New Technical Notes

Macintosh

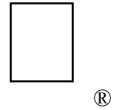## Developer Support

MPW C Functions: To declare or not to declare, that is the question.

Platforms & Tools   **M.PT.CFunctions**

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Here's the low-down on when C functions need not be declared in include files.

"The include files are all screwed up!"

This is a common misconception people have when they look through the MPW C include files. People report that the declaration of a ROM or system call `foo()` has been mistakenly left out of this or that include file. Here's the low-down on when functions do not have to be declared in an include file.

The Law

A C function does not need to be declared in an include file if it requires glue code and returns a short or long integer as a result.

Routines that require glue code include:

•   All routines that are marked [Not in ROM] in *Inside Macintosh*
•   All register based routines (Operating System routines)
•   All routines which have strings or points as arguments (and have mixed case spellings)

Further Reference:
  • MPW C Manual
  • Using Assembly Language
  • *The C Programming Language*, Kernighan & Ritchie
  • M.PT.CFuncArgs
  • Using Strings or Points as Arguments