New Software Technologies: COTS and Open Source Software
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How to become a hacker

A howto by Eric Steven Raymond
what is a hacker?

Or, who are the hackers?

• Hackers build things, crackers break them
• Software hackers:
  • Built the Internet
  • Built Unix
  • Made the WWW what it is today
The Hacker Attitude

- The world is full of fascinating problems waiting to be solved
- No problem should have to be solved twice
- Boredom and drudgery are evil
- Freedom is good
- Attitude is no substitute for competence
How can I become a hacker?

First things first:

• Install an open source operating system (Ubuntu)
• Learn to use and run it
How can I become a hacker?

The sequel

- Learn HTML
- Learn functional English
- Python
- C/C++, Lisp, Perl, Java
Then what?
Practice, practice, practice

- Imitate the masters
- Read code
- Write code
- Repeat
Status in the Hacker Culture

What matters in the world of hackers

- Hackerdom runs on reputation
- You are not a hacker before other hackers call you one
- Hackerdom is a gift culture
How to gain status?

What to do...

- Write open source code
- Help test and debug software
- Help write RFCs
- Maintain mailing lists
- Publish useful information
Points for Style

Enter the hacker mindset

- + Read science-fiction
- + Learn to appreciate peculiar kinds of music
- - Don't use a silly screen name
- - Don't call yourself cyberpunk...
The end