Chapter 2 - The Basics

- 1. Don't panic! All will become clear in time
- 2. You don't have to know every detail of C++ to write good programs
- 3. Focus on programming techniques, not on language features

Chapter 3 - Abstraction Mechanisms

- 1. Express ideas directly in code
- 2. Define classes to represent application concepts directly in code
- 3. Use concrete classes to represent simple concepts and performance-critical components
- 4. Avoid "naked" new and delete operations
- 5. Use resource handles and RAII to manage resources
- Use abstract classes as interfaces when complete separation of interface and implementation is needed
- 7. Use class hierarchies to represent concepts with inherent hierarchical structure
- 8. When designing a class hierarchy, distinguish between implementation inheritance and interface inheritance
- 9. Control construction, copy, move, and destruction of objects
- 10. Return containers by value (relying on move for efficiency)
- 11. Provide strong resource safety
- Use containers, defined as resource handle templates, to hold collections of values of the same type
- 13. Use function templates to represent general algorithms
- 14. Use function objects, including lambdas, to represent policies and actions
- 15. Use type and template aliases to provide a uniform notation for types that may vary among similar types or among implementations

Chapter 4 - Containers and Algorithms

- 1. Don't reinvent the wheel
- 2. When you have a choice, prefer the standard library over other libraries
- 3. Do not think that the standard library is ideal for everything
- 4. Remember to #include the headers for the facilities you use
- 5. Remember that standard-library facilities are defined in namespace std
- 6. Prefer strings over C-style strings
- 7. iostreams are type sensitive, type-safe, and extensible
- 8. Prefer vector, map<K,T>, and unordered_map<K,T> over T[]

- 9. Know your standard containers and their tradeoffs
- Use vector as your default container
- 11. Prefer compact data structures
- 12. If in doubt, use a range-checked vector (such as Vec)
- 13. Use push_back() or back_inserter() to add elements to a container
- 14. Use push_back() on a vector rather than realloc() on an array
- 15. Catch common exceptions in main()
- 16. Know your standard algorithms and prefer them over handwritten loops
- 17. If iterator use gets tedious, define container algorithms

Chapter 5 - Concurrency and Utilities

- 1. Use resource handles to manage resources (RAII)
- 2. Use unique_ptr to refer to objects of polymorphic type
- 3. Use shared_ptr to refer to shared objects
- 4. Use type-safe mechanisms for concurrency
- 5. Minimize the use of shared data
- 6. Don't choose shared data for communication because of "efficiency" without thought and preferably not without measurement
- 7. Think in terms of concurrent tasks, rather than threads
- 8. A library doesn't have to be large or complicated to be useful
- 9. Time your programs before making claims about efficiency
- 10. You can write code to explicitly depend on properties of types
- 11. Use regular expressions for simple pattern matching
- 12. Don't try to do serious numeric computation using only the language
- 13. Properties of numeric types are accessible through numeric_limits

Chapter 6 - Types and Declarations

- 1. For the final word on language definition issues, see the ISO C++ standard
- 2. Avoid unspecified and undefined behavior
- 3. Isolate code that must depend on implementation-defined behavior
- 4. Avoid unnecessary assumptions about the numeric value of characters
- 5. Remember that an integer starting with a 0 is octal
- Avoid "magic constants"
- 7. Avoid unnecessary assumptions about the size of integers
- 8. Avoid unnecessary assumptions about the range and precision of floating-point types
- 9. Prefer plain char over signed char and unsigned char
- 10. Beware of conversions between signed and unsigned types
- 11. Declare one name (only) per declaration

- 12. Keep common and local names short, and keep uncommon and non-local names longer
- 13. Avoid similar-looking names
- 14. Name an object to reflect its meaning rather than its type
- 15. Maintain a consistent naming style
- 16. Avoid ALL CAPS names
- 17. Keep scopes small
- 18. Don't use the same name in both a scope and an enclosing scope
- 19. Prefer the {}-initializer syntax for declarations with a named type
- 20. Prefer the = syntax for the initialization in declarations using auto
- 21. Avoid uninitialized variables
- 22. Use an alias to define a meaningful name for a built-in type in cases in which the built-in type used to represent a value might change
- 23. Use an alias to define synonyms for types

Chapter 7 - Pointers, Arrays, and References

- 1. Keep use of pointers simple and straightforward
- 2. Avoid nontrivial pointer arithmetic
- 3. Take care not to write beyond the bounds of an array
- 4. Avoid multidimensional arrays
- 5. Use nullptr rather than 0 or NULL
- 6. Use containers (e.g., vector, array, and valarray) rather than built-in (C-style) arrays
- 7. Use string rather than zero-terminated arrays of char
- 8. Use raw strings for string literals with complicated uses of backslash
- 9. Prefer const reference arguments to plain reference arguments
- 10. Use rvalue references (only) for forwarding and move semantics
- 11. Keep pointers that represent ownership inside handle classes
- 12. Avoid void* except in low-level code
- 13. Use const pointers and const references to express immutability in interfaces
- 14. Prefer references to pointers as arguments, except where "no object" is a reasonable option

Chapter 8 - Structures, Unions, and Enumerations

- 1. When compactness of data is important, lay out structure data members with larger members before smaller ones
- 2. Use bit-fields to represent hardware-imposed data layouts
- 3. Don't naively try to optimize memory consumption by packing several values into a single byte

- 4. Use unions to save space (represent alternatives) and never for type conversion
- 5. Use enumerations to represent sets of named constants
- 6. Prefer class enums over "plain" enums to minimize surprises
- 7. Define operations on enumerations for safe and simple use

