

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [How do you guys keep motivated?](#)

emento - June 15, 2014, 6:44 pm

Just starting to learn C++, spent about 3 weeks learning Java and decided that Java wasn't the language I wanted to learn, as I wasn't creating a Minecraft server anymore.

I have a massive, massive intrest in wanting to learn to code, it's just I lack motivation. This is what I plan to do in college, and I want to have an idea on C++, Java & HTML HOPEFULLY before I head to college in 2 years.

The thing is, I'm just lacking motivation to get learning it. Anyone got tips on how to be more focused etc! Like, I have fucking huge intrest in this, just can't seem to get my head into it!

Thanks !

Skyla Blue - June 15, 2014, 7:04 pm

(Jun 15, 2014 06:44 PM)emento Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I have a massive, massive intrest in wanting to learn to code, it's just I lack motivation.

I'm sorry, but that is a contradictory statement. If you wanted to learn to code, you would have the motivation to keep learning. Don't get me wrong, we all have days where we aren't motivated to code anything, but those days should be few and far between. Anyway, one thing that will keep you motivated is finding a weekly project or two, to work on using what you learnt that week. You have to keep things interesting, otherwise you'll get bored, and lost motivation.

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Yeah, I realised that after I typed it, but didn't change it. What I meant was, I have a massive intrest in it, but can't be bothered with the work involved. Now, I know this is fucking dumb seeing as I have an intrest in it.

EmptyRedData - June 15, 2014, 8:24 pm

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You have what is called a passive interest. You might feel as though you are very interested, but it truly isn't the thing that you are fanatical about. I think this because you say you are interested but you don't want to put in the work. If you don't want to put the work in, then this isn't for you. This feeling will pass and you will move on to something else.

AndreeU17 - June 15, 2014, 8:29 pm

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Thanks !

Not to judge what interest you or not, but when it comes to programming. You have to set a few hours in front of your computer reading and typing code, it literally becomes the same for everything and everyday, but you have to have a huge interest in it. Personally me, I dislike sitting on front of the computer for hours but when I do it's only to code, and I enjoy it! You should start reading a book and taking notes. If you're finding yourself been forced to learn and memorize something, then you'll never really grasp the concept. Be sure that this is what you want before you make the mistake of going to college for the wrong degree!

thegentlad22 - June 15, 2014, 10:28 pm

OP: it doesn't matter what you do.... don't listen to these members.

I understand what you're talking about.

In 6th grade I always wanted to learn how to program games and shit.

The problem is that before 6th grade. I thought all programmers use 1's and 0's and thought it was an alien language that mathematicians only know. So, before 6th grade I wanted to make video games but thought it was beyond hard. So, I didn't attempt learning anything and I even didn't know where to start and the internet wasn't spread to how it is today. Back then they didn't have much videos or tutorials on how to program. It was mainly you needed to go to the local library to learn about topics. The problem my library only had books on how to use computers and use certain software. The only programming books it had was Visual Basic for DOS. However, I never went to the library that often.

So, by the end of 5th grade. During the summer my friend's cousin found out about Geocities a Yahoo webhosting service. It allowed you to host your own subdomain website. There was like a 25mb limit or something. Anyways, my friend showed me it and I looked at the code. I thought it was neat and was simple. So, I raced home and made my own account. I spent that whole summer learning HTML, CSS and Javascript. I then in 6th grade started to learn PHP and C++. I didn't get C++ on the first time around and ended up trying C before going back to C++. I used actual college books that my dad had when he took it in college.

Anyways, I had my moments about what you're talking about. I been disappointed. I was trying to learn how to program to make kick ass looking video games. I had killer ideas for video games and I wanted to do a lot of stuff like make my own OS.

However, over time notice that it takes a lot of work and time. I think what you need to do is take breaks. Go do a project and half-way take a break. When you get time work on it. I don't think you can sti down when your summer vacation starts and start a project and finish it by the end of the summer.

My point is that don't be thinking that there's an end. Go work on a project and take your own pace. You will lost interest in coding often and it's not actually losing interest... it's being bored. Just like playing a game... you can play the game for 1 or 2 years.... it will eventually get boring and not that interesting as it was when you first played it.

Programming isn't something brand new. I think what keeps me motivated is thinking about the end result.

I think if you keep day dreaming about how your code will turn out at the end. It gives me that motivation to keep at it. It keeps me interested as long I keep thinking about the end results. That way I would think that those results won't happen unless I work my butt off now. That keeps me going. Do I take breaks? Yes, there's some days where you're either sick or just not focused... and it's best to take the day off... because if you touch any of your code in that state of mine you will mess up your work for the worse. You can do some pretty stupid things that will mess up your program that you're writing. I normally don't touch my code unless I am alert and awake. If not, I will drink some energy drinks or take some coffee or black tea or green tea.

