

5.5 Understanding Control Flow

This Chapter has introduced new statements that can be used to control the actions the computer performs. These statements allow you to add branching paths to your code. The flowcharts presented in Section 5.2 are a great order in which the computer will execute the instructions. To help you understand these concepts this section will look at how these statements work within the

5.5.1 Understanding Branching in Perform Guess

Figure 5.53 shows the flowchart for the Perform Guess that was developed in Designing Control Flow for Perform Guess. The following sections show how these actions are executed. These illustrations will start at the call into Perform Guess and show the illustration of the steps that lead up to this call.

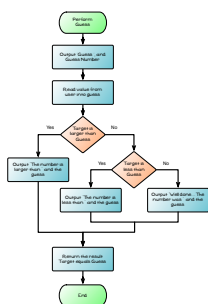


Figure 5.53: Logic for the Perform Guess Procedure from Figure 5.52

In the following illustrations Perform Guess will be called three times with being 17 in each case. The following three guesses will be performed, and through the flowchart are covered.

1. On the first guess the user enters a guess of 50, allowing for the left path of the flowchart to be followed.
2. The second guess will be 25 to test the middle branch, taking the equal decision and the true branch of the second decision.
3. Finally the third guess will be 37, testing the right most path through the flowchart.

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Perform Guess is called for guess 1

In the Guess that Number program, the Perform_Guess function is responsible for the user's guess and giving them feedback. Figure 5.54 shows the Perform_Guess function being called for the first time, it is passed 1 to its num_guess parameter and 37 to its target parameter.

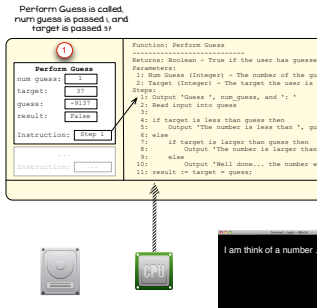


Figure 5.54: Perform Guess is called for the first time

Note

- In Figure 5.54 the indicated areas show the following:
 1. Perform Guess is called, with 1 being passed to num_guess and 37 to target.
- At this point the previous code would have output 'I am thinking of a number...'.
- The values in guess and result have not been initialised, so they will be in that memory location previously.

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Loop condition is checked at the end of guess 1, with the loop being repeated

At the end of the loop the condition is checked, in this case the loop will run again.

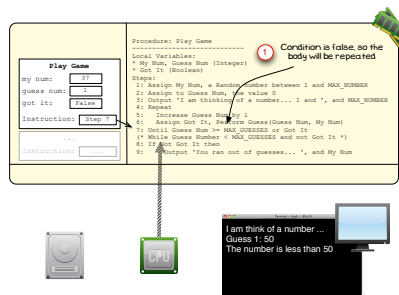


Figure 5.70: Condition indicates that the loop's body should be executed again

Note

- In Figure 5.70 the indicated areas show the following:
 1. The condition is checked, and the expression is false.
- With **repeat...until** you can evaluate the expression by:
 1. Guess Num >= MAX_GUESSES is 1 > 7, this is **false**.
 2. Get it, this is a variable, its value is **false**.
 3. Or the above together, **false** or **false**, this is **false**, repeating the loop.
- With **do...while** you can evaluate the expression by:
 1. Guess Num < MAX_GUESSES is 1 < 7, this is **true**.
 2. Get it, this is a variable, its value is **false**, so !got it, it is not false, is **true**.
 3. And together these results, **true** and **true** is **true**, repeating the loop.

For C you will need to code this as a **C Do While Loop**. The code for this will be `do...while(guess_num < MAX_GUESSES && !got_it);`

For Pascal you will need to code this as a **Pascal Repeat Until Loop**. The code for this will be `repeat...until (guess_num >= MAX_GUESSES) or (got_it);`