

Introduction to Characters in C

Definition and Usage

In C, a character is a single letter, digit, or symbol stored in a variable of type `char`. Characters are enclosed in single quotes (e.g., `'A'`, `'b'`, `'1'`, `'@'`).

Each character is stored as an ASCII value.

ASCII Values:

`'A'` = 65

`'a'` = 97

`'0'` = 48

Character Range and Memory Size

In C, a `char` variable is typically stored using 1 byte (8 bits) of memory.

The range of values a `char` can store depends on whether it is signed or unsigned:

- Signed char: -128 to 127

- Unsigned char: 0 to 255

Declaring and Assigning Characters

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

```
int main() {  
    char letter = 'A'; // Declare a character variable  
    char digit = '5';  // Assign a number as a character  
    char symbol = '@'; // Assign a special symbol  
  
    printf("Letter: %c\n", letter);  
    printf("Digit: %c\n", digit);  
    printf("Symbol: %c\n", symbol);  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

ASCII Representation of Characters

If you assign a number to a `char` variable without using single quotes, it will store and print the corresponding ASCII character.

Using `%c` prints the character representation, while `%d` prints its ASCII value.

```
#include <stdio.h>

int main() {
    char num = 65; // ASCII for 'A'

    printf("Character stored: %c\n", num); // Output: A
    printf("ASCII value: %d\n", num); // Output: 65

    return 0;
}
```

Challenge

Task: Fill in the missing parts of the following code to declare and print characters correctly.

```
// 1. Assign a digit character '8' to a variable
char num = ____;
printf("Character: %c\n", num);

// 2. Print ASCII value of character 'D'
char letter = 'D';
printf("ASCII Value: ____;\n", letter);

// 3. Declare a char variable 'asciiChar' and assign ASCII value 97
____ = ____;
printf("Character: %c\n", asciiChar);

// 4. Declare a char 'ch' and assign 'C' and print it
char ____ = ____;
printf("Character: %c\n", ____);

// 5. Declare a char variable 'symbol' and print the character stored in variable and
its ASCII value
____ = ____;
printf("Symbol: %c\n", ____);
printf("ASCII Value: %d;", ____);
```

Hint:

Always use single quotes for characters in C.