

Term	Definition
A dual-alternative if	A dual-alternative if is a decision structure that takes one of two possible courses of action.
Boolean	True or false values are Boolean values; every computer decision results in a Boolean value.
Conditional operator	The conditional operator requires three expressions separated with a question mark and a colon, and is used as an abbreviated version of the if...else structure.
Conditional OR operator	You can use the conditional OR operator between Boolean expressions to determine whether either expression is true. The OR operator is written as two pipes ().
Decision structure	A decision structure is a logical structure that involves choosing between alternative courses of action based on some value within a program.
Empty statement	An empty statement contains only a semicolon.
Equivalency operator	The equivalency operator (==) compares values and returns true if they are equal.
Flowchart	A flowchart is a tool that helps programmers plan a program's logic by writing the steps in diagram form, as a series of shapes connected by arrows.
If statement	In Java, the simplest statement you can use to make a decision is the if statement ; you use it to write a single-alternative decision.
If...else statement	In Java, the if...else statement provides the mechanism to perform one action when a Boolean expression evaluates as true and to perform a different action when a Boolean expression evaluates as False.
Logical AND operator	You can use the logical AND operator between Boolean expressions to determine whether both are true. The AND operator is written as two ampersands (&&).
Nested if	A nested if statement contains an if structure within another if structure.
Not	You use the NOT operator, which is written as the exclamation point (!), to negate the result of any Boolean expression.
Pseudocode	Pseudocode is a tool that helps programmers plan a program's logic by writing plain English statements.

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Range check	A range check is a series of statements that determine within which of a set of ranges a value falls.
Sequence structure	A sequence structure is a logical structure in which one step follows another unconditionally.
Short-circuit evaluation	Short-circuit evaluation describes the feature of the AND and OR operators in which evaluation is performed only as far as necessary to make a final decision.
Single-alternative if	A single-alternative if is a decision structure that performs an action, or not, based on one alternative.
Switch statement	The switch statement uses up to four keywords to test a single variable against a series of exact integer or character values. The keywords are switch, case, break, and default.
Ternary operator	A ternary operator is one that needs three operands.

Note: Please see key terms in the textbooks for examples of some of the terms.