

JAVATM PROGRAMMING

Chapter 5: Making Decisions





Objectives

- Plan decision-making logic
- Make decisions with the `if` and `if...else` structures
- Use multiple statements in `if` and `if...else` clauses
- Nest `if` and `if...else` statements
- Use AND and OR operators



Objectives (cont'd.)

- Make accurate and efficient decisions
- Use the `switch` statement
- Use the conditional and NOT operators
- Assess operator precedence
- Add decisions and constructors to instance methods



Planning Decision-Making Logic

- **Pseudocode**
 - Use paper and a pencil
 - Plan a program's logic by writing plain English statements
 - Accomplish important steps in a given task
 - Use everyday language
- **Flowchart**
 - Steps in diagram form
 - A series of shapes connected by arrows

Planning Decision-Making Logic (cont'd.)

- **Flowchart** (cont'd.)
 - Programmers use a variety of shapes to represent different tasks
 - Rectangle to represent any unconditional step
 - Diamond to represent any decision
- **Sequence structure**
 - One step follows another unconditionally
 - Cannot branch away or skip a step

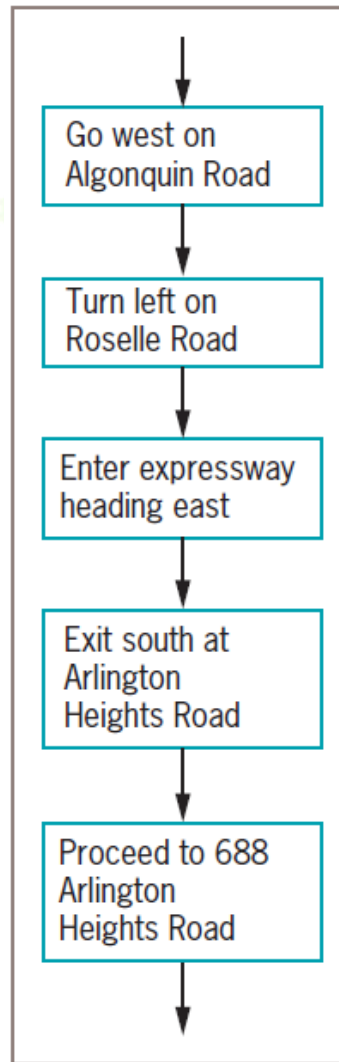


Figure 5-1 Flowchart of a series of sequential steps

Planning Decision-Making Logic (cont'd.)

- **Decision structure**
 - Involves choosing among alternative courses of action
 - Based on some value within a program
- All computer decisions are yes-or-no decisions
- **Boolean values**
 - `true` and `false` values
 - Used in every computer decision

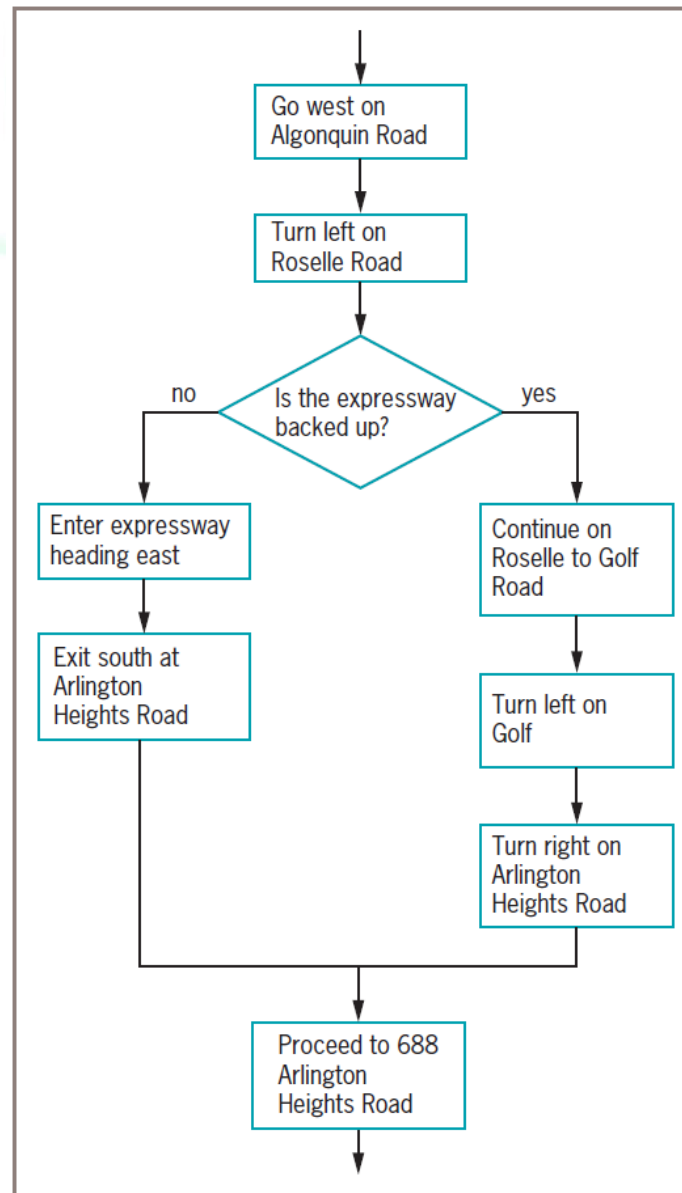


Figure 5-2 Flowchart including a decision



The `if` and `if...else` Structures

- **`if` statement**
 - The simplest statement to make a decision
 - A Boolean expression appears within parentheses
 - No space between the keyword `if` and the opening parenthesis
 - Execution always continues to the next independent statement
 - Use a double equal sign (`==`) to determine equivalency

The `if` and `if...else` Structures (cont'd.)

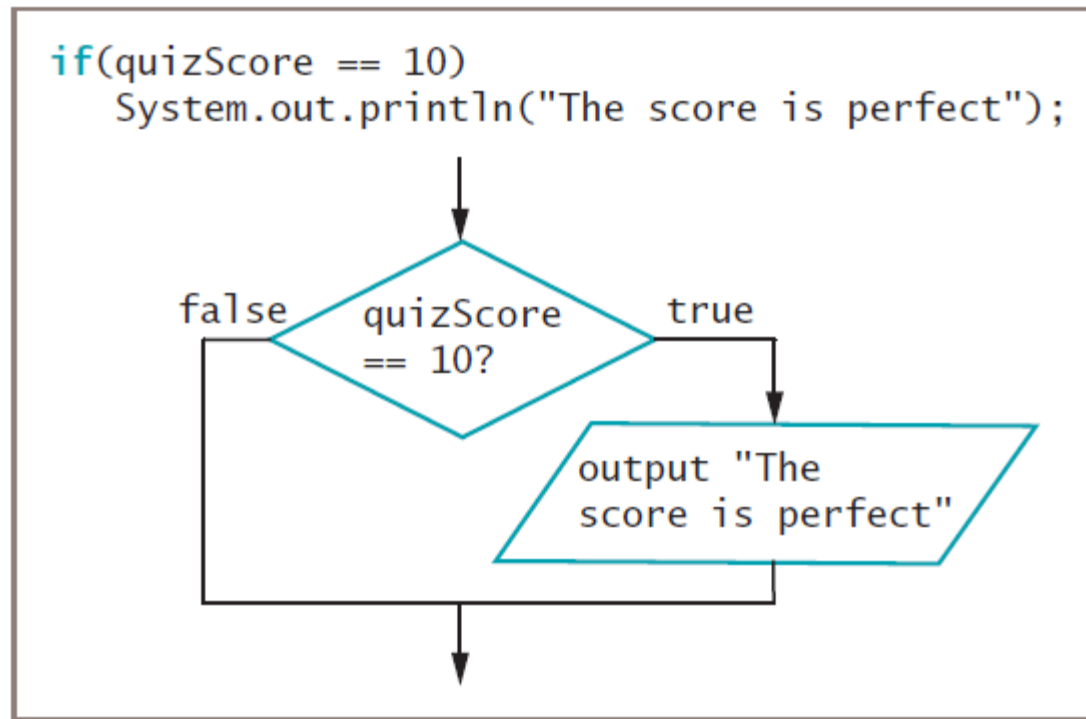


Figure 5-3 A Java `if` statement

Pitfall: Misplacing a Semicolon in an `if` Statement

- There should be no semicolon at the end of the first line of the `if` statement
 - `if (someVariable == 10)`
 - The statement does not end there
- When a semicolon follows `if` directly:
 - An **empty statement** contains only a semicolon
 - Execution continues with the next independent statement

Pitfall: Misplacing a Semicolon in an `if` Statement (cont'd.)

