

# Algol 60

Version 9.2.0.5

June 12, 2026

# 1 Implementation

The “Algol 60” language for DrRacket implements the language defined by the “Revised Report on the Algorithmic Language Algol 60,” edited by Peter Naur.

## 2 Including Algol 60 Programs

Although Algol 60 is mainly provided as a DrRacket language, `include-algol` supports limited use of Algol 60 programs in larger programs.

```
(require algol60/algol60)    package: algol60
```

```
| (include-algol path-string)
```

Includes the Algol 60 program indicated by *path-string* as an expression in a Racket program. The included Algol 60 program is closed (i.e., it doesn't see any bindings in the included context), and the result is always `#<void>`.

```
| (literal-algol string ...)
```

Evaluates the Algol 60 program indicated by the literal *strings* as an expression in a Racket program. The Algol 60 program is closed (i.e., it doesn't see any bindings in the included context), and the result is always `#<void>`.

This is generally useful when combined with the `at-exp` reader, e.g.,

```
#lang at-exp racket
@literal-algol{
  begin
    printsln (`hello world')
  end
}
```

### 3 Language

The DrRacket and `include-algol` implementation departs from the Algol 60 specification in the following minor ways:

- Strings are not permitted to contain nested quotes.
- Identifiers cannot contain whitespace.
- Argument separators are constrained to be identifiers (i.e., they cannot be keywords, and they cannot consist of multiple identifiers separated by whitespace.)
- Numbers containing exponents (using the “10” subscript) are not supported.

Identifiers and keywords are case-sensitive. The boldface/underlined keywords of the report are represented by the obvious character sequence, as are most operators. A few operators do not fit into ASCII, and they are mapped as follows:

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| <code>times</code>            | <code>*</code>     |
| <code>quotient</code>         | <code>div</code>   |
| <code>exponential</code>      | <code>^</code>     |
| <code>less or equal</code>    | <code>&lt;=</code> |
| <code>greater or equal</code> | <code>&gt;=</code> |
| <code>not equal</code>        | <code>!=</code>    |
| <code>equivalence</code>      | <code>==</code>    |
| <code>implication</code>      | <code>=&gt;</code> |
| <code>and</code>              | <code>&amp;</code> |
| <code>or</code>               | <code> </code>     |
| <code>negation</code>         | <code>!</code>     |

In addition to the standard functions, the following output functions are supported:

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <code>prints(E)</code>   | prints the string E                       |
| <code>printsln(E)</code> | prints the string E followed by a newline |
| <code>printn(E)</code>   | prints the number E                       |
| <code>printnln(E)</code> | prints the number E followed by a newline |

A prompt in DrRacket’s interactions area accepts whole programs only for the Algol 60 language.