What is rustc?

Welcome to "The rustc book"! rustc is the compiler for the Rust programming language, provided by the project itself. Compilers take your source code and produce binary code, either as a library or executable.

Most Rust programmers don't invoke rustc directly, but instead do it through Cargo. It's all in service of rustc though! If you want to see how Cargo calls rustc, you can

```
$ cargo build --verbose
```

And it will print out each <code>rustc</code> invocation. This book can help you understand what each of these options does. Additionally, while most Rustaceans use Cargo, not all do: sometimes they integrate <code>rustc</code> into other build systems. This book should provide a guide to all of the options you'd need to do so.

Basic usage

Let's say you've got a little hello world program in a file hello.rs:

```
fn main() {
    println!("Hello, world!");
}
```

To turn this source code into an executable, you can use rustc:

```
$ rustc hello.rs
$ ./hello # on a *NIX
$ .\hello.exe # on Windows
```

Note that we only ever pass rustc the *crate root*, not every file we wish to compile. For example, if we had a main.rs that looked like this:

```
mod foo;
fn main() {
    foo::hello();
}
And a foo.rs that had this:

pub fn hello() {
    println!("Hello, world!");
}
```

To compile this, we'd run this command:

```
$ rustc main.rs
```

No need to tell rustc about foo.rs; the mod statements give it everything that it needs. This is different than how you would use a C compiler, where you invoke the compiler on each file, and then link everything together. In other words, the *crate* is a translation unit, not a particular module.

Command-line arguments

Here's a list of command-line arguments to rustc and what they do.

-h/--help: get help

This flag will print out help information for rustc.

--cfg: configure the compilation environment

This flag can turn on or off various #[cfg] settings for conditional compilation.

The value can either be a single identifier or two identifiers separated by = .

For examples, --cfg 'verbose' or --cfg 'feature="serde"'. These correspond to #[cfg(verbose)] and #[cfg(feature = "serde")] respectively.

-L: add a directory to the library search path

The -L flag adds a path to search for external crates and libraries.

The kind of search path can optionally be specified with the form -L KIND=PATH where KIND may be one of:

• dependency — Only search for transitive dependencies in this directory.

- crate Only search for this crate's direct dependencies in this directory.
- native Only search for native libraries in this directory.
- framework Only search for macOS frameworks in this directory.
- all Search for all library kinds in this directory. This is the default if KIND is not specified.

-1: link the generated crate to a native library

```
Syntax: -l [KIND[:MODIFIERS]=]NAME[:RENAME] .
```

This flag allows you to specify linking to a specific native library when building a crate.

The kind of library can optionally be specified with the form -l KIND=lib where KIND may be one of:

- dylib A native dynamic library.
- static A native static library (such as a .a archive).
- framework A macOS framework.

If the kind is specified, then linking modifiers can be attached to it. Modifiers are specified as a comma-delimited string with each modifier prefixed with either a + or - to indicate that the modifier is enabled or disabled, respectively. The last boolean value specified for a given modifier wins.

Example: -l static:+whole-archive=mylib.

The kind of library and the modifiers can also be specified in a #[link] attribute. If the kind is not specified in the link attribute or on the command-line, it will link a dynamic library if available, otherwise it will use a static library. If the kind is specified on the command-line, it will override the kind specified in a link attribute.

The name used in a link attribute may be overridden using the form -l ATTR_NAME:LINK_NAME

where ATTR_NAME is the name in the link attribute, and LINK_NAME is the name of the actual library that will be linked.

Linking modifiers: whole-archive

This modifier is only compatible with the static linking kind. Using any other kind will result in a compiler error.

+whole-archive means that the static library is linked as a whole archive without throwing any object files away.

This modifier translates to --whole-archive for ld-like linkers, to /WHOLEARCHIVE for link.exe, and to -force_load for ld64. The modifier does nothing for linkers that don't support it.

The default for this modifier is -whole-archive.

NOTE: The default may currently be different in some cases for backward compatibility, but it is not guaranteed. If you need whole archive semantics use +whole-archive explicitly.

--crate-type: a list of types of crates for the compiler to emit

This instructs rustc on which crate type to build. This flag accepts a comma-separated list of values, and may be specified multiple times. The valid crate types are:

- lib Generates a library kind preferred by the compiler, currently defaults to rlib.
- rlib A Rust static library.
- staticlib A native static library.
- dylib A Rust dynamic library.
- cdylib A native dynamic library.

- bin A runnable executable program.
- proc-macro Generates a format suitable for a procedural macro library that may be loaded by the compiler.

The crate type may be specified with the crate_type attribute. The --crate-type command-line value will override the crate_type attribute.

More details may be found in the linkage chapter of the reference.

--crate-name: specify the name of the crate being built

This informs rustc of the name of your crate.

--edition: specify the edition to use

This flag takes a value of 2015, 2018 or 2021. The default is 2015. More information about editions may be found in the edition guide.

--emit: specifies the types of output files to generate

This flag controls the types of output files generated by the compiler. It accepts a comma-separated list of values, and may be specified multiple times. The valid emit kinds are:

• asm — Generates a file with the crate's assembly code. The default output filename is CRATE_NAME.s.

- dep-info Generates a file with Makefile syntax that indicates all the source files that were loaded to generate the crate. The default output filename is CRATE_NAME.d.
- link Generates the crates specified by --crate-type. The default output filenames depend on the crate type and platform. This is the default if --emit is not specified.
- llvm-bc Generates a binary file containing the LLVM bitcode. The default output filename is CRATE_NAME.bc.
- llvm-ir Generates a file containing LLVM IR. The default output filename is CRATE_NAME.ll.
- metadata Generates a file containing metadata about the crate. The default output filename is libCRATE_NAME.rmeta.
- mir Generates a file containing rustc's mid-level intermediate representation. The default output filename is CRATE_NAME.mir.
- obj Generates a native object file. The default output filename is CRATE_NAME.o.

The output filename can be set with the -o flag. A suffix may be added to the filename with the -c extra-filename flag. The files are written to the current directory unless the --out-dir flag is used. Each emission type may also specify the output filename with the form KIND=PATH, which takes precedence over the -o flag.

--print: print compiler information

This flag prints out various information about the compiler. This flag may be specified multiple times, and the information is printed in the order the flags are specified. Specifying a --print flag will usually disable the --emit step and will only print the requested information. The valid types of print values are:

- crate-name The name of the crate.
- file-names The names of the files created by the link emit kind.

- sysroot Path to the sysroot.
- target-libdir Path to the target libdir.
- cfg List of cfg values. See conditional compilation for more information about cfg values.
- target-list List of known targets. The target may be selected with the --target flag.
- target-cpus List of available CPU values for the current target. The target CPU may be selected with the -C target-cpu=val flag.
- target-features List of available target features for the current target. Target features may be enabled with the -C target-feature=val flag. This flag is unsafe. See known issues for more details.
- relocation-models List of relocation models. Relocation models may be selected with the
 -C relocation-model=val flag.
- code-models List of code models. Code models may be selected with the -C code-model=val flag.
- tls-models List of Thread Local Storage models supported. The model may be selected with the -z tls-model=val flag.
- native-static-libs This may be used when creating a staticlib crate type. If this is the only flag, it will perform a full compilation and include a diagnostic note that indicates the linker flags to use when linking the resulting static library. The note starts with the text native-static-libs: to make it easier to fetch the output.
- link-args This flag does not disable the --emit step. When linking, this flag causes rusto to print the full linker invocation in a human-readable form. This can be useful when debugging linker options. The exact format of this debugging output is not a stable guarantee, other than that it will include the linker executable and the text of each command-line argument passed to the linker.

-g: include debug information

A synonym for -C debuginfo=2.

-0: optimize your code

A synonym for -C opt-level=2.

-o: filename of the output

This flag controls the output filename.

--out-dir: directory to write the output in

The outputted crate will be written to this directory. This flag is ignored if the -o flag is used.

--explain: provide a detailed explanation of an error message

Each error of rustc 's comes with an error code; this will print out a longer explanation of a given error.

--test: build a test harness

When compiling this crate, rustc will ignore your main function and instead produce a test harness. See the Tests chapter for more information about tests.

--target: select a target triple to build

This controls which target to produce.

-W: set lint warnings

This flag will set which lints should be set to the warn level.

Note: The order of these lint level arguments is taken into account, see lint level via compiler flag for more information.

-A: set lint allowed

This flag will set which lints should be set to the allow level.

Note: The order of these lint level arguments is taken into account, see lint level via compiler flag for more information.

-D: set lint denied

This flag will set which lints should be set to the deny level.

Note: The order of these lint level arguments is taken into account, see lint level via compiler flag for more information.

-F: set lint forbidden

This flag will set which lints should be set to the forbid level.

Note: The order of these lint level arguments is taken into account, see lint level via compiler flag for more information.

-Z: set unstable options

This flag will allow you to set unstable options of rustc. In order to set multiple options, the -Z flag can be used multiple times. For example: rustc -Z verbose -Z time. Specifying options with -Z is only available on nightly. To view all available options run: rustc -Z help.

--cap-lints: set the most restrictive lint level

This flag lets you 'cap' lints, for more, see here.

-C/--codegen: code generation options

This flag will allow you to set codegen options.

-V/--version: print a version

This flag will print out rustc 's version.

-v/--verbose: use verbose output

This flag, when combined with other flags, makes them produce extra output.

--extern: specify where an external library is located

This flag allows you to pass the name and location for an external crate of a direct dependency. Indirect dependencies (dependencies of dependencies) are located using the -L flag. The given crate name is added to the extern prelude, similar to specifying extern crate within the root module. The given crate name does not need to match the name the library was built with.

Specifying —extern has one behavior difference from extern crate: —extern merely makes the crate a candidate for being linked; it does not actually link it unless it's actively used. In rare occasions you may wish to ensure a crate is linked even if you don't actively use it from your code: for example, if it changes the global allocator or if it contains #[no_mangle] symbols for use by other programming languages. In such cases you'll need to use extern crate.

This flag may be specified multiple times. This flag takes an argument with either of the following formats:

- CRATENAME=PATH Indicates the given crate is found at the given path.
- **CRATENAME** Indicates the given crate may be found in the search path, such as within the sysroot or via the -L flag.

The same crate name may be specified multiple times for different crate types. If both an rlib and dylib are found, an internal algorithm is used to decide which to use for linking. The -c prefer-

dynamic flag may be used to influence which is used.

If the same crate name is specified with and without a path, the one with the path is used and the pathless flag has no effect.

--sysroot: Override the system root

The "sysroot" is where rustc looks for the crates that come with the Rust distribution; this flag allows that to be overridden.

--error-format: control how errors are produced

This flag lets you control the format of messages. Messages are printed to stderr. The valid options are:

- human Human-readable output. This is the default.
- json Structured JSON output. See the JSON chapter for more detail.
- short Short, one-line messages.

--color: configure coloring of output

This flag lets you control color settings of the output. The valid options are:

- auto Use colors if output goes to a tty. This is the default.
- always Always use colors.

• never — Never colorize output.

--remap-path-prefix: remap source names in output

Remap source path prefixes in all output, including compiler diagnostics, debug information, macro expansions, etc. It takes a value of the form <code>FROM=TO</code> where a path prefix equal to <code>FROM</code> is rewritten to the value <code>TO</code>. The <code>FROM</code> may itself contain an <code>=</code> symbol, but the <code>TO</code> value may not. This flag may be specified multiple times.

This is useful for normalizing build products, for example by removing the current directory out of pathnames emitted into the object files. The replacement is purely textual, with no consideration of the current system's pathname syntax. For example --remap-path-prefix foo=bar will match foo/lib.rs but not ./foo/lib.rs.

--json: configure json messages printed by the compiler

When the --error-format=json option is passed to rustc then all of the compiler's diagnostic output will be emitted in the form of JSON blobs. The --json argument can be used in conjunction with --error-format=json to configure what the JSON blobs contain as well as which ones are emitted.

With --error-format=json the compiler will always emit any compiler errors as a JSON blob, but the following options are also available to the --json flag to customize the output:

• diagnostic-short - json blobs for diagnostic messages should use the "short" rendering instead of the normal "human" default. This means that the output of --error-format=short will be embedded into the JSON diagnostics instead of the default --error-format=human.

- diagnostic-rendered-ansi by default JSON blobs in their rendered field will contain a plain text rendering of the diagnostic. This option instead indicates that the diagnostic should have embedded ANSI color codes intended to be used to colorize the message in the manner rustc typically already does for terminal outputs. Note that this is usefully combined with crates like fwdansi to translate these ANSI codes on Windows to console commands or strip-ansiescapes if you'd like to optionally remove the ansi colors afterwards.
- artifacts this instructs rustc to emit a JSON blob for each artifact that is emitted. An artifact corresponds to a request from the --emit CLI argument, and as soon as the artifact is available on the filesystem a notification will be emitted.
- future-incompat includes a JSON message that contains a report if the crate contains any code that may fail to compile in the future.

Note that it is invalid to combine the --json argument with the --color argument, and it is required to combine --json with --error-format=json.

See the JSON chapter for more detail.

@path: load command-line flags from a path

If you specify <code>@path</code> on the command-line, then it will open <code>path</code> and read command line options from it. These options are one per line; a blank line indicates an empty option. The file can use Unix or Windows style line endings, and must be encoded as UTF-8.

Lints

In software, a "lint" is a tool used to help improve your source code. The Rust compiler contains a number of lints, and when it compiles your code, it will also run the lints. These lints may produce a warning, an error, or nothing at all, depending on how you've configured things.

Here's a small example:

This is the unused_variables lint, and it tells you that you've introduced a variable that you don't use in your code. That's not wrong, so it's not an error, but it might be a bug, so you get a warning.

Future-incompatible lints

Sometimes the compiler needs to be changed to fix an issue that can cause existing code to stop compiling. "Future-incompatible" lints are issued in these cases to give users of Rust a smooth transition to the new behavior. Initially, the compiler will continue to accept the problematic code and issue a warning. The warning has a description of the problem, a notice that this will become an

error in the future, and a link to a tracking issue that provides detailed information and an opportunity for feedback. This gives users some time to fix the code to accommodate the change. After some time, the warning may become an error.

The following is an example of what a future-incompatible looks like:

warning: borrow of packed field is unsafe and requires unsafe function or block (error E0133)

For more information about the process and policy of future-incompatible changes, see RFC 1589.

Lint levels

In rustc, lints are divided into five *levels*:

- 1. allow
- 2. warn
- 3. force-warn
- 4. deny
- 5. forbid

Each lint has a default level (explained in the lint listing later in this chapter), and the compiler has a default warning level. First, let's explain what these levels mean, and then we'll talk about configuration.

allow

These lints exist, but by default, do nothing. For example, consider this source:

```
pub fn foo() {}
```

Compiling this file produces no warnings:

```
$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib
$
```

But this code violates the missing_docs lint.

These lints exist mostly to be manually turned on via configuration, as we'll talk about later in this section.

warn

The 'warn' lint level will produce a warning if you violate the lint. For example, this code runs afoul of the unused_variables lint:

```
pub fn foo() {
    let x = 5;
}
```

This will produce this warning:

force-warn

'force-warn' is a special lint level. It's the same as 'warn' in that a lint at this level will produce a warning, but unlike the 'warn' level, the 'force-warn' level cannot be overridden. If a lint is set to 'force-warn', it is guaranteed to warn: no more, no less. This is true even if the overall lint level is capped via cap-lints.

deny

A 'deny' lint produces an error if you violate it. For example, this code runs into the exceeding_bitshifts lint.

```
fn main() {
    100u8 << 10;
}

$ rustc main.rs
error: bitshift exceeds the type's number of bits
--> main.rs:2:13
    |
2 | 100u8 << 10;
    | ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
    |
    = note: `#[deny(exceeding_bitshifts)]` on by default</pre>
```

What's the difference between an error from a lint and a regular old error? Lints are configurable via levels, so in a similar way to 'allow' lints, warnings that are 'deny' by default let you allow them. Similarly, you may wish to set up a lint that is warn by default to produce an error instead. This lint level gives you that.

forbid

'forbid' is a special lint level that fills the same role for 'deny' that 'force-warn' does for 'warn'. It's the same as 'deny' in that a lint at this level will produce an error, but unlike the 'deny' level, the 'forbid' level can not be overridden to be anything lower than an error. However, lint levels may still be capped with --cap-lints (see below) so rustc --cap-lints warn will make lints set to 'forbid' just warn.

Configuring warning levels

Remember our missing_docs example from the 'allow' lint level?

```
$ cat lib.rs
pub fn foo() {}
$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib
$
```

We can configure this lint to operate at a higher level, both with compiler flags, as well as with an attribute in the source code.

You can also "cap" lints so that the compiler can choose to ignore certain lint levels. We'll talk about that last.

Via compiler flag

The -A, -W, --force-warn -D, and -F flags let you turn one or more lints into allowed, warning, force-warn, deny, or forbid levels, like this:

```
$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib -W missing-docs
warning: missing documentation for crate
  --> lib.rs:1:1
 1 | pub fn foo() {}
     \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
   = note: requested on the command line with `-W missing-docs`
warning: missing documentation for a function
  --> lib.rs:1:1
 1 | pub fn foo() {}
     ^^^^^
$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib -D missing-docs
 error: missing documentation for crate
  --> lib.rs:1:1
 1 | pub fn foo() {}
     \wedge
   = note: requested on the command line with `-D missing-docs`
error: missing documentation for a function
  --> lib.rs:1:1
 1 | pub fn foo() {}
     ^^^^^
error: aborting due to 2 previous errors
You can also pass each flag more than once for changing multiple lints:
$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib -D missing-docs -D unused-variables
And of course, you can mix these five flags together:
```

\$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib -D missing-docs -A unused-variables

The order of these command line arguments is taken into account. The following allows the unused-variables lint, because it is the last argument for that lint:

\$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib -D unused-variables -A unused-variables

You can make use of this behavior by overriding the level of one specific lint out of a group of lints. The following example denies all the lints in the unused group, but explicitly allows the unused-variables lint in that group (forbid still trumps everything regardless of ordering):

\$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib -D unused -A unused-variables

Since force-warn and forbid cannot be overridden, setting one of them will prevent any later level for the same lint from taking effect.

Via an attribute

You can also modify the lint level with a crate-wide attribute:

```
$ cat lib.rs
#![warn(missing_docs)]
pub fn foo() {}
$ rustc lib.rs --crate-type=lib
warning: missing documentation for crate
  --> lib.rs:1:1
1 | / #![warn(missing_docs)]
 2 | |
 3 | | pub fn foo() {}
note: lint level defined here
 --> lib.rs:1:9
1 | #![warn(missing_docs)]
       warning: missing documentation for a function
 --> lib.rs:3:1
3 | pub fn foo() {}
    ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^
warn, allow, deny, and forbid all work this way. There is no way to set a lint to force-warn using
an attribute.
You can also pass in multiple lints per attribute:
```

And use multiple attributes together:

pub fn foo() {}

#![warn(missing_docs, unused_variables)]

```
#![warn(missing_docs)]
#![deny(unused_variables)]
pub fn foo() {}
```

Capping lints

rustc supports a flag, --cap-lints LEVEL that sets the "lint cap level." This is the maximum level for all lints. So for example, if we take our code sample from the "deny" lint level above:

```
fn main() {
    100u8 << 10;
}</pre>
```

And we compile it, capping lints to warn:

It now only warns, rather than errors. We can go further and allow all lints:

```
$ rustc lib.rs --cap-lints allow
$
```

This feature is used heavily by Cargo; it will pass --cap-lints allow when compiling your dependencies, so that if they have any warnings, they do not pollute the output of your build.

Lint Groups

rustc has the concept of a "lint group", where you can toggle several warnings through one name.

For example, the nonstandard-style lint sets non-camel-case-types, non-snake-case, and non-upper-case-globals all at once. So these are equivalent:

```
$ rustc -D nonstandard-style
```

\$ rustc -D non-camel-case-types -D non-snake-case -D non-upper-case-globals

Here's a list of each lint group, and the lints that they are made up of:

Group	Description	Lints
warnings	All lints that are set to issue warnings	See warn-by-default for the default set of warnings
future- incompatible	Lints that detect code that has future- compatibility problems	ambiguous-associated-items, cenum-impl-drop-cast, coherence-leak-check, conflicting-repr-hints, const-err, const-evaluatable-unchecked, deprecated-cfg-attr-crate-type-name, deref-into-dyn-supertrait, forbidden-lint-groups, ill-formed-attribute-input, illegal-floating-point-literal-pattern, indirect-structural-match, invalid-doc-attributes, invalid-type-param-default, late-bound-lifetime-arguments, legacy-derive-helpers, macro-expanded-macro-exports-accessed-by-absolute-paths, missing-fragment-specifier, nontrivial-structural-match, order-dependent-trait-objects, patterns-in-fns-without-body, pointer-structural-match, private-in-public, proc-macro-back-compat, proc-macro-derive-resolution-fallback, pub-use-of-private-extern-crate,

Group	Description	Lints semicolon-in-expressions-from-macros, soft-unstable, suspicious-auto-trait-impls, unaligned-references, uninhabited-static, unstable-name-collisions, unsupported-calling-conventions, where-clauses-object-safety
nonstandard- style	Violation of standard naming conventions	non-camel-case-types, non-snake-case, non-upper- case-globals
rust-2018- compatibility	Lints used to transition code from the 2015 edition to 2018	absolute-paths-not-starting-with-crate, anonymous- parameters, keyword-idents, tyvar-behind-raw-pointer
rust-2018- idioms	Lints to nudge you toward idiomatic features of Rust 2018	bare-trait-objects, elided-lifetimes-in-paths, ellipsis- inclusive-range-patterns, explicit-outlives- requirements, unused-extern-crates
rust-2021- compatibility	Lints used to transition code from the 2018 edition to 2021	array-into-iter, bare-trait-objects, ellipsis-inclusive- range-patterns, non-fmt-panics, rust-2021- incompatible-closure-captures, rust-2021- incompatible-or-patterns, rust-2021-prefixes- incompatible-syntax, rust-2021-prelude-collisions

Group	Description	Lints
unused	Lints that detect things being declared but not used, or excess syntax	dead-code, path-statements, redundant-semicolons, unreachable-code, unreachable-patterns, unused-allocation, unused-assignments, unused-attributes, unused-braces, unused-doc-comments, unused-extern-crates, unused-features, unused-imports, unused-labels, unused-macro-rules, unused-macros, unused-must-use, unused-mut, unused-parens, unused-unsafe, unused-variables

 $Additionally, there \verb|'s a bad-style| int group that \verb|'s a deprecated| alias for \verb| nonstandard-style|.$

Finally, you can also see the table above by invoking rustc -W help. This will give you the exact values for the specific compiler you have installed.

Lint listing

This section lists out all of the lints, grouped by their default lint levels.

You can also see this list by running rustc -W help.

Allowed-by-default lints

These lints are all set to the 'allow' level by default. As such, they won't show up unless you set them to a higher lint level with a flag or attribute.

- absolute_paths_not_starting_with_crate
- box_pointers
- elided_lifetimes_in_paths
- explicit_outlives_requirements
- fuzzy_provenance_casts
- keyword_idents
- lossy_provenance_casts
- macro_use_extern_crate
- meta_variable_misuse
- missing_abi
- missing_copy_implementations
- missing_debug_implementations
- missing_docs
- must_not_suspend
- non_ascii_idents
- non_exhaustive_omitted_patterns
- noop_method_call
- pointer_structural_match
- rust_2021_incompatible_closure_captures
- rust_2021_incompatible_or_patterns
- rust_2021_prefixes_incompatible_syntax
- rust_2021_prelude_collisions
- single_use_lifetimes
- trivial_casts

- trivial_numeric_casts
- unreachable_pub
- unsafe_code
- unsafe_op_in_unsafe_fn
- unstable_features
- unused_crate_dependencies
- unused_extern_crates
- unused_import_braces
- unused_lifetimes
- unused_macro_rules
- unused_qualifications
- unused_results
- variant_size_differences

absolute-paths-not-starting-with-crate

The absolute_paths_not_starting_with_crate lint detects fully qualified paths that start with a module name instead of crate, self, or an extern crate name

Example

```
#![deny(absolute_paths_not_starting_with_crate)]
mod foo {
     pub fn bar() {}
fn main() {
     ::foo::bar();
}
This will produce:
error: absolute paths must start with `self`, `super`, `crate`, or an external crate
 name in the 2018 edition
 --> lint_example.rs:8:5
8
         ::foo::bar();
         ^^^^^^^ help: use `crate`: `crate::foo::bar`
note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(absolute_paths_not_starting_with_crate)]
             ^^^^^
   = warning: this is accepted in the current edition (Rust 2015) but is a hard error in
Rust 2018!
   = note: for more information, see issue #53130 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/53130>
```

Explanation

Rust editions allow the language to evolve without breaking backwards compatibility. This lint catches code that uses absolute paths in the style of the 2015 edition. In the 2015 edition, absolute paths (those starting with ::) refer to either the crate root or an external crate. In the 2018 edition

it was changed so that they only refer to external crates. The path prefix crate:: should be used instead to reference items from the crate root.

If you switch the compiler from the 2015 to 2018 edition without updating the code, then it will fail to compile if the old style paths are used. You can manually change the paths to use the crate:: prefix to transition to the 2018 edition.

This lint solves the problem automatically. It is "allow" by default because the code is perfectly valid in the 2015 edition. The cargo fix tool with the --edition flag will switch this lint to "warn" and automatically apply the suggested fix from the compiler. This provides a completely automated way to update old code to the 2018 edition.

box-pointers

The box_pointers lints use of the Box type.

Example

```
#![deny(box_pointers)]
struct Foo {
    x: Box<isize>,
}
```

This will produce:

Explanation

This lint is mostly historical, and not particularly useful. Box<T> used to be built into the language, and the only way to do heap allocation. Today's Rust can call into other allocators, etc.

elided-lifetimes-in-paths

The elided_lifetimes_in_paths lint detects the use of hidden lifetime parameters.

Example

```
#![deny(elided_lifetimes_in_paths)]
struct Foo<'a> {
    x: &'a u32
}
fn foo(x: &Foo) {
This will produce:
error: hidden lifetime parameters in types are deprecated
 --> lint_example.rs:7:12
7 | fn foo(x: &Foo) {
               ^^^ expected lifetime parameter
 note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(elided_lifetimes_in_paths)]
            ^^^^^
help: indicate the anonymous lifetime
7 | fn foo(x: &Foo<'_>) {
```

Explanation

Elided lifetime parameters can make it difficult to see at a glance that borrowing is occurring. This lint ensures that lifetime parameters are always explicitly stated, even if it is the '_ placeholder lifetime.

This lint is "allow" by default because it has some known issues, and may require a significant

transition for old code.

explicit-outlives-requirements

The explicit_outlives_requirements lint detects unnecessary lifetime bounds that can be inferred.

Example

```
#![deny(explicit_outlives_requirements)]
struct SharedRef<'a, T>
where
    T: 'a,
{
    data: &'a T,
}
```

This will produce:

If a struct contains a reference, such as &'a T, the compiler requires that T outlives the lifetime 'a. This historically required writing an explicit lifetime bound to indicate this requirement. However, this can be overly explicit, causing clutter and unnecessary complexity. The language was changed to automatically infer the bound if it is not specified. Specifically, if the struct contains a reference, directly or indirectly, to T with lifetime 'x, then it will infer that T: 'x is a requirement.

This lint is "allow" by default because it can be noisy for existing code that already had these requirements. This is a stylistic choice, as it is still valid to explicitly state the bound. It also has some false positives that can cause confusion.

See RFC 2093 for more details.

fuzzy-provenance-casts

The fuzzy_provenance_casts lint detects an as cast between an integer and a pointer.

Example

```
#![feature(strict_provenance)]
#![warn(fuzzy_provenance_casts)]
fn main() {
    let _dangling = 16_usize as *const u8;
This will produce:
warning: strict provenance disallows casting integer `usize` to pointer `*const u8`
 --> lint_example.rs:5:21
        let _dangling = 16_usize as *const u8;
5
                        ^^^^^
note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:2:9
2 | #![warn(fuzzy_provenance_casts)]
            ^^^^^
  = help: if you can't comply with strict provenance and don't have a pointer with the
correct provenance you can use `std::ptr::from_exposed_addr()` instead
help: use `.with_addr()` to adjust a valid pointer in the same allocation, to this
address
5
        let _dangling = (...).with_addr(16_usize);
                        ++++++++++++++
```

This lint is part of the strict provenance effort, see issue #95228. Casting an integer to a pointer is considered bad style, as a pointer contains, besides the *address* also a *provenance*, indicating what memory the pointer is allowed to read/write. Casting an integer, which doesn't have provenance, to a pointer requires the compiler to assign (guess) provenance. The compiler assigns "all exposed valid" (see the docs of ptr::from_exposed_addr for more information about this "exposing"). This penalizes the optimiser and is not well suited for dynamic analysis/dynamic program verification (e.g. Miri or CHERI platforms).

It is much better to use ptr::with_addr instead to specify the provenance you want. If using this function is not possible because the code relies on exposed provenance then there is as an escape hatch ptr::from_exposed_addr.

keyword-idents

The keyword_idents lint detects edition keywords being used as an identifier.

Example

```
#![deny(keyword_idents)]
// edition 2015
fn dyn() {}
```

This will produce:

Rust editions allow the language to evolve without breaking backwards compatibility. This lint catches code that uses new keywords that are added to the language that are used as identifiers (such as a variable name, function name, etc.). If you switch the compiler to a new edition without updating the code, then it will fail to compile if you are using a new keyword as an identifier.

You can manually change the identifiers to a non-keyword, or use a raw identifier, for example r#dyn, to transition to a new edition.

This lint solves the problem automatically. It is "allow" by default because the code is perfectly valid in older editions. The cargo fix tool with the --edition flag will switch this lint to "warn" and automatically apply the suggested fix from the compiler (which is to use a raw identifier). This provides a completely automated way to update old code for a new edition.

lossy-provenance-casts

The lossy_provenance_casts lint detects an as cast between a pointer and an integer.

Example

```
#![feature(strict_provenance)]
#![warn(lossy_provenance_casts)]

fn main() {
    let x: u8 = 37;
    let _addr: usize = &x as *const u8 as usize;
}
```

This will produce:

This lint is part of the strict provenance effort, see issue #95228. Casting a pointer to an integer is a lossy operation, because beyond just an *address* a pointer may be associated with a particular *provenance*. This information is used by the optimiser and for dynamic analysis/dynamic program verification (e.g. Miri or CHERI platforms).

Since this cast is lossy, it is considered good style to use the ptr::addr method instead, which has a similar effect, but doesn't "expose" the pointer provenance. This improves optimisation potential. See the docs of ptr::addr and ptr::expose_addr for more information about exposing pointer provenance.

If your code can't comply with strict provenance and needs to expose the provenance, then there is ptr::expose_addr as an escape hatch, which preserves the behaviour of as usize casts while

being explicit about the semantics.

macro-use-extern-crate

The macro_use_extern_crate lint detects the use of the macro_use attribute.

Example

```
#![deny(macro_use_extern_crate)]
#[macro_use]
extern crate serde_json;
fn main() {
    let _ = json!{{}};
}
This will produce:
error: deprecated `#[macro_use]` attribute used to import macros should be replaced at
use sites with a `use` item to import the macro instead
 --> src/main.rs:3:1
3 | #[macro_use]
    ^^^^^
note: the lint level is defined here
 --> src/main.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(macro_use_extern_crate)]
            ^^^^^
```

The macro_use attribute on an extern crate item causes macros in that external crate to be brought into the prelude of the crate, making the macros in scope everywhere. As part of the efforts to simplify handling of dependencies in the 2018 edition, the use of extern crate is being phased out. To bring macros from extern crates into scope, it is recommended to use a use import.

This lint is "allow" by default because this is a stylistic choice that has not been settled, see issue #52043 for more information.

meta-variable-misuse

The meta_variable_misuse lint detects possible meta-variable misuse in macro definitions.

Example

```
#![deny(meta_variable_misuse)]

macro_rules! foo {
    () => {};
    ($( $i:ident = $($j:ident),+ );*) => { $( $( $i = $k; )+ )* };
}

fn main() {
    foo!();
}
```

This will produce:

There are quite a few different ways a macro_rules macro can be improperly defined. Many of these errors were previously only detected when the macro was expanded or not at all. This lint is an attempt to catch some of these problems when the macro is *defined*.

This lint is "allow" by default because it may have false positives and other issues. See issue #61053 for more details.

missing-abi

The missing_abi lint detects cases where the ABI is omitted from extern declarations.

Example

Historically, Rust implicitly selected C as the ABI for extern declarations. We expect to add new ABIs, like C-unwind, in the future, though this has not yet happened, and especially with their addition seeing the ABI easily will make code review easier.

missing-copy-implementations

The missing_copy_implementations lint detects potentially-forgotten implementations of Copy.

Example

Explanation

Historically (before 1.0), types were automatically marked as Copy if possible. This was changed so that it required an explicit opt-in by implementing the Copy trait. As part of this change, a lint was added to alert if a copyable type was not marked Copy.

This lint is "allow" by default because this code isn't bad; it is common to write newtypes like this specifically so that a copy type is no longer Copy. Copy types can result in unintended copies of large data which can impact performance.

missing-debug-implementations

The missing_debug_implementations lint detects missing implementations of fmt::Debug.

Example

Explanation

Having a Debug implementation on all types can assist with debugging, as it provides a convenient way to format and display a value. Using the #[derive(Debug)] attribute will automatically generate a typical implementation, or a custom implementation can be added by manually implementing the Debug trait.

