Using Prolog

Starting and stopping

  The SWI-Prolog system is initiated with "pl".

The system prompts for queries with "?-". Each query must be terminated with a period. A session is ended by entering the query "halt." or a control-d.

Loading your programs
Normally programs are constructed in files using a text editor. If file "xyz" contains a program you wish to use, then enter the query "consult(xyz)." or "[xyz].". If the file name "xyz" contains any special characters, such as "/" or period, the file name must be enclosed in apostrophes. To enter facts and rules interactively, consult the special file "user" by "consult(user)." or "[user].". Signal the end of your interactive file by entering control-d.

Responses to queries
After responding to each query, Prolog will pause--if you respond with the return key, the query is terminated; if you respond with ";", Prolog will look for another solution to the query.

Interrupting a computation
Execution of a query can be interrupted by entering control-c. You are then prompted for an action and you can respond with *a* for abort or *e* for exit.

Basic predefined predicates

listing.	lists all current program clauses
listing(p).	lists all program clauses for procedure p
statistics.	display a table of system statistics
=	unification
+, -, *, /,//	basic arithmetic
=:=, =\=, <, >, =<, >=	numeric comparisons
	(evaluate both expressions and compare results)
var is *arthExpr*	forces evaluation of expression
@<, @>, @=<, @>=	term comparison

Comments	/* this is a comment */
	% this comment goes to the end of the line

Web Site	www.swi-prolog.org