

Structures in C++

1. Introduction to Structures

In C++, a **structure (struct)** is a user-defined data type that allows grouping multiple variables of different types under one name.

Structures are useful for defining complex data types that represent real-world entities, such as a **Student, Car, or Book**.

2. Declaring a Structure

A structure is declared using the `struct` keyword. It can contain variables (members) of different data types.

Syntax:

```
struct StructureName {  
    data_type member1;  
    data_type member2;  
    ...  
};
```

Example:

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    float marks;  
};
```

This structure defines a Student with **three attributes**: name, age, and marks.

3. Defining and Accessing Structure Members

Once a structure is declared, we can create variables (instances) of that structure and access its members using the **dot (.) operator**.

Example:

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    float marks;  
};  
  
int main() {  
    // Creating a structure variable  
    Student s1;  
    // Assigning values  
    s1.name = "Alice";  
    s1.age = 20;  
    s1.marks = 85.5;  
    // Accessing and displaying values  
    cout << "Name: " << s1.name << endl;  
    cout << "Age: " << s1.age << endl;  
    cout << "Marks: " << s1.marks << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

4. Initializing Structures

We can initialize a structure in different ways.

Method 1: Using Direct Assignment

```
Student s1 = {"Alice", 20, 85.5};
```

Method 2: Assigning Values After Declaration

```
Student s2;
```

```
s2.name = "Bob";
```

```
s2.age = 22;
```

```
s2.marks = 90.2;
```

Method 3: Using Constructor (Inside Struct)

In C++, structures can have constructors.

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    float marks;  
    // Constructor (Function)  
    Student(string n, int a, float m) {  
        name = n;  
        age = a;  
        marks = m;  
    }  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Student s3("Charlie", 21, 88.0);  
    cout << "Name: " << s3.name << endl;  
    cout << "Age: " << s3.age << endl;  
    cout << "Marks: " << s3.marks << endl;  
    return 0;  
}
```

5. Array of Structures

We can create an array of structures to store multiple records.

Example:

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    float marks;  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Student students[2] = { {"Alice", 20, 85.5}, {"Bob", 22, 90.2} };  
  
    for (int i = 0; i < 2; i++) {  
        cout << "Student " << i+1 << ": " << students[i].name  
            << ", Age: " << students[i].age  
            << ", Marks: " << students[i].marks << endl;  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```

6. Pointer to Structure

We can use pointers to access structure members.

Example:

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    float marks;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Student s1 = {"Alice", 20, 85.5};  
    Student* ptr = &s1;  
  
    // Accessing structure members using pointer  
    cout << "Name: " << ptr->name << endl;  
    cout << "Age: " << ptr->age << endl;  
    cout << "Marks: " << ptr->marks << endl;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Here, ptr->name is the same as (*ptr).name.

7. Structure Object Inside Structure

A structure can contain another structure Object.

Example:

```
struct Address {
```

```
    string city;
```

```
    int zip;
```

```
};
```

```
struct Student {
```

```
    string name;
```

```
    int age;
```

```
    Address address;
```

```
};
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    Student s1 = {"Alice", 20, {"New York", 10001}};
```

```
    cout << "Name: " << s1.name << endl;
```

```
    cout << "City: " << s1.address.city << endl;
```

```
    cout << "ZIP: " << s1.address.zip << endl;
```

```
    return 0;
```

```
}
```


8. Structure with Functions

Functions can be used inside and outside structures.

Example 1: Function Inside Struct

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    void display() {  
        cout << "Name: " << name << ", Age: " << age << endl;  
    }  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Student s1 = {"Alice", 20};  
    s1.display();  
    return 0;  
}
```

Example 2: Passing Structure to Function

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
};
```

```
void display(Student s) {  
    cout << "Name: " << s.name << ", Age: " << s.age << endl;  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    Student s1 = {"Alice", 20};  
    display(s1);  
    return 0;  
}
```

10. Conclusion

- **Structures** in C++ are used to group related data items.
- Unlike C, C++ structures can have **constructors, member functions, and access specifiers**.
- They are useful in organizing complex data.
- When more advanced features like **data hiding and inheritance** are needed, **classes** should be used.

1. Pointer Inside a Structure

A structure can contain a **pointer** as a member, which allows it to reference dynamically allocated memory or other structures.

