

Programming Logic and Design Seventh Edition

Chapter 5
Looping

Objectives

- In this chapter, you will learn about:
 - The advantages of looping
 - Using a loop control variable
 - Nested loops
 - Avoiding common loop mistakes
 - Using a for loop
 - Common loop applications

Understanding the Advantages of Looping

- Looping makes computer programming efficient and worthwhile
- Write one set of instructions to operate on multiple, separate sets of data
- Loop: a structure that repeats actions while some condition continues

Understanding the Advantages of Looping (continued)

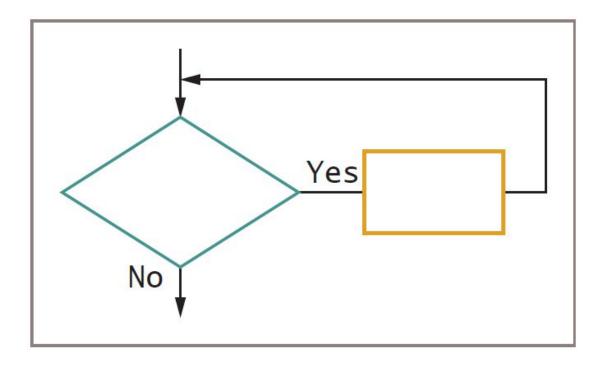


Figure 5-1 The loop structure

Using a Loop Control Variable

- As long as a condition remains true, the statements in a while loop's body execute
- Control number of repetitions
 - Loop control variable initialized before entering loop
 - Loop control variable tested
 - Body of loop must alter value of loop control variable
- Repetitions controlled by:
 - Counter
 - Sentinel value

Using a Definite Loop with a Counter

Definite loop

- Executes a predetermined number of times
- Counter-controlled loop
 - Program counts loop repetitions
- Loop control variables altered by:
 - Incrementing
 - Decrementing

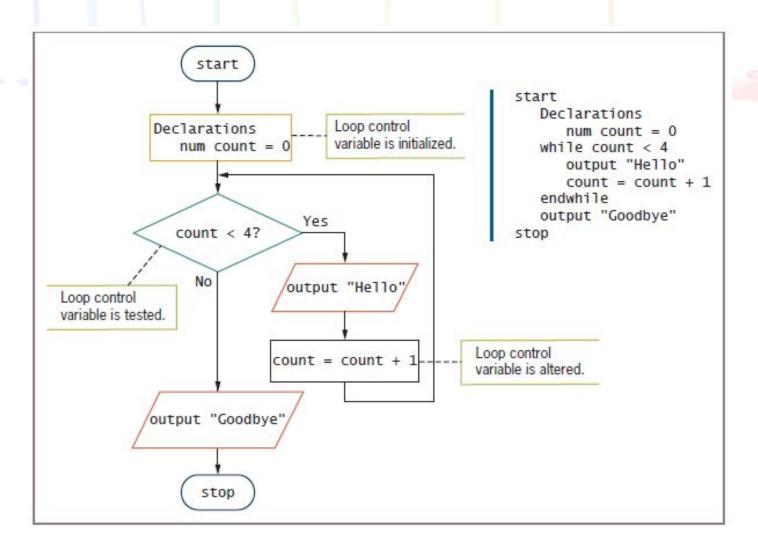


Figure 5-3 A counted while loop that outputs *Hello* four times

Using an Indefinite Loop with a Sentinel Value

Indefinite loop

- Performed a different number of times each time the program executes
- The user decides how many times the loop executes

