Performance Tips

* A nested **if**/**else** structure can be must faster than a series of single selection **if** structures because of the possibility of early exit after one of the conditions is satisfied.
* In a nested **if** /**else** structure, test the conditions that are more likely to be **true** at the beginning of the nested **if**/**else** structure to run faster and exit earlier than testing infrequently occurring cases.
* Programmers can write programs a bit faster and compilers can compile programs a bit faster when the “abbreviated” assignment operators are used. Some compilers generate code that runs faster when “abbreviated” assignment operators are used.
* Many of the performance tips we mention in this text result in nominal improvements, so the reader may be tempted to ignore them. Significant performance improvement is often realized when supposedly nominal improvements are placed in a loop that many repeat many times.