

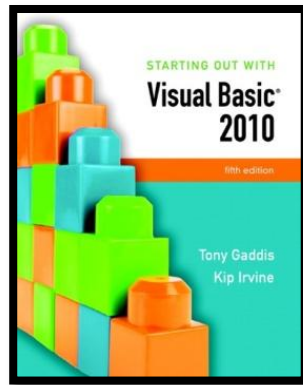


STARTING OUT WITH

# Visual Basic® 2010

fifth edition

Tony Gaddis  
Kip Irvine



# Chapter 5

## Lists and Loops

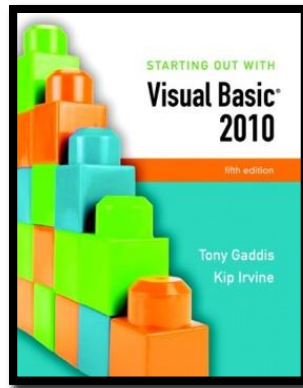
**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# Introduction

- This chapter introduces:
  - Input boxes
  - List and combo boxes
  - Loops
  - Random numbers
  - The ToolTip control



## Section 5.1

# INPUT BOXES

Input boxes provide a simple way to gather input without placing a text box on a form.

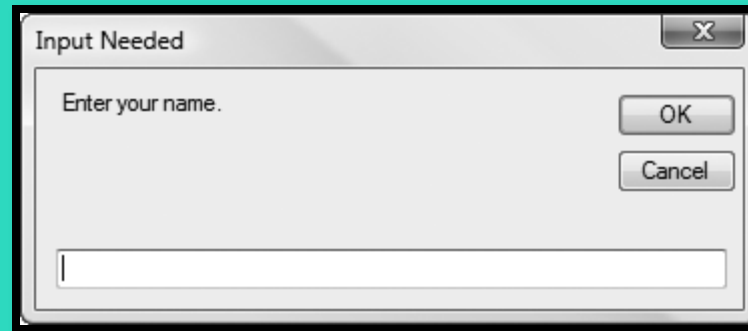
**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# Overview

- An **input box** provides a quick and simple way to ask the user to enter data



- User types a value in the text box
- OK button returns a string value containing user input
- Cancel button returns an empty string
- Should not be used as a primary method of input
- Convenient tool for developing & testing applications

# General Format

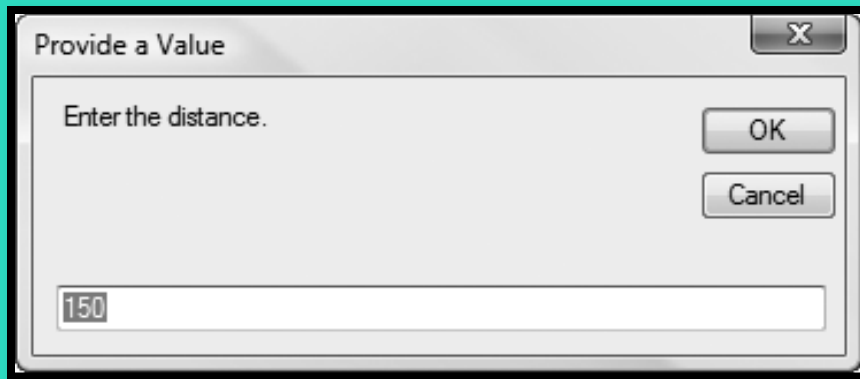
***InputBox(Prompt [,Title] [,Default] [,Xpos] [,Ypos])***

Argument	Description
<b><i>Prompt</i></b>	String displayed in the input box, normally asks the user for a value
<b><i>[Optional arguments]</i></b>	
<b><i>Title</i></b>	String that appears in the title bar, contains project name by default
<b><i>Default</i></b>	String to be initially displayed in the text box, empty by default
<b><i>Xpos</i></b>	Integer that specifies the distance (in pixels) of the leftmost edge of the input box from the left edge of the screen, centered horizontally by default
<b><i>Ypos</i></b>	Integer that specifies the distance (in pixels) of the topmost edge of the input box from the top of the screen, placed near the top of the screen by default

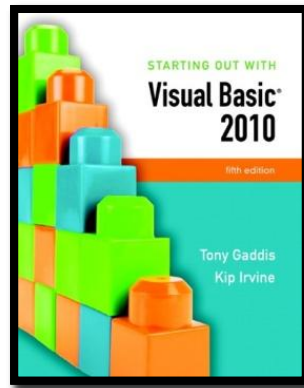
# Example Usage

- To retrieve the value returned by the **InputBox** function, use the assignment operator to assign it to a variable
- For example, the following statement assigns the string value returned by the **InputBox** function to the string variable **strUserInput**

```
Dim strUserInput As String = InputBox("Enter the distance.",  
"Provide a Value",  
"150")
```



- The string value that appears inside the text box will be stored in the **strUserInput** variable after the OK button is clicked and the input box closes



## Section 5.2

# LIST BOXES

List boxes display a list of items and allow the user to select an item from the list.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of

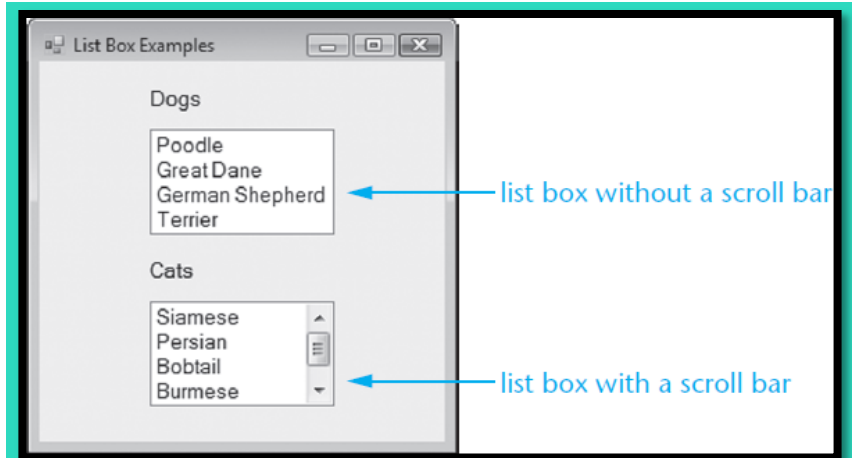


© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.



# Overview

- A **ListBox** control displays a list of items and also allows the user to select one or more items from the list
  - Displays a scroll bar when all items cannot be shown
- To create a ListBox control:
  - Double-click the ListBox icon in the **Toolbox** window
  - Position and resize the control as necessary



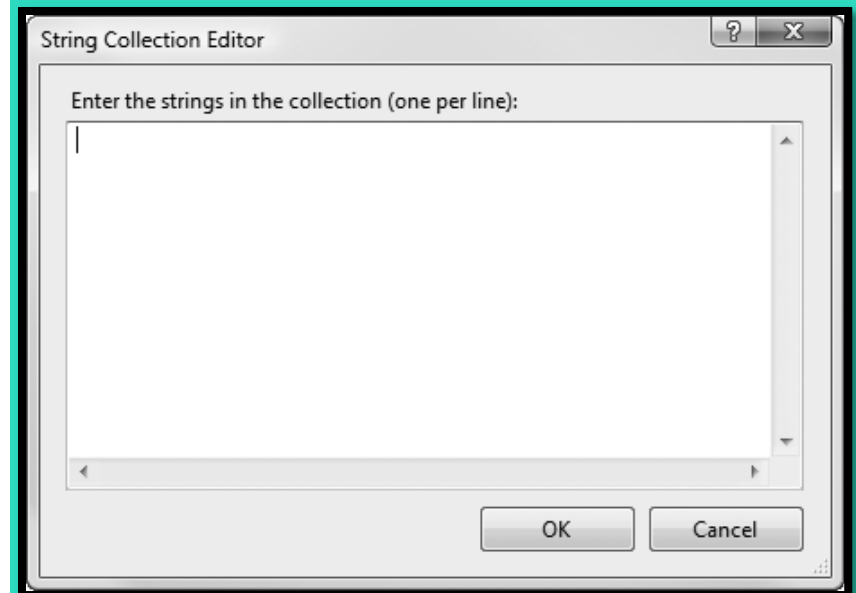
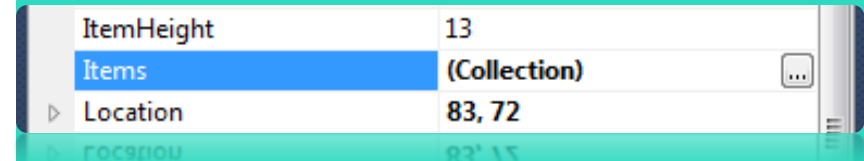
- In **Design** mode, the list box appears as a rectangle
  - The size of the rectangle determines the size of the list box
- Use the **lst** prefix when naming a list box (***lstListBox***)