This lint is "allow" by default because adding Debug to all types can have a negative impact on compile time and code size. It also requires boilerplate to be added to every type, which can be an impediment.

missing-docs

The missing_docs lint detects missing documentation for public items.

Example

This lint is intended to ensure that a library is well-documented. Items without documentation can be difficult for users to understand how to use properly.

This lint is "allow" by default because it can be noisy, and not all projects may want to enforce everything to be documented.

must-not-suspend

The must_not_suspend lint guards against values that shouldn't be held across suspend points (.await)

Example

```
#![feature(must_not_suspend)]
#![warn(must_not_suspend)]
#[must_not_suspend]
struct SyncThing {}
async fn yield_now() {}
pub async fn uhoh() {
    let guard = SyncThing {};
    yield_now().await;
}
```

This will produce:

```
warning: `SyncThing` held across a suspend point, but should not be
  --> lint_example.rs:11:9
          let guard = SyncThing {};
11
              \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
12
          yield_now().await;
                      ----- the value is held across this suspend point
note: the lint level is defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:2:9
     #![warn(must_not_suspend)]
              ^^^^^
help: consider using a block (`\{\ldots\}`) to shrink the value's scope, ending before the
suspend point
  --> lint_example.rs:11:9
          let guard = SyncThing {};
11
              \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
```

The must_not_suspend lint detects values that are marked with the #[must_not_suspend] attribute being held across suspend points. A "suspend" point is usually a .await in an async function.

This attribute can be used to mark values that are semantically incorrect across suspends (like certain types of timers), values that have async alternatives, and values that regularly cause problems with the Send -ness of async fn's returned futures (like MutexGuard 's)

non-ascii-idents

The non_ascii_idents lint detects non-ASCII identifiers.

Example

Explanation

This lint allows projects that wish to retain the limit of only using ASCII characters to switch this lint to "forbid" (for example to ease collaboration or for security reasons). See RFC 2457 for more details.

non-exhaustive-omitted-patterns

The non_exhaustive_omitted_patterns lint detects when a wildcard (_ or ..) in a pattern for a #[non_exhaustive] struct or enum is reachable.

Example

```
// crate A
#[non_exhaustive]
pub enum Bar {
    A,
    B, // added variant in non breaking change
}

// in crate B
#![feature(non_exhaustive_omitted_patterns_lint)]

match Bar::A {
    Bar::A => {},
    #[warn(non_exhaustive_omitted_patterns)]
    _ => {},
}
```

This will produce:

Structs and enums tagged with #[non_exhaustive] force the user to add a (potentially redundant) wildcard when pattern-matching, to allow for future addition of fields or variants. The non_exhaustive_omitted_patterns lint detects when such a wildcard happens to actually catch some fields/variants. In other words, when the match without the wildcard would not be exhaustive. This lets the user be informed if new fields/variants were added.

noop-method-call

The noop_method_call lint detects specific calls to noop methods such as a calling <&T as Clone>::clone where T: !Clone.

Example

Explanation

Some method calls are noops meaning that they do nothing. Usually such methods are the result of blanket implementations that happen to create some method invocations that end up not doing anything. For instance, Clone is implemented on all &T, but calling clone on a &T where T does not implement clone, actually doesn't do anything as references are copy. This lint detects these calls and warns the user about them.

pointer-structural-match

The pointer_structural_match lint detects pointers used in patterns whose behaviour cannot be relied upon across compiler versions and optimization levels.

Example

```
#![deny(pointer_structural_match)]
fn foo(a: usize, b: usize) -> usize { a + b }
const F00: fn(usize, usize) -> usize = foo;
fn main() {
    match F00 {
       F00 => {},
       _ => {},
    }
}
```

This will produce:

error: function pointers and unsized pointers in patterns behave unpredictably and should not be relied upon. See https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/issues/70861 for details.

Explanation

Previous versions of Rust allowed function pointers and wide raw pointers in patterns. While these work in many cases as expected by users, it is possible that due to optimizations pointers are "not equal to themselves" or pointers to different functions compare as equal during runtime. This is because LLVM optimizations can deduplicate functions if their bodies are the same, thus also making pointers to these functions point to the same location. Additionally functions may get duplicated if they are instantiated in different crates and not deduplicated again via LTO.

rust-2021-incompatible-closure-captures

The rust_2021_incompatible_closure_captures lint detects variables that aren't completely

captured in Rust 2021, such that the <code>Drop</code> order of their fields may differ between Rust 2018 and 2021.

It can also detect when a variable implements a trait like <code>send</code>, but one of its fields does not, and the field is captured by a closure and used with the assumption that said field implements the same trait as the root variable.

Example of drop reorder

```
#![deny(rust_2021_incompatible_closure_captures)]
struct FancyInteger(i32);
impl Drop for FancyInteger {
    fn drop(&mut self) {
        println!("Just dropped {}", self.0);
}
struct Point { x: FancyInteger, y: FancyInteger }
fn main() {
  let p = Point { x: FancyInteger(10), y: FancyInteger(20) };
  let c = || {
     let x = p.x;
  };
  c();
  // ... More code ...
```

This will produce:

```
error: changes to closure capture in Rust 2021 will affect drop order
  --> lint_example.rs:17:11
       let c = || {
17
               ΛΛ
18
          let x = p.x;
                  --- in Rust 2018, this closure captures all of `p`, but in Rust 2021,
it will only capture `p.x`
24 | }
    - in Rust 2018, `p` is dropped here, but in Rust 2021, only `p.x` will be dropped
here as part of the closure
note: the lint level is defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:1:9
     #![deny(rust_2021_incompatible_closure_captures)]
             = note: for more information, see <a href="https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-">https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-</a>
guide/rust-2021/disjoint-capture-in-closures.html>
help: add a dummy let to cause `p` to be fully captured
17 ~ let c = || {
         let _ = &p;
18 +
```

In the above example, p.y will be dropped at the end of f instead of with c in Rust 2021.

Example of auto-trait

```
#![deny(rust_2021_incompatible_closure_captures)]
use std::thread;

struct Pointer(*mut i32);
unsafe impl Send for Pointer {}

fn main() {
    let mut f = 10;
    let fptr = Pointer(&mut f as *mut i32);
    thread::spawn(move || unsafe {
        *fptr.0 = 20;
    });
}
```

This will produce:

```
error: changes to closure capture in Rust 2021 will affect which traits the closure
implements
  --> lint_example.rs:10:19
10
         thread::spawn(move | | unsafe {
                       ^^^^^^^^^ in Rust 2018, this closure implements `Send` as
`fptr` implements `Send`, but in Rust 2021, this closure will no longer implement
`Send` because `fptr` is not fully captured and `fptr.0` does not implement `Send`
             *fptr.0 = 20;
11
             ----- in Rust 2018, this closure captures all of `fptr`, but in Rust
2021, it will only capture `fptr.0`
note: the lint level is defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1
     #![deny(rust_2021_incompatible_closure_captures)]
             ^^^^^
   = note: for more information, see <a href="https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-">https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-</a>
guide/rust-2021/disjoint-capture-in-closures.html>
help: add a dummy let to cause `fptr` to be fully captured
         thread::spawn(move || { let _ = &fptr; unsafe {
10 ~
11 |
             *fptr.0 = 20;
         } });
12 ~
```

In the above example, only fptr.0 is captured in Rust 2021. The field is of type *mut i32, which doesn't implement Send, making the code invalid as the field cannot be sent between threads safely.

rust-2021-incompatible-or-patterns

The rust_2021_incompatible_or_patterns lint detects usage of old versions of or-patterns.

Example

This will produce:

In Rust 2021, the pat matcher will match additional patterns, which include the | character.

rust-2021-prefixes-incompatible-syntax

The rust_2021_prefixes_incompatible_syntax lint detects identifiers that will be parsed as a prefix instead in Rust 2021.

Example

```
#![deny(rust_2021_prefixes_incompatible_syntax)]
macro_rules! m {
     (z $x:expr) => ();
}
m!(z"hey");
This will produce:
error: prefix `z` is unknown
 --> lint_example.rs:8:4
8 | m!(z"hey");
        ^ unknown prefix
 note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(rust_2021_prefixes_incompatible_syntax)]
             = warning: this is accepted in the current edition (Rust 2018) but is a hard error in
Rust 2021!
   = note: for more information, see <a href="https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-">https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-</a>
guide/rust-2021/reserving-syntax.html>
help: insert whitespace here to avoid this being parsed as a prefix in Rust 2021
8 - m!(z"hey");
8 + m!(z "hey");
```

In Rust 2015 and 2018, z"hey" is two tokens: the identifier z followed by the string literal "hey". In Rust 2021, the z is considered a prefix for "hey".

This lint suggests to add whitespace between the z and "hey" tokens to keep them separated in Rust 2021.

rust-2021-prelude-collisions

The rust_2021_prelude_collisions lint detects the usage of trait methods which are ambiguous with traits added to the prelude in future editions.

Example

```
#![deny(rust_2021_prelude_collisions)]
trait Foo {
    fn try_into(self) -> Result<String, !>;
}
impl Foo for &str {
    fn try_into(self) -> Result<String, !> {
        Ok(String::from(self))
    }
}
fn main() {
    let x: String = "3".try_into().unwrap();
                          \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
    // This call to try_into matches both Foo:try_into and TryInto::try_into as
    // `TryInto` has been added to the Rust prelude in 2021 edition.
    println!("{x}");
}
```

This will produce:

In Rust 2021, one of the important introductions is the prelude changes, which add TryFrom, TryInto, and FromIterator into the standard library's prelude. Since this results in an ambiguity as to which method/function to call when an existing try_into method is called via dot-call syntax or a try_from/from_iter associated function is called directly on a type.

single-use-lifetimes

The single_use_lifetimes lint detects lifetimes that are only used once.

Example

```
#![deny(single_use_lifetimes)]
fn foo<'a>(x: &'a u32) {}
This will produce:
error: lifetime parameter `'a` only used once
 --> lint_example.rs:4:8
4 | fn foo<'a>(x: &'a u32) {}
               -- ...is used only here
           this lifetime...
note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(single_use_lifetimes)]
            ^^^^^
help: elide the single-use lifetime
4 - fn foo<'a>(x: &'a u32) {}
4 + fn foo(x: &u32) {}
```

Specifying an explicit lifetime like 'a in a function or impl should only be used to link together two things. Otherwise, you should just use '_ to indicate that the lifetime is not linked to anything, or elide the lifetime altogether if possible.

This lint is "allow" by default because it was introduced at a time when '_ and elided lifetimes were

first being introduced, and this lint would be too noisy. Also, there are some known false positives that it produces. See RFC 2115 for historical context, and issue #44752 for more details.

trivial-casts

The trivial_casts lint detects trivial casts which could be replaced with coercion, which may require type ascription or a temporary variable.

Example

A trivial cast is a cast e as T where e has type u and u is a subtype of T. This type of cast is usually unnecessary, as it can be usually be inferred.

This lint is "allow" by default because there are situations, such as with FFI interfaces or complex type aliases, where it triggers incorrectly, or in situations where it will be more difficult to clearly express the intent. It may be possible that this will become a warning in the future, possibly with type ascription providing a convenient way to work around the current issues. See RFC 401 for historical context.

trivial-numeric-casts

The trivial_numeric_casts lint detects trivial numeric casts of types which could be removed.

Example

```
#![deny(trivial_numeric_casts)]
let x = 42_i32 as i32;
```

This will produce:

A trivial numeric cast is a cast of a numeric type to the same numeric type. This type of cast is usually unnecessary.

This lint is "allow" by default because there are situations, such as with FFI interfaces or complex type aliases, where it triggers incorrectly, or in situations where it will be more difficult to clearly express the intent. It may be possible that this will become a warning in the future, possibly with type ascription providing a convenient way to work around the current issues. See RFC 401 for historical context.

unreachable-pub

The unreachable_pub lint triggers for pub items not reachable from the crate root.

Example

```
#![deny(unreachable_pub)]
mod foo {
     pub mod bar {
 }
This will produce:
error: unreachable `pub` item
 --> lint_example.rs:4:5
 4
         pub mod bar {
         ---\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge\wedge
         help: consider restricting its visibility: `pub(crate)`
note: the lint level is defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(unreachable_pub)]
          = help: or consider exporting it for use by other crates
```

Explanation

A bare pub visibility may be misleading if the item is not actually publicly exported from the crate. The pub(crate) visibility is recommended to be used instead, which more clearly expresses the intent that the item is only visible within its own crate.

This lint is "allow" by default because it will trigger for a large amount existing Rust code, and has some false-positives. Eventually it is desired for this to become warn-by-default.

unsafe-code

#![deny(unsafe_code)]

The unsafe_code lint catches usage of unsafe code.

Example

This lint is intended to restrict the usage of unsafe, which can be difficult to use correctly.

unsafe-op-in-unsafe-fn

The unsafe_op_in_unsafe_fn lint detects unsafe operations in unsafe functions without an explicit unsafe block.

Example

```
#![deny(unsafe_op_in_unsafe_fn)]
unsafe fn foo() {}
unsafe fn bar() {
    foo();
}
fn main() {}
```

This will produce:

Currently, an unsafe fn allows any unsafe operation within its body. However, this can increase the surface area of code that needs to be scrutinized for proper behavior. The unsafe block provides a convenient way to make it clear exactly which parts of the code are performing unsafe operations. In the future, it is desired to change it so that unsafe operations cannot be performed in an unsafe fn without an unsafe block.

The fix to this is to wrap the unsafe code in an unsafe block.

This lint is "allow" by default since this will affect a large amount of existing code, and the exact plan for increasing the severity is still being considered. See RFC #2585 and issue #71668 for more details.

unstable-features

The unstable_features is deprecated and should no longer be used.

unused-crate-dependencies

The unused_crate_dependencies lint detects crate dependencies that are never used.

Example

Explanation

After removing the code that uses a dependency, this usually also requires removing the dependency from the build configuration. However, sometimes that step can be missed, which leads to time wasted building dependencies that are no longer used. This lint can be enabled to detect dependencies that are never used (more specifically, any dependency passed with the --extern command-line flag that is never referenced via use, extern crate, or in any path).

This lint is "allow" by default because it can provide false positives depending on how the build system is configured. For example, when using Cargo, a "package" consists of multiple crates (such as a library and a binary), but the dependencies are defined for the package as a whole. If there is a dependency that is only used in the binary, but not the library, then the lint will be incorrectly issued in the library.

unused-extern-crates

The unused_extern_crates lint guards against extern crate items that are never used.

Example

extern crate items that are unused have no effect and should be removed. Note that there are some cases where specifying an extern crate is desired for the side effect of ensuring the given crate is linked, even though it is not otherwise directly referenced. The lint can be silenced by aliasing the crate to an underscore, such as extern crate foo as _ . Also note that it is no longer idiomatic to use extern crate in the 2018 edition, as extern crates are now automatically added in scope.

This lint is "allow" by default because it can be noisy, and produce false-positives. If a dependency is being removed from a project, it is recommended to remove it from the build configuration (such as Cargo.toml) to ensure stale build entries aren't left behind.

unused-import-braces

The unused_import_braces lint catches unnecessary braces around an imported item.

Example

```
#![deny(unused_import_braces)]
use test::{A};

pub mod test {
    pub struct A;
}
```

This will produce:

If there is only a single item, then remove the braces (use test::A; for example).

This lint is "allow" by default because it is only enforcing a stylistic choice.

unused-lifetimes

The unused_lifetimes lint detects lifetime parameters that are never used.

Example

```
#[deny(unused_lifetimes)]
pub fn foo<'a>() {}
```

This will produce:

Explanation

Unused lifetime parameters may signal a mistake or unfinished code. Consider removing the parameter.

unused-macro-rules

The unused_macro_rules lint detects macro rules that were not used.

Note that the lint is distinct from the unused_macros lint, which fires if the entire macro is never called, while this lint fires for single unused rules of the macro that is otherwise used. unused_macro_rules fires only if unused_macros wouldn't fire.

Example

```
#[warn(unused_macro_rules)]
macro_rules! unused_empty {
    (hello) => { println!("Hello, world!") }; // This rule is unused
    () => { println!("empty") }; // This rule is used
}
fn main() {
    unused_empty!(hello);
}
This will produce:
warning: 2nd rule of macro `unused_empty` is never used
 --> lint_example.rs:4:5
        () => { println!("empty") }; // This rule is used
note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:1:8
1 | #[warn(unused_macro_rules)]
           ^^^^^
```

Unused macro rules may signal a mistake or unfinished code. Furthermore, they slow down compilation. Right now, silencing the warning is not supported on a single rule level, so you have to add an allow to the entire macro definition.

If you intended to export the macro to make it available outside of the crate, use the macro_export attribute.

unused-qualifications

The unused_qualifications lint detects unnecessarily qualified names.

Example

```
#![deny(unused_qualifications)]
mod foo {
     pub fn bar() {}
fn main() {
     use foo::bar;
     foo::bar();
 }
This will produce:
error: unnecessary qualification
  --> lint_example.rs:8:5
 8
         foo::bar();
          \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
note: the lint level is defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(unused_qualifications)]
             ^^^^^
```

Explanation

If an item from another module is already brought into scope, then there is no need to qualify it in this case. You can call bar() directly, without the foo::.

This lint is "allow" by default because it is somewhat pedantic, and doesn't indicate an actual problem, but rather a stylistic choice, and can be noisy when refactoring or moving around code.

unused-results

The unused_results lint checks for the unused result of an expression in a statement.

Example

```
#![deny(unused_results)]
fn foo<T>() -> T { panic!() }
fn main() {
    foo::<usize>();
}
```

This will produce:

Ignoring the return value of a function may indicate a mistake. In cases were it is almost certain that the result should be used, it is recommended to annotate the function with the <code>must_use</code> attribute. Failure to use such a return value will trigger the <code>unused_must_use</code> lint which is warn-by-default. The <code>unused_results</code> lint is essentially the same, but triggers for <code>all</code> return values.

This lint is "allow" by default because it can be noisy, and may not be an actual problem. For example, calling the remove method of a Vec or HashMap returns the previous value, which you may not care about. Using this lint would require explicitly ignoring or discarding such values.

variant-size-differences

The variant_size_differences lint detects enums with widely varying variant sizes.

Example

It can be a mistake to add a variant to an enum that is much larger than the other variants, bloating the overall size required for all variants. This can impact performance and memory usage. This is triggered if one variant is more than 3 times larger than the second-largest variant.

Consider placing the large variant's contents on the heap (for example via Box) to keep the overall size of the enum itself down.

This lint is "allow" by default because it can be noisy, and may not be an actual problem. Decisions about this should be guided with profiling and benchmarking.

Warn-by-default lints

These lints are all set to the 'warn' level by default.

- anonymous_parameters
- array_into_iter
- asm_sub_register
- bad_asm_style
- bare_trait_objects
- bindings_with_variant_name
- break_with_label_and_loop
- cenum_impl_drop_cast
- clashing_extern_declarations
- coherence_leak_check
- confusable_idents
- const_evaluatable_unchecked
- const_item_mutation
- dead_code
- deprecated
- deprecated_cfg_attr_crate_type_name
- deprecated_where_clause_location
- deref_into_dyn_supertrait
- deref_nullptr
- drop_bounds
- duplicate_macro_attributes
- dyn_drop
- ellipsis_inclusive_range_patterns
- exported_private_dependencies
- forbidden_lint_groups

- function_item_references
- illegal_floating_point_literal_pattern
- improper_ctypes
- improper_ctypes_definitions
- incomplete_features
- indirect_structural_match
- inline_no_sanitize
- invalid_doc_attributes
- invalid_value
- irrefutable_let_patterns
- large_assignments
- late_bound_lifetime_arguments
- legacy_derive_helpers
- mixed_script_confusables
- no_mangle_generic_items
- non_camel_case_types
- non_fmt_panics
- non_shorthand_field_patterns
- non_snake_case
- non_upper_case_globals
- nontrivial_structural_match
- overlapping_range_endpoints
- path_statements
- private_in_public
- redundant_semicolons
- renamed_and_removed_lints
- semicolon_in_expressions_from_macros
- stable_features
- suspicious_auto_trait_impls

- temporary_cstring_as_ptr
- trivial_bounds
- type_alias_bounds
- tyvar_behind_raw_pointer
- uncommon_codepoints
- unconditional_recursion
- undefined_naked_function_abi
- unexpected_cfgs
- unfulfilled_lint_expectations
- uninhabited_static
- unknown_lints
- unnameable_test_items
- unreachable_code
- unreachable_patterns
- unstable_name_collisions
- unsupported_calling_conventions
- unused_allocation
- unused_assignments
- unused_attributes
- unused_braces
- unused_comparisons
- unused_doc_comments
- unused_features
- unused_imports
- unused_labels
- unused_macros
- unused_must_use
- unused_mut
- unused_parens

- unused_unsafe
- unused_variables
- warnings
- where_clauses_object_safety
- while_true

anonymous-parameters

The anonymous_parameters lint detects anonymous parameters in trait definitions.

Example

```
#![deny(anonymous_parameters)]
// edition 2015
pub trait Foo {
    fn foo(usize);
}
fn main() {}
```

This will produce:

This syntax is mostly a historical accident, and can be worked around quite easily by adding an _ pattern or a descriptive identifier:

```
trait Foo {
    fn foo(_: usize);
}
```

This syntax is now a hard error in the 2018 edition. In the 2015 edition, this lint is "warn" by default. This lint enables the cargo fix tool with the --edition flag to automatically transition old code from the 2015 edition to 2018. The tool will run this lint and automatically apply the suggested fix from the compiler (which is to add _ to each parameter). This provides a completely automated way to update old code for a new edition. See issue #41686 for more details.

array-into-iter

The array_into_iter lint detects calling into_iter on arrays.

Example

```
[1, 2, 3].into_iter().for_each(|n| { *n; });
This will produce:
warning: this method call resolves to `<&[T; N] as IntoIterator>::into_iter` (due to
 backwards compatibility), but will resolve to <[T; N] as IntoIterator>::into_iter in
 Rust 2021
 --> lint_example.rs:3:11
 3 | [1, 2, 3].into_iter().for_each(|n| { *n; });
                \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
   = note: `#[warn(array_into_iter)]` on by default
   = warning: this changes meaning in Rust 2021
   = note: for more information, see <a href="https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-">https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-</a>
 guide/rust-2021/IntoIterator-for-arrays.html>
help: use `.iter()` instead of `.into_iter()` to avoid ambiguity
3 | [1, 2, 3].iter().for_each(|n| { *n; });
help: or use `IntoIterator::into_iter(..)` instead of `.into_iter()` to explicitly
iterate by value
3 | IntoIterator::into_iter([1, 2, 3]).for_each(|n| { *n; });
```

Since Rust 1.53, arrays implement IntoIterator . However, to avoid breakage, array.into_iter() in Rust 2015 and 2018 code will still behave as (&array).into_iter(), returning an iterator over references, just like in Rust 1.52 and earlier. This only applies to the method call syntax array.into_iter(), not to any other syntax such as for _ in array Or IntoIterator::into_iter(array).

asm-sub-register

The asm_sub_register lint detects using only a subset of a register for inline asm inputs.

Example

```
#[cfg(target_arch="x86_64")]
use std::arch::asm;

fn main() {
    #[cfg(target_arch="x86_64")]
    unsafe {
        asm!("mov {0}, {0}", in(reg) 0i16);
    }
}
```

This will produce:

Registers on some architectures can use different names to refer to a subset of the register. By default, the compiler will use the name for the full register size. To explicitly use a subset of the register, you can override the default by using a modifier on the template string operand to specify when subregister to use. This lint is issued if you pass in a value with a smaller data type than the default register size, to alert you of possibly using the incorrect width. To fix this, add the suggested modifier to the template, or cast the value to the correct size.

See register template modifiers in the reference for more details.

bad-asm-style

The bad_asm_style lint detects the use of the .intel_syntax and .att_syntax directives.

Example

```
#[cfg(target_arch="x86_64")]
 use std::arch::asm;
 fn main() {
     #[cfg(target_arch="x86_64")]
     unsafe {
          asm!(
               ".att_syntax",
               "movq %{0}, %{0}", in(reg) Ousize
          );
 }
This will produce:
 warning: avoid using `.att_syntax`, prefer using `options(att_syntax)` instead
  --> src/main.rs:8:14
 8
                    ".att_syntax",
                     \wedge \wedge
   = note: `#[warn(bad_asm_style)]` on by default
```

On x86, asm! uses the intel assembly syntax by default. While this can be switched using assembler directives like .att_syntax, using the att_syntax option is recommended instead because it will also properly prefix register placeholders with % as required by AT&T syntax.

bare-trait-objects

The bare_trait_objects lint suggests using dyn Trait for trait objects.

Example

```
trait Trait { }
fn takes_trait_object(_: Box<Trait>) {
This will produce:
warning: trait objects without an explicit `dyn` are deprecated
  --> lint_example.rs:4:30
 4 | fn takes_trait_object(_: Box<Trait>) {
                                       \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
   = note: `#[warn(bare_trait_objects)]` on by default
   = warning: this is accepted in the current edition (Rust 2018) but is a hard error in
 Rust 2021!
   = note: for more information, see <a href="https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-">https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/edition-</a>
guide/rust-2021/warnings-promoted-to-error.html>
help: use `dyn`
4 - fn takes_trait_object(_: Box<Trait>) {
4 + fn takes_trait_object(_: Box<dyn Trait>) {
```

Explanation

Without the dyn indicator, it can be ambiguous or confusing when reading code as to whether or

not you are looking at a trait object. The dyn keyword makes it explicit, and adds a symmetry to contrast with impl Trait.

bindings-with-variant-name

The bindings_with_variant_name lint detects pattern bindings with the same name as one of the matched variants.

Example

```
pub enum Enum {
    Foo,
    Bar,
}

pub fn foo(x: Enum) {
    match x {
        Foo => {}
        Bar => {}
    }
}
```

This will produce:

It is usually a mistake to specify an enum variant name as an identifier pattern. In the example above, the match arms are specifying a variable name to bind the value of x to. The second arm is ignored because the first one matches all values. The likely intent is that the arm was intended to match on the enum variant.

Two possible solutions are:

- Specify the enum variant using a path pattern, such as Enum::Foo.
- Bring the enum variants into local scope, such as adding use Enum::*; to the beginning of the foo function in the example above.

break-with-label-and-loop

The break_with_label_and_loop lint detects labeled break expressions with an unlabeled loop as their value expression.

Example

Explanation

In Rust, loops can have a label, and break expressions can refer to that label to break out of specific loops (and not necessarily the innermost one). break expressions can also carry a value expression, which can be another loop. A labeled break with an unlabeled loop as its value expression is easy to confuse with an unlabeled break with a labeled loop and is thus discouraged (but allowed for compatibility); use parentheses around the loop expression to silence this warning. Unlabeled break expressions with labeled loops yield a hard error, which can also be silenced by wrapping the expression in parentheses.

cenum-impl-drop-cast

The cenum_impl_drop_cast lint detects an as cast of a field-less enum that implements Drop.

Example

```
enum E {
         A,
}

impl Drop for E {
         fn drop(&mut self) {
             println!("Drop");
         }
}

fn main() {
         let e = E::A;
         let i = e as u32;
}
```

This will produce:

Casting a field-less enum that does not implement <code>copy</code> to an integer moves the value without calling <code>drop</code>. This can result in surprising behavior if it was expected that <code>drop</code> should be called. Calling <code>drop</code> automatically would be inconsistent with other move operations. Since neither behavior is clear or consistent, it was decided that a cast of this nature will no longer be allowed.

This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #73333 for more details.

clashing-extern-declarations

The clashing_extern_declarations lint detects when an extern fn has been declared with the same name but different types.

Example

```
mod m {
    extern "C" {
        fn foo();
}
extern "C" {
    fn foo(_: u32);
}
This will produce:
warning: `foo` redeclared with a different signature
 --> lint_example.rs:9:5
           fn foo();
4
            ----- `foo` previously declared here
        fn foo(_: u32);
        ^^^^^^^^ this signature doesn't match the previous declaration
  = note: `#[warn(clashing_extern_declarations)]` on by default
  = note: expected `unsafe extern "C" fn()`
             found `unsafe extern "C" fn(u32)`
```

Because two symbols of the same name cannot be resolved to two different functions at link time, and one function cannot possibly have two types, a clashing extern declaration is almost certainly a mistake. Check to make sure that the extern definitions are correct and equivalent, and possibly consider unifying them in one location.

This lint does not run between crates because a project may have dependencies which both rely on the same extern function, but declare it in a different (but valid) way. For example, they may both declare an opaque type for one or more of the arguments (which would end up distinct types), or use types that are valid conversions in the language the extern fn is defined in. In these cases, the compiler can't say that the clashing declaration is incorrect.

coherence-leak-check

The coherence_leak_check lint detects conflicting implementations of a trait that are only distinguished by the old leak-check code.

Example

```
trait SomeTrait { }
impl SomeTrait for for<'a> fn(&'a u8) { }
impl<'a> SomeTrait for fn(&'a u8) { }
```

This will produce:

In the past, the compiler would accept trait implementations for identical functions that differed only in where the lifetime binder appeared. Due to a change in the borrow checker implementation to fix several bugs, this is no longer allowed. However, since this affects existing code, this is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future.

Code relying on this pattern should introduce "newtypes", like struct Foo(for<'a> fn(&'a u8)).

See issue #56105 for more details.

confusable-idents

The confusable_idents lint detects visually confusable pairs between identifiers.

Example

Explanation

This lint warns when different identifiers may appear visually similar, which can cause confusion.

The confusable detection algorithm is based on Unicode® Technical Standard #39 Unicode Security Mechanisms Section 4 Confusable Detection. For every distinct identifier X execute the function skeleton(X). If there exist two distinct identifiers X and Y in the same crate where skeleton(X) = skeleton(Y) report it. The compiler uses the same mechanism to check if an identifier is too similar

to a keyword.

Note that the set of confusable characters may change over time. Beware that if you "forbid" this lint that existing code may fail in the future.

const-evaluatable-unchecked

The const_evaluatable_unchecked lint detects a generic constant used in a type.

Example

```
const fn foo<T>() -> usize {
    if std::mem::size_of::<*mut T>() < 8 { // size of *mut T does not depend on T
        4
    } else {
        8
    }
}

fn test<T>() {
    let _ = [0; foo::<T>()];
}
```

This will produce:

In the 1.43 release, some uses of generic parameters in array repeat expressions were accidentally allowed. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #76200 for a more detailed description and possible fixes.

const-item-mutation

The const_item_mutation lint detects attempts to mutate a const item.

Example

```
const F00: [i32; 1] = [0];
 fn main() {
     F00[0] = 1;
     // This will print "[0]".
     println!("{:?}", F00);
 }
This will produce:
warning: attempting to modify a `const` item
  --> lint_example.rs:4:5
 4 I
         F00[0] = 1;
         \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge
   = note: `#[warn(const_item_mutation)]` on by default
   = note: each usage of a `const` item creates a new temporary; the original `const`
item will not be modified
 note: `const` item defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:1:1
 1 | const F00: [i32; 1] = [0];
     ^^^^^
```

Trying to directly mutate a const item is almost always a mistake. What is happening in the example above is that a temporary copy of the const is mutated, but the original const is not. Each time you refer to the const by name (such as FOO in the example above), a separate copy of the value is inlined at that location.

This lint checks for writing directly to a field (FOO.field = some_value) or array entry (FOO[0] =

val), or taking a mutable reference to the constitem (&mut FOO), including through an autoderef (FOO.some_mut_self_method()).

There are various alternatives depending on what you are trying to accomplish:

- First, always reconsider using mutable globals, as they can be difficult to use correctly, and can make the code more difficult to use or understand.
- If you are trying to perform a one-time initialization of a global:
 - If the value can be computed at compile-time, consider using const-compatible values (see Constant Evaluation).
 - For more complex single-initialization cases, consider using a third-party crate, such as lazy_static or once_cell.
 - If you are using the nightly channel, consider the new lazy module in the standard library.
- If you truly need a mutable global, consider using a static, which has a variety of options:
 - Simple data types can be directly defined and mutated with an atomic type.
 - More complex types can be placed in a synchronization primitive like a Mutex, which can be initialized with one of the options listed above.
 - A mutable static is a low-level primitive, requiring unsafe. Typically This should be avoided in preference of something higher-level like one of the above.

dead-code

The dead_code lint detects unused, unexported items.

Example

```
fn foo() {}
```

This will produce:

Explanation

Dead code may signal a mistake or unfinished code. To silence the warning for individual items, prefix the name with an underscore such as <code>_foo</code> . If it was intended to expose the item outside of the crate, consider adding a visibility modifier like <code>pub</code> . Otherwise consider removing the unused code.

deprecated

The deprecated lint detects use of deprecated items.

Example

```
#[deprecated]
fn foo() {}

fn bar() {
    foo();
}

This will produce:

warning: use of deprecated function `main::foo`
    --> lint_example.rs:6:5
    |
6 | foo();
    | ^^^
|
= note: `#[warn(deprecated)]` on by default
```

Items may be marked "deprecated" with the deprecated attribute to indicate that they should no longer be used. Usually the attribute should include a note on what to use instead, or check the documentation.

deprecated-cfg-attr-crate-type-name

The deprecated_cfg_attr_crate_type_name lint detects uses of the #![cfg_attr(..., crate_type = "...")] and #![cfg_attr(..., crate_name = "...")] attributes to conditionally specify the crate type and name in the source code.

Example

Explanation

The #![crate_type] and #![crate_name] attributes require a hack in the compiler to be able to change the used crate type and crate name after macros have been expanded. Neither attribute works in combination with Cargo as it explicitly passes --crate-type and --crate-name on the commandline. These values must match the value used in the source code to prevent an error.

