



# C LANGUAGE

## PROGRAMMER'S INSTANT REFERENCE CARD

### INTRODUCTION

This card is a concise comprehensive reference for C language programmers and those learning C. It saves you time and lets you avoid cumbersome manuals.

The C programming language is becoming the standard language for developing both system and application programs. There are several reasons for its popularity. C is flexible with few restrictions on the programmer. C compilers produce fast and short machine code. And finally, C is the primary language used in the UNIX (trademark of AT&T Bell Laboratories) operating system (over 90% of the UNIX system is itself written in C). Because it is a popular "high level" language, it allows software to be used on many machines without being rewritten.

This card is organized so that you can keep your train of thought while programming in C (without stopping to flip thru a manual.) The result is fewer interruptions, more error-free code, and higher productivity.

The following notations are used: [ ] - enclosed item is optional; fn - function; rtn - return; ptd - pointer; ptr - pointer; TRUE - non-zero value; FALSE - zero value.

### BASIC DATA TYPES

TYPE	DESCRIPTION
char	Single character
double	Extended precision floating pt
float	Floating point
int	Integer
long int	Extended precision integer
short int	Reduced precision integer
unsigned char	Non-negative character
unsigned int	Non-negative integer
void	No type; used for fn declarations and 'ignoring' a value returned from a fn

### CONVERSION OF DATA TYPES

Before performing an arithmetic operation, operands are made consistent with each other by converting with this procedure:

1. All float operands are converted to double.
2. All char or short operands are converted to int.
3. If either operand is double, the other is converted to double. The result is double.
4. If either operand is long int, the other is converted to long int. The result is long int.
5. If either operand is unsigned, the other is converted to unsigned. The result is unsigned.
6. If this step is reached, both operands must be of type int. The result will be int.

### STATEMENT SUMMARY

STATEMENT	DESCRIPTION
break;	Terminates execution of for, while, do, or switch
continue;	Skips statements that follow in a do, for, or while; then continues executing the loop
do statement while ( expr );	Executes statement until expr is FALSE; statement is executed at least once
for ( e1; e2; e3 ) statement	Evaluates expression e1 once; then repeatedly evaluates e2, statement, and e3 (in that order) until e2 is FALSE; eg: for (i=1; i<=10; ++i) ...; note that statement might not be executed if e2 is FALSE on first evaluation
goto label;	Branches to statement preceded by label., which must be in same function as the goto
if ( expr ) statement	If expr is TRUE, then executes statement; otherwise skips it
if ( expr ) statement1 else statement2	If expr is TRUE, then executes statement1; otherwise executes statement2
;( null statement)	No effect; satisfies statement requirement in do, for, and while
return;	Returns from function back to caller; no value returned
return expr;	Returns from function back to caller with value of expr
switch ( iexpr ) { case const1: statement break; case const2: statement break; ... default: statement break; }	iexpr is evaluated and then compared against integer constant exprs const1, const2, ...; a match is found then the statements that follow the case (up to the break) will be executed; if no match is found, then the statements in the default case (if supplied) will be executed; iexpr must be an integer-valued expression
while ( expr ) statement	Executes statement as long as expr is TRUE; statement might not be executed if expr is FALSE the first time it's evaluated

NOTES:  
expr is any expression; statement is any expression terminated by a semicolon. one of the statements listed above or one or more statements enclosed by braces {...}.

### OPERATORS

OPER	DESCRIPTION	EXAMPLE	ASSOC
{ }	Function call	sqrt (x)	
[ ]	Array element ref	vals[10]	L-R
>	Ptr to struc memb	emp_ptr->name	
.	Struc member ref	employee.name	
-	Unary minus	-a	
++	Increment	++ptr	
--	Decrement	--count	
!	Logical negation	!done	R-L
~	Ones complement	~077	
*	Ptr indirection	*ptr	
&	Address of	&x	
sizeof	Size in bytes	sizeof (struct s)	
(type)	Type conversion	(float) total / n	
*	Multiplication	i * j	L-R
/	Division	i / j	
%	Modulus	i % j	
+	Addition	vals + i	L-R
-	Subtraction	x - 100	
<<	Left shift	byte << 4	L-R
>>	Right shift	i >> 2	
<	Less than	i < 100	
<=	Less than or eq to	i <= j	L-R
>	Greater than	i > 0	
>=	Greater or eq to	grade >= 90	
==	Equal to	result == 0	L-R
!=	Not equal to	c != EOF	
&	Bitwise AND	word & 077	L-R
^	Bitwise XOR	word1 ^ word2	L-R
	Bitwise OR	word   bits	L-R
&&	Logical AND	j > 0 && j < 10	L-R
	Logical OR	i > 80    x_flag	L-R
?:	Conditional expr	(a > b) ? a : b	R-L
= * / % =	Assignment ops	count += 2	R-L
,	Comma operator	i = 10, j = 0	L-R

