

# Redefinition

The *redefinition* option used with `DEFINE DATA LOCAL`, `DEFINE DATA PARAMETER`, `DEFINE DATA INDEPENDENT`, `DEFINE DATA CONTEXT` and `DEFINE DATA OBJECT` has the following syntax:

$\text{REDEFINE } \textit{field-name} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textit{level} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textit{rgroup} \\ \textit{rfield} (\textit{format-length} \textit{/array-definition}) \\ \text{FILLER } \textit{nX} \end{array} \right\} \end{array} \right\} \dots$
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This chapter covers the following topics:

- Function
- Restrictions
- Syntax Description

For an explanation of the symbols used in the syntax diagram, see *Syntax Symbols*.

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## Function

A *redefinition* may be used to redefine a group, a view, a DDM field or a single field/variable (that is a scalar or an array).

### Notes:

1. A "redefinition" of a view or a DDM field is not applicable to a *parameter-data-definition*.
2. Unicode fields should not be redefined as alphanumeric (A) or numeric (N) fields.

See also *Redefining Fields* in the *Programming Guide*.

## Restrictions

- Handles, X-arrays and dynamic variables cannot be redefined and cannot be contained in a redefinition clause.
- A group that contains a handle, X-array or a dynamic variable can only be redefined up to - but not including or beyond - the element in question.

## Syntax Description

<i>field-name</i>	The name of the group, view, DDM field or single field that is being redefined.
<i>level</i>	Level number is a 1- or 2-digit number in the range from 01 to 99 (the leading zero is optional) used in conjunction with field grouping. Fields assigned a level number of 02 or greater are considered to be a part of the immediately preceding group which has been assigned a lower level number.
<i>rgroup</i>	The name of the group resulting from the redefinition.  <b>Note:</b> In a <i>redefinition</i> within a <i>view-definition</i> , the name of <i>rgroup</i> must be different from any field name in the underlying DDM.
<i>rfield</i>	The name of the field resulting from the redefinition.  <b>Note:</b> In a <i>redefinition</i> within a <i>view-definition</i> , the name of <i>rfield</i> must be different from any field name in the underlying DDM.
<i>format-length</i>	The format and length of the resulting field ( <i>rfield</i> ).
<i>array-definition</i>	With an <i>array-definition</i> , you define the lower and upper bounds of dimensions in an array-definition. See <i>Array Dimension Definition</i> .
<b>FILLER <i>nX</i></b>	With this notation, you define <i>n</i> filler bytes - that is, segments which are not to be used - in the field that is being redefined. The definition of trailing filler bytes is optional.

### Examples of REDEFINE Usage

Example 1:	Example 2:	Example 3:
<pre> DEFINE DATA LOCAL   01 #VAR1 (A15)   01 #VAR2     02 #VAR2A (N4.1) INIT &lt;0&gt;     02 #VAR2B (P6.2) INIT &lt;0&gt;   01 REDEFINE #VAR2     02 #VAR2RD (A10) END-DEFINE ... </pre>	<pre> DEFINE DATA LOCAL   01 MYVIEW VIEW OF STAFF     02 NAME     02 BIRTH     02 REDEFINE BIRTH       03 BIRTH-YEAR (N4)       03 BIRTH-MONTH (N2)       03 BIRTH-DAY (N2) END-DEFINE ... </pre>	<pre> DEFINE DATA LOCAL   1 #FIELD (A12)   1 REDEFINE #FIELD     2 #RFIELD1 (A2)     2 FILLER 2X     2 #RFIELD2 (A2)     2 FILLER 4X     2 #RFIELD3 (A2) END-DEFINE ... </pre>