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# Welcome to GML+ - Essential Extensions for the Way You Work 



At XGASOFT, we love GML! The GameMaker Markup Language is both easy for beginners and powerful for veterans. It's like eating your cake and having it too. And over more than 20 years of development, it's only gotten better and better. But 20 years of organic growth can leave a few holes behind.

## Unified. Simplified. Amplified.

That's where GML+ comes in: GML+ is a collection of useful functions and built-in variables designed to fill the gaps in vanilla GML and supplement it with quality-of-life enhancements it should've had all along.

Like GML itself, GML+ is not set in stone and will continue to grow with its parent language. What's more, most GML+ functions come with few external dependencies. You can pick-and-choose only the functions you need for your project. Now that's the best of both worlds!

Once you go GML+, you won't want to go back!

## It features...

- Automatic integration into your project--just import and start using it!
- Additional language features, such as:
- Universal data functions like foreach and is_empty
- Built-in variables and macros, such as:
- Extended mouse variables, unifying behavior with instances
- Extended instance properties, creating new possibilities for game design
- Frametime constants (easy delta_time)
- Dozens of useful functions you always wished were part of vanilla GML, such as:
- Extended array functions, unifying behavior with data structures
- Extended data structure functions, unifying behavior among different types
- Extended sprite functions, unifying behavior with new GMS2 features
- Extended angle functions for trigonometry (robust lengthdir ), reflections, and more
- Interpolation with easing (robust lerp ), including custom bezier and usergenerated curves
- Filesystem functions (robust file_find_*)
- Timer functions (robust alarm)
- String manipulation functions
- Recursive struct functions
- Even/odd number functions
- Hex color functions
- ... And more! See the complete documentation for details!

To get started, choose a topic from the navigation menu to learn more.

## Version History

### 1.14

- Added collision_line_meeting for identifying exact coordinates of a collision intersection
- Added ds_struct_equals for recursively comparing contents of structs
- Added struct support to is_empty
- Added emod for calculating remainder with Euclidean division (always positive result)
- Fixed angle_refract clipping mirror angle below 0 degrees
- Improved instance_link to no longer depend on obj_server_gmlp
- Improved accuracy of game_get_step when obj_server_gmlp is present
- Optimized mouse and frame-time constants
- Optimized game_get_time
- Deprecated universal image_angle_previous, image_x/yscale_previous for performance reasons, as they are no longer needed for instance_link (see Compatibility Notes)


### 1.1.3

- Added ds_struct_copy for "deep cloning" structs and all contents (including other structs/arrays)
- Added ds_struct_find_first, ds_struct_find_next, ds_struct_find_previous, ds_struct_find_last
- Added support for objects to foreach (loops all instances of an object)
- Improved wait timer accuracy when application is running below performance target
- Fixed string_explode returning an empty first value if the delimeter doesn't exist in the string
- Strings with no delimeters will now return the string as an array of one value as expected
- Fixed string_implode returning a string with a delimeter even if only one array value exists
- Strings will now only include delimeters when two or more array values exist as expected


### 1.1.2

- Improved foreach syntax and behavior


### 1.1.0

- GameMaker Studio 2.3.1 support!
- Completely reorganized code structure, updated to new standards
- Added foreach function to iterate the contents of a wide variety of data types, including numbers, strings, arrays, and data structures
- Added is_empty function to check the contents of a wide variety of data types, including numbers, strings, arrays, data structures, surfaces, and buffers
- Added surface read and surface_write functions for handling surfaces as strings
- Added draw_get_surface to restore broken surfaces from cached memory
- Added camera_get_view to complement built-in view_get_camera function
- Added ds_struct functions for interacting with structs like other data structures
- Supports struct hierarchies, unlike built-in functions!
- Added ds_grid_empty function, bringing parity between grids and other data structures
- Added instance_link function for grouping objects by position, rotation, and scale
- Added image_angle_previous, image_xscale_previous, and image_yscale_previous built-in variables to all instances via obj_gmlp
- Added angle_reflect and angle_refract to Angle Functions
- Includes new demo room!
- Added support for animation curve assets to interp. Make your own custom curves using the built-in visual editor in GameMaker Studio 2.3!
- Added string_explode, string_implode, and string_trim functions for converting data between strings and arrays
- Added string_upper_* and string_lower_* functions for manipulating string case on an individual, per-word, or whole-string basis
- string_upper_all and string_lower_all are $2 x$ faster than equivalent built-in GML!
- Multiple changes to array functions:
- Added array_clear and array_shuffle for greater parity with data structure functions
- Replaced array_create_2d with array_create_ext, now supporting any number of dimensions!
- Replaced array_fill_2d with array_fill, now supporting any number of dimensions!
- Replaced array_width and array_height with array_depth to complement the new built-in array_length function
- Replaced array_find_col and array_find_row with array_find_index and array_find_dim for better compliance with updated GML behaviors
- Removed array_sort, array_delete_*, and array_insert_* functions, as they have been replaced by official functions
- Fixed wait returning true on the first frame of the first cycle
- Now will wait the specified duration once before first returning true


### 1.0.0

- Initial release


## Compatibility Notes

Some updates include certain changes which require existing projects to be modified to retain compatibility with updated versions. This section documents those changes as well as the remedies to any incompatibilities they create.

### 1.14

- New dependency: angle_refract now depends on emod for accurate modulo calculation
- Projects currently using angle_refract must also import emod when updating.
- Obsolete dependency: instance_link no longer depends on obj_server_gmlp
- Projects which included obj_server_gmlp only for instance_link can now safely remove it.
- Deprecated: universal image_angle_previous, image_x/yscale_previous
- These were previously included for full functionality of instance_link, which no longer requires them.
- Universally updating these variables has a measurable performance cost whether or not they are used.
- This feature is now disabled by default, but can be re-enabled by modifying obj_server_gmlp:
- In the object Create Event, under "Configure GML+", change expanded_image_previous to true.
- No other modifications to obj_server_gmlp should be made.


### 1.1.3

- Added support for objects to foreach
- Due to the way GameMaker handles pointers, this may potentially disrupt integer foreach loops if the integer happens to match an object asset index.
- If existing code with an integer foreach loop now attemps to loop through instances of an object, use a repeat loop instead.
- Fixed string_explode returning an empty first value if the delimeter doesn't exist in the string
- Any code that previously handled empty first values must be updated to assume an array length of 1 if no delimeter was found in the string.
- Fixed string_implode returning a string with a delimeter even if only one array value exists
- Any code that previously handled single-value strings with delimeters must be updated to assume no delimeter is present.
- Renamed obj_gmlp to obj_server_gmlp for consistency with other XGASOFT middleware
- Any existing references to the old name must be updated to match the new nomenclature
- (Recommended: Use global search \& replace)


### 1.1.2

- Improved foreach syntax and behavior
- Parentheses now close before call keyword rather than after
- Existing instances of this function must be updated to match the new syntax
- (Recommended: Use regex global search \& replace in external code editor)


### 1.1.0

- Changed timer_get and timer_set to timer_get_time and timer_set_time for clarity and consistency with other get and set functions.
- Existing instances of these functions must be renamed to match the updated syntax
- (Recommended: Use global search \& replace)
- Replaced array_create_2d with array_create_ext, now supporting arbitrary dimensions
- Existing instances of the old function must be renamed to match the new function.
- Instances providing two dimensions and a default value require no further changes.
- Setting a default value is now required, as additional arguments are treated as new dimensions preferentially. Instances which previously set no default value must be updated to include one.
- (Recommended: Use global search \& replace)
- Replaced array_fill_2d with array_fill, now supporting arbitrary dimensions
- Existing instances of the old function must be renamed to match the new function.
- (Recommended: Use global search \& replace)
- Replaced array_width and array_height with array_depth to complement the new built-in array_length function
- array_width generally maps to array_length and array_height generally maps to array_depth. However, behaviors may not be identical in all cases due to multidimensional arrays now acting as arrays within arrays. Evaluate existing code and update as needed.
- (Recommended: Use global search \& replace)
- Replaced array_find_col and array_find_row with array_find_index and array_find_dim
- array_find_col generally maps to array_find_index and array_find_row generally maps to array_find_dim. However, behaviors may not be identical in all cases due to multidimensional arrays now acting as arrays within arrays. Evaluate existing code and update as needed.
- (Recommended: Use global search \& replace)


## GML+ Reference Guide

GML+ is a collection of useful functions and built-in variables designed to fill the gaps in vanilla GML. This gives the package an unusually broad scope that may seem daunting at first. But don't worry! GML+ is organized to be as easy to navigate as possible.

## Vanilla-Compliant Folder Structure

Most of GML+ resides in your project's Scripts folder. There, you'll find GML+ functions are organized in a structure that mimics the vanilla GML reference guide.


## Self-Integrating Manager Object

Besides scripts, some GML+ components (such as built-in variables) rely on an object called obj_server_gmlp. However, you don't need to place this object in any of your rooms--ever! So long as it's in your project, it will self-create in the first available room and persist until the game ends. No further interaction is required.

## Documented Dependency Requirements

But how do you know if a function requires the manager object--or other GML+ functions--to work? Just open it to find out! Every GML+ function uses JSDOC headers to define syntax and list other properties, as well as more detailed explanations and usage
examples below. Look for a line beginning with @requires for a list of external dependencies.


If this line is absent, it means there are no external dependencies and the function can be used completely independently. This way, you can pick and choose only the functions your project needs!

## Detailed Reference Guide

Now that you understand the GML+ folder and dependency structure, you're all set to dive straight into the full reference guide, where we'll examine each function and built-in variable in detail.

## Built-in Variables \& Constants

GML+ includes a number of built-in variables and constants which can be accessed in your own code. These can provide useful information or behaviors that are commonly needed, but have no implementation in vanilla GML.

All built-in variables are provided by the obj_server_gmlp object. This object must be present in the current project, but does not need to be added to any rooms to function.

