

WHICH PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE

SHOULD I LEARN FIRST?

WHAT IS PROGRAMMING?

Writing very specific instructions to a very dumb, yet obedient machine.



LANGUAGES



PYTHON



JAVA



C



PHP



C++



JAVASCRIPT



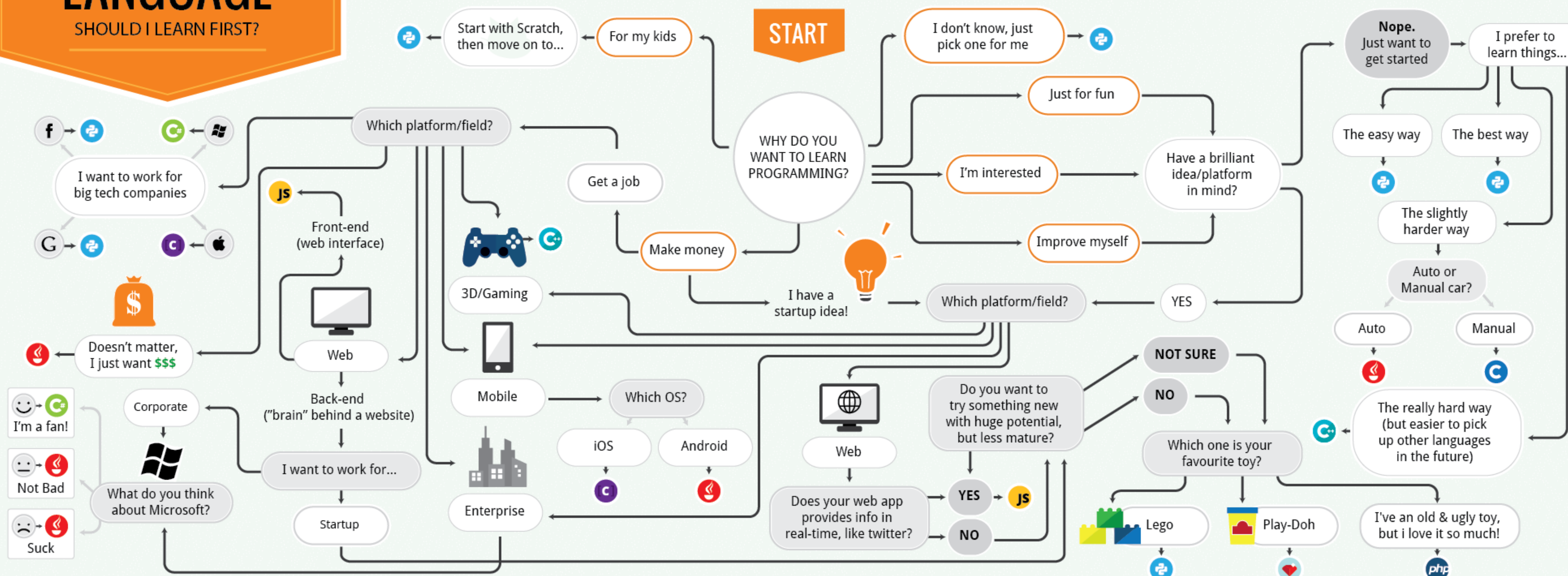
C#



RUBY



OBJECTIVE-C



THE LORD OF THE RINGS ANALOGY TO PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES



Python

The Ent

DIFFICULTY



Help little Hobbits (beginners) to understand programming concepts

Help Wizards (computer scientists) to conduct researches

Widely regarded as the best programming language for beginners

Easiest to learn

Widely used in scientific, technical & academic field, i.e. Artificial Intelligence

You can build website using Django, a popular Python web framework

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

YouTube, Instagram, Spotify

AVG. SALARY

\$107,000



Java

Gandalf

DIFFICULTY



Wants peace & works with everyone (portable)

Very popular on all platforms, OS, and devices due to its portability

One of the most in demand & highest paying programming languages

Slogan: write once, work everywhere

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Gmail, Minecraft, Most Android Apps, Enterprise applications

AVG. SALARY

\$102,000



C

One Ring

DIFFICULTY



The power of C is known to them all

Everyone wants to get its Power

Lingua franca of programming language

One of the oldest and most widely used language in the world

Popular language for system and hardware programming

A subset of C++ except the little details

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Operating systems and hardware

AVG. SALARY

\$102,000



C++

Saruman

DIFFICULTY



Everyone thinks that he is the good guy

But once you get to know him, you will realize he wants the power, not good deeds

