

【C++】 Day26

▼ Class	C++
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🔗 Material	
# Series Number	
☰ Summary	Delegate Constructor and Default Constructor

【Ch7】 Classes

7.5.2 Delegating Constructors

A **delegating constructor** uses another constructor from its own class to perform its initialization. It is said to “delegate” some (or all) of its work to this other constructor.

Like any other constructor, a delegating constructor has a **member initializer list** and a **function body**. In a delegating constructor, the member initializer list has a **single entry** that is the **name of the class itself**. The name of the class is followed by a parenthesized list of arguments.

See the following `Sales_data` class for an example:

```
class Sales_data {
    //nondelegating constructor initializes members from corresponding arguments
    Sales_data(string s, unsigned cnt, double price) : bookNo(s), units_sold(cnt), revenue(cnt * price) {}

    //remaining constructors all delegate to another constructor
    Sales_data() : Sales_data("", 0, 0) {}
    Sales_data(string s) : Sales_data(s, 0, 0) {}
    Sales_data(istream &is) : Sales_data() { read(is, *this); }
};
```

7.5.2 The Role of the Default Constructor

The **default constructor** is used automatically whenever an object is default or value initialized.

Default initialization happens when:

- When we **define nonstatic variables or arrays at block scope** without initializers
- When a class that itself has **members of class type** uses the synthesized default constructor
- When members of class type are **not explicitly initialized in a constructor initializer list**

See the following for an example:

```
class NoDefault {
public:
    NoDefault(const string&);
};

struct A {
    NoDefault my_mem;
};
A a; //error: cannot synthesize a constructor for A

struct B {
    B() {} //error: no initializer for b_member
    NoDefault b_member;
};
```

Best Practices: It is almost always right to provide a default constructor if other constructors are being defined

Using the Default Constructor

The following declaration of `obj` **compiles without complaint**. However, when we **try to use `obj`**:

```
Sales_data obj(); //ok: but defines a function, not an object
if(obj.isbn() == Primer.isbn()) //error: obj is a function
```

The problem is that, although we intended to declare a default-initialized object, `obj` actually **declares a function taking no parameters** and returning an object of type `Sales_data`.

The correct way to define an object that uses the default constructor for initialization is to leave off the trailing, empty parentheses:

```
//ok: obj is a default-initialized object
Sales_data obj;
```

Warning: It is a common mistake to try to declare an object initialized with the default constructor as follows:

```
Sales_data obj1(); //error: Declares a function, not an object
Sales_data obj2; //ok: obj2 is an object, not a function
```

Exercise

Exercise 7.43: Assume we have a class named `NoDefault` that has a constructor that takes an `int`, but has no default constructor. Define a class `C` that has a member of type `NoDefault`. Define the default constructor for `C`.

Exercise 7.44: Is the following declaration legal? If not, why not?

```
vector<NoDefault> vec(10);
```

Exercise 7.45: What if we defined the `vector` in the previous exercise to hold objects of type `C`?

```
class NoDefault {
public:
    NoDefault(int n) {}
};

class C {
public:
    C() : mem(NoDefault(0)) {}
    NoDefault mem;
};
```

```
//7.44: No, because NoDefault doesn't provide a default constructor
```

```
//7.45: Yes, C has a default constructor
```