## Mouse Variables

| Variable | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| mouse_hspeed | real | Stores the current horizontal mouse speed, as a value of pixels. |
| mouse_vspeed | real | Stores the current vertical mouse speed, as a value of pixels. |
| mouse_speed | real | Stores the current directional mouse speed, as a value of pixels. |
| mouse_direction | real | Stores the current mouse direction of travel, as a value of degrees. |
| mouse_xstart | real | Stores the mouse $X$ coordinate upon starting the game. If no mouse is used, -1 will be returned. Like the instance xstart variable, this variable is not read-only and can be redefined if needed. |
| mouse_ystart | real | Stores the mouse Y coordinate upon starting the game. If no mouse is used, -1 will be returned. Like the instance ystart variable, this variable is not read-only and can be redefined if needed. |
| mouse_xprevious | real | Stores the mouse $X$ coordinate from the previous Step. Like the instance xprevious variable, this variable is not read-only and can be redefined if needed. |
| mouse_yprevious | real | Stores the mouse Y coordinate from the previous Step. Like the instance yprevious variable, this variable is not read-only and can be redefined if needed. |


| Variable | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| mouse_visible | boolean | Shows or hides the mouse, while preserving cursor <br> state and/or sprite. Set to true by default. Replaces <br> cr_none, which can no longer be used while |
| obj_server_gmlp is present. |  |  |

(i) NOTE

GameMaker Studio 2 uses two separate functions for setting different types of cursors. For system cursors, use window_set_cursor([cursor]). For sprite cursors, use GML+'s window_set_cursor_sprite([sprite]). Unlike vanilla GML, GML+ will automatically switch the cursor type when either command is used.

## Time Constants \& Variables

| Constant | Type | Description |
| :---: | :--- | :--- |
| frame_target | real | Stores the amount of time a single frame should take to <br> render at the current game speed (FPS), as a value of <br> milliseconds. |
| frame_time | real | Stores the actual time the previous frame took to render, as <br> a value of milliseconds. |
| frame_delta | real | Stores the difference (or delta) between the target and <br> actual frame time, as a multiplier. |

While the use-case for these constants and variables may not be immediately obvious, in reality they're some of the most important properties in your entire project. Much game
logic occurs over time, and while it may be tempting to rely on FPS as a unit of time, this will cause a host of problems down the road. FPS-based logic can never run at another framerate without altering its real-world speed--frustrating for users on high-end systems that could run the game faster, and frustrating for low-end users that can't hit the target framerate to begin with.

A better unit of time is the time it took to render the previous frame, or simply frame_time. Frame time-based logic will always run at the same real-world speed regardless of framerate. This both compensates for lag on low-end systems and allows high-end systems to run to their full potential.

You may have previously heard of this concept referred to as delta time. However, this is a bit of a misnomer. Strictly speaking, delta time is not the previous frame time, but rather the difference between the current frame time and the previous frame time. Though the term is often misused, frame_delta is nonetheless a very useful property to be aware of. In fact, frame_time and frame_delta are like two sides of the same coin, only forming a whole when used together.

Which available time constant or variable you should use in your logic depends on the kind of logic itself. For time-based logic (e.g. clocks, timers, etc.), use frame_time as a unit of milliseconds. For distance-based logic (e.g. movement, rotation, etc.), use frame_delta as a multiplier of pixels, degrees, and so forth.

## Example

For further explanation of how to implement frame time and delta time in your projects, see the video tutorial below:

## Deprecated Variables

The following variables were previously included for full functionality of instance_link, which no longer requires them. Universally updating these variables has a measurable performance cost whether or not they are used. This feature is now disabled by default, but can be re-enabled by modifying obj_server_gmlp :

- In the object Create Event, under "Configure GML+", change expanded_image_previous to true.
- No other modifications to obj_server_gmlp should be made.

| Variable | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| image_angle_previous | real | Stores the instance sprite rotation from the <br> previous step, as a value of degrees. |
| image_xscale_previous | real | Stores the instance sprite X scale from the <br> previous step, as a value of degrees. |
| image_yscale_previous | real | Stores the instance sprite Y scale from the <br> previous step, as a value of degrees. |

(i) NOTE
image_angle should not be confused with direction. While both are built-in to each instance, image_angle modifies the sprite while direction modifies movement.

# The "instance_find_var" Function 

## Syntax

```
instance_find_var(var, n);
```

Argument Type Description
var string The variable name to search for, as a string
n
integer
The ordinal instance number to return, if multiple results are found

## Description

Searches existing instances for a particular variable and returns the ID of the containing instance, or keyword noone if not found.

If multiple matching instances exist, you can specify which number to return with the n argument, where the first instance is 0 . If the input number is greater than the number of matching instances, the last result will be returned.

GameMaker instance order can vary based on many factors, so when multiple instances exist, this script may not always return the same ID each time!

## Example

```
var inst = instance_find_var("my_var", 0);
if (inst == noone) {
    exit;
}
```


## The "instance_link" Function

## Syntax

```
instance_link(parent, child, pos, rot, scale);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| parent | instance | Description |
| child | instance/object/array | The parent instance to link properties from <br> link properties to |
| pos | boolean | Enables or disables linking child instance <br> position relative to the parent |
| rot | boolean | Enables or disables linking child instance <br> rotation relative to the parent |
| scale | boolean | Enables or disables linking child instance scale <br> relative to the parent |

## Description

Links an object, instance, or array of them to the parent instance so that all child objects match the parent's position, rotation, and/or scale. Links are relative, meaning child objects can still have their own independent position, rotation, and scale as well.

Unlike the child, the parent must be a specific instance. Use self or id to indicate the running instance. If an object is input as the parent, the first randomly detected active instance of the object will be used.

Must be run in the Step Event for changes to position, rotation, and scale to apply continuously.
© Important
This function depends on comparing values across time. It is highly recommended
that you do not run instance_link inside a conditional statement, as this can lead
to incorrect results.

## Example

```
instance_link(obj_grid, obj_cell, true, true, true);
```


# The "camera_get_view" Function 

## Syntax

```
camera_get_view(camera);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| camera | camera | The camera ID to check |

## Description

Checks if a camera is currently assigned to a view, and if so, returns the view number ( 0 7). If the camera is not currently assigned to a view, -1 will be returned instead.

## Example

```
var view = camera_get_view(my_cam);
if (view > -1) {
    camera_set_view_pos(view_camera[view], x, y);
}
```


# The "window_set_cursor_sprite" 

## Function

## Syntax

```
window_set_cursor_sprite(sprite);
```

Argument Type Description
sprite sprite The sprite to assign as a mouse cursor

## Description

Assigns a sprite to the cursor using consistent syntax with the primary window_set_cursor function. Note that the sprite origin point will be used as the cursor hotspot.

While it is not required, it is highly recommended to include obj_server_gmlp in the project when using this script. The obj_server_gmlp object will handle automatically switching between system and sprite cursor types, as well as provide additional mouse coordinate and visibility variables. (See Built-in Variables for a complete list.)

To disable the cursor sprite, use cr_none. However, if obj_server_gmlp is present, cr_none will be ignored, and you should use mouse_visible = false to hide the cursor, or window_set_cursor(cr_default) to restore the system cursor instead.

## Example

```
window_set_cursor_sprite(spr_cursor);
```


# The "window_get_cursor_sprite" 

## Function

## Syntax

```
window_get_cursor_sprite();
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| N/A | N/A | No parameters |

## Description

Returns the current sprite assigned to the cursor, if any, using consistent syntax with the primary window_get_cursor function. If no sprite is currently assigned, cr_none will be returned instead.

## Example

if (window_get_cursor_sprite() == cr_none) \{ window_set_cursor_sprite(spr_cursor);
\}

## The "ds_grid_empty" Function

## Syntax

```
ds_grid_empty(id);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| id | ds_grid | The data structure to check |

## Description

Checks whether the specified ds_grid is empty and returns true or false.

4 CAUTION
This function does not check whether or not the grid exists, and checking a non-
existant grid will throw an error.

## Example

```
var ds = ds_grid_create(1, 0);
if (ds_grid_empty(ds)) {
    ds_grid_insert_row(ds, 0, "init");
}
```


## The "ds_grid_delete_col" Function

## Syntax

```
ds_grid_delete_col(id, col);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | ds_grid | The data structure to remove a column from |
| col | integer | The index of a column to remove |

## Description

Removes a column from the specified ds_grid while preserving other data.

When complete, ds_grid_width will be reduced by 1. For this reason, a column should only be deleted when there are at least two columns in the grid, otherwise the entire grid will be destroyed.

## Example

if (ds_grid_width(my_grid) > 1) \{ ds_grid_delete_col(my_grid, 1); \}

# The "ds_grid_delete_row" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_grid_delete_row(id, row);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| id | ds_grid | The data structure to remove a row from |
| row | integer | The index of a row to remove |

## Description

Removes a row from the specified ds_grid while preserving other data.

When complete, ds_grid_height will be reduced by 1. For this reason, a row should only be deleted when there are at least two rows in the grid, otherwise the entire grid will be destroyed.

## Example

if (ds_grid_height(my_grid) > 1) \{ ds_grid_delete_row(my_grid, 1); \}

# The "ds_grid_insert_col" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_grid_insert_col(id, col, [value]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | ds_grid | The data structure to insert a row into |
| col | integer | The index of the new column to insert |
| $[$ [value] | real/string | Optional: A value to assign to all new cells (default 0) |

## Description

Adds a new column to a ds_grid at the given index, shifting any columns that follow.
Optionally also sets a value for empty new cells in the grid (default value is 0 ).

When complete, ds_grid_width will be increased by 1. For this reason, the new column index can be input as less than or equal to the current value of ds_grid_width.

## Example

```
ds_grid_insert_col(my_grid, ds_grid_width(my_grid) - 2);
ds_grid_insert_col(my_grid, ds_grid_width(my_grid) - 2, -1);
```


# The "ds_grid_insert_row" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_grid_insert_row(id, row, [value]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | ds_grid | The data structure to insert a row into |
| row | integer | The index of the new row to insert |
| [value] | real/string | Optional: A value to assign to all new cells (default 0) |

## Description

Adds a new row to a ds_grid at the given index, shifting any rows that follow. Optionally also sets a value for empty new cells in the grid (default value is 0 ).

When complete, ds_grid_height will be increased by 1. For this reason, the new row index can be input as less than or equal to the current value of ds_grid_height .

## Example

```
ds_grid_insert_row(my_grid, ds_grid_height(my_grid) - 2);
ds_grid_insert_row(my_grid, ds_grid_height(my_grid) - 2, -1);
```


# The "ds_list_combine" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_list_combine(id, source, [pos]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | ds_list | The data structure to add new data to |
| source | ds_list | The data structure to be added |
| pos | integer | Optional: The index at which to insert new data (use none <br> for end of list) |

## Description

Copies the values of one ds_list into another ds_list. Unlike ds_list_copy, ds_list_combine does not clear the list of existing values.

By default, this script will insert new values at the end of the list. A different position can be optionally supplied instead, ranging from 0 to ds_list_size(id).

## Example

