

# Princeton University

## COS 217: Introduction to Programming Systems

### C Primitive Data Types

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**Type:** `int`

**Description:** A (positive or negative) integer.

**Size:** System dependent. On FC010 with gcc217: 4 bytes.

**Example Variable Declarations:**

```
int iFirst;
signed int iSecond;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 4 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u> | <u>Binary Representation</u>        | <u>Note</u>      |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 123              | 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011 | decimal form     |
| -123             | 11111111 11111111 11111111 10000101 | negative form    |
| 0173             | 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011 | octal form       |
| 0x7B             | 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011 | hexadecimal form |
| 2147483647       | 01111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 | largest          |
| -2147483648      | 10000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 | smallest         |

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**Type:** `unsigned int`

**Description:** A non-negative integer.

**Size:** System dependent. `sizeof(unsigned int) == sizeof(int)`. On FC010 with gcc217: 4 bytes.

**Example Variable Declaration:**

```
unsigned int uiFirst;
unsigned uiSecond;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 4 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u> | <u>Binary Representation</u>        | <u>Note</u>      |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| 123U             | 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011 | decimal form     |
| 0173U            | 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011 | octal form       |
| 0x7BU            | 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011 | hexadecimal form |
| 4294967295U      | 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 | largest          |
| 0U               | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 | smallest         |

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**Type:** `long`

**Description:** A (positive or negative) integer.

**Size:** System dependent. `sizeof(long) >= sizeof(int)`. On FC010 with gcc217: 8 bytes.

**Example Variable Declarations:**

```
long lFirst;
long int iSecond;
signed long lThird;
signed long int lFourth;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 8 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u>      | <u>Binary Representation/Note</u>   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 123L                  | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011<br>decimal form     |
| -123L                 | 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 10000101<br>negative form    |
| 0173L                 | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011<br>octal form       |
| 0x7BL                 | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011<br>hexadecimal form |
| 9223372036854775807L  | 01111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111<br>largest          |
| -9223372036854775808L | 10000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000<br>smallest         |

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**Type:** unsigned long

**Description:** A non-negative integer.

**Size:** System dependent. sizeof(unsigned long) == sizeof(long). On FC010 with gcc217: 8 bytes.

**Example Variable Declarations:**

```
unsigned long ulFirst;  
unsigned long int ulSecond;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 8 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u>        | <u>Binary Representation/Note</u>   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 123UL                   | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011<br>decimal form     |
| 0173UL                  | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011<br>octal form       |
| 0x7BUL                  | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 01111011<br>hexadecimal form |
| 184446744073709551615UL | 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111 11111111<br>largest          |
| 0UL                     | 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000 00000000<br>smallest         |

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**Type:** char

**Description:** A (positive or negative) integer. Usually represents a character according to a character code (e.g., ASCII).

**Size:** 1 byte.

**Example Variable Declarations:**

```
char cFirst;  
signed char cSecond;
```

**Example Literals (assuming the ASCII code is used):**

| <u>C Literal</u> | <u>Binary Representation</u> | <u>Note</u>                |
|------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 'a'              | 01100001                     | character form             |
| (char)97         | 01100001                     | decimal form               |
| (char)0141       | 01100001                     | octal form                 |
| (char)0x61       | 01100001                     | hexadecimal form           |
| '\o141'          | 01100001                     | octal character form       |
| '\x61'           | 01100001                     | hexadecimal character form |

|            |          |                    |
|------------|----------|--------------------|
| (char)123  | 01111011 | decimal form       |
| (char)-123 | 10000101 | negative form      |
| (char)127  | 01111111 | largest            |
| (char)-128 | 10000000 | smallest           |
| '\0'       | 00000000 | the null character |
| '\a'       | 00000111 | bell               |
| '\b'       | 00001000 | backspace          |
| '\f'       | 00001100 | formfeed           |
| '\n'       | 00001010 | newline            |
| '\r'       | 00001101 | carriage return    |
| '\t'       | 00001001 | horizontal tab     |
| '\v'       | 00001011 | vertical tab       |
| '\\'       | 01011100 | backslash          |
| '\''       | 00100111 | single quote       |

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**Type:** unsigned char

**Description:** A non-negative integer. Usually represents a character according to a character code (e.g., ASCII).

**Size:** 1 byte.

**Example Variable Declaration:**

```
unsigned char ucFirst;
```

**Example Literals (assuming the ASCII code is used):**

| <u>C Literal</u>   | <u>Binary Representation</u> | <u>Note</u>    |
|--------------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| (unsigned char)'a' | 01100001                     | character form |
| (unsigned char)97  | 01100001                     | decimal form   |
| (unsigned char)255 | 11111111                     | largest        |
| (unsigned char)0   | 00000000                     | smallest       |

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Note: On most systems including FC010 with gcc217, "char" is the same as "signed char".  
On some systems, "char" is the same as "unsigned char".

