

3 Classes

- A class is a data type whose variables are objects
 - The definition of a class includes
 - * Description of the kinds of values of the member variables
 - * Description of the member functions
 - A class description is somewhat like a structure definition plus the member variables

3.1 A Class Example

- To create a new type named **DayOfYear** as a class definition
 - Decide on the values to represent
 - This example's values are dates such as July 4 using an integer for the number of the month
 - * Member variable month is an int (Jan = 1, Feb = 2, etc.)
 - * Member variable day is an int
 - Decide on the member functions needed
 - We use just one member function named output

3.1.1 Class DayOfYear Definition

```
class DayOfYear
{
    public:
        void output( ); //Member Function Declaration
        int month;
        int day;
};
```

- public members are accessible from outside of class.
- private members are not accessible from outside of class.
- Major difference between “class” and “struct” in C++

| | class | struct |
|---------|---------|---------|
| public | | default |
| private | default | |

3.1.2 Defining a Member Function

- Member functions are declared in the class declaration
- Member function definitions identify the class in which the function is a member

```
void DayOfYear::output()
{
    cout << "month = " << month
        << ", day = "
        << day
        << endl;
}
```

Member function definition syntax:

```
Returned_Type Class_Name::Function_Name( Parameter_List )
{
    Function Body Statements
}
```

3.1.3 The '::' Operator

- '::' is the **scope resolution operator**
 - Tells the **class** a member function is a member of
 - void **DayOfYear::output()** indicates that function output is a member of the **DayOfYear** class
 - The class name that precedes '::' is a type qualifier

3.1.4 '::' and '.'

- '::' used with **classes** to identify a member

```
void DayOfYear::output( )  
{  
    // function body  
}
```

- '.' used with **variables** to identify a member

```
DayOfYear birthday;  
birthday.output( );
```

3.1.5 Calling Member Functions

- Calling the **DayOfYear** member function output is done in this way:

```
DayOfYear today, birthday;  
today.output( );  
birthday.output( );
```

- Note that today and birthday have their own versions of the month and day variables for use by the output function

3.1.6 sample23.cpp

```
//  
// sample23.cpp  
//  
  
#include <iostream>  
  
// class definition  
class DayOfYear  
{  
public:  
    void output( ); //Member Function Declaration  
    int month;  
    int day;  
};  
  
// Member Function definition (implementation)  
void DayOfYear::output()  
{  
    std::cout << "month = " << month  
                << ", day = " << day  
                << std::endl;  
}  
  
// main function  
int main(int argc, const char * argv[]) {  
    DayOfYear today;  
    today.month = 2;  
    today.day = 17;  
  
    today.output();  
  
    return 0;  
}
```

3.2 Encapsulation

- Encapsulation is
 - Combining a number of items, such as variables and functions, into a single package such as an object of a class
 - Information hiding

3.3 Problems With DayOfYear

- Changing how the month is stored in the class **DayOfYear** requires changes to the program
- If we decide to store the month as three characters (JAN, FEB, etc.) instead of an int
 - **cin >> today.month** will no longer work because we now have three character variables to read
 - **if(today.month == birthday.month)** will no longer work to compare months
 - The member function “**output**” no longer works

3.3.1 Ideal Class Definitions

- Changing the implementation of **DayOfYear** requires changes to the program that uses **DayOfYear**
- An ideal class definition of **DayOfYear** could be changed without requiring changes to the program that uses **DayOfYear**

3.3.2 Fixing DayOfYear

- To fix **DayOfYear**
 - We need to add member functions to use when changing or accessing the member variables
 - * If the program never directly references the member variables, changing how the variables are stored will not require changing the program
 - We need to be sure that the program does not ever directly reference the member variables

3.3.3 Public Or Private?

- C++ helps us restrict the program from directly referencing member variables
 - private members of a class can only be referenced within the definitions of member functions
 - * If the program tries to access a private member, the compiler gives an error message
 - Private members can be variables or functions

3.3.4 Private Variables

- Private variables cannot be accessed directly by the program
 - Changing their values requires the use of public member functions of the class
 - To set the private month and day variables in a new **DayOfYear** class use a member function such as

```
void DayOfYear::set(int new_month, int new_day)
{
    month = new_month;
    day = new_day;
}
```

3.3.5 Public or Private Members

- The keyword **private** identifies the members of a class that can be accessed only by member functions of the class
 - Members that follow the keyword private are private members of the class
- The keyword **public** identifies the members of a class that can be accessed from outside the class
 - Members that follow the keyword public are public members of the class

3.4 A New DayOfYear

```
class DayOfYear
{
    public:
        void output( ); //Member Function Declaration
        void set(int new_month, int new_day);
        int get_day();
        int get_month();
    private:
        int month;
        int day;
};
```

- Uses all private member variables
- Uses member functions to do all manipulation of the private member variables
 - Member variables and member function definitions can be changed without changes to the program that uses **DayOfYear**