Example: Pointer Inside Structure

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int* age; // Pointer to an integer  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Student s1;  
    int a = 20;  
    s1.name = "Alice";  
    s1.age = &a; // Assigning address of a  
  
    cout << "Name: " << s1.name << endl;  
    cout << "Age: " << *(s1.age) << endl; //  
    Dereferencing pointer  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Basic structure using the struct keyword.

```
// Define a structure  
named "Person"  
struct Person {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    double height;  
    char gender;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an instance of the "Person" structure  
    Person person1;  
  
    // Assign values to the structure members  
    person1.name = "John Doe";  
    person1.age = 30;  
    person1.height = 6.0;  
    person1.gender = 'M';  
  
    // Display the information  
    cout << "Name: " << person1.name << endl;  
    cout << "Age: " << person1.age << endl;  
    cout << "Height: " << person1.height << " feet" << endl;  
    cout << "Gender: " << person1.gender << endl;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Basic structure using the struct keyword.

```
// Define a  
structure named  
"Point" for 2D  
coordinates
```

```
struct Point {  
    double x;  
    double y;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an instance of the "Point" structure  
    Point p1;  
  
    // Assign values to the structure members  
    p1.x = 3.5;  
    p1.y = 2.0;  
  
    // Display the coordinates  
    cout << "Point coordinates: (" << p1.x << ", " << p1.y << ")" << endl;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Example of a C++ program with a structure containing an array as a member:

```
// Define a struct named
"Student" that contains an
array of exam scores

struct Student {
    string name;
    int rollNumber;
    int examScores[3]; // Array
to store exam scores for
three exams
};
```

```
int main() {
    // Create an instance of the "Student" struct
    Student student1;

    // Assign values to the structure members
    student1.name = "Alice";
    student1.rollNumber = 101;
    student1.examScores[0] = 85;
    student1.examScores[1] = 92;
    student1.examScores[2] = 78;

    // Display the student's information and exam scores
    cout << "Name: " << student1.name << endl;
    cout << "Roll Number: " << student1.rollNumber << endl;
    cout << "Exam Scores: ";
    for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {
        cout << student1.examScores[i] << " ";
    }
    cout << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

Example of a C++ structure with an array of structures:

```
// Define a structure named  
"Student" to represent  
student information
```

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int rollNumber;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an array of "Student" structures  
    const int numStudents = 3; // Number of students  
    Student students[numStudents];  
  
    // Assign values to the structure members for each student  
    students[0].name = "Alice";  
    students[0].rollNumber = 101;  
  
    students[1].name = "Bob";  
    students[1].rollNumber = 102;  
  
    students[2].name = "Charlie";  
    students[2].rollNumber = 103;  
  
    // Display the information for each student in the array  
    for (int i = 0; i < numStudents; i++) {  
        cout << "Student " << i + 1 << " Information:" << endl;  
        cout << "Name: " << students[i].name << endl;  
        cout << "Roll Number: " << students[i].rollNumber << endl;  
        cout << endl;  
    }  
    return 0;  
}
```


Example of a C++ program with a nested struct.

```
// Define a struct named "Address"
for storing address information
```

```
struct Address {
    string street;
    string city;
    string state;
    string zipCode;
};
```

```
// Define a struct named "Person"
that includes the "Address" struct as
a member
```

```
struct Person {
    string name;
    int age;
    Address address;
};
```

```
int main() {
    // Create an instance of the "Person" struct
    Person person1;
```

```
    // Assign values to the structure members
    person1.name = "John Doe";
    person1.age = 30;
    person1.address.street = "123 Main St";
    person1.address.city = "Anytown";
    person1.address.state = "CA";
    person1.address.zipCode = "12345";
```

```
    // Display the person's information, including the nested "Address" struct
    cout << "Name: " << person1.name << endl;
    cout << "Age: " << person1.age << endl;
    cout << "Address:" << endl;
    cout << "Street: " << person1.address.street << endl;
    cout << "City: " << person1.address.city << endl;
    cout << "State: " << person1.address.state << endl;
    cout << "Zip Code: " << person1.address.zipCode << endl;
```

```
    return 0;
}
```

Passing Structure Members as Arguments to Functions:

You can pass individual members of a structure as arguments to a function. For example:

```
struct Point {  
    int x;  
    int y;  
};
```

```
void printCoordinates(int x, int y) {  
    cout << "X: " << x << ", Y: " << y << endl;  
}
```

```
Point myPoint = {5, 10};
```

```
printCoordinates(myPoint.x, myPoint.y);
```

Passing Structure Variables as Parameters:

You can pass entire structure variables as function parameters:

```
void printPoint(Point p) {  
    cout << "X: " << p.x << ", Y: " << p.y << endl;  
}
```

```
Point myPoint = {5, 10};
```

```
printPoint(myPoint);
```

Returning Structure from Function:

