

# The cancel package\*

Donald Arseneau  
asnd@triumf.ca

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## 1 Commands:

<code>\cancel</code>	draws a diagonal line (slash) through its argument.
<code>\bcancel</code>	uses the negative slope (a backslash).
<code>\xcancel</code>	draws an X (actually <code>\cancel</code> plus <code>\bcancel</code> ).
<code>\cancelto{⟨value⟩}{⟨expression⟩}</code>	draws a diagonal arrow through the <code>⟨expression⟩</code> , pointing to the <code>⟨value⟩</code> .

The first three work in math and text mode, but `\cancelto` is only for math mode. The slope of the line or arrow depends on what is being cancelled.

## 2 Options:

By default, none of these commands affects the horizontal spacing, so they might over-print neighboring parts of the formula (or text). They do add their height to the expression, so there should never be unintended vertical overlap. There is a package option `[makeroom]` to increase the horizontal spacing to make room for the cancellation value.

If you use the color package, then you can declare

```
\renewcommand{\CancelColor}{<color_command>}
```

and the cancellation marks will be printed in that color (e. g., `\blue`). However, if you are using color, I recommend lightly shaded blocks rather than diagonal arrows for cancelling.

The option `[thicklines]` asks for heavier lines and arrows. This may be useful when the lines are colored a light shade.

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\*This manual corresponds to `cancel v2.1`, dated 12-Mar-2000.

The size (math style) of the `\cancelto` value depends on package options according to this table:

Current style	[samesize]	[smaller]	[Smaller]
<code>\displaystyle</code>	<code>\displaystyle</code>	<code>\textstyle</code>	<code>\scriptstyle</code>
<code>\textstyle</code>	<code>\textstyle</code>	<code>\scriptstyle</code>	<code>\scriptstyle</code>
<code>\scriptstyle</code>	<code>\scriptstyle</code>	<code>\scriptscriptstyle</code>	<code>\scriptscriptstyle</code>
<code>\scriptscriptstyle</code>	<code>\scriptscriptstyle</code>	<code>\scriptscriptstyle</code>	<code>\scriptscriptstyle</code>

(“**smaller**” is the default behavior. It gives `\textstyle` limits in `\displaystyle`, whereas “**Smaller**” gives `\scriptstyle` limits.)

This package is provided without guarantees or support. Drawing slashes through math to indicate “cancellation” is poor design. I don’t recommend that you use this package at all.