# The Items Property

- The entries in a list box are stored in a property named **Items**
  - The **Items property** holds an entire list of values from which the user may choose
  - The list of values may be established at design time or runtime
  - Items are stored in a **Collection** called the **Items Collection**

# Adding Items to the Items Collection

- To store values in the **Items** property at design time:
  - Select the **ListBox control** in the *Designer* window
  - In the *Properties* window, click the **Items (Collection)** ellipsis button (...)
  - Type each value on a separate line in the *String Collection Editor* dialog box



# The **Items.Count** Property

- The **Items.Count** property returns the number of list box items or zero if the list is empty
- For example, the **Items.Count** return value:
  - Can be used in an **If** statement:

```
If lstEmployees.Items.Count = 0 Then  
    MessageBox.Show("The list has no items!")  
End If
```
  - Or assigned to a variable

```
IntNumEmployees = lstEmployees.Items.Count
```

# Item Indexing

- The **Items** property values can be accessed from your VB code
- Each item value is given a sequential index
  - The first item has an index of 0
  - The second item has an index of 1, etc.
- When assigning an item to a variable, you must explicitly convert the item to the same data type as the variable
  - Examples:

```
strName = lstCustomers.Items(2).ToString()
```

```
intRoomNumber = CInt(lstRoomNumbers.Items(0))
```

# Handling Exceptions Caused by Indexes

- An exception is thrown if an index is out of range
  - An exception handler can be used to trap indexing errors

```
Try
    strInput = lstMonths.Items(intIndex).ToString()
Catch ex As Exception
    MessageBox.Show(ex.Message)
End Try
```
  - Some programmers prefer to use an **If** statement to handle indexing errors

```
If intIndex >= 0 And intIndex < lstMonths.Items.Count Then
    strInput = lstMonths.Items(intIndex).ToString()
Else
    MessageBox.Show("Index is out of range: " & intIndex)
End If
```

# The SelectedIndex Property

- The **SelectedIndex** property returns an integer with the index of the item selected by the user
- If no item is selected, the value is set to -1 (an invalid index value)
- Can use **SelectedIndex** to determine if an item has been selected by comparing to -1
- Example:

```
If lstLocations.SelectedIndex <> -1 Then  
    strLocation = lstLocations.Items(lstLocations.SelectedIndex).ToString()  
End If
```

# The SelectedItem Property

- The **SelectedItem** property contains the currently selected item from the list box
- For example:

```
If lstItems.SelectedIndex <> -1
```

```
    strItemName = lstItems.SelectedItem.ToString()
```

```
End If
```



# The Sorted Property

- **Sorted** is a Boolean property
- When set to **True**, values in the **Items** property are displayed in alphabetical order
- When set to **False**, values in the **Items** property are displayed in the order they were added
- Set to **False** by default

# The Items.Add Method

- To store values in the Items property with code at runtime, use the **Items.Add** method
- Here is the general format:

***ListBox.Items.Add(Item)***

- **ListBox** is the name of the **ListBox** control
- **Item** is the value to be added to the Items property
- Example:

**lstStudents.Items.Add("Sharon")**

# The `Items.Insert` Method

- To insert an item at a specific position, use the `Items.Insert` method

- General Format:

*`ListBox.Items.Insert(Index, Item)`*

- ***ListBox*** is the name of the **Listbox** control
- ***Index*** is an integer value for the position where ***Item*** is to be placed in the **Items collection**
- ***Item*** is the item you wish to insert
- Items that follow are moved down
- For example:

`IstStudents.Items.Insert(2, "Jean")`

# Methods to Remove Items

- ***ListBox.Items.RemoveAt(Index)***
  - Removes item at the specified *Index*
- ***ListBox.Items.Remove(Item)***
  - Removes item with value specified by *Item*
- ***ListBox.Items.Clear()***
  - Removes all items in the Items property
- Examples:

**lstStudents.Items.RemoveAt(2)**

**lstStudents.Items.Remove("Jean")**

**lstStudents.Items.Clear()**

**' Remove 3<sup>rd</sup> item**

**' Remove item "Jean"**

**' Remove all items**

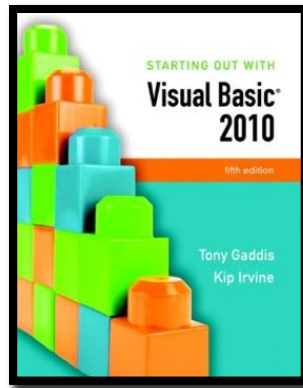
# Other List Box Methods

- ***ListBox.Items.Contains(Item)***
  - Returns **True** if ***Item*** is found in the collection
- ***ListBox.Items.IndexOf(Item)***
  - Returns an integer with the index position of the first occurrence of ***Item*** in the collection
- Examples:

```
    blnFound = lstMonths.Items.Contains("March")  
    intIndex = lstMonths.Items.IndexOf("March")
```
- Tutorial 5-1 provides more examples of list box controls, methods and properties

# Important Collection Methods and Properties

Method or Property	Description
<b>Add</b> ( <i>item As Object</i> )	<b>Method:</b> adds <i>item</i> to the collection, returning its index position
<b>Clear</b> ( )	<b>Method:</b> removes all items in the collection. No return value
<b>Contains</b> ( <i>value As Object</i> )	<b>Method:</b> returns <i>True</i> if <i>value</i> is found at least once in the collection.
<b>Count</b>	<b>Property:</b> returns the number of items in the collection. Read-only
<b>IndexOf</b> ( <i>value As Object</i> )	<b>Method:</b> returns the Integer index position of the first occurrence of <i>value</i> in the collection. If <i>value</i> is not found, the return value is <i>-1</i>
<b>Insert</b> ( <i>index As Integer, item As Object</i> )	<b>Method:</b> insert <i>item</i> in the collection at position <i>index</i> . No return value
<b>Item</b> ( <i>index As Integer</i> )	<b>Property:</b> returns the object located at position <i>index</i>
<b>Remove</b> ( <i>value As Object</i> )	<b>Method:</b> removes <i>value</i> from the collection. No return value
<b>RemoveAt</b> ( <i>index As Integer</i> )	<b>Method:</b> removes the item at the specified <i>index</i> . No return value



## Section 5.3

# INTRODUCTION TO LOOPS: THE DO WHILE LOOP

A loop is a repeating structure that contains a block of program statements.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# Introduction

