

Stack Implementation in C++

A Stack is a data structure which works on the principle LIFO (Last In, First Out). The basic operations in a Stack are :

1. Push : In which we push the data into the stack.
2. Pop : In which we remove an element from the Stack.

All insertions and removals are done only from one side of the Stack , which is called the 'top' of the Stack.

A stack is generally used in function calls where the local variables are pushed onto the Stack and when the function returns , it pops the variables from the Stack.

This is a simple implementation of Stack in C++.

```
#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

class Stack
{
private:
    int *p;
    int top,length;

public:
    Stack(int = 0);
    ~Stack();

    void push(int);
    int pop();
    void display();
};

Stack::Stack(int size)
{
    top=-1;
    length=size;
    if(size == 0)
        p = 0;
    else
        p=new int[length];
}

Stack::~~Stack()
{
    if(p!=0)
        delete [] p;
}
```

```
void Stack::push(int elem)
{
    if(p == 0)                //If the stack size is zero, allow user to mention it at runtime
    {
        cout<<"Stack of zero size"<<endl;
        cout<<"Enter a size for stack : ";
        cin >> length;
        p=new int[length];
    }
    if(top==(length-1))      //If the top reaches to the maximum stack size
    {
        cout<<"\nCannot push "<<elem<<" , Stack full"<<endl;
        return;
    }
    else
    {
        top++;
        p[top]=elem;
    }
}

int Stack::pop()
{
    if(p==0 || top==-1)
    {
        cout<<"Stack empty!";
        return -1;
    }
    int ret=p[top];
    top--;
    return ret;
}

void Stack::display()
{
    for(int i = 0; i <= top; i++)
        cout<<p[i]<<" ";
    cout<<endl;
}

int main()
{
    Stack s1;                //We are creating a stack of size 'zero'
    s1.push(1);
    s1.display();
    s1.push(2);
    s1.push(3);
    s1.push(4);
    s1.push(5);
    s1.display();
    s1.pop();
    s1.display();
}
```

```
s1.pop();  
s1.display();  
s1.pop();  
s1.display();  
s1.pop();  
s1.display();  
}
```

Posted 22nd July 2010 by [Varun Gupta](#)

Labels: [Data Structures](#)



14 View comments



Vikas Taneja [June 25, 2012 at 1:19 PM](#)

Good and simple implementation! :)
You can make use of templates to make the stack class as a generic one.
Small improvement though. :)

[Reply](#)



zem LoveJC [May 28, 2013 at 10:35 PM](#)

i would like to know whether the method display() does conform to the basic format or basic structure of stacks, does it print in reverse of the order of input?

[Reply](#)



Varun Gupta [May 28, 2013 at 10:43 PM](#)

It prints in the bottom-top order. Its not in the conventional manner.

[Reply](#)

[Replies](#)



firewolf [June 18, 2016 at 2:03 AM](#)

just change for loop set int i = top; i > 0; i--

[Reply](#)



Allison Martin [October 16, 2015 at 11:15 AM](#)

Thank you so so much. This helped me immensely.

[Reply](#)

sunil [October 16, 2015 at 2:27 PM](#)