

Start by Developing the Function Signature

Let's **call the function** `guessing_game`.

Argument types? **design choice**

Return type? **design choice**

What information do we need to play?

secret number (1 to 10)

number of guesses allowed (> 0)

Let's choose to make both parameters.

25

Functions Should Rarely Return Type `void`

What about the return type?

One possibility: `void`

`void` is the type of “nothing” in `C`.

In other words,

- if a function returns nothing,
- the function's return type is `void`.

Choose `void` rarely.

26

Returning an Error Value Implies that Callers Check It

Why avoid `void`?

One piece of information returned:

- did the function call succeed?
- If function always succeeds,
- you might choose to return `void`.

Then others write code using your function

- say in 100 places (**call sites**).
- None of the calls check for failure.

Later, you change the function. Now it can fail.

Now what? Oops. Fix all 100 calls.

27

Let's Return an `int32_t` from Our Game Function

What were we talking about?

Oh, right, `guessing_game`.

Let's return an `int32_t`.

So we have

```
int32_t guessing_game
(int32_t number,
 int32_t num_tries);
```

(As mentioned earlier, the names tell us which parameter is which.)

28