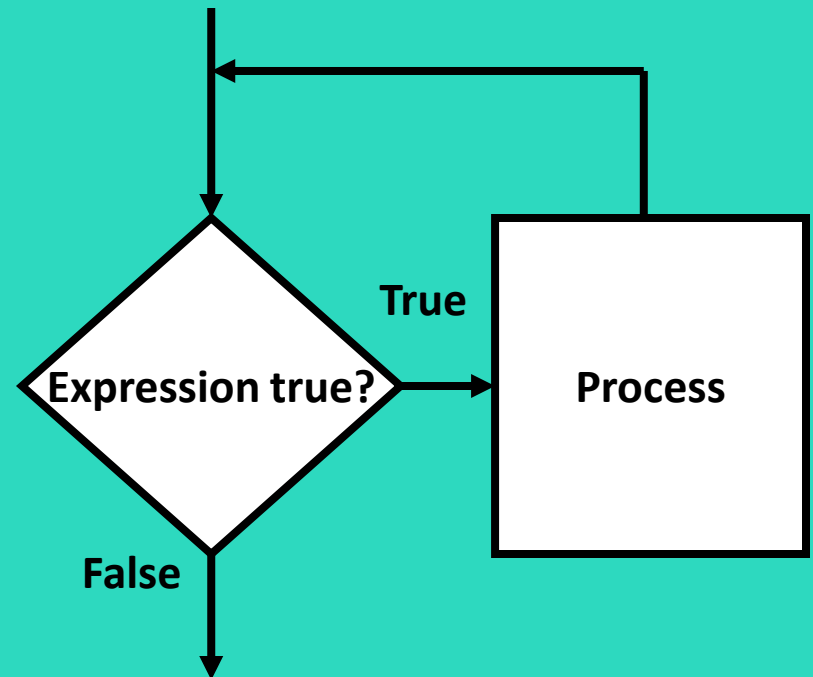
- A **repetition structure**, or **loop** causes one or more statements to repeat
- Each repetition of the loop is called an **iteration**
- Visual Basic has three types of loops:
  - **Do While**
  - **Do Until**
  - **For... Next**
- The difference among them is how they control the repetition



# The Do While Loop

- The **Do While** loop has two important parts:
  - a Boolean expression that is tested for a **True** or **False** value
  - a statement or group of statements that is repeated as long as the Boolean expression is true, called **Conditionally executed statements**

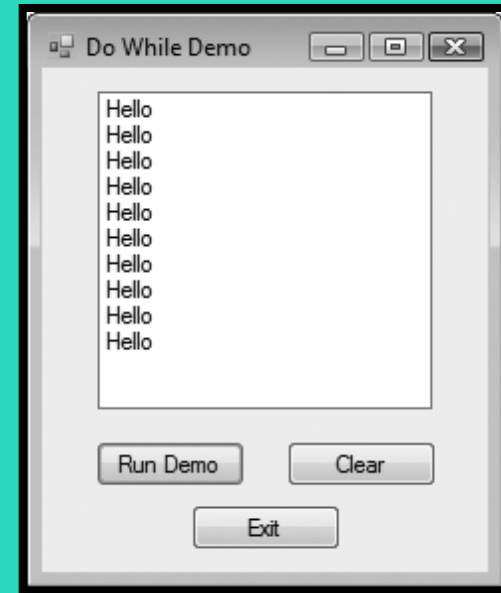
Do While *BooleanExpression*  
*statement*  
(*more statements may follow*)  
Loop



# Example Do While Loop

- **intCount** initialized to **0**
- Expression **intCount < 10** is tested
- If **True**, execute body:
  - **"Hello"** added to **IstOutput** Items Collection
  - **intCount** increases by **1**
- Test expression again
  - Repeat until **intCount < 10** becomes **False**

```
Dim intCount As Integer = 0
Do While intCount < 10
    IstOutput.Items.Add("Hello")
    intCount += 1
Loop
```



# Infinite Loops

- A loop must have some way to end itself
- Something within the body of the loop must eventually force the test expression to false
- In the previous example
  - The loop continues to repeat
  - **intCount** increases by one for each repetition
  - Finally **intCount** is not **< 10** and the loop ends
- If the test expression can never be false, the loop will continue to repeat forever
  - This is called an **infinite loop**

# Counters

- A **counter** is a variable that is regularly incremented or decremented each time a loop iterates
- **Increment** means to **add 1** to the counter's value
  - **`intX = intX + 1`**
  - **`intX += 1`**
- **Decrement** means to **subtract 1** from the counter's value
  - **`intX = intX - 1`**
  - **`intX -= 1`**
- Counters generally initialized before loop begins
  - ' **Start at zero**
  - `Dim intCount As Integer = 0`**
- Counter must be modified in body of loop
  - ' **Increment the counter variable**
  - `intCount += 1`**
- Loop ends when of value counter variable exceeds the range of the test expression
  - ' **False after ten iterations**
  - `intCount < 10`**

# Pretest and Posttest Do While Loops

- Previous **Do While** loops are in **pretest** form
  - Expression is tested before the body of the loop is executed
  - The body may not be executed at all

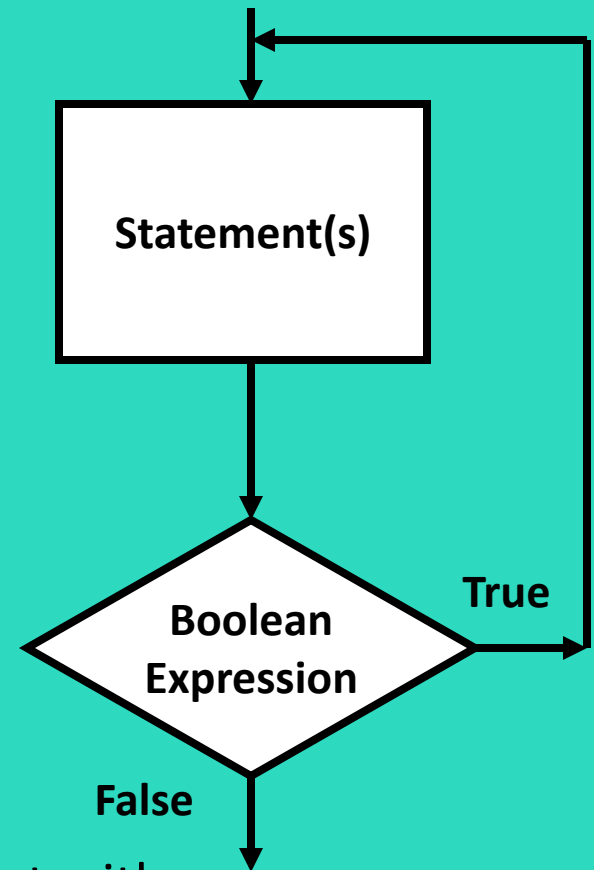
- **Do While** loops also have a **posttest** form
  - The body of the loop is executed first
  - Then the expression is evaluated
  - Body repeats as long as expression is true
  - A posttest loop always executes the body of the loop at least once

# The Posttest Do While Loop

- The **Do While** loop can also be written as a *posttest* loop:

**Do**  
**Statement**  
*(More statements may follow)*  
**Loop While BooleanExpression**

- **While BooleanExpression** appears after the **Loop** keyword
- Tests its Boolean expression after each loop iteration
- Will always perform at least one iteration, even if its Boolean expression is false to start with



# Example Posttest Do While Loop

```
Dim intCount As Integer = 100
Do
    MessageBox.Show("Hello World!")
    intCount += 1
Loop While intCount < 10
```

