

rec06 FAQ

- Q: Do I need “getters” for fields in the Directory to be used in the Directory copy constructor and assignment operator?

A: No. A class’s methods can access the private members of *any* instance of that class.

- Q: To make “copies” of the Entry objects, should I be using the Directory’s add method in the Directory copy constructor?

A: No! That would be **wrong**. You just want to initialize a copy of the Entry. How do you do that? Use the Entry’s copy constructor.

- Q: Does that mean I have to write a copy constructor for the Entry class?

- A: Again, no. All classes are provided with a copy constructor by the system. You only write your own if the one the system provides doesn’t do what you need.

- Q: Why do the field entries in the Directory have the type Entry** ??

A: entries is a pointer to an array.

- The type for a pointer to an array is “pointer to the type of an element in the array”.

- What type of things does the Directory’s array hold? **Pointers** to Entry objects.

- So the type of a pointer to the array is “pointer to ... pointer to an Entry object”, or in C++ syntax: Entry**.