

Primitive Data Types are Always Available

Primitive data types

- part of the **C** language
- include **unsigned**, **2's complement**, and **IEEE floating-point**
- 8-bit primitive data types can also be used to store **ASCII** characters

Pitfall #3: Primitive Data Types Depend on the System

Since the **C** language was designed to be efficient, **primitive data types are tuned to the system**.

Unfortunately, that means the actual data type can vary from one compiler to another.

For example, **long int** may be a **32-bit 2's complement** value, or it may be a **64-bit 2's complement** value.

Primitive Integer and Floating-Point Types in C

	2's complement	unsigned
8 bits	char	unsigned char
16 bits	short short int	unsigned short unsigned short int
16 or 32 bits	int	unsigned unsigned int
32 or 64 bits	long long int	unsigned long unsigned long int
64 bits	long long long long int	unsigned long long unsigned long long int

IEEE 754 single-precision floating-point (32 bits) **float**
 IEEE 754 double-precision floating-point (64 bits) **double**

Standard Integer Types in C

ISA-independent integer types

- available in `<stdint.h>`.
- We will use them except for **main** and some library calls.

	2's complement	unsigned
8 bits	int8_t	uint8_t
16 bits	int16_t	uint16_t
32 bits	int32_t	uint32_t
64 bits	int64_t	uint64_t