

# **Ch6: Class Templates**

## **array and vector**

# std::array

# std::array

An array is an aggregate data type that lets us access many variables of the same type through a single identifier. Arrays can be made from any data type.

- C++ Standard Library includes **std::array** and **std::vector** class templates to address the issues with built-in C-style fixed and dynamic arrays and make array management easier.
- std::array provides **fixed array** functionality and is defined in the <array> header, inside the std namespace.

❖ std::array declaration:

```
std::array<type, arraySize> arrayName;
```

❖ std::array initialization:

It can be initialized using list initialization or initializer lists.

```
#include <array>
int main() {
    std::array<int, 3> a; // declare an integer array with length 3
    std::array<int, 5> a2 { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // list initialization
    std::array<int, 5> a3 = { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // initializer list
}
```



# std::array Declaration

When declaring a `std::array`, the length of the array must be a **compile-time constant** (i.e., a `constexpr` variable). **Non-const variables** or **runtime constants** cannot be used.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int foo() {
    return 3;
}
int main() {
    int x1{3}; // x is a non-const variable
    // std::array<int, x1> a1{9, 7, 5}; // Error
    const int y1{ x1 }; // y isn't known until runtime, so y is a runtime constant.
    // std::array<int, y1> a2{9, 7, 5}; // Error

    const int x2{3}; // x is a const variable
    std::array<int, x2> a3{9, 7, 5}; // OK
    const int y2{ x2 }; // y is a compile-time constant.
    std::array<int, y2> a4{9, 7, 5}; // OK

    // std::array<int, foo()> a5{9, 7, 5}; // Error: value of foo() isn't known until runtime.
}
```



# Accessing Elements of std::array

- Each of the variables in an array is called an **element**.
- To access individual elements of an std::array, there are two methods:
  - Using subscript operator `[·]`. This does not do any bounds-checking.
  - Using `at(·)` function. This does (runtime) bounds-checking.
- In each method, a subscript (or index) tells the compiler which element we want.
- An array subscript can be a literal value, a variable (constant or non-constant), or an expression that evaluates to an integral type.
- Arrays count starting from 0. For an array of length N, the array elements are numbered 0 through N-1. This is called the array's range.
- Because `at(·)` does bounds checking, it is slower (but safer) than operator `[·]`.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int main() {
    std::array<int, 3> a {9, 7, 5};
    std::cout << a[0] << '\n';
    std::cout << a[1] << '\n';
    std::cout << a[2] << '\n';
    std::cout << a[3] << '\n'; // returns a value!
    std::cout << a.at(0) << '\n';
    // std::cout << a.at(3) << '\n'; // invalid, throws a runtime error
}
```



# std::array Initialization

If there are less initializers in the list than the array can hold, the remaining elements are initialized to 0 for int, 0.0 for double, ...

If there are more initializers in the list than the array can hold, the compiler will generate an error.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
#include <array>

int main() {
    std::array<int, 5> x; // self-initialize to zero
    x = { 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 }; // initializer list
    x = { 9, 8, 7 }; // elements 3 and 4 are set to zero.
    // x = { 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 }; // Error: too many elements!
    x[0] = 11; // changing value of an element
    x.at(4) = 12; // changing value of an element

    std::array<int, 5> a{}; // explicit zero-initialization: {0,0,0,0,0}
    std::array<double, 5> b{}; // explicit zero-initialization: {0.0,0.0,0.0,...}
    std::array<std::string, 5> c{}; // Initialize all elements to an empty string

    std::cout << x[0] << '\n';
    std::cout << x[1] << '\n';
    std::cout << x[2] << '\n';
    std::cout << x[3] << '\n';
    std::cout << x[4] << '\n';
}
```




# std::array Since C++17

Before C++17, you cannot omit the array length even when providing an initializer. Since C++17, you can omit type and size (both together), when initializing an array.

