Operators

An operator is a symbol that operates on a value or a variable. For example: + is an operator to perform addition.

Arithmetic Operators

An arithmetic operator performs mathematical operations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, division etc on numerical values (constants and variables).

Operator	Meaning of Operator
+	addition or unary plus
-	subtraction or unary minus
*	multiplication
/	division
%	remainder after division (modulo division)

Example 1: Arithmetic Operators

```
// Working of arithmetic operators
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 9,b = 4, c;

   c = a+b;
   printf("a+b = %d \n",c);
   c = a-b;
   printf("a-b = %d \n",c);
   c = a*b;
   printf("a*b = %d \n",c);
   c = a/b;
   printf("a/b = %d \n",c);
```

```
    c = a%b;
    printf("Remainder when a divided by b = %d \n",c);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
a+b = 13
a-b = 5
a*b = 36
a/b = 2
```

Remainder when a divided by b=1

The operators +, - and * computes addition, subtraction, and multiplication respectively as you might have expected.

In normal calculation, 9/4 = 2.25. However, the output is 2 in the program.

It is because both the variables a and b are integers. Hence, the output is also an integer. The compiler neglects the term after the decimal point and shows answer 2 instead of 2.25.

The modulo operator % computes the remainder. When a=9 is divided by b=4, the remainder is 1. The % operator can only be used with integers.

Suppose a = 5.0, b = 2.0, c = 5 and d = 2. Then in C programming,

```
// Either one of the operands is a floating-point number
a/b = 2.5
a/d = 2.5
c/b = 2.5

// Both operands are integers
c/d = 2
```

Increment and Decrement Operators

C programming has two operators increment ++ and decrement -- to change the value of an operand (constant or variable) by 1.

Increment ++ increases the value by 1 whereas decrement -- decreases the value by 1. These two operators are unary operators, meaning they only operate on a single operand.

Example 2: Increment and Decrement Operators

```
// Working of increment and decrement operators
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 10, b = 100;
   float c = 10.5, d = 100.5;

   printf("++a = %d \n", ++a);
   printf("--b = %d \n", --b);
   printf("++c = %f \n", ++c);
   printf("--d = %f \n", --d);

   return 0;
}
```

Output

```
++a = 11
--b = 99
++c = 11.500000
--d = 99.500000
```

Here, the operators ++ and -- are used as prefixes. These two operators can also be used as postfixes like a++ and a--..

Assignment Operators

An assignment operator is used for assigning a value to a variable. The most common assignment operator is =

Operator	Example	Same as
=	a = b	a = b
+=	a += b	a = a+b

-=	a -= b	a = a-b
*=	a *= b	a = a*b
/=	a /= b	a = a/b
%=	a %= b	a = a%b

Example 3: Assignment Operators

```
// Working of assignment operators
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 5, c;

   c = a;      // c is 5
   printf("c = %d\n", c);
   c += a;     // c is 10
   printf("c = %d\n", c);
   c -= a;     // c is 5
   printf("c = %d\n", c);
   c *= a;     // c is 25
   printf("c = %d\n", c);
   c /= a;     // c is 5
   printf("c = %d\n", c);
   c %= a;     // c = 0
   printf("c = %d\n", c);

   return 0;
}
```

Output

```
c = 5
c = 10
c = 5
c = 25
```

c = 5
c = 0

Relational Operators

A relational operator checks the relationship between two operands. If the relation is true, it returns 1; if the relation is false, it returns value 0.
Relational operators are used in decision making and loops.

Operator	Meaning of Operator	Example
==	Equal to	5 == 3 is evaluated to 0
>	Greater than	5 > 3 is evaluated to 1
<	Less than	5 < 3 is evaluated to 0
!=	Not equal to	5 != 3 is evaluated to 1
>=	Greater than or equal to	5 >= 3 is evaluated to 1
<=	Less than or equal to	5 <= 3 is evaluated to 0

Example 4: Relational Operators

```
// Working of relational operators
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 5, b = 5, c = 10;

   printf("%d == %d is %d \n", a, b, a == b);
   printf("%d == %d is %d \n", a, c, a == c);
   printf("%d > %d is %d \n", a, b, a > b);
   printf("%d > %d is %d \n", a, c, a > c);
   printf("%d < %d is %d \n", a, b, a < b);
   printf("%d < %d is %d \n", a, c, a < c);
   printf("%d != %d is %d \n", a, b, a != b);
```

```
    printf("%d != %d is %d \n", a, c, a != c);
    printf("%d >= %d is %d \n", a, b, a >= b);
    printf("%d >= %d is %d \n", a, c, a >= c);
    printf("%d <= %d is %d \n", a, b, a <= b);
    printf("%d <= %d is %d \n", a, c, a <= c);

    return 0;
}
```

