

#2: Classes and Reference Variables

5 August 25, 2021 · *G Carl Evans*

Creating New Types

In data structures, we will be learning and creating new types of structures to store data. We will start simply – by the end, we will have types we built being the building blocks for new types!

Big Idea: Encapsulation				

Encapsulation principles:

Cube.h			Cube.cpp
1		1	
2		2	
3		3	
4		4	
5		5	

Our First Class - Cube:

Cube.h		Cube.cpp		
1	#pragma once	1	#include "Cube.h"	
2		2		
3	class Cube {	3	double Cube::getVolume() {	
4	<pre>public:</pre>	4		
5	<pre>double getVolume();</pre>	5		
6		6	}	
7		7		
8		8		
9		9		
10		10		
11	private:	11		
12		12		
13		13		
14		14		
15		15		
16	};	16		

Public vs. Private:

Situation	Protection Level
Cube functionality provided to client code	
Variable containing data about the Cube	
Helper function used in Cube	

Hierarchy in C++:

There Cube class we're building might not be the only Cube class.

Large libraries in C++ are organized into

	Cube.h		Cube.cpp	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7	<pre>#pragma once namespace cs225 { class Cube { public: double getVolume();</pre>	1 2 3 4 5	<pre>#include "Cube.h" namespace cs225 { double Cube::getVolume() { return length_ *</pre>	

Our First Program:

main.cpp				
1	#include "Cube.h"			
2	<pre>#include <iostream></iostream></pre>			
3				
4	<pre>int main() {</pre>			
5	cs225::Cube c;			
6	<pre>std::cout << "Volume: " << c.getVolume() << std::endl;</pre>			
7	return 0;			
8	}			

...run this yourself: run make and ./main in the lecture source code.

Several things about C++ are revealed by our first program:

Our First Program:

```
main.cpp

1 #include "Cube.h"
2 #include <iostream>
3
4 int main() {
5 cs225::Cube c;
6 std::cout << "Volume: " << c.getVolume() << std::endl;
7 return 0;
8 }</pre>
```

...run this yourself: run make and ./main in the lecture source code.

However, our program is unreliable. Why?

Default Constructor:

Every class in C++ has a constructor – even if you didn't define one!

- Automatic/Implicit Default Constructor:
- Custom Default Constructor:

Cube.h		Cube.cpp	
 4 5 6 	<pre>class Cube { public: Cube(); /* */</pre>	 3 4 5 6	Cube::Cube() { }

Custom, Non-Default Constructors:

We can provide also create constructors that require parameters when initializing the variable:

Cube.h		Cube.cpp	
 4 5 6 	<pre>class Cube { public: Cube(double length); /* */</pre>	3 4 5 6	Cube::Cube(double length) { }

Puzzle #1: How do we fix our first program?

```
puzzle.cpp w/ above custom constructor

"" 8 cs225::Cube c;
9 cout << "Volume: " << c.getVolume() << endl;
"" "
```

...run this yourself: run make puzzle and ./puzzle in the lecture source code.

Solution #1:

Solution #2:

The beauty of programming is both solutions work! There's no one right answer, both have advantages and disadvantages!

CS 225 - Things To Be Doing:

- 1. Attend lab and complete lab_intro; due Sep. 5th
- 2. MP1 released Tomorrow; due Monday, Sep. 6th
- 3. Visit Piazza and the course website often!
- 4. Join us on Discord