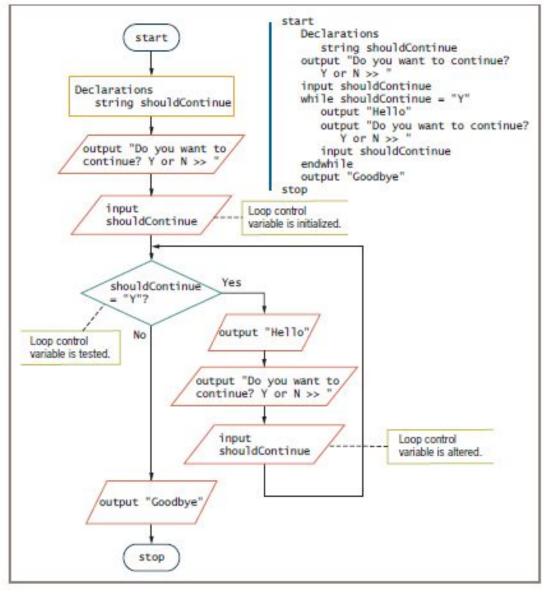


Figure 5-4 An indefinite while loop that displays *Hello* as long as the user wants to continue

Understanding the Loop in a Program's Mainline Logic

- Three steps should occur in every properly functioning loop
 - Provide a starting value for the variable that will control the loop
 - Test the loop control variable to determine whether the loop body executes
 - Alter the loop control variable

Nested Loops

- Nested loops: loops within loops
- Outer loop: the loop that contains the other loop
- Inner loop: the loop that is contained
- Needed when values of two (or more) variables repeat to produce every combination of values

Nested Loops (continued)

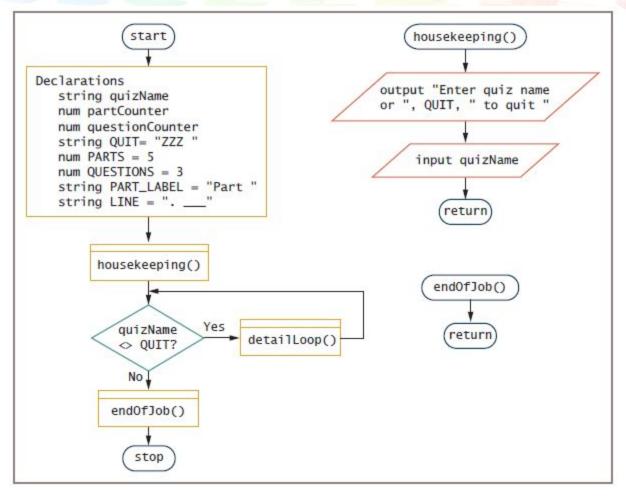


Figure 5-8 Flowchart and pseudocode for AnswerSheet program

Avoiding Common Loop Mistakes

- Mistake: neglecting to initialize the loop control variable
 - Example: get name statement removed
 - Value of name unknown or garbage
 - Program may end before any labels printed
 - 100 labels printed with an invalid name

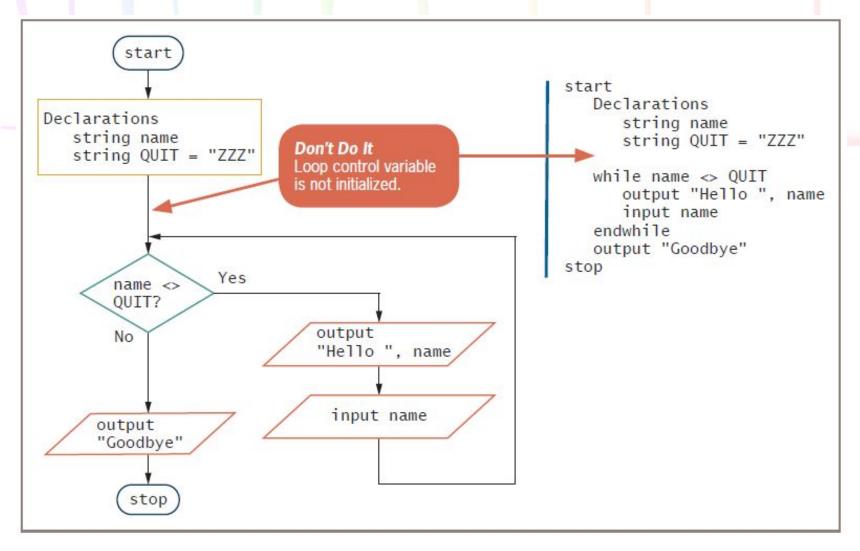


Figure 5-10 Incorrect logic for greeting program because the loop control variable initialization is missing

