

Chapter Four: Loops I

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Chapter Goals

- To implement while, for and do loops
- To avoid infinite loops and off-by-one errors

A loop is a statement that is used to:

execute one or more statements repeatedly until a goal is reached.

Sometimes these one-or-more statements will not be executed at all —if that's the way to reach the goal

The Three Loops in C++

C++ has these three looping statements:

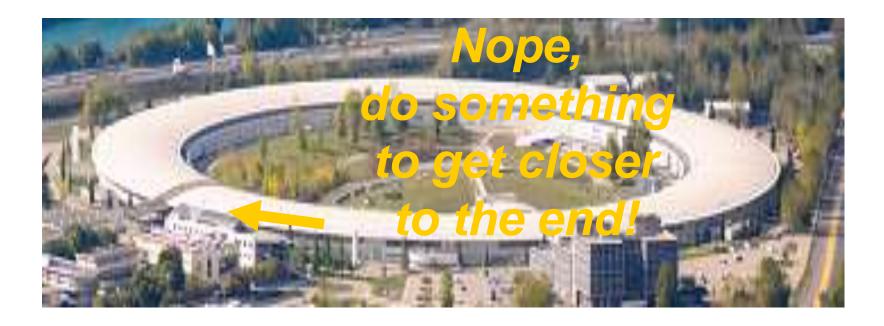
while for do



In a particle accelerator, subatomic particles traverse a loop-shaped tunnel multiple times, gaining speed. Similarly, in computer science, statements in a loop are executed *while* a condition is true.



The while statement executes statements until a condition is true



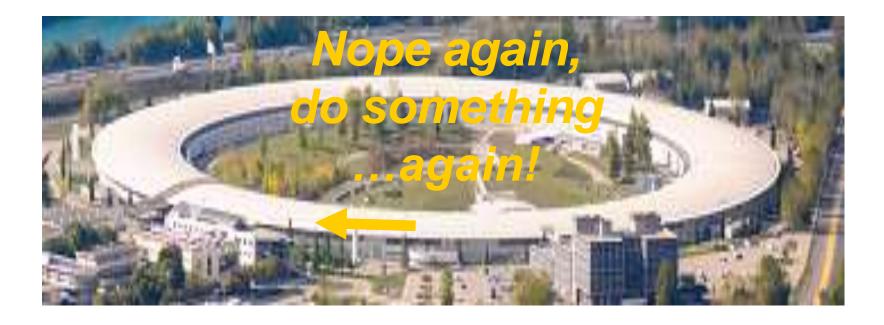
The **while** statement executes statements until a condition is true



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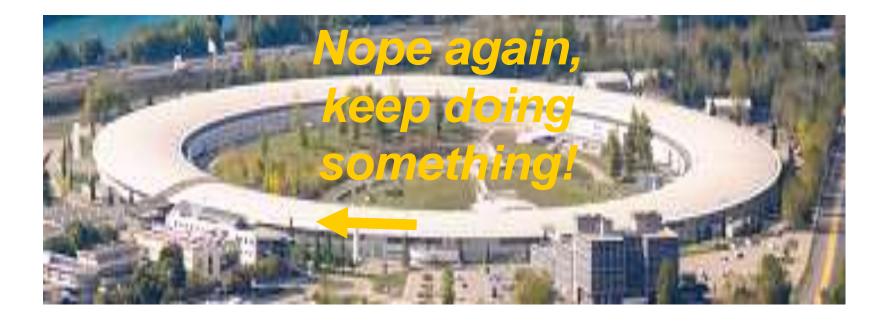
The **while** statement executes statements until a condition is true



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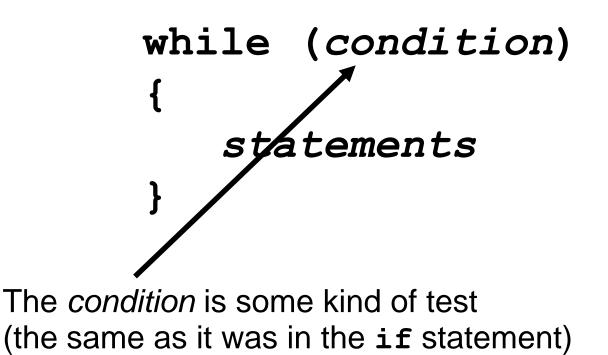
The **while** statement executes statements until a condition is true

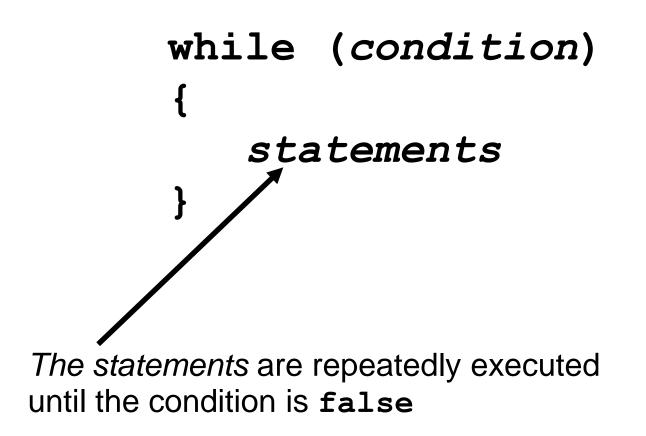


The while statement executes statements until a condition is true



The **while** statement executes statements until a condition is true





An investment problem: Starting with \$10,000, how many years until we have at least \$20,000?

The algorithm:



- 1. Start with a year value of 0 and a balance of \$10,000.
- 2. <u>Repeat</u> the following steps while the balance is less than \$20,000:
 - Add 1 to the year value.
 - Compute the interest by multiplying the balance value by 0.05 (5 percent interest) (will be a const, of course).
 - Add the interest to the balance.
- 3. Report the final year value as the answer.

2. <u>Repeat</u> the following steps while the balance is less than \$20,000:

"Repeat .. while" in the problem indicates a loop is needed. To reach the goal of being able to report the final year value, adding and multiplying must be repeated some unknown number of times.

The statements to be controlled are:

- Incrementing the **year** variable
- Computing the interest variable, using a const for the RATE
- Updating the **balance** variable by adding the **interest**

```
year++;
double interest = balance * RATE / 100;
balance = balance + interest;
```

The condition, which indicates when to *stop* executing the statements, is this test:

(balance < TARGET)

Here is the complete **while** statement:

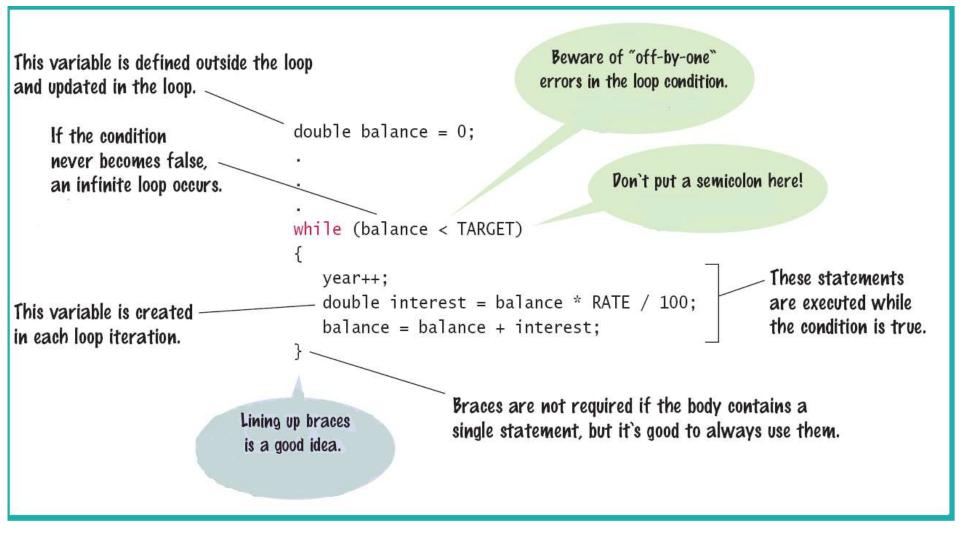
```
while (balance < TARGET)
{
    year++;
    double interest = balance * RATE / 100;
    balance = balance + interest;</pre>
```

Notice that **interest** is defined *inside* the loop and that **year** and **balance** had to have been defined *outside* the loop.

```
while (balance < TARGET)
{
    year++;
    double interest = balance * RATE / 100;
    balance = balance + interest;
}</pre>
```

A new interest variable to be created in *each* iteration. year and balance are used for *all* iterations.