```
my_list = ds_list_create();
my_list[| 0] = "Hello, ";
my_other_list = ds_list_create();
my_other_list[| 0] = "world!";
ds_list_combine(my_list, my_other_list);
```


# The "ds_list_add_list" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_list_add_list(id, source);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| id | ds_list | The data structure to add new data to |
| source | ds_list | The data structure to be added |

## Description

Adds the contents of a previously-created ds_list to the specified ds_list.

Intended only for use with JSON functions. Normally, adding one data structure to another simply stores a reference to the data structure, therefore this function is necessary to flag the list value as a data structure itself so its contents are written to the JSON file.

As JSON data is unordered by nature, there is no need to input an index at which to insert the new list.

## Example

```
my_list = ds_list_create();
my_other_list = ds_list_create();
ds_list_add_list(my_list, my_other_list);
```


# The "ds_list_add_map" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_list_add_map(id, source);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| id | ds_list | The data structure to add new data to |
| source | ds_map | The data structure to be added |

## Description

Adds the contents of a previously-created ds_map to the specified ds_list.

Intended only for use with JSON functions. Normally, adding one data structure to another simply stores a reference to the data structure, therefore this function is necessary to flag the map value as a data structure itself so its contents are written to the JSON file.

As JSON data is unordered by nature, there is no need to input an index at which to insert the new map.

## Example

```
my_list = ds_list_create();
my_map = ds_map_create();
ds_list_add_map(my_list, my_map);
```


# The "ds_list_replace_list" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_list_replace_list(id, oldlist, newlist);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | ds_list | The data structure to add new data to |
| oldlist | ds_list | The data structure to be replaced |
| newlist | ds_list | The data structure to be added |

## Description

Replaces a ds_list previously added to another ds_list with the contents of a new ds_list.
( 5 WARNING

Because data structures are referenced by numerical values, this script may not
behave as you expect! If a numerical entry in the parent ds_list happens to match
the value of a child ds_list , there is no guarantee which value will be replaced!

Intended only for use with JSON functions. Normally, adding one data structure to another simply stores a reference to the data structure, therefore this function is necessary to flag the list value as a data structure itself so its contents are written to the JSON file.

## Example

```
my_list = ds_list_create();
my_other_list = ds_list_create();
my_new_list = ds_list_create();
ds_list_add_list(my_list, my_other_list);
ds_list_replace_list(my_list, my_other_list, my_new_list);
```


# The "ds_list_replace_map" 

## Function

## Syntax

```
ds_list_replace_map(id, oldlist, newlist);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | ds_list | The data structure to add new data to |
| oldmap | ds_map | The data structure to be replaced |
| newmap | ds_map | The data structure to be added |

## Description

Replaces a ds_map previously added to a ds_list with the contents of a new ds_map.
( 5 WARNING

Because data structures are referenced by numerical values, this script may not
behave as you expect! If a numerical entry in the parent ds_list happens to match
the value of a child ds_map, there is no guarantee which value will be replaced!

Intended only for use with JSON functions. Normally, adding one data structure to another simply stores a reference to the data structure, therefore this function is necessary to flag the list value as a data structure itself so its contents are written to the JSON file.

## Example

```
my_list = ds_list_create();
my_map = ds_map_create();
my_new_map = ds_map_create();
ds_list_add_map(my_list, my_map);
ds_list_replace_map(my_list, my_map, my_new_map);
```


# The "ds_struct_create" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_create();
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N/A | N/A | No arguments |

## Description

Creates a new struct and returns the index (or ID).

A struct is a data structure similar to JSON (and also to GameMaker objects themselves!). Sometimes dubbed "lightweight objects", a struct contains a tree of key/value pairs which can themselves contain other structs, methods, or any other data type.

Like a ds_map, struct data is unordered. However, unlike any other data structure, structs are inherently non-scoped and non-volatile. This means any instance can access the struct by its ID without the need for copying the entire struct from one instance to another. Furthermore, instance variables like $x$ and $y$ can be given their own independent definitions within a struct.

Once created, a struct incurs no processing overhead and will exist until destroyed manually or until no more references to it exist, at which point it will be purged automatically. In other words, unlike other data structures, structs will typically not memory leak.

With so many positives, it's important to keep one negative in mind: structs are ideal for data with static, pre-determined trees. This means you should always know where data is stored in the struct rather than locate it programatically. While GML+ provides functions to do just that, they are potentially quite slow and should be used sparingly. For highly dynamic data, other data structures remain preferable.

## Example

```
my_struct = ds_struct_create();
```


# The "ds_struct_copy" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_copy(id);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| id | struct | The source struct to be copied |

## Description

Copies the contents of a given struct and returns a new struct ID. This script will function recursively, also copying any structs and arrays within the root struct.

If the given input is invalid, undefined will be returned instead.

This type of copy operation is also known as a "deep clone", meaning data is truly duplicated in memory rather than merely referenced.

## Example

my_new_struct = ds_struct_copy(my_struct);

# The "ds_struct_destroy" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_destroy(id);
```

Argument Type Description
id struct The struct to be destroyed

## Description

Destroys a struct, freeing its data from memory.
(i) NOTE

Running this script is not strictly necessary, as structs will typically be purged automatically when all references to them are removed. However, it is good practice to manually remove structs when they are no longer needed to keep memory usage optimized.

## Example

ds_struct_destroy(my_struct);

# The "ds_struct_exists" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_exists(id, key);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | struct | The struct to check |
| key | string | The key (i.e. struct content) to check existence of |

## Description

Checks if a variable name (as a string) exists within the given struct and returns true or false. Unlike the built-in variable_struct_exists function, this script will check recursively, including any structs-within-structs.

If multiple levels of struct exist, it is possible for the same key to occur multiple times with different values. To increase the speed and precision of this function, you can specify which level to search by prepending the key with any parent structs separated by a period. In this case, the first parent specified must exist in the root struct, but deeper levels will be recursed and are optional.
(i) NOTE

This script is for checking if the contents of a struct exist, not a struct itself.

To get the value of the key, if found, use ds_struct_find_value .

## Example

```
// Both "font" and "text.font" are acceptable and will return the same value
if (ds_struct_exists(my_struct, "text.font")) {
    var my_font = ds_struct_find_value(my_struct, "text.font");
    draw_set_font(my_font);
}
```


# The "ds_struct_equals" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_equals(var1, var2);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| var1 | struct | The source struct to be compared |
| var2 | struct | The target struct to compare with |

## Description

Compares the contents of two structs and returns true or false depending on whether the contents and their values are equal. This script will function recursively, also comparing any structs and arrays within the root struct.

Note that volatile data structure and method contents cannot be compared due to GameMaker's handling of references for these types, and as such may behave differently than expected:

- Data structures will be compared by reference only and thus will only return true if the exact same structure is referenced. Identical copies will return false because each copy has a unique (non-matching) index.
- Methods cannot be compared by contents or reference and therefore will always return true provided a method exists at the same location in each struct.


## Example

```
var struct1 = { name: "John Doe", age: 30 };
var struct2 = { age: 30, name: "John Doe" };
if (ds_struct_equals(struct1, struct2)) {
    show_message("Structs are equal!");
}
```


# The "ds_struct_find_first" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_find_first(id);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| id | struct | The struct to check |

## Description

Returns the name of the first key in the given struct, as a string. Further searches can then be performed with ds_struct_find_next.

If the struct is empty, undefined will be returned instead.

Note that because structs are a non-ordered data format, data may be returned in a different order than originally declared in code. Changes to the struct may also change the order in which data is returned with this function.

## Example

```
var key = ds_struct_find_first(my_struct);
var val = true;
```

variable_struct_set(my_struct, key, val);

# The "ds_struct_find_last" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_find_last(id);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| id | struct | The struct to check |

## Description

Returns the name of the last key in the given struct, as a string. Further searches can then be performed with ds_struct_find_previous.

If the struct is empty, undefined will be returned instead.

Note that because structs are a non-ordered data format, data may be returned in a different order than originally declared in code. Changes to the struct may also change the order in which data is returned with this function.

## Example

```
var key = ds_struct_find_last(my_struct);
var val = true;
```

variable_struct_set(my_struct, key, val);

# The "ds_struct_find_next" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_find_next(id, key);
```

Argument Type Description
id struct The struct to check
key $\quad$ string $\quad$ The key (i.e. struct content) to begin search from

## Description

Returns the name of the next key in the given struct, as a string. Search will begin from the given key (for example, as returned by ds_struct_find_first ).

If the struct is empty or no further key exists, undefined will be returned instead.

Note that because structs are a non-ordered data format, data may be returned in a different order than originally declared in code. Changes to the struct may also change
the order in which data is returned with this function.

## Example

```
var key = ds_struct_find_first(my_struct);
key = ds_struct_find_next(my_struct, key);
var val = true;
variable_struct_set(my_struct, key, val);
```


# The "ds_struct_find_previous" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_find_previous(id, key);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | struct | The struct to check |
| key | string | The key (i.e. struct content) to begin search from |

## Description

Returns the name of the previous key in the given struct, as a string. Search will begin from the given key (for example, as returned by ds_struct_find_last).

If the struct is empty or no further key exists, undefined will be returned instead.

Note that because structs are a non-ordered data format, data may be returned in a different order than originally declared in code. Changes to the struct may also change
the order in which data is returned with this function.

## Example

```
var key = ds_struct_find_last(my_struct);
key = ds_struct_find_previous(my_struct, key);
var val = true;
variable_struct_set(my_struct, key, val);
```


# The "ds_struct_find_index" 

## Function

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_find_index(id, key);
```

Argument Type Description
id struct The struct to check
key string The key (i.e. struct content) to check index of

## Description

Checks if a variable name (as a string) exists within the given struct and returns the index of the parent struct. The result can then be used with standard struct accessors (see official GameMaker documentation for details). Naturally, this is primarily useful for checking recursively, including any structs-within-structs.

If multiple levels of struct exist, it is possible for the same key to occur multiple times with different values. To increase the speed and precision of this function, you can specify
which level to search by prepending the key with any parent structs separated by a period. In this case, the first parent specified must exist in the root struct, but deeper levels will be recursed and are optional.

If the specified key doesn't exist, -1 will be returned instead. To detect whether the key exists first, use ds_struct_exists.

## Example

```
var struct_text = ds_struct_find_index(my_struct, "font");
draw_set_font(struct_text.font);
draw_set_color(struct_text.color);
```


# The "ds_struct_find_value" 

## Function

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_find_value(id, key);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | struct | The struct to check |
| key | string | The key (i.e. struct content) to check value of |

## Description

Checks if a variable name (as a string) exists within the given struct and returns the value. Unlike the built-in variable_struct_get function, this script will check recursively, including any structs-within-structs.

If multiple levels of struct exist, it is possible for the same key to occur multiple times with different values. To increase the speed and precision of this function, you can specify which level to search by prepending the key with any parent structs separated by a
period. In this case, the first parent specified must exist in the root struct, but deeper levels will be recursed and are optional.

If the specified key doesn't exist, undefined will be returned instead. To determine whether the key exists first, use ds_struct_exists.

## Example

```
// Both "font" and "text.font" are acceptable and will return the same value
if (ds_struct_exists(my_struct, "text.font")) {
    var my_font = ds_struct_find_value(my_struct, "text.font");
    draw_set_font(my_font);
}
```


# The "ds_struct_set" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_set(id, key, value);
```

Argument Type Description
id struct The struct to modify
key
string The key to assign a value to
value
any
The value (number, string, array, struct, data structure, etc.) to assign

## Description

Assigns a value to the specified key within the given struct. The struct must have been previously created (e.g. with ds_struct_create ).

