



Defining a Function

Learn how to define your own function in C++.

We'll cover the following



- Function definition
 - function_body
 - Main function
 - Anatomy of the main function
 - Example program
 - Explanation

Function definition#

A function's definition tells what a function will do when it is called. The basic syntax for defining a function in C++ is:

```
return_type function_name ( function_parameters )  
{  
    function_body  
}
```

We have already discussed the `return_type`, `function_name`, and `function_parameters` in the previous lesson

(<https://www.educative.io/collection/page/10370001/6619096843026432/60923>)

18063984640). Let's discuss the `function_body`.




function_body

A function body consists of a group of statements that do a particular task. We write our function code inside the curly braces. Everything written inside the curly braces is what the function does when it is called.

Main function#

In the code below, you see the highlighted lines in every C++ program. If you look closely at these lines, you see that the `main()` is the function here. It is the point from where every C++ program starts its execution. Whenever the C++ program is executed, the operating system gives control to the `main` function.

 Every program in C++ must have a `main` function.

```
1 #include <iostream>
2 using namespace std;
3
4 int main() {
5     // your code goes here
6
7     return 0;
8 }
```



Anatomy of the `main` function#

`int` specifies that the `main` function returns an integer value in the output.

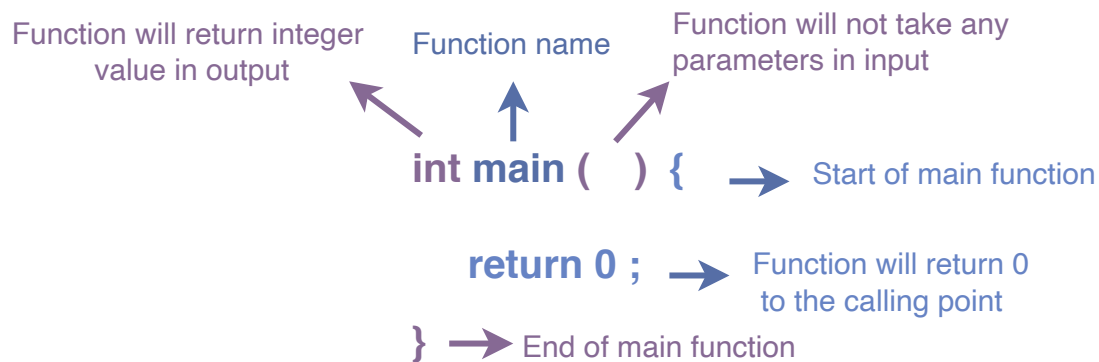
{ indicates the beginning of the `main` function.



`return 0` returns 0 to the calling point on the successful execution of the program.

Note: Adding a `return 0` statement in a program is not mandatory.

} indicates the end of the `main` function.



Example program#

Consider the blender example given in this lesson

(<https://www.educative.io/collection/page/10370001/6619096843026432/6348964841390080>). Let's declare and define a function `make_juice`.

```
1  #include <iostream>
2
3  using namespace std;
4  // Function declaration
5  int make_juice(int water, int fruit);
6
7  int main() {
8
9      return 0;
10
11 }
```



```
12
13 // Function definition
14 int make_juice(int water, int fruit) {
15     // Define new variable juice of int type
16     int juice;
17     // Adds water in apple and save output in juice
18     juice = water + fruit;
19     // Prints text on the screen
20     cout << "Your juice is ready" << endl;
21     // Returns juice value in output
22     return juice;
23
24 }
```



Explanation#

In the code above:

Line No. 5: Declares the function `make_juice`.

Lines No. 14 to 24: Defines function `make_juice`.

Line No. 14: `make_juice` is the name of the function. It takes the number of glasses of water and the number of fruits as input parameters. The function returns the number of juice glasses in the output.








Line No. 16: Declares a variable `juice`.

Line No. 18: Adds water in the fruit and saves the output in `juice`.

Line No. 20: Prints Your juice is ready to the console.

Line No. 22: Returns the number of glasses of juice in the output (Adding more fruit and water in the input returns a greater number of juice glasses in the output).



 **make_juice** ( , )
{
  =  +  + **blend** ;
 return  ;
}

Quiz



Q Define a function `number_sum` that takes the `num1` and `num2` in the input and returns their sum in output. `num1` and `num2` take integer values.

(You can select multiple correct answers)



(/learn)

Selected Option



A)

```
int number_sum (int num1 , int num2){  
    int sum = num1 + num2;  
    return sum;  
}
```






B)

```
int number_sum (int num1 , int num2){  
    return sum;  
}
```

Selected Option

Selected Option

 c)



```
int number_sum (int num1 , int num2){  
return num1 + num2;  
}
```

☐ D) All of the above

Submit Answer

Reset Quiz ↻

That's all about defining a function. Let's learn how a function is called in a program.

See you there!

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Declaring a Function

Calling a Function

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