Pointer Array.md 2025-04-11



# Problem: **Dynamic Table Generator**

### Scenario

You're building a basic spreadsheet engine in C. Each column of the table can be a different data type: int, float, char, or double. Users can define how many columns and rows they want, and the type of each column.

Your task is to create a program that:

- 1. Dynamically creates a 2D table with rows and columns of varying data types.
- 2. Each column can be of a different type (like Excel or SQL).
- 3. Each cell is initialized with **random values** depending on its type.
- 4. The table is printed in a **formatted way**.
- 5. After use, all memory is properly freed.

### Requirements

- Use a Column struct to define each column's type and data.
- Use a Table struct to contain an array of columns and the row count.
- Support these types: 'i', 'f', 'd', 'c'
- Let the user define the number of columns, their types, and the number of rows.

### 🗯 Example:

For a table with:

- 3 columns: int, char, float
- 4 rows

#### You might print:

```
Row 0: 32 e 88.62
Row 1: 76 z 12.38
Row 2: 14 b 77.21
Row 3: 59 t 33.49
```

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## Structures

## Bonus Concepts You'll Practice

- Structs + dynamic memory
- Function pointers (if you want to get fancy with type handling)
- Abstracting memory access
- Type casting
- Memory cleanup logic
- Possibly error-checking user input

## **%** Challenge Tasks

- 1. Create a function: Table\* createTable(int rows, int cols, char types[])
- 2. Fill each column with the correct type and random data
- 3. Write void printTable(Table\* t)
- 4. Write void freeTable(Table\* t) to free all allocated memory
- 5. (Optional) Allow saving/loading the table from a file in binary or CSV