*) 1. a conceptual pairing of a *property indicator* and its associated *property value* on a *property list*. 2. a *property value*.

property indicator *n.* (of a *property list*) the *name* part of a *property*, used as a *key* when looking up a *property value* on a *property list*.

property list *n.* 1. a *list* containing an even number of *elements* that are alternating *names* (sometimes called *indicators* or *keys*) and *values* (sometimes called *properties*). When there is more than one *name* and *value* pair with the *identical name* in a *property list*, the first such pair determines the *property*. 2. (of a *symbol*) the component of the *symbol* containing a *property list*.

property value *n.* (of a *property indicator* on a *property list*) the *object* associated with the *property indicator* on the *property list*.

purports to conform *v.* makes a good-faith claim of conformance. This term expresses intention to conform, regardless of whether the goal of that intention is realized in practice. For example, language implementations have been known to have bugs, and while an *implementation* of this specification with bugs might not be a *conforming implementation*, it can still *purport to conform*. This is an important distinction in certain specific cases; *e.g.*, see the *variable* ***features***.

Q

qualified method *n.* a *method* that has one or more *qualifiers*.

qualifier *n.* (of a *method* for a *generic function*) one of possibly several *objects* used to annotate the *method* in a way that identifies its role in the *method combination*. The *method combination type* determines how many *qualifiers* are permitted for each *method*, which *qualifiers* are permitted, and the semantics of those *qualifiers*.

query I/O *n.* the *bidirectional stream* that is the *value* of the *variable* ***query-io***.

quoted object *n.* an *object* which is the second element of a **quote** *form*.

R

radix *n.* an *integer* between 2 and 36, inclusive, which can be used to designate a base with respect to which certain kinds of numeric input or output are performed. (There are *n* valid digit characters for any given *radix n*, and those digits are the first *n* digits in the sequence `0`, `1`, ..., `9`, `A`, `B`, ..., `Z`, which have the weights `0`, `1`, ..., `9`, `10`, `11`, ..., `35`, respectively. Case is not significant in parsing numbers of radix greater than `10`, so "9b8a" and "9B8A" denote the same *radix* `16` number.)

random state *n.* an *object* of *type* **random-state**.

rank *n.* a non-negative *integer* indicating the number of *dimensions* of an *array*.

ratio *n.* an *object* of *type* **ratio**.

ratio marker *n.* a character which is used in the textual notation for a *ratio* to separate the numerator from the denominator, and which is *slash* in the *standard readtable*. See Section 2.1 (Character Syntax).

rational *n.* an *object* of *type* **rational**.

read *v.t.* 1. (a *binding* or *slot* or component) to obtain the *value* of the *binding* or *slot*. 2. (an *object* from a *stream*) to parse an *object* from its representation on the *stream*.

readably *adv.* (of a manner of printing an *object* O_1) in such a way as to permit the *Lisp Reader* to later *parse* the printed output into an *object* O_2 that is *similar* to O_1.

reader *n.* 1. a *function* that *reads*$_1$ a *variable* or *slot*. 2. the *Lisp reader*.

reader macro *n.* 1. a textual notation introduced by dispatch on one or two *characters* that defines special-purpose syntax for use by the *Lisp reader*, and that is implemented by a *reader macro function*. See Section 2.2 (Reader Algorithm). 2. the *character* or *characters* that introduce a *reader macro*$_1$; that is, a *macro character* or the conceptual pairing of a *dispatching macro character* and the *character* that follows it. (A *reader macro* is not a kind of *macro*.)

reader macro function *n.* a *function designator* that denotes a *function* that implements a *reader macro*$_2$. See the *functions* **set-macro-character** and **set-dispatch-macro-character**.

readtable *n.* an *object* of *type* **readtable**.

readtable case *n.* an attribute of a *readtable* whose value is a *case sensitivity mode*, and that selects the manner in which *characters* in a *symbol*'s *name* are to be treated by the *Lisp reader* and the *Lisp printer*. See Section 23.1.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Reader) and Section 22.1.3.3.2 (Effect of Readtable Case on the Lisp Printer).

readtable designator *n.* a *designator* for a *readtable*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *readtable* and that is one of: **nil** (denoting the *standard readtable*), or a *readtable* (denoting itself).

recognizable subtype *n.* (of a *type*) a *subtype* of the *type* which can be reliably detected to be such by the *implementation*. See the *function* **subtypep**.

reference *n.*, *v.t.* 1. *n.* an act or occurrence of referring to an *object*, a *binding*, an *exit point*, a *tag*, or an *environment*. 2. *v.t.* to refer to an *object*, a *binding*, an *exit point*, a *tag*, or an *environment*, usually by *name*.

registered package *n.* a *package object* that is installed in the *package registry*. (Every *registered package* has a *name* that is a *string*, as well as zero or more *string* nicknames. All *packages* that are initially specified by Common Lisp or created by **make-package** or **defpackage** are *registered packages*. *Registered packages* can be turned into *unregistered packages* by **delete-package**.)

