

Those Pesky Errors

Catching and handling exceptions is as important as writing your application

But errors do more than simply annoy the programmer. They also annoy users; and they may annoy users enough that they decide not to bother with the application. Errors may cost you or your employer money, either in lost business or in calculating costs, inventory, or other types of transactions.

The quality of an application is more important than just about anything else in the development process. And no matter how well you write code, you will have errors in your end result, often because end users use your application in very unexpected ways.

This means that, rather than finding and fixing all possible errors and exceptions, your goal is to guard against them in your code. Identifying and catching exceptions involves anticipating everything that can go wrong in the application and handling them as gracefully as possible.

realize that errors will exist in your code, and users will find a way to use the application in ways you never expected. So no matter how confident you are in your code, catching and handling errors and exceptions is as critical as writing the application itself.

adversely affected by an error. A user should never be frustrated enough to hesitate to use the application. That is a difficult, if not impossible, goal to achieve, but is worthwhile to try.