

Rails Today

Did you know?

- Ruby is an Object-Oriented language developed by Yukihiro Matsumoto in the mid-1990s in Japan.
- The Objective of its development was to make it act as a sensible buffer between human programmers and the underlying computing machinery.
- Ruby is an Object-Oriented, dynamic, interpreted scripting language whereas Ruby on Rails is an open-source Web application framework, which runs on the Ruby programming language. (Anam, 2018)



Learning Ruby in 2021 is worth it because it has plenty of benefits

- Ruby is a dynamic programming language; therefore, it does not have hard rules on how to build features and it is very close to spoken languages.
- It allows simple and fast creation of Web applications. Because of this, there is much less tedious work than many other programming languages.
- Ruby provides small, elegant, and powerful code.
- Ruby is an open-source language. It is free to copy, use, modify and distribute. Since Ruby is available to be used in other projects, programmers can make necessary changes and can code without feeling restricted.
- Programmers are allowed to maintain reference counts in extension libraries with the help of mark-and-sweep garbage collection, which is one of the features of Ruby. It can also dynamically load extension libraries. (Davidson, 2019)

Rails on Rails, which is one of the most popular web frameworks, is written in Ruby. Here are some pros and cons of using Rails.

Advantages for developing Rails:

- A lot less code.
- Fewer configuration data.
- Bringing up basic functionalities quickly.
- Building out new functionalities incrementally.
- Integrated testing.

Disadvantages of Ruby on Rails

Rails also have drawbacks such as:

- **Runtime Speed**

The most cited argument against Ruby on Rails is that it is “slow”. It is certainly true when compared to the runtime speed of NodeJS or GoLang.

- **Boot Speed**

Depending on the number of gem dependencies and files, it can take a significant amount of time to start, which can hinder developer performance.

- **Documentation**

It can be really hard to find good and updated documentation. Particularly for the less popular gems and libraries.

- **Multithreading**

If you're not careful, requests will get queued up behind the active request and can introduce performance issues.

- **Less creativity left for the developers**

There are a lot of default modules that may not leave sufficient room for development by developers. (Davidson, 2019)

Despite its disadvantages, is Ruby on Rails a great option for creating projects?

Ruby on Rails and its fast prototyping allows companies to build in no time a small application or an MVP. Ruby on rails has a tremendous framework for new and advanced start-ups models. The software has an outstanding Object Relational Mapping, called Active Record, allowing developers to navigate databases quickly without using SQL. In addition, Ruby on Rails can easily integrate PostgreSQL with Database Management Systems. For example, one of many famous apps developed using Rails is Shopify, which is an E-commerce platform that gives potential entrepreneurs a platform to start a business. Another remarkable example is Airbnb, which is an online marketplace for arranging or offering lodging, primarily homestays, or tourism experiences. GitHub, which is a popular service that offers features for developers such as bug tracking and task management, was also developed on Rails. In conclusion, Ruby on Rails is a great option because it makes it easier to go with the flow which means that you need not plan everything; you can save time, write less code, have fewer configuration data, and add on things while moving ahead.

Is Ruby the best option to learn to code?

Ruby's features make it a compelling option for those who are learning to code. Is Ruby the right choice? Choosing the best programming language to learn can be easily done if you focus on these parameters:

- **Choose a programming language based on your goals and expectations:**

If you do not have any coding experience or an IT background and you just want to learn the basic markup languages, HTML and CSS are your best options. HTML and CSS also play an important role in Front-end web development and can be used to design attractive web pages.

Once you are familiar with HTML/CSS concepts, you can move on to languages like JavaScript, Node, or React to give your website the functionality it needs.

- **Choose a programming language that is popular in the industry:**

If you want to become a programmer and make a successful career in coding, you must stick to the most popular programming languages when you are getting started. That will allow you to apply for countless job openings as a junior developer.

These are some of the most popular programming languages:

- **JavaScript**

JavaScript, which is a dynamic and versatile programming language, is mostly used in the core component of web browsers. In fact, JavaScript plays an important role in web development to design interactive, user-friendly websites. It allows developers to add functionality by displaying animated elements on their websites and it is great for people who are just starting to code.

- **Ruby**

Ruby is a general-purpose, dynamic programming language, most popularly implemented with the Ruby on Rails server-side framework. Ruby is a backend language, and it is designed to be readable by people instead of just machines. Therefore, this language is considered elegant and flexible, due to its great features as built-in extension libraries with the help of mark-and-sweep garbage collection and, at the same time, it can load extension libraries.

- **Python**

Python has played an important part in data science, machine learning, and web development. Python has a low barrier to entry. It is simple but elegant, with many real-world applications. One notable example of Python's applications is artificial intelligence; for instance, as seen in web scraping, Python has the capability to extract a large amount of data. (Codecademy, 2021)

- **SQL**

SQL (pronounced "sequel") is a data-driven programming language. Its purpose is to store information into separate data sets so you can retrieve them to generate accurate reports based on your search query. SQL is an absolute must for any aspiring data scientist, given that data science uses relational databases. However, it's not the best language for building apps from scratch.

SQL allows marketers to translate and analyze business data to understand how well certain products perform on the market or which sales funnels are converting leads into customers. SQL is inputted into database systems like MySQL, Oracle, and MS Access for manipulating structured data. It identifies connections between multiple variables for creating new tables. (Codecademy, 2021)

Works Cited

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