

RETURN ARRAY FROM FUNCTIONS IN C++

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/cplusplus/cpp_return_arrays_from_functions.htm

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C++ does not allow to return an entire array as an argument to a function. However, you can return a pointer to an array by specifying the array's name without an index.

If you want to return a single-dimension array from a function, you would have to declare a function returning a pointer as in the following example:

```
int * myFunction()
{
.
.
.
}
```

Second point to remember is that C++ does not advocate to return the address of a local variable to outside of the function so you would have to define the local variable as **static** variable.

Now, consider the following function, which will generate 10 random numbers and return them using an array and call this function as follows:

```
#include <iostream>
#include <ctime>

using namespace std;

// function to generate and retrun random numbers.
int * getRandom( )
{
    static int  r[10];

    // set the seed
    srand( (unsigned)time( NULL ) );
    for (int i = 0; i < 10; ++i)
    {
        r[i] = rand();
        cout << r[i] << endl;
    }

    return r;
}

// main function to call above defined function.
int main ()
{
    // a pointer to an int.
    int *p;

    p = getRandom();
    for ( int i = 0; i < 10; i++ )
    {
        cout << *(p + " << i << " ) : ";
        cout << *(p + i) << endl;
    }

    return 0;
}
```

When the above code is compiled together and executed, it produces result something as follows:

```
624723190
1468735695
807113585
```

976495677
613357504
1377296355
1530315259
1778906708
1820354158
667126415

* (p + 0) : 624723190
* (p + 1) : 1468735695
* (p + 2) : 807113585
* (p + 3) : 976495677
* (p + 4) : 613357504
* (p + 5) : 1377296355
* (p + 6) : 1530315259
* (p + 7) : 1778906708
* (p + 8) : 1820354158
* (p + 9) : 667126415