

Enumerated Types

Single value types are called **scalar types**. All of the built-in, primitive data types—**int**, **char**, **bool** and **double**—are **scalar** data types. The **Date** type, which you met in the last lesson, was a user-defined **structured** type.

The **Weekday** type shown here above the **Date** is a **user-defined scalar** type which contains only a single simple value.



You may define your own **new scalar types** by listing the **elements in their domain**. Such types are called **enumerated types**. Enumerated types are based upon another type, in this case the integers. Such types are called **derived** or **compound types**.

The syntax for defining an enumerated type is:

```
enum class type-name { name-list };    // C++ 11 scoped enums
enum type-name { name-list };          // traditional "plain" enums
```

Here **type-name** is the **name** of the type and **name-list** is a list of literals representing the values in the domain, separated by commas. The **name-list** does not need any semicolons, unlike regular variable definitions. However, you **must end the definition with a semicolon**.

The **scoped enumeration** was added in C++11, while the older type is called an **unscoped or plain enumeration**. In this class we'll use the newer, scoped enumerations, since they will help you avoid all kinds of scope bugs.



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