Chapter 9 - Statements

- 1. Don't declare a variable until you have a value to initialize it with
- 2. Prefer a switch-statement to an if-statement when there is a choice
- 3. Prefer a range-for-statement to a for-statement when there is a choice
- 4. Prefer a for-statement to a while-statement when there is an obvious loop variable
- 5. Prefer a while-statement to a for-statement when there is no obvious loop variable
- 6. Avoid do-statements
- 7. Avoid goto
- 8. Keep comments crisp
- 9. Don't say in comments what can be clearly stated in code
- 10. State intent in comments
- 11. Maintain a consistent indentation style

Chapter 10 - Expressions

- 1. Prefer the standard library to other libraries and to "handcrafted code"
- 2. Use character-level input only when you have to
- 3. When reading, always consider ill-formed input
- Prefer suitable abstractions (classes, algorithms, etc.) to direct use of language features (e.g. ints, statements)
- Avoid complicated expressions
- 6. If in doubt about operator precedence, parenthesize
- 7. Avoid expressions with undefined order of evaluation
- 8. Avoid narrowing conversions
- 9. Define symbolic constants to avoid "magic constants"
- 10. Avoid narrowing conversions

Chapter 11 - Select Operations

- 1. Prefer prefix ++ over suffix ++
- 2. Use resource handles to avoid leaks, premature deletion, and double deletion
- 3. Don't put objects on the free store if you don't have to
- 4. Avoid "naked new" and "naked delete"

- 5. Use RAII
- 6. Prefer a named function object to a lambda if the operation requires comments
- 7. Prefer a named function object to a lambda if the operation is generally useful
- 8. Keep lambdas short
- 9. For maintainability and correctness, be careful about capture by reference
- 10. Let the compiler deduce the return type of a lambda
- 11. Use the T{e} notation for construction
- 12. Avoid explicit type conversion (casts)
- 13. When explicit type conversion is necessary, prefer a named cast
- Consider using a run-time checked cast, such as narrow_cast<
 (), for conversion between numeric types

Chapter 12 - Functions

- 1. "Package" meaningful operations as carefully named functions
- 2. A function should perform a single logical operation
- 3. Keep functions short
- 4. Don't return pointers or references to local variables
- 5. If a function may have to be evaluated at compile time, declare it constexpr
- 6. If a function cannot return, mark it [[noreturn]]
- 7. Use pass-by-value for small objects
- 8. Use pass-by-const-reference to pass large values that you don't need to modify
- 9. Return a result as a return value rather than modifying an object through an argument
- 10. Use rvalue references to implement move and forwarding
- 11. Pass a pointer if "no object" is a valid alternative (and represent "no object" by nullptr)
- 12. Use pass-by-non-const-reference only if you have to
- 13. Use const extensively and consistently
- 14. Assume that a char* or a const char* argument points to a C-style string
- 15. Avoid passing arrays as pointers
- Pass a homogeneous list of unknown length as an initializer_list (or as some other container)
- 17. Avoid unspecified numbers of arguments (...)
- 18. Use overloading when functions perform conceptually the same task on different types
- 19. When overloading on integers, provide functions to eliminate common ambiguities
- 20. Specify preconditions and postconditions for your functions
- 21. Prefer function objects (including lambdas) and virtual functions to pointers to functions
- 22. Avoid macros
- 23. If you must use macros, use ugly names with lots of capital letters

Chapter 13 - Exception Handling

- 1. Develop an error-handling strategy early in a design
- 2. Throw an exception to indicate that you cannot perform an assigned task
- 3. Use exceptions for error handling
- 4. Use purpose-designed user-defined types as exceptions (not built-in types)
- 5. If you for some reason cannot use exceptions, mimic them
- 6. Use hierarchical error handling
- 7. Keep the individual parts of error handling simple
- 8. Don't try to catch every exception in every function
- 9. Always provide the basic guarantee
- 10. Provide the strong guarantee unless there is a reason not to
- 11. Let a constructor establish an invariant, and throw if it cannot
- 12. Release locally owned resources before throwing an exception
- 13. Be sure that every resource acquired in a constructor is released when throwing an exception in that constructor
- 14. Don't use exceptions where more local control structures will suffice
- 15. Use the "Resource Acquisition Is Initialization" technique to manage resources
- 16. Minimize the use of try-blocks
- 17. Not every program needs to be exception-safe
- 18. Use "Resource Acquisition Is Initialization" and exception handlers to maintain invariants
- 19. Prefer proper resource handles to the less structured finally
- 20. Design your error-handling strategy around invariants
- 21. What can be checked at compile time is usually best checked at compile time (using static_assert)
- 22. Design your error-handling strategy to allow for different levels of checking/enforcement
- 23. If your function may not throw, declare it noexcept
- 24. Don't use exception specification
- 25. Catch exceptions that may be part of a hierarchy by reference
- 26. Don't assume that every exception is derived from class exception
- 27. Have main() catch and report all exceptions
- 28. Don't destroy information before you have its replacement ready
- 29. Leave operands in valid states before throwing an exception from an assignment
- 30. Never let an exception escape from a destructor
- 31. Keep ordinary code and error-handling code separate
- 32. Beware of memory leaks caused by memory allocated by new not being released in case of an exception
- 33. Assume that every exception that can be thrown by a function will be thrown

