

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Having doubts about c++ as first lang](#)

Vualk - May 29, 2015, 6:09 am

I did some research before getting into this as my first language and decided this was the way I wanted to go..

I've made it through much of the basics like functions loops variables and all that good stuff by using three books (jumping Into c++ , c++ primer , and c++ in 21 days)

Where my progress was fast before (several topics in a single day) I'm slowing to a crawl where I have to read subject matter many times and reference it working through problems. Currently I am working on making a 2 player tic tax toe game that I have pretty much figured out how to finish just have to finish up a few functions and conditionals but the amount of work into that simple program has been daunting. So I am having doubts

I have read python is better to learn first and much easier I would love your thoughts on the subject and why.. I plan on learning java and or python next regardless. but would it be more beneficial to learn those first??

g4143 - May 29, 2015, 6:17 am

All languages will have their difficult humps that have to be ascended one step at a time. Might as well get used to it now.

Rafaelinio - May 29, 2015, 6:20 am

i remember learning python and having to write a tic tac toe game and make it impossible to beat the computer. that's exactly what i thought. but as g4145 said, all languages have their difficult humps, so get used to it.

Vualk - May 29, 2015, 6:26 am

I suppose sticking through the tough ones to start out with will make the other ones easier lol. I'll be back with code that works and maybe you guys can tell me where I can make it better and more concise because I'm sure I'm probably taking a completed route figuring out some things..

Thanks for the reassurances I'm going to stick this c++ through because something that's been around this long that is as powerful has to be good for something :)..

Mouse? - May 29, 2015, 6:30 am

I agree with your first sentence. I learned C++ as my first language, and when I became comfortable with it, I picked up Python in 5 days, the .NET languages in 3, Java in a few weeks etc. (Only problem is getting comfortable with C++ took years.)

GEPARD - May 29, 2015, 6:42 am

Unless you have some sort of guidance C++ is by far the toughest first language to learn. If you are having doubts now, better to begin learning something else than to quit 2-5 months into learning C++.

Mouse? - May 29, 2015, 6:43 am

I had no teacher except for the information oracle known only to the commoners as Google. There was a lot of blood, sweat and loss of sleep, but I regret nothing.

g4143 - May 29, 2015, 6:47 am

(May 29, 2015 06:30 AM)-Mouse- Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I agree with your first sentence. I learned C++ as my first language, and when I became comfortable with it, I picked up Python in 5 days, the .NET languages in 3, Java in a few weeks etc. (Only problem is getting comfortable with C++ took years.) I'd like to see someone who has three days to pick up a .NET language and is competent. .NET languages are fairly big and they get very complex in their deep end. Delegates, variance, LinQ, etc.

Mouse? - May 29, 2015, 8:32 am

Competence and ability to write a large scale useful program without the consistent help of Google? No. Ability to write small scale freelance programs and ability to learn to create what you want with ease and quickness? Yes. I'm more or less saying that the concepts behind programming that you learn while beating your brain to a pulp learning something as intricate as the C languages will make everything easier to understand.

6577657534735 - May 29, 2015, 9:31 am

OP once you learn the basics of C++, the basics of any procedural language will be a breeze to learn afterwards. So stick with it

Vualk - May 29, 2015, 10:00 am

Thanks again guys .. I've been coding literally hours everyday and spending 99 percent of my free time studying new information and looking at other points of views and new ways to use the information I already have.

I will master this I have no doubt it just seems daunting at times and then when I figure out what I've been struggling with its like ...

Oh OK that was a lot easier than I was making it out to be why didn't I see that to begin with. I think the main problem is that the textbooks I'm learning from are written by very experienced programmers with other experienced programmers as a target audience. Despite saying they are aimed at The novice.

Mouse? - May 29, 2015, 11:38 am

Still read them, read others and practice, practice, practice.

6577657534735 - May 29, 2015, 1:18 pm

Textbooks are all written horribly - they add in fluff where it isn't needed and become intimidating 500 page monsters, when the basics could have been explained in maybe 100 pages. Then again this is looking back after I already know them

It very well may be better to learn a simpler language at first to learn programming in general (the concepts of conditionals, flow control statements like if/while, for loops, etc). Then move to C++

But just keep at it

Writz - May 29, 2015, 1:34 pm

(May 29, 2015 06:30 AM)-Mouse- Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Only problem is getting comfortable with C++ took years.

