

The C Language : Common Programming Concepts

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Integer Types

Signed Integers

(signed) char	// 8 bits
(signed) short	// 16 bits
(signed) int	// 32 bits
(signed) long	// 64 bits
(signed) long long	// 64 bits

Sizes are given for 64-bit architectures
LP64 data model on Linux

Integer Types

Unsigned Integers

unsigned char	// 8 bits
unsigned short	// 16 bits
unsigned int	// 32 bits
unsigned long	// 64 bits
unsigned long long	// 64 bits

Sizes are given for 64-bit architectures
LP64 data model on Linux

Floating-Point Types

IEEE 754 Standard

float	//	32 bits (single precision)
double	//	64 bits (double precision)

Other Types

`size_t`

- 64-bit unsigned integer (LP64)
- Used for size measurement
- Used for array indexes
- Defined in most header files of the standard library (e.g. `<stddef.h>`)

Other Types

`ssize_t`

- 64-bit signed integer (LP64)
- Signed version of `size_t`
- Accepts negative values (for errors and differences)
- Defined in some header files of the standard library (e.g. `<stdlib.h>`)

Other Types

`void`

Absence of Type

- Used as function return type when no return value is expected.
- Can be used as function parameter type when no parameters are passed into the function.

The *main()* Function

The *main()* function is the entry point of the program.

It should return an **int** value.

- If no error occurred
 - Should return 0
- If any error occurred
 - Should return a value different from 0

The *main()* Function

We can use constants defined in `<stdlib.h>`:

- `EXIT_SUCCESS`
- `EXIT_FAILURE`

```
#include <stdlib.h>

int main()
{
    // Some instructions
    // No error occurred

    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>

int main()
{
    // Some instructions
    // An error occurred

    return EXIT_FAILURE;
}
```

Variables

General syntax

```
<type> <identifier> = <value>;
```

or

```
<type> <identifier>;  
<identifier> = <value>;
```

Example

```
int a = 5;  
int b;  
b = 5;
```

The *sizeof()* Operator

The *sizeof()* operator returns the size in bytes of an expression or a type.

The return type is *size_t*.

```
unsigned long a = 5;  
size_t l1 = sizeof(a); // l1 = 8  
size_t l2 = sizeof(short); // l2 = 2
```

The `printf()` Function

Signed Integers

```
char c = 'A';  
short h = 100;  
int i = 200;  
long l = 300;  
  
printf("c = %c\n", c);  
printf("c = %hi\n", c);  
printf("h = %hi\n", h);  
printf("i = %i\n", i);  
printf("l = %li\n", l);
```



```
c = A  
c = 65  
h = 100  
i = 200  
l = 300
```

The `printf()` Function

Unsigned Integers

```
unsigned char c = 'A';  
unsigned short h = 100;  
unsigned int i = 200;  
unsigned long l = 300;  
  
printf("c = %c\n", c);  
printf("c = %hu\n", c);  
printf("c = %hx\n", c);  
printf("h = %hu\n", h);  
printf("i = %u\n", i);  
printf("l = %lu\n", l);
```




```
c = A  
c = 65  
c = 41  
h = 100  
i = 200  
l = 300
```

The `printf()` Function

`size_t` and `ssize_t`

```
size_t l1 = 42;  
ssize_t l2 = -l1;  
  
printf("l1 = %zu\n", l1);  
printf("l2 = %zi\n", l2);
```



```
l1 = 42  
l2 = -42
```

The `printf()` Function

float and double

```
float f = 42.0;  
double d = 72.0;  
  
printf("f = %f\n", f);  
printf("d = %f\n", d);
```



```
f = 42.000000  
d = 72.000000
```

No Boolean Type!

Conditions use integers

- 0 is equivalent to FALSE
- $\neq 0$ is equivalent to TRUE

Relational Operators

```
char a = 5;  
char b = 0;
```



a	==	5	=>	1
a	!=	5	=>	0
a	>	5	=>	0
a	>=	5	=>	1
a	<	5	=>	0
a	<=	5	=>	1
	!	a	=>	0
	!	b	=>	1

The *if*, *else if* and *else* Statements

General Syntax

```
if (condition)
{
    // ...
}
else if (condition)
{
    // ...
}
else
{
    // ...
}
```

The *else* and *else if* statements are optional.

The *if*, *else if* and *else* Statements

Common Conditions

```
if (a)
{
    // ...
}
if (!a)
{
    // ...
}
```

Shorter



```
if (a != 0)
{
    // ...
}
if (a == 0)
{
    // ...
}
```

More explicit


The *for* Statement

General Syntax

```
for (init; condition; post)
{
    // ...
}
```

Example

```
for (int n = 0; n < 5; n++)
{
    printf("n = %i\n", n);
}
```



```
n = 0
n = 1
n = 2
n = 3
n = 4
```


The *while* Statement

General Syntax:

```
while (condition)
{
    // ...
}
```

Example

```
short n = 0;
while (n < 5)
{
    printf("n = %hi\n", n);
    n++;
}
```



```
n = 0
n = 1
n = 2
n = 3
n = 4
```


The *do...while* Statement

General Syntax:

```
do
{
    // ...
} while (condition);
```

Example

```
short n = 0;
do
{
    printf("n = %hi\n", n);
    n++;
} while (n < 5);
```



```
n = 0
n = 1
n = 2
n = 3
n = 4
```

The *break* and *continue* Statements

The *break* and *continue* statements can be used in loop bodies (e.g. *for*, *while*, *do...while*)

- *break*: Terminates the loop.
- *continue*: Goes to the next iteration.

