C++ function

C++ Functions

In this tutorial, we will learn about the C++ function and function expressions with the help of examples.

A function is a block of code that performs a specific task.

Suppose we need to create a program to create a circle and color it. We can create two functions to solve this problem:

- a function to draw the circle
- a function to color the circle

Dividing a complex problem into smaller chunks makes our program easy to understand and reusable.

There are two types of function:

1. **Standard Library Functions:** Predefined in C++
2. **User-defined Function:** Created by users

In this tutorial, we will focus mostly on user-defined functions.

C++ User-defined Function

C++ allows the programmer to define their own function.

C++ function

A user-defined function groups code to perform a specific task and that group of code is given a name (identifier).

When the function is invoked from any part of the program, it all executes the codes defined in the body of the function.

C++ Function Declaration

The syntax to declare a function is:

```
returnType functionName (parameter1, parameter2,...) {
    // function body
}
```

Here's an example of a function declaration.

```
// function declaration
void greet() {
    cout << "Hello World";
}
```

Here,

- the name of the function is `greet()`
- the return type of the function is `void`
- the empty parentheses mean it doesn't have any parameters
- the function body is written inside `{}`

Calling a Function

C++ function

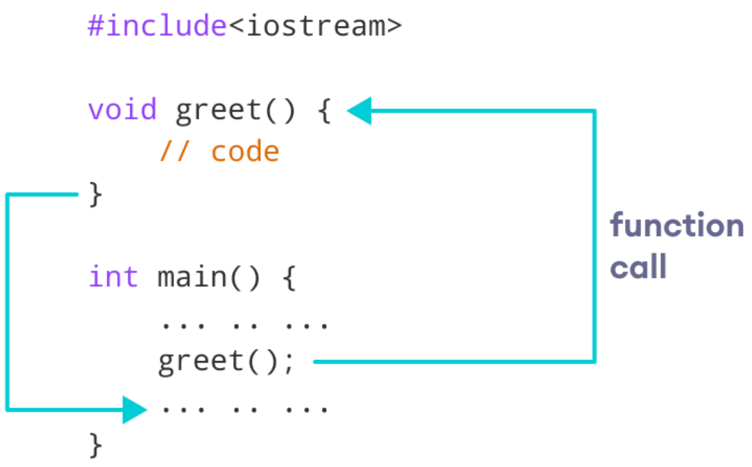
In the above program, we have declared a function named `greet()`. To use the `greet()` function, we need to call it.

Here's how we can call the above `greet()` function.

```
int main() {

    // calling a function
    greet();

}
```



How Function works in C++

Example 1: Display a Text

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

// declaring a function
void greet() {
    cout << "Hello there!";
}
```

C++ function

```
int main() {

    // calling the function
    greet();

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Hello there!
```

Function Parameters

As mentioned above, a function can be declared with parameters (arguments). A parameter is a value that is passed when declaring a function.

For example, let us consider the function below:

```
void printNum(int num) {
    cout << num;
}
```

We pass a value to the function parameter while calling the function.

```
int main() {
    int n = 7;

    // calling the function
    // n is passed to the function as argument
    printNum(n);
    return 0;
}
```

Example 2: Function with Parameters

```
// program to print a text

#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

// display a number
void displayNum(int n1, float n2) {
    cout << "The int number is " << n1;
    cout << "The double number is " << n2;
}

int main() {

     int num1 = 5;
     double num2 = 5.5;

