



Kenyatta University  
Student Branch

WORKSHOP 1



# BEGINNING C++

PROGRAMMING SERIES



## ALLAN K. KOECH

4th Year Biomedical Engineering Student

Chair IEEE Kenyatta University Student Branch

Chair IEEE Photonics Society Kenyatta University

CInO at THE AFECS LTD.

# WHAT WE WILL COVER TODAY



1. What is C++
2. A bit of history of C++
3. Keywords to know ( Compiler, Assembler, etc)
4. The environment ( IDE & setup)
5. Syntax
6. Data types & variable types
7. Example codes

- Just like Python, C, JS, Go, PHP, etc, C++ is a programming language
- C++ is a middle-level programming language
- Runs on a variety of platforms like Windows, MaC, Linux, (\*nix), etc.
- C++ is a general-purpose language
- Is a compiled language not interpreted

## Used in many fields, areas, applications, etc

1. Operating systems : Most use combination of C/C++ be it Windows, Linux, Mac, Android, etc  
Linux Kernel : ***<https://github.com/torvalds/linux>***
2. Browsers - Rendering engines for browsers utilize C++ ie  
Chrome V8 engine - ***<https://github.com/v8/v8>***
3. Libraries - ML, Computer Vision, etc ie Tensorflow, opencv  
***<https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow>***,  
***<https://github.com/opencv/opencv>***
4. Databases like **MySQL, PostgreSQL**

# where is it used?

5. Embedded systems - Arduino, STM32, Pico, etc
6. Compilers - Many languages have their compilers written in C/C++ ie CPython for python,
7. Banking systems
8. Medical devices

# why use C++?

1. Speed
2. Close to hardware
3. Concurrency support
4. Statically typed

BUT, learning C++ may be harder than learning other higher level languages

# HISTORY OF C++

Developed in 1979 by Bjarne Stroustrup at bell laboratories of AT&T (American Telephone & Telegraph), located in U.S.A.

Called a superset of C, it means any valid C program is also a valid C++ program

1983, name changed from 'C with classes' to C++

2011 new standard version was released called C++11





**Compiler** - converts instructions into machine-code or low-level form so that they may be executed by the machine

**Assembler** - Program that converts assembly language to machine code

**Interpreter** - Program that directly executes instructions in higher level languages / scripting lang without requiring prior compilation

Compiled language vs interpreted language

Compiled: C, C++, Go, Rust, ...

Interpreted: Python, JS, PHP, Perl, ...

