

File Handling in C (Beginner Tutorial)

1. What is File Handling?

File handling means saving data to a file and reading data from a file using a C program. It allows data to be stored permanently even after the program ends.

2. What is a File?

A file is a collection of data stored on your computer such as text files and records. Examples: notes.txt, students.txt

3. What is a File Path?

A file path shows where the file is located. For beginners, using just the filename means the file is saved in the same folder as the program.

4. FILE Pointer

In C, files are accessed using a pointer of type FILE.

5. Opening a File

Files are opened using fopen(). Common modes are r (read), w (write), and a (append).

6. Writing to a File

fprintf() is used to write text into a file. Always close the file using fclose().

7. Reading from a File

fgets() reads one line at a time from the file until the end.

8. Appending to a File

Append mode adds new data without deleting existing content.

9. Common Mistakes

Forgetting to close the file, wrong file mode, incorrect file path, and not checking NULL.

10. Practice Exercises

1. Save a name entered by the user to a file.
2. Read the file and display the name.

Summary

File handling allows permanent data storage. Start with simple files and practice often.