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## Speaking Stata: How to move step by: step

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**Abstract.** The by *varlist*: construct is reviewed, showing how it can be used to tackle a variety of problems with group structure. These range from simply doing some calculations for each of several groups of observations to doing more advanced manipulations making use of the fact that with this construct, subscripts and the built-ins \_n and \_N are all interpreted within groups. A fairly complete tutorial on numerical evaluation of true and false conditions is included.

Keywords: pr0004, by, sorting, subscripts, true and false, \_n, \_N

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