    // calling the function
    displayNum(num1, num2);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
The int number is 5
The double number is 5.5
```

In the above program, we have used a function that has one `int` parameter and one `double` parameter.

We then pass `num1` and `num2` as arguments. These values are stored by the function parameters `n1` and `n2` respectively.

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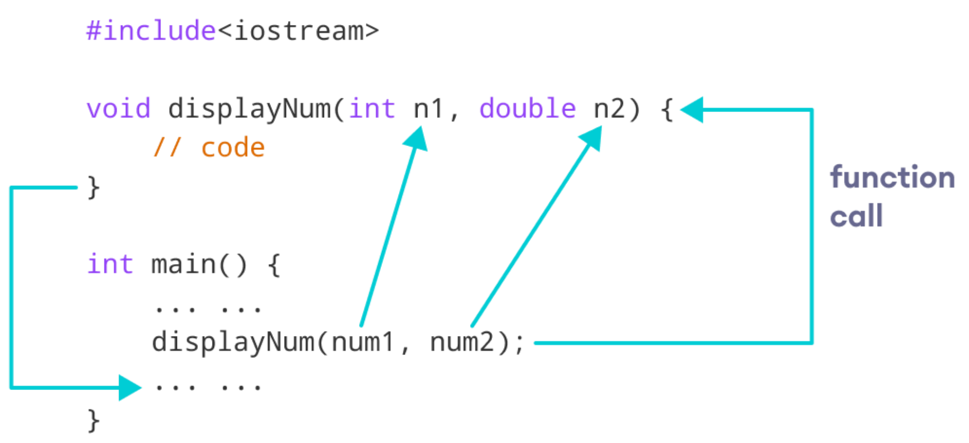


```
#include<iostream>

void displayNum(int n1, double n2) {
    // code
}

int main() {
    ... ...
    displayNum(num1, num2);
    ... ...
}
```

Example 3: Add Two Numbers

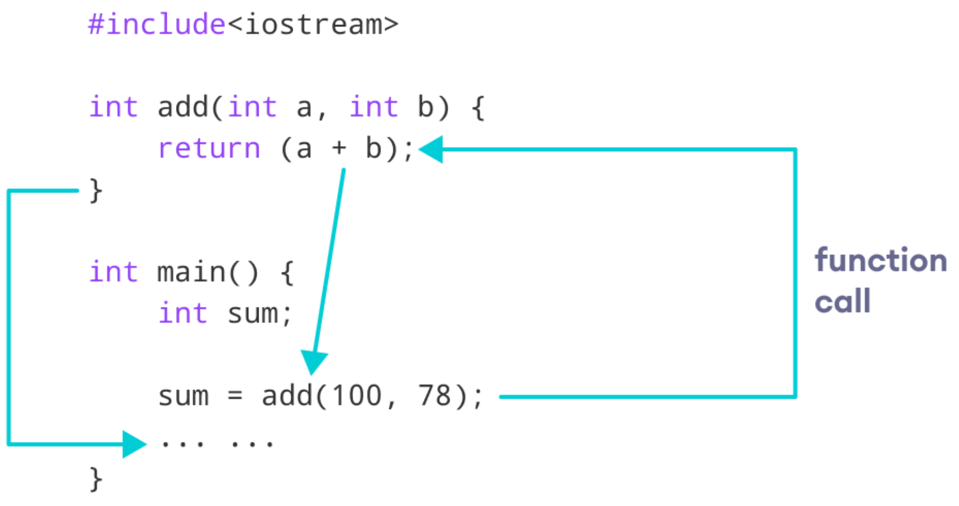
```
// program to add two numbers using a function

#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

// declaring a function
int add(int a, int b) {
    return (a + b);
}

int main() {

    int sum;

    // calling the function and storing
    // the returned value in sum
    sum = add(100, 78);

    cout << "100 + 78 = " << sum << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

Output

C++ function

```
100 + 78 = 178
```

In the above program, the `add()` function is used to find the sum of two numbers.
We pass two `int` literals `100` and `78` while calling the function.
We store the returned value of the function in the variable `sum`, and then we print it.



```
#include<iostream>

int add(int a, int b) {
    return (a + b);
}

int main() {
    int sum;

    sum = add(100, 78);
    ... ...
}
```

Function Prototype

In C++, the code of function declaration should be before the function call. However, if we want to define a function after the function call, we need to use the function prototype. For example,

```
// function prototype
void add(int, int);

int main() {
    // calling the function before declaration.
    add(5, 3);
    return 0;
}

// function definition
void add(int a, int b) {
    cout << (a + b);
}
```

In the above code, the function prototype is:

```
void add(int, int);
```

This provides the compiler with information about the function name and its parameters. That's why we can use the code to call a function before the function has been defined.

