

Today in C Language

Functions and Recursion

Functions: In C we can divide a large program into the basic building blocks known as function. The function contains the set of programming statements enclosed by {}.

A function can be called multiple times to provide reusability and modularity to the C program.

Advantage of functions

(1) By using a function, we can avoid rewriting same logic/code again and again in a program.

(2) We can call a function any number of times in a program and from any place in a program.

(3) We can track a large C program easily divided into multiple functions.

* C programs have two types of functions

(1) Library functions

(2) User-defined functions

Library functions

C programming language has the facility to provide library functions for performing some operations. These functions are predefined and they are predefined.

For example, `Sqrt()` is a mathematical library function which is used for finding out the square root of any number.

The functions `scanf()` and `printf()` are input-output library functions.

To use library functions we have to include corresponding header file using the preprocessor directive `#include`. For example to use input-output functions like `printf()` and `scanf()` we have to ~~include~~ include `stdio.h` header file.

/* Program to find the Square root of any number */

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
    double n, s;
```

```
    printf("Enter a number: ");
```

```
    scanf("%lf", &n);
```

```
    s = sqrt(n);
```

```
    printf("The square root is: %.2lf\n", s);
```

```
return 0;
```

```
}
```

OUTPUT

```
Enter a number: 16
The square root is
4.000000
```

User-Defined Functions

These are the functions which are created by the C programmer.

So that he/she can use it many times to reduce the complexity of a big program and optimize the code.

a user defined function has three main things:

1. Functions definition

2. Functions declaration

3. Functions call

/* program to find the sum of two numbers */

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

```
int sum(int x, int y);
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
    int a, b, s;
```

```
    printf("Enter values for a and b: ");
```

```
    scanf("%d %d", &a, &b);
```

```
    s = sum(a, b);
```

```
    printf("Sum is: %.2f", s);
```

```
    return 0;
```

/* Function Declaration */

int sum(int x, int y);

/* Function Definition */

int sum(int x, int y)

{

int s = x + y;

return s;

}

Library functions Vs User-Defined Functions

Library Functions

- ① These functions are predefined in the compiler of C language.

- ② Library functions are stored in special library file.

- ③ Execution of the program does not begin from the library function.

- ④ Example sum(), fact() etc.

print(), scanf(), sanc()

User-Defined Functions

- ① These functions are not pre-defined in the compiler.

- ② user-defined functions are not stored in library functions.

- ③ Execution of the program begins from the user-defined function.

- ④ Examples print(), scanf(), sanc() etc.

Function Definition in C programming

A function definition in C programming language consists of function name, function parameters, return value and function body.

Syntax of function Definition

```
return-type function-name (type arg1, type arg2...)
```

```
{ /* body of a function */
```

local variable declarations;

Statement's;

```
};
```

return (expression);

```
{ ("msg", "b") }
```

The first line is called as function header and it

should be identical to function Declaration/prototype except

semicolon.

Name of arguments are compulsory here unlike function declaration.

Function definition contains code to be executed when this function is called.

return-type: The return-type is the data-type of the value returned by the function. Void data type is used when the function does not return any value. By default the return type of a function is integer (int).

function-name → This is a identifier representing the name of the function. Every function must have a unique name in a program. Name of a function is used to call a function.

type arg1, type arg2.. → It is a comma-separated list of data types and names of parameters passed by the calling function. The parameter list contains data type, order and number of parameters expected by a function at the time of calling it. Parameter field is optional; we can skip it if a function doesn't require any data from calling function.

body of function → The body of a function contains a set of statements that will be executed when this function is called.

return(expression) → This is used to send a value to calling function before termination of function. If the return-type of function is Void, you need not use this line. When control reaches return statement, it halts the execution of function immediately and returns the value of expression to calling function.

```
/* C program to show Function Definition */
#include <stdio.h>
/* Function Definition */
int getAreaofSquare (int side) {
    /* Local Variable */
    int area;
    area = side * side;
    /* Return Statement */
    return area;
}
```

OUTPUT of Given Program
Enter Side
5
Area of Square = 25

```
int main() {
    int side, area;
    printf("Enter side\n");
    scanf("%d", &side);
    /* calling the function */
    area = getAreaofSquare
        (side);
    printf("Area of Square=%d",
        area);
    return 0;
}
```

Calling a Function in C Programming

The process of transferring control from one function to another, until the other functions return, is known as calling a function.

Syntax

function-name (argument1, argument2, ...);

Different aspects of function

(1) Function without arguments and without return value / No Return Value and No Arguments

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

```
Void printName();
```

```
Void main()
```

```
{
```

```
    printf ("Hello");
```

```
    printName();
```

```
}
```

```
Void printName()
```

```
{
```

```
    printf (" Indian");
```

```
}
```

// No return value

(2) Function without arguments and with return value / with a return value and without any argument

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

```
int square();
```

```
Void main()
```

```
{
```

```
    printf (" Area of the Square \n ");
```

```
    float area = square();
```

```
    printf (" area of Square : %f \ n ", area);
```

```
}
```

```
int square()
```

```
{
```

```
    float side, square=0;
```

```
    printf (" Enter the length of the Side : \ n ");
```

```
    scanf ("%f", &side);
```

```
    return side * side;
```

```
    square = side * side;
```

```
    return square;
```

```
}
```

```
else if (a>b)
```

```
    c = a;
```

```
    a = b;
```

```
    b = c;
```

```
else if (a==b)
```

```
    a = b;
```

(3) Function with argument and without return value / No Return Value and with arguments

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

