

Thread-Safe Initialization: Constant Expressions

This lesson gives an overview of thread-safe initialization in the perspective of concurrency in C++ with Constant Expressions

Constant expressions are expressions that the compiler can evaluate at compile time; they are implicitly thread-safe. Placing the keyword `constexpr` in front of a variable makes the variable a constant expression. The constant expression must be initialized immediately.

```
constexpr double pi = 3.14;
```



Additionally, user-defined types can also be constant expressions. For those types, there are a few restrictions that must be met in order to initialize it at compile time.

- They must not have virtual methods or a virtual base class.
- Their constructor must be empty and itself be a constant expression.
- Their methods, which should be callable at compile time, must be constant expressions.

Instances of `MyDouble` satisfy all these requirements, so it is possible to instantiate them at compile time. This instantiation is thread-safe.

```
// constexpr.cpp

#include <iostream>

class MyDouble{
private:
    double myVal1;
    double myVal2;
public:
    constexpr MyDouble(double v1,double v2):myVal1(v1),myVal2(v2){}
    constexpr double getSum() const { return myVal1 + myVal2; }
};

int main() {
```



```
constexpr double myStatVal = 2.0;
constexpr MyDouble myStatic(10.5, myStatVal);
constexpr double sumStat= myStatic.getSum();

std::cout << "SumStat: " << sumStat << std::endl;
}
```

