**Conditional ternary operator.**

( ? )

The conditional operator evaluates an expression, returning one value if that expression evaluates to true, and a different one if the expression evaluates as false. Its syntax is:

*condition ? result1 : result2*

If condition is true, the entire expression evaluates to *result1*, and otherwise to *result2*.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 2 3 4 | 7==5 ? 4 : 3 // evaluates to 3, since 7 is not equal to 5.  7==5+2 ? 4 : 3 // evaluates to 4, since 7 is equal to 5+2.  5>3 ? a : b // evaluates to the value of a, since 5 is greater than 3.  a>b ? a : b // evaluates to whichever is greater, a or b. |  |

For example:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 | // conditional operator  #include <iostream>  using namespace std;  int main ()  {  int a,b,c;  a=2;  b=7;  c = (a>b) ? a : b;  cout << c << '\n';  } | 7 | [Edit & Run](https://cplusplus.com/doc/tutorial/operators/) |

In this example, a was 2, and b was 7, so the expression being evaluated (a>b) was not true, thus the first value specified after the question mark was discarded in favor of the second value (the one after the colon) which was b (with a value of 7).