

# C++ Console I/O Function

## C++ *Console I/O* function

C++ language provides us console input/output functions. As the name says, the console input/output functions allow us to -

- Read the input from the keyboard, entered by the user at the console.
- Display the output to the user at the console.

**Note :** These input and output values could be of *any primitive data type*.

There are two kinds of console input/output functions :

No.	Functions
1	<i>Formatted input/output functions.</i>
2	<i>Unformatted input/output functions.</i>

- *Unformatted input/output functions*

Unformatted console input/output functions are used for performing input/output operations at console and the resulting data is left unformatted and untransformed i.e. it is left in its raw and original form.

- In C++, we can *read the input* entered by a user at console using an object **cin** of *istream* class and through this object we can access the functions of *istream* class, such as - *get(char \*)*, *get(void)* and *getline()*.
- In C++, we can *write the output* at console using an object **cout** of *ostream* class and through this object we can access the functions of *ostream* class, such as - *put()*, *write()*.

Some of the most important formatted console input/output functions are -

Functions	Description
<b>get(char *)</b>	Reads a <i>single</i> character from the user at the console and assigns it to the char array in its argument, but needs an <b>Enter</b> key to be pressed at the end..
<b>get()</b>	Reads a <i>single</i> character from the user at the console, <i>and returns it</i> .
<b>getline(char* arr, int size)</b>	Reads a line of characters, entered by the user at the console which ends with a newline character or until the size of .
<b>put(char ch)</b>	Writes a <i>single</i> character at the console.
<b>write(char *arr, int num)</b>	Writes a number of characters in a char array to the console.

```
1  #include<iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3  int main()
4  {
5      char ch;
6      cout<<"Enter Character=";
7      //cin.get(ch);
8      ch=cin.get();//reading
9      cout.put(ch);//writing
10     return 0;
11 }
```

```
2  #include<iostream>
3  #include<fstream>
4  using namespace std;
5  int main()
6  {
7      fstream new_file;
8      new_file.open("new_file_write.txt",ios::in);
9      if(!new_file)
10     {
11         cout<<"No such file";
12     }
13     else
14     {
15         char ch[50];//showing the content
16         while(!new_file.eof())
17         {
18             new_file.getline(ch,50);
19             new_file.write(ch,50);
20             new_file>>ch;
21             cout<<ch ;
22         }
23         new_file.close();
24         return 0;
25     }
26 }
27 }
```

- *Formatted input/output functions*

Formatted console input/output functions are used for performing input/output operations at console and the resulting data is formatted and transformed. For more on formatted input/output functions, please read [formatted input/output functions](#).



Functions	Description
<b>width(int width)</b>	Using this function, we can specify the width of a value to be displayed in the output at the console.
<b>fill(char ch)</b>	Using this function, we can fill the unused white spaces in a value( <i>to be printed at the console</i> ), with a character of our choice.
<b>setf(arg1, arg2)</b>	Using this function, we can set the <i>flags</i> , which allow us to display a value in a particular format.
<b>unsetf(char ch)</b>	Using this function, we could clear the flag specified fixed by the function setf().
<b>precision(int num_of_digts)</b>	Using this function, we can specify the number of digits( <i>num_of_digits</i> ) to the right of decimal, to be printed in the output.

In C++, we can *read the input* entered by a user at console using an object **cin** of *istream* class and we can *write the output* at console using an object **cout** of *ostream* class. Through the **cin** and **cout** objects, we can access the formatted I/O functions.

```
1  #include<iostream>
2  using namespace std;
3  int main()
4  {
5      //1
6      cout<<100<<endl;
7      //2
8      cout.width(10);
9      cout<<100<<endl;
10     //3
11     cout.fill('x');
12     cout.width(20);
13     cout<<std::right<<100<<endl;
14     return 0;
15 }
```

```
using namespace std;
int main()
{
    //cout<<34;
    //cout.setf(ios::hex, ios::basefield);
    //cout<<34;
    cout.setf(ios::oct, ios::basefield);
    //cout<<34;
    //cout.setf(ios::showbase);
    //cout<<34;
    //cout.unsetf(ios::showbase);
    //cout<<34;
    cout.setf(ios::fixed, ios::floatfield);
    cout.precision(20);
    cout<<34.1;
}
```