Functions can return structures as well:

```
Point createPoint(int x, int y) {  
    Point p;  
    p.x = x;  
    p.y = y;  
    return p;  
}
```

```
Point newPoint = createPoint(3, 7);
```

Pointers to Structure Variables:

You can use pointers to access and manipulate structure variables:

```
Point myPoint = {5, 10};
```

```
Point* pPoint = &myPoint;
```

```
cout << "X: " << pPoint->x << ", Y: " << pPoint->y << endl;
```

Passing Structure Pointers as Arguments to a Function:

You can pass pointers to structures as function parameters:

```
void modifyPoint(Point* p) {  
    p->x += 2;  
    p->y += 2;  
}
```

```
Point myPoint = {5, 10};
```

```
modifyPoint(&myPoint);
```

Returning a Structure Pointer from Function:

Functions can also return pointers to structures:

```
Point* createAndReturnPoint(int x, int y) {  
    Point* p = new Point;  
    p->x = x;  
    p->y = y;  
    return p;  
}
```

```
Point* newPoint = createAndReturnPoint(3, 7);
```

```
struct Point {  
    int x, y;  
};
```

```
Point* createAndReturnPoint(int x, int y) {  
    Point* p = new Point;  
    p->x = x;  
    p->y = y;  
    return p;  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    Point* newPoint = createAndReturnPoint(3, 7);  
  
    cout << "Point: (" << newPoint->x << ", " << newPoint->y << ")\n";  
  
    // Free allocated memory  
    delete newPoint;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```


Passing Array of Structures:

You can create an array of structures and pass them to functions:

```
struct Student {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
};
```

```
void printStudents(Student students[], int size) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {  
        cout << "Name: " << students[i].name << ", Age: " << students[i].age << endl;  
    }  
}
```

```
Student classStudents[3] = {"Alice", 20}, {"Bob", 22}, {"Charlie", 19};
```

```
printStudents(classStudents, 3);
```

Dynamic allocation within a struct typically involves allocating memory for one or more members of the struct using pointers. This is commonly used when you need to handle variable-sized data or when you want to manage memory manually.

```
// Define a struct named  
"Student" that includes  
dynamic memory allocation
```

```
struct Student {  
    // Dynamic memory allocation for  
    name  
    char* name;  
  
    int rollNumber;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an instance of the "Student" struct  
    Student student1;  
  
    // Allocate memory for the name member dynamically  
    student1.name = new char[50]; // Allocates space for a name of up to 49 characters  
  
    // Assign values to the structure members  
    cout << "Enter Name: ";  
    cin.getline(student1.name, 50);  
  
    cout << "Enter Roll Number: ";  
    cin >> student1.rollNumber;  
  
    // Display the student's information  
    cout << "Name: " << student1.name << endl;  
    cout << "Roll Number: " << student1.rollNumber << endl;  
  
    // Don't forget to release the allocated memory when you're done  
    delete[] student1.name;  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Dynamic allocation of a 2D array within a struct involves using pointers to create a dynamically allocated 2D array and then storing a pointer to this array as a member of the struct.

```
// Define a struct named
"Matrix" to store a dynamic
2D array

struct Matrix {
    // Pointer to a dynamically allocated
    2D array

    int** data;

    int rows;
    int cols;
};
```

```
// Function to allocate memory for a dynamic 2D array
int** createDynamic2DArray(int rows, int cols) {
    int** array = new int*[rows]; // Allocate memory for an array of int
    pointers (rows)
    for (int i = 0; i < rows; i++) {
        array[i] = new int[cols]; // Allocate memory for each row (cols)
    }
    return array;
}

// Function to deallocate memory for a dynamic 2D array
void deleteDynamic2DArray(int** array, int rows) {
    for (int i = 0; i < rows; i++) {
        delete[] array[i]; // Deallocate memory for each row
    }
    delete[] array; // Deallocate memory for the array of int pointers
}
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create an instance of the "Matrix" struct  
    Matrix matrix1;  
  
    // Input the number of rows and columns  
    cout << "Enter the number of rows: ";  
    cin >> matrix1.rows;  
    cout << "Enter the number of columns: ";  
    cin >> matrix1.cols;  
  
    // Allocate memory for the dynamic 2D array  
    matrix1.data = createDynamic2DArray(matrix1.rows, matrix1.cols);  
  
    // Input data into the matrix  
    cout << "Enter matrix elements:" << endl;  
    for (int i = 0; i < matrix1.rows; i++) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < matrix1.cols; j++) {  
            cin >> matrix1.data[i][j];  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```
    // Display the matrix  
    cout << "Matrix:" << endl;  
    for (int i = 0; i < matrix1.rows; i++) {  
        for (int j = 0; j < matrix1.cols; j++) {  
            cout << matrix1.data[i][j] << " ";  
        }  
        cout << endl;  
    }  
  
    // Deallocate memory when you're done  
    deleteDynamic2DArray(matrix1.data, matrix1.rows);  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Dynamic Memory Allocation (DMA) is a technique in C++ that allows you to allocate memory for variables at runtime from the heap memory. When dealing with structures, you can dynamically allocate memory for structure variables using pointers.

