

## Art by Numbers

Creative Coding & Generative Art in Processing 2  
Ira Greenberg, Dianna Xu, Deepak Kumar

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## Our Goal

- Use computing to realize works of art
- Explore new metaphors from computing: images, animation, interactivity, visualizations
- Learn the basics of computing
- Have fun doing all of the above!

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## Let's get started...

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### Administrivia

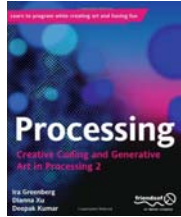
### Software

- Processing 2.X
- Already installed in the CS Lab
- Also available for your own computer @ [www.processing.org](http://www.processing.org)
- Processing == Java



### Book

**Creative Coding & Generative Art in Processing 2** by Ira Greenberg, Dianna Xu, Deepak Kumar, friendsofEd/APress, 2013. Available at the Campus Bookstore or amazon.com or other vendors.



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## Did you do this?

- Go the CS Computer Lab (Room 231 PSB)
- Log in
- Start the Processing application (Make sure it is Version 2.x)
- In a web browser, go to the Tutorials section of [processing.org](http://www.processing.org)  
<http://www.processing.org/tutorials/gettingstarted/>
- Read the Getting Started tutorial (by Casey Reas & Ben Fry) and try out the two examples of simple Processing programs presented there
- If you'd like, install Processing 2.x on your own computer
- Read Chapter 1 (Read pages 1-12, skim 12-32)

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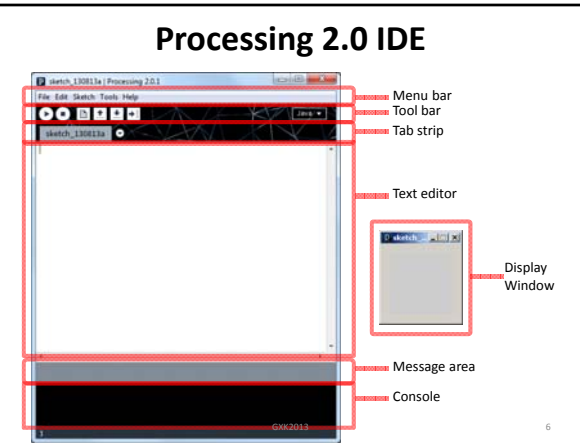
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## Processing 2.0 IDE



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### First Processing Program



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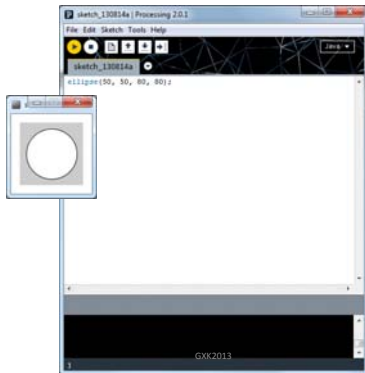
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### First Processing Program



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### Drawing Basics

- Canvas
- Drawing Tools
- Colors



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## Drawing Basics

- Canvas – computer screen
- Drawing Tools – shape commands
- Colors – grayscale or RGB



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## Canvas – Computer Screen

- Pixels



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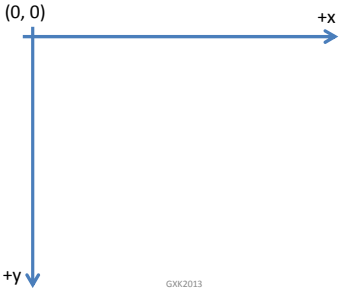
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## Canvas - Computer Screen

- Coordinate System



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### Canvas - Computer Screen

#### Processing Commands

- **Canvas:** Create a 400x400 pixel drawing area

```
size(400, 400);
```

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### Canvas - Computer Screen

#### Processing Commands

- **Canvas:** Create a 400x400 pixel drawing area

```
size(400, 400);
```

- **Canvas Color:** Canvas is gray in color

```
background(125);
```

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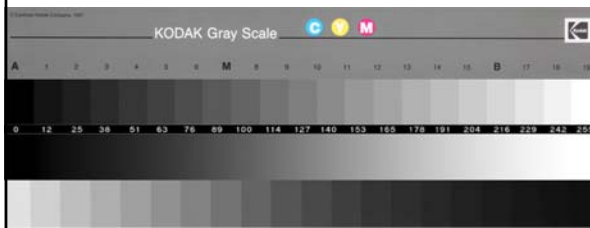
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### 256 Shades of Gray!