relative *adj.* 1. (of a *time*) representing an offset from an *absolute time* in the units appropriate to that time. For example, a *relative internal time* is the difference between two *absolute internal times*, and is measured in *internal time units*. 2. (of a *pathname*) representing a position in a directory hierarchy by motion from a position other than the root, which might therefore vary. "The notation `#P"../foo.text"` denotes a relative pathname if the host file system is Unix." See *absolute*.

repertoire *n.*, *ISO* a *subtype* of **character**. See Section 13.1.2.2 (Character Repertoires).

report *n.* (of a *condition*) to *call* the *function* **print-object** on the *condition* in an *environment* where the *value* of ***print-escape*** is *false*.

report message *n.* the text that is output by a *condition reporter*.

required parameter *n.* A *parameter* for which a corresponding positional *argument* must be supplied when *calling* the *function*.

rest list *n.* (of a *function* having a *rest parameter*) The *list* to which the *rest parameter* is *bound* on some particular *call* to the *function*.

rest parameter *n.* A *parameter* which was introduced by **&rest**.

restart *n.* an *object* of *type* **restart**.

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restart designator *n.* a *designator* for a *restart*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *restart* and that is one of: a *non-nil symbol* (denoting the most recently established *active restart* whose *name* is that *symbol*), or a *restart* (denoting itself).

restart function *n.* a *function* that invokes a *restart*, as if by **invoke-restart**. The primary purpose of a *restart function* is to provide an alternate interface. By convention, a *restart function* usually has the same name as the *restart* which it invokes. Figure 26–4 shows a list of the *standardized restart functions*.

abort	**muffle-warning**	**use-value**
continue	**store-value**	

Figure 26–4. Standardized Restart Functions

return *v.t.* (of *values*) 1. (from a *block*) to transfer control and *values* from the *block*; that is, to cause the *block* to *yield* the *values* immediately without doing any further evaluation of the *forms* in its body. 2. (from a *form*) to *yield* the *values*.

return value *n. Trad.* a *value*$_1$

right-parenthesis *n.* the *standard character* ")", that is variously called "right parenthesis" or "close parenthesis" See Figure 2–5.

run time *n.* 1. *load time* 2. *execution time*

run-time compiler *n.* refers to the **compile** function or to *implicit compilation*, for which the compilation and run-time *environments* are maintained in the same *Lisp image*.

run-time definition *n.* a definition in the *run-time environment*.

run-time environment *n.* the *environment* in which a program is *executed*.

S

safe *adj.* 1. (of *code*) processed in a *lexical environment* where the the highest **safety** level (3) was in effect. See **optimize**. 2. (of a *call*) a *safe call*.

safe call *n.* a *call* in which the *call*, the *function* being *called*, and the point of *functional evaluation* are all *safe*$_1$ *code*. For more detailed information, see Section 3.5.1.1 (Safe and Unsafe Calls).

same *adj.* 1. (of *objects* under a specified *predicate*) indistinguishable by that *predicate*. "The symbol `car`, the string `"car"`, and the string `"CAR"` are the `same` under

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string-equal". 2. (of *objects* if no predicate is implied by context) indistinguishable by **eql**. Note that **eq** might be capable of distinguishing some *numbers* and *characters* which **eql** cannot distinguish, but the nature of such, if any, is *implementation-dependent*. Since **eq** is used only rarely in this specification, **eql** is the default predicate when none is mentioned explicitly. "The conses returned by two successive calls to **cons** are never the same." 3. (of *types*) having the same set of *elements*; that is, each *type* is a *subtype* of the others. "The types specified by `(integer 0 1)`, `(unsigned-byte 1)`, and `bit` are the same."

satisfy the test *v.* (of an *object* being considered by a *sequence function*) 1. (for a one *argument* test) to be in a state such that the *function* which is the ***predicate*** *argument* to the *sequence function* returns *true* when given a single *argument* that is the result of calling the *sequence function*'s ***key*** *argument* on the *object* being considered. See Section 17.2.2 (Satisfying a One-Argument Test). 2. (for a two *argument* test) to be in a state such that the two-place *predicate* which is the *sequence function*'s ***test*** *argument* returns *true* when given a first *argument* that is the *object* being considered, and when given a second *argument* that is the result of calling the *sequence function*'s ***key*** *argument* on an *element* of the *sequence function*'s ***sequence*** *argument* which is being tested for equality; or to be in a state such that the ***test-not*** *function* returns *false* given the same *arguments*. See Section 17.2.1 (Satisfying a Two-Argument Test).

scope *n.* the structural or textual region of code in which *references* to an *object*, a *binding*, an *exit point*, a *tag*, or an *environment* (usually by *name*) can occur.

script *n. ISO* one of possibly several sets that form an *exhaustive partition* of the type **character**. See Section 13.1.2.1 (Character Scripts).

secondary value *n.* (of *values* resulting from the *evaluation* of a *form*) the second *value*, if any, or else **nil** if there are fewer than two *values*. "The secondary value returned by **truncate** is a remainder."

section *n.* a partitioning of output by a *conditional newline* on a *pretty printing stream*. See Section 22.2.1.1 (Dynamic Control of the Arrangement of Output).

self-evaluating object *n.* an *object* that is neither a *symbol* nor a *cons*. If a *self-evaluating object* is *evaluated*, it *yields* itself as its only *value*. "Strings are self-evaluating objects."