- 34. A library shouldn't unilaterally terminate a program. Instead, throw an exception and let a caller decide
- 35. A library shouldn't produce diagnostic output aimed at an end user. Instead, throw an exception and let a caller decide

Chapter 14 - Namespaces

- 1. Use namespaces to express logical structure
- 2. Place every nonlocal name, except main(), in some namespace
- 3. Design a namespace so that you can conveniently use it without accidentally gaining access to unrelated namespaces
- 4. Avoid very short names for namespaces
- 5. If necessary, use namespace aliases to abbreviate long namespace names
- 6. Avoid placing heavy notational burdens on users of your namespaces
- 7. Use separate namespaces for interfaces and implementations
- 8. Use the Namespace::member notation when defining namespace members
- 9. Use inline namespaces to support versioning
- Use using-directives for transition, for foundational libraries (such as std), or within a local scope
- 11. Don't put a using-directive in a header file

Chapter 15 - Source Files and Programs

- 1. Use header files to represent interfaces and to emphasize logical structure
- 2. #include a header in the source file that implements its functions
- 3. Don't define global entities with the same name and similar-but-different meanings in different translation units
- 4. Avoid non-inline function definitions in headers
- 5. Use #include only at global scope and in namespaces
- 6. #include only complete declarations
- 7. Use include guards
- 8. #include C headers in namespaces to avoid global names
- 9. Make headers self-contained
- 10. Distinguish between users' interfaces and implementers' interfaces
- 11. Distinguish between average users' interfaces and expert users' interfaces

12. Avoid non-local objects that require run-time initialization in code intended for use as part of non-C++ programs

Chapter 16 - Classes

- 1. Represent concepts as classes
- 2. Separate the interface of a class from its implementation
- 3. Use public data (structs) only when it really is just data and no invariant is meaningful for the data members
- 4. Define a constructor to handle initialization of objects
- 5. By default declare single-argument constructors explicit
- 6. Declare a member function that does not modify the state of its object const
- 7. A concrete type is the simplest kind of class. Where applicable, prefer a concrete type over more complicated classes and over plain data structures
- 8. Make a function a member only if it needs direct access to the representation of a class
- 9. Use a namespace to make the association between a class and its helper functions explicit
- 10. Make a member function that doesn't modify the value of its object a const member function
- 11. Make a function that needs access to the representation of a class but needn't be called for a specific object a static member function

Chapter 17 - Construction, Cleanup, Copy, and Move

- 1. Design constructors, assignments, and the destructor as a matched set of operations
- 2. Use a constructor to establish an invariant for a class
- 3. If a constructor acquires a resource, its class needs a destructor to release the resource
- 4. If a class has a virtual function, it needs a virtual destructor
- 5. If a class does not have a constructor, it can be initialized by memberwise initialization
- 6. Prefer {} initialization over = and () initialization
- 7. Give a class a default constructor if and only if there is a "natural" default value
- 8. If a class is a container, give it an initializer-list constructor
- 9. Initialize members and bases in their order of declaration
- If a class has a reference member, it probably needs copy operations (copy constructor and copy assignment)
- 11. Prefer member initialization over assignment in a constructor
- 12. Use in-class initializers to provide default values
- 13. If a class is a resource handle, it probably needs copy and move operations
- 14. When writing a copy constructor, be careful to copy every element that needs to be copied (beware of default initializers)
- 15. A copy operations should provide equivalence and independence

- 16. Beware of entangled data structures
- 17. Prefer move semantics and copy-on-write to shallow copy
- 18. If a class is used as a base class, protect against slicing
- 19. If a class needs a copy operation or a destructor, it probably needs a constructor, a destructor, a copy assignment, and a copy constructor
- 20. If a class has a pointer member, it probably needs a destructor and non-default copy operations
- 21. If a class is a resource handle, it needs a constructor, a destructor, and non-default copy operations
- 22. If a default constructor, assignment, or destructor is appropriate, let the compiler generate it (don't rewrite it yourself)
- 23. Be explicit about your invariants maintain them
- 24. Make sure that copy assignments are safe for self-assignment
- 25. When adding a new member to a class, check to see if there are user-defined constructors that need to be updated to initialize the member

Chapter 18 - Overloading

- 1. Define operators primarily to mimic conventional usage
- 2. Redefine or prohibit copying if the default is not appropriate for a type
- 3. For large operands, use const reference argument types
- 4. For large results, use a move constructor
- 5. Prefer member functions over nonmembers for operations that need access to the representa- tion
- Prefer nonmember functions over members for operations that do not need access to the rep- resentation
- 7. Use namespaces to associate helper functions with "their" class
- 8. Use nonmember functions for symmetric operators
- 9. Use member functions to express operators that require an Ivalue as their left-hand operand
- 10. Use user-defined literals to mimic conventional notation
- 11. Provide "set() and get() functions" for a data member only if the fundamental semantics of a class require them
- 12. Be cautious about introducing implicit conversions
- 13. Avoid value-destroying ("narrowing") conversions
- 14. Do not define the same conversion as both a constructor and a conversion operator

Chapter 19 - Special Operators

- 1. Use operator.() for subscripting and for selection based on a single value
- 2. Use operator()() for call semantics, for subscripting, and for selection based on multiple values