- 0 = black
- 255 = white

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## Drawing Basics

- **Canvas – computer screen**  
`size(width, height);`
- **Drawing Tools – shape commands**
- **Colors – grayscale or RGB**  
`background(125);`



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






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## Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

➤ Point	•	➤ Arc	
➤ Line		➤ Quad	
➤ Triangle		➤ Polygon	
➤ Rectangle		➤ Curve	
➤ Ellipse			

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




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## Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

➤ Point		<code>point(x,y);</code>
➤ Line		<code>line(x1, y1, x2, y2);</code>
➤ Triangle		<code>triangle(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3);</code>
➤ Rectangle		<code>rect(x, y, width, height);</code>
➤ Ellipse		<code>ellipse(x, y, width, height);</code>

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## Drawing & Shape Attributes

- **Anti-aliasing**
  - smooth();
  - noSmooth();
- **Stroke**
  - noStroke();
  - strokeWeight(<pixel width>);
  - stroke(<stroke color>);
- **Fill**
  - noFill();
  - fill(<fill color>);

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## Antialiasing

- smooth();  
vs noSmooth();



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## Stroke Attributes

- stroke();  
vs noStroke();



- strokeWeight(1);  
vs strokeWeight(5);



- stroke(125);  
vs stroke(0);



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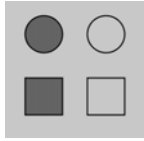
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### Fill Attributes

- `fill(100);`  
vs `noFill();`



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### Drawing & Shape Attributes

- **Anti-aliasing**
  - `smooth();`
  - `noSmooth();`
- **Stroke**
  - `noStroke();`
  - `strokeWeight(<pixel width>);`
  - `stroke(<stroke color>);`
- **Fill**
  - `noFill();`
  - `fill(<fill color>);`

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



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### Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

- Point  `point(x,y);`
- Line  `line(x1, y1, x2, y2);`
- Triangle  `triangle(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3);`
- Rectangle  `rect(x, y, width, height);`
- Ellipse  `ellipse(x, y, width, height);`

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
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
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



## Modes


- `rect(x, y, width, height);`
- `ellipse(x, y, width, height);`
- `rectMode(CENTER);`
- `ellipseMode(CORNER);`
- Also CORNERS (see Reference)
- Also rounded rectangles (see Reference)











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## Structure of a basic program

```

// Sketch: Simple House
// Source: Simple House
// Purpose: Generates Figure 2-5 in text
// Using Processing's 2D primitives.

size(600, 600);
smooth();
// House
rect(20, 200, 900, 900);

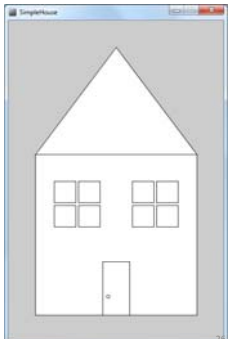
// roof
triangle(50, 150, 350, 250, 200, 50);

// door
rect(175, 450, 50, 500);
// door knob
ellipse(185, 525, 8, 8);

// left windows
rect(105, 300, 140, 400);
rect(120, 300, 140, 400);
rect(135, 345, 140, 400);
rect(150, 345, 140, 400);

// right windows
rect(210, 300, 140, 400);
rect(225, 300, 140, 400);
rect(240, 345, 140, 400);
rect(255, 345, 140, 400);

```



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## Programming Principle#1

- **Sequencing**

do this  
and this  
and this  
and this  
...

```

// left windows
rect(105, 300, 140, 400);
rect(120, 300, 140, 400);
rect(135, 345, 140, 400);
rect(150, 345, 140, 400);

// right windows
rect(210, 300, 140, 400);
rect(225, 300, 140, 400);
rect(240, 345, 140, 400);
rect(255, 345, 140, 400);

```

All commands are carried out in the order they are written.

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### Sequencing...



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### Sequencing...



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### What happens if you switch?



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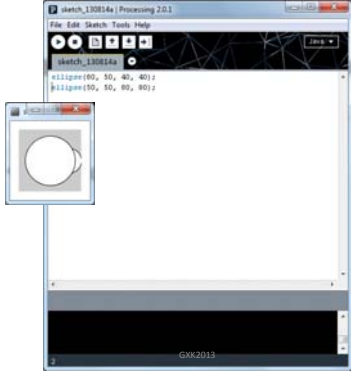
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### What happens if you switch?



```
line(100, 50, 40, 40);  
line(10, 50, 80, 80);
```

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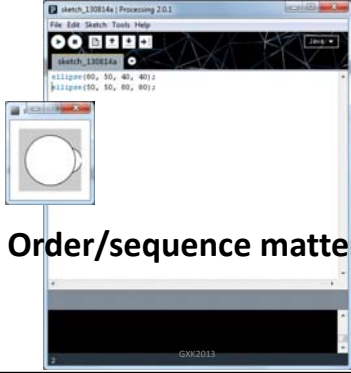
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### Sequencing...



```
line(100, 50, 40, 40);  
line(10, 50, 80, 80);
```

### Order/sequence matters!

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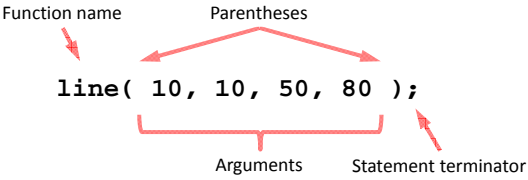
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### Programmin Principle#2

