

Re: Dumbing down?

Re: Dumbing down?

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Lisp/comp.lang.lisp/2007-05/msg01774.html>

- *From:* Barry Margolin <barmar@xxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 24 May 2007 19:46:16 -0400
-

In article <1hymn39.4tfo17apzp9iN%wrf3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, wrf3@xxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Bob Felts) wrote:

Jeff Rollin <jeffrey.rollin@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

A friend (who should know better than I) and myself both agree that an understanding of maths is necessary to be able to program.

So why do so many introductory textbooks insist that it isn't?

Probably because it isn't. The ability to write well is far more important than knowledge of mathematics.

However, the kind of logical and precise thinking that you learn when writing mathematical proofs is very similar, IMHO, to what you do when programming.

So while you don't need to know things like calculus or differential equations (unless the applications you're writing happen to involve them), other areas of mathematics provide a good foundation for the thought processes required.

—
Barry Margolin, barmar@xxxxxxxxxxxxx
Arlington, MA

*** PLEASE post questions in newsgroups, not directly to me ***

*** PLEASE don't copy me on replies, I'll read them in the group ***

.

Re: Dumbing down?