Brian Kernighan Quotes

Debugging, Way, Programming, Firsts, Tools, Functionality, Statistics, Clarity, Efficiency, Fundamentals, Technology, Mathematics, Answers, Essence, Clever, Software Engineering, Fun, Purpose, Terrain, Dimensions

Debugging is twice as hard as writing the code in the first place. Therefore, if you write the code as cleverly as possible, you are, by definition, not smart enough to debug it.

~Brian Kernighan

Do what you think is interesting, do something that you think is fun and worthwhile, because otherwise you won't do it well anyway.

~Brian Kernighan

Controlling complexity is the essence of computer programming.

~Brian Kernighan

The most effective debugging tool is still careful thought, coupled with judiciously placed print statements.

~Brian Kernighan

90% of the functionality delivered now is better than 100% delivered never.

~Brian Kernighan

C is a razor-sharp tool, with which one can create an elegant and efficient program or a bloody mess.

~Brian Kernighan

Don't document bad code - rewrite it.

~Brian Kernighan

... it is a fundamental principle of testing that you must know in advance the answer each test case is supposed to produce. If you don't, you are not testing; you are experimenting.

~Brian Kernighan

Believe the terrain, not the map

~Brian Kernighan

Each new user of a new system uncovers a new class of bugs.

~Brian Kernighan

If you had done something twice, you are likely to do it again.

~Brian Kernighan

If you're as clever as you can be when you write it, how will you ever debug it?

~Brian Kernighan

Mechanical rules are never a substitute for clarity of thought.

~Brian Kernighan

As we said in the preface to the first edition, C "wears well as one's experience with it grows." With a decade more experience, we still feel that way.

~Brian Kernighan

Trivia rarely affect efficiency. Are all the machinations worth it, when their primary effect is to make the code less readable?

~Brian Kernighan

An effective way to test code is to exercise it at its natural boundaries

~Brian Kernighan

Trying to outsmart a compiler defeats much of the purpose of using one.

~Brian Kernighan

Get the weirdnesses into the data where you can manipulate them easily, and the regularity into the code because regular code is a lot easier to work with

~Brian Kernighan

Related Links:
- Debugging Quotes
- Way Quotes
- Programming Quotes
- Firsts Quotes
- Tools Quotes
- Functionality Quotes
- Statistics Quotes
- Clarity Quotes
- Efficiency Quotes
- Fundamentals Quotes
- Technology Quotes
- Mathematics Quotes
- Answers Quotes
- Essence Quotes
- Clever Quotes
- Software Engineering Quotes
- Fun Quotes
- Purpose Quotes
- Terrain Quotes
- Dimensions Quotes