

Enums and Match Control Flow Operator

This lesson will get you acquainted with enums and match flow operators.

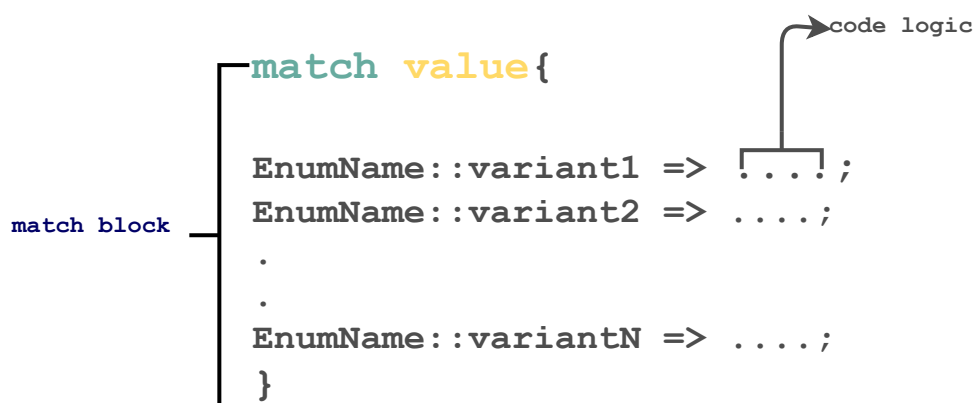
We'll cover the following ^

- Syntax
- Example
- Explanation

The `match` statement can be used to **compare values** within an `enum`. The `match` statement can be written within a `main` function or any other user-defined function.

Syntax

The match statement can be written within a function be it `main` or any other **user-defined function**.



```
match value{  
  EnumName::variant1 => ....;  
  EnumName::variant2 => ....;  
  .  
  .  
  EnumName::variantN => ....;  
}
```

The diagram shows a match statement. A bracket on the left labeled "match block" spans the entire statement. An arrow labeled "code logic" points to the right-hand side of the first match arm.

Defining a match statement within a function

Example

The example below makes use of a `match` statement within a `print_direction` function.

```
enum KnightMove{  
  Horizontal,Vertical  
}
```



```
// print function
fn print_direction(direction:KnightMove) {
    // match statement
    match direction {
        //execute if knight move is horizontal
        KnightMove::Horizontal => {
            println!("Move in horizontal direction");
        },
        //execute if knight move is vertical
        KnightMove::Vertical => {
            println!("Move in vertical direction");
        }
    }
}

fn main() {
    // invoke function `print_direction`
    let knight1 = KnightMove::Horizontal;
    let knight2 = KnightMove::Vertical;
    print_direction(knight1);
    print_direction(knight2);
}
```



Explanation

- **main Function**

The body of the **main** function is defined from **line 18 to line 24**.

- On **line 20**, a variable **knight1** is initialized with the value **KnightMove::Horizontal**.

- On **line 21**, a variable **knight2** is initialized with the value **KnightMove::Vertical**.

- On **line 22**, **print_direction** function is invoked with **knight1** passed as a parameter.

- On **line 23**, **print_direction** function is invoked with **knight2** passed as a parameter.

- **enum**

- On **line 1**, **enum KnightMoves** is defined.
- On **line 2**, **variants** of enum **Horizontal** and **Vertical** are defined.

- **print_direction Function**

The function is defined from **line 5 to line 17**.

- The function has a `match` construct.
 - `match` takes a parameter `direction`
 - **On line 9**, checks if the `direction` matches with the `KnightMove::Horizontal`. If it does, it prints “Move in horizontal direction”.
 - **On line 13**, checks if the direction matches `KnightMove::Vertical`. If it does, it prints “Move in vertical direction”.
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Let’s learn about enums and structs in the next lesson.