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Functions may be return type functions and non-return type functions. The non-return type functions do not return any value to the calling function; the type of such functions is void. These functions may or may not have any argument to act upon. A few illustrations of such functions are given below.

`void Write (void) { printf("You need a compiler for learning C language."); }`

The first line in the above definition may also be written as `void Write ()`. Program presents an example where a void function is defined to display a message. Illustrates a void function with void parameter list.

```
#include <stdio.h>
//Function prototype, void parameter list
void main() { Display(); //the function call } //end of main function
void Display() { // Definition of Display
printf("Play an outdoor game for better health.");
printf("Also remember \'It is practice which makes a man/woman perfect in programming in C.\'");
}
//The expected output of the above program is as given below.
A function is a block of code which only runs when it is called. You can pass data, known as parameters, into a function. Functions are used to perform certain actions, and they are important for reusing code. Define the code once, and use it many times.
Predefined Functions
So it turns out you already know what a function is. You have been using it the whole time while studying this tutorial! For example, main() is a function, which is used to execute code, and printf() is a function, used to output/print text to the screen.
int main() { printf("Hello World!"); return 0; }
//Try it Yourself
Create a Function
To create (often referred to as declare) your own function, specify the name of the function, followed by parentheses () and curly brackets {}.
void myFunction() { // code to be executed }
Example
Explained
myFunction() is the name of the function. void means that the function does not have a return value. You will learn more about return values later in the next chapter.
Inside the function (the body), add code that defines what the function should do.
Call a Function
Declared functions are not executed immediately. They are "saved for later use", and will be executed when they are called.
To call a function, write the function's name followed by two parentheses () and a semicolon ;.
In the following example, myFunction() is used to print a text (the action), when it is called:
Inside main, call myFunction():
// Create a function
void myFunction() { printf("I just got executed!"); }
int main() { myFunction(); // call the function
return 0; } // Outputs "I just got executed!"
Try it Yourself
A function can be called multiple times:
void myFunction() { printf("I just got executed!"); }
int main() { myFunction(); myFunction(); myFunction(); return 0; } // I just got executed!// I just got executed!// I just got executed!
Try it Yourself
Calculate the Sum of Numbers
You can put almost whatever you want inside a function. The purpose of the function is to save the code, and execute it when you need it.
Like in the example below, we have created a function to calculate the sum of two numbers. Whenever you are ready to execute the function (and perform the calculation), you just call it:
void calculateSum() { int x = 5; int y = 10; int sum = x + y; printf("The sum of x + y is: %d", sum); }
int main() { calculateSum(); // call the function
return 0; } // Outputs The sum of x + y is: 15
Try it Yourself
This was just an example to demonstrate a simple function with different statements in C. The real power of a function is revealed in the next chapter, when we pass "parameters" to it. This allows the function to calculate the sum of any numbers, instead of being limited to the fixed values 5 and 10.
In C programming, a function that does not take any arguments and does not return a value is called a void function. The syntax for defining a void function is as follows:
Syntax:
return_type function_name ( parameter1, parameter2, ... ) { //body of Statement ; }
Example :
void function_name ( ) { //body of Statement ; }
Here, the 'void' keyword is used as the return type to indicate that the function does not return any value. A void function can be called in the same way as other functions, by simply using the function name followed by empty parentheses: function_name ().
Here is an example of a void function that prints a message to the console:
This program defines a void function called add that simply prints the message "Total of a and b" to the console. The main function calls the add function, which executes the code inside the function and prints the message.
Void functions are useful in C programming when you want to perform a specific task without returning any value, such as displaying a message, initializing a variable or updating a data structure.
Source Code
//No Return Without Argument Function in C/*
1.Function Declaration
2.Function Definition
3.Function Calling*/
#include <stdio.h>
//Function Declaration
void add(int, int);
//Function Definition
void add(int a, int b) { printf("Enter The Value of A & B :"); scanf("%d%d", &a, &b); c=a+b; printf("Total : %d", c); }
//To download raw file Click Here
Output
Enter The Value of A & B :1234
Total : 46
Prerequisite: Functions in C
A function in C can be called either with arguments or without arguments. These functions may or may not return values to the calling functions. All C functions can be called either with arguments or without arguments in a C program. Also, they may or may not return any values. Hence the function prototype of a function in C is as below:
Call by Value
Call by value in C is where in the arguments we pass value and that value can be used in function for performing the operation. Values passed in the function are stored in temporary memory so the changes performed in the function don't affect the actual value of the variable passed.
Example:
C // C Program to implement// Call by value#include <stdio.h>
// Call by value
int sum(int x, int y) { int c; c = x + y; // Integer value returned
return c; } // Driver Code
int main() { // Integer Declared
int a = 3, b = 2; // Function Called
int c = sum(a, b); printf("Sum of %d and %d : %d", a, b, c); return 0; }
//Call by Reference
Call by reference is the method in C where we call the function with the passing address as arguments. We pass the address of the memory blocks which can be further stored in a pointer variable that can be used in the function. Now, changes performed in the values inside the function can be directly reflected in the main memory.