The syntax of a function prototype is:

```
returnType functionName(dataType1, dataType2, ...);
```

Example 4: C++ Function Prototype

```
// using function definition after main() function
// function prototype is declared before main()

#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

// function prototype
int add(int, int);

int main() {
    int sum;

    // calling the function and storing
    // the returned value in sum
```

C++ function

```
    sum = add(100, 78);

    cout << "100 + 78 = " << sum << endl;

    return 0;
}

// function definition
int add(int a, int b) {
    return (a + b);
}
```

Output

```
100 + 78 = 178
```

Difference between Call by Value and Call by Reference

Functions can be invoked in two ways: **Call by Value** or **Call by Reference**. These two ways are generally differentiated by the type of values passed to them as parameters.
The parameters passed to function are called *actual parameters* whereas the parameters received by function are called *formal parameters*.
Call By Value: In this parameter passing method, values of actual parameters are copied to function's formal parameters and the two types of parameters are stored in different memory locations. So any changes made inside functions are not reflected in actual parameters of the caller.
Call by Reference: Both the actual and formal parameters refer to the same locations, so any changes made inside the function are actually reflected in actual parameters of the caller.

Call by value in C++

In call by value, **original value is not modified.**

C++ function

In call by value, value being passed to the function is locally stored by the function parameter in stack memory location. If you change the value of function parameter, it is changed for the current function only. It will not change the value of variable inside the caller method such as main().

Let's try to understand the concept of call by value in C++ language by the example given below:

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
void change(int data);
int main()
{
int data = 3;
change(data);
cout << "Value of the data is: " << data<< endl;
return 0;
}
void change(int data)
{
data = 5;
}
```

Output:

```
Value of the data is: 3
```

Call by reference in C++

In call by reference, original value is modified because we pass reference (address).

Here, address of the value is passed in the function, so actual and formal arguments share the same address space. Hence, value changed inside the function, is reflected inside as well as outside the function.

Note: To understand the call by reference, you must have the basic knowledge of pointers.

C++ function

Let's try to understand the concept of call by reference in C++ language by the example given below:

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;
void swap(int *x, int *y)
{
 int swap;
 swap=*x;
 *x=*y;
 *y=swap;
}
int main()
{
 int x=500, y=100;
 swap(&x, &y);  // passing value to function
 cout<<"Value of x is: "<<x<<endl;
 cout<<"Value of y is: "<<y<<endl;
 return 0;
}
```

Output:

```
Value of x is: 100
Value of y is: 500
```

Function Overloading in C++

The parameters should follow any one or more than one of the following conditions for Function overloading:

- Parameters should have a different type

add(int a, int b)
add(double a, double b)

Below is the implementation of the above discussion:

C++ function

- C++

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;


void add(int a, int b)
{
  cout << "sum = " << (a + b);
}

void add(double a, double b)
{
    cout << endl << "sum = " << (a + b);
}

// Driver code
int main()
{
    add(10, 2);
    add(5.3, 6.2);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
sum = 12

sum = 11.5
```

- arameters should have a different number

add(int a, int b)
add(int a, int b, int c)

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

void add(int a, int b)
{
```

C++ function

```
  cout << "sum = " << (a + b);
}

void add(int a, int b, int c)
{
    cout << endl << "sum = " << (a + b + c);
}

// Driver code
int main()
{
    add(10, 2);
    add(5, 6, 4);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
sum = 12

sum = 15
```

- Parameters should have a different sequence of parameters.

