

Title

intro — Introduction to graphics manual

Description

This entry describes this manual and what has changed since Stata 10. See the next entry, [G] **graph intro**, for an introduction to Stata's graphics capabilities.

Remarks

This manual documents Stata's **graph** commands and is referred to as [G] in references.

Following this entry, [G] **graph intro** provides an overview of Stata's **graph** command, and [G] **graph editor** describes the Stata Graph Editor. The remaining manual is divided into three sections:

<i>Commands</i>	This section is arranged alphabetically by graph subcommand and documents all the families of graphs (e.g., twoway , bar , or box) and the graph management commands (e.g., graph drop or graph use). All references to this section appear in the text as bolded command names, for example, [G] graph twoway .
<i>Options</i>	This section is arranged alphabetically by option type (e.g., <i>marker_options</i> or <i>legend_options</i>) and documents the options available to graph . All references to this section appear in the text as bolded, italicized option names with <i>_options</i> appended, for example, [G] <i>axis_Label_options</i> .
<i>Styles and concepts</i>	This section is arranged alphabetically by style name and documents the valid arguments for graph options; for example, <i>colorstyle</i> shows all the valid arguments for options that take a color. Almost all references to this section appear in the text as bolded, italicized style names with <i>style</i> appended, for example, [G] <i>linestyle</i> . Concept entries are the exception; these references appear in the text as bold text, such as [G] concept: lines or [G] schemes intro .

Only the **graph** command is documented in this manual, though the statistical graph commands documented in [MV], [R], [ST], [TS], and [XT] often refer to the *Options* and *Styles and concepts* sections of this manual.

When using this manual as documentation for the **graph** command and its families, you will typically begin in the *Commands* section and be referred to the *Options* and *Styles and concepts* sections as needed. If you are an experienced user, you might sometimes refer directly to the *Options* section for entries such as *legend_option*, where the 35 options for controlling where a legend appears and how it looks are documented. Similarly, you may jump directly to entries such as *colorstyle* in *Styles and concepts* to determine the valid arguments to an option specifying the color of a graph object. If you are new to Stata's graphics, see [G] **graph intro** for a suggested reading order.

Stata is continually being updated, and Stata users are continually writing new commands. To ensure that you have the latest features, you should install the most recent official update; see [R] **update**.

What's new

This section is intended for previous Stata users. If you are new to Stata, you may as well skip it.

1. Text in graphs now supports multiple fonts. You can display a wide variety of symbols, Greek letters, subscripts, superscripts, bold, and italic, as well as text in multiple font faces.

To do this, you use an extended version of SMCL. For instance, you might type

```
. graph ..., title("{&alpha} and {&beta}")  
. graph ..., ytitle("{&chi}{superscript:2}")
```

Of course, you can enter these titles into the dialog boxes as well.

See [G] *text*.

2. Concerning the new fonts, everything is automatic, but you can specify the default fonts to be used. See [G] **graph set**, [G] *ps_options*, and [G] *eps_options*.
3. Stata's Graph Editor can now record a series of edits and apply them to other graphs; see *Graph Recorder* in [G] **graph editor**. You can also apply recorded edits from the command line. See [G] **graph play** and see option `play(recordingname)` in [G] *std_options* and [G] **graph use**.
4. The dialog box for `graph twoway` now allows plots to be reordered when multiple plots have been defined.

For a complete list of all the new features in Stata 11, see [U] **1.3 What's new**.

Also see

[U] **1.3 What's new**

[R] **intro** — Introduction to base reference manual