

Chapter Three: Decisions

Chapter Goals

- To be able to implement decisions using if statements
- To learn how to compare integers and floating-point numbers
- To understand the Boolean data type
- To develop strategies for validating user input

Decision making

(a necessary thing in non-trivial programs)



The **if** statement

allows a program to carry out different actions depending on the nature of the data being processed

The if statement is used to implement a decision.

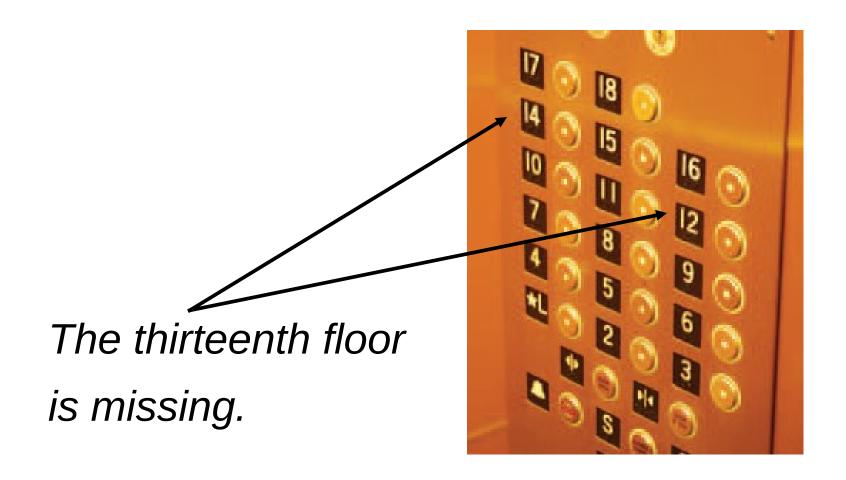
- When a condition is fulfilled,
 one set of statements is executed.
- Otherwise,
 another set of statements is executed.



if it's quicker

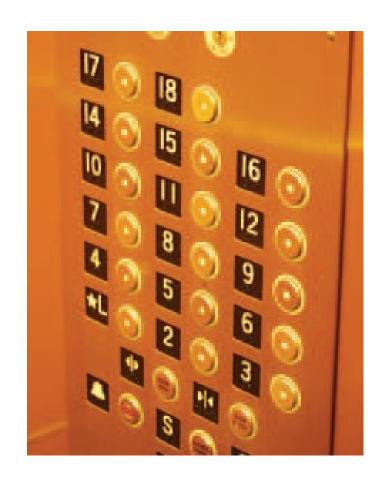
we'll go that way
else

we go that way



We must write the code to control the elevator.

How can we skip the 13th floor?



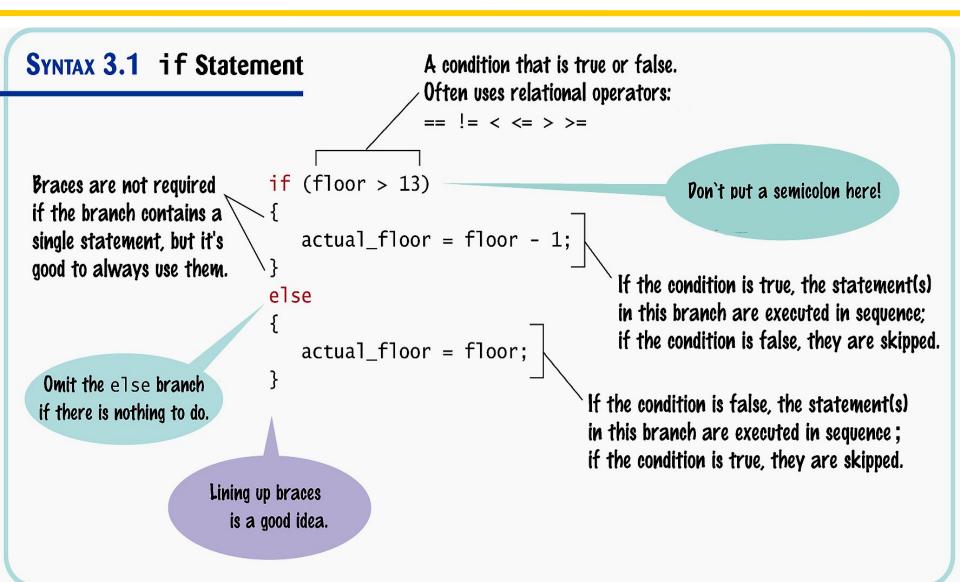
We will model a person choosing a floor by getting input from the user:

```
int floor = 0;
printf("Floor: ");
scanf("%d", &floor);
```

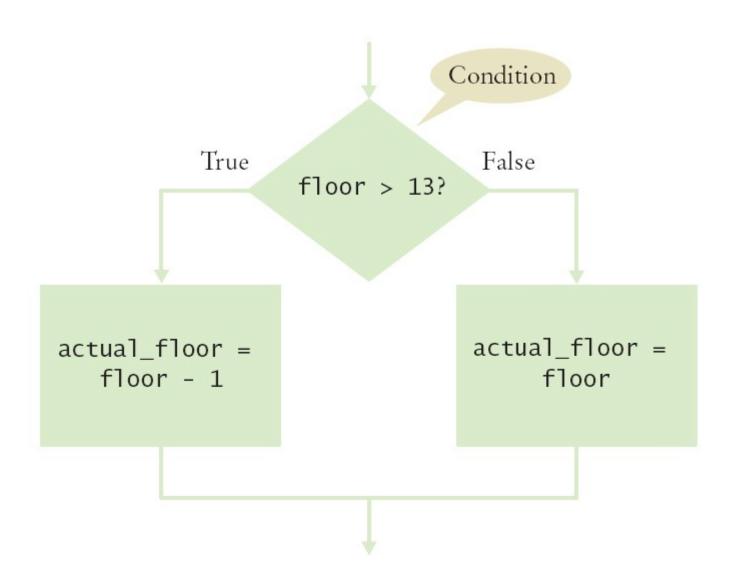
```
If the user inputs 20,
the program must set the actual floor to 19.
Otherwise,
we simply use the supplied floor number.
```

We need to decrement the input only under a certain condition:

```
int actual_floor = 0;
if (floor > 13)
{
    actual_floor = floor - 1;
}
else
{
    actual_floor = floor;
}
```



