

C

PRE-PROCESSOR

PDEU

OBJECTIVES...

- Understand the features of C preprocessor
- Macro Expansion
- Macros with Arguments
- Macros vs. Functions
- File Inclusion
- Conditional Compilation

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STEPS : .CPP → .EXE

HAND WRITTEN PROGRAM

→ TEXT EDITOR

C/C++ SOURCE CODE ( .CPP)

→ PREPROCESSOR

EXPANDED SOURCE CODE (.i)

→ COMPILER

OBJECT CODE ( .OBJ)

→ LINKER

EXECUTABLE CODE ( .EXE)

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Preprocessor directives...

- Instructions to the compiler in the source code.
- Begins with a # symbol.
- Can be placed anywhere in a program.
- Generally placed at the beginning of a program.
- Expand the scope of the programming environment.

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## Macro Expansion...

- `#define` macro-template macro-expansion
- `#define PI 3.1415`
- During preprocessing, the preprocessor replaces every occurrence of PI in the program with 3.1415.
- **No semicolon in the statement.**
- C programmers commonly use upper case letters for Macro.
- A macro template and its macro expansion are separated by blanks or tabs.

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## Macro Expansion... Example...

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
#define MAX 5
void main()
{
    int i, a[MAX];
    for(i=0;i<MAX;i++)
        a[i] = i;
}
```

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## Macro Expansion... Example... After Pre-processing

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
#define MAX 5
void main()
{
    int i, a[5];
    for(i=0;i<5;i++)
        a[i] = i;
}
```

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## Another Example...

```
#define AND &&
#define OR ||
void main( )
{
    int f=1,x=4,y=90;
    if (f < 5) AND ( x <=20 OR y <=45)
        printf("Your PC contains Virus\n");
}
```

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### Use of **#define** to replace a condition...

```
#define AND &&
#define A_RANGE (a > 25 AND a < 50)
void main()
{
    int a = 30;
    if (A_RANGE)
        printf("Within Range...");
    else
        printf("Out of Range...");
}
```

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### Macros with Arguments...

- Like functions, Macros can have arguments.

```
#include <stdio.h>
#define ABS(a) (a)<0?-a):(a)
void main()
{
    printf("abs of -1 and 1: %d %d\n", ABS(-1),
        ABS(1));
}
```

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### Macros with Arguments...

- What will be the output of the following code?

```
#include <stdio.h>
#define ABS(a) a<0?-a:a // removed ( )
void main()
{
    printf("abs of (10-20) is %d", ABS(10-20));
}
```

~~ABS(10-20) expanded as 10-20<0?-10-20:10-20

~~Output is -30 and not 10 as expected.

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### Macros with Arguments... Another Example...

```
#define ISDIGIT(y) (y >= 48 && y <= 57)
void main()
{
    char ch;
    printf("Enter any digit\n"); scanf("%c",&ch);
    if (!ISDIGIT(ch))
        printf("Illegal Input\n");
}
```

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### Macros with Arguments... Few Important Points ...

- Do not leave a blank between the macro template and its arguments while defining a macro.  
e.g. `#define ISDIGIT (y) (y >=48 && y <= 57)` will yield wrong results.
- The entire macro expansion should be enclosed within parentheses.  
e.g. `#define SQUARE(n) n * n`  
`J = 64 / SQUARE(4);`  
→ J will contain 64 and not 4.

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### Macros with Arguments... Few Important Points ...

- Macros can be split into multiple lines with a `'\'` (back slash) present at the end of each line.
- `#define long_string "this is a very long \`  
string that is used as an example."

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### Macros versus Functions...

- Though macro calls are like function calls, they are not really same.
- In a macro call the preprocessor replaces the macro template with its macro expansion, in a stupid, unthinking, literal way.
- As against this, in a function call the control is passed to a function along with certain arguments, some calculations are performed and a useful value is returned from a function.

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### Macros versus Functions...

