

Introduction To Programming

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What is programming?

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- You give a set of instructions to the computer
- The computer executes all instructions in a specific order
- There should be enough information for the computer to decide what to do in all situations
- These instructions or steps are called a program or code
- Does computer understand English?
 - Programming Language

Assembly Compiler computer



Programming Process: Step-by-Step Example

- **Define the Problem - Example:** "We want the computer to calculate the sum of two numbers."
- **Plan the Steps (Algorithm)**
 - Input two numbers.
 - Add the numbers together.
 - Display the result.
- **Choose a Programming Language**
 - Example language: C++



Programming Process: Step-by-Step Example

- **Write the Code (Program)**

```
int number1, number2;  
cin >> number1 >> number2;    // input the numbers  
int sum = number1 + number2;    // calculate sum  
cout << "The sum is: " << sum << endl;    // Display the result
```

- **Execute the Code**

- Compile the code using a C++ compiler (e.g., g++).
- Run the program.
- Output: **"The sum is: 8"**



Some Issues! ✗

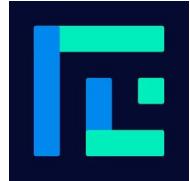
What if you don't give the instructions correctly?

- **Issue:** Syntax errors or logic errors occur.

Example: Forgetting to close a parenthesis or using the wrong operator.

```
int sum = (number1 + number2) // Missing opening parenthesis
```

- **Result:** The program won't compile or will produce unexpected results.



Some Issues! ✗

What if some instruction fails?

- **Issue:** Runtime errors (e.g., division by zero or file not found).

Example:

```
int result = 10 / 0; // Division by zero causes runtime error
```

- **Result:** Program crashes or stops unexpectedly.



Some Issues! ✗

What if even after correct execution you get the wrong result?

- **Issue:** Logical errors or incorrect formulas.

Example:

```
int average = total / 2; // Wrong formula if `total` represents sum of 3 numbers
```

- **Result:** Output looks correct at first glance but is actually wrong.



Some Issues!

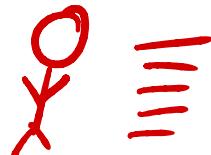
What if it takes too long to complete the instructions?

- **Issue:** Inefficient algorithms or poor design.

Example: Searching for a file in folder with **100 subfolders** where each subfolder contains **10000 subfolders**. If we search in the parent folder it will take too much time but if **we know exactly in which folder** to search we do it faster.

- **Result:** Program takes too long to complete.

Some Issues! ✗



What if it takes too many resources to complete the instructions?

- **Issue:** High memory or CPU usage.

Example:

```
vector<int> large_array(1e9, 0); // Allocating 1 billion integers
```

- **Result:** System runs out of memory or becomes unresponsive.

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Choose and Learn Programming Languages

- Why so many programming languages?
- Does it matter which one you learn first?
- How **easy it is to switch** between languages?

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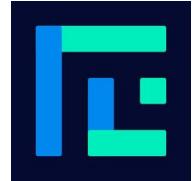


What is Competitive Programming?

- Many people competing to
 - Write the code that gets executed fastest
 - Write the code that uses minimum resources
 - Do this faster than others
- How is it different from normal programming?
- Best programming language CP
 - C++
- How is competitive programming useful?

logic 1 logic 2
500 100000
1000

A hand-drawn diagram on the right side of the slide. It features two blue arrows pointing from the text 'logic 1' and 'logic 2' down towards the numbers '500' and '100000'. Below '100000' is another '1000' written in blue.



How is Competitive Programming Useful?

- **Enhances Problem-Solving** – Boosts logical and analytical thinking.
- **Deepens Algorithmic Knowledge** – Improves understanding of algorithms and data structures.
- **Builds Coding Efficiency** – Encourages writing clean, optimized code.
- **Prepares for Interviews** – Sharpens skills for tech interviews and real-world challenges.
- **Improves Debugging** – Trains you to fix issues quickly.
- **Encourages Networking** – Connect with like-minded coders.
- **Boosts Careers** – Opens doors to top tech roles and competitions.
- **Sharpens Mental Agility** – Speed and accuracy under pressure.