The if Statement – The Flowchart

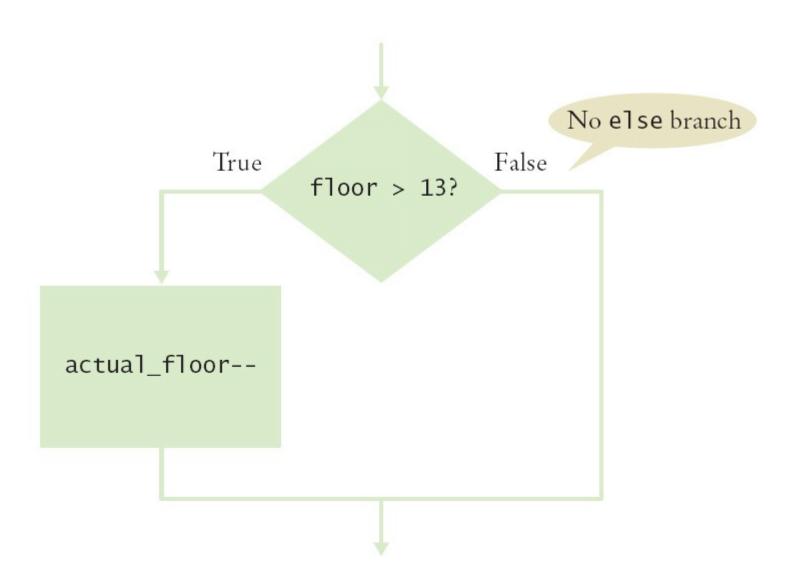


Sometimes, it happens that there is nothing to do in the else branch of the statement.

So don't write it.

```
Here is another way to write this code:
We only need to decrement
  when the floor is greater than 13.
We can set actual floor before testing:
int actual floor = floor;
if (floor > 13)
     actual floor--;
} // No else needed
 (And you'll notice we used the decrement operator this time.)
```

The if Statement – The Flowchart



The if Statement – A Complete Elevator Program

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   int floor = 0;
   printf("Floor: ");
   scanf("%d", &floor);
   int actual floor = 0;
   if (floor > 13)
   {
      actual floor = floor - 1;
   else
      actual floor = floor;
   printf("The elevator will travel to the floor %d.\n",
          actual floor);
   return 0;
```

- Making your code easy to read is good practice.
- Lining up braces vertically helps.

```
if (floor > 13)
{
    floor--;
}
```

 As long as the ending brace clearly shows what it is closing, there is no confusion.

```
if (floor > 13) {
    floor--;
}
```

Some programmers prefer this style

— it saves a physical line in the code.

This is a passionate and ongoing argument, but it is about style, not substance.

It is important that you pick a layout scheme and stick with it consistently within a given programming project.

Which scheme you choose may depend on

- your personal preference
- a coding style guide that you need to follow (that would be your boss' style)

The if Statement – Always Use Braces

When the body of an **if** statement consists of a single statement, you need not use braces:

```
if (floor > 13)
floor--;
```

The if Statement – Always Use Braces

However, it is a good idea to always include the braces:

- the braces makes your code easier to read, and
- you are less likely to make errors such as ...

The if Statement – Common Error – The Do-nothing Statement

Can you see the error?

```
if (floor > 13); ERROR
{
    floor--;
}
```

The if Statement - Common Error - The Do-nothing Statement

```
if (floor > 13) ;_
    floor--;
      This is not a compiler error.
      The compiler does not complain.
     It interprets this if statement as follows:
If floor is greater than 13, execute the do-nothing statement.
  (semicolon by itself is the do nothing statement)
```

Then after that execute the code enclosed in the braces. Any statements enclosed in the braces are no longer a part of the **if** statement.

The if Statement – Common Error – The Do-nothing Statement

Can you see the error?
This one should be easy now!

```
if (floor > 13)
{
    actual_floor = floor - 1;
}
else ; ERROR
{
    actual_floor = floor;
}
```

It is not compiler error. But it *is* a computation error.

The if Statement – Indent when Nesting

Block-structured code has the property that *nested* statements are indented by one or more levels.

```
int main()
   int floor;
       (floor > 13)
       floor--;
   return
Indentation level
```

The if Statement – Indent when Nesting

Using the tab key is a way to get this indentation

but ...

not all tabs are the same width!

Luckily most development environments have settings to automatically convert all tabs to spaces.

Sometimes you might find yourself wanting to do this:

Statements don't have any value so they can't be output. But it's a nice idea.

C has the conditional operator of the form

condition? value1: value2

The value of that expression is either **value1** if the test passes or **value2** if it fails.

For example, we can compute the actual floor number as

```
actual floor = floor > 13 ? floor - 1 : floor;
which is equivalent to
   if (floor > 13)
      actual floor = floor - 1;
   else
      actual floor = floor;
```

You can use the conditional operator anywhere that a value is expected, for example:

```
printf("Actual floor: %d\n",
    floor > 13 ? floor - 1 : floor);
```

The if Statement – Removing Duplication

```
if (floor > 13)
  actual floor = floor - 1;
  printf("Actual floor: %d\n", actual floor);
else
  actual floor = floor;
  printf("Actual floor: %d\n", actual floor);
```

Do you find anything curious in this code?

The if Statement – Removing Duplication

```
if (floor > 13)
  actual floor = floor - 1;
  printf("Actual floor: %d\n", actual floor);
else
  actual floor ≥ floor;
  printf("Actual Noor: %d\n", actual floor);
                     Do these depend
                     on the test?
```

The if Statement – Removing Duplication

```
if (floor > 13)
  actual floor = floor - 1;
else
  actual floor = floor;
printf("Actual floor: %d\n", actual floor);
                     You should remove
                     this duplication.
```

Relational Operators



Which way is quicker?



Let's compare the distances.

Relational operators

are used to compare numbers and strings.

Table 1 Relational Operators				
C++	Math Notation	Description		
>	>	Greater than		
>=	≥	Greater than or equal		
<	<	Less than		
<=	≤	Less than or equal		
==	=	Equal		
!=	≠	Not equal		

SYNTAX 3.2 Comparisons

