

COP3515.ALLS09: IT PROGRAM DESIGN (COP3515.ALLS09) > DISCUSSION BOARD > [102] > COLLECTION

Thread: Scanf video wrap up
Post: [Scanf video wrap up](#)
Author: Jeffrey Davisson

Posted Date: January 22, 2009 5:48 PM
Status: Published
Overall rating: 

I was wondering if the program used in the video prior to adding getchar, would display a character if a person were to input 22w, since it reads the integer value of 22, w like \n is not an integer?

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Thread: Scanf video wrap up
Post: [RE: Scanf video wrap up](#)
Author: Alessio Gaspar

Posted Date: January 26, 2009 6:43 PM
Status: Published
Overall rating: 

Very good question Jeffrey, you are pointing your finger at something that might confuse a lot of students in this course.

Let me start by the 40k feet answer; in this course we are not going to test if the use types an integer when we ask them to do so. Real testing would involve that, we are still working on simpler tests (e.g. if we ask for a strictly positive integer, then we check that the user doesn't provide us with a null or negative integer, but we assume they give us an integer!!! :))

Now, more to the point, if the user types 22w followed by enter, then yes, the 22 is read as an integer by %d in scanf then we have this 'w' character in the way, which is going to be read by getchar, and then we still have the ENTER / NEW LINE character in the way.

that's why, instead of using a single getchar, you will find programs which keep reading all characters in the input buffer until there are no more before to proceed with the next scanf %c.

Here is how the code would look like;

```
printf ("enter an int");
scanf ("%d", &val);
while (EOF != getchar());
printf ("enter a char");
...
```

Author: Jeffrey Davisson
Date: Thursday, January 22, 2009 5:48:23 PM EST
Subject: Scanf video wrap up

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OK