Avoiding Common Loop Mistakes (continued)

- Mistake: neglecting to alter the loop control variable
 - Remove get name instruction from outer loop
 - User never enters a name after the first one
 - Inner loop executes infinitely
- Always incorrect to create a loop that cannot terminate

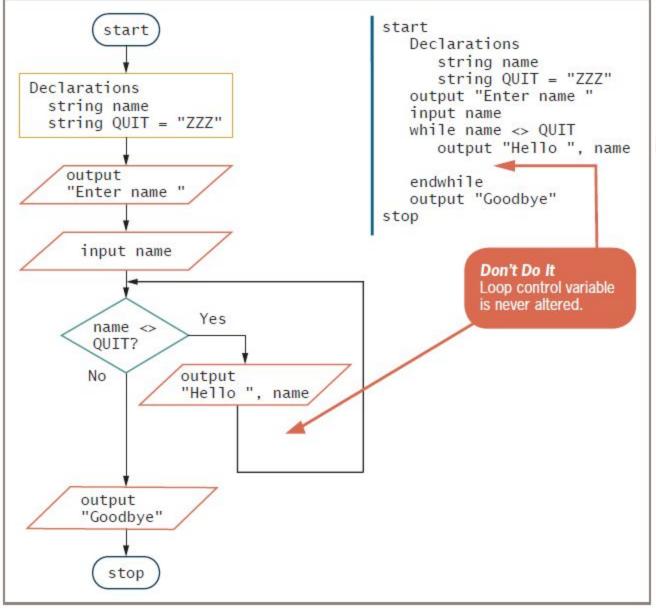


Figure 5-11 Incorrect logic for greeting program because the loop control variable is not altered

Avoiding Common Loop Mistakes (continued)

- Mistake: using the wrong comparison with the loop control variable
 - Programmers must use correct comparison
 - Seriousness depends on actions performed within a loop

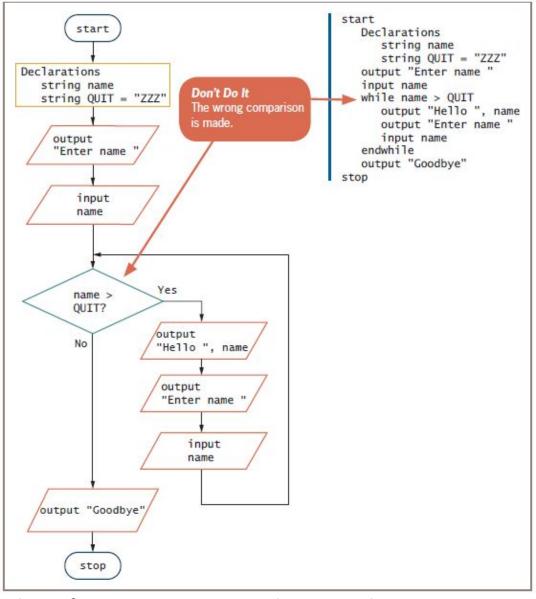


Figure 5-12 Incorrect logic for greeting program because the wrong test is made with the loop control variable

Avoiding Common Loop Mistakes (continued)

- Mistake: including statements inside the loop that belong outside the loop
 - Example: discount every item by 30 percent
 - Inefficient because the same value is calculated 100 separate times for each price that is entered
 - Move outside the loop for efficiency