- 3. Use operator->() to dereference "smart pointers"
- 4. Prefer prefix ++ over suffix ++
- 5. Define the global operator new() and operator delete() only if you really have to
- 6. Define member operator new() and member operator delete() to control allocation and deallocation of objects of a specific class or hierarchy of classes
- 7. Use user-defined literals to mimic conventional notation
- 8. Place literal operators in separate namespaces to allow selective use
- 9. For non-specialized uses, prefer the standard string to the result of your own exercises
- 10. Use a friend function if you need a nonmember function to have access to the representation of a class (e.g., to improve notation or to access the representation of two classes)
- 11. Prefer member functions to friend functions for granting access to the implementation of a class

Chapter 20 - Derived Classes

- 1. Avoid type fields
- 2. Access polymorphic objects through pointers and references
- 3. Use abstract classes to focus design on the provision of clean interfaces
- 4. Use override to make overriding explicit in large class hierarchies
- 5. Use final only sparingly
- Use abstract classes to specify interfaces
- 7. Use abstract classes to keep implementation details out of interfaces
- 8. A class with a virtual function should have a virtual destructor
- 9. An abstract class typically doesn't need a constructor
- 10. Prefer private members for implementation details
- 11. Prefer public members for interfaces
- 12. Use protected members only carefully when really needed
- Don't declare data members protected

Chapter 21 - Class Hierarchies

- Use unique_ptr or shared_ptr to avoid forgetting to delete objects created using new
- 2. Avoid data members in base classes intended as interfaces
- 3. Use abstract classes to express interfaces
- 4. Give an abstract class a virtual destructor to ensure proper cleanup
- 5. Use override to make overriding explicit in large class hierarchies
- 6. Use abstract classes to support interface inheritance
- 7. Use base classes with data members to support implementation inheritance
- 8. Use ordinary multiple inheritance to express a union of features
- 9. Use multiple inheritance to separate implementation from interface

 Use a virtual base to represent something common to some, but not all, classes in a hierarchy

Chapter 22 - Run-Time Type Information

- 1. Use virtual functions to ensure that the same operation is performed independently of which interface is used for an object
- 2. Use dynamic_cast where class hierarchy navigation is unavoidable
- 3. Use dynamic_cast for type-safe explicit navigation of a class hierarchy
- 4. Use dynamic_cast to a reference type when failure to find the required class is considered a failure
- 5. Use dynamic_cast to a pointer type when failure to find the required class is considered a valid alternative
- 6. Use double dispatch or the visitor pattern to express operations on two dynamic types (unless you need an optimized lookup)
- 7. Don't call virtual functions during construction or destruction
- 8. Use typeid to implement extended type information
- 9. Use typeid to find the type of an object (and not to find an interface to an object)
- 10. Prefer virtual functions to repeated switch-statements based on typeid or dynamic_cast

Chapter 23 - Templates

- 1. Use templates to express algorithms that apply to many argument types
- 2. Use templates to express containers
- 3. Note that template and template are synonymous
- 4. When defining a template, first design and debug a non-template version adding parameters
- 5. Templates are type-safe, but checking happens too late
- 6. When designing a template, carefully consider the concepts (requirements) assumed for its template arguments
- 7. If a class template should be copyable, give it a non-template copy constructor and a non-template copy assignment
- 8. If a class template should be movable, give it a non-template move constructor and a non-template move assignment
- 9. A virtual function member cannot be a template member function
- 10. Define a type as a member of a template only if it depends on all the class template's arguments
- 11. Use function templates to deduce class template argument types
- 12. Overload function templates to get the same semantics for a variety of argument types
- 13. Use argument substitution failure to provide just the right set of functions for a program
- 14. Use template aliases to simplify notation and hide implementation details

- 15. There is no separate compilation of templates: #include template definitions in every translation unit that uses them
- 16. Use ordinary functions as interfaces to code that cannot deal with templates
- 17. Separately compile large templates and templates with nontrivial context dependencies

Chapter 24 - Generic Programming

- 1. A template can pass argument types without loss of information
- 2. Templates provide a general mechanism for compile-time programming
- 3. Templates provide compile-time "duck typing"
- 4. Design generic algorithms by "lifting" from concrete examples
- 5. Generalize algorithms by specifying template argument requirements in terms of concepts
- 6. Do not give unconventional meaning to conventional notation
- 7. Use concepts as a design tool
- 8. Aim for "plug compatibility" among algorithms and argument type by using common and regular template argument requirements
- 9. Discover a concept by minimizing an algorithm's requirements on its template arguments and then generalizing for wider use
- 10. A concept is not just a description of the needs of a particular implementation of an algorithm
- 11. If possible, choose a concept from a list of well-known concepts
- 12. The default concept for a template argument is Regular
- Not all template argument types are Regular
- 14. A concept requires a semantic aspect
- 15. Make concepts concrete in code
- 16. Express concepts as compile-time predicates (constexpr functions) and test them using static_assert() or enable_if ←
- 17. Use axioms as a design tool
- 18. Use axioms as a guide for testing
- 19. Some concepts involve two or more template arguments
- 20. Concepts are not just types of types
- 21. Concepts can involve numeric values
- 22. Use concepts as a guide for testing template definitions

Chapter 25 - Specialization

- 1. Use templates to improve type safety
- 2. Use templates to raise the level of abstraction of code
- 3. Use templates to provide flexible and efficient parameterization of types and algorithms
- 4. Remember that value template arguments must be compile-time constants
- 5. Use function objects as type arguments to parameterize types and algorithms with "policies"

- 6. Use default template arguments to provide simple notation for simple uses
- 7. Specialize templates for irregular types (such as arrays)
- 8. Specialize templates to optimize for important cases
- 9. Define the primary template before any specialization
- 10. A specialization must be in scope for every use

