BENEFITS OF LEARNING CODING

CONTENTS

Learning coding empowers you to do many things you wouldn't otherwise be able to do. These things include hand-crafting your own websites, becoming a career coder or even starting a technology business. Most importantly, you'll be able to understand the technology shaping your world.

> I want to be less confused when I use my computer.

You've undoubtedly heard or read somewhere that everyone needs to learn coding, right? Well, people say that for a reason! Whether you're looking for a career in the industry, starting a new hobby or just wanting to understand technology, you can benefit from learning coding.

Here are some of the things that learning coding can empower you to do.

MAKE YOUR OWN WEBSITE

It's incredible to think how much the world has changed since 1991, when the World Wide Web first started. The web has taken over our lives and it's showing no sign of stopping.

Who knows where the web will take us in the future? Perhaps in another 10 years every person will have their own website. If one thing's certain, it's that a website is a very valuable thing to have these days.

If you own a business, a web presence is a must. If you don't, you still might want a personal blog or portfolio site to sell your skills to prospective employers. Of course, your ability to create and maintain a website is severely limited unless you learn HTML and CSS code, the code that all websites run on.

BECOME A CAREER CODER

Looking for a career change? The humble computer programmer is quite possibly one of the most underrated professions out there. The demand for coders far exceeds the supply, so you'll have no troubles finding a job. In fact, it's projected to grow at a rate of 30% between 2010 and 2020. That's twice as fast as most other jobs.

START A BUSINESS

Let's say you've got an idea for a software product or web business. You want to create the next Facebook. But you're short on cash, and being able to hire a team of coders is a pie in the sky. Why not learn code and build the product yourself?

It's a path that many entrepreneurs are choosing to go down. They've started off with virtually no coding knowledge and have gone on to build their own small software businesses. For example, Nick D'Aloisio famously sold his iPhone app, Summly, to Yahoo! for $30m. [Grab your reader's attention with a great quote from the document or use this space to emphasize a key point. To place this text box anywhere on the page, just drag it.]

Some of the kinds of businesses you can start include...

- ❖ selling software
- ❖ selling mobile apps
- ❖ e-commerce
- ❖ selling your coding time.

UNDERSTAND HOW COMPUTERS WORK

This is probably the biggest benefit of all, and the one that will apply to you no matter who you are or why you're interested in learning code. After all, you use the Internet, mobile phones, computers and software in your daily life. Isn't it a bit strange that you don't fully understand how these technologies work?

With any luck, you'll be able to discover ways in which coding can help you in your everyday life or job. You may decide to write your own scripts, to perform routine tasks like sending emails, handling data, editing text or doing calculations.

Understanding how software and coding works is definitely valuable for anyone, in any walk of life. On the next page, you'll get a glimpse into how coding really works.

SUMMARY

- ❖ Benefits of learning to program
    - o Make your own website
    - o Career prospects
    - o More independence in business
    - o Understanding the technology we use everyday

APPLYING IT TO MY CAREER

Knowing how to program is a beneficial skill that can help you later on in life. As we move into a world that relies more and more on technological advances, having these basic skills can help you understand the world we live in.

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