The while Loop

The repetitive capabilities of computers make them good tools for processing large amounts of information. Chapters 12-15 introduce you to C++ constructs, which are the control and looping commands of programming languages. C++ constructs include powerful, but succinct and efficient, looping commands similar to those of other languages you already know.

The while loops enable your programs to repeat a series of statements, over and over, as long as a certain condition is always met. Computers do not get "bored" while performing the same tasks repeatedly. This is one reason why they are so important in business data processing.

This chapter teaches you the following:

- The while loop
- The concept of loops
- The do-while loop
- Differences between if and while loops
- The exit() function
- The break statement
- Counters and totals

After completing this chapter, you should understand the first of several methods C++ provides for repeating program sections. This chapter's discussion of loops includes one of the most important uses for looping: creating counter and total variables.

The while Statement

The while statement is one of several C++ construct statements. Each construct (from construction) is a programming language statement—or a series of statements—that controls looping. The while, like other such statements, is a *looping statement* that controls the execution of a series of other statements. Looping statements cause parts of a program to execute repeatedly, as long as a certain condition is being met.

The format of the while statement is



The body of a whi I e loop executes repeatedly as long as test expression is True.

```
while (test expression)
    { block of one or more C++ statements; }
```

The parentheses around test expression are required. As long as test expression is True (nonzero), the *block* of one or more C++ statements executes repeatedly until test expression becomes False (evaluates to zero). Braces are required before and after the body of the while loop, unless you want to execute only one statement. Each statement in the body of the while loop requires an ending semicolon.

The placeholder test expression usually contains relational, and possibly logical, operators. These operators provide the True-False condition checked in test expression. If test expression is False when the program reaches the while loop for the first time, the body of the while loop does not execute at all. Regardless of whether the body of the while loop executes no times, one time, or many times, the statements following the while loop's closing brace execute if test expression becomes False.

Because test expression determines when the loop finishes, the body of the while loop must change the variables used in test expression. Otherwise, test expression never changes and the while loop repeats forever. This is known as an *infinite loop*, and you should avoid it.



TIP: If the body of the while loop contains only one statement, the braces surrounding it are not required. It is a good habit to enclose all while loop statements in braces, however, because if you have to add statements to the body of the while loop later, your braces are already there.

The Concept of Loops

You use the loop concept in everyday life. Any time you have to repeat the same procedure, you are performing a loop—just as your computer does with the while statement. Suppose you are wrapping holiday gifts. The following statements represent the looping steps (in while format) that you follow while gift-wrapping.



while (there are still unwrapped gifts) { Get the next gift; Cut the wrapping paper; Wrap the gift; Put a bow on the gift; Fill out a name card for the gift; Put the wrapped gift with the others; }

Whether you have 3, 15, or 100 gifts to wrap, you use this procedure (loop) repeatedly until every gift is wrapped. For an example that is more easily computerized, suppose you want to total all the checks you wrote in the previous month. You could perform the following loop.



while (there are still checks from the last month to be totaled) { Add the amount of the next check to the total; }

The body of this pseudocode while loop has only one statement, but that single statement must be performed until you have added each one of the previous month's checks. When this loop ends (when no more checks from the previous month remain to be totaled), you have the result.

The body of a while loop can contain one or more C++ statements, including additional while loops. Your programs will be

more readable if you indent the body of a while loop a few spaces to the right. The following examples illustrate this.

Examples



1. Some programs presented earlier in the book require user input with cin. If users do not enter appropriate values, these programs display an error message and ask the user to enter another value, which is an acceptable procedure.

Now that you understand the while loop construct, however, you should put the error message inside a loop. In this way, users see the message continually until they type proper input values, rather than once.

The following program is short, but it demonstrates a while loop that ensures valid keyboard input. It asks users whether they want to continue. You can incorporate this program into a larger one that requires user permission to continue. Put a prompt, such as the one presented here, at the bottom of a text screen. The text remains on-screen until the user tells the program to continue executing.



Identify the file and include the necessary header file. In this program, you want to ensure the user enters Y or N. You have to store the user's answer, so declare the ans variable as a character. Ask the users whether they want to continue, and get the response. If the user doesn't type Y or N, ask the user for another response.



C++

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EXAMPLE

Notice that the two cin functions do the same thing. You must use an initial cin, outside the while loop, to provide an answer for the while loop to check. If users type something other than Y or N, the program prints an error message, asks for another answer, then checks the new answer. This validation method is preferred over one where the reader only has one additional chance to succeed.

