

## \* void Pointers in C++.

A void pointer in C++ is a pointer that can point to any data type. Void pointers are also known as Generic pointers because they can be used to point to any type of object or data. Void pointers are declared using the keyword "void" as the pointer type.

Syntax:-

```
void *ptr;
```

This pointer can be used to point to any type of data, but we cannot deference it directly since the compiler does not know the datatype it is pointing to.

To use a void pointer, we must first cast it to a specific datatype. For example - if we want to use a void pointer to point to an integer, we can cast it to an `int*` datatype.

```
void *ptr;
```

```
int x = 10;
```

```
ptr = &x;
```

```
int *intPtr = static_cast<int*>(ptr);
```

```
cout << *intPtr;
```

"static\_cast" operator is used to cast the void pointer to an `int*` pointer. It tells the compiler that the void



pointer should be interpreted as a pointer to an integer.

void pointer are commonly used in C++ for Dynamic Memory allocation using the new operator. When we allocate memory dynamically using new, the type of the allocated memory is determined at runtime. We can use a void pointer to the dynamically allocated memory & then cast it to the appropriate datatype when we need to use it.



## \* static\_cast operator:

In C++, `static_cast` is a casting operator that is used to convert a value from one datatype to another.

Syntax:-

`static_cast <new_type> (expression);`

"new\_type" is the datatype in which we want to cast the expression. The expression can be a variable, a literal or any valid expression in C++.

Note:- `static_cast` is a compile time operator, it means that the conversion is done at compile time rather than at runtime. This can result in faster code execution since the compiler can optimize the code based on the specific datatype that are being used. However, it also means that the cast can fail at runtime if the datatypes are not compatible.