



Builder in C++

Builder is a creational design pattern, which allows constructing complex objects step by step.

Unlike other creational patterns, Builder doesn't require products to have a common interface. That makes it possible to produce different products using the same construction process.

[Learn more about Builder](#)

Complexity:

Popularity:

Usage examples: The Builder pattern is a well-known pattern in C++ world. It's especially useful when you need to create an object with lots of possible configuration options.

Identification: The Builder pattern can be recognized in a class, which has a single creation method and several methods to configure the resulting object. Builder methods often support chaining (for example, `someBuilder->setValueA(1)->setValueB(2)->create()`).

Conceptual Example

This example illustrates the structure of the **Builder** design pattern. It focuses on answering these questions:

- What classes does it consist of?
- What roles do these classes play?
- In what way the elements of the pattern are related?

main.cc: Conceptual example

```
/**
 * It makes sense to use the Builder pattern only when your products are quite
 * complex and require extensive configuration.
 *
 * Unlike in other creational patterns, different concrete builders can produce
```

```
* unrelated products. In other words, results of various builders may not
* always follow the same interface.
*/
```

```
class Product1{
public:
    std::vector<std::string> parts_;
    void ListParts()const{
        std::cout << "Product parts: ";
        for (size_t i=0;i<parts_.size();i++){
            if(parts_[i]== parts_.back()){
                std::cout << parts_[i];
            }else{
                std::cout << parts_[i] << ", ";
            }
        }
        std::cout << "\n\n";
    }
};
```

```
/**
 * The Builder interface specifies methods for creating the different parts of
 * the Product objects.
 */
```

```
class Builder{
public:
    virtual ~Builder(){}
    virtual void ProducePartA() const =0;
    virtual void ProducePartB() const =0;
    virtual void ProducePartC() const =0;
};
```

```
/**
 * The Concrete Builder classes follow the Builder interface and provide
 * specific implementations of the building steps. Your program may have several
 * variations of Builders, implemented differently.
 */
```

```
class ConcreteBuilder1 : public Builder{
private:
```

```
    Product1* product;
```

```
/**
 * A fresh builder instance should contain a blank product object, which is
 * used in further assembly.
 */
```

```
public:
```

```
    ConcreteBuilder1(){
        this->Reset();
    }
```

```

~ConcreteBuilder1(){
    delete product;
}

void Reset(){
    this->product= new Product1();
}
/**
 * All production steps work with the same product instance.
 */

void ProducePartA()const override{
    this->product->parts_.push_back("PartA1");
}

void ProducePartB()const override{
    this->product->parts_.push_back("PartB1");
}

void ProducePartC()const override{
    this->product->parts_.push_back("PartC1");
}

/**
 * Concrete Builders are supposed to provide their own methods for
 * retrieving results. That's because various types of builders may create
 * entirely different products that don't follow the same interface.
 * Therefore, such methods cannot be declared in the base Builder interface
 * (at least in a statically typed programming language). Note that PHP is a
 * dynamically typed language and this method CAN be in the base interface.
 * However, we won't declare it there for the sake of clarity.
 *
 * Usually, after returning the end result to the client, a builder instance
 * is expected to be ready to start producing another product. That's why
 * it's a usual practice to call the reset method at the end of the
 * `getProduct` method body. However, this behavior is not mandatory, and
 * you can make your builders wait for an explicit reset call from the
 * client code before disposing of the previous result.
 */

/**
 * Please be careful here with the memory ownership. Once you call
 * GetProduct the user of this function is responsible to release this
 * memory. Here could be a better option to use smart pointers to avoid
 * memory leaks
 */

Product1* GetProduct() {
    Product1* result= this->product;
    this->Reset();
    return result;
}

```

```

};

/**
 * The Director is only responsible for executing the building steps in a
 * particular sequence. It is helpful when producing products according to a
 * specific order or configuration. Strictly speaking, the Director class is
 * optional, since the client can control builders directly.
 */
class Director{
    /**
     * @var Builder
     */
    private:
    Builder* builder;
    /**
     * The Director works with any builder instance that the client code passes
     * to it. This way, the client code may alter the final type of the newly
     * assembled product.
     */

    public:

    void set_builder(Builder* builder){
        this->builder=builder;
    }

    /**
     * The Director can construct several product variations using the same
     * building steps.
     */

    void BuildMinimalViableProduct(){
        this->builder->ProducePartA();
    }

    void BuildFullFeaturedProduct(){
        this->builder->ProducePartA();
        this->builder->ProducePartB();
        this->builder->ProducePartC();
    }
};

/**
 * The client code creates a builder object, passes it to the director and then
 * initiates the construction process. The end result is retrieved from the
 * builder object.
 */
/**
 * I used raw pointers for simplicity however you may prefer to use smart
 * pointers here
 */
void ClientCode(Director& director)
{

```

```

ConcreteBuilder1* builder = new ConcreteBuilder1();
director.set_builder(builder);
std::cout << "Standard basic product:\n";
director.BuildMinimalViableProduct();

Product1* p= builder->GetProduct();
p->ListParts();
delete p;

std::cout << "Standard full featured product:\n";
director.BuildFullFeaturedProduct();

p= builder->GetProduct();
p->ListParts();
delete p;

// Remember, the Builder pattern can be used without a Director class.
std::cout << "Custom product:\n";
builder->ProducePartA();
builder->ProducePartC();
p=builder->GetProduct();
p->ListParts();
delete p;

delete builder;
}

int main(){
    Director* director= new Director();
    ClientCode(*director);
    delete director;
    return 0;
}

```

Output.txt: Execution result

```

Standard basic product:
Product parts: PartA1

Standard full featured product:
Product parts: PartA1, PartB1, PartC1

Custom product:
Product parts: PartA1, PartC1

```