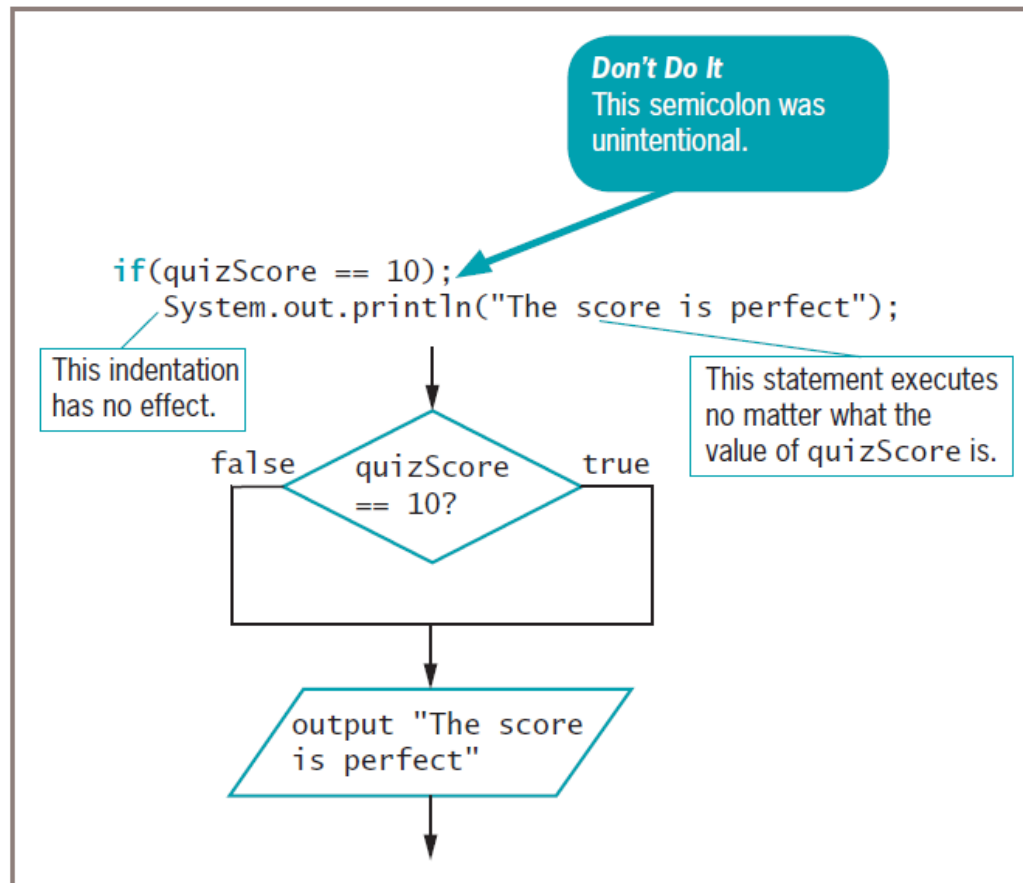


Figure 5-4 Logic that executes when an extra semicolon is inserted in an `if` statement

Pitfall: Using the Assignment Operator Instead of the Equivalency Operator

- Attempt to determine equivalency
 - Using a single equal sign rather than a double equal sign is illegal
- You can store a Boolean expression's value in a Boolean variable before using it in an `if` statement

Pitfall: Attempting to Compare Objects Using the Relational Operators

- Use standard relational operators to compare values of primitive data types
 - Not objects
- You can use the equals and not equals comparisons (`==` and `!=`) with objects
 - Compare objects' memory addresses instead of values



The `if...else` Structure

- **Single-alternative `if`**
 - Only perform action, or not
 - Based on one alternative
- **Dual-alternative `if`**
 - Two possible courses of action
- **`if...else` statement**
 - Performs one action when a Boolean expression evaluates as `true`
 - Performs a different action when a Boolean expression evaluates as `false`

The `if...else` Structure (cont'd.)

- **`if...else` statement** (cont'd.)
 - A statement that executes when `if` is `true` or `false` and ends with a semicolon
 - Vertically align the keyword `if` with the keyword `else`
 - It's illegal to code `else` without `if`
 - Depending on the evaluation of the Boolean expression following `if`, only one resulting action takes place

The `if...else` Structure (cont'd.)

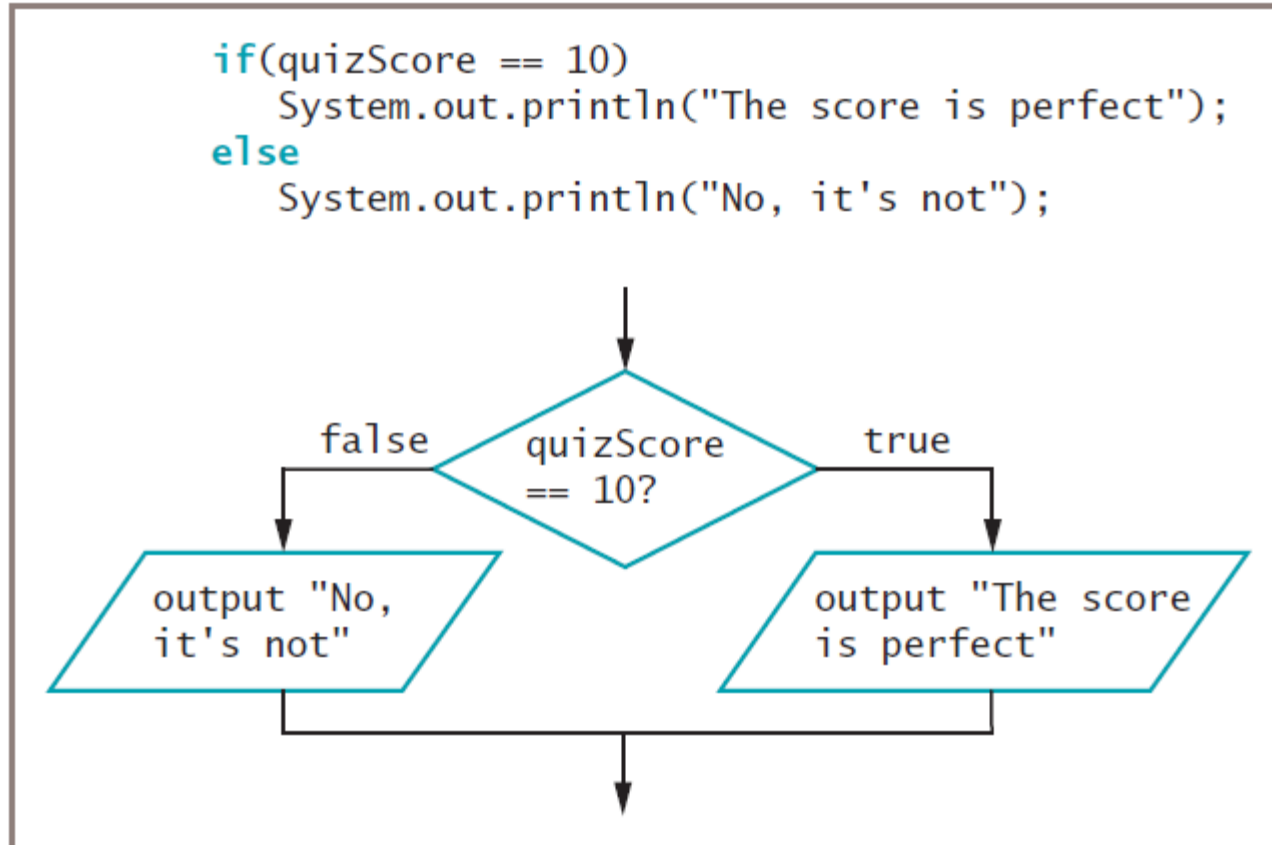



Figure 5-5 An `if...else` structure



Using Multiple Statements in `if` and `if...else` Clauses

- To execute more than one statement, use a pair of curly braces
 - Place dependent statements within a block
 - It's crucial to place the curly braces correctly
- Any variable declared within a block is local to that block

Using Multiple Statements in `if` and `if...else` Clauses (cont'd.)

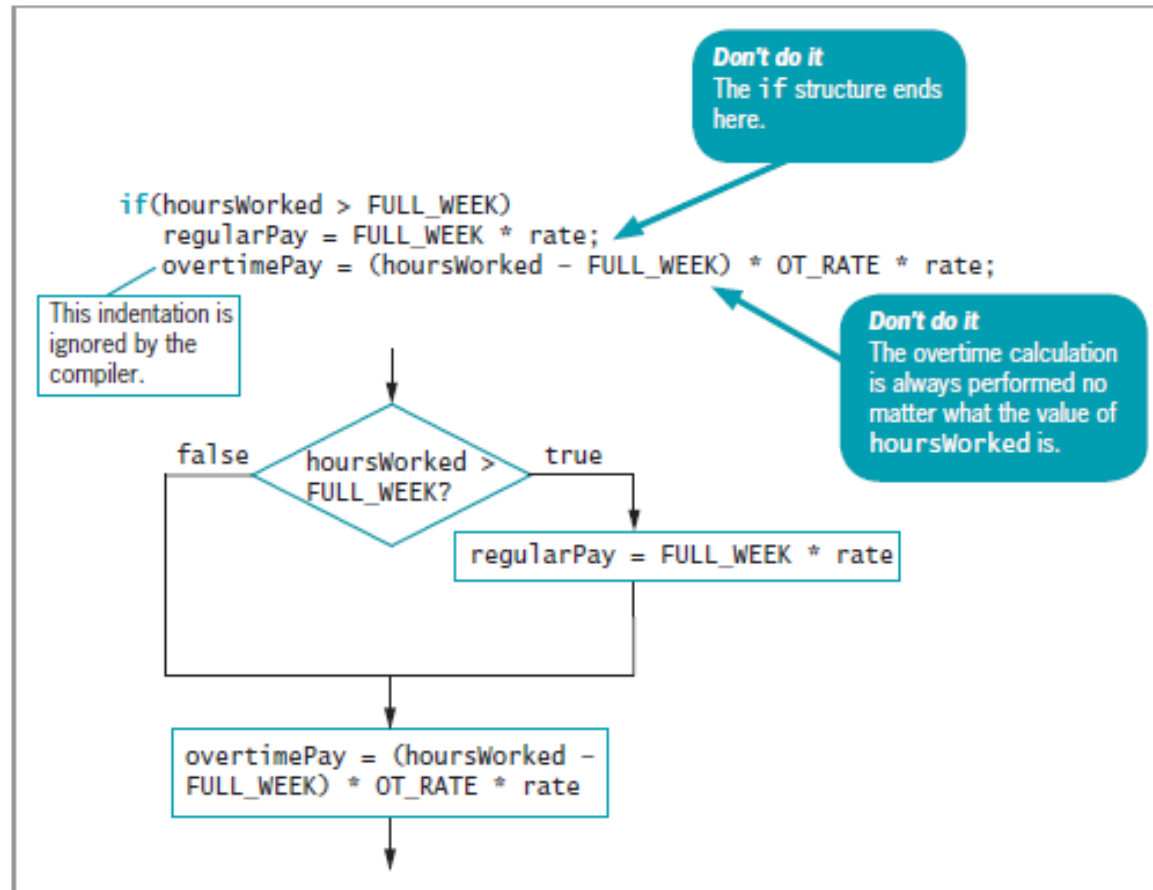


Figure 5-8 Erroneous overtime pay calculation with missing curly braces

Nesting `if` and `if...else` Statements

- **Nested `if` statements**
 - Statements in which an `if` structure is contained inside another `if` structure
 - Use when two conditions must be met before some action is taken
- Pay careful attention to the placement of `else` clauses
- `else` statements are always associated with `if` on a “first in-last out” basis

Nesting if and if...else Statements (cont'd.)