semi-standard *adj.* (of a language feature) not required to be implemented by any *conforming implementation*, but nevertheless recommended as the canonical approach in situations where an *implementation* does plan to support such a feature. The presence of *semi-standard* aspects in the language is intended to lessen portability problems and reduce the risk of gratuitous divergence among *implementations* that might stand in the way of future standardization.

semicolon *n.* the *standard character* that is called "semicolon" (;). See Figure 2–5.

sequence *n.* 1. an ordered collection of elements 2. a *vector* or a *list*.

sequence function *n.* one of the *functions* in Figure 17–1, or an *implementation-defined function* that operates on one or more *sequences*. and that is defined by the *implementation* to be a *sequence function*.

sequential *adj. Trad.* (of *binding* or *assignment*) done in the style of **setq**, **let***, or **do***; that is, interleaving the evaluation of the *forms* that produce *values* with the *assignments* or *bindings* of the *variables* (or *places*). See *parallel*.

sequentially *adv.* in a *sequential* way.

serious condition *n.* a *condition* of *type* **serious-condition**, which represents a *situation* that is generally sufficiently severe that entry into the *debugger* should be expected if the *condition* is *signaled* but not *handled*.

session *n.* the conceptual aggregation of events in a *Lisp image* from the time it is started to the time it is terminated.

set *v.t. Trad.* (any *variable* or a *symbol* that is the *name* of a *dynamic variable*) to *assign* the *variable*.

setf expander *n.* a function used by **setf** to compute the *setf expansion* of a *place*.

setf expansion *n.* a set of five $expressions_1$ that, taken together, describe how to store into a *place* and which *subforms* of the macro call associated with the *place* are evaluated. See Section 5.1.1.2 (Setf Expansions).

setf function *n.* a *function* whose *name* is `(setf` *symbol*`)`.

setf function name *n.* (of a *symbol S*) the *list* `(setf` *S*`)`.

shadow *v.t.* 1. to override the meaning of. "That binding of `X` shadows an outer one." 2. to hide the presence of. "That **macrolet** of `F` shadows the outer **flet** of `F`." 3. to replace. "That package shadows the symbol `cl:car` with its own symbol `car`."

shadowing symbol *n.* (in a *package*) an *element* of the *package*'s *shadowing symbols list*.

shadowing symbols list *n.* (of a *package*) a *list*, associated with the *package*, of *symbols* that are to be exempted from 'symbol conflict errors' detected when packages are *used*. See the *function* **package-shadowing-symbols**.

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shared slot *n.* (of a *class*) a *slot accessible* in more than one *instance* of a *class*; specifically, such a *slot* is *accessible* in all *direct instances* of the *class* and in those *indirect instances* whose *class* does not $shadow_1$ the *slot*.

sharpsign *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "number sign," "sharp," or "sharp sign" (#). See Figure 2–5.

short float *n.* an *object* of *type* **short-float**.

sign *n.* one of the *standard characters* "+" or "-".

signal *v.* to announce, using a standard protocol, that a particular situation, represented by a *condition*, has been detected. See Section 9.1 (Condition System Concepts).

signature *n.* (of a *method*) a description of the *parameters* and *parameter specializers* for the *method* which determines the *method*'s applicability for a given set of required *arguments*, and which also describes the *argument* conventions for its other, non-required *arguments*.

similar *adj.* (of two *objects*) defined to be equivalent under the *similarity* relationship.

similarity *n.* a two-place conceptual equivalence predicate, which is independent of the *Lisp image* so that two *objects* in different *Lisp images* can be understood to be equivalent under this predicate. See Section 3.2.4 (Literal Objects in Compiled Files).

simple *adj.* 1. (of an *array*) being of *type* **simple-array**. 2. (of a *character*) having no *implementation-defined attributes*, or else having *implementation-defined attributes* each of which has the *null* value for that *attribute*.

simple array *n.* an *array* of *type* **simple-array**.

simple bit array *n.* a *bit array* that is a *simple array*; that is, an *object* of *type* `(simple-array bit)`.

simple bit vector *n.* a *bit vector* of *type* **simple-bit-vector**.

simple condition *n.* a *condition* of *type* **simple-condition**.

simple general vector *n.* a *simple vector*.

simple string *n.* a *string* of *type* **simple-string**.

simple vector *n.* a *vector* of *type* **simple-vector**, sometimes called a "*simple general vector*." Not all *vectors* that are *simple* are *simple vectors*—only those that have *element type* `t`.

single escape *n.*, *adj.* 1. *n.* the *syntax type* of a *character* that indicates that the next *character* is to be treated as an *alphabetic*$_2$ *character* with its *case* preserved. For details, see Section 2.1.4.6 (Single Escape Character). 2. *adj.* (of a *character*) having the *single escape syntax type*. 3. *n.* a *single escape*$_2$ *character*. (In the *standard readtable*, *slash* is the only *single escape*.)

single float *n.* an *object* of *type* **single-float**.

single-quote *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "apostrophe," "acute accent," "quote," or "single quote" (`'`). See Figure 2–5.

singleton *adj.* (of a *sequence*) having only one *element*. "`(list 'hello)` returns a singleton list."