The while loop tests the test expression at the top of the loop. This is why the loop might never execute. If the test is initially False, the loop does not execute even once. The output from this program is shown as follows. The program repeats indefinitely, until the relational test is True (as soon as the user types either Y or N).

```
Do you want to continue (Y/N)? k
You must type a Y or an N
Do you want to continue (Y/N)? c
You must type a Y or an N
Do you want to continue (Y/N)? s
You must type a Y or an N
Do you want to continue (Y/N)? 5
You must type a Y or an N
Do you want to continue (Y/N)? Y
```

}

2. The following program is an example of an *invalid* while loop. See if you can find the problem.

```
// Filename: C12WHBAD.CPP
// Bad use of a while loop.
#include <iostream.h>
main()
{
    int a=10, b=20;
    while (a > 5)
        { cout << "a is " << a << ", and b is " << b << "\n";
        b = 20 + a; }
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

This while loop is an example of an infinite loop. It is vital that at least one statement inside the while changes a variable in the test expression (in this example, the variable a); otherwise, the condition is always True. Because the variable a does not change inside the while loop, this program will never end.



TIP: If you inadvertently write an infinite loop, you must stop the program yourself. If you use a PC, this typically means pressing Ctrl-Break. If you are using a UNIX-based system, your system administrator might have to stop your program's execution.



3. The following program asks users for a first name, then uses a while loop to count the number of characters in the name. This is a *string length program;* it counts characters until it reaches the null zero. Remember that the length of a string equals the number of characters in the string, not including the null zero.

```
// Filename: C12WHIL2.CPP
// Counts the number of letters in the user's first name.
#include <iostream.h>
main()
{
    char name[15]; // Will hold user's first name
```

By

```
int count=0; // Will hold total characters in name
// Get the user's first name
cout << "What is your first name? ";
cin >> name;
while (name[count] > 0) // Loop until null zero reached.
    { count++; } // Add 1 to the count.
cout << "Your name has " << count << " characters";
return 0;
```

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The loop continues as long as the value of the next character in the name array is greater than zero. Because the last character in the array is a null zero, the test is False on the name's last character and the statement following the body of the loop continues.



}

NOTE: A built-in string function called strlen() determines the length of strings. You learn about this function in Chapter 22, "Character, String, and Numeric Functions."



4. The previous string-length program's while loop is not as efficient as it could be. Because a while loop fails when its test expression is zero, there is no need for the greater-than test. By changing the test expression as the following program shows, you can improve the efficiency of the string length count.

```
// Filename: C12WHIL3.CPP
// Counts the number of letters in the user's first name.
#include <iostream.h>
main()
{
    char name[15]; // Will hold user's first name
    int count=0; // Will hold total characters in name
    // Get the user's first name
```

```
cout << "What is your first name? ";
cin >> name;
while (name[count]) // Loop until null zero is reached.
    { count++; } // Add 1 to the count.
cout << "Your name has " << count << " characters";
return 0;
```

The do-while Loop

The body of the do-whi I e loop executes at least once.

The do-while statement controls the do-while loop, which is similar to the while loop except the relational test occurs at the end (rather than beginning) of the loop. This ensures the body of the loop executes at least once. The do-while tests for a *positive relational test;* as long as the test is True, the body of the loop continues to execute.

The format of the do-while is

```
do
```

}

```
{ block of one or more C++ statements; }
while (test expression)
```

test expressi on must be enclosed in parentheses, just as it must in a while statement.

Examples



 The following program is just like the first one you saw with the while loop (C12WHIL1.CPP), except the do-while is used. Notice the placement of test expression. Because this expression concludes the loop, user input does not have to appear before the loop and again in the body of the loop.

// of a larger program.

^{//} Filename: C12WHIL4.CPP

^{//} Input routine to ensure user types a

^{//} correct response. This routine might be part

```
#include <iostream.h>
main()
{
   char ans;
   do
    { cout << "\nYou must type a Y or an N\n";</pre>
                                                   // Warn
                                                    // and ask
      cout << "Do you want to continue (Y/N) ?"; // again.
                                // Body of while loop
      cin >> ans; }
                                11
                                       ends here.
   while ((ans != 'Y') && (ans != 'N'));
   return 0:
}
```

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```
2. Suppose you are entering sales amounts into the computer
to calculate extended totals. You want the computer to print
the quantity sold, part number, and extended total (quantity
times the price per unit), as the following program does.
```

```
// Filename: C12INV1. CPP
// Gets inventory information from user and prints
// an inventory detail listing with extended totals.
#include <iostream.h>
#include <i omanip. h>
main()
{
   int part_no, quantity;
   float cost, ext_cost;
   cout << "*** Inventory Computation ***\n\n"; // Title</pre>
   // Get inventory information.
   do
    { cout << "What is the next part number (-999 to end)? ";
      cin >> part_no;
      if (part_no != -999)
         { cout << "How many were bought? ";
           cin >> quantity;
           cout << "What is the unit price of this item? ";</pre>
```