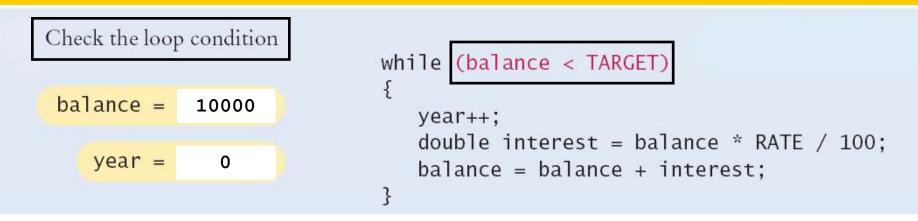
The while Statement

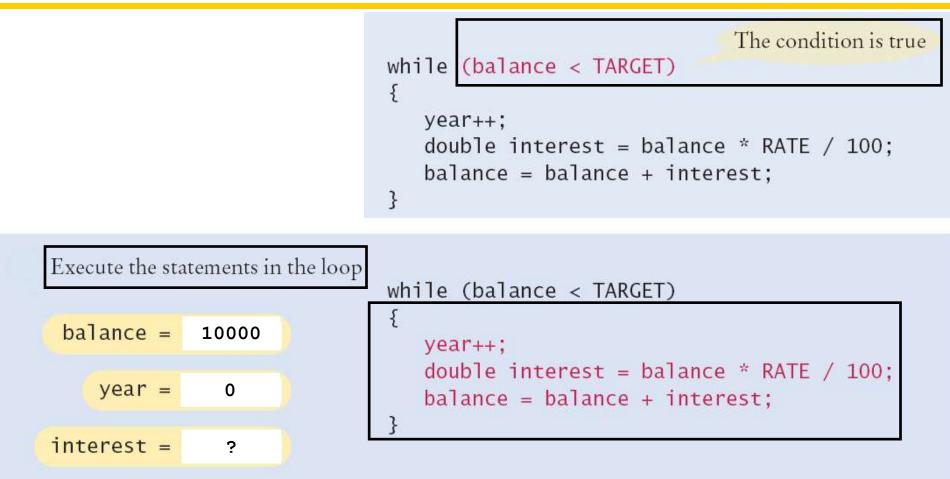


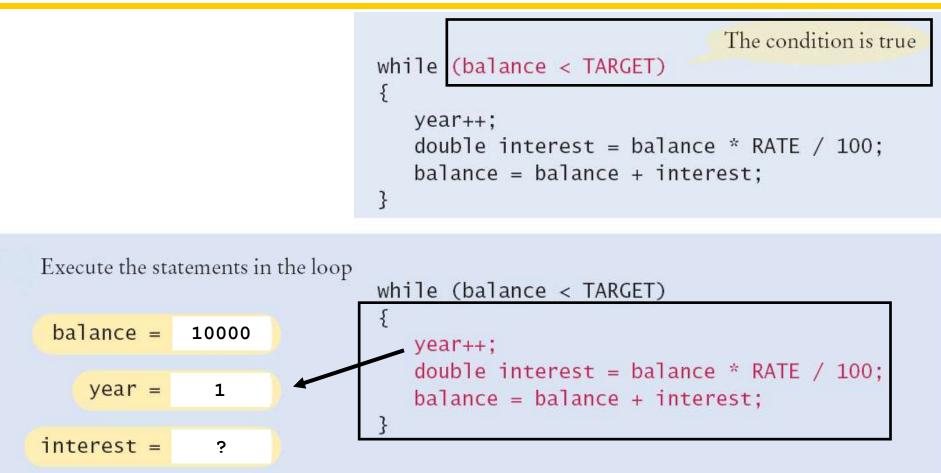
The Complete Investment Program

return 0;