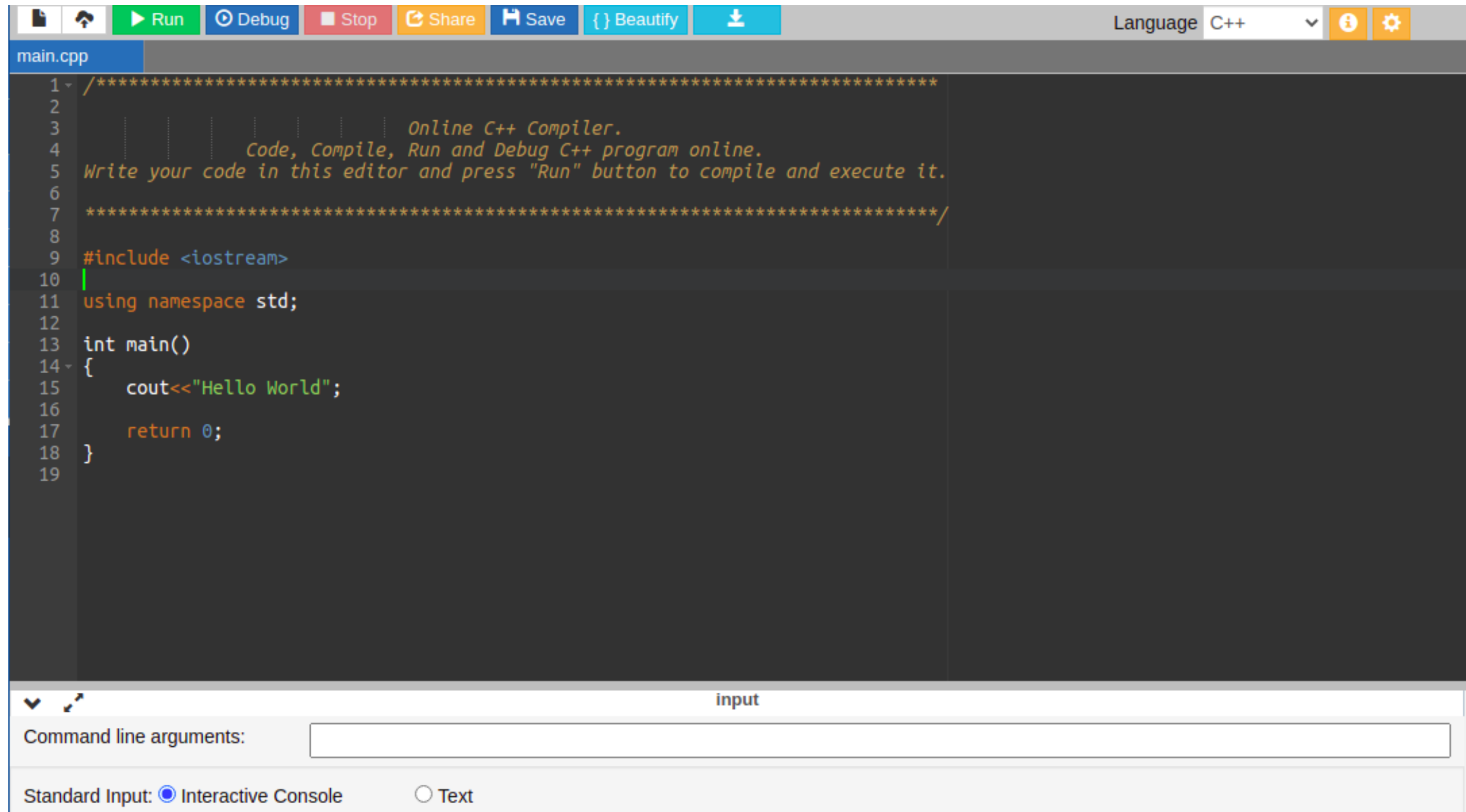
So, what do you need to write and run cpp files?

1. A text editor ie Notepad++, VSCode, notepad, etc
2. A compiler ie gcc, msvc, mingw, clang, etc
3. An IDE - like Visual Studio, DevC++, Eclipse C++, Qt Creator, etc



# Setting up our environment

Online GDB at ***[https://www.onlinegdb.com/online\\_c++\\_compiler](https://www.onlinegdb.com/online_c++_compiler)***



The screenshot displays the Online C++ Compiler web interface. At the top, there is a toolbar with buttons for Run, Debug, Stop, Share, Save, Beautify, and a download icon. The language is set to C++. The main editor area shows a C++ program in a file named main.cpp. The program includes a multi-line comment describing the compiler, followed by the standard C++ boilerplate for a 'Hello World' program. The code is as follows:

```
1  /*****  
2  
3      Online C++ Compiler.  
4      Code, Compile, Run and Debug C++ program online.  
5      Write your code in this editor and press "Run" button to compile and execute it.  
6  
7      *****/  
8  
9  #include <iostream>  
10  
11  using namespace std;  
12  
13  int main()  
14  {  
15      cout<<"Hello World";  
16  
17      return 0;  
18  }  
19
```

Below the code editor, there is a section for input and command line arguments. The 'input' tab is selected. The 'Command line arguments:' field is empty. At the bottom, the 'Standard Input' is set to 'Interactive Console'.

Huuh! Fear NOT

Boilerplate code!

```
main.cpp
flashtext > main.cpp > ...
1  /*
2  This is a basic Hello World example
3  by ME
4  */
5
6  #include <iostream>
7
8  using namespace std;
9
10 // The main function
11 int main()
12 {
13     cout << "Hello World!" << endl;
14
15     return 0;
16 }
```

The output

```
lalanke@devqt:~/Downloads/Con
Hello World!
lalanke@devqt:~/Downloads/Con
```

# let's break it down

File ends with a **.cpp** or **.cc**,  
in our case ***main.cpp***

**1** & **4** are comments

**2** is the preprocessor command to  
include iostream library to our  
program

**3** Tells the compiler to use the std  
namespace

**5** The entry point to your application,  
all C/C++ files start execution at the  
main function.



```
main.cpp
flashtext > main.cpp > ...

1  /*
2  This is a basic HELLO World example
3  by ME
4  */
5
6  #include <iostream>
7
8  using namespace std;
9
10 // The main function
11 int main()
12 {
13     cout << "Hello World!" << endl;
14
15     return 0;
16 }
```

The image shows a code editor window with a file named 'main.cpp'. The code is a basic C++ 'Hello World' program. It includes a multi-line comment (lines 1-4), an include directive for the iostream library (line 6), a using directive for the std namespace (line 8), and the main function (lines 11-16). The code is annotated with numbers 1 through 6, which correspond to the explanatory text on the left. A large number 5 is placed to the right of the main function block, indicating it as the entry point.

