

Function

Passing information to a function

Passing information

Let's say you want to know the maximum value of two integers. Also assume that there is a function called `max`.

We can compare this with a friend of yours who's great at telling the maximum value out of two integers.

How do you ask your friend to give you the maximum value of 13 and 14?

- Gimme the maximum value

Your friend is going to say something like:

- The maximum value of what?

Instead ask

- Gimme the maximum value of 13 and 14

Your friend can now do the math and will tell you

- 14

You passed information to your friend. The same need to be done when it comes to functions - a function can't guess what integers you want the max of.

So let's go back to the function `max`. If we invoke it like this:

```
max ( ) ;
```

The function will miss information about what integers so we need to pass that information

```
max (13, 14) ;
```

Arguments

We have seen this before when we passed information to `printf`. How could possibly `printf` know what to output if you didn't pass that information.

When passing information we refer to that information as arguments.