To fix the warning use --crate-type on the commandline when running rustc instead of #![cfg_attr(..., crate_type = "...")] and --crate-name instead of #![cfg_attr(..., crate_name = "...")].

deprecated-where-clause-location

The deprecated_where_clause_location lint detects when a where clause in front of the equals in an associated type.

Example

```
#![feature(generic_associated_types)]
trait Trait {
  type Assoc<'a> where Self: 'a;
}
impl Trait for () {
  type Assoc<'a> where Self: 'a = ();
}
```

This will produce:

The preferred location for where clauses on associated types in impls is after the type. However, for most of generic associated types development, it was only accepted before the equals. To provide a transition period and further evaluate this change, both are currently accepted. At some point in the future, this may be disallowed at an edition boundary; but, that is undecided currently.

deref-into-dyn-supertrait

The deref_into_dyn_supertrait lint is output whenever there is a use of the Deref implementation with a dyn SuperTrait type as Output.

These implementations will become shadowed when the trait_upcasting feature is stabilized. The deref functions will no longer be called implicitly, so there might be behavior change.

Example

```
#![deny(deref_into_dyn_supertrait)]
#![allow(dead_code)]

use core::ops::Deref;

trait A {}
trait B: A {}
impl<'a> Deref for dyn 'a + B {
    type Target = dyn A;
    fn deref(&self) -> &Self::Target {
        todo!()
    }
}

fn take_a(_: &dyn A) { }

fn take_b(b: &dyn B) {
    take_a(b);
}
```

This will produce:

The dyn upcasting coercion feature adds new coercion rules, taking priority over certain other coercion rules, which will cause some behavior change.

deref-nullptr

The deref_nullptr lint detects when an null pointer is dereferenced, which causes undefined behavior.

Example

Dereferencing a null pointer causes undefined behavior even as a place expression, like &*(0 as *const i32) Or addr_of!(*(0 as *const i32)).

drop-bounds

The drop_bounds lint checks for generics with std::ops::Drop as bounds.

Example

A generic trait bound of the form T: Drop is most likely misleading and not what the programmer intended (they probably should have used std::mem::needs_drop instead).

Drop bounds do not actually indicate whether a type can be trivially dropped or not, because a composite type containing Drop types does not necessarily implement Drop itself. Naïvely, one might be tempted to write an implementation that assumes that a type can be trivially dropped while also supplying a specialization for T: Drop that actually calls the destructor. However, this breaks down e.g. when T is String, which does not implement Drop itself but contains a Vec, which does implement Drop, so assuming T can be trivially dropped would lead to a memory leak here.

Furthermore, the Drop trait only contains one method, Drop::drop, which may not be called explicitly in user code (E0040), so there is really no use case for using Drop in trait bounds, save perhaps for some obscure corner cases, which can use #[allow(drop_bounds)].

duplicate-macro-attributes

The duplicate_macro_attributes lint detects when a #[test] -like built-in macro attribute is duplicated on an item. This lint may trigger on bench, cfg_eval, test and test_case.

Example

```
#[test]
#[test]
fn foo() {}

This will produce:

warning: duplicated attribute
   --> src/lib.rs:2:1
   |
2 | #[test]
   | ^^^^^^
   |
= note: `#[warn(duplicate_macro_attributes)]` on by default
```

Explanation

A duplicated attribute may erroneously originate from a copy-paste and the effect of it being duplicated may not be obvious or desirable.

For instance, doubling the #[test] attributes registers the test to be run twice with no change to its environment.

dyn-drop

The dyn_drop lint checks for trait objects with std::ops::Drop.

Example

Explanation

A trait object bound of the form dyn Drop is most likely misleading and not what the programmer intended.

Drop bounds do not actually indicate whether a type can be trivially dropped or not, because a composite type containing Drop types does not necessarily implement Drop itself. Naïvely, one might be tempted to write a deferred drop system, to pull cleaning up memory out of a latency-sensitive code path, using dyn Drop trait objects. However, this breaks down e.g. when T is

String, which does not implement <code>Drop</code>, but should probably be accepted.

To write a trait object bound that accepts anything, use a placeholder trait with a blanket implementation.

```
trait Placeholder {}
impl<T> Placeholder for T {}
fn foo(_x: Box<dyn Placeholder>) {}
```

ellipsis-inclusive-range-patterns

The ellipsis_inclusive_range_patterns lint detects the ... range pattern, which is deprecated.

Example

```
let x = 123;
match x {
    0...100 => {}
    _ => {}
}
```

This will produce:

The ... range pattern syntax was changed to ..= to avoid potential confusion with the .. range expression. Use the new form instead.

exported-private-dependencies

The exported_private_dependencies lint detects private dependencies that are exposed in a public interface.

Example

```
pub fn foo() -> Option<some_private_dependency::Thing> {
    None
}
```

This will produce:

Explanation

Dependencies can be marked as "private" to indicate that they are not exposed in the public interface of a crate. This can be used by Cargo to independently resolve those dependencies because it can assume it does not need to unify them with other packages using that same dependency. This lint is an indication of a violation of that contract.

To fix this, avoid exposing the dependency in your public interface. Or, switch the dependency to a public dependency.

Note that support for this is only available on the nightly channel. See RFC 1977 for more details, as well as the Cargo documentation.

forbidden-lint-groups

The forbidden_lint_groups lint detects violations of forbid applied to a lint group. Due to a bug in the compiler, these used to be overlooked entirely. They now generate a warning.

Example

Recommended fix

If your crate is using #![forbid(warnings)], we recommend that you change to #![deny(warnings)].

Explanation

Due to a compiler bug, applying forbid to lint groups previously had no effect. The bug is now fixed

but instead of enforcing forbid we issue this future-compatibility warning to avoid breaking existing crates.

function-item-references

The function_item_references lint detects function references that are formatted with fmt::Pointer or transmuted.

Example

Explanation

Taking a reference to a function may be mistaken as a way to obtain a pointer to that function. This can give unexpected results when formatting the reference as a pointer or transmuting it. This lint is issued when function references are formatted as pointers, passed as arguments bound by fmt::Pointer or transmuted.

illegal-floating-point-literal-pattern

The illegal_floating_point_literal_pattern lint detects floating-point literals used in patterns.

Example

```
let x = 42.0;
match x {
    5.0 => {}
    _ => {}
}
```

This will produce:

```
warning: floating-point types cannot be used in patterns
--> lint_example.rs:5:5
|
5  | 5.0 => {}
| ^^^^
|
= note: `#[warn(illegal_floating_point_literal_pattern)]` on by default
= warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
= note: for more information, see issue #41620 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/issues/41620">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/issues/41620</a>
```

Previous versions of the compiler accepted floating-point literals in patterns, but it was later determined this was a mistake. The semantics of comparing floating-point values may not be clear in a pattern when contrasted with "structural equality". Typically you can work around this by using a match guard, such as:

```
match x {
   y if y == 5.0 => {}
   _ => {}
}
```

This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #41620 for more details.

improper-ctypes

The improper_ctypes lint detects incorrect use of types in foreign modules.

Example

Explanation

The compiler has several checks to verify that types used in extern blocks are safe and follow certain rules to ensure proper compatibility with the foreign interfaces. This lint is issued when it detects a probable mistake in a definition. The lint usually should provide a description of the issue, along with possibly a hint on how to resolve it.

improper-ctypes-definitions

The improper_ctypes_definitions lint detects incorrect use of extern function definitions.

Example

Explanation

There are many parameter and return types that may be specified in an extern function that are not compatible with the given ABI. This lint is an alert that these types should not be used. The lint usually should provide a description of the issue, along with possibly a hint on how to resolve it.

incomplete-features

The incomplete_features lint detects unstable features enabled with the feature attribute that may function improperly in some or all cases.

Example

Explanation

Although it is encouraged for people to experiment with unstable features, some of them are known to be incomplete or faulty. This lint is a signal that the feature has not yet been finished, and you may experience problems with it.

indirect-structural-match

The indirect_structural_match lint detects a const in a pattern that manually implements PartialEq and Eq.

Example

This will produce:

```
#![deny(indirect_structural_match)]
struct NoDerive(i32);
impl PartialEq for NoDerive { fn eq(&self, _: &Self) -> bool { false } }
impl Eq for NoDerive { }
#[derive(PartialEq, Eq)]
struct WrapParam<T>(T);
const WRAP_INDIRECT_PARAM: & &WrapParam<NoDerive> = & &WrapParam(NoDerive(0));
fn main() {
    match WRAP_INDIRECT_PARAM {
        WRAP_INDIRECT_PARAM => { }
        _ => { }
    }
}
```

The compiler unintentionally accepted this form in the past. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #62411 for a complete description of the problem, and some possible solutions.

inline-no-sanitize

The inline_no_sanitize lint detects incompatible use of #[inline(always)] and #[no_sanitize(...)].

Example

```
#![feature(no_sanitize)]
#[inline(always)]
#[no_sanitize(address)]
fn x() {}
fn main() {
    x()
This will produce:
warning: `no_sanitize` will have no effect after inlining
 --> lint_example.rs:4:1
4 | #[no_sanitize(address)]
    ^^^^^
  = note: `#[warn(inline_no_sanitize)]` on by default
note: inlining requested here
 --> lint_example.rs:3:1
3 | #[inline(always)]
```

The use of the #[inline(always)] attribute prevents the the #[no_sanitize(...)] attribute from working. Consider temporarily removing inline attribute.

invalid-doc-attributes

The invalid_doc_attributes lint detects when the #[doc(...)] is misused.

Example

```
#![deny(warnings)]
pub mod submodule {
     #![doc(test(no_crate_inject))]
This will produce:
error: this attribute can only be applied at the crate level
  --> lint_example.rs:5:12
         #![doc(test(no_crate_inject))]
 5 |
                 ^^^^^
note: the lint level is defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(warnings)]
   = note: `#[deny(invalid_doc_attributes)]` implied by `#[deny(warnings)]`
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #82730 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/82730>
   = note: read https://doc.rust-lang.org/nightly/rustdoc/the-doc-attribute.html#at-the-
 crate-level for more information
```

Previously, there were very like checks being performed on #[doc(..)] unlike the other attributes. It'll now catch all the issues that it silently ignored previously.

invalid-value

The invalid_value lint detects creating a value that is not valid, such as a null reference.

Example

In some situations the compiler can detect that the code is creating an invalid value, which should be avoided.

In particular, this lint will check for improper use of mem::zeroed, mem::uninitialized, mem::transmute, and MaybeUninit::assume_init that can cause undefined behavior. The lint should provide extra information to indicate what the problem is and a possible solution.

irrefutable-let-patterns

The irrefutable_let_patterns lint detects irrefutable patterns in if let S, while let S, and if let guards.

Example

```
if let _ = 123 {
    println!("always runs!");
}
```

This will produce:

There usually isn't a reason to have an irrefutable pattern in an if let or while let statement, because the pattern will always match successfully. A let or loop statement will suffice. However, when generating code with a macro, forbidding irrefutable patterns would require awkward workarounds in situations where the macro doesn't know if the pattern is refutable or not. This lint allows macros to accept this form, while alerting for a possibly incorrect use in normal code.

See RFC 2086 for more details.

large-assignments

The large_assignments lint detects when objects of large types are being moved around.

Example

When using a large type in a plain assignment or in a function argument, idiomatic code can be inefficient. Ideally appropriate optimizations would resolve this, but such optimizations are only done in a best-effort manner. This lint will trigger on all sites of large moves and thus allow the user to resolve them in code.

late-bound-lifetime-arguments

The late_bound_lifetime_arguments lint detects generic lifetime arguments in path segments with late bound lifetime parameters.

Example

```
struct S;
 impl S {
     fn late<'a, 'b>(self, _: &'a u8, _: &'b u8) {}
 }
 fn main() {
     S.late::<'static>(&0, &0);
 }
This will produce:
warning: cannot specify lifetime arguments explicitly if late bound lifetime parameters
 are present
  --> lint_example.rs:8:14
          fn late<'a, 'b>(self, _: &'a u8, _: &'b u8) {}
 4
                   -- the late bound lifetime parameter is introduced here
 8
          S.late::<'static>(&0, &0);
                    \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
   = note: `#[warn(late_bound_lifetime_arguments)]` on by default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #42868 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/42868>
```

It is not clear how to provide arguments for early-bound lifetime parameters if they are intermixed with late-bound parameters in the same list. For now, providing any explicit arguments will trigger this lint if late-bound parameters are present, so in the future a solution can be adopted without hitting backward compatibility issues. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard

error in the future. See issue #42868 for more details, along with a description of the difference between early and late-bound parameters.

legacy-derive-helpers

The legacy_derive_helpers lint detects derive helper attributes that are used before they are introduced.

Example

Explanation

Attributes like this work for historical reasons, but attribute expansion works in left-to-right order in

general, so, to resolve #[serde], compiler has to try to "look into the future" at not yet expanded part of the item, but such attempts are not always reliable.

To fix the warning place the helper attribute after its corresponding derive.

```
#[derive(Deserialize)]
#[serde(rename_all = "camelCase")]
struct S { /* fields */ }
```

mixed-script-confusables

The mixed_script_confusables lint detects visually confusable characters in identifiers between different scripts.

Example

```
// The Japanese katakana character \bot can be confused with the Han character \bot. const \bot: &'static str = "\mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}\mathcal{T}";
```

This will produce:

This lint warns when characters between different scripts may appear visually similar, which can cause confusion.

Note that the set of confusable characters may change over time. Beware that if you "forbid" this lint that existing code may fail in the future.

no-mangle-generic-items

The no_mangle_generic_items lint detects generic items that must be mangled.

Example

Explanation

A function with generics must have its symbol mangled to accommodate the generic parameter. The no_mangle attribute has no effect in this situation, and should be removed.

non-camel-case-types

The non_camel_case_types lint detects types, variants, traits and type parameters that don't have

camel case names.

Example

Explanation

The preferred style for these identifiers is to use "camel case", such as MyStruct, where the first letter should not be lowercase, and should not use underscores between letters. Underscores are allowed at the beginning and end of the identifier, as well as between non-letters (such as X86_64).

non-fmt-panics

The non_fmt_panics lint detects panic!(..) invocations where the first argument is not a formatting string.

Example

```
panic!("{}");
panic!(123);
This will produce:
warning: panic message contains an unused formatting placeholder
 --> lint_example.rs:2:9
2 | panic!("{}");
  = note: `#[warn(non_fmt_panics)]` on by default
   = note: this message is not used as a format string when given without arguments, but
will be in Rust 2021
help: add the missing argument
2 | panic!("{}", ...);
help: or add a "{}" format string to use the message literally
2 | panic!("{}", "{}");
           +++++
```

Explanation

In Rust 2018 and earlier, panic!(x) directly uses x as the message. That means that panic!(" $\{\}$ ") panics with the message " $\{\}$ " instead of using it as a formatting string, and panic!(123) will panic with an i32 as message.

Rust 2021 always interprets the first argument as format string.

non-shorthand-field-patterns

The non_shorthand_field_patterns lint detects using Struct $\{x: x\}$ instead of Struct $\{x\}$ in a pattern.

Example

```
struct Point {
     x: i32,
     y: i32,
 }
fn main() {
     let p = Point {
         x: 5,
         y: 5,
     };
     match p {
         Point { x: x, y: y \} \Rightarrow (),
 }
This will produce:
warning: the `x:` in this pattern is redundant
   --> lint_example.rs:14:17
              Point { x: x, y: y \} \Rightarrow (),
 14
                       ^^^ help: use shorthand field pattern: `x`
    = note: `#[warn(non_shorthand_field_patterns)]` on by default
```

The preferred style is to avoid the repetition of specifying both the field name and the binding name if both identifiers are the same.

non-snake-case

The non_snake_case lint detects variables, methods, functions, lifetime parameters and modules that don't have snake case names.

Example

Explanation

The preferred style for these identifiers is to use "snake case", where all the characters are in lowercase, with words separated with a single underscore, such as <code>my_value</code>.

non-upper-case-globals

The non_upper_case_globals lint detects static items that don't have uppercase identifiers.

Example

Explanation

The preferred style is for static item names to use all uppercase letters such as MAX_POINTS.

nontrivial-structural-match

The nontrivial_structural_match lint detects constants that are used in patterns, whose type is not structural-match and whose initializer body actually uses values that are not structural-match. So Option<NotStructuralMatch> is ok if the constant is just None.

Example

```
#![deny(nontrivial_structural_match)]

#[derive(Copy, Clone, Debug)]
struct NoDerive(u32);
impl PartialEq for NoDerive { fn eq(&self, _: &Self) -> bool { false } }
impl Eq for NoDerive { }
fn main() {
    const INDEX: Option<NoDerive> = [None, Some(NoDerive(10))][0];
    match None { Some(_) => panic!("whoops"), INDEX => dbg!(INDEX), };
}
```

This will produce:

Previous versions of Rust accepted constants in patterns, even if those constants' types did not have PartialEq derived. Thus the compiler falls back to runtime execution of PartialEq, which can report that two constants are not equal even if they are bit-equivalent.

overlapping-range-endpoints

The overlapping_range_endpoints lint detects match arms that have range patterns that overlap on their endpoints.

Example

let x = 123u8;

It is likely a mistake to have range patterns in a match expression that overlap in this way. Check that the beginning and end values are what you expect, and keep in mind that with ..= the left and right bounds are inclusive.

path-statements

The path_statements lint detects path statements with no effect.

Example

Explanation

It is usually a mistake to have a statement that has no effect.

private-in-public

The private_in_public lint detects private items in public interfaces not caught by the old implementation.

Example

```
struct SemiPriv;
 mod m1 {
     struct Priv;
     impl super::SemiPriv {
         pub fn f(_: Priv) {}
 }
This will produce:
warning: private type `Priv` in public interface (error E0446)
 --> lint_example.rs:7:9
 7
            pub fn f(_: Priv) {}
             ^^^^^
   = note: `#[warn(private_in_public)]` on by default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #34537 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/34537>
```

The visibility rules are intended to prevent exposing private items in public interfaces. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #34537 for more details.

redundant-semicolons

The redundant_semicolons lint detects unnecessary trailing semicolons.

Example

```
let _ = 123;;
```

This will produce:

Explanation

Extra semicolons are not needed, and may be removed to avoid confusion and visual clutter.

renamed-and-removed-lints

The renamed_and_removed_lints lint detects lints that have been renamed or removed.

Example

To fix this, either remove the lint or use the new name. This can help avoid confusion about lints that are no longer valid, and help maintain consistency for renamed lints.

semicolon-in-expressions-from-macros

The semicolon_in_expressions_from_macros lint detects trailing semicolons in macro bodies when the macro is invoked in expression position. This was previous accepted, but is being phased out.

Example

```
#![deny(semicolon_in_expressions_from_macros)]
macro_rules! foo {
     () => { true; }
}
fn main() {
     let val = match true {
         true => false,
         _ => foo!()
    };
}
This will produce:
error: trailing semicolon in macro used in expression position
 --> lint_example.rs:3:17
 3
         () => { true; }
             _ => foo!()
                  ---- in this macro invocation
note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(semicolon_in_expressions_from_macros)]
             = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #79813 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/79813>
   = note: this error originates in the macro `foo` (in Nightly builds, run with -Z
macro-backtrace for more info)
```

Previous, Rust ignored trailing semicolon in a macro body when a macro was invoked in expression position. However, this makes the treatment of semicolons in the language inconsistent, and could lead to unexpected runtime behavior in some circumstances (e.g. if the macro author expects a value to be dropped).

This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #79813 for more details.

stable-features

The stable_features lint detects a feature attribute that has since been made stable.

Example

When a feature is stabilized, it is no longer necessary to include a #![feature] attribute for it. To fix, simply remove the #![feature] attribute.

suspicious-auto-trait-impls

The suspicious_auto_trait_impls lint checks for potentially incorrect implementations of auto traits.

Example

```
struct Foo<T>(T);
unsafe impl<T> Send for Foo<*const T> {}
```

This will produce:

A type can implement auto traits, e.g. Send, Sync and Unpin, in two different ways: either by writing an explicit impl or if all fields of the type implement that auto trait.

The compiler disables the automatic implementation if an explicit one exists for given type constructor. The exact rules governing this are currently unsound and quite subtle and and will be modified in the future. This change will cause the automatic implementation to be disabled in more cases, potentially breaking some code.

temporary-cstring-as-ptr

The temporary_cstring_as_ptr lint detects getting the inner pointer of a temporary CString.

Example

Explanation

The inner pointer of a <code>cstring</code> lives only as long as the <code>cstring</code> it points to. Getting the inner pointer of a <code>temporary cstring</code> allows the <code>cstring</code> to be dropped at the end of the statement, as it is not being referenced as far as the typesystem is concerned. This means outside of the statement the pointer will point to freed memory, which causes undefined behavior if the pointer is later dereferenced.

trivial-bounds

The trivial_bounds lint detects trait bounds that don't depend on any type parameters.

Example

Explanation

Usually you would not write a trait bound that you know is always true, or never true. However, when using macros, the macro may not know whether or not the constraint would hold or not at the time when generating the code. Currently, the compiler does not alert you if the constraint is always true, and generates an error if it is never true. The trivial_bounds feature changes this to be a warning in both cases, giving macros more freedom and flexibility to generate code, while still providing a signal when writing non-macro code that something is amiss.

See RFC 2056 for more details. This feature is currently only available on the nightly channel, see tracking issue #48214.

type-alias-bounds

The type_alias_bounds lint detects bounds in type aliases.

Example

Explanation

The trait bounds in a type alias are currently ignored, and should not be included to avoid confusion. This was previously allowed unintentionally; this may become a hard error in the future.

tyvar-behind-raw-pointer

The tyvar_behind_raw_pointer lint detects raw pointer to an inference variable.

Example

This kind of inference was previously allowed, but with the future arrival of arbitrary self types, this can introduce ambiguity. To resolve this, use an explicit type instead of relying on type inference.

This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the 2018 edition. See issue #46906 for more details. This is currently a hard-error on the 2018 edition, and is "warn" by default in the 2015 edition.

uncommon-codepoints

The uncommon_codepoints lint detects uncommon Unicode codepoints in identifiers.

Example

This lint warns about using characters which are not commonly used, and may cause visual confusion.

This lint is triggered by identifiers that contain a codepoint that is not part of the set of "Allowed" codepoints as described by Unicode® Technical Standard #39 Unicode Security Mechanisms Section 3.1 General Security Profile for Identifiers.

Note that the set of uncommon codepoints may change over time. Beware that if you "forbid" this lint that existing code may fail in the future.

unconditional-recursion

The unconditional_recursion lint detects functions that cannot return without calling themselves.

Example

```
fn foo() {
    foo();
}
```

This will produce:

```
warning: function cannot return without recursing
--> lint_example.rs:2:1
|
2 | fn foo() {
    | ^^^^^^ cannot return without recursing
3 | foo();
    | ---- recursive call site
|
    = note: `#[warn(unconditional_recursion)]` on by default
    = help: a `loop` may express intention better if this is on purpose
```

It is usually a mistake to have a recursive call that does not have some condition to cause it to terminate. If you really intend to have an infinite loop, using a loop expression is recommended.

undefined-naked-function-abi

The undefined_naked_function_abi lint detects naked function definitions that either do not specify an ABI or specify the Rust ABI.

Example

```
#![feature(naked_functions)]
use std::arch::asm;
#[naked]
pub fn default_abi() -> u32 {
    unsafe { asm!("", options(noreturn)); }
}
#[naked]
pub extern "Rust" fn rust_abi() -> u32 {
    unsafe { asm!("", options(noreturn)); }
}
This will produce:
warning: Rust ABI is unsupported in naked functions
 --> lint_example.rs:7:8
7 | pub fn default_abi() -> u32 {
           ^^^^^
  = note: `#[warn(undefined_naked_function_abi)]` on by default
```

The Rust ABI is currently undefined. Therefore, naked functions should specify a non-Rust ABI.

unexpected-cfgs

The unexpected_cfgs lint detects unexpected conditional compilation conditions.

Example

Explanation

This lint is only active when a --check-cfg='names(...)' option has been passed to the compiler and triggers whenever an unknown condition name or value is used. The known condition include names or values passed in --check-cfg, --cfg, and some well-knows names and values built into the compiler.

unfulfilled-lint-expectations

The unfulfilled_lint_expectations lint detects lint trigger expectations that have not been fulfilled.

Example

Explanation

It was expected that the marked code would emit a lint. This expectation has not been fulfilled.

The expect attribute can be removed if this is intended behavior otherwise it should be investigated why the expected lint is no longer issued.

Part of RFC 2383. The progress is being tracked in #54503

uninhabited-static

The uninhabited_static lint detects uninhabited statics.

Example

```
enum Void {}
 extern {
     static EXTERN: Void;
 }
This will produce:
warning: static of uninhabited type
 --> lint_example.rs:4:5
 4 I
         static EXTERN: Void;
         ^^^^^
   = note: `#[warn(uninhabited_static)]` on by default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
 will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #74840 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/74840>
   = note: uninhabited statics cannot be initialized, and any access would be an
 immediate error
```

Explanation

Statics with an uninhabited type can never be initialized, so they are impossible to define. However,

this can be side-stepped with an extern static, leading to problems later in the compiler which assumes that there are no initialized uninhabited places (such as locals or statics). This was accidentally allowed, but is being phased out.

unknown-lints

The unknown_lints lint detects unrecognized lint attribute.

Example

Explanation

It is usually a mistake to specify a lint that does not exist. Check the spelling, and check the lint listing for the correct name. Also consider if you are using an old version of the compiler, and the lint is

only available in a newer version.

unnameable-test-items

The unnameable_test_items lint detects #[test] functions that are not able to be run by the test harness because they are in a position where they are not nameable.

Example

In order for the test harness to run a test, the test function must be located in a position where it can be accessed from the crate root. This generally means it must be defined in a module, and not anywhere else such as inside another function. The compiler previously allowed this without an error, so a lint was added as an alert that a test is not being used. Whether or not this should be allowed has not yet been decided, see RFC 2471 and issue #36629.

unreachable-code

The unreachable_code lint detects unreachable code paths.

Example

```
panic!("we never go past here!");
let x = 5;
```

This will produce:

Unreachable code may signal a mistake or unfinished code. If the code is no longer in use, consider removing it.

unreachable-patterns

The unreachable_patterns lint detects unreachable patterns.

Example

```
let x = 5;
match x {
    y => (),
    5 => (),
}
```

This will produce:

Explanation

This usually indicates a mistake in how the patterns are specified or ordered. In this example, the y pattern will always match, so the five is impossible to reach. Remember, match arms match in order, you probably wanted to put the 5 case above the y case.

unstable-name-collisions

The unstable_name_collisions lint detects that you have used a name that the standard library plans to add in the future.

Example

```
trait MyIterator : Iterator {
     // is_sorted is an unstable method that already exists on the Iterator trait
     fn is_sorted(self) -> bool where Self: Sized {true}
 }
 impl<T: ?Sized> MyIterator for T where T: Iterator { }
let x = vec![1, 2, 3];
 let _ = x.iter().is_sorted();
This will produce:
warning: an associated function with this name may be added to the standard library in
 the future
   --> lint_example.rs:10:18
      let _ = x.iter().is_sorted();
                         \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
    = note: `#[warn(unstable_name_collisions)]` on by default
    = warning: once this associated item is added to the standard library, the ambiguity
 may cause an error or change in behavior!
    = note: for more information, see issue #48919 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/48919>
    = help: call with fully qualified syntax `MyIterator::is_sorted(...)` to keep using
 the current method
    = help: add `#![feature(is_sorted)]` to the crate attributes to enable `is_sorted`
```

When new methods are added to traits in the standard library, they are usually added in an "unstable" form which is only available on the nightly channel with a feature attribute. If there is any pre-existing code which extends a trait to have a method with the same name, then the names

will collide. In the future, when the method is stabilized, this will cause an error due to the ambiguity. This lint is an early-warning to let you know that there may be a collision in the future. This can be avoided by adding type annotations to disambiguate which trait method you intend to call, such as MyIterator::is_sorted(my_iter) or renaming or removing the method.

unsupported-calling-conventions

The unsupported_calling_conventions lint is output whenever there is a use of the stdcall, fastcall, thiscall, vectorcall calling conventions (or their unwind variants) on targets that cannot meaningfully be supported for the requested target.

For example stdcall does not make much sense for a x86_64 or, more apparently, powerpc code, because this calling convention was never specified for those targets.

Historically MSVC toolchains have fallen back to the regular C calling convention for targets other than x86, but Rust doesn't really see a similar need to introduce a similar hack across many more targets.

Example

```
extern "stdcall" fn stdcall() {}
```

This will produce:

On most of the targets the behaviour of stdcall and similar calling conventions is not defined at all, but was previously accepted due to a bug in the implementation of the compiler.

unused-allocation

The unused_allocation lint detects unnecessary allocations that can be eliminated.

Example

```
#![feature(box_syntax)]
fn main() {
    let a = (box [1, 2, 3]).len();
}
```

This will produce:

When a box expression is immediately coerced to a reference, then the allocation is unnecessary, and a reference (using & or &mut) should be used instead to avoid the allocation.

unused-assignments

The unused_assignments lint detects assignments that will never be read.

Example

```
let mut x = 5;
x = 6;
```

This will produce:

Unused assignments may signal a mistake or unfinished code. If the variable is never used after being assigned, then the assignment can be removed. Variables with an underscore prefix such as _x will not trigger this lint.

unused-attributes

The unused_attributes lint detects attributes that were not used by the compiler.

Example

```
#![ignore]
```

This will produce:

Unused attributes may indicate the attribute is placed in the wrong position. Consider removing it, or placing it in the correct position. Also consider if you intended to use an *inner attribute* (with a ! such as #![allow(unused)]) which applies to the item the attribute is within, or an *outer attribute* (without a ! such as #[allow(unused)]) which applies to the item *following* the attribute.

unused-braces

The unused_braces lint detects unnecessary braces around an expression.

Example

```
if { true } {
    // ...
}
```

This will produce:

The braces are not needed, and should be removed. This is the preferred style for writing these expressions.

unused-comparisons

The unused_comparisons lint detects comparisons made useless by limits of the types involved.

Example

```
fn foo(x: u8) {
    x >= 0;
}
```

Explanation

A useless comparison may indicate a mistake, and should be fixed or removed.

unused-doc-comments

The unused_doc_comments lint detects doc comments that aren't used by rustdoc.

Example

```
/// docs for x let x = 12;
```

This will produce:

rustdoc does not use doc comments in all positions, and so the doc comment will be ignored. Try changing it to a normal comment with // to avoid the warning.

unused-features

The unused_features lint detects unused or unknown features found in crate-level feature attributes.

Note: This lint is currently not functional, see issue #44232 for more details.

unused-imports

The unused_imports lint detects imports that are never used.

Example

Explanation

Unused imports may signal a mistake or unfinished code, and clutter the code, and should be removed. If you intended to re-export the item to make it available outside of the module, add a visibility modifier like pub.

unused-labels

The unused_labels lint detects labels that are never used.

Example

```
'unused_label: loop {}

This will produce:

warning: unused label
  --> lint_example.rs:2:1
    |
2 | 'unused_label: loop {}
    | ^^^^^^^^^^^^^
    |
    = note: `#[warn(unused_labels)]` on by default
```

Unused labels may signal a mistake or unfinished code. To silence the warning for the individual label, prefix it with an underscore such as '_my_label: .

unused-macros

The unused_macros lint detects macros that were not used.

Note that this lint is distinct from the unused_macro_rules lint, which checks for single rules that never match of an otherwise used macro, and thus never expand.

Example

Unused macros may signal a mistake or unfinished code. To silence the warning for the individual macro, prefix the name with an underscore such as <code>_my_macro</code>. If you intended to export the macro to make it available outside of the crate, use the <code>macro_export</code> attribute.

unused-must-use

The unused_must_use lint detects unused result of a type flagged as #[must_use].

Example

The #[must_use] attribute is an indicator that it is a mistake to ignore the value. See the reference for more details.

unused-mut

The unused_mut lint detects mut variables which don't need to be mutable.

Example

Explanation

The preferred style is to only mark variables as mut if it is required.

unused-parens

The unused_parens lint detects if, match, while and return with parentheses; they do not need them.

Examples

```
if(true) {}
```

Explanation

The parentheses are not needed, and should be removed. This is the preferred style for writing these expressions.

unused-unsafe

The unused_unsafe lint detects unnecessary use of an unsafe block.

Example

```
unsafe {}
```

```
warning: unnecessary `unsafe` block
  --> lint_example.rs:2:1
   |
2 | unsafe {}
   | ^^^^^ unnecessary `unsafe` block
   |
   = note: `#[warn(unused_unsafe)]` on by default
```

Explanation

If nothing within the block requires unsafe, then remove the unsafe marker because it is not required and may cause confusion.

unused-variables

The unused_variables lint detects variables which are not used in any way.

Example

```
let x = 5;
```

Explanation

Unused variables may signal a mistake or unfinished code. To silence the warning for the individual variable, prefix it with an underscore such as $_{\tt x}$.

warnings

The warnings lint allows you to change the level of other lints which produce warnings.

Example

```
#![deny(warnings)]
fn foo() {}
```

This will produce:

The warnings lint is a bit special; by changing its level, you change every other warning that would produce a warning to whatever value you'd like. As such, you won't ever trigger this lint in your code directly.

where-clauses-object-safety

The where_clauses_object_safety lint detects for object safety of where clauses.