If multiple levels of struct exist, it is possible for the same key to occur multiple times with different values. To increase the speed and precision of this function, you can specify which level to search by prepending the key with any parent structs separated by a
period. In this case, the first parent specified must exist in the root struct, but deeper levels will be recursed and are optional, provided the key already exists. If the key does not exist, any parents will be created as well in the order specified.

To get the value of a key once set, use ds_struct_find_value .

## Example

```
// Both "font" and "text.font" are acceptable and will assign the same value
ds_struct_set(my_struct, "text.font", fnt_Arial);
```


# The "ds_struct_read" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_read(str);
```

Argument Type Description
str $\quad$ string A previously-written struct string to be converted into a struct

## Description

An alias of json_parse. Converts a string previously written with ds_struct_write back into a struct, including any sub-structs it may contain.

## Example

```
var file = file_text_open_read("settings.json");
my_struct = ds_struct_read(file_text_read_string(file));
file_text_close(file);
```


# The "ds_struct_write" Function 

## Syntax

```
ds_struct_write(id, [pretty]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | struct | The struct to encode as a string |
| [pretty] | boolean | Optional: Enables or disables formatting the string with <br> linebreaks and indentation |

## Description

Converts a struct and its contents to a string, optionally with "pretty-print" to separate values by line with proper indenting.

## A CAUTION

Note that only single values, arrays, strings, and sub-structs are interpreted by this function. Other data structures, like ds_map or ds_grid, are stored by reference only and will be written as a numerical index rather than their actual contents. To avoid this behavior, first use the respective ds_*_write function on these data structures so they will be included as strings which can be decoded later with

```
ds_*_read
```


## Example

```
var file = file_text_open_write("settings.json");
file_text_write_string(
    file,
    ds_struct_write(my_struct, true)
);
file_text_close(file);
```


# The "make_color_hex" Function 

## Syntax

```
make_color_hex("#RRGGBB");
```

Argument Type Description
"\#RRGGBB" string A three or six-character hex color code, as a string

## Description

Returns an RGB color from a Hex color code.

Note that including a \# at the beginning of the hex code is optional, and if any unacceptable input is made, the script will return c_white or the nearest usable color value to the malformed input. It is also acceptable to input only three values, in which case the secondary value will be assumed to match the first.

If you are not familiar with Hex color notation, you can choose a color using the color picker below. Click the notation to cycle between RGB, HSL, and Hex color notations.
$\square$

## * Requires Chromium browser

## Example

```
color = make_color_hex("#0066FF");
color = make_color_hex("0066FF");
color = make_color_hex("#06F");
color = make_color_hex("06F");
```


# The "color_get_hex" Function 

## Syntax

```
color_get_hex(color);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| color | color | An RGB color to convert to Hex |

## Description

Returns a Hex color code, as a string, from an RGB color. Result will be formatted as \#RRGGBB.

## Example

```
color = color_get_hex(c_red);
```


# The "sprite_get_index" Function 

## Syntax

```
sprite_get_index(sprite, [offset]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| sprite | sprite | The sprite to retrieve image index of |
| [offset] | real | Optional: Sets the number of frames to offset the sprite index |

## Description

Every instance has a built-in image_index variable which tracks the animation frame for the sprite assigned to sprite_index, adjusted for image_speed. But many objects draw multiple sprites, each of which may have a different speed. This script returns the image_index value for any sprite, factoring in both sprite speed and delta time.

Note that this script is based on global session time, and will always return the same index at the same time for every instance of the sprite. Sometimes this synchronization is not desirable, in which case an optional offset time can also be supplied, as a value of frames.

For example, to base starting time on instance creation time, use -sprite_get_index() (must be a variable declared in an event that is not run every Step).

## Example

```
//CREATE EVENT
var offset = -sprite_get_index(my_sprite);
//DRAW EVENT
draw_sprite(my_sprite, sprite_get_index(my_sprite, offset), x + 32, y - 32);
```


# The "sprite_get_speed_fps" 

## Function

## Syntax

```
sprite_get_speed_fps(sprite);
```

Argument Type Description
sprite sprite The sprite to retrieve speed of

## Description

Returns the target sprite speed as defined in the sprite editor, forcing the results to be interpreted as frames per-second.

## Example

```
var speed_fps = sprite_get_speed_fps(my_sprite);
```


# The "sprite_get_speed_real" Function 

## Syntax

```
sprite_get_speed_real(sprite);
```

Argument Type Description
sprite sprite The sprite to retrieve speed of

## Description

Returns the target sprite speed as defined in the sprite editor, forcing the results to be interpreted as frames per-game frame.

## Example

```
var speed_real = sprite_get_speed_real(my_sprite);
```


## The "draw_get_surface" Function

## Syntax

```
draw_get_surface(surf);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| surf | surface | The surface to retrieve from memory |

## Description

Surfaces are "volatile", meaning their data can be erased from memory under certain common conditions, such as resizing or minimizing the game window.

This function will return the surface from cached memory to ensure it always exists before drawing. Unlike normal if (surface_exists(surf)) statements, draw_get_surface will also preserve surface contents, so you never need to regenerate the surface manually. This is especially useful when surfaces are drawn to dynamically and cannot be recreated, such as for blood splatter or tire tracks resulting from unique and unrepeatable player actions.

Though it might seem strange to input and return the same variable, this is necessary because the input surface ID might change if the surface does not exist and must be recreated.

## Example

```
my_surf = draw_get_surface(my_surf);
draw_surface_ext(my_surf, x, y, 1.5, 1.5, 25, c_red, 0.5);
```


# The "surface_read" Function 

## Syntax

```
surface_read(surf);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| str | string | A previously-written surface string to convert into a surface |

## Description

Returns a surface from a base64-encoded string previously generated by surface_write . Invalid strings will return undefined. Especially useful for save files and networking.

## Example

```
ini_open(working_directory + "save.dat");
var my_surf = ini_read_string("data", "screenshot", undefined);
ini_close();
if (!is_undefined(my_surf)) {
    draw_surface(my_surf, x, y);
}
```


## The "surface_write" Function

## Syntax

```
surface_write(surf);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| surf | surface | The surface to encode as a string |

## Description

Returns a surface as a base64-encoded string. Use surface_read to convert back into a surface. Especially useful for save files and networking.

## Example

```
ini_open(working_directory + "save.dat");
ini_write_string("data", "screenshot", surface_write(application_surface));
ini_close();
```


## The "file_list" Function

## Syntax

file_list(dname, attr, [recurse]);

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| dname | string | The full path of the target directory, including drive <br> letter |
| attr | integer/constant | Enables filtering results as directories <br> (fa_directory ) or files (anything else) |
|  | boolean | Optional: Enables including subdirectories in scan <br> results (disabled by default) |
| [recurse] |  |  |

## Description

Scans a directory and returns the contents as a ds_list , including relative paths (if any), filenames, and extensions.

The attribute filter and recursive options can only be used on Windows. All other platforms should set attr to 0 and ignore the optional recurse argument. Copyright © XGASOFT, All Rights Reserved

If the attribute filter is supported and set to fa_directory, only directories will be returned. This is the only supported filter, and all other options will return a list of files instead.

```
    CAUTION
To achieve best processing speed, files without extensions are not supported by this
script.
```

```
By default, this script can only be used to scan directories within working_directory
or elsewhere previously granted access via the get_save_filename function. On desktop platforms, this limitation can be removed by disabling the filesystem sandbox in Game Settings.
```


## Example

```
var dirs = file_list("C:\\my\\folder", fa_directory, true);
var files = file_list("C:\\my\\folder", 0);
```


## The "file_move" Function

## Syntax

```
file_move(fname, dest);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| fname | string | The full path of the file to move, including name and extension |
| dest | string | The destination folder to move file to, not including filename |

## Description

Moves a file on the disk to a new folder, removing it from the original location. Will also return true or false to indicate if the operation succeeded.
© IMPORTANT

By default, this script can only be used to scan directories within working_directory
or elsewhere previously granted access via the get_save_filename function. On desktop platforms, this limitation can be removed by disabling the filesystem sandbox in Game Settings.

