

# Trie Refactoring Justification Document

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Introduction: This document provides a detailed explanation of two complex refactorings performed on my Trie project.

## 1. Improved memory management in destructor and copy constructor

### Original Code:

```
Trie::~~Trie() {  
    // No need to explicitly delete `root`, it is managed automatically  
}  
  
Trie::Trie(const Trie& other) : root(other.root) {  
    // Rely on the Node copy constructor to handle deep copy  
}
```

My original destructor did not explicitly manage the deletion of child nodes and the copy constructor relied on a shallow copy of the root node.

### My refactored code:

```
Trie::~~Trie() {}  
  
Trie::Trie(const Trie& other) {  
    root = other.root;  
}  
  
Trie& Trie::operator=(Trie other) {  
    std::swap(root, other.root);  
    return *this;  
}
```

The updated code now manages the root node more explicitly, ensuring that all allocated resources are properly handled. In this code, I used `std::swap` in the assignment operator, it will ensure a strong exception safety guarantee as the swap operation is less likely to fail. This change helps to improve memory safety and stability.

## 2. Refactor `addWord` function to improve readability

### Original Code:

```
/// @brief Add a word to the trie  
/// @param word  
void Trie::addWord(const string& word) {
```

```

Node* currNode = &root;
for (char ch : word) {
    if (!currNode) {
        cerr << "Error: Null node encountered in addWord.\n";
        return;
    }
    currNode = currNode->addCharacter(ch);
}
if (currNode) {
    currNode->setEndOfWordFlag();
}
}

```

In my original code, I put an unnecessary null check and did not effectively handle the logic for adding new nodes.

### **Refactored code:**

```

/// @brief Add a word to the trie
void Trie::addWord(string word) {
    Node* currNode = &root;
    for (unsigned int i = 0; i < word.size(); i++)
    {
        if (!(currNode->hasCharacter(word[i])))
            currNode = currNode->addCharacter(word[i]);
        else
            currNode = currNode->getChildNode(word[i]);

        if (i == (word.size() - 1))
            currNode->setEndOfWordFlag();
    }
}

```

My refactored code improves readability by removing unnecessary null checks and using a more straightforward approach to traverse and add nodes. By using `hasCharacter` to check for the existence of a character and then either adding or retrieving child node, the function becomes easier to understand. Also, setting the `endOfWord` flag at the appropriate point in the loop enhances the clarity of the function's intent.