Example

```
trait Trait {}
trait X { fn foo(&self) where Self: Trait; }
 impl X for () { fn foo(&self) {} }
 impl Trait for dyn X {}
 // Segfault at opt-level 0, SIGILL otherwise.
 pub fn main() { <dyn X as X>::foo(&()); }
This will produce:
warning: the trait `X` cannot be made into an object
  --> lint_example.rs:3:14
 3 | trait X { fn foo(&self) where Self: Trait; }
   = note: `#[warn(where_clauses_object_safety)]` on by default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
 will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #51443 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/51443>
 note: for a trait to be "object safe" it needs to allow building a vtable to allow the
 call to be resolvable dynamically; for more information visit <a href="https://doc.rust-">https://doc.rust-</a>
 lang.org/reference/items/traits.html#object-safety>
  --> lint_example.rs:3:14
 3 | trait X { fn foo(&self) where Self: Trait; }
                   ^^^ ...because method `foo` references the `Self` type in its `where`
 clause
           this trait cannot be made into an object...
   = help: consider moving `foo` to another trait
```

The compiler previously allowed these object-unsafe bounds, which was incorrect. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #51443 for more details.

while-true

The while_true lint detects while true { }.

Example

```
while true {
}

This will produce:

warning: denote infinite loops with `loop { ... }`
   --> lint_example.rs:2:1
   |
2 | while true {
   | ^^^^^^^^ help: use `loop`
   |
   = note: `#[warn(while_true)]` on by default
```

Explanation

while true should be replaced with loop. A loop expression is the preferred way to write an infinite loop because it more directly expresses the intent of the loop.

Deny-by-default lints

These lints are all set to the 'deny' level by default.

- ambiguous_associated_items
- arithmetic_overflow
- conflicting_repr_hints
- const_err
- enum_intrinsics_non_enums
- ill_formed_attribute_input
- incomplete_include
- ineffective_unstable_trait_impl
- invalid_atomic_ordering
- invalid_type_param_default
- macro_expanded_macro_exports_accessed_by_absolute_paths
- missing_fragment_specifier
- mutable_transmutes
- named_asm_labels
- no_mangle_const_items
- order_dependent_trait_objects
- overflowing_literals
- patterns_in_fns_without_body
- proc_macro_back_compat
- proc_macro_derive_resolution_fallback
- pub_use_of_private_extern_crate
- soft_unstable
- test_unstable_lint
- text_direction_codepoint_in_comment
- text_direction_codepoint_in_literal

- unaligned_references
- unconditional_panic
- unknown_crate_types
- useless_deprecated

ambiguous-associated-items

The ambiguous_associated_items lint detects ambiguity between associated items and enum variants.

Example

```
enum E {
        V
}

trait Tr {
        type V;
        fn foo() -> Self::V;
}

impl Tr for E {
        type V = u8;
        // `Self::V` is ambiguous because it may refer to the associated type or // the enum variant.
        fn foo() -> Self::V { 0 }
}
```

This will produce:

```
error: ambiguous associated item
  --> lint_example.rs:15:17
         fn foo() -> Self::V { 0 }
15
                      ^^^^^ help: use fully-qualified syntax: `<E as Tr>::V`
   = note: `#[deny(ambiguous_associated_items)]` on by default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #57644 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
/issues/57644>
note: `V` could refer to the variant defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:3:5
3
note: `V` could also refer to the associated type defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:7:5
         type V;
7
```

Previous versions of Rust did not allow accessing enum variants through type aliases. When this ability was added (see RFC 2338), this introduced some situations where it can be ambiguous what a type was referring to.

To fix this ambiguity, you should use a qualified path to explicitly state which type to use. For example, in the above example the function can be written as $fn\ f() \rightarrow \$ Self as Tr>::V { 0 } to specifically refer to the associated type.

This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #57644 for

more details.

arithmetic-overflow

The arithmetic_overflow lint detects that an arithmetic operation will overflow.

Example

```
1_i32 << 32;
This will produce:

error: this arithmetic operation will overflow
   --> lint_example.rs:2:1
   |
2  | 1_i32 << 32;
   | ^^^^^^^^^^^ attempt to shift left by `32_i32`, which would overflow
   |
   = note: `#[deny(arithmetic_overflow)]` on by default</pre>
```

Explanation

It is very likely a mistake to perform an arithmetic operation that overflows its value. If the compiler is able to detect these kinds of overflows at compile-time, it will trigger this lint. Consider adjusting the expression to avoid overflow, or use a data type that will not overflow.

conflicting-repr-hints

The conflicting_repr_hints lint detects repr attributes with conflicting hints.

Example

Explanation

The compiler incorrectly accepted these conflicting representations in the past. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #68585 for more details.

To correct the issue, remove one of the conflicting hints.

const-err

The const_err lint detects an erroneous expression while doing constant evaluation.

Example

Explanation

This lint detects constants that fail to evaluate. Allowing the lint will accept the constant declaration, but any use of this constant will still lead to a hard error. This is a future incompatibility lint; the plan is to eventually entirely forbid even declaring constants that cannot be evaluated. See issue #71800 for more details.

enum-intrinsics-non-enums

The enum_intrinsics_non_enums lint detects calls to intrinsic functions that require an enum (core::mem::discriminant, core::mem::variant_count), but are called with a non-enum type.

Example

```
#![deny(enum_intrinsics_non_enums)]
core::mem::discriminant::<i32>(&123);
```

This will produce:

In order to accept any enum, the mem::discriminant and mem::variant_count functions are generic over a type T. This makes it technically possible for T to be a non-enum, in which case the return value is unspecified.

This lint prevents such incorrect usage of these functions.

ill-formed-attribute-input

The ill_formed_attribute_input lint detects ill-formed attribute inputs that were previously accepted and used in practice.

Example

Explanation

Previously, inputs for many built-in attributes weren't validated and nonsensical attribute inputs were accepted. After validation was added, it was determined that some existing projects made use of these invalid forms. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #57571 for more details.

Check the attribute reference for details on the valid inputs for attributes.

incomplete-include

The incomplete_include lint detects the use of the include! macro with a file that contains more than one expression.

Example

Explanation

The include! macro is currently only intended to be used to include a single expression or multiple items. Historically it would ignore any contents after the first expression, but that can be confusing. In the example above, the println! expression ends just before the semicolon, making the semicolon "extra" information that is ignored. Perhaps even more surprising, if the included file had multiple print statements, the subsequent ones would be ignored!

One workaround is to place the contents in braces to create a block expression. Also consider alternatives, like using functions to encapsulate the expressions, or use proc-macros.

This is a lint instead of a hard error because existing projects were found to hit this error. To be cautious, it is a lint for now. The future semantics of the <code>include!</code> macro are also uncertain, see issue #35560.

ineffective-unstable-trait-impl

The ineffective_unstable_trait_impl lint detects #[unstable] attributes which are not used.

Example

```
#![feature(staged_api)]

#[derive(Clone)]

#[stable(feature = "x", since = "1")]
struct S {}

#[unstable(feature = "y", issue = "none")]
impl Copy for S {}
```

This will produce:

staged_api does not currently support using a stability attribute on impl blocks. impl s are always stable if both the type and trait are stable, and always unstable otherwise.

invalid-atomic-ordering

The invalid_atomic_ordering lint detects passing an Ordering to an atomic operation that does not support that ordering.

Example

```
let atom = AtomicU8::new(0);
let value = atom.load(Ordering::Release);
```

This will produce:

Some atomic operations are only supported for a subset of the atomic::Ordering variants. Passing an unsupported variant will cause an unconditional panic at runtime, which is detected by this lint.

This lint will trigger in the following cases: (where AtomicType is an atomic type from core::sync::atomic, such as AtomicBool, AtomicPtr, AtomicUsize, or any of the other integer atomics).

- Passing Ordering::Acquire Or Ordering::AcqRel to AtomicType::store.
- Passing Ordering::Release Or Ordering::AcqRel to AtomicType::load.
- Passing Ordering::Relaxed to core::sync::atomic::fence Or core::sync::atomic::compiler_fence.
- Passing Ordering::Release Or Ordering::AcqRel as the failure ordering for any of AtomicType::compare_exchange, AtomicType::compare_exchange_weak, Or AtomicType::fetch_update.
- Passing in a pair of orderings to AtomicType::compare_exchange,
 AtomicType::compare_exchange_weak, Or AtomicType::fetch_update where the failure

ordering is stronger than the success ordering.

invalid-type-param-default

The invalid_type_param_default lint detects type parameter defaults erroneously allowed in an invalid location.

Example

Explanation

Default type parameters were only intended to be allowed in certain situations, but historically the compiler allowed them everywhere. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #36887 for more details.

macro-expanded-macro-exports-accessed-by-absolute-paths

The macro_expanded_macro_exports_accessed_by_absolute_paths lint detects macro-expanded macro_export macros from the current crate that cannot be referred to by absolute paths.

Example

This will produce:

```
macro_rules! define_exported {
        () => {
            #[macro_export]
            macro_rules! exported {
               () => {};
          }
     };
}
define_exported!();
fn main() {
     crate::exported!();
}
```

```
error: macro-expanded `macro_export` macros from the current crate cannot be referred
to by absolute paths
  --> lint_example.rs:13:5
13
         crate::exported!();
         = note: `#[deny(macro_expanded_macro_exports_accessed_by_absolute_paths)]` on by
default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #52234 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
/issues/52234>
note: the macro is defined here
  --> lint_example.rs:4:9
               macro_rules! exported {
4
                   () => {};
5
6
       define_exported!();
10
       ----- in this macro invocation
   = note: this error originates in the macro `define_exported` (in Nightly builds, run
with -Z macro-backtrace for more info)
```

The intent is that all macros marked with the #[macro_export] attribute are made available in the root of the crate. However, when a macro_rules! definition is generated by another macro, the macro expansion is unable to uphold this rule. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #53495 for more details.

missing-fragment-specifier

The missing_fragment_specifier lint is issued when an unused pattern in a macro_rules! macro definition has a meta-variable (e.g. \$e) that is not followed by a fragment specifier (e.g. :expr).

This warning can always be fixed by removing the unused pattern in the macro_rules! macro definition.

Example

```
macro_rules! foo {
    () => {};
    ($name) => { };
fn main() {
    foo!();
This will produce:
error: missing fragment specifier
  --> lint_example.rs:3:5
         ($name) => { };
 3 |
          \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda
   = note: `#[deny(missing_fragment_specifier)]` on by default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #40107 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/40107>
```

To fix this, remove the unused pattern from the macro_rules! macro definition:

```
macro_rules! foo {
     () => {};
}
fn main() {
     foo!();
}
```

mutable-transmutes

The mutable_transmutes lint catches transmuting from &T to &mut T because it is undefined behavior.

Example

```
unsafe {
    let y = std::mem::transmute::<&i32, &mut i32>(&5);
}
```

This will produce:

Certain assumptions are made about aliasing of data, and this transmute violates those assumptions. Consider using UnsafeCell instead.

named-asm-labels

The named_asm_labels lint detects the use of named labels in the inline asm! macro.

Example

```
use std::arch::asm;
fn main() {
    unsafe {
        asm!("foo: bar");
    }
}
```

Explanation

LLVM is allowed to duplicate inline assembly blocks for any reason, for example when it is in a function that gets inlined. Because of this, GNU assembler local labels *must* be used instead of labels with a name. Using named labels might cause assembler or linker errors.

See the explanation in Rust By Example for more details.

no-mangle-const-items

The no_mangle_const_items lint detects any const items with the no_mangle attribute.

Example

Explanation

Constants do not have their symbols exported, and therefore, this probably means you meant to use a static, not a const.

order-dependent-trait-objects

The order_dependent_trait_objects lint detects a trait coherency violation that would allow creating two trait impls for the same dynamic trait object involving marker traits.

Example

```
pub trait Trait {}
 impl Trait for dyn Send + Sync { }
 impl Trait for dyn Sync + Send { }
This will produce:
 error: conflicting implementations of trait `main::Trait` for type `(dyn
std::marker::Send + std::marker::Sync + 'static)`: (E0119)
  --> lint_example.rs:5:1
4 | impl Trait for dyn Send + Sync { }
             ----- first implementation here
 5 | impl Trait for dyn Sync + Send { }
    ^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^
std::marker::Send + std::marker::Sync + 'static)`
  = note: `#[deny(order_dependent_trait_objects)]` on by default
  = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
will become a hard error in a future release!
  = note: for more information, see issue #56484 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/56484>
```

Explanation

A previous bug caused the compiler to interpret traits with different orders (such as Send + Sync and Sync + Send) as distinct types when they were intended to be treated the same. This allowed code to define separate trait implementations when there should be a coherence error. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #56484 for more details.

overflowing-literals

The overflowing_literals lint detects literal out of range for its type.

Example

Explanation

It is usually a mistake to use a literal that overflows the type where it is used. Either use a literal that is within range, or change the type to be within the range of the literal.

patterns-in-fns-without-body

The patterns_in_fns_without_body lint detects mut identifier patterns as a parameter in functions without a body.

Example

Explanation

To fix this, remove mut from the parameter in the trait definition; it can be used in the implementation. That is, the following is OK:

```
trait Trait {
    fn foo(arg: u8); // Removed `mut` here
}
impl Trait for i32 {
    fn foo(mut arg: u8) { // `mut` here is OK
    }
}
```

Trait definitions can define functions without a body to specify a function that implementors must define. The parameter names in the body-less functions are only allowed to be _ or an identifier for documentation purposes (only the type is relevant). Previous versions of the compiler erroneously allowed identifier patterns with the mut keyword, but this was not intended to be allowed. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #35203 for more details.

proc-macro-back-compat

The proc_macro_back_compat lint detects uses of old versions of certain proc-macro crates, which have hardcoded workarounds in the compiler.

Example

```
use time_macros_impl::impl_macros;
struct Foo;
impl_macros!(Foo);
```

This will produce:

Explanation

Eventually, the backwards-compatibility hacks present in the compiler will be removed, causing older versions of certain crates to stop compiling. This is a future-incompatible lint to ease the transition to an error. See issue #83125 for more details.

proc-macro-derive-resolution-fallback

The proc_macro_derive_resolution_fallback lint detects proc macro derives using inaccessible names from parent modules.

Example

```
// foo.rs
#![crate_type = "proc-macro"]
extern crate proc_macro;
use proc_macro::*;
#[proc_macro_derive(Foo)]
pub fn foo1(a: TokenStream) -> TokenStream {
     drop(a);
     "mod __bar { static mut BAR: Option<Something> = None; }".parse().unwrap()
}
// bar.rs
#[macro_use]
extern crate foo;
struct Something;
#[derive(Foo)]
struct Another;
fn main() {}
This will produce:
```

Explanation

If a proc-macro generates a module, the compiler unintentionally allowed items in that module to refer to items in the crate root without importing them. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #50504 for more details.

pub-use-of-private-extern-crate

The pub_use_of_private_extern_crate lint detects a specific situation of re-exporting a private extern crate.

Example

```
extern crate core;
pub use core as reexported_core;
```

This will produce:

Explanation

A public use declaration should not be used to publicly re-export a private extern crate. pub extern crate should be used instead.

This was historically allowed, but is not the intended behavior according to the visibility rules. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #34537 for more details.

soft-unstable

The soft_unstable lint detects unstable features that were unintentionally allowed on stable.

Example

```
#[cfg(test)]
 extern crate test;
 #[bench]
 fn name(b: &mut test::Bencher) {
     b.iter(|| 123)
 }
This will produce:
 error: use of unstable library feature 'test': `bench` is a part of custom test
 frameworks which are unstable
  --> lint_example.rs:5:3
 5 | #[bench]
         \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge \wedge
   = note: `#[deny(soft_unstable)]` on by default
   = warning: this was previously accepted by the compiler but is being phased out; it
 will become a hard error in a future release!
   = note: for more information, see issue #64266 <a href="https://github.com/rust-lang/rust">https://github.com/rust-lang/rust</a>
 /issues/64266>
```

Explanation

The bench attribute was accidentally allowed to be specified on the stable release channel. Turning this to a hard error would have broken some projects. This lint allows those projects to continue to build correctly when --cap-lints is used, but otherwise signal an error that #[bench] should not be used on the stable channel. This is a future-incompatible lint to transition this to a hard error in the future. See issue #64266 for more details.

test-unstable-lint

The test_unstable_lint lint tests unstable lints and is perma-unstable.

Example

```
#![allow(test_unstable_lint)]
{{produces}}
```

Explanation

In order to test the behavior of unstable lints, a permanently-unstable lint is required. This lint can be used to trigger warnings and errors from the compiler related to unstable lints.

text-direction-codepoint-in-comment

The text_direction_codepoint_in_comment lint detects Unicode codepoints in comments that change the visual representation of text on screen in a way that does not correspond to their on memory representation.

Example

```
#![deny(text_direction_codepoint_in_comment)]
 fn main() {
     println!("{:?}"); // ';('
}
This will produce:
error: unicode codepoint changing visible direction of text present in comment
 --> lint_example.rs:3:23
 3
         println!("{:?}"); // '');
                           \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda \Lambda - \Lambda \Lambda
                                '\u{202e}'
                           this comment contains an invisible unicode text flow control
codepoint
 note: the lint level is defined here
 --> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(text_direction_codepoint_in_comment)]
             = note: these kind of unicode codepoints change the way text flows on applications
that support them, but can cause confusion because they change the order of characters
 on the screen
   = help: if their presence wasn't intentional, you can remove them
```

Explanation

Unicode allows changing the visual flow of text on screen in order to support scripts that are written right-to-left, but a specially crafted comment can make code that will be compiled appear to be part of a comment, depending on the software used to read the code. To avoid potential problems or confusion, such as in CVE-2021-42574, by default we deny their use.

text-direction-codepoint-in-literal

The text_direction_codepoint_in_literal lint detects Unicode codepoints that change the visual representation of text on screen in a way that does not correspond to their on memory representation.

Explanation

The unicode characters $\u\{202A\}$, $\u\{202B\}$, $\u\{202D\}$, $\u\{202E\}$, $\u\{2066\}$, $\u\{2066\}$, $\u\{2067\}$, $\u\{2068\}$, $\u\{202C\}$ and $\u\{2069\}$ make the flow of text on screen change its direction on software that supports these codepoints. This makes the text "abc" display as "cba" on screen. By leveraging software that supports these, people can write specially crafted literals that make the surrounding code seem like it's performing one action, when in reality it is performing another. Because of this, we proactively lint against their presence to avoid surprises.

Example

```
#![deny(text_direction_codepoint_in_literal)]
fn main() {
    println!("{:?}", ';(')
}
```

This will produce:

```
error: unicode codepoint changing visible direction of text present in literal
 --> lint_example.rs:3:22
3
       println!("{:?}", '');
                        |'\u{202e}'
                        this literal contains an invisible unicode text flow control
codepoint
note: the lint level is defined here
--> lint_example.rs:1:9
1 | #![deny(text_direction_codepoint_in_literal)]
           ^^^^^
  = note: these kind of unicode codepoints change the way text flows on applications
that support them, but can cause confusion because they change the order of characters
on the screen
  = help: if their presence wasn't intentional, you can remove them
help: if you want to keep them but make them visible in your source code, you can
escape them
       println!("{:?}", '\u{202e}');
3
```

unaligned-references

The unaligned_references lint detects unaligned references to fields of packed structs.

Example

```
#![deny(unaligned_references)]
#[repr(packed)]
pub struct Foo {
    field1: u64,
    field2: u8,
}

fn main() {
    unsafe {
        let foo = Foo { field1: 0, field2: 0 };
        let _ = &foo.field1;
        println!("{}", foo.field1); // An implicit `&` is added here, triggering the lint.
        }
}

{{produces}}
```

Explanation

Creating a reference to an insufficiently aligned packed field is undefined behavior and should be disallowed. Using an unsafe block does not change anything about this. Instead, the code should do a copy of the data in the packed field or use raw pointers and unaligned accesses. See issue #82523 for more information.

unconditional-panic

The unconditional_panic lint detects an operation that will cause a panic at runtime.

Example

Explanation

This lint detects code that is very likely incorrect because it will always panic, such as division by zero and out-of-bounds array accesses. Consider adjusting your code if this is a bug, or using the panic! or unreachable! macro instead in case the panic is intended.

unknown-crate-types

The unknown_crate_types lint detects an unknown crate type found in a crate_type attribute.

Example

Explanation

An unknown value give to the crate_type attribute is almost certainly a mistake.

useless-deprecated

The useless_deprecated lint detects deprecation attributes with no effect.

Example

Explanation

Deprecation attributes have no effect on trait implementations.

Codegen options

All of these options are passed to rustc via the -c flag, short for "codegen." You can see a version of this list for your exact compiler by running rustc -C help.

ar

This option is deprecated and does nothing.

code-model

This option lets you choose which code model to use.

Code models put constraints on address ranges that the program and its symbols may use. With smaller address ranges machine instructions may be able to use more compact addressing modes.

The specific ranges depend on target architectures and addressing modes available to them. For x86 more detailed description of its code models can be found in System V Application Binary Interface specification.

Supported values for this option are:

- tiny Tiny code model.
- small Small code model. This is the default model for majority of supported targets.
- kernel Kernel code model.
- medium Medium code model.

• large - Large code model.

Supported values can also be discovered by running rustc --print code-models.

codegen-units

This flag controls how many code generation units the crate is split into. It takes an integer greater than 0.

When a crate is split into multiple codegen units, LLVM is able to process them in parallel. Increasing parallelism may speed up compile times, but may also produce slower code. Setting this to 1 may improve the performance of generated code, but may be slower to compile.

The default value, if not specified, is 16 for non-incremental builds. For incremental builds the default is 256 which allows caching to be more granular.

control-flow-guard

This flag controls whether LLVM enables the Windows Control Flow Guard platform security feature. This flag is currently ignored for non-Windows targets. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, checks, or no value: enable Control Flow Guard.
- nochecks: emit Control Flow Guard metadata without runtime enforcement checks (this should only be used for testing purposes as it does not provide security enforcement).
- n, no, off: do not enable Control Flow Guard (the default).

debug-assertions

This flag lets you turn cfg(debug_assertions) conditional compilation on or off. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: enable debug-assertions.
- n, no, or off: disable debug-assertions.

If not specified, debug assertions are automatically enabled only if the opt-level is 0.

debuginfo

This flag controls the generation of debug information. It takes one of the following values:

- 0: no debug info at all (the default).
- 1: line tables only.
- 2: full debug info.

Note: The -g flag is an alias for -C debuginfo=2.

default-linker-libraries

This flag controls whether or not the linker includes its default libraries. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: include default libraries (the default).
- n, no, or off: exclude default libraries.

For example, for gcc flavor linkers, this issues the <code>-nodefaultlibs</code> flag to the linker.

embed-bitcode

This flag controls whether or not the compiler embeds LLVM bitcode into object files. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: put bitcode in rlibs (the default).
- n, no, or off: omit bitcode from rlibs.

LLVM bitcode is required when rustc is performing link-time optimization (LTO). It is also required on some targets like iOS ones where vendors look for LLVM bitcode. Embedded bitcode will appear in rustc-generated object files inside of a section whose name is defined by the target platform. Most of the time this is .llvmbc.

The use of -C embed-bitcode=no can significantly improve compile times and reduce generated file sizes if your compilation does not actually need bitcode (e.g. if you're not compiling for iOS or you're not performing LTO). For these reasons, Cargo uses -C embed-bitcode=no whenever possible. Likewise, if you are building directly with rustc we recommend using -C embed-bitcode=no whenever you are not using LTO.

If combined with -C lto, -C embed-bitcode=no will cause rustc to abort at start-up, because the combination is invalid.

Note: if you're building Rust code with LTO then you probably don't even need the embed-bitcode option turned on. You'll likely want to use -Clinker-plugin-lto instead which skips generating object files entirely and simply replaces object files with LLVM bitcode. The only purpose for -Cembed-bitcode is when you're generating an rlib that is both being used with and without LTO. For example Rust's standard library ships with embedded bitcode since users

link to it both with and without LTO.

This also may make you wonder why the default is yes for this option. The reason for that is that it's how it was for rustc 1.44 and prior. In 1.45 this option was added to turn off what had always been the default.

extra-filename

This option allows you to put extra data in each output filename. It takes a string to add as a suffix to the filename. See the --emit flag for more information.

force-frame-pointers

This flag forces the use of frame pointers. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: force-enable frame pointers.
- n, no, or off: do not force-enable frame pointers. This does not necessarily mean frame pointers will be removed.

The default behaviour, if frame pointers are not force-enabled, depends on the target.

force-unwind-tables

This flag forces the generation of unwind tables. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: Unwind tables are forced to be generated.
- n, no, or off: Unwind tables are not forced to be generated. If unwind tables are required by the target an error will be emitted.

The default if not specified depends on the target.

incremental

This flag allows you to enable incremental compilation, which allows rustc to save information after compiling a crate to be reused when recompiling the crate, improving re-compile times. This takes a path to a directory where incremental files will be stored.

inline-threshold

This option lets you set the default threshold for inlining a function. It takes an unsigned integer as a value. Inlining is based on a cost model, where a higher threshold will allow more inlining.

The default depends on the opt-level:

opt-level	Threshold
0	N/A, only inlines always-inline functions
1	N/A, only inlines always-inline functions and LLVM lifetime intrinsics
2	225
3	275
S	75
Z	25

instrument-coverage

This option enables instrumentation-based code coverage support. See the chapter on instrumentation-based code coverage for more information.

Note that while the -C instrument-coverage option is stable, the profile data format produced by the resulting instrumentation may change, and may not work with coverage tools other than those built and shipped with the compiler.

link-arg

This flag lets you append a single extra argument to the linker invocation.

"Append" is significant; you can pass this flag multiple times to add multiple arguments.

link-args

This flag lets you append multiple extra arguments to the linker invocation. The options should be separated by spaces.

link-dead-code

This flag controls whether the linker will keep dead code. It takes one of the following values:

• y, yes, on, or no value: keep dead code.

• n, no, or off: remove dead code (the default).

An example of when this flag might be useful is when trying to construct code coverage metrics.

link-self-contained

On targets that support it this flag controls whether the linker will use libraries and objects shipped with Rust instead or those in the system. It takes one of the following values:

- no value: rustc will use heuristic to disable self-contained mode if system has necessary tools.
- y , yes , on : use only libraries/objects shipped with Rust.
- n, no, or off: rely on the user or the linker to provide non-Rust libraries/objects.

This allows overriding cases when detection fails or user wants to use shipped libraries.

linker

This flag controls which linker rustc invokes to link your code. It takes a path to the linker executable. If this flag is not specified, the linker will be inferred based on the target. See also the linker-flavor flag for another way to specify the linker.

linker-flavor

This flag controls the linker flavor used by rustc. If a linker is given with the -c linker flag, then the linker flavor is inferred from the value provided. If no linker is given then the linker flavor is used to determine the linker to use. Every rustc target defaults to some linker flavor. Valid options are:

- em: use Emscripten emcc.
- gcc: use the cc executable, which is typically gcc or clang on many systems.
- ld:use the ld executable.
- msvc: use the link.exe executable from Microsoft Visual Studio MSVC.
- ptx-linker: use rust-ptx-linker for Nvidia NVPTX GPGPU support.
- bpf-linker: use bpf-linker for eBPF support.
- wasm-ld: use the wasm-ld executable, a port of LLVM lld for WebAssembly.
- ld64.lld: use the LLVM lld executable with the -flavor darwin flag for Apple's ld.
- ld.lld: use the LLVM lld executable with the -flavor gnu flag for GNU binutils' ld.
- Ild-link: use the LLVM Ild executable with the -flavor link flag for Microsoft's link.exe.

linker-plugin-lto

This flag defers LTO optimizations to the linker. See linker-plugin-LTO for more details. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: enable linker plugin LTO.
- n, no, or off: disable linker plugin LTO (the default).
- A path to the linker plugin.

More specifically this flag will cause the compiler to replace its typical object file output with LLVM bitcode files. For example an rlib produced with -Clinker-plugin-lto will still have *.o files in it, but they'll all be LLVM bitcode instead of actual machine code. It is expected that the native platform linker is capable of loading these LLVM bitcode files and generating code at link time (typically after performing optimizations).

Note that rustc can also read its own object files produced with -Clinker-plugin-lto. If an rlib is only ever going to get used later with a -Clto compilation then you can pass -Clinker-plugin-lto

to speed up compilation and avoid generating object files that aren't used.

Ilvm-args

This flag can be used to pass a list of arguments directly to LLVM.

The list must be separated by spaces.

Pass --help to see a list of options.

Ito

This flag controls whether LLVM uses link time optimizations to produce better optimized code, using whole-program analysis, at the cost of longer linking time. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, fat, or no value: perform "fat" LTO which attempts to perform optimizations across all crates within the dependency graph.
- n, no, off: disables LTO.
- thin: perform "thin" LTO. This is similar to "fat", but takes substantially less time to run while still achieving performance gains similar to "fat".

If -C lto is not specified, then the compiler will attempt to perform "thin local LTO" which performs "thin" LTO on the local crate only across its codegen units. When -C lto is not specified, LTO is disabled if codegen units is 1 or optimizations are disabled (-C opt-level=0). That is:

- When -c lto is not specified:
 - codegen-units=1: disable LTO.
 - ∘ opt-level=0: disable LTO.

- When -c lto is specified:
 - lto: 16 codegen units, perform fat LTO across crates.
 - codegen-units=1 + lto:1 codegen unit, fat LTO across crates.

See also linker-plugin-lto for cross-language LTO.

metadata

This option allows you to control the metadata used for symbol mangling. This takes a space-separated list of strings. Mangled symbols will incorporate a hash of the metadata. This may be used, for example, to differentiate symbols between two different versions of the same crate being linked.

no-prepopulate-passes

This flag tells the pass manager to use an empty list of passes, instead of the usual pre-populated list of passes.

no-redzone

This flag allows you to disable the red zone. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: disable the red zone.
- n, no, or off: enable the red zone.

The default behaviour, if the flag is not specified, depends on the target.

no-stack-check

This option is deprecated and does nothing.

no-vectorize-loops

This flag disables loop vectorization.

no-vectorize-slp

This flag disables vectorization using superword-level parallelism.

opt-level

This flag controls the optimization level.

- 0: no optimizations, also turns on cfg(debug_assertions) (the default).
- 1: basic optimizations.
- 2 : some optimizations.
- 3: all optimizations.
- s: optimize for binary size.
- z : optimize for binary size, but also turn off loop vectorization.

Note: The -0 flag is an alias for -C opt-level=2.

The default is 0.

overflow-checks

This flag allows you to control the behavior of runtime integer overflow. When overflow-checks are enabled, a panic will occur on overflow. This flag takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: enable overflow checks.
- n, no, or off: disable overflow checks.

If not specified, overflow checks are enabled if debug-assertions are enabled, disabled otherwise.

panic

This option lets you control what happens when the code panics.

- abort : terminate the process upon panic
- unwind: unwind the stack upon panic

If not specified, the default depends on the target.

passes

This flag can be used to add extra LLVM passes to the compilation.

The list must be separated by spaces.

See also the no-prepopulate-passes flag.

prefer-dynamic

By default, rustc prefers to statically link dependencies. This option will indicate that dynamic linking should be used if possible if both a static and dynamic versions of a library are available. There is an internal algorithm for determining whether or not it is possible to statically or dynamically link with a dependency. For example, cdylib crate types may only use static linkage. This flag takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: use dynamic linking.
- n, no, or off: use static linking (the default).

profile-generate

This flag allows for creating instrumented binaries that will collect profiling data for use with profile-guided optimization (PGO). The flag takes an optional argument which is the path to a directory into which the instrumented binary will emit the collected data. See the chapter on profile-guided optimization for more information.

profile-use

This flag specifies the profiling data file to be used for profile-guided optimization (PGO). The flag takes a mandatory argument which is the path to a valid .profdata file. See the chapter on profile-guided optimization for more information.

relocation-model

This option controls generation of position-independent code (PIC).

Supported values for this option are:

Primary relocation models

- static non-relocatable code, machine instructions may use absolute addressing modes.
- pic fully relocatable position independent code, machine instructions need to use relative addressing modes.
 - Equivalent to the "uppercase" -fPIC or -fPIE options in other compilers, depending on the produced crate types.
 - This is the default model for majority of supported targets.
- pie position independent executable, relocatable code but without support for symbol interpositioning (replacing symbols by name using LD_PRELOAD and similar). Equivalent to the "uppercase" -fPIE option in other compilers. pie code cannot be linked into shared libraries (you'll get a linking error on attempt to do this).

Special relocation models

- dynamic-no-pic relocatable external references, non-relocatable code.
 Only makes sense on Darwin and is rarely used.
 If StackOverflow tells you to use this as an opt-out of PIC or PIE, don't believe it, use -c relocation-model=static instead.
- ropi, rwpi and ropi-rwpi relocatable code and read-only data, relocatable read-write data, and combination of both, respectively.
 Only makes sense for certain embedded ARM targets.

default - relocation model default to the current target.
 Only makes sense as an override for some other explicitly specified relocation model previously set on the command line.

Supported values can also be discovered by running rustc --print relocation-models.

Linking effects

In addition to codegen effects, relocation-model has effects during linking.

If the relocation model is pic and the current target supports position-independent executables (PIE), the linker will be instructed (-pie) to produce one.

If the target doesn't support both position-independent and statically linked executables, then -c target-feature=+crt-static "wins" over -C relocation-model=pic, and the linker is instructed (-static) to produce a statically linked but not position-independent executable.

remark

This flag lets you print remarks for optimization passes.