```
These quantities are compared.
                       floor > 13
                                    One of: == != < <= >=
Check that you have
 the right direction:
> (greater) or < (less)
                                            Check the boundary condition:
                                       Po you want to include (>=) or exclude (>)?
                       floor == 13
                                  Checks for equality.
    Use ==, not =.
                       string input;
                       if (input == "Y")
                                       Ok to compare strings.
                      double x; double y; const double EPSILON = 1E-14;
                      if (fabs(x - y) < EPSILON)
                                    Checks that these floating-point numbers are very close.
```

Table 2	Relationa	Operator	Examples
---------	-----------	----------	----------

Expression	Value	Comment
3 <= 4	true	3 is less than 4; <= tests for "less than or equal".
3 =< 4	Error	The "less than or equal" operator is <=, not =<, with the "less than" symbol first.
3 > 4	false	> is the opposite of <=.
4 < 4	false	The left-hand side must be strictly smaller than the right-hand side.
4 <= 4	true	Both sides are equal; <= tests for "less than or equal".
3 == 5 - 2	true	== tests for equality.
3 != 5 - 1	true	!= tests for inequality. It is true that 3 is not $5-1$.
3 = 6 / 2	Error	Use == to test for equality.
1.0 / 3.0 == 0.3333333	333 false	Although the values are very close to one another, they are not exactly equal.
\(\) "10" > 5	Error	You cannot compare strings and numbers.

C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved

Relational Operators – Some Notes

The == operator is initially confusing to beginners.

In C, = already has a meaning, namely assignment

The == operator denotes equality testing:

```
floor = 13; // Assign 13 to floor
// Test whether floor equals 13
if (floor == 13)
```

The C language allows the use of = inside tests.

Earlier versions of C did not have true and false values.

Instead, they allowed any numeric value inside a condition with this interpretation:

0 denotes false any non-0 value denotes true.

Furthermore, in C assignments have values.

The *value* of the assignment expression **floor** = 13 is 13.

These two features conspire to make a horrible pitfall:

is <u>legal</u> C.

The code sets **floor** to 13, and since that value is not zero, the condition of the **if** statement is *always* **true**.

(and it's really hard to find this error at 3:00am when you've been coding for 13 hours straight)

Don't be shell-shocked by this and go completely the other way:

```
floor == floor - 1; // ERROR
```

This statement tests whether **floor** equals **floor - 1**.

It doesn't do anything with the outcome of the test, but that is not a compiler error.

Nothing really happens

(which is probably not what you meant to do

– so that's the error).

You must remember:

Use == *in*side tests.

Use = *out*side tests.

Multiple **if** statements can be combined to evaluate complex decisions.

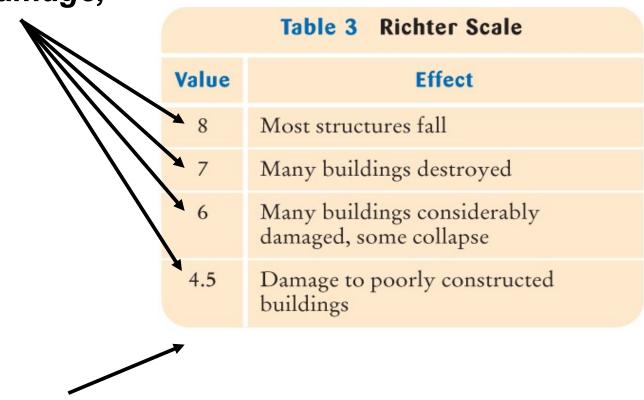
How would we write code to deal with Richter scale values?

Table 3 Richter Scale		
Value	Effect	
8	Most structures fall	
7	Many buildings destroyed	
6	Many buildings considerably damaged, some collapse	
4.5	Damage to poorly constructed buildings	



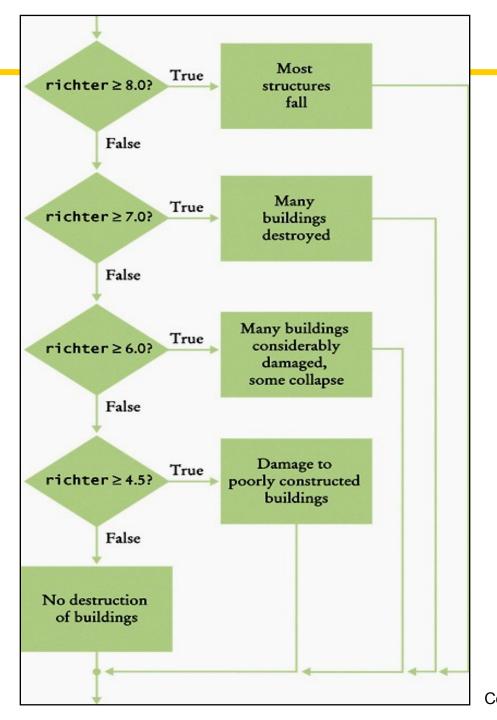
In this case, there are five branches:

one each for the four descriptions of damage,



and one for no destruction.

You use multiple **if** statements to implement multiple alternatives.



Richter flowchart

C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved

```
if (richter >= 8.0) {
  printf("most fall\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
  printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
  printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
  printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
  printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
If a test is false,
if (richter \geq 8.0) \leftarrow
   printf("most fall\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
   printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
   printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
If a test is false,
if (
        false
   printf("most fall\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
   printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
   printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
If a test is false,
if (richter >= 8.0)
                                     that block is skipped
   printf("most fall\n");
 else if (richter >= 7.0) {
   printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
   printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
If a test is false,
if (richter >= 8.0) {
                                     that block is skipped and
                                     the next test is made.
   printf("most fall\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
   printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
   printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
As soon as one of the
if (richter >= 8.0) {
                                    four tests succeeds,
  printf("most fall\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
  printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
  printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
  printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
As soon as one of the
if (richter >= 8.0) {
                                    four tests succeeds,
   printf("most fall\n");
} else if (
                true
   printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
   printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
As soon as one of the
if (richter >= 8.0) {
                                     four tests succeeds,
                                     that block is executed,
   printf("most fall\n");
                                     displaying the result,
} else if (richter >= 7.0)
   printf("many destroyed\n");
 else if (richter >= 6.0)
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5) {
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
   printf("no destruction\n");
```

```
As soon as one of the
if (richter >= 8.0) {
                                      four tests succeeds,
                                      that block is executed,
   printf("most fall\n");
                                      displaying the result,
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
   printf("many destroyed\n");
                                      and no further tests
} else if (richter >= 6.0)
                                      are attempted.
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 4.5)
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else {
   printf("po destruction\n");
```

Because of this execution order, when using multiple **if** statements, pay attention to the order of the conditions.

