

## Lectura 2: **Computer Programmer Skills: Definition and Examples**

### Examples of computer programmer skills

As with many other fields, computer programmer skills can be grouped into hard and soft skills. "Hard skills" refer to measurable abilities that are developed over time through practice or study. "Soft skills" on the other hand, are abilities that enable people to fit into a working environment or work effectively with others. Here are some of the most important skills to have as a computer programmer:

**Proficiency with programming languages:** Code is written in programming languages such as SQL, Java, C++, or Python. Programmers aren't expected to know every programming language in existence, but it would be beneficial to be proficient in at least two languages to increase your employment and career opportunities. Most programmers typically decide on an area of specialization and then learn the programming language that is most appropriate for that field.

**Learning concepts and applying them to other problems:** The ability to learn concepts and apply them to other problems is an essential skill for programmers. This is especially useful when writing cascading style sheets (CSS), for which styles are applied to a web page's top-level, and then cascade to the other elements on the page.

**Mathematical skills:** Many aspects of programming require an understanding of math beyond the basic level. To become proficient at programming, you will need to have a thorough understanding of algebra and arithmetic.

**Problem-solving capability:** Code is often written to solve a problem. You will need to have the ability to identify problems and come up with the most efficient ways to solve them via programming.

**Communication skills:** Programmers generally spend most of their time working solo in front of a computer. However, many situations require you to communicate with other programmers and team members, especially when working on large or complex projects. Excellent communication skills will enable you to work effectively with others and to share ideas and solutions.

**Writing skills:** As a programmer, you will also need to communicate your work or processes to other people from time to time. Often, processes and results will have to be communicated to other workers who may not have the level of programming knowledge that you have. Therefore programmers need to have good written skills.

**Inquisitiveness:** The most effective and successful programmers have a talent for figuring out how something is done and finding ways to do it more efficiently. A healthy degree of inquisitiveness will help ensure your consistent growth and development as a programmer.