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
                                                 ch04/doublinv.cpp
int main()
{
   const double RATE = 5;
   const double INITIAL BALANCE = 10000;
   const double TARGET = 2 * INITIAL BALANCE;
   double balance = INITIAL BALANCE;
   int year = 0;
   while (balance < TARGET)
   {
      year++;
      double interest = balance * RATE / 100;
      balance = balance + interest;
   }
   cout << "The investment doubled after "
        << year << " years." << endl;</pre>
```

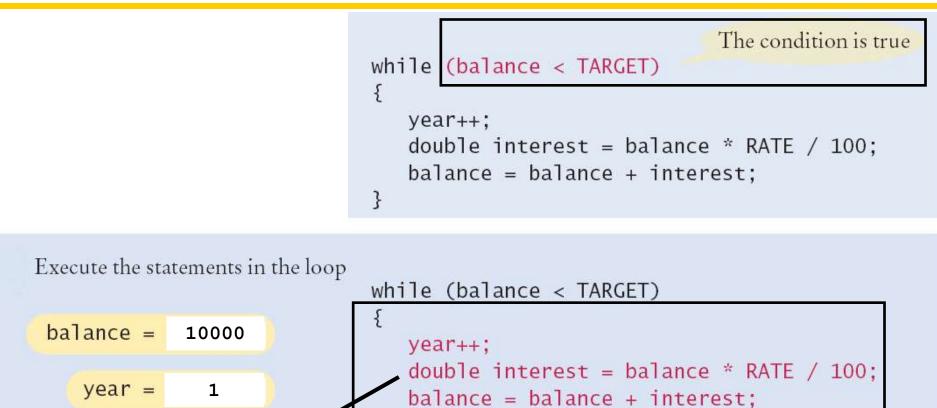


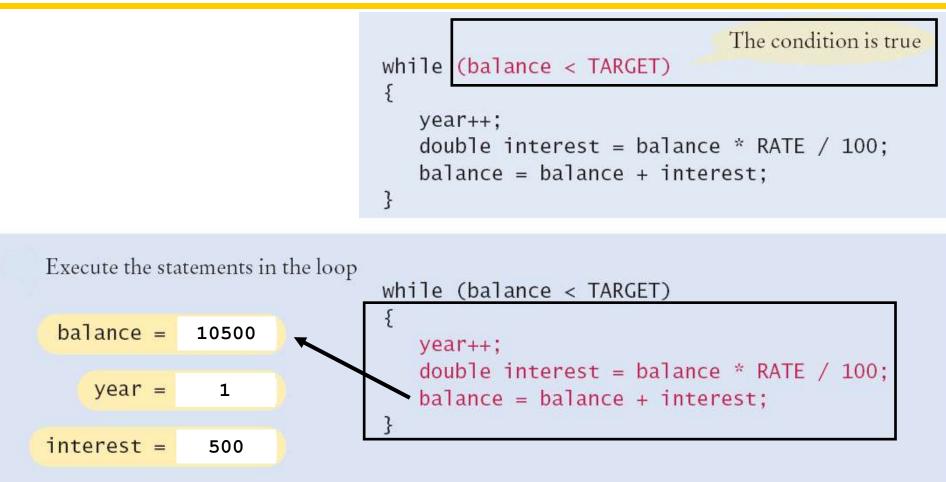


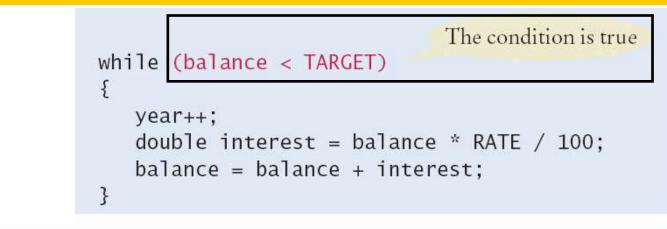


interest =

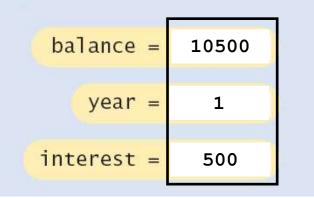
500



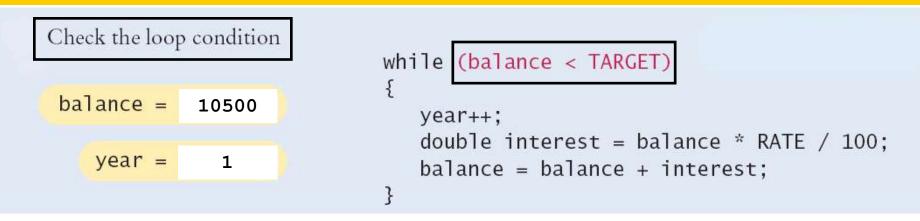


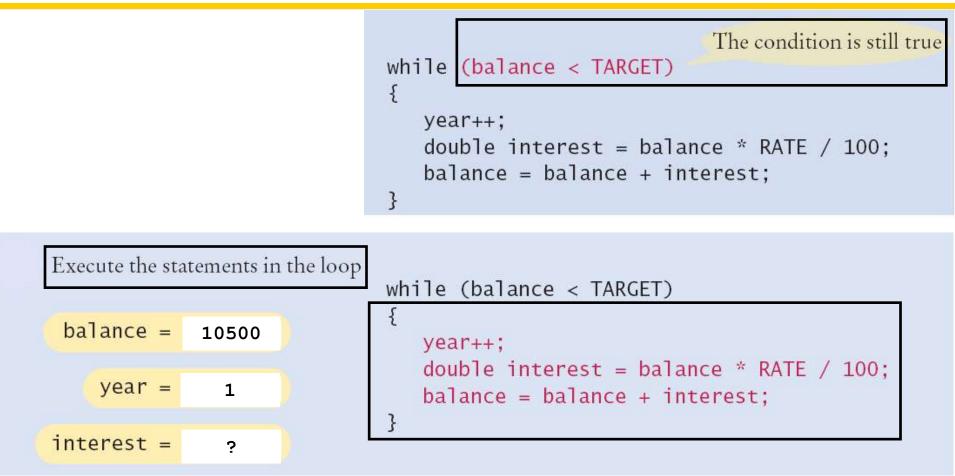


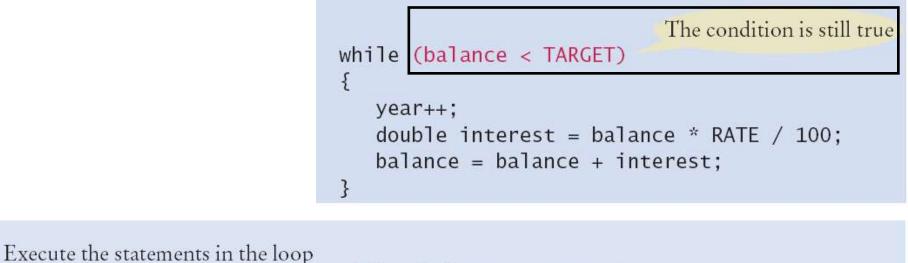
Execute the statements in the loop

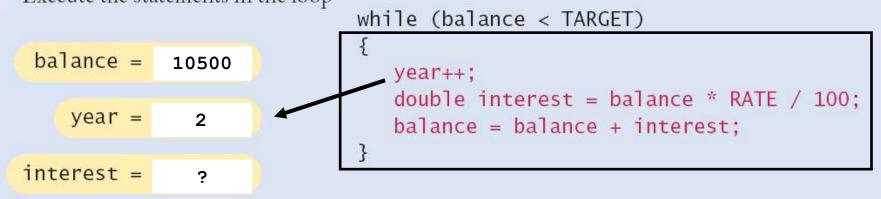


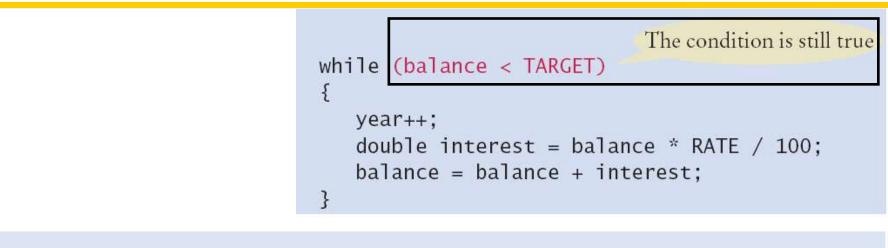
while (balance < TARGET)
{
year++;
double interest = balance * RATE / 100;
balance = balance + interest;
}

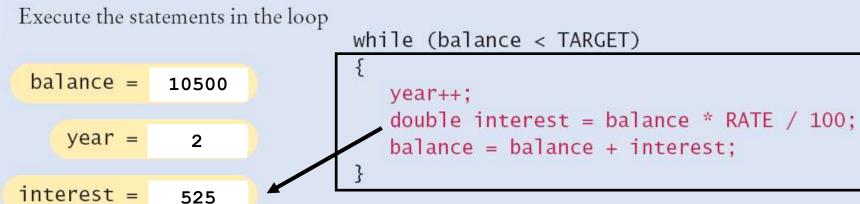


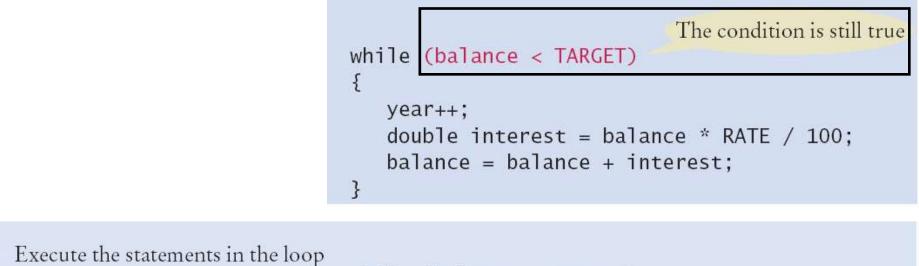


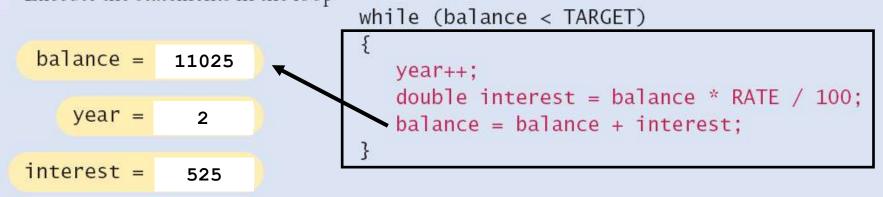








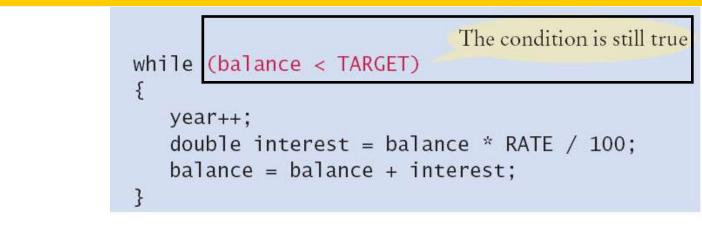




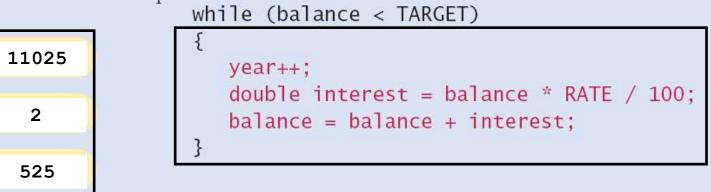
balance =

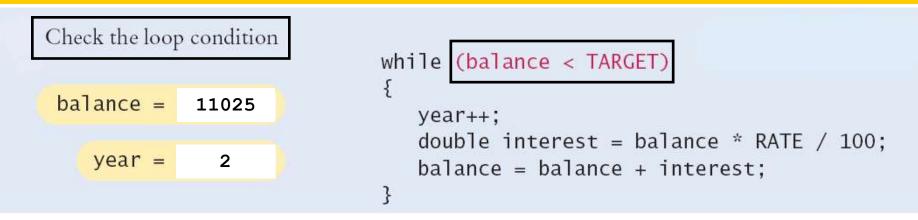
interest =

year =



Execute the statements in the loop





before entering while's body		at the end of while's body		
balance	year	interest	balance	year
10000.00	0	500.00	10500.00	1
10500.00	1	525.00	11025.00	2

...this process goes on for 15 iterations...

before entering while's body		at the end of while's body		
balance	year	interest	balance	year
10000.00	0	500.00	10500.00	1
10500.00	1	525.00	11025.00	2
11025.00	2	551.25	11576.25	3

...this process goes on for 15 iterations...

before entering while's body		at the end of while's body		
balance	year	interest	balance	year
10000.00	0	500.00	10500.00	1
10500.00	1	525.00	11025.00	2
11025.00	2	551.25	11576.25	3
11576.25	3	578.81	12155.06	4
12155.06	4	607.75	12762.82	5

...this process goes on for 15 iterations...

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before entering while's body		at the end of while's body		
balance	year	interest	balance	year
10000.00	0	500.00	10500.00	1
10500.00	1	525.00	11025.00	2
11025.00	2	551.25	11576.25	3
11576.25	3	578.81	12155.06	4
12155.06	4	607.75	12762.82	5
12762.82	5	638.14	13400.96	6
13400.96	6	670.05	14071.00	7
14071.00	7	703.55	14774.55	8
14774.55	8	738.73	15513.28	9

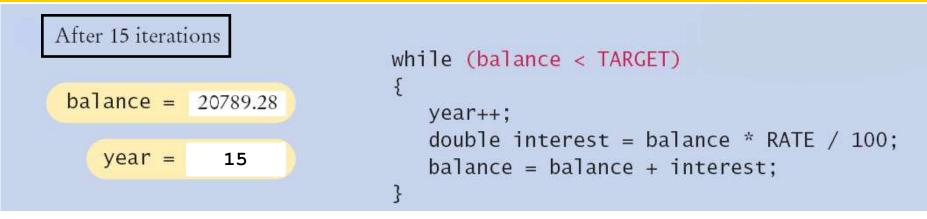
...this process goes on for 15 iterations...

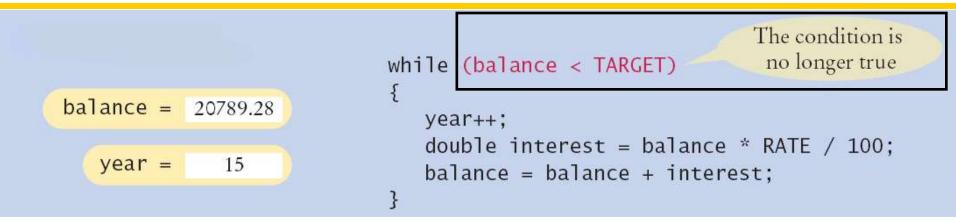
before entering while's body		at the end of while's body		
balance	year	interest	balance	year
10000.00	0	500.00	10500.00	1
10500.00	1	525.00	11025.00	2
11025.00	2	551.25	11576.25	3
11576.25	3	578.81	12155.06	4
12155.06	4	607.75	12762.82	5
12762.82	5	638.14	13400.96	6
13400.96	6	670.05	14071.00	7
14071.00	7	703.55	14774.55	8
14774.55	8	738.73	15513.28	9
15513.28	9	775.66	16288.95	10
16288.95	10	814.45	17103.39	11
17103.39	11	855.17	17958.56	12
17958.56	12	897.93	18856.49	13
18856.49	13	942.82	19799.32	14

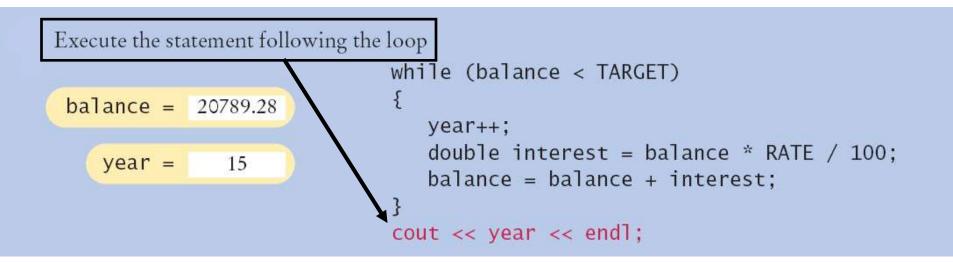
...this process goes on for 15 iterations...

...until the **balance** is finally(!) over \$20,000 and the test becomes **false**.

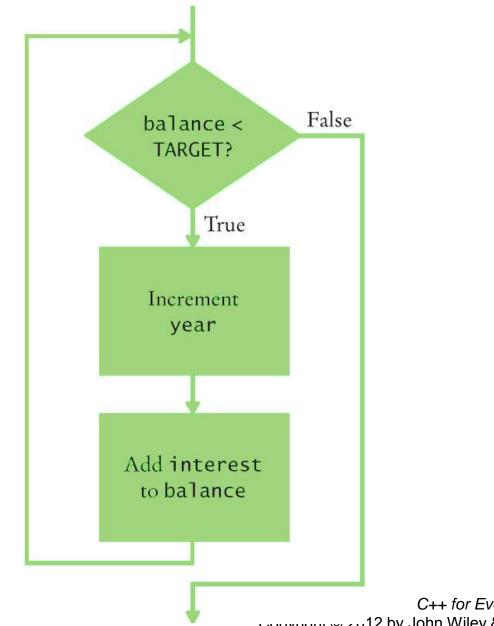
before entering while's body		at the end of while's body		
balance	year	interest	balance	year
10000.00	0	500.00	10500.00	1
10500.00	1	525.00	11025.00	2
11025.00	2	551.25	11576.25	3
11576.25	3	578.81	12155.06	4
12155.06	4	607.75	12762.82	5
12762.82	5	638.14	13400.96	6
13400.96	6	670.05	14071.00	7
14071.00	7	703.55	14774.55	8
4774.55	8	738.73	15513.28	9
15513.28	9	775.66	16288.95	10
16288.95	10	814.45	17103.39	11
17103.39	11	855.17	17958.56	12
17958.56	12	897.93	18856.49	13
18856.49	13	942.8	19799.32	14
19799.32	14	989.97	20789.28	15
		while statement is over		







Flowchart of the Investment Calculation's while Loop



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Skip the examples?

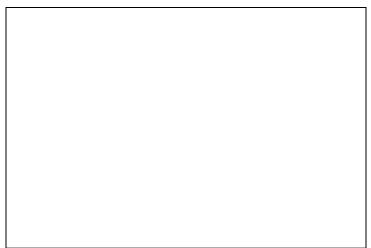
<u>NO</u><u>YES</u>

For each of the following, do a hand-trace (as you learned in Chapter 3)

Example of Normal Execution

while loop to hand-trace	
i = 5; while (i > 0)	
{	
cout << i << " "; i;	
}	

What is the output?



When i is 0, the Loop Condition is false, and the Loop Ends

while loop The output
i = 5;
while (i > 0)
{
 cout << i << " ";
 i--;
}</pre>

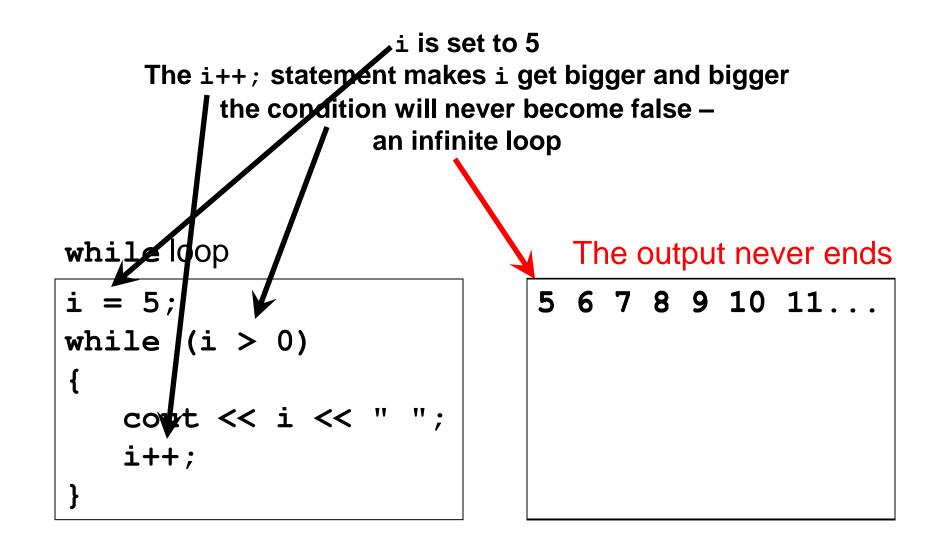
while loop to hand-trace

