

# Multifile Compilation

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# Basic Header File

## math\_ops.h:

```
1 int add(int a, int b);  
2 int subtract(int a, int b);
```

## math\_ops.c:

```
1 #include "math_ops.h"  
2 int add(int a, int b) {  
3     return a + b;  
4 }  
5 int subtract(int a, int b) {  
6     return a - b;  
7 }
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>  
2 #include "math_ops.h"  
3 int main() {  
4     int x = 10, y = 5;  
5     printf("Add: %d\n", add(x, y));  
6     printf("Subtract: %d\n", subtract(x, y));  
7     return 0;  
8 }
```

## Output:

```
Add: 15  
Subtract: 5
```

## Compile:

```
gcc -c math_ops.c  
gcc -c main.c  
gcc math_ops.o main.o -o prog  
./prog
```

# Include Guards

utils.h:

```
1 #ifndef UTILS_H
2 #define UTILS_H
3 void print_message();
4 #endif
```

utils.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "utils.h"
3 void print_message() {
4     printf("Hello from utils!\\n");
5 }
```

main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "utils.h"
3 #include "utils.h"
4 int main() {
5     print_message();
6     return 0;
7 }
```

Output:

```
Hello from utils!
```

Note:

Include guards prevent multiple inclusion errors. Header included twice but compiled once.

# Extern Variables

## globals.h:

```
1 #ifndef GLOBALS_H
2 #define GLOBALS_H
3 extern int counter;
4 extern char name[];
5 #endif
```

## globals.c:

```
1 int counter = 0;
2 char name[] = "Global";
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "globals.h"
3 int main() {
4     printf("Counter: %d\n", counter);
5     printf("Name: %s\n", name);
6     counter = 42;
7     printf("Counter: %d\n", counter);
8     return 0;
9 }
```

## Output:

```
Counter: 0
Name: Global
Counter: 42
```

## Note:

```
extern declares variable defined
in another file. Definition in
globals.c, declaration in globals.h
```

# Static Functions

## helper.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 static void internal_func() {
3     printf("Internal helper\n");
4 }
5 void public_func() {
6     printf("Public function\n");
7     internal_func();
8 }
```

## helper.h:

```
1 ifndef HELPER_H
2 define HELPER_H
3 void public_func();
4 endif
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include "helper.h"
2 int main() {
3     public_func();
4     return 0;
5 }
```

## Output:

```
Public function
Internal helper
```

## Note:

```
static makes function visible
only within its file. Cannot be
called from other files.
```

# Static Variables

counter.h:

```
1 #ifndef COUNTER_H
2 #define COUNTER_H
3 void increment();
4 int get_count();
5 #endif
```

counter.c:

```
1 static int count = 0;
2 void increment() {
3     count++;
4 }
5 int get_count() {
6     return count;
7 }
```

main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "counter.h"
3 int main() {
4     printf("Count: %d\n", get_count());
5     increment();
6     increment();
7     printf("Count: %d\n", get_count());
8     return 0;
9 }
```

Output:

```
Count: 0
Count: 2
```

Note:

```
static variable has file scope.
Only accessible within counter.c
through provided functions.
```

# Multiple Source Files

```
calc.h:  
#ifndef CALC_H  
#define CALC_H  
int multiply(int a, int b);  
int divide(int a, int b);  
#endif  
  
calc.c:  
  
#include "calc.h"  
int multiply(int a, int b) {  
    return a * b;  
}  
int divide(int a, int b) {  
    if (b != 0) return a / b;  
    return 0;  
}  
  
main.c:  
  
#include <stdio.h>  
#include "calc.h"  
int main() {  
    printf("Multiply: %d\n", multiply(6, 7));  
    printf("Divide: %d\n", divide(20, 4));  
    return 0;  
}
```

|function calls > Output:

```
Multiply: 42  
Divide: 5  
  
Compile:  
gcc -c calc.c -o calc.o  
gcc -c main.c -o main.o  
gcc calc.o main.o -o program
```

