Queue – Data Structure

Definition:

A Queue is a linear data structure that follows the FIFO (First In First Out) principle.

This means the element inserted first will be removed first.

Key Characteristics:

- Insertion happens at the rear (end).
- **Deletion** happens from the **front** (beginning).
- It is a linear structure, just like a line of people.

Queue Operations:

- 1. **Enqueue:** Add an element to the rear.
- 2. **Dequeue:** Remove an element from the front.
- 3. Front(): Get the front element without removing it.
- 4. Rear(): Get the last element.
- 5. **isEmpty():** Check if the queue is empty.
- 6. **isFull():** Check if the queue is full (only in array-based implementation).

Types of Queues:

- 1. **Simple Queue** Standard FIFO queue.
- 2. **Circular Queue** The last position is connected to the first to save space.

- 3. **Priority Queue** Elements are served based on priority, not just order.
- 4. **Deque (Double Ended Queue)** Insertion and deletion can happen from both ends.

Implementation:

- Using Array
- Using Linked List
- Using **Two Stacks** (for special logic)

Real-life Examples:

- Queue at a ticket counter
- Print job scheduling
- Call center phone queues
- Operating system task scheduling