

Class- Static Members

Static data members

We can define class members static using static keyword. When we declare a member of a class as static it means no matter how many objects of the class are created, there is only one copy of the static member:

- A static member is shared by all objects of the class.
- All static data is initialized to zero when the first object is created, if no other initialization is present.
- We can't put it in the class definition but it can be initialized outside the class as done in the following example by redeclaring the static variable, using the scope resolution operator ::

Static function members

A static member function can:

- be called even if no objects of the class exist and the static functions are accessed using only the class name and the scope resolution operator ::.
- only access static data member, other static member functions and any other functions from outside the class and they do not have access to the *this* pointer of the class.