

DD. Unspecified Behavior

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According to the C Standard, Annex J, J.1 [ISO/IEC 9899:2011], the behavior of a program is [unspecified](#) in the circumstances outlined the following table. The descriptions of unspecified behaviors in the "Description" column are direct quotes from the standard. The parenthesized numbers refer to the subclause of the C Standard (C11) that identifies the unspecified behavior. The "Guideline" column in the table identifies the coding practices that address the specific case of unspecified behavior (USB).

| USB | Description | Guideline |
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| 1 | The manner and timing of static initialization (5.1.2). | |
| 2 | The termination status returned to the hosted environment if the return type of <code>main</code> is not compatible with <code>int</code> (5.1.2.2.3). | |
| 3 | The values of objects that are neither lock-free atomic objects nor of type <code>volatile sig_atomic_t</code> and the state of the floating-point environment when the processing of the abstract machine is interrupted by receipt of a signal (5.1.2.3). | |
| 4 | The behavior of the display device if a printing character is written when the active position is at the final position of a line (5.2.2). | |
| 5 | The behavior of the display device if a backspace character is written when the active position is at the initial position of a line 5.2.2). | |
| 6 | The behavior of the display device if a horizontal tab character is written when the active position is at or past the last defined horizontal tabulation position (5.2.2). | |
| 7 | The behavior of the display device if a vertical tab character is written when the active position is at or past the last defined vertical tabulation position (5.2.2). | |
| 8 | How an extended source character that does not correspond to a universal character name counts toward the significant initial characters in an external identifier (5.2.4.1). | |
| 9 | Many aspects of the representations of types (6.2.6). | |
| 10 | The value of padding bytes when storing values in structures or unions (6.2.6.1). | |
| 11 | The values of bytes that correspond to union members other than the one last stored into (6.2.6.1). | EXP39-C |
| 12 | The representation used when storing a value in an object that has more than one object representation for that value (6.2.6.1). | |
| 13 | The values of any padding bits in integer representations (6.2.6.2). | |
| 14 | Whether certain operators can generate negative zeros and whether a negative zero becomes a normal zero when stored in an object (6.2.6.2). | |

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| 16 | The order in which subexpressions are evaluated and the order in which side effects take place, except as specified for the function-call <code>()</code> , <code>&&</code> , <code> </code> , <code>?:</code> , and comma operators (6.5). | EXP30-C |
| 17 | The order in which the function designator, arguments, and subexpressions within the arguments are evaluated in a function call (6.5.2.2). | |
| 18 | The order of side effects among compound literal initialization list expressions (6.5.2.5). | |
| 19 | The order in which the operands of an assignment operator are evaluated (6.5.16). | |
| 20 | The alignment of the addressable storage unit allocated to hold a bit-field (6.7.2.1). | |
| 21 | Whether a call to an inline function uses the inline definition or the external definition of the function (6.7.4). | |
| 22 | Whether or not a size expression is evaluated when it is part of the operand of a <code>sizeof</code> operator and changing the value of the size expression would not affect the result of the operator (6.7.6.2). | EXP44-C |
| 23 | The order in which any side effects occur among the initialization list expressions in an initializer (6.7.9). | |
| 24 | The layout of storage for function parameters (6.9.1). | |
| 25 | When a fully expanded macro replacement list contains a function-like macro name as its last preprocessing token and the next preprocessing token from the source file is a <code>(</code> , and the fully expanded replacement of that macro ends with the name of the first macro and the next preprocessing token from the source file is again a <code>(</code> , whether that is considered a nested replacement (6.10.3). | |
| 26 | The order in which <code>#</code> and <code>##</code> operations are evaluated during macro substitution (6.10.3.2, 6.10.3.3). | |
| 27 | The state of the floating-point status flags when execution passes from a part of the program translated with <code>FENV_ACCESS "off"</code> to a part translated with <code>FENV_ACCESS "on"</code> (7.6.1). | |
| 28 | The order in which <code>feraiseexcept</code> raises floating-point exceptions, except as stated in F.8.6 (7.6.2.3). | |
| 29 | Whether <code>math_errhandling</code> is a macro or an identifier with external linkage (7.12). | DCL37-C |
| 30 | The results of the <code>frexp</code> functions when the specified value is not a floating-point number (7.12.6.4). | |
| 31 | The numeric result of the <code>ilogb</code> functions when the correct value is outside the range of the return type (7.12.6.5, F.10.3.5). | |
| 32 | The result of rounding when the value is out of range (7.12.9.5, 7.12.9.7, F.10.6.5). | |
| 33 | The value stored by the <code>remquo</code> functions in the object pointed to by <code>quo</code> when <code>y</code> is zero (7.12.10.3). | |
| 34 | Whether a comparison macro argument that is represented in a format wider than its semantic type is converted to the semantic type (7.12.14). | |

