

Assignment: Horrible Code Activity

Deliverables: good_code.py, bad_code.py, and this PDF.

Program description

Both versions implement the same simple terminal calculator. Users choose an operator (+, -, *, /) or quit. The program asks for two numbers, performs the operation, and prints the result.

Principles demonstrated

- **KISS** (Keep It Simple, Stupid): simple control flow and small functions.
- **DRY** (Don't Repeat Yourself): shared parsing and a single operator map instead of repeated blocks.
- **Single Responsibility**: each function does one job (parse input vs. compute).
- **Separation of Concerns**: business logic (math) is separated from the CLI loop.
- **Clean Code**: clear names, consistent formatting, and predictable error handling.

Good version (good_code.py): how it follows best practices

- Uses four tiny math functions (add/subtract/multiply/divide).
- Uses one dictionary (OPS) to map an operator to the correct function (DRY).
- Input validation is handled in dedicated functions (get_number, get_operator).
- divide() raises a clear error for division by zero; CLI catches and prints it.
- Main code is protected by if __name__ == "__main__": (safe imports).

Bad version (bad_code.py): how it violates best practices

- Everything is inside one large function (no single responsibility).
- Repeated try/except blocks for every operation (not DRY).
- Poor naming (doStuff, x, a, b, r) and vague messages ("???", "no").
- Silent/incorrect behavior: division by zero prints ans=0 instead of an error.
- Runs immediately on import (no main guard), causing unwanted side effects.

How to run

python good_code.py

python bad_code.py

Note: The two files intentionally produce similar outputs, but the "bad" version is written to be harder to maintain, extend, and debug.