



Slides #11 - Text 7.6-7.7

Constructors & Destructors How to build objects (right)

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Constructors

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Topics

- 1) How can we initialize an object when it's created?
- 2) How can we do things when an object is destroyed?
- 3) How can we write functions with different parameters?

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Constructor

- A constructor is:
 - It's like other functions except:
 - its name must be
 - it has... (not even void!).
- ```
class Demo {
public:
 Demo() {
 cout << "Running Demo's constructor." << endl;
 }
};
```

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## Constructor demo

```
class Demo {
public:
 Demo() {
 cout << "Running Demo's constructor." << endl;
 }
};
int main(){
 cout << "Before instantiating." << endl;
 Demo demoObj;
 cout << "After instantiating." << endl;

 return 0;
}
```

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## Inline vs not-inline

- Constructor can be inline, or non-inline.

Inline constructor:

```
class BankBalance {
private:
 double balance;
public:
 BankBalance()
 { balance = 0; }
};
```

Non-Inline constructor:

```
class BankBalance {
private:
 double balance;
public:
 BankBalance();
};

{
 balance = 0;
}
```

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## Initialization

- Constructors are used to...

```
class BankBalance {
private:
 double balance;
public:
 BankBalance()
 { balance = 0; }

 double getBalance()
 { return balance; }
};
int main(){
 BankBalance myAcct;
 cout << fixed << setprecision(2);
 cout << "My account balance: " << myAcct.getBalance() << endl;
 ...
```

bankBalance.cpp

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## Review

- Implement Circle's constructor as a non-inline function. Initialize its size to 0.

```
class Circle {
private:
 double radius;
public:
 Circle();
 void setRadius(double r);
 double getArea();
};
```

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## Destructors

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## Destructor

- A destructor is:

- It's like other functions except:

- its name is the...
- it has no return type (not even void!)

-

```
class Demo {
public:
 ~Demo() {
 cout << "Running Demo's destructor." << endl;
 }
};
```

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## Destructor Demo

```
class Demo {
public:
 Demo() {
 cout << "++ Running Demo's constructor." << endl;
 }
 ~Demo() {
 cout << "-- Running Demo's destructor." << endl;
 }
};
void testDemo() {
 cout << "1. Before making the object." << endl;
 Demo d1;
 cout << "2. After making the object." << endl;
}

int main(){
 testDemo();
 return 0;
}
```

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1. Before making the object.  
++ Running Demo's constructor.
2. After making the object.  
-- Running Demo's destructor.

## Destructor Use

- Constructors run when created:

- used for...

- Destructors run when being destroyed:

- used for...

- Examples:

- closing a file.

- freeing dynamically allocated memory.

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## Review

- Implement Circle's destructor as a non-inline function. Have it output the message "Bye".

```
class Circle {
private:
 double radius;
public:
 ~Circle();
 void setRadius(double r);
 double getArea();
};
```

Note: We will most often create constructors,  
but only rarely create destructors.

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## Overloading Text 6.14

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## Function Overloading

- Function overloading:
- C++ can find the right function by its signature:
  - Parameters:
    - .
- Function Overloading Examples:
  - int sum (int a, int b) { return a + b; }
  - int sum (int a, int b, int c) { return a + b + c; }
  - int sum (bool x, int a) { if (x) { a; } else { 0; } }

Overloading a truck  
is bad, but  
overloading in C++  
it's good.

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## Overloading examples

- Given:  
int sum (int a, char b);
- int sum (int a, long b); // Different type(s)  
int sum (char a, int b); // Diff. order of types  
int sum (int a, char b, int c); // Diff. # parameters  
int sum (); // Diff. # parameters
- long sum (int a, char b); //  
void sum (int a, char b); //  
int sum (int b, char a); //

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## Overloading Constructors

- Overloading is very useful for constructors:
  - You can create an object by passing in different sets of values.

```
class Drink {
public:
 Drink();
 Drink(string name);
 Drink(string name, bool alchoholic);
};
```

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## Default Constructor

- Default constructor:
  - Automatically created for us if we specify no constructors for an object.

```
class Drink {
public:
 Drink() { ... };
 Drink(string name) { ... };
 Drink(string name, bool alchoholic) { ... };
};
```

Demonstrate creating  
an object for each  
constructor.

```
int main() {
 Drink d1;
 Drink d2("water");
 Drink d3("coke", false);
 return 0;
}
```

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## Demo / Review

- Implement a Pen class that stores the colour of ink.  
Make a default constructor, and a constructor to initialize the Pen's colour (a string).

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## Summary

- Constructors are functions to initialize objects.
  - Same name as class.
  - No return type.
- Destructors called when object being destroyed.
  - Similar to constructors but prefix name with ~ and cannot accept arguments.
- Overloading possible based on name, and parameters: #, order, and type.
  - Good for constructors.
- Default constructor is one with no parameters.

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