Chapter 26 - Instantiation

- 1. Let the compiler/implementation generate specializations as needed
- 2. Explicitly instantiate if you need exact control of the instantiation environment
- 3. Explicitly instantiate if you optimize the time needed to generate specializations
- 4. Avoid subtle context dependencies in a template definition
- 5. Names must be in scope when used in a template definition or findable through argumentdependent lookup (ADL)
- 6. Keep the binding context unchanged between instantiation points
- 7. Avoid fully general templates that can be found by ADL
- 8. Use concepts and/or static_assert to avoid using inappropriate templates
- 9. Use using-declarations to limit the reach of ADL
- 10. Qualify names from a template base class with -> or T:: as appropriate

Chapter 27 - Templates and Hierarchies

- 1. When having to express a general idea in code, consider whether to represent it as a template or as a class hierarchy
- 2. A template usually provides common code for a variety of arguments
- 3. An abstract class can completely hide implementation details from users
- 4. Irregular implementations are usually best represented as derived classes
- 5. If explicit use of free store is undesirable, templates have an advantage over class hierarchies
- 6. Templates have an advantage over abstract classes where inlining is important
- 7. Template interfaces are easily expressed in terms of template argument types
- 8. If run-time resolution is needed, class hierarchies are necessary
- The combination of templates and class hierarchies is often superior to either without the other
- 10. Think of templates as type generators (and function generators)
- 11. There is no default relation between two classes generated from the same template
- 12. Do not mix class hierarchies and arrays
- 13. Do not naively templatize large class hierarchies
- 14. A template can be used to provide a type-safe interface to a single (weakly typed) implementation

- 15. Templates can be used to compose type-safe and compact data structures
- 16. Templates can be used to linearize a class hierarchy (minimizing space and access time)

Chapter 28 - Metaprogramming

- 1. Use metaprogramming to improve type safety
- 2. Use metaprogramming to improve performance by moving computation to compile time
- 3. Avoid using metaprogramming to an extent where it significantly slows down compilation
- 4. Think in terms of compile-time evaluation and type functions
- 5. Use template aliases as the interfaces to type functions returning types
- 6. Use constexpr functions as the interfaces to type functions returning (non-type) values
- 7. Use traits to non-intrusively associate properties with types
- 8. Use Conditional to choose between two types
- 9. Use Select to choose among several alternative types
- 10. Use recursion to express compile-time iteration
- 11. Use metaprogramming for tasks that cannot be done well at run time
- 12. Use Enable_if to selectively declare function templates
- 13. Concepts are among the most useful predicates to use with Enable_if
- Use variadic templates when you need a function that takes a variable number of arguments of a variety of types
- 15. Don't use variadic templates for homogeneous argument lists (prefer initializer lists for that)
- 16. Use variadic templates and std::move() where forwarding is needed
- 17. Use simple metaprogramming to implement efficient and elegant unit systems (for finegrained type checking)
- 18. Use user-defined literals to simplify the use of units

Chapter 29 - A Matrix Design

- 1. List basic use cases
- 2. Always provide input and output operations to simplify simple testing (e.g., unit testing)
- 3. Carefully list the properties a program, class, or library ideally should have
- List the properties of a program, class, or library that are considered beyond the scope of the project
- 5. When designing a container template, carefully consider the requirements on the element type
- 6. Consider how the design might accommodate run-time checking (e.g., for debugging)
- 7. If possible, design a class to mimic existing professional notation and semantics
- 8. Make sure that the design does not leak resources (e.g., have a unique owner for each resource and use RAII)
- 9. Consider how a class can be constructed and copied

- 10. Provide complete, flexible, efficient, and semantically meaningful access to elements
- 11. Place implementation details in their own _impl namespace
- 12. Provide common operations that do not require direct access to the representation as helper functions
- For fast access, keep data compact and use accessor objects to provide necessary nontrivial access operations
- 14. The structure of data can often be expressed as nested initializer lists
- 15. When dealing with numbers, aways consider "end cases," such as zero and "many"
- 16. In addition to unit testing and testing that the code meets its requirements, test the design through examples of real use
- 17. Consider how the design might accommodate unusually stringent performance requirements

Chapter 30 - Standard Library Summary

- 1. Use standard-library facilities to maintain portability
- 2. Use standard-library facilities to minimize maintenance costs
- 3. Use standard-library facilities as a base for more extensive and more specialized libraries
- 4. Use standard-library facilities as a model for flexible, widely usable software
- The standard-library facilities are defined in namespace std and found in standard-library headers
- 6. A C standard-library header X.h is presented as a C++ standard-library header in
- 7. Do not try to use a standard-library facility without #include-ing its header
- 8. To use a range-for on a built-in array, #include
- 9. Prefer exception-based error handling over return-code-based error handling
- Always catch exception& (for standard-library and language support exceptions) and ... (for unexpected exceptions)
- 11. The standard-library exception hierarchy can be (but does not have to be) used for a user's own exceptions
- 12. Call terminate() in case of serious trouble
- Use static_assert() and assert() extensively
- 14. Do not assume that assert() is always evaluated
- 15. If you can't use exceptions, consider <system_error>

Chapter 31 - STL Containers

- 1. An STL container defines a sequence
- 2. Use vector as your default container
- Insertion operators, such as insert() and push_back() are often more efficient on a vector than on a list
- 4. Use forward_list for sequences that are usually empty

