The ideal program has a crystal-clear structure. The way it works is easy to

explain, and each part plays a well-defined role.

Net A typical real program grows organically. New pieces of functionality are

added as new needs come up. Structuring—and preserving structure—is additional

work. It’s work that will pay off only in the future, the next time

someone works on the program. So it is tempting to neglect it and allow the

parts of the program to become deeply entangled.

This causes two practical issues. First, understanding such a system is hard.

If everything can touch everything else, it is difficult to look at any given piece

in isolation. You are forced to java script build up a holistic understanding of the entire

thing. Second, if you want to use any of the functionality from such a program

in another situation, rewriting it may be easier than trying to disentangle it

from its context.

The phrase “big ball of mud” is often used for such large, structureless programs.

Everything sticks together, and when java script you try to pick out a piece, the

whole thing comes apart, and your hands get dirty.