Output

```
5 == 5 is 1
5 == 10 is 0
5 > 5 is 0
5 > 10 is 0
5 < 5 is 0
5 < 10 is 1
5 != 5 is 0
5 != 10 is 1
5 >= 5 is 1
5 >= 10 is 0
5 <= 5 is 1
5 <= 10 is 1
```

Logical Operators

An expression containing a logical operator returns either 0 or 1 depending upon whether the expression results true or false. Logical operators are commonly used in decision making in C programming.

Operator	Meaning	Example
&&	Logical AND. True only if all operands are true	If c = 5 and d = 2 then, expression ((c==5) && (d>5)) equals to 0.

||	Logical OR. True only if either one operand is true	If c = 5 and d = 2 then, expression ((c==5) || (d>5)) equals to 1.
!	Logical NOT. True only if the operand is 0	If c = 5 then, expression !(c==5) equals to 0.

Example 5: Logical Operators

```
// Working of logical operators

#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 5, b = 5, c = 10, result;

   result = (a == b) && (c > b);
   printf("(a == b) && (c > b) is %d \n", result);

   result = (a == b) && (c < b);
   printf("(a == b) && (c < b) is %d \n", result);

   result = (a == b) || (c < b);
   printf("(a == b) || (c < b) is %d \n", result);

   result = (a != b) || (c < b);
   printf("(a != b) || (c < b) is %d \n", result);

   result = !(a != b);
   printf("!(a != b) is %d \n", result);

   result = !(a == b);
   printf("!(a == b) is %d \n", result);

   return 0;
}
```

Output

(a == b) && (c > b) is 1
(a == b) && (c < b) is 0
(a == b) || (c < b) is 1
(a != b) || (c < b) is 0
!(a != b) is 1
!(a == b) is 0

Explanation of logical operator program

- (a == b) && (c > 5) evaluates to 1 because both operands (a == b) and (c > b) is 1 (true).
- (a == b) && (c < b) evaluates to 0 because operand (c < b) is 0 (false).
- (a == b) || (c < b) evaluates to 1 because (a = b) is 1 (true).
- (a != b) || (c < b) evaluates to 0 because both operand (a != b) and (c < b) are 0 (false).
- !(a != b) evaluates to 1 because operand (a != b) is 0 (false). Hence, !(a != b) is 1 (true).
- !(a == b) evaluates to 0 because (a == b) is 1 (true). Hence, !(a == b) is 0 (false).

Bitwise Operators

During computation, mathematical operations like: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, etc are converted to bit-level which makes processing faster and saves power.

Bitwise operators are used in C programming to perform bit-level operations.

Operators	Meaning of operators
&	Bitwise AND
|	Bitwise OR
^	Bitwise exclusive OR
~	Bitwise complement
<<	Shift left
>>	Shift right

Bitwise AND operator &

The output of bitwise AND is 1 if the corresponding bits of two operands is 1. If either bit of an operand is 0, the result of the corresponding bit is evaluated to 0.

Let us suppose the bitwise AND operation of two integers 12 and 25.

12 = 00001100 (In Binary)

25 = 00011001 (In Binary)

Bit Operation of 12 and 25

```
  00001100
& 00011001
  ________
  00001000  = 8 (In decimal)
```

Example #1: Bitwise AND

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 12, b = 25;
   printf("Output = %d", a&b);
   return 0;
}
```

Output

Output = 8

Bitwise OR operator |

The output of bitwise OR is 1 if at least one corresponding bit of two operands is 1. In C Programming, bitwise OR operator is denoted by |.

12 = 00001100 (In Binary)

25 = 00011001 (In Binary)

Bitwise OR Operation of 12 and 25

```
  00001100
| 00011001
  ________
  00011101  = 29 (In decimal)
```

Example #2: Bitwise OR

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 12, b = 25;
   printf("Output = %d", a|b);
   return 0;
}
```

Output

Output = 29

Bitwise XOR (exclusive OR) operator ^

The result of the bitwise XOR operator is 1 if the corresponding bits of two operands are opposite. It is denoted by ^.

