



C cheatsheet

C quick reference cheat sheet that provides basic syntax and methods.

Getting Started

`hello.c`

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    printf("Hello World!");
    return 0;
}

Compile hello.c file with gcc

$ gcc -o hello hello.c

Run the compiled binary hello

$ ./hello

Output => Hello World
```

`Variables`

```
int myNum = 15;

int myNum2; // do not assign, then assign
myNum2 = 15;

int myNum3 = 15; // myNum3 is 15
myNum3 = 10; // myNum3 is now 10

float myFloat = 5.99; // floating point number
char myLetter = 'D'; // character

int x = 5;
int y = 6;
int sum = x + y; // add variables to sum

// declare multiple variables
int x = 5, y = 6, z = 50;
```

`Constants`

```
const int minutesPerHour = 60;
const float PI = 3.14;

Best Practices

const int BIRTHYEAR = 1980;
```

`Print text`

```
printf("I am learning C.");
int testInteger = 5;
printf("Number = %d", testInteger);

float f = 5.99; // floating point number
printf("Value = %f", f);

short a = 0b101010; // binary number
int b = 02713; // octal number
long c = 0X1DA83; // hexadecimal number

// output in octal form
printf("a=%ho, b=%o, c=%lo\n", a, b, c);
// output => a=126, b=2713, c=7325603

// Output in decimal form
printf("a=%d, b=%d, c=%ld\n", a, b, c);
// output => a=86, b=1483, c=1944451

// output in hexadecimal form (letter lower)
printf("a=%hx, b=%x, c=%lx\n", a, b, c);
// output => a=56, b=5cb, c=1dab83

// Output in hexadecimal (capital letters)
printf("a=%hX, b=%X, c=%lX\n", a, b, c);
// output => a=56, b=5CB, c=1DAB83
```

`Control the number of spaces`

```
int a1=20, a2=345, a3=700;
int b1=56720, b2=9999, b3=20098;
int c1=233, c2=205, c3=1;
int d1=34, d2=0, d3=23;

printf("%-9d %-9d %-9d\n", a1, a2, a3);
printf("%-9d %-9d %-9d\n", b1, b2, b3);
printf("%-9d %-9d %-9d\n", c1, c2, c3);
printf("%-9d %-9d %-9d\n", d1, d2, d3);

output result
20      345      700
56720   9999    20098
233     205      1
34      0        23
```

In %-9d, d means to output in **10** base, 9 means to occupy at least 9 characters width, and the width is not enough to fill with spaces, - means left alignment

`Strings`

```
char greetings[] = "Hello World!";
printf("%s", greetings);

access string

char greetings[] = "Hello World!";
printf("%c", greetings[0]);

modify string

char greetings[] = "Hello World!";
greetings[0] = 'J';

printf("%s", greetings);
// prints "Jello World!"

Another way to create a string

char greetings[] = {'H','e','l','l','\0'};

printf("%s", greetings);
// print "Hell!"

C does not have a String type, use char type and create an array of characters
```

`Condition`

```
int time = 20;
if (time < 18) {
    printf("Goodbye!");
} else {
    printf("Good evening!");
}
// Output -> "Good evening!"

int time = 22;
if (time < 10) {
    printf("Good morning!");
} else if (time < 20) {
    printf("Goodbye!");
} else {
    printf("Good evening!");
}
// Output -> "Good evening!"
```

`Ternary operator`

```
int time = 20;
(time < 18) ? printf("Goodbye!") : printf("Good evening!");

int day = 4;

switch (day) {
    case 3: printf("Wednesday"); break;
    case 4: printf("Thursday"); break;
    default:
        printf("Looking forward to the weekend");
}
// output -> "Thursday" (day 4)
```

`Switch`

```
int i = 0;

while (i < 5) {
    printf("%d\n", i);
    i++;
}

NOTE: Don't forget to increment the variable used in the condition, otherwise the loop will never end and become an "infinite loop!"
```

`Do/While Loop`

`For Loop`

`Break out of the loop Break/Continue`

```
int i = 0;

do {
    printf("%d\n", i);
    i++;
} while (i < 5);
```

While Break Example

```
int i = 0;

while (i < 10) {
    if (i == 4) {
        break;
    }
    printf("%d\n", i);
    i++;
}
```

```
int i;

for (i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    printf("%d\n", i);
}
```

While continue example

```
int i = 0;

while (i < 10) {
    i++;
    if (i == 4) {
        continue;
    }
    printf("%d\n", i);
}
```

```
int i;

for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
    if (i == 4) {
        break;
    }
    printf("%d\n", i);
}
```

break out of the loop when i is equal to 4

