

Enumerations and Unions

Chapter 16



Objectives

You will be able to:

- Define enumerations to represent discrete values in a C program.
- Define unions to permit the same memory space to hold different types.



Enumerations

- Enumerations allow us to define meaningful names for integer codes used to represent discrete values.



Enumerations

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

```
typedef enum
```

```
{
```

```
    red,
```

```
    blue,
```

```
    green,
```

```
    yellow
```

```
} color_t;
```

Defines “color” as a name that
can be used as a type.

A user-defined type.

```
int main ( void )
```

```
{
```

```
    color_t cur_color = green;
```

Defines a variable of type color.

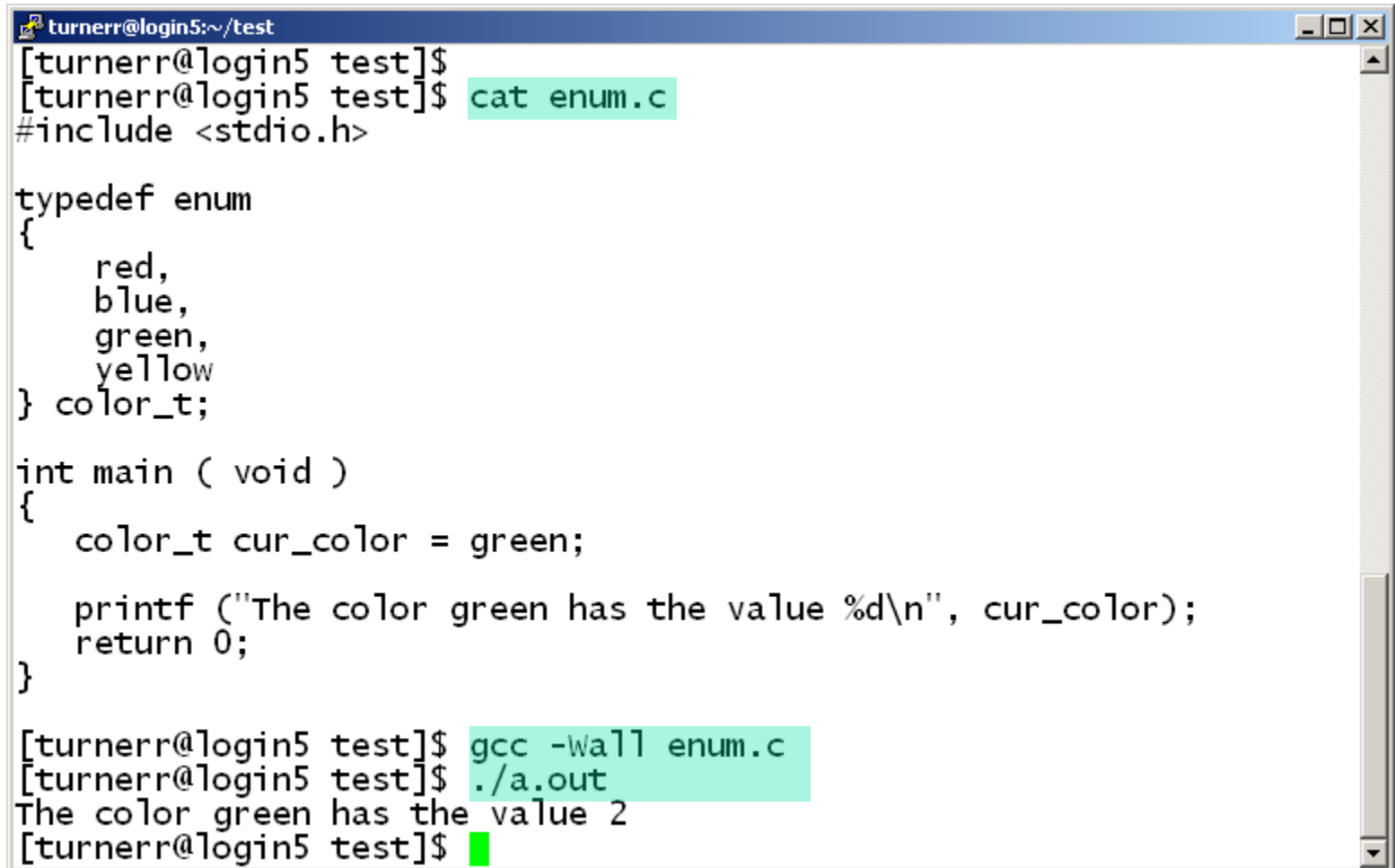
```
    printf ("The color green has the value %d\n", cur_color);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```

cur_color can be used like an
integer

Program Running