situation *n.* the *evaluation* of a *form* in a specific *environment*.

slash *n.* the *standard character* that is variously called "solidus" or "slash" (`/`). See Figure 2–5.

slot *n.* a component of an *object* that can store a *value*.

slot specifier *n.* a representation of a *slot* that includes the *name* of the *slot* and zero or more *slot* options. A *slot* option pertains only to a single *slot*.

source code *n.* *code* representing *objects* suitable for *evaluation* (*e.g.*, *objects* created by **read**, by *macro expansion*, or by *compiler macro expansion*).

source file *n.* a *file* which contains a textual representation of *source code*, that can be edited, *loaded*, or *compiled*.

space *n.* the *standard character* ⟨*Space*⟩, notated for the *Lisp reader* as `#\Space`.

special form *n.* a *list*, other than a *macro form*, which is a *form* with special syntax or special *evaluation* rules or both, possibly manipulating the *evaluation environment* or control flow or both. The first element of a *special form* is a *special operator*.

special operator *n.* one of a fixed set of *symbols*, enumerated in Figure 3–2, that may appear in the *car* of a *form* in order to identify the *form* as a *special form*.

special variable *n.* *Trad.* a *dynamic variable*.

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specialize *v.t.* (a *generic function*) to define a *method* for the *generic function*, or in other words, to refine the behavior of the *generic function* by giving it a specific meaning for a particular set of *classes* or *arguments*.

specialized *adj.* 1. (of a *generic function*) having *methods* which *specialize* the *generic function*. 2. (of an *array*) having an *actual array element type* that is a *proper subtype* of the *type* `t`; see Section 15.1.1 (Array Elements). "`(make-array 5 :element-type 'bit)` makes an array of length five that is specialized for bits."

specialized lambda list *n.* an *extended lambda list* used in *forms* that *establish method* definitions, such as **defmethod**. See Section 3.4.3 (Specialized Lambda Lists).

spreadable argument list designator *n.* a *designator* for a *list* of *objects*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *list* and that is a *non-null list* $L1$ of length n, whose last element is a *list* $L2$ of length m (denoting a list $L3$ of length $m+n-1$ whose *elements* are $L1_i$ for $i < n-1$ followed by $L2_j$ for $j < m$). "The list (1 2 (3 4 5)) is a spreadable argument list designator for the list (1 2 3 4 5)."

stack allocate *v.t.* *Trad.* to allocate in a non-permanent way, such as on a stack. Stack-allocation is an optimization technique used in some *implementations* for allocating certain kinds of *objects* that have *dynamic extent*. Such *objects* are allocated on the stack rather than in the heap so that their storage can be freed as part of unwinding the stack rather than taking up space in the heap until the next garbage collection. What *types* (if any) can have *dynamic extent* can vary from *implementation* to *implementation*. No *implementation* is ever required to perform stack-allocation.

stack-allocated *adj.* *Trad.* having been *stack allocated*.

standard character *n.* a *character* of *type* **standard-char**, which is one of a fixed set of 96 such *characters* required to be present in all *conforming implementations*. See Section 2.1.3 (Standard Characters).

standard class *n.* a *class* that is a *generalized instance* of *class* **standard-class**.

standard generic function a *function* of *type* **standard-generic-function**.

standard input *n.* the *input stream* which is the *value* of the *dynamic variable* ***standard-input***.

standard method combination *n.* the *method combination* named **standard**.

standard object *n.* an *object* that is a *generalized instance* of *class* **standard-object**.

standard output *n.* the *output stream* which is the *value* of the *dynamic variable* ***standard-output***.

standard pprint dispatch table *n.* A *pprint dispatch table* that is *different* from the *initial pprint dispatch table*, that implements *pretty printing* as described in this specification, and that, unlike other *pprint dispatch tables*, must never be modified by any program. (Although the definite reference "the *standard pprint dispatch table*" is generally used within this document, it is actually *implementation-dependent* whether a single *object* fills the role of the *standard pprint dispatch table*, or whether there might be multiple such objects, any one of which could be used on any given occasion where "the *standard pprint dispatch table*" is called for. As such, this phrase should be seen as an indefinite reference in all cases except for anaphoric references.)

standard readtable *n.* A *readtable* that is *different* from the *initial readtable*, that implements the *expression* syntax defined in this specification, and that, unlike other *readtables*, must never be modified by any program. (Although the definite reference "the *standard readtable*" is generally used within this document, it is actually *implementation-dependent* whether a single *object* fills the role of the *standard readtable*, or whether there might be multiple such objects, any one of which could be used on any given occasion where "the *standard readtable*" is called for. As such, this phrase should be seen as an indefinite reference in all cases except for anaphoric references.)

standard syntax *n.* the syntax represented by the *standard readtable* and used as a reference syntax throughout this document. See Section 2.1 (Character Syntax).

standardized *adj.* (of a *name*, *object*, or definition) having been defined by Common Lisp. "All standardized variables that are required to hold bidirectional streams have "`-io*`" in their name."

startup environment *n.* the *global environment* of the running *Lisp image* from which the *compiler* was invoked.

