

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [DONT learn python \(as your first language\)](#)

404found - January 7, 2024, 2:07 pm

I see many people asking for python courses or looking for someone to teach them python

In my opinion you should NOT learn python as your first language, You won't get the full grasp of programming and it will be your "comfort" language

And I do agree that python has many advantages in terms of documentation, simplicity and usability, But trying to branch out to other languages will be VERY hard.

Instead learn a lower lever language like C++ for example.

I don't think I have explained myself well but I hope some of you guys will do a bit more research into other languages before you try and learn python!

Young George - January 7, 2024, 2:38 pm

(Jan 7, 2024 03:07 PM)404found Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I see many people asking for python courses or looking for someone to teach them python

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Everyone's different, but I prefer to learn what an alphabet is and how to format a sentence, before I start writing poetry and music.

Truth - January 7, 2024, 3:12 pm

um Javascript and Python are the 2 most used language today. Can't go wrong with either.

Sure one could learn Assembly and C++ to get a better understanding of code but honestly, with AI, you can just ask it now and it will help you if not do it for you with explanation.

Overall it depends what someone wants to do, have a goal and figure out the best way to get there. Usually they'll find its javascript or python is fastest way to get there tbh lol

Realizm - January 7, 2024, 6:31 pm

A lot of colleges go for object oriented languages like Java. Something that forces structure and breaks coding into defined components. I think this is the best approach and a language like Java can teach some good practices for clean and well documented code.

Something so loose as Python, especially for self taught people, can easily create bad habits and

practices. It's easy and versatile to use, but there is basically no forced structure so people who are self taught will write horribly messy logic.

404found - January 10, 2024, 8:47 am

(Jan 7, 2024 04:12 PM)Truth Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) um Javascript and Python are the 2 most used language today. Can't go wrong with either.

Sure one could learn Assembly and C++ to get a better understanding of code but honestly, with AI, you can just ask it now and it will help you if not do it for you with explanation.

Overall it depends what someone wants to do, have a goal and figure out the best way to get there. Usually they'll find its javascript or python is fastest way to get there tbh lol
I meant more if you want to advance in programming and make your job out of it!

But you are certainly right that for 90% of people python will be enough.

HFDone - January 10, 2024, 9:27 am

to write quick tasks (scripts) python giving you all you need !

404found - January 10, 2024, 11:08 am

(Jan 7, 2024 07:31 PM)Realizm Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) A lot of colleges go for object oriented languages like Java. Something that forces structure and breaks coding into defined components. I think this is the best approach and a language like Java can teach some good practices for clean and well documented code.

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thanks for explaining it better then me!

tcsh - January 11, 2024, 2:40 am

Despite OPs way of delivering this "idea" this has always been the case from the beginning of programming up to today and well into the future. Simply because it addresses how the human mind functions. For best, well-rounded approach, you need to start lower level. You're useless if you start with Javascript for example and just "well Ai will help". You'll only be as good as a trend - and once that's gone or not important or whatever, you'll find yourself empty.

Start low level, yes C is a good start. Object-oriented. Then move up to trends, frameworks, Ai, and other 'bullshit'.

Yodawarrior2 - January 12, 2024, 9:59 am

(Jan 7, 2024 03:07 PM)404found Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) I see many people asking for python courses or looking for someone to teach them python

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into other languages before you try and learn python!

Highly disagree. I learned Python as my first language and had no real issues diving into asm and C (still learning this one tho).

koshka1 - January 13, 2024, 11:35 pm

First language I had interest in was PHP.

At the end of the day it doesn't matter what language you learn so as long as you're interested in programming.

Mushy8718 - January 14, 2024, 11:18 pm

It doesn't matter what language you start learning, the only "learning" you'd do from switching language to language is the syntax and formatting. The main thing newcomers need to learn is a programmers mindset, understanding basic logic and data structures. It doesn't matter what language you start with, just how you learn it.

Sajuuk - January 15, 2024, 9:18 pm

(Jan 10, 2024 10:27 AM)HFDone Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) to write quick tasks (scripts) python giving you all you need !

This is literally the only reason I learned Python in the first place long ago. Python gives most of the power of C without the tedium.

Dirty - January 16, 2024, 2:21 am

(Jan 10, 2024 10:27 AM)HFDone Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) to write quick tasks (scripts) python giving you all you need !

I use go for this and it's vastly superior for this purpose.

Either way I don't agree with the title. I think any programming language can be learnt as a "first"one people love acting as if it's some sort of choice you have to make and lock yourself into. In reality none of it matters and never will matter.

newQuery - January 16, 2024, 3:58 am

It really depends on what you aim to do. If your final intents are to create any web related then python, js, php are not a bad choice at all as a first programming language.

GruntStyl - January 16, 2024, 6:01 am

I would disagree personally, only because python is so WIDELY used and accepted pretty much everywhere. It's cross platform. Continuously being supported with no slow down. I think it was also rated the #1 growing language on LinkedIn for jobs (If that means anything to anyone lol). That aside pretty much any list you look at has Python number 1. You could literally just learn Python and secure a healthy wage job doing so.

Now that is a totally unbiased opinion. I love C# myself. And use that 90% of the time. I've only just started to dabble into Swift for MacOS Dev. My first programming language I ever learned was Visual Basic. Back in the Visual Basic 6 days when the IDE finally came out lol. I will write small things in Python from time to time tho. If you know C# or even VB you can learn Python quick.

t0tx - January 25, 2024, 8:07 am

Depends if you want front end or back end. py is easy to learn

Sajuuk - January 25, 2024, 9:18 pm

(Jan 7, 2024 03:07 PM)404found Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) trying to branch out to other languages will be VERY hard.

Instead learn a lower lever language like C++ for example.

