

The Input Operator

In C++, input is analogue to output. The keyword `cin` (pronounced "C in") is an object, predefined in C++ to correspond to the standard input stream. This stream represents data coming from the keyboard (unless it has been redirected). The `>>` is the extraction or get from operator. It takes the value from the stream object on its left and places it in the variable on its right. The keyword `cin` stand for "console input".

Example:

```
#include <iostream.h>

main()
{
    int age;
    cout<<"How old are you:";
    cin>> age;
    cout<<"In 10 years, you will be " << age+10<<"\n";
}
```

Output:

```
How old are you: 40
In 10 years, you will be 50.
```

The symbol `>>` is the extraction operator, also called the input operator. It is usually used with the `cin` input stream, which is usually the user's keyboard. Thus, when the statement

```
cin>> age;
```

executes, the system pauses, waiting for input. As soon as an integer in input, it is assigned to the variable `age` and the program continues.