

# Locks

- `std::lock_guard` and `std::unique_lock` manage the lifetime of the their mutex according to the RAI-Idiom.
  - Needs the header `<mutex>`.
- RAI-Idiom (Resource Acquisition Is Initialization)
  - The lifetime of a resource is bound to an automatic object.
  - The resource will be initialized in the constructor of the object; released in the destructor of the object.
  - The RAI-Idiom is often used in C++: Smart pointer.



In case the lock goes out of scope, the resource will be immediately released.

# std::lock\_guard

std::lock\_guard is for the simple use case.

- std::lock\_guard
  - Automatically locks the mutex in its constructor and releases it in its destructor.
  - Is cheaper to use than its more powerful brother `std::unique_lock`.

```
std::mutex myMutex;  
auto res = getVar();  
{  
    std::lock_guard<std::mutex> myLock(myMutex);  
    sharedVariable = res;  
}
```

# std::unique\_lock

| Function   | Description                                    |
|--|--|
| <code>lk.lock()</code>   | Locks the associated mutex.                    |
| <code>lk.unlock()</code>   | Releases the associated mutex.                 |
| <code>lk.try_lock()</code> ,<br><code>lk.try_lock_for(rel_time)</code> ,<br><code>lk.try_lock_until(abs_time)</code> | lk tries to lock the mutex.                    |
| <code>lk.release()</code>  | Releases the mutex without releasing it.       |
| <code>lk.swap(lk2)</code> , <code>std::swap(lk,lk2)</code>   | Swaps the locks.                               |
| <code>lk.mutex()</code>  | Returns a pointer to the associated mutex.     |
| <code>lk.owns_lock()</code>  | Tests if the lock has a mutex.                 |
| <code>std::lock( ... )</code>  | Locks an arbitrary number of mutex atomically. |

In C++14 there is a `std::shared_timed_mutex`.

➡ You can implement reader-writer locks in combination with `std::shared_lock`.

`uniqueLock.cpp`

`readerWriterLock.cpp`