Chapter 12

The while Loop

}

Here is the output from this program:

```
*** Inventory Computation ***
What is the next part number (-999 to end)? 213
How many were bought? 12
What is the unit price of this item? 5.66
12 of # 213 will cost 67.92
What is the next part number (-999 to end)? 92
How many were bought? 53
What is the unit price of this item? .23
53 of # 92 will cost 12.19
What is the next part number (-999 to end)? -999
End of inventory computation
The do-while loop controls the entry of the customer sales
I for the set of t
```

information. Notice the "trigger" that ends the loop. If the user enters –999 for the part number, the do-while loop quits because no part numbered –999 exists in the inventory.

However, this program can be improved in several ways. The invoice can be printed to the printer rather than the screen. You learn how to direct your output to a printer in Chapter 21, "Device and Character Input/Output." Also, the inventory total (the total amount of the entire order) can be computed. You learn how to total such data in the "Counters and Totals" section later in this chapter.

The if Loop Versus the while Loop

Some beginning programmers confuse the if statement with loop constructs. The while and do-while loops repeat a section of code multiple times, depending on the condition being tested. The if statement may or may not execute a section of code; if it does, it executes that section only once.

Use an if statement when you want to conditionally execute a section of code *once*, and use a while or do-while loop if you want to execute a section *more than once*. Figure 12.1 shows differences between the if statement and the two while loops.

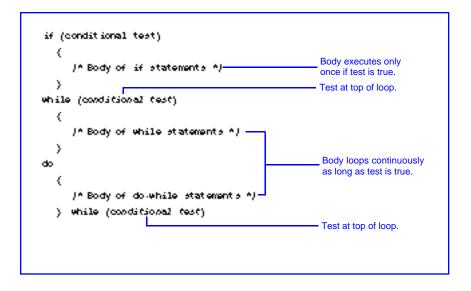


Figure 12.1. Differences between the if statement and the two while loops.

The exit() Function and break Statement

C++ provides the exit() function as a way to leave a program early (before its natural finish). The format of exit() is



where status is an optional integer variable or literal. If you are familiar with your operating system's return codes, status enables you to test the results of C++ programs. In DOS, status is sent to the operating system's error evel *environment variable*, where it can be tested by batch files.

Many times, something happens in a program that requires the program's termination. It might be a major problem, such as a disk drive error. Perhaps users indicate that they want to quit the program—you can tell this by giving your users a special value to type with cin or scanf(). You can isolate the exit() function on a line by itself, or anywhere else that a C++ statement or function can appear. Typically, exit() is placed in the body of an if statement to end the program early, depending on the result of some relational test.

Always include the stdlib.h header file when you use exit(). This file describes the operation of exit() to your program. Whenever you use a function in a program, you should know its corresponding #include header file, which is usually listed in the compiler's reference manual.

Instead of exiting an entire program, however, you can use the break statement to exit the current loop. The format of break is

break;

The break statement can go anywhere in a C++ program that any other statement can go, but it typically appears in the body of a while or do-while loop, used to leave the loop early. The following examples illustrate the exit() function and the break statement.

NOTE: The break statement exits only the most current loop. If you have a while loop in another while loop, break exits only the internal loop.

The exit () function provides an early exit from your program.

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The break statement ends the current loop.



Examples



1. Here is a simple program that shows you how the exit() function works. This program looks as though it prints several messages on-screen, but it doesn't. Because exit() appears early in the code, this program quits immediately after main()'s opening brace.



2. The break statement is not intended to be as strong a program exit as the exit() function. Whereas exit() ends the entire program, break quits only the loop that is currently active. In other words, break is usually placed inside a while or do-while loop to "simulate" a finished loop. The statement following the loop executes after a break occurs, but the program does not quit as it does with exit().

The following program appears to print C_{++} is fun! until the user enters N to stop it. The message prints only once, however, because the break statement forces an early exit from the loop.

```
// Filename: C12BRK.CPP
// Demonstrates the break statement.
#include <iostream.h>
main()
```

This program always produces the following output:

C++ is fun! That's all for now

You can tell from this program's output that the break statement does not allow the do-while loop to reach its natural conclusion, but causes it to finish early. The final cout prints because only the current loop—and not the entire program—exits with the break statement.



