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Thread: [EXTREMELY simple question \(about C, not C++\).](#)

antigrav - January 16, 2013, 4:40 pm

EDIT: I'm a huge fucking dumbass. For those who might one day find this thread by search, let this serve as a lesson: apparently, you need to declare variables in the beginning of a code block.

Example below.

```
Code #include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int x = 0; //all I did was switch the first two lines
    printf("I hate Hello World. So boring... \n"); //all you need to do is make sure variables are
declared at the top
    if(x==0){
        printf("wat?");
    }
    getchar();
    return 0;
}
```

Decided to get into a little C, being a native Python user. I literally just learned syntax today. Anyways, after typing some very basic code that SHOULD compile:

```
Code #include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    printf("I hate Hello World. So boring... \n");
    int x = 0;
    if(x==0){
        printf(".-.");
    }
    getchar();
    return 0;
}
```

I'm getting errors. For some background, I'm using MSVC++2010 Express, and I've named the file main.c rather than main.cpp...

Here are the errors:

Code 1>c:\users\arnav\documents\visual studio 2010\projects\omfg\omfg\main.c(5): error C2143: syntax error : missing ';' before 'type'

1>c:\users\arnav\documents\visual studio 2010\projects\omfg\omfg\main.c(6): error C2065: 'x' : undeclared identifier

I've been Googling the errors, but they are usually not found in simple programs such as this, and honestly, after Googling, I still have NO idea why it isn't compiling.

Thoughts?

(° ? °) - January 16, 2013, 5:32 pm

So the first code is compiling, and the second one isn't?

antigrav - January 16, 2013, 5:42 pm

(Jan 16, 2013 06:32 PM)Subotai Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) So the first code is compiling, and the second one isn't?

Indeed. I think I've figured it out though, you need to declare variables at the beginning of code.

Super Effective - January 16, 2013, 5:44 pm

Both of those should compile successfully, I don't know why you're having trouble. I know some compilers force you to declare variables at the top, but I wasn't aware MSVC was one of them.

Also, changing the extension to .cpp instead of .c might fix that problem. You can still use C headers and use C functions in a .cpp file. You can also look into getting MinGW and using gcc under Windows.

notsteve - January 16, 2013, 5:52 pm

c89 (what gcc considers ANSI) only allows variables declared at the beginning of functions. c99 (actual ANSI) doesn't have this requirement.