

STRUCTURE in C Programming...



Structure

- A structure is a collection of variables of different data types under a single name.
- The variables are called **members** of the structure.
- The structure is also called a user-defined data type.

Defining a Structure

- Syntax:

```
struct structure_name  
{  
    data_type1 member_variable1;  
    data_type2 member_variable2;  
    .....;  
    data_typeN member_variableN;  
};
```

Note: The members of a structure do not occupy memory until they are associated with a structure_variable.

Example

```
struct student  
{  
    char name[20];  
    int roll_no;  
    float marks;  
    char gender;  
    long int phone_no;  
};
```

- Multiple variables of *struct student* type can be declared as:

```
struct student st1, st2, st3;
```

Defining a structure...

- Each variable of structure has its own copy of member variables.
- The member variables are accessed using the dot (.) operator or member operator.
- For example: *st1.name* is member variable *name* of *st1* structure variable while *st3.gender* is member variable *gender* of *st3* structure variable.

```
struct student
```

```
{  
    char name[20];  
    int ID;  
    float CSE_marks;  
    char gender;  
    long int phone_no;  
};
```

```
void main()
```

```
{  
    struct student st1={"Ishtiaque",5482,13.5,'M',16021548};  
    struct student st2={"Oshin",4288,15,'F',19845321};  
  
    printf ("Name: %s ID: %d CSE Marks: %.1f Gender: %c Phn: %d  
    \n",st1.name,st1.ID,st1.CSE_marks,st1.gender,st1.phone_no);  
  
    printf ("Name: %s ID: %d CSE Marks: %.1f Gender: %c Phn: %d  
    \n",st2.name,st2.ID,st2.CSE_marks,st2.gender,st2.phone_no);  
}
```

C:\Users\ADOR\Desktop\CODES\structure.exe

Name: Ishtiaque ID: 5482 CSE Marks: 13.5 Gender: M Phn: 16021548

Name: Oshin ID: 4288 CSE Marks: 15.0 Gender: F Phn: 19845321

Process returned 65 (0x41) execution time : 0.026 s

Press any key to continue.



Declaration of pointers

```
struct name {  
    member1;  
    member2;  
    .  
    .  
};
```

----- Inside function -----

```
struct name *ptr;
```



Structure's member through pointer can be used in two ways:

- Referencing pointer to another address to access memory
- Using dynamic memory allocation



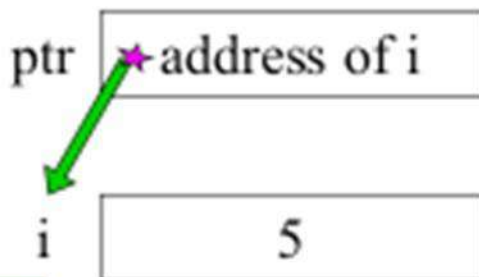
What actually *ptr* is?

- **ptr** is a variable storing **an address**
- ptr is **NOT** storing the actual value of i

```
int i = 5;  
int *ptr;  
ptr = &i;  
printf("i = %d\n", i);  
printf("*ptr = %d\n", *ptr);  
printf("ptr = %p\n", ptr);
```

Output:

```
i = 5  
*ptr = 5  
ptr = effff5e0
```



value of ptr =
address of i
in memory



What is Nested Structure

- **Nested structure in C is nothing but structure within structure. One structure can be declared inside other structure as we declare structure members inside a structure. The structure variables can be a normal structure variable or a pointer variable to access the data.**
- **Nested Structures are allowed in C Programming Language.**
- **We can write one Structure inside another structure as member of another structure.**



Let's see the structure declaration below.

```
struct A {  
    int a;  
    float b;  
};  
  
struct B {  
    int c;  
    float d;  
    struct A e;  
};
```

```
struct A e;
```



Way 1: Declare two separate structures

```
struct date
{
    int date;
        int month;
    int year;
};

struct Employee
{
    char ename[20];
        int ssn;
    float salary;

        struct date doj;
}

emp1;
```

Accessing Nested Elements :

1. Structure members are accessed using **dot operator**.
2. '**date**' structure is nested within Employee Structure.
3. Members of the '**date**' can be accessed using 'employee'
4. **emp1** & **doj** are two structure names (Variables)

Explanation Of Nested Structure :

```
Accessing Month Field : emp1.doj.month
Accessing day Field   : emp1.doj.day
Accessing year Field  : emp1.doj.year
```



Way 2 : Declare Embedded structures

```
struct Employee
{
    char ename[20];
    int ssn;
    float salary;
    struct date
    {
        int date;
    }
    int month;
    int year;
}
doj;
emp1;
```

Accessing Nested Members :

```
Accessing Month Field : empl.doj.month
Accessing day Field   : empl.doj.day
Accessing year Field  : empl.doj.year
```



Function and Structure

We will consider four cases here:

- *Passing the individual member to functions*
- *Passing whole structure to functions*
- *Passing structure pointer to functions*
- *Passing array of structure to functions*



Passing the individual member to functions

- ***Structure members can be passed to functions as actual arguments in function call like ordinary variables.***



PASSING WHOLE STRUCTURE TO FUNCTIONS

- *Whole structure can be passed to a function by the syntax:*

function _ name (structure _ variable _ name);

- *The called function has the form:*

```
return _ type function _ name (struct tag _ name  
structure _ variable _ name)  
{  
.....;  
}
```

