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## 8.9. Container Policy Interfaces

### 8.9.1. Nonmodifying Policy Functions

`size_type` **container::capacity** () const

- Returns the number of elements the container may contain without reallocation.
- Provided by vector, string.

`value_compare` **container::value\_comp** () const

- Returns the object that is used as the comparison criterion of associative containers for values as a whole.
- For sets and multisets, it is equivalent to `key_comp()`.
- For maps and multimaps, it is an auxiliary class for a comparison criterion that compares only the key part of the key/value pair.
- Provided by set, multiset, map, multimap.

`key_compare` **container::key\_comp** () const

- Returns the comparison criterion of associative containers.
- Provided by set, multiset, map, multimap.

`key_equal` **container::key\_eq** () const

- Returns the equivalence criterion of unordered containers.
- Provided by unordered set, unordered multiset, unordered map, unordered multimap.

`hasher` **container::hash\_function** () const

- Returns the hash function of unordered containers.
- Provided by unordered set, unordered multiset, unordered map, unordered multimap.

`float` **container::load\_factor** () const

- Returns the current average number of elements per bucket of an unordered container.
- Provided by unordered set, unordered multiset, unordered map, unordered multimap.

`float` **container::max\_load\_factor** () const

- Returns the maximum load factor of an unordered container. The container automatically re-hashes (increases the number of buckets as necessary) to keep its load factor below or equal to this number.
- Note that the default is `1.0`, which usually should be modified ([see Section 7.9.2, page 362](#)).
- Provided by unordered set, unordered multiset, unordered map, unordered multimap.

### 8.9.2. Modifying Policy Functions

`void` **container::reserve** (size\_type *num*)

- Reserves internal memory for at least *num* elements.
- For vectors, this call can only increase the capacity. Thus, it has no effect if *num* is less than or equal to the actual capacity. To shrink the capacity of vectors, see `shrink_to_fit()` on page [428](#) and the example in [Section 7.3.1, page 271](#).
- For unordered containers
  - This call is equivalent to `rehash(ceil( num / max _ load _ factor ))` ( `ceil()` yields the roundup value).
  - This operation invalidates iterators, changes ordering between elements, and changes the buckets the elements appear in. The operation does not invalidate pointers or references to elements.
- For strings, *num* is optional (default: `0`), and the call is a nonbinding shrink request if *num* is less than the actual capacity.
- This operation might invalidate iterators and (for vectors and strings) references and pointers to elements. However, it is guaranteed that no reallocation takes place during insertions that happen after a call to `reserve()` until the time when an insertion

would make the size greater than `num` . Thus, `reserve()` can increase speed and help to keep references, pointers, and iterators valid ([see Section 7.3.1, page 271](#), for details).

- Throws `length_error` ([see Section 4.3.1, page 43](#)) if `num > max_size()` or an appropriate exception if the memory allocation fails.
- Available for unordered containers since C++11.
- Provided by `vector`, `unordered set`, `unordered multiset`, `unordered map`, `unordered multimap`, `string`.

`void container::shrink_to_fit ()`

- Shrinks the internal memory to fit the exact number of elements.
- This call is a nonbinding request, which means that implementations can ignore this call to allow latitude for implementation-specific optimizations. Thus, it is not guaranteed that afterward `capacity() == size()` yields `true` .
- This operation might invalidate references, pointers, and iterators to elements.
- Available since C++11. To shrink the capacity of `vectors` before C++11, [see Section 7.3.1, page 271](#), for an example.
- Provided by `vector`, `deque`, `string`.

`void container::rehash (size_type bnum)`

- Changes the number of buckets of an unordered container to at least `bnum`.
- This operation invalidates iterators, changes ordering between elements, and changes the buckets the elements appear in. The operation does not invalidate pointers or references to elements.
- If an exception is thrown other than by the container's hash or comparison function, the operation has no effect.
- For `unordered multisets` and `multimaps`, rehashing preserves the relative ordering of equivalent elements.
- Provided by `unordered set`, `unordered multiset`, `unordered map`, `unordered multimap`.

`void container::max_load_factor (float loadFactor)`

- Sets the maximum load factor of an unordered container to `loadFactor`.
- `loadFactor` is taken as a hint so that implementations are free to adjust this value according to their internal layout philosophy.
- This operation might cause a rehashing, which invalidates iterators, changes ordering between elements, and changes the buckets the elements appear in. The operation does not invalidate pointers or references to elements.
- Provided by `unordered set`, `unordered multiset`, `unordered map`, `unordered multimap`.

### 8.9.3. Bucket Interface for Unordered Containers

`size_type container::bucket_count () const`

- Returns the current number of buckets of an unordered container.
- Provided by `unordered set`, `unordered multiset`, `unordered map`, `unordered multimap`.

`size_type container::max_bucket_count () const`

- Returns the maximum possible number of buckets of an unordered container.
- Provided by `unordered set`, `unordered multiset`, `unordered map`, `unordered multimap`.

`size_type container::bucket (const key_type key) const`

- Returns the index of the bucket in which elements with a key equivalent to `key` would be found, if any such element existed.
- The return value is in the range `[0 , bucket_count() )` .
- The return value is undefined if `bucket_count()` is zero.
- Provided by `unordered set`, `unordered multiset`, `unordered map`, `unordered multimap`.

`size_type container::bucket_size (size_type bucketIdx) const`

- Returns the number of elements in the bucket with index `bucketIdx`.
- If `bucketIdx` is not a valid index in the range `[0 , bucket_count() )` , the effect is undefined.
- Provided by `unordered set`, `unordered multiset`, `unordered map`, `unordered multimap`.

`local_iterator container::begin (size_type bucketIdx)`  
`const_local_iterator container::begin (size_type bucketIdx) const`  
`const_local_iterator container::cbegin (size_type bucketIdx) const`

- All three return an iterator for the beginning of all elements (the position of the first element) of the bucket with index `bucketIdx`.
- If the bucket is empty, the calls are equivalent to `container::end (bucketIdx)` or `container::end(bucketIdx)` ,

respectively.

- If *bucketIdx* is not a valid index in the range `[0 , bucket_count() )` , the effect is undefined.
- Provided by unordered set, unordered multiset, unordered map, unordered multimap.

[Click here to view code image](#)

```
local_iterator container::end (size_type bucketIdx)
const_local_iterator container::end (size_type bucketIdx) const
const_local_iterator container::cend (size_type bucketIdx) const
```

- All three return an iterator for the end of all elements (the position after the last element) of the bucket with index *bucketIdx*.
- If the bucket is empty, the calls are equivalent to `container::begin (bucketIdx )` or `container::cbegin(bucketIdx )` , respectively.
- If *bucketIdx* is not a valid index in the range `[0 , bucket_count() )` , the effect is undefined.
- Provided by unordered set, unordered multiset, unordered map, unordered multimap.