

CST8110: Introduction to Computing: Using Special Keys (Such as the Arrow Keys)

Overview

If you want to use the arrow keypad for movement, you can use code similar to the code shown below.

Details: The C++ Code

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

#include <conio.h>

void main()
{
    unsigned char uch;

    do {
        cout << "Type a character (q to move to next phase of program): ";
        uch = _getch();
        cout << uch << ':' << unsigned int(uch) << endl;
    } while (uch != 'q');

    system("cls");
    const unsigned char uncSpecialKeyCode = 224;
    const unsigned char ucUP = 72;
    const unsigned char ucRIGHT = 77;
    const unsigned char ucDOWN = 80;
    const unsigned char ucLEFT = 75;
    do {
        cout << "Type an arrow key (q to quit): ";
        uch = _getch();
        if (uch == uncSpecialKeyCode) {
            uch = _getch();
            switch (uch) {
                case ucUP:    cout << "UP\n";    break;
                case ucRIGHT: cout << "RIGHT\n"; break;
                case ucDOWN:  cout << "DOWN\n";  break;
                case ucLEFT:  cout << "LEFT\n";   break;
                default:      cout << "You typed another special key with the value: "
                            << unsigned int(uch) << endl;
            }
        }
        else
            cout << uch << ':' << int(uch) << endl;
    } while (uch != 'q');
}
```