The *switch...case* Statement

```
switch (value)
{
    case const_1:
        // ...
        break;

    case const_2:
        // ...
        break;

    // etc.

    default:
        // ...
}
```

```
int a = 10;

switch (a)
{
    case 0:
        printf("a is null.");
        break;

    case 100:
        printf("a is one hundred.\n");
        break;

    default:
        printf("a is not null.\n");
        printf("a is not one hundred.\n");
}
```



a is not null.
a is not one hundred.

Enumerations

Declaration

```
enum <enum_name>
{
    const_1,
    const_2,
    // ...
    const_N,
};
```

```
enum <enum_name>
{
    const_1 = 0,
    const_2 = 15,
    // ...
    const_N = 3,
};
```

Example

```
int main()
{
    enum color
    {
        red,           // 0
        green,         // 1
        blue,           // 2
    };

    enum color c1 = red;
    enum color c2 = green;
    enum color c3 = blue;

    return 0;
}
```

Ternary Operator

```
if (a)
    x = b;
else
    x = c;
```



```
x = a ? b : c;
```

Variable Scope

```
int a = 10;
```

```
{  
  int b = 42;  
}
```

```
printf("a = %i\n", a);
```

```
printf("b = %i\n", b);
```

Scope
of 'b'

Scope
of 'a'

Error: 'b' is not declared

Variable Scope

Assuming that 'a' is declared and initialized

```
if (a)
{
    int b = 42;
}
else
{
    int b = -42;
}
printf("b = %i\n", b);
```

Variable Scope

Assuming that 'a' is declared and initialized

```
if (a)
{
    int b = 42;
}
else
{
    int b = -42;
}
```

} Scope
of 'b'

} Scope
of 'b'

```
printf("b = %i\n", b);
```

→ **Error:** 'b' is not declared

Variable Scope

Assuming that 'a' is declared and initialized

```
int b;  
if (a)  
{  
    b = 42;  
}  
else  
{  
    b = -42;  
}  
printf("b = %i\n", b);
```

Scope
of 'b'

Right

Variable Scope

```
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
    printf("i = %i\n", i);  
  
printf("i = %i\n", i);
```

Variable Scope

```
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)  
    printf("i = %i\n", i);
```

} Scope
of 'i'

```
printf("i = %i\n", i);
```

→ **Error:** 'i' is not declared

Global Variables

```
#include <stdio.h>

int x = 42;

void inc_x()
{
    x++;
}

int main()
{
    printf("x = %i\n", x);
    inc_x();
    printf("x = %i\n", x);
    return 0;
}
```



x	=	42
x	=	43

Global Variables – Multiple Files

main.c

```
#include <stdio.h>

extern int x;
int inc_x();

int main()
{
    printf("x = %i\n", x);
    inc_x();
    printf("x = %i\n", x);
    return 0;
}
```

other.c

```
int x = 42;

void inc_x()
{
    x++;
}
```



```
x = 42
x = 43
```

Constants – *#define*

General syntax

```
#define <LABEL> <value>
```

Example

```
#define PI 3.14

int main()
{
    float diameter = 50.0;
    float circumference = diameter * PI;
    // ...
}
```

Constants – *const*

General syntax

```
const <type> <identifier> = <value>;
```

Example

```
const float PI = 3.14;

int main()
{
    float diameter = 50.0;
    float circumference = diameter * PI;
    // ...
}
```

Implicit Type Casting

```
float f = 42.75;  
int i = f ;  
printf("i = %i\n", i);  
  
f = i;  
printf("f = %f\n", f);
```



```
i = 42  
f = 42.000000
```

Explicit Type Casting


```
float f = 42.75;  
int i = (int)f ;  
printf("i = %i\n", i);  
  
f = (float)i;  
printf("f = %f\n", f);
```



```
i = 42  
f = 42.000000
```

Overflow


```
unsigned char c = 250;  
c += 10;  
printf("c = %hu\n", c);
```



c = ?

Overflow

```
unsigned char c = 250;  
c += 10;  
printf("c = %hu\n", c);
```



c = 4

Overflow

```
unsigned char c = 250;  
c += 10;  
printf("c = %hu\n", c);
```


c = 4

$260_{10} = 1\ 0000\ 0100_2$

8 bits => 4

Overflow

```
short i = 129;  
char c = i;  
printf("c = %hhi\n", c);
```



c = ?

Overflow

```
short i = 129;  
char c = i;  
printf("c = %hhi\n", c);
```



c = -127

Overflow

```
short i = 129;  
char c = i;  
printf("c = %hi\n", c);
```

c = -127

$129_{10} \Rightarrow 0000 \ 0000 \ 1000 \ 0001_2$

$1000 \ 0001_2 \Rightarrow 2^7 c = 01111111$

127


The `exit()` Function

It causes normal process termination.

```
#include <stdlib.h>

void f()
{
    exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
}

int main()
{
    f();
    return 0;
}
```



```
$ ./a.out
$ echo $?
1
```

Never executed

The `errx()` Function

Similar to `exit()` with extra features:

- It sends an error message to the standard error.
- Printf-like syntax().
- It appends a newline character to the message.

The `errx()` Function

```
#include <err.h>

void f(int code)
{
    errx(code, "Error code: %i", code);
}

int main()
{
    f(42);
    return 0;
}
```

→ **Never executed**

→

```
$ ./a.out
a.out: Error code: 42
$ echo $?
42
```