

## 1. What is an Algorithm?

An algorithm is a step-by-step set of instructions or rules designed to solve a specific problem or perform a specific task. It is a fundamental concept in computer science and programming, where algorithms are used to perform computations, data processing, and automated reasoning.

### Characteristics:

**Input:** Accepts data as input.

**Output:** Produces a result as output.

**Definiteness:** Each step is clearly defined.

**Finiteness:** The algorithm must terminate after a finite number of steps.

**Effectiveness:** Each step can be performed in a finite amount of time.

To add two numbers:

1. Start.
  2. Input two numbers, A and B.
  3. Compute the sum,  $C = A + B$ .
  4. Output C.
  5. End.
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## 2. What is a Flowchart?

A flowchart is a graphical representation of a process or algorithm. It uses various symbols to represent different steps and shows the sequence of operations visually. Flowcharts are widely used for problem-solving, process planning, and understanding workflows. Flowcharts are helpful for visualizing complex algorithms or workflows, making them easier to understand and debug.

### Flowchart Symbols:

**Oval (Ellipse):** Represents the start or end of a process.

**Rectangle:** Represents a process or operation.

**Diamond:** Represents a decision point (e.g., Yes/No).

**Arrow:** Shows the flow of the process.

### Example:

A flowchart for adding two numbers might look like this:

1. Start (Oval).
2. Input two numbers (Rectangle).
3. Add the numbers (Rectangle).
4. Display the result (Rectangle).
5. End (Oval).