

# ANSI C Yacc grammar

In 1985, Jeff Lee published his Yacc grammar (which is accompanied by a matching [Lex specification](#)) for the April 30, 1985 draft version of the ANSI C standard. Tom Stockfish reposted it to net.sources in 1987; that original, as mentioned in the answer to [question 17.25](#) of the comp.lang.c FAQ, can be ftp'ed from ftp.uu.net, file [usenet/net.sources/ansi.c.grammar.Z](#).

[Jutta Degener](#), 1995

---

```
%token IDENTIFIER CONSTANT STRING_LITERAL SIZEOF
%token PTR_OP INC_OP DEC_OP LEFT_OP RIGHT_OP LE_OP GE_OP EQ_OP NE_OP
%token AND_OP OR_OP MUL_ASSIGN DIV_ASSIGN MOD_ASSIGN ADD_ASSIGN
%token SUB_ASSIGN LEFT_ASSIGN RIGHT_ASSIGN AND_ASSIGN
%token XOR_ASSIGN OR_ASSIGN TYPE_NAME

%token TYPEDEF EXTERN STATIC AUTO REGISTER
%token CHAR SHORT INT LONG SIGNED UNSIGNED FLOAT DOUBLE CONST VOLATILE VOID
%token STRUCT UNION ENUM ELLIPSIS

%token CASE DEFAULT IF ELSE SWITCH WHILE DO FOR GOTO CONTINUE BREAK RETURN

%start translation_unit
%%

primary_expression
: IDENTIFIER
| CONSTANT
| STRING_LITERAL
| '(' expression ')'
;

postfix_expression
: primary_expression
| postfix_expression '[' expression ']'
| postfix_expression '(' ')'
| postfix_expression '(' argument_expression_list ')'
| postfix_expression '.' IDENTIFIER
| postfix_expression PTR_OP IDENTIFIER
| postfix_expression INC_OP
| postfix_expression DEC_OP
;

argument_expression_list
: assignment_expression
| argument_expression_list ',' assignment_expression
;

unary_expression
: postfix_expression
| INC_OP unary_expression
| DEC_OP unary_expression
| unary_operator cast_expression
| SIZEOF unary_expression
| SIZEOF '(' type_name ')'
;

unary_operator
: '&'
| '*'
| '+'
```

```

| '-'
| '~'
| '!'
;

```

```

cast_expression
: unary\_expression
| '(' type\_name ')' cast_expression
;

```

```

multiplicative_expression
: cast\_expression
| multiplicative_expression '*' cast\_expression
| multiplicative_expression '/' cast\_expression
| multiplicative_expression '%' cast\_expression
;

```

```

additive_expression
: multiplicative\_expression
| additive_expression '+' multiplicative\_expression
| additive_expression '-' multiplicative\_expression
;

```

```

shift_expression
: additive\_expression
| shift_expression LEFT\_OP additive\_expression
| shift_expression RIGHT\_OP additive\_expression
;

```

```

relational_expression
: shift\_expression
| relational_expression '<' shift\_expression
| relational_expression '>' shift\_expression
| relational_expression LE\_OP shift\_expression
| relational_expression GE\_OP shift\_expression
;

```

```

equality_expression
: relational\_expression
| equality_expression EQ\_OP relational\_expression
| equality_expression NE\_OP relational\_expression
;

```

```

and_expression
: equality\_expression
| and_expression '&' equality\_expression
;

```

```

exclusive_or_expression
: and\_expression
| exclusive_or_expression '^' and\_expression
;

```

```

inclusive_or_expression
: exclusive\_or\_expression
| inclusive_or_expression '|' exclusive\_or\_expression
;

```

```

logical_and_expression
: inclusive\_or\_expression
| logical_and_expression AND\_OP inclusive\_or\_expression
;