# Struct in Header

point.h:

```
1 #ifndef POINT_H
2 #define POINT_H
3 typedef struct {
4     int x;
5     int y;
6 } Point;
7 Point create_point(int x, int y);
8 void print_point(Point p);
9 #endif
```

point.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "point.h"
3 Point create_point(int x, int y) {
4     Point p = {x, y};
5     return p;
6 }
7 void print_point(Point p) {
8     printf("(%d, %d)\n", p.x, p.y);
9 }
```

main.c:

```
1 #include "point.h"
2 int main() {
3     Point p1 = create_point(10, 20);
4     print_point(p1);
5     return 0;
6 }
```

Output:

```
(10, 20)
```

Note:

Struct definition in header allows  
use in all files that include it.  
Functions operate on the struct.

# Circular Dependencies

a.h:

```
1 #ifndef A_H
2 #define A_H
3 typedef struct B B;
4 typedef struct A {
5     int value;
6     B *b_ptr;
7 } A;
8 void print_a(A *a);
9#endif
```

b.h:

```
1 #ifndef B_H
2 #define B_H
3 typedef struct A A;
4 typedef struct B {
5     int value;
6     A *a_ptr;
7 } B;
8 void print_b(B *b);
9#endif
```

main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "a.h"
3 #include "b.h"
4 int main() {
5     A a = {10, NULL};
6     B b = {20, &a};
7     printf("A: %d, B: %d\n", a.value, b.value);
```

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Output:

```
A: 10, B: 20
```

Note:

```
Forward declarations break circular
dependencies. Each header declares
the other's struct as incomplete.
```

# Const in Header

## constants.h:

```
1 #ifndef CONSTANTS_H
2 #define CONSTANTS_H
3 extern const int MAX_SIZE;
4 extern const double PI;
5 #endif
```

## constants.c:

```
1 const int MAX_SIZE = 100;
2 const double PI = 3.14159;
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "constants.h"
3 int main() {
4     printf("Max: %d\n", MAX_SIZE);
5     printf("PI: %.5f\n", PI);
6     return 0;
7 }
```

## Output:

```
Max: 100
PI: 3.14159
```

## Note:

```
Const variables declared extern
in header, defined in source.
Shared across files as constants.
```

# Enum in Header

status.h:

```
1 #ifndef STATUS_H
2 #define STATUS_H
3 typedef enum {
4     SUCCESS,
5     ERROR,
6     PENDING
7 } Status;
8 const char* status_string(Status s);
9 #endif
```

status.c:

```
1 #include "status.h"
2 const char* status_string(Status s) {
3     switch(s) {
4         case SUCCESS: return "Success";
5         case ERROR: return "Error";
6         case PENDING: return "Pending";
7         default: return "Unknown";
8     }
9 }
```

main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "status.h"
3 int main() {
4     Status s = SUCCESS;
5     printf("Status: %s\n", status_string(s));
6     return 0;
7 }
```

Output:

```
Status: Success
```

Note:

```
Enum definition in header makes
it available to all files. Helper
function converts to string.
```



# Function Pointers in Header

## callback.h:

```
1 #ifndef CALLBACK_H
2 #define CALLBACK_H
3 typedef void (*Callback)(int);
4 void register_callback(Callback cb);
5 void trigger();
6 #endif
```

## callback.c:

```
1 #include "callback.h"
2 static Callback callback = NULL;
3 void register_callback(Callback cb) {
4     callback = cb;
5 }
6 void trigger() {
7     if (callback) callback(42);
8 }
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "callback.h"
3 void my_callback(int value) {
4     printf("Callback: %d\n", value);
5 }
6 int main() {
7     register_callback(my_callback);
8     trigger();
9     return 0;
10 }
```

## Output:

```
Callback: 42
```

## Note:

