



Structure within Structure in C++

Lecture 7

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What is a Nested Structure?

Definition

A nested structure is when a structure contains another structure as a member.

Purpose

Why use it?

To model complex entities with multiple levels of details.

Syntax of Nested Structures

```
#include

using namespace std;

struct Date {
    int day;
    int month;
    int year;
};

struct Student {
    int id;
    string name;
    Date dob; // Nested structure
};
```

Here, Date is used inside Student.

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

struct Date {
    int day;
    int month;
    int year;
};

struct Student {
    int id;
    string name;
    Date dob;
};

int main() {
    Student s;
    s.id = 1;
    s.name = "John";
    s.dob.day = 1;
    s.dob.month = 1;
    s.dob.year = 2000;
    cout << s.id << " " << s.name << " " << s.dob.day << "/" << s.dob.month << "/" << s.dob.year << endl;
    return 0;
}
```


Initializing and Accessing Nested Structures

Create the object

```
Student s1;
```

Initialize main structure members

```
s1.id = 101;
```

```
s1.name = "Ali";
```

Initialize nested structure members

```
s1.dob.day = 15;
```

```
s1.dob.month = 3;
```

```
s1.dob.year = 2002;
```

Access the data

```
cout << "Name:" << s1.name << endl;
```

```
cout << "DOB:" << s1.dob.day << "/" << s1.dob.month << "/" << s1.dob.year << endl;
```

✖ Access format: object.nestedStruct.member

Another Example: Employee and Address

Structure Definition

```
struct Address {  
    string city;  
    string street;  
    int zipcode;  
};  
  
struct Employee {  
    int empID;  
    string empName;  
    Address empAddress;  
};
```

Accessing Members

```
Employee e1;  
e1.empAddress.city = "Baghdad";
```

This shows how to access and assign values to nested structure members.

Real-World Example: Hospital Patient Record System



Personal Info

Name, age, gender



Contact Info

Phone, address



Admission Info

Date, doctor



Goal: We want to store information about a patient, including these details. We'll use nested structures to organize this data.



C++ Code for Patient Record System



Date Structure

```
struct Date {  
    int day;  
    int month;  
    int year;  
};
```



Address Structure

```
struct Address {  
    string city;  
    string street;  
    int zipcode;  
};
```



Patient Structure

```
struct Patient {  
    string name;  
    int age;  
    char gender;  
    string phone;  
    Address address; // Nested structure  
    Date admissionDate; // Nested structure  
    string doctorName;  
};
```



Implementing the Patient Record System

//Initialize Patient Object

Patient p1;

//Assign Basic Values

p1.name = "Zainab Ali";

p1.age = 32;

p1.gender = 'F';

p1.phone = "07701234567";

//Assign Address Values

p1.address.city = "Baghdad";

p1.address.street = "Al-Rashid";

p1.address.zipcode = 10001;

//Assign Date Values

p1.admissionDate.day = 3;

p1.admissionDate.month = 5;

p1.admissionDate.year = 2025;

p1.doctorName = "Dr. Ahmed Kareem";