Chapter 8 :- File Handling

Types Of Files

There are 2 kinds of files in which data can be stored in 2 ways either in characters coded in their ASCII character set or in binary format. They are

1.Text Files

2.Binary Files

Text Files

A Text file contains only the text information like alphabets, digits and special symbols. The ASCII code of these characters are stored in these files. It uses only 7 bits allowing 8 bit to be zero.

1. w(write) :

This mode opens new file on the disk for writing.If the file exist,disk for writing.If the file exist, then it will be over written without then it will be over written without any confirmation.

Syntax :

1 fp=fopen("data.txt","w");

2 "data.txt" is filename

3 "w" is writemode.

2. w+(read and write)

This mode searches for a file if it is found contents are destroyed If the file doesn't found a new file is created.

SYNTAX :

fp=fopen("data.txt","w+");

3. a(append)

This mode opens a preexisting file for appending the data.

SYNTAX :

fp=fopen("data.txt","a");

4. a+(append+read)

the end of the file.

SYNTAX :

fp=fopen("data.txt","a+");

5. r+ (read +write)

SYNTAX :

fp=fopen("data.txt","r+");

Binary File

A binary file is a file that uses all 8 bits of a byte for storing the information .It is the form which can be interpreted and understood by the computer.

The only difference between the text file and binary file is the data contain in text file can be recognized by the word processor while binary file data can't be recognized by a word processor.

1. **wb(write)**

this opens a binary file in write mode.

Syntax :

fp=fopen("data.dat","wb");

2. **rb(read)**

this opens a binary file in read mode

Syntax :

fp=fopen("data.dat","rb");

3. **ab(append)**

this opens a binary file in a Append mode i.e. data can be added at the end of file.

Syntax :

fp=fopen("data.dat","ab");

4. **r+b(read+write)**

this mode opens preexisting File in read and write mode.

Syntax :

fp=fopen("data.dat","r+b");

5. **w+b(write+read)**

this mode creates a new file for reading and writing in Binary mode.

Syntax :

fp=fopen("data.dat","w+b");

6. **a+b(append+write)**

Syntax :

fp=fopen("data.dat","a+b");

Functions For File Handling

No.	Function	Description
1	fopen()	opens new or existing file
2	fprintf()	write data into the file
3	fscanf()	reads data from the file
4	fputc()	writes a character into the file
5	fgetc()	reads a character from file
6	fclose()	closes the file
7	fseek()	sets the file pointer to given position
8	fputw()	writes an integer to file
9	fgetw()	reads an integer from file
10	ftell()	returns current position
11	rewind()	sets the file pointer to the beginning of the file