- Syntax is important!



```
line( 10, 10, 50, 80 );
```

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### CS Principle: Algorithms

An **algorithm** is an effective method for solving a problem expressed as a finite sequence of instructions. For example,

#### Put on shoes

- left sock
- right sock
- left shoe
- right shoe



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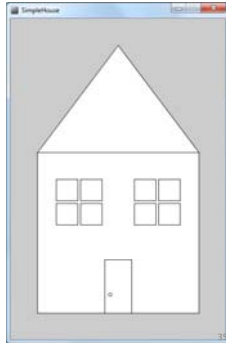
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### CS Principle: Algorithms

#### Draw a simple house

- draw the front wall
- draw the roof
- draw the door
- draw the windows



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### Algorithms to Pseudocode

#### Draw a simple house

- create canvas
- draw the front wall
- draw the roof
- draw the door
  - door knob
- draw the windows
  - left window
  - right window



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### Pseudocode to Code

**Draw a simple house**

- create canvas
- draw the front wall
- draw the roof
- draw the door
- door knob
- draw the windows
- left window
- right window

```

// Sketch: Simple House
// Sketch: Simple House
// Purpose: demonstrates Figure 2-9 in text
// Using Processing's 2D primitives
size(400, 600);

// House
rect(50, 250, 350, 300);

// Roof
triangle(50, 250, 350, 200, 50);

// Door
rect(275, 400, 325, 500);
// Door knob
ellipse(300, 450, 5, 5);

// Left window
rect(50, 350, 150, 400);
rect(150, 350, 250, 400);
rect(250, 350, 350, 400);

// Right window
rect(225, 350, 325, 400);
rect(325, 350, 425, 400);
rect(425, 350, 525, 400);

```

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### CS Principle

To solve any problem on a computer

- First **analyze** the problem
- Then design an **algorithm**
- Write **pseudocode**
- Code** it
- Test** and **debug**

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### CS Principle

To solve any problem on a computer

- First **analyze** the problem
- Then design an **algorithm**
- Write **pseudocode**
- Code** it
- Test** and **debug**

Much work happens on paper!

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### Drawing Basics

- **Canvas – computer screen**  
`size(width, height);`
- **Drawing Tools – shape commands**
- **Colors – grayscale or RGB**  
`background(125);`



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







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### Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

- Point 
- Line 
- Triangle 
- Rectangle 
- Ellipse 
- Arc 
- Quad 
- Polygon 
- Curve 

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




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### Drawing Tools - Basic Shapes

- Point  `point(x, y);`
- Line  `line(x1, y1, x2, y2);`
- Triangle  `triangle(x1, y1, x2, y2, x3, y3);`
- Rectangle  `rect(x, y, width, height);`
- Ellipse  `ellipse(x, y, width, height);`

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### Color

- Grayscale (0..255)
- RGB – red, green, blue  
0..255, 0..255, 0..255

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### Color

- Example:
 

```
green(100, 200);
smooth();
background(103, 140, 139);
fill(140, 140, 135);
rect(150, 50, 100, 100);
```


- Any command that takes a grayscale value, can also take RGB color values:
 

```
background(<grayscale value>);
background(R, G, B);
stroke(<grayscale value>);
stroke(R, G, B);
fill(<grayscale value>);
fill(R, G, B);
```

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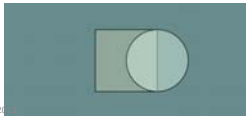
### Color Transparency

- Alpha values (0..255) specify transparency/opacity
 

ALPHA = 0 means completely transparent  
ALPHA = 255 means completely opaque

```
background(<grayscale value>, ALPHA);
background(R, G, B, ALPHA);
stroke(<grayscale value>, ALPHA);
stroke(R, G, B, ALPHA);
fill(<grayscale value>, ALPHA);
fill(R, G, B, ALPHA);
```
- Example:
 

```
background(103, 140, 139);
fill(140, 140, 135);
rect(150, 50, 100, 100);
// Fill with alpha value
fill(200, 200, 200);
fill(250, 100, 100, 100);
```



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**Why 0 .. 255?**

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The screenshot shows the Processing 2 website with a reference table of functions. The table is organized into columns: Reference, Structure, Shape, Color, and Setting. The 'Reference' column lists various functions like `atan()`, `atan2()`, `ceil()`, etc. The 'Structure' column lists `ArrayList()`, `HashMap()`, `LinkedList()`, etc. The 'Shape' column lists `arc()`, `arc3D()`, `arc4()`, etc. The 'Color' column lists `color()`, `colorMode()`, `colorBlendMode()`, etc. The 'Setting' column lists `background()`, `backgroundBlendMode()`, `backgroundImage()`, etc. The page number '47' is visible in the bottom right corner.

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