## Example

```
file_move(working_directory + "temp.sav", working_directory + "saves");
```


# The "filename_is_dir" Function 

## Syntax

```
filename_is_dir(fname);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| fname | string | The full path to check |

## Description

Checks if a filename appears to be a directory based on string properties and returns true or false. This is faster than directory_exists, and is useful for checking paths outside the sandbox.

## © CAUTION

To achieve best processing speed, files without extensions are not supported by this
script.

## Example

```
var file = file_find_first("C:\\*", fa_directory);
if (filename_is_dir(file)) {
    //Directory exists!
}
```


# The "device_mouse_check_region" Function 

## Syntax

device_mouse_check_region(device, $x$, y, rot, width, [height], [halign, valign]);

| Argument | Type | integer |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| device | The mouse or touch point to check, where 0 is first |  |
| x | real | The horizontal room coordinate for the region to check |
| y | real | The horizontal room coordinate for the region to check |
| rot | real | The rotation of the region to check, if rectangular |
| width | real | The width (or radius) in pixels of the region to check |
| [height] | real | Optional: The height in pixels of the region to check (use <br> none for circular) |
| [halign] | constant | Optional: The horizontal alignment of the region to check <br> (use none for fa_center ) |
| [valign] | constant | Optional: The vertical alignment of the region to check (use <br> none for <br> fa_middle ) |

## Description

Checks whether the mouse is currently within a certain region relative to room coordinates and returns true or false. If only a region width is specified, it will be interpreted as a radius and the region to check will be circular. For other shapes, a rotated rectangle can be used to cover most areas.

By default, the region to check will be aligned to the center, but this can be changed by specifying optional halign and valign values using font alignment constants such as fa_left and fa_top. Alignment must be input as a pair.

## Example

```
//RectanguLar region
if (device_mouse_check_region(0, 640, 480, 0, 512, 384)) {
    //Action
}
//Diamond region
if (device_mouse_check_region(0, 640, 480, 45, 256, 256)) {
    //Action
}
//Circular region with custom alignment
if (device_mouse_check_region(0, 256, 128, 0, 512, fa_left, fa_top)) {
    //Action
}
```


## The

## "device_mouse_check_region_gui"

## Function

## Syntax

```
device_mouse_check_region_gui(device, x, y, rot, width, [height], [halign,
valign]);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| device | integer | The mouse or touch point to check, where 0 is first |
| x | real | The horizontal GUI coordinate for the region to check |
| $y$ | real | The horizontal GUI coordinate for the region to check |
| rot | real | The rotation of the region to check, if rectangular |
| width | real | The width (or radius) in pixels of the region to check |
| [height] | real | Optional: The height in pixels of the region to check (use none for circular) |
| [halign] | constant | Optional: The horizontal alignment of the region to check (use none for fa_center) |
| [valign] | constant | Optional: The vertical alignment of the region to check (use none for fa_middle ) |

## Description

Checks whether the mouse is currently within a certain region relative to GUI coordinates and returns true or false. If only a region width is specified, it will be interpreted as a radius and the region to check will be circular. For other shapes, a rotated rectangle can be used to cover most areas.

By default, the region to check will be aligned to the center, but this can be changed by specifying optional halign and valign values using font alignment constants such as fa_left and fa_top. Alignment must be input as a pair.

## Example

```
//RectanguLar region
if (device_mouse_check_region_gui(0, 640, 480, 0, 512, 384)) {
    //Action
}
//Diamond region
if (device_mouse_check_region_gui(0, 640, 480, 45, 256, 256)) {
    //Action
}
//Circular region with custom alignment
if (device_mouse_check_region_gui(0, 256, 128, 0, 512, fa_left, fa_top)) {
    //Action
}
```


# The "game_get_step" Function 

## Syntax

```
game_get_step();
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| N/A | N/A | No arguments |

## Description

Returns the number of Steps that have been run for the entire current game session.

While it is not strictly required, this script will not have perfect accuracy without including obj_server_gmlp in the current project. The obj_server_gmlp object will automatically track any lost steps (i.e. dropped frames) that occur as a result of system lag, window dragging, and similar events, which will then be accounted for in this script.

## Example

if (is_even(game_get_step())) \{ //Action on even Steps
\} else \{ //Action on odd Steps \}

# The "game_get_time" Function 

## Syntax

```
game_get_time([type]);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

Optional: Sets whether to return a value in milliseconds
[type] constant (gamespeed_fps) or microseconds
(gamespeed_microseconds ) (use none for milliseconds)

## Description

Returns the number of milliseconds or microseconds the entire current game session has been running. If no [type] is specified, milliseconds will be returned by default.

## Example

```
var hours_played = floor(game_get_time(gamespeed_fps)/1000/60/60);
var ms_played = (game_get_time(gamespeed_microseconds)/100000);
```


## The "foreach" Statement

## Syntax

```
foreach (DATA as "VALUE") call {
        VALUE
}
Or
```

```
foreach (DATA as "KEY" of "VALUE") call {
```

foreach (DATA as "KEY" of "VALUE") call {
KEY
KEY
VALUE
VALUE
}

```
}
```


## Description

Iterates through a given subject and returns the value of each item to a custom variable, which can be used to perform operations on each item in the subject.

Similar to a standard for loop, but with a more convenient syntax that shortcuts common loop operations. foreach supports iterating specific data types, including arrays, data structures, integers, objects, and strings.

If it is necessary to know the current index of each iteration, a "key" custom variable can also be supplied before the custom value variable. The index will then be stored in the key for future reference.

Value and key variables must be input as strings, but will be referenced in custom code by their literal names instead.

Note that as, of, and call are special keywords for this function. Also note that the closing parenthesis comes before the call statement.

In the case of multidimensional arrays, only the dimension provided will be iterated. Any sub-dimensions will be returned in the custom value variable and can be handled in custom code.

In the case of objects, iteration will be performed through all active instances of an object in the current room.

Note that in some cases this function may not return the expected result due to the way GameMaker handles pointers. This means some types of data can share the same value, and whichever one happens to be first will take priority.

## Example

```
var my_array = ["a", "b", "c"];
var my_list = ds_list_create();
// Add each item in the example array to the example list
foreach (my_array as "letter" call) {
    ds_list_add(my_list, letter);
}
// Add each item in the example list to the example array
foreach (my_list as "index" of "letter") call {
    my_array[index] = letter;
}
```


## Introduction to Angle Functions

In simple terms, trigonometry is the study of triangles. In programming, it is often used to determine the 2D coordinates of points which have been rotated a certain distance away from another point. You may have a mental image of a line being drawn from point A to point $B$, creating an angle. While calculating this angle is the objective we're trying to achieve, how we get there is by imagining not just a line, but a triangle instead--two flat lines following the X and Y axis like normal, while the angle is the triangle's hypotenuse.

Trigonometry demonstrates that it is possible to determine the position, orientation, and length of a triangle's hypotenuse based on its other two sides. While the formulae required are logically quite simple, actually calculating them is not. For programs that heavily rely on trigonometry, having an efficient way to perform these calculations is important. And for newcomers who may not yet be used to working with trigonometry in programming, making them easy to understand is equally so.

GML+ has many angle functions which fundamentally boil down to the same basic principles in different ways, allowing users to find which is easiest for their particular usecases. In this section, we'll examine each one in detail.

## The "angle_reflect" Function

## Syntax

```
angle_reflect(deg, mirror);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| deg | real | The angle to reflect, in degrees |
| mirror | real | The mirror angle to reflect from, in degrees |

## Description

Returns an angle in degrees reflected from a mirror "line" with the given angle in degrees.
A mirror angle of 0 degrees is considered horizontal.

See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

## Example

```
var angle_in = point_direction(mouse_x, mouse_y, mirror_x, mirror_y);
var angle_out = angle_reflect(angle_in, mirror_rot);
var dist = point_distance(mouse_x, mouse_y, mirror_x, mirror_y);
// Draw mirror
draw_line(
    mirror_x - rot_dist_x(64, mirror_rot), mirror_y - rot_dist_y(64,
mirror_rot),
    mirror_x + rot_dist_x(64, mirror_rot), mirror_y + rot_dist_y(64,
mirror_rot)
);
// Draw angle in
draw_arrow(mouse_x, mouse_y, mirror_x, mirror_y, 16);
// Draw angle out
draw_arrow(
    mirror_x, mirror_y,
    mirror_x + rot_dist_x(dist, angle_out), mirror_y + rot_dist_y(dist,
angle_out),
        1 6
);
```


## The "angle_refract" Function

## Syntax

```
angle_refract(deg, mirror, outer_index, inner_index);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| deg | real | The angle to refract, in degrees |
| mirror | real | The mirror angle to refract from, in degrees |
| outer_index | real | The refraction index of the input angle |
| inner_index | real | The refraction index of the mirror |

## Description

Refractions are sided, meaning the resulting refraction angle depends on which direction the input angle is coming from (relative to the orientation of the mirror "line"). Angles between 0-180 degrees are considered to be inside the refractive surface, whereas angles between 180-360 degrees are considered to be outside. A mirror angle of 0 degrees is considered horizontal.

How much an angle refracts depends on the difference between the substance it is coming from and the substance it is going into. The refractivity of a substance is called the "refraction index". Indices are given for both the area outside and inside the mirror "line", where, for example, an index of 1.0 is a vacuum, 1.0003 is air, 1.333 is water, and 2.42 is diamond. Mathematically, refraction index typically ranges from 1.0-3.0, no less or greater.

In addition to controlling the amount of refractivity, these indices also determine the refraction "critical angle", at which point internal refractions will become reflections instead. Higher index equals lower critical angle, refracting sharp angles only and merely reflecting the rest (which is responsible for that diamond glitter!).

See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

## Example

```
var angle_in = point_direction(mouse_x, mouse_y, mirror_x, mirror_y);
var angle_out = angle_refract(angle_in, mirror_rot, 1, 3);
var dist = point_distance(mouse_x, mouse_y, mirror_x, mirror_y);
// Draw mirror
draw_line(
    mirror_x - rot_dist_x(64, mirror_rot), mirror_y - rot_dist_y(64,
mirror_rot),
    mirror_x + rot_dist_x(64, mirror_rot), mirror_y + rot_dist_y(64,
mirror_rot)
);
// Draw angle in
draw_arrow(mouse_x, mouse_y, mirror_x, mirror_y, 16);
// Draw angle out
draw_arrow(
    mirror_x, mirror_y,
    mirror_x + rot_dist_x(dist, angle_out), mirror_y + rot_dist_y(dist,
angle_out),
        1 6
);
```


# The "rot_prefetch" Function 

## Syntax

```
rot_prefetch(deg);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| deg | real | The angle to calculate sine and cosine, in degrees |

## Description

Pre-calculates the sine and cosine of an angle in degrees, which can then be used by future angle functions without calculating them again. This is highly useful for improving performance when calculating multiple points based on the same rotation.

Other angle functions will also prefetch rotation, if supplied, in which case running this script separately is not necessary. However, prefetching rotation manually can still be quite useful in some scenarios (such as calculations spread across multiple events) or simply maintaining clean code.

See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

## Example

```
rot_prefetch(90);
x = rot_point_x(5, 10);
y = rot_point_y(5, 10);
```


## The "rot_dist_x" Function

## Syntax

```
rot_dist_x(dist, [deg]);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| dist | real | The distance from the rotation center point |
| $[$ deg $]$ | real | Optional: The angle to calculate sine and cosine, in degrees |

## Description

Returns the $X$ component of a point the given distance away rotated by the given angle in degrees. (Center point is assumed as 0 .)

Supplying a rotation is optional. As calculating the sine and cosine of angles is costly to performance, these values are stored in memory for use with further instances of angle functions based on the same rotation. If no rotation is supplied, the previous angle's sine and cosine will be used. This is highly useful for improving performance when calculating multiple points based on the same rotation.