```
#include <array>

int main() {
    // Before C++17:
    std::array<int, 5> b { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 };
    // std::array<int, > b { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // Error: array length must be provided
    // std::array<int> b { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // Error: array length must be provided


    // Since C++17:
    std::array c { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // The type is deduced to std::array<int, 5>
    std::array c1 { 9.7, 7.31 }; // The type is deduced to std::array<double, 2>
}
```



# Size and Sorting


- The `size()` member function can be used to retrieve the length of the `std::array`.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int main() {
    std::array<double, 5> myArray { 9.0, 7.2, 5.4, 3.6, 1.8 };
    unsigned int x{myArray.size()};
    std::cout << "length: " << x << "\n";
}
```



- The `std::sort` function can be used to sort `std::array`. It is defined in the `<algorithm>` header, inside the `std` namespace.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
#include <algorithm> // for std::sort
int main() {
    std::array<int, 5> myArray { 7, 3, 1, 9, 5 };
    std::sort(myArray.begin(), myArray.end()); // sort the array forwards
    // std::sort(myArray.rbegin(), myArray.rend()); // sort the array backwards
    std::cout << myArray[0] << " " << myArray[1] << " " << myArray[2] << " " << myArray[3] << " " << myArray[4] << "\n";
}
```

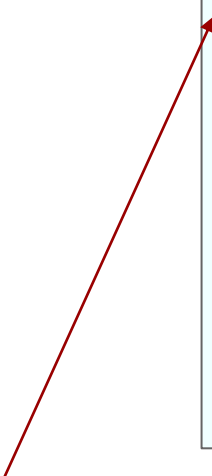




# Passing std::array to Functions

Always pass std::array by **reference** or **const reference**. This is to prevent the compiler from making a copy of the std::array (which for large arrays can be very expensive) when the std::array was passed to the function.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
void printLength(const std::array<double, 5>& myArray) {
    std::cout << "length: " << myArray.size() << '\n';
}
int main() {
    std::array<double, 5> myArray { 9.0, 7.2, 5.4, 3.6, 1.8 };
    printLength(myArray);
    std::array<int, 5> myArray2{ 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 };
    // printLength(myArray2); // Error: printLength expects a std::array<double, 5>
}
```



We use a std::array as a function parameter, we must specify the element type and array length.

# Passing std::array of Different Types/Lengths to Functions

Using **template functions**, we can pass std::array of different types and lengths to functions.


```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
#include <cstdint> // for size_t

// A template function
template <typename T, std::size_t size> // parameterize the element type and size
void printLength(const std::array<T, size>& myArray) {
    std::cout << "length: " << myArray.size() << '\n';
}

int main() {
    std::array<double, 5> a{ 9.0, 7.2, 5.4, 3.6, 1.8 };
    printLength(a);

    std::array<int, 3> b{ 9, 7, 5 };
    printLength(b);

    std::array c{ 9.0, 7.2, 5.4, 3.6 }; // Since C++17
    printLength(c);
}
```



# std::size\_t

**std::size\_t** is defined as an unsigned integral type, and it is typically used to represent the size or length of objects (or indices of arrays). For example, sizeof return a value of type std::size\_t.

```
#include <iostream>
int main() {
    std::cout << sizeof(int) << '\n';
}
```

std::size\_t is guaranteed to be unsigned and at least 16 bits, however, it is defined to be big enough to hold the size of the largest object creatable on your system (in bytes).

# Arrays and Loops

# Arrays and Loops

We can use a loop variable as an array index to loop through all of the elements of our array and perform some calculation on them.

**Ex:** Determine the best score.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
#include <cstdint> // std::size_t
int main() {
    std::array scores { 84, 92, 76, 81, 56 };
    int maxScore{ 0 }; // keep track of our largest score
    for (std::size_t student{0}; student < scores.size(); ++student) {
        if (scores[student] > maxScore) {
            maxScore = scores[student];
        }
    }
    std::cout << "The best score is " << maxScore << "\n";
}
```

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
#include <cstdint> // std::size_t
int main() {
    std::array myArray { 7, 3, 1, 9, 5 };
    for (std::size_t i{ 0 }; i < myArray.size(); ++i) {
        std::cout << myArray[i] << ' ';
    }
}
```

- ❖ When using loops with arrays, always double-check your loop conditions to make sure you do not introduce **off-by-one errors**.

# Remarks

Unsigned integers (like `std::size_t`) **wrap around** when you reach their limits. Therefore, decrementing an unsigned integer that is 0 already, causing a wrap-around to the maximum value.

**Example:** Printing an array in reverse order.

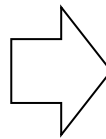
```
#include <array>
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    std::array myArray { 7, 3, 1, 9, 5 };

    // Print the array in reverse order.
    for (std::size_t i{ myArray.size() - 1 }; i >= 0; --i)
        std::cout << myArray[i] << ' ';
}
```

An infinite loop!