```
turnerr@login5:~/test
[turnerr@login5 test]$ cat enum.c
#include <stdio.h>

typedef enum
{
    red,
    blue,
    green,
    yellow
} color_t;

int main ( void )
{
    color_t cur_color = green;

    printf ("The color green has the value %d\n", cur_color);
    return 0;
}

[turnerr@login5 test]$ gcc -Wall enum.c
[turnerr@login5 test]$ ./a.out
The color green has the value 2
[turnerr@login5 test]$
```



Specifying Values for enums

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

```
typedef enum
```

```
{
```

```
    red = 2,
```

```
    blue = 4,
```

```
    green = 6,
```

```
    yellow
```

```
} color_t;
```

```
int main ( void )
```

```
{
```

```
    color_t cur_color = green;
```

```
    printf ("The color green has the value %d\n", cur_color);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



Program Running

```
turnerr@login5:~/test
[turnerr@login5 test]$
[turnerr@login5 test]$ cat enum.c
#include <stdio.h>

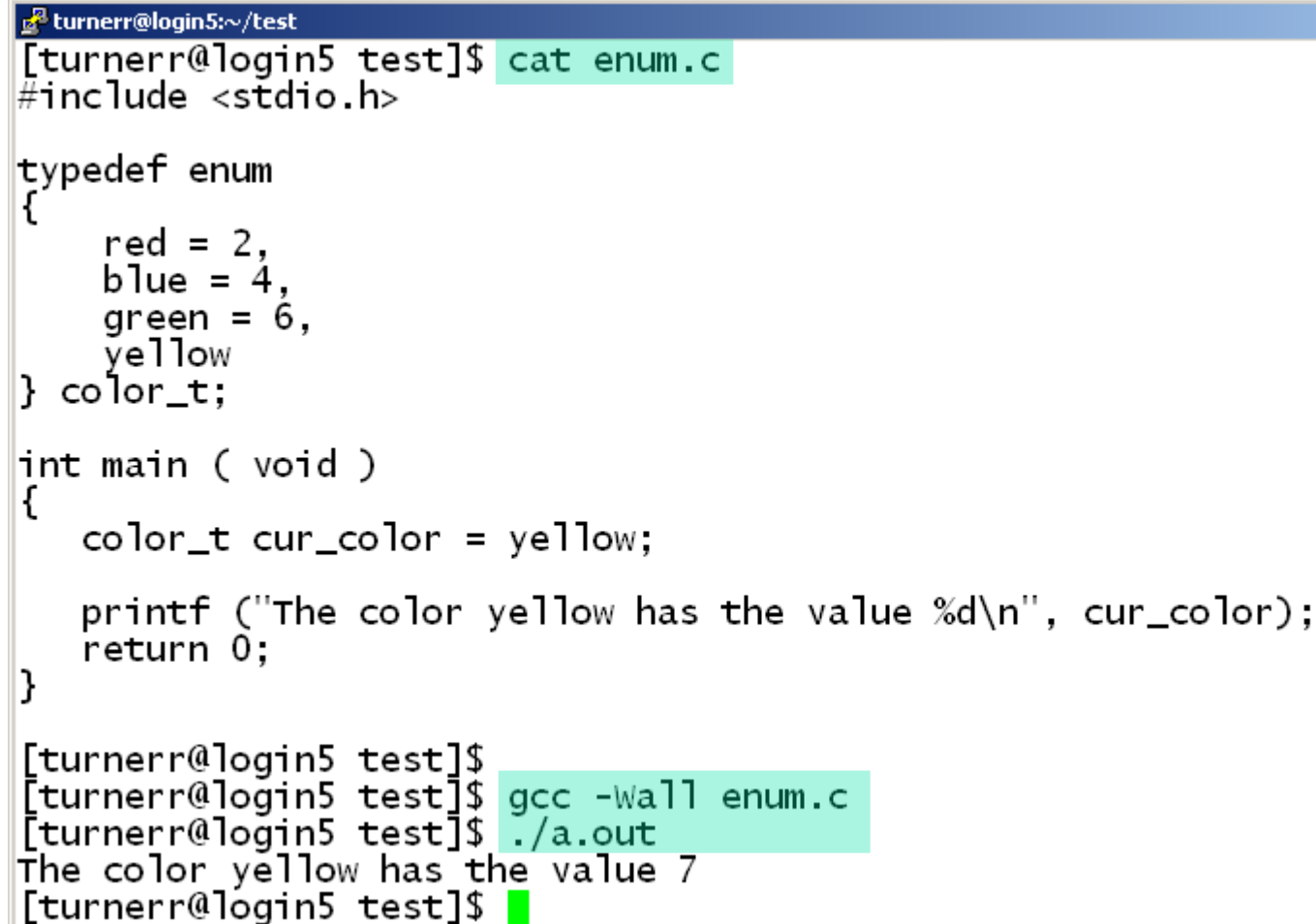
typedef enum
{
    red = 2,
    blue = 4,
    green = 6,
    yellow
} color_t;

int main ( void )
{
    color_t cur_color = green;

    printf ("The color green has the value %d\n", cur_color);
    return 0;
}

[turnerr@login5 test]$ gcc -Wall enum.c
[turnerr@login5 test]$ ./a.out
The color green has the value 6
[turnerr@login5 test]$
```