The list of passes should be separated by spaces.

all will remark on every pass.

rpath

This flag controls whether rpath is enabled. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: enable rpath.
- n, no, or off: disable rpath (the default).

save-temps

This flag controls whether temporary files generated during compilation are deleted once compilation finishes. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: save temporary files.
- n, no, or off: delete temporary files (the default).

soft-float

This option controls whether rustc generates code that emulates floating point instructions in software. It takes one of the following values:

- y, yes, on, or no value: use soft floats.
- n, no, or off: use hardware floats (the default).

split-debuginfo

This option controls the emission of "split debuginfo" for debug information that rustc generates. The default behavior of this option is platform-specific, and not all possible values for this option work on all platforms. Possible values are:

- off This is the default for platforms with ELF binaries and windows-gnu (not Windows MSVC and not macOS). This typically means that DWARF debug information can be found in the final artifact in sections of the executable. This option is not supported on Windows MSVC. On macOS this options prevents the final execution of dsymutil to generate debuginfo.
- packed This is the default for Windows MSVC and macOS. The term "packed" here means that all the debug information is packed into a separate file from the main executable. On Windows MSVC this is a *.pdb file, on macOS this is a *.dsym folder, and on other platforms this is a *.dwp file.
- unpacked This means that debug information will be found in separate files for each compilation unit (object file). This is not supported on Windows MSVC. On macOS this means the original object files will contain debug information. On other Unix platforms this means that *.dwo files will contain debug information.

Note that packed and unpacked are gated behind -z unstable-options on non-macOS platforms at this time.

strip

The option -c strip=val controls stripping of debuginfo and similar auxiliary data from binaries during linking.

Supported values for this option are:

- none debuginfo and symbols (if they exist) are copied to the produced binary or separate files depending on the target (e.g. .pdb files in case of MSVC).
- debuginfo debuginfo sections and debuginfo symbols from the symbol table section are stripped at link time and are not copied to the produced binary or separate files.
- symbols same as debuginfo, but the rest of the symbol table section is stripped as well if the

https://doc.rust-lang.org/rustc/print.html

linker supports it.

symbol-mangling-version

This option controls the name mangling format for encoding Rust item names for the purpose of generating object code and linking.

Supported values for this option are:

• v0 — The "v0" mangling scheme. The specific format is not specified at this time.

The default if not specified will use a compiler-chosen default which may change in the future.

target-cpu

This instructs rustc to generate code specifically for a particular processor.

You can run rustc --print target-cpus to see the valid options to pass here. Each target has a default base CPU. Special values include:

- native can be passed to use the processor of the host machine.
- generic refers to an LLVM target with minimal features but modern tuning.

target-feature

Individual targets will support different features; this flag lets you control enabling or disabling a

feature. Each feature should be prefixed with a + to enable it or - to disable it.

Features from multiple -C target-feature options are combined.

Multiple features can be specified in a single option by separating them with commas - -C target-feature=+x,-y.

If some feature is specified more than once with both + and - , then values passed later override values passed earlier.

For example, -C target-feature=+x,-y,+z -Ctarget-feature=-x,+y is equivalent to -C target-feature=-x,+y,+z.

To see the valid options and an example of use, run rustc --print target-features.

Using this flag is unsafe and might result in undefined runtime behavior.

See also the target_feature attribute for controlling features per-function.

This also supports the feature +crt-static and -crt-static to control static C runtime linkage.

Each target and target-cpu has a default set of enabled features.

tune-cpu

This instructs rustc to schedule code specifically for a particular processor. This does not affect the compatibility (instruction sets or ABI), but should make your code slightly more efficient on the selected CPU.

The valid options are the same as those for target-cpu. The default is None, which LLVM translates as the target-cpu.

This is an unstable option. Use -Z tune-cpu=machine to specify a value.

Due to limitations in LLVM (12.0.0-git9218f92), this option is currently effective only for x86 targets.

JSON Output

This chapter documents the JSON structures emitted by rustc. JSON may be enabled with the --error-format=json flag. Additional options may be specified with the --json flag which can change which messages are generated, and the format of the messages.

JSON messages are emitted one per line to stderr.

If parsing the output with Rust, the cargo_metadata crate provides some support for parsing the messages.

When parsing, care should be taken to be forwards-compatible with future changes to the format. Optional values may be null. New fields may be added. Enumerated fields like "level" or "suggestion_applicability" may add new values.

Diagnostics

Diagnostic messages provide errors or possible concerns generated during compilation. rustc provides detailed information about where the diagnostic originates, along with hints and suggestions.

Diagnostics are arranged in a parent/child relationship where the parent diagnostic value is the core of the diagnostic, and the attached children provide additional context, help, and information.

Diagnostics have the following format:

```
{
    /* The primary message. */
    "message": "unused variable: `x`",
    /* The diagnostic code.
       Some messages may set this value to null.
    */
    "code": {
        /* A unique string identifying which diagnostic triggered. */
        "code": "unused_variables",
        /* An optional string explaining more detail about the diagnostic code. */
        "explanation": null
    },
    /* The severity of the diagnostic.
       Values may be:
       - "error": A fatal error that prevents compilation.
       - "warning": A possible error or concern.
       - "note": Additional information or context about the diagnostic.
       - "help": A suggestion on how to resolve the diagnostic.
       - "failure-note": A note attached to the message for further information.
       - "error: internal compiler error": Indicates a bug within the compiler.
    */
    "level": "warning",
    /* An array of source code locations to point out specific details about
       where the diagnostic originates from. This may be empty, for example
       for some global messages, or child messages attached to a parent.
       Character offsets are offsets of Unicode Scalar Values.
    */
    "spans": [
        {
            /* The file where the span is located.
               Note that this path may not exist. For example, if the path
               points to the standard library, and the rust src is not
               available in the sysroot, then it may point to a non-existent
               file. Beware that this may also point to the source of an
               external crate.
            */
            "file_name": "lib.rs",
            /* The byte offset where the span starts (0-based, inclusive). */
```

```
"byte_start": 21,
/* The byte offset where the span ends (0-based, exclusive). */
"byte_end": 22,
/* The first line number of the span (1-based, inclusive). */
"line_start": 2,
/* The last line number of the span (1-based, inclusive). */
"line_end": 2,
/* The first character offset of the line_start (1-based, inclusive). */
"column_start": 9,
/* The last character offset of the line_end (1-based, exclusive). */
"column_end": 10,
/* Whether or not this is the "primary" span.
   This indicates that this span is the focal point of the
   diagnostic.
   There are rare cases where multiple spans may be marked as
   primary. For example, "immutable borrow occurs here" and
   "mutable borrow ends here" can be two separate primary spans.
   The top (parent) message should always have at least one
   primary span, unless it has zero spans. Child messages may have
   zero or more primary spans.
*/
"is_primary": true,
/* An array of objects showing the original source code for this
   span. This shows the entire lines of text where the span is
   located. A span across multiple lines will have a separate
   value for each line.
*/
"text": [
    {
        /* The entire line of the original source code. */
        "text": " let x = 123;",
        /* The first character offset of the line of
           where the span covers this line (1-based, inclusive). */
        "highlight_start": 9,
        /* The last character offset of the line of
           where the span covers this line (1-based, exclusive). */
        "highlight_end": 10
```

```
}
],
/* An optional message to display at this span location.
   This is typically null for primary spans.
*/
"label": null,
/* An optional string of a suggested replacement for this span to
   solve the issue. Tools may try to replace the contents of the
   span with this text.
*/
"suggested_replacement": null,
/* An optional string that indicates the confidence of the
   "suggested_replacement". Tools may use this value to determine
   whether or not suggestions should be automatically applied.
   Possible values may be:
   - "MachineApplicable": The suggestion is definitely what the
     user intended. This suggestion should be automatically
     applied.
   - "MaybeIncorrect": The suggestion may be what the user
     intended, but it is uncertain. The suggestion should result
     in valid Rust code if it is applied.
   - "HasPlaceholders": The suggestion contains placeholders like
     `(...)`. The suggestion cannot be applied automatically
     because it will not result in valid Rust code. The user will
     need to fill in the placeholders.
   - "Unspecified": The applicability of the suggestion is unknown.
*/
"suggestion_applicability": null,
/* An optional object indicating the expansion of a macro within
   this span.
   If a message occurs within a macro invocation, this object will
   provide details of where within the macro expansion the message
   is located.
*/
"expansion": {
    /* The span of the macro invocation.
       Uses the same span definition as the "spans" array.
    */
```

```
"span": {/*...*/}
            /* Name of the macro, such as "foo!" or "#[derive(Eq)]". */
            "macro_decl_name": "some_macro!",
            /* Optional span where the relevant part of the macro is
              defined. */
            "def_site_span": {/*...*/},
        }
    }
],
/* Array of attached diagnostic messages.
   This is an array of objects using the same format as the parent
   message. Children are not nested (children do not themselves
   contain "children" definitions).
*/
"children": [
    {
        "message": "`#[warn(unused_variables)]` on by default",
        "code": null,
        "level": "note",
        "spans": [],
        "children": [],
        "rendered": null
    },
    {
        "message": "if this is intentional, prefix it with an underscore",
        "code": null,
        "level": "help",
        "spans": [
            {
                "file_name": "lib.rs",
                "byte_start": 21,
                "byte_end": 22,
                "line_start": 2,
                "line_end": 2,
                "column_start": 9,
                "column_end": 10,
                "is_primary": true,
                "text": [
                    {
                        "text": " let x = 123;",
```

```
"highlight_start": 9,
                            "highlight_end": 10
                        }
                    ],
                    "label": null,
                    "suggested_replacement": "_x",
                    "suggestion_applicability": "MachineApplicable",
                    "expansion": null
            ],
            "children": [],
            "rendered": null
        }
   ],
    /* Optional string of the rendered version of the diagnostic as displayed
       by rustc. Note that this may be influenced by the `--json` flag.
    */
    "rendered": "warning: unused variable: `x`\n --> lib.rs:2:9\n |\n2 |
                 ^ help: if this is intentional, prefix it with an underscore: `_x`\n
|\n = note: `#[warn(unused_variables)]` on by default\n\n"
}
```

Artifact notifications

Artifact notifications are emitted when the --json=artifacts flag is used. They indicate that a file artifact has been saved to disk. More information about emit kinds may be found in the --emit flag documentation.

Future-incompatible reports

If the --json=future-incompat flag is used, then a separate JSON structure will be emitted if the crate may stop compiling in the future. This contains diagnostic information about the particular warnings that may be turned into a hard error in the future. This will include the diagnostic information, even if the diagnostics have been suppressed (such as with an #[allow] attribute or the --cap-lints option).

Tests

rustc has a built-in facility for building and running tests for a crate. More information about writing and running tests may be found in the Testing Chapter of the Rust Programming Language book.

Tests are written as free functions with the #[test] attribute. For example:

```
#[test]
fn it_works() {
    assert_eq!(2 + 2, 4);
}
```

Tests "pass" if they return without an error. They "fail" if they panic, or return a type such as Result that implements the Termination trait with a non-zero value.

By passing the --test option to rustc, the compiler will build the crate in a special mode to construct an executable that will run the tests in the crate. The --test flag will make the following changes:

- The crate will be built as a bin crate type, forcing it to be an executable.
- Links the executable with libtest, the test harness that is part of the standard library, which handles running the tests.
- Synthesizes a main function which will process command-line arguments and run the tests. This new main function will replace any existing main function as the entry point of the executable, though the existing main will still be compiled.
- Enables the test cfg option, which allows your code to use conditional compilation to detect if it is being built as a test.
- Enables building of functions annotated with the test and bench attributes, which will be run by the test harness.

After the executable is created, you can run it to execute the tests and receive a report on what passes and fails. If you are using Cargo to manage your project, it has a built-in cargo test command which handles all of this automatically. An example of the output looks like this:

```
running 4 tests
test it_works ... ok
test check_valid_args ... ok
test invalid_characters ... ok
test walks_the_dog ... ok

test result: ok. 4 passed; 0 failed; 0 ignored; 0 measured; 0 filtered out; finished in
0.00s
```

Note: Tests must be built with the unwind panic strategy. This is because all tests run in the same process, and they are intended to catch panics, which is not possible with the abort strategy. See the unstable -Z panic-abort-tests option for experimental support of the abort strategy by spawning tests in separate processes.

Test attributes

Tests are indicated using attributes on free functions. The following attributes are used for testing, see the linked documentation for more details:

- #[test] Indicates a function is a test to be run.
- #[bench] Indicates a function is a benchmark to be run. Benchmarks are currently unstable and only available in the nightly channel, see the unstable docs for more details.
- #[should_panic] Indicates that the test function will only pass if the function panics.
- #[ignore] Indicates that the test function will be compiled, but not run by default. See the —ignored and —include—ignored options to run these tests.

CLI arguments

The libtest harness has several command-line arguments to control its behavior.

Note: When running with <code>cargo test</code>, the libtest CLI arguments must be passed after the <code>--</code> argument to differentiate between flags for Cargo and those for the harness. For example: <code>cargo test -- --nocapture</code>

Filters

Positional arguments (those without a - prefix) are treated as filters which will only run tests whose name matches one of those strings. The filter will match any substring found in the full path of the test function. For example, if the test function <code>it_works</code> is located in the module <code>utils::paths::tests</code>, then any of the filters <code>works</code>, <code>path</code>, <code>utils::</code>, or <code>utils::paths::tests::it_works</code> will match that test.

See Selection options for more options to control which tests are run.

Action options

The following options perform different actions other than running tests.

--list

Prints a list of all tests and benchmarks. Does not run any of the tests. Filters can be used to list only matching tests.

-h, --help

Displays usage information and command-line options.

Selection options

The following options change how tests are selected.

--test

This is the default mode where all tests will be run as well as running all benchmarks with only a single iteration (to ensure the benchmark works, without taking the time to actually perform benchmarking). This can be combined with the --bench flag to run both tests and perform full benchmarking.

--bench

This runs in a mode where tests are ignored, and only runs benchmarks. This can be combined with --test to run both benchmarks and tests.

--exact

This forces filters to match the full path of the test exactly. For example, if the test <code>it_works</code> is in the module <code>utils::paths::tests</code>, then only the string <code>utils::paths::tests::it_works</code> will match that test.

--skip FILTER

Skips any tests whose name contains the given *FILTER* string. This flag may be passed multiple times.

--ignored

Runs only tests that are marked with the ignore attribute.

--include-ignored

Runs both ignored and non-ignored tests.

--exclude-should-panic

Excludes tests marked with the should_panic attribute.

This option is unstable, and requires the -z unstable-options flag. See tracking issue #82348 for more information.

Execution options

The following options affect how tests are executed.

--test-threads NUM_THREADS

Sets the number of threads to use for running tests in parallel. By default, uses the amount of concurrency available on the hardware as indicated by available_parallelism.

This can also be specified with the RUST_TEST_THREADS environment variable.

--force-run-in-process

Forces the tests to run in a single process when using the abort panic strategy.

This only works with the unstable -z panic-abort-tests option, and requires the -z unstable-options flag. See tracking issue #67650 for more information.

--ensure-time

This option is unstable, and requires the -Z unstable-options flag. See tracking issue #64888 and the unstable docs for more information.

--shuffle

Runs the tests in random order, as opposed to the default alphabetical order.

This may also be specified by setting the RUST_TEST_SHUFFLE environment variable to anything but 0.

The random number generator seed that is output can be passed to --shuffle-seed to run the tests in the same order again.

Note that --shuffle does not affect whether the tests are run in parallel. To run the tests in random order sequentially, use --shuffle --test-threads 1.

This option is unstable, and requires the -z unstable-options flag. See tracking issue #89583 for more information.

--shuffle-seed SEED

Like --shuffle, but seeds the random number generator with *SEED*. Thus, calling the test harness with --shuffle-seed *SEED* twice runs the tests in the same order both times.

SEED is any 64-bit unsigned integer, for example, one produced by --shuffle.

This can also be specified with the RUST_TEST_SHUFFLE_SEED environment variable.

This option is unstable, and requires the -z unstable-options flag. See tracking issue #89583 for more information.

Output options

The following options affect the output behavior.

-q, --quiet

Displays one character per test instead of one line per test. This is an alias for --format=terse.

--nocapture

Does not capture the stdout and stderr of the test, and allows tests to print to the console. Usually the output is captured, and only displayed if the test fails.

This may also be specified by setting the RUST_TEST_NOCAPTURE environment variable to anything but 0.

--show-output

Displays the stdout and stderr of successful tests after all tests have run.

Contrast this with --nocapture which allows tests to print while they are running, which can cause interleaved output if there are multiple tests running in parallel, --show-output ensures the output is contiguous, but requires waiting for all tests to finish.

--color COLOR

Control when colored terminal output is used. Valid options:

- auto: Colorize if stdout is a tty and —nocapture is not used. This is the default.
- always: Always colorize the output.
- never: Never colorize the output.

--format FORMAT

Controls the format of the output. Valid options:

- pretty: This is the default format, with one line per test.
- terse: Displays only a single character per test. --quiet is an alias for this option.
- json: Emits JSON objects, one per line. This option is unstable, and requires the -z unstable-options flag. See tracking issue #49359 for more information.

--logfile PATH

Writes the results of the tests to the given file.

--report-time

This option is unstable, and requires the -Z unstable-options flag. See tracking issue #64888 and the unstable docs for more information.

Unstable options

Some CLI options are added in an "unstable" state, where they are intended for experimentation

and testing to determine if the option works correctly, has the right design, and is useful. The option may not work correctly, break, or change at any time. To signal that you acknowledge that you are using an unstable option, they require passing the -z unstable-options command-line flag.

Benchmarks

The libtest harness supports running benchmarks for functions annotated with the #[bench] attribute. Benchmarks are currently unstable, and only available on the nightly channel. More information may be found in the unstable book.

Custom test frameworks

Experimental support for using custom test harnesses is available on the nightly channel. See tracking issue #50297 and the custom_test_frameworks documentation for more information.

Platform Support

Support for different platforms ("targets") are organized into three tiers, each with a different set of guarantees. For more information on the policies for targets at each tier, see the Target Tier Policy.

Targets are identified by their "target triple" which is the string to inform the compiler what kind of output should be produced.

Tier 1 with Host Tools

Tier 1 targets can be thought of as "guaranteed to work". The Rust project builds official binary releases for each tier 1 target, and automated testing ensures that each tier 1 target builds and passes tests after each change.

Tier 1 targets with host tools additionally support running tools like rustc and cargo natively on the target, and automated testing ensures that tests pass for the host tools as well. This allows the target to be used as a development platform, not just a compilation target. For the full requirements, see Tier 1 with Host Tools in the Target Tier Policy.

All tier 1 targets with host tools support the full standard library.

target	notes
aarch64-unknown-linux-gnu	ARM64 Linux (kernel 4.2, glibc 2.17+) ¹
i686-pc-windows-gnu	32-bit MinGW (Windows 7+) ²
i686-pc-windows-msvc	32-bit MSVC (Windows 7+) ²
i686-unknown-linux-gnu	32-bit Linux (kernel 2.6.32+, glibc 2.11+)
x86_64-apple-darwin	64-bit macOS (10.7+, Lion+)

target	notes		
x86_64-pc-windows-gnu	64-bit MinGW (Windows 7+) ²		
x86_64-pc-windows-msvc	64-bit MSVC (Windows 7+) ²		
x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu	64-bit Linux (kernel 2.6.32+, glibc 2.11+)		

¹ Stack probes support is missing on <code>aarch64-unknown-linux-gnu</code>, but it's planned to be implemented in the near future. The implementation is tracked on issue #77071.

Tier 1

Tier 1 targets can be thought of as "guaranteed to work". The Rust project builds official binary releases for each tier 1 target, and automated testing ensures that each tier 1 target builds and passes tests after each change. For the full requirements, see Tier 1 target policy in the Target Tier Policy.

At this time, all Tier 1 targets are Tier 1 with Host Tools.

Tier 2 with Host Tools

Tier 2 targets can be thought of as "guaranteed to build". The Rust project builds official binary releases for each tier 2 target, and automated builds ensure that each tier 2 target builds after each change. Automated tests are not always run so it's not guaranteed to produce a working build, but tier 2 targets often work to quite a good degree and patches are always welcome!

² Only Windows 10 currently undergoes automated testing. Earlier versions of Windows rely on testing and support from the community.

Tier 2 targets with host tools additionally support running tools like rustc and cargo natively on the target, and automated builds ensure that the host tools build as well. This allows the target to be used as a development platform, not just a compilation target. For the full requirements, see Tier 2 with Host Tools in the Target Tier Policy.

All tier 2 targets with host tools support the full standard library.

NOTE: The rust-docs component is not usually built for tier 2 targets, so Rustup may install the documentation for a similar tier 1 target instead.

target	notes		
aarch64-apple-darwin	ARM64 macOS (11.0+, Big Sur+)		
aarch64-pc-windows-msvc	ARM64 Windows MSVC		
aarch64-unknown-linux-musl	ARM64 Linux with MUSL		
arm-unknown-linux-gnueabi	ARMv6 Linux (kernel 3.2, glibc 2.17)		
arm-unknown-linux-gnueabihf	ARMv6 Linux, hardfloat (kernel 3.2, glibc 2.17)		
armv7-unknown-linux-gnueabihf	ARMv7 Linux, hardfloat (kernel 3.2, glibc 2.17)		
mips-unknown-linux-gnu	MIPS Linux (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)		
mips64-unknown-linux-gnuabi64	MIPS64 Linux, n64 ABI (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)		
mips64el-unknown-linux-gnuabi64	MIPS64 (LE) Linux, n64 ABI (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)		
mipsel-unknown-linux-gnu	MIPS (LE) Linux (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)		
powerpc-unknown-linux-gnu	PowerPC Linux (kernel 2.6.32, glibc 2.11)		
powerpc64-unknown-linux-gnu	PPC64 Linux (kernel 2.6.32, glibc 2.11)		
powerpc64le-unknown-linux-gnu	PPC64LE Linux (kernel 3.10, glibc 2.17)		
riscv64gc-unknown-linux-gnu	RISC-V Linux (kernel 4.20, glibc 2.29)		
s390x-unknown-linux-gnu	S390x Linux (kernel 2.6.32, glibc 2.12)		
x86_64-unknown-freebsd	64-bit FreeBSD		

target	notes
x86_64-unknown-illumos	illumos
x86_64-unknown-linux-musl	64-bit Linux with MUSL
x86_64-unknown-netbsd	NetBSD/amd64

Tier 2

Tier 2 targets can be thought of as "guaranteed to build". The Rust project builds official binary releases for each tier 2 target, and automated builds ensure that each tier 2 target builds after each change. Automated tests are not always run so it's not guaranteed to produce a working build, but tier 2 targets often work to quite a good degree and patches are always welcome! For the full requirements, see Tier 2 target policy in the Target Tier Policy.

The std column in the table below has the following meanings:

- ✓ indicates the full standard library is available.
- * indicates the target only supports no_std development.

NOTE: The rust-docs component is not usually built for tier 2 targets, so Rustup may install the documentation for a similar tier 1 target instead.

target	std	notes		
aarch64-apple-ios	✓	ARM64 iOS		
aarch64-apple-ios-sim	✓	Apple iOS Simulator on ARM64		
aarch64-fuchsia	✓	ARM64 Fuchsia		
aarch64-linux-android	✓	ARM64 Android		
aarch64-unknown-none-softfloat	*	Bare ARM64, softfloat		

target	std	notes
aarch64-unknown-none	*	Bare ARM64, hardfloat
arm-linux-androideabi	✓	ARMv7 Android
arm-unknown-linux-musleabi	✓	ARMv6 Linux with MUSL
arm-unknown-linux-musleabihf	✓	ARMv6 Linux with MUSL, hardfloat
armebv7r-none-eabi	*	Bare ARMv7-R, Big Endian
armebv7r-none-eabihf	*	Bare ARMv7-R, Big Endian, hardfloat
armv5te-unknown-linux-gnueabi	✓	ARMv5TE Linux (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)
armv5te-unknown-linux-musleabi	✓	ARMv5TE Linux with MUSL
armv7-linux-androideabi	✓	ARMv7a Android
armv7-unknown-linux-gnueabi	✓	ARMv7 Linux (kernel 4.15, glibc 2.27)
armv7-unknown-linux-musleabi	✓	ARMv7 Linux with MUSL
armv7-unknown-linux-musleabihf	✓	ARMv7 Linux with MUSL, hardfloat
armv7a-none-eabi	*	Bare ARMv7-A
armv7r-none-eabi	*	Bare ARMv7-R
armv7r-none-eabihf	*	Bare ARMv7-R, hardfloat
asmjs-unknown-emscripten	✓	asm.js via Emscripten
i586-pc-windows-msvc	*	32-bit Windows w/o SSE
i586-unknown-linux-gnu	✓	32-bit Linux w/o SSE (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)
i586-unknown-linux-musl	✓	32-bit Linux w/o SSE, MUSL
i686-linux-android	✓	32-bit x86 Android
i686-unknown-freebsd	✓	32-bit FreeBSD
i686-unknown-linux-musl	✓	32-bit Linux with MUSL

target	std	notes
mips-unknown-linux-musl	✓	MIPS Linux with MUSL
mips64-unknown-linux-muslabi64	✓	MIPS64 Linux, n64 ABI, MUSL
mips64el-unknown-linux-muslabi64	✓	MIPS64 (LE) Linux, n64 ABI, MUSL
mipsel-unknown-linux-musl	✓	MIPS (LE) Linux with MUSL
nvptx64-nvidia-cuda	*	emit=asm generates PTX code that runs on NVIDIA GPUs
riscv32i-unknown-none-elf	*	Bare RISC-V (RV32I ISA)
riscv32imac-unknown-none-elf	*	Bare RISC-V (RV32IMAC ISA)
riscv32imc-unknown-none-elf	*	Bare RISC-V (RV32IMC ISA)
riscv64gc-unknown-none-elf	*	Bare RISC-V (RV64IMAFDC ISA)
riscv64imac-unknown-none-elf	*	Bare RISC-V (RV64IMAC ISA)
sparc64-unknown-linux-gnu	✓	SPARC Linux (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)
sparcv9-sun-solaris	✓	SPARC Solaris 10/11, illumos
thumbv6m-none-eabi	*	Bare Cortex-M0, M0+, M1
thumbv7em-none-eabi	*	Bare Cortex-M4, M7
thumbv7em-none-eabihf	*	Bare Cortex-M4F, M7F, FPU, hardfloat
thumbv7m-none-eabi	*	Bare Cortex-M3
thumbv7neon-linux-androideabi	✓	Thumb2-mode ARMv7a Android with NEON
thumbv7neon-unknown-linux-gnueabihf	✓	Thumb2-mode ARMv7a Linux with NEON (kernel 4.4, glibc 2.23)
thumbv8m.base-none-eabi	*	ARMv8-M Baseline
thumbv8m.main-none-eabi	*	ARMv8-M Mainline
thumbv8m.main-none-eabihf	*	ARMv8-M Mainline, hardfloat

target	std	notes
wasm32-unknown-emscripten	✓	WebAssembly via Emscripten
wasm32-unknown-unknown	✓	WebAssembly
wasm32-wasi	✓	WebAssembly with WASI
x86_64-apple-ios	✓	64-bit x86 iOS
x86_64-fortanix-unknown-sgx	✓	Fortanix ABI for 64-bit Intel SGX
x86_64-fuchsia	✓	64-bit Fuchsia
x86_64-linux-android	✓	64-bit x86 Android
x86_64-pc-solaris	✓	64-bit Solaris 10/11, illumos
x86_64-unknown-linux-gnux32	√	64-bit Linux (x32 ABI) (kernel 4.15, glibc 2.27)
x86_64-unknown-none	*	Freestanding/bare-metal x86_64, softfloat
x86_64-unknown-redox	✓	Redox OS

Tier 3

Tier 3 targets are those which the Rust codebase has support for, but which the Rust project does not build or test automatically, so they may or may not work. Official builds are not available. For the full requirements, see Tier 3 target policy in the Target Tier Policy.

The std column in the table below has the following meanings:

- ✓ indicates the full standard library is available.
- * indicates the target only supports no_std development.
- ? indicates the standard library support is unknown or a work-in-progress.

The host column indicates whether the codebase includes support for building host tools.

target	std	host	notes
aarch64-apple-ios-macabi	?		Apple Catalyst on ARM64
aarch64-apple-tvos	*		ARM64 tvOS
aarch64-kmc-solid_asp3	✓		ARM64 SOLID with TOPPERS/ASP3
aarch64-pc-windows-gnullvm	✓	✓	
aarch64-unknown-freebsd	✓	✓	ARM64 FreeBSD
aarch64-unknown-hermit	✓		ARM64 HermitCore
aarch64-unknown-uefi	*		ARM64 UEFI
aarch64-unknown-linux-gnu_ilp32	✓	✓	ARM64 Linux (ILP32 ABI)
aarch64-unknown-netbsd	✓	✓	
aarch64-unknown-openbsd	✓	✓	ARM64 OpenBSD
aarch64-unknown-redox	?		ARM64 Redox OS
aarch64-uwp-windows-msvc	?		
aarch64-wrs-vxworks	?		
aarch64_be-unknown-linux-gnu_ilp32	1	√	ARM64 Linux (big-endian, ILP32 ABI)
aarch64_be-unknown-linux-gnu	✓	✓	ARM64 Linux (big-endian)
armv4t-unknown-linux-gnueabi	?		
armv5te-unknown-linux-uclibceabi	?		ARMv5TE Linux with uClibc
armv6-unknown-freebsd	✓	✓	ARMv6 FreeBSD
armv6-unknown-netbsd-eabihf	?		
armv6k-nintendo-3ds	*		ARMv6K Nintendo 3DS,

target	std	host	notes
			Horizon (Requires devkitARM toolchain)
armv7-apple-ios	✓		ARMv7 iOS, Cortex-a8
armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi	✓	✓	ARMv7 Linux with uClibc, softfloat
armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabihf	✓	?	ARMv7 Linux with uClibc, hardfloat
armv7-unknown-freebsd	✓	✓	ARMv7 FreeBSD
armv7-unknown-netbsd-eabihf	✓	✓	
armv7-wrs-vxworks-eabihf	?		
armv7a-kmc-solid_asp3-eabi	✓		ARM SOLID with TOPPERS/ASP3
armv7a-kmc-solid_asp3-eabihf	✓		ARM SOLID with TOPPERS/ASP3, hardfloat
armv7a-none-eabihf	*		ARM Cortex-A, hardfloat
armv7s-apple-ios	✓		
avr-unknown-gnu-atmega328	*		AVR.Requires -Z build-std=core
bpfeb-unknown-none	*		BPF (big endian)
bpfel-unknown-none	*		BPF (little endian)
hexagon-unknown-linux-musl	?		
i386-apple-ios	✓		32-bit x86 iOS
i686-apple-darwin	✓	✓	32-bit macOS (10.7+, Lion+)
i686-pc-windows-msvc	*		32-bit Windows XP support
i686-unknown-haiku	✓	✓	32-bit Haiku

target	std	host	notes
i686-unknown-netbsd	✓	✓	NetBSD/i386 with SSE2
i686-unknown-openbsd	✓	✓	32-bit OpenBSD
i686-unknown-uefi	*		32-bit UEFI
i686-uwp-windows-gnu	?		
i686-uwp-windows-msvc	?		
i686-wrs-vxworks	?		
m68k-unknown-linux-gnu	?		Motorola 680x0 Linux
mips-unknown-linux-uclibc	✓		MIPS Linux with uClibc
mips64-openwrt-linux-musl	?		MIPS64 for OpenWrt Linux MUSL
mipsel-sony-psp	*		MIPS (LE) Sony PlayStation Portable (PSP)
mipsel-unknown-linux-uclibc	✓		MIPS (LE) Linux with uClibc
mipsel-unknown-none	*		Bare MIPS (LE) softfloat
mipsisa32r6-unknown-linux-gnu	?		
mipsisa32r6el-unknown-linux-gnu	?		
mipsisa64r6-unknown-linux-gnuabi64	?		
mipsisa64r6el-unknown-linux-gnuabi64	?		
msp430-none-elf	*		16-bit MSP430 microcontrollers
powerpc-unknown-linux-gnuspe	✓		PowerPC SPE Linux
powerpc-unknown-linux-musl	?		
powerpc-unknown-netbsd	✓	✓	
powerpc-unknown-openbsd	?		

target	std	host	notes
powerpc-wrs-vxworks-spe	?		
powerpc-wrs-vxworks	?		
powerpc64-unknown-freebsd	✓	✓	PPC64 FreeBSD (ELFv1 and ELFv2)
powerpc64le-unknown-freebsd			PPC64LE FreeBSD
powerpc-unknown-freebsd			PowerPC FreeBSD
powerpc64-unknown-linux-musl	?		
powerpc64-wrs-vxworks	?		
powerpc64le-unknown-linux-musl	?		
riscv32gc-unknown-linux-gnu			RISC-V Linux (kernel 5.4, glibc 2.33)
riscv32gc-unknown-linux-musl			RISC-V Linux (kernel 5.4, musl + RISCV32 support patches)
riscv32im-unknown-none-elf	*		Bare RISC-V (RV32IM ISA)
riscv32imc-esp-espidf	✓		RISC-V ESP-IDF
riscv64gc-unknown-freebsd			RISC-V FreeBSD
riscv64gc-unknown-linux-musl			RISC-V Linux (kernel 4.20, musl 1.2.0)
s390x-unknown-linux-musl			S390x Linux (kernel 2.6.32, MUSL)
sparc-unknown-linux-gnu	✓		32-bit SPARC Linux
sparc64-unknown-netbsd	✓	✓	NetBSD/sparc64
sparc64-unknown-openbsd	✓	✓	OpenBSD/sparc64

target	std	host	notes
thumbv4t-none-eabi	*		ARMv4T T32
thumbv7a-pc-windows-msvc	?		
thumbv7a-uwp-windows-msvc	✓		
thumbv7neon-unknown-linux-musleabihf	?		Thumb2-mode ARMv7a Linux with NEON, MUSL
wasm64-unknown-unknown	?		WebAssembly
x86_64-apple-ios-macabi	✓		Apple Catalyst on x86_64
x86_64-apple-tvos	*		x86 64-bit tvOS
x86_64-pc-windows-gnullvm	✓	✓	
x86_64-pc-windows-msvc	*		64-bit Windows XP support
x86_64-sun-solaris	?		Deprecated target for 64-bit Solaris 10/11, illumos
x86_64-unknown-dragonfly	✓	✓	64-bit DragonFlyBSD
x86_64-unknown-haiku	✓	✓	64-bit Haiku
x86_64-unknown-hermit	✓		HermitCore
x86_64-unknown-l4re-uclibc	?		
x86_64-unknown-none-linuxkernel	*		Linux kernel modules
x86_64-unknown-openbsd	✓	✓	64-bit OpenBSD
x86_64-unknown-uefi	*		64-bit UEFI
x86_64-uwp-windows-gnu	✓		
x86_64-uwp-windows-msvc	✓		
x86_64-wrs-vxworks	?		

target-name-here

Tier: 3

One-sentence description of the target (e.g. CPU, OS)

Target maintainers

• Some Person, email@example.org, https://github.com/...