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**Type:** short

**Description:** A (positive or negative) integer.

**Size:** System dependent. sizeof(short) <= sizeof(int). On FC010 with gcc217: 2 bytes.

**Example Variable Declarations:**

```
short sFirst;
short int sSecond;
signed short sThird;
signed short int sFourth;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 2 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u> | <u>Binary Representation</u> | <u>Note</u>      |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| (short)123       | 00000000 01111011            | decimal form     |
| (short)-123      | 11111111 10000101            | negative form    |
| (short)32767     | 01111111 11111111            | largest          |
| (short)-32768    | 10000000 00000000            | smallest         |
| (short)0173      | 00000000 01111011            | octal form       |
| (short)0x7B      | 00000000 01111011            | hexadecimal form |

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**Type:** unsigned short

**Description:** A non-negative integer.

**Size:** System dependent. sizeof(unsigned short) == sizeof(short). On FC010 with gcc217: 2 bytes.

**Example Variable Declarations:**

```
unsigned short usFirst;
unsigned short int usSecond;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 2 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u>      | <u>Binary Representation</u> | <u>Note</u>      |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| (unsigned short)123   | 00000000 01111011            | decimal form     |
| (unsigned short)0173  | 00000000 01111011            | octal form       |
| (unsigned short)0x7B  | 00000000 01111011            | hexadecimal form |
| (unsigned short)65535 | 11111111 11111111            | largest          |
| (unsigned short)0     | 00000000 00000000            | smallest         |

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**Type:** double

**Description:** A (positive or negative) double-precision floating point number.

**Size:** System dependent. On FC010 with gcc217: 8 bytes.

**Example Variable Declaration:**

```
double dFirst;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 8 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u> | <u>Note</u>  |
|------------------|--|
| 123.456          | fixed-point notation   |
| 1.23456E2        | scientific notation  |
| .0123456         | fixed-point notation   |
| 1.23456E-2       | scientific notation with negative exponent                       |
| -123.456         | fixed-point notation   |
| -1.23456E2       | scientific notation with negative mantissa                       |
| -.0123456        | fixed-point notation   |
| -1.23456E-2      | scientific notation with negative mantissa and negative exponent |
| 1.797693E308     | largest (approximate)  |
| -1.797693E308    | smallest (approximate)   |
| 2.225074E-308    | closest to 0 (approximate)                                       |

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**Type:** float

**Description:** A (positive or negative) single-precision floating point number.

**Size:** System dependent. sizeof(float) <= sizeof(double). On FC010 with gcc217: 4 bytes.

**Example Variable Declaration:**

```
float fFirst;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 4 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u> | <u>Note</u>          |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 123.456F         | fixed-point notation |

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1.23456E2F    | scientific notation  |
| .0123456F     | fixed-point notation   |
| 1.234546E-2F  | scientific notation with negative exponent                       |
| -123.456F     | fixed-point notation   |
| -1.23456E2F   | scientific notation with negative mantissa                       |
| -.0123456F    | fixed-point notation   |
| -1.23456E-2F  | scientific notation with negative mantissa and negative exponent |
| 3.402823E38F  | largest (approximate)  |
| -3.402823E38F | smallest (approximate)   |
| 1.175494E-38F | closest to 0 (approximate)                                       |

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**Type:** long double

**Description:** A (positive or negative) extended-precision floating point number.

**Size:** System dependent. sizeof(long double) >= sizeof(double). On FC010 with gcc217: 16 bytes.

**Example Variable Declaration:**

```
long double ldFirst;
```

**Example Literals (assuming size is 16 bytes):**

| <u>C Literal</u> | <u>Note</u>  |
|------------------|--|
| 123.456L         | fixed-point notation   |
| 1.23456E2L       | scientific notation  |
| .0123456L        | fixed-point notation   |
| 1.234546E-2L     | scientific notation with negative exponent                       |
| -123.456L        | fixed-point notation   |
| -1.23456E2L      | scientific notation with negative mantissa                       |
| -.0123456L       | fixed-point notation   |
| -1.23456E-2L     | scientific notation with negative mantissa and negative exponent |
| 1.18973E4932L    | largest (approximate)  |
| -1.189731E4932L  | smallest (approximate)   |
| 3.3621E-4932L    | closest to 0 (approximate)                                       |

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### Differences between C and Java:

Java only:

boolean, byte

C only:

unsigned char, unsigned short, unsigned int, unsigned long  
long double

Java: Sizes of all types are **specified**

C: Sizes of all types except char are **system dependent**

Java: char comprises **2** bytes

C: char comprises **1** byte

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