

Object oriented Programming with C++

Constructors and Destructors



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Constructor

- A **constructor** is a 'special' member function whose task is to initialize the objects of its class.
- It is special because its **name** is same as the class.
- It is called **constructor** because it constructs the value of **data member**.
- **Constructor** is invoked whenever an **object** of its associated class is created.

Constructor

```
class add
{
    int m, n ;
    public :
        add (void) ;
        -----
};
add :: add (void)
{
    m = 0; n = 0;
}
```

- **add** a ;
- Creates the object '**a**' of types **add** and initializes its data members **m** and **n** to zero.
- There is no need to write any statement to invoke the **constructor** function.
- A constructor that accepts no parameter is called as a **default** constructor .

Constructor

Characteristics of Constructor:

- They should be declared in the **public** section.
- They are invoked **automatically** when the objects are created.
- They do not have **return** types, not even **void** and they cannot return values.
- They cannot be **inherited**, though a derived class can call the base class constructor.
- Like other C++ functions, Constructors can have **default** arguments.
- Constructors can not be **virtual**.

Types of Constructor:

1. Default Constructor
2. Parameterized Constructor
3. Copy Constructor
4. Dynamic Constructor



Default Constructor

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

class Cube
{
public:
    int side;
    Cube()
    {
        side=10;
    }
};

int main()
{
    Cube c;
    cout << c.side;
    return 0;
}
```

- **Default** constructor is the constructor which doesn't take any argument.
- It has no **parameter**.
- It is also called as **zero-argument** constructor.

Parameterized Constructor

- It is also possible to create **constructor** with **arguments** and such constructors are called as **parameterized** constructors or constructor with **arguments**.
- For such constructors, it is necessary to pass **values** to the **constructor** when object is created.

Parameterized Constructor

```
class area
{
    int length,breadth;
public:
    area(int l,int b)//parameterized constructor.
    {
        length = l;
        breadth = b;
    }
    void display()
    {
        cout << "Length of rectangle is:" << length << endl;
        cout << "Breadth of rectangle is: " << breadth << endl;
        cout << "Area of rectangle is: " << length*breadth;
    }
};
```


Parameterized Constructor

- When a **constructor** has been **parameterized**,
- **area a**; // may not work.
- We must pass initial **value** as arguments to the **constructor** function when an object is declared.

This can be done by two ways:

- By calling the constructor **explicitly**.
- By calling the constructor **implicitly**.
- The following declaration illustrates above method:

```
area a = area (5, 6); // explicit call
```

```
area a (5, 6); // implicit call
```

Parameterized Constructor

```
int main()
{
    area a(8,7);
    a.display();

    area c(10,5);
    c.display();

    return 0;
}
```

Constructors with default arguments:

```
#include<iostream>
#include<cmath>
using namespace std;

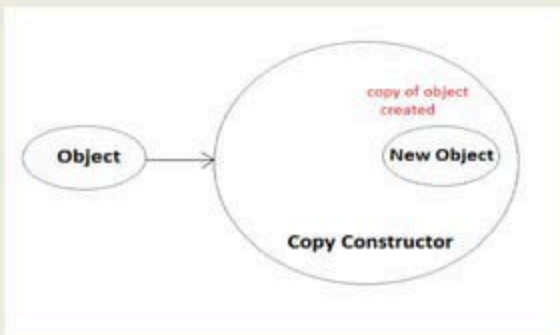
class power
{
    int num;
    int power;
    int ans;
public :
    power (int n = 9, int p = 3); // declaration of constructor
                                //with default arguments

    void show ()
    {
        cout <<"\n"<<num <<" raise to "<<power <<" is " <<ans;
    }
};

power :: power (int n,int p )
{
    num = n;
    power = p;
    ans = pow (n, p);
}
```

Copy Constructor

- The **copy** constructor is a constructor which creates an **object** by initializing it with an **object** of the same class, which has been created previously.
- The **copy** constructor is used to initialize one object from another of same **type**.



Copy Constructor

- **Syntax:**

```
class abc
{
    public:
        abc (abc &);
};
```

Copy Constructor

- Referencing operator (&) is used to define referencing variable.
- Ref. variable prepares an alternative (alias) name for previously defined variable.
- For Example:

```
int qty = 10;    // declared and initialized.  
int & qt = qty; // alias variable.
```

- Any change made in one of the variable causes change in both the variable.