```
i = 5;
while (i > 0)
{
    cout << i << " ";
    i++;
}</pre>
```

What is the output?



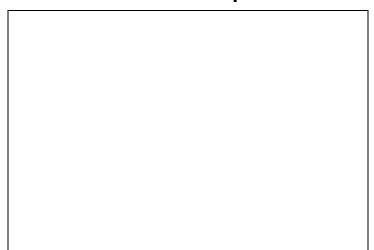
Example of a Problem – An Infinite Loop



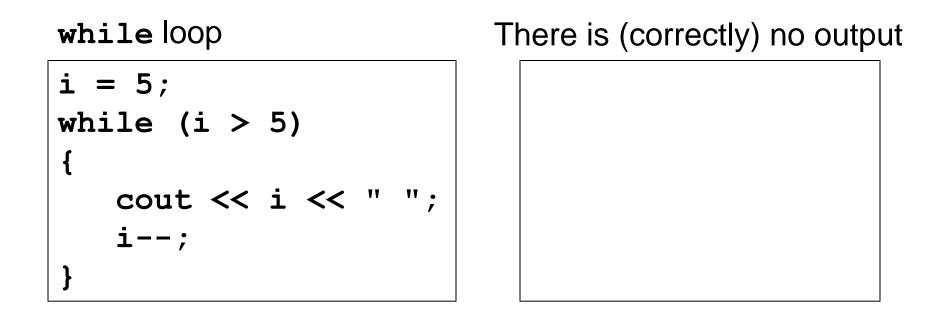
Another Normal Execution – No Errors

while loop to hand-trace	
i = 5; while (i > 5)	
{ cout << i << " "; i;	
}	

What is the output?

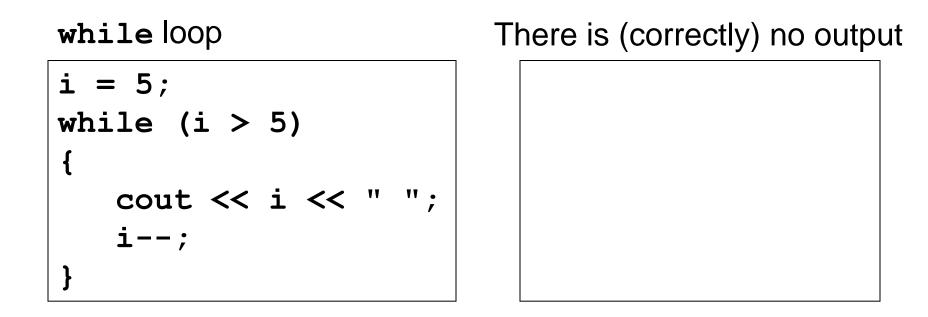


Another Normal Execution – No Errors



The expression i > 5 is initially false, so the statements are never executed.

Another Normal Execution – No Errors



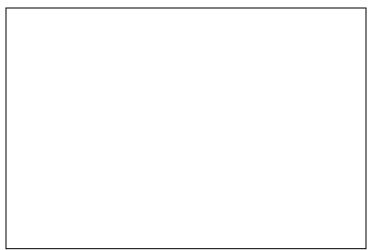
This is not a error.

Sometimes we *do not* want to execute the statements *unless* the test is true.

while loop to hand-trace

```
i = 5;
while (i < 0)
{
    cout << i << " ";
    i--;
}</pre>
```

What is the output?



Normal Execution with Another "Programmer's Error"

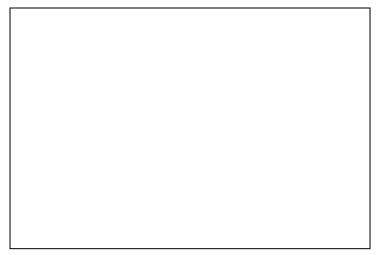
The programmer probably thought: "Stop when i is less than 0".

However, the loop condition controls when the loop is *executed* - not when it *ends*.

while loop