step *v.t.*, *n.* 1. *v.t.* (an iteration *variable*) to *assign* the *variable* a new *value* at the end of an iteration, in preparation for a new iteration. 2. *n.* the *code* that identifies how the next value in an iteration is to be computed. 3. *v.t.* (*code*) to specially execute the *code*, pausing at intervals to allow user confirmation or intervention, usually for debugging.

stream *n.* an *object* that can be used with an input or output function to identify an appropriate source or sink of *characters* or *bytes* for that operation.

stream associated with a file *n.* a *file stream*, or a *synonym stream* the *target* of which is a *stream associated with a file*. Such a *stream* cannot be created with **make-two-way-stream**, **make-echo-stream**, **make-broadcast-stream**, **make-concatenated-stream**, **make-string-input-stream**, or **make-string-output-stream**.

stream designator *n.* a *designator* for a *stream*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *stream* and that is one of: **t** (denoting the *value* of ***terminal-io***), **nil** (denoting the *value* of ***standard-input*** for *input stream designators* or denoting the *value* of ***standard-output*** for *output stream designators*), or a *stream* (denoting itself).

stream element type *n.* (of a *stream*) the *type* of data for which the *stream* is specialized.

stream variable *n.* a *variable* whose *value* must be a *stream*.

stream variable designator *n.* a *designator* for a *stream variable*; that is, a *symbol* that denotes a *stream variable* and that is one of: **t** (denoting ***terminal-io***), **nil** (denoting ***standard-input*** for *input stream variable designators* or denoting ***standard-output*** for *output stream variable designators*), or some other *symbol* (denoting itself).

string *n.* a specialized *vector* that is of *type* **string**, and whose elements are of *type* **character** or a *subtype* of *type* **character**.

string designator *n.* a *designator* for a *string*; that is, an *object* that denotes a *string* and that is one of: a *character* (denoting a *singleton string* that has the *character* as its only *element*), a *symbol* (denoting the *string* that is its *name*), or a *string* (denoting itself). The intent is that this term be consistent with the behavior of **string**; *implementations* that extend **string** must extend the meaning of this term in a compatible way.

string equal *adj.* the *same* under **string-equal**.

string stream *n.* a *stream* of *type* **string-stream**.

structure *n.* an *object* of *type* **structure-object**.

structure class *n.* a *class* that is a *generalized instance* of *class* **structure-class**.

structure name *n.* a *name* defined with **defstruct**. Usually, such a *type* is also a *structure class*, but there may be *implementation-dependent* situations in which this is not so, if the `:type` option to **defstruct** is used.

style warning *n.* a *condition* of *type* **style-warning**.

subclass *n.* a *class* that *inherits* from another *class*, called a *superclass*. (No *class* is a *subclass* of itself.)

subexpression *n.* (of an *expression*) an *expression* that is contained within the *expression*. (In fact, the state of being a *subexpression* is not an attribute of the *subexpression*, but really an attribute of the containing *expression* since the *same object* can at once be a *subexpression* in one context, and not in another.)

subform *n.* (of a *form*) an *expression* that is a *subexpression* of the *form*, and which by virtue of its position in that *form* is also a *form*. "`(f x)` and `x`, but not `exit`, are subforms of `(return-from exit (f x))`."

subrepertoire *n.* a subset of a *repertoire*.

subtype *n.* a *type* whose membership is the same as or a proper subset of the membership of another *type*, called a *supertype*. (Every *type* is a *subtype* of itself.)

superclass *n.* a *class* from which another *class* (called a *subclass*) *inherits*. (No *class* is a *superclass* of itself.) See *subclass*.

supertype *n.* a *type* whose membership is the same as or a proper superset of the membership of another *type*, called a *subtype*. (Every *type* is a *supertype* of itself.) See *subtype*.

supplied-p parameter *n.* a *parameter* which recieves its *generalized boolean* value implicitly due to the presence or absence of an *argument* corresponding to another *parameter* (such as an *optional parameter* or a *rest parameter*). See Section 3.4.1 (Ordinary Lambda Lists).

symbol *n.* an *object* of *type* **symbol**.

symbol macro *n.* a *symbol* that stands for another *form*. See the *macro* **symbol-macrolet**.

synonym stream *n.* 1. a *stream* of *type* **synonym-stream**, which is consequently a *stream* that is an alias for another *stream*, which is the *value* of a *dynamic variable* whose *name* is the *synonym stream symbol* of the *synonym stream*. See the *function* **make-synonym-stream**. 2. (to a *stream*) a *synonym stream* which has the *stream* as the *value* of its *synonym stream symbol*. 3. (to a *symbol*) a *synonym stream* which has the *symbol* as its *synonym stream symbol*.

synonym stream symbol *n.* (of a *synonym stream*) the *symbol* which names the *dynamic variable* which has as its *value* another *stream* for which the *synonym stream* is an alias.

syntax type *n.* (of a *character*) one of several classifications, enumerated in Figure 2–6, that are used for dispatch during parsing by the *Lisp reader*. See Section 2.1.4 (Character Syntax Types).

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system class *n.* a *class* that may be of *type* **built-in-class** in a *conforming implementation* and hence cannot be inherited by *classes* defined by *conforming programs*.

system code *n.* *code* supplied by the *implementation* to implement this specification (*e.g.*, the definition of **mapcar**) or generated automatically in support of this specification (*e.g.*, during method combination); that is, *code* that is not *programmer code*.