Requirements

Does the target support host tools, or only cross-compilation? Does the target support std, or alloc (either with a default allocator, or if the user supplies an allocator)?

Document the expectations of binaries built for the target. Do they assume specific minimum features beyond the baseline of the CPU/environment/etc? What version of the OS or environment do they expect?

Are there notable #[target_feature(...)] or -C target-feature= values that programs may wish to use?

What calling convention does extern "C" use on the target?

What format do binaries use by default? ELF, PE, something else?

Building the target

If Rust doesn't build the target by default, how can users build it? Can users just add it to the target list in config.toml?

Building Rust programs

Rust does not yet ship pre-compiled artifacts for this target. To compile for this target, you will either need to build Rust with the target enabled (see "Building the target" above), or build your own copy of core by using build-std or similar.

Testing

Does the target support running binaries, or do binaries have varying expectations that prevent having a standard way to run them? If users can run binaries, can they do so in some common emulator, or do they need native hardware? Does the target support running the Rust testsuite?

Cross-compilation toolchains and C code

Does the target support C code? If so, what toolchain target should users use to build compatible C code? (This may match the target triple, or it may be a toolchain for a different target triple, potentially with specific options or caveats.)

aarch64-apple-ios-sim

Tier: 2

Apple iOS Simulator on ARM64.

Designated Developers

- @badboy
- @deg4uss3r

Requirements

This target is cross-compiled. To build this target Xcode 12 or higher on macOS is required.

Building

The target can be built by enabling it for a rustc build:

```
[build]
build-stage = 1
target = ["aarch64-apple-ios-sim"]
```

Cross-compilation

This target can be cross-compiled from x86_64 or aarch64 macOS hosts.

Other hosts are not supported for cross-compilation, but might work when also providing the required Xcode SDK.

Testing

Currently there is no support to run the rustc test suite for this target.

Building Rust programs

Note: Building for this target requires the corresponding iOS SDK, as provided by Xcode 12+.

From Rust Nightly 1.56.0 (2021-08-03) on the artifacts are shipped pre-compiled:

rustup target add aarch64-apple-ios-sim --toolchain nightly

Rust programs can be built for that target:

rustc --target aarch64-apple-ios-sim your-code.rs

There is no easy way to run simple programs in the iOS simulator. Static library builds can be embedded into iOS applications.

armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi

Tier: 3

This target supports ARMv7 softfloat CPUs and uses the uclibc-ng standard library. This is a common configuration on many consumer routers (e.g., Netgear R7000, Asus RT-AC68U).

Target maintainers

@lancethepants

Requirements

This target is cross compiled, and requires a cross toolchain.

This target supports host tools and std.

Building the target

You will need to download or build a 'C' cross toolchain that targets ARMv7 softfloat and that uses the uclibc-ng standard library. If your target hardware is something like a router or an embedded device, keep in mind that manufacturer supplied SDKs for this class of CPU could be outdated and potentially unsuitable for bootstrapping rust.

Here is a sample toolchain that is built using buildroot. It uses modern toolchain components, older

thus universal kernel headers (2.6.36.4), and is used for a project called Tomatoware. This toolchain is patched so that its sysroot is located at /mmc (e.g., /mmc/bin, /mmc/lib, /mmc/include). This is useful in scenarios where the root filesystem is read-only but you are able attach external storage loaded with user applications. Tomatoware is an example of this that even allows you to run various compilers and developer tools natively on the target device.

Utilizing the Tomatoware toolchain this target can be built for cross compilation and native compilation (host tools) with project

rust-bootstrap-armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi.

Here is a sample config if using your own toolchain.

```
[build]
build-stage = 2
target = ["armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi"]

[target.armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi]
cc = "/path/to/arm-unknown-linux-uclibcgnueabi-gcc"
cxx = "/path/to/arm-unknown-linux-uclibcgnueabi-g++"
ar = "path/to/arm-unknown-linux-uclibcgnueabi-ar"
ranlib = "path/to/arm-unknown-linux-uclibcgnueabi-ranlib"
linker = "/path/to/arm-unknown-linux-uclibcgnueabi-gcc"
```

Building Rust programs

The following assumes you are using the Tomatoware toolchain and environment. Adapt if you are using your own toolchain.

Native compilation

Since this target supports host tools, you can natively build rust applications directly on your target device. This can be convenient because it removes the complexities of cross compiling and you can immediately test and deploy your binaries. One downside is that compiling on your ARMv7 CPU will probably be much slower than cross compilation on your x86 machine.

To setup native compilation:

- Download Tomatoware to your device using the latest nightly release found here.
- Extract tar zxvf arm-soft-mmc.tgz -C /mmc
- Add /mmc/bin:/mmc:sbin/ to your PATH, or source /mmc/etc/profile
- apt update && apt install rust

If you bootstrap rust on your own using the project above, it will create a .deb file that you then can install with

```
dpkg -i rust_1.xx.x-x_arm.deb
```

After completing these steps you can use rust normally in a native environment.

Cross Compilation

To cross compile, you'll need to:

- Build the rust cross toochain using rust-bootstrap-armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi or your own built toolchain.
- Link your built toolchain with

```
rustup toolchain link stage2 \
${HOME}/rust-bootstrap-armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi/src/rust/rust/build/x86_64-
unknown-linux-gnu/stage2
```

• Build with:

```
CC_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-mmc/bin/arm-linux-gcc \
CXX_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-mmc/bin/arm-linux-g++ \

AR_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-mmc/bin/arm-linux-ar \
CFLAGS_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi="-march=armv7-a -mtune=cortex-a9" \
CXXFLAGS_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi="-march=armv7-a -mtune=cortex-a9" \
CARGO_TARGET_ARMV7_UNKNOWN_LINUX_UCLIBCEABI_LINKER=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-
mmc/bin/arm-linux-gcc \
CARGO_TARGET_ARMV7_UNKNOWN_LINUX_UCLIBCEABI_RUSTFLAGS='-Clink-arg=-s -Clink-arg=-
Wl,--dynamic-linker=/mmc/lib/ld-uClibc.so.1 -Clink-arg=-Wl,-rpath,/mmc/lib' \
cargo +stage2 \
build \
--target armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi \
--release
```

• Copy the binary to your target device and run.

We specify CC, CXX, AR, CFLAGS, and CXXFLAGS environment variables because sometimes a project or a subproject requires the use of your 'C' cross toolchain. Since Tomatoware has a modified sysroot we also pass via RUSTFLAGS the location of the dynamic-linker and rpath.

Test with QEMU

To test a cross-compiled binary on your build system follow the instructions for Cross Compilation, install qemu-arm-static, and run with the following.

```
CC_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-mmc/bin/arm-linux-gcc \
CXX_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-mmc/bin/arm-linux-g++ \
AR_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-mmc/bin/arm-linux-ar \
CFLAGS_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi="-march=armv7-a -mtune=cortex-a9" \
CXXFLAGS_armv7_unknown_linux_uclibceabi="-march=armv7-a -mtune=cortex-a9" \
CARGO_TARGET_ARMV7_UNKNOWN_LINUX_UCLIBCEABI_LINKER=/opt/tomatoware/arm-soft-mmc/bin
/arm-linux-gcc \
CARGO_TARGET_ARMV7_UNKNOWN_LINUX_UCLIBCEABI_RUNNER="qemu-arm-static -L /opt/tomatoware
/arm-soft-mmc/arm-tomatoware-linux-uclibcgnueabi/sysroot/" \
cargo +stage2 \
run \
--target armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabi \
--release
```

Run in a chroot

It's also possible to build in a chroot environment. This is a convenient way to work without needing to access the target hardware.

To build the chroot:

- sudo debootstrap --arch armel bullseye \$HOME/debian
- sudo chroot \$HOME/debian/ /bin/bash
- mount proc /proc -t proc
- mount -t sysfs /sys sys/
- export PATH=/mmc/bin:/mmc/sbin:\$PATH

From here you can setup your environment (e.g., add user, install wget).

- Download Tomatoware to the chroot environment using the latest nightly release found here.
- Extract tar zxvf arm-soft-mmc.tgz -C /mmc
- Add /mmc/bin:/mmc:sbin/ to your PATH, or source /mmc/etc/profile
- sudo /mmc/bin/apt update && sudo /mmc/bin/apt install rust

After completing these steps you can use rust normally in a chroot environment.

Remember when using sudo the root user's PATH could differ from your user's PATH.

armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabihf

Tier: 3

This tier supports the ARMv7 processor running a Linux kernel and uClibc-ng standard library. It provides full support for rust and the rust standard library.

Designated Developers

@skrap

Requirements

This target is cross compiled, and requires a cross toolchain. You can find suitable pre-built toolchains at bootlin or build one yourself via buildroot.

Building

Get a C toolchain

Compiling rust for this target has been tested on $x86_{64}$ linux hosts. Other host types have not been tested, but may work, if you can find a suitable cross compilation toolchain for them.

If you don't already have a suitable toolchain, download one here, and unpack it into a directory.

Configure rust

The target can be built by enabling it for a rustc build, by placing the following in config.toml:

```
[build]
target = ["armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabihf"]
stage = 2

[target.armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabihf]
# ADJUST THIS PATH TO POINT AT YOUR TOOLCHAIN
cc = "/TOOLCHAIN_PATH/bin/arm-buildroot-linux-uclibcgnueabihf-gcc"
```

Build

```
# in rust dir
./x.py build --stage 2
```

Building and Running Rust Programs

To test cross-compiled binaries on a x86_64 system, you can use the qemu-arm userspace emulation program. This avoids having a full emulated ARM system by doing dynamic binary translation and dynamic system call translation. It lets you run ARM programs directly on your x86_64 kernel. It's very convenient!

To use:

- Install qemu-arm according to your distro.
- Link your built toolchain via:
 - rustup toolchain link stage2 \${RUST}/build/x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu/stage2
- Create a test program

cargo new hello_world
cd hello_world

• Build and run

CARGO_TARGET_ARMV7_UNKNOWN_LINUX_UCLIBCEABIHF_RUNNER="qemu-arm -L \${TOOLCHAIN}/arm-buildroot-linux-uclibcgnueabihf/sysroot/" \
CARGO_TARGET_ARMV7_UNKNOWN_LINUX_UCLIBCEABIHF_LINKER=\${TOOLCHAIN}/bin/arm-buildroot-linux-uclibcgnueabihf-gcc \
cargo +stage2 run --target armv7-unknown-linux-uclibceabihf

-kmc-solid_

Tier: 3

SOLID embedded development platform by Kyoto Microcomputer Co., Ltd.

The target names follow this format: \$ARCH-kmc-solid_\$KERNEL-\$ABI, where \$ARCH specifies the target processor architecture, \$KERNEL the base kernel, and \$ABI the target ABI (optional). The following targets are currently defined:

Target name	target_arch	target_vendor	target_os
aarch64-kmc-solid_asp3	aarch64	kmc	solid_asp3
armv7a-kmc-solid_asp3-eabi	arm	kmc	solid_asp3
armv7a-kmc-solid_asp3-eabihf	arm	kmc	solid_asp3

Designated Developers

• @kawadakk

Requirements

This target is cross-compiled. A platform-provided C compiler toolchain is required, though it can be substituted by GNU Arm Embedded Toolchain for the purpose of building Rust and functional binaries.

Building

The target can be built by enabling it for a rustc build.

```
[build]
target = ["aarch64-kmc-solid_asp3"]
```

Make sure <code>aarch64-kmc-elf-gcc</code> is included in <code>\$PATH</code>. Alternatively, you can use GNU Arm Embedded Toolchain by adding the following to <code>config.toml</code>:

```
[target.aarch64-kmc-solid_asp3]
cc = "arm-none-eabi-gcc"
```

Cross-compilation

This target can be cross-compiled from any hosts.

Testing

Currently there is no support to run the rustc test suite for this target.

Building Rust programs

Building executables is not supported yet.

If rustc has support for that target and the library artifacts are available, then Rust static libraries can be built for that target:

```
$ rustc --target aarch64-kmc-solid_asp3 your-code.rs --crate-type staticlib
$ ls libyour_code.a
```

On Rust Nightly it's possible to build without the target artifacts available:

```
cargo build -Z build-std --target aarch64-kmc-solid_asp3
```

m68k-unknown-linux-gnu

Tier: 3

Motorola 680x0 Linux

Designated Developers

- @glaubitz
- @ricky26

Requirements

This target requires a Linux/m68k build environment for cross-compilation which is available on Debian and Debian-based systems, openSUSE and other distributions.

On Debian, it should be sufficient to install a g++ cross-compiler for the m68k architecture which will automatically pull in additional dependencies such as the glibc cross development package:

```
# apt install g++-m68k-linux-gnu
```

Binaries can be run using QEMU user emulation. On Debian-based systems, it should be sufficient to install the package <code>qemu-user-static</code> to be able to run simple static binaries:

```
# apt install qemu-user-static
```

To run more complex programs, it will be necessary to set up a Debian/m68k chroot with the help of

the command debootstrap:

```
# apt install debootstrap debian-ports-archive-keyring
# debootstrap --keyring=/usr/share/keyrings/debian-ports-archive-keyring.gpg
--arch=m68k unstable debian-68k http://ftp.ports.debian.org/debian-ports
```

This chroot can then seamlessly entered using the normal chroot command thanks to QEMU user emulation:

```
# chroot /path/to/debian-68k
```

To get started with native builds, which are currently untested, a native Debian/m68k system can be installed either on real hardware such as 68k-based Commodore Amiga or Atari systems or emulated environments such as QEMU version 4.2 or newer or ARAnyM.

ISO images for installation are provided by the Debian Ports team and can be obtained from the Debian CD image server available at:

https://cdimage.debian.org/cdimage/ports/current

Documentation for Debian/m68k is available on the Debian Wiki at:

https://wiki.debian.org/M68k

Support is available either through the debian-68k mailing list:

https://lists.debian.org/debian-68k/

or the #debian-68k IRC channel on OFTC network.

Building

The codegen for this target should be built by default. However, core and std are currently missing but are being worked on and should become available in the near future.

Cross-compilation

This target can be cross-compiled from a standard Debian or Debian-based, openSUSE or any other distribution which has a basic m68k cross-toolchain available.

Testing

Currently there is no support to run the rustc test suite for this target.

Building Rust programs

Rust programs can be built for that target:

```
rustc --target m68k-unknown-linux-gnu your-code.rs
```

Very simple progams can be run using the qemu-m68k-static program:

```
$ qemu-m68k-static your-code
```

For more complex applications, a chroot or native (emulated) Debian/m68k system are required for testing.

mips64-openwrt-linux-musl

Tier: 3

Target maintainers

• Donald Hoskins grommish@gmail.com, https://github.com/ltus-Shield

Requirements

This target is cross-compiled. There is no support for std. There is no default allocator, but it's possible to use alloc by supplying an allocator.

By default, Rust code generated for this target uses -msoft-float and is dynamically linked.

This target generated binaries in the ELF format.

Building the target

This target is built exclusively within the OpenWrt build system via the rust-lang HOST package

Building Rust programs

Rust does not yet ship pre-compiled artifacts for this target. To compile for this target, you will either need to build Rust with the target enabled (see "Building the target" above).

Testing

As mips64-openwrt-linux-musl supports a variety of different environments and does not support std , this target does not support running the Rust testsuite at this time.

nvptx64-nvidia-cuda

Tier: 2

This is the target meant for deploying code for Nvidia® accelerators based on their CUDA platform.

Target maintainers

- Riccardo D'Ambrosio, https://github.com/RDambrosio016
- Kjetil Kjeka, https://github.com/kjetilkjeka

*-pc-windows-gnullvm

Tier: 3

Windows targets similar to *-pc-windows-gnu but using UCRT as the runtime and various LLVM tools/libraries instead of GCC/Binutils.

Target triples avaiable so far:

- aarch64-pc-windows-gnullvm
- x86_64-pc-windows-gnullvm

Target maintainers

• @mati865

Requirements

The easiest way to obtain these targets is cross-compilation but native build from $x86_{64-pc-windows-gnu}$ is possible with few hacks which I don't recommend. Std support is expected to be on pair with *-pc-windows-gnu.

Binaries for this target should be at least on pair with *-pc-windows-gnu in terms of requirements and functionality.

Those targets follow Windows calling convention for extern "C".

Like with any other Windows target created binaries are in PE format.

Building the target

For cross-compilation I recommend using <u>llvm-mingw</u> toolchain, one change that seems necessary beside configuring corss compilers is disabling experimental m86k target. Otherwise LLVM build fails with <u>multiple</u> definition ... errors. Native bootstrapping builds require rather fragile hacks until host artifacts are avaiable so I won't describe them here.

Building Rust programs

Rust does not yet ship pre-compiled artifacts for this target. To compile for this target, you will either need to build Rust with the target enabled (see "Building the target" above), or build your own copy of core by using build-std or similar.

Testing

Created binaries work fine on Windows or Wine using native hardware. Testing AArch64 on x86_64 is problematic though and requires spending some time with QEMU. Once these targets bootstrap themselves on native hardware they should pass Rust testsuite.

Cross-compilation toolchains and C code

Compatible C code can be built with Clang's aarch64-pc-windows-gnu and x86_64-pc-windows-gnu targets as long as LLVM based C toolchains are used. Those include:

- Ilvm-mingw
- MSYS2 with CLANG* environment

*-unknown-openbsd

Tier: 3

OpenBSD multi-platform 4.4BSD-based UNIX-like operating system.

The target names follow this format: \$ARCH-unknown-openbsd, where \$ARCH specifies the target processor architecture. The following targets are currently defined:

Target name	C++ library	OpenBSD Platform
aarch64-unknown-openbsd	libc++	64-bit ARM systems
i686-unknown-onenhad libc++		Standard PC and clones based on the Intel i386 architecture and compatible processors
sparc64-unknown-openbsd	estdc++	Sun UltraSPARC and Fujitsu SPARC64 systems
x86_64-unknown-openbsd	libc++	AMD64-based systems

Note that all OS versions are *major* even if using X.Y notation (6.8 and 6.9 are different major versions) and could be binary incompatibles (with breaking changes).

Designated Developers

- @semarie, semarie@openbsd.org
- lang/rust maintainer (see MAINTAINER variable)

Fallback to ports@openbsd.org, OpenBSD third parties public mailing-list (with openbsd developers readers)

Requirements

These targets are natively compiled and could be cross-compiled. C compiler toolchain is required for the purpose of building Rust and functional binaries.

Building

The target can be built by enabling it for a rustc build.

```
[build]
target = ["$ARCH-unknown-openbsd"]

[target.$ARCH-unknown-openbsd]
cc = "$ARCH-openbsd-cc"
```

Cross-compilation

These targets can be cross-compiled, but LLVM might not build out-of-box.

Testing

The Rust testsuite could be run natively.

Building Rust programs

Rust does not yet ship pre-compiled artifacts for these targets.

wasm64-unknown-unknown

Tier: 3

WebAssembly target which uses 64-bit memories, relying on the memory64 WebAssembly proposal.

Target maintainers

• Alex Crichton, https://github.com/alexcrichton

Requirements

This target is cross-compiled. The target supports std in the same manner as the wasm32-unknown-unknown target which is to say that it comes with the standard library but many I/O functions such as std::fs and std::net will simply return error. Additionally I/O operations like println! don't actually do anything and the prints aren't routed anywhere. This is the same as the wasm32-unknown-unknown target. This target comes by default with an allocator, currently dlmalloc which is ported to rust.

The difference of this target with wasm32-unknown-unknown is that it's compiled for 64-bit memories instead of 32-bit memories. This means that usize is 8-bytes large as well as pointers. The tradeoff, though, is that the maximum memory size is now the full 64-bit address space instead of the 4GB as limited by the 32-bit address space for wasm32-unknown-unknown.

This target is not a stable target. The memory64 WebAssembly proposal is stil in-progress and not standardized. This means that there are not many engines which implement the memory64 feature

and if they do they're likely behind a flag, for example:

- Nodejs --experimental-wasm-memory64
- Wasmtime --wasm-features memory64

Also note that at this time the wasm64-unknown-unknown target assumes the presence of other merged wasm proposals such as (with their LLVM feature flags):

- Bulk memory +bulk-memory
- Mutable imported globals +mutable-globals
- Sign-extending operations +sign-ext
- Non-trapping fp-to-int operations +nontrapping-fptoint

The wasm64-unknown-unknown target intends to match the default Clang targets for its "C" ABI, which is likely to be the same as Clang's wasm32-unknown-unknown largely.

Note: due to the relatively early-days nature of this target when working with this target you may encounter LLVM bugs. If an assertion hit or a bug is found it's recommended to open an issue either with rust-lang/rust or ideally with LLVM itself.

This target does not support panic=unwind at this time.

Building the target

You can build Rust with support for the target by adding it to the target list in config.toml, and the target also requires lld to be built to work.

```
[build]
target = ["wasm64-unknown-unknown"]
[rust]
lld = true
```

Building Rust programs

Rust does not yet ship pre-compiled artifacts for this target. To compile for this target, you will either need to build Rust with the target enabled (see "Building the target" above), or build your own copy of std by using build-std or similar.

Note that the following cfg directives are set for wasm64-unknown-unknown:

```
• cfg(target_arch = "wasm64")
```

• cfg(target_family = "wasm")

Testing

Currently testing is not well supported for wasm64-unknown-unknown and the Rust project doesn't run any tests for this target. Testing support sort of works but without println! it's not the most exciting tests to run.

Cross-compilation toolchains and C code

Compiling Rust code with C code for wasm64-unknown-unknown is theoretically possible, but there

are no known toolchains to do this at this time. At the time of this writing there is no known "libc" for wasm that works with wasm64-unknown-unknown, which means that mixing C & Rust with this target effectively cannot be done.

x86_64-unknown-none

Tier: 2

Freestanding/bare-metal x86-64 binaries in ELF format: firmware, kernels, etc.

Target maintainers

- Harald Hoyer harald@profian.com, https://github.com/haraldh
- Mike Leany, https://github.com/mikeleany

Requirements

This target is cross-compiled. There is no support for std. There is no default allocator, but it's possible to use alloc by supplying an allocator.

By default, Rust code generated for this target does not use any vector or floating-point registers (e.g. SSE, AVX). This allows the generated code to run in environments, such as kernels, which may need to avoid the use of such registers or which may have special considerations about the use of such registers (e.g. saving and restoring them to avoid breaking userspace code using the same registers). You can change code generation to use additional CPU features via the -c target-feature= codegen options to rustc, or via the #[target_feature] mechanism within Rust code.

By default, code generated with this target should run on any $x86_{64}$ hardware; enabling additional target features may raise this baseline.

Code generated with this target will use the kernel code model by default. You can change this

using the -C code-model= option to rustc.

On x86_64-unknown-none, extern "C" uses the standard System V calling convention, without red zones.

This target generates binaries in the ELF format. Any alternate formats or special considerations for binary layout will require linker options or linker scripts.

Building the target

You can build Rust with support for the target by adding it to the target list in config.toml:

```
[build]
build-stage = 1
target = ["x86_64-unknown-none"]
```

Building Rust programs

Starting with Rust 1.62, precompiled artifacts are provided via rustup:

```
# install cross-compile toolchain
rustup target add x86_64-unknown-none
# target flag may be used with any cargo or rustc command
cargo build --target x86_64-unknown-none
```

Testing

As $x86_{64}$ -unknown-none supports a variety of different environments and does not support std, this target does not support running the Rust test suite.

Cross-compilation toolchains and C code

If you want to compile C code along with Rust (such as for Rust crates with C dependencies), you will need an appropriate x86_64 toolchain.

Rust may be able to use an x86_64-linux-gnu- toolchain with appropriate standalone flags to build for this toolchain (depending on the assumptions of that toolchain, see below), or you may wish to use a separate x86_64-unknown-none (or x86_64-elf-) toolchain.

On some x86_64 hosts that use ELF binaries, you *may* be able to use the host C toolchain, if it does not introduce assumptions about the host environment that don't match the expectations of a standalone environment. Otherwise, you may need a separate toolchain for standalone/freestanding development, just as when cross-compiling from a non- x86_64 platform.

Target Tier Policy

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General

Rust provides three tiers of target support:

- Rust provides no guarantees about tier 3 targets; they exist in the codebase, but may or may not build.
- Rust's continuous integration checks that tier 2 targets will always build, but they may or may not pass tests.
- Rust's continuous integration checks that tier 1 targets will always build and pass tests.

Adding a new tier 3 target imposes minimal requirements; we focus primarily on avoiding disruption to other ongoing Rust development.

Tier 2 and tier 1 targets place work on Rust project developers as a whole, to avoid breaking the target. The broader Rust community may also feel more inclined to support higher-tier targets in their crates (though they are not obligated to do so). Thus, these tiers require commensurate and

ongoing efforts from the maintainers of the target, to demonstrate value and to minimize any disruptions to ongoing Rust development.

This policy defines the requirements for accepting a proposed target at a given level of support.

Each tier builds on all the requirements from the previous tier, unless overridden by a stronger requirement. Targets at tier 2 and tier 1 may also provide *host tools* (such as rustc and cargo); each of those tiers includes a set of supplementary requirements that must be met if supplying host tools for the target. A target at tier 2 or tier 1 is not required to supply host tools, but if it does, it must meet the corresponding additional requirements for host tools.

The policy for each tier also documents the Rust governance teams that must approve the addition of any target at that tier. Those teams are responsible for reviewing and evaluating the target, based on these requirements and their own judgment. Those teams may apply additional requirements, including subjective requirements, such as to deal with issues not foreseen by this policy. (Such requirements may subsequently motivate additions to this policy.)

While these criteria attempt to document the policy, that policy still involves human judgment. Targets must fulfill the spirit of the requirements as well, as determined by the judgment of the approving teams. Reviewers and team members evaluating targets and target-specific patches should always use their own best judgment regarding the quality of work, and the suitability of a target for the Rust project. Neither this policy nor any decisions made regarding targets shall create any binding agreement or estoppel by any party.

Before filing an issue or pull request (PR) to introduce or promote a target, the target should already meet the corresponding tier requirements. This does not preclude an existing target's maintainers using issues (on the Rust repository or otherwise) to track requirements that have not yet been met, as appropriate; however, before officially proposing the introduction or promotion of a target, it should meet all of the necessary requirements. A target proposal must quote the corresponding requirements verbatim and respond to them as part of explaining how the target meets those requirements. (For the requirements that simply state that the target or the target developers must not do something, it suffices to acknowledge the requirement.)

For a list of all supported targets and their corresponding tiers ("tier 3", "tier 2", "tier 2 with host tools", "tier 1", or "tier 1 with host tools"), see platform support.

Several parts of this policy require providing target-specific documentation. Such documentation should typically appear in a subdirectory of the platform-support section of this rustc manual, with a link from the target's entry in platform support. Use TEMPLATE.md as a base, and see other documentation in that directory for examples.

Note that a target must have already received approval for the next lower tier, and spent a reasonable amount of time at that tier, before making a proposal for promotion to the next higher tier; this is true even if a target meets the requirements for several tiers at once. This policy leaves the precise interpretation of "reasonable amount of time" up to the approving teams; those teams may scale the amount of time required based on their confidence in the target and its demonstrated track record at its current tier. At a minimum, multiple stable releases of Rust should typically occur between promotions of a target.

The availability or tier of a target in stable Rust is not a hard stability guarantee about the future availability or tier of that target. Higher-level target tiers are an increasing commitment to the support of a target, and we will take that commitment and potential disruptions into account when evaluating the potential demotion or removal of a target that has been part of a stable release. The promotion or demotion of a target will not generally affect existing stable releases, only current development and future releases.

In this policy, the words "must" and "must not" specify absolute requirements that a target must meet to qualify for a tier. The words "should" and "should not" specify requirements that apply in almost all cases, but for which the approving teams may grant an exception for good reason. The word "may" indicates something entirely optional, and does not indicate guidance or recommendations. This language is based on IETF RFC 2119.

Tier 3 target policy

At this tier, the Rust project provides no official support for a target, so we place minimal requirements on the introduction of targets.

A proposed new tier 3 target must be reviewed and approved by a member of the compiler team based on these requirements. The reviewer may choose to gauge broader compiler team consensus via a Major Change Proposal (MCP).

A proposed target or target-specific patch that substantially changes code shared with other targets (not just target-specific code) must be reviewed and approved by the appropriate team for that shared code before acceptance.

- A tier 3 target must have a designated developer or developers (the "target maintainers") on record to be CCed when issues arise regarding the target. (The mechanism to track and CC such developers may evolve over time.)
- Targets must use naming consistent with any existing targets; for instance, a target for the same CPU or OS as an existing Rust target should use the same name for that CPU or OS. Targets should normally use the same names and naming conventions as used elsewhere in the broader ecosystem beyond Rust (such as in other toolchains), unless they have a very good reason to diverge. Changing the name of a target can be highly disruptive, especially once the target reaches a higher tier, so getting the name right is important even for a tier 3 target.
 - Target names should not introduce undue confusion or ambiguity unless absolutely necessary to maintain ecosystem compatibility. For example, if the name of the target makes people extremely likely to form incorrect beliefs about what it targets, the name should be changed or augmented to disambiguate it.
- Tier 3 targets may have unusual requirements to build or use, but must not create legal issues or impose onerous legal terms for the Rust project or for Rust developers or users.
 - The target must not introduce license incompatibilities.
 - Anything added to the Rust repository must be under the standard Rust license (MIT OR Apache-2.0).
 - The target must not cause the Rust tools or libraries built for any other host (even when supporting cross-compilation to the target) to depend on any new dependency less

- permissive than the Rust licensing policy. This applies whether the dependency is a Rust crate that would require adding new license exceptions (as specified by the tidy tool in the rust-lang/rust repository), or whether the dependency is a native library or binary. In other words, the introduction of the target must not cause a user installing or running a version of Rust or the Rust tools to be subject to any new license requirements.
- o Compiling, linking, and emitting functional binaries, libraries, or other code for the target (whether hosted on the target itself or cross-compiling from another target) must not depend on proprietary (non-FOSS) libraries. Host tools built for the target itself may depend on the ordinary runtime libraries supplied by the platform and commonly used by other applications built for the target, but those libraries must not be required for code generation for the target; cross-compilation to the target must not require such libraries at all. For instance, rustc built for the target may depend on a common proprietary C runtime library or console output library, but must not depend on a proprietary code generation library or code optimization library. Rust's license permits such combinations, but the Rust project has no interest in maintaining such combinations within the scope of Rust itself, even at tier 3.
- "onerous" here is an intentionally subjective term. At a minimum, "onerous" legal/licensing terms include but are *not* limited to: non-disclosure requirements, non-compete requirements, contributor license agreements (CLAs) or equivalent, "non-commercial"/"research-only"/etc terms, requirements conditional on the employer or employment of any particular Rust developers, revocable terms, any requirements that create liability for the Rust project or its developers or users, or any requirements that adversely affect the livelihood or prospects of the Rust project or its developers or users.
- Neither this policy nor any decisions made regarding targets shall create any binding
 agreement or estoppel by any party. If any member of an approving Rust team serves as one of
 the maintainers of a target, or has any legal or employment requirement (explicit or implicit)
 that might affect their decisions regarding a target, they must recuse themselves from any
 approval decisions regarding the target's tier status, though they may otherwise participate in
 discussions.
 - This requirement does not prevent part or all of this policy from being cited in an explicit

contract or work agreement (e.g. to implement or maintain support for a target). This requirement exists to ensure that a developer or team responsible for reviewing and approving a target does not face any legal threats or obligations that would prevent them from freely exercising their judgment in such approval, even if such judgment involves subjective matters or goes beyond the letter of these requirements.