```
i = 5;
while (i < 0)
{
    cout << i << " ";
    i--;
}</pre>
```

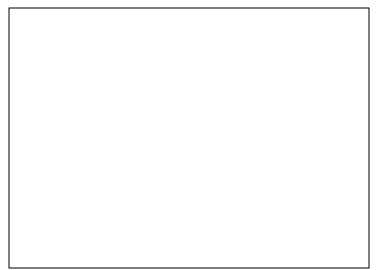
Again, there is no output



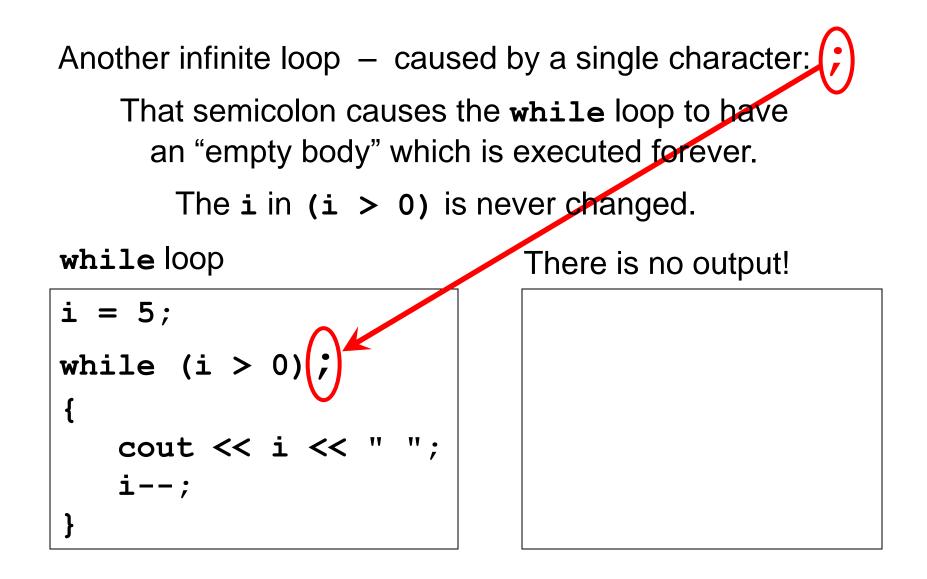
while loop to hand-trace

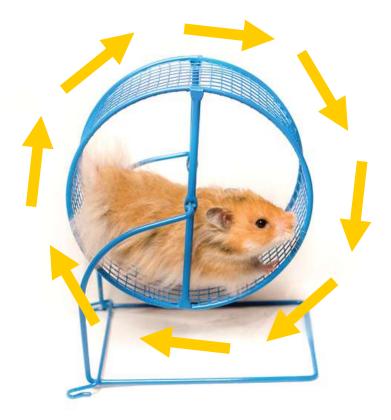
```
i = 5;
while (i > 0);
{
    cout << i << " ";
    i--;
}</pre>
```

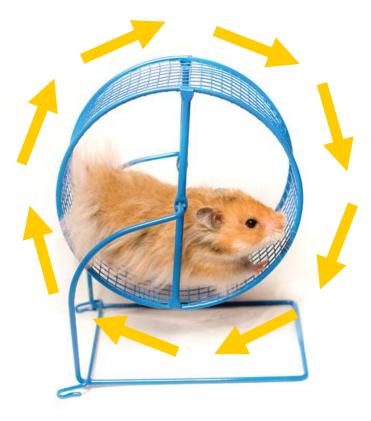
What is the output?

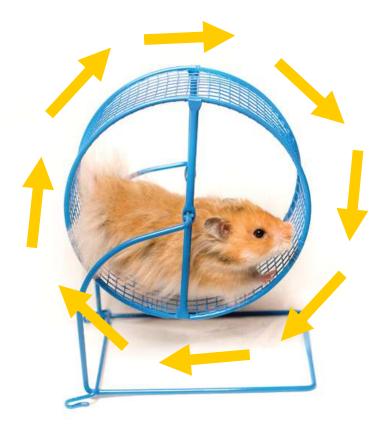


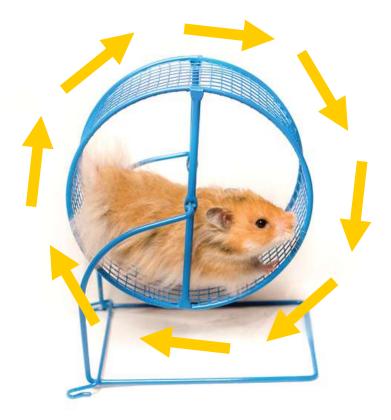
A Very Difficult Error to Find (especially after looking for it for hours and hours!)

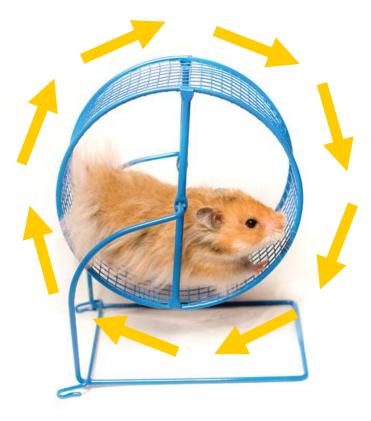


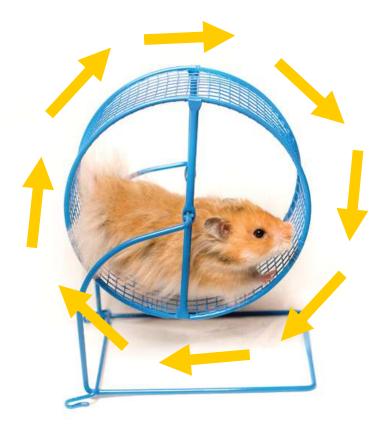


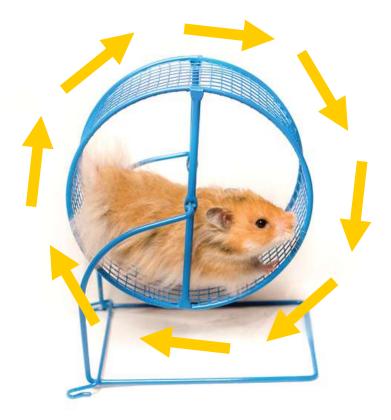


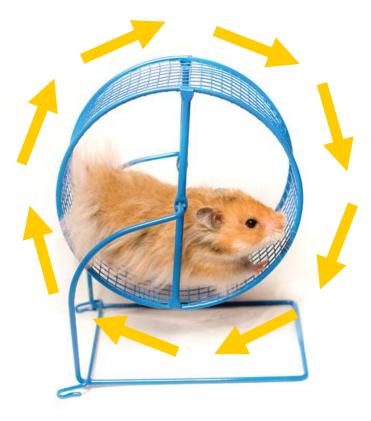


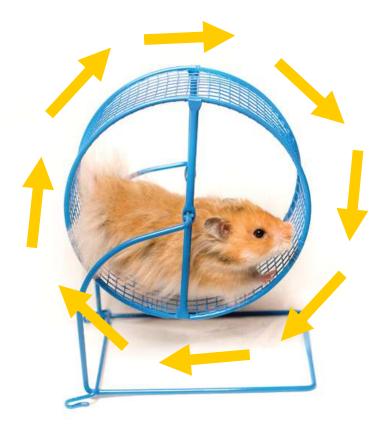


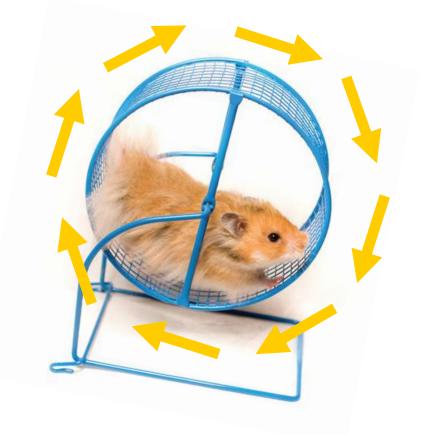


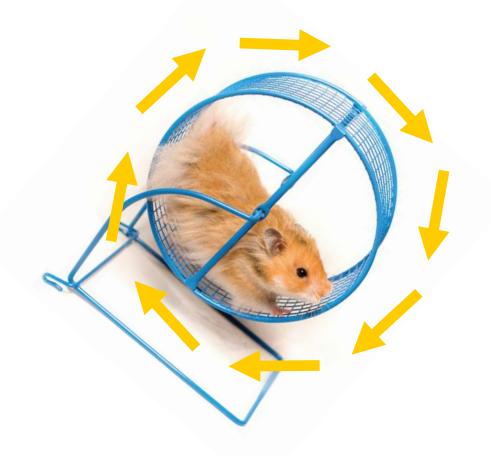


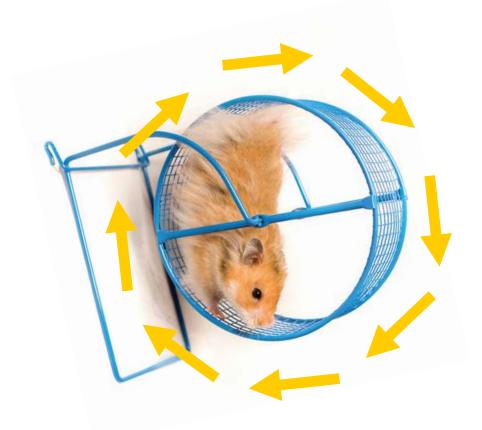


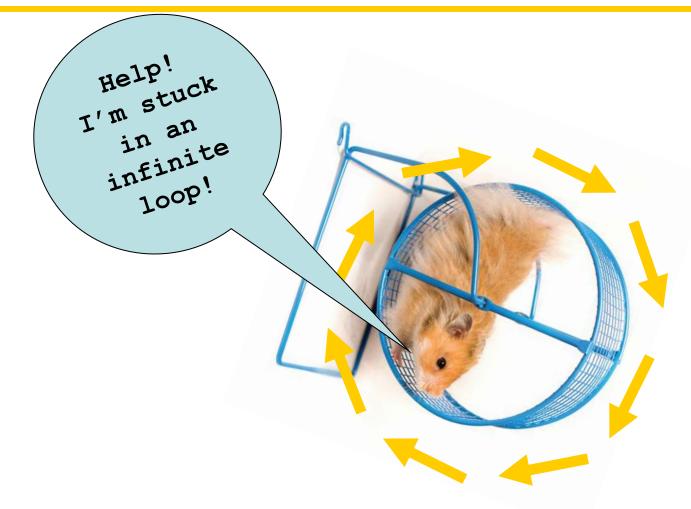


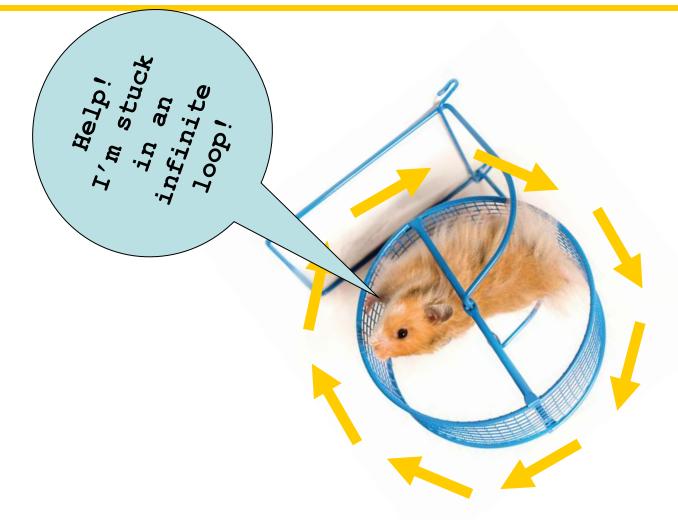


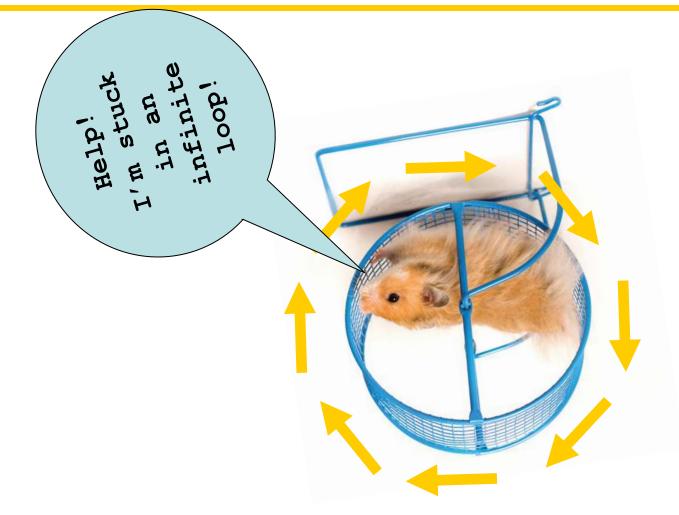


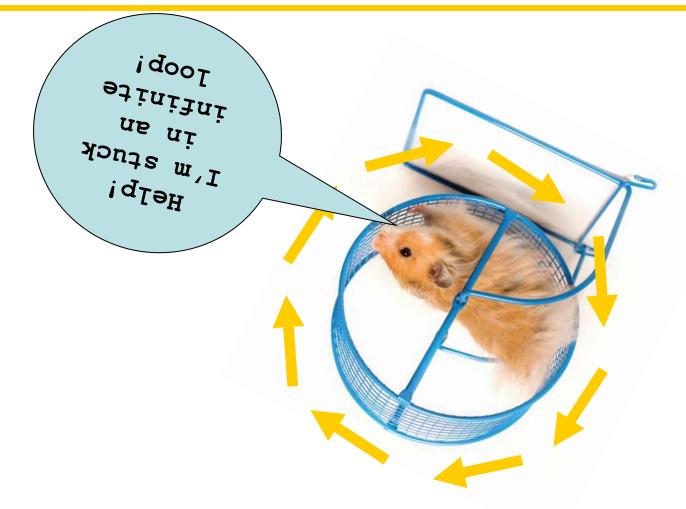












- Forgetting to update the variable used in the condition is common.
- In the investment program, it might look like this.

• The variable **year** is not updated in the body

Another way to cause an infinite loop: Typing on "autopilot"

Typing ++ when you meant to type -- is a real problem, especially when it's 3:30 am!

```
year = 20;
while (year > 0)
{
    balance = balance * (1 + RATE / 100);
    year++;
```

A Not Really Infinite Loop

- Due to what is called "wrap around", the previous loop *will* end.
- At some point the value stored in the int variable gets to the largest representable positive integer. When it is incremented, the value stored "wraps around" to be a negative number.

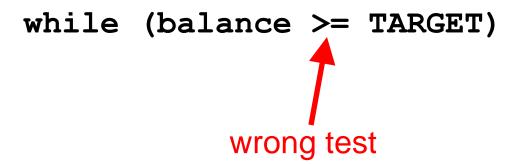
That definitely stops the loop!



Well, are we?

When doing something repetitive, most of us want to know when we are done.

For example, you may think, "I want to get at least \$20,000," and set the loop condition to



But the **while** loop thinks the opposite: How long am I allowed to **keep going**?

What is the correct loop condition?

while ()

But the **while** loop thinks the opposite: How long am I allowed to keep going?

What is the correct loop condition?

while (balance < TARGET)

In other words: "Keep at it while the balance is less than the target".

When writing a loop condition, don't ask, "Are we there yet?"

The condition determines how long the loop will keep going.

Common Error – Off-by-One Errors

In the code to find when we have doubled our investment:

Do we start the variable for the years at 0 or 1 years?

Do we test for < TARGET or for <= TARGET?

Common Error – Off-by-One Errors

- Maybe if you start trying some numbers and add +1 or -1 until you get the right answer you can figure these things out.
- It will most likely take a very long time to try ALL the possibilities.
- No, just try a couple of "test cases" (while *thinking*).

Use Thinking to Decide!

- Consider starting with \$100 and a **RATE** of 50%.
 - We want \$200 (or more).
 - At the end of the first year, the balance is \$150 – not done yet
 - At the end of the second year, the balance is \$225 – definitely over TARGET and we are done.
- We made two increments.

< vs. <= (More Thinking)

• Figure out what you want:

"we want to keep going until we have doubled the balance"

• So you might have used:

(balance < TARGET)

< vs. <= (More Thinking)

• But consider, did you really mean:

"...to have at least doubled ... "

Exactly twice as much would happen with a **RATE** of 100% - the loop should stop then

• So the test must be (balance <= TARGET)

Hand-tracing is a method of checking your work.

To do a hand-trace, write your variables on a sheet of paper and mentally execute each step of your code...

writing down the values of the variables as they are changed in the code.

Cross out the old value and write down the new value as they are changed – that way you can also see the history of the values.

To keep up with which statement is about to be executed you should use a marker.

Preferably something that doesn't obliterate the code:



Like a paper clip.

(No, not that infamous one!)

Consider this example. What value is displayed?

