



Introduction to Programming and C Language

What is Programming?

- **Programming** is the process of writing instructions for a computer to perform specific tasks.
 - These instructions are written using a **programming language**.
 - A **program** is a set of these instructions that solve a particular problem.
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Why Learn Programming?

- To **automate tasks**
 - To **build software or apps**
 - To **solve real-life problems using logic**
 - To enter careers like:
 - Software Development
 - Data Science
 - Cybersecurity
 - Embedded Systems, and more
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What is C Programming?

- **C** is a **procedural programming language**, developed in **1972** by **Dennis Ritchie** at Bell Labs.
- Known as the “**Mother of all modern programming languages.**”
- Used in:
 - System software (Operating Systems, Compilers)
 - Embedded systems
 - Game development
 - IoT (Internet of Things)

How Programming Works

1. **Write Code** in a programming language like C
 2. **Compile** the code (turn it into machine language)
 3. **Execute** (run) the program
 4. **Get Output** or result based on inputs and logic
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Basic Software Setup (for Students)

You'll need:

- **Text Editor** (Notepad++ or built-in IDE)
 - **C Compiler** (GCC or Turbo C++)
 - **IDE**: Dev C++, Code::Blocks, or VS Code
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Structure of a Simple C Program

```
#include <stdio.h> // Preprocessor directive

int main() {      // Main function

    printf("Hello, World!"); // Output function

    return 0;     // End of program

}
```

Explanation:

- `#include <stdio.h>` – Includes standard input/output functions
 - `int main()` – Starting point of every C program
 - `printf()` – Used to display output on screen
 - `return 0;` – Ends the program (returns 0 to the OS)
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Basic Concepts in C

Concept	Description
Variable	Container for storing data (e.g., int x = 5;)
Data Types	Tell the type of data (int, float, char)
Operator	Symbols used to perform operations (+, -, *, /)
Function	A block of code that performs a task
Statement	Each instruction in C ends with a semicolon ;

Basic Example: Add Two Numbers

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    int a, b, sum;
    printf("Enter two numbers: ");
    scanf("%d %d", &a, &b);    // Taking input
    sum = a + b;
    printf("Sum = %d", sum);   // Printing result
    return 0;
}
```

Key Features of C Language

- Fast and efficient
 - Portable (runs on different systems)
 - Simple and powerful
 - Foundation of many modern languages (like C++, Java, Python)
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What You Will Learn in This Course

1. Basics of C Syntax
 2. Data types and variables
 3. Operators and expressions
 4. Control structures (if-else, loops)
 5. Functions
 6. Arrays and strings
 7. Pointers and memory
 8. File handling
 9. Mini projects (e.g., calculator, student management)
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Important Terms

TERM	MEANING
COMPILER	Converts code into machine-readable language
SYNTAX	The grammar/rules of the programming language
DEBUGGING	Finding and fixing errors in the code
EXECUTION	Running the program and getting the output

Homework / Practice Tasks (First Class)

1. Install C compiler or IDE (like Dev C++ or Code::Blocks)
 2. Type and run the Hello, World! program
 3. Try changing the message in printf()
 4. Write a program that adds two numbers
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Final Thoughts for Day 1

- Programming is like solving puzzles.
- Think logically, break problems into small steps.
- Don't worry about mistakes—**errors help you learn.**

- Practice is the key to becoming a good programmer.
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