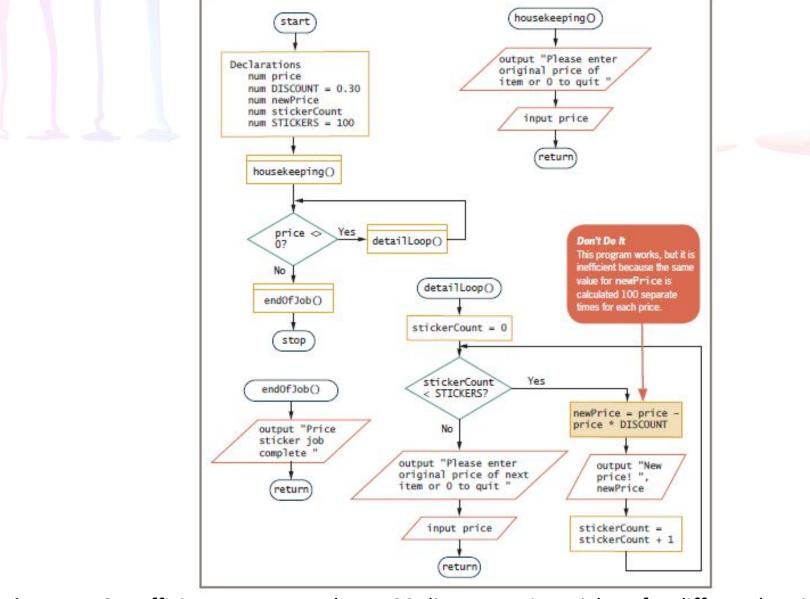


Figure 5-13 Inefficient way to produce 100 discount price stickers for differently priced items

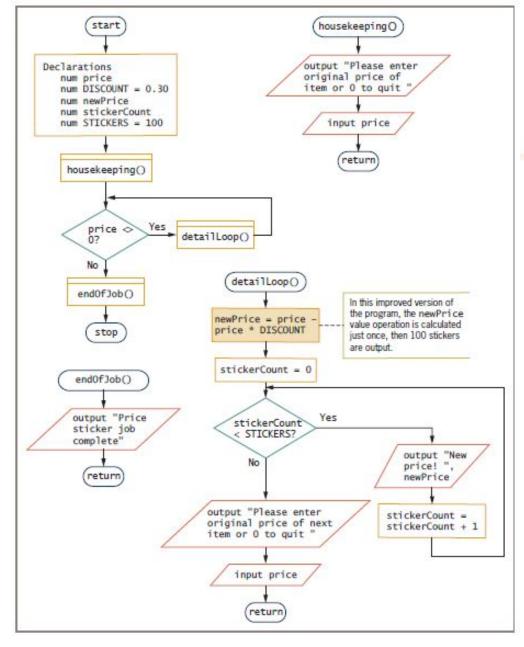


Figure 5-14 Improved discount sticker-making program

Using a for Loop

- for statement or for loop is a definite loop
- Provides three actions in one structure
 - Initializes
 - Evaluates
 - Alters
- Takes the form:

```
for loopControlVariable = initialValue to
finalValue step stepValue
  do something
endfor
```

Using a for Loop (continued)

Example

```
for count = 0 to 3 step 1
   output "Hello"
endfor
```

- Initializes count variable to 0
- Checks count variable against the limit value 3
- If evaluation is true, for statement body prints the word "Hello"
- Increases count by 1

Using a for Loop (continued)

- while statement could be used in place of for statement
- Step value: the amount by which a loop control variable changes
 - Can be positive or negative (incrementing or decrementing the loop control variable)
 - Default step value is 1
 - Programmer specifies a step value when each pass through the loop changes the loop control variable by a value other than 1

Using a for Loop (continued)

- Pretest loop: the loop control variable is tested before each iteration
 - for loops and while loops are pretest loops
- Posttest loop: the loop control variable is tested after each iteration
 - do...while is a posttest loop

Common Loop Applications

1-Using a loop to accumulate totals

- Examples
 - Business reports often include totals
 - List of real estate sold and total value
- Accumulator: variable that gathers values
 - Similar to a counter
 - Counter increments by 1
 - Accumulator increments by some value

- Accumulators require three actions
 - Initialize the accumulator to 0
 - Accumulators are altered: once for every data set processed
 - At the end of processing, accumulators are output

Summary reports

- Contain only totals with no detail data
- Loops are processed but detail information is not printed

MONTH-END SAL	ES REPORT
Address	Price
287 Acorn St	150,000
12 Maple Ave	310,000
8723 Marie Ln	65,500
222 Acorn St	127,000
29 Bahama Way	450,000
Total	1,102,500

