

```

int x, *xp = &x; // integer and pointer-to-integer variables

// Convert pointer to various integral types.
short int si = reinterpret_cast<short int>(&x); // Error, too small
int      i  = reinterpret_cast<int>      (&x); // OK, if 32-bit void*
long     li = reinterpret_cast<long>    (&x); // OK, typically
long     qli =      static_cast<long>   (&x); // Error, static_cast
long long lli = reinterpret_cast<long long>(&x); // OK, typically
__int128 llli = reinterpret_cast<__int128> (&x); // OK, e.g., on GCC

// Convert to optionally supported standard integral types.
std::uintptr_t uiptr = reinterpret_cast<std::uintptr_t>(&x);
// OK, if supported
std::intptr_t  iptr  = reinterpret_cast<std::intptr_t> (&x);
// OK, if supported

// Convert integral values back to pointers:
int* lp = reinterpret_cast<int*>( li);      assert(&x == lp);
int* llp = reinterpret_cast<int*>( lli);    assert(&x == llp);
int* lllp = reinterpret_cast<int*>(llli);   assert(&x == lllp);

int* p1 = reinterpret_cast<int*>(uiptr);    assert(&x == p1);
int* p2 = reinterpret_cast<int*>( iptr);    assert(&x == p2);
}

```

As the example code above shows, we can safely `reinterpret_cast` a pointer (e.g., `&x`) to an **integral type** of sufficient size *by value* and then back to the original pointer type. Note that **static_cast** can be used only for types that are implicitly convertible in at least one direction; hence, **static_cast** cannot be used to convert between pointers and integral values. Although optionally supported, most modern standard libraries provide standard types `std::intptr_t` and `std::uintptr_t` (in header `<stdint>`), which are aliases for the platform-dependent signed and unsigned **integer types**, respectively, that are large enough to hold a pointer value:

```

#include <stdint> // std::uintptr_t, std::intptr_t, if supported

static_assert(sizeof(std::intptr_t) >= sizeof(void*), ""); // OK, if supported
static_assert(sizeof(std::uintptr_t) >= sizeof(void*), ""); // OK, if supported

```

Although modifying virtual memory addresses is not portable, we can often take advantage of “spare bits” in a pointer holding the address of a type `T` for which `alignof(T)` is 2 or more — typically any scalar type larger than `char` and any class type having a **nonstatic member** of such a scalar type. In most implementations, casting a valid `T*` to an integral quantity always yields an even value: