

# Inheritance in C++

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March 29, 2023

- Inheritance
  - The mechanism by which one class can acquire the properties of another class, and then extend that class
  - We will utilize the “is a” relationship to define inheritance
    - \* For example, a car is a vehicle
- Hierarchy
  - Concepts at higher levels are more general
  - Concepts at lower levels are more specific (inherit properties of concepts at higher levels)
  - Derived classes are special cases of base classes
  - A derived class can also serve as a base class for new classes
  - There is no limit on the depth of inheritance allowed in C++ (as far as it is within the limits of the compiler)
  - Derived classes can inherit from more than one base class
- Three Benefits of Inheritance
  - 1. You can reuse the methods and data of the existing class
  - 2. You can extend the existing class by adding new data and new methods
  - 3. You can modify the existing class by overloading its methods with your own implementations
- Protected and Private Inheritance
  - With protected inheritance, public and protected members of  $Y$  become protected in  $X$  (*i.e.* classes derived from  $X$  inherit the public members of  $Y$  as protected)
  - With private inheritance, public and protected members of  $Y$  become private in  $X$  (*i.e.* classes derived from  $X$  inherit the public members of  $Y$  as private)
  - The default inheritance is private
- Virtual Functions
  - C++ uses virtual functions to implement run-time binding
  - To force the compiler to generate code that guarantees dynamic binding, the word virtual should appear before the function declaration in the definition of the base class
- `mmap()` and `munmap()`

- Used to allocate memory space by mapping to new address
  - `mmap()` does the mapping
  - `munmap()` does the opposite — clears a memory address
- Certain devices can be mapped from physical to virtual space through memory mapping