

# Rust Bootcamp 2021

Day 2



## **Day 2 Activities**

- ✓ Ownership and the Borrow Checker
- ✓ Structs
- ✓ Exercises and Homework

## **Ownership**

Memory ownership is a central principle of Rust, so we'll spend some time going over what this means, especially in practice.

Here are the three rules of ownership in Rust:

- Each value in Rust has a variable that's called its owner.
- There can only be one owner at a time.
- > When the owner goes out of scope, the value will be dropped.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-01-what-is-ownership.html

## **Scopes**

As in C++ and other languages, Rust has scopes for variables.

Braces can be used anywhere, and nested. When a variable goes out of scope it is "dropped" or deleted. This is similar to C++ RAII.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-01-what-is-ownership.html#variable-scope

## **Copy vs Move**

For primitive types, Rust will copy them when assigned:

```
let x = 5;
let y = x;
```

x and y both are equal to 5, with different "copies" of 5. This is because they have a known, fixed size at compile time.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-01-what-is-ownership.html#ways-variables-and-data-interact-move

### **Copy vs Move**

For advanced types, Rust cannot automatically copy them

```
let s1 = String::from("hello");
let s2 = s1;
```

The problem is that a String is actually two blocks of memory, one on the stack and one on the heap.

If we copied the stack portion (a shallow copy), we'd have two owners, which violates Rust's ownership rules.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-01-what-is-ownership.html#ways-variables-and-data-interact-move

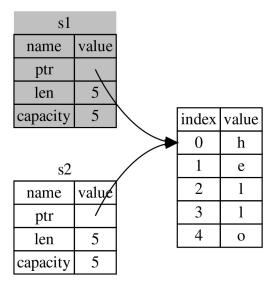
### Copy vs Move

For advanced types, Rust cannot automatically copy them

```
let s1 = String::from("hello");
let s2 = s1;
```

By default, assignment will do a *move* operation here. This invalidates s1, while s2 has the string.

A full (deep) copy is potentially an option, but is expensive, so must be done explicitly with clone().



https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-01-what-is-ownership.html#ways-variables-and-data-interact-move

#### **Ownership and Functions**

```
fn main() {
    let s = String::from("hello");
    takes_ownership(s);

    let x = 5;
    makes_copy(x);
}
```

```
fn takes_ownership(some_string: String)
{
    println!("{}", some_string);
}

fn makes_copy(some_integer: i32) {
    println!("{}", some_integer);
}
```

A function acts much like a new variable assignment with ownership, where only primitive types copy.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-01-what-is-ownership.html#ownership-and-functions

#### **Ownership and Functions - return values**

```
let s1 = gives_ownership();
let s2 = String::from("hello");
let s3 = takes_and_gives(s2);
```

```
fn gives_ownership() -> String {
    String::from("hello")
}

fn takes_and_gives(s: String) -> String
{
    s
}
```

One option if you want to use a move with a function parameter is to return the value back.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-01-what-is-ownership.html#ownership-and-functions

## **Ownership and Functions - borrowing**

A better option is *borrowing* - making a reference to a variable.

```
fn main() {
   let s1 = String::from("hello");
   let len = calculate_length(&s1);
   println!("The length of '{}' is {}.", s1, len);
}
fn calculate_length(s: &String) -> usize {
   s.len()
}
```

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-02-references-and-borrowing.html

#### Ownership and Functions - mutable references

If we want to edit the reference, we need to make everything mutable.

```
fn main() {
   let mut s = String::from("hello");
   change(&mut s);
}

fn change(some_string: &mut String) {
   some_string.push_str(", world");
}
```

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-02-references-and-borrowing.html

#### **Ownership - mutable references**

Mutable references have one big restriction: you can have only one mutable reference to a particular piece of data in a scope.

```
let mut s = String::from("hello");
let r1 = &mut s;
let r2 = &mut s;
```

This code is illegal, as it tries to make two references. One of the advantages of this restriction is that data races can be prevented at compile time.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-02-references-and-borrowing.html