Value Not Specified



```
turnerr@login5:~/test
[turnerr@login5 test]$ cat enum.c
#include <stdio.h>

typedef enum
{
    red = 2,
    blue = 4,
    green = 6,
    yellow
} color_t;

int main ( void )
{
    color_t cur_color = yellow;

    printf ("The color yellow has the value %d\n", cur_color);
    return 0;
}

[turnerr@login5 test]$
[turnerr@login5 test]$ gcc -Wall enum.c
[turnerr@login5 test]$ ./a.out
The color yellow has the value 7
[turnerr@login5 test]$
```




Enumerations

- Enumerations actually *are* integers.
- Defining the enumeration just permits us to create meaningful names for a collection of integer values.



typedef enum

- Similar in effect to `#define`
- Avoids some of the problems of `#define`
 - Handled by the compiler rather than by the preprocessor.
 - Not textual substitution
 - Compiler can provide better error messages.



Unions

- Unions permit the same memory space to be used to hold different types.
- Looks like a struct.
 - But the different members occupy the same space.
 - Only one of them can be present at any time.



Example: Union

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

```
union
```

```
{
```

```
    int i;
```

```
    double d;
```

```
} my_uid;
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
    my_uid.i = 111;
```

```
    printf ("my_uid.i is %d\n", my_uid.i);
```

```
    my_uid.d = 111.1111;
```

```
    printf ("my_uid.d is %f\n", my_uid.d);
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```



Example: Union

```
turnerr@login0:~/test
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$ gcc -Wall union_demo.c
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$ ./a.out
my_uid.i is 111
my_uid.d is 111.111100
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$
```



Look at member i again

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

```
union
```

```
{
```

```
    int i;
```

```
    double d;
```

```
} my_uid;
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
    my_uid.i = 111;
```

```
    printf ("my_uid.i is %d\n", my_uid.i);
```

```
    my_uid.d = 111.1111;
```

```
    printf ("my_uid.d is %f\n", my_uid.d);
```

```
    printf ("my_uid.i is %d\n", my_uid.i);
```

```
    return 0;
```

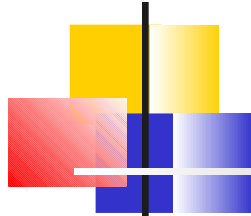
```
}
```



Look at member i again

```
turnerr@login0:~/test
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$ gcc -Wall union_demo.c
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$ ./a.out
my_uid.i is 111
my_uid.d is 111.111100
my_uid.i is 1126999418
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$
```

You have to know which way the union is being used!



Unions as Struct Members

- Unions are normally used as members of structs.
 - Another member of the struct specifies which version of the union is present.
 - Use an enum for the alternatives.



union_demo2.c

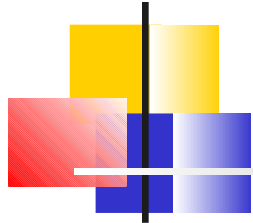
```
#include <stdio.h>
```

```
typedef enum
{
    integer_kind,
    double_kind
} Kind_of_Number;
```

New user-defined type

```
typedef struct
{
    Kind_of_Number kind;
    union
    {
        int i;
        double d;
    } number;
} int_or_double;
```

New user-defined type



Function display_union

```
void display_union(int_or_double n)
{
    if (n.kind == integer_kind)
    {
        printf ("%d\n", n.number.i);
    }
    else
    {
        printf ("%f\n", n.number.d);
    }
}
```



union_demo2.c

```
int main( void )
{
    int_or_double my_uid;

    my_uid.kind = integer_kind;
    my_uid.number.i = 111;

    display_union(my_uid);

    my_uid.kind = double_kind;
    my_uid.number.d = 111.1111;

    display_union(my_uid);
    return 0;
}
```



union_demo2.c Running

```
turnerr@login0:~/test
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$ gcc -Wall union_demo2.c
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$ ./a.out
111
111.111100
[turnerr@login0 test]$
[turnerr@login0 test]$
```

- Enumerations

- Permit us to define meaningful names for numeric codes that represent a set of discrete values.
- Similar to `#define` but without some of the problems.

- Unions

- Permit us to use the same memory space in different ways.
- Typically within a struct.
- You must have some way to know which member is present in a union at any time.
 - Typically an enum within the same struct.



Assignment

- Read Chapter 16.
- Do the examples from this presentation for yourself.