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All of these functions read a character from input and return an integer value.

The integer is returned to accommodate a special value used to indicate failure.

The value EOF is generally used for this purpose.

getc():

It reads a single character from a given input stream and returns the corresponding integer value (typically ASCII value of read character) on success. It returns EOF on failure.

Syntax:

```
int getc(FILE *stream);
```

Example:

```
// Example for getc() in C
#include <stdio.h>
int main()

printf("%c", getc(stdin));
return(0);
}
```

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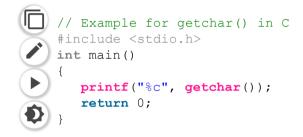
getchar():

The difference between getc() and getchar() is getc() can read from any input stream, but getchar() reads from standard input. So getchar() is equivalent to getc(stdin).

Syntax:

```
int getchar(void);
```

Example:



```
Input: g(press enter key)
Output: g
```

getch():

getch() is a nonstandard function and is present in conio.h header file which is mostly used by MS-DOS compilers like Turbo C. It is not part of the C standard library or ISO C, nor is it defined by POSIX (Source:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conio.h)

Like above functions, it reads also a single character from keyboard. But it does not use any buffer, so the entered character is immediately returned without waiting for the enter key.

Syntax:

```
int getch();
```

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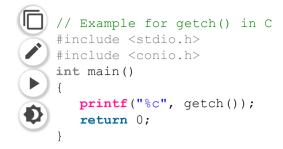
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```
Input: g (Without enter key)
Output: Program terminates immediately.
But when you use DOS shell in Turbo C,
it shows a single g, i.e., 'g'
```

getche()

Like getch(), this is also a non-standard function present in conio.h. It reads a single character from the keyboard and displays immediately on output screen without waiting for enter key.

Syntax:

```
int getche(void);
```

Example:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
// Example for getche() in C
int main()
{
    printf("%c", getche());
    return 0;
}
```

This article is contributed by **Vankayala Karunakar**. Please write comments if you find anything incorrect, or you want to share more information about the topic discussed above.

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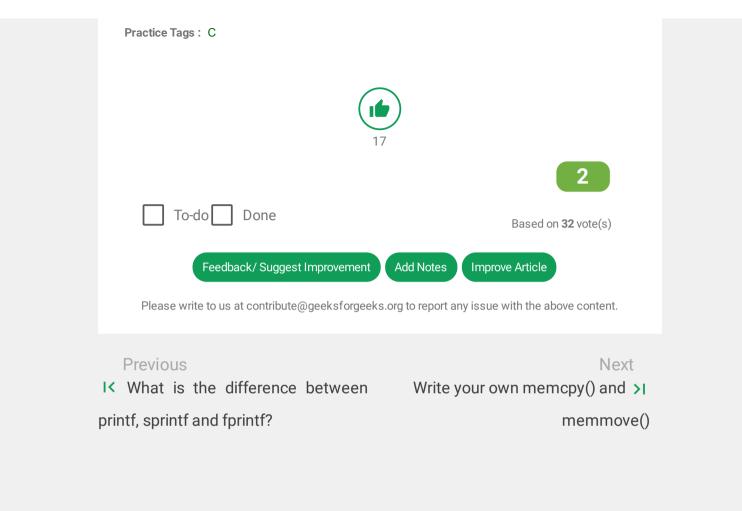
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