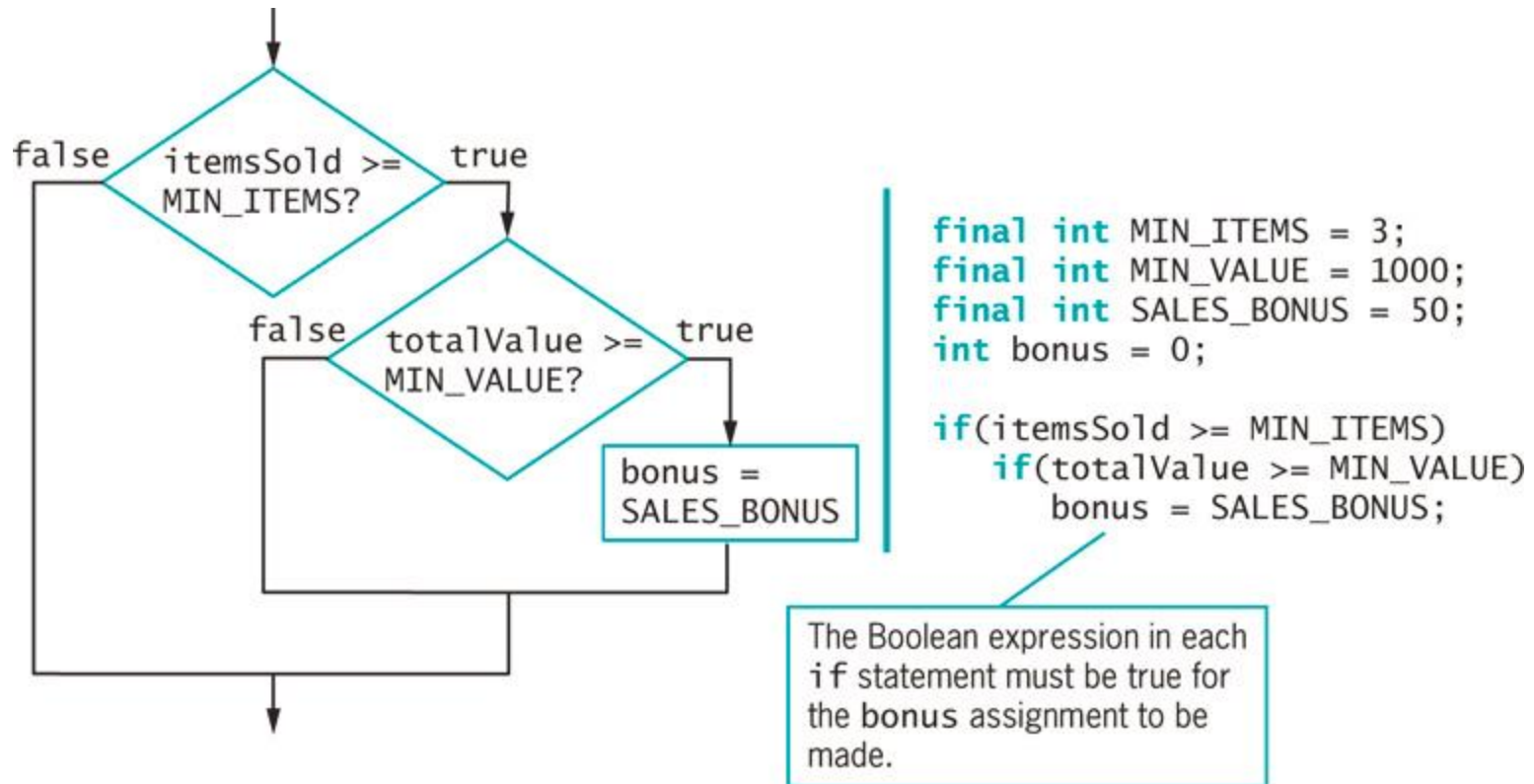


Figure 5-12 Determining whether to assign a bonus using nested if statements

Using Logical AND and OR Operators

- The **logical AND operator**
 - An alternative to some nested `if` statements
 - Used between two Boolean expressions to determine whether both are `true`
 - Written as two ampersands (`&&`)
 - Include a complete Boolean expression on each side
 - Both Boolean expressions that surround the operator must be true before the action in the statement can occur

Using Logical AND and OR Operators (cont'd.)

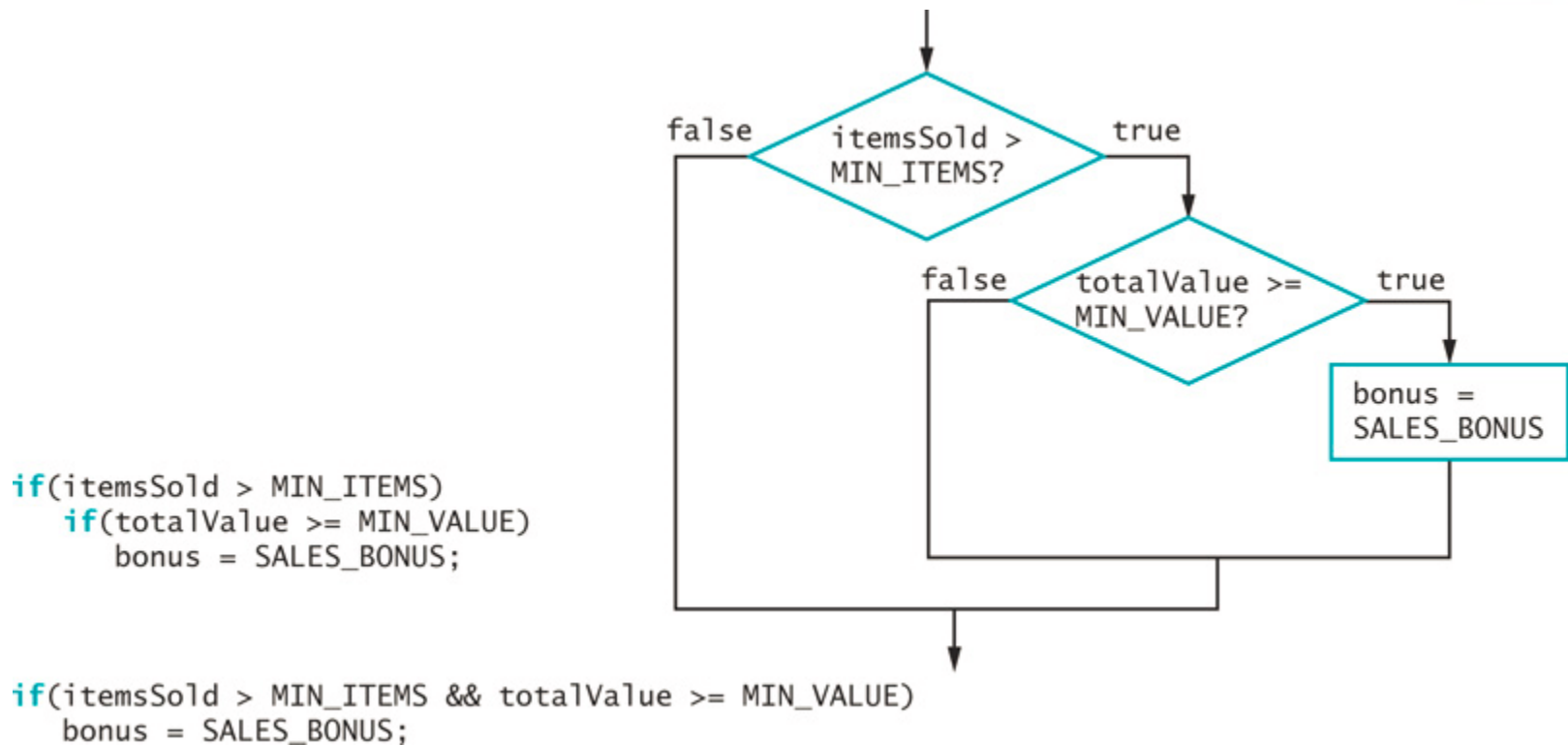


Figure 5-15 Code for bonus-determining decision using nested `if`s and using the `&&` operator

Using Logical AND and OR Operators (cont'd.)

