

Declaring a Function

In this lesson, we will go through the basic syntax for declaring a function in C++.

We'll cover the following ^

- Function creation
 - Function declaration
 - return_type
 - function_name
 - function_parameters
- Example program

Function creation

In C++, function creation consists of the following two steps:

- Function declaration
- Function definition

Function declaration

Function declaration informs the compiler about:


- The return type of function
- The function name
- The number of parameters and their data types.

The basic syntax for declaring a function in C++ is:

```
return_type function_name ( function_parameters ) ;
```

return_type

Return type specifies what type of data a function returns in output to the calling point after performing its task.

 A function can return nothing in output. Such functions have a `void` return type.

function_name

Just like a new-born baby, whenever we declare a function, we give it a unique name. Then, we call it later with that name as many times as we want in the program.

function_parameters

When we call a function, we pass values to the function parameters. These values are known as **arguments**, or **actual parameters**.

 Passing parameters in a function is optional.

Example program

Consider the blender example given in the [previous lesson](#). Let's write a C++ program to declare a `make_juice` function.

```
#include <iostream>

using namespace std;
// Function declaration
int make_juice(int water_glass, int fruit);
// int make_juice(int , int);

int main() {


    return 0;
}
```



In the above code, we declare our function on **Line No 5**. It tells the compiler that `make_juice` is the name of the function. It takes two `int` values as input parameters and returns an `int` value as an output.



`make_juice (`  `,`  `);`

 It is not necessary to give parameter names in the function declaration. You may only declare their data type. You can check this out by uncommenting **Line No. 6** in the above code.

Quiz



Declare a function `number_sum` that takes `num1` and `num2` in input and returns their `sum` in the output. `num1`, `num2`, and the `sum` can take integer values.

(You can select multiple correct answers)

[Retake Quiz](#)

We have just seen how to declare our function in C++. Let's dive right in and learn about defining a function in the upcoming lesson.

See you there!