

## C library function - time()

### Description

The C library function **time\_t time(time\_t \*seconds)** returns the time since the Epoch (00:00:00 UTC, January 1, 1970), measured in seconds. If **seconds** is not NULL, the return value is also stored in variable **seconds**.

### Declaration

Following is the declaration for time() function.

```
time_t time(time_t *t)
```

### Parameters

- **seconds** – This is the pointer to an object of type time\_t, where the seconds value will be stored.

### Return Value

The current calendar time as a time\_t object.

### Example

The following example shows the usage of time() function.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <time.h>

int main () {
    time_t seconds;

    seconds = time(NULL);
    printf("Hours since January 1, 1970 = %ld\n", seconds/3600);

    return(0);
}
```

[Live Demo](#)

Let us compile and run the above program that will produce the following result –

```
Hours since January 1, 1970 = 393923
```