

Glossary

defaulted special member function — a (user-declared) special member function specified (see Section 1.1.“Defaulted Functions” on page 33) to be implemented using its `default` (i.e., compiler-generated) definition. Note that, in some situations (e.g., see Section 3.1.“`union` ’11” on page 1174), the compiler may choose to `delete` an implicitly or explicitly declared and defaulted function.

defect report (DR) — an acknowledgment by the C++ Standards Committee of a defect in the current C++ Standard that is considered by ISO to apply to the currently active C++ Standard and is generally taken by implementers to apply to all previous versions of the C++ Standard where the change would be both applicable and practicable. [Braced Init \(218\)](#), [constexpr Functions \(280\)](#), [Generalized PODs ’11 \(432\)](#), [Inheriting Ctors \(551\)](#), [initializer_list \(561\)](#), [Lambdas \(594\)](#), [noexcept Operator \(615\)](#), [Range for \(681\)](#), [Rvalue References \(722\)](#), [noexcept Specifier \(1086\)](#)

defensive check — one typically performed at runtime (e.g., using a C-style `assert` macro) to verify some condition that is impossible to occur in a correct program. A common use case is to verify, for a given function, that there has not been a `contract` violation — i.e., a precondition or postcondition violation — yet is entirely superfluous in a correctly implemented program. [Generalized PODs ’11 \(468\)](#), [Rvalue References \(744\)](#)

defensive programming — a term, sometimes (mis)used, to suggest generally good programming practice implies the use of **defensive checks** to, for example, detect client misuse of a given function, by violating its **preconditions** when invoking it. [final \(1024\)](#)

define — to provide, for a given entity, any additional details, e.g., size, layout, address, etc., beyond just its `declaration`, needed to use that `entity` in a running process. [Deleted Functions \(58\)](#), [Forwarding References \(390\)](#), [Rvalue References \(762\)](#), [Variadic Templates \(880\)](#)

defined behavior — (1) behavior that is unambiguously codified in terms of C++’s abstract machine or (2) the full set of behaviors defined for a given component or library. Note that invoking a component or library out of contract is library undefined behavior (a.k.a. soft UB), which might lead to language undefined behavior (a.k.a. hard UB). [noexcept Specifier \(1112\)](#)

defining declaration — one — such as `class Foo { };` — that provides a complete `definition` of the `entity` being declared. Note that a `typedef` or `using` declaration (see Section 1.1.“`using` Aliases” on page 133) would not be considered `defining` because, according to the C++ Standard, neither is a `definition`. Also note that an opaque enumeration declaration does not provide the enumerators corresponding to the complete `definition` and, although sufficient to instantiate opaque objects of the enumerated type, does not allow for interpretation of their `values`; hence, it too would not be considered `defining`; see also `nondefining declaration`. [Rvalue References \(729\)](#)

definition — a statement that fully characterizes an `entity` (e.g., type, object, or function); note that all `definitions` are subject to the `one-definition rule`. [Function static ’11 \(68\)](#), [constexpr Variables \(315\)](#), [Variadic Templates \(879\)](#), [noexcept Specifier \(1105\)](#)

delegating constructor — one that, rather than fully initializing data members and base-class objects itself, invokes another constructor after which it might perform additional work in its own body (see Section 1.1.“`Delegating Ctors`” on page 46). [Delegating Ctors \(46\)](#)

deleted — implies (1) for a given function, that it has been rendered inaccessible from *any* access level — either explicitly, by being annotated using `= delete` (see Section 1.1.“`Deleted Functions`” on page 53) or implicitly (e.g., see Section 3.1.“`union` ’11” on page 1174); or (2) for a given pointer to a dynamically allocated object, that the (typically global) `delete` operator