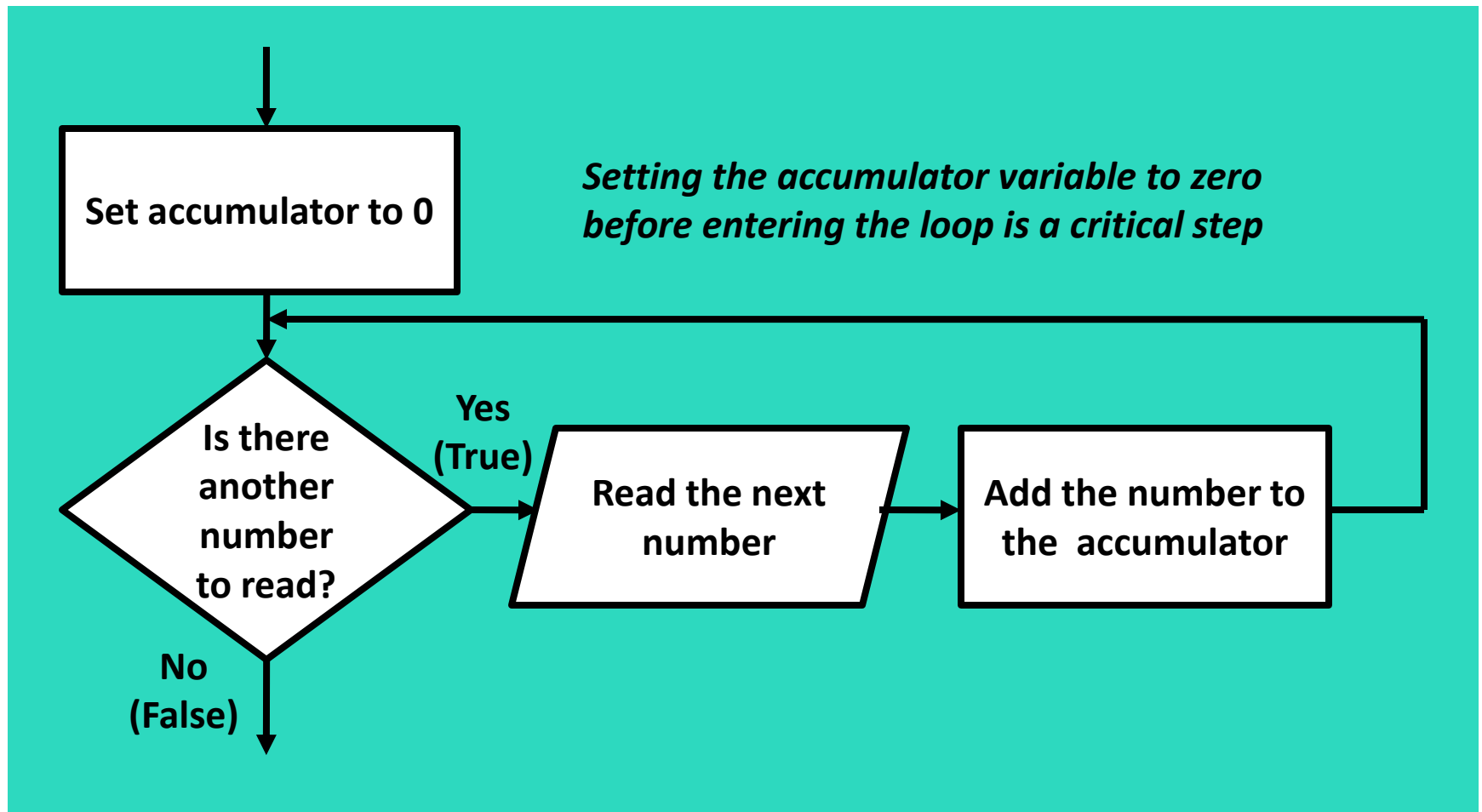
- **intCount** is initialized to **100**
- The statements in the body of the loop execute
- The expression **intCount < 10** is tested
- The expression is **False**
- The loop stops after the first iteration
- Tutorial 5-3 modifies Tutorial 5-2 to use a posttest **Do While** Loop

# Keeping a Running Total

- Many programming tasks require you to calculate the total of a series of numbers
  - Sales Totals
  - Scores
- This calculation generally requires two elements:
  - A loop that reads each number in the series and accumulates the total, called a **running total**
  - A variable that accumulates the total, called an **accumulator**



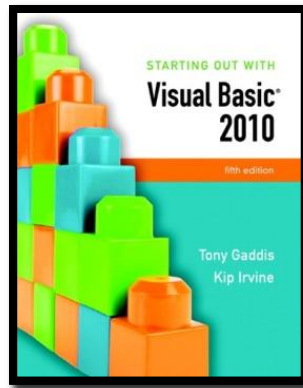
# Logic for Keeping a Running Total



# A Posttest Running Total Loop

```
Const intNUM_DAYS = 5      ' Number days
Dim intCount As Integer = 1 ' Loop counter
Dim decSales As Decimal    ' Daily sales
Dim decTotal As Decimal = 0 ' Total sales
Dim strInput As String     ' Input string
' Get sales for each day.
Do
  ' Get daily sales amount from the user.
  strInput = InputBox("Enter the sales for day"
                      & intCount.ToString())
  ' Convert user input string to a decimal.
  If Decimal.TryParse(strInput, decSales) Then
    decTotal += decSales ' Increment total
    intCount += 1        ' Input counter
  Else
    MessageBox.Show("Enter a number.")
  End If
Loop While intCount <= intNUM_DAYS
```

- Tutorial 5-4 uses the code shown here in pretest form as part of a more complete example
- Tutorial 5-5 demonstrates how to structure a loop such that the user can specify the iterations



## Section 5.4

# THE DO UNTIL AND FOR...NEXT LOOPS

The **Do Until** loop iterates until its test expression is true. The **For...Next** loop uses a counter variable and iterates a specific number of times.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# The Do Until Loop

- A **Do Until** loop iterates until an expression is true
  - Repeats as long as its test expression is **False**
  - Ends when its test expression becomes **True**
  - Can be written in either pretest or posttest form

*Pretest General Format:*

**Do Until BooleanExpression**  
**Statement**  
*(More statements may follow)*  
**Loop**

*Posttest General Format:*

**Do**  
**Statement**  
*(More statements may follow)*  
**Loop Until BooleanExpression**

- Tutorial 5-6 provides a hands-on example of a pretest **Do Until** loop

# The For...Next Loop

- Ideal for loops that require a counter, pretest form only

***For CounterVariable = StartValue To EndValue [Step Increment]  
statement***

***(more statements may follow)***

***Next [CounterVariable]***

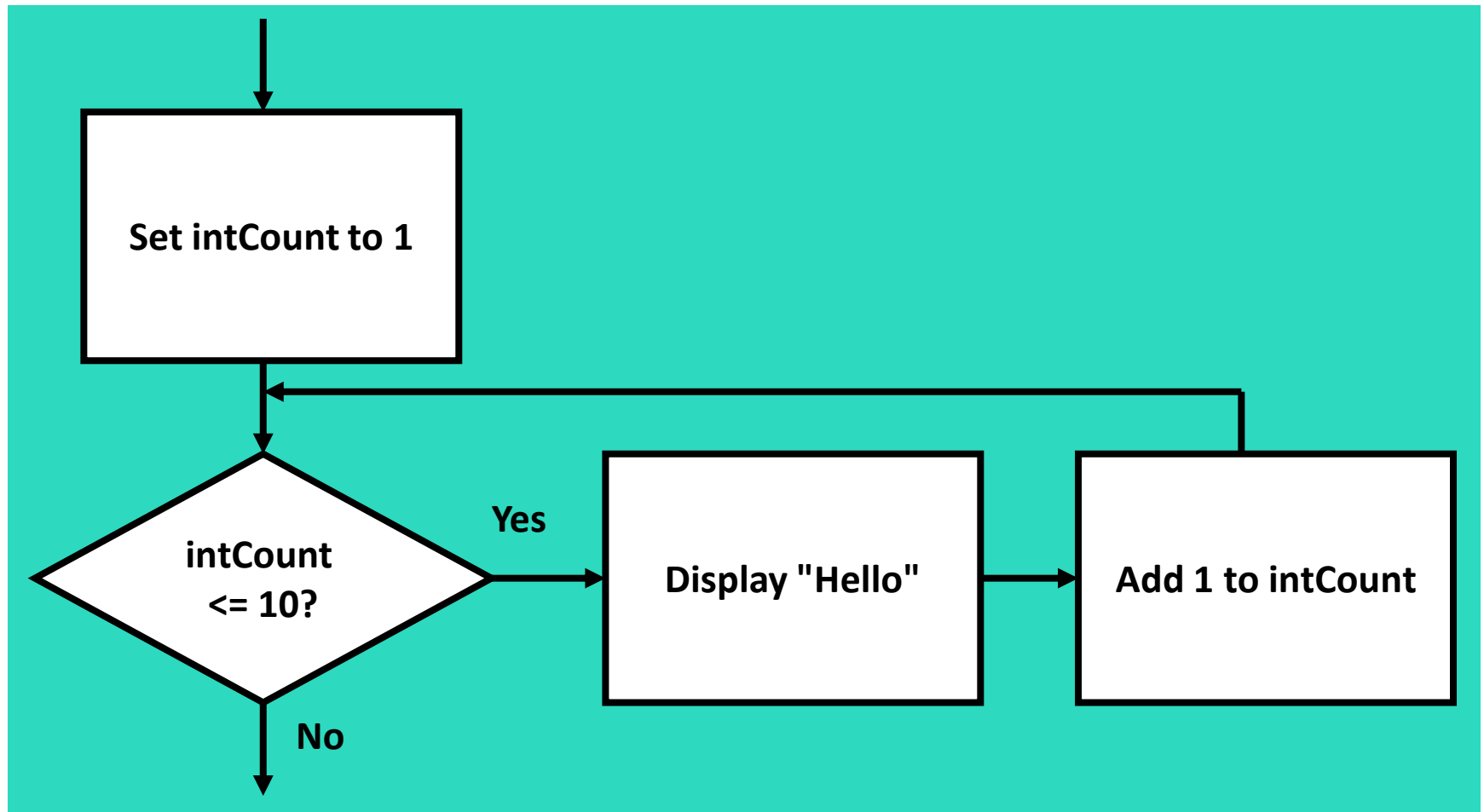
- ***For***, ***To***, and ***Next*** are keywords
- ***CounterVariable*** tracks number of iterations
- ***StartValue*** is initial value of counter
- ***EndValue*** is counter number of final iteration
- Optional ***Step Increment*** allows the counter to increment at a value other than 1 at each iteration of the loop