```
int i;
for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
    if (i == 4) {
        continue;
    }
    printf("%d\n", i);
}
```

Example to skip the value of 4

Arrays

```
int myNumbers[] = {25, 50, 75, 100};
printf("%d", myNumbers[0]);
// output 25
```

change array elements

```
int myNumbers[] = {25, 50, 75, 100};
myNumbers[0] = 33;

printf("%d", myNumbers[0]);
```

Loop through the array

```
int myNumbers[] = {25, 50, 75, 100};
int i;

for (i = 0; i < 4; i++) {
    printf("%d\n", myNumbers[i]);
}
```

set array size

```
// Declare an array of four integers:
int myNumbers[4];
// add element
myNumbers[0] = 25;
myNumbers[1] = 50;
myNumbers[2] = 75;
myNumbers[3] = 100;
```

User input string

```
// create a string
char firstName[30];
// Ask the user to enter some text
printf("Enter your name: \n");
// get and save the text
scanf("%s", firstName);
// output text
printf("Hello %.s.", firstName);
```

Enumerate sample applications

```
enum week {Mon = 1, Tues, Wed, Thurs} day;

scanf("%d", &day);

switch(day){
    case Mon: puts("Monday"); break;
    case Tues: puts("Tuesday"); break;
    case Wed: puts("Wednesday"); break;
    case Thursday: puts("Thursday"); break;
    default: puts("Error!");
}
```

User input

```
// Create an integer variable to store the
int myNum;

// Ask the user to enter a number
printf("Please enter a number: \n");

// Get and save the number entered by the
scanf("%d", &myNum);

// Output the number entered by the user
printf("The number you entered: %d", myNum)
```

memory address

When a variable is created, it is assigned a memory address

```
int myAge = 43;

printf("%p", &myAge);
// Output: 0x7ffe5367e044
```

To access it, use the reference operator (&)

create pointer

```
int myAge = 43; // an int variable
printf("%d", myAge); // output the value c

// Output the memory address of myAge (0x7
printf("%p", &myAge);
```

pointer variable

```
int myAge = 43; // an int variable
int*ptr = &myAge; // pointer variable named ptr, used to store the address of myAge

printf("%d\n", myAge); // print the value of myAge (43)

printf("%p\n", &myAge); // output the memory address of myAge (0x7ffe5367e044)
printf("%p\n", ptr); // use the pointer (0x7ffe5367e044) to output the memory address of m
```

```
int myAge = 43; // variable declaration
int*ptr = &myAge; // pointer declaration
```

```
// Reference: output myAge with a pointer
// memory address (0x7ffe5367e044)
printf("%p\n", ptr);
// dereference: output the value of myAge
printf("%d\n", *ptr);
```

Dereference

C Operator

Arithmetic Operators

```
int myNum = 100 + 50;
int sum1 = 100 + 50; // 150 (100 + 50)
```

Assignment operator

```
x = 5
x = 2
x = x + 2
```

Comparison Operators

```
int x = 5;
int y = 3;
```

```

int sum2 = sum1 + 250; // 400 (150 + 250)
int sum3 = sum2 + sum2; // 800 (400 + 400)

+ Add x + y
- Subtract x - y
* Multiply x * y
/ Divide x / y
% Modulo x % y
++ Increment ++
-- Decrement --x

```

x += 3	x = x + 3
x -= 3	x = x - 3
x *= 3	x = x * 3
x /= 3	x = x / 3
x %= 3	x = x % 3
x &= 3	x = x & 3
x \ = 3	x = x \ 3
x ^= 3	x = x ^ 3
x >>= 3	x = x >> 3
x <<= 3	x = x << 3

