

Declaration of Variables

In C++, variables are the names of storage locations. After designing suitable names, user must declare them to the compiler. Declaration does three things:

- It tells the compiler what the variable name is.

- It specifies what type of data the variable will hold.

- The place of declaration in the program decides the scope of the variable.

A variable must be declared before it is used in the program. A variable can be used to store a value of any data type. The name has nothing to do with the type. C++ allows any properly formed variable to have any declared data type. The declaration statement defines the type of variable. The general form of declaration of a variable is:

```
type variable 1, variable 2.....variable n;
```

Variables are separated by commas. A declaration statement must end with a semicolon. Some valid declarations are:

```
int cout;  
float a, b;  
char a1, a2, a3;
```