

The Self-referential structure.

A structure that contains a pointer to itself as one of its members is called self referential structure.

A self referential structure is used to create data structures like linked lists, stacks, etc.

Following is an example of this kind of structure:
General syntax:

```
struct struct_name
{
    datatype datatype_name;
    struct_name * pointer_name;
};
```

Example:

```
struct eg_struct
{
    int k;
    eg_struct *eg_struct_ptr;
};
```

In a linked list structure, each node contains a data element and a pointer to the next node as its members.

Thus we call it a self referential structure.

```
typedef struct listnode {
void *data;
struct listnode *next; (pointer to a self structure.)
} linked_list;
```

The listnode is a self-referential structure because the *next is of the type struct listnode.