

## Inplace rotate square matrix by 90 degrees

Given an square matrix, turn it by 90 degrees in anti-clockwise direction without using any extra space.

Examples:

Input

```
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 9
```

Output:

```
3 6 9
2 5 8
1 4 7
```

Input:

```
1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16
```

Output:

```
4 8 12 16
3 7 11 15
2 6 10 14
1 5 9 13
```

**We strongly recommend you to minimize your browser and try this yourself first.**

An approach that requires extra space is already discussed [here](#).

### How to do without extra space?

Below are some important observations.

*First row of source -> First column of destination, elements filled in opposite order*

*Second row of source -> Second column of destination, elements filled in opposite order*

so ... on

*Last row of source -> Last column of destination, elements filled in opposite order.*

An  $N \times N$  matrix will have  $\text{floor}(N/2)$  square cycles. For example, a  $4 \times 4$  matrix will have 2 cycles. The first cycle is formed by its 1st row, last column, last row and 1st column. The second cycle is formed by 2nd row, second-last column, second-last row and 2nd column.

The idea is for each square cycle, we swap the elements involved with the corresponding cell in the matrix in anti-clockwise direction i.e. from top to left, left to bottom, bottom to right and from right to top one at a time. We use nothing but a temporary variable to achieve this.

Below steps demonstrate the idea

#### First Cycle (Involves Red Elements)

```
1  2  3  4
5  6  7  8
9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16
```

Moving first group of four elements (First elements of 1st row, last row, 1st column and last column) of first cycle in counter clockwise.

```
4  2  3 16
5  6  7  8
9 10 11 12
1 14 15 13
```

Moving next group of four elements of first cycle in counter clockwise

```
4  8  3 16
5  6  7 15
2 10 11 12
1 14  9 13
```

Moving final group of four elements of first cycle in counter clockwise

```
4  8 12 16
3  6  7 15
2 10 11 14
1  5  9 13
```

#### Second Cycle (Involves Blue Elements)

```
4  8 12 16
3  6  7 15
2 10 11 14
1  5  9 13
```

Fixing second cycle

```
4  8 12 16
3  7 11 15
2  6 10 14
1  5  9 13
```

Below is C++ implementation of above idea.

```
// C++ program to rotate a matrix by 90 degrees
#include <bits/stdc++.h>
#define N 4
using namespace std;

void displayMatrix(int mat[N][N]);

// An Inplace function to rotate a N x N matrix
// by 90 degrees in anti-clockwise direction
void rotateMatrix(int mat[][N])
{
    // Consider all squares one by one
    for (int x = 0; x < N / 2; x++)
    {
        // Consider elements in group of 4 in
        // current square
        for (int y = x; y < N-x-1; y++)
        {
            // store current cell in temp variable
            int temp = mat[x][y];

            // move values from right to top
            mat[x][y] = mat[y][N-1-x];

            // move values from bottom to right
            mat[y][N-1-x] = mat[N-1-x][N-1-y];
```

```

        // move values from left to bottom
        mat[N-1-x][N-1-y] = mat[N-1-y][x];

        // assign temp to left
        mat[N-1-y][x] = temp;
    }
}

// Function to print the matrix
void displayMatrix(int mat[N][N])
{
    for (int i = 0; i < N; i++)
    {
        for (int j = 0; j < N; j++)
            printf("%2d ", mat[i][j]);

        printf("\n");
    }
    printf("\n");
}

/* Driver program to test above functions */
int main()
{
    // Test Case 1
    int mat[N][N] =
    {
        {1, 2, 3, 4},
        {5, 6, 7, 8},
        {9, 10, 11, 12},
        {13, 14, 15, 16}
    };

    // Test Case 2
    /* int mat[N][N] = {
        {1, 2, 3},
        {4, 5, 6},
        {7, 8, 9}
    };

    */

    // Test Case 3
    /*int mat[N][N] = {
        {1, 2},
        {4, 5}
    };*/

    //displayMatrix(mat);

    rotateMatrix(mat);

    // Print rotated matrix
    displayMatrix(mat);

    return 0;
}

```

Output:

```

Rotated Matrix
4  8 12 16
3  7 11 15
2  6 10 14
1  5  9 13

```

**Exercise:** Turn 2D matrix by 90 degrees in clockwise direction without using extra space.

Related QA Topic : <http://qa.geeksforgeeks.org/4493/rotate-the-matrix-inplace>