Example:
C // C Program to implement// Call by reference#include <stdio.h>
// Call by reference
void swap(int* x, int* y) { int temp = *x; *x = *y; *y = temp; } // Driver Code
int main() { // Declaring Integer
int x = 1, y = 5; printf("Before Swapping: x=%d, y=%d", x, y); // Calling the function
swap(&x, &y); printf("After Swapping: x=%d, y=%d", x, y); return 0; }
Output
Before Swapping: x:1, y:5
After Swapping: x:5, y:1
Types of Function According to Arguments and Return Value
Functions can be differentiated into 4 types according to the arguments passed and value returns these are:
Function with arguments and return value
Syntax:
Function declaration : int function ( int );
Function call : function ( x );
Function definition: int function ( int x ) { statements; }
Example:
C // C code for function// with argument but no return value#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
void sum(void);
void main() { int n, x; printf("Enter the number:n"); scanf("%d", &n); x = sum(n); printf("nThe sum of %d number is =%d", n, x); getch(); }
int sum(int n) { int i, num, s = 0; for (i = 1; i <= n; i++) { printf("Enter the number: "); scanf("%d", &num); s = s + num; } return s; }
//The void statement is used in the function when there is no need to return the value. It means this function does not give output to the called function. Though the function is return type void it may contain a return keyword to transfer the control at end of the function.
void function_name (list of parameters);
The user-defined function can be classified into four categories on the basis of the arguments and return value.
Function with no arguments and no return value
Function with no argument and a return value
Function with argument and no return value
Function with argument and a return value
This type of function will not return any value to the calling function so we use return type void and it will not also pass value to the called function on the argument whether kept empty or use void. The syntax is as:
void func (void); //return type is void and argument also void
main() { func(); //function call ... }
void func(void) //function definition { statement; }
// program of user-defined function with no argument and no return value in C programming#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
void sum(void);
void main() { sum(); getch(); }
void sum(void) { int sum, a, b; printf("Enter first number: "); scanf("%d", &a); printf("Enter second number: "); scanf("%d", &b); sum = a + b; printf("The sum of two number is %d", sum); }
//This type of function does not receive any arguments but can return a value. Here it will not pass the argument but it can return value. So we used int as the return type.
int func(void); //function declaration with no argument but return type
main() { int r; r=func(); //calling function ... }
int func(void) { ... return (expression); }
// program of user-defined function with no argument and return value in C programming#include <stdio.h>
#include <conio.h>
int sum(void);
void main() { int a, b; printf("Enter first number:"); scanf("%d", &a); printf("Enter second number:"); scanf("%d", &b); sum = a + b; printf("The sum of two number is %d", s); getch(); }
int sum(int a, int b) { int x; x = a + b; return x; }
//The variables that are defined within the body of a function or a block are local to that function or block only and are called local variables. For example: void func() { int a,b,c; ... }
The local variables can be used only in those functions or blocks, in which they are declared. The same name variables may be used in different functions. The variables that are defined outside any function are called global variables. It is useful to declare a variable global if it is to be used by many functions in the program. Global variables are automatically initialized to 0 at the time of declaration.
int a=10, b=20; //declaration of global variable before main()
function void main() { Local variable: ... }
Static variables are declared by writing keyword static in from of the declaration.
static data_type var_name;
A static variable is initialized only once and the value of a static variable is retained between function calls. If static variables are not initialized then it is automatically initialized to 0. Recursion is a powerful technique for writing complicated problems in an easy way. According to this technique, a problem is defined in terms of itself. The problem is solved by diving it into smaller problems, which are similar in nature to the original problem. These smaller problems are solved and their solutions are applied to get the final solution of our original problem. Therefore, the function which calls itself is known as a recursive function.
Void (NonValue-Returning) functions:
Void functions are created and used just like value-returning functions except they do not return a value after the function executes. In lieu of a data type, void functions use the keyword "void." A void function performs a task, and then control returns back to the caller—but, it does not return a value. You may or may not use the return statement, as there is no return value. Even without the return statement, control will return to the caller automatically at the end of the function. A good utilization of a void function would be to print a header/footer to a screen or file. Remember: there are two kinds of subprograms that the C++ language utilizes: value-returning functions and void functions. Both value-returning functions and void functions receive values through their parameter lists. A value-returning function can only return one value to the calling environment. The caller invokes (calls) a value-returning function by using its name and argument list in an expression (i.e., 1. assignment, 2. output, or as an 3. argument in another function call).
