

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [\[HFCC\] The Hack Forums Coding Contest - Week 5](#)

Haxalot - March 27, 2017, 8:24 am

[The Hack Forums Coding Contest: Week 5](#)

AboutThe HFCC is a weekly coding contest hosted by myself for the Hack Forums community. You will have 3 days to solve 5 programming challenges I have randomly selected from Hackerrank. The contest will start at 4pm (GMT) every Friday, and end at 4pm (GMT) every Monday.

The next thread detailing the next contest will be created every Monday, after the previous week's contest has finished.

You should not use this thread to post solutions or provide hints until the contest is over. Anyone violating this rule will be barred from the current and all future contests I host.

Previous weeks:[The Hack Forums Coding Contest - Week 1](#)

[The Hack Forums Coding Contest - Week 2](#)

[The Hack Forums Coding Contest - Week 3](#)

[The Hack Forums Coding Contest - Week 4](#)

What's the Point?Coding challenges are a great way to improve upon your programming abilities. They encourage you to:research data structures and algorithms

think critically and analytically about problems by breaking them down into smaller (and therefore simpler) sub problems

Be performance-conscious of the code you write

This will help you to:be able to apply a variety of data structures and algorithms to any problems you encounter when programming

improve your problem solving abilities, enabling you to tackle increasingly complex problems

learn new techniques (such as memoisation) and utilise more performant algorithms

Another great advantage is that companies frequently test their candidates in interviews with similar challenges to what you will be solving in these contests. By practicing these problems, you are effectively preparing yourself for future interviews, giving you the best chance possible to secure a great job at a top company. All of the largest companies in the software industry (Google, Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft, etc) will be looking for candidates who are great problem solvers, and the only way they can see if you're a great problem solver is by giving you programming challenges.

So by entering these contests, you will ultimately become a better programmer and improve your employability prospects, all whilst having fun solving problems with other members here.

Leaderboard
kutabe (85)

Thvnt0s (61)

jozefstodulski (55)

feniks_rebirth (55)

I'm always open to hearing feedback if members here have any thoughts on the difficulty or number of the challenges presented, the length of the contest, or the starting times.

[Sign Up and Get Involved!](#)

Haxalot - March 29, 2017, 2:07 pm

This starts in two days for the interested.

ende124 - March 30, 2017, 2:29 pm

Oh nice, I'll definitely join this challenge, no one else joining?

kutabe - March 30, 2017, 6:03 pm

I will.

This sentence definitely contains at least 25 characters.

[warn]

Haxalot - March 31, 2017, 8:00 am

Week 5 of this contest has now begun!

Th4nat0s - March 31, 2017, 12:37 pm

Nice to see a CP contest for HF, I'm participating as Thvnt0s !

kutabe - April 1, 2017, 1:29 pm

I don't quite get it. This Palindrome problem.

I spent like a half of hour trying to understand what they want from me.

Am I dumb or what?

Oh, got it. Good morning, thread!

FeniksFire - April 2, 2017, 2:24 am

Nice idea for doing programming contest :D! I will try to solve all problems today.

Edit:

Omg, all easy tasks, I stopped doing after three tasks and try focused on the last...

Well I really don't know what I need to do in it :D.

kutabe - April 2, 2017, 12:54 pm

(Apr 2, 2017 02:24 AM)FeniksFire Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Nice idea for doing programming contest :D! I will try to solve all problems today.

Edit:

Omg, all easy tasks, I stopped doing after three tasks and try focused on the last...

Well I really don't know what I need to do in it :D.

You need to find expected value of swaps that you will need to get palindrome. I can solve it but, you know, Rick and Morty is aired.

Sooo, I don't know. Problem seems interesting and I will solve it, maybe after contest.

FeniksFire - April 2, 2017, 10:52 pm

@kutabe

Problem isn't coding it, but to understand it.

Sure that is interesting, but such things are millions. For example in spoj.

And btw, that task coming from spoj...

spoj.com/problems/CODESPTF/ (sry I can't post any links so I need little cheat)

I'm not sure why autor copy it from spoj, but that's no matter for me.

@Haxalot

Why don't give some more fun/practical/non-standard contest, like:

Make a program that divide any sprite(image for example *.png that have many frames) into frames:

like divide this: imgur.com/8ZH5RPZ

into this: imgur.com/aDIgrMV

It's not hard to do, but it's requires some programming skills and library operating ;d.

Not only knowledge about 3 loops and maths.

Maybe my example is too hard for your contest, but it's just an idea :).

Haxalot - April 3, 2017, 8:12 am

This week's contest has now finished. Well done to all participants!

(Apr 2, 2017 10:52 PM)FeniksFire Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) @Haxalot

Why don't give some more fun/practical/non-standard contest, like:

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It's not hard to do, but it's requires some programming skills and library operating ;d.

Not only knowledge about 3 loops and maths.

Maybe my example is too hard for your contest, but it's just an idea :).

For now, I'm just sticking with the basic algorithm-style questions to help members get into the mindset of solving such problems. In the future though, I hope to host some other specific styles of contests, such as functional programming only, dynamic programming only, bit operations only, etc. But that will have to wait until we have a larger number of participants.

FeniksFire - April 3, 2017, 8:32 am

@Haxalot

Ohh, nice to hear that :).

Well then I will help you by participation in this contest, I think I can do some task in my free time.