

Section 1.1 C++11

Defaulted Functions

For example, consider struct `S4` in the code snippet below in which we have chosen to make explicit that the copy operations are to be autogenerated by the compiler; ~~note, in particular, that implicit declaration and generation of each of the other special member functions are left unaffected.~~

```

struct S4
{
    S4(const S4&) = default;           // copy constructor
    S4& operator=(const S4&) = default; // copy-assignment operator
    // has no effect on other four special member functions, i.e.,
    // implicitly generates the default constructor, the destructor,
    // the move constructor, and the move assignment operator.
};

```

A defaulted declaration may appear with any **access specifier** (i.e., **private**, **protected**, or **public**), and access to that generated function will be regulated accordingly:

```

struct S5
{
private:
    S5(const S5&) = default;           // private copy constructor
    S5& operator=(const S5&) = default; // private copy-assignment operator

protected:
    ~S5() = default;                 // protected destructor

public:
    S5() = default;                   // public default constructor
};

```

In the example above, copy operations exist for use by *member* and *friend* functions only. Declaring the destructor **protected** or **private** limits which functions can create automatic variables of the specified type to those functions with the appropriately privileged access to the class. Declaring the default constructor **public** is necessary to avoid its declaration being suppressed by another constructor — e.g., the private copy constructor in the code snippet above — or *any* move operation.

In short, using **=default** on the first declaration denotes that a special member function is intended to be generated by the compiler, irrespective of any user-provided declarations; in conjunction with **=delete** (see Section 1.1. “Deleted Functions” on page 53), using **=default** affords the fine-grained control over which special member functions are to be generated and/or made publicly available.

Defaulting the implementation of a user-provided special member function

The **=default** syntax can also be used after the first declaration but with a distinctly different meaning: The compiler will treat the first declaration as a user-provided special