```
Void average(int, int, int, int);
```

```
{
```

```
    int a, b, c, d;
```

```
    printf (" Enter five numbers : \ n ");
```

```
    scanf ("%d %d %d %d %d", &a, &b, &c, &d, &e);
```

```
    average(a, b, c, d);
```

```
}
```

```
Void average (int a, int b, int c, int d, int e);
```

```
{
```

```
    float avg;
```

```
    avg = (a+b+c+d+e)/5;
```

```
    printf (" average : . . f " , avg);
```

```
}
```

(4) Function with argument and with return value / with an argument

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

```
int evenOdd (int n);
```

```
{
```

```
    int num;
```

```
    if (n%2 == 0)
```

```
        num = 1;
```

```
    else
```

```
        num = 0;
```

```
    return num;
```

```
}
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
    int m, flag = 0;
```

```
    printf (" Enter a number : \ n ");
```

```
    scanf ("%d", &m);
```

```
    flag = evenOdd(m);
```

```
    if (flag == 0)
```

```
        printf (" odd no : \ n ");
```

```
    else
```

```
        printf (" even no : \ n ");
```

```
}
```

```
return 0;
```

Passing Function Arguments in C Programming

- **Formal Parameter :-** This is the argument which is used inside body of function definition. It is limited to the scope of function. It gets created when control enters function body and gets destroyed when control exists from function.

example

int sum (int x, int y); // x and y are the formal parameters

- **Actual Parameter :-** This is the argument which is used while calling a function.

example

int main () {

int a = 10, b = 20, result = 0;

result = sum (a, b); // a and b are the actual parameters

There are two methods to pass the data into the function in C language

- (1) call by value
- (2) call by reference.

Call by Value

In call by value method, the value of the actual parameters is copied into the formal parameters.

In call by value method, we can not modify the value of the actual parameter by the formal parameter.

In call by value different memory is allocated for actual and formal parameters. Since the value of the actual parameters is copied into the formal parameters.

Call by Reference

In call by reference, the address of the variable is passed into the function call as the actual parameter.

The value of actual parameter can be modified by changing the formal parameters since the address of actual parameter is passed.

In call by reference, the memory allocation is similar for both formal parameters and actual parameters. All the operations in the functions are performed on the value stored at the address of the actual parameters, and the modified value gets stored at the same address.

```
#include <stdio.h>
void fun (int, int);
int main ()
{
    int a = 5, b = 7;
    swap (&a, &b);
    printf ("%d %d", a, b);
}

void fun (int x, int y)
{
    x = 7;
    y = 5;
    printf ("Inside fun (called function)");
    printf ("%d %d", x, y);
}
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
void swap (int*, int*);
int main ()
{
    int a = 5, b = 7;
    swap (&a, &b);
    printf ("swap (%d %d", a, b);
    printf ("%d %d)", *a, *b);
}
```

Void Swap (int *a, int *b)

```
{ 
    int temp;
    temp = *a;
    *a = *b;
    *b = temp;
}
```

printf ("%d %d", *a, *b);

Difference between Call by Value and Call by Reference

Call by Value

① a copy of the value is passed into the function.

② changes made inside the function

is limited to the function only.

③ The values of the actual parameters do not change by changing the formal parameters.

④ Actual and formal arguments are created at the different memory location.

Call by Reference

① an address of value is passed into the function.

② changes made inside the function validate outside of the function also.

③ The value of actual parameters do change by changing the formal parameters.

④ Actual and formal arguments are created at the same memory location.

Short note about main() function in C

Execution of every C program always begins with the function main(). Each function is called directly or indirectly in main() and after all functions have done their operations, control return back to main(). There can be only one main() function in a program.

The main() function is a user-defined function but the name, number and type of arguments are predefined in the language. The operating system calls the main function and main() returns a value of integer type to the operating system. If the value returned is 0, it implies that the function has terminated successfully and any nonzero return value indicates an error. If no return value is specified in main() then any garbage value will be returned automatically.

Types of main() function

(1) Void main() :- A void is a keyword that references an empty data type that has no return value.

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

```
void main()
```

```
{ printf ("C is a programming language"); }
```

```
}
```

(2) int main() :- An int is a

keyword that references an integer data type. An int datatype used

with the main() function that indicates the function should return an integer value. When we use an int main() function, it is compulsory to write return 0; statement at the end of the main() function.

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

```
int main()
```

```
{ printf ("C programming"); }
```

```
return 0;
```

```
}
```

(3) `int main(int argc, char *argv)`

A `main()` function can be called using command line arguments. It is a

function that contains two parameters, `integer (int argc)` and `character (char *argv)` data type. The `argc` parameter stands for argument count, and `argv` stands for argument value.

(4) `int main(void)` :- An `int main(void)` function is similar to the `int main()` function to return an integer value. But we can pass more than one argument to the `int main()`, whereas the `int main(void)` can only be called without any argument.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    printf("Hello world");
    return 0;
}
```

(5) `Void main(void)` function :- A `void main(void)` function is similar to the `void main()` function that does not return a value. However, the `void main()` function can accept multiple parameters, but it does not return a value. It is an empty data type, whereas `Void main(void)` does not take any parameters because it has a predefined `main(void)` function.

```
#include <stdio.h>
void main()
{
    printf("Hello world!");
}
```