NOTES: L-R means left-to-right, R-L right-to-left. Operators are listed in decreasing order of precedence. Ops in the same box have the same precedence. Associativity determines order of evaluation for ops with the same precedence (eg: a = b = c; is evaluated right-to-left as: a = (b = c)).

### EXPRESSIONS

An expression is a variable name, function name, array name, constant, function call, array element reference, or structure member reference. Applying an operator (this can be an assignment operator) to one or more of these (where appropriate) is also an expression. Expressions may be parenthesized. An expression is a "constant expression" if each term is a constant.

### ESC CHARS

\b	Backspace
\f	Form feed
\n	Newline
\r	Carriage return
\t	Horizontal tab
\\	Vertical tab
\/	Backslash
\"	Double quote
'	Single quote
\(OR)	Line continuation
\nnn	Octal character value

### PREPROCESSOR STATEMENTS

STATEMENT	DESCRIPTION
#define id text	text will be substituted for id wherever it later appears in the program; if construct id(al, a2, ...) is used, args al, a2, ... will be replaced where they appear in text by corresponding args of macro call
#if expr	If constant expression expr is TRUE, statements up to #endif will be processed, otherwise they will not be.
#endif	
#if expr	If constant expression expr is TRUE, statements up to #else will be processed, otherwise those between the #else and #endif will be processed
#else	
#endif	
#ifdef id	If id is defined (with #define or on the command line) statements up to #endif will be processed; otherwise they will not be; (optional #else)
#ifndef id	If id has not been defined, statements up to #endif will be processed; (optional #else construct)
#include "file"	Inserts contents of file in program; double quotes mean look first in same directory as source prog, then in standard places; brackets mean only standard places
#include <file>	
#line n "file"	Identifies subsequent lines of the prog as coming from file, beginning at line n; file is optional
#undef id	Remove definition of id

NOTES: Preprocessor statements can be continued over multiple lines provided each line to be continued ends with a backslash character (\). Statements can also be nested.

EXAMPLES:  
#define BUFSIZE 512  
#define max(a,b) (((a) > (b)) ? (a) : (b))  
#include <stdio.h>

### typedef

typedef is used to assign a new name to a data type. To use it, make believe you're declaring a variable of that particular data type. Where you'd normally write the variable name, write the new data type name instead. In front of everything, place the keyword typedef. For example:

```
typedef struct /* define type COMPLEX */
{
    float real;
    float imaginary;
} COMPLEX;

COMPLEX c1, c2, sum; /* declare vars */
```

### CONSTANTS

TYPE	SYNTAX	EXAMPLES
char	single quotes	'a' '\n'
char string	double quotes	"hello" ""
double	(note 1)	
enumeration	(note 2)	red true
float	(note 3)	7.2 2.e-15 -1E9
hex integer	0X,0x	0xFF 0xFF 0xA000
int		17 -5
long int	l or L	251 100L (note 4)
octal int	0 (zero)	0777 0100

1. all float constants are treated as double
2. identifier previously declared for an enumerated type; value treated as int
3. decimal point and/or scientific notation
4. or any int too large for normal int

### VARIABLE USAGE

STORAGE CLASS	DECLARED	CAN BE REFERENCED	INIT WITH	NOTES
static	outside fn	anywhere in file	const expr only	1
extern	outside fn	anywhere in file	cannot be init	2
auto	inside fn/b	inside fn/b	any expr	3
register	inside fn/b	inside fn/b	any expr	3,4
omitted	outside fn	anywhere in file	const expr files w/ext only	5
	inside fn/b	(see auto)	(see auto)	6

- NOTES: (fn/b means function or statement block)
1. init at start of prog execution; default is zero
  2. var must be defined only 1 place w/o extern
  3. cannot init arrays & structures; var is init each time fn is called; no default value
  4. reg assignment not guaranteed; restrict. types can be assigned to registers.
  5. var can be decl. in only one place; initialized at start of prog execution; default is zero
  6. defaults to auto