- Usually macros make the program run faster but increase the program size, whereas function make the program smaller and compact.
- If we use a macro 100 times in a program, the macro expansion goes at 100 diff. places, thus increasing the program size.
- If a function is used, it would take the same amount of space, even though used for 100 times.

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### Macros versus Functions...

- Function call always contain overhead as
  - It has to pass arguments,
  - It has to return some value from the function.
- This takes some time and would slow down the program.
- This gets avoided with macros since they have already been expanded and placed in a source code before compilation.

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### Macros versus Functions...

- If a macro is simple and sweet, use it to avoid the overheads associated with function call.
- If we have a fairly large macro and it is used fairly often, use function.

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### File Inclusion...

- **#include** directive instructs the compiler to insert another source file at that point in the program.
- The name of the additional source file must be enclosed between double quotes or angle brackets.
- General Form to include a File:  
`#include <filename>`  
`#include "filename"`

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### File Inclusion...

- In a large program, the code is broken into several files, each file is included with the help of **#include** at the beginning of main program file.
- Some functions and macros that we need in all programs, can be stored in a file, and that can be included in every program we write.

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## File Inclusion...

- `#include "filename" →` will search for file in current directory first and if not found then, in specified list of directories as mentioned in the include search path.
- `#include <filename> →` will search for file in the specified list of directories only.

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## Conditional Compilation...

- There are several directives that allow you to selectively compile portions of your program's source code.
- `#ifdef , #ifndef`
- `#if`
- `#else`
- `#elif`
- `#endif`

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## `#ifdef...`

```
#ifdef MACRONAME
```

```
    statement 1;  
    statement 2;  
    statement 3;
```

```
#endif
```

- If macroname has been `#defined` earlier, the block of code will be processed as usual; otherwise not.

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## `#ifdef... WHEN TO USE?...`

- To comment out obsolete lines of code.
  - It often happens that a program is changed at the last minute to satisfy a client.
  - This involves rewriting some part of source code and deleting the old code.
  - But if client changes his mind and asks for the old code as it was earlier... RETYPING?

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**#ifdef... WHEN TO USE?...**

```
void main ( )
{
    #ifdef OKAY
        statement 1; statement 2;
        /*detect virus */
    #endif
    statement 3; statement 4;
}
```

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**#ifdef... MORE SOPHISTICATED USE...**

```
void main ( )
{
    #ifdef INTEL
        code suitable for an Intel PC
    #else
        code suitable for a Motorola PC
    #endif
    code common to both PCs;
}
```

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**#ifndef... means if not defined... works opposite to #ifdef.**

```
void main ( )
{
    #ifndef INTEL
        code suitable for a Motorola PC
    #else
        code suitable for an intel PC
    #endif
    code common to both PCs;
}
```

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**#if and #elif directives...**

- #if can be used to test whether an expression evaluates to a nonzero value or not.
- If the result of the expression is nonzero, then subsequent lines upto a #else, #elif or #endif are compiled, otherwise they are skipped.
- Look at the example...

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### #if , #else, #endif directives...

```
#if ADAPTER == VGA
    // code for video graphics array
#else
    #if ADAPTER == SVGA
        // code for super video graphics array
    #else
        // code for extended graphics adapter
    #endif
#endif
```

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### #elif directive...

```
#if ADAPTER == VGA
    // code for video graphics array
#elif ADAPTER == SVGA
    // code for super video graphics array
#else
    // code for extended graphics adapter
#endif
```

- Number of #endif gets reduced with the use of #elif.

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### Summary...

- The preprocessor directives enable the programmer to write programs that are easy to develop, read, modify and transport to a different computer system.
- We can make use of different directives like #define, #include, #if , #else, #endif, #elif, #ifdef, #ifndef.

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### References...

- **Let Us C** – by Yashavant Kanetkar  
Bpb Publication – 5<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Chapter 7 – Pages 241 To 267
- **The Complete Reference: C++**  
– by Herbert Schildt  
– Tata McGraw-Hill – 4<sup>th</sup> Edition  
Chapter 10 – Pages 237 To 250

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