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Ryan Krage

Code readability

What is code readability?

Code readability is how easy it is for someone reading the code to understand what it does.

Code readability is important to ensure that people who didn't write the code can work on it. If the code is not readable, it becomes difficult to maintain and improve, like working on a Rubik's Cube™ that you can't see.

What makes code readable?

The simpler code is, the easier it is too read – simple programs are easy to understand.

However, many programs are very large and unavoidably complex, such as many video games and utility software like Microsoft Word.

In large programs like these, the code can still be simple – if each section of the code is simple, it will be easier to work on those sections.

Comments also make code readable –they explain obscure code and what things are for. This is useful when it is impossible to make code simple, because the code does something complex

It is also important to use meaningful variable names – a meaningful names makes it clear what the variable does, which helps make it clearer what the code does.

Another factor to consider is the layout of the code – it should be indented properly, and unrelated sections of code should be separated.