12 = 00001100 (In Binary)

25 = 00011001 (In Binary)

Bitwise XOR Operation of 12 and 25

```
  00001100
^ 00011001
  ________
  00010101  = 21 (In decimal)
```

Example #3: Bitwise XOR

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a = 12, b = 25;
   printf("Output = %d", a^b);
   return 0;
}
```

Output

Output = 21

Bitwise complement operator ~

Bitwise complement operator is an unary operator (works on only one operand). It changes 1 to 0 and 0 to 1. It is denoted by ~.

35 = 00100011 (In Binary)

Bitwise complement Operation of 35

~ 00100011

_____

11011100 = 220 (In decimal)

Twist in bitwise complement operator in C Programming

The bitwise complement of 35 (~35) is -36 instead of 220, but why?

For any integer n, bitwise complement of n will be -(n+1). To understand this, you should have the knowledge of 2's complement.

2's Complement

Two's complement is an operation on binary numbers. The 2's complement of a number is equal to the complement of that number plus 1. For example:

Decimal	Binary	2's complement
0	00000000	-(11111111+1) = -00000000 = -0(decimal)
1	00000001	-(11111110+1) = -11111111 = -256(decimal)
12	00001100	-(11110011+1) = -11110100 = -244(decimal)
220	11011100	-(00100011+1) = -00100100 = -36(decimal)

Note: Overflow is ignored while computing 2's complement.

The bitwise complement of 35 is 220 (in decimal). The 2's complement of 220 is -36. Hence, the output is -36 instead of 220.

Bitwise complement of any number N is -(N+1). Here's how:

bitwise complement of N = ~N (represented in 2's complement form)

2'complement of ~N= -(~(~N)+1) = -(N+1)

Example #4: Bitwise complement

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   printf("Output = %d\n",~35);
   printf("Output = %d\n",~-12);
   return 0;
}
```

Output
Output = -36
Output = 11

Shift Operators

There are two shift operators in C programming:

- Right shift operator
- Left shift operator.

Right Shift Operator

Right shift operator shifts all bits towards the right by a certain number of specified bits. It is denoted by >>.

212 = 11010100 (In binary)
212>>2 = 00110101 (In binary) [Right shift by two bits]
212>>7 = 00000001 (In binary)
212>>8 = 00000000
212>>0 = 11010100 (No Shift)

Left Shift Operator

Left shift operator shifts all bits towards the left by a certain number of specified bits. The bit positions that have been vacated by the left shift operator are filled with 0. The symbol of the left shift operator is <<.

212 = 11010100 (In binary)
212<<1 = 110101000 (In binary) [Left shift by one bit]
212<<0 = 11010100 (Shift by 0)
212<<4 = 110101000000 (In binary) =3392(In decimal)

Example #5: Shift Operators

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int num=212, i;
   for (i=0; i<=2; ++i)
      printf("Right shift by %d: %d\n", i, num>>i);

    printf("\n");

    for (i=0; i<=2; ++i)
      printf("Left shift by %d: %d\n", i, num<<i);

    return 0;
}
```

Right Shift by 0: 212
Right Shift by 1: 106
Right Shift by 2: 53

Left Shift by 0: 212
Left Shift by 1: 424
Left Shift by 2: 848

Other Operators

Comma Operator

Comma operators are used to link related expressions together.

For example:

```
int a, c = 5, d;
```

The sizeof operator

The sizeof is a unary operator that returns the size of data (constants, variables, array, structure, etc).

Example 6: sizeof Operator

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int a;
   float b;
   double c;
   char d;
   printf("Size of int=%lu bytes\n",sizeof(a));
   printf("Size of float=%lu bytes\n",sizeof(b));
   printf("Size of double=%lu bytes\n",sizeof(c));
   printf("Size of char=%lu byte\n",sizeof(d));

   return 0;
}
```

Output

```
Size of int = 4 bytes
Size of float = 4 bytes
Size of double = 8 bytes
Size of char = 1 byte
```

Operator Precedence in C

In between operators, some have higher precedence and some have lower precedence. For example, Division has a higher precedence than subtraction operator.

Operator Precedence determines how the expression is evaluated.

Category	Operator	Associativity
Postfix	() [] -> . ++ – –	Left to right
Unary	+ – ! ~ ++ – – (type)* & sizeof	Right to left
Multiplicative	* / %	Left to right
Additive	+ –	Left to right
Shift	<< >>	Left to right
Relational	< <= > >=	Left to right
Equality	== !=	Left to right
Bitwise AND	&	Left to right
Bitwise XOR	^	Left to right
Bitwise OR	|	Left to right

Logical AND	&&	Left to right
Logical OR	||	Left to right
Conditional	?:	Right to left
Assignment	= += -= *= /= %=>>= <<= &= ^= |=	Right to left
Comma	,	Left to right