```
qt = qt*2;    // contents of qt and qty will be 20.
```

Copy Constructor

```
// Class definition
class TimeSlt
{
    int Da, Mo, Ye;
public:
    void Disply();
    TimeSlt(){}
    TimeSlt(int D1,int M1,int Y1); // Constructor with parameters
    TimeSlt(TimeSlt &); // Copy constructor
};

void TimeSlt::Display()
{
    cout<<Da<<" "<<Mo<<" "<<Ye<<endl;
}

TimeSlt::TimeSlt(int D1,int M1,int Y1)
{
    Da = D1;
    Mo = M1;
    Ye = Y1;
}

TimeSlt::TimeSlt(TimeSlt &tmp)
{
    cout<<"Data copied"<<endl;
    Da = tmp.Da;
    Mo = tmp.Mo;
    Ye = tmp.Ye;
}

int main()
{
    TimeSlt T1(13,8,1990);
    T1.Display();
    TimeSlt T2(T1);
    T2.Disply();
    TimeSlt T3 = T1;
    T3.Disply();
    TimeSlt T4;
    T4 = T1;
    T4.Disply();
    return 0;
}
```


Copy Constructor

```
TimeSlt T2 (T1);
```

- Object **T2** is created with one object(**T1**), the **copy constructor** is invoked and data members are initialized.

```
TimeSlt T3 = T1;
```

- Object **T3** is created with assignment with object **T1**; copy constructor invoked, **compilers** copies all the members of object **T1** to destination object **T3**.

```
TimeSlt T4;
```

```
T4 = T1;
```

- Copy constructor is not executed, member-to-member of **T1** are copied to object **T4**, **assignment** statement assigns the values.

Overloading Constructor

- Like **functions**, it is also possible to **overload** constructors.
- In previous examples, we declared single constructors **without** arguments and with all arguments.
- A **class** can contain more than one constructor. This is known as **constructor overloading**.
- All constructors are defined with the same **name** as the class.
- All the constructors contain different **number** of arguments.
- Depending upon **number** of arguments, the compiler executes appropriate constructor.

Overloading Constructor

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

class perimeter
{
    int l, b, p;
public:
    perimeter ()
    {
        cout << "\n Enter the value of l and b";
        cin >> l >> b;
    }
    perimeter (int a)
    {
        l = b = a;
    }
    perimeter (int l1, int b1)
    {
        l = l1;
        b = b1;
    }
    perimeter (perimeter &peri)
    {
        l = peri.l;
        b = peri.b;
    }
    void calculate (void);
};
```

Overloading Constructor

```
void perimeter :: calculate (void)
{
    p = 2* (l + b)
    cout << p;
}
int main ()
{

    perimeter obj, obj1 (2), obj2 (2, 3);

    cout<<"\n perimeter of rectangle is ";
    obj. Calculate ();

    cout<<"\n perimeter of square is ";
    obj1.calculate ();

    cout<<"\n perimeter of rectangle is ";
    obj2.calculate ();

    cout<<"\n perimeter of rectangle is ";
    perimeter obj3 (obj2);
    obj3.calculate ();

    return 0;
}
```

Dynamic Constructor

- The **constructors** can also be used to allocate **memory** while creating objects.
- This will **enable** the system to allocate the right amount of memory for each **object** when the objects are not of the same size.
- Allocation of memory to objects at the time of their construction is known as **dynamic construction** of objects.
- The memory is created with the help of the **new** operator.

Dynamic Constructor

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;

class str
{
    char *name;
    int len;
public:
    str()
    {
        len = 0;
        name = new char[len + 1];
    }
    str(char *s)
    {
        len = strlen(s);
        name = new char[len + 1];
        strcpy(name, s);
    }
    void show()
    {
        cout<<"NAME IS:->"<<name<<endl;
    }
    void join(str a, str b);
};
```

Dynamic Constructor