### Ownership - Slices

Slices let you reference a contiguous sequence of elements in a collection. This is a reference, not a copy, and follows the rules of Rust references.

```
let s = String::from("hello world");
let hello = &s[0..5];
let world = &s[6..];
let hello_world = &s[..];
```

Note that the ranges allow dropping the first or second index as a shortcode for "all the rest." You can even drop both indexes to return a reference to the whole string.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-03-slices.html

#### Ownership - Slices

```
fn first word(s: &String) -> &str {
    let bytes = s.as bytes();
    for (i, &item) in bytes.iter().enumerate() {
        if item == b' ' {
           return &s[0..il;
    &s[..]
fn main() {
    let mut s = String::from("hello world");
    let word = first word(&s);
    s.clear();
                                  // error! reference exists!
    println!("the first word is: {}", word);
```

### Ownership - Slices

Slices also work on other data structures besides strings.

```
let a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
let slice = &a[1..3];
```

Containers that support indexing are generally sliceable.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch04-03-slices.html#other-slices

#### **Structs**

A struct looks basically the same as in C or C++.

```
struct User {
    username: String,
    sign_in_count: u64,
    active: bool,
}
```

```
let user1 = User {
    active: true,
    username: String::from("user"),
    sign_in_count: 1,
};
```

To use a struct, all values must be defined (in any order).

#### **Structs**

To get a value from a struct, dot notation is used.

```
let user1 = User {
    active: true,
    username: String::from("user"),
    sign_in_count: 1,
};
println!("email is {}", user1.email);
```

You may also assign to the value using dot notation.

#### **Structs**

Field init shorthand is available:

```
fn build_user(username: String) -> User {
    User {
        username,
        active: true,
        sign_in_count: 1,
    }
}
```

## **Structs - update syntax**

When creating a new instance from an existing instance, a shorthand is available using the .. operator

```
let user1 = User {
    username: String::from("someusername123"),
    active: true,
    sign_in_count: 1,
};
let user2 = User {
    username: String::from("anotherusername567"),
    ..user1
};
```

#### **Structs - tuple structs**

Tuple structs do not have named fields, just types.

```
struct Color(i32, i32, i32);
struct Point(i32, i32, i32);

let black = Color(0, 0, 0);
let origin = Point(0, 0, 0);

let black_val0 = black.0;
let origin_val2 = origin.2;
```

### **Structs - storing references**

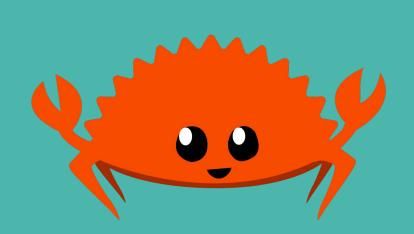
Storing references in structs is difficult because of a feature called lifetimes.

```
struct User {
   username: &str,
   sign_in_count: u64,
   active: bool,
}
```

The problem is that the compiler doesn't know how long the reference should live - both when it gets created and when it should be dropped. While this can be solved, it is far easier to store only owned types.

https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch05-01-defining-structs.html#ownership-of-struct-data

### **End of Lecture**



#### How to read cmdline arguments

In today's exercises and homework, you might need to read arguments from the cmdline.

```
use std::env;
fn main() {
   let args: Vec<String> = env::args().collect();

   let query = &args[1];
   let filename = &args[2];

   println!("Searching for {}", query);
   println!("In file {}", filename);
}
```

#### How to read from a file

In today's exercises and homework, you might need to read from a file.

```
use std::fs;

fn main() {
    let filename = "foo.txt";
    let contents = fs::read_to_string(filename)
        .expect("Something went wrong reading the file");
}
```

#### Some useful resources

https://doc.rust-lang.org/std/primitive.str.html

In particular, functions like split and startswith.

#### **Exercises**

Find and fix the errors in exercises/day2/check\_errors

Write a program that can take a log file as input and query for various things.

#### Sample queries:

- List lines containing the user dglo at the WARNING level
- List all lines between two times
- For all lines that have "memory error", print the total average memory size

Starter code and log file available at exercises/day2/logfile