

■ References

Chapter 7.12 – STL vector

Starting Out With C++. From Control Structures
through Objects (Eighth Edition)

A Comparison between array and vector

	array	vector
They look different	<code>int scores[30];</code>	<code>vector<int> scores(30);</code>
What is it?	Data type	Object in Standard Template Library (STL) which has member functions
Has member functions	No	Yes
#include		<code><vector></code>

A Comparison between array and vector

	array	vector
Size	Its size is determined at compile time.	Elements are added or deleted at run time.
Speed	faster	?

- Note: STL is a collection of data types and which you may use in your program. STL is not part of original C++ language, but were created in addition to the build-in data types.

Vectors – Section 7.12

- **Vector:** A sequence of identical type values
 - like an array, but can grow and shrink over time
 - Use special "<...>" syntax
 - Can hold values of any type:
 - `vector<int> scores;`
`// read as "vector OF ints"`
- Automatically adds space as more is needed – no need to determine a set size ahead of time.
- Can use `[]` to access elements

Vectors – Declaring

- First, need to **#include<vector>**
- Declare a vector to hold int elements:
vector<int> scores;
- Declare a vector with initial size 30:
vector<int> scores(30);
- Declare a vector with initial size 30,
and initialize all elements to 42:
vector<int> scores(30, 42)

Vectors – Adding Elements

- Use **push_back** member function to add element to a full array or to an array that had no defined size:

```
scores.push_back(75);
```

- Use the **size** function to determine how many elements are in a vector:

```
int howbig = scores.size();
```

Vectors – Removing Elements

- Use **pop_back** member function to remove last element from vector:

```
scores.pop_back();
```

- To remove all contents of vector, use the **clear** member function:

```
scores.clear();
```

- To determine if vector is empty, use the **empty** member function:

```
while (!scores.empty()) ...
```

Vector Exercise

- Convert Program 7-29 to an array system and compare the differences.

Vectors in Functions

- Vectors can be parameters or return values in functions.
- Just list the full type in the standard syntax for vectors.

```
void Count(vector<int> items);
```

```
vector<string> GeneratePasswordList();
```

Should I use array or vector?

- What is your opinions?
- Some said array while others said vector. Let us wait until we finish the vector programming assignment to answer this question.
- It depends on ...