```
int n = 1729;
int sum = 0;
while (n > 0)
{
    int digit = n % 10;
    sum = sum + digit;
    n = n / 10;
}
cout << sum << end];</pre>
```

There are three variables: n, sum, and digit.

ท	sum	digit
	1	

The first two variables are initialized with 1729 and 0 before the loop is entered.

```
int n = 1729;
int sum = 0;
while (n > 0)
{
    int digit = n % 10;
    sum = sum + digit;
    n = n / 10;
}
cout << sum << endl;</pre>
```

ท	sum	digit
729	0	

Because n is greater than zero, enter the loop. The variable digit is set to 9 (the remainder of dividing 1729 by 10). The variable sum is set to 0 + 9 = 9.

```
int n = 1729;
int sum = 0;
while (n > 0)
{
    int digit = n % 10;
    sum = sum + digit;
    n = n / 10;
}
cout << sum << endl;</pre>
```

n	SUM	digit
1729	ø	
	9	9

Finally, n becomes 172. (Recall that the remainder in the division 1729 / 10 is discarded because both arguments are integers.)

Cross out the old values and write the new ones under the old ones.

```
int n = 1729;
int sum = 0;
while (n > 0)
{
    int digit = n % 10;
    sum = sum + digit;
    n = n / 10;
}
cout << sum << end];</pre>
```

n	sum	digit
1729	Ø	
172	9	9

Now check the loop condition again.

Because n is still greater than zero, repeat the loop. Now digit becomes 2, sum is set to 9 + 2 = 11, and n is set to 17.

n	sum	digit
1729	Ø	
172	9	9
17	11	2

Repeat the loop once again, setting digit to 7, sum to 11 + 7 = 18, and n to 1.

n	sum	digit
1729	Ø	
172	9	9
VI	И	2
1	18	7

Enter the loop for one last time. Now digit is set to 1, sum to 19, and n becomes zero.

n	sum	digit
1729	Ø	
172	9	.9
VI	И	2
X	18	Y
0	19	1

```
int n = 1729;
int sum = 0;
while (n > 0)
{
    int digit = n % 10;
    sum = sum + digit;
    n = n / 10;
}
cout << sum << end];</pre>
```

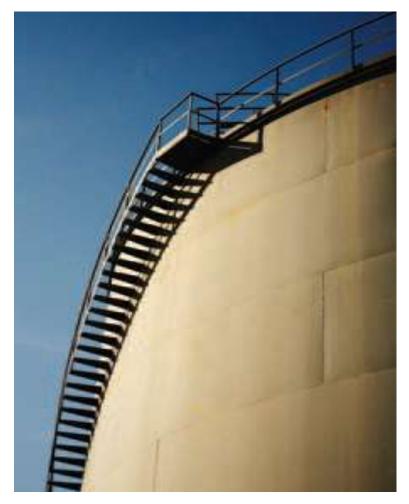
Because n equals zero, this condition is not true.

The condition n > 0 is now false. Continue with the statement after the loop.

```
int n = 1729;
int sum = 0;
while (n > 0)
{
    int digit = n % 10;
    sum = sum + digit;
    n = n / 10;
}
cout << sum << end];</pre>
```

n	sum	digit	output
729	Ø		
172	9	9	
VI	И	Ľ	
X	18	Y	
0	19	1	19

The for Loop



To execute statements a certain number of times

"You "*simply*" take 4,522 steps!!!

Often you will need to execute a sequence of statements a given number of times.

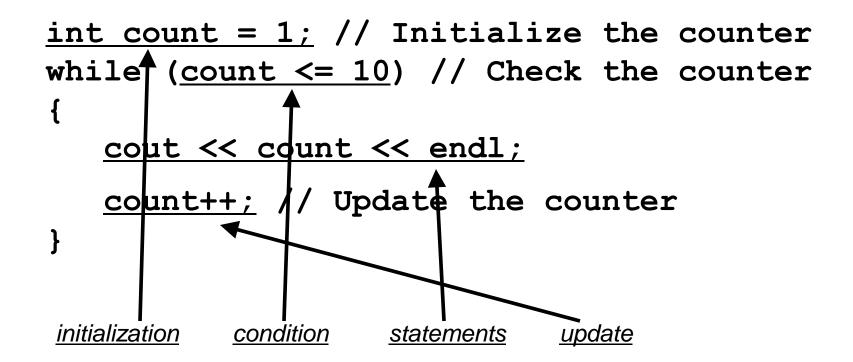
You could use a while loop for this.

```
counter = 1; // Initialize the counter
while (counter <= 10) // Check the counter
{
    cout << counter << endl;</pre>
```

```
coul << counter << endl;
counter++; // Update the counter
}
```

The for Loop Is Better than while for Doing Certain Things

Consider this code which writes the values 1 through 10 on the screen:

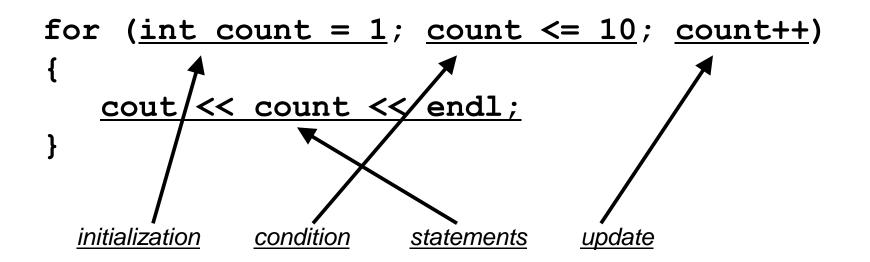


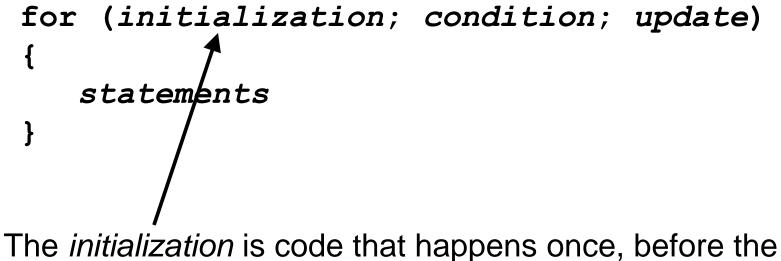
The for Loop

C++ has a statement custom made **for** this sort of processing: the **for** loop.

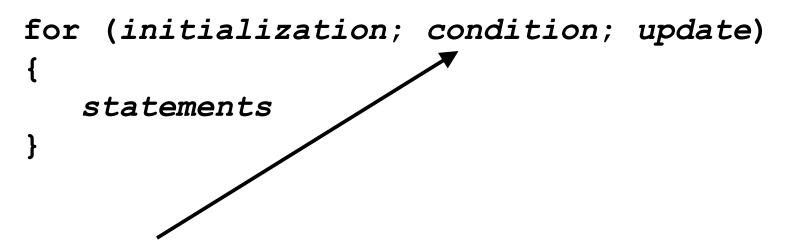
for (counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++)
{
 cout << counter << endl;
}</pre>

Doing something a certain number of times or causing a variable to take on a sequence of values is so common, C++ has a statement just for that:



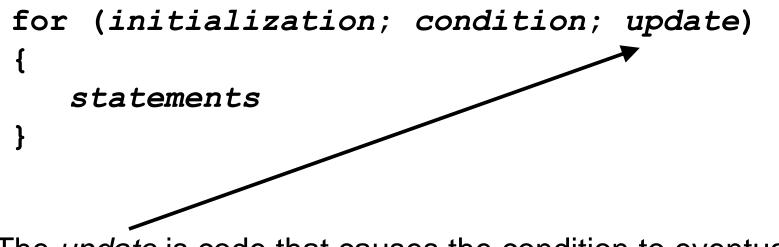


check is made, in order to set up for counting how many times the *statements* will happen. The loop variable is created here.



The *condition* is code that tests to see if the loop is done. When this test is false, the **for** statement is over and we go on to the next statement.

