Input and Output Streams

Input and output streams allow a C++ program to communicate.

Input and output streams

- are one of the oldest parts of C++.
- are a framework which is designed for extensibility.
- combine object oriented and generic ideas.

Streams

are infinite data streams from which you can extract characters or insert them.

Input and Output Streams

Stream classes

std::istream for reading of data

std::ostream for writing of data

Predefined stream objects

Stream (channel)	C equivalent	Device	Buffered
std::cin	stdin	keyboard	yes
std::cout	stdout	monitor	yes
std::cerr	stderr	monitor	no
std::clog		monitor	yes

Input and Output Streams

Stream operators

- <<: inserts characters into the output stream ("Insertor")</p>
- >>: extracts characters from the input stream ("Extractor")
- Both operator can be chained return a reference

Stream manipulators

Manipulator	Stream type	Meaning
std::endl	Out	Writes "\n" and flushes the output buffer
std::flush	Out	Flushes the output buffer
std::ws	In	Discards leading whitespace while reading