One possible  
solution.



```
#include <array>
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    std::array myArray { 7, 3, 1, 9, 5 };

    // Print the array in reverse order.
    for (std::size_t i{ myArray.size() }; i-- > 0; )
        std::cout << myArray[i] << ' ';
}
```

# Range-based for Statement


There is a simpler and safer type of loop called **Range-based for Statement** (or **for-each** loop) for cases where we want to iterate through every element in an array (or other list-type structure).

```
for (element_declaration : array) {  
    statement(s);  
}
```

The loop will iterate through each element in array, assigning the value of the current array element to the variable declared in element\_declaration.

**Note:** element\_declaration should have the same type as the array elements, otherwise type conversion will occur. Thus, the best practice is to use auto keyword, and let C++ deduce the type of the array elements for us.


```
#include <iostream>  
#include <array>  
int main() {  
    std::array fibonacci{ 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13};  
    for (auto number : fibonacci) {  
        std::cout << number << ' ';  
    }  
}
```



# Range-based for Statement: Example

**Ex:** Rewriting the best score example using a range-based for statement.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int main() {
    std::array scores { 84, 92, 76, 81, 56 };
    int maxScore{ 0 }; // keep track of our largest score
    for (auto score : scores) { // iterate over array scores, assigning each value in turn to variable score
        if (score > maxScore) {
            maxScore = score;
        }
    }
    std::cout << "The best score is " << maxScore << '\n';
}
```

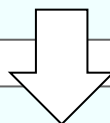




# Range-based for Statement and References

Since each array element iterated over will be copied into variable element and copying array elements can be expensive (for non-fundamental data types), most of the time it is preferred to refer to the original element using a **const reference** (in a read-only fashion) to avoid having to make a copy for performance reasons.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int main() {
    std::array myArray{ "peter", "likes", "frozen", "yogurt" };
    for (auto element : myArray) { // element will be a copy of the current array element
        std::cout << element << ' ';
    }
}
```



```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int main() {
    std::array myArray{ "peter", "likes", "frozen", "yogurt" };
    for (const auto& element : myArray) { // element is a const reference to the currently iterated array element
        std::cout << element << ' ';
    }
}
```

# Range-based for Statement and Element Indices

Range-based for Statement do not provide a direct way to get the array index of the current element. One way to get the array index is to declare an index variable outside of the loop:

However, the scope of this index variable is too large. Since **C++20**, range-based for statement can be used with an init-statement just like the for statements.

```
for (init-statement; element_declaration : array) {
    statement(s);
}
```

The init-statement is a **local variable** for for statement, and only gets executed once when the loop starts.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
#include <cstdint> // std::size_t
int main() {
    std::array fibonacci{ 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13};
    std::size_t i{0};
    for (auto number : fibonacci) {
        std::cout << number << ", Index: " << i << "\n";
        ++i;
    }
}
```



```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
#include <cstdint> // std::size_t
int main() {
    std::array fibonacci{ 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13};
    for (std::size_t i{0}; auto number : fibonacci) {
        std::cout << number << ", Index: " << i << "\n";
        ++i;
    }
}
```

# Multidimensional Arrays

# 2D Arrays Using std::array

The elements of an array can be of any data type, including arrays! An array of arrays is called a **multidimensional array**.

A 2D array with  $m$  rows and  $n$  columns:

```
std::array < std::array<data_type, n >, m > array_name;
```

represents each row

Different ways of  
initialization 2D arrays:

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int main(){
    std::array<std::array<int, 4>, 2> arr1; // 2D array declaration
    std::array<std::array<int, 4>, 2> arr2 {}; // Zero initialization of a 2*4 2D array

    // Initialization a 2*4 2D array
    std::array<std::array<int, 4>, 2> arr3 {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8};
    std::array<std::array<int, 4>, 2> arr4 {{ {1, 2, 3, 4}, // row 0
                                             {5, 6, 7, 8} // row 1
                                           }}; // it needs additional set of {}

    std::array arr5 { std::array{1, 2, 3, 4}, // row 0, C++17 format
                     std::array{5, 6, 7, 8} }; // row 1
}
```



# Accessing Array Elements in 2D Array

The array elements can be accessed using the `[.]` operator or `at(.)` member function:

array\_name[row\_no][col\_no]

array\_name.at(row\_no).at(col\_no)

