CS12 CH:02

C++ Introduction & Integer Datatypes

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Learning Objectives

- Understand the purpose of comments in code.
- Learn the syntax for single-line (//) and multi-line (/* ... */) comments in C++.
- Use comments to document code and temporarily disable code for testing.

What Are Comments?

For Human Eyes Only

Comments are text in your code that is completely ignored by the compiler. They are meant for you and other programmers to read and understand the code better.

Single-Line Comments

Start with //. The compiler ignores everything from // to the end of the line.

Multi-Line Comments

Start with /* and end with */. Can span multiple lines. Useful for longer explanations or "commenting out" large blocks of code.

Code Example: Comments

Learning Objectives

- Identify the fundamental integer-based datatypes in C++.
- Differentiate between int, char, and bool.
- Understand the kind of data each type is designed to store.

Integer Datatypes (The Basics)

Today we will look at three fundamental types that store whole numbers or concepts based on them.

int	char	bool
Short for 'integer'.	Short for 'character'.	Short for 'Boolean'.
Stores positive and	Stores a single	Stores logical values.
negative whole numbers.	character. Examples:	Examples: true,
Examples: 23, 19, -3,		
	'a', 'Z', '\n'	false
0		

Learning Objectives: int

- Recognize valid mathematical and comparison operators for the int datatype.
- Predict the outcome of integer division (/) and modulo (%) operations.
- Declare and initialize integer variables.

Operations on ints

Binary Operations

- + (Addition)
- (Subtraction)
- * (Multiplication)
- / (Integer Division no remainder!)
- % (Modulo gives the remainder)

Comparison Operations

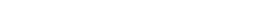
- == (Equal to)
- != (Not equal to)
- < (Less than)</p>
- <= (Less than or equal to)</p>
- > (Greater than)
- >= (Greater than or equal to)

I Do: Integer Operations Demo

Let's walk through this code and see what it does.

We Do: Predict the Output!

What will the output be for each question? <MINTED>



You Do: Integer Exercises

Your Turn

Complete the integer exercises on Schoology. Use the following template to organize your solutions. Remember to declare a variable before you use it!

Learning Objectives: char

- Understand that char variables store single characters using single quotes.
- Recognize that characters are represented by numerical ASCII values.
- Identify common special characters (escape sequences) like n and t.

Characters and ASCII

Characters are Numbers!

A char stores a single character like 'a' or '5'. But behind the scenes, the computer stores it as an integer code. The most common system is **ASCII** (American Standard Code for Information Interchange).

Example

The character 'A' is stored as the number 65.

The character 'a' is stored as the number 97.

This means we can perform math on characters! 'a' - 32 would result in 'A'.

Common Special Characters

Some characters are not printable. We use an "escape sequence" (a backslash followed by a letter) to represent them.

Sequence	Meaning	
\n	Newline	
\t	Horizontal Tab	
\\	Backslash	
	Single quote	
\"	Double quote	

We Do: Character Predictions

Remember, characters are just numbers. What is the output here? <MINTED>

Learning Objectives: bool

- Understand the purpose of the bool datatype for representing logical states.
- Know the relationship between true/false and their integer representations 1/0.

Boolean Logic

bool: True or False

A Boolean variable can only hold one of two values: true or false. They are the foundation of decision-making in programs.

Booleans are also Numbers!

In C++, true is represented by the integer 1, and false is represented by the integer 0.

Important Note

When evaluating a condition, C++ considers any non-zero integer to be true and only 0 to be false.

We Do: Boolean Predictions

What will the output be? Remember true is 1, false is 0.

Common Errors and How to Fix Them

Error: expected ';' before '}' token

- **Meaning:** You missed a semicolon at the end of a line.
- Fix: Look at the line before the error number and add a ;

Error: redeclaration of 'int x'

- Meaning: You declared the same variable twice.
- **Fix:** Declare the type only once. After that, just use the variable name.

Correct: int x = 5; x = 10;

Error: 'y' was not declared in this scope

- Meaning: You tried to use a variable before creating it.
- Fix: Make sure you have a declaration line like int y; before you try to use y.

Homework

Complete the Exercises on Schoology

- I have included a short sample program on Schoology showing how you can organize your solutions.
- I am purposefully not giving you text you can copy/paste for the first few assignments.
- The goal is to improve your typing, especially finding the special characters like {}, ;, <, >, etc. on the keyboard.

Challenge Question

Find the Range!

Write C++ code to determine the range (smallest and largest values) for each of the following integer types:

- 1 unsigned int
- 4 int
- 3 short int

Here's a hint for the first one... what happens when you subtract 1 from 0 with an unsigned integer?