Block

Block[{x1, x2, ...}, expr] specifies that expr is to be evaluated with the symbols x_i taken as local variables.

Block[{x_i = v_i, ...}, expr] defines initial values for local variables.

The initial values specified for local variables are found before the variables are "localized". As a result, the initial values of different local variables are therefore effectively assigned in parallel. A local variable x is represented by the same symbol as a global x. The two are considered identical in pattern matching or== comparisons. Any values of the global x are, however, removed when the local x is created, and are restored when the local x is destroyed. Block has attribute HoldAll. See page 252. See also: CompoundExpression.