

C++ 17: Beyond the Basics

MODERN C++



Kate Gregory

@gregcons www.gregcons.com/kateblog



What Makes C++ Modern?

Expressive

Choose keywords and constructs that suit specific needs

Fully C++

Don't reject lambdas, templates, const, or other additions to the language

Readable

Don't write obscure or opaque code

Stack Semantics

Pointers not your first choice; avoid manual memory management



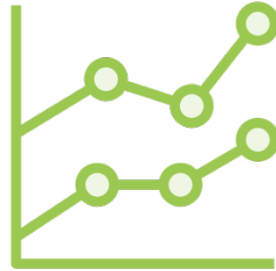
Fundamentals Review



C++ and Libraries



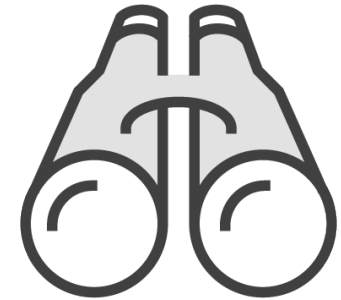
C++ Standard
Library is not
the biggest



It is growing



Smaller isn't non
existent



Don't ignore
what is there

The Standard Library

Each compiler vendor
includes an
implementation

Function signatures and
performance
characteristics set by
Standards Committee

Shipped as (only)
header files; include
what you use



std::shared_ptr

Defined in header `<memory>`

```
template< class T > class shared_ptr; (since C++11)
```

`std::shared_ptr` is a smart pointer that retains shared ownership of an object through a point. Multiple objects may own the same object. The object is destroyed and its memory deallocated when the last owner is destroyed.

- the last remaining `shared_ptr` owning the object is destroyed;
- the last remaining `shared_ptr` owning the object is assigned another pointer via `operator=`.

The object is destroyed using `delete-expression` or a custom deleter that is supplied to `shared_ptr` construction.

Standard Library Smart Pointers



shared_ptr

- Reference counted

weak_ptr

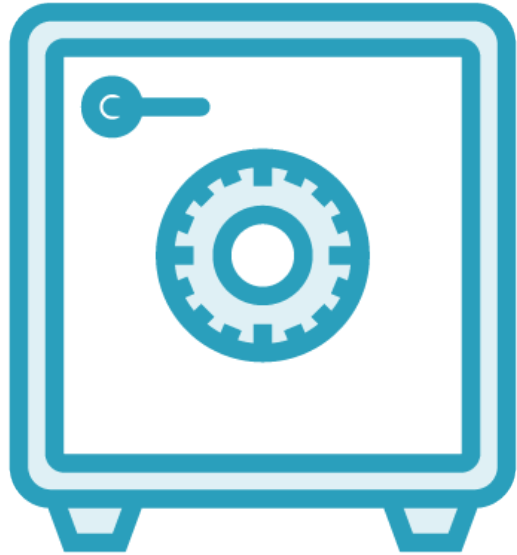
- Lets you “peek” at a shared_ptr without bumping the reference count

unique_ptr

- Noncopyable (use std::move)



const



**A way to commit to the compiler
you won't change something**

- When declaring a local variable
`int const zero = 0;`
- As a function parameter
`int taxes(int const total)`
`int something(Person const& p)`
- Modifier on a member function
`int GetName() const;`

Const correctness can be difficult

const: Before or After?

```
int const ci = 3;  
const int ci = 3;
```

Compiler doesn't
care

Humans do



The Standards Process

ISO Committee

Study groups and
technical specifications

Updates every three
years



Standard Releases



C++ 11

- Move semantics and rvalues
- auto
- Range-based for
- Lambdas
- Scoped enums (enum classes)
- Variadic templates
- Defaulted and deleted functions
- Tuple
- Smart pointers

Standard Releases



C++ 14

- Generic lambdas
- Capture expressions in lambdas
- Standard user defined literals

C++ 17

- Structured bindings
- if initializers
- Class template argument deduction
- string_view
- optional
- Parallel algorithms

Summary



Modern C++ is readable and simple

Use the full power of the language and library

Emphasize expressing your intent and minimizing your effort

Very different from “C with Classes” style C++