```

printf("%d", x > y);
// returns 1 (true) because 5 is greater than 3

== equals x == y
!= not equal to x != y
> greater than x > y
< less than x < y
>= greater than or equal to x >= y
<= less than or equal to x <= y

```

Comparison operators are used to compare two values

Logical Operators			
&&	and logic	returns true if both statements are true	x < 5 && x < 10
\ \	or logical	returns true if one of the statements is true	x < 5 \ \ x < 4
!	not logical	Invert result, return false if true	!(x < 5 && x < 10)

Bitwise operators			
&	Bitwise AND operation, "AND" operation by binary digits	(A & B) will get 12 which is 0000 1100	
\	Bitwise OR operator, "or" operation by binary digit	(A \ B) will get 61 which is 0011 1101	
^	XOR operator, perform "XOR" operation by binary digits	(A ^ B) will get 49 which is 0011 0001	
~	Inversion operator, perform "inversion" operation by binary bit	(~A) will get -61 which is 1100 0001	
<<	binary left shift operator	A << 2 will get 240 which is 1111 0000	
>>	binary right shift operator	A >> 2 will get 15 which is 0000 1111	

Data Types Data Types

Basic data types			
char	1 byte	-128 ~ 127	single character/phanumeric/ASCII
signed char	1 byte	-128 ~ 127	-
unsigned char	1 byte	0 ~ 255	-
int	2 to 4 bytes	-32,768 ~ 32,767	store integers
signed int	2 bytes	-32,768 ~ 32,767	
unsigned int	2 bytes	0 ~ 65,535	
short int	2 bytes	-32,768 ~ 32,767	
signed short int	2 bytes	-32,768 ~ 32,767	
unsigned short int	2 bytes	0 ~ 65,535	
long int	4 bytes	-2,147,483,648 ~ 2,147,483,647	
signed long int	4 bytes	-2,147,483,648 ~ 2,147,483,647	
unsigned long int	4 bytes	0 ~ 4,294,967,295	
float	4 bytes		
double	8 bytes		
long double	10 bytes		

Data types			
// create variables			
int myNum = 5; // integer			
float myFloatNum = 5.99; // floating point			
char myLetter = 'D'; // string			
// High precision floating point data or r			
double myDouble = 3.2325467;			
// print output variables			
printf("%d\n", myNum);			
printf("%f\n", myFloatNum);			
printf("%c\n", myLetter);			
printf("%lf\n", myDouble);			
char	character type		
short	short integer		
int	integer type		
long	long integer		
float	single-precision floating-point type		
double	double-precision floating-point type		
void	no type		

Basic format specifiers			
%d or %i	int integer		
%f	float single-precision decimal type		
%lf	double high precision floating point data or number		
%c	char character		
%s	for strings	strings	

Data format example			
int myNum = 5;			
float myFloatNum = 5.99; // floating point			
char myLetter = 'D'; // string			
// print output variables			
printf("%d\n", myNum);			
printf("%f\n", myFloatNum);			
printf("%c\n", myLetter);			

C Preprocessor

Preprocessor Directives	
#define	define a macro
#include	include a source code file
#undef	undefined macro
#ifdef	Returns true if the macro is defined
#ifndef	Returns true if the macro is not defined
#if	Compile the following code if the given condition is true
#else	Alternative to #if
#elif	If the #if condition is false, the current condition is true
#endif	End a #if...#else conditional compilation block
#error	Print an error message when standard error is encountered
#pragma	Issue special commands to the compiler using the standardized method
// replace all MAX_ARRAY_LENGTH with 20	
#define MAX_ARRAY_LENGTH 20	
// Get stdio.h from the system library	
#include <stdio.h>	
// Get myheader.h in the local directory	
#include "myheader.h"	
#undef FILE_SIZE	
#define FILE_SIZE 42 // undefine and defin	

Predefined macros	
__DATE__	The current date, a character constant in the format "MMM DD YYYY"
__TIME__	The current time, a character constant in the format "HH:MM:SS"
__FILE__	This will contain the current filename, a string constant
__LINE__	This will contain the current line number, a decimal constant
__STDC__	Defined as 1 when the compiler compiles against the ANSI standard
ANSI	C defines a number of macros that you can use, but you cannot directly modify these predefined macros

Predefined macro example

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    printf("File :%s\n", __FILE__);
    printf("Date :%s\n", __DATE__);
    printf("Time :%s\n", __TIME__);
    printf("Line :%d\n", __LINE__);
    printf("ANSI :%d\n", __STDC__);
}
```

Macro continuation operator ()	
A macro is usually written on a single line.	
#define message_for(a, b) \ printf(#a " and " #b ": We love you!\r	If the macro is too long to fit on a single line, use the macro continuation operator \

String Constantization Operator (#)	
#include <stdio.h>	
#define message_for(a, b) \ printf(#a " and " #b ": We love you!\n")	
int main(void) {	When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:
message_for(Carole, Debra);	Carole and Debra: We love you!
return 0;	

When you need to convert a macro parameter to a string constant, use the string constant operator #

tag paste operator (##)	
#include <stdio.h>	
#define tokenpaster(n) printf ("token" #n)	
int main(void){	
int token34 = 40;	
tokenpaster(34);	
return 0;	
}	

defined() operator	
#include <stdio.h>	
#if !defined (MESSAGE) #define MESSAGE "You wish!"	
#endif	
int main(void) {	
printf("Here is the message: %s\n", MESSAGE); return 0; }	

