Pattern

$s : obj$ represents the pattern object $obj$, assigned the name $s$.

The name $s$ must be a symbol. • The object $obj$ can be any pattern object. • When a transformation rule is used, any occurrence of $s$ on the right-hand side is replaced by whatever expression it matched on the left-hand side. • The operator `/:` has a comparatively low precedence. The expression $x : _+ _$ is thus interpreted as $x : (+_+ _)$, not $(x : _)+ _$. • The form $s_ -$ is equivalent to $s : _$. Similarly, $s _ h$ is equivalent to $s : _h$, $s _ _$ to $s : _ __$, and so on. • See page 557.