3. Unlike the previous program, break usually appears after an if statement. This makes it a *conditional* break, which occurs only if the relational test of the if statement is True.

A good illustration of this is the inventory program you saw earlier (C12INV1.CPP). Even though the users enter –999 when they want to quit the program, an additional if test is needed inside the do-while. The –999 ends the do-while loop, but the body of the do-while still needs an if test, so the remaining quantity and cost prompts are not given.

If you insert a break after testing for the end of the user's input, as shown in the following program, the do-while will not need the if test. The break quits the do-while as soon as the user signals the end of the inventory by entering -999 as the part number.

```
// Filename: C12INV2.CPP
// Gets inventory information from user and prints
// an inventory detail listing with extended totals.
#include <iostream.h>
#include <i omanip. h>
main()
{
   int part_no, quantity;
   float cost, ext_cost;
   cout << "*** Inventory Computation ***\n\n"; // Title</pre>
   // Get inventory information
   do
    { cout << "What is the next part number (-999 to end)? ";
      cin >> part_no;
      if (part_no == -999)
        { break; }
                                    // Exit the loop if
                                    // no more part numbers.
      cout << "How many were bought? ";</pre>
      cin >> quantity;
      cout << "What is the unit price of this item? ";</pre>
      cin >> cost;
      cout << "\n" << quantity << " of # " << part_no <<
           " will cost " << setprecision(2) << cost*quantity;
                            // Print two blank lines.
      cout << "\n\n';
                                       // Loop only if part
    } while (part_no != -999);
                                       // number is not -999.
   cout << "End of inventory computation\n";</pre>
   return 0;
}
```



4. You can use the following program to control the two other programs. This program illustrates how C++ can pass information to DOS with exit(). This is your first example of a menu program. Similar to a restaurant menu, a C++ menu program lists possible user choices. The users decide what they want the computer to do from the menu's available options. The mailing list application in Appendix F, "The Mailing List Application," uses a menu for its user options.

This program returns either a 1 or a 2 to its operating system, depending on the user's selection. It is then up to the operating system to test the exit value and run the proper program.

```
// Filename: C12EXIT2.CPP
// Asks user for his or her selection and returns
// that selection to the operating system with exit().
#include <iostream.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
main()
{
   int ans;
   do
     { cout << "Do you want to: \n\n";
       cout << "\t1. Run the word processor \n\n";
       cout << "\t2. Run the database program n^{"};
       cout << "What is your selection? ";</pre>
       cin >> ans;
     } while ((ans != 1) && (ans != 2)); // Ensures user
                                           // enters 1 or 2.
   exit(ans); // Return value to operating system.
   return 0:
               // Return does not ever execute due to exit().
}
```

Counters and Totals

Counting is important for many applications. You might have to know how many customers you have or how many people scored over a certain average in your class. You might want to count how many checks you wrote in the previous month with your computerized checkbook system.

Before you develop C++ routines to count occurrences, think of how you count in your own mind. If you were adding a total number of something, such as the stamps in your stamp collection or the

number of wedding invitations you sent out, you would probably do the following:



Start at 0, and add 1 for each item being counted. When you are finished, you should have the total number (or the total count).

This is all you do when you count with C++: Assign 0 to a variable and add 1 to it every time you process another data value. The increment operator (++) is especially useful for counting.

Examples



1. To illustrate using a counter, the following program prints "Computers are fun!" on-screen 10 times. You can write a program that has 10 cout statements, but that would not be efficient. It would also be too cumbersome to have 5000 cout statements, if you wanted to print that same message 5000 times.

By adding a while loop and a counter that stops after a certain total is reached, you can control this printing, as the following program shows.

```
// Filename: C12CNT1.CPP
// Program to print a message 10 times.
#include <iostream.h>
main()
{
   int ctr = 0; // Holds the number of times printed.
   do
     { cout << "Computers are fun! \n";
       ctr++:
                                // Add one to the count,
                                // after each cout.
     } while (ctr < 10);
                                // Print again if fewer
                                 // than 10 times.
   return 0:
}
```

The output from this program is shown as follows. Notice that the message prints exactly 10 times.

```
Computers are fun!
```

The heart of the counting process in this program is the statement that follows.



ctr++;

You learned earlier that the increment operator adds 1 to a variable. In this program, the counter variable is incremented each time the do-while loops. Because the only operation performed on this line is the increment of ctr, the prefix increment (++ctr) produces the same results.