- The **OR** operator
 - An action to occur when at least one of two conditions is true
 - Written as `||`
 - Sometimes called pipes

Using Logical AND and OR Operators (cont'd.)

```
if(itemsBought >= MIN_ITEMS)
    discountRate = DISCOUNT;
else
    if(itemsValue >= MIN_VALUE)
        discountRate = DISCOUNT;

if(itemsBought >= MIN_ITEMS || itemsValue >= MIN_VALUE)
    discountRate = DISCOUNT;
```

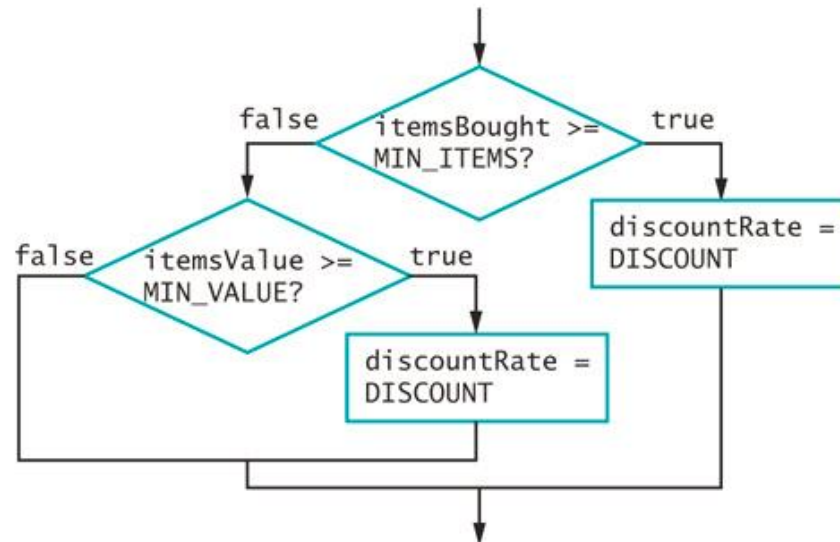


Figure 5-16 Determining customer discount when customer needs to meet only one of two criteria

Using Logical AND and OR Operators (cont'd.)

- **Short-circuit evaluation**
 - Expressions on each side of the logical operator are evaluated only as far as necessary
 - Determine whether an expression is `true` or `false`



Making Accurate and Efficient Decisions

- Making accurate range checks
 - **Range check:** A series of `if` statements that determine whether a value falls within a specified range
 - Java programmers commonly place each `else` of a subsequent `if` on the same line
 - Within a nested `if...else` statement:
 - It's most efficient to ask the most likely question first
 - Avoid asking multiple questions

Making Accurate and Efficient Decisions (cont'd.)

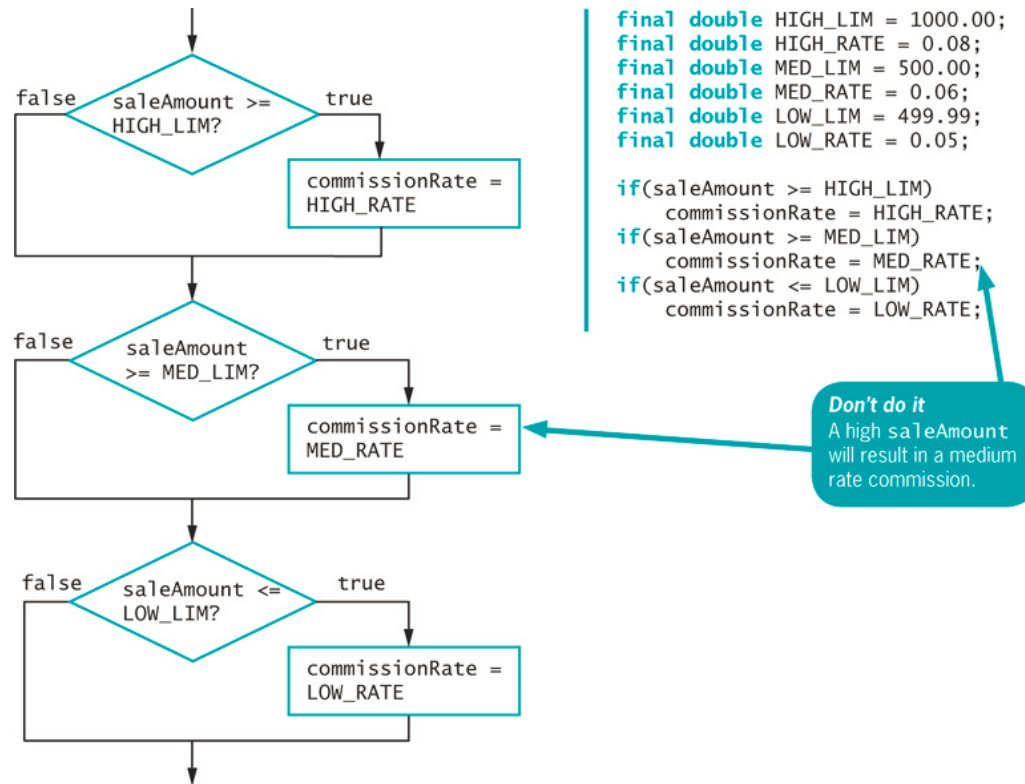


Figure 5-19 Incorrect commission-determining code



Making Accurate and Efficient Decisions (cont'd.)

- It's most efficient to ask a question most likely to be true first
 - Avoids asking multiple questions
 - Makes a sequence of decisions more efficient

Making Accurate and Efficient Decisions (cont'd.)

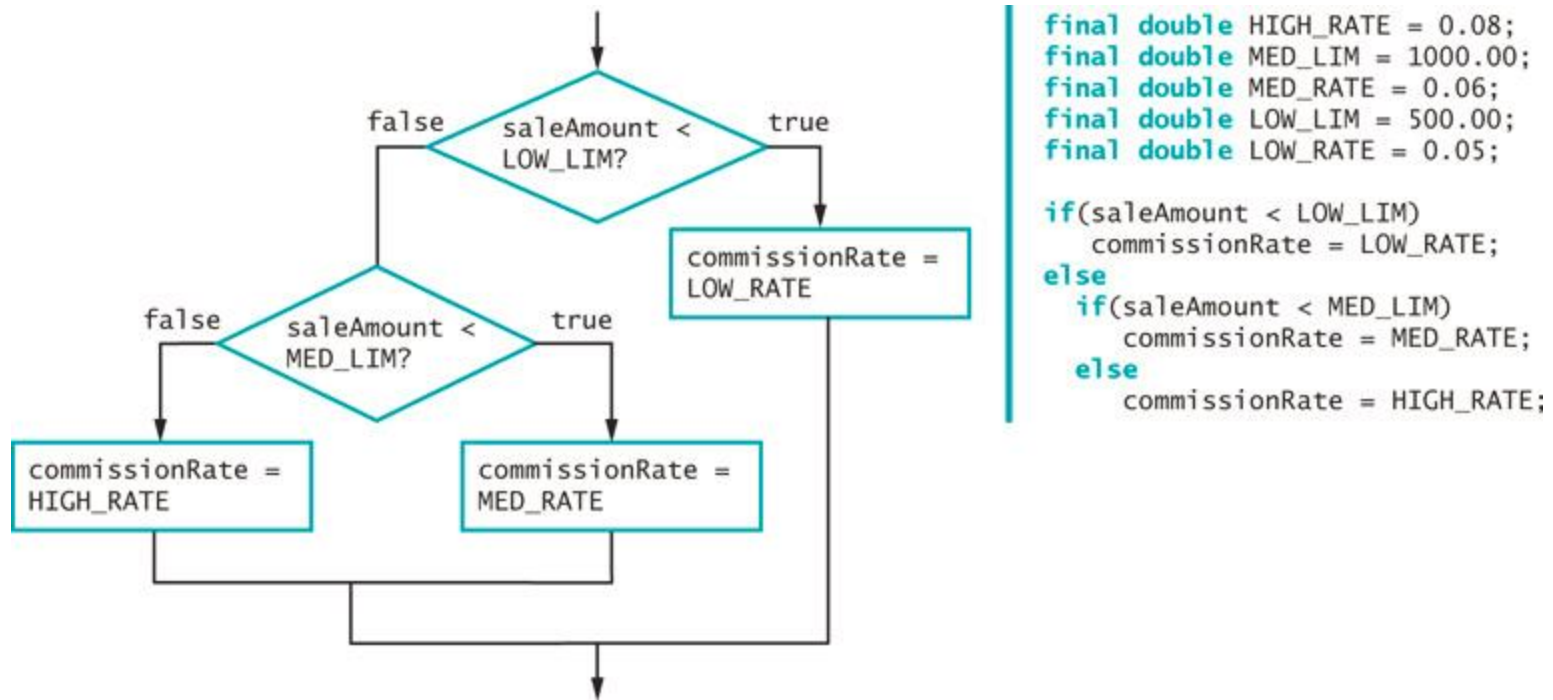


Figure 5-22 Commission-determining code asking about smallest `saleAmount` first

Using & & and | | Appropriately

- Errors of beginning programmers:
 - Using the AND operator when they mean to use OR
 - Example: No `payRate` value can ever be both less than 5.65 and more than 60 at the same time

```
if (payRate < LOW && payRate > HIGH)
    System.out.println("Error in pay rate");
```
 - Use pipes “| |” operator instead
 - Using a single ampersand or pipe to indicate a logical AND or OR



Using the `switch` Statement

- `switch` statement
 - An alternative to a series of nested `if` statements
 - Test a single variable against a series of exact integer, character, or string values

Using the `switch` Statement (cont'd.)

- **Keywords**
 - `switch`
 - Starts the structure
 - Followed by a test expression enclosed in parentheses
 - `case`
 - Followed by one of the possible values for the test expression and a colon

Using the `switch` Statement (cont'd.)

- Keywords (cont'd.)
 - `break`
 - Optionally terminates a `switch` statement at the end of each case
 - `default`
 - Optionally is used prior to any action that should occur if the test variable does not match any case

Using the `switch` Statement (cont'd.)

```
switch(year)
{
    case 1:
        System.out.println("Freshman");
        break;
    case 2:
        System.out.println("Sophomore");
        break;
    case 3:
        System.out.println("Junior");
        break;
    case 4:
        System.out.println("Senior");
        break;
    default:
        System.out.println("Invalid year");
}
```

Figure 5-24 Determining class status using a `switch` statement



Using the `switch` Statement (cont'd.)