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
int main() {
    std::array<std::array<int, 4>, 3> arr {{ {77, 85, 95, 4}, // row 0
                                             {3, 9, 82, 91}, // row 1
                                             {6, 43, 25, 95} // row 2
                                           }};

    std::cout << arr[2][1] << '\n'; // prints the element 43
    std::cout << arr.at(2).at(1) << '\n'; // prints the element 43
}
```

**Notes:**

- Arrays count starting from 0.
- `at(.)` does bounds checking, but operator `[.]` does not.

[0][0]	[0][1]	[0][2]	[0][3]	[0][4]	// row 0
[1][0]	[1][1]	[1][2]	[1][3]	[1][4]	// row 1
[2][0]	[2][1]	[2][2]	[2][3]	[2][4]	// row 2


# 2D Arrays and Loops

```
#include <iostream>
#include <array>
#include <cstdint> // std::size_t
int main (){
    std::array<std::array<int, 4>, 2> myArray {{ {1, 2, 3, 4}, // row 0
                                                {5, 6, 7, 8} // row 1
                                                }};

    for (std::size_t row{0}; row < myArray.size(); ++row) { // step through the rows
        for (std::size_t col{0}; col < myArray[0].size(); ++col){ // step through each element in the row
            std::cout << myArray[row][col] << ' ';
        }
    }

    std::cout << '\n'; // Range-based for Statement

    for (auto rowElement : myArray) { // step through the rows
        for ( auto colElement : rowElement) { // step through each element in the row
            std::cout << colElement << ' ';
        }
    }
}
```



# std::vector

# std::vector

**std::vector** provides **dynamic array** functionality. This means you can create arrays that have their length set/change at **run-time** and std::vector will dynamically allocate memory for its contents as requested. It is defined in the <vector> header, inside the std namespace.

- ❖ std::vector declaration: 

std::vector<type> arrayName;
- ❖ std::vector initialization: It can be initialized using list initialization, initializer lists, or parenthesis initialization.

The vector will self-resize to match the number of elements provided.

**Brace Initialization** {} is used for initialization with specific values. **Parenthesis Initialization** () is used for initialization to a specific size (the values will be value initialized).

```
#include <vector>
int main() {
    std::vector<int> v1; // declares an integer vector
    v1 = { 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 }; // vector length is now 5
    v1 = { 9, 8, 7 }; // vector length is now 3
    std::vector<int> v2 { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // list initialization
    std::vector<int> v3 = { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // initializer list
    std::vector<int> v4 ( 3 ); // allocate 3 elements with values 0
    std::vector<int> v5 ( 3, 4 ); // allocate 3 elements with values 4
    // as with std::array, the type can be omitted since C++17
    std::vector v7 { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 }; // deduced to std::vector<int>
}
```

- Resizing a vector is computationally expensive, so you should strive to minimize the number of times you do so. If you need a vector with a specific number of elements, you can use parenthesis initialization to do so.



# std::vector

- Just like std::array, accessing array elements can be done via [] operator (which does no bounds checking) or the at() function (which does bounds checking):

**Note:** In either case, if you request an element that is off the end of the array, the vector will not automatically resize.

- Just like std::array, the size() member function can be used to retrieve the length of the std::vector.
- Just like std::array, always pass std::vector by **reference** or **const reference**.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
int main() {
    std::vector v { 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 };
    v[5] = 2; // no bounds checking
    v.at(3) = 4; // does bounds checking
    std::cout << v.at(0) << "\n";
    std::cout << v.size() << "\n";
}
```

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>
void printLength(const std::vector<int>& v) {
    std::cout << "The length is: " << v.size() << "\n";
}
int main() {
    std::vector<int> v1{ 9, 7, 5, 3, 1 };
    printLength(v1);
    std::vector<int> v2 {};
    printLength(v2);
}
```

# Resizing std::vector

Vectors can be resized using member function `resize(.)` to be larger or smaller. Always, the existing element values are preserved. In resizing to a larger vector, new elements are initialized to the default value for the type (e.g., 0 for integers).

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>

int main() {
    std::vector v{ 0, 1, 2 };
    v.resize(5); // set size to 5
    std::cout << "The length is: " << v.size() << "\n";

    for (auto i : v)
        std::cout << i << ' ';
}
```



```
The length is: 5
0 1 2 0 0
```

```
#include <iostream>
#include <vector>

int main() {
    std::vector v{ 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 };
    v.resize(3); // set size to 3
    std::cout << "The length is: " << v.size() << "\n";

    for (auto i : v)
        std::cout << i << ' ';
}
```



```
The length is: 3
0 1 2
```