








Mentor Bro Notes

Topics in C Programming




1. Introduction to C

-  What is C?
 -  History and Features of C
 -  Applications of C
 -  Writing Your First C Program
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2. Structure of a C Program

-  `#include`, `main()` Function
 -  Statements and Blocks
 -  Compiling and Executing a C Program
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3. Data Types and Variables

-  Basic Data Types: `int`, `float`, `char`, `double`, etc.
 -  Declaring and Initializing Variables
 -  Constants (`const` and `#define`)
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4. Operators in C

-  Arithmetic, Relational, Logical, and Bitwise Operators
 -  Increment and Decrement
 -  Assignment and Compound Assignment Operators
 -  Operator Precedence and Associativity
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5. Control Flow Statements

-  **if, else if, else**
 -  **switch Statements**
 -  **Loops:** `for`, `while`, and `do...while`
 -  **break** and  **continue**
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6. Functions

-  **Function Declaration, Definition, and Calling**
 -  **Passing Arguments by Value and by Reference**
 -  **Recursion**
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7. Arrays and Strings

-  **Single and Multidimensional Arrays**
 -  **String Handling Using Arrays**
 -  **Common String Functions:** `strlen`, `strcpy`, `strcmp`, etc.
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8. Pointers

-  **Basics of Pointers**
 -  **Pointer Arithmetic**
 -  **Pointers and Arrays**
 -  **Pointers to Functions**
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9. Structures and Unions

-  **Declaring and Using Structures**
 -  **Array of Structures**
 -  **Difference Between Structures and Unions**
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10. File Handling 📁✍️

- 📖 Opening, Reading, and Writing Files
 - 🚀 Modes: `r`, `w`, `a`, etc.
 - ✂️ Working with `fscanf`, `fprintf`, `fgetc`, and `fputc`
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11. Dynamic Memory Allocation 🧠

- 💾 `malloc`, `calloc`, `realloc`, and `free`
 - ⚠️ Memory Management and Pitfalls
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12. Preprocessor Directives 📄

- ✍️ Macros, `#define`, and `#include`
 - ⚙️ Conditional Compilation: `#if`, `#else`, `#endif`
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13. Error Handling 🐉

- ❌ Types of Errors: Syntax, Runtime, and Logical
 - ✂️ Debugging Tips
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14. Advanced Topics 🚀

- 🎯 Function Pointers
- 💻 Command-Line Arguments
- 🔗 Working with Linked Lists
- 📊 Introduction to Data Structures in C

Important topics with explanation for beginners




1. Algorithm

An **algorithm** is a step-by-step method to solve a problem logically and systematically. It is the foundation for coding because it defines the flow before implementation.

Example Algorithm: Finding the Sum of Two Numbers

- 1 Start
- 2 Input two numbers (A, B)
- 3 Calculate the sum: $Sum = A + B$
- 4 Display the sum
- 5 End





Advantages of Algorithms

-  **Systematic Approach:** Ensures problem-solving clarity.
-  **Logic Building:** Helps break problems into manageable steps.
-  **Ease of Debugging:** Errors can be identified in logical steps.

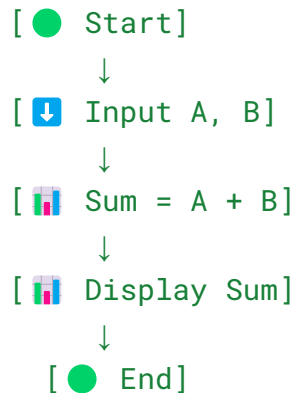
2. Flowchart

A **flowchart** is a graphical representation of an algorithm using symbols. It visualizes the steps in a process, making logic easier to understand.

Flowchart Symbols

Symbol	Meaning
 Oval	Start/End
 Rectangle	Process (e.g., calculations)
 Diamond	Decision (Yes/No, True/False)
 Arrow	Flow Direction

Flowchart Example for Adding Two Numbers



3. Conditional Statements

Conditional statements allow a program to execute specific blocks of code based on conditions.

Types of Conditional Statements in C

1 If Statement

Executes code only if the condition is true.

```
if (x > 0) {  
    printf("Positive number");  
}
```

2 If-Else Statement

Executes one block for true and another for false.

```
if (x > 0) {  
    printf("Positive");  
} else {  
    printf("Non-positive");  
}
```

3 If-Else Ladder

Evaluates multiple conditions sequentially.

```
if (x > 0) {
```

```
    printf("Positive");
} else if (x < 0) {
    printf("Negative");
} else {
    printf("Zero");
}
```

4 Nested If

Contains an if inside another if.

```
if (x > 0) {
    if (x % 2 == 0) {
        printf("Positive Even");
    }
}
```

5 Switch Case

Handles multiple fixed conditions.

```
switch (choice) {
    case 1: printf("Option 1"); break;
    case 2: printf("Option 2"); break;
    default: printf("Invalid");
}
```

4. Loops in C

Loops allow repetition of a block of code multiple times.

Types of Loops

1 While Loop

Executes while the condition is true.

```
int i = 0;
while (i < 5) {
    printf("%d ", i);
    i++;
}
```

```
}
```

2 For Loop 🎯

Executes a fixed number of times.

```
for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
    printf("%d ", i);  
}
```

3 Do-While Loop 🔁

Executes at least once, checking the condition after the first run.

```
int i = 0;  
do {  
    printf("%d ", i);  
    i++;  
} while (i < 5);
```

5. Arrays 📄

An **array** is a collection of elements of the same type stored in contiguous memory locations.

Types of Arrays

1 1D Array

A single row of elements.

```
int arr[5] = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5};
```

- **Access:** `arr[2]` returns 3.

2 2D Array

Elements stored in rows and columns (matrix).





```
int arr[2][3] = {{1, 2, 3}, {4, 5, 6}};
```

- **Access:** `arr[1][2]` returns 6.

6. Variables and Data Types

A **variable** is a named location in memory to store data.

Data types define the type of data a variable can hold.

Data Type	Description	Example
 int	Stores whole numbers	<code>int x = 10;</code>
 float	Stores decimal numbers	<code>float y = 3.14;</code>
 char	Stores a single character	<code>char c = 'A';</code>
 char[]	Stores strings	<code>char name[] = "John";</code>

7. Pointers

A **pointer** is a variable that stores the memory address of another variable.

Example

```
int a = 10;
int *ptr = &a; // Pointer storing the address of 'a'
```



- **ptr** points to **a**'s address.
- Access **a**'s value indirectly using ***ptr**.

Feature	Variable	Pointer
Stores	A value	Address of a variable
Access	Directly	Indirectly via *

8. Functions

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









Types of Functions

-  **Built-in Functions:** Predefined, like `printf()` and `scanf()`.
-  **User-Defined Functions:** Created by programmers.

Example Function

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

Summary Table

Concept	Key Points
 Algorithm	Logical steps to solve a problem
 Flowchart	Visual representation of an algorithm
 Conditional	Control logic (<code>If-Else</code> , <code>Switch</code>)
 Loops	Repeat actions (<code>For</code> , <code>While</code> , <code>Do-While</code>)
 Arrays	1D and 2D collections of the same data types
 Variables	Store values in memory
 Pointers	Store addresses of variables
 Functions	Reusable blocks of code

This document provides a **complete understanding of C concepts** with theory, examples, differences, and comparisons. 

