

Learn Rails they said.
It's easy they said.

“You should use JavaScript for that.”

Some days just looking at Avdi's
Objects on Rails made my
stomach cringe.

I'd like to share what I've learned,
starting learning programming in the
evening hours August last year.

Because it's awesome to help people.

Teaching makes you a better
programmer and it makes your own
learning curve go through the roof.

Hi.

I had worked as a community
manager for agencies and startups
for 5 years...

... I wanted to 'make stuff' again

... I wanted to pick up on
something new.

No real decision process on what
language I'd be learning.

I absolutely loved it, BUT...

Start with the basics

**REALLY learning HTML/CSS helps
to create a proper understanding of
constructing decent syntax.**

JavaScript will continue to suck
(better dig into it fast)

Don't get started with Bootstrap
till you have a decent understanding
of CSS.

Inspect ALL the elements

BDD rocks for beginners

Get to learn the lingo

Don't let them fake it till they make it.

Your student will feel stupid,
and give up.

Your student will Google stuff,
and get his or her ideas from
questionable sites.
(and give up)

Your student will start putting even
more hours in learning to try and get
to your level and will burn out.
(and give up)

Know when to say:
“but you can ignore this for now,
we’ll get back to it later”

Encourage them to learn a different programming language simultaneously
(in the same language)

Just maybe not Java.

Controlling everything from the
Terminal makes you feel like you're
in the fucking matrix.

Find something they can teach you

The downs

Help them ignore the people that
hate on their parade.

Help them get over the
imposter syndrom.

This age-old frontend vs backend
discussion? Quit it.

Don't use the words "it's super easy"
when it's really not.

The ups

People like *you* rock.

Through Ruby, I have developed a more logical and efficient way of problem solving.

It's not all dorm rooms and cold pizza.

So... wrapping up

start with the basics

dig into JavaScript asap

get BDD in there

learn the lingo

don't let them fake it

know when to stop

introduce them to the terminal

find something they can teach you