

SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, COIMBATORE –35 (An Autonomous Institution) DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING



## **Structures and Classes**

A <u>structure</u> is a collection of variables of different data types under a single unit. It is almost similar to a class because both are user-defined data types and both hold a bunch of different data types.

#### **Example:**

```
// C# program to illustrate the
// concept of structure
using System;
// Defining structure
public struct Car
{
  // Declaring different data types
  public string Brand;
  public string Model;
  public string Color;
}
class GFG {
  // Main Method
  static void Main(string[] args)
  {
    // Declare c1 of type Car
    // no need to create an
    // instance using 'new' keyword
     Car c1:
    // c1's data
     c1.Brand = "Bugatti";
     c1.Model = "Bugatti Veyron EB 16.4";
     c1.Color = "Gray";
     // Displaying the values
     Console.WriteLine("Name of brand: " + c1.Brand +
                "\nModel name: " + c1.Model +
                "\nColor of car: " + c1.Color);
  }
}
Output:
Name of brand: Bugatti
Model name: Bugatti Veyron EB 16.4
Color of car: Gray
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```



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#### CLASS:

A <u>class</u> is a user-defined blueprint or prototype from which objects are created. Basically, a class combines the fields and methods(member function which defines actions) into a single unit.

### Example:

```
// C# program to illustrate the
// concept of class
using System;
// Class Declaration
public class Author {
  // Data members of class
  public string name;
  public string language;
  public int article_no;
  public int improv_no;
  // Method of class
  public void Details(string name, string language,
               int article no, int improv no)
  {
     this.name = name;
     this.language = language;
     this.article_no = article_no;
     this.improv_no = improv_no;
     Console.WriteLine("The name of the author is : " + name
                + "\nThe name of language is : " + language
                + "\nTotal number of article published "
                + article_no + "\nTotal number of Improvements:"
                +" done by author is : " + improv_no);
  }
  // Main Method
  public static void Main(String[] args)
     Author obj = new Author();
     obj.Details("Ankita", "C#", 80, 50);
  }
}
Output:
The name of the author is : Ankita
The name of language is : C#
Total number of article published 80
Total number of Improvements: done by author is : 50
```

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**Difference between Class and Structure** 

Class	Structure
Classes are of reference types.	Structs are of value types.
All the reference types are allocated on heap memory.	All the value types are allocated on stack memory.
Allocation of large reference type is cheaper than allocation of large value type.	Allocation and de-allocation is cheaper in value type as compare to reference type.
Class has limitless features.	Struct has limited features.
Class is generally used in large programs.	Struct are used in small programs.
Classes can contain constructor or destructor.	Structure does not contain parameter less constructor or destructor, but can contain Parameterized constructor or static constructor.
Classes used new keyword for creating instances.	Struct can create an instance, with or without new keyword.
A Class can inherit from another class.	A Struct is not allowed to inherit from another struct or class.
The data member of a class can be protected.	The data member of struct can't be protected.
Function member of the class can be virtual or abstract.	Function member of the struct cannot be virtual or abstract.
Two variable of class can contain the reference of the same object and any operation on one variable can affect another variable.	Each variable in struct contains its own copy of data(except in ref and out parameter variable) and any operation on one variable can not effect another variable.