T

t *n.* 1. a. the *boolean* representing true. b. the canonical *generalized boolean* representing true. (Although any *object* other than **nil** is considered *true* as a *generalized boolean*, `t` is generally used when there is no special reason to prefer one such *object* over another.) 2. the *name* of the *type* to which all *objects* belong—the *supertype* of all *types* (including itself). 3. the *name* of the *superclass* of all *classes* except itself.

tag *n.* 1. a *catch tag*. 2. a *go tag*.

tail *n.* (of a *list*) an *object* that is the *same* as either some *cons* which makes up that *list* or the *atom* (if any) which terminates the *list*. "The empty list is a tail of every proper list."

target *n.* 1. (of a *constructed stream*) a *constituent* of the *constructed stream*. "The target of a synonym stream is the value of its synonym stream symbol." 2. (of a *displaced array*) the *array* to which the *displaced array* is displaced. (In the case of a chain of *constructed streams* or *displaced arrays*, the unqualified term "*target*" always refers to the immediate *target* of the first item in the chain, not the immediate target of the last item.)

terminal I/O *n.* the *bidirectional stream* that is the *value* of the *variable* ***terminal-io***.

terminating *n.* (of a *macro character*) being such that, if it appears while parsing a token, it terminates that token. See Section 2.2 (Reader Algorithm).

tertiary value *n.* (of *values* resulting from the *evaluation* of a *form*) the third *value*, if any, or else **nil** if there are fewer than three *values*.

throw *v.* to transfer control and *values* to a *catch*. See the *special operator* **throw**.

tilde *n.* the *standard character* that is called "tilde" (~). See Figure 2–5.

time a representation of a point (*absolute time*) or an interval (*relative time*) on a time line. See *decoded time*, *internal time*, and *universal time*.

time zone *n.* a *rational* multiple of `1/3600` between `-24` (inclusive) and `24` (inclusive) that represents a time zone as a number of hours offset from Greenwich Mean Time. Time zone values increase with motion to the west, so Massachusetts, U.S.A. is in time zone `5`, California, U.S.A. is time zone `8`, and Moscow, Russia is time zone *-3*. (When "daylight savings time" is separately represented as an *argument* or *return value*, the *time zone* that accompanies it does not depend on whether daylight savings time is in effect.)

token *n.* a textual representation for a *number* or a *symbol*. See Section 2.3 (Interpretation of Tokens).

top level form *n.* a *form* which is processed specially by **compile-file** for the purposes of enabling *compile time evaluation* of that *form*. *Top level forms* include those *forms* which are not *subforms* of any other *form*, and certain other cases. See Section 3.2.3.1 (Processing of Top Level Forms).

trace output *n.* the *output stream* which is the *value* of the *dynamic variable* ***trace-output***.

tree *n.* 1. a binary recursive data structure made up of *conses* and *atoms*: the *conses* are themselves also *trees* (sometimes called "subtrees" or "branches"), and the *atoms* are terminal nodes (sometimes called *leaves*). Typically, the *leaves* represent data while the branches establish some relationship among that data. 2. in general, any recursive data structure that has some notion of "branches" and *leaves*.

tree structure *n.* (of a $tree_1$) the set of *conses* that make up the *tree*. Note that while the car_{1b} component of each such *cons* is part of the *tree structure*, the *objects* that are the $cars_2$ of each *cons* in the *tree* are not themselves part of its *tree structure* unless they are also *conses*.

true *n.* any *object* that is not *false* and that is used to represent the success of a *predicate* test. See t_1.

truename *n.* 1. the canonical *filename* of a *file* in the *file system*. See Section 20.1.3 (Truenames). 2. a *pathname* representing a $truename_1$.

two-way stream *n.* a *stream* of *type* **two-way-stream**, which is a *bidirectional composite stream* that receives its input from an associated *input stream* and sends its output to an associated *output stream*.

type *n.* 1. a set of *objects*, usually with common structure, behavior, or purpose. (Note that the expression "X is of type S_a" naturally implies that "X is of type S_b" if S_a is a *subtype* of S_b.) 2. (immediately following the name of a *type*) a *subtype* of that *type*. "The type **vector** is an array type."

type declaration *n.* a *declaration* that asserts that every reference to a specified *binding* within the scope of the *declaration* results in some *object* of the specified *type*.

type equivalent *adj.* (of two *types* X and Y) having the same *elements*; that is, X is a *subtype* of Y and Y is a *subtype* of X.

type expand *n.* to fully expand a *type specifier*, removing any references to *derived types*. (Common Lisp provides no program interface to cause this to occur, but the semantics of Common Lisp are such that every *implementation* must be able to do this internally, and some situations involving *type specifiers* are most easily described in terms of a fully expanded *type specifier*.)

type specifier *n.* an *expression* that denotes a *type*. "The symbol `random-state`, the list `(integer 3 5)`, the list `(and list (not null))`, and the class named `standard-class` are type specifiers."

