

## C++ Syntax (Cheat Sheet)

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Terms in <> are tokens which describe generically what goes in there. All other terms are literally themselves.

EXAMPLE: <name> = <expression> represents  
x = 5  
or  
name = "John" + "Stewman"

Also, a <statement> can be a function call, an assignment statement, an if or if-else statement, a while or do-while loop, a switch statement, a for loop, etc.

// comment  
/\* another comment \*/

**bool int float char long short string** // types  
'a' 124 -25.0 1.33e5 "hello" **true** // literal constants (values)

+ - / \* % // arithmetic operations  
< <= > >= == != // comparison operations  
&& || ! // boolean operations

<statement>; <statement>; ... // statements

**#include < <library\_name> >** // include file directive  
**#include "stuff.h"** // include header file directive

**using namespace <name>** // namespace directive

**enum <name> { <value\_name\_list> };** // enumeration definition

<name>, <name>, <name>, ... // value name list

**#define <name> <value>** // defined constant compiler directive

**const <type> <name> = <value>;** // constant definition

<type> <name>, <name>, ... ; // object definition(s)

<type> <name> = <value>; // object definition and initialization  
<type> <name> ( <value> ); // another object defn & initialization

<element\_type> <name> [ <number\_of\_elements> ]; // array declaration

<type> <name> ( <formal\_parameter\_list> ); // function prototype

<type> <name>, <type> <name>, ... // formal parameter list

<type> <name> ( <formal\_parameter\_list> ) // function definition  
{  
 <definitions>  
 <statements>  
}

<function\_name> ( <actual\_parameters> ); // call to void function

// call to (or use of) function which returns a value  
<name> = <function\_name> ( <actual\_parameters> );

<name>, <name>, ... // actual parameters

{  
 <definitions>  
 <statements>  
} // block -- can replace ANY statement  
 // has its own LOCAL SCOPE

```
<name> = <expression>;                                // assignment statement

cout << fixed setprecision(2) endl      // output stream related terms

cin >>                                         // input stream related terms

ifstream <name>("filename");                      // declare and open input file stream
ofstream <name>("filename");                      // declare and open output file stream

<stream_name>.open( char *<fname> )           // open file with name in char array <fname>
<stream_name>.close()                           // close a stream

<string_name>.c_str()                          // convert string object to char array

if ( <boolean_expression> )                     // if statement
    <statement>;

if ( <boolean_expression> )                     // if-else statement
    <statement>;
else
    <statement>;

switch ( <expression> )                         // switch statement
{
    case <constant> :
        <statements>
        break;
    case <constant> :
        <statements>
        break;
    default :
        <statements>
}

while ( <boolean_expression> )                  // while loop
    <statement>;

do {
    <statements>
} while ( <boolean_expression> );               // do-while loop

for ( <initialization>; <continuation_expression>; <increment_statement> )
    <statement>;

class <class_name>                            // class header (prototype)
{
public:
    <function_prototypes>
protected:
    <function_prototypes>
private:
    <function_prototypes>
    <data_attributes>
};

<class_name>::<function_name> ( <parameter_list> ) // member function
{                                                 // implementation
    <declarations>
    <statements>
}

<object_name>.<function_name>(<actual_parameters>); // member function call
```

```
struct <structure_name> {                                // structure definition
    <type> <name>, <name>, ... ;                      // field definition(s)
    <type> <name>, <name>, ... ;
}

typedef <type> <name>;                                // definition of new type name
typedef <element_type> name <dimensions>;          // definition of new array type
<dimensions> = [ <int_value> ] [ <int_value> ] ...

template < typename T >                            // template header

<type> *<name>;                                    // pointer declaration
&<name>                                         // address of <name>
*<ptr>                                         // data <ptr> points to
<ptr>-><member>                                 // access to member through pointer
(*<ptr>).<member>                               // access to member of object
<object_name>.<member>                           // ditto

new <type> or new <type>[ <size> ]           // operator to dynamically allocate memory
delete <ptr> or delete [] <ptr>                // return memory to dynamic memory store
```