- `break` statements in the `switch` structure
 - If a `break` statement is omitted:
 - The program finds a match for the test variable
 - All statements within the `switch` statement execute from that point forward
- `case` statement
 - No need to write code for each case
 - Evaluate `char` variables
 - Ignore whether it's uppercase or lowercase



Using the `switch` Statement (cont'd.)

- Why use `switch` statements?
 - They are convenient when several alternative courses of action depend on a single integer, character, or string value
 - Use only when there is a reasonable number of specific matching values to be tested

Using the Conditional and NOT Operators

- **Conditional operator**
 - Requires three expressions separated with a question mark and a colon
 - Used as an abbreviated version of the `if...else` structure
 - You are never required to use it
- **Syntax of a conditional operator:**

```
testExpression ? trueResult :  
falseResult;
```

Using the Conditional and NOT Operators (cont'd.)

- A Boolean expression is evaluated as `true` or `false`
 - If the value of `testExpression` is `true`:
 - The entire conditional expression takes on the value of the expression following the question mark
 - If the value is `false`:
 - The entire expression takes on the value of `falseResult`
- An advantage of using the conditional operator is the conciseness of the statement



Using the NOT Operator

- **NOT operator**
 - Written as an exclamation point (!)
 - Negates the result of any Boolean expression
 - When preceded by the NOT operator, any expression evaluated as:
 - `true` becomes `false`
 - `false` becomes `true`
- **Statements with the NOT operator:**
 - Are harder to read
 - Require a double set of parentheses



Understanding Operator Precedence

- Combine as many AND or OR operators as needed
- An operator's precedence
 - How an expression is evaluated
 - The order agrees with common algebraic usage
 - Arithmetic is done first
 - Assignment is done last
 - The AND operator is evaluated before the OR operator
 - Statements in parentheses are evaluated first

Understanding Operator Precedence (cont'd.)

Precedence	Operator(s)	Symbol(s)
Highest	Logical NOT	!
Intermediate	Multiplication, division, modulus	* / %
	Addition, subtraction	+ -
	Relational	> < >= <=
	Equality	== !=
	Logical AND	&&
	Logical OR	
	Conditional	?:
Lowest	Assignment	=

Table 5-1 Operator precedence for operators used so far

Understanding Operator Precedence (cont'd.)

- Two important conventions
 - The order in which operators are used makes a difference
 - Always use parentheses to change precedence or make your intentions clearer

Understanding Operator Precedence (cont'd.)

```
// Assigns extra premiums incorrectly  
if(trafficTickets > 2 || age < 25 && gender == 'M')  
    extraPremium = 200;
```

The && operator
is evaluated first.

```
// Assigns extra premiums correctly  
if((trafficTickets > 2 || age < 25) && gender == 'M')  
    extraPremium = 200;
```

The expression within
the inner parentheses
is evaluated first.

Figure 5-30 Two comparisons using && and ||

Adding Decisions and Constructors to Instance Methods

- Helps ensure that fields have acceptable values
- Determines whether values are within the allowed limits for the fields

Adding Decisions and Constructors to Instance Methods (cont'd.)

```
public class Employee
{
    private int empNum;
    private double payRate;
    public int MAX_EMP_NUM = 9999;
    public double MAX_RATE = 60.00;
    Employee(int num, double rate)
    {
        if(num <= MAX_EMP_NUM)
            empNum = num;
        else
            empNum = MAX_EMP_NUM;
        if(payRate <= MAX_RATE)
            payRate = rate;
        else
            payRate = 0;
    }
    public int getEmpNum()
    {
        return empNum;
    }
    public double getPayRate()
    {
        return payRate;
    }
}
```

Figure 5-31 The `Employee` class that contains a constructor that makes decisions



You Do It

- Using an `if...else` Statement
- Using Multiple Statements in `if` and `else` Clauses
- Using a Nested `if` Statement
- Using the `&&` Operator
- Using the `switch` Statement
- Adding Decisions to Constructors and Instance Methods



Don't Do It

- Don't ignore subtleties in boundaries used in decision making
- Don't use the assignment operator instead of the comparison operator
- Don't insert a semicolon after the Boolean expression in an `if` statement
- Don't forget to block a set of statements with curly braces when several statements depend on the `if` or the `else` statement



Don't Do It (cont'd.)

- Don't forget to include a complete Boolean expression on each side of an `&&` or `||` operator
- Don't try to use a `switch` structure to test anything other than an integer, a character, or a string value
- Don't forget a `break` statement if one is required
- Don't use the standard relational operators to compare objects



Summary

- `if` statement
 - Makes a decision based on a Boolean expression
- Single-alternative `if`
 - Performs an action based on one alternative
- Dual-alternative `if`
 - `if...else`
 - Performs one action when a Boolean expression evaluates as `true`
 - Performs a different action when an expression evaluates as `false`



Summary (cont'd.)

- AND operator
 - `&&`
 - Determines whether two expressions are both `true`
- OR operator
 - `||`
 - Carries out some action even if only one of two conditions is `true`
- `switch` statement
 - Tests a single variable against a series of exact integer or character values



Summary (cont'd.)

- Conditional operator
 - An abbreviated version of an `if...else` statement
- NOT operator
 - `!`
 - Negates the result of any Boolean expression
- Operator precedence

JAVATM PROGRAMMING

Chapter 6: Looping





Objectives

- Learn about the loop structure
- Create `while` loops
- Use shortcut arithmetic operators
- Create `for` loops
- Create `do...while` loops
- Nest loops
- Improve loop performance



Learning About the Loop Structure

- **Loop**
 - A structure that allows repeated execution of a block of statements
- **Loop body**
 - A block of statements
 - Executed repeatedly
- **Iteration**
 - One execution of any loop

Learning About the Loop Structure (cont'd.)

- Three types of loops
 - `while`
 - The loop-controlling Boolean expression is the first statement
 - `for`
 - A concise format in which to execute loops
 - `do...while`
 - The loop-controlling Boolean expression is the last statement

Learning About the Loop Structure (cont'd.)

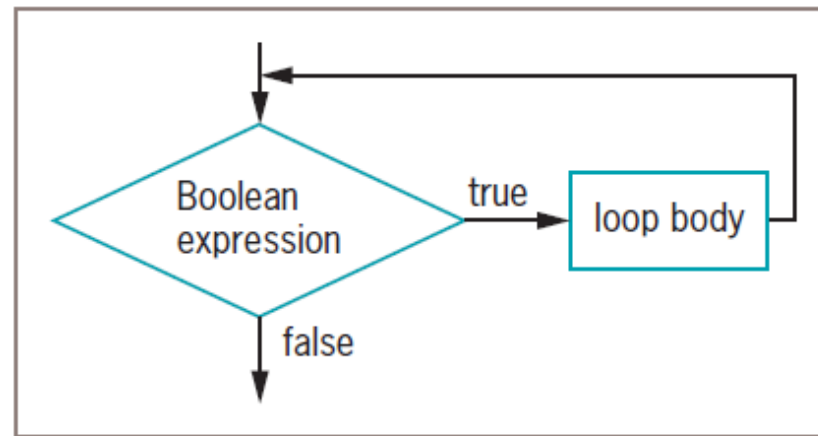


Figure 6-1 Flowchart of a loop structure



Creating `while` Loops

- **`while` loop**
 - Executes a body of statements continually
 - As long as the Boolean expression that controls entry into the loop continues to be `true`
 - Consists of:
 - The keyword `while`
 - Followed by a Boolean expression within parentheses
 - Followed by the body of the loop; can be a single statement or a block of statements surrounded by curly braces



Writing a Definite `while` Loop

- **Definite loop**
 - Performs a task a predetermined number of times
 - Also called a counted loop
- Write a definite loop
 - Initialize the loop control variable
 - The variable whose value determines whether loop execution continues
 - While the loop control variable does not pass a limiting value, the program continues to execute the body of the `while` loop

Writing a Definite `while` Loop (cont'd.)

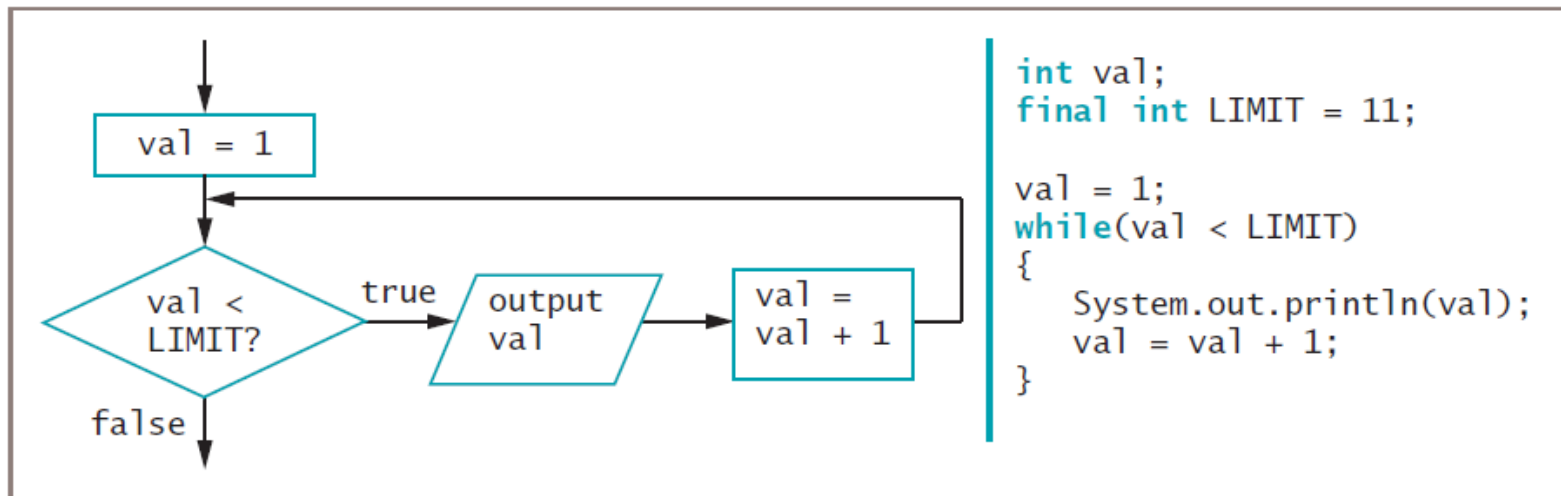


Figure 6-2 A `while` loop that displays the integers 1 through 10

Writing a Definite `while` Loop (cont'd.)

