

# Function Output Iterator

**Author:** David Abrahams, Jeremy Siek, Thomas Witt  
**Contact:** [dave@boost-consulting.com](mailto:dave@boost-consulting.com), [jsiek@osl.iu.edu](mailto:jsiek@osl.iu.edu), [witt@ive.uni-hannover.de](mailto:witt@ive.uni-hannover.de)  
**Organization:** [Boost Consulting](#), [Indiana University Open Systems Lab](#), University of Hanover [Institute for Transport Railway Operation and Construction](#)  
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**abstract:** The function output iterator adaptor makes it easier to create custom output iterators. The adaptor takes a unary function and creates a model of Output Iterator. Each item assigned to the output iterator is passed as an argument to the unary function. The motivation for this iterator is that creating a conforming output iterator is non-trivial, particularly because the proper implementation usually requires a proxy object.

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```
template <class UnaryFunction>
class function_output_iterator {
public:
    typedef std::output_iterator_tag iterator_category;
    typedef void value_type;
    typedef void difference_type;
    typedef void pointer;
    typedef void reference;

    explicit function_output_iterator();

    explicit function_output_iterator(const UnaryFunction& f);

    /* see below */ operator*();
    function_output_iterator& operator++();
    function_output_iterator& operator++(int);
private:
    UnaryFunction m_f;    // exposition only
};
```

## function\_output\_iterator requirements

UnaryFunction must be Assignable and Copy Constructible.

## function\_output\_iterator models

function\_output\_iterator is a model of the Writable and Incrementable Iterator concepts.

## function\_output\_iterator operations

```
explicit function_output_iterator(const UnaryFunction& f = UnaryFunction());
```

**Effects:** Constructs an instance of `function_output_iterator` with `m_f` constructed from `f`.

```
operator*();
```

**Returns:** An object `r` of unspecified type such that `r = t` is equivalent to `m_f(t)` for all `t`.

```
function_output_iterator& operator++();
```

**Returns:** `*this`

```
function_output_iterator& operator++(int);
```

**Returns:** `*this`

## Example

```
struct string_appender
{
    string_appender(std::string& s)
        : m_str(&s)
    {}

    void operator()(const std::string& x) const
    {
        *m_str += x;
    }

    std::string* m_str;
};

int main(int, char*[])
{
    std::vector<std::string> x;
    x.push_back("hello");
    x.push_back(" ");
    x.push_back("world");
    x.push_back("!");

    std::string s = "";
```

```
std::copy(x.begin(), x.end(),
          boost::make_function_output_iterator(string_appender(s)));

std::cout << s << std::endl;

return 0;
}
```