Parameterized macros	
int square(int x) {	
return x * x;	
}	
The macro rewrites the above code as follows:	
#define square(x) ((x) *(x))	
No spaces are allowed between the macro name and the opening parenthesis	
#include <stdio.h>	
#define MAX(x,y) ((x) > (y) ? (x) : (y))	
int main(void) {	
printf("Max between 20 and 10 is %d\n", return 0; }	

C Function

Function declaration and definition	
int main() {	
printf("Hello World!"); return 0; }	
The function consists of two parts	
void myFunction() { // declaration declares the function body (code to be executed) (
)	
• Declaration declares the function name, return type and parameters (if any)	
• Definition function body (code to execute)	
// Function declaration	

Call function	
// create function	
void myFunction() { printf("Good evening!"); }	
int main() { myFunction(); // call the function myFunction(); // can be called multiple return 0; }	
// Output -> "Good evening!" // Output -> "Good evening!"	

Function parameters	
void myFunction(char name[]) { printf("Hello %s\n", name); }	
int main() { myFunction("Liam"); myFunction("Jenny"); return 0; }	
// Hello Liam // Hello Jenny	

Return value	
int myFunction(int x) { return 5 + x; }	

```
// Function declaration
void myFunction();
// main method
int main() {
    myFunction(); // --> call the function
    return 0;
}
void myFunction() { // Function definition
    printf("Good evening!");
}
```

Recursive example

```
int sum(int k);
int main() {
    int result = sum(10);
    printf("%d", result);
    return 0;
}

int sum(int k) {
    if (k > 0) {
        return k + sum(k - 1);
    } else {
        return 0;
    }
}
```

```
}
int main() {
    myFunction("Liam", 3);
    myFunction("Jenny", 14);
    return 0;
}
// Hi Liam you are 3 years old.
// Hi Jenny you are 14 years old.
```

Mathematical functions

```
#include <math.h>
printf("%f", sqrt(16)); // square root
printf("%f", ceil(1.4)); // round up (rou
printf("%f", floor(1.4)); // round up (rou
printf("%f", pow(4, 3)); // x(4) to the po
```

- `abs(x)` absolute value
- `acos(x)` arc cosine value
- `asin(x)` arc sine
- `atan(x)` arctangent
- `cbrt(x)` cube root
- `cos(x)` cosine
- the value of `exp(x)` Ex
- `sin(x)` the sine of x
- tangent of `tan(x)` angle

```
}
int main() {
    printf("Result: %d", myFunction(3));
    return 0;
}
// output 8 (5 + 3)
```

two parameters

```
int myFunction(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}

int main() {
    printf("Result: %d", myFunction(5, 3));
    // store the result in a variable
    int result = myFunction(5, 3);
    printf("Result = %d", result);
    return 0;
}
// result: 8 (5 + 3)
// result = 8 (5 + 3)
```

C Structures

Create structure

```
struct MyStructure { // structure declarat
    int myNum; // member (int variable)
    char myLetter; // member (char variable)
}; // end the structure with a semicolon
```

Create a struct variable called s1

```
struct myStructure {
    int myNum;
    char myLetter;
};

int main() {
    struct myStructure s1;
    return 0;
}
```

Strings in the structure

```
struct myStructure {
    int myNum;
    char myLetter;
    char myString[30]; // String
};
```

```
int main() {
    struct myStructure s1;
    strcpy(s1.myString, "Some text");
    // print value
    printf("My string: %s", s1.myString);
    return 0;
}
```

Assigning values to strings using the `strcpy` function

Accessing structure members

```
// create a structure called myStructure
struct myStructure {
    int myNum;
    char myLetter;
};
```

```
int main() {
    // Create a structure variable called myS
    struct myStructure s1;
    // Assign values to the members of s1
    s1.myNum = 13;
    s1.myLetter = 'B';
```

```
// Create a structure variable of myStruct
// and assign it a value
struct myStructure s2 = {13, 'B'};
// print value
printf("My number: %d\n", s1.myNum);
printf("My letter: %c\n", s1.myLetter);
return 0;
}
```

Create different structure variables

```
struct myStructure s1;
struct myStructure s2;
// Assign values to different structure va
s1.myNum = 13;
s1.myLetter = 'B';

s2.myNum = 20;
s2.myLetter = 'C';
```

Copy structure

```
struct myStructure s1 = {
    13, 'B', "Some text"
};

struct myStructure s2;
s2 = s1;
```

In the example, the value of s1 is copied to s2

Modify value

```
// Create a struct variable and assign it a
struct myStructure s1 = {
    13, 'B'
};
// modify the value
s1.myNum = 30;
s1.myLetter = 'C';
// print value
printf("%d %c %s",
       s1.myNum,
       s1.myLetter);
```

file processing

File processing function

<code>open()</code>	open a new or existing file
<code>fprintf()</code>	write data to file
<code>fscanf()</code>	read data from a file
<code>fnputc()</code>	write a character to file