```
// Tests in wrong order
if (richter >= 4.5) {
  printf("damage to weak\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
  printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
  printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 8.0) {
  printf("most fall\n");
```

```
// Tests in wrong order
if (richter >= 4.5) {
  printf("damage to weak\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
  printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 8.0) {
  printf("most fall\n");
                                           Suppose the value
                                           of richter is 7.1,
```

```
// Tests in wrong order
if (richter >= 4.5) {
  printf("damage to weak\n");
} else if (richter = 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
\} else if (richter >= 7.0)
   printf("many destroyed\n')
} else if (richter >= 8.0) {
   printf("most fall\n");
                                            Suppose the value
                                            of richter is 7.1,
                                            this test is true
```

```
// Tests <u>in wr</u>ong order
if (
         true
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else if (richter > 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0)
   printf("many destroyed\n"
} else if (richter >= 8.0) {
   printf("most fall\n");
                                             Suppose the value
                                             of richter is 7.1,
                                             this test is true!
```

```
// Tests in wrong order
if (richter \geq 4.5)
   printf("damage to weak\n");
 else if (richter >= 6.0)
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
   printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 8.0) {
   printf("most fall\n");
                                            Suppose the value
                                            of richter is 7.1,
                                            this test is true
                                            and that block is
                                            executed,
```

```
// Tests in wrong order
if (richter >= 4.5) {
   printf("damage to weak\n");
} else if (richter >= 6.0) {
   printf("many damaged, some collapse\n");
} else if (richter >= 7.0) {
   printf("many destroyed\n");
} else if (richter >= 8.0) {
   printf("most fall\n");
                                             Suppose the value
                                             of richter is 7.1,
                                             this test is true
                                             and that block is
                                             executed,
                                            and we go...
```

The switch Statement

This is a bit of a mess to read.

```
int digit;
. . .
if (digit == 1) {
    digit name = "one";
} else if (digit == 2) {
    digit name = "two";
} ... {
} else if (digit == 9) {
    digit name = "nine";
} else {
    digit name = "";
```

The switch Statement

C has a statement that helps a bit with the readability of situations like this:

The **switch** statement.

ONLY a sequence of **if** statements that compares a single integer value against several constant alternatives can be implemented as a **switch** statement.

The switch Statement

```
switch (digit) {
    case 1:
        digit name = "one";
        break;
    case 2:
        digit name = "two";
        break;
    case 9:
        digit name = "nine";
        break;
    default:
        digit name = "";
        break;
```

Nested Branches

It is possible to have multiple case clauses for a branch:

```
case 1:
case 3:
case 5:
case 7:
case 9:
   odd = true;
   break;
```

The **default:** branch is chosen if none of the case clauses match.

Nested Branches

Every branch of the switch must be terminated by a **break** statement.

If the **break** is missing, execution falls through to the next branch, and so on, until finally a **break** or the end of the switch is reached.

In practice, this fall-through behavior is rarely useful, and it is a common cause of errors.

If you accidentally forget the **break** statement, your program compiles but executes unwanted code.

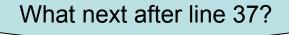
Nested Branches

Many programmers consider the **switch** statement somewhat dangerous and prefer the **if** statement.

It certainly is not needed and if you can't write your code using **if**, you can't even think about using **switch**.



Taxes...





Taxes...

What next after line 37?

... if the taxable amount from line 22 is bigger than line 83 ...



Taxes...



...if the taxable amount from line 22 is bigger than line 83...

... and I have 3 children under 13 ...



Taxes...



What next after line 37?

...if the taxable amount from line 22 is bigger than line 83...

...and I have 3 children under 13...

... unless I'm also married ...

Taxes...

- In the United States different tax rates are used depending on the taxpayer's marital status.
- There are different tax schedules for single and for married taxpayers.
- Married taxpayers add their income together and pay taxes on the total.

Let's write the code.

First, as always, we analyze the problem.

Nested branching analysis is aided by drawing tables showing the different criteria.

Thankfully, the I.R.S. has done this for us.

Tab	Table 4 Federal Tax Rate Schedule		
If your status is Single and if the taxable income is over	but not over	the tax is	of the amount over
\$0	\$32,000	10%	\$0
\$32,000		\$3,200 + 25%	\$32,000
If your status is Married and if the taxable income is over	but not over	the tax is	of the amount over
\$0	\$64,000	10%	\$0
\$64,000		\$6,400 + 25%	\$64,000

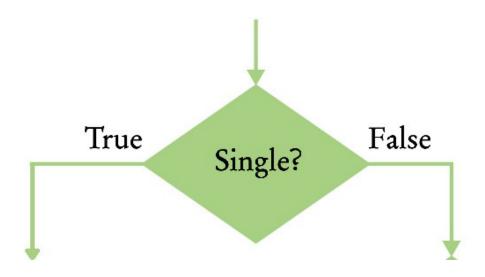
Tax brackets for single filers: from \$0 to \$32,000 above \$32,000 then tax depends on income

Tax brackets for married filers: from \$0 to \$64,000 above \$64,000 then tax depends on income

Now that you understand, given a filing status and an income figure, compute the taxes due.

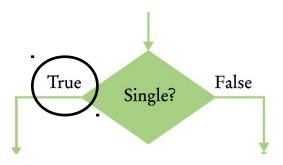
 The key point is that there are two levels of decision making.

First, you must branch on the marital status.

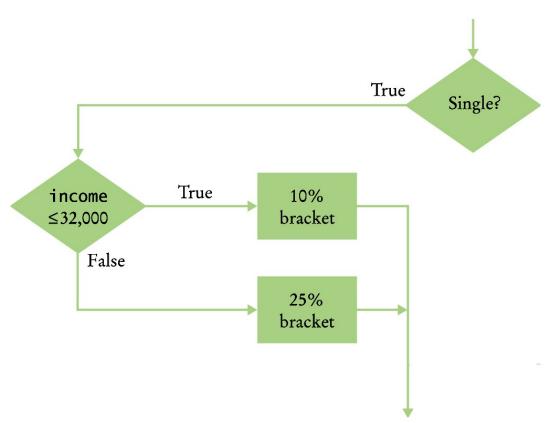


Then, for each filing status, you must have another branch on income level.

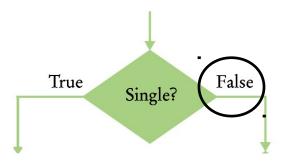
The single filers ...



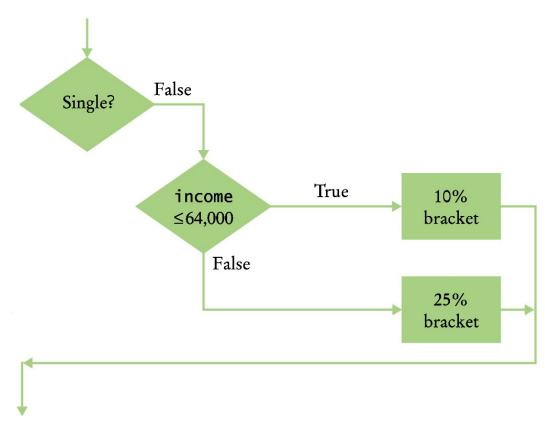
...have their own *nested* **if** statement with the single filer figures.



For those with spouses ...



...a different *nested* **if** for using their figures.



In theory you can have even deeper levels of nesting.

Consider:

first by state then by filing status then by income level

This situation requires three levels of nesting.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
   const double RATE1 = 0.10;
   const double RATE2 = 0.25;
   const double RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT = 32000;
   const double RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT = 64000;
   double tax1 = 0.0;
   double tax2 = 0.0;
   double income;
   printf("Please enter your income: ");
   scanf("%lf", &income);
   int marital status;
   printf("Please enter 1 for single, 2 for married: ");
   scanf("%d", &marital status);
                                                     C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann
                                        Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved
```

```
if (marital status == 1) {
    if (income <= RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT) {</pre>
        tax1 = RATE1 * income;
    } else {
        tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT);
} else {
    if (income <= RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT) {</pre>
        tax1 = RATE1 * income;
    } else {
        tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT);
```

```
double total_tax = tax1 + tax2;

printf("The tax is $%f\n", total_tax);
return 0;
```

