

Example1 : Binary Search

A binary search (or half-interval search) is applicable only to a sorted array. It compares the search key with the middle element. If there is a match, it returns the element's index. If the search key is less than the middle element, repeat searching on the left half; otherwise, search the right half. If the remaining element to be searched is zero, return "no found".

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

int binarySearch(const int a[], int size, int key);
int binarySearch(const int a[], int iLeft, int iRight, int key);
void print(const int a[], int iLeft, int iRight);

int main()
{
    const int SIZE = 10;
    int a1[SIZE] = {1, 4, 5, 8, 12, 19, 24, 31, 43, 55}; // sorted

    cout << binarySearch(a1, SIZE, 8) << endl;
    cout << binarySearch(a1, SIZE, 12) << endl;
    cout << binarySearch(a1, SIZE, 24) << endl;
    cout << binarySearch(a1, SIZE, 21) << endl;
}

// Search the array for the given key
// If found, return array index; otherwise, return -1
int binarySearch(const int a[], int size, int key)
{
    // Call recursive helper function
    return binarySearch(a, 0, size-1, key);
}

// Recursive helper function for binarySearch
int binarySearch(const int a[], int iLeft, int iRight, int key)
{
    // For tracing the algorithm
    print(a, iLeft, iRight);

    // Test for empty list
    if (iLeft > iRight) return -1;

    // Compare with middle element
    int mid = (iRight + iLeft) / 2; // truncate
    if (key == a[mid])
    {
        return mid;
    } else if (key < a[mid])
    {
```

```

    // Recursively search the lower half
    binarySearch(a, iLeft, mid - 1, key);
}
else
{
    // Recursively search the upper half
    binarySearch(a, mid + 1, iRight, key);
}
}

// Print the contents of the given array from iLeft to iRight (inclusive)
void print(const int a[], int iLeft, int iRight)
{
    cout << "{";
    for (int i = iLeft; i <= iRight; ++i)
    {
        cout << a[i];
        if (i < iRight) cout << ",";
    }
    cout << "}" << endl;
}

```

Complexity

The worst-case and average-case time complexity for binary search is $O(\log n)$. The best-case is $O(1)$.