```

```

logical_or_expression
: logical\_and\_expression

```

```
| logical_or_expression OR\_OP logical\_and\_expression
;

conditional_expression
: logical\_or\_expression
| logical\_or\_expression '?' expression ':' conditional_expression
;

assignment_expression
: conditional\_expression
| unary\_expression assignment\_operator assignment_expression
;

assignment_operator
: '='
| MUL\_ASSIGN
| DIV\_ASSIGN
| MOD\_ASSIGN
| ADD\_ASSIGN
| SUB\_ASSIGN
| LEFT\_ASSIGN
| RIGHT\_ASSIGN
| AND\_ASSIGN
| XOR\_ASSIGN
| OR\_ASSIGN
;

expression
: assignment\_expression
| expression ',' assignment\_expression
;

constant_expression
: conditional\_expression
;

declaration
: declaration\_specifiers ';'
| declaration\_specifiers init\_declarator\_list ';'
;

declaration_specifiers
: storage\_class\_specifier
| storage\_class\_specifier declaration_specifiers
| type\_specifier
| type\_specifier declaration_specifiers
| type\_qualifier
| type\_qualifier declaration_specifiers
;

init_declarator_list
: init\_declarator
| init_declarator_list ',' init\_declarator
;

init_declarator
: declarator
| declarator '=' initializer
;

storage_class_specifier
: TYPEDEF
| EXTERN
| STATIC
| AUTO
```

```

| REGISTER
;

type_specifier
: VOID
| CHAR
| SHORT
| INT
| LONG
| FLOAT
| DOUBLE
| SIGNED
| UNSIGNED
| struct\_or\_union\_specifier
| enum\_specifier
| TYPE\_NAME
;

struct_or_union_specifier
: struct\_or\_union IDENTIFIER '{' struct\_declaration\_list '}'
| struct\_or\_union '{' struct\_declaration\_list '}'
| struct\_or\_union IDENTIFIER
;

struct_or_union
: STRUCT
| UNION
;

struct_declaration_list
: struct\_declaration
| struct\_declaration\_list struct\_declaration
;

struct_declaration
: specifier\_qualifier\_list struct\_declarator\_list ';'
;

specifier_qualifier_list
: type\_specifier specifier_qualifier_list
| type\_specifier
| type\_qualifier specifier_qualifier_list
| type\_qualifier
;

struct_declarator_list
: struct\_declarator
| struct\_declarator\_list ',' struct\_declarator
;

struct_declarator
: declarator
| ':' constant\_expression
| declarator ':' constant\_expression
;

enum_specifier
: ENUM '{' enumerator\_list '}'
| ENUM IDENTIFIER '{' enumerator\_list '}'
| ENUM IDENTIFIER
;

enumerator_list
: enumerator
| enumerator\_list ',' enumerator

```

```

;

enumerator
: IDENTIFIER
| IDENTIFIER '=' constant_expression
;

type_qualifier
: CONST
| VOLATILE
;

declarator
: pointer direct declarator
| direct declarator
;

direct_declarator
: IDENTIFIER
| '(' declarator ')'
| direct_declarator '[' constant_expression ']'
| direct_declarator '[' ']'
| direct_declarator '(' parameter_type_list ')'
| direct_declarator '(' identifier_list ')'
| direct_declarator '(' ']'
;

pointer
: '*'
| '*' type_qualifier_list
| '*' pointer
| '*' type_qualifier_list pointer
;

type_qualifier_list
: type_qualifier
| type_qualifier_list type_qualifier
;

parameter_type_list
: parameter_list
| parameter_list ',' ELLIPSIS
;

parameter_list
: parameter_declaration
| parameter_list ',' parameter_declaration
;

parameter_declaration
: declaration_specifiers declarator
| declaration_specifiers abstract_declarator
| declaration_specifiers
;

identifier_list
: IDENTIFIER
| identifier_list ',' IDENTIFIER
;

type_name
: specifier_qualifier_list
| specifier_qualifier_list abstract_declarator
;

```

```

abstract_declarator
: pointer
| direct\_abstract\_declarator
| pointer direct\_abstract\_declarator
;

direct_abstract_declarator
: '(' abstract\_declarator ')'
| '[' ']'
| '[' constant\_expression ']'
| direct\_abstract\_declarator '[' ']'
| direct\_abstract\_declarator '[' constant\_expression ']'
| '(' ')'
| '(' parameter\_type\_list ')'
| direct\_abstract\_declarator '(' ')'
| direct\_abstract\_declarator '(' parameter\_type\_list ')'
;

initializer
: assignment\_expression
| '{' initializer\_list '}'
| '{' initializer\_list ',' '}'
;

initializer_list
: initializer
| initializer\_list ',' initializer
;

statement
: labeled\_statement
| compound\_statement
| expression\_statement
| selection\_statement
| iteration\_statement
| jump\_statement
;

labeled_statement
: IDENTIFIER ':' statement
| CASE constant\_expression ':' statement
| DEFAULT ':' statement
;

compound_statement
: '{' '}'
| '{' statement\_list '}'
| '{' declaration\_list '}'
| '{' declaration\_list statement\_list '}'
;

declaration_list
: declaration
| declaration\_list declaration
;

statement_list
: statement
| statement\_list statement
;

expression_statement
: ';'
| expression ';'

```

;

selection\_statement

```

: IF '(' expression ')' statement
| IF '(' expression ')' statement ELSE statement
| SWITCH '(' expression ')' statement
;

```

iteration\_statement

```

: WHILE '(' expression ')' statement
| DO statement WHILE '(' expression ')' ';'
| FOR '(' expression statement expression statement ')' statement
| FOR '(' expression statement expression statement expression ')' statement
;

```

jump\_statement

```

: GOTO IDENTIFIER ';'
| CONTINUE ';'
| BREAK ';'
| RETURN ';'
| RETURN expression ';'
;

```

translation\_unit

```

: external_declaration
| translation_unit external_declaration
;

```

external\_declaration

```

: function_definition
| declaration
;

```

function\_definition

```

: declaration_specifiers declarator declaration_list compound_statement
| declaration_specifiers declarator compound_statement
| declarator declaration_list compound_statement
| declarator compound_statement
;

```

%%

#include &lt;stdio.h&gt;

extern char yytext[];

extern int column;

yyerror(s)

char \*s;

{

fflush(stdout);

printf("\n%s\n%s\n", column, "^", column, s);

}