

# Mastering AP Computer Science 2020: Step-by-Step Guide

Are you interested in diving into the exciting world of computer science? If so, taking the Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science exam can be a great way to showcase your skills and enhance your college applications. In this comprehensive guide, we will walk you through the necessary steps to master AP Computer Science in 2020.

## Step 1: Understanding the Exam Format

Before you start your preparation, it is crucial to familiarize yourself with the format of the AP Computer Science exam. The exam consists of two sections: multiple-choice questions and free-response questions. The multiple-choice section focuses on fundamental concepts, while the free-response section tests your problem-solving abilities.

It is important to note that the exam was revamped in 2019 to emphasize more on object-oriented programming using the Java programming language. Therefore, it is essential to brush up on your Java skills before diving into the exam preparation.



## 5 Steps to a 5: AP Computer Science A 2020

by Dean R. Johnson (1st Edition, Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

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Print length : 512 pages

Screen Reader : Supported



## **Step 2: Create a Study Plan**

Creating a study plan is crucial to succeed in any exam, including AP Computer Science. Start by evaluating your current knowledge and identify any areas where you need improvement. Then, allocate specific time each day or week to study and practice those areas.

It is recommended to set aside a minimum of 3-4 hours per week for AP Computer Science preparation. During this time, make sure to practice both multiple-choice and free-response questions to develop a well-rounded understanding of the exam content.

## **Step 3: Utilize Study Resources**

There are several study resources available to help you prepare for the AP Computer Science exam. Some of the recommended resources include:

1. **Textbooks:** Utilize well-known AP Computer Science textbooks to grasp the underlying concepts and gain a deeper understanding of the subject matter.
2. **Online Courses:** Enroll in online courses specifically designed for AP Computer Science. Platforms like Coursera, Udemy, and Khan Academy offer comprehensive courses to help you excel in the exam.
3. **Practice Tests:** Practice tests are invaluable in assessing your progress and identifying areas for improvement. Incorporate realistic practice tests into your study plan and analyze your performance to fine-tune your preparation strategy.

4. **Study Groups:** Join or form study groups with fellow AP Computer Science students. Collaborative learning can provide fresh perspectives and enhance your understanding of complex topics.

## **Step 4: Practice Hands-On Coding**

AP Computer Science is not just about memorizing facts and theories; it requires hands-on coding skills. Familiarize yourself with the Java programming language by practicing coding exercises regularly.

Engaging in practical coding projects and challenges will strengthen your ability to apply theoretical concepts to real-world scenarios. Consider building small programs, participating in coding competitions, or working on open-source projects to enhance your programming prowess.

## **Step 5: Review and Refresh Knowledge**

As the exam date approaches, it is crucial to review and refresh your knowledge on previously covered topics. Revisit your study materials, take advantage of online tutorials and practice questions, and seek clarification on any doubts you may have.

Additionally, make sure to create concise summary notes and flashcards to facilitate quick revision during the final days of preparation.

## **Step 6: Simulate Exam Conditions**

Simulating exam conditions is a crucial step in your preparation process. Allocate a specific block of time and attempt full-length practice exams to mimic the real exam environment. This will not only familiarize you with the time constraints but also help you gauge your readiness for the actual exam.

Make sure to adhere to the exam format, including the timing and sequencing of the multiple-choice and free-response sections. Analyze your performance, identify areas for improvement, and adjust your study plan accordingly.

### **Step 7: Seek Additional Support**

If you encounter difficulties or have specific questions during your preparation, do not hesitate to seek additional support. Reach out to your AP Computer Science teacher or connect with online forums and communities to get expert advice and clarify your doubts.

Furthermore, consider attending AP Computer Science review sessions or workshops, either in person or online, to gain valuable insights from experienced instructors.

### **Step 8: Stay Calm and Confident**

As the exam day approaches, it is natural to feel nervous. However, it is important to stay calm and confident in your abilities. Trust in your preparation, and remember to get a good night's sleep before the exam to ensure maximum alertness and focus.

Utilize relaxation techniques such as deep breathing exercises or mindfulness meditation to manage any test anxiety you may experience. Maintain a positive mindset, and believe in your ability to succeed.

Mastering AP Computer Science 2020 requires a systematic approach and consistent effort. By following these steps, you can effectively prepare for the exam and boost your chances of achieving a high score.

Remember, AP Computer Science not only equips you with essential programming skills but also opens doors to exciting career prospects in the ever-

evolving field of technology. So, embrace the challenge, stay motivated, and embark on this rewarding journey towards mastering AP Computer Science!



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Get ready to ace your AP Computer Science A Exam with this easy-to-follow, multi-platform study guide

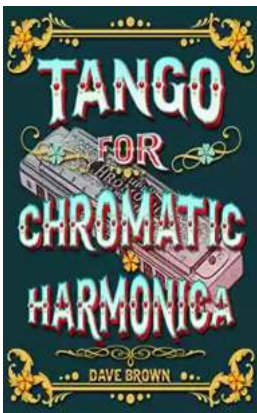
5 Steps to a 5: AP Computer Science A 2020 introduces an easy to follow, effective 5-step study plan to help you build the skills, knowledge, and test-taking confidence you need to reach your full potential. The book includes hundreds of practice exercises with thorough answer explanations and sample responses. You'll learn how to master the multiple-choice questions and achieve a higher score on this demanding exam.

This essential guide reflects the latest course syllabus and includes three full-length practice exams, plus proven strategies specific to each section of the test.

5 Steps to a 5: AP Computer Science A 2020 features:

- 3 Practice Exams

- Comprehensive overview of the AP Computer Science A Exam format
- Hundreds of exercises with thorough explanations
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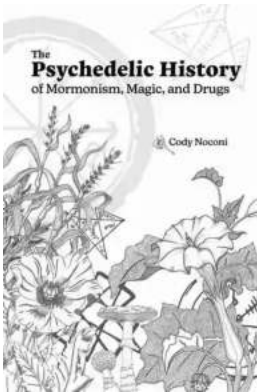
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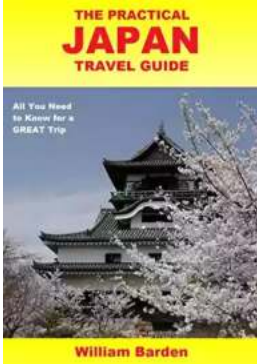
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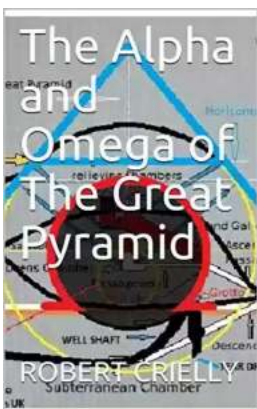
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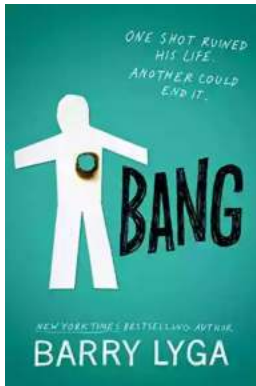
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