# let's break it down

**5** *return 0;* Terminates the main function and causes it to exit with a 0 code

**cout << "Hello World" << endl;**

cout - command part of the iostream library that causes the  
"Hello World" to be displayed on the console

endl - command part of the iostream library- end line, similar to '\n'

## Primitive data types

Type	Keyword
Boolean	bool
Character	char
Integer	int
Floating point	float
Double floating point	double
Valueless	void
Wide character	wchar_t

## Variable definition

```
data_type variable_name;  
int x;  
char v;  
float distance;
```

## Variable instantiation

```
variable_name = value;  
x = 5;  
v = 'A';  
distance = 34.5;
```

## Or simply

```
int age = 5;
```



# Rules for variables

You cant use keyword as a variable

Can comprise of AZaz\_09

They are case sensitive

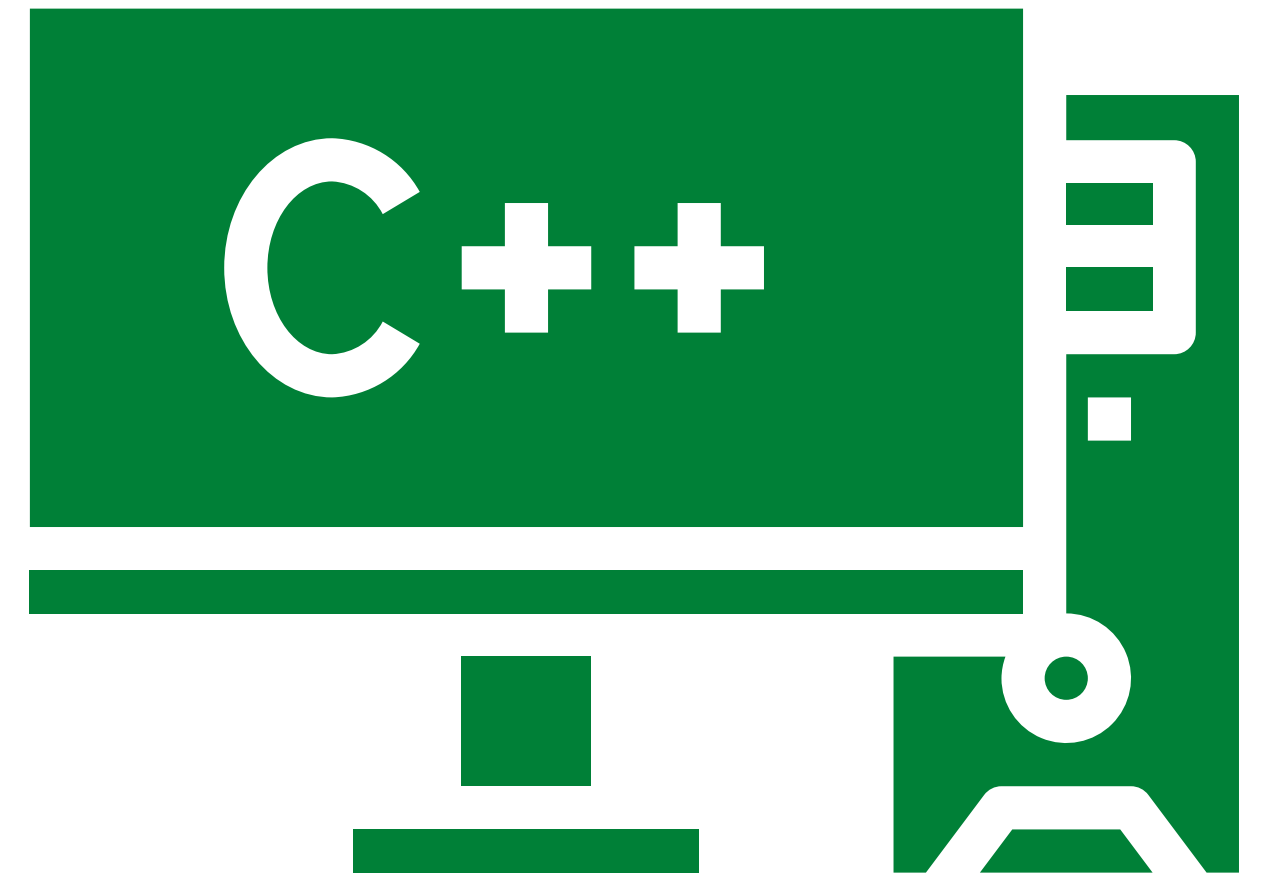
Can only start with a letter or an \_,  
not a number