I'll drink to that ? This is so true.

once you get C++, all the other languages seem so freaking easy, except the functional

programming languages tho.

GEPARD - May 29, 2015, 8:55 pm

(May 29, 2015 10:00 AM)Vualk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Thanks again guys .. I've been coding literally hours everyday and spending 99 percent of my free time studying new information and looking at other points of views and new ways to use the information I already have.

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What textbook are you using?

Vualk - May 30, 2015, 4:57 am

I'm using three of them

The c++ primer 5th adition

Jumping into c++

C++ in 21 days 5th edition

I find that If I can't understand something in one book reading one or both of the other two helps with clarity

I also read one book and do the exercises from all three and the quiz questions and all That

Mercy - May 30, 2015, 5:59 am

(May 29, 2015 09:31 AM)Abraluna Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) OP once you learn the basics of C++, the basics of any procedural language will be a breeze to learn afterwords. So stick with it

Some with any other procedural language.

If you know Java really well you can transition into writing decent C++ code fairly fast with the help of Google.

Ofc you can't write production code but you will learn it very fast as well.

vo1dptr - May 30, 2015, 7:38 am

(May 30, 2015 04:57 AM)Vualk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I'm using three of them

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STROUSTRUP, Bjarne (2008) Programming: Principles and Practice Using C++ 1st edition, Addison Wesley

Bjarne Stroustrup is the designer and original implementer of C++. This excellent book introduces programming as a means to the solving of problems and offers a clear learning path towards a full comprehension of programming principles, using C++ as a vehicle to present readers with the knowledge needed to understand concepts present in all languages. It is much more than just an introduction: it can teach advanced programmers new tricks and should be an essential reference to all programmers. I recommend you add it to your collection.

GEPARD - May 30, 2015, 7:43 am

(May 30, 2015 07:38 AM)k0ba Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) STROUSTRUP, Bjarne (2008) Programming: Principles and Practice Using C++ 1st edition, Addison Wesley

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I have the second edition which is a bit more up to date but any of these books would help enormously. Especially with a beginner.

6577657534735 - May 30, 2015, 7:48 am

(May 30, 2015 05:59 AM)Merccy Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Some with any other procedural language.

If you know Java really well you can transition into writing decent C++ code fairly fast with the help of Google.

Ofc you can't write production code but you will learn it very fast as well.
Not as easy really

Java completely omits the concept of memory management, and what memory even is.

Vualk - May 30, 2015, 8:16 am

(May 30, 2015 07:38 AM)k0ba Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) STROUSTRUP, Bjarne (2008) Programming: Principles and Practice Using C++ 1st edition, Addison Wesley

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W'll get my copy do today if I can find a pdf or within the week if I have to amazon buy it thanks for the tip

Got a copy already actually found second addition thanks for the tip guys

Chimo - May 30, 2015, 8:48 am

Just shut up and code , sooner or later your will get all of the concepts behind it , like mouse said, once your brain gets attuned to it everything gets easy.

?Syria - May 30, 2015, 4:04 pm

TBH C++ was the easiest for me to learn for some reason

Writz - May 30, 2015, 4:16 pm

(May 30, 2015 04:04 PM)?Syriamanal Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) TBH C++ was the easiest for me to learn for some reason

and the reason is that you haven't got enough of it, yet.

Almost Einstein - May 30, 2015, 4:52 pm

I've myself learnt a lot from Herbert Schild's C++ from the ground up 3rd edition.

If you want to check it out, I got a folder of c++ ebooks:

https://mega.co.nz/#F!LA4CRBjQ!ictdHfl0AdQ42J_ds_xpFQ

Open with sandboxie or scan as I haven't myself done so. I assume these are all clean, as I've downloaded all of them from original sources.

(Right click the folder at left bar if you want to download all of them. it should say "download as zip")

I also recommend to check out a lot of source codes from sourceforge as it helps to create your own version of program and you can improve the program as you learn. If possible, I recommend to store all of your versions of your previous programs so you can see the process by yourself. You shouldn't have any doubts, just go for it. I started learning C++ as my first programming language, as I hated the fact that all alternatives got all kinds of dependencies.

Remember that google always helps or if you have an ebook with bunch of information about these shits you have no worries as you can just ctrl+f and refresh your brains.