Figure 5-16 Month-end real estate sales report

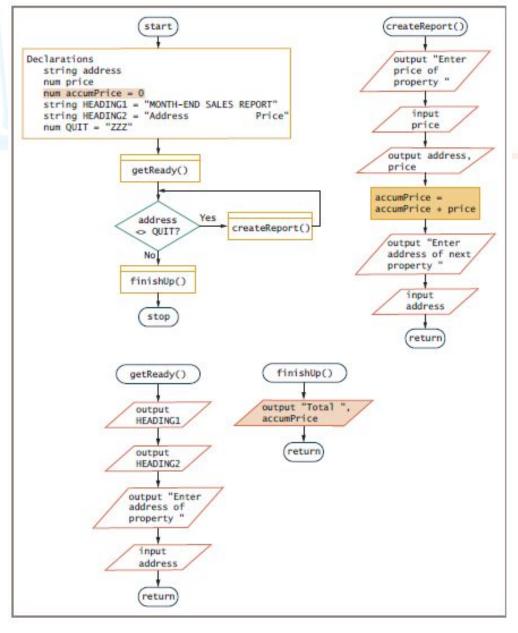


Figure 5-17 Flowchart and pseudocode for real estate sales report program

2-Using a loop to validate data

- Defensive programming: preparing for all possible errors before they occur
 - When prompting a user for data, no guarantee that data is valid
- Validate data: make sure data falls in acceptable ranges (month values between 1 and 12)
- GIGO: Garbage in, garbage out
 - Unvalidated input will result in erroneous output

