Repetition In Pascal

In this section of notes you will learn how to have a section of code repeated without duplicating the code.

The Need For Repetition

Writing out a simple counting program (1-3).

The full text-only program can be found in Unix under /home/231/examples/repetition/counting.p:

program counting (output);

begin

writeln('1');

writeln('2');

writeln('3');

end.

The Need For Repetition (2)

Simple program but what if changes need to be made?

Need to re-edit source code and re-compile program?

What if you need to count many times?

This example indicates the need for a mechanism to allow for parts of the program to repeat an arbitrary number of times (loops).

Basic Structure Of Loops

- 1) Initialize the control
- a) Control typically a variable that determines whether or not the loop executes or not.
- 2) Testing the control against a condition
- 3) Executing the body of the loop
- 4) Update the value of the control

Types Of Loops

- 1) Pre-test
- a) Initialize control
- b) Check if a condition is met (using the control in some Boolean expression)
- c) If the condition has been met then execute the body of the loop, otherwise the loop ends (update control in body if applicable)
- d) Repeat step (b)
- The body of the loop executes zero or more times
- Execute body only if condition is true
- Examples: while-do, for
- 2) Post-test
- a) Initialize control
- b) Execute the body of the loop (update value of control in body if applicable)
- c) If the condition has been met (using the control in some Boolean expression) then skip otherwise the loop repeats.
- The body of the loop executes one or more times
- Execute body only if condition is false
- Example: repeat-until

Pre-Test Loop: Flowchart (While-do, For)



Post-Test Loop: Flowchart (Repeat-Until)



Pre-Test Loop: While-Do

Can be used if the number of times that the loop executes is not known in advance.

Syntax:

```
while (Boolean expression) do
body
```

Example (Full text-only version can be found in Unix under /home/231/examples/repetition/whileDo.p)



Tracing The While Loop

Variables

i

Execution

./a.out

Pre-Test Loop: For

Typically used when it is known in advance how many times that the loop will execute (counting loops).

Syntax (counting up):

for *initialize control* to *final value* do body

Syntax (counting down):

for *initialize control* downto *final value* do body

First For Loop Example

Example one (A compilable text-only version can be found in Unix under /home/231/examples/repetition/forLoopUp.p)



Tracing The First For Loop Example

Variables

i

Execution

total

./a.out

Second For Loop Example

Example one (A compilable text-only version can be found in Unix under /home/231/examples/repetition/forLoopDown.p)

var

```
i, total : integer;
begin
  total := 0;
  for i := 5 downto 1 do
  begin
     total := total + i;
     writeln('i = ':4, i:2, 'total = ':13, total:2);
  end; (* for *)
end.
```

Tracing The Second For Loop Example

Variables

i

Execution

total

./a.out

Post Test Loops: Repeat-Until

Used instead of a while-do loop if you need the loop to execute at least once.

Syntax:

repeat

body

until (Boolean expression);

Repeat-Until: An Example

A compilable version of this example can be found in Unix under: /home/231/examples/repetition/guzzlingGame.p

Repeat-Until: An Example (2)



Infinite Loops

Loops that never end (the stopping condition is never met).

Infinite loops can be caused by logical errors:

•The loop control is never updated (Example 1).

•The updating of the loop control never brings it closer to the stopping condition (Example 2).

Example 1 (a compilable version can be found in Unix under /home/231/examples/repetition/infinite1.p)

```
i := 1;
while (i < 10) do
writeln ('i = ', i);
```

To stop a program with an infinite loop in Unix simultaneously press the <ctrl> and the <c> keys

Infinite Loops (2)

Example 2 (a compilable version can be found in Unix under /home/231/examples/repetition/infinite2.p)

i := 10;

while (i > 0) do

begin

writeln('i = ', i); i := i + 1

end;

To stop a program with an infinite loop in Unix simultaneously press the <ctrl> and the <c> keys

Nested Loops

One loop executes inside of another loop(s).

Example structure:

Outer loop (runs n times)

Inner loop (runs m times)

Body of inner loop (runs n x m times)

Example program (complete compilable program can be found in Unix under:

/home/231/examples/repetition/nested.p)

```
for i := 1 to 2 do
for j := 1 to 3 do
writeln('i = ':9, i, 'j = ':9, j);
writeln('All done!');
```

Summary

What is the purpose of loops in a programming language?

What are the different types of loops that are employed in Pascal

- Pre-test: while-do, for
- Post-test: repeat-until

What are nested loops and how do they work