- Write a definite loop (cont'd.)
 - The body of the loop must include a statement that alters the loop control variable
- **Infinite loop**
 - A loop that never ends
 - Can result from a mistake in the `while` loop
 - Do not write intentionally

Writing a Definite `while` Loop (cont'd.)

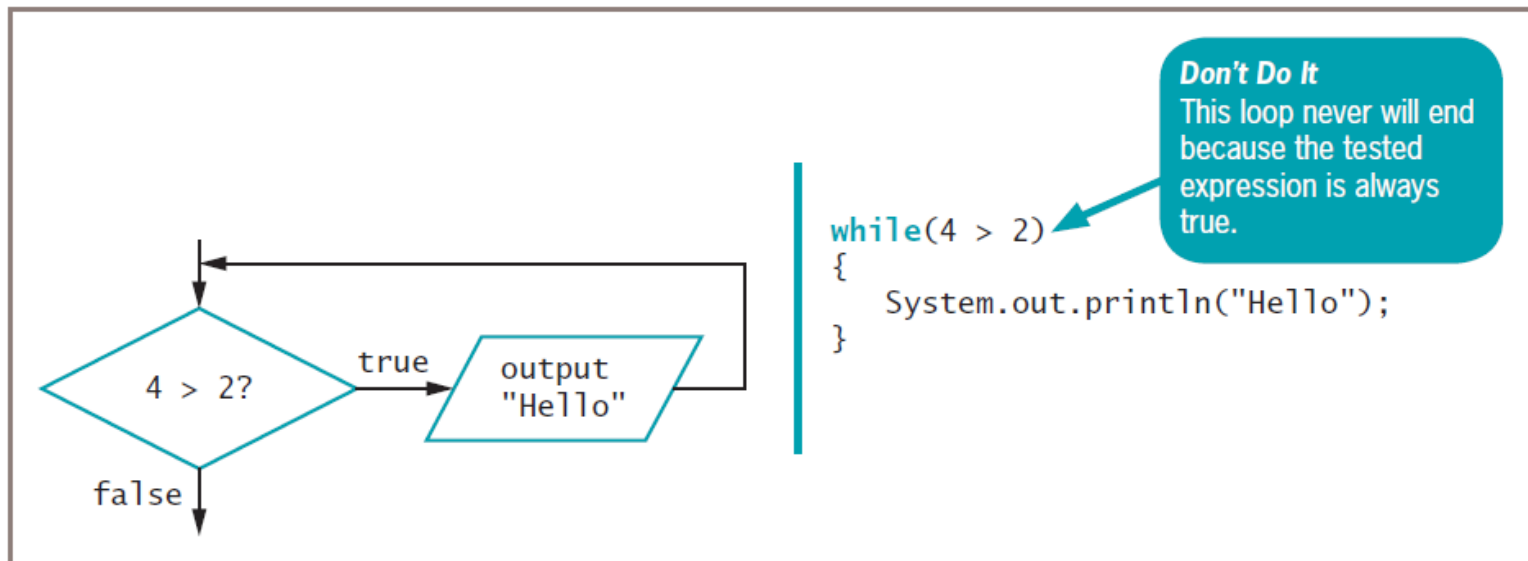


Figure 6-3 A loop that displays "Hello" infinitely

Writing a Definite `while` Loop (cont'd.)

- Suspect an infinite loop when:
 - The same output is displayed repeatedly
 - The screen remains idle for an extended period of time
- To exit an infinite loop, press and hold Ctrl, then press C or Break

Writing a Definite `while` Loop (cont'd.)

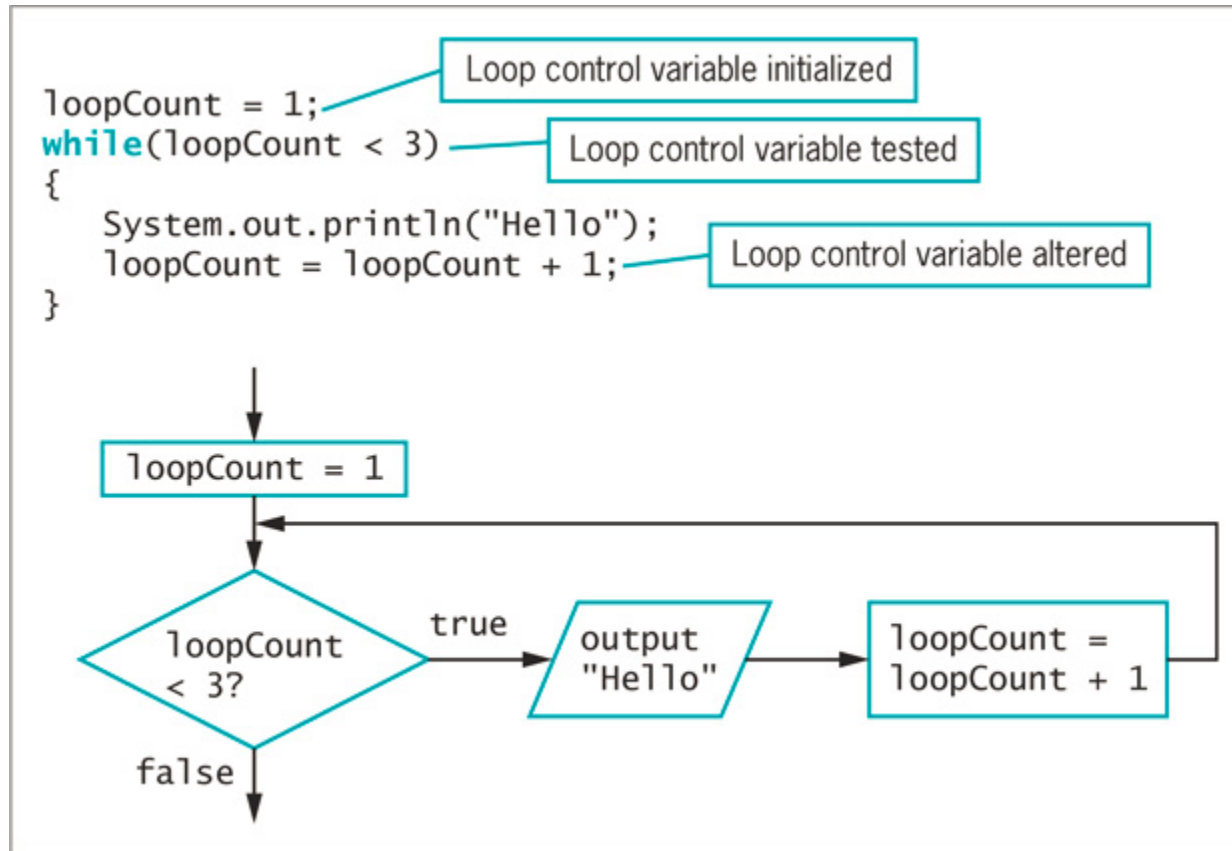


Figure 6-4 A `while` loop that displays “Hello” twice

Pitfall: Failing to Alter the Loop Control Variable Within the Loop Body

- Prevent the `while` loop from executing infinitely
 - The named loop control variable is initialized to a starting value
 - The loop control variable is tested in the `while` statement
 - If the test expression is `true`, the body of the `while` statement takes action
 - Alters the value of the loop control variable
 - The test of the `while` statement must eventually evaluate to `false`

Pitfall: Failing to Alter the Loop Control Variable Within the Loop Body (cont'd.)

