

What is a Flowchart?

The Flowchart is the most widely used graphical representation of an algorithm and procedural design workflows. It uses various symbols to show the operations and decisions to be followed in a program. It flows in sequential order.

Rules or guidelines of Flow

Rule 1: Flowchart opening statement must be 'start' keyword.

Rule 2: Flowchart ending statement must be 'end' keyword.

Rule 3: All symbols in the flowchart must be connected with an arrow line.

Rule 4: The decision symbol in the flowchart cannot be associated with the arrow line.

Flowchart symbols:

Terminal Symbol: In the flowchart, it is represented with the help of a circle for denoting the start and stop symbol. The symbol given below is used to represent the terminal symbol.



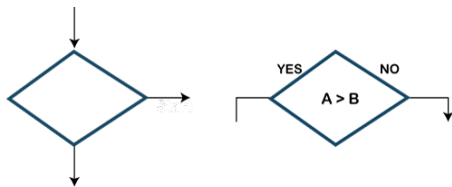
Input/output Symbol: The input symbol is used to represent the input data, and the output symbol is used to display the output operation. The symbol given below is used for representing the Input/output symbol.



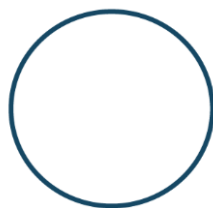
Processing Symbol: It is represented in a flowchart with the help of a rectangle box used to represent the arithmetic and data movement instructions. The symbol given below is used to represent the processing symbol.



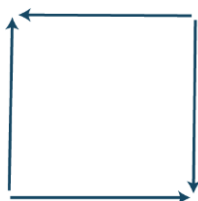
Decision Symbol: Diamond symbol is used for represents decision-making statements. The symbol given below is used to represent the decision symbol.



Connector Symbol: The connector symbol is used if flows discontinued at some point and continued again at another place. The following symbol is the representation of the connector symbol.



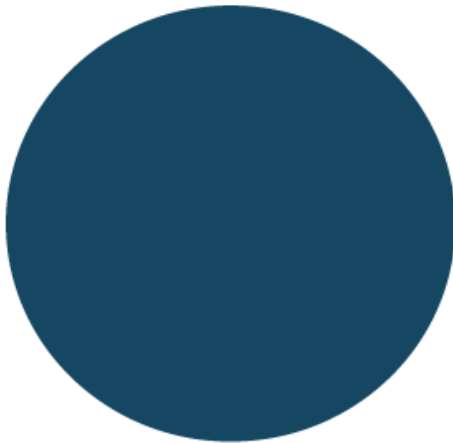
Flow lines: It represents the exact sequence in which instructions are executed. Arrows are used to represent the flow lines in a flowchart. The symbol given below is used for representing the flow lines:



- **Hexagon symbol (Flat):** It is used to create a preparation box containing the loop setting statement. The symbol given below is used for representing the Hexagon symbol.



- **On-Page Reference Symbol:** This symbol contains a letter inside that indicates the flow continues on a matching symbol containing the same letters somewhere else on the same page. The symbol given below is used for representing the on-page reference symbol.



- **Off-Page Reference:** This symbol contains a letter inside indicating that the flow continues on a matching symbol containing the same letter somewhere else on a different page. The symbol given below is used to represent the off-page reference symbol.



- **Delay or Bottleneck:** This symbol is used for identifying a delay in a flowchart. The alternative name used for the delay is the bottleneck. The symbol given below is used to represent the delay or bottleneck symbol.



- **Document Symbol:** This symbol is used in a flowchart to indicate a document or report. The symbol given below is used to represent the document symbol.



- **Internal storage symbol:** The symbol given below is used to represent the internal storage symbol.