A very useful technique for understanding whether a program works correctly is called *hand-tracing*.

You simulate the program's activity on a sheet of paper.

You can use this method with pseudocode or C code.

Looking at your pseudocode or C code,

- Use a marker to mark the current statement.
- "Execute" the statements one at a time.
- Every time the value of a variable changes, cross out the old value, and write the new value below the old one.

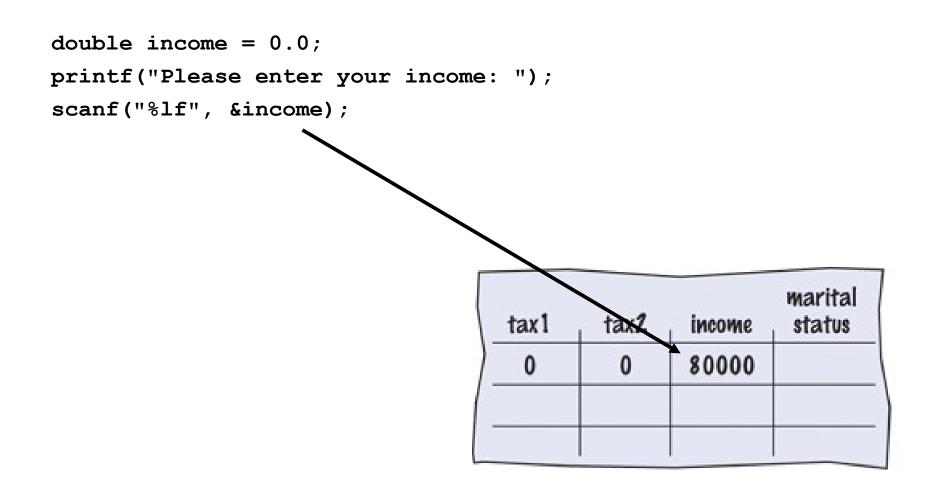
```
int main()
{
    const double RATE1 = 0.10;
    const double RATE2 = 0.25;
    const double RATE1_SINGLE_LIMIT = 32000;
    const double RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT = 64000;
```

Constants aren't "changes" during execution.

They were created and initialized earlier so we don't write them in our trace.

```
int main()
    const double RATE1 = 0.10;
    const double RATE2 = 0.25;
    const double RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT = 32000;
    const double RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT = 64000;
    double tax1 = 0;
                                                             marital
    double tax2 = 0;
                                       tax1
                                              tax2
                                                     income
                                                             status
```

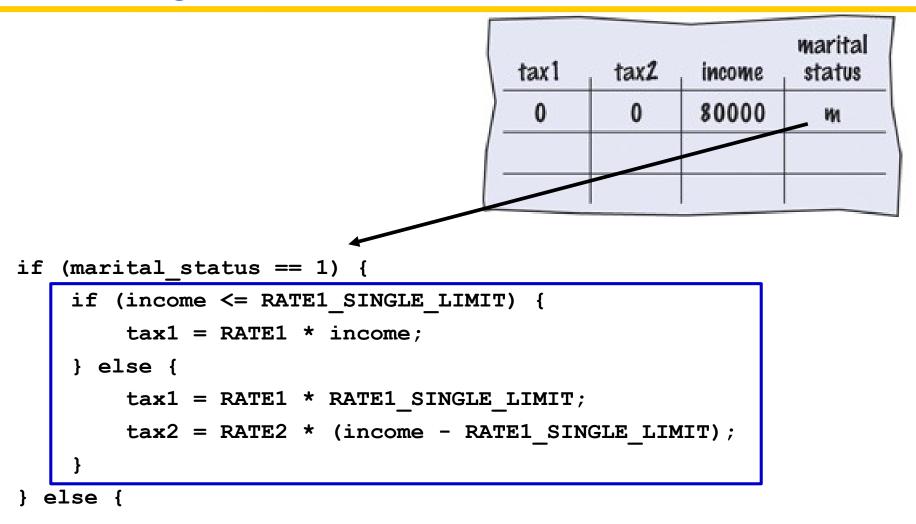
```
int main()
    const double RATE1 = 0.10;
    const double RATE2 = 0.25;
    const double RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT = 32000;
    const double RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT = 64000;
    double tax1 = 0;
                                                             marital
    double tax2 = 0;
                                       tax1
                                              tax2
                                                     income
                                                             status
```

