

# Dynamic Memory Allocation



It is a way to allocate memory to a data structure during the **runtime**.

We need some functions to allocate & free memory dynamically.

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## Functions for DMA

- a. `malloc()`
- b. `calloc()`
- c. `free()`
- d. `realloc()`

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## `malloc()`

memory allocation

takes number of **bytes** to be allocated  
& returns a pointer of type **void**

```
ptr = (*int) malloc(5 * sizeof(int));
```

## **calloc( )**

continuous allocation

initializes with 0

```
ptr = (*int) calloc(5, sizeof(int));
```

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## **free( )**

We use it to free memory that is allocated  
using malloc & calloc

```
free(ptr);
```

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## **realloc( )**

reallocate (increase or decrease) memory  
using the same pointer & size.

```
ptr = realloc(ptr, newSize);
```