See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

## Example

```
x = 128 + rot_dist_x(64, image_angle);
y = 128 + rot_dist_y(64);
```


## The "rot_dist_y" Function

## Syntax

```
rot_dist_y(dist, [deg]);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| dist | real | The distance from the rotation center point |
| $[$ deg $]$ | real | Optional: The angle to calculate sine and cosine, in degrees |

## Description

Returns the $Y$ component of a point the given distance away rotated by the given angle in degrees. (Center point is assumed as 0 .)

Supplying a rotation is optional. As calculating the sine and cosine of angles is costly to performance, these values are stored in memory for use with further instances of angle functions based on the same rotation. If no rotation is supplied, the previous angle's sine and cosine will be used. This is highly useful for improving performance when calculating multiple points based on the same rotation.

See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

## Example

```
x = 128 + rot_dist_x(64, image_angle);
y = 128 + rot_dist_y(64);
```


## The "rot_point_x" Function

## Syntax

```
rot_point_x(x, y, [deg]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| x | real | The horizontal distance from the rotation center point |
| y | real | The vertical distance from the rotation center point |
| $[\mathrm{deg}]$ | real | Optional: The angle to calculate sine and cosine, in degrees |

## Description

Returns the $X$ component of a point the given distance away rotated by the given angle in degrees. (Center point is assumed as 0.)

Supplying a rotation is optional. As calculating the sine and cosine of angles is costly to performance, these values are stored in memory for use with further instances of angle functions based on the same rotation. If no rotation is supplied, the previous angle's sine
and cosine will be used. This is highly useful for improving performance when calculating multiple points based on the same rotation.

## Example

```
x = 128 + rot_point_x(64, 64, image_angle);
y = 128 + rot_point_y(64, 64);
```


## The "rot_point_y" Function

## Syntax

```
rot_point_y(x, y, [deg]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| x | real | The horizontal distance from the rotation center point |
| y | real | The vertical distance from the rotation center point |
| $[\mathrm{deg}]$ | real | Optional: The angle to calculate sine and cosine, in degrees |

## Description

Returns the $Y$ component of a point the given distance away rotated by the given angle in degrees. (Center point is assumed as 0.)

Supplying a rotation is optional. As calculating the sine and cosine of angles is costly to performance, these values are stored in memory for use with further instances of angle functions based on the same rotation. If no rotation is supplied, the previous angle's sine
and cosine will be used. This is highly useful for improving performance when calculating multiple points based on the same rotation.

## Example

```
x = 128 + rot_point_x(64, 64, image_angle);
y = 128 + rot_point_y(64, 64);
```


## The "rot_vec_x" Function

## Syntax

```
rot_vec_x(x1, y1, x2, y2, [deg]);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| x1 | real | The horizontal center point |
| y1 | real | The vertical center point |
| x2 | real | The horizontal distance from the rotation center point |
| y2 | real | The vertical distance from the rotation center point |
| [deg] | real | Optional: The angle to calculate sine and cosine, in degrees |

## Description

Returns the $X$ component of a point the given distance away from the given center point and rotated by the given angle in degrees. (Or in other words, the $X$ component of the tip of a rotated line.)

Supplying a rotation is optional. As calculating the sine and cosine of angles is costly to performance, these values are stored in memory for use with further instances of angle functions based on the same rotation. If no rotation is supplied, the previous angle's sine and cosine will be used. This is highly useful for improving performance when calculating multiple points based on the same rotation.

## Example

```
x = rot_vec_x(128, 128, 64, 64, image_angle);
y = rot_vec_y(128, 128, 64, 64);
```


## The "rot_vec_y" Function

## Syntax

```
rot_vec_y(x1, y1, x2, y2, [deg]);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| x1 | real | The horizontal center point |
| y1 | real | The vertical center point |
| x2 | real | The horizontal distance from the rotation center point |
| y2 | real | The vertical distance from the rotation center point |
| [deg] | real | Optional: The angle to calculate sine and cosine, in degrees |

## Description

Returns the $Y$ component of a point the given distance away from the given center point and rotated by the given angle in degrees. (Or in other words, the $Y$ component of the tip of a rotated line.)

Supplying a rotation is optional. As calculating the sine and cosine of angles is costly to performance, these values are stored in memory for use with further instances of angle functions based on the same rotation. If no rotation is supplied, the previous angle's sine and cosine will be used. This is highly useful for improving performance when calculating multiple points based on the same rotation.

## Example

```
x = rot_vec_x(128, 128, 64, 64, image_angle);
y = rot_vec_y(128, 128, 64, 64);
```


## The "approx" Function

## Syntax

```
approx(value, min, [max]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| value | real | The numerical value to check |
| min | real | The minimum closeness, or alternatively, minimum value to <br> accept |
| $[\max ]$ | real | Optional: The maximum value to accept (use none for $+/-$ min $)$ |

## Description

Checks if a value is between two numbers and returns true or false.

By default, the input value will be tested plus or minus the min value, but an explicit $\max$ value can also be supplied to set the exact range.
if (approx(enemy.x - x, 128)) \{ //Enemy is near player on left or right \}

## The "emod" Function

## Syntax

```
emod(value, divisor);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| value | real | The numerical value to modify |
| divisor | real | The divisor to apply |

## Description

Returns the modulo (remainder) of a number with Euclidean division. Unlike the built-in $\bmod (\%)$ operator, this function will always return a positive value between zero and the divisor (div).

## Example

```
image_angle = emod(image_angle, 360);
```


## The "interp" Function

## Syntax

interp(a, b, amount, ease, [bx1, by1, bx2, by2]);

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a | real | The starting value to interpolate from |
| b | real | The target value to interpolate to |
| amount | real | The amount, or percentage to interpolate between values (variable recommended) |
| ease | integer/macro | Sets the easing method for the interpolation (see options below) |
| [ bx 1 ] | real | Optional: X percentage for left control point of a cubic bezier curve (0-1) |
| [by1] | real | Optional: Y percentage for left control point of a cubic bezier curve (0-1) |
| [ $\mathrm{b} \times 2$ ] | real | Optional: X percentage for right control point of a cubic bezier curve (0-1) |
| [by2] | real | Optional: Y percentage for right control point of a cubic bezier curve (0-1) |
| [ curve] | curve | Optional: Animation curve asset to use if ease is set to ease_curve |

## Description

Returns a value interpolated between the two input values with optional easing methods to create a smooth start and/or end to animations.

The first input value should equal the original state of the value and the second input the target state of the value. For example, to move an object from $x=0$ to $x=50,0$ and 50 would be the two input values here.

The third input value can be thought of as a percentage of completion. Using the same example, an input amount of 0.5 would return $x=25$.

In order to create animations with this script, the interpolation amount must be input as a variable which is incremented externally.

The fourth and final value is an integer specifying the easing method used during interpolation. Simple true or false values can be used here for sine or linear interpolation, respectively, but in addition to these basic modes there are 30 different easing techniques, plus other custom techniques, featured below. Built-in easing techniques are ordered from shallowest to deepest curve.

Q TIP
See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

For memorability, it is recommended to use an easing macro from the list below in place of an integer value:

| Easing Macro | Value | Easing Macro | Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ease_none | -4 | ease_expo_in | 17 |
| ease_sin | 1 | ease_expo_out | 18 |
| ease_sin_in | 2 | ease_circ | 19 |
| ease_sin_out | 3 | ease_circ_in | 20 |
| ease_quad | 4 | ease_circ_out | 21 |
| ease_quad_in | 5 | ease_rubber | 22 |
| ease_quad_out | 6 | ease_rubber_in | 23 |
| ease_cubic | 7 | ease_rubber_out | 24 |
| ease_cubic_in | 8 | ease_elastic | 25 |
| ease_cubic_out | 9 | ease_elastic_in | 26 |
| ease_quart | 10 | ease_elastic_out | 27 |
| ease_quart_in | 11 | ease_bounce | 28 |
| ease_quart_out | 12 | ease_bounce_in | 29 |
| ease_quint | 13 | ease_bounce_out | 30 |
| ease_quint_in | 14 | ease_bezier | 31 |
| ease_quint_out | 15 | ease_curve | 32 |


| Easing Macro | Value |  | Easing Macro | Value |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ease_expo | 16 |  |  |  |

If the bezier ease mode is selected, four more arguments can be supplied to act as control points for a custom interpolation curve. These values range from 0-1, but Y values can be less or greater to create a rubber-banding effect. See cubic-bezier.com for an interactive visual example.

Other types of curves can be created visually in GameMaker 2.3 and newer. To use these curves with interp, specify ease_curve as the mode and then supply an additional argument pointing to the animation curve asset desired. Note that only the first channel in an animation curve asset will be used.

## Example

```
duration = 5;
time += delta_time/1000000;
x = interp(0, 50, time/duration, ease_quart);
y = interp(0, 50, time/duration, ease_bezier, 0.66, -0.33, 0.33, 1.33);
z = interp(0, 50, time/duration, ease_curve, my_curve);
```


## The "is_even" Function

## Syntax

```
is_even(n);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| n | real | A number to check parity of |

## Description

Returns true if a given number is even, and false if odd. Invalid inputs will be returned as even.

## Example

```
if (is_even(var_num)) {
        show_message("I'm even!");
} else {
    show_message("I'm odd!");
}
```


## The "is_odd" Function

## Syntax

```
is_odd(n);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| n | real | A number to check parity of |

## Description

Returns true if a given number is odd, and false if even. Invalid inputs will be returned as even.

## Example

```
if (is_odd(var_num)) {
        show_message("I'm odd!");
} else {
    show_message("I'm even!");
}
```


## The "round_to" Function

## Syntax

```
round_to(value, multiple);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| value | real | The value to round |
| multiple | real | The number to round to, as a multiple |

## Description

Rounds to a multiple of the specified number (rather than to the nearest whole) and returns the result. Unlike normal rounding, rounding to fractional values is supported.

Note that this script uses "banker's rounding", meaning if a value is exactly half the multiplier, it will round to the nearest even number.

Also note that the multiplier should always be positive. The value to round can be either positive or negative.