- Tier 3 targets should attempt to implement as much of the standard libraries as possible and appropriate (core for most targets, alloc for targets that can support dynamic memory allocation, std for targets with an operating system or equivalent layer of system-provided functionality), but may leave some code unimplemented (either unavailable or stubbed out as appropriate), whether because the target makes it impossible to implement or challenging to implement. The authors of pull requests are not obligated to avoid calling any portions of the standard library on the basis of a tier 3 target not implementing those portions.
- The target must provide documentation for the Rust community explaining how to build for the target, using cross-compilation if possible. If the target supports running binaries, or running tests (even if they do not pass), the documentation must explain how to run such binaries or tests for the target, using emulation if possible or dedicated hardware if necessary.
- Tier 3 targets must not impose burden on the authors of pull requests, or other developers in the community, to maintain the target. In particular, do not post comments (automated or manual) on a PR that derail or suggest a block on the PR based on a tier 3 target. Do not send automated messages or notifications (via any medium, including via @) to a PR author or others involved with a PR regarding a tier 3 target, unless they have opted into such messages.
 - Backlinks such as those generated by the issue/PR tracker when linking to an issue or PR
 are not considered a violation of this policy, within reason. However, such messages (even
 on a separate repository) must not generate notifications to anyone involved with a PR
 who has not requested such notifications.
- Patches adding or updating tier 3 targets must not break any existing tier 2 or tier 1 target, and must not knowingly break another tier 3 target without approval of either the compiler team or the maintainers of the other tier 3 target.
 - In particular, this may come up when working on closely related targets, such as variations of the same architecture with different features. Avoid introducing

unconditional uses of features that another variation of the target may not have; use conditional compilation or runtime detection, as appropriate, to let each target run code supported by that target.

If a tier 3 target stops meeting these requirements, or the target maintainers no longer have interest or time, or the target shows no signs of activity and has not built for some time, or removing the target would improve the quality of the Rust codebase, we may post a PR to remove it; any such PR will be CCed to the target maintainers (and potentially other people who have previously worked on the target), to check potential interest in improving the situation.

Tier 2 target policy

At this tier, the Rust project guarantees that a target builds, and will reject patches that fail to build on a target. Thus, we place requirements that ensure the target will not block forward progress of the Rust project.

A proposed new tier 2 target must be reviewed and approved by the compiler team based on these requirements. Such review and approval may occur via a Major Change Proposal (MCP).

In addition, the infrastructure team must approve the integration of the target into Continuous Integration (CI), and the tier 2 CI-related requirements. This review and approval may take place in a PR adding the target to CI, or simply by an infrastructure team member reporting the outcome of a team discussion.

- A tier 2 target must have value to people other than its maintainers. (It may still be a niche target, but it must not be exclusively useful for an inherently closed group.)
- A tier 2 target must have a designated team of developers (the "target maintainers") available to consult on target-specific build-breaking issues, or if necessary to develop target-specific language or library implementation details. This team must have at least 2 developers.
 - The target maintainers should not only fix target-specific issues, but should use any such

issue as an opportunity to educate the Rust community about portability to their target, and enhance documentation of the target.

- The target must not place undue burden on Rust developers not specifically concerned with that target. Rust developers are expected to not gratuitously break a tier 2 target, but are not expected to become experts in every tier 2 target, and are not expected to provide target-specific implementations for every tier 2 target.
- The target must provide documentation for the Rust community explaining how to build for
 the target using cross-compilation, and explaining how to run tests for the target. If at all
 possible, this documentation should show how to run Rust programs and tests for the target
 using emulation, to allow anyone to do so. If the target cannot be feasibly emulated, the
 documentation should explain how to obtain and work with physical hardware, cloud systems,
 or equivalent.
- The target must document its baseline expectations for the features or versions of CPUs, operating systems, libraries, runtime environments, and similar.
- If introducing a new tier 2 or higher target that is identical to an existing Rust target except for the baseline expectations for the features or versions of CPUs, operating systems, libraries, runtime environments, and similar, then the proposed target must document to the satisfaction of the approving teams why the specific difference in baseline expectations provides sufficient value to justify a separate target.
 - Note that in some cases, based on the usage of existing targets within the Rust community, Rust developers or a target's maintainers may wish to modify the baseline expectations of a target, or split an existing target into multiple targets with different baseline expectations. A proposal to do so will be treated similarly to the analogous promotion, demotion, or removal of a target, according to this policy, with the same team approvals required.
 - For instance, if an OS version has become obsolete and unsupported, a target for that OS may raise its baseline expectations for OS version (treated as though removing a target corresponding to the older versions), or a target for that OS may split out support for older OS versions into a lower-tier target (treated as though demoting a target corresponding to the older versions, and requiring justification for

a new target at a lower tier for the older OS versions).

- Tier 2 targets must not leave any significant portions of core or the standard library unimplemented or stubbed out, unless they cannot possibly be supported on the target.
 - The right approach to handling a missing feature from a target may depend on whether
 the target seems likely to develop the feature in the future. In some cases, a target may
 be co-developed along with Rust support, and Rust may gain new features on the target
 as that target gains the capabilities to support those features.
 - As an exception, a target identical to an existing tier 1 target except for lower baseline expectations for the OS, CPU, or similar, may propose to qualify as tier 2 (but not higher) without support for std if the target will primarily be used in no_std applications, to reduce the support burden for the standard library. In this case, evaluation of the proposed target's value will take this limitation into account.
- The code generation backend for the target should not have deficiencies that invalidate Rust safety properties, as evaluated by the Rust compiler team. (This requirement does not apply to arbitrary security enhancements or mitigations provided by code generation backends, only to those properties needed to ensure safe Rust code cannot cause undefined behavior or other unsoundness.) If this requirement does not hold, the target must clearly and prominently document any such limitations as part of the target's entry in the target tier list, and ideally also via a failing test in the testsuite. The Rust compiler team must be satisfied with the balance between these limitations and the difficulty of implementing the necessary features.
 - For example, if Rust relies on a specific code generation feature to ensure that safe code cannot overflow the stack, the code generation for the target should support that feature.
 - If the Rust compiler introduces new safety properties (such as via new capabilities of a compiler backend), the Rust compiler team will determine if they consider those new safety properties a best-effort improvement for specific targets, or a required property for all Rust targets. In the latter case, the compiler team may require the maintainers of existing targets to either implement and confirm support for the property or update the target tier list with documentation of the missing property.
- If the target supports C code, and the target has an interoperable calling convention for C code, the Rust target must support that C calling convention for the platform via extern "C". The C

calling convention does not need to be the default Rust calling convention for the target, however.

- The target must build reliably in CI, for all components that Rust's CI considers mandatory.
- The approving teams may additionally require that a subset of tests pass in CI, such as enough to build a functional "hello world" program, ./x.py test --no-run, or equivalent "smoke tests". In particular, this requirement may apply if the target builds host tools, or if the tests in question provide substantial value via early detection of critical problems.
- Building the target in CI must not take substantially longer than the current slowest target in CI, and should not substantially raise the maintenance burden of the CI infrastructure. This requirement is subjective, to be evaluated by the infrastructure team, and will take the community importance of the target into account.
- Tier 2 targets should, if at all possible, support cross-compiling. Tier 2 targets should not require using the target as the host for builds, even if the target supports host tools.
- In addition to the legal requirements for all targets (specified in the tier 3 requirements), because a tier 2 target typically involves the Rust project building and supplying various compiled binaries, incorporating the target and redistributing any resulting compiled binaries (e.g. built libraries, host tools if any) must not impose any onerous license requirements on any members of the Rust project, including infrastructure team members and those operating CI systems. This is a subjective requirement, to be evaluated by the approving teams.
 - As an exception to this, if the target's primary purpose is to build components for a Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) project licensed under "copyleft" terms (terms which require licensing other code under compatible FOSS terms), such as kernel modules or plugins, then the standard libraries for the target may potentially be subject to copyleft terms, as long as such terms are satisfied by Rust's existing practices of providing full corresponding source code. Note that anything added to the Rust repository itself must still use Rust's standard license terms.
- Tier 2 targets must not impose burden on the authors of pull requests, or other developers in the community, to ensure that tests pass for the target. In particular, do not post comments (automated or manual) on a PR that derail or suggest a block on the PR based on tests failing for the target. Do not send automated messages or notifications (via any medium, including via

- @) to a PR author or others involved with a PR regarding the PR breaking tests on a tier 2 target, unless they have opted into such messages.
 - Backlinks such as those generated by the issue/PR tracker when linking to an issue or PR
 are not considered a violation of this policy, within reason. However, such messages (even
 on a separate repository) must not generate notifications to anyone involved with a PR
 who has not requested such notifications.
- The target maintainers should regularly run the testsuite for the target, and should fix any test failures in a reasonably timely fashion.
- All requirements for tier 3 apply.

A tier 2 target may be demoted or removed if it no longer meets these requirements. Any proposal for demotion or removal will be CCed to the target maintainers, and will be communicated widely to the Rust community before being dropped from a stable release. (The amount of time between such communication and the next stable release may depend on the nature and severity of the failed requirement, the timing of its discovery, whether the target has been part of a stable release yet, and whether the demotion or removal can be a planned and scheduled action.)

In some circumstances, especially if the target maintainers do not respond in a timely fashion, Rust teams may land pull requests that temporarily disable some targets in the nightly compiler, in order to implement a feature not yet supported by those targets. (As an example, this happened when introducing the 128-bit types u128 and i128.) Such a pull request will include notification and coordination with the maintainers of such targets, and will ideally happen towards the beginning of a new development cycle to give maintainers time to update their targets. The maintainers of such targets will then be expected to implement the corresponding target-specific support in order to reenable the target. If the maintainers of such targets cannot provide such support in time for the next stable release, this may result in demoting or removing the targets.

Tier 2 with host tools

Some tier 2 targets may additionally have binaries built to run on them as a host (such as rustc and

cargo). This allows the target to be used as a development platform, not just a compilation target.

A proposed new tier 2 target with host tools must be reviewed and approved by the compiler team based on these requirements. Such review and approval may occur via a Major Change Proposal (MCP).

In addition, the infrastructure team must approve the integration of the target's host tools into Continuous Integration (CI), and the CI-related requirements for host tools. This review and approval may take place in a PR adding the target's host tools to CI, or simply by an infrastructure team member reporting the outcome of a team discussion.

- Depending on the target, its capabilities, its performance, and the likelihood of use for any given tool, the host tools provided for a tier 2 target may include only rustc and cargo, or may include additional tools such as clippy and rustfmt.
- Approval of host tools will take into account the additional time required to build the host tools, and the substantial additional storage required for the host tools.
- The host tools must have direct value to people other than the target's maintainers. (It may still be a niche target, but the host tools must not be exclusively useful for an inherently closed group.) This requirement will be evaluated independently from the corresponding tier 2 requirement.
 - The requirement to provide "direct value" means that it does not suffice to argue that having host tools will help the target's maintainers more easily provide the target to others. The tools themselves must provide value to others.
- There must be a reasonable expectation that the host tools will be used, for purposes other than to prove that they can be used.
- The host tools must build and run reliably in CI (for all components that Rust's CI considers mandatory), though they may or may not pass tests.
- Building host tools for the target must not take substantially longer than building host tools for other targets, and should not substantially raise the maintenance burden of the CI infrastructure.
- The host tools must provide a substantively similar experience as on other targets, subject to

reasonable target limitations.

- Adding a substantively different interface to an existing tool, or a target-specific interface to the functionality of an existing tool, requires design and implementation approval (e.g. RFC/MCP) from the appropriate approving teams for that tool.
 - Such an interface should have a design that could potentially work for other targets with similar properties.
 - This should happen separately from the review and approval of the target, to simplify the target review and approval processes, and to simplify the review and approval processes for the proposed new interface.
- By way of example, a target that runs within a sandbox may need to modify the handling of files, tool invocation, and similar to meet the expectations and conventions of the sandbox, but must not introduce a separate "sandboxed compilation" interface separate from the CLI interface without going through the normal approval process for such an interface. Such an interface should take into account potential other targets with similar sandboxes.
- If the host tools for the platform would normally be expected to be signed or equivalent (e.g. if running unsigned binaries or similar involves a "developer mode" or an additional prompt), it must be possible for the Rust project's automated builds to apply the appropriate signature process, without any manual intervention by either Rust developers, target maintainers, or a third party. This process must meet the approval of the infrastructure team.
 - This process may require one-time or semi-regular manual steps by the infrastructure team, such as registration or renewal of a signing key. Any such manual process must meet the approval of the infrastructure team.
 - This process may require the execution of a legal agreement with the signature provider. Such a legal agreement may be revocable, and may potentially require a nominal fee, but must not be otherwise onerous. Any such legal agreement must meet the approval of the infrastructure team. (The infrastructure team is not expected or required to sign binding legal agreements on behalf of the Rust project; this review and approval exists to ensure no terms are onerous or cause problems for infrastructure, especially if such terms may impose requirements or obligations on people who have access to target-specific

infrastructure.)

- Changes to this process, or to any legal agreements involved, may cause a target to stop meeting this requirement.
- This process involved must be available under substantially similar non-onerous terms to the general public. Making it available exclusively to the Rust project does not suffice.
- This requirement exists to ensure that Rust builds, including nightly builds, can meet the necessary requirements to allow users to smoothly run the host tools.
- Providing host tools does not exempt a target from requirements to support cross-compilation if at all possible.
- All requirements for tier 2 apply.

A target may be promoted directly from tier 3 to tier 2 with host tools if it meets all the necessary requirements, but doing so may introduce substantial additional complexity. If in doubt, the target should qualify for tier 2 without host tools first.

Tier 1 target policy

At this tier, the Rust project guarantees that a target builds and passes all tests, and will reject patches that fail to build or pass the testsuite on a target. We hold tier 1 targets to our highest standard of requirements.

A proposed new tier 1 target must be reviewed and approved by the compiler team based on these requirements. In addition, the release team must approve the viability and value of supporting the target. For a tier 1 target, this will typically take place via a full RFC proposing the target, to be jointly reviewed and approved by the compiler team and release team.

In addition, the infrastructure team must approve the integration of the target into Continuous Integration (CI), and the tier 1 CI-related requirements. This review and approval may take place in a PR adding the target to CI, by an infrastructure team member reporting the outcome of a team discussion, or by including the infrastructure team in the RFC proposing the target.

- Tier 1 targets must have substantial, widespread interest within the developer community, and must serve the ongoing needs of multiple production users of Rust across multiple organizations or projects. These requirements are subjective, and determined by consensus of the approving teams. A tier 1 target may be demoted or removed if it becomes obsolete or no longer meets this requirement.
- The target maintainer team must include at least 3 developers.
- The target must build and pass tests reliably in CI, for all components that Rust's CI considers mandatory.
 - The target must not disable an excessive number of tests or pieces of tests in the testsuite in order to do so. This is a subjective requirement.
 - If the target does not have host tools support, or if the target has low performance, the
 infrastructure team may choose to have CI cross-compile the testsuite from another
 platform, and then run the compiled tests either natively or via accurate emulation.
 However, the approving teams may take such performance considerations into account
 when determining the viability of the target or of its host tools.
- The target must provide as much of the Rust standard library as is feasible and appropriate to provide. For instance, if the target can support dynamic memory allocation, it must provide an implementation of alloc and the associated data structures.
- Building the target and running the testsuite for the target must not take substantially longer than other targets, and should not substantially raise the maintenance burden of the CI infrastructure.
 - In particular, if building the target takes a reasonable amount of time, but the target cannot run the testsuite in a timely fashion due to low performance of either native code or accurate emulation, that alone may prevent the target from qualifying as tier 1.
- If running the testsuite requires additional infrastructure (such as physical systems running the target), the target maintainers must arrange to provide such resources to the Rust project, to the satisfaction and approval of the Rust infrastructure team.
 - Such resources may be provided via cloud systems, via emulation, or via physical hardware.
 - If the target requires the use of emulation to meet any of the tier requirements, the

- approving teams for those requirements must have high confidence in the accuracy of the emulation, such that discrepancies between emulation and native operation that affect test results will constitute a high-priority bug in either the emulation or the implementation of the target.
- If it is not possible to run the target via emulation, these resources must additionally be sufficient for the Rust infrastructure team to make them available for access by Rust team members, for the purposes of development and testing. (Note that the responsibility for doing target-specific development to keep the target well maintained remains with the target maintainers. This requirement ensures that it is possible for other Rust developers to test the target, but does not obligate other Rust developers to make target-specific fixes.)
- Resources provided for CI and similar infrastructure must be available for continuous exclusive use by the Rust project. Resources provided for access by Rust team members for development and testing must be available on an exclusive basis when in use, but need not be available on a continuous basis when not in use.
- Tier 1 targets must not have a hard requirement for signed, verified, or otherwise "approved" binaries. Developers must be able to build, run, and test binaries for the target on systems they control, or provide such binaries for others to run. (Doing so may require enabling some appropriate "developer mode" on such systems, but must not require the payment of any additional fee or other consideration, or agreement to any onerous legal agreements.)
 - The Rust project may decide to supply appropriately signed binaries if doing so provides a smoother experience for developers using the target, and a tier 2 target with host tools already requires providing appropriate mechanisms that enable our infrastructure to provide such signed binaries. However, this additional tier 1 requirement ensures that Rust developers can develop and test Rust software for the target (including Rust itself), and that development or testing for the target is not limited.
- All requirements for tier 2 apply.

A tier 1 target may be demoted if it no longer meets these requirements but still meets the requirements for a lower tier. Any proposal for demotion of a tier 1 target requires a full RFC process, with approval by the compiler and release teams. Any such proposal will be communicated

widely to the Rust community, both when initially proposed and before being dropped from a stable release. A tier 1 target is highly unlikely to be directly removed without first being demoted to tier 2 or tier 3. (The amount of time between such communication and the next stable release may depend on the nature and severity of the failed requirement, the timing of its discovery, whether the target has been part of a stable release yet, and whether the demotion or removal can be a planned and scheduled action.)

Raising the baseline expectations of a tier 1 target (such as the minimum CPU features or OS version required) requires the approval of the compiler and release teams, and should be widely communicated as well, but does not necessarily require a full RFC.

Tier 1 with host tools

Some tier 1 targets may additionally have binaries built to run on them as a host (such as rustc and cargo). This allows the target to be used as a development platform, not just a compilation target.

A proposed new tier 1 target with host tools must be reviewed and approved by the compiler team based on these requirements. In addition, the release team must approve the viability and value of supporting host tools for the target. For a tier 1 target, this will typically take place via a full RFC proposing the target, to be jointly reviewed and approved by the compiler team and release team.

In addition, the infrastructure team must approve the integration of the target's host tools into Continuous Integration (CI), and the CI-related requirements for host tools. This review and approval may take place in a PR adding the target's host tools to CI, by an infrastructure team member reporting the outcome of a team discussion, or by including the infrastructure team in the RFC proposing the target.

- Tier 1 targets with host tools should typically include all of the additional tools such as clippy and rustfmt, unless there is a target-specific reason why a tool cannot possibly make sense for the target.
 - Unlike with tier 2, for tier 1 we will not exclude specific tools on the sole basis of them

being less likely to be used; rather, we'll take that into account when considering whether the target should be at tier 1 with host tools. In general, on any tier 1 target with host tools, people should be able to expect to find and install all the same components that they would for any other tier 1 target with host tools.

- Approval of host tools will take into account the additional time required to build the host tools, and the substantial additional storage required for the host tools.
- Host tools for the target must have substantial, widespread interest within the developer
 community, and must serve the ongoing needs of multiple production users of Rust across
 multiple organizations or projects. These requirements are subjective, and determined by
 consensus of the approving teams. This requirement will be evaluated independently from the
 corresponding tier 1 requirement; it is possible for a target to have sufficient interest for crosscompilation, but not have sufficient interest for native compilation. The host tools may be
 dropped if they no longer meet this requirement, even if the target otherwise qualifies as tier 1.
- The host tools must build, run, and pass tests reliably in CI, for all components that Rust's CI considers mandatory.
 - The target must not disable an excessive number of tests or pieces of tests in the testsuite in order to do so. This is a subjective requirement.
- Building the host tools and running the testsuite for the host tools must not take substantially longer than other targets, and should not substantially raise the maintenance burden of the CI infrastructure.
 - In particular, if building the target's host tools takes a reasonable amount of time, but the target cannot run the testsuite in a timely fashion due to low performance of either native code or accurate emulation, that alone may prevent the target from qualifying as tier 1 with host tools.
- Providing host tools does not exempt a target from requirements to support cross-compilation if at all possible.
- All requirements for tier 2 targets with host tools apply.
- All requirements for tier 1 apply.

A target seeking promotion to tier 1 with host tools should typically either be tier 2 with host tools or tier 1 without host tools, to reduce the number of requirements to simultaneously review and

approve.

In addition to the general process for demoting a tier 1 target, a tier 1 target with host tools may be demoted (including having its host tools dropped, or being demoted to tier 2 with host tools) if it no longer meets these requirements but still meets the requirements for a lower tier. Any proposal for demotion of a tier 1 target (with or without host tools) requires a full RFC process, with approval by the compiler and release teams. Any such proposal will be communicated widely to the Rust community, both when initially proposed and before being dropped from a stable release.

Targets

rustc is a cross-compiler by default. This means that you can use any compiler to build for any architecture. The list of *targets* are the possible architectures that you can build for.

To see all the options that you can set with a target, see the docs here.

To compile to a particular target, use the --target flag:

```
$ rustc src/main.rs --target=wasm32-unknown-unknown
```

Target Features

x86, and ARMv8 are two popular CPU architectures. Their instruction sets form a common baseline across most CPUs. However, some CPUs extend these with custom instruction sets, e.g. vector (AVX), bitwise manipulation (BMI) or cryptographic (AES).

Developers, who know on which CPUs their compiled code is going to run can choose to add (or remove) CPU specific instruction sets via the -C target-feature=val flag.

Please note, that this flag is generally considered as unsafe. More details can be found in this section.

Built-in Targets

rustc ships with the ability to compile to many targets automatically, we call these "built-in" targets, and they generally correspond to targets that the team is supporting directly. To see the list of built-in targets, you can run rustc --print target-list.

Typically, a target needs a compiled copy of the Rust standard library to work. If using rustup, then check out the documentation on Cross-compilation on how to download a pre-built standard library built by the official Rust distributions. Most targets will need a system linker, and possibly other things.

Custom Targets

If you'd like to build for a target that is not yet supported by rustc, you can use a "custom target specification" to define a target. These target specification files are JSON. To see the JSON for the host target, you can run:

```
$ rustc +nightly -Z unstable-options --print target-spec-json
```

To see it for a different target, add the --target flag:

\$ rustc +nightly -Z unstable-options --target=wasm32-unknown-unknown --print targetspec-json

To use a custom target, see the (unstable) build-std feature of cargo.

Known Issues

This section informs you about known "gotchas". Keep in mind, that this section is (and always will be) incomplete. For suggestions and amendments, feel free to contribute to this guide.

Target Features

Most target-feature problems arise, when mixing code that have the target-feature *enabled* with code that have it *disabled*. If you want to avoid undefined behavior, it is recommended to build *all code* (including the standard library and imported crates) with a common set of target-features.

By default, compiling your code with the -C target-feature flag will not recompile the entire standard library and/or imported crates with matching target features. Therefore, target features are generally considered as unsafe. Using #[target_feature] on individual functions makes the function unsafe.

Examples:

Target- Feature	Issue	Seen on	Description	Details
+soft-float and -sse	Segfaults and ABI mismatches	x86 and x86-64	The x86 and x86_64 architecture uses SSE registers (aka xmm) for floating point operations. Using software emulated floats ("soft-floats") disables usage of xmm registers, but parts of Rust's core libraries (e.g. std::f32	#63466

Target- Feature	Issue	Seen on	Description	Details
			or std::f64) are compiled without soft-floats and expect parameters to be passed in xmm registers. This leads to ABI mismatches.	
			Attempting to compile with disabled SSE causes the same error, too.	

Profile Guided Optimization

rustc supports doing profile-guided optimization (PGO). This chapter describes what PGO is, what it is good for, and how it can be used.

What Is Profiled-Guided Optimization?

The basic concept of PGO is to collect data about the typical execution of a program (e.g. which branches it is likely to take) and then use this data to inform optimizations such as inlining, machine-code layout, register allocation, etc.

There are different ways of collecting data about a program's execution. One is to run the program inside a profiler (such as <code>perf</code>) and another is to create an instrumented binary, that is, a binary that has data collection built into it, and run that. The latter usually provides more accurate data and it is also what is supported by <code>rustc</code>.

Usage

Generating a PGO-optimized program involves following a workflow with four steps:

- Compile the program with instrumentation enabled (e.g. rustc -Cprofile-generate=/tmp/pgo-data main.rs)
- 2. Run the instrumented program (e.g. ./main) which generates a default_<id>.profraw file
- 3. Convert the .profraw file into a .profdata file using LLVM's llvm-profdata tool
- 4. Compile the program again, this time making use of the profiling data (for example rustc -Cprofile-use=merged.profdata main.rs)

An instrumented program will create one or more <code>.profraw</code> files, one for each instrumented binary. E.g. an instrumented executable that loads two instrumented dynamic libraries at runtime will generate three <code>.profraw</code> files. Running an instrumented binary multiple times, on the other hand, will re-use the respective <code>.profraw</code> files, updating them in place.

These .profraw files have to be post-processed before they can be fed back into the compiler. This is done by the llvm-profdata tool. This tool is most easily installed via

rustup component add llvm-tools-preview

Note that installing the llvm-tools-preview component won't add llvm-profdata to the PATH. Rather, the tool can be found in:

~/.rustup/toolchains/<toolchain>/lib/rustlib/<target-triple>/bin/

Alternatively, an llvm-profdata coming with a recent LLVM or Clang version usually works too.

The llvm-profdata tool merges multiple .profraw files into a single .profdata file that can then be fed back into the compiler via -Cprofile-use:

```
# STEP 1: Compile the binary with instrumentation
rustc -Cprofile-generate=/tmp/pgo-data -O ./main.rs

# STEP 2: Run the binary a few times, maybe with common sets of args.

# Each run will create or update `.profraw` files in /tmp/pgo-data
./main mydata1.csv
./main mydata2.csv
./main mydata3.csv

# STEP 3: Merge and post-process all the `.profraw` files in /tmp/pgo-data
llvm-profdata merge -o ./merged.profdata /tmp/pgo-data

# STEP 4: Use the merged `.profdata` file during optimization. All `rustc`
# flags have to be the same.
rustc -Cprofile-use=./merged.profdata -O ./main.rs
```

A Complete Cargo Workflow

Using this feature with Cargo works very similar to using it with <code>rustc</code> directly. Again, we generate an instrumented binary, run it to produce data, merge the data, and feed it back into the compiler. Some things of note:

- We use the RUSTFLAGS environment variable in order to pass the PGO compiler flags to the compilation of all crates in the program.
- We pass the --target flag to Cargo, which prevents the RUSTFLAGS arguments to be passed to Cargo build scripts. We don't want the build scripts to generate a bunch of .profraw files.
- We pass --release to Cargo because that's where PGO makes the most sense. In theory, PGO can also be done on debug builds but there is little reason to do so.
- It is recommended to use *absolute paths* for the argument of -Cprofile-generate and -Cprofile-use. Cargo can invoke rustc with varying working directories, meaning that

rustc will not be able to find the supplied .profdata file. With absolute paths this is not an issue.

• It is good practice to make sure that there is no left-over profiling data from previous compilation sessions. Just deleting the directory is a simple way of doing so (see STEP 0 below).

This is what the entire workflow looks like:

Troubleshooting

• It is recommended to pass -Cllvm-args=-pgo-warn-missing-function during the -Cprofile-use phase. LLVM by default does not warn if it cannot find profiling data for a given function. Enabling this warning will make it easier to spot errors in your setup.

• There is a known issue in Cargo prior to version 1.39 that will prevent PGO from working correctly. Be sure to use Cargo 1.39 or newer when doing PGO.

Further Reading

rustc's PGO support relies entirely on LLVM's implementation of the feature and is equivalent to what Clang offers via the -fprofile-generate / -fprofile-use flags. The Profile Guided Optimization section in Clang's documentation is therefore an interesting read for anyone who wants to use PGO with Rust.

instrument-coverage

Introduction

The Rust compiler includes two code coverage implementations:

- A GCC-compatible, gcov-based coverage implementation, enabled with -z profile, which derives coverage data based on DebugInfo.
- A source-based code coverage implementation, enabled with -C instrument-coverage, which uses LLVM's native, efficient coverage instrumentation to generate very precise coverage data.

This document describes how to enable and use the LLVM instrumentation-based coverage, via the -C instrument-coverage compiler flag.

How it works

When -C instrument-coverage is enabled, the Rust compiler enhances rust-based libraries and binaries by:

- Automatically injecting calls to an LLVM intrinsic (llvm.instrprof.increment), at functions and branches in compiled code, to increment counters when conditional sections of code are executed.
- Embedding additional information in the data section of each library and binary (using the LLVM Code Coverage Mapping Format *Version 5*, if compiling with LLVM 12, or *Version 6*, if compiling with LLVM 13 or higher), to define the code regions (start and end positions in the source code) being counted.

When running a coverage-instrumented program, the counter values are written to a profraw file at program termination. LLVM bundles tools that read the counter results, combine those results with the coverage map (embedded in the program binary), and generate coverage reports in multiple formats.

Note: -C instrument-coverage also automatically enables -C symbol-mangling-version=v0 (tracking issue #60705). The v0 symbol mangler is strongly recommended. The v0 demangler can be overridden by explicitly adding -Z unstable-options -C symbol-mangling-version=legacy.

Enable coverage profiling in the Rust compiler

Rust's source-based code coverage requires the Rust "profiler runtime". Without it, compiling with -C instrument-coverage generates an error that the profiler runtime is missing.

The Rust nightly distribution channel includes the profiler runtime, by default.

Important: If you are building the Rust compiler from the source distribution, the profiler runtime is *not* enabled in the default config.toml.example. Edit your config.toml file and ensure the profiler feature is set it to true (either under the [build] section, or under the settings for an individual [target.<triple>]):

```
# Build the profiler runtime (required when compiling with options that depend
# on this runtime, such as `-C profile-generate` or `-C instrument-coverage`).
profiler = true
```

Building the demangler

LLVM coverage reporting tools generate results that can include function names and other symbol references, and the raw coverage results report symbols using the compiler's "mangled" version of the symbol names, which can be difficult to interpret. To work around this issue, LLVM coverage tools also support a user-specified symbol name demangler.

One option for a Rust demangler is rustfilt, which can be installed with:

```
cargo install rustfilt
```

Another option, if you are building from the Rust compiler source distribution, is to use the rust-demangler tool included in the Rust source distribution, which can be built with:

```
$ ./x.py build rust-demangler
```

Compiling with coverage enabled

Set the -C instrument-coverage compiler flag in order to enable LLVM source-based code coverage profiling.

The default option generates coverage for all functions, including unused (never called) functions and generics. The compiler flag supports an optional value to tailor this behavior. (See -c instrument-coverage=<options>, below.)

With cargo, you can instrument your program binary and dependencies at the same time.

For example (if your project's Cargo.toml builds a binary by default):

```
$ cd your-project
$ cargo clean
$ RUSTFLAGS="-C instrument-coverage" cargo build
```

If cargo is not configured to use your profiler -enabled version of rustc, set the path explicitly via the RUSTC environment variable. Here is another example, using a stage1 build of rustc to compile an example binary (from the json5format crate):

```
$ RUSTC=$HOME/rust/build/x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu/stage1/bin/rustc \
   RUSTFLAGS="-C instrument-coverage" \
   cargo build --example formatjson5
```

Note: that some compiler options, combined with <code>-C instrument-coverage</code>, can produce LLVM IR and/or linked binaries that are incompatible with LLVM coverage maps. For example, coverage requires references to actual functions in LLVM IR. If any covered function is optimized out, the coverage tools may not be able to process the coverage results. If you need to pass additional options, with coverage enabled, test them early, to confirm you will get the coverage results you expect.

Running the instrumented binary to generate raw coverage profiling data

In the previous example, cargo generated the coverage-instrumented binary formatjson5:

```
$ echo "{some: 'thing'}" | target/debug/examples/formatjson5 -
```

```
{
    some: "thing",
}
```

After running this program, a new file, default.profraw, should be in the current working directory. It's often preferable to set a specific file name or path. You can change the output file using the environment variable LLVM_PROFILE_FILE:

If LLVM_PROFILE_FILE contains a path to a non-existent directory, the missing directory structure will be created. Additionally, the following special pattern strings are rewritten:

- %p The process ID.
- %h The hostname of the machine running the program.
- %t The value of the TMPDIR environment variable.
- %Nm the instrumented binary's signature: The runtime creates a pool of N raw profiles, used for on-line profile merging. The runtime takes care of selecting a raw profile from the pool, locking it, and updating it before the program exits. N must be between 1 and 9, and defaults to 1 if omitted (with simply %m).
- %c Does not add anything to the filename, but enables a mode (on some platforms, including Darwin) in which profile counter updates are continuously synced to a file. This means that if the instrumented program crashes, or is killed by a signal, perfect coverage information can still be recovered.

Installing LLVM coverage tools

LLVM's supplies two tools— llvm-profdata and llvm-cov —that process coverage data and generate reports. There are several ways to find and/or install these tools, but note that the coverage mapping data generated by the Rust compiler requires LLVM version 12 or higher, and processing the *raw* data may require exactly the LLVM version used by the compiler. (llvm-cov —version typically shows the tool's LLVM version number, and rustc —verbose —version shows the version of LLVM used by the Rust compiler.)

- You can install compatible versions of these tools via the rustup component llvm-tools-preview. This component is the recommended path, though the specific tools available and their interface is not currently subject to Rust's usual stability guarantees. In this case, you may also find cargo-binutils useful as a wrapper around these tools.
- You can install a compatible version of LLVM tools from your operating system distribution, or from your distribution of LLVM.
- If you are building the Rust compiler from source, you can optionally use the bundled LLVM tools, built from source. Those tool binaries can typically be found in your build platform directory at something like: rust/build/x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu/llvm/bin/llvm-*.

