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Thread: [Need some help with while rand\(\) function](#)

omy11 - February 16, 2021, 4:07 pm

So i am currently trying to create something where it randomly generates 13 letters depending on how many the user wants to generate.

Ex: User inputs they want to generate 5 codes (13 letters each)

program then generates 5 codes.

I can't seem to figure out how to set a max number of generated codes and with a limit of 13 letters each. Whenever i run the program i just get this:

<https://gyazo.com/055750c49c3d3cff4fb0132a7de139e2>

This is what i have so far for that, any help is appreciated!

```
Code int amount_codes;
```

```
cout << "Enter amount of codes: ";
cin >> amount_codes;
}
```

```
cout << "You have chosen " << amount_codes << " codes to generate! (If it says 0 please input an
integer). " << endl;
```

```
while (true) {
    int letter, count = 0;
```

```
while (count < 100)
{
    letter = rand() % 26; //0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, ....25
```

```
cout << static_cast<char>(letter + 65);
```

```
    }
    cout << letter;
}
```

SIM-4717218 - February 17, 2021, 2:47 am

do you initialize the rand with srand(time(NULL)); ?

HFDone - February 17, 2021, 8:41 am

<https://pastebin.com/WfrAbjKD>

SIM-574702 - February 17, 2021, 8:59 am

You're not using amount_codes to limit loop.

You have outer while loop that never ends.

Also inner loop has "< 100" and you're generating N codes of 13 so where does 100 come from.

I see you're trying to do it yourself so I'm not going to spoon feed you the code but if you're still stuck after these tips I can make you fixed version.

omy11 - February 17, 2021, 12:43 pm

(Feb 17, 2021 09:59 AM)matemistic Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) You're not using amount_codes to limit loop. You have outer while loop that never ends.

Also inner loop has "< 100" and you're generating N codes of 13 so where does 100 come from.

I see you're trying to do it yourself so I'm not going to spoon feed you the code but if you're still stuck after these tips I can make you fixed version.

I'm going to take a look at again and see if i can figure it out now. Super new to c++ so some things i do does not make sense lol.

Thank you!

tux1 - February 17, 2021, 1:17 pm

I had a quick play around with this, if I understand your question correctly. The main issue with your code and why you were getting loads of random letters was because you did while(true) with no end so it just went on forever. Have a look at the below and read the comments, hope this helps

Code /*****

*****/

```
#include <iostream>
```

```
#include <stdlib.h>    /* srand, rand */
```

```
#include <time.h>      /* time */
```

```
using namespace std;
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

```
    int amount_codes;
```

```
    char letters[] = "abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz"; //char array, we will use this to select random letters
```

```
    srand (time(NULL)); //seed the random, otherwise it will be the same each time
```

```
    cout << "Enter amount of codes: ";
```

```
    cin >> amount_codes;
```

```
    cout << "You have chosen " << amount_codes << " codes to generate! (If it says 0 please input an integer). " << endl;
```

```
    int i = 1; //counter for the codes
```

```
    while (i <= amount_codes) { //loop through the amount of codes
```

```
        cout << "Code " << i << ": ";
```

```
        i++; //increase the counter
```

```
        for(int j=0; j<13; j++){ // this generates a random letter, one by one (select from char array)
```

```
            cout << letters[rand() % 26]; //print char one by one
```

```
    }  
    cout << endl; //print new line after you make the random string  
}  
  
return 0;  
}
```