

Glossary

- aggregate** – an aggregate type or an object thereof. [Aggregate Init '14 \(138\)](#), [Braced Init \(230\)](#), [Default Member Init \(330\)](#), [Generalized PODs '11 \(402\)](#), [Rvalue References \(750\)](#), [Variadic Templates \(877\)](#), [noexcept Specifier \(1087\)](#)
- aggregate class** – one of aggregate type. [Generalized PODs '11 \(415\)](#)
- aggregate initialization** – the initialization of an aggregate from a braced-initializer list. [Aggregate Init '14 \(138\)](#), [Braced Init \(221\)](#), [constexpr Functions \(273\)](#), [Default Member Init \(330\)](#), [Generalized PODs '11 \(463\)](#), [Rvalue References \(752\)](#)
- aggregate type** – (1) a class type having no user-provided or explicit constructors, no base classes, no private or protected nonstatic data members, and no virtual functions, or (2) any array type. As of C++14, aggregates can have default member initializers for nonstatic data members. As of C++17, public nonvirtual base classes are allowed, but inherited constructors are not; as of C++20, all user-declared constructors become disallowed. [constexpr Functions \(279\)](#), [Generalized PODs '11 \(410\)](#), [Rvalue References \(742\)](#)
- algebra** – a set of operations, often involving just a single type, that can be applied to object values, along with any rules governing those operations and how they interrelate; see also value semantics. [constexpr Functions '14 \(961\)](#)
- algorithm selection** – the process by which an algorithm is chosen from among a portfolio of potentially applicable algorithms, based on readily observable, especially compile-time, features of the input data set (see [leyton-brown03](#)). [Variadic Templates \(947\)](#)
- alias template** – one that defines a family of type aliases parameterized by one or more template parameters. [using Aliases \(135\)](#), [Variadic Templates \(887\)](#)
- aliasing** – having pointers or references to distinct objects (possibly of distinct type) whose footprints overlap in the address space. [noexcept Operator \(638\)](#)
- alignment (of an address)** – the largest integral power of 2 that evenly divides the numerical value of a given address in the address space. [alignas \(168\)](#)
- alignment requirement (of a type)** – the smallest alignment at which an object of a given type can reside in the address space; see also natural alignment. [alignas \(168\)](#), [alignof \(184\)](#)
- allocating object** – one that might itself allocate and manage dynamically allocated memory outside of its own footprint using `new`, `malloc`, or some other allocation interface, such as `std::allocator` or, as of C++17, `std::pmr::polymorphic_allocator`. [noexcept Operator \(634\)](#)
- allocator aware** – implies, for a given allocating object’s type, that its API supports the ability to supply an external resource to the class’s constructor, used by the object to obtain memory; see also [scoped allocator model](#).
- amortized constant time (of a repeated operation)** – a bound on the runtime complexity of a given operation such that when it is repeated N times (where N is a sufficiently large number), the total time spent is proportional to N , leading to a constant *average* time spent per operation. Note that any single iteration might not have a fixed limit on its run time and thus not execute in constant time. The classic example involves populating a default-constructed `std::vector` with allocating objects via repeated calls to `push_back` (assuming dynamic memory allocation itself is slow but still considered a constant-time operation); see also [constant time](#). [noexcept Operator \(636\)](#)
- API** – short for application programming interface. [Generalized PODs '11 \(402\)](#), [Rvalue References \(793\)](#), [inline namespace \(1056\)](#)