

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [Whats the Most Underrated Programming Skill You Learned Too Late?](#)

R5N3T - December 11, 2025, 11:13 pm

Hey coders! ?

I was curious about something... In your coding journey, what's the most underrated programming skill that you learned later than you wish you had?

It could be anything—

- writing clean and readable code
- mastering Git properly
- understanding how to debug efficiently
- learning regex
- documenting your work
- or even communicating clearly with teammates

For me, it was understanding how to structure code for scalability, not just making it work. If I had learned that earlier, I would've saved countless hours refactoring old projects. ?

How about you?

Share your experience. Maybe we can help new developers avoid the same mistakes!

Terry A. Davis - December 12, 2025, 12:01 am

The value of rich documentation above stuff like basic markdown.

A good mermaid diagram goes a long way, so does stuff like Kaitai Struct.

I used to cowboy lots, now I need to architect and think about problems before attempting solutions

R5N3T - December 12, 2025, 12:14 am

(Dec 12, 2025 01:01 AM)Terry A. Davis Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) The value of rich documentation above stuff like basic markdown.

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You're absolutely right. Clear and detailed documentation can save a lot of time in the long run, and tools like Mermaid diagrams or Kaitai Struct really help visualize complex ideas. Shifting from a "cowboy" approach to a more structured, architectural mindset is a big step, and it shows real growth. Planning before solving usually leads to cleaner and more reliable results.

SIM-3107656 - December 12, 2025, 3:40 am

MVP + documentation + obviously good comments with arguments explained

FONZIE - December 13, 2025, 1:51 pm

I dived into regular expressions way too late. I have learned a lot since, but I should have known better than to ignore it. You live and learn...

gg360i - December 21, 2025, 11:06 pm

Java i think is