

CSAwesome Online Textbook

Objective: To login to and begin using the *CSAwesome* textbook.

Background:

The APCS A course kicked off in 1984 and used Pascal until 1998. Then, from 1999 to 2003, C++ was the main language, and now we're teaching Java, which is still around! Just like languages are always evolving, the Java we use today is quite different from what we taught in 2004. They keep tweaking the language every couple of years, and that's something we'll see again in the future.

The last CS textbook Monta Vista purchased was for Java, published in 2006. It feels like ages ago now, especially with how languages have evolved. Getting a new textbook that's likely to be outdated soon isn't the best use of district money. Instead, we've discovered another, more cost-effective and efficient resource.

Here's where we introduce Runestone Academy and *CSAwesome*. Runestone was born from the brilliant mind of Dr. Bradley Miller. Back in 2011, he launched an online textbook platform designed for the classroom. What started as one textbook he wrote for his class of 60 students has blossomed into a collection of fifty textbooks from many authors, now used by over 75,000 students. Right now, