



Computer Memory Unit

Transistors:

Transistors are the main component of the microchips used in computers. Computers operate on a binary system, which uses only two digits: 0 and 1. In a computer microchip, transistors act as switches, letting current through to represent the binary digit 1, or cutting it off to represent 0. All the data is stored in these transistors only.

Transistor stores 1 bit i.e., either 0 or 1. Therefore, the smallest unit is 1 bit.

(2°) 1 bit = binary (2³) 8 bits = 1 Bytes (2¹°) 1024 Bytes = 1 KB (2¹°) 1024 KB = 1 MB (2¹°) 1024 MB = 1 GB (2¹°) 1024 GB = 1 TB (2¹°) 1024 TB = 1 PB

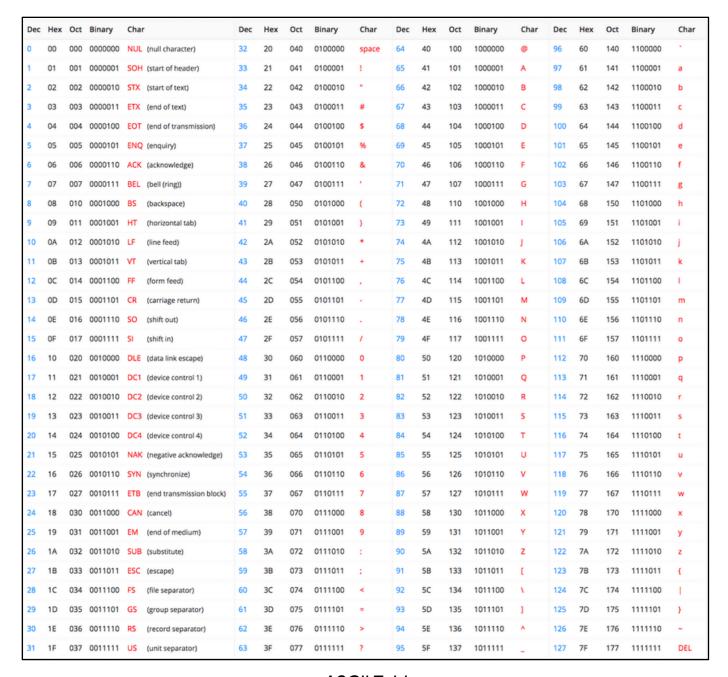
For example, if we want to store **4** in our computer. We'll first of all convert **4** into its binary form i.e., **100** then this binary form will be sent to transistor to store in computer. Similarly, we can do for any number.

But let's say, if we want to store A in our computer then how can we store it?

To convert **A** directly to binary format, there's no direct method to convert it in binary format. Therefore, to resolve this, computer scientists thought to assign each character with a unique number. This unique number can be converted to binary format and sent to transistor and so we can store **A** in our computer.

Computer Scientists across the globe agreed to this mechanism which led to the formation of **ASCII** (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) Table which allocates very character with a unique number.

We can form our own language, for that we should have the knowledge of compiler that, how shall that language be created.



ASCII Table

Variables:

Variables are a name given to a memory location. It is the basic unit of storage in a program.

Rules For Declaring Variable:

- The name of the variable contains letters, digits, and underscores.
- The name of the variable is case sensitive (ex Arr and arr both are different variables).
- The name of the variable does not contain any whitespace and special characters (ex-#, \$, %, *, etc.).
- All variable names must begin with a letter of the alphabet or an underscore (_).
- We cannot used C++ keyword (ex-float, double, class) as a variable name.

Datatypes:

While writing code we use **numbers**, **alphabets**, **words**, **decimal numbers** and **gestures**. For each category a specific **datatype** is assigned so that our computer can understand for which category we are talking about.

- 1. **int:** Numbers are recognized via **int** datatype.
 - Ex: int name = 10; Here 'int' is the datatype, 'name' is variable, '=' is the assignment operator and '10' is the value. In simple words, 'name' is a variable whose datatype is 'int' and which has value equal to '10'.
 - The value '10' is stored in binary format in the memory i.e., **1010**.
 - It allocates 4 Bytes in the memory i.e., 32 bits in the memory.

 - To store a large number which **int** cannot fit we use **long int**, it allocates a memory of **8 Bytes** in the memory i.e., **64 bits** in the memory.
- 2. char: Alphabets are recognized via char datatype.
 - Ex: char c = 'a'; Here 'char' is the datatype, 'c' is variable, '=' is the assignment operator and "a" is the value. In simple words, 'c' is a variable whose datatype is 'char' and which has value equal to 'a'. The values of char are always stored inside the single quotes (").
 - The value 'a' is stored in binary format in the memory i.e., 1100001 -> (97).
 - It allocates 1 Byte in the memory i.e., 8 bits in the memory.
 - 0110001=>97 which is the ASCII value of 'a'.
 - char c = 'da'; -> this is not allowed as only single character is stored in char.
- 3. float: Decimal numbers with less precision are recognized via float datatype.
 - Ex: float c = 1.28; Here 'float' is the datatype, 'f' is variable, '=' is the assignment operator and '1.28' is the value. In simple words, 'f' is a variable whose datatype is 'float' and which has value equal to '1.28'.
 - It allocates 4 Bytes in the memory i.e., 32 bits in the memory.
- 4. **double:** Decimal numbers with more precision are recognized via **double** datatype.
 - Ex: double d = '1.245'; Here 'double' is the datatype, 'd' is variable, '=' is the assignment operator and '1.245' is the value. In simple words, 'd' is a variable whose datatype is 'double' and which has value equal to '1.245'.
 - It allocates 8 Bytes in the memory i.e., 64 bits in the memory.

<u>Note:</u> We should choose the datatype efficiently for storing the numbers/decimal numbers so that optimum amount of memory is used.

- 5. **bool:** To store only '0' or '1'/ 'true' or 'false', it is recognized via **bool** datatype.
 - Ex: bool b = true; Here 'bool' is the datatype, 'b' is variable, '=' is the assignment operator and 'true' is the value. In simple words, 'b' is a variable whose datatype is 'bool' and which has value equal to 'true'.
 - It allocates 1 Byte in the memory i.e., 8 bits in the memory.

Negative - Positive Integer Storage:

An integer takes 32 bits of storage, therefore maximum numbers which it can store is 2³². Computer Scientists decided to give half of the bits to positive numbers and rest half to negative numbers. To distinguish that which number is positive and which number is negative, scientists decided that if the 1st bit is 0 then the number is positive and if the 1st bit is 1 then the number is negative. A conflict occurred for number 0 that where to keep this number whether in positive half or negative half. They decided to keep 0 in the positive half.

So, for example if we want to convert -2 to binary, it does in two steps:

• Find 1's complement (interchanging 0 with 1 and 1 with 0) of binary form of number 2 -> 0 10 1st bit.

1's complement for number 2 -> 101

Find 2's complement (add 1) of converted number 1 0 1.
2's complement for converted number -> 1 1 0 = -2

Therefore, the range of int to store numbers is $-2^{31} < -> 2^{31} - 1$.