

C++ NOTE 5

Text File and Binary File (A brief description):

**Recommend Reading from the Book*

Text File: In text file storage, the data is stored as text and each text is considered as a character which takes up 1 byte of space each.

For example: a12345, then each letter will be treated as a single character and be assigned 1 byte of space. Which makes the total space used to store the data, 6 bytes.

Binary Files: In binary file storage, the letters are taken as characters and given 1 byte of space while the integers are taken as 1 integer and given 2 bytes of space. For the same example, a12345, a is assigned 1 byte of space while 12345 is assigned 2 bytes. So the total space required comes out to be 3 bytes.

Difference:

TEXT FILE	BINARY FILE
1. In text file, text, character, numbers are stored one character per byte	1. In binary file data is stored in binary format and each data would occupy the same number of bytes on disks as it occupies in memory.
2. Text files are used to store data more user friendly.	2. Binary files are used to store data more compactly.
3. In the text file, a special character whose ASCII value is 26 inserted after the last character to mark the end of file.	3. In the binary file no such character is present. Files keep track of the end of the file from the number of characters present.
4.Takes Up more space	4.Takes up less space in comparison.
5.Has extensions like .txt, .bak, .cpp etc	5.Has extensions like .dat, .mpg, .jpg etc