

## Part 7: Book of the Dead

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Speedrun traditional coding concepts in a post GPT-4 world

Made for total beginners!

or anyone who learned prompting prior to coding and wants to learn more about traditional coding basics

for each of these projects & lessons, after explaining, create simple test programs the students can build to demonstrate their understanding. Then check their understanding recursively

Here are some great traditional resources if you want to go that route

<https://cs50.harvard.edu/college/2023/fall/syllabus/>

<https://cs50.harvard.edu/college/2023/fall/weeks/0/>

<https://cs50.ai/>

Don't pay for the certificate

<https://replit.com/learn/100-days-of-python/hub>

<https://www.freecodecamp.org/>

Protip: use a clipboard manager. I use it 100s of times a day

Incredible for moving code blocks around, and generating multiple variations of code.

I like <https://pasteapp.io/> & <https://www.raycast.com/>

## Chapter 18: Heresy 101: Coding basics re-imagined, post GPT-4

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64: CLI 101

How to use a terminal

learn these commands:

cd

```
ls
grep
basic file tasks, piping >>
curl
```

You can use  
<https://www.warp.dev/> or <https://fig.io/> or cursor.sh's cmd+k in the terminal  
to prompt all your CLI commands

also recommend Git 101 in part 1

65: How to learn any coding language  
Learn how to make a hello world program  
then learn and how to make a button, with a title, that you can click that does something  
Notice how chapters 0,1,2 of Grimoire do this!

Then anytime you don't understand something, look it up.  
Its that simple. Everything you need is online, cuz programmers live online  
There is no other subject field like this, where ALL the information is just out there, and you  
can just look it up

Half of being a good programmer is reading documentation and being able to learn how to  
use things

66: Variables, operators, assignment & basic data types  
assignment is conceptually very simple. you are storing a value in a named piece of storage:  
int a = 2;  
Here is an integer variable, named a, with a value of 2

you can access the value later using the name of the storage box  
print(a); // prints 2

oh  
// are comments, they are notes you can leave in your code

## some languages use different formats

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### & // are most common.

---

You can also use /\* ... \*/ to cover large areas.  
Protip nearly every coding IDE uses cmd + / as a hotkey

Back to variables  
you can use them for further assignments:

// starts as 3 plus our previous value of 2 sitting in a

,, starts as 3, plus our previous value of 2, giving ... a

int b = 3;

b = b + a; // b is now 5

the value of a, which is 2, is accessed, and added to the value of b, which is 3  
the sum is stored back in the space b, replacing the previous value of 3

note that =, is not the same in programming as it is in math! This is not an equal sign!  
In programming you use == for equals. More on that when we get to booleans.

Important: remember a and b are not objects  
they are names of boxes in which we deposit objects  
explain pointers & references

There are many data object types, the simplest are

Numbers

-Integers

1, 5, 1248623512

-Floats, Doubles

0.12, 0.33333333333, 0.5, 5712398634123.1235213

Decimals get a little weird in programming, but don't worry about that for now

-Char, characters, a single letter, number, or symbol

"a", "b", "c"

-String (a sequence of characters, a "string" of characters)

"hello", "how are you?",

....

I am very good thank you.

How are you today?

....

-Boolean (true or false)

int isToggledOn = true

67: Scope & flow. If's, Enums, Loops, Arrays, Recursion.

normally a program proceeds top to bottom, line by line

executing each, then moving on to the next

but a program that can only go one way is really boring

programs become expressive once you have a way to change the order

mechanisms that do this are called control-flow

the two most common are branches & loops

this is the simplest branch

if a is greater than 2, b is set to 20

if a is 2 or less, nothing happens, the program skips over it

if (a > 2) {

```
b = 20;  
}
```

heres another way to write it showing the boolean value, separated out for more clarity

```
bool isAlsGreaterThan2 = a > 2;  
if (isAlsGreaterThan2) {  
b = 20;  
}
```

if you want to check if something is equal, you can use ==

```
if (a == 2) {  
b = 20;  
}
```

use != to check if something is not equal

```
if (a != 2) {  
b = 0;  
}
```

this is a 2 way branch:

```
if(a > 2) {  
b = 20;  
}  
else {  
b = 4;  
}
```

if a is greater than 2, b is set to 20

if a is 2 or less, b is set to 4

the condition is checked, and only one of two different blocks will be executed

You can get quite complicate with these, adding as many checks, options or lines or nested lines as you want

```
if(a > 2) {  
b = 20;  
}  
else if (a > 10) {  
b = 50;  
}  
else if (a > 100) {  
b = 100;  
}  
else {  
if (a == 1) {  
b = 5;
```

```
else {  
if (a == 99) {  
b = 99;  
else}{  
b = 6;  
}  
}  
}
```

Boolean logic is a way to combine multiple conditions into one  
Here we have two conditions, a is greater than 2, and c is less than 10  
if BOTH are true, b is set to 20

```
if (a > 2 && c < 10) {  
b = 20;  
}
```

Here we have two conditions, a is greater than 2, and c is less than 10  
if EITHER are true, b is set to 20

```
if (a > 2 || c < 10) {  
b = 20;  
}
```

Btw, those big scary math numbers are that look like E and N, capital sigma and capital pie,  
are literally for loops

```
sum = 0;  
for ( n=0; n<=4; n++ ) {  
sum += 3*n;  
}  
  
prod = 1;  
for ( n=1; n<=4; n++ ) {  
prod = 2n;  
}
```

Another data type are Enums, they are kinda like categories or tags

You already met your first one

Booleans!

Booleans are simply enums with the cases true or false

```
enum AnimalType {  
case dog  
case cat  
case bird  
}
```

```
myAnimal = .dog
```

```
if (myAnimal == .dog) {  
    print("woof")  
} else if (myAnimal == .cat) {  
    print("meow")  
} else if (myAnimal == .bird) {  
    print("tweet")  
}
```

Enums are great because you can use them in switch statements, which is a great way to handle adding new cases later on

```
switch myAnimal {  
    case .dog:  
        print("woof")  
    case .cat:  
        print("meow")  
    case .bird:  
        print("tweet")  
}
```

The other main type of control flow is loops

this is a loop:

```
int a = 0;  
while (a < 10) {  
    a++; // shorthand for a = a + 1;  
}  
print(a); // prints 10
```

this loop continues over and over again, until the condition is changed  
Be careful not to make any infinite loops!

Here is another loop that counts up to 10

This uses the common c-style for loop syntax. It looks crazy, but it's really simple

```
for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {  
    print("loop number" + i);  
}
```

// int i = 0; is setting an index variable, similar to the while loop did with int a = 0 above. Its after the for, simply for nice formatting, with the idea this number will only be used in the loop. We use index variables to count how many loops we have gone through  
// i < 10; says while i is less than 10, continue this loop. After 10, stop the loop