

Table 25.19
Wide-Character
Classification Functions

Function	Test
iswalnum(wc)	Is wc alphanumeric?
iswalpha(wc)	Is wc alphabetic?
iswblank(wc)	Is wc a blank? [†]
iswcntrl(wc)	Is wc a control character?
iswdigit(wc)	Is wc a decimal digit?
iswgraph(wc)	Is wc a printing character (other than a space)?
iswlower(wc)	Is wc a lower-case letter?
iswprint(wc)	Is wc a printing character (including a space)?
iswpunct(wc)	Is wc punctuation?
iswspace(wc)	Is wc a white-space character?
iswupper(wc)	Is wc an upper-case letter?
iswxdigit(wc)	Is wc a hexadecimal digit?

[†]The standard blank wide characters are space (L' ' ') and horizontal tab (L' \t').

leaving open the possibility that more than one wide character is considered to be a “space.” See Appendix D for more detailed descriptions of these functions.

In most cases, the wide-character classification functions are consistent with the corresponding functions in <ctype.h>: if a <ctype.h> function returns a nonzero value (indicating “true”) for a particular character, then the corresponding <wctype.h> function will return true for the wide version of the same character. The only exception involves white-space wide characters (other than space) that are also printing characters, which may be classified differently by iswgraph and iswpunct than by isgraph and ispunct. For example, a character for which isgraph returns true may cause iswgraph to return false.

Extensible Wide-Character Classification Functions

```
int iswctype(wint_t wc, wctype_t desc);
wctype_t wctype(const char *property);
```

Each of the wide-character classification functions just discussed is able to test a single fixed condition. The wctype and iswctype functions—which are designed to be used together—make it possible to test for other conditions as well.

wctype The wctype function is passed a string describing a class of wide characters: it returns a wctype_t value that represents this class. For example, the call

```
wctype("upper")
```

returns a wctype_t value representing the class of upper-case letters. The C99 standard requires that the following strings be allowed as arguments to wctype:

```
"alnum"  "alpha"  "blank"  "cntrl"  "digit"  "graph"
"lower"  "print"  "punct"  "space"  "upper"  "xdigit"
```

Additional strings may be provided by an implementation. Which strings are legal arguments to wctype at a given time depends on the LC_CTYPE category of the