```
// Define a
structure

struct Student
{
    string name;
    int age;
};
```

```
int main() {
    // Dynamically allocate memory for a single structure variable
    Student* studentPtr = new Student;

    // Initialize the dynamically allocated structure
    studentPtr->name = "Alice";
    studentPtr->age = 20;

    // Access and print the data
    cout << "Name: " << studentPtr->name << ", Age: " << studentPtr->age << endl;

    // Don't forget to deallocate the memory when done
    delete studentPtr;
```

```
// Dynamically allocate memory for an array of structure variables
int numStudents = 3;
Student* studentArray = new Student[numStudents];

// Initialize the dynamically allocated array
studentArray[0] = {"Bob", 22};
studentArray[1] = {"Charlie", 19};
studentArray[2] = {"David", 21};

// Access and print the data in the array
for (int i = 0; i < numStudents; i++) {
    cout << "Name: " << studentArray[i].name << ", Age: " << studentArray[i].age << endl;
}

// Don't forget to deallocate the memory when done
delete[] studentArray;

return 0;
}
```

Functions within structures

```
struct Person {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    double height;  
  
    // Member function to initialize a Person object  
  
    void initialize(const string& n, int a, double h) {  
        name = n;  
        age = a;  
        height = h;  
    }  
  
    // Member function to display information about the person  
  
    void display() {  
        cout << "Name: " << name << endl;  
        cout << "Age: " << age << endl;  
        cout << "Height: " << height << endl;  
    }  
};
```

```
int main()  
{  
    // Create a Person object  
  
    Person person1;  
  
    // Call the initialize function to set the values  
  
    person1.initialize("John", 30, 6.1);  
  
    // Call the display function to show information  
  
    person1.display();  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

Functions within structures

```
struct Rectangle {  
  
    double length;  
    double width;  
  
    // Member function to calculate the area of the rectangle  
    double calculateArea() {  
        return length * width;  
    }  
  
    // Member function to calculate the perimeter of the rectangle  
    double calculatePerimeter() {  
        return 2 * (length + width);  
    }  
  
    // Member function to display information about the rectangle  
    void displayInfo() {  
        cout << "Length: " << length << endl;  
        cout << "Width: " << width << endl;  
        cout << "Area: " << calculateArea() << endl;  
        cout << "Perimeter: " << calculatePerimeter() << endl;  
    }  
};
```

```
int main() {  
  
    // Create a Rectangle object  
  
    Rectangle myRectangle;  
  
    // Set the dimensions of the  
    rectangle  
  
    myRectangle.length = 5.0;  
    myRectangle.width = 3.0;  
  
    // Display information about the  
    rectangle  
  
    myRectangle.displayInfo();  
  
    return 0;  
}
```


Functions within structures

```
struct Rectangle {
    double length;
    double width;
    // Function prototypes inside the structure
    double calculateArea();
    double calculatePerimeter();
    void displayInfo();
};

// Function to calculate the area of a rectangle given a Rectangle object
double Rectangle::calculateArea() {
    return length * width;
}

// Function to calculate the perimeter of a rectangle given a Rectangle object
double Rectangle::calculatePerimeter() {
    return 2 * (length + width);
}

// Function to display information about a rectangle given a Rectangle object
void Rectangle::displayInfo() {
    cout << "Length: " << length << endl;
    cout << "Width: " << width << endl;
    cout << "Area: " << calculateArea() << endl;
    cout << "Perimeter: " << calculatePerimeter() << endl;
}
```

```
int main() {

    // Create a Rectangle object

    Rectangle myRectangle;

    // Set the dimensions of the rectangle

    myRectangle.length = 5.0;
    myRectangle.width = 3.0;

    // Display information about the rectangle using the
    functions

    myRectangle.displayInfo();

    return 0;
}
```

1. Create a **student structure**, whose members are
 - i. Name (a char array),
 - ii. roll_number,
 - iii. marks (an array of type float having size 5),
 - iv. major (a char array, to show the major of the student).
2. There shall also be a nested structure of **type date struct** inside the student structure, for the **birthdate and registration date**.
3. Now first create a student variable named **CStudent**.
4. **Fill up all the fields (members)** with some random values from the console using “cin”
5. Secondly create another student variable named **EStudent**.
6. **Assign CStudent to EStudent**.
7. **Show the values of the members** of both struct variables using cout.

