

Migration from `boost::string_ref` and `boost::string_view`

In this lesson, we'll learn about the classes from which `std::string_view` was developed.

As with most of the new types in C++17 `string_view` is also inspired by boost libraries. Marshall Clow implemented `boost::string_ref` in the version 1.53 (February 2012) and then it evolved into `boost::string_view` (added into the version 1.61 - May 2016).

The main difference between `boost::string_ref` and `boost::string_view` is `constexpr` support.

`boost::string_view` implements the same functionality as `std::string_view` and also adds a few new functions:

- `starts_with`
- `ends_with`

See the full header file [here](#). You can also find the whole Boost utility library [here](#).

The link to the discussion about `string_ref` being deprecated: “[string_view versus string_ref](#)”.

The lessons ahead contain examples of `string_view` interacting with other properties of strings.