# Example of For...Next Loop

```
For intCount = 1 To 10  
    MessageBox.Show("Hello")  
Next
```

- **Step 1:** **intCount** is set to **1** (the start value)
- **Step 2:** **intCount** is compared to **10** (the end value)
  - » If **intCount** is less than or equal to **10**
    - Continue to **Step 3**
    - Otherwise the loop is exited
- **Step 3:** The **MessageBox.Show("Hello")** statement is executed
- **Step 4:** **intCount** is incremented by **1**
- **Step 5:** Go back to **Step 2** and repeat this sequence

# Flowchart of For...Next Loop



# Specifying a Step Value

- The **step** value is the value added to the counter variable at the end of each iteration
- Optional and if not specified, defaults to 1
- The following loop iterates 10 times with counter values 0, 10, 20, ..., 80, 90, 100

```
For intCount = 0 To 100 Step 10  
    MessageBox.Show(intCount.ToString())  
Next
```

- Step value may be negative, causing the loop to count downward

```
For intCount = 10 To 1 Step -1  
    MessageBox.Show(intCount.ToString())  
Next
```



# Summing a Series of Numbers

- The **For...Next** loop can be used to calculate the sum of a series of numbers

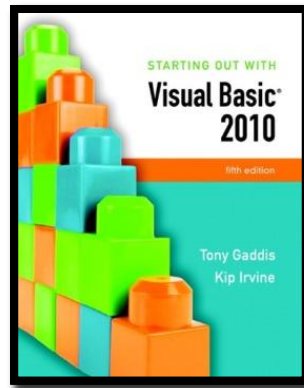
```
Dim intCount As Integer ' Loop counter
Dim intTotal As Integer = 0 ' Accumulator
' Add the numbers 1 through 100.
For intCount = 1 To 100
    intTotal += intCount
Next
' Display the sum of the numbers.
MessageBox.Show("The sum of 1 through 100 is " & intTotal.ToString())
```

# Breaking Out of a Loop

- In some cases it is convenient to end a loop before the test condition would end it
- The following statements accomplish this
  - **Exit Do** (used in **Do While** or **Do Until** loops)
  - **Exit For** (used in **For...Next** loops)
- Use this capability with caution
  - It bypasses normal loop termination
  - Makes code more difficult to debug

# Deciding Which Loop to Use

- Each type of loop works best in different situations
  - The **Do While** loop
    - When you wish the loop to repeat as long as the test expression is true or at least once as a pretest loop
  - The **Do Until** loop
    - When you wish the loop to repeat as long as the test expression is false or at least once as a pretest loop
  - The **For...Next** loop
    - Primarily used when the number of required iterations is known



## Section 5.5

# NESTED LOOPS

A loop that is contained inside another loop is called a nested loop.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# Introduction

- A **nested loop** is a loop inside another loop
- The hands of a clock make a good example
  - The hour hand makes 1 revolution for every 60 revolutions of the minute hand
  - The minute hand makes 1 revolution for every 60 revolutions of the second hand
  - For every revolution of the hour hand the second hand makes 36,000 revolutions

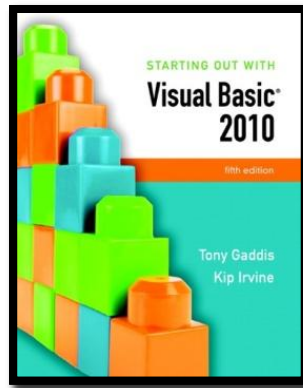
# Nested Loop Example

- The simulated clock example contains
  - An outer loop for the hours
  - A nested middle loop for the minutes
  - A nested inner loop for the seconds

```
For intHours = 0 To 23
    lblHours.Text = intHours.ToString()
    For intMinutes = 0 To 59
        lblMinutes.Text = intMinutes.ToString()
        For intSeconds = 0 To 59
            lblSeconds.Text = intSeconds.ToString()
        Next
    Next
Next
```

# Nested Loop Example Analysis

- The innermost (seconds) loop will iterate 60 times for each iteration of the middle (minutes) loop
- The middle (minutes) loop will iterate 60 times for each iteration of the outermost (hours) loop
- 24 iterations of the outermost (hours) loop require:
  - 1,440 iterations of the middle (minutes) loop
  - 86,400 iterations of the innermost (seconds) loop
- An inner loop goes through all its iterations for each iteration of the outer loop
- Multiply iterations of all loops to get the total iterations of the innermost loop



## Section 5.6

# MULTICOLUMN LIST BOXES, CHECKED LIST BOXES, AND COMBO BOXES

A multicolumn list box displays items in columns with a horizontal scroll bar, if necessary. A checked list box displays a check box next to each item in the list. A combo box performs many of the same functions as a list box, and it can also let the user enter text.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.



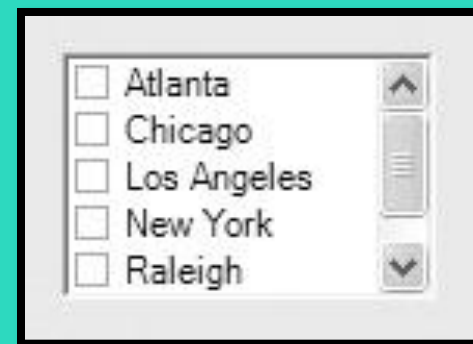
# Multicolumn List Boxes

- ListBox control has a **Multicolumn** property
  - Boolean property with default value of **False**
  - If set to **True**, entries can appear side by side
- Below, **ColumnWidth** is set to **30**
- Note the appearance of a horizontal scroll bar in this case



# Checked List Boxes

- A form of ListBox with the list box properties and methods already discussed
- One item at a time may be selected but many items in a **Checked List Box** can be checked
- The **CheckOnClick** property determines how items may be checked
  - **False** - user clicks item once to select it, again to check it
  - **True** - user clicks item only once to both select it and check it



# Finding the Status of Checked Items

- The **GetItemChecked** method determines if an item is checked by returning a Boolean value
- General Format:

*CheckedListBox.GetItemChecked(Index)*

- Returns **True** if the item at *Index* has been checked
- Otherwise, returns **False**

# GetItemsChecked Example

- The following code counts the number of checked items:

```
Dim intIndex As Integer           ' List box index
Dim intCheckedCities As Integer = 0 ' To count the checked cities

' Step through the items in the list box, counting
' the number of checked items.
For intIndex = 0 To clbCities.Items.Count - 1
    If clbCities.GetItemChecked(intIndex) = True Then
        intCheckedCities += 1
    End If
Next

' Display the number of checked cities.
MessageBox.Show("You checked " & intCheckedCities.ToString() & " cities.")
```