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| 36 | Whether <code>va_copy</code> and <code>va_end</code> are macros or identifiers with external linkage (7.16.1). | DCL37-C |
| 37 | The hexadecimal digit before the decimal point when a non-normalized floating-point number is printed with an <code>a</code> or <code>A</code> conversion specifier (7.21.6.1, 7.29.2.1). | |
| 38 | The value of the file position indicator after a successful call to the <code>ungetc</code> function for a text stream, or the <code>ungetwc</code> function for any stream, until all pushed-back characters are read or discarded (7.21.7.10, 7.29.3.10). | |
| 39 | The details of the value stored by the <code>fgetpos</code> function (7.21.9.1). | |
| 40 | The details of the value returned by the <code>ftell</code> function for a text stream (7.21.9.4). | |
| 41 | Whether the <code>strtod</code> , <code>strtof</code> , <code>strtold</code> , <code>wcstod</code> , <code>wcstof</code> , and <code>wcstold</code> functions convert a minus-signed sequence to a negative number directly or by negating the value resulting from converting the corresponding unsigned sequence (7.22.1.3, 7.29.4.1.1). | |
| 42 | The order and contiguity of storage allocated by successive calls to the <code>calloc</code> , <code>malloc</code> , and <code>realloc</code> functions (7.22.3). | |
| 43 | The amount of storage allocated by a successful call to the <code>calloc</code> , <code>malloc</code> , and <code>realloc</code> function when 0 bytes was requested (7.22.3). | MEM04-C |
| 44 | Whether a call to the <code>atexit</code> function that does not happen before the <code>exit</code> function is called will succeed (7.22.4.2). | |
| 45 | Whether a call to the <code>at_quick_exit</code> function that does not happen before the <code>quick_exit</code> function is called will succeed (7.22.4.3). | |
| 46 | Which of two elements that compare as equal is matched by the <code>bsearch</code> function (7.22.5.1). | |
| 47 | The order of two elements that compare as equal in an array sorted by the <code>qsort</code> function (7.22.5.2). | |
| 48 | The encoding of the calendar time returned by the <code>time</code> function (7.27.2.4). | MSC05-C |
| 49 | The characters stored by the <code>strftime</code> or <code>wcsftime</code> function if any of the time values being converted is outside the normal range (7.27.3.5, 7.29.5.1). | |
| 50 | Whether an encoding error occurs if a <code>wchar_t</code> value that does not correspond to a member of the extended character set appears in the format string for a function in 7.29.2 or 7.29.5 and the specified semantics do not require that value to be processed by <code>wcrtomb</code> (7.29.1). | |
| 51 | The conversion state after an encoding error occurs (7.28.1.1, 7.28.1.2, 7.28.1.3, 7.28.1.4, 7.29.6.3.2, 7.29.6.3.3, 7.29.6.4.1, 7.29.6.4.2). | |
| 52 | The resulting value when the "invalid" floating-point exception is raised during IEC 60559 floating to integer conversion (F.4). | |
| 53 | Whether conversion of non-integer IEC 60559 floating values to integer raises the "inexact" floating-point exception (F.4). | |
| 54 | Whether or when library functions in <code><math.h></code> raise the "inexact" floating-point exception in an IEC 60559 conformant implementation (F.10). | |
| 55 | Whether or when library functions in <code><math.h></code> raise an undeserved "underflow" floating-point exception in an IEC 60559 conformant implementation (F.10). | |

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| 57 | The numeric result returned by the <code>lrint</code> , <code>llrint</code> , <code>lround</code> , and <code>llround</code> functions if the rounded value is outside the range of the return type (F.10.6.5, F.10.6.7). | |
| 58 | The sign of one part of the complex result of several math functions for certain exceptional values in IEC 60559 compatible implementations (G.6.1.1, G.6.2.2, G.6.2.3, G.6.2.4, G.6.2.5, G.6.2.6, G.6.3.1, G.6.4.2). | |



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