

# Operator

An operator is a symbol that represents a specific action. For example, a plus sign (+) is an operator that represents addition. The basic mathematic operators are + addition, - subtraction, \* multiplication, / division.

In addition to these operators, many programs and programming languages recognize other operators that allow you to manipulate numbers and text in more sophisticated ways. For example, [Boolean](#) operators enable you to test the truth or falsity of conditions, and relational operators let you compare one value to another. For example, the expression

```
x < 5
```

means  $x$  is less than 5. This [expression](#) will have a value of `TRUE` if the variable  $x$  is less than 5; otherwise the value of the expression will be `FALSE`.

Relational operators are sometimes called [comparison operators](#). Expressions that contain relational operators are called relational expressions.

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