

# Transfer Statement

## Description

Moves the contents of one variable into another variable, and clears the original variable.

## Syntax

**Transfer** *variable1* **To** *variable2*

## Parameters

The Transfer statement accepts arguments for the following parameters.

Parameter	Description
variable1	The source variable. After the execution of a Transfer statement, variable1 is null.
variable2	The target. After a transfer, variable2 contains the data originally represented by variable1. It is not necessary to initialize the target variable before transferring to it.

## Remarks

The Transfer statement moves the value of a variable by reference. Instead of copying the data represented by a variable, Transfer copies the pointer to that data. The effect is a very quick reassignment, with no loss of memory.

If the contents of a variable are copied using an assignment operator (for example, A = B), BASIC+ makes a copy of the value in the source variable (B), and loads it into the location represented by the target variable (A). The assignment operator is a transfer by value. This consumes both time and memory, and thus direct assignment is less efficient than using the Transfer statement.

## Example

```
/* The program processes each record in the CUSTOMER file.  
After calling the external program RECORD_STATS,  
the program restores the values of @RECORD and @ID by transferring them from temporary variables.  
The local subroutine FURTHER_PROCESSING is not shown. */  
  
Open "TEST" To CUSTOMER_TABLE Else  
    status = Set_FSError()  
    Return  
End  
Select CUSTOMER_TABLE  
Done = 0  
Loop  
    ReadNext @ID Else Done = 1  
Until Done  
    Read @RECORD From CUSTOMER_TABLE, @ID Then  
        * save contents before calling routine  
        * in case RECORD_STATS changes values  
        SAVE_RECORD = @RECORD  
        SAVE_ID = @ID  
        Call RECORD_STATS  
        * restore contents  
        Transfer SAVE_RECORD To @RECORD  
        Transfer SAVE_ID To @ID  
        GoSub Further_Processing  
    End  
Repeat
```