<code>alignas (since C++11)</code>	<code>decltype (since C++11)</code>	<code>constexpr (reflection TS)</code>
<code>alignof (since C++11)</code>	<code>default (1)</code>	<code>register (2)</code>
<code>and</code>	<code>delete (1)</code>	<code>reinterpret_cast</code>
<code>and_eq</code>	<code>do</code>	<code>requires (since C++20)</code>
<code>asm</code>	<code>double</code>	<code>return</code>
<code>atomic_cancel (TM TS)</code>	<code>dynamic_cast</code>	<code>short</code>
<code>atomic_commit (TM TS)</code>	<code>else</code>	<code>signed</code>
<code>atomic_noexcept (TM TS)</code>	<code>enum</code>	<code>sizeof (1)</code>
<code>auto (1)</code>	<code>explicit</code>	<code>static</code>
<code>bitand</code>	<code>export (1) (3)</code>	<code>static_assert (since C++11)</code>
<code>bitor</code>	<code>extern (1)</code>	<code>static_cast</code>
<code>bool</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>struct (1)</code>
<code>break</code>	<code>float</code>	<code>switch</code>
<code>case</code>	<code>for</code>	<code>synchronized (TM TS)</code>
<code>catch</code>	<code>friend</code>	<code>template</code>
<code>char</code>	<code>goto</code>	<code>this</code>
<code>char8_t (since C++20)</code>	<code>if</code>	<code>thread_local (since C++11)</code>
<code>char16_t (since C++11)</code>	<code>inline (1)</code>	<code>throw</code>
<code>char32_t (since C++11)</code>	<code>int</code>	<code>true</code>
<code>class (1)</code>	<code>long</code>	<code>try</code>
<code>compl</code>	<code>mutable (1)</code>	<code>typedef</code>
<code>concept (since C++20)</code>	<code>namespace</code>	<code>typeid</code>
<code>const</code>	<code>new</code>	<code>typename</code>
<code>constexpr (since C++20)</code>	<code>noexcept (since C++11)</code>	<code>union</code>
<code>constexpr (since C++11)</code>	<code>not</code>	<code>unsigned</code>
<code>constexpr (since C++20)</code>	<code>not_eq</code>	<code>using (1)</code>
<code>const_cast</code>	<code>nullptr (since C++11)</code>	<code>virtual</code>
<code>continue</code>	<code>operator</code>	<code>void</code>
<code>co_await (since C++20)</code>	<code>or</code>	<code>volatile</code>
<code>co_return (since C++20)</code>	<code>or_eq</code>	<code>wchar_t</code>
<code>co_yield (since C++20)</code>	<code>private</code>	<code>while</code>
	<code>protected</code>	<code>xor</code>
	<code>public</code>	<code>xor_eq</code>

Lets Code! It's fun.

Let's use the online gdb to  
write some code

*[https://www.onlinegdb.com/online\\_cplusplus\\_compiler](https://www.onlinegdb.com/online_cplusplus_compiler)*



# What we have looked at today

What is C++

Its origins

Its Syntax

Common terms

Data types & Variable types

Basic Arithmetics

You will find today's code and an exercise in the folder Workshop1/main.cpp  
here [https://github.com/lalan-ke/IEEE\\_KU-beginning-cpp](https://github.com/lalan-ke/IEEE_KU-beginning-cpp)



**IEEE**

Kenyatta University  
Student Branch



THANK  
YOU

@lalan\_KE  
@Ku\_Photonics  
@ieeewie\_ku  
@IEEEEmbsKU  
@ieee\_pes\_ku