

C Keywords - Reserved Words

In C, we have 32 keywords, which have their predefined meaning and cannot be used as a variable name. These words are also known as “reserved words”. It is good practice to avoid using these keywords as variable name. These are –

<u>C KEYWORDS OR RESERVED WORDS</u>			
auto	break	case	char
const	continue	default	do
int	long	register	return
short	signed	sizeof	static
struct	switch	typedef	union
unsigned	void	volatile	while
double	else	enum	extern
float	for	goto	if

Basics usage of these keywords –

if, else, switch, case, default – Used for decision control programming structure.

break – Used with any loop OR switch case.

int, float, char, double, long – These are the data types and used during variable declaration.

for, while, do – types of loop structures in C.

void – One of the return type.

goto – Used for redirecting the flow of execution.

auto, signed, const, extern, register, unsigned – defines a variable.

return – This keyword is used for returning a value.

continue – It is generally used with for, while and dowhile loops, when compiler encounters this statement it performs the next iteration of the loop, skipping rest of the statements of current iteration.

enum – Set of constants.

sizeof – It is used to know the size.

struct, typedef – Both of these keywords used in structures (Grouping of data types in a single record).

union – It is a collection of variables, which shares the same memory location and memory storage.

volatile

operator precedence and Associativity in C programming language

Operator Precedence in C

Operator precedence determines which operator is evaluated first when an expression has more than one operators. For example $100-2*30$ would yield 40, because it is evaluated as $100 - (2*30)$ and not $(100-2)*30$. The reason is that multiplication $*$ has higher precedence than subtraction($-$).

Associativity in C

Associativity is used when there are two or more operators of same precedence is present in an expression. For example multiplication and division arithmetic operators have same precedence, lets say we have an expression $5*2/10$, this expression would be evaluated as $(5*2)/10$ because the associativity is left to right for these operators. Similarly $20/2*5$ would be calculated as $(20/2)*5$.

Operator precedence and Associativity Table in C Programming

Description	Operator	Associativity
Function expression	()	Left to Right
Array Expression	[]	Left to Right
Structure operators	->	Left to Right
Unary minus	—	Right to Left
Increment & Decrement	— ++	Right to Left
One's compliment	~	Right to Left
Pointer Operators	& *	Right to Left
Type cast	(data type)	Right to Left
size of operator	sizeof	Right to Left
Left and Right Shift	>> <<	
Arithmetic Operators		
Multiplication operator, Divide by, Modulus	*, /, %	Left to Right
Add, Subtract	+, —	Left to Right
Relational Operators		
Less Than	<	Left to Right

Greater than	>	Left to Right
Less than equal to	<=	Left to Right
Greater than equal to	>=	Left to Right
Equal to	==	Left to Right
Not equal	!=	Left to Right
Logical Operators		
AND	&&	Left to Right
OR		Left to Right
NOT	!	Right to Left
Bitwise Operators		
AND	&	Left to Right
Exclusive OR	^	Left to Right
Inclusive OR		Left to Right
Assignment Operators		
	=	Right to Left

	$\ast=$	Right to Left
	$/=$	Right to Left
	$\%=$	Right to Left
	$\+=$	Right to Left
	$\-=$	Right to Left
	$\&=$	Right to Left
	$\wedge=$	Right to Left
	$\ =$	Right to Left
	$\<\<=$	Right to Left
	$\>\>=$	Right to Left
Other Operators		
Comma	,	Right to Left
Conditional Operator	?:	Right to Left