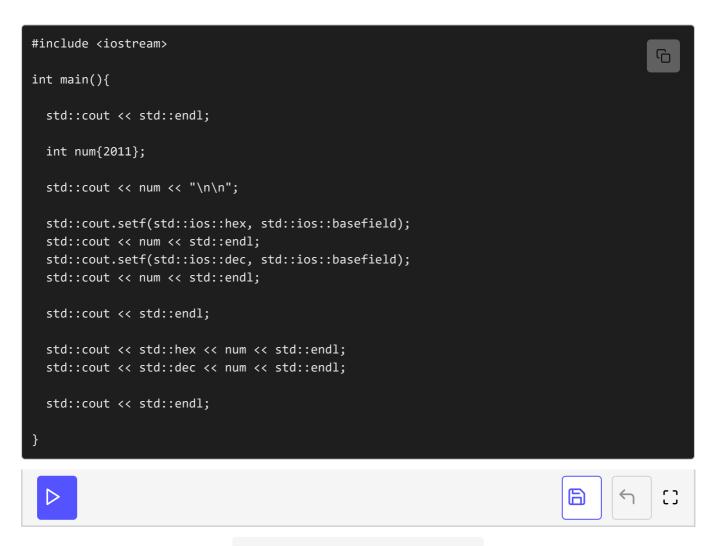
Format Specifier

Since we're tackling text, it would be appropriate to have tools which can help us format our data.

Format specifiers enable us to adjust the input and output data explicitly.

i We use manipulators as format specifiers

The format specifiers are available as manipulators and flags. We only present manipulators in this course because their functionality is quite similar and manipulators are more comfortable to use.



Manipulators as format specifiers

The following tables present the important format specifiers. They are sticky except for the field width, which is reset after each application.

The manipulators without any arguments require the header <iostream>, and the manipulators with arguments require the header <iomanip>.

Manipulator	Stream type	Description
std::boolalpha	input and output	Displays the boolean as a word.
std::noboolalpha	input and output	Displays the boolean as number (default).

Displaying boolean values

Manipulator	Stream type	Description
<pre>std::setw(val)</pre>	input and output	Sets the field width to val.
<pre>std::setfill(c)</pre>	output stream	Sets the fill character to c (default: spaces).

Set the field width and the fill character

Manipulator	Stream type	Description
std::left	output	Aligns the output left.
std::right	output	Aligns the output

		right.	
std::internal	output	Aligns the signs of numbers left, the values right.	

Alignment of the text

Manipulator	Stream type	Description
std::showpos	output	Displays positive signs.
std::noshowpos	output	Doesn't display positive signs (default).
std::uppercase	output	Uses uppercase characters for numeric values (default).
std::lowercase	output	Uses lower case characters for numeric values.

Positive signs and upper or lower case

Manipulator	Stream type	Description
std::oct	input and output	Uses natural numbers

364000	inpat and output	in octal format.
std::dec	input and output	Uses natural numbers in decimal format (default).
std::hex	input and output	Uses natural numbers in hexadecimal format.
std::showbase	output	Displays the numeric base.
std::noshowbase	output	Doesn't display the numeric base (default).

Display of the numeric base

There are special rules for floating point numbers:

- The number of significant digits (digits after the comma) is, by default, 6.
- If the number of significant digits is not big enough, the numbers are displayed in scientific notation.
- Leading and trailing zeros are not displayed.
- If possible, the decimal points are not displayed.

Manipulator	Stream type	Description
<pre>std::setprecision(va 1)</pre>	output	Adjusts the precision of the output to val.
std::showpoint	output	Displays the decimal point.

std::noshowpoint	output	Doesn't display the
		decimal point (default).
std::fixed	output	Displays the floating point number in decimal format.
std::scientific	output	Displays the floating point number in scientific format.
std::hexfloat	output	Displays the floating- point number in hexadecimal format.
std::defaultfloat	output	Displays the floating- point number in floating-point notation by default.

Floating point numbers

There's a try it out exercise for us in the next lesson.