2. The previous program not only added to the counter variable, but also performed the loop a specific number of times. This is a common method of conditionally executing parts of a program for a fixed number of times.

The following program is a password program. A password is stored in an integer variable. The user must correctly enter the matching password in three attempts. If the user does not type the correct password in that time, the program ends. This is a common method that dial-up computers use. They enable a caller to try the password a fixed number of times, then hang up the phone if that limit is exceeded. This helps deter people from trying hundreds of different passwords at any one sitting.

If users guess the correct password in three tries, they see the secret message.

```
// Filename: C12PASS1.CPP
// Program to prompt for a password and
// check it against an internal one.
#include <iostream.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
main()
{
  int stored_pass = 11862;
   int num_tries = 0; // Counter for password attempts.
   int user_pass;
   while (num_tries < 3)</pre>
                                       // Loop only three
                                       // times.
      { cout << "What is the password (You get 3 tries...)? ";
        cin >> user_pass;
        num_tries++;
                                        // Add 1 to counter.
        if (user_pass == stored_pass)
           { cout << "You entered the correct password. n";
             cout << "The cash safe is behind the picture " <<
                     "of the ship. n;
             exit(0);
           }
        el se
           { cout << "You entered the wrong password. \n";
          if (num_tries == 3)
          { cout << "Sorry, you get no more chances"; }
          el se
          { cout << "You get " << (3-num_tries) <<
                  " more tries...\n";}
        }
      }
                                       // End of while loop.
   exit(0);
   return 0;
}
```

This program gives users three chances in case they type some mistakes. After three unsuccessful attempts, the program quits without displaying the secret message.

Chapter 12 The while Loop



3. The following program is a letter-guessing game. It includes a message telling users how many tries they made before guessing the correct letter. A counter counts the number of these tries.

```
// Filename: C12GUES. CPP
// Letter-guessing game.
#include <iostream.h>
main()
{
   int tries = 0;
   char comp_ans, user_guess;
   // Save the computer's letter
   comp_ans = 'T';
                                    // Change to a different
                                          letter if desired.
                                    11
   cout << "I am thinking of a letter...";</pre>
   do
      { cout << "What is your guess? ";
        cin >> user_guess;
        tries++; // Add 1 to the guess-counting variable.
        if (user_guess > comp_ans)
           { cout << "Your guess was too high\n";
              cout << "\nTry again...";</pre>
           }
        if (user_guess < comp_ans)</pre>
           { cout << "Your guess was too low\n";
              cout << "\nTry again...";</pre>
           }
       } while (user_guess != comp_ans); // Quit when a
                                            // match is found.
   // They got it right, let them know.
   cout << "*** Congratulations! You got it right! \n";</pre>
   cout << "It took you only " << tries <<
            " tries to guess.";
   return 0;
}
```



By

C++

Here is the output of this program:

I am thinking of a letter...What is your guess? E
Your guess was too low
Try again...What is your guess? X
Your guess was too high
Try again...What is your guess? H
Your guess was too low
Try again...What is your guess? 0
Your guess was too low
Try again...What is your guess? U
Your guess was too high
Try again...What is your guess? Y
Your guess was too high
Try again...What is your guess? T
*** Congratulations! You got it right!
It took you only 7 tries to guess.

Producing Totals

Writing a routine to add values is as easy as counting. Instead of adding 1 to the counter variable, you add a value to the total variable. For instance, if you want to find the total dollar amount of checks you wrote during December, you can start at nothing (0) and add the amount of every check written in December. Instead of building a count, you are building a total.

When you want C++ to add values, just initialize a total variable to zero, then add each value to the total until you have included all the values.

Examples



1. Suppose you want to write a program that adds your grades for a class you are taking. The teacher has informed you that you earn an *A* if you can accumulate over 450 points.

