

Dear Reader,

A bit about me...

I am at heart an artist. To the layperson, a career pivot to coding does not make sense. Some believe coding (programming, web development.. whichever descriptor is winning these days) is a purely left-brain activity. I don't agree. On the surface, coding may not seem creative, because the domain is bound by rules and prescribed frameworks. Within those boundaries, however, there is infinite room for creativity. As in math, there is more than one way to skin a cat. Music is not thought of as a left-brain activity, yet to make (good) music, certain rules and principles must be followed. As a writer and maker of music, I see the parallels and recognize the creativity in coding.

In my now past life, I was a special education teacher, a writer, a video producer and editor, a musician... I'll stop there. In all of those professions, I have not been as challenged as I have while learning to code. It is a truly humbling experience.

Long term, I would like to find myself developing technologies that make life better; technologies that help people regulate their time, money, or habits. Coming out of the education world, I've noted a lack of effective tools for teachers. Although there are MANY, as a teacher, I found few that were "just right". I suspect that those lacking "front line" experience in teaching develop many of these educational applications. Often what looks good on paper may not work so well in the real world. In my spare time, this is where I will be putting my coding education to use. In a best-case scenario, working in a shop that creates these types of technologies is where I may end up one day.

-Imari