U

unbound *adj.* not having an associated denotation in a *binding*. See *bound*.

unbound variable *n.* a *name* that is syntactically plausible as the name of a *variable* but which is not *bound* in the *variable namespace*.

undefined function *n.* a *name* that is syntactically plausible as the name of a *function* but which is not *bound* in the *function namespace*.

unintern *v.t.* (a *symbol* in a *package*) to make the *symbol* not be *present* in that *package*. (The *symbol* might continue to be *accessible* by inheritance.)

uninterned *adj.* (of a *symbol*) not *accessible* in any *package*; *i.e.*, not $interned_1$.

universal time *n.* *time*, represented as a non-negative *integer* number of seconds. *Absolute universal time* is measured as an offset from the beginning of the year 1900 (ignoring *leap seconds*). See Section 25.1.4.2 (Universal Time).

unqualified method *n.* a *method* with no *qualifiers*.

unregistered package *n.* a *package object* that is not present in the *package registry*. An *unregistered package* has no *name*; *i.e.*, its *name* is **nil**. See the *function* **delete-package**.

unsafe *adj.* (of *code*) not *safe*. (Note that, unless explicitly specified otherwise, if a particular kind of error checking is guaranteed only in a *safe* context, the same checking might or might not occur in that context if it were *unsafe*; describing a context as *unsafe* means that certain kinds of error checking are not reliably enabled but does not guarantee that error checking is definitely disabled.)

unsafe call *n.* a *call* that is not a *safe call*. For more detailed information, see Section 3.5.1.1 (Safe and Unsafe Calls).

upgrade *v.t.* (a declared *type* to an actual *type*) 1. (when creating an *array*) to substitute an *actual array element type* for an *expressed array element type* when choosing an appropriately *specialized array* representation. See the *function* **upgraded-array-element-type**. 2. (when creating a *complex*) to substitute an *actual complex part type* for an *expressed complex part type* when choosing an appropriately *specialized complex* representation. See the *function* **upgraded-complex-part-type**.

upgraded array element type *n.* (of a *type*) a *type* that is a *supertype* of the *type* and that is used instead of the *type* whenever the *type* is used as an *array element type* for object creation or type discrimination. See Section 15.1.2.1 (Array Upgrading).

upgraded complex part type *n.* (of a *type*) a *type* that is a *supertype* of the *type* and that is used instead of the *type* whenever the *type* is used as a *complex part type* for object creation or type discrimination. See the *function* **upgraded-complex-part-type**.

uppercase *adj.* (of a *character*) being among *standard characters* corresponding to the capital letters `A` through `Z`, or being some other *implementation-defined character* that is defined by the *implementation* to be *uppercase*. See Section 13.1.4.3 (Characters With Case).

use *v.t.* (a *package* P_1) to *inherit* the *external symbols* of P_1. (If a package P_2 uses P_1, the *external symbols* of P_1 become *internal symbols* of P_2 unless they are explicitly *exported*.) "The package `CL-USER` uses the package `CL`."

use list *n.* (of a *package*) a (possibly empty) *list* associated with each *package* which determines what other *packages* are currently being *used* by that *package*.

user *n.* an active entity, typically a human, that invokes or interacts with a *program* at run time, but that is not necessarily a *programmer*.

V

valid array dimension *n.* a *fixnum* suitable for use as an *array dimension*. Such a *fixnum* must be greater than or equal to zero, and less than the *value* of **array-dimension-limit**. When multiple *array dimensions* are to be used together to specify a multi-dimensional *array*, there is also an implied constraint that the product of all of the *dimensions* be less than the *value* of **array-total-size-limit**.

valid array index *n.* (of an *array*) a *fixnum* suitable for use as one of possibly several indices needed to name an *element* of the *array* according to a multi-dimensional Cartesian coordinate system. Such a *fixnum* must be greater than or equal to zero, and must be less than the corresponding $dimension_1$ of the *array*. (Unless otherwise explicitly specified, the phrase "a *list* of *valid array indices*" further implies that the *length* of the *list* must be the same as the *rank* of the *array*.) "For a `2` by `3` array, valid array indices for the first dimension are `0` and `1`, and valid array indices for the second dimension are `0`, `1` and `2`."

valid array row-major index *n.* (of an *array*, which might have any number of $dimensions_2$) a single *fixnum* suitable for use in naming any *element* of the *array*, by viewing the array's storage as a linear series of *elements* in row-major order. Such a *fixnum* must be greater than or equal to zero, and less than the *array total size* of the *array*.

valid fill pointer *n.* (of an *array*) a *fixnum* suitable for use as a *fill pointer* for the *array*. Such a *fixnum* must be greater than or equal to zero, and less than or equal to the *array total size* of the *array*.

valid logical pathname host *n.* a *string* that has been defined as the name of a *logical host*. See the *function* **load-logical-pathname-translations**.

valid pathname device *n.* a *string*, **nil**, `:unspecific`, or some other *object* defined by the *implementation* to be a *valid pathname device*.

valid pathname directory *n.* a *string*, a *list* of *strings*, **nil**, `:wild`, `:unspecific`, or some other *object* defined by the *implementation* to be a *valid directory component*.

valid pathname host *n.* a *valid physical pathname host* or a *valid logical pathname host*.

