

static const Data Members

When you have a constant that only applies to the situation represented by your class you can add it as a static const data member.



```
class Bizarro
{
public:
    static const int kAnswer{-42};
    static constexpr double kE{3.14159};
    static const double kPi;
};
```

In the Bizarro world, almost **everything is backwards**. The "answer to everything" is **-42**, not **42** as in our world. The mathematical constant **e** is **3.14159**, and the constant **PI** is the square root of **PI** in our own world.

For **integral types**, you may initialize **static const** data members inside the class (as with **kAnswer**); no other initialization is required. Starting in C++11 you can also do this for other types, using the keyword **constexpr**, instead of **const** (as with **kE**), provided that the value can be calculated at compile time.

However, if a type needs to calculate a value at runtime, (as **kPi** does), you'll still need to provide a separate **definition** in the **.cpp** file.

```
const double Bizarro::kPi = sqrt(acos(-1.0));
```

The data members are **static** (there is **only one copy** stored), they are **const**, (they **cannot be changed**), and they are **public** (you can use them outside of the class.)

```
cout << Bizarro::kAnswer << endl;
cout << Bizarro::kPi << endl;
cout << Bizarro::kE << endl;
```



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