# Combo Boxes Similar to List Boxes

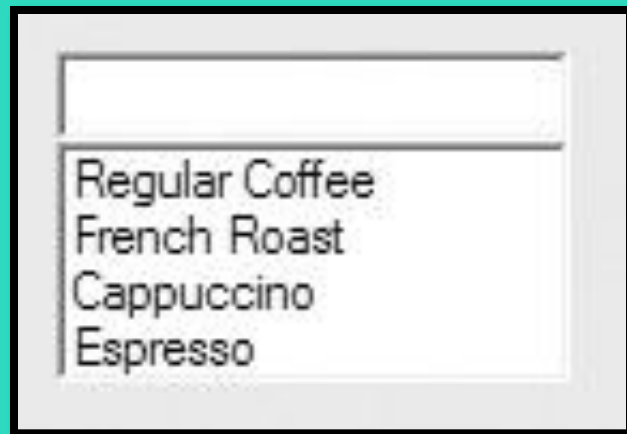
- Both display a list of items to the user
- Both have **Items**, **Items.Count**, **SelectedIndex**, **SelectedItem**, and **Sorted** properties
- Both have **Items.Add**, **Items.Clear**, **Items.Remove**, and **Items.RemoveAt** methods
- These properties and methods work the same with combo boxes and list boxes

# Additional Combo Box Features

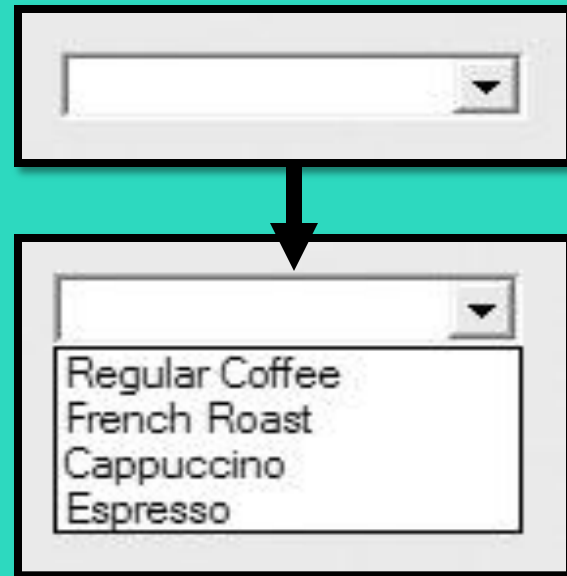
- A combo box also functions like a text box
- The combo box has a **Text** property
- The user may enter text into a combo box
- Or the user may select the text from a series of list box type choices
- In code, we use the **cbo** prefix when naming combo boxes

# Combo Box Styles

- Simple Combo Box
  - List is always shown

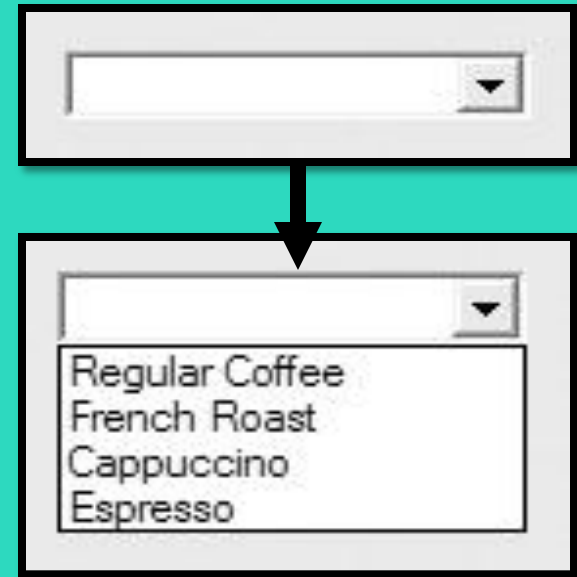


- Drop-down Combo Box
  - List appears when user clicks down arrow
  - User can type text or select



# Combo Box Styles

- Drop-down List Combo Box
  - Behaves like a Drop-Down Combo Box, but the user may not enter text directly

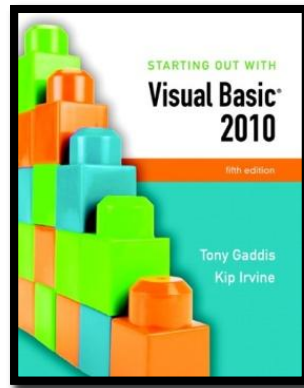


- Tutorial 5-9 demonstrates the combo box



# List Boxes versus Combo Boxes

- If restricting the user to select items listed
  - If empty space
    - Use list box
  - If limited space
    - Use drop-down list combo box
- If allowing user to select an item listed or enter an entirely new item
  - If empty space
    - Use simple combo box
  - If limited space
    - Use drop-down combo box



## Section 5.7

# RANDOM NUMBERS

Visual Basic provides tools to generate random numbers and initialize the sequence of random numbers with a random seed value.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# The Random Object

- Random numbers are used in games and simulations to create random events
- Computers create **pseudo-random** numbers, which are not truly random
- To generate random numbers in Visual Basic, create a **Random** object reference variable
- For example:

## **Dim rand As New Random**

- Creates a new **Random** object in memory called **rand**
- The **rand** variable can be used to call the object's methods for generating random numbers

# The Next Method

- Once you have created a **Random** object, call its **Next** method to get a random integer number

```
intNum = rand.Next()
```

- Calling **Next** with no arguments
  - Generates an integer between **0** and **2,147,483,647**
- Alternatively, you can specify an integer argument for the upper limit
  - The following **Next** method generates a number between **0** and **99**

```
intNum = rand.Next(100)
```

- Numeric range does not have to begin at zero
  - Add or subtract to shift the numeric range upward or downward

```
intNum = rand.Next(10) + 1
```

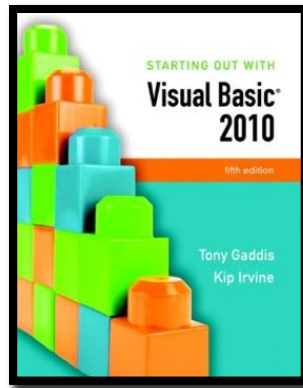
```
intNum = rand.Next(100) - 50
```

# The NextDouble Method

- Call a **Random** object's **NextDouble** method to get a random floating-point number in the range of **0.0** up to (but not including) **1.0**  
**dblNum = rand.NextDouble()**
- If you want the random number to fall within a larger range, multiply it by a scaling factor
  - The following statement generates a random number between **0.0** and **500.0**  
**dblNum = rand.NextDouble() \* 500.0**
  - The following statement generates a random number between **100.0** and **600.0**  
**dblNum = (rand.NextDouble() \* 500.0) + 100.0**
- Tutorial 5-10 uses random numbers to simulate a coin toss

# Random Number Seeds

- The **seed value** is used in the calculation that returns the next random number in the series
- Using the same seed value results in the same series of random numbers
- The system time, which changes every hundredth of a second, is the preferred seed value used by a **Random** object in most cases
- You can specify the seed value if you desire, when you create a **Random** object
- For example:
  - **Dim rand As New Random(1000)**
    - **1000** as the seed value generates the same series of random numbers
    - Useful for specific tests and validations
    - Boring and repetitive for computer games or simulations



## Section 5.8

# SIMPLIFYING CODE WITH THE WITH...END WITH STATEMENT

The **With...End With** statement allows you to simplify a series of consecutive statements that perform operations using the same object.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of

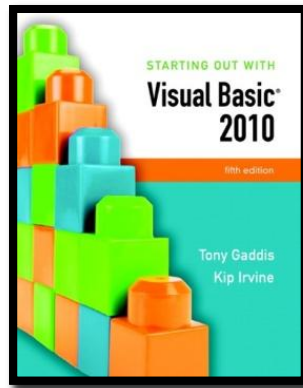


© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# The With...End With Statement

- Multiple statements that use the same control or other object  
`txtName.Clear()`  
`txtName.ForeColor = Color.Blue`  
`txtName.BackColor = Color.Yellow`  
`txtName.BorderStyle = BorderStyle.Fixed3D`
- Can be simplified using the **With...End With** statement  
`With txtName`  
`.Clear()`  
`.ForeColor = Color.Blue`  
`.BackColor = Color.Yellow`  
`.BorderStyle = BorderStyle.Fixed3D`  
`End With`
- Eliminates the need to repeatedly type the control name





## Section 5.9

# TOOLTIPS

ToolTips are a standard and convenient way of providing help to the users of an application. The ToolTip control allows you to assign pop-up hints to the other controls on a form.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# What is a Tool Tip?

