

Selection Sort

Algorithm:

Steps: (sorting in increasing order)

- First-of-all, we will find the smallest element of the array and swap it with index 0.
- Similarly, we will find the second smallest and swap that with the element at index 1 and so on...
- Ultimately, we will be getting a sorted array in increasing order only.

Let us look at the example for better understanding:

Consider the following depicted array as an example. You want to sort this array in increasing order.



Following is the pictorial diagram for a better explanation of how it works:



This is how we obtain the sorted array at last.

Pseudocode:

```
/*  
    array of size N from 0 to N-1 is considered  
*/  
function selectionSort(arr, N)  
  
    for idx = 0 to N-2  
        // Initialize minimum value to be present at idx  
        minIdx = idx  
        for jdx = idx+1 to N-1  
            // If a new minimum is found, set minIdx to jdx  
            if arr[jdx] < arr[minIdx]  
                minIdx = jdx  
  
        // Finally swap the minimum found from idx to N-1 with idx  
        swap(arr[idx], arr[minIdx])
```

Time complexity: $O(N^2)$, in the worst case.

As to find the minimum element from the array of 'N' elements, we require 'N-1' comparisons, then after putting the minimum element in the correct position, we repeat the same for the unsorted array of the remaining 'N-1' elements, performing 'N-2' comparisons and so on.

So, total number of comparisons : $N-1 + N-2 + N-3 + \dots + 1 = (N*(N-1))/2$ and total number of exchanges(swapping): $N-1$

So, time complexity becomes $O(N^2)$.

Space complexity: $O(1)$, as no extra space is required.