- 5. When it comes to performance, don't trust your intuition: measure
- 6. Don't blindly trust asymptotic complexity measures of individual operations can vary dramatically
- 7. STL containers are resource handles
- 8. A map is usually implemented as a red-black tree
- 9. An unordered_map is a hash table
- 10. To be an element type for a STL container, a type must provide copy or move operations
- 11. Use containers of pointers or smart pointers when you need to preserve polymorphic behavior
- 12. Comparison operations should implement a strict weak order
- 13. Pass a container by reference and return a container by value
- 14. For a container, use the ()-initializer syntax for sizes and the {}-initializer syntax for lists of elements
- 15. For simple traversals of a container, use a range-for loop or a begin/end pair of iterators
- 16. Use const iterators where you don't need to modify the elements of a container
- 17. Use auto to avoid verbosity and typos when you use iterators
- 18. Use reserve() to avoid invalidating pointers and iterators to elements
- 19. Don't assume performance benefits from reserve() without measurement
- 20. Use push_back() or resize() on a container rather than realloc() on an array
- 21. Don't use iterators into a resized vector or deque
- 22. When necessary, use reserve() to make performance predictable
- 23. Do not assume that . range checks
- 24. Use at() when you need guaranteed range checks
- 25. Use emplace() for notational convenience
- 26. Prefer compact and contiguous data structures
- 27. Use emplace() to avoid having to pre-initialize elements
- 28. A list is relatively expensive to traverse
- 29. A list usually has a four-word-per-element memory overhead
- 30. The sequence of an ordered container is defined by its comparison object (by default <)
- 31. The sequence of an unordered container (a hashed container) is not predictably ordered
- 32. Use unordered containers if you need fast lookup for large amounts of data
- 33. Use unordered containers for element types with no natural order (e.g., no reasonable <)
- 34. Use ordered associative containers (e.g., map and set) if you need to iterate over their elements in order
- 35. Experiment to check that you have an acceptable hash function
- 36. Hash function obtained by combining standard hash functions for elements using exclusive or are often good
- 37. 0.7 is often a reasonable load factor
- 38. You can provide alternative interfaces for containers
- 39. The STL adaptors do not offer direct access to their underlying containers

Chapter 32 - STL Algorithms

- 1. An STL algorithm operates on one or more sequences
- 2. An input sequence is half-open and defined by a pair of iterators
- 3. When searching, an algorithm usually returns the end of the input sequence to indicate "not found"
- 4. Prefer a carefully specified algorithm to "random code"
- 5. When writing a loop, consider whether it could be expressed as a general algorithm
- 6. Make sure that a pair of iterator arguments really do specify a sequence
- 7. When the pair-of-iterators style becomes tedious, introduce a container/range algorithm
- 8. Use predicates and other function objects to give standard algorithms a wider range of meanings
- 9. A predicate must not modify its argument
- 10. The default == and < on pointers are rarely adequate for standard algorithms
- 11. Know the complexity of the algorithms you use, but remember that a complexity measure is only a rough guide to performance
- 12. Use for_each() and transform() only when there is no more-specific algorithm for a task
- 13. Algorithms do not directly add or subtract elements from their argument sequences
- 14. If you have to deal with uninitialized objects, consider the uninitialized_* algorithms
- 15. An STL algorithm uses an equality comparison generated from its ordering comparison, rather than ==
- Note that sorting and searching C-style strings requires the user to supply a string comparison operation

Chapter 33 - STL Iterators

- 1. An input sequence is defined by a pair of iterators
- 2. An output sequence is defined by a single iterator
- 3. For any iterator p, [p:p] is the empty sequence
- 4. Use the end of a sequence to indicate "not found"
- 5. Think of iterators as more general and often better behaved pointers
- 6. Use iterator types, such as list::iterator, rather than pointers to refer to elements of a container
- 7. Use iterator_traits to obtain information about iterators
- 8. You can do compile-time dispatch using iterator_traits
- 9. Use iterator_traits to select an optimal algorithm based on an iterator's category
- iterator_traits are an implementation detail
- 11. Use base() to extract an iterator from a reverse_iterator
- 12. You can use an insert iterator to add elements to a container

- 13. A move_iterator can be used to make copy operations into move operations
- 14. Make sure that your containers can be traversed using a range-for
- 15. Use bind() to create variants of functions and function objects
- 16. Note that bind() dereferences references early
- 17. A mem_fn() or a lambda can be used to convert the p->f(a) calling convention into f(p,a)
- 18. Use function when you need a variable that can hold a variety of callable objects

Chapter 34 - Memory and Resources

- 1. Use array where you need a sequence with a constexpr size
- 2. Prefer array over built-in arrays
- Use bitset if you need N bits and N is not necessarily the number of bits in a built-in integer type
- Avoid vector
- 5. When using pair, consider make_pair() for type deduction
- 6. When using tuple, consider make_tuple() for type deduction
- 7. Use unique_ptr to represent exclusive ownership
- 8. Use shared_ptr to represent shared ownership
- 9. Minimize the use of weak_ptrs
- 10. Use allocators (only) when the usual new/delete semantics is insufficient for logical or performance reasons
- 11. Prefer resource handles with specific semantics to smart pointers
- 12. Prefer unique_ptr to shared_ptr
- 13. Prefer smart pointers to garbage collection
- 14. Have a coherent and complete strategy for management of general resources
- 15. Garbage collection can be really useful for dealing with leaks in programs with messy pointer use
- 16. Garbage collection is optional
- 17. Don't disguise pointers (even if you don't use garbage collection)
- 18. If you use garbage collection, use declare_no_pointers() to let the garbage collector ignore data that cannot contain pointers
- 19. Don't mess with uninitialized memory unless you absolutely have to