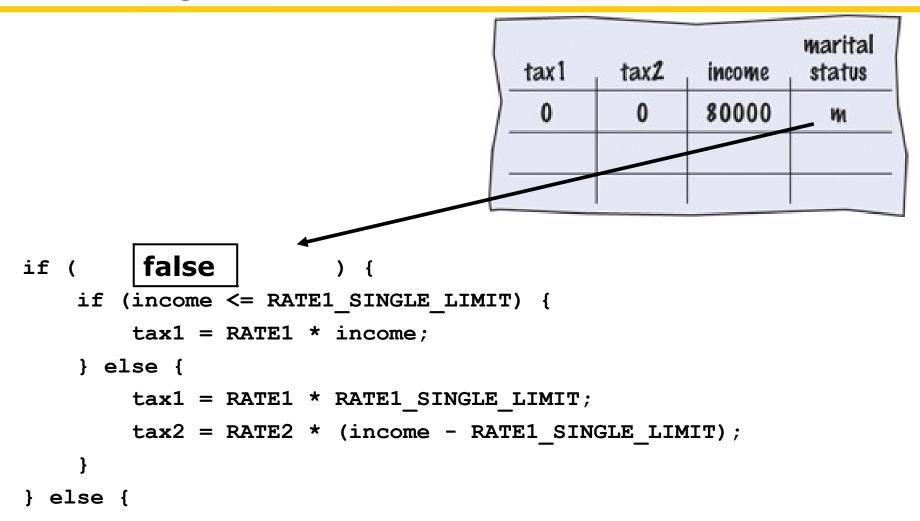


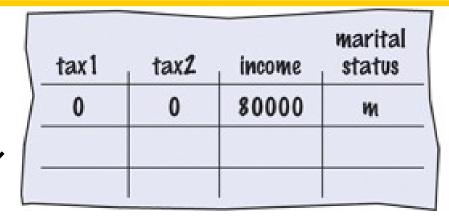
The user typed 80000.

```
double income = 0.0;
printf("Please enter your income: ");
scanf("%lf", &income);
int marital status = 0;
printf("Please enter 1 for single, 2 for married: ");
scanf("%d", &marital status);
                                                          marital
                                   tax1
                                                  income
                                                          status
                                           Taxz
                                                  80000
```

The user typed 2 (m)





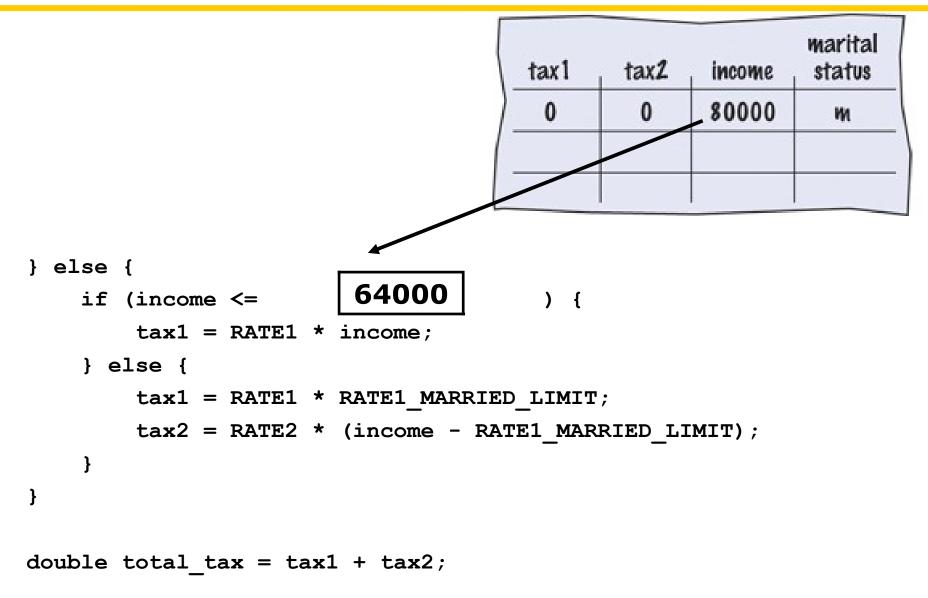


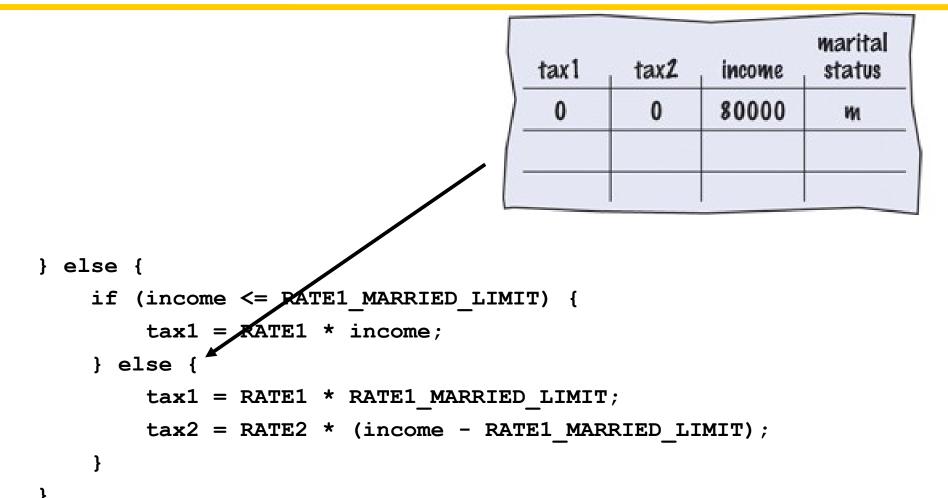
```
if (marital_status == 1) {
    if (income <= RATE1_SINGLE_LIMIT) {
        tax1 = RATE1 * income;
    } else {
        tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1_SINGLE_LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1_SINGLE_LIMIT);
    }
} else {</pre>
```

tax1	tax2	income	marital status
0	0	80000	М

```
lse {
    if (income <= RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT) {
        tax1 = RATE1 * income;
    } else {
        tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT);
}
</pre>
```

```
double total_tax = tax1 + tax2;
```





double total_tax = tax1 + tax2;

```
marital
                                 tax1
                                         tax2
                                                income
                                                        status
                                  ø
                                          0
                                                80000
                                                          M
                                6400
                                        4000
} else {
    if (income <= RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT) {
        tax1 = RXTE1
                        income;
    } else {
                       RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT);
double total tax = tax1 + tax2;
```

tax1	tax2	income	marital status
ø	ø	80000	M
6400	4000		

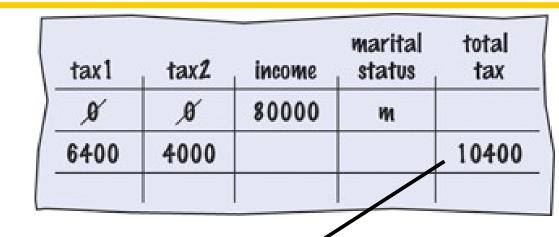
```
} else {
    if (income <= RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT) {
        tax1 = RATE1 * income;
    } else {
        tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT);
    }
}
double total_tax = tax1 + tax2;</pre>
```

tax1	tax2	income	marital status
ø	ø	80000	M
6400	4000		

```
} else {
    if (income <= RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT) {
        tax1 = RATE1 * income;
    } else {
        tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT);
    }
}
double total_tax = tax1 + tax2;</pre>
```

tax1	tax2	income	marital status	total tax
0	Ø	80000	и	
6400	4000			10400

```
} else {
    if (income <= RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT) {
        tax1 = RATE1 * income;
    } else {
        tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT;
        tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1_MARRIED_LIMIT);
    }
}
double total_tax = tax1 + tax2;</pre>
```



```
double total_tax = tax1 + tax2;
printf("The tax is $%f\n", total_tax);
return 0;
```

Consider how to *test* the tax computation program.

