

12 Conclusion

Now you have worked through these simple examples I hope you can see why a knowledge of the C language is always going to be a useful and continually practical skill.

After 25 years I still regularly write C programs to do everyday tasks quickly and effectively and once written they form part of a set of durable tools that suit me and which are portable.

This short book contains a number of “tricks” that I have learned over the years for which there is little explicit documentation, and it frankly presupposes a familiarity with Linux. After testing the material with students of a wide range of experience I am confident that an attentive careful student will get all this material working and can start from there to discover the joy of C. Many of my students say “This is much more fun than Java, I can see what is really going on!” which is most gratifying and makes me confident you will find the material useful.

Those interested might ask the publisher to commission me to write a companion volume :

C++ Standard Template Library Programming in Linux

Good luck and happy programming.

David

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