The following program keeps asking you for values until you type -1. The -1 is a signal that you are finished entering grades and now want to see the total. This program also prints a congratulatory message if you have enough points for an *A*.

```
// Filename: C12GRAD1. CPP
// Adds grades and determines whether you earned an A.
#include <iostream.h>
include <i omanip. h>
main()
{
   float total_grade=0.0;
   float grade;
                            // Holds individual grades.
   do
   { cout << "What is your grade? (-1 to end) ";
     cin >> grade;
     if (grade \geq 0.0)
      { total_grade += grade; }
                                        // Add to total.
   } while (grade >= 0.0); // Quit when -1 entered.
   // Control begins here if no more grades.
   cout << "\n\nYou made a total of " << setprecision(1) <<</pre>
            total_grade << " points\n";</pre>
   if (total_grade >= 450.00)
      { cout << "** You made an A!!"; }</pre>
   return 0;
}
```

Notice that the -1 response is not added to the total number of points. This program checks for the -1 before adding to total_grade. Here is the output from this program: What is your grade? (-1 to end) 87.6 What is your grade? (-1 to end) 92.4 What is your grade? (-1 to end) 78.7 What is your grade? (-1 to end) -1 You made a total of 258.7 points



2. The following program is an extension of the gradecalculating program. It not only totals the points, but also computes their average.

To calculate the average grade, the program must first determine how many grades were entered. This is a subtle problem because the number of grades to be entered is unknown in advance. Therefore, every time the user enters a valid grade (not -1), the program must add 1 to a counter as well as add that grade to the total variable. This is a combination counting and totaling routine, which is common in many programs.

C++

Вv

EXAMPLE

```
// Filename: C12GRAD2. CPP
// Adds up grades, computes average,
// and determines whether you earned an A.
#include <iostream.h>
#include <i omanip. h>
main()
{
   float total _grade=0.0;
   float grade_avg = 0.0;
   float grade;
   int grade_ctr = 0;
   do
   { cout << "What is your grade? (-1 to end) ";
     cin >> grade;
     if (grade \geq 0.0)
      { total_grade += grade;
                                            // Add to total.
        grade_ctr ++; }
                                            // Add to count.
                                // Quit when -1 entered.
   } while (grade >= 0.0);
```

}

Below is the output of this program. Congratulations! You are on your way to becoming a master C++ programmer.

```
What is your grade? (-1 to end) 67.8
What is your grade? (-1 to end) 98.7
What is your grade? (-1 to end) 67.8
What is your grade? (-1 to end) 92.4
What is your grade? (-1 to end) -1
You made a total of 326.68 points.
Your average was 81.7
```

Review Questions

The answers to the review questions are in Appendix B.



- 1. What is the difference between the while loop and the do-while loop?
- 2. What is the difference between a total variable and a counter variable?
- 3. Which C++ operator is most useful for counting?
- 4. True or false: Braces are not required around the body of while and do-while loops.

By



5. What is wrong with the following code?

```
while (sales > 50)
    cout << "Your sales are very good this month.\n";
    cout << "You will get a bonus for your high sales\n";</pre>
```

C++

6. What file must you include as a header file if you use exit()?



7. How many times does this printf() print?

```
int a=0;
do
    { printf("Careful \n");
    a++; }
while (a > 5);
```

- 8. How can you inform DOS of the program exit status?
- 9. What is printed to the screen in the following section of code?

```
a = 1;
while (a < 4)
  { cout << "This is the outer loop\n";
    a++;
    while (a <= 25)
        { break;
            cout << "This prints 25 times\n"; }
}</pre>
```

Review Exercises



1. Write a program with a do-while loop that prints the numerals from 10 to 20 (inclusive), with a blank line between each number.



2. Write a weather-calculator program that asks for a list of the previous 10 days' temperatures, computes the average, and prints the results. You have to compute the total as the input occurs, then divide that total by 10 to find the average. Use a while loop for the 10 repetitions.

Chapter 12 The while Loop



- 3. Rewrite the program in Exercise 2 using a do-while loop.
- 4. Write a program, similar to the weather calculator in Exercise 2, but generalize it so it computes the average of any number of days' temperatures. (*Hint:* You have to count the number of temperatures to compute the final average.)
- 5. Write a program that produces your own ASCII table onscreen. Don't print the first 31 characters because they are nonprintable. Print the codes numbered 32 through 255 by storing their numbers in integer variables and printing their ASCII values using printf() and the "%c" format code.

Summary

This chapter showed you two ways to produce a C++ loop: the while loop and the do-while loop. These two variations of while loops differ in where they test their test condition statements. The while tests at the beginning of its loop, and the do-while tests at the end. Therefore, the body of a do-while loop always executes at least once. You also learned that the exit() function and break statement add flexibility to the while loops. The exit() function terminates the program, and the break statement terminates only the current loop.

This chapter explained two of the most important applications of loops: counters and totals. Your computer can be a wonderful tool for adding and counting, due to the repetitive capabilities offered with while loops.

The next chapter extends your knowledge of loops by showing you how to create a *determinate* loop, called the for loop. This feature is useful when you want a section of code to loop for a specified number of times.