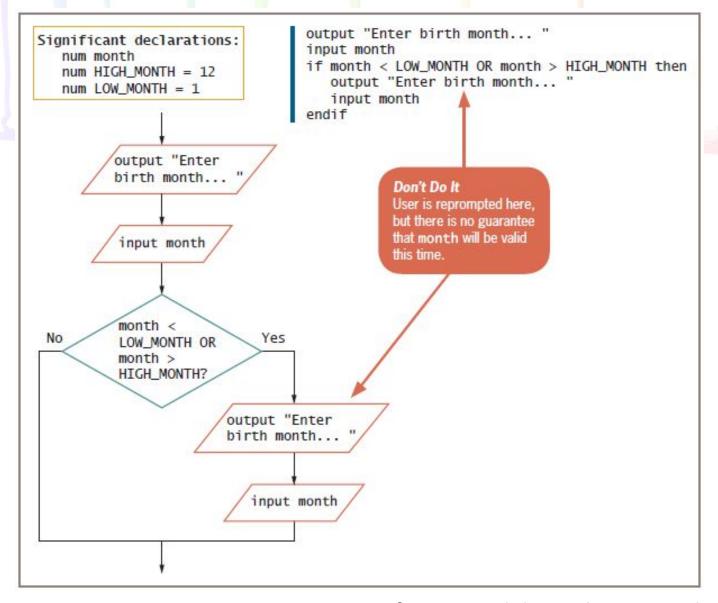


Figure 5-18 Reprompting a user once after an invalid month is entered

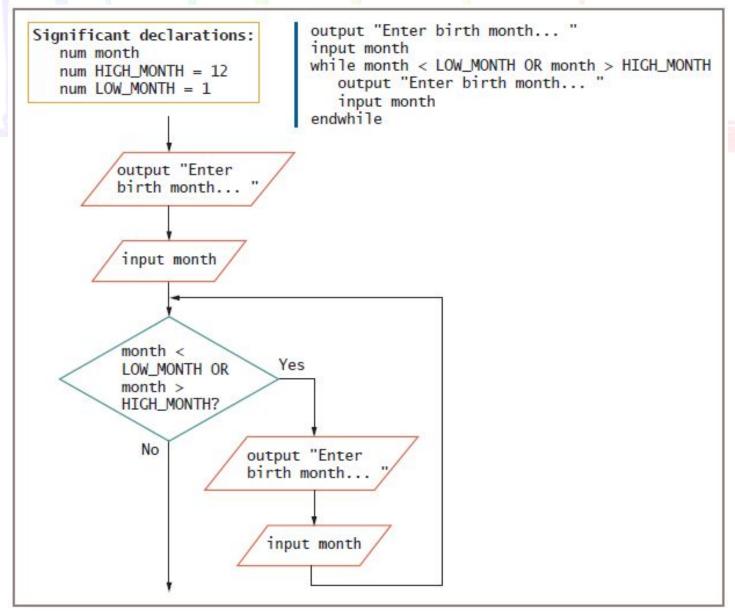


Figure 5-19 Reprompting a user continuously after an invalid month is entered

3-Limiting a reprompting loop

- Reprompting can be frustrating to a user if it continues indefinitely
- Maintain a count of the number of reprompts
- Forcing a data item means:
 - Override incorrect data by setting the variable to a specific value

4-Validating a data type

- Validating data requires a variety of methods
- isNumeric() or similar method
 - Provided with the language translator you use to write your programs
- isChar() or isWhitespace()
- Accept user data as strings
- Use built-in methods to convert to correct data types

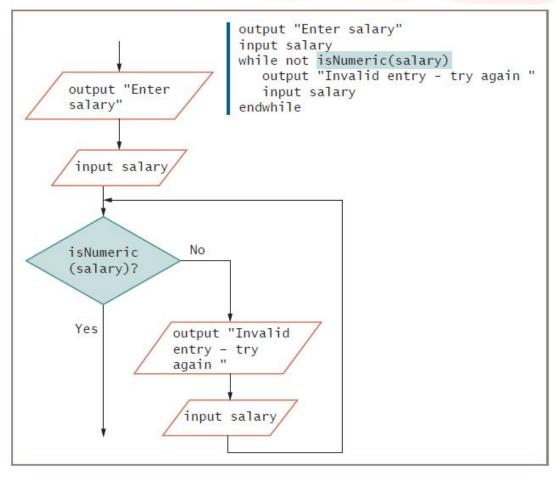


Figure 5-21 Checking data for correct type

5-Validating reasonableness and consistency of data

- Many data items can be checked for reasonableness
- Good defensive programs try to foresee all possible inconsistencies and errors

Summary

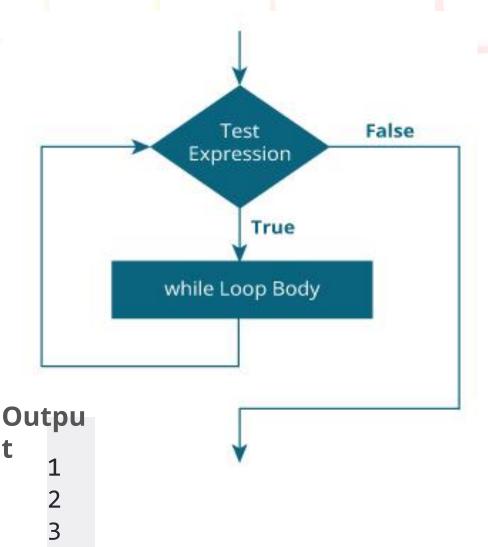
- Loops write one set of instructions that operate on multiple, separate sets of data
- Three steps must occur in every loop
 - Initialize the loop control variable
 - Compare the variable to some value
 - Alter the variable that controls the loop
- Nested loops: loops within loops
- Nested loops maintain two individual loop control variables
 - Alter each at the appropriate time

Summary (continued)

- Common mistakes made by programmers
 - Neglecting to initialize the loop control variable
 - Neglecting to alter the loop control variable
 - Using the wrong comparison with the loop control variable
 - Including statements inside the loop that belong outside the loop
- Most computer languages support a for statement
 - for loop used when the number of iterations is known
- Loops are used to accumulate totals in business reports and to reprompt users for valid data

while loop in "C"

```
// Print numbers from 1 to 5
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
    int i = 1;
    while (i <= 5)
         printf("%d\n", i);
         ++i;
    return 0;
```



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