Open mode parameter

<code>r</code>	Open a text file in <code>read</code> mode, allowing the file to be read
<code>w</code>	Open a text file in <code>write</code> mode, allowing writing to the file
<code>a</code>	Open a text file in <code>append</code> mode

Open the file: `fopen()`

```
#include <stdio.h>

void main( ) {
    FILE *fp;
    char ch;
    fp = fopen("file_handle.c", "r");
```

<code>fputchar()</code>	Write a character to file
<code>fgetc()</code>	read a character from a file
<code>fclose()</code>	close the file
<code>fseek()</code>	set the file pointer to the given position
<code>fputw()</code>	Write an integer to a file
<code>fgetw()</code>	read an integer from a file
<code>ftell()</code>	returns the current position
<code>rewind()</code>	set the file pointer to the beginning of the file

There are many functions in the C library to open/read/write/search and close files

<code>a</code>	Open a text file in append mode If the file does not exist, a new one will be created
<code>r+</code>	Open a text file in read-write mode, allowing reading and writing of the file
<code>w+</code>	Open a text file in read-write mode, allowing reading and writing of the file
<code>a+</code>	Open a text file in read-write mode, allowing reading and writing of the file
<code>rb</code>	Open a binary file in read mode
<code>wb</code>	Open binary file in write mode
<code>ab</code>	Open a binary file in append mode
<code>rb+</code>	open binary file in read-write mode
<code>wb+</code>	Open binary file in read-write mode
<code>ab+</code>	open binary file in read-write mode

```
while (1) {
    ch = fgetc(fp);
    if (ch == EOF)
        break;
    printf("%c", ch);
}
fclose(fp);
}
```

After performing all operations on the file, the file must be closed with `fclose()`

Write to file: `fprintf()`

```
#include <stdio.h>

main() {
    FILE *fp;
    fp = fopen("file.txt", "w"); // open the file
    // write data to file
    fprintf(fp, "Hello file for fprintf..\n");
    fclose(fp); // close the file
}
```

Read the file: `fscanf()`

```
#include <stdio.h>
main(){
    FILE *fp;
    char buff[255]; // Create a char array to
    fp = fopen("file.txt", "r");
    while(fscanf(fp, "%s", buff)!=EOF) {
        printf("%s ", buff);
    }
    fclose(fp);
}
```

Write to file: `fputc()`

```
#include <stdio.h>

main(){
    FILE *fp;
    fp = fopen("file1.txt", "w"); // open the file
    fputc('a',fp); // write a single character
    fclose(fp); // close the file
}
```

Read the file: `fgetc()`

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
void main() {
    FILE *fp;
    char c;
    clrscr();
    fp=fopen("myfile.txt", "r");
    while((c=fgetc(fp))!=EOF){
        printf("%c", c);
    }
    fclose(fp);
    getch();
}
```

Write to file: `fputs()`

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<conio.h>

void main(){
    FILE *fp;
    clrscr();
    fp = fopen("myfile2.txt","w");
    fputs("hello c programming",fp);
    fclose(fp);
    getch();
}
```

Read files: `fgets()`

```
#include<stdio.h>
#include<conio.h>

void main() {
    FILE *fp;
    char text[300];
    clrscr();
    fp=fopen("myfile2.txt", "r");
    printf("%s", fgets(text, 200, fp));
    fclose(fp);
    getch();
}
```

fseek()

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main(){
    FILE *fp;
    fp = fopen("myfile.txt", "w+");
    fputs("This is Book", fp);

    // Set the file pointer to the given position
    fseek(fp, 7, SEEK_SET);
    fputs("Kenny Wong", fp);
    fclose(fp);
}
```

set the file pointer to the given position

rewind()

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
void main(){
    FILE *fp;
    char c;
    clrscr();
    fp=fopen("file.txt", "r");
    while((c=fgetc(fp)) != EOF){
        printf("%c", c);
    }
    rewind(fp); // move the file pointer to the start
    while((c=fgetc(fp)) != EOF){
        printf("%c", c);
    }
    fclose(fp);
    getch();
}
// output
// Hello World! Hello World!
```

ftell()

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>

void main (){
    FILE *fp;
    int length;
    clrscr();
    fp = fopen("file.txt", "r");
    fseek(fp, 0, SEEK_END);

    length = ftell(fp); // return current position

    fclose(fp);
    printf("File size: %d bytes", length);
    getch();
}
// output
// file size: 18 bytes
```

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