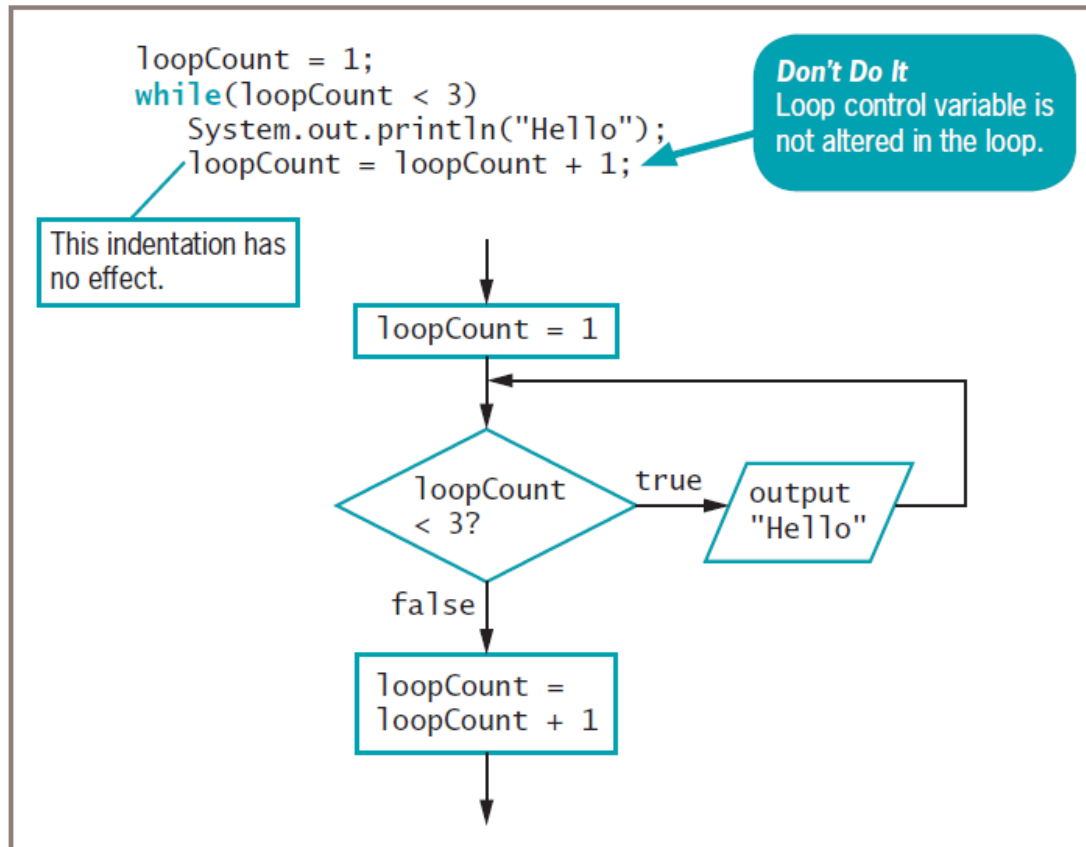


Figure 6-5 A while loop that displays “Hello” infinitely because loopCount is not altered in the loop body

Pitfall: Creating a Loop with an Empty Body

- Loop control variable
 - A variable that is altered and stored with a new value

```
loopCount = loopCount + 1
```

 - The equal sign assigns a value to the variable on the left
 - The variable should be altered within the body of the loop
- **Empty body**
 - A body with no statements
 - Caused by misplaced semicolons

Pitfall: Creating a Loop with an Empty Body (cont'd.)

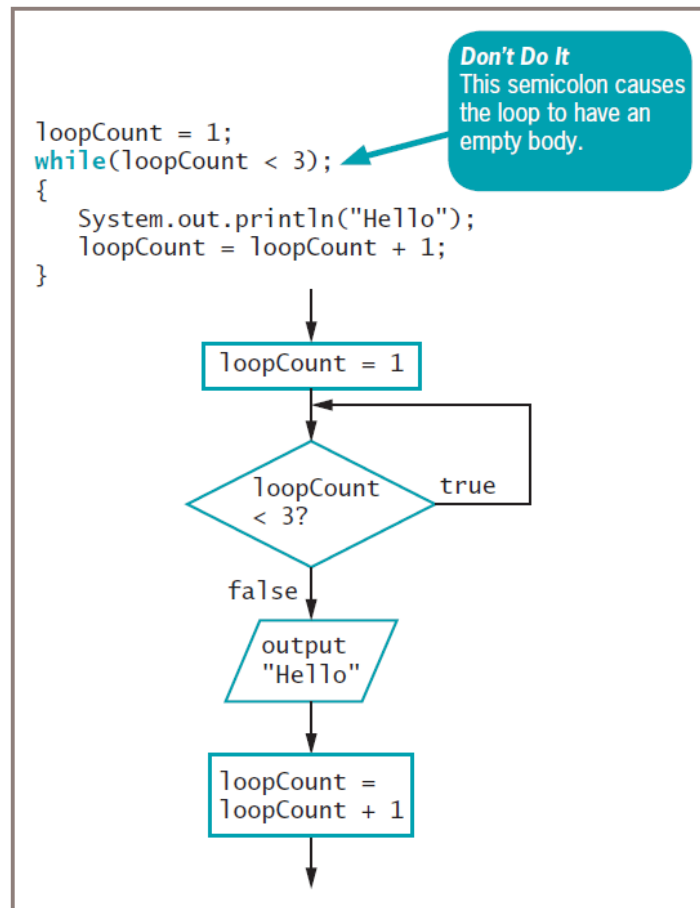


Figure 6-6 A while loop that loops infinitely with no output because the loop body is empty

Altering a Definite Loop's Control Variable

- **Incrementing** the variable
 - Alter the value of the loop control variable by adding 1
- **Decrementing** the variable
 - Subtract 1 from the loop control variable
- **Clearest and best method**
 - Start the loop control variable at 0 or 1
 - Increment by 1 each time through the loop
 - Stop when the loop control variable reaches the limit

Altering a Definite Loop's Control Variable (cont'd.)

```
loopCount = 3;  
while(loopCount > 1)  
{  
    System.out.println("Hello");  
    loopCount = loopCount - 1;  
}
```

Figure 6-7 A `while` loop that displays “Hello” twice, decrementing the `loopCount` variable in the loop body



Writing an Indefinite `while` Loop

- Indefinite loop
 - Altered by user input
 - Controlled by the user
 - Executed any number of times
- Validating data
 - Ensure a value falls within a specified range
 - Use indefinite loops to validate input data
 - If a user enters incorrect data, the loop repeats

Writing an Indefinite while Loop (cont'd.)

```
import java.util.Scanner;
public class BankBalance
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        double balance;
        int response;
        int year = 1;
        final double INT_RATE = 0.03;
        Scanner keyboard = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.print("Enter initial bank balance > ");
        balance = keyboard.nextDouble();
        System.out.println("Do you want to see next year's balance?");
        System.out.print("Enter 1 for yes");
        System.out.print("    or any other number for no >> ");
        response = keyboard.nextInt();
        while(response == 1)
        {
            balance = balance + balance * INT_RATE;
            System.out.println("After year " + year + " at " + INT_RATE +
                               " interest rate, balance is $" + balance);
            year = year + 1;
            System.out.println("\nDo you want to see the balance " +
                               "at the end of another year?");
            System.out.print("Enter 1 for yes");
            System.out.print("    or any other number for no >> ");
            response = keyboard.nextInt();
        }
    }
}
```

Figure 6-8 The BankBalance application



Validating Data

- Ensuring data falls within a specific range
- **Priming read**
 - Input retrieved before the loop is entered
 - Within a loop, the last statement retrieves the next input value and checks the value before the next entrance of the loop

Validating Data (cont'd.)

```
import java.util.Scanner;
public class EnterSmallValue
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        int userEntry;
        final int LIMIT = 3;
        Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.print("Please enter an integer no higher than " +
            LIMIT + " > ");
        userEntry = input.nextInt();
        while(userEntry > LIMIT)
        {
            System.out.println("The number you entered was too high");
            System.out.print("Please enter an integer no higher than " +
                LIMIT + " > ");
            userEntry = input.nextInt();
        }
        System.out.println("You correctly entered " + userEntry);
    }
}
```

Figure 6-10 The EnterSmallValue application

Using Shortcut Arithmetic Operators

- **Accumulating**
 - Repeatedly increasing a value by some amount
- Java provides shortcuts for incrementing and accumulating
 - += add and assign operator**
 - = subtract and assign operator**
 - *= multiply and assign operator**
 - /= divide and assign operator**
 - %= remainder and assign operator**

Using Shortcut Arithmetic Operators (cont'd.)

- **Prefix increment operator** and **postfix increment operator**

`++someValue, someValue++`

- Use only with variables
- Unary operators
 - Use with one value
- Increase a variable's value by 1
 - No difference between operators (unless other operations are in the same expression)

Using Shortcut Arithmetic Operators (cont'd.)

```
int value;  
value = 24;  
++value; // Result: value is 25  
value = 24;  
value++; // Result: value is 25  
value = 24;  
value = value + 1; // Result: value is 25  
value = 24;  
value += 1; // Result: value is 25
```

Figure 6-13 Four ways to add 1 to a value

Using Shortcut Arithmetic Operators (cont'd.)

- **Prefix increment operator and postfix increment operator (cont'd.)**
 - **Prefix ++**
 - The result is calculated and stored
 - Then the variable is used
 - **Postfix ++**
 - The variable is used
 - Then the result is calculated and stored
- **Prefix and postfix decrement operators**
 - `--someValue`
 - `someValue--`
 - Similar logic to increment operators

Using Shortcut Arithmetic Operators (cont'd.)

```
public class IncrementDemo
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        int myNumber, answer;
        myNumber = 17;
        System.out.println("Before incrementing, myNumber is " +
            myNumber);
        answer = ++myNumber;
        System.out.println("After prefix increment, myNumber is " +
            myNumber);
        System.out.println(" and answer is " + answer);
        myNumber = 17;
        System.out.println("Before incrementing, myNumber is " +
            myNumber);
        answer = myNumber++;
        System.out.println("After postfix increment, myNumber is " +
            myNumber);
        System.out.println(" and answer is " + answer);
    }
}
```

Figure 6-14 The IncrementDemo application



Creating a `for` Loop

- **`for` loop**
 - Used when a definite number of loop iterations is required
 - One convenient statement indicates:
 - The starting value for the loop control variable
 - The test condition that controls loop entry
 - The expression that alters the loop control variable

Creating a `for` Loop (cont'd.)

```
for(val = 1; val < 11; ++val)
{
    System.out.println(val);
}

val = 1;
while(val < 11)
{
    System.out.println(val);
    ++val;
}
```

Figure 6-18 A `for` loop and a `while` loop that display the integers 1 through 10



Creating a `for` Loop (cont'd.)

- Other uses for the three sections of a `for` loop
 - Initialization of more than one variable
 - Place commas between separate statements
 - Performance of more than one test using AND or OR operators
 - Decrementation or performance of some other task
 - Altering more than one value
- You can leave one or more portions of a `for` loop empty
 - Two semicolons are still required as placeholders



Creating a `for` Loop (cont'd.)

