

Web Development

Skill overview

– Web Development

Overview

Objectives: Web Development Overview ✓

What are web applications? ✓

– Web Applications Concepts

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Web application architecture ✓

What are the different types of web applications? ✓

How do I program web applications?

Web applications can respond to user interaction and can have dynamic behavior when you use a programming language aside from HTML. There are two types of programming in web applications: Client-side and server-side programming.

Client-side programming

Client-side programming refers to the use of a programming language that the user's web browser runs. The de facto standard programming language by far for client-side programming is JavaScript. JavaScript can be included in separate text files that are referenced by the HTML files, or you can insert it directly into the

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encounters these script tags, it runs the JavaScript code that is in those tags or files.

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web browser does not have easy, direct access to a database or files. Client-side programming can also have performance limitations, as not all users' computers are equally powerful, and not all web browsers have the same performance.

Other examples of client-side programming include computer languages that are compiled to a file and run by the browser by using a browser plug-in. An example of code that is used in this way is Adobe Flex MXML and ActionScript, which are compiled to an SWF file. The browser downloads the SWF file and runs it (if the browser includes the correct Adobe Flash Player plug-in installed). Other technologies include Microsoft® Silverlight and the JavaFX technology. This type of client side programming is largely abandoned now in favor of JavaScript.

Server-side programming

Server-side programming refers to the use of computer languages to write code and run it on the app server. This process occurs after a user makes a request by using a URL and before the app server software sends the HTML back to the user's web browser. Web applications that include server-side programming often access a database or files that are on the app server.

An example of a server-side web application programming language is PHP. To use PHP in a web application, you insert PHP code in files that are accessible to your

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configured for the app server. If you use a hosting provider, you must ensure that your provider supports PHP.

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software locates the PHP file in the app server's file system. The server runs the PHP and often generates HTML that is sent back to the user's web browser.

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