

# 5 tips to be a Better Programmer

Here are five tips to be a better programmer.

1. Coding is a craft; you learn it by doing it. That is why training courses have such a strong practical element. It is also a skill that is easy to forget, so use it or lose it.
2. Even when familiar with the basic constructs, it is still worth fully understanding the detailed syntax of the language you are using. Languages contain many subtleties.
3. Learn some theory and then do some practical. First gain a good understanding of the principles, purpose and limits of a new technology. Next, start to build an application using the technology.
4. Many developers start to build something, and may even get it to work, without really knowing what exactly they are doing, or why. That is why having a good understanding is important. With software development, theory and practice go hand in hand.
5. For the practical bit, it is fine to start by copying code or following step-by-step instructions. But then try, by yourself, building a program from scratch. That is when you really get a sense of achievement.

