

1. What is C language?

The C language is a general-purpose, procedural computer programming language developed in the early 1970s by Dennis Ritchie at Bell Labs.

Key characteristics:

Mid-level language: It contains features of both low-level CISC assembly, allowing memory manipulation and high-level languages (providing structures and portability).

Procedural: Programs provided are organised into functions (procedures) that contain sequences of statements to be executed.

Portability: C compilers are available for almost every computer architecture, making code written in highly portable.

Memory Management: It allows for direct memory manipulation using pointers, which gives programmers fine-grained control but also requires careful handling.

Foundation: Many modern languages (like C++, Java, Python) and operating systems (like Linux and ports of Windows) are either written in C or heavily influenced by its syntax and concepts.

2. What are the applications of C programming?

A: The C language is foundational in software development primarily due to efficiency, speed and capability for low-level hardware interaction.

1. Operating Systems (OS):

- Core development: Used to write the kernel the heart of the OS (e.g. linux, UNIX).
  - Reason: Provides direct memory access and generates highly efficient machine code.
2. Embedded system & IoT:
- Hardware control: Ideal for resource-constrained devices (small memory / CPU) like microcontrollers, traffic lights, smart home applications, and cameras.
  - Reason: Small memory footprint and fast execution speed are essential.
3. System Programming & utilities:
- Device Drivers: Used to create software interfaces for hardware devices (e.g. printers, graphics).
  - Utility Tools: Building essential system commands and utility (e.g. is grep in UNIX).
4. Compilers and interpreters.
- Language Tools: The underlying code for many compilers (e.g. GCC) and the core interpreters for languages like python (CPython) are written in C.
  - Reason: C's speed is leveraged to translate and execute other programming languages.

3. What is variable?

A: A variable in computer programming is named storage location in the computer's memory (RAM) that holds a value. The value stored in this location can change during the execution of program which is why it is called "variable".



4) What are the data types in C programming.

Ans: The primary fundamental data types in C programming are:

- int: For integer (whole numbers)
- char: for a single character or small integers.
- float: for single-precision floating-point numbers (non with a decimal point).
- double: for double-precision floating-point numbers (more precise than float).
- Void: Used for specifying a function that returns value or for generic pointers

5. What is format specifier?

Ans: A format specifier is a placeholder used in input/output functions in C-like programming languages (such as C, C++, and others) to tell the compiler what type of data for output.

They are typically preceded by a percent sign "%".

Ans:

Specifier	Data type it handles	Description
%.d or %i	int	signed decimal integer.
%.f	float or double	decimal floating numbers
%.c	char	single character
%.lf	double	used floating (scanf) a double for printing
%.s	char*	string (array of character).
%.u	unsigned	unsigned decimal integer
%.p	pointer	memory address pointer