```
Function pointer typedef in header.
Callback stored statically and
invoked when triggered.
```

# Inline Functions in Header

math.h:

```
1 #ifndef MATH_H
2 #define MATH_H
3 static inline int square(int x) {
4     return x * x;
5 }
6 static inline int cube(int x) {
7     return x * x * x;
8 }
9 #endif
```

main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "math.h"
3 int main() {
4     int n = 5;
5     printf("Square: %d\n", square(n));
6     printf("Cube: %d\n", cube(n));
7     return 0;
8 }
```

Output:

```
Square: 25
Cube: 125
```

Note:

```
Inline functions in header are
expanded at call site. Use static
inline to avoid multiple definition.
```

# Library with Multiple Files

## string\_utils.h:

```
1 #ifndef STRING_UTILS_H
2 #define STRING_UTILS_H
3 int str_len(const char *s);
4 void str_upper(char *s);
5 #endif
```

## string\_utils.c:

```
1 #include "string_utils.h"
2 int str_len(const char *s) {
3     int len = 0;
4     while (s[len]) len++;
5     return len;
6 }
7 void str_upper(char *s) {
8     int i;
9     for (i = 0; s[i]; i++) {
10         if (s[i] >= 'a' && s[i] <= 'z')
11             s[i] -= 32;
12     }
13 }
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "string_utils.h"
3 int main() {
4     char str[] = "hello";
5     printf("Length: %d\n", str_len(str));
6     str_upper(str);
7     printf("Upper: %s\n", str);
```

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## Output:

```
Length: 5
Upper: HELLO
```

## Compile:

```
gcc -c string_utils.c
gcc -c main.c
gcc string_utils.o main.o -o prog
```



# Nested Headers

base.h:

```
1 #ifndef BASE_H
2 #define BASE_H
3 typedef struct {
4     int id;
5 } Base;
6 #endif
```

derived.h:

```
1 #ifndef DERIVED_H
2 #define DERIVED_H
3 #include "base.h"
4 typedef struct {
5     Base base;
6     char name[20];
7 } Derived;
8 #endif
```

main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include <string.h>
3 #include "derived.h"
4 int main() {
5     Derived d;
6     d.base.id = 100;
7     strcpy(d.name, "Test");
8     printf("ID: %d, Name: %s\n",
9         d.base.id, d.name);
10    return 0;
11 }
```

Output:

```
ID: 100, Name: Test
```

Note:

```
Headers can include other headers.
Include guards prevent multiple
inclusion of base.h.
```

# Multiple Object Files

add.c:

```
1 int add(int a, int b) {  
2     return a + b;  
3 }
```

sub.c:

```
1 int sub(int a, int b) {  
2     return a - b;  
3 }
```

ops.h:

```
1 #ifndef OPS_H  
2 #define OPS_H  
3 int add(int a, int b);  
4 int sub(int a, int b);  
5 #endif
```

main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>  
2 #include "ops.h"  
3 int main() {  
4     printf("Add: %d\n", add(8, 3));  
5     printf("Sub: %d\n", sub(8, 3));  
6     return 0;  
7 }
```

Output:

```
Add: 11  
Sub: 5
```

Compile:

```
gcc -c add.c  
gcc -c sub.c  
gcc -c main.c  
gcc add.o sub.o main.o -o prog
```

# Global Array Sharing

## data.h:

```
1 #ifndef DATA_H
2 #define DATA_H
3 extern int data[5];
4 void init_data();
5 void print_data();
6 #endif
```

## data.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "data.h"
3 int data[5];
4 void init_data() {
5     int i;
6     for (i = 0; i < 5; i++)
7         data[i] = i * 10;
8 }
9 void print_data() {
10    int i;
11    for (i = 0; i < 5; i++)
12        printf("%d ", data[i]);
13    printf("\n");
14 }
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include "data.h"
2 int main() {
3     init_data();
4     print_data();
5     return 0;
}
```

## Output:

```
0 10 20 30 40
```

## Note:

```
Global array defined in data.c,
declared extern in data.h.
Accessible from any file including
the header.
```

# Opaque Pointers

## handle.h:

```
1 #ifndef HANDLE_H
2 #define HANDLE_H
3 typedef struct Handle Handle;
4 Handle* create_handle(int val);
5 void set_value(Handle *h, int val);
6 int get_value(Handle *h);
7 void destroy_handle(Handle *h);
8 #endif
```

## handle.c:

```
1 #include <stdlib.h>
2 #include "handle.h"
3 struct Handle {
4     int value;
5 };
6 Handle* create_handle(int val) {
7     Handle *h = malloc(sizeof(Handle));
8     h->value = val;
9     return h;
10 }
11 void set_value(Handle *h, int val) {
12     h->value = val;
13 }
14 int get_value(Handle *h) {
15     return h->value;
16 }
17 void destroy_handle(Handle *h) {
18     free(h);
19 }
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "handle.h"
3 int main() {
4     Handle *h = create_handle(100);
5     printf("Value: %d\n", get_value(h));
6     set_value(h, 200);
7     printf("Value: %d\n", get_value(h));
8     destroy_handle(h);
9     return 0;
10 }
```

## Output:

```
Value: 100
Value: 200
```

## Note:

Opaque pointer hides implementation.  
Struct details only in .c file.  
Encapsulation in C.

# Conditional Compilation in Header

## debug.h:

```
1 #ifndef DEBUG_H
2 #define DEBUG_H
3 #include <stdio.h>
4 #ifdef DEBUG
5     #define LOG(msg) printf("DEBUG: %s\n", msg)
6 #else
7     #define LOG(msg)
8 #endif
9 #endif
```

## main.c:

```
1 #define DEBUG
2 #include "debug.h"
3 int main() {
4     LOG("Starting program");
5     printf("Hello\n");
6     LOG("Ending program");
7     return 0;
8 }
```

## Output:

```
DEBUG: Starting program
Hello
DEBUG: Ending program
```

## Without DEBUG:

```
Hello
```

## Note:

Conditional macros in headers.  
LOG expands to printf when DEBUG defined, nothing otherwise.

# Version Management

## version.h:

```
1 #ifndef VERSION_H
2 #define VERSION_H
3 #define MAJOR 1
4 #define MINOR 2
5 #define PATCH 3
6 extern const char* get_version();
7 #endif
```

## version.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "version.h"
3 static char version[20];
4 const char* get_version() {
5     sprintf(version, "%d.%d.%d",
6         MAJOR, MINOR, PATCH);
7     return version;
8 }
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "version.h"
3 int main() {
4     printf("Version: %s\n", get_version());
5     return 0;
6 }
```

## Output:

```
Version: 1.2.3
```

## Note:

```
Version numbers as macros in header.
Function formats version string.
Central version management.
```

# Module Initialization

## module.h:

```
1 #ifndef MODULE_H
2 #define MODULE_H
3 void module_init();
4 void module_cleanup();
5 void module_work();
6 #endif
```

## module.c:

```
1 #include <stdio.h>
2 #include "module.h"
3 static int initialized = 0;
4 void module_init() {
5     if (!initialized) {
6         printf("Module initialized\n");
7         initialized = 1;
8     }
9 }
10 void module_cleanup() {
11     printf("Module cleaned up\n");
12     initialized = 0;
13 }
14 void module_work() {
15     if (initialized)
16         printf("Module working\n");
17 }
```

## main.c:

```
1 #include "module.h"
2 int main() {
3     module_init();
4     module_work();
5     module_cleanup();
6     return 0;
7 }
```

## Output:

```
Module initialized
Module working
Module cleaned up
```

## Note:

```
Module pattern with init/cleanup.
Static flag tracks initialization.
Common pattern in C libraries.
```