- Use the same loop control variable in all three parts of a `for` statement
- To pause a program:
 - Use the `for` loop that contains no body

```
for(x = 0; x < 100000; ++x);
```
 - Or use the built-in `sleep()` method

Learning How and When to Use a `do...while` Loop

- **`do...while` loop**
 - A **posttest loop**
 - Checks the value of the loop control variable
 - At the bottom of the loop
 - After one repetition has occurred
 - Performs a task at least one time
 - You are never required to use this type of loop
 - Use curly braces to block the statement
 - Even with a single statement

Learning How and When to Use a do...while Loop (cont'd.)

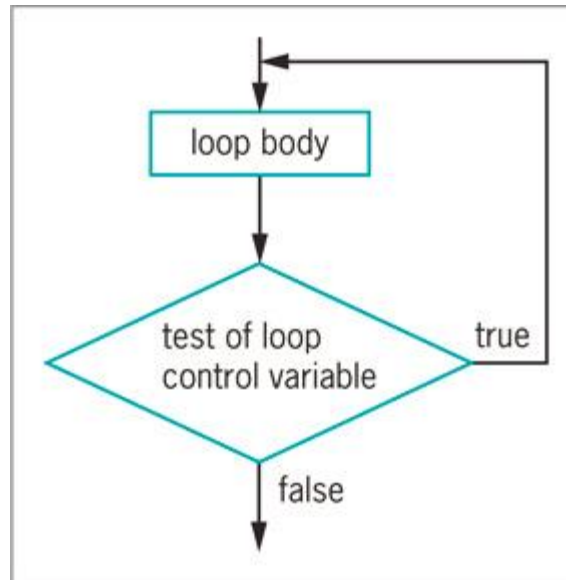


Figure 6-20 General structure of a do...while loop

Learning How and When to Use a do...while Loop (cont'd.)

```
import java.util.Scanner;
public class BankBalance2
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        double balance;
        int response;
        int year = 1;
        final double INT_RATE = 0.03;
        Scanner keyboard = new Scanner(System.in);
        System.out.print("Enter initial bank balance > ");
        balance = keyboard.nextDouble();
        keyboard.nextLine();
        do
        {
            balance = balance + balance * INT_RATE;
            System.out.println("After year " + year + " at " + INT_RATE +
                " interest rate, balance is $" + balance);
            year = year + 1;
            System.out.println("\nDo you want to see the balance " +
                " at the end of another year?");
            System.out.println("Enter 1 for yes");
            System.out.print(" or any other number for no >> ");
            response = keyboard.nextInt();
        } while(response == 1);
    }
}
```

Figure 6-21 A do...while loop for the BankBalance2 application

Learning About Nested Loops

- **Inner loop** and **outer loop**
 - An inner loop must be entirely contained in an outer loop
 - Loops can never overlap
- To print three mailing labels for each of 20 customers:

```
for(customer = 1; customer <= 20; ++customer)
    for(color = 1; color <= 3; ++color)
        outputLabel ();
```

Learning About Nested Loops (cont'd.)

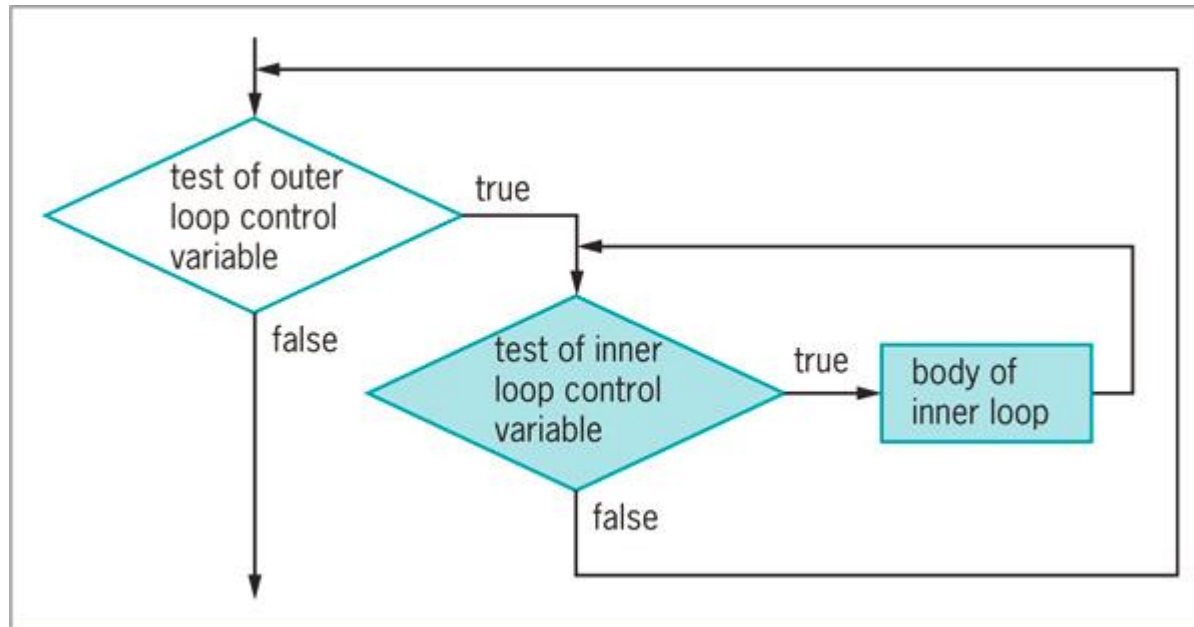


Figure 6-23 Nested loops



Improving Loop Performance

- Make sure a loop does not include unnecessary operations or statements
- Consider the order of evaluation for short-circuit operators
- Make comparisons to 0
- Employ loop fusion

Avoiding Unnecessary Operations

- Do not use unnecessary operations or statements:
 - Within a loop's tested expression
 - Within the loop body

- Avoid:

```
while (x < a + b)
// loop body
```

- Instead use:

```
int sum = a + b;
while(x < sum)
// loop body
```

Considering the Order of Evaluation of Short-Circuit Operators

- Short-circuit evaluation
 - Each part of an AND or an OR expression is evaluated only as much as necessary to determine the value of the expression
- It's important to consider the number of evaluations that take place
 - When a loop might execute many times



Comparing to Zero

- Making a comparison to 0 is faster than making a comparison to any other value
- To improve loop performance, compare the loop control variable to 0
- **Do-nothing loop**
 - Performs no actions other than looping

Comparing to Zero (cont'd.)

```
public class CompareLoops
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        long startTime1, startTime2, endTime1, endTime2;
        final int REPEAT = 100000;
        startTime1 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        for(int x = 0; x <= REPEAT; ++x)
            for(int y = 0; y <= REPEAT; ++y);
        endTime1 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        System.out.println("Time for loops starting from 0: " +
            (endTime1 - startTime1) + " milliseconds");
        startTime2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        for(int x = REPEAT; x >= 0; --x)
            for(int y = REPEAT; y >= 0; --y);
        endTime2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        System.out.println("Time for loops ending at 0: " +
            (endTime2 - startTime2) + " milliseconds");
    }
}
```

Figure 6-27 The CompareLoops application



Employing Loop Fusion

- **Loop fusion**
 - A technique of combining two loops into one
 - Will not work in every situation

Using Prefix Incrementing Rather than Postfix Incrementing

- Prefix incrementing method
 - `++x`
 - When the method receives a reference to `x`, the value is increased and the increased value is returned
- Postfix incrementing method
 - `x++`
 - When the method receives a reference to `x`, a copy of the value is made and stored
 - The value is incremented as indicated by the reference
 - The copy is returned
 - The extra time spent copying causes postfix incrementing to take longer

Using Prefix Incrementing Rather than Postfix Incrementing (cont'd.)

```
public class CompareLoops2
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        long startTime1, startTime2, endTime1, endTime2;
        final long REPEAT = 1000000000L;
        startTime1 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        for(int x = 0; x < REPEAT; x++);
        endTime1 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        System.out.println("Time with postfix increment: " +
            (endTime1 - startTime1)+ " milliseconds");
        startTime2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        for(int x = 0; x < REPEAT; ++x);
        endTime2 = System.currentTimeMillis();
        System.out.println("Time with prefix increment: " +
            (endTime2 - startTime2)+ " milliseconds");
    }
}
```

Figure 6-29 The CompareLoops2 program



You Do It

- Writing a Loop to Validate Data Entries
- Working with Prefix and Postfix Increment Operators
- Working with Definite Loops
- Working with Nested Loops
- Comparing Execution Times for Separate and Fused Loops



Don't Do It

- Don't insert a semicolon at the end of a `while` clause
- Don't forget to block multiple statements that should execute in a loop
- Don't make the mistake of checking for invalid data using a decision instead of a loop
- Don't ignore subtleties in the boundaries used to stop loop performance
- Don't repeat steps within a loop that could just as well be placed outside the loop



Summary

- The loop structure allows repeated execution of a block of statements
 - Infinite loop
 - Definite loop
 - Nest loop
- You must change the loop control variable within the looping structure
- Use the `while` loop to execute statements while some condition is `true`



Summary (cont'd.)

- Execute the `while` loop
 - Initialize the loop control variable, test in the `while` statement, and alter the loop control variable
- Prefix `++` and postfix `++`
 - Increase a variable's value by 1
 - The variable is used
 - The result is calculated and stored
- Unary operators
 - Use with one value



Summary (cont'd.)

- Binary operators
 - Operate on two values
- Shortcut operators `+=`, `-=`, `*=`, and `/=`
 - Perform operations and assign the result in one step
- `for` loop
 - Initializes, tests, and increments in one statement
- `do...while` loop
 - Tests a Boolean expression after one repetition
- Improve loop performance
 - Do not include unnecessary operations or statements