add(int a, double b)
add(double a, int b)

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

void add(int a, double b)
{
    cout<<"sum = "<<(a+b);
}

void  add(double a, int b)
{
    cout<<endl<<"sum = "<<(a+b);
}

// Driver code
int main()
{
    add(10,2.5);
    add(5.5,6);

      return 0;
}
```

Output

```
sum = 12.5

sum = 11.5
```

Default Arguments in C++

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

// A function with default arguments,
// it can be called with
// 2 arguments or 3 arguments or 4 arguments.
int sum(int x, int y, int z = 0, int w = 0) //assigning default
values to z,w as 0
{
    return (x + y + z + w);
}

// Driver Code
int main()
{
    // Statement 1
    cout << sum(10, 15) << endl;

    // Statement 2
    cout << sum(10, 15, 25) << endl;
// Statement 3
    cout << sum(10, 15, 25, 30) << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
25

50

80
```

C++ function

C++ Recursion

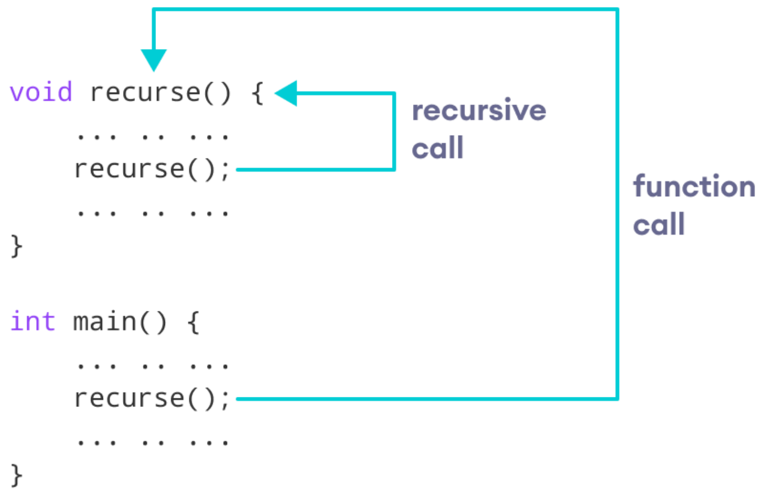
A function that calls itself is known as a recursive function. And, this technique is known as recursion.

Working of Recursion in C++

```
void recurse()
{
    ... .. ...
    recurse();
    ... .. ...
}

int main()
{
    ... .. ...
    recurse();
    ... .. ...
}
```

The figure below shows how recursion works by calling itself over and over again.

C++ function


```
void recurse() {
    ... .. ...
    recurse();
    ... .. ...
}

int main() {
    ... .. ...
    recurse();
    ... .. ...
}
```

