

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [The Ultimate Hitchhiker's Guide to Learning Coding](#)

Online Sir - April 6, 2024, 1:05 am

? The Ultimate Hitchhiker's Guide to Learning Coding ?

Hey fellow newbies of HackForums - I have seen 2-3 threads about people wanting to learn how to code, so I put this together to try and steer some of you in the right path.

Ever thought about diving into coding but found yourself scared off by the monstrous jargon and cryptic symbols? Fear not! I bring you the "not-so-secret ?" guide to becoming the next best coder?, and guess what? It's gonna be as fun as binge-watching your favorite series or you're literally gonna hate it...

1. Know What You Want To Do

Before you start on this epic/terrible journey, ask yourself, "What am I seeking?/What do I want to code?" Is it the ruby of web development or the emerald of machine learning? Your quest determines the path you take, so choose wisely! If you want to learn how to make your own game from scratch or build the next best thing... remember don't be deterred when you go 50 chapters into a course and you still haven't learnt how to print "Hello World."

2. Pick Your Poison

Just like choosing between a sword and a bow in an RPG, you gotta pick the right programming language. Remember, JavaScript is your Swiss Army knife for web development, while Python is the magic wand for pretty much everything else. Python is a great starting point in my opinion because you learn most fundamentals which can be implemented in other languages ?

3. Find your Team

You don't have to learn by yourself, I didn't! Join online communities (like this one, most HF members will help you, guild you and congratulate you!) or social media groups. There's a whole army of coders ready to back you up!

4. Prepare for Battle!

Theory alone won't slay the dragon; you need practice. Get your hands dirty with code, I use to find some open source code on GitHub and play around with it. Start small, break things, fix them, and then break them again... It's all apart of the learning! Sites like [Codecademy](#), [freeCodeCamp](#), and [HackerRank](#) are great resources to help you learn!!

5. Build Projects

Building projects. Start off with something small, like MMORPG (NOT!). Build a blog, build your own portfolio, build a plugin, build a script, build a small text game. Build something small, then keep increasing the size of your code / project.

6. Never Fear The Bug

Encountered a bug? Congratulations! It's a rite of passage. Debugging is like solving a murder mystery where you're both the detective and the murderer. Embrace it, learn from it, and remember, HF is here to help debug if you're really stuck.

7. Share The Loot

Got something cool working? Don't hoard the treasure! Share your code, contribute to open source, or simply showcase your projects. Get feedback, take the good and the bad, listen to suggestions, allow others to build on your projects, learn where you can improve... Allowing others to see your code, comment on it and improve it, improves you!!

So, there you have it, fellow newbies. The path to becoming a coding wizard is full of challenges, but with the right mindset and a dash of persistence, you'll be coding in no time.

Good luck and let me know if you need any more information or resources.

Combi

skull - April 8, 2024, 2:59 am

This is a guide how to become me ?

PulseLink - April 9, 2024, 12:27 pm

Knowing what YOU want to do and not basing the language you learn off of what people in a hackforums thread recommend is important. You will struggle learning a language you do not enjoy or understand. For example, if you are a c# coder and want to learn c++ just to get more \$ selling your products as native, you will find it very very hard to learn and fully understand. It will also result in you not learning the fundamentals of the language.

End of rant.

happygonutty - April 9, 2024, 5:26 pm

(Apr 9, 2024 12:27 PM)PulseLink Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Knowing what YOU want to do and not basing the language you learn off of what people in a hackforums thread recommend is important. You will struggle learning a language you do not enjoy or understand. For example, if you are a c# coder and want to learn c++ just to get more \$ selling your products as native, you will find it very very hard to learn and fully understand. It will also result in you not learning the fundamentals of the language.

End of rant.

Agree with PulseLink! Some experienced coders I know who are good with one language would try to migrate into another language then skip the basics and fundamentals and just jump directly to the documentation (or get a decent cheatsheet). Afterwards, they would try to re-interpret or re-code some projects with the other one just so they say they have experience.