valid pathname name *n.* a *string*, **nil**, `:wild`, `:unspecific`, or some other *object* defined by the *implementation* to be a *valid pathname name*.

valid pathname type *n.* a *string*, **nil**, `:wild`, `:unspecific`.

valid pathname version *n.* a non-negative *integer*, or one of `:wild`, `:newest`, `:unspecific`, or **nil**. The symbols `:oldest`, `:previous`, and `:installed` are *semi-standard* special version symbols.

valid physical pathname host *n.* any of a *string*, a *list* of *strings*, or the symbol `:unspecific`, that is recognized by the implementation as the name of a host.

valid sequence index *n.* (of a *sequence*) an *integer* suitable for use to name an *element* of the *sequence*. Such an *integer* must be greater than or equal to zero, and must be less than the *length* of the *sequence*. (If the *sequence* is an *array*, the *valid sequence index* is further constrained to be a *fixnum*.)

value *n.* 1. a. one of possibly several *objects* that are the result of an *evaluation*. b. (in a situation where exactly one value is expected from the *evaluation* of a *form*) the *primary value* returned by the *form*. c. (of *forms* in an *implicit progn*) one of possibly several *objects* that result from the *evaluation* of the last *form*, or **nil** if there are no *forms*. 2. an *object* associated with a *name* in a *binding*. 3. (of a *symbol*) the *value* of the *dynamic variable* named by that symbol. 4. an *object* associated with a *key* in an *association list*, a *property list*, or a *hash table*.

value cell *n. Trad.* (of a *symbol*) The *place* which holds the *value*, if any, of the *dynamic variable* named by that *symbol*, and which is *accessed* by **symbol-value**. See *cell*.

variable *n.* a *binding* in the "variable" *namespace*. See Section 3.1.2.1.1 (Symbols as Forms).

vector *n.* a one-dimensional *array*.

vertical-bar *n.* the *standard character* that is called "vertical bar" (|). See Figure 2–5.

W

whitespace *n.* 1. one or more *characters* that are either the *graphic character* `#\Space` or else *non-graphic* characters such as `#\Newline` that only move the print position. 2. a. *n.* the *syntax type* of a *character* that is a *token* separator. For details, see Section 2.1.4.7 (Whitespace Characters). b. *adj.* (of a *character*) having the *whitespace*$_{2a}$ *syntax type*$_2$. c. *n.* a *whitespace*$_{2b}$ *character*.

wild *adj.* 1. (of a *namestring*) using an *implementation-defined* syntax for naming files, which might "match" any of possibly several possible *filenames*, and which can therefore be used to refer to the aggregate of the *files* named by those *filenames*. 2. (of a *pathname*) a structured representation of a name which might "match" any of possibly several *pathnames*, and which can therefore be used to refer to the aggregate of the *files* named by those *pathnames*. The set of *wild pathnames* includes, but is not restricted to, *pathnames* which have a component which is `:wild`, or which have a directory component which contains `:wild` or `:wild-inferors`. See the *function* **wild-pathname-p**.

write *v.t.* 1. (a *binding* or *slot* or component) to change the *value* of the *binding* or *slot*. 2. (an *object* to a *stream*) to output a representation of the *object* to the *stream*.

writer *n.* a *function* that *writes*$_1$ a *variable* or *slot*.

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yield *v.t.* (*values*) to produce the *values* as the result of *evaluation*. "The form `(+ 2 3)` yields `5`."

Programming Language—Common Lisp

A. Appendix

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A.1 Removed Language Features

A.1.1 Requirements for removed and deprecated features

For this standard, some features from the language described in *Common Lisp: The Language* have been removed, and others have been deprecated (and will most likely not appear in future Common Lisp standards). Which features were removed and which were deprecated was decided on a case-by-case basis by the X3J13 committee.

Conforming implementations that wish to retain any removed features for compatibility must assure that such compatibility does not interfere with the correct function of *conforming programs*. For example, symbols corresponding to the names of removed functions may not appear in the the `COMMON-LISP` *package*. (Note, however, that this specification has been devised in such a way that there can be a package named `LISP` which can contain such symbols.)

Conforming implementations must implement all deprecated features. For a list of deprecated features, see Section 1.8 (Deprecated Language Features).

A.1.2 Removed Types

The *type* `string-char` was removed.

A.1.3 Removed Operators

The functions `int-char`, `char-bits`, `char-font`, `make-char`, `char-bit`, `set-char-bit`, `string-char-p`, and `commonp` were removed.

The *special operator* `compiler-let` was removed.

A.1.4 Removed Argument Conventions

The *font* argument to **digit-char** was removed. The *bits* and *font* arguments to **code-char** were removed.

A.1.5 Removed Variables

The variables `char-font-limit`, `char-bits-limit`, `char-control-bit`, `char-meta-bit`, `char-super-bit`, `char-hyper-bit`, and `*break-on-warnings*` were removed.

A.1.6 Removed Reader Syntax

The "`#,`" *reader macro* in *standard syntax* was removed.

A.1.7 Packages No Longer Required

The *packages* `LISP`, `USER`, and `SYSTEM` are no longer required. It is valid for *packages* with one or more of these names to be provided by a *conforming implementation* as extensions.

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