```
void str :: join(str a, str b)
{
    len = a.len + b.len;
    name = new char[len + 1];
    strcpy(name, a.name);
    strcat(name, b.name);
}

int main()
{
    char *first="OOPS";
    str n1(first), n2("WITH"), n3("C++"), n4, n5;

    n4.join(n1, n2);
    n5.join(n4, n3);
    n1.show();
    n2.show();
    n3.show();
    n4.show();
    n5.show();
    return 0;
}
```


Destructor

- Destructor is also a 'special' member function like constructor.
- Destructors **destroy** the class **objects** created by constructors.
- The **destructors** have the **same** name as their class, preceded by a tilde (~).
- It is not possible to define **more** than one destructor.
- For example : **~Circle();**

Destructor

- The **destructor** is only one way to **destroy** the object.
- They cannot be **overloaded**.
- A destructor neither requires any **argument** nor **returns** any value.
- It is **automatically** called when object goes out of **scope**.
- Destructor **releases** memory space occupied by the **objects**.

Destructor

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

class Circle //specify a class
{
    private :
        double radius; //class data members
    public:
        Circle() //default constructor
        {
            radius = 0;
        }
        Circle(double r) //parameterized constructor
        {
            radius = r;
        }
        Circle(Circle &t) //copy constructor
        {
            radius = t.radius;
        }
        void setRadius(double r); //function to set data

        double getArea();

        ~Circle() //destructor
        {}
};
```

Destructor

```
void Circle :: setRadius(double r) //function to set data
{
    radius = r;
}
double Circle :: getArea()
{
    return 3.14 * radius * radius;
}
int main()
{
    Circle c1; //defalut constructor invoked
    Circle c2(2.5); //parmeterized constructor invoked
    Circle c3(c2); //copy constructor invoked
    cout << c1.getArea()<<endl;
    cout << c2.getArea()<<endl;
    cout << c3.getArea()<<endl;
    c1.setRadius (1.2);
    cout << c1.getArea()<<endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Const Member function

- The member functions of class can be declared as **constant** using **const** keyword.
- The **constant** function cannot modify any data in the class.
- The **const** keyword is suffixed to the function **declaration** as well as in function **definition**.
- If these functions attempt to **change** the data, compiler will generate an **error** message.

Const Member function

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

class ABC
{
    int c;
public:
    void show(int a, int b) const
    {
        c = a + b;
        cout << " a + b ::" <<c;
    }
};

int main()
{
    const ABC x;
    x.show (5, 7);
    return 0;
}
```

Const Member function

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

class ABC
{
    int c;
public:
    void show(int a, int b) const
    {
        //c = a + b;
        cout << " a + b ::" <<a + b;
    }
};

int main()
{
    const ABC x;
    x.show (5, 7);
    return 0;
}
```


Const Objects

- Like **constant** member function, we can make the **object** constant by the keyword **const**.
- Only **constructor** can initialize **data member** variables of **constant** objects.
- The data member of constant objects can only be **read** and any effect to **alter** values of variables will generate an **error**.
- The data member of **constant** objects are also called as a **read-only** data member.
- The **const-objects** can access only **const-functions**.
- If constant objects tries to invoke a non-member function, an **error** message will be displayed.

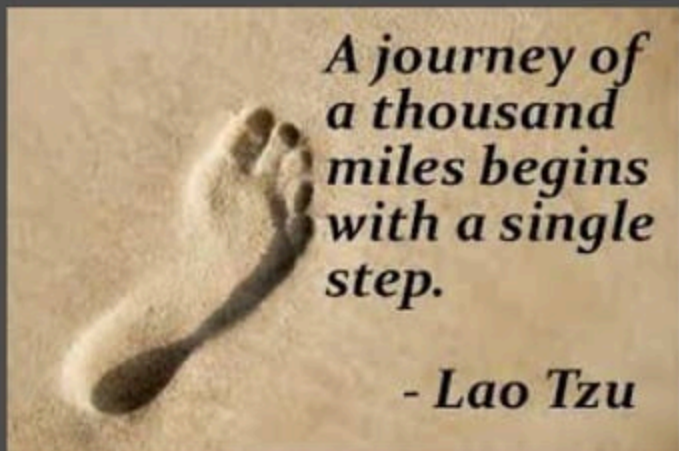
Const Objects

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

class ABC
{
    int a;
public:
    ABC(int m)
    {
        a = m;
    }
    void show() const
    {
        cout << "a = " << a << endl;
    }
};
```

Const Objects

```
int main()  
{  
    const ABC x(5);  
    x.show ();  
    return 0;  
}
```



To be continued.....