My advice to you is don't keep changing projects. Figure out what you think would be cool to do. Then focus on that and don't change your projects mid-way. Start the project and if you lose interest then hang back. Keep the files on your computer or thumb drive. Keep it so eventually at some point you might regain that interest and want to continue to work on it. You can then start back from where you left off. Eventually in a couple months or years you will eventually finish the project. Then after that you would normally just keep working on the existing code and you will brush it up and start adding some cool features.

Just saying it takes a lot of time to be able to finish major projects. However, you need to stay focus to complete it and I bet most that are programmers or do program stuff as a hobby they ran into the same problem as you. I just think not just me but most usually think about the end results. This could be making lots of money, or getting fame or satisfying not just your needs as a gamer or end user but the needs of others.

At the end of the day you need to have some interest in wanting to make programs weather it be games, OS's, programs that does something...etc if you don't have any interest in it but know that they make money and the only interest you have is about the money... then forget programming.

No matter what you do you must either have interest in the work you do or at least manipulate your mind to enjoying it to some degree that you can bare with it.

I myself starting my last year of college. I am going for 2 degrees one is Accounting the other is Finance. These are the 2 majors that was least on my list to take. I originally wanted to go with a Computer Science degree or do something in engineering. Accounting and Finance was the last thing on my list because I wanted to do something that society would benefit from my own work. Something like engineering or medical type jobs.

However, when we think about Accountants and Finance professionals. We look at them as being greedy. Since they're charging us money for them to count our money and assets...etc.

So, when going to college I had very little interest. Other then what I see on MSNBC where they talk about business and stocks etc. So, I had to manipulate my brain to make it think that it was interesting and not all about greed.

I paid attension in my classes and did good in them because while learning the material I was trying to find how it's applied in real life. I looked at MSNBC and learned what a 2 for 1 stock split is and what it means for a company and why companies do them. Once I saw how it was applied in real life and I was the only one in my family that could understand it. I grew an interest and found out that the profession isn't all about greed. It's more about making business decisions in a smart efficient way.

My point is that everything is boring. Look at the laws and attorney's. Their job is normally boring until they get a hot top notch case like celebs...or murder cases that turn into movies or is very horrific that it becomes a well known case. That is why the local news and TV shows will start talking about those cases... it becomes interesting and normally cases like those inspire or encourage someone to go into that field. It's because they see that one moment in that profession where it becomes interesting or not boring.

I am saying all professions has their boring moments and have their fun moments and amazing moments. If you fail to see them you will not grow an interest in that field of study.

So, pretty much you have to sit down and figure out what you want to get out of programming? Is it a hobby? do you want to professionally do something like this for a living?

If it's a hobby right now then I suggest you to work on a project that is useful and that others would want or need. Something that isn't already out in the public. Then use that project as a learning experience. You take your baby steps on making the basics of the GUI of the program and then slowly work in the background magic.

For example, a media player that plays all well known video formats and audio. Have it where you can convert formats. Then write a plugin for browsers. This won't take you a month or a weeks work. It's going to maybe take you 1 or 2 years if you pick up on the concepts.

But at the end you will have a product that people would want to use.
I myself don't like to have to download and use many different media players because one or another doesn't have the right codec for a certain video. At the same time I can convert video formats easily.

When you pick a project make sure to think about the end users if they would need this or want this...why should they use your product rather than someone elses that can do the same or similar.

I know you're still learning but just saying time flies by fast. If you take a few hours in a given day eventually in a couple of years you can get to your final result.

hope this helps any.... ?

Free Mason - June 15, 2014, 10:29 pm

I stay motivated by thinking about the future.

Trisomy 21 - June 15, 2014, 11:43 pm

Quote:I have a massive, massive intrest in wanting to learn to code, it's just I lack motivation.

I feel you brother, I have a massive interest in wanting to fuck bitches and get money, but have no motivation to do so, oh well, guess we just wait here til something happens.

Dolan. - June 15, 2014, 11:49 pm

Well, if you're logical and are decent at mathematics coding is pretty easy. For me I've always been good at maths, and I've always tried to see the logic in things, and coding is all about using mathematics to solve problems logically. You just have to find problems that interest you to solve.

Don't say you want to try it, and then say "What do I do?", try to look at it like "How could I do it?" and it becomes a lot easier to get motivated.

There is so much to do in C++, I'm sure you'll find something to get you motivated.

But, if there is no interest in mathematics or logic, all you really do is copy and paste and there is nothing really gained. Not even worth it.

g4143 - June 16, 2014, 12:19 am

If this is an example of your commitment and motivation then quit now because you'll never make through College/University by off-loading motivation and responsibilities onto others.

soueuils - June 16, 2014, 3:12 am

The common mistake I see from people who start to learn to code is that they see "language" as a solution when it's just a tool.

There are 3 big categories in programming, procedural language, object language and functional language (some other exist but well) once you got the programming logic nothing really change except syntax, particular thing to the language and the core functionalities.