

# Namespaces and using

- **namespace**: An area for scoping identifiers (functions, variables).
  - Helps avoid collisions between items with the same name.
  - C++ console I/O objects (cout, cin, etc.) are in name space `std`.
- `using namespace name;`
  - Brings symbols from a library's "name space" into the global scope of your program so you can refer to them.
- `namespace::identifier`
  - without a `using` declaration, you can access symbols from a namespace by preceding them with their namespace name and `::`.

```
std::cout << "Hello, world!" << std::endl;
```



# Output parameters



xkcdDatingRange

- What is the minimum and maximum non-creepy age to date?

```
void datingRange(int age, int& min, int& max) {  
    min = age / 2 + 7;  
    max = (age - 7) * 2;  
}
```

```
int main() {  
    int young;  
    int old;  
    datingRange(48, young, old);  
    count << "A 48-year-old could date someone from "  
        << young << " to " << old << " years old." << endl;  
}
```



<http://xkcd.com/314/>

```
// A 48-year-old could date someone from  
// 31 to 52 years old.  
design gets set up here  
when min refers to young
```



# Reference pros/cons



- **benefits** of reference parameters:
  - a useful way to be able to 'return' more than one value
  - often used with objects, to avoid making bulky copies when passing
- **downsides** of reference parameters:
  - hard to tell from call whether it is ref; can't tell if it will be changed
    - `foo(a, b, c);`    `// will foo change a, b, or c? :-/`
  - slightly slower than value parameters
  - can't pass a literal value to a ref parameter; must "refer" to a variable
    - `grow(39);`    `// error`

this code if i pass  
boo abc