Example 1: Factorial of a Number Using Recursion

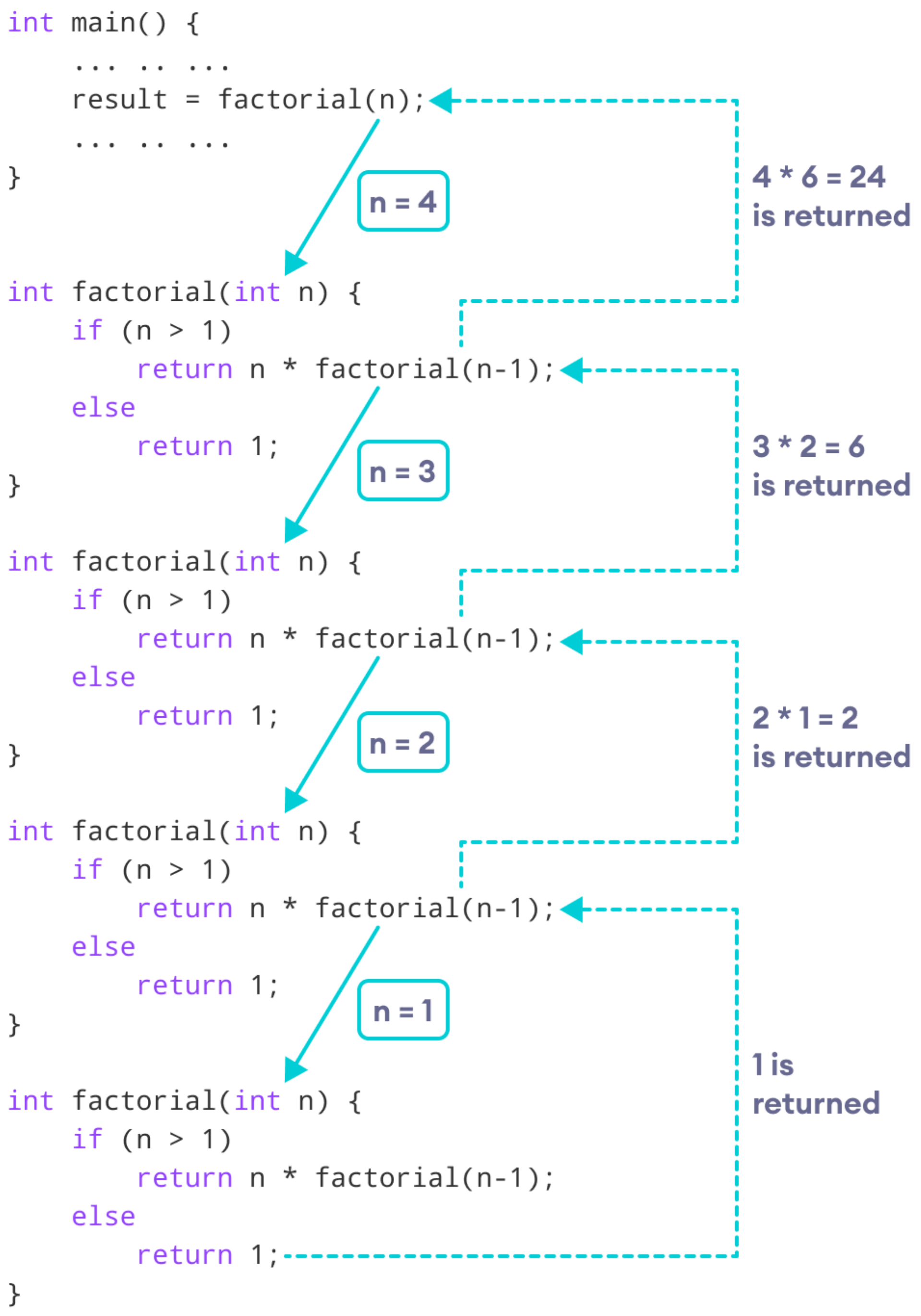
```
// Factorial of n = 1*2*3*...*n

#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int factorial(int);

int main() {
    int n, result;

    cout << "Enter a non-negative number: ";
    cin >> n;

    result = factorial(n);
    cout << "Factorial of " << n << " = " << result;
    return 0;
}

int factorial(int n) {
    if (n > 1) {
        return n * factorial(n - 1);
    } else {
        return 1;
    }
}
```

Output

```
Enter a non-negative number: 4
Factorial of 4 = 24
```

Working of Factorial Program

C++ function



```
int main() {
    ... .. ...
    result = factorial(n);
    ... .. ...
}

int factorial(int n) {
    if (n > 1)
        return n * factorial(n-1);
    else
        return 1;
}

int factorial(int n) {
    if (n > 1)
        return n * factorial(n-1);
    else
        return 1;
}

int factorial(int n) {
    if (n > 1)
        return n * factorial(n-1);
    else
        return 1;
}

int factorial(int n) {
    if (n > 1)
        return n * factorial(n-1);
    else
        return 1;
}
```

C++ function