//value-returning function call (assignment): y = 2.0 * sqrt(x);
In contrast, a void function (method or procedure, in other languages) does not return a function value. Nor is it called from within an expression. Instead, the function call appears as a complete, stand-alone statement. One example is the get function associated with the istream and ifstream classes:
//void function call: cin.get();
Another example:
//void function call: printName(name);
Bjarne Stroustrup's C++ Glossary
Similarities Between Value-Returning and Void (NonValue-Returning) functions:
Both: require function definitions (i.e., headers and bodies)
Both: definitions can be placed before or after function main()... though, if placed after main() function, prototypes must be placed before main()
Both: formal parameter list can be empty—though, parentheses still required
Both: actual parameter list can use expression or variable, but must match in "TON": type, order, number
Differences Between Value-Returning and Void (NonValue-Returning) functions:
Void function: does not have return type
Uses keyword void in function header
Call to void function is stand-alone statement
//Void (NonValue-returning) function definition syntax: including header and body
void functionName(formal parameter list) //function header{ //function body statements... } //void (nonvalue-returning) function can still use return statement //but, does not return any values... return:; //function call syntax: functionName(actual parameter list); //stand-alone statement only
Call to void function with empty formal parameter list: functionName(); //stand-alone statement only
***Void function calls can ONLY be used w/in stand-alonestatements.
***Conversely, value-returning function calls can be used in output: e.g., cout
statementassignmentarguments in other function calls
Function Parameters
Function Parameter Types: Two Types of Function Parameters:
Value Parameter: formal parameter receives copy of content of corresponding actual parameter
Reference Parameter: formal parameter receives location (memory address) of corresponding actual parameter
Using Value and Reference Parameters:
Value Parameters:
Value of corresponding actual parameter copied into formal parameter
Value parameter has own copy of data
During program execution, value parameter manipulates data stored in own memory space
Value parameters will accept expressions, constants, or variables from actual parameters (i.e., in function call)
Void Function Definition Using Value Parameters
Example:
//Void (NonValue-returning) function definition syntax: including header and body
void functionName(dataType& variable, dataType& variable) //function header{ //function body statements... } //void (nonvalue-returning) function can still use return statement //but, does not return any values... return:;
Reference Parameters:
Formal parameter receives and stores address of corresponding actual parameter
During program execution, address stored in reference parameter can modify data of corresponding actual parameter, by sharing same memory space
Reference parameters can: pass one or more values from function, and can change value of actual parameter
Reference parameters useful in three situations:
Returning more than one value
Changing value of actual parameter
When passing address would save memory space and time
***Reference parameter limitations: reference parameters will not accept expressions or constants from actual parameters (i.e., in function call), ONLY variables
Void Function Definition Using Reference Parameters
Example:
//Void (NonValue-returning) function definition syntax: including header and body
void functionName(dataType& variable, dataType& variable) //function header{ //function body statements... } //void (nonvalue-returning) function can still use return statement //but, does not return any values... return:;
Function Calls Using Value and Reference Parameter Examples:
Void function call using value parameters (can use expression, constant, or variable):
//Void (NonValue-returning) function call with arguments
functionName(expression or constant or variable, expression or constant or variable); //stand-alone statement only
Void function call using reference parameters (can NOT use expression or constant, ONLY variables):
//Void (NonValue-returning) function call with arguments
functionName(variable, variable); //stand-alone statement only
Function Parameters And Memory Allocation
When a function is called:
Memory for formal parameters (in header) and (local) variables declared in body of function allocated in function data area
Value parameter: value of actual parameter copied into memory cell of its corresponding formal parameter
Reference parameter: address of actual parameter passed to formal parameter (content of formal parameter is an address)
During execution, changes made by formal parameter permanently change value of actual parameter
Stream variables (e.g., ifstream and ofstream) should be passed by reference to function
Summary of pass by value vs. pass by reference:
Pass by value: Makes copy of actual parameter
Passes copy of contents
Original variable's contents DO NOT change
How? Do nothing, Default.
Safer
Pass by reference: Passes address of actual parameter
Accesses original variable's contents (via address)
Original variable's contents DO change
How? Add ampersand (&) before parameter name in header and prototype
More efficient
Note: Although the C++ language allows value-returning functions to have both value parameters and reference parameters, it is not recommended. By definition, a value-returning function returns a single value; this value is returned via the return statement. Use void functions with reference parameters to return(modify) more than one value. Program demos void functions using value and reference parameters:
*This program demos void functions using value parameters vs. reference parameters
Reference Parameter: If a formal parameter is a reference parameter, it receives the address of the corresponding actual parameter
A reference parameter stores the address of the corresponding actual parameter
During program execution to manipulate the data, the address stored in the reference parameter directs it to the memory space of the corresponding actual parameter
//header files#include <iostream>
using std::cout;
using std::cin;
using std::endl;
//prototype functions
void readDate(int& month, int& day, int& year);
//reference parameters
void printDate(int month, int day, int year);
//value parameters
//initialize constants
//initialize global variables
int main() { //initialize automatic variables
int mm, dd, yy;
readDate(mm, dd, yy);
printDate(mm, dd, yy);
cout<< "month >> ch >> day >> ch >> year;"<< endl;
void printDate(int month, int day, int year) { cout
```