The examples in this document show how to use the llvm tools directly.

Creating coverage reports

Raw profiles have to be indexed before they can be used to generate coverage reports. This is done using <code>llvm-profdata merge</code>, which can combine multiple raw profiles and index them at the same time:

\$ llvm-profdata merge -sparse formatjson5.profraw -o formatjson5.profdata

Finally, the .profdata file is used, in combination with the coverage map (from the program binary) to generate coverage reports using llvm-cov report, for a coverage summaries; and llvm-cov

show, to see detailed coverage of lines and regions (character ranges) overlaid on the original source code.

These commands have several display and filtering options. For example:

```
$ llvm-cov show -Xdemangler=rustfilt target/debug/examples/formatjson5 \
    -instr-profile=formatjson5.profdata \
    -show-line-counts-or-regions \
    -show-instantiations \
    -name=add_quoted_string
```

```
<json5format::parser::Parser>::add_quoted_string:
  439 |
          110|
                       match captured {
  440
          110
                           Some(unquoted) => {
  441
          110
                               if self.is in object()
  442 |
          110|
                                   && !self.with_object(|object| object.has_pending_property())
                                                                                                 ^34^0
  443
  444
            0
                                   let captured = self.colon capturer.capture(self
  445
                                      self.consume if matched(captured) {
  446
            0
                                       if matches_unquoted_property_name(&unquoted) {
  447
                                             elf.set pending property(unquoted)
  448
                                       } else {
  449
            0
  450
  451
                                   } else {
  452
            0
  453 |
  454
                               } else {
                                   let comments = self.take_pending_comments()[];
  455 |
          110|
  456|
          110
                                   self.add_value(Primitive::new(
                                       format!("{}{}{}", quote, &unquoted, quote),
  457
          110
  458
          110
                                       comments,
  459
          110
                                   ))
                               }
  460
  461
  462
            0
                           None => return
  463
          110
  464 |
          110
<json5format::parser::Parser>::add_quoted_string::{closure#0}:
  442 |
           34|
                                   && !self.with_object(|object| object.has_pending_property())?
<json5format::parser::Parser>::with_object::<<json5format::parser::Parser>::add_quoted_string::{closure#0}, bool>:
                       match &mut *self.current_scope().borrow_mut() {
  290
           34 |
                           Value::0bject { val, .. } => f(val),
  291
           34|
  292
            0
                            nexpected => Err(self.error(format!
  293
            0
  294
            0
  295
            01
  296 |
  297
           34|
```

Some of the more notable options in this example include:

- --Xdemangler=rustfilt the command name or path used to demangle Rust symbols (rustfilt in the example, but this could also be a path to the rust-demangler tool)
- target/debug/examples/formatjson5 the instrumented binary (from which to extract the coverage map)
- --instr-profile=<path-to-file>.profdata the location of the .profdata file created by

llvm-profdata merge (from the .profraw file generated by the instrumented binary)

• --name=<exact-function-name> - to show coverage for a specific function (or, consider using another filter option, such as --name-regex=<pattern>)

Note: Coverage can also be disabled on an individual function by annotating the function with the no_coverage attribute (which requires the feature flag #![feature(no_coverage)]).

Interpreting reports

There are four statistics tracked in a coverage summary:

- Function coverage is the percentage of functions that have been executed at least once. A function is considered to be executed if any of its instantiations are executed.
- Instantiation coverage is the percentage of function instantiations that have been executed at least once. Generic functions and functions generated from macros are two kinds of functions that may have multiple instantiations.
- Line coverage is the percentage of code lines that have been executed at least once. Only executable lines within function bodies are considered to be code lines.
- Region coverage is the percentage of code regions that have been executed at least once. A code region may span multiple lines: for example, in a large function body with no control flow. In other cases, a single line can contain multiple code regions: return x || (y && z) has countable code regions for x (which may resolve the expression, if x is true), || (y && z) (executed only if x was false), and return (executed in either situation).

Of these four statistics, function coverage is usually the least granular while region coverage is the most granular. The project-wide totals for each statistic are listed in the summary.

Test coverage

A typical use case for coverage analysis is test coverage. Rust's source-based coverage tools can both measure your tests' code coverage as percentage, and pinpoint functions and branches not tested.

The following example (using the <code>json5format</code> crate, for demonstration purposes) show how to generate and analyze coverage results for all tests in a crate.

Since cargo test both builds and runs the tests, we set both the additional RUSTFLAGS, to add the -C instrument-coverage flag, and LLVM_PROFILE_FILE, to set a custom filename for the raw profiling data generated during the test runs. Since there may be more than one test binary, apply %m in the filename pattern. This generates unique names for each test binary. (Otherwise, each executed test binary would overwrite the coverage results from the previous binary.)

```
$ RUSTFLAGS="-C instrument-coverage" \
    LLVM_PROFILE_FILE="json5format-%m.profraw" \
    cargo test --tests
```

Make note of the test binary file paths, displayed after the word "Running" in the test output:

```
Compiling json5format v0.1.3 ($HOME/json5format)
Finished test [unoptimized + debuginfo] target(s) in 14.60s

Running target/debug/deps/json5format-fececd4653271682
running 25 tests
...
test result: ok. 25 passed; 0 failed; 0 ignored; 0 measured; 0 filtered out

Running target/debug/deps/lib-30768f9c53506dc5
running 31 tests
...
test result: ok. 31 passed; 0 failed; 0 ignored; 0 measured; 0 filtered out
```

You should have one or more .profraw files now, one for each test binary. Run the profdata tool to merge them:

\$ llvm-profdata merge -sparse json5format-*.profraw -o json5format.profdata

Then run the cov tool, with the profdata file and all test binaries:

Note: The command line option <code>--ignore-filename-regex=/.cargo/registry</code>, which excludes the sources for dependencies from the coverage results._

Tips for listing the binaries automatically

For bash users, one suggested way to automatically complete the cov command with the list of binaries is with a command like:

Adding --no-run --message-format=json to the *same* cargo test command used to run the tests (including the same environment variables and flags) generates output in a JSON format that jq can easily query.

The printf command takes this list and generates the --object <binary> arguments for each listed test binary.

Including doc tests

The previous examples run cargo test with --tests, which excludes doc tests. 1

To include doc tests in the coverage results, drop the --tests flag, and apply the -C instrument-coverage flag, and some doc-test-specific options in the RUSTDOCFLAGS environment variable. (The llvm-profdata command does not change.)

```
$ RUSTFLAGS="-C instrument-coverage" \
   RUSTDOCFLAGS="-C instrument-coverage -Z unstable-options --persist-doctests
target/debug/doctestbins" \
   LLVM_PROFILE_FILE="json5format-%m.profraw" \
      cargo test
$ llvm-profdata merge -sparse json5format-*.profraw -o json5format.profdata
```

The -Z unstable-options --persist-doctests flag is required, to save the test binaries (with their coverage maps) for llvm-cov.

```
$ llvm-cov report \
    $(\
      for file in \
        $(\
          RUSTFLAGS="-C instrument-coverage" \
          RUSTDOCFLAGS="-C instrument-coverage -Z unstable-options --persist-doctests
target/debug/doctestbins" \
            cargo test --no-run --message-format=json \
              | jq -r "select(.profile.test == true) | .filenames[]" \
              | grep -v dSYM - \
        ) \
        target/debug/doctestbins/*/rust_out; \
      do \
        [[ -x $file ]] && printf "%s %s " -object $file; \
      done \
  --instr-profile=json5format.profdata --summary-only # and/or other options
```

Note: The differences in this llvm-cov invocation, compared with the version without doc tests, include:

• The cargo test ... --no-run command is updated with the same environment variables and flags used to *build* the tests, *including* the doc tests. (LLVM_PROFILE_FILE is only used when running the tests.)

- The file glob pattern target/debug/doctestbins/*/rust_out adds the rust_out binaries generated for doc tests (note, however, that some rust_out files may not be executable binaries).
- [[-x \$file]] && filters the files passed on to the printf, to include only executable binaries.

1

There is ongoing work to resolve a known issue [(#79417)](https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/issues/79417) that doc test coverage generates incorrect source line numbers in `llvm-cov show` results.

-C instrument-coverage=<options>

- -C instrument-coverage=all: Instrument all functions, including unused functions and unused generics. (This is the same as -C instrument-coverage, with no value.)
- -C instrument-coverage=off: Do not instrument any functions. (This is the same as simply not including the -C instrument-coverage option.)
- -Zunstable-options -C instrument-coverage=except-unused-generics: Instrument all functions except unused generics.
- -Zunstable-options -C instrument-coverage=except-unused-functions: Instrument only used (called) functions and instantiated generic functions.

Other references

Rust's implementation and workflow for source-based code coverage is based on the same library and tools used to implement source-based code coverage in Clang. (This document is partially based

on the Clang guide.)

Linker-plugin-LTO

The -C linker-plugin-lto flag allows for deferring the LTO optimization to the actual linking step, which in turn allows for performing interprocedural optimizations across programming language boundaries if all the object files being linked were created by LLVM based toolchains. The prime example here would be linking Rust code together with Clang-compiled C/C++ code.

Usage

There are two main cases how linker plugin based LTO can be used:

- compiling a Rust staticlib that is used as a C ABI dependency
- compiling a Rust binary where rustc invokes the linker

In both cases the Rust code has to be compiled with -C linker-plugin-lto and the C/C++ code with -flto or -flto=thin so that object files are emitted as LLVM bitcode.

Rust staticlib as dependency in C/C++ program

In this case the Rust compiler just has to make sure that the object files in the staticlib are in the right format. For linking, a linker with the LLVM plugin must be used (e.g. LLD).

Using rustc directly:

```
# Compile the Rust staticlib
rustc --crate-type=staticlib -Clinker-plugin-lto -Copt-level=2 ./lib.rs
# Compile the C code with `-flto=thin`
clang -c -02 -flto=thin -o main.o ./main.c
# Link everything, making sure that we use an appropriate linker
clang -flto=thin -fuse-ld=lld -L . -l"name-of-your-rust-lib" -o main -02 ./cmain.o

Using cargo:

# Compile the Rust staticlib
RUSTFLAGS="-Clinker-plugin-lto" cargo build --release
# Compile the C code with `-flto=thin`
clang -c -02 -flto=thin -o main.o ./main.c
# Link everything, making sure that we use an appropriate linker
clang -flto=thin -fuse-ld=lld -L . -l"name-of-your-rust-lib" -o main -02 ./cmain.o
```

C/C++ code as a dependency in Rust

In this case the linker will be invoked by rustc. We again have to make sure that an appropriate linker is used.

Using rustc directly:

```
# Compile C code with `-flto`
clang ./clib.c -flto=thin -c -o ./clib.o -02
# Create a static library from the C code
ar crus ./libxyz.a ./clib.o

# Invoke `rustc` with the additional arguments
rustc -Clinker-plugin-lto -L. -Copt-level=2 -Clinker=clang -Clink-arg=-fuse-ld=lld
./main.rs
Using cargo directly:
```

```
# Compile C code with `-flto`
clang ./clib.c -flto=thin -c -o ./clib.o -02
# Create a static library from the C code
ar crus ./libxyz.a ./clib.o

# Set the linking arguments via RUSTFLAGS
RUSTFLAGS="-Clinker-plugin-lto -Clinker=clang -Clink-arg=-fuse-ld=lld" cargo build
--release
```

Explicitly specifying the linker plugin to be used by rustc

If one wants to use a linker other than LLD, the LLVM linker plugin has to be specified explicitly. Otherwise the linker cannot read the object files. The path to the plugin is passed as an argument to the -Clinker-plugin-lto option:

```
rustc -Clinker-plugin-lto="/path/to/LLVMgold.so" -L. -Copt-level=2 ./main.rs
```

Usage with clang-cl and x86_64-pc-windows-msvc

Cross language LTO can be used with the x86_64-pc-windows-msvc target, but this requires using the clang-cl compiler instead of the MSVC cl.exe included with Visual Studio Build Tools, and linking with Ild-link. Both clang-cl and Ild-link can be downloaded from LLVM's download page. Note that most crates in the ecosystem are likely to assume you are using cl.exe if using this target and that some things, like for example vcpkg, don't work very well with clang-cl.

You will want to make sure your rust major LLVM version matches your installed LLVM tooling version, otherwise it is likely you will get linker errors:

```
rustc -V --verbose
clang-cl --version
```

If you are compiling any proc-macros, you will get this error:

error: Linker plugin based LTO is not supported together with `-C prefer-dynamic` when targeting Windows-like targets

This is fixed if you explicitly set the target, for example cargo build --target x86_64-pc-windows-msvc Without an explicit --target the flags will be passed to all compiler invocations (including build scripts and proc macros), see cargo docs on rustflags

If you have dependencies using the cc crate, you will need to set these environment variables:

```
set CC=clang-cl
set CXX=clang-cl
set CFLAGS=/clang:-flto=thin /clang:-fuse-ld=lld-link
set CXXFLAGS=/clang:-flto=thin /clang:-fuse-ld=lld-link
REM Needed because msvc's lib.exe crashes on LLVM LTO .obj files
set AR=llvm-lib
```

If you are specifying Ild-link as your linker by setting linker = "lld-link.exe" in your cargo config, you may run into issues with some crates that compile code with separate cargo invocations. You should be able to get around this problem by setting -Clinker=lld-link in RUSTFLAGS

Toolchain Compatibility

In order for this kind of LTO to work, the LLVM linker plugin must be able to handle the LLVM bitcode produced by both <code>rustc</code> and <code>clang</code>.

Best results are achieved by using a rustc and clang that are based on the exact same version of LLVM. One can use rustc -vV in order to view the LLVM used by a given rustc version. Note that the version number given here is only an approximation as Rust sometimes uses unstable revisions of LLVM. However, the approximation is usually reliable.

The following table shows known good combinations of toolchain versions.

Rust Version	Clang Version
Rust 1.34	Clang 8
Rust 1.35	Clang 8
Rust 1.36	Clang 8
Rust 1.37	Clang 8
Rust 1.38	Clang 9
Rust 1.39	Clang 9
Rust 1.40	Clang 9
Rust 1.41	Clang 9
Rust 1.42	Clang 9
Rust 1.43	Clang 9
Rust 1.44	Clang 9
Rust 1.45	Clang 10
Rust 1.46	Clang 10
Rust 1.47	Clang 11
Rust 1.48	Clang 11
Rust 1.49	Clang 11
Rust 1.50	Clang 11
Rust 1.51	Clang 11
Rust 1.52	Clang 12
Rust 1.53	Clang 12
Rust 1.54	Clang 12
Rust 1.55	Clang 12

Rust Version	Clang Version		
Rust 1.56	Clang 13		
Rust 1.57	Clang 13		
Rust 1.58	Clang 13		
Rust 1.59	Clang 13		
Rust 1.60	Clang 14		

Note that the compatibility policy for this feature might change in the future.

Exploit Mitigations

This chapter documents the exploit mitigations supported by the Rust compiler, and is by no means an extensive survey of the Rust programming language's security features.

This chapter is for software engineers working with the Rust programming language, and assumes prior knowledge of the Rust programming language and its toolchain.

Introduction

The Rust programming language provides memory[1] and thread[2] safety guarantees via its ownership[3], references and borrowing[4], and slice types[5] features. However, Unsafe Rust[6] introduces unsafe blocks, unsafe functions and methods, unsafe traits, and new types that are not subject to the borrowing rules.

Parts of the Rust standard library are implemented as safe abstractions over unsafe code (and historically have been vulnerable to memory corruption[7]). Furthermore, the Rust code and documentation encourage creating safe abstractions over unsafe code. This can cause a false sense of security if unsafe code is not properly reviewed and tested.

Unsafe Rust introduces features that do not provide the same memory and thread safety guarantees. This causes programs or libraries to be susceptible to memory corruption (CWE-119)[8] and concurrency issues (CWE-557)[9]. Modern C and C++ compilers provide exploit mitigations to increase the difficulty to exploit vulnerabilities resulting from these issues. Therefore, the Rust compiler must also support these exploit mitigations in order to mitigate vulnerabilities resulting from the use of Unsafe Rust. This chapter documents these exploit mitigations and how they apply to Rust.

This chapter does not discuss the effectiveness of these exploit mitigations as they vary greatly

depending on several factors besides their design and implementation, but rather describe what they do, so their effectiveness can be understood within a given context.

Exploit mitigations

This section documents the exploit mitigations applicable to the Rust compiler when building programs for the Linux operating system on the AMD64 architecture and equivalent.¹

The Rust Programming Language currently has no specification. The Rust compiler (i.e., rustc) is the language reference implementation. All references to "the Rust compiler" in this chapter refer to the language reference implementation.

Table I Summary of exploit mitigations supported by the Rust compiler when building programs for the Linux operating system on the AMD64 architecture and equivalent.

Exploit mitigation	Supported and enabled by default	Since	
Position-independent executable	Yes	0.12.0 (2014-10-09)	
Integer overflow checks	Yes (enabled when debug assertions are enabled, and disabled when debug assertions are disabled)	1.1.0 (2015-06-25)	
Non-executable memory regions	Yes	1.8.0 (2016-04-14)	
Stack clashing protection	Yes	1.20.0 (2017-08-31)	

Read-only relocations and immediate binding	Yes	1.21.0 (2017-10-12)
Heap corruption protection	Yes	1.32.0 (2019-01-17) (via operating system default or specified allocator)
Stack smashing protection	No	
Forward-edge control flow protection	Yes	Nightly
Backward-edge control flow protection (e.g., shadow and safe stack)	No	

^{1.} See https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/tree/master/compiler/rustc_target/src/spec for a list of targets and their default options. ←

Position-independent executable

Position-independent executable increases the difficulty of the use of code reuse exploitation techniques, such as return-oriented programming (ROP) and variants, by generating position-independent code for the executable, and instructing the dynamic linker to load it similarly to a shared object at a random load address, thus also benefiting from address-space layout randomization (ASLR). This is also referred to as "full ASLR".

The Rust compiler supports position-independent executable, and enables it by default since version 0.12.0 (2014-10-09)[10]–[13].

Fig. 1. Checking if an executable is a position-independent executable.

An executable with an object type of ET_DYN (i.e., shared object) and not ET_EXEC (i.e., executable) is a position-independent executable (see Fig. 1).

Integer overflow checks

Integer overflow checks protects programs from undefined and unintended behavior (which may cause vulnerabilities) by checking for results of signed and unsigned integer computations that cannot be represented in their type, resulting in an overflow or wraparound.

The Rust compiler supports integer overflow checks, and enables it when debug assertions are enabled since version 1.1.0 (2015-06-25)[14]–[20].

```
fn main() {
    let u: u8 = 255;
    println!("u: {}", u + 1);
}
```

Fig. 2. hello-rust-integer program.

```
$ cargo run
   Compiling hello-rust-integer v0.1.0 (/home/rcvalle/hello-rust-integer)
   Finished dev [unoptimized + debuginfo] target(s) in 0.23s
     Running `target/debug/hello-rust-integer`
thread 'main' panicked at 'attempt to add with overflow', src/main.rs:3:23
note: run with `RUST_BACKTRACE=1` environment variable to display a backtrace.
```

Fig. 3. Build and execution of hello-rust-integer with debug assertions enabled.

```
$ cargo run --release
   Compiling hello-rust-integer v0.1.0 (/home/rcvalle/hello-rust-integer)
   Finished release [optimized] target(s) in 0.23s
     Running `target/release/hello-rust-integer`
u: 0
```

Fig. 4. Build and execution of hello-rust-integer with debug assertions disabled.

Integer overflow checks are enabled when debug assertions are enabled (see Fig. 3), and disabled when debug assertions are disabled (see Fig. 4). To enable integer overflow checks independently, use the option to control integer overflow checks, scoped attributes, or explicit checking methods such as checked_add ².

It is recommended that explicit wrapping methods such as wrapping_add be used when wrapping semantics are intended, and that explicit checking and wrapping methods always be used when using Unsafe Rust.

2. See https://doc.rust-lang.org/std/primitive.u32.html for more information on the checked, overflowing, saturating, and wrapping methods (using u32 as an example). ←

Non-executable memory regions

Non-executable memory regions increase the difficulty of exploitation by limiting the memory regions that can be used to execute arbitrary code. Most modern processors provide support for the operating system to mark memory regions as non executable, but it was previously emulated by software, such as in grsecurity/PaX's PAGEEXEC and SEGMEXEC, on processors that did not provide support for it. This is also known as "No Execute (NX) Bit", "Execute Disable (XD) Bit", "Execute Never (XN) Bit", and others.

The Rust compiler supports non-executable memory regions, and enables it by default since its initial release, version 0.1 (2012-01-20)[21], [22], but has regressed since then [23] – [25], and enforced

by default since version 1.8.0 (2016-04-14)[25].

Fig. 5. Checking if non-executable memory regions are enabled for a given binary.

The presence of an element of type PT_GNU_STACK in the program header table with the PF_X (i.e., executable) flag unset indicates non-executable memory regions³ are enabled for a given binary (see Fig. 5). Conversely, the presence of an element of type PT_GNU_STACK in the program header table with the PF_X flag set or the absence of an element of type PT_GNU_STACK in the program header table indicates non-executable memory regions are not enabled for a given binary.

3. See the Appendix section for more information on why it affects other memory regions besides the stack. ←

Stack clashing protection

Stack clashing protection protects the stack from overlapping with another memory region—allowing arbitrary data in both to be overwritten using each other—by reading from the stack pages as the stack grows to cause a page fault when attempting to read from the guard page/region. This is also referred to as "stack probes" or "stack probing".

The Rust compiler supports stack clashing protection via stack probing, and enables it by default since version 1.20.0 (2017-08-31)[26]–[29].

xrefs torust_probestack					
Directio Ty _I Address	Text				
☑ Up p _\$LT\$allocboxedBox\$ callrust_probestack					
Line 1 of 1					
	Help Search <u>C</u> ancel <u>O</u> K				

Fig. 6. IDA Pro listing cross references to __rust_probestack in hello-rust.

```
fn hello() {
    println!("Hello, world!");
}

fn main() {
    let _: [u64; 1024] = [0; 1024];
    hello();
}
```

Fig 7. Modified hello-rust.

xrefs torust_probestack							
Directio	Туі	Address	Text				
🚾 Up	р	hello_rust_modified::ma.	call	rust_probestack	(
📴 Up	р	_\$LT\$allocboxedBox\$	call	rust_probestack	<		
Line 1 of	f 2		(Grab after a delay of	0	+ seconds	
			Help	Search	<u>C</u> ancel	<u>о</u> к	

Fig. 8. IDA Pro listing cross references to __rust_probestack in modified hello-rust.

To check if stack clashing protection is enabled for a given binary, search for cross references to __rust_probestack . The __rust_probestack is called in the prologue of functions whose stack size is larger than a page size (see Fig. 6), and can be forced for illustration purposes by modifying the hello-rust example as seen in Fig. 7 and Fig. 8.

Read-only relocations and immediate binding

Read-only relocations protect segments containing relocations and relocation information (i.e., .init_array, .fini_array, .dynamic, and .got) from being overwritten by marking these segments read only. This is also referred to as "partial RELRO".

The Rust compiler supports read-only relocations, and enables it by default since version 1.21.0 (2017-10-12)[30], [31].

Fig. 9. Checking if read-only relocations is enabled for a given binary.

The presence of an element of type PT_GNU_RELRO in the program header table indicates read-only relocations are enabled for a given binary (see Fig. 9). Conversely, the absence of an element of type PT_GNU_RELRO in the program header table indicates read-only relocations are not enabled for a given binary.

Immediate binding protects additional segments containing relocations (i.e., .got.plt) from being overwritten by instructing the dynamic linker to perform all relocations before transferring control to the program during startup, so all segments containing relocations can be marked read only (when combined with read-only relocations). This is also referred to as "full RELRO".

The Rust compiler supports immediate binding, and enables it by default since version 1.21.0 (2017-10-12)[30], [31].

```
$ readelf -d target/release/hello-rust | grep BIND_NOW
0x000000000000000 (FLAGS) BIND_NOW
```

Fig. 10. Checking if immediate binding is enabled for a given binary.

The presence of an element with the DT_BIND_NOW tag and the DF_BIND_NOW flag⁴ in the dynamic

section indicates immediate binding is enabled for a given binary (see Fig. 10). Conversely, the absence of an element with the <code>DT_BIND_NOW</code> tag and the <code>DF_BIND_NOW</code> flag in the dynamic section indicates immediate binding is not enabled for a given binary.

The presence of both an element of type PT_GNU_RELRO in the program header table and of an element with the DT_BIND_NOW tag and the DF_BIND_NOW flag in the dynamic section indicates full RELRO is enabled for a given binary (see Fig. 9 and Fig. 10).

4. And the DF_1_NOW flag for some link editors. ←

Heap corruption protection

Heap corruption protection protects memory allocated dynamically by performing several checks, such as checks for corrupted links between list elements, invalid pointers, invalid sizes, double/multiple "frees" of the same memory allocated, and many corner cases of these. These checks are implementation specific, and vary per allocator.

ARM Memory Tagging Extension (MTE), when available, will provide hardware assistance for a probabilistic mitigation to detect memory safety violations by tagging memory allocations, and automatically checking that the correct tag is used on every memory access.

Rust's default allocator has historically been jemalloc, and it has long been the cause of issues and the subject of much discussion[32]–[38]. Consequently, it has been removed as the default allocator in favor of the operating system's standard C library default allocator⁵ since version 1.32.0 (2019-01-17)[39].

```
fn main() {
    let mut x = Box::new([0; 1024]);

    for i in 0..1026 {
        unsafe {
            let elem = x.get_unchecked_mut(i);
            *elem = 0x414141414141414141414141
}
}
}
```

Fig. 11. hello-rust-heap program.

```
$ cargo run
   Compiling hello-rust-heap v0.1.0 (/home/rcvalle/hello-rust-heap)
   Finished dev [unoptimized + debuginfo] target(s) in 0.25s
     Running `target/debug/hello-rust-heap`
free(): invalid next size (normal)
Aborted
```

Fig. 12. Build and execution of hello-rust-heap with debug assertions enabled.

```
$ cargo run --release
   Compiling hello-rust-heap v0.1.0 (/home/rcvalle/hello-rust-heap)
   Finished release [optimized] target(s) in 0.25s
     Running `target/release/hello-rust-heap`
free(): invalid next size (normal)
Aborted
```

Fig. 13. Build and execution of hello-rust-heap with debug assertions disabled.

Heap corruption checks are being performed when using the default allocator (i.e., the GNU Allocator) as seen in Fig. 12 and Fig. 13.

5. Linux's standard C library default allocator is the GNU Allocator, which is derived from ptmalloc (pthreads malloc) by Wolfram Gloger, which in turn is derived from dlmalloc (Doug Lea malloc) by Doug Lea. ←

Stack smashing protection

Stack smashing protection protects programs from stack-based buffer overflows by inserting a random guard value between local variables and the saved return instruction pointer, and checking if this value has changed when returning from a function. This is also known as "Stack Protector" or "Stack Smashing Protector (SSP)".

The Rust compiler does not support stack smashing protection. However, more comprehensive alternatives to stack smashing protection exist, such as shadow and safe stack (see backward-edge control flow protection).

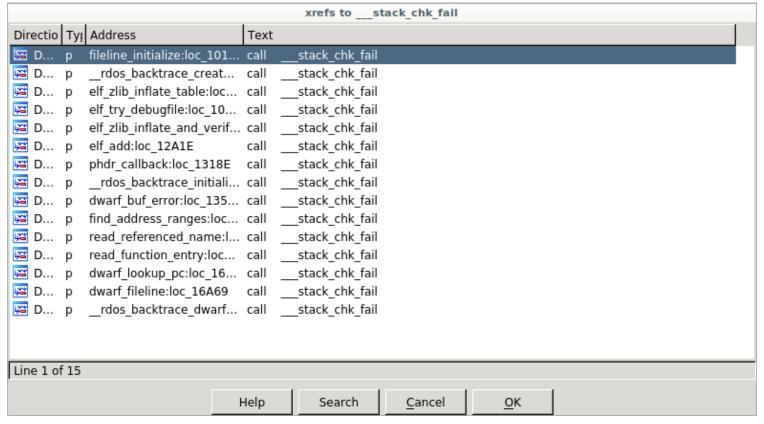


Fig. 14. IDA Pro listing cross references to __stack_chk_fail in hello-rust.

To check if stack smashing protection is enabled for a given binary, search for cross references to __stack_chk_fail . The only cross references to __stack_chk_fail in hello-rust are from the statically-linked libbacktrace library (see Fig. 14).

Forward-edge control flow protection

Forward-edge control flow protection protects programs from having its control flow changed/hijacked by performing checks to ensure that destinations of indirect branches are one of their valid destinations in the control flow graph. The comprehensiveness of these checks vary per implementation. This is also known as "forward-edge control flow integrity (CFI)".

Newer processors provide hardware assistance for forward-edge control flow protection, such as ARM Branch Target Identification (BTI), ARM Pointer Authentication, and Intel Indirect Branch Tracking (IBT) as part of Intel Control-flow Enforcement Technology (CET). However, ARM BTI and Intel IBT -based implementations are less comprehensive than software-based implementations such as LLVM ControlFlowIntegrity (CFI), and the commercially available grsecurity/PaX Reuse Attack Protector (RAP).

The Rust compiler supports forward-edge control flow protection on nightly builds[40]-[41] 6.

```
$ readelf -s -W target/debug/rust-cfi | grep "\.cfi"
    12: 0000000000005170
                            46 FUNC
                                       LOCAL DEFAULT
                                                        14
_RNvCsjaOHoaNjor6_8rust_cfi7add_one.cfi
    15: 00000000000051a0
                            16 FUNC
                                       LOCAL DEFAULT
                                                        14
_RNvCsjaOHoaNjor6_8rust_cfi7add_two.cfi
    17: 0000000000005270
                           396 FUNC
                                       LOCAL DEFAULT
                                                        14
_RNvCsjaOHoaNjor6_8rust_cfi4main.cfi
```

Fig. 15. Checking if LLVM CFI is enabled for a given binary[41].

The presence of symbols suffixed with ".cfi" or the __cfi_init symbol (and references to

__cfi_check) indicates that LLVM CFI (i.e., forward-edge control flow protection) is enabled for a given binary. Conversely, the absence of symbols suffixed with ".cfi" or the __cfi_init symbol (and references to __cfi_check) indicates that LLVM CFI is not enabled for a given binary (see Fig. 15).

6. It also supports Control Flow Guard (CFG) on Windows (see https://github.com/rust-lang/rust/issues/68793). ←

Backward-edge control flow protection

Shadow stack protects saved return instruction pointers from being overwritten by storing a copy of them on a separate (shadow) stack, and using these copies as authoritative values when returning from functions. This is also known as "ShadowCallStack" and "Return Flow Guard", and is considered an implementation of backward-edge control flow protection (or "backward-edge CFI").

Safe stack protects not only the saved return instruction pointers, but also register spills and some local variables from being overwritten by storing unsafe variables, such as large arrays, on a separate (unsafe) stack, and using these unsafe variables on the separate stack instead. This is also known as "SafeStack", and is also considered an implementation of backward-edge control flow protection.

Both shadow and safe stack are intended to be a more comprehensive alternatives to stack smashing protection as they protect the saved return instruction pointers (and other data in the case of safe stack) from arbitrary writes and non-linear out-of-bounds writes.

Newer processors provide hardware assistance for backward-edge control flow protection, such as ARM Pointer Authentication, and Intel Shadow Stack as part of Intel CET.

The Rust compiler does not support shadow or safe stack. There is work currently ongoing to add support for the sanitizers[40], which may or may not include support for safe stack⁷.

\$ readelf -s target/release/hello-rust | grep __safestack_init

Fig. 16. Checking if LLVM SafeStack is enabled for a given binary.

The presence of the __safestack_init symbol indicates that LLVM SafeStack is enabled for a given binary. Conversely, the absence of the __safestack_init symbol indicates that LLVM SafeStack is not enabled for a given binary (see Fig. 16).

7. The shadow stack implementation for the AMD64 architecture and equivalent in LLVM was removed due to performance and security issues. ←

Appendix

As of the latest version of the Linux Standard Base (LSB) Core Specification, the PT_GNU_STACK program header indicates whether the stack should be executable, and the absence of this header indicates that the stack should be executable. However, the Linux kernel currently sets the READ_IMPLIES_EXEC personality upon loading any executable with the PT_GNU_STACK program header and the PF_X flag set or with the absence of this header, resulting in not only the stack, but also all readable virtual memory mappings being executable.

An attempt to fix this was made in 2012, and another was made in 2020. The former never landed, and the latter partially fixed it, but introduced other issues—the absence of the PT_GNU_STACK program header still causes not only the stack, but also all readable virtual memory mappings to be executable in some architectures, such as IA-32 and equivalent (or causes the stack to be non-executable in some architectures, such as AMD64 and equivalent, contradicting the LSB).

The READ_IMPLIES_EXEC personality needs to be completely separated from the PT_GNU_STACK program header by having a separate option for it (or setarch -X could just be used whenever READ_IMPLIES_EXEC is needed), and the absence of the PT_GNU_STACK program header needs to have more secure defaults (unrelated to READ_IMPLIES_EXEC).

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Contributing to rustc

We'd love to have your help improving <code>rustc</code>! To that end, we've written a whole book on its internals, how it works, and how to get started working on it. To learn more, you'll want to check that out.

If you would like to contribute to *this* book, you can find its source in the rustc source at src/doc /rustc.