

Simple Queue or Linear Queue

In Linear Queue, an insertion takes place from one end while the deletion occurs from another end. The end at which the insertion takes place is known as the rear end, and the end at which the deletion takes place is known as front end. It strictly follows the FIFO rule.



The major drawback of using a linear Queue is that insertion is done only from the rear end. If the first three elements are deleted from the Queue, we cannot insert more elements even though the space is available in a Linear Queue. In this case, the linear Queue shows the overflow condition as the rear is pointing to the last element of the Queue.

Circular Queue

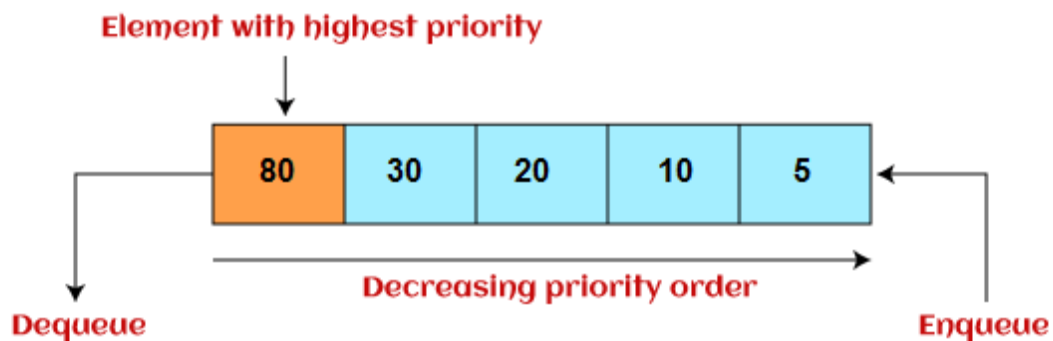
In Circular Queue, all the nodes are represented as circular. It is similar to the linear Queue except that the last element of the queue is connected to the first element. It is also known as Ring Buffer, as all the ends are connected to another end. The representation of circular queue is shown in the below image -



The drawback that occurs in a linear queue is overcome by using the circular queue. If the empty space is available in a circular queue, the new element can be added in an empty space by simply incrementing the value of rear. The main advantage of using the circular queue is better memory utilization.

Priority Queue

It is a special type of queue in which the elements are arranged based on the priority. It is a special type of queue data structure in which every element has a priority associated with it. Suppose some elements occur with the same priority, they will be arranged according to the FIFO principle. The representation of priority queue is shown in the below image -



Insertion in priority queue takes place based on the arrival, while deletion in the priority queue occurs based on the priority. Priority queue is mainly used to implement the CPU scheduling algorithms.

There are two types of priority queue that are discussed as follows -

- **Ascending priority queue** - In ascending priority queue, elements can be inserted in arbitrary order, but only smallest can be deleted first. Suppose an array with elements 7, 5, and 3 in the same order, so, insertion can be done with the same sequence, but the order of deleting the elements is 3, 5, 7.
- **Descending priority queue** - In descending priority queue, elements can be inserted in arbitrary order, but only the largest element can be deleted first. Suppose an array with elements 7, 3, and 5 in the same order, so, insertion can be done with the same sequence, but the order of deleting the elements is 7, 5, 3.