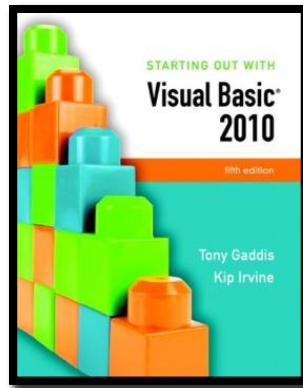
- A **Tool Tip** is the short text message you see when holding the mouse over a control
- These are easy to set up and use in Visual Basic forms
- The **ToolTip control** allows you to create tool tips for other controls on a form

# Adding a ToolTip Control

- Display the form in *Design* view
- Double-click the **ToolTip** tool in the *Toolbox*
- The **ToolTip** control is invisible at runtime
  - It appears in the **component tray**, not the form
  - Component tray is a resizable region at the bottom of the *Design* window that hold invisible controls
- Form controls now have a **ToolTip property**
- This new property holds the text string that will be displayed for that control

# ToolTip Properties

- Select the **ToolTip** control from the tray
- View **Properties** window to see the following
  - An **InitialDelay** property that regulates the delay before a tip appears
  - An **AutoPopDelay** property that determines how long a tip is displayed
  - The **ReshowDelay** property determines the time between the display of different tips as the user moves the mouse from control to control
- Tutorial 5-11 demonstrates adding tool tips to a form



## Section 5.10

# FOCUS ON PROGRAM DESIGN AND PROBLEM SOLVING: BUILDING THE *VEHICLE LOAN CALCULATOR APPLICATION*

In this section, you build the *Vehicle Loan Calculator* application. The application uses a loop, input validation, and ToolTips. This section also covers some of the Visual Basic intrinsic financial functions.

**Addison Wesley**  
is an imprint of



© 2011 Pearson Addison-Wesley. All rights reserved.

# Introduction

- Visual Basic has several built-in functions for performing financial calculations
- You will build a program named *Vehicle Loan Calculator*
- It uses the following functions:
  - **Pmt**
  - **Ipmt**
  - **PPmt**

# The Pmt Function

- The **Pmt function** returns the periodic payment amount for a loan with a fixed interest rate

***Pmt(PeriodicInterestRate, NumberOfPeriods, -LoanAmount)***

- ***PeriodicInterestRate*** is the rate of interest per period
  - ***NumberOfPeriods*** is the total number of months
  - ***LoanAmount*** is the amount being borrowed, must be negative
- For example:  
**dblPayment = Pmt(dblAnnInt / 12, 24, -5000)**
    - **dblAnnInt** holds the annual interest rate
    - **24** is the number of months of the loan
    - The amount of the loan is **\$5000**
    - **dblPayment** holds the fixed monthly payment amount

# The IPmt Function

- The **IPmt function** returns the interest payment for a specific period of a loan with a fixed interest rate and fixed monthly payments

**IPmt(*PeriodicInterestRate*, *Period*, *NumberOfPeriods*, *-LoanAmount*)**

- ***PeriodicInterestRate*** is the rate of interest per period
  - ***Period*** is the period for which you would like the payment
  - ***NumberOfPeriods*** is the total number of months
  - ***LoanAmount*** is the amount being borrowed, must be negative
- For example:  
**dblInterest = IPmt(dblAnnInt / 12, 6, 24, -5000)**
    - **dblAnnInt** holds the annual interest rate
    - **6** is the number of the month for which to calculate the payment
    - **24** is the number of months of the loan
    - The amount of the loan is **\$5000**
    - **dblInterest** holds the amount of interest paid in month **6** of the loan



# The PPmt Function

- The **PPmt function** returns the principal payment for a specific period on a loan with a fixed interest rate and fixed monthly payments

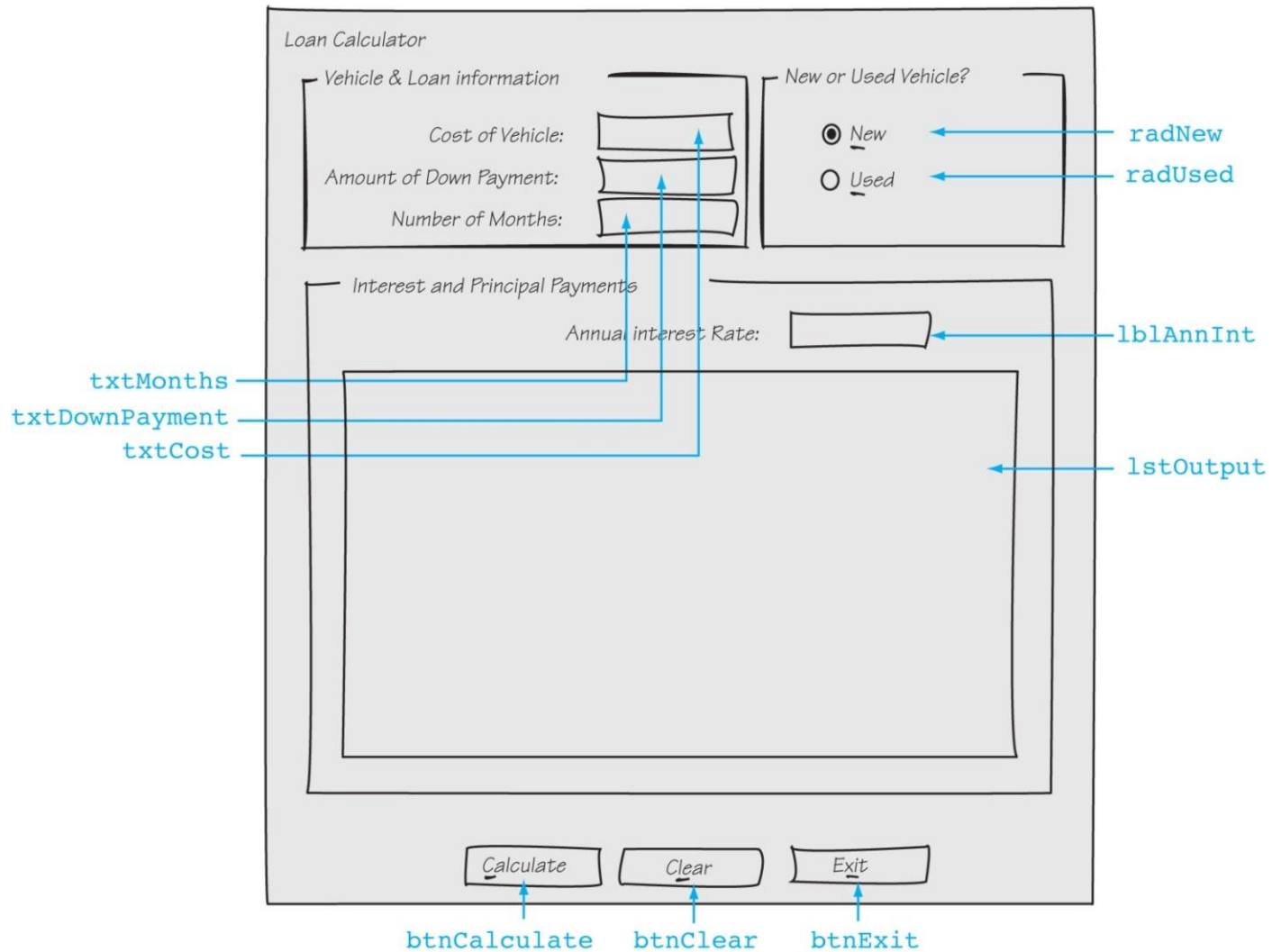
**PPmt(*PeriodicInterestRate*, *Period*, *NumberOfPeriods*, *-LoanAmount*)**

- ***PeriodicInterestRate*** is the rate of interest per period
  - ***Period*** is the period for which you would like the payment
  - ***NumberOfPeriods*** is the total number of months
  - ***LoanAmount*** is the amount being borrowed, must be negative
- For example:  
**dblPrincipal = PPmt(dblAnnInt / 12, 6, 24, -5000)**
    - **dblAnnInt** holds the annual interest rate
    - **6** is the number of the month for which to calculate the payment
    - **24** is the number of months of the loan
    - The amount of the loan is **\$5000**
    - **dblPrincipal** holds the amount of principal paid in month **6** of the loan

