

Grading Rubric for Programming Problems

Programming assignments will be graded based on a 30-point rubric (see next page). On this page, we give a little more information about the categories in the rubric:

- **Program Specifications:** Your program should work correctly on all inputs. Also, if there are any specifications about how the program should be written, or how the output should appear, those specifications should be followed.
- **Readability:** Variables and functions should have meaningful names. Code should be organized into functions/methods where appropriate. There should be an appropriate amount of white space so that the code is readable, and indentation should be consistent.
- **Documentation** Your code and functions/methods should be appropriately commented. However, not every line should be commented because that makes your code overly busy. Think carefully about where comments are needed.
- **Code Elegance** There are many ways to write the same functionality into your code, and some of them are needlessly slow or complicated. For example, if you are repeating the same code, it should be inside creating a new method/function or for loop.
- **Assignment Specifications** The assignment will likely ask you to include certain information as comments, or save your program with a certain file name, or other such specifications. These tasks fall under “assignment specifications.”

Program Correctness	15 points	10 points	5 points	0 point
	Program always works correctly and meets the specifications	Minor details of the program specification are violated, program functions incorrectly on some inputs.	Significant details of specification are violated, or the program often exhibits incorrect behavior.	Program only functions correctly in limited cases or not at all.
Readability	6 points	4 points	2 points	0 point
	Code is clean, understandable, well-organized	Minor issues such as inconsistent indentation, variable naming, general organization	At least one major issue that makes it difficult to read	Several major issues that make it difficult to read.
Documentation	3 points	2 points	1 points	0 point
	Code is well commented.	One or two places could benefit from comments, or the code is overly commented	Major lack of comments make it difficult to understand code.	No comments.
Code Elegance		4 points	2 points	0 point
		Code appropriately uses for loops and methods for repeated code, and there is minimal hard-coding.	Code uses a poorly chosen approach in at least one place, for example, hard coding something that could be implemented through a <code>for</code> loop	Many instances where code could have used easier/faster/better approach.
Assignment specifications		2 points	1 points	0 point
		Assignment meets specifications	Minor specifications are violated	Significant specifications ignored or violated