Given all the responses in opposition, I feel the primary reason to not learn Python is somewhat construed in the OP. Yes, Python is syntactically overall simpler than many other lower-level languages like C++.

BUT... Python enables less complex ways of implementing what would normally be quite intricate functions if C/C++ were used. That's the efficiency tradeoff. Folks might not learn the deeper interworkings of more complex operations, but that's at their own discretion. If they wish to pursue programming, going deeper is a necessity since the user (programmer) must have a better understanding of what operations they're instructing the system for perform... which both C and C++ provide, and to some extent require.

I focused on C and C++ for many years now, but not too long ago gave into Python's versatility. Once again, it provides almost all the computing power of C++ without the need for compilation in the end product.

Bare in mind I've been largely out of the programming space for quite a few years now, but even nowadays Python is still in the same position as it's always been in. Sticking with Python isn't succumbing to the inability to use system power more efficiently. It's compromising to get the best of both worlds.

I genuinely have no clue how this is still debated. Almost seems like this is a troll thread tbh.

SIM-1866423 - January 26, 2024, 9:21 am

I dont care about anything speed or low level complex bullshits so .. yea you are wrong.All i am doing bots would you suggest me to do that with assembly or something? haha

Joel_ - January 26, 2024, 11:24 am

I reckonn it doesn't really matter which programming language you start with. Once you nail down one and grasp the concepts, picking up another shouldn't be too tough.

d4rkj4y - January 26, 2024, 11:46 am

That's like telling a carpenter not to learn to use a hammer when he should learn to use a chisel first.

Or telling someone they should not learn to drive in a Mercedes, rather they should use a Toyota to learn to drive.

See how dumb it sounds?

M?tt - January 26, 2024, 11:58 am

Ideally, learning a language that is a part of the career you're trying to get involved with is a great place to start. The starting language is going to be different depending on if you want to do full stack, front end, back end, or whatever else there is. Learning Python may not benefit a developer looking to get a web development position. Ultimately, look at what you want to do with programming first and start from there. Developing concepts about computing in general should probably come before even touching code, but that's just my opinion.

Dirty - January 27, 2024, 2:45 am

(Jan 25, 2024 10:18 PM)Sajuuk Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Given all the responses in opposition, I feel the primary reason to not learn Python is somewhat construed in the OP. Yes, Python is syntactically overall simpler than many other lower-level languages like C++.

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I genuinely have no clue how this is still debated. Almost seems like this is a troll thread tbh. I think in general any conversation about you should learn X before Y , or never learn Z because..... Are extremely redundant and useless. We are engineers we solve problems and Languages and technology is our toolbox. I feel most of the time it's like talking/watching about productivity it just makes you feel good and that you are doing something useful. Meanwhile the guy that said fuck it and just started building shit will always be ahead of you

carl1234 - February 11, 2024, 5:01 am

Python is easy to learn. Perl is not

Sajuuk - February 12, 2024, 7:26 pm

(Jan 27, 2024 03:45 AM)Dirtybox Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Meanwhile the guy that said fuck it and just started building shit will always be ahead of you

I am that guy. [\(Click to View\)](#)[Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-L6ZwWGwgc8>]

Mutatio_Creatoris - February 12, 2024, 9:08 pm

Quote:I see many people asking for python courses or looking for someone to teach them python

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I disagree with the Original Speaker, as I believe that starting with some high level programming languages like python is a great entry point for beginners in numerous fields after having a decent proficiency in Python, I would then recommend someone to learn something like C or C++. As python is much easier to learn as it is based in a human understandable way, while something like C or C++ requires a good grasp on programming as a whole and a basic understanding of virtual environments in order to contain the projects from the main operating system in order to avoid mistakes that one might make while creating something.

If someone is doing a CS course from their college I believe that one can learn the Languages like C and C++ there and gain a decent level of proficiency in those languages at the end of college, and one is able to take their free time and learn other languages like JS or other concepts etc.

But I do believe that most beginners nowadays should start with something like Rust as it is more efficient and has various applications for newer technologies like Blockchain etc. The Community is on a constant rise and also has numerous high quality courses for getting started. It is a overall better language than something like python and is also a developing language with a bright future ahead for those who take the time to learn the language.

Mutatio_Creatoris

siliconvalley - April 3, 2024, 2:25 am

In my opinion you should start with C and learn the structure for coding, pointers, basic DS and what's the logic behind them and then maybe upgrade to C++ and start using libraries for fast coding but should have the basic logic of how the libraries are working and then maybe to other languages of your choice like C# Python JavaScript Java and others.

Kamal1211 - December 9, 2024, 2:33 am

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7 - December 9, 2024, 3:04 am

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ones a scripting language and one is an object-oriented language.

Learn both types then native.

gdsvfy - December 9, 2024, 10:19 am

I'm gonna chime in here and say Python isn't a bad place to start. Yes, it abstracts away much of the lower-level logic that may be beneficial to a beginner. On the other hand, the readability of the syntax may make it easier for newcomers to gain a better understanding of the core concepts that translate across languages, and lead to a smoother entry into the discipline of programming as a result.

I also agree with the notion that there should be an end goal in mind, and the choice in programming language should follow as a natural consequence of that. Perhaps starting with C and coding down to the metal is an effective trial by fire, but it may not be necessary for certain roles and positions. An individual hoping to do AI/ML research, quant finance, data science, etc. would be

well-served by Python, and libraries where performance matters are already implemented in a more performant language. In such cases, Python can be an efficient tool, and is often the widely-used and preferred language.

Of course, different languages have different areas of strength and popularity. C/C++ certainly have their strengths (ubiquity in lower-level applications, ubiquity of the syntax, performance, and so on).

Will starting at a lower level language make for a "better" programmer in the long run? In principle, yes - but it really depends on what that specific individual is programming, and what they want to accomplish with their code.