

## Range for

## Chapter 2 Conditionally Safe Features

```

#include <vector> // std::vector

void f1(std::vector<int>& vec)
{
    const std::vector<int>& cvec = vec;

    for (auto& i : cvec)
    {
        i = 0; // Error, i is a reference to const int.
    }

    for (int j : vec)
    {
        j = 0; // Bug, j is a loop-local variable; vec is not modified.
    }

    for (int& k : vec)
    {
        k = 0; // OK, set element of vec to 0.
    }
}

```

Since `cvec` is **const**, the element type returned by `*begin(cvec)` is **const int&**. Thus, `i` is deduced as **const int&**, making invalid any attempt to modify an element through `i`. The second loop is valid C++11 code but has a subtle defect: `j` is not a reference — it contains a *copy* of the current element in the **vector** — so modifying `j` has no effect on the vector. The third loop correctly sets all of the elements of `vec` to zero; the loop variable `k` is a reference to the current element, so setting it to zero modifies the original vector.

Note that the *for-range declaration* must define a *new* variable; unlike a traditional **for** loop, it cannot name an existing variable already in scope:

```

void f2(std::vector<int>& vec)
{
    int m;
    for (    m : vec) { /*...*/ } // Error, m does not define a variable.
    for (int& m : vec) { /*...*/ } // OK, loop m hides function-scope m.
}

```

The *statement* that makes up the loop body can contain anything that is valid within a traditional **for** loop body. In particular, a **break** statement will exit the loop immediately, and a **continue** statement will skip to the next iteration.

Applying this transformation to a range-based **for** loop traversing a **vector** of **string** elements, we can see how the iterator idiom is hooked into for the traversal: