

Basic Input/Output formatting

In order to use the formatting facilities described below, you need to include *iomanip*, in addition to *iostream*:

```
#include <iostream>
#include <iomanip>

using namespace std;

int main() {

    //YOUR PROGRAM HERE
    return 0;
}
```

1- *setw*: Adjusts the number of positions (i.e. length of the field) reserved for your output. Only affects the next value sent to the output.

Example:

```
#include <iostream>

#include <iomanip>

using namespace std;
```

```

int main()
{
    cout << '(' << "Two words" << ')' <<
    endl;

    cout << '(' << setw(20) << "Two words"
    << ')' << endl;

    cout << '(' << setw(30) << "Two words"
    << ')' << endl;

    return 0;
}

```

If the data needs more space than specified in *setw*, the space needed will be used instead of the width specified in *setw* - *left* and *right*: Used to left justify or right justify the output.

Example:

```
#include <iostream>
```

```
#include <iomanip>
```

```
using namespace std;
```

```
int main()
```

```

{
cout << '(' << "Two words" << ')' <<
endl;

cout << left; //following output is left
               //justified

cout << '(' << setw(20) << "Two words"
<< ')' << endl;

cout << right; //following output is
               //right justified

cout << '(' << setw(30) << "Two
words" << ')' << endl;

return 0;
}

```

The output is :

```

(Two words)
(Two words          )
(                Two words)

```

2- setfill: sets the fill character so that it fills any spaces with that character if the output is shorter than the width specified by setw.

For example, in the code above, adding `setfill('*')`

```
#include <iostream>
```

```
#include <iomanip>
```

```
using namespace std;
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
cout << '(' << "Two words" << ')' <<
```

```
endl;
```

```
cout << left; //following output is left  
           //justified
```

```
cout << setfill('*') << '(' << setw(20) <<  
"Two words" << ')' << endl;
```

```
cout << right; //following output is  
              //right justified
```

```
cout << '(' << setw(30) << "Two words"<<  
)' << endl;
```

```
return 0;
```

```
}
```

results in

```
(Two    words)
(Two    words*****
(*****Two    words)
```

3- Floating Point Numbers (i.e. decimals)

We will cover only decimal output in the decimal point format (not scientific notation, etc.)

Precision: basically the number of digits after the decimal number.

Example:

```
#include <iostream>

#include <iomanip>

using namespace std;

int    main()
{
    cout <<    setprecision  (3)    <<    1.0/3.0<<    endl;

    cout <<    setprecision  (9)    <<    1.0/3.0<<    endl;

    return 0;
}
```

More on manipulators can be found at

<https://www.cs.mtsu.edu/~rwsmith/2170/examples/formattingOutput.html>

Use the Quick Link on that page to jump to the sections on *setw*, *setfill*, *right*, *left*, and *setprecision*.