## Example

```
score = round_to(score, 10);
```


## The "timer" Function

## Syntax

```
timer(id, [duration]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | string | Sets a unique timer ID, as a string |
| [duration] | real | Optional: Sets the duration of time to countdown, in seconds <br> (use none to create timer only) |

## Description

Sets and/or counts down a timer and returns false until the time has expired, after which it will return true. (To return the actual time value, see timer_get .)

The timer ID should be a unique string value. Timers and their IDs are local to the running instance, so multiple timers can use the same ID in different instances. However, the same ID cannot be reused within a single instance. Otherwise, there is no limit on the quantity of timers that can exist at once.

Timer duration is measured in seconds. This value is automatically adapted to framerate and delta time.

See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

## Example

```
if (timer("t_alarm", 3)) {
    //Action after 3 seconds
}
```


# The "timer_set_time" Function 

## Syntax

```
timer_set_time(id, duration, [instance]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | string | The unique timer ID to modify, as a string (or keyword <br> all for all local timers) |
| duration | real | Sets the duration of time to countdown, in seconds |
| [instance] | instance | Optional: Sets the object instance containing the timer to <br> modify (use none for self) |
|  |  |  |

## Description

Overrides the current time in the specified timer, restarting the countdown process. If the timer does not exist, it will be created, but not countdown.

Note that if this script is run in an event that is executed every frame (e.g. Step), the timer will be unable to countdown! If this is required, use an if statement to only set the timer under certain conditions.

See the included interactive demo for a visual example of this function!

## Example

```
timer_set_time("t_alarm", 5);
timer_set_time("t_other", 5, my_other_inst);
```


# The "timer_get_time" Function 

## Syntax

timer_get_time(id, [instance]);

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | string | The unique timer ID to check, as a string |
| [instance] | instance | Optional: Sets the object instance containing the timer to <br> check (use none for self ) |

## Description

Returns the time remaining for the timer running in the current or specified instance, as a value of seconds. If the instance or timer does not exist, -1 will be returned instead.

## Example

```
var inst_streetlight = instance_find(obj_streetlight, 0);
var race_started = (timer_get_time("t_streetlight", inst_streetlight) == 0);
```


# The "timer_set_pause" Function 

## Syntax

timer_set_pause(id, enable, [instance]);

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | string | The unique timer ID to modify, as a string (or keyword <br> all for all local timers) |
| enable | boolean | Enables, disables, or toggles the pause state |
| [instance] | instance | Optional: Sets the object instance containing the timer to <br> modify (use none for self) |

## Description

Pauses or unpauses the specified timer. Can also toggle pause state if other is supplied instead of true or false.

## Example

```
timer_set_pause("t_alarm", other);
timer_set_pause(all, true, my_other_inst);
```


# The "timer_get_pause" Function 

## Syntax

timer_get_pause(id, [instance]);

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | string | The unique timer ID to check, as a string |
| [instance] | instance | Optional: Sets the object instance containing the timer to <br> check (use none for self ) |

## Description

Returns the pause state for the timer running in the current or specified instance. If the instance or timer does not exist, true will be returned, as the timer is not running.

## Example

if (timer_get_pause("my_timer")) \{ timer_set("my_timer", 5);
\}

## The "timer_set_speed" Function

## Syntax

```
timer_set_speed(id, speed, [instance]);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | string | The unique timer ID to modify, as a string (or keyword <br> all for all local timers) |
| duration | real | Sets the speed multiplier of time countdown, where 1 is <br> default |
|  | Optional: Sets the object instance containing the timer to |  |
| [instance] | instance | modify (use none for self) <br> mole |

## Description

Sets the speed multiplier for the specified timer, increasing or decreasing the countdown rate. The default value of 1 equals real time.

## Example

```
timer_set_speed("t_alarm", 0.5);
timer_set_speed(all, 1, my_other_inst);
```


## The "timer_get_speed" Function

## Syntax

timer_get_speed(id, [instance]);

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | string | The unique timer ID to check, as a string |
| [instance] | instance | Optional: Sets the object instance containing the timer to <br> check (use none for self ) |

## Description

Returns the speed multiplier for the timer running in the current or specified instance, where a value of 1 is real time. If the instance or timer does not exist, 0 will be returned instead.

## Example

```
var my_timer_speed = timer_get_speed("my_timer");
my_timer_speed += (3 - my_timer_speed)*0.25;
timer_set_speed("my_timer", my_timer_speed);
```


## The "wait" Function

## Syntax

```
wait(duration, [offset]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| duration | real | Sets the duration of time to wait, in seconds |
| [offset] | real | Optional: Sets the amount of time to offset the timer |

## Description

Returns false for a specified interval, as a value of seconds, after which true will be returned for one frame. Repeats endlessly.

Note that this script's starting time is based on instance creation time, and will always return true at the same time for every instance of any object created in the same Step. Sometimes this synchronization is not desirable, in which case an optional offset time can also be supplied. Unlike the main time interval, the offset value can be either positive or negative. For example, to base starting time on global session time, use game_get_time() (must be a variable declared in an event that is not run every Step).

## Example

```
//STEP EVENT
if (x != xprevious) or (y != yprevious) {
        if (wait(1)) {
        stamina--;
    }
} else {
    if (wait(2)) {
        stamina++;
    }
}
//LEFT MOUSE PRESSED EVENT
click_time = -game_get_time();
//LEFT MOUSE DOWN EVENT
if (wait(0.15, click_time)) {
    instance_create_layer(x, y, layer, obj_bullet);
}
```


# The "collision_line_meeting" <br> Function 

## Syntax

collision_line_meeting(x1, y1, x2, y2, obj, prec, notme);

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| x1 | real | The $X$ coordinate of the starting point of a line to check |
| y1 | real | The $Y$ coordinate of the starting point of a line to check |
| x2 | real | The X coordinate of the ending point of a line to check |
| y2 | real | The $Y$ coordinate of the ending point of a line to check |
| obj | object/instance | The object or instance to check for collisions (or Keyword all for all active instances) |
| prec | boolean | Enables or disables checking precise collision masks (if any) |
| notme | boolean | Enables or disables excluding other instances of the running object from collision checks |

## Description

Finds the exact point of collision between two sets of coordinates and an input object. Results are returned as a struct containing three keys: the nearest colliding instance id, plus the $x$ and $y$ values of the exact point of collision. If no collision is found, the instance ID will be considered noone and the position unchanged from $x 2$ and y 2 .

The object to check for collisions can be an object ID (in which case all instances of the object will be considered, a single instance ID, or keyword all for all active instances. Set notme to true to exclude instances of the running object from consideration.

Collisions can be evaluated precisely (per-pixel, with a collision mask) or by bounding box, depending on whether prec is true or false. This setting also depends on the type of collision mask defined in the Sprite Editor (i.e. a precise mask must be created for enabling precise collisions to have any effect).

## Example

```
var coll = collision_line_meeting(x, y, x + mov_speed, y, obj_wall, false,
true);
if (coll.id != noone) {
        // Limit movement to point of collision, if any
        x = coll.x;
        y = coll.y;
} else {
        // Otherwise move forward freely
        x += mov_speed;
}
```


# The "string_explode" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_explode(str, delim, [limit]);
```

Argument Type Description
str $\quad$ string $\quad$ The string to split into an array
delim string A repeated substring at which point the string will be split
[limit] integer
Optional: Sets a limit on the number of times the string will be split

## Description

Splits a string into a 1D array, using a delimeter character (or substring) to separate contents. The delimeter will not be included in the resulting strings.

If a limit value is supplied, only that number of delimeter matches will be made, and the final value in the array will contain the remainder of the unsplit string. To exclude the remainder from the array, input the limit value as negative.

Note that the resulting strings will automatically be trimmed, meaning you do not need to include spaces in the delimeter string (unless space itself is the delimeter). Spaces will automatically be removed.

## Example

```
var notes = "do | re | mi | fa | so | la | ti | do";
notes = string_explode(notes, "|");
draw_text(x, y, notes[0]);
```


# The "string_implode" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_implode(array, [limit]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| array | array | The array to combine into a string |
|  | Desiption |  |
| [delim] | string | Optional: A repeated substring to separate combined items |

## Description

Combines the contents of a 1D array into a string, optionally separated by a delimeter character (or substring).

Note that all array contents will be treated as strings. If the array contains pointers to other types of data, the pointer will be written literally rather than writing the contents of the data itself.

## Example

```
var notes = ["do", "re", "mi", "fa", "so", "la", "ti", "do"];
notes = string_implode(notes, "|");
draw_text(x, y, notes);
```


# The "string_lower_all" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_lower_all(str);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| str | string | The string to modify |

## Description

Converts a string to all lowercase letters. Applies to English characters A-Z only.
© ${ }^{\text {info }}$
Like_the_built-in string_lower function, but nearly $2 x$ faster!

## Example

var mystring = "HELLO, WORLD!";
draw_text(25, 25, string_lower_all(mystring));
// Result: "hello, world!"

# The "string_lower_first" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_lower_first(str);
```

Argument Type Description
str $\quad$ string $\quad$ The string to modify

## Description

Returns a string with the first letter of the first word lowercase (can be used for camelCase, for example). Only applies to English characters A-Z.

## Example

```
var mystring = "HELLO, WORLD!";
draw_text(25, 25, string_lower_first(mystring));
// Result: "hELLO, WORLD!"
```


# The "string_lower_words" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_lower_words(str);
```

Argument Type Description
str $\quad$ string $\quad$ The string to modify

## Description

Returns a string with the first letter of each word uncapitalized (can be used for camelCase, for example). Only applies to English characters A-Z.

## Example

```
var mystring = "HELLO, WORLD!";
draw_text(25, 25, string_lower_words(mystring));
// Result: "hELLO, wORLD!"
```


# The "string_upper_all" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_upper_all(str);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| str | string | The string to modify |

## Description

Converts a string to all uppercase letters. Applies to English characters A-Z only.
(1) info

Like the built-in string_upper function, but nearly $2 x$ faster!

## Example

var mystring = "hello, world!";
draw_text(25, 25, string_upper_all(mystring));
// Result: "HELLO, WORLD!"

# The "string_upper_first" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_upper_first(str);
```

Argument Type Description
str $\quad$ string $\quad$ The string to modify

## Description

Returns a string with the first letter of the first word capitalized. Only applies to English characters A-Z.

## Example

```
var mystring = "hello, world!";
draw_text(25, 25, string_upper_first(mystring));
// Result: "Hello, world!"
```


# The "string_upper_words" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_upper_words(str);
```

Argument Type Description

```
str string The string to modify
```


## Description

Returns a string with the first letter of each word capitalized. Only applies to English characters A-Z.

## Example

```
var mystring = "hello, world!";
draw_text(25, 25, string_upper_words(mystring));
// Result: "Hello, World!"
```


# The "string_trim" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_trim(str, [filter]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| str | string | The string to modify |
| [filter] | string | Optional: A custom list of characters to be trimmed |

## Description

Removes spaces from either side of the string and returns the trimmed result.

If a filter is supplied, any character in the filter string will be trimmed instead. (To also trim spaces, include a space in the filter string.)

## Example

```
var notes = " +[do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do] % ";
notes = string_trim(notes, " []+%");
draw_text(x, y, notes);
```


## The "string_trim_left" Function

## Syntax

```
string_trim_left(str, [filter]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| str | string | The string to modify |
| [filter] | string | Optional: A custom list of characters to be trimmed |

## Description

Removes spaces from the left side of the string and returns the trimmed result.