```
for (initialization; condition; update)
{
    statements
}
The statements are repeatedly executed
- until the condition is false.
```



The *update* is code that causes the condition to eventually become false.

Usually it's incrementing or decrementing the loop variable.

Some people call the **for** loop *count-controlled*.

In contrast, the **while** can be called an *event-controlled* loop because it executes until an event occurs (for example, when the balance reaches the target).

The for Loop

Another commonly-used term for a count-controlled loop is *definite*.

You know from the outset that the loop body will be executed a definite number of times—ten times in our example.

In contrast, you did not know how many iterations it would take to accumulate a target balance in the **while** loop code.

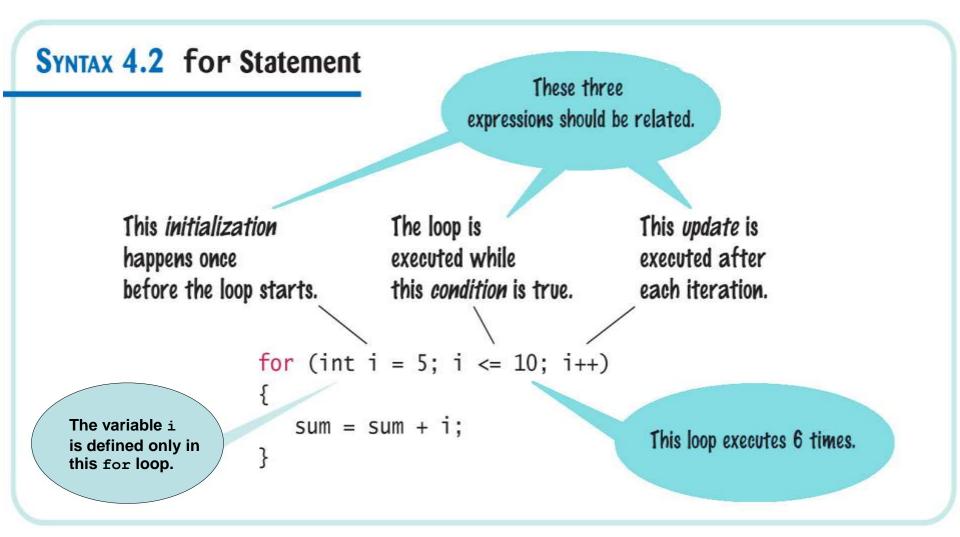
Such a loop is called *indefinite*.

Consider this **for** statement:

```
int counter;
for (counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++)
{
    cout << counter << endl;
}
```

 Initialize counter counter = 1 	<pre>for (counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++) { cout << counter << end]; }</pre>
2 Check counter counter = 1	<pre>for (counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++) { cout << counter << end]; }</pre>
3 Execute loop body counter = 1	<pre>for (counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++) { cout << counter << end]; }</pre>
 Update counter counter = 2 	<pre>for (counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++) { cout << counter << end]; }</pre>
5 Check counter again counter = 2	<pre>for (counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++) { cout << counter << endl; }</pre>

The for Statement



Scope of the Loop Variable – Part of the for or Not?

- The "loop variable" when defined as part of the for statement cannot be used before or after the for statement – it only exists as part of the for statement and should not need to be used anywhere else in a program.
- A for statement can use variables that are not part of it, but they should not be used as the loop variable.

(In an earlier example, **counter** was defined before the loop – so it does work. Normally **counter** would be defined in the *initialization*.)

A for loop can count down instead of up:

for (counter = 10; counter >= 0; counter-)...

The increment or decrement need not be in steps of 1:

for
$$(cntr = 0; cntr <= 10; cntr =+ 2)...$$

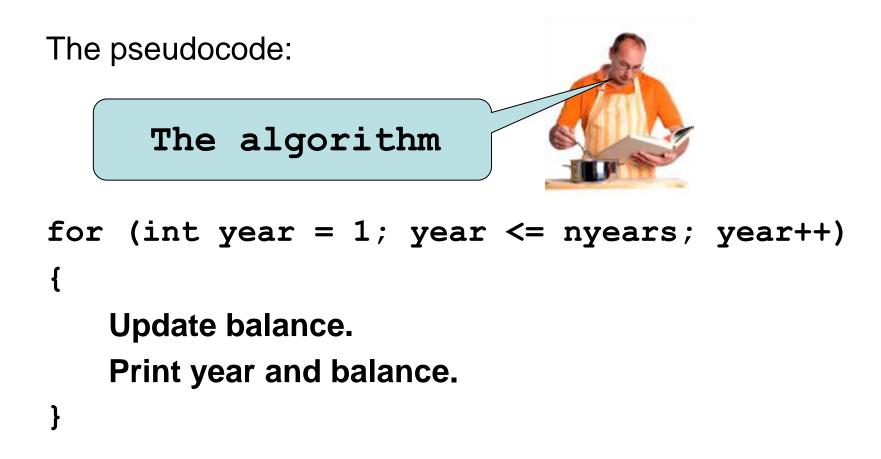
Notice that in these examples, the loop variable is defined **in** the *initialization* (where it really should be!).

- Earlier we determined the number of years it would take to (at least) double our balance.
- Now let's see the interest in action:
 - We want to print the balance of our savings account over a five-year period.
 - The "...over a five-year period" indicates that a **for** loop should be used.

Because we know how many times the statements must be executed, we choose a for loop.

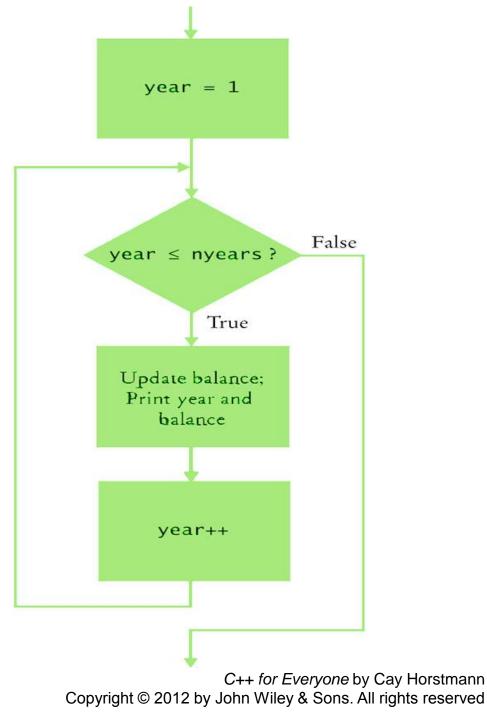
The output should look something like this:

Year	Balance
1	10500.00
2	11025.00
3	11576.25
4	12155.06
5	12762.82



The for Loop

Flowchart of the investment calculation using a **for** loop



Two statements should happen five times. So use a **for** statement.

They are: update balance print year and balance

```
for (int year = 1; year <= nyears; year++)
{
    // update balance
    // print year and balance
}</pre>
```

The Modified Investment Program Using a for Loop