Chapter 35 - Utilities

- 1. Use facilities, such as steady_clock, duration, and time_point for timing
- 2. Prefer facilities over facilities
- 3. Use duration_cast to get durations in known units of time
- Use system_clock::now() to get the current time
- 5. You can inquire about properties of types at compile time

- 6. Use move(obj) only when the value of obj cannot be used again
- 7. Use forward() for forwarding

Chapter 36 - Strings

- 1. Use character classifications rather than handcrafted checks on character ranges
- 2. If you implement string-like abstractions, use character_traits to implement operations on characters
- 3. A basic_string can be used to make strings of characters on any type
- 4. Use strings as variables and members rather than as base classes
- 5. Prefer string operations to C-style string functions
- 6. Return strings by value (rely on move semantics)
- Use string::npos to indicate "the rest of the string"
- 8. Do not pass a nullptr to a string function expecting a C-style string
- 9. A string can grow and shrink, as needed
- 10. Use at() rather than iterators or . when you want range checking
- 11. Use iterators and . rather than at() when you want to optimize speed
- 12. If you use strings, catch length_error and out_of_range somewhere
- 13. Use c_str() to produce a C-style string representation of a string (only) when you have to
- 14. string input is type sensitive and doesn't overflow
- 15. Prefer a string_stream or a generic value extraction function (such as to) over direct use of str* numeric conversion functions
- 16. Use the find() operations to locate values in a string (rather than writing an explicit loop)
- 17. Directly or indirectly, use substr() to read substrings and replace() to write substrings

Chapter 37 - Regular Expressions

- 1. Use regex for most conventional uses of regular expressions
- 2. The regular expression notation can be adjusted to match various standards
- 3. The default regular expression notation is that of ECMAScript
- 4. For portability, use the character class notation to avoid nonstandard abbreviations
- 5. Be restrained
- 6. Prefer raw string literals for expressing all but the simplest patterns
- 7. Note that \i allows you to express a subpattern in terms of a previous subpattern
- 8. Use ? to make patterns "lazy"
- 9. regex can use ECMAScript, POSIX, awk, grep, and egrep notation
- 10. Keep a copy of the pattern string in case you need to output it
- 11. Use regex_search() for looking at streams of characters and regex_match() to look for fixed layouts

Chapter 38 - I/O Streams

- 1. Define << and >> for user-defined types with values that have meaningful textual representa- tions
- 2. Use cout for normal output and cerr for errors
- 3. There are iostreams for ordinary characters and wide characters, and you can define an iostream for any kind of character
- 4. There are standard iostreams for standard I/O streams, files, and strings
- 5. Don't try to copy a file stream
- 6. Binary I/O is system specific
- 7. Remember to check that a file stream is attached to a file before using it
- 8. Prefer ifstreams and ofstreams over the generic fstream
- 9. Use stringstreams for in-memory formatting
- 10. Use exceptions to catch rare bad() I/O errors
- 11. Use the stream state fail to handle potentially recoverable I/O errors
- 12. You don't need to modify istream or ostream to add new << and >> operators
- 13. When implementing a iostream primitive operation, use sentry
- 14. Prefer formatted input over unformatted, low-level input
- 15. Input into strings does not overflow
- 16. Be careful with the termination criteria when using get(), getline(), and read()
- 17. By default >> skips whitespace
- 18. You can define a << (or a >>) so that it behaves as a virtual function based on its second operand
- 19. Prefer manipulators to state flags for controlling I/O
- 20. Use sync_with_stdio(true) if you want to mix C-style and iostream I/O
- 21. Use sync_with_stdio(false) to optimize iostreams
- 22. Tie streams used for interactive I/O
- 23. Use imbue() to make an iostream reflect "cultural differences" of a locale
- 24. width() specifications apply to the immediately following I/O operation only
- 25. precision() specifications apply to all following floating-point output operations
- 26. Floating-point format specifications (e.g., scientific) apply to all following floating-point output operations
- 27. #include when using standard manipulators taking arguments
- 28. You hardly ever need to flush()
- 29. Don't use endl except possibly for aesthetic reasons
- 30. If iostream formatting gets too tedious, write your own manipulators
- You can achieve the effect (and efficiency) of a ternary operator by defining a simple function object

Chapter 39 - Locales

- 1. Expect that every nontrivial program or system that interacts directly with people will be used in several different countries
- 2. Don't assume that everyone uses the same character set as you do
- 3. Prefer using locales to writing ad hoc code for culture-sensitive I/O
- 4. Use locales to meet external (non-C++) standards
- 5. Think of a locale as a container of facets
- 6. Avoid embedding locale name strings in program text
- 7. Keep changes of locale to a few places in a program
- 8. Minimize the use of global format information
- 9. Prefer locale-sensitive string comparisons and sorts
- 10. Make facets immutable
- 11. Let locale handle the lifetime of facets
- 12. You can make your own facets
- 13. When writing locale-sensitive I/O functions, remember to handle exceptions from usersupplied (overriding) functions
- 14. Use numput if you need separators in numbers
- 15. Use a simple Money type to hold monetary values
- 16. Use simple user-defined types to hold values that require locale-sensitive I/O (rather than casting to and from values of built-in types)
- 17. The time_put facet can be used for both and -style time
- 18. Prefer the character classification functions in which the locale is explicit

