

# NoUsingNamespaceInHeaders

Don't use the `{using namespace ...}` or `using ...` constructs in a header file. It might save you some typing but it also forces the namespaces you use onto every `.cpp` file that directly or indirectly includes your headers. That could create name clashes with names in some other namespace that the author of the `.cpp` file wants to use. Use fully qualified names, painful as it might be.

There is one exception. It's sometimes handy to "import" names from one namespace to another. For example suppose some C++ compiler doesn't provide the `std::tr1::auto_ptr` template, which is used in `qpid`. [Boost](#) does provide a compatible `boost::auto_ptr` but it's in the `boost` namespace and `qpid` expects it in `std::tr1`. No problem, we create our own `tr1/memory` header file:

```
#include <boost/memory>
namespace std {
    namespace tr1 {
        using boost::auto_ptr;
    }
}
```

This makes the `boost` template available in the standard namespace. (Actually you don't need to do this yourself, `boost` provides a set of adapter headers for all the `tr1` stuff.)