If a filter is supplied, any character in the filter string will be trimmed instead. (To also trim spaces, include a space in the filter string.)

## Example

```
var notes = " +[do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do] % ";
notes = string_trim_left(notes, " [+");
draw_text(x, y, notes);
```


# The "string_trim_right" Function 

## Syntax

```
string_trim_right(str, [filter]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| str | string | The string to modify |
| [filter] | string | Optional: A custom list of characters to be trimmed |

## Description

Removes spaces from the right side of the string and returns the trimmed result.

If a filter is supplied, any character in the filter string will be trimmed instead. (To also trim spaces, include a space in the filter string.)

## Example

```
var notes = " +[do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do] % ";
notes = string_trim_right(notes, " ]%");
draw_text(x, y, notes);
```


## The "array_create_ext" Function

## Syntax

```
array_create_ext(size_x, size_y, [size_z], [size_w], ..., value);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| size_x | integer | Sets the number of cells in the first dimension of the array |
| size_y | integer | Sets the number of cells in the second dimension of the array |
| $[$ size_z] | integer | Optional: Sets the number of cells in the third dimension of <br> the array |
| $[$ size_w] | integer | Optional: Sets the number of cells in the fourth dimension of <br> the array |
| $\ldots$ | integer | Optional: Sets the number of cells in any additional <br> dimensions of the array |
| any | Sets a value to assign to all new cells (default 0 ) |  |
| value | any |  |

Description

Returns an array of multiple dimensions and assigns a default value to the lowest level cells.

At least two dimensions and a default value must be supplied. Additional arguments will be interpreted as dimension sizes preferentially, with the last argument always being the default value.

## Example

```
my_2d_array = array_create_ext(5, 10, 0);
my_3d_array = array_create_ext(5, 10, 3, pi);
my_4d_array = array_create_ext(5, 10, 3, 6, "init");
```


# The "array_clear" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_clear(id);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | array | The index of a previously-created array to modify |

## Description

Clears an array's data from memory. This also includes any child arrays the input array may hold. To clear a multidimensional array, input the root array. However, it is also possible to clear just one dimension of an array by including any parent arrays in the input value, e.g. my_array[0][0].

Note that this function will not destroy the array itself! To de-reference an array after clearing, simply set the parent variable to 0.

## Example

array_clear(my_array);
array_clear(my_array[0][0]);

# The "array_depth" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_depth(id);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| id | array | The index of a previously-created array to check |

## Description

Returns the number of dimensions contained in an array. If the input value is not an array, 0 will be returned instead.

Note that array dimensions are not required to have uniform depth. This function returns the deepest dimension contained within an array.

## Example

var my_array = [ 1, 2, 3, [ "a", "b", "c", [ ".", "!", "?" ] ] ];
draw_text(25, 25, string(array_depth(my_array)));

# The "array_fill" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_fill(id, [value]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | array | The index of a previously-created array to modify |
| $[$ value] | any | Optional: Sets a value to assign to all new cells (default 0 ) |

## Description

Finds the longest dimension of a multidimensional array and fills all other dimensions to match the same length, optionally assigning a default value to any new cells created. If a custom value is not specified, 0 will be used by default.

Can be useful for parsing arrays where the parser must assume a certain size for all dimensions of an array. However, note that this function fills array length only. Subdimensions can still be non-uniform in depth, which cannot be solved by this function, as doing so would result in data loss.

## Example

```
array_fill(my_array);
array_fill(my_array, -1);
```


# The "array_find_dim" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_find_dim(id, val);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | array | The index of a previously-created array to search |
| val | any | The value to search for |

## Description

Searches a multidimensional array for the given value and returns the dimension in which it exists, or -1 if the value is not found in the array. If the input is not an array, but happens to match the search value regardless, 0 will be returned instead.

## Example

var my_array = [ 1, 2, 3, [ "a", "b", "c", [ ".", "!", "?" ] ] ];
draw_text(25, 25, string(array_find_dim(my_array, "b")));

# The "array_find_index" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_find_index(id, val);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | array | The index of a previously-created array to search |
| val | any | The value to search for |

## Description

Searches an array for a value and returns the index, if found, or -1 if the value does not exist in the array. If the input is not an array, but happens to match the search value regardless, 0 will be returned instead.

To search a multidimensional array, input any parent arrays before the child array to be searched, e.g. my_array[0][0].

## Example

var my_array = [ 1, 2, 3, [ "a", "b", "c", [ ".", "!", "?" ] ] ];
draw_text(25, 25, string(array_find_index(my_array[3], "b")));

# The "array_shuffle" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_shuffle(id);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | array | The index of a previously-created array to modify |

## Description

Shuffles the contents of an array, resulting in values being stored in random order.

To shuffle a multidimensional array, input any parent arrays before the child array to be shuffled, e.g. my_array[0][0].

Note that for development builds, GameMaker will use the same random seed, meaning results will always randomize the same way every time the game is restarted. To avoid this behavior, use the built-in randomize function to create a new seed.

## Example

array_shuffle(my_array);
array_shuffle(my_array[0][0]);

# The "array_read" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_read(str);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| str | string | A previously-encoded string to decode as an array |

## Description

An alias of json_parse. Converts a string previously created by array_write into an array and returns the result.

Note that all array contents will be treated as strings. If the array contains pointers to other types of data, the pointer will be read literally rather than reading the contents of the data itself.

## Example

```
var file = file_text_open_read("save.dat");
my_array = array_read(file_text_read_string(file));
file_text_close(file);
```


# The "array_write" Function 

## Syntax

```
array_write(id, [pretty]);
```

| Argument | Type |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| id | array | The index of a previously-created array to encode as a string |
| [pretty] | boolean | Optional: Enables or disables formatting the string with <br> linebreaks and indentation |

## Description

Converts an array of any dimensions to a string, optionally with "pretty-print" to separate values by line with proper indenting.

Note that all array contents will be treated as strings. If the array contains pointers to other types of data, the pointer will be written literally rather than writing the contents of the data itself. The exception to this rule is sub-arrays and structs, which will be preserved.

## Example

```
var file = file_text_open_write("save.dat");
file_text_write_string(file, array_write(my_array, true));
file_text_close(file);
```


## The "is_empty" Function

## Syntax

```
is_empty(val);
```

| Argument | Type | Description |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| val | any | A variable/value to check |

## Description

Checks if a given value is "empty", which can be true or false depending on the type of data contained in the input value.

Some examples of "empty" data include:

- undefined
- NaN
- false
- 0
- "0"
- ""
- []
- $\}$
- etc.

If the input value points to a data structure, buffer, etc., the structure will be considered empty if no values exist inside the structure itself. Transparent surfaces are also considered empty.

Some types of data cannot be evaluated and will return false by default. Also note that different data types incur different performance costs to evaluate.

Note that in some cases this function may not return the expected result due to the way GameMaker handles pointers. This means some types of data can share the same value, and whichever one happens to be first will take priority.

## Example

```
var surf = surface_create(1280, 720);
var ds = ds_list_create();
if (is_empty(surf)) {
    surface_copy(surf, 0, 0, application_surface);
}
if (is_empty(ds)) {
    ds_list_add(ds, surf);
}
```


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(i) NOTE

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This license shall remain effective for the duration of your subscription to XGASOFT through Patreon. In the event that you cancel or reduce your contribution to a lower tier not qualifying for free access to XGASOFT Property, this license will be considered revoked and void for any and all public commercial and non-commercial activities. In order to continue using XGASOFT Property publicly, you must purchase a standard lifetime license.

This limitation shall not be applied retroactively, so that any existing, complete, and publicly available commercial and non-commercial properties using XGASOFT Property will not be considered in violation of this agreement. Furthermore, this limitation shall not apply in the event that XGASOFT suspends, revokes, or disables the contribution of
financial support to XGASOFT through Patreon. In such case as contributions are limited or prohibited by XGASOFT (and not the Licensee), the terms of the Standard Lifetime License shall apply to any and all XGASOFT Property granted as rewards for recurring financial support prior to the date of suspension.

## Single-User

This Agreement grants one (1) user an applicable license to use XGASOFT Property on unlimited devices. This license may not be transferred, shared with, or sold to other users.

However, you, the Licensee, may use XGASOFT Property along with a team or company of collaborators wherever substantial value has been added by you.

This limitation does not extend a license to other users. For any works unrelated to you, collaborators must purchase separate licenses.

## Modifications

In accordance with the terms of this Agreement, you may freely modify, or alter the functionality of XGASOFT Property exclusively for your own use.

Modifying the Property will not terminate your license, however XGASOFT cannot guarantee the quality and functionality of modified versions of the Property, nor its compatibility with other products.

XGASOFT accepts no liability for any loss or damage incurred by the modified Property, and reserves the right to refuse technical support for the modified Property.

Modifications made to XGASOFT Property in no way represent a change of ownership of the Property.

You may not reverse-engineer XGASOFT Property for the purpose of commercial exploitation which may be in competition with XGASOFT.

## Mutability

License fees are determined for each product and service on a case-by-case basis, and XGASOFT reserves the right to change fees on the Property with or without prior notice.

XGASOFT reserves the right to modify, suspend, or terminate this Agreement, the Property, or any service to which it connects with or without prior notice and without liability to you, the Licensee.

## Liability

By using XGASOFT Property, you agree to indemnify and hold harmless XGASOFT, its employees, and agents from and against any and all claims (including third party claims), demands, actions, lawsuits, expenses (including attorney's fees) and damages (including indirect or consequential loss) resulting in any way from your use or reliance on XGASOFT Property, any breach of terms of this Agreement, or any other act of your own.

This limitation will survive and apply even in the event of termination of this Agreement.

## Governing Law

This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the United States of America and the State of Kansas.

If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unenforceable or invalid, such provision will be changed and interpreted to accomplish the objectives of such provision to the greatest extent possible under applicable law, and the remaining provisions will continue in full force and effect.

## Conclusion

This document contains the whole agreement between XGASOFT and you, the Licensee, relating to the Property and licenses thereof and supersedes all prior Agreements, arrangements and understandings between both parties regarding XGASOFT Property and licenses.

