

## Still Need to Write the Helper Function

That's it for allocation.

**But what did this do?**

```
bin = log2_ceil (block_size);
```

Calculate  $k$  such that  $2^k \geq \text{block\_size}$ .

In other words, **return**  $\lceil \log_2(\text{block\_size}) \rceil$   
(the ceiling of the base 2 logarithm).

**How can we calculate that value?**

## How Can We Calculate Ceiling of $\log_2$ ?

```
// Returns ceiling of
// log_2 of its argument.
static int32_t log2_ceil
(size_t value);
```

One option: library calls (with floating-point).

Instead, **let's use...**

**bits!**

## Find the First 1 Bit and Check for a Power of Two

Let's look at a number as bits:

```
value = 000...000 1 ??????
```

To **calculate**  $\text{ceil}(\log_2(\text{value}))$ , we

- **find** the location of **the first 1 bit**, and
- **round up** unless all of the lower bits are 0.

Let's start with the second part.

**How can we check: is value a power of 2?**

## Initialize Count to Reflect Whether **value** is a Power of 2

```
static int32_t log2_ceil
(size_t value)
{
    int32_t ret_val;
    if ((value & (value - 1)) == 0) {
        ret_val = -1;
    } else {
        ret_val = 0;
    }
}
```

Is value a power of 2?

If so, start counting at -1.

If not, start counting at 0.