

ocaml+twl quick reference

This sheet tries to concisely demonstrate most syntax forms recognized by the `ocaml+twl` preprocessor. If you need more details, check the examples included with the distribution. All structural whitespace in the following examples is significant: if a line is indented here, it must be indented in your source.

Applications

```
List.iter
  Printf.printf "%d\n"
  lst
```

```
List.map
  function Some x -> x
List.filter
  function
    | Some x -> true
    | None -> false
  lst
```

```
(if b then (+) else (-))
  x
  y
```

Sequences

Nothing special:

```
statement-1
statement-2
...
```

let

```
let x = 1 in expression
```

```
let x = 1 in
  sequence
```

```
let rec f x =
  sequence
and g x =
  sequence
and h y =
  sequence
in
  sequence
```

```
let x = match y with
  | pat1 -> csq1
  | pat2 -> csq2
in
  sequence
```

The multi-let (without indentation) syntax can be used anywhere except the top level of a module:

```
let x = 1 in
let y = 2 in
  sequence
```

if-then-else

```
if condition then expression
```

```
if condition then
  sequence
```

```
if condition then expression else expression
```

```
if condition then
  sequence
else
  sequence
```

```
if condition then
  sequence
else if condition then
  sequence
else
  sequence
```

fun

Nothing special, but you don't need parentheses if the `fun` is on its own line:

```
fun x y -> expression
fun x y ->
  sequence
```

Pattern matching

All patterns occurring on their own line must be indented and have pipes:

```
function Some x -> true | None -> false
```

```
match expression with
  | pattern -> expression
  | pattern ->
    sequence
  | pattern -> expression
```

A match or function may appear on the same line as a `let`:

```
let x = function
  | pattern -> expression
  ...
in
  sequence
```

Exception handling

Nothing special, given the above forms for pattern matching:

```
try expression with Exception -> expression
```

```
try
  sequence
with
  | Exn1 -> expression
  | Exn2 ->
    sequence
```

Records, lists, and arrays

The preprocessor ignores anything within curly braces or square brackets, including newlines. Thus, indentation within these operators doesn't matter, you still have to use `;` to separate items, and complicated expressions must be parenthesized.

```
type point = { x : int; y : int }
type point = {
  x : int;
  y : int
}
```

```
if condition then
  [ 1; 2 ]
else
  [ 2;
    1 ]
```

To bind a name to a *multi-line* literal record, list, or array, use one of the following forms. (Note the placement of the `in`)

```
let x = [elem1;
        elem2;
        ... ] in
sequence
```

```
let x =
  { field1 = value1;
    field2 = value2;
    ... }
in
sequence
```

Loops

Nothing special, but no need for the keyword `done`:

```
for i = 10 to 10 do expression
```

```
for i = 1 to 10 do
  sequence
```

```
while condition do expression
```

```
while condition do
  sequence
```

Modules

Just don't use `end`:

```
module A = struct
  type point = { x : int;
                y : int }

  let origin = { x = 0; y = 0 }
  let reflect_x { x = a; y = b } =
    { x = 0 - a;
      y = b }
```

The local module syntax is supported, but the `struct` must start on its own line. For functors, `module Name = functor ... ->` must appear as one line. See the `modules.ml` example for details.

Module signatures are the same, except without `end`:

```
module A : sig
  type point = { x : int;
                y : int }
  val origin : point
  val reflect_x : point -> point
```

Objects

Just don't use `end`. Method and initializer bodies are any other sequence. See the `objects.ml` example for details.

```
class shape =
object
  method virtual area : unit -> float

class circle =
object (self)
  inherit shape
  val r = 1.0
  method area () =
    3.14159 *. r *. r
```

Union types

The syntax rules for pattern matching apply:

```
type shape =
  | Square
  | Circle
  | Triangle
```

Combining expressions

Because `ocaml+tw` is a line-oriented preprocessor, the following general rule applies when combining expressions on the same line:

If an expression spans multiple lines, it must start on its own line.

For example, the following will **not** work:

```
let lst2 = List.map
           string_of_float
           lst1
in
sequence
```

The multi-line application in this example must start on a new line, rather than on the same line as its containing expression. (Alternatively, you could just make it one parenthesized line.) There are a few exceptions to this rule: loops, local module structures, and immediate objects must always start on their own line (even if they are only one line), `match` and `function` may appear on the same line as a `let` (even if their patterns are on individual lines), and records, lists, and arrays may span multiple lines as previously described.