Of course, you cannot try out all possible inputs of filing status and income level.

Even if you could, there would be no point in trying them all.

If the program correctly computes one or two tax amounts in a given bracket, then we have a good reason to believe that all amounts will be correct.

You should also test on the *boundary conditions*, at the endpoints of each bracket

this tests the < vs. <= situations.

There are two possibilities for the filing status and two tax brackets for each status, yielding four test cases.

- Test a handful of boundary conditions, such as an income that is at the boundary between two brackets, and a zero income.
- If you are responsible for error checking, also test an invalid input, such as a negative income.

Here are some possible test cases for the tax program:

Test Case	Expected	Output Comment
30,000 s	3,000	10% bracket
72,000 s	13,200	3,200 + 25% of 40,000
50,000 m	5,000	10% bracket
10,400 m	16,400	6,400 + 25% of 40,000
32,000 m	3,200	boundary case
0	0	boundary case

It is always a good idea to design test cases *before* starting to code.

Working through the test cases gives you a better understanding of the algorithm that you are about to implement.

When an **if** statement is nested inside another **if** statement, the following error may occur. Can you find the problem with the following?

```
double shipping charge = 5.00;
                             // $5 inside continental U.S.
if (country == "USA")
   if (state == "HI")
       shipping charge = 10.00;
                             // Hawaii is more expensive
else // Pitfall!
   shipping_charge = 20.00;
                             // As are foreign shipments
                                               C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann
                                   Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved
```

The indentation level *seems* to suggest that the **else** is grouped with the test **country** == "**USA**". Unfortunately, that is not the case.

The compiler *ignores* all indentation and matches the **else** with the preceding **if**.

This is what the code actually is.

And this is not what you want.

C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved

And it has a name: "the dangling **else** problem"

The Dangling else Problem - The Solution

Boolean Variables and Operators



Will we remember next time?

I wish I could put the way to go in my pocket!

Boolean Variables and Operators

- Sometimes you need to evaluate a logical condition in one part of a program and use it elsewhere.
- To store a condition that can be true or false, you use a Boolean variable.
- include "stdbool.h":
- bool data type
- true and false

Boolean Variables

Here is a definition of a Boolean variable, initialized to **false**:

```
bool failed = false;
```

It can be set by an intervening statement so that you can use the value *later* in your program to make a decision:

```
// Only executed if failed has
// been set to true
if (failed) {
   ...
}
```

Boolean Variables



Sometimes bool variables are called "flag" variables.

The flag is either up or down.



At this geyser in Iceland, you can see ice, liquid water, and steam.

- Suppose you need to write a program that processes temperature values, and you want to test whether a given temperature corresponds to liquid water.
 - At sea level, water freezes at 0 degrees
 Celsius and boils at 100 degrees.
- Water is liquid if the temperature is greater than zero and less than 100.
- This not a simple test condition.

- When you make complex decisions, you often need to combine Boolean values.
- An operator that combines Boolean conditions is called a Boolean operator.
- Boolean operators take one or two Boolean values or expressions and combine them into a resultant Boolean value.

The Boolean Operator && (and)

In C, the && operator (called and) yields true only when both conditions are true.

```
if (temp > 0 && temp < 100) {
    printf("Liquid");
}</pre>
```

If temp is within the range, then both the left-hand side and the right-hand side are true, making the whole expression's value true.

In all other cases, the whole expression's value is false.

The Boolean Operator | | (or)

The | | operator (called *or*) yields the result **true** if at least one of the conditions is **true**.

This is written as two adjacent vertical bar symbols.

```
if (temp <= 0 || temp >= 100) {
    printf("Not liquid");
}
```

If *either* of the expressions is **true**, the whole expression is **true**.

The only way "Not liquid" won't appear is if both of the expressions are false.

The Boolean Operator ! (not)

Sometimes you need to invert a condition with the logical *not* operator.

The ! operator takes a single condition and evaluates to true if that condition is false and to false if the condition is true.

```
if (!frozen) {
    printf("Not frozen");
}
```

"Not frozen" will be written only when frozen contains the value false.

This information is traditionally collected into a table called a *truth table*:

А	В	A && B
true	true	true
true	false	false
false	true	false
false	false	false

А	В	A B
true	true	true
true	false	true
false	true	true
false	false	false

А	!A
true	false
false	true

where A and B denote bool variables or Boolean expressions.

Boolean Operators – Some Examples

Table 6 Boolean Operators			
Expression	Value	Comment	
0 < 200 && 200 < 100	false	Only the first condition is true. Note that the < operator has a higher precedence than the && operator.	
0 < 200 200 < 100	true	The first condition is true.	
0 < 200 100 < 200	true	The is not a test for "either-or". If both conditions are true, the result is true.	
0 < 200 < 100	true	Error: The expression 0 < 200 is true, which is converted to 1. The expression 1 < 100 is true. You never want to write such an expression;	

Table 6 Roolean Operators

see Common Error 3.5 on page 107.

Boolean Operators – Some Examples

○ -10 && 10 > 0	true	Error: -10 is not zero. It is converted to true. You never want to write such an expression; see Common Error 3.5 on page 107.
0 < x && x < 100 x == -1	(0 < x & x < 100) x == -1	The && operator has a higher precedence than the operator.
!(0 < 200)	false	0 < 200 is true, therefore its negation is false.
frozen == true	frozen	There is no need to compare a Boolean variable with true.
frozen == false	!frozen	It is clearer to use! than to compare with false.

Consider the expression

This looks just like the mathematical test:

$$0 \le \text{temp} \le 100$$

Unfortunately, it is not.

The first half, 0 <= temp, is a *test*.

The outcome true or false, depending on the value of temp.

The outcome of that test (true or false) is then compared against 100.

This seems to make no sense.

Can one compare truth values and floating-point numbers?

Is true larger than 100 or not?

Unfortunately, false is 0 and true is 1.

Therefore, the expression will always evaluate to true.

Another common error, along the same lines, is to write

if
$$(x && y > 0) ... // Error$$

instead of

if
$$(x > 0 && y > 0)$$
 ...

(x and y are ints)

Naturally, that computation makes no sense.

