

## functions

- known as procedures/subroutines/methods in other lang
- returns a value
  - ↳ return 0; or return void when it return nothing
- block of code that performs a certain task
  - ↳ performs a logically consistent task
- only defined once
- must declare them before using them
  - ↳ main would be "last"
- You can call them in other parts of the code
- main()
  - ↳ special function
  - ↳ runs when program starts
  - ↳ other functions are subordinate

## Things a function should do

- define abstractions that are consistent
- hide implementation
- simplify code
- used for repeated sequence of code
- they should never be arbitrary sequences of statements



## A function:

return-type    function-name (parameters) { → head  
    // declarations  
    // function block / body

return-type

- defines the type of function's return value
- return type may be void or anything else
  - ↳ cannot return an array

function name

- the name

Parameters

- list of declarations separated by a comma
- if not parameters use (void)

Declarations

- declare limit variables inside a function to make them local

Assignment Statements

- sets & restores value of variables, loop, etc

Return values

- return a value, it can be void
- can return a char, int, float, etc
  - ↳ also a pointer
- You cannot return an array
- You cannot name two functions the same
- snake case for naming
  - ↳ my\_function\_name



## Parameters

- also known as arguments
- substitutions in algebraic functions is known as call-by-name

↳ instead macros with C preprocessor are used

- vs mostly used: call by value - call by reference

- C uses call-by-value, but not for arrays formal parameters

↳ name of the parameter used inside of the function body

## Actual parameters

↳ name of the value that is passed to the function

- can be copied to the formal parameter

↳ passing a pointer using call-by-value

Call-by-value: copy of the actual parameter is placed in the formal parameter

Copy-in-copy = not only is it copied, the value is copied back to the actual parameter

↳ C doesn't support it



## Call-by-value

- all functions use this
- arguments are copied
  - ↳ no effect on the parameters inside the function
- copies the value of the actual parameters into a new set of variables (formal parameters) which are pushed into the call stack

## Call-by-reference

- references of the arguments passed into a function are copied means any changes made to the parameters inside the function has an effect on the actual values

↳ the address of variables are passed although C doesn't use this, you can recreate it with pointer

↳ addresses instead of values are passed as arguments

## function prototypes

- cannot be called unless they have been declared and defined prior to function call
- been prototyped at the beginning of the program
  - ↳ must be declared either at the beginning of the program or in a header file



## #include

- Preprocessor directive
- transfers Program
- macros operate through text replacement
- used to include functions defined in other libraries

## #define

- defines a macro
- goes in and replaces what you declared with the word

↳ #define pi 3.1415926

↳ everytime it sees pi, it replaces it with 3.1415926

## conditional directives

- use conditional statements to include code selectively

#ifndef - execute statements when macro is undefined

#ifdef - executes only when macro is defined

## header files

- only contain things shared between files

- function declaration
- macro definitions
- data structure & enumeration
- global variables



- must be within a header guard,  
with #ifndef

## Extern

- extends the visibility of variables & functions that can be called by any program file, if the declaration is known.  
Functions are implicitly prepended by extern.  
Used for global variables.

## Static

can be declared inside & outside.  
inside if the value of the variable needs to persist across function calls.  
outside if the value of the variable needs to be accessed by multiple functions.

## Recursive

- function may call itself.

```
void function_name() {  
    function_name();  
}
```

- must always define an exit condition.