

30+ years of programming training: a detailed guide

Many people turn to us with the same question: “Is it not too late for me to become a developer at the age of X?”, The same question is often found on forums, toaster and similar services. Often, for some reason, the “turning point” age is exactly 30. It seems like people think that at 28 everything is still ok, and at 30 already everything, write is gone. I tried to answer as detailed and honest as possible, on my own experience and the experience of the students of Hakeslet.

Spoiler for those who are too lazy to read further.

You can become a programmer at any age. At 30 not too late!

This is a fact confirmed by dozens of stories of real people. In general, let's digress from IT. I am 100% convinced that you can and should change jobs at any age, especially if you are already sick of this job. How it was with me, and how it was with Eugene, the author of the story “From Admin to Programmers at 30”.

I personally physically could no longer force myself to go to work, and what did I need to do, just suffer another 30 years before retiring? Chic perspective. We have one life, what is the point of forcing you to go to a boring job and work with people you dislike? This can be done only if there is no choice, but in fact it is always there, we just don't often realize it.

- [C/C++](#)
- [Python](#)
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30 years is not the age at which it is worth talking about “late.” It may be too late to attend student parties, but it's certainly not too late to learn something new. People begin a completely new life at both 50 and 75 years old. There is such an excellent project “Age of Happiness”, such stories are collected there that I was just in a pleasant shock. People change their lives radically and at 70 years old. Imagine how loud such a person would laugh if they tell him about the doubts of thirty years. Therefore, the question “is it too late?” Is completely meaningless.

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In general, when they ask this question, most often they mean two things.

1) Programming is very difficult. Are my brains too dry, can I figure this out? There is only one way to check - try it yourself. Of course, it is very likely that the brains "dried up" :) And you will feel it very much, when you begin to take Hakeslet courses, you will simply be turned inside out. But at the same time it will be growth and very strong development. In fact, after all, how - the more difficult it is for you to give something, the more effort it takes, the stronger the development. In general, development is, as they say, not rocket science. Super intelligence and photographic memory are not required of you. It takes banal perseverance, a willingness to take time every day and move forward. All. Such a simple test. If you can force yourself to learn daily for 2 hours or more, then most likely you can become a programmer.

2) Will they take me, almost a pensioner, to work? They will take it without question. There are many examples of this. Yes, there are teams from advanced 20-year-olds, where you probably will hardly fit if you are 45. But there are also teams where the average age is 30 years old, so don't worry about your age at all. Moreover, there is remote work (and more and more every year), there is freelance, there is Upwork, where in general everyone does not care who you are, where you are, how you look. Be at least 80 years old, work on health if you have any useful and demanded skills. In addition, you have advantages over twenty. These are the acquired communication skills, a greater responsibility, a broader horizons, the formation of an old school, the willingness to get into a complicated thing and figure out how it works, and not panic if Google did not help.

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On this positive note, I propose moving on to immersion in the real world.