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

// Define a structure for representing dates
struct Date {
    int day;
    int month;
    int year;
};

// Define a structure named "Student"
struct Student {
    char name[50];
    int roll_number;
    float marks[5];
    char major[50];
    Date birthdate;
    Date registration_date;
};
```

```
int main() {  
    // Create a variable named "CSStudent" of type "Student"  
    Student CSStudent;  
  
    // Input values for CSStudent from the console using "cin"  
    cout << "Enter Name: ";  
    cin.getline(CSStudent.name, sizeof(CSStudent.name));  
  
    cout << "Enter Roll Number: ";  
    cin >> CSStudent.roll_number;  
  
    cout << "Enter Marks for 5 Subjects: ";  
    for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {  
        cin >> CSStudent.marks[i];  
    }  
  
    cin.ignore(); // Ignore the newline character left in the input buffer
```

```
cout << "Enter Major: ";  
cin.getline(CSStudent.major, sizeof(CSStudent.major));
```

```
cout << "Enter Birthdate (day month year): ";  
cin >> CSStudent.birthdate.day;  
cin >> CSStudent.birthdate.month;  
cin >> CSStudent.birthdate.year;
```

```
cout << "Enter Registration Date (day month year): ";  
cin >> CSStudent.registration_date.day;  
cin >> CSStudent.registration_date.month;  
cin >> CSStudent.registration_date.year;
```

```
// Create another student variable named "EEStudent" and assign CSStudent to it
Student EEStudent = CSStudent;

// Display the values of CSStudent and EEStudent
cout << "\nValues of CSStudent:" << endl;
cout << "Name: " << CSStudent.name << endl;
cout << "Roll Number: " << CSStudent.roll_number << endl;
cout << "Marks: ";
for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    cout << CSStudent.marks[i] << " ";
}
cout << endl;
cout << "Major: " << CSStudent.major << endl;
cout << "Birthdate: " << CSStudent.birthdate.day << "/" <<
CSStudent.birthdate.month << "/" << CSStudent.birthdate.year << endl;
cout << "Registration Date: " << CSStudent.registration_date.day << "/" <<
CSStudent.registration_date.month << "/" << CSStudent.registration_date.year <<
endl;
```

```
cout << "\nValues of EESStudent (assigned from CSStudent):" << endl;
cout << "Name: " << EESStudent.name << endl;
cout << "Roll Number: " << EESStudent.roll_number << endl;
cout << "Marks: ";
for (int i = 0; i < 5; i++) {
    cout << EESStudent.marks[i] << " ";
}
cout << endl;
cout << "Major: " << EESStudent.major << endl;
cout << "Birthdate: " << EESStudent.birthdate.day << "/" <<
EESStudent.birthdate.month << "/" << EESStudent.birthdate.year << endl;
cout << "Registration Date: " << EESStudent.registration_date.day << "/" <<
EESStudent.registration_date.month << "/" << EESStudent.registration_date.year <<
endl;

return 0;
}
```

- Define and Print a Structure:**

Write a C++ program to define a struct Student with members name, age, and grade. Create an instance and print its values.

- User Input in Structure:**

Modify the previous program to take input from the user and display the details of a student.

- Array of Structures:**

Create an array of struct Book containing title, author, and price. Store details of 3 books and display them.

- Function with Structure Argument:**

Write a function that takes a struct Rectangle with length and width as arguments and returns the area.

- Structure with Default Values:**

Define a structure Car with brand, model, and year. Initialize it using default values inside main().

- Pass Structure by Reference:**

Create a struct Employee with name, salary, and designation. Write a function that modifies the salary by reference.

- Nested Structures:**

Define a structure Address inside struct Employee. Store city and state within Address. Create an employee instance and print its details.

- Pointer to Structure:**

Create a pointer to a struct Student, dynamically allocate memory, assign values, and display them.

- Structure with Array Member:**

Define struct Exam containing subject[3] and marks[3]. Store three subjects and marks for a student, then print them.

- Dynamic Array of Structures:**

Write a program to dynamically allocate an array of struct Employee, take user input for multiple employees, and print their details.

- Structure and Sorting:**

Define struct Student with name and marks. Store details of five students in an array and sort them in descending order of marks.