Chapter 40 - Numerics

- 1. Numerical problems are often subtle. If you are not 100% certain about the mathematical aspects of a numerical problem, either take expert advice, experiment, or do both
- 2. Use variants of numeric types that are appropriate for their use
- 3. Use numeric_limits to check that the numeric types are adequate for their use
- 4. Specialize numeric_limits for a user-defined numeric type
- 5. Prefer numeric limits over limit macros
- 6. Use std::complex for complex arithmetic
- 7. Use {} initialization to protect against narrowing
- 8. Use valarray for numeric computation when run-time efficiency is more important than flexibility with respect to operations and element types
- 9. Express operations on part of an array in terms of slices rather than loops
- 10. Slices is a generally useful abstraction for access of compact data

- 11. Consider accumulate(), inner_product(), partial_sum(), and adjacent_difference() before you write a loop to compute a value from a sequence
- 12. Bind an engine to a distribution to get a random number generator
- 13. Be careful that your random numbers are sufficiently random
- If you need genuinely random numbers (not just a pseudo-random sequence), use random_device
- 15. Prefer a random number class for a particular distribution over direct use of rand()

Chapter 41 - Concurrency

- 1. Use concurrency to improve responsiveness or to improve throughput
- 2. Work at the highest level of abstraction that you can afford
- 3. Prefer packaged_task and futures over direct use of threads and mutexes
- Prefer mutexes and condition_variables over direct use of atomics except for simple counters
- 5. Avoid explicitly shared data whenever you can
- 6. Consider processes as an alternative to threads
- 7. The standard-library concurrency facilities are type safe
- 8. The memory model exists to save most programmers from having to think about the machine architecture level of computers
- 9. The memory model makes memory appear roughly as naively expected
- 10. Separate threads accessing separate bit-fields of a struct may interfere with each other
- 11. Avoid data races
- 12. Atomics allow for lock-free programming
- 13. Lock-free programming can be essential for avoiding deadlock and to ensure that every thread makes progress
- 14. Leave lock-free programming to experts
- 15. Leave relaxed memory models to experts
- 16. A volatile tells the compiler that the value of an object can be changed by something that is not part of the program
- 17. A C++ volatile is not a synchronization mechanism

Chapter 42 - Threads and Tasks

- 1. A thread is a type-safe interface to a system thread
- 2. Do not destroy a running thread
- 3. Use join() to wait for a thread to complete
- 4. Consider using a guarded_thread to provide RAII for threads
- 5. Do not detach() a thread unless you absolutely have to
- 6. Use lock_guard or unique_lock to manage mutexes

- 7. Use lock() to acquire multiple locks
- 8. Use condition_variables to manage communication among threads
- 9. Think in terms of tasks that can be executed concurrently, rather than directly in terms of threads
- 10. Value simplicity
- 11. Return a result using a promise and get a result from a future
- 12. Don't set_value() or set_exception() to a promise twice
- 13. Use packaged_tasks to handle exceptions thrown by tasks and to arrange for value return
- 14. Use a packaged_task and a future to express a request to an external service and wait for its response
- 15. Don't get() twice from a future
- 16. Use async() to launch simple tasks
- 17. Picking a good granularity of concurrent tasks is difficult: experiment and measure
- 18. Whenever possible, hide concurrency behind the interface of a parallel algorithm
- 19. A parallel algorithm may be semantically different from a sequential solution to the same problem (e.g., pfind_all() vs. find())
- 20. Sometimes, a sequential solution is simpler and faster than a concurrent solution

Chapter 43 - The C Standard Library

- 1. Use fstreams rather than fopen()/fclose() if you worry about resource leaks
- 2. Prefer to for reasons of type safety and extensibility
- 3. Never use gets() or scanf("%s",s)
- 4. Prefer to for reasons of ease of use and simplicity of resource management
- 5. Use the C memory management routines, such as memcpy(), only for raw memory
- 6. Prefer vector to uses of malloc() and realloc()
- 7. Beware that the C standard library does not know about constructors and destructors
- 8. Prefer to for timing
- 9. For flexibility, ease of use, and performance, prefer sort() over qsort()
- 10. Don't use exit()
- 11. Don't use longimp()

Chapter 44 - Compatibility

- 1. Before using a new feature in production code, try it out by writing small programs to test the standards conformance and performance of the implementations you plan to use
- 2. For learning C++, use the most up-to-date and complete implementation of Standard C++ that you can get access to
- 3. The common subset of C and C++ is not the best initial subset of C++ to learn
- 4. Prefer standard facilities to nonstandard ones

- 5. Avoid deprecated features such as throw-specifications
- 6. Avoid C-style casts
- 7. "Implicit int" has been banned, so explicitly specify the type of every function, variable, const, etc.
- 8. When converting a C program to C++, first make sure that function declarations (prototypes) and standard headers are used consistently
- 9. When converting a C program to C++, rename variables that are C++ keywords
- 10. For portability and type safety, if you must use C, write in the common subset of C and C++
- 11. When converting a C program to C++, cast the result of malloc() to the proper type or change all uses of malloc() to uses of new
- 12. When converting from malloc() and free() to new and delete, consider using vector, push_back(), and reserve() instead of realloc()
- 13. When converting a C program to C++, remember that there are no implicit conversions from ints to enumerations
- 14. A facility defined in namespace std is defined in a header without a suffix (e.g., std::cout is declared in)
- 15. Use to get std::string (<string.h> holds the C-style string functions)
- 16. For each standard C header <X.h> that places names in the global namespace, the header places the names in namespace std
- 17. Use extern "C" when declaring C functions