(But it was a good attempt at translating: "both **x** and **y** must be greater than 0" into a C expression!).

Again, the compiler would not issue an error message. It would use the C conversions.

Common Error – Confusing && and | | Conditions

It is quite common that the individual conditions are nicely set apart in a bulleted list, but with little indication of how they should be combined.

Our tax code is a good example of this.

Common Error – Confusing && and | | Conditions

Consider these instructions for filing a tax return.

You are of single filing status if any one of the following is true:

- You were never married.
- You were legally separated or divorced on the last day of the tax year.
- You were widowed, and did not remarry.

Is this an && or an | situation?

Since the test passes if any one of the conditions is **true**, you must combine the conditions with the **or** operator.

Common Error – Confusing && and | | Conditions

Elsewhere, the same instructions:

You may use the status of married filing jointly if all five of the following conditions are true:

- Your spouse died less than two years ago and you did not remarry.
- You have a child whom you can claim as dependent.
- That child lived in your home for all of the tax year.
- You paid over half the cost of keeping up your home for this child.
- You filed a joint return with your spouse the year he or she died.

&& or an | |?

Because all of the conditions must be **true** for the test to pass, you must combine them with an **&&**.

Short Circuit Evaluation

When does an expression become **true** or **false**? And once sure, why keep doing anything?

expression && expression && expression && ...

In an expression involving a series of &&'s, we can stop after finding the first **false**.

Due to the way the truth table works, anything and **&& false** is **false**.

expression || expression || expression || ...

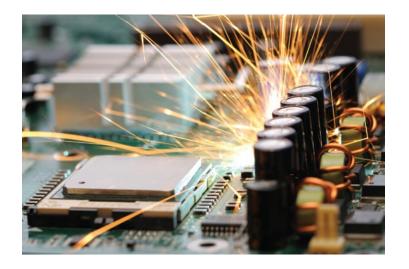
In an expression involving a series of []'s, we can stop after finding the first **true**.

Due to the way the truth table works, anything and **| | true** is **true**.

Short Circuit Evaluation

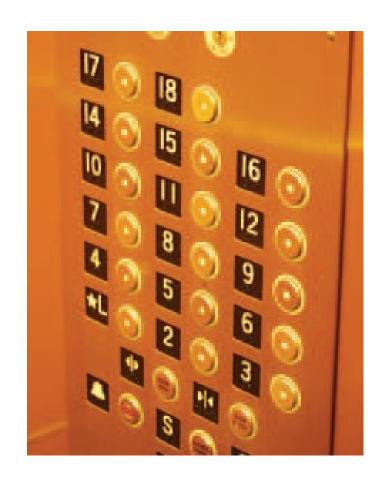
C does stop when it is sure of the value.

This is called *short circuit evaluation*.



But not the shocking kind.

Let's return to the elevator program and consider input validation.



- Assume that the elevator panel has buttons labeled 1 through 20 (but not 13!).
- The following are illegal inputs:
 - The number 13
 - Zero or a negative number
 - A number larger than 20
 - A value that is not a sequence of digits, such as five
- In each of these cases, we will want to give an error message and exit the program.

It is simple to guard against an input of 13:

```
if (floor == 13) {
    printf("Error: There is no thirteenth floor.\n");
    return 1;
}
```

The statement:

```
return 1;
```

immediately exits the main function and therefore terminates the program.

It is a convention to return with the value 0 if the program completes normally, and with a non-zero value when an error is encountered.

```
return EXIT_FAILURE;
```

To ensure that the user doesn't enter a number outside the valid range:

```
if (floor <= 0 || floor > 20) {
   printf("Error: The floor must be between 1 and 20.\n");
   return 1;
}
```

Later you will learn more robust ways to deal with bad input, but for now just exiting main with an error report is enough.

Here's the whole program with validity testing:

Input Validation with if Statements – Elevator Program

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
int main()
   int floor = 0;
   printf("Floor: ");
   scanf("%d", &floor);
   // The following statements check various input errors
   if (floor == 13) {
      printf("Error: There is no thirteenth floor.\n");
      return EXIT FAILURE;
   if (floor <= 0 || floor > 20) {
      printf("Error: The floor must be between 1 and 20.\n");
      return EXIT FAILURE;
```

Input Validation with if Statements – Elevator Program

Use the if statement to implement a decision.

 The if statement allows a program to carry out different actions depending on the nature of the data to be processed.

Implement comparisons of numbers and objects.

 Relational operators (< <= > >= == !=) are used to compare numbers.

Implement complex decisions that require multiple if statements.

- Multiple alternatives are required for decisions that have more than two cases.
- When using multiple if statements, pay attention to the order of the conditions.

Implement decisions whose branches require further decisions.

- When a decision statement is contained inside the branch of another decision statement, the statements are nested.
- Nested decisions are required for problems that have two levels of decision making.

Draw flowcharts for visualizing the control flow of a program.

- Flow charts are made up of elements for tasks, input/ outputs, and decisions.
- Each branch of a decision can contain tasks and further decisions.
- Never point an arrow inside another branch.

Design test cases for your programs.

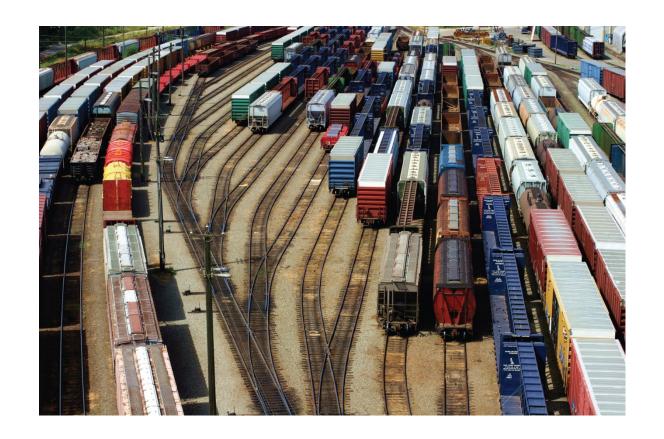
- Each branch of your program should be tested.
- It is a good idea to design test cases before implementing a program.

Use the bool data type to store and combine conditions that can be true or false.

- The bool type bool has two values, false and true.
- C has two Boolean operators that combine conditions: && (and) and || (or).
- To invert a condition, use the ! (not) operator.
- The && and || operators use short-circuit evaluation: As soon as the truth value is determined, no further conditions are evaluated.

Apply if statements to detect whether user input is valid.

 When reading a value, check that it is within the required range.



End Chapter Three