### ARRAYS

A single-dimensional array name of n elements of a specified type and with specified initial values (optional) is declared with:

```
type aname[n] = { val1, val2, ... };
```

If complete list of initial values is specified, n can be omitted. Only static or global arrays can be initialized. Char arrays can be init by a string of chars in double quotes. Valid subscripts of the array range from 0 through n-1. Multi dimensional arrays are declared with:

```
type aname[n1][n2]... = { init_list };
```

Values listed in the initialization list are assigned in 'dimension order' (i.e. as if last dimension were increasing first). Nested pairs of braces can be used to change this order if desired. Here are some examples:

```
/* array of char */
static char hisname[] = { "John Smith" };

/* array of char ptrs */
static char *days[7] =
{ "Sun", "Mon", "Tue", "Wed", "Thu", "Fri", "Sat" };

/* 3 x 2 array of ints */
int matrix [3][2] = { { 10, 17 },
                    { -5, 0 },
                    { 11, 21 } };

/* array of struct complex */
struct complex sensor_data[100];
```

### POINTERS

A variable name can be declared to be a pointer to a specified type by a statement of the form:

```
type * name;
```

```
EXAMPLES:
/* numptr points to floating number */
float *numptr;

/* pointer to struct complex */
struct complex *cp;

/* if the real part of the complex
struct pointed to by cp is 0.0 ... */
if ( cp->real == 0.0 )

/* ptr to char; set equal to address of
buf[25] (i.e. pointing to buf[25]) */
char *sptr = &buf[25];

/* store 'c' into loc ptd to by sptr */
*sptr = 'c';

/* set sptr pointing to next loc in buf */
++sptr;

/* ptr to fn returning int */
int (*fptr) ();
```

### FUNCTIONS

Functions follow this format:

```
ret_type name (arg1, arg2, ...)
arg_declarations
{
    local_var_declarations
    statement
    return value;
}
```

Functions can be declared extern (default) or static. Static fns can be called only from the file in which they are defined. ret\_type is the rtn type for the fn and can be void if the fn rtns no value or omitted if it rtns an int.

```
EXAMPLE:
/* fn to find the length
of a character string */

int strlen (s)
char *s;
{
    int length = 0;
    while ( *s++ )
        ++length;
    return (length);
}
```

To declare the type of value returned by a function you're calling, use a declaration of the form: ret\_type name ();

### STRUCTURES

A structure name of specified members is declared with a statement of the form:

```
struct sname
{
    member_declaration;
    member_declaration;
    ...
} variable_list;
```

Each member declaration is a type followed by one or more member names. An n-bit wide field name is declared with a statement of the form ... type mname:n; ... If mname is omitted, n unnamed bits are reserved; if n is also zero, the next field is aligned on a word boundary. variable\_list (optional) declares variables of that structure type. If sname is supplied, variables can also later be declared using the format:

```
struct sname variable_list;
```

```
EXAMPLE:
/* define complex struct */
struct complex
{
    float real;
    float imaginary;
};

static struct complex c1 =
{ 5.0, 0.0 };
struct complex c2, csun;
c2 = c1; /* assign cl to c2 */
csun.real = c1.real + c2.real;
```

### UNIONS

A union name of members occupying the same area of memory is declared with a statement of the form:

```
union unname
{
    member_declaration;
    member_declaration;
    ...
} variable_list;
```

Each member declaration is a type followed by one or more member names; variable\_list (optional) declares variables of that particular union type. If unname is supplied, then variables can also later be declared using the format:

```
union unname variable_list;
```

NOTE: unions cannot be initialized.

### ENUM DATA TYPES

An enumerated data type name with values enum1, enum2, ... is declared with a statement of the form:

```
enum ename ( enum1, enum2, ... )
variable_list;
```

The optional variable list declares variables of the particular enum type. Each enumerated value is an identifier optionally followed by an equals sign and a constant expression. Sequential values starting at 0 are assigned to these values by the compiler unless the enum= value construct is used. If ename is supplied, then variables can also be declared later using the format

```
enum ename variable_list;
```

```
EXAMPLES:
/* defined boolean */
enum boolean {true, false};
/* declare var & assign value */
enum boolean done = false;
/* test value == true */
if ( done == true )
```