Complex version of C with a lot more features

Widely used for developing games, industrial and performance-critical applications

Learning C++ is like learning how to manufacture, assemble, and drive a car

Recommended only if you have a mentor to guide you

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Operating systems, hardware, and browsers

AVG. SALARY

\$104,000



JavaScript

Hobbit

DIFFICULTY



Frequently underestimated (powerful)

Well-known for the slow, gentle life of the Shire (web browsers)

"Java and Javascript are similar like Car and Carpet are similar" - Greg Hewgill

Most popular clients-side web scripting language

A must learn for front-end web developer (HTML and CSS as well)

One of the hottest programming language now, due to its increasing popularity as server-side language (node.js)

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Paypal, front-end of majority websites

AVG. SALARY

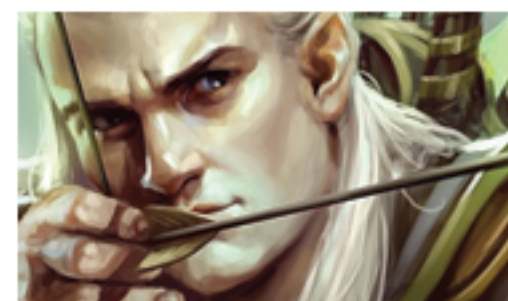
\$99,000



C#

Elf

DIFFICULTY



Beautiful creature (language), but stays in their land, Rivendell (Microsoft Platform)

A popular choice for enterprise to create websites and Windows application using .NET framework

Can be used to build website with ASP.NET, a web framework from Microsoft

Similar to Java in basic syntax and some features

Learn C# instead of Java if you are targeting to work on Windows platform only

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Enterprise and Windows applications

AVG. SALARY

\$94,000



Ruby

Man (Middle Earth)

DIFFICULTY



Very emotional creature

They (some Ruby developers) feel they are superior & need to rule the Middle Earth

Mostly known for its popular web framework, Ruby on Rails

Focuses on getting things done

Designed for fun and productive coding

Best for fun and personal projects, startups, and rapid development

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Hulu, Groupon, Slideshare

AVG. SALARY

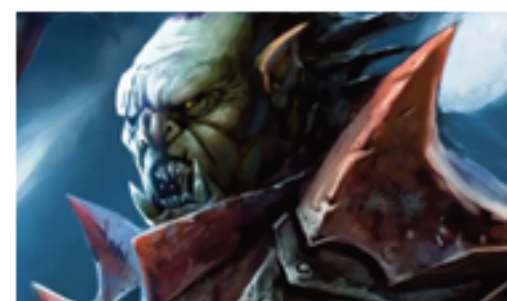
\$107,000



PHP

Orc

DIFFICULTY



Ugly guy (language) and doesn't respect the rules (inconsistent and unpredictable)

Big headache to those (developers) to manage them (codes)

Yet still dominates the Middle-earth (most popular web scripting language)

Suitable for building small and simple sites within a short time frame

Supported by almost every web hosting services with lower price

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Wordpress, Wikipedia, Flickr

AVG. SALARY

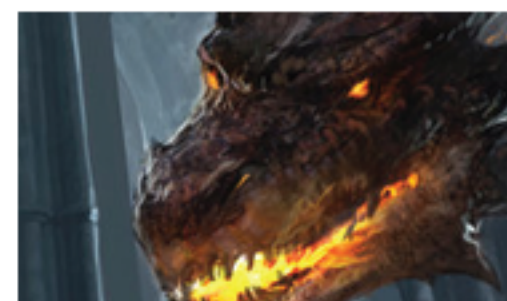
\$89,000



Objective-C

Smaug

DIFFICULTY



Lonely and loves gold

Primary language used by Apple for Mac OS X & iOS

Choose this if you want to focus on developing iOS or OS X apps only

Consider to learn Swift (newly introduced by Apple in 2014) as your next language

POPULARITY

★★★★★

USED TO BUILD

Most iOS Apps and part of Mac OS X

AVG. SALARY

\$107,000

ACTUALLY... IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER HOW YOU START.

You need to know at least few languages to understand the underlying concepts. Just get your feet wet!

TO GET STARTED, CHECK OUT THE FULL LIST OF BEST TUTORIALS AND TOOLS FOR EACH PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE AT:

CARLCHEO.COM/STARTCODING

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Prithviraj Udaya for his awesome The Lord of the Rings analogy on Quora <http://www.quora.com/If-there-was-a-war-of-programming-languages-which-would-you-support-and-why>

SOURCES

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