Identifiers

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1B - Identifiers (author: Tao Yue, state: changed)

Identifiers are names that allow you to reference stored values, such as variables and constants. Also, every program must be identified (get it?) by an identifier.

Rules for identifiers:

- Must begin with a letter from the English alphabet or an underscore (_).
- Can be followed by alphanumeric characters (alphabetic characters and numerals), or the underscore (_).
- May not contain special characters, such as:

```
 ~ ! @ # $ % ^ & * ( ) + ` - = { } [ ] : " ; ' < > ? , . / | \
```

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Reserved words

Several identifiers are reserved in Pascal -- you cannot use them as your own identifiers. According to the FPC Reference they are grouped in:

- Turbo Pascal reserved words
- Delphi reserved words
- FPC reserved words

Turbo Pascal reserved words

absolute	**and**	**array**	**asm**	**begin**	**break**	**case**	**const**
constructor	**continue**	**destructor**	**div**	**do**	**downto**	**else**	**end**
file	**for**	**function**	**goto**	**if**	**implementation**	**in**	**inherited**
inline	**interface**	**label**	**mod**	**nil**	**not**	**object**	**of**
on	**operator**	**or**	**packed**	**procedure**	**program**	**record**	**reintroduce**
repeat	**self**	**set**	**shl**	**shr**	**string**	**then**	**to**
type	**unit**	**until**	**uses**	**var**	**while**	**with**	**xor**

Delphi reserved words

The Delphi (II) reserved words are the same as the pascal ones, plus the following ones:

as	**class**	**except**	**exports**	**finalization**	**finally**	**initialization**
is	**library**	**on**	**property**	**raise**	**threadvar**	**try**

Free Pascal reserved words

On top of the Turbo Pascal and Delphi reserved words, Free Pascal also considers the following as reserved words:

dispose	**exit**	**false**	**new**	**true**

Also, Pascal has several pre-defined identifiers. You can replace them with your own definitions, but then you'd be deleting part of the functionality of Pascal.

abs	**arctan**	**boolean**	**char**	**cos**	**dispose**	**eof**	**eoln**
exp	**false**	**input**	**integer**	**ln**	**maxint**	**new**	**odd**
ord	**output**	**pack**	**page**	**pred**	**read**	**readln**	**real**
reset	**rewrite**	**round**	**sin**	**sqr**	**sqrt**	**succ**	**text**
true	**trunc write**	**writeln**					

Pascal is not case sensitive! MyProgram, MYPROGRAM, and mYpRoGrAm are equivalent. But for readability purposes, it is a good idea to use meaningful capitalization!

Identifiers can be any length, but many Pascal compilers will only look at the first 32 characters or so. That is,

```
     ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFAlphaBeta
     ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZABCDEFGammaDelta
```

may be equivalent to some Pascal compilers because the differences begin in the 33rd character. Free Pascal limits identifiers to 127 characters

To make your code compilable by all compilers, use a reasonable length for identifiers -- up to 15 characters. That way, you'll also save on typing.

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