

---

Subject: Re: Style guide for IDL?

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 20 Aug 2002 14:49:36 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Andrew Nesbit ([alnesbit@optushome.com.au](mailto:alnesbit@optushome.com.au)) writes:

> K&R style is arguably the most widely-seen coding style for C source  
> code. In an analogous way, does there exist some "standard" way of  
> writing IDL, and if so, where can I find descriptions/examples of it?

The IDL Expert Programmer's Association commissioned a study on this very topic several years ago, and the general meeting we held to discuss the issue was the most explosive in memory. (The ballroom had to have extensive repairs and a complete paint job, as I recall.)

There were at least 25 different opinions from the 15 members in attendance, although the group could generally be divided between the damned lowercase fraction and the mixed-case fraction. (The ALLCAPS people were banished to the bar at the start of the meeting and didn't really cause any problems the rest of the day!)

In the end, we issued a report that said, in essence, "whatever works". It was the most disappointed I have ever been with the EPA, because, of course, I am a firm believer in the Coyote Way. :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. Let's just say I am currently working in a collaborative effort with one of those damned lowercase people and he is DRIVING ME CRAZY!!!

--

David W. Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Phone: 970-221-0438, E-mail: [david@dfanning.com](mailto:david@dfanning.com)

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Toll-Free IDL Book Orders: 1-888-461-0155

---