



Hands On C  
500 Working Programs

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Using C's Built-In  
Character Functions

## Determining If a Character is a Letter

```
In [1]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (isalpha(string[i]))
            printf("%c is a letter\n", string[i]);
}
```

```
A is a letter
b is a letter
c is a letter
```

## Determining if a Character is a Letter or Number

```
In [2]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (isalnum(string[i]))                // isalpha in some compilers
            printf("%c is alphanumeric\n", string[i]);
}
```

```
A is alphanumeric
b is alphanumeric
c is alphanumeric
1 is alphanumeric
2 is alphanumeric
3 is alphanumeric
```

## Determining if a Character is a Digit

```
In [3]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (isdigit(string[i]))
            printf("%c is a digit\n", string[i]);
}
```

```
1 is a digit
2 is a digit
3 is a digit
```

## Determining if a Character is an ASCII Value

```
In [4]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (__isascii(string[i]))           // isascii() in some compilers
            printf("%c is ASCII\n", string[i]);

    printf("Letter (value %d) %s an ASCII character\n", 255, (__isascii(255)) ? "is" : "is not")
}
```

```
A is ASCII
b is ASCII
c is ASCII
1 is ASCII
2 is ASCII
3 is ASCII
Letter (value 255) is not an ASCII character
```

## Determining if a Character is a Control Character

```
In [5]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (iscntrl(string[i]))
            printf("%d is a control character\n", (int) string[i]);
}
```

9 is a control character  
10 is a control character

## Determining if a Letter is a Printable Character

```
In [6]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (isgraph(string[i]))
            printf("%c is printable\n", string[i]);
}
```

```
A is printable
b is printable
c is printable
1 is printable
2 is printable
3 is printable
```

## Determining if a Character is Upper or Lowercase

```
In [7]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (isupper(string[i]))
            printf("%c is uppercase\n", string[i]);
        else if (islower(string[i]))
            printf("%c is lowercase\n", string[i]);
}
```

A is uppercase  
b is lowercase  
c is lowercase

## Determining if a Character is Punctuation



```
In [8]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123.,;\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (ispunct(string[i]))
            printf("%c is punctuation\n", string[i]);
}
```

. is punctuation  
, is punctuation  
; is punctuation

## Determining if a Character is Whitespace

```
In [9]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123 \t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (isspace(string[i]))
            printf("%d is whitespace\n", (int) string[i]);
}
```

32 is whitespace

9 is whitespace

10 is whitespace

## Determining if a Letter is a Hexadecimal Value

```
In [10]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";

    for (int i = 0; string[i]; i++)
        if (isxdigit(string[i]))
            printf("%c is a hexadecimal\n", string[i]);
}
```

```
A is a hexadecimal
b is a hexadecimal
c is a hexadecimal
1 is a hexadecimal
2 is a hexadecimal
3 is a hexadecimal
```

## Converting a Character to Uppercase or Lowercase

```
In [11]: #include <stdio.h>
#include <ctype.h>

int main(void)
{
    char string[] = "Abc123\t\n";
    char upper[64];
    char lower[64];
    int i = 0;

    for (i = 0; string[i]; i++)
    {
        lower[i] = tolower(string[i]);
        upper[i] = toupper(string[i]);
    }

    lower[i] = '\0';
    upper[i] = '\0';

    printf("Upper %s\nLower %s", upper, lower);
}
```

Upper ABC123

Lower abc123

## What You will Learn Next

As you have learned, to change a parameter's value within a C function, you must pass a pointer (the address) to the variable in memory. In the next lesson, you will examine C pointer operations in detail.

```
int value = 0;  
int *address = &value;
```