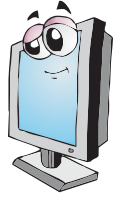


Lesson 12



THOU SHALL NOT Computer Ethics



Computer ethics refers to the good manners and right conduct or behavior that any computer user must observe and follow when using the computer and its related technology.

Get to know and understand the ten commandments of computer ethics as written by Dr. Ramon C. Barquin. These commandments will guide you to the right behavior that must be observed every time you use a computer.

Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics

1. Thou shall not use a computer to harm other people.

If it's not right to hurt other people physically, it is equally bad to harm others by sending false information and character damaging messages about other people, institution, or association.



2. Thou shall not interfere with other people's computer work.

If it's not right to break into someone's home and then mess up the equipments found there, it is equally bad to use someone else's computer to mess up, edit, and make changes in the files without permission.



3. Thou shall not snoop around in other people's files.

If it's not right to go through the personal belongings of other people, it is equally bad to open someone's personal computer files without his/her knowledge.



4. Thou shall not use a computer to steal.

If it's not right to forcibly enter other people's houses and get their belongings and important documents, it is equally bad to get into the computer system of anybody, association, or institution just to acquire any information or financial possession.

Note:

Hacking is unauthorized and illegal breaking into the computer system of other people or institution to get documents, information, or financial possession.

5. Thou shall not use a computer to bear false witness.

If it's not right to spread false rumors about a person, it is equally bad to post false information on the Internet just to gain benefits.



6. Thou shall not copy or use licensed software for which you have not paid.

If it's not right to use someone's property without asking permission, it is equally bad to reproduce copies of licensed software without paying for it.



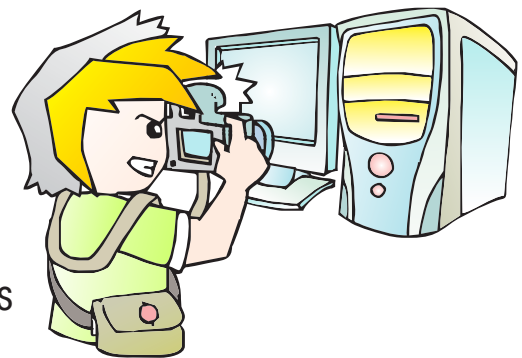
7. Thou shall not use other people's computer resources without authorization or proper compensation.

If it's not right to just photocopy or reproduce a copyrighted book without permission, it is equally bad to copy or use somebody else's computer materials without paying for them or getting their approval.



8. Thou shall not appropriate other people's computer intellectual output.

If it's not right to copy someone else's work then claim it as yours, it is equally bad to appropriate or use one's own writing, materials, and ideas claimed as yours.



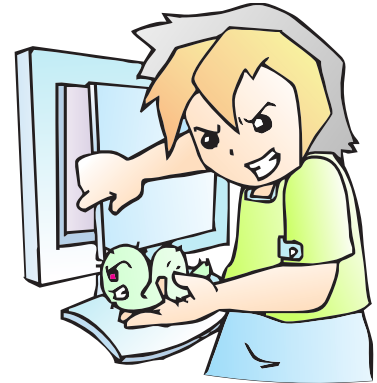
Note: Plagiarism is copying, approaching, and using one's own materials, ideas or passages without asking permission, citing the source, or giving due acknowledgment to the owner.

Note:

Copyright is an exclusive legal right given to the owner or company to publish and dispose materials or products that they have created.

9. Thou shall think about the social consequences of the program you write or the computer system you design.

If it's not right to create materials that would pose harm to individuals, it is equally bad to design and create computer programs that could damage one's computer system or harmfully affect a country's economy.



Note:

Computer virus is a software program that is created to intentionally harm or destroy other software, systems, or even computer hardware.

10. Thou shall use a computer in ways that show consideration and respect for your fellow humans.

If it's not good to bully someone you meet at the playground, it is equally bad to rude to anyone you meet or interact within cyberspace. Remember that behind the computer is a real person with real feelings.