3.4.1 sample24.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
// class definition
class DayOfYear{
public:
    void output( ); //Member Function Declaration
    void set(int new_month, int new_day);
    int get_day();
    int get_month();
private:
    int month;
    int day;
};
// Member Function definition (implementation)
void DayOfYear::output(){
    std::cout << "month = " << month << ", day = " << day << std::endl;
}
void DayOfYear::set(int new_month, int new_day){
    month = new_month;
    day = new_day;
}
int DayOfYear::get_day(){
    return day;
}
int DayOfYear::get_month(){
    return month;
}
// main function
int main(int argc, const char * argv[]) {
    DayOfYear today;
    today.set(2, 17);
    today.output();
    return 0;
}
```

3.5 Using Private Variables

- It is normal to make all member variables private
- Private variables require member functions to perform all changing and retrieving of values
 - Accessor functions allow you to obtain the values of member variables
 - * Example: **get_day** in class **DayOfYear**
 - Mutator functions allow you to change the values of member variables
 - * Example: **set** in class **DayOfYear**

3.6 Summary

3.6.1 General Class Definitions

- The syntax for a class definition is

```
class Class_Name
{
    public:
        Member_Specification_1
        Member_Specification_2
        :
        Member_Specification_3
    private:
        Member_Specification_n+1
        Member_Specification_n+2
        :
};
```

3.6.2 Declaring an Object

- Once a class is defined, an object of the class is declared just as variables of any other type
 - Example: To create two objects of type Bicycle:

```
class Bicycle
{
    // class definition lines
};

Bicycle my_bike, your_bike;
```

3.7 The Assignment Operator

- Objects and structures can be assigned values with the assignment operator (=)

- Example:

```
DayOfYear due_date, tomorrow;
tomorrow.set(11, 19);
due_date = tomorrow; // copy values of all member variables
```

3.8 Program Example: BankAccount Class

- This bank account class allows
 - Withdrawal of money at any time
 - All operations normally expected of a bank account(implemented with member functions)
 - Storing an account balance
 - Storing the account's interest rate

3.8.1 Class Design (Definition)

```
class BankAccount
{
public:
    void set(int dollars, int cents, double rate);
    // Postcondition: The account balance has been set $dollars.cents;
    // The interest rate has been set to rate percent.

    void set(int dollars, double rate);
    // Postcondition: The account balance has been set to $dollars.00.
    // The interest rate has been set to rate percent.

    void update();
    // Postcondition: One year of simple interest has been
    // added to the account balance.

    double get_balance();
    // Returns the current account balance.

    double get_rate();
    // Returns the current account interest rate as a percentage.

    void output(std::ostream& outs);
    // Precondition: If outs is a file output stream, outs has already
    // been connected to a file.
    // Postcondition: Account balance and interest rate have been
    // written to the stream outs.

private:
    double balance;
    double interest_rate;

    double fraction(double percent);
    // Converts a percentage to a fraction.
};
```

3.8.2 Member functions definition (implementation)

- set(int dollars, int cents, double rate)

```
void BankAccount::set(int dollars, int cents, double rate)
{
    if ((dollars < 0) || (cents < 0) || (rate < 0)){
        std::cout << "Illegal values for money or interest rate.\n";
        exit(-1);
    }
    balance = dollars + 0.01 * cents;
    interest_rate = rate;
}
```

- set(int dollars, double rate)

```
void BankAccount::set(int dollars, double rate)
{
    set(dollars,0,rate);
}
```

- update()

```
void BankAccount::update()
{
    balance += fraction(interest_rate) * balance;
}
```

- get_balance()

```
double BankAccount::get_balance()
{
    return balance;
}
```

- get_rate()

```
double BankAccount::get_rate()
{
    return interest_rate;
}
```

- output(std::ostream& outs)

```
void BankAccount::output(std::ostream& outs)
{
    outs.setf(std::ios::fixed);
    outs.setf(std::ios::showpoint);
    outs.precision(2);
    outs << "Account balance $" << balance << std::endl;
    outs << "Interest rate " << interest_rate << "%" << std::endl;
}
```

- fraction(double percent)

```
double BankAccount::fraction(double percent) // this is a private function
{
    return percent / 100.0;
}
```

3.8.3 main

```
// main function
int main(int argc, const char * argv[]) {
    BankAccount account1, account2;
    std::cout << "Start Test:\n";

    account1.set(123, 99, 3.0);
    std::cout << "account1 initial statement:\n";
    account1.output(std::cout);

    account1.set(100, 5.0);
    std::cout << "account1 with new setup:\n";
    account1.output(std::cout);

    account2 = account1;
    std::cout << "account2:\n";
    account2.output(std::cout);

    return 0;
}
```

see “sample25.cpp”

3.9 Summary

3.9.1 Calling Public Members

- Recall that if calling a member function from the main function of a program, you must include the the object name:

```
account1.output(std::cout);
```

3.9.2 Calling Private Members

- When a member function calls a private member function, an object name is not used
 - **fraction (double percent);** is a private member of the **BankAccount** class
 - **fraction** is called by member function **update**

```
void BankAccount::update( )  
{  
    balance += fraction(interest_rate) * balance;  
}
```