



C++

Programming Step-by-Step

Asadullah Shah



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C++ PROGRAMMING: STEP BY STEP

Editors

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35. STATIC: THE MULTIPURPOSE KEYWORD

Asadullah Shah and Osama Mahfooz

Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Information and
Communication Technology, International Islamic University Malaysia,
Malaysia

Abstract

The keywords are the fixed set of reserved terms that are used by programming languages to be used for developing programs. These key words cannot be used as variables or data items. The key words are same as symbol set of a set of characters used by natural languages.

35.1 Introduction

Most C++ keywords allow you to do one thing. For example “int” is used to declare an integer, or that a function returns an integer or expects an integer as an argument. To allocate memory “new” is used and “delete” is used to free memory. The keyword static has multiple uses. The keyword static can be used in three major contexts: inside a function, inside a class definition, and in front of a global variable inside a file making up a multiple file program.

35.2 Use of Static keyword

The simplest of all uses of static is its use inside a function. It simply means that once the variable has been initialized, it remains in memory until the end of the program. For instance, you can use a static variable to record the number of times a function has been called simply by including the lines `static int count =0;` and `count++;` inside the function.