```
#include <iostream>
#include <iomanip>
                                                    ch04/invtable.cpp
using namespace std;
int main()
ł
   const double RATE = 5;
   const double INITIAL BALANCE = 10000;
   double balance = INITIAL BALANCE;
   int nyears;
   cout << "Enter number of years: ";
   cin >> nyears;
   cout << fixed << setprecision(2);</pre>
   for (int year = 1; year <= nyears; year++)</pre>
   ł
      balance = balance * (1 + RATE / 100);
      cout << setw(4) << year << setw(10) << balance << endl;
   }
   return 0;
}
```

A run of the program:

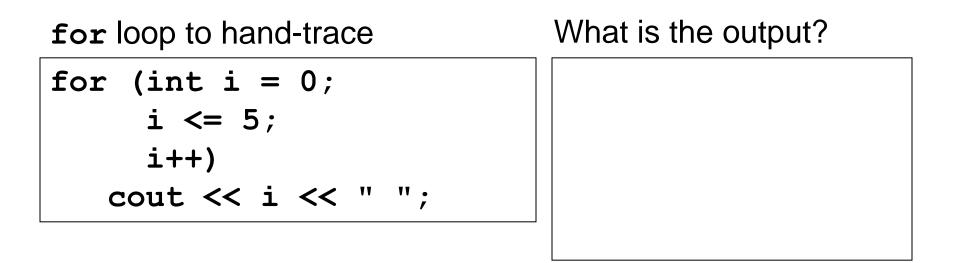
Enter number of years: 10 1 10500.00 2 11025.00 3 11576.25 4 12155.06 5 12762.82 6 13400.96 7 14071.00 8 14774.55 9 15513.28 10 16288.95

Skip the examples?

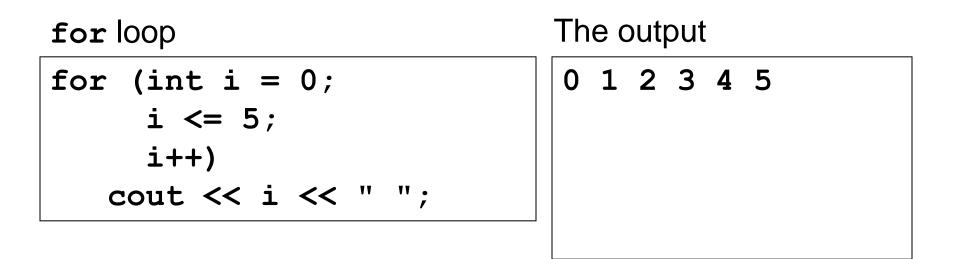


For each of the following, do a hand-trace.

Example of Normal Execution

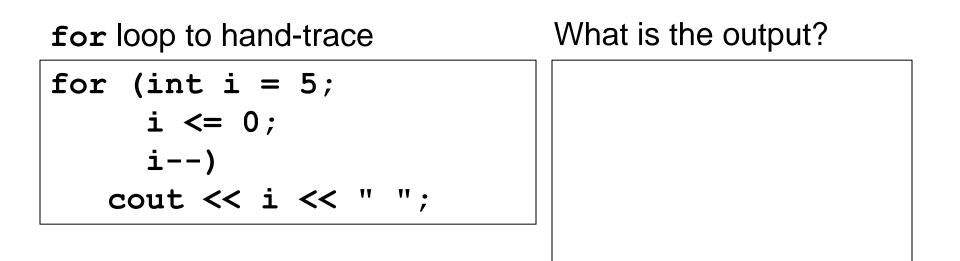


Example of Normal Execution



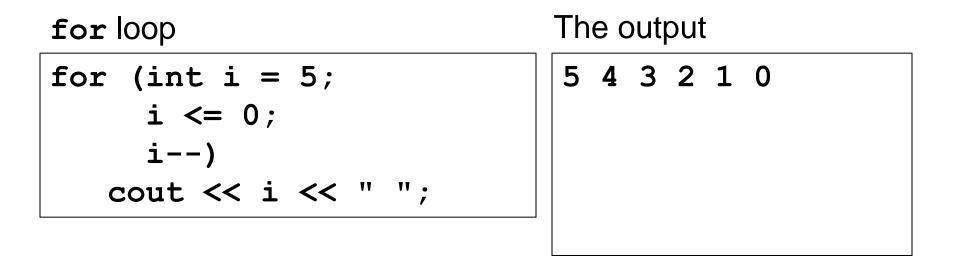
Note that the output statement is executed six times, not five

Example of Normal Execution – Going in the Other Direction



Example of Normal Execution – Going in the Other Direction

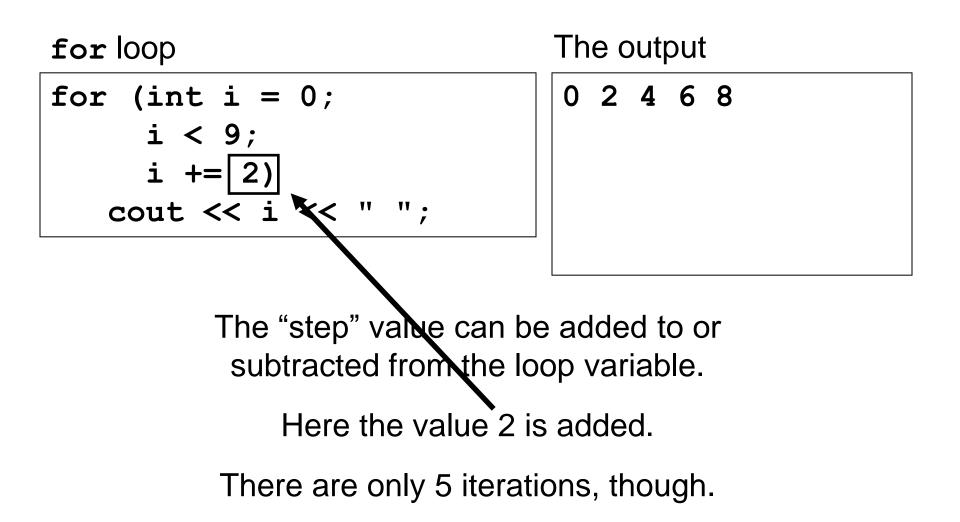
Again six executions of the output statement occur.



Example of Normal Execution – Taking Bigger Steps

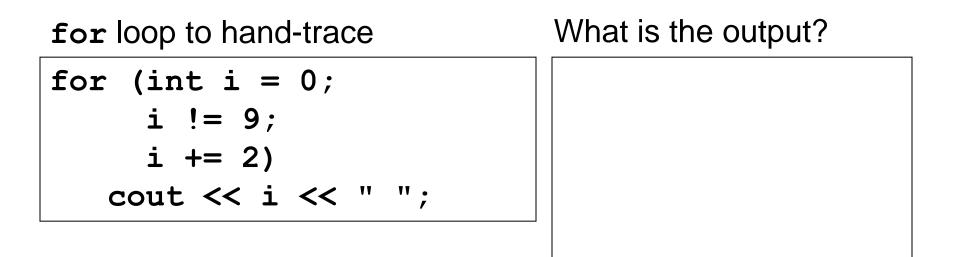
for loop to hand-trace	What is the output?
<pre>for (int i = 0;</pre>	02468
i += 2) cout << i << " ";	What is the output?

Example of Normal Execution – Taking Bigger Steps



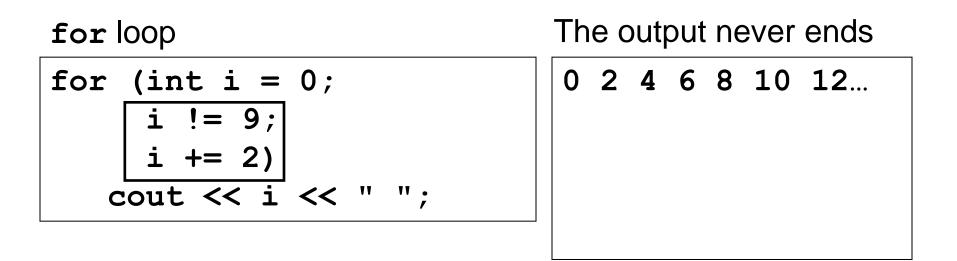
Infinite Loops Can Occur in for Statements

The danger of using == and/or !=

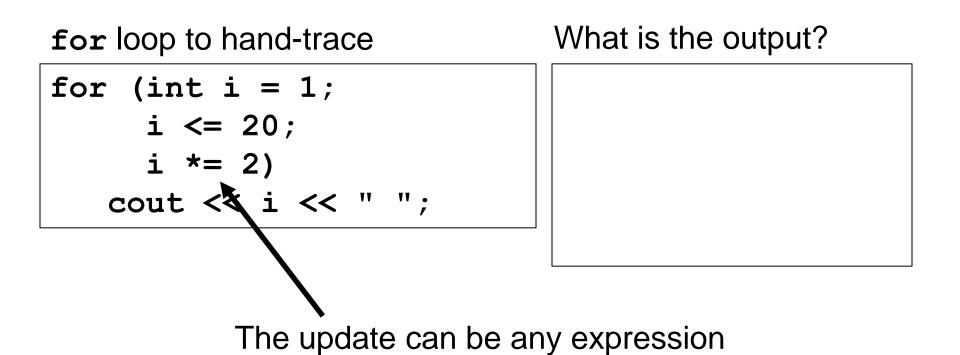


Infinite Loops Can Occur in for Statements

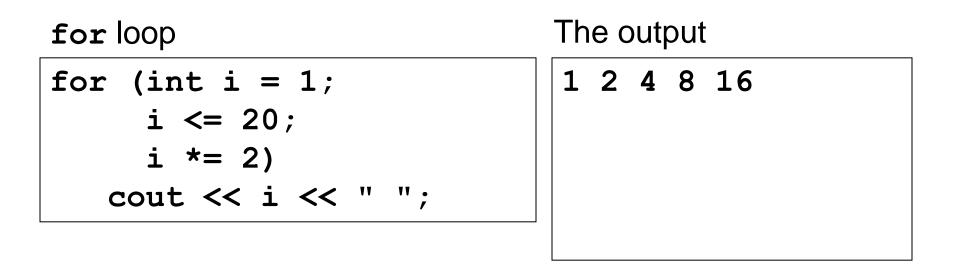
= = and != are best avoided in the check of a **for** statement



Example of Normal Execution – Taking Even Bigger Steps



Example of Normal Execution – Taking Even Bigger Steps



The "step" can be multiplicative or any valid expression

End Skipping

Slides will continue.

Confusing Everyone, Most Likely Including Yourself

- A for loop is an *idiom* for a loop of a particular form. A value runs from the start to the end, with a constant increment or decrement.
- As long as all the expressions in a for loop are valid, the compiler will not complain.

Confusing Everyone, Most Likely Including Yourself

A for loop should only be used to cause a loop variable to run, with a consistent increment, from the start to the end of a sequence of values.

Or you could write this (it works, but ...)

```
for (cout << "Inputs: "; cin >> x; sum += x)
{
    count++;
}
```

Know Your Bounds – Symmetric vs. Asymmetric

- The start and end values should match the task the for loop is solving.
- The range 3 ≤ n ≤ 17 is symmetric, both end points are included so the for loop is:

for (int n = 3; n <= 17; n++)...

 When dealing with arrays (in a later chapter), you'll find that if there are N items in an array, you must deal with them using the range [0...N).
 So the for loop for arrays is:

for(int arrIndVar=0; arrIndVar<N; arrIndVar++)...

• This still executes the statements N times.

Many coders use this *asymmetric* form for *every* problem involving doing something *N* times.

The **while** loop's condition test is the first thing that occurs in its execution.

The do loop (or do-while loop) has its condition tested
 only after at least one execution of the statements.
do
{
 statements
}
while (condition);

This means that the **do** loop should be used only when the statements must be executed before there is any knowledge of the condition.

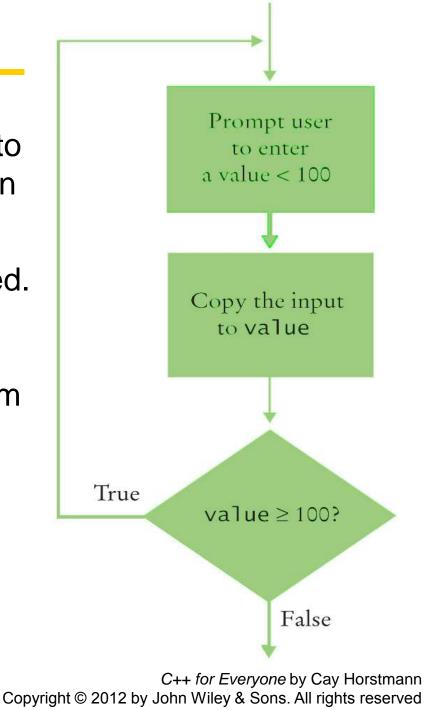
This also means that the do loop is the least used loop.

The do Loop

What problems require something to have happened before the testing in a loop?

Getting valid user input is often cited.

Here is the flowchart for the problem in which the user is supposed to enter a value less than 100 and processing must not continue until they do.



Here is the code:

```
int value;
do
{
    cout << "Enter a value < 100: ";
    cin >> value;
}
while (value >= 100);
```

In this form, the user sees the same prompt each time until the enter valid input.

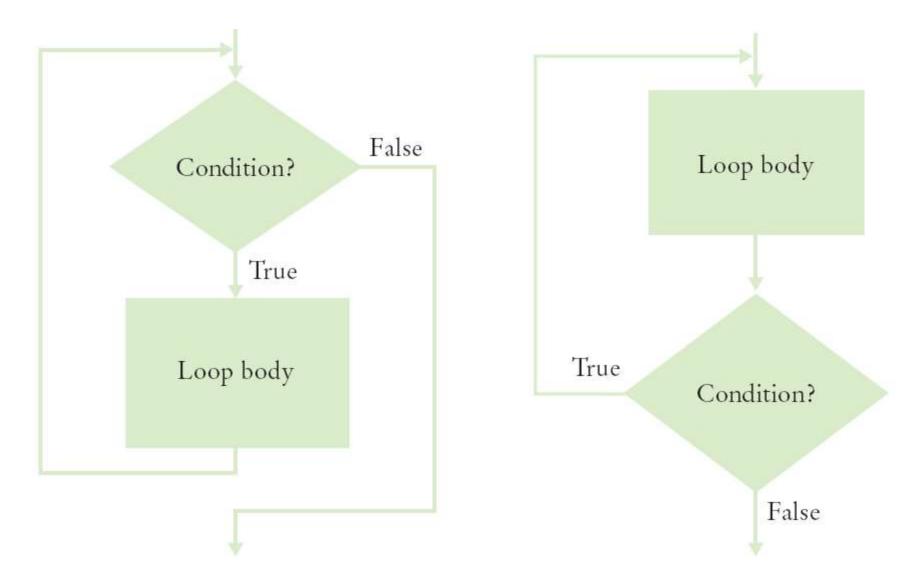
The do Loop

In order to have a different, "error" prompt that the user sees only on *invalid* input, the initial prompt and input would be before a **while** loop:

```
int value;
cout << "Enter a value < 100:";
while (value >= 100);
{
    cout << "Sorry, that is larger than 100\n"
        << "Try again: ";
    cin >> value;
}
```

Notice what happens when the user gives valid input on the first attempt: nothing – good.

Flowcharts for the while Loop and the do Loop





End Loops I

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Slides by Evan Gallagher & Nikolay Kirov