Conclusion

Congratulations—you have taken the first steps into the wide world of programming. This book introduced you to the basics of computers, the Internet, web pages, CSS, and JavaScript. However, this book certainly didn't teach you all there is to know about any of these subjects.

Hopefully now you have a basic feel for what it is like to write and run a program and the kind of thought-work required to make a program run successfully. Where you go from here is up to you. If you like websites, then you should dig deeper into the topics covered here—HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. Learning a JavaScript framework like React or JQuery might also be a good idea. Other than that, there are all sorts of specialized tools, languages, and techniques for programming different devices and applications. There are tools and languages for database systems, phone apps, e-commerce apps, games, microcontroller systems (tiny devices with small chips), and desktop applications. Each of these has its own specialized tools and languages.

Your first language, however, is usually the hardest. Once you get used to the idea of statements, loops, variables, and functions, then, even if different languages do things differently, you have already trained your mind to think in these terms. Learning JavaScript may have been challenging, but it should make your next language much easier.

Keep in mind that software development is very dynamic. A programmer spends much of his or her life staying on top of new languages, tools, and techniques that are continually changing.

You've got a good start. Now build on it.