# The Case Study

- A credit union branch manager asks you to write an application named *Vehicle Loan Calculator* that displays the following information for a loan:
  - The monthly payment amount
  - The amount of the monthly payment applied toward interest
  - The amount of the monthly payment applied toward principal
- The credit union currently charges
  - **8.9%** annual interest for new vehicle loans
  - **9.5%** annual interest on used vehicle loans

# Sketch of the Vehicle Loan Calculator Form



# Event Handlers

Method	Description
<b>btnCalculate_Click</b>	Calculates and displays a table in the list box showing interest and principal payments for the loan
<b>btnClear_Click</b>	Resets the interest rate, clears the text boxes, and clears the list box
<b>btnExit_Click</b>	Ends the application
<b>radNew_CheckedChanged</b>	Updates the annual interest rate if the user selects a new vehicle loan
<b>radUsed_CheckedChanged</b>	Updates the annual interest rate if the user selects a used vehicle loan

# btnCalculate\_Click Event Handler Pseudocode

*The pseudocode does not indicate input validation, and the actual arguments that need to be passed to the Pmt, IPmt, and PPmt functions are not shown*

***Get VehicleCost from the form***

***Get DownPayment from the form***

***Get Months from the form***

***Loan = VehicleCost – DownPayment***

***MonthlyPayment = Pmt()***

***For Count = 0 To Months***

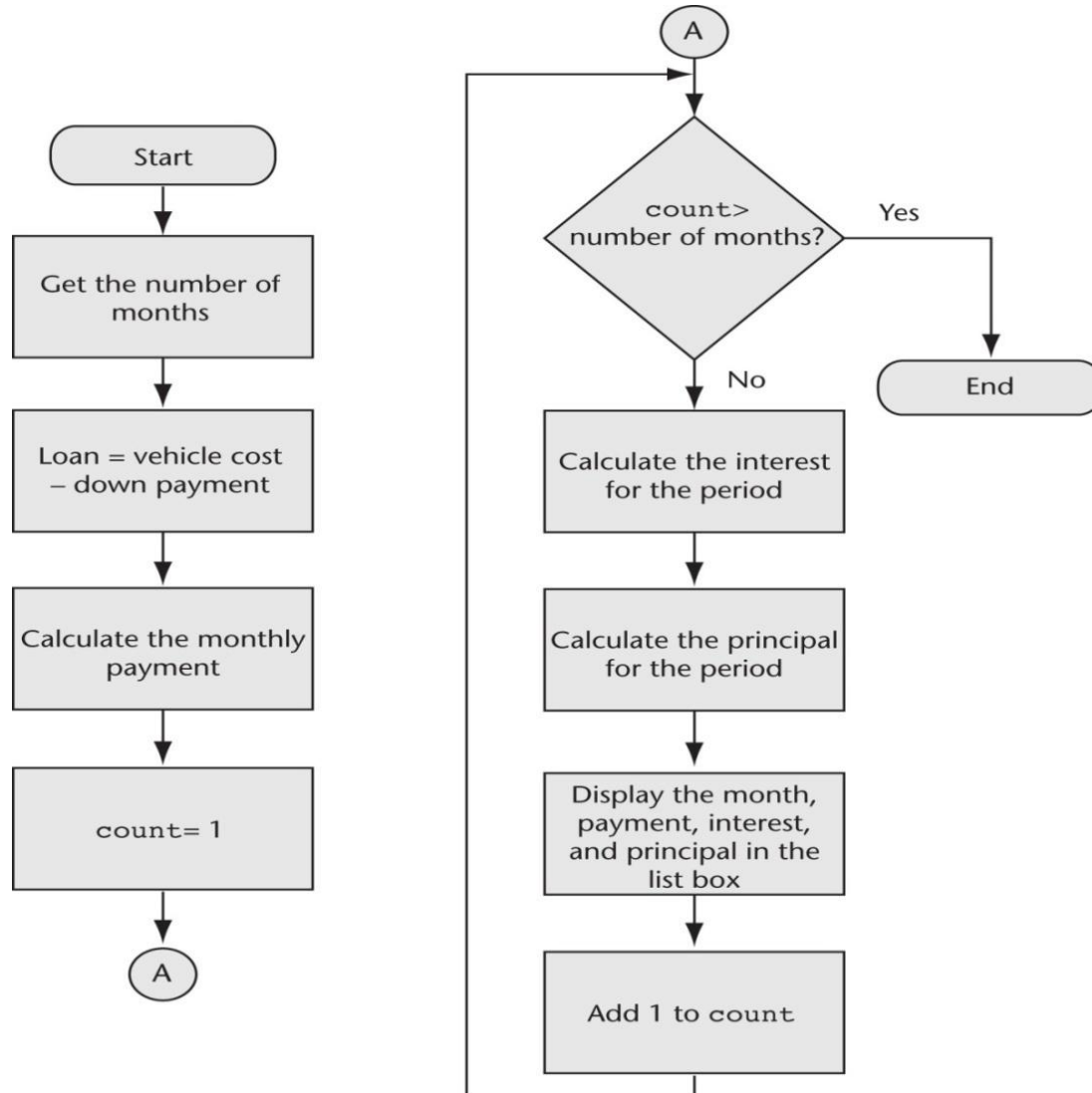
***Interest = IPmt()***

***Principal = PPmt()***

***Display Month, Payment, Interest, and Principal in list box***

***Next***

# btnCalculate\_Click Event Handler Flowchart



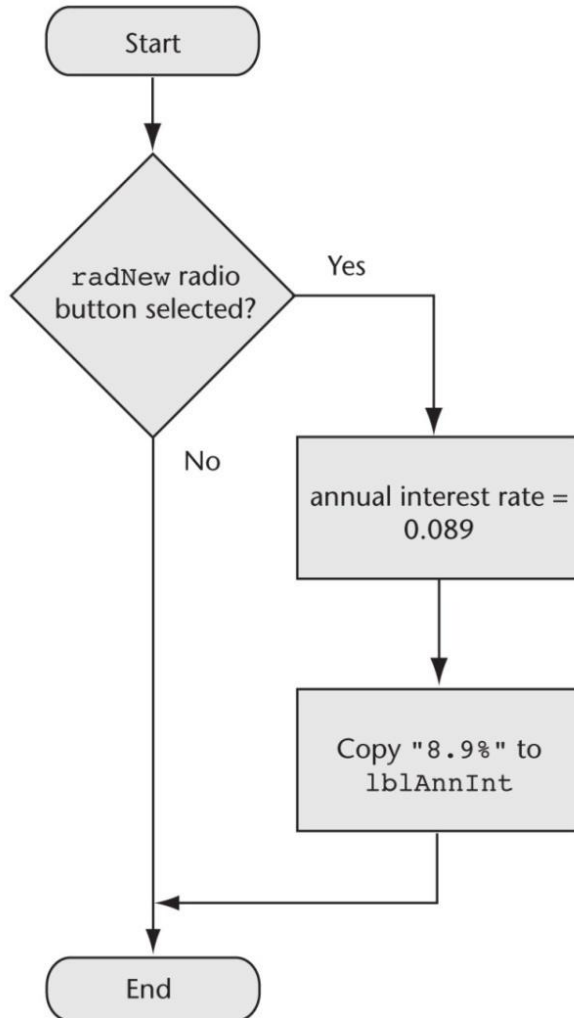
# radNew\_CheckedChanged & radUsed\_CheckedChanged Event Handler Pseudocode

***If radNew is selected Then***  
***Annual Interest Rate = 0.089***  
***Display Annual Interest Rate in lblAnnInt***  
***End If***

***If radUsed is selected Then***  
***Annual Interest Rate = 0.095***  
***Display Annual Interest Rate in lblAnnInt***  
***End If***

# radNew\_CheckedChanged & radUsed\_CheckedChanged Event Handler Pseudocode

radNew\_CheckChanged



radUsed\_CheckChanged

