

Pointer to an Array

The way we can have a pointer to an integer, or a pointer to a float, can we also have a pointer to an array? The answer is yes. Declaration of a pointer to an array, however, is a little clumsy. For example, the declaration `int (*q)[4]` means that `q` is a pointer to an array of 4 integers. Let us use this pointer to an array in a program. Here it is...

✓ ✓ * Program 24 */

main()

{

int a[][4] = {

5, 7, 5, 9,
4, 6, 3, 1,
2, 9, 0, 6

};

int *p;

int (*q)[4];

p = (int *) a; ← *Wrong*

q = a;

printf ("\n%u %u", p, q);

p++;

q++;

printf ("\n%u %u", p, q);

}

a[][]

q →

5	7	5	9
4	6	3	1
2	9	0	6

p = a; ✓
p = &a;

And here is the output...

65500 65500

65502 65508

To begin with both `p` and `q` contain the same address 65500. However, `p` is an integer pointer, whereas `q` is a pointer to an array of 4 integers. Hence on incrementing `p` it points to the next integer,