

K

keywords — Definition

A *keyword* is a word that has special significance to the C language. All keywords are reserved; none may be used as an identifier.

The Standard defines the following as being C keywords:

auto	break	case	char
const	continue	default	defined
do	double	else	enum
extern	float	for	goto
if	int	long	register
return	short	signed	sizeof
static	struct	switch	typedef
union	unsigned	void	volatile
while			

Let's C also recognizes the keyword **alien**, which indicates that a function uses non-C calling conventions.

Cross-references

Standard, §3.1.1

The C Programming Language, ed. 2, p. 192

See Also**lexical elements****Notes**

The keywords **const**, **enum**, **signed**, **void**, and **volatile** are new to the C language, although some or all of these have been used as common extensions to C. A program that uses any of these words as an identifier may not translate properly under an implementation that conforms to the Standard. Likewise, the Standard eliminates the keyword **entry**, which the first edition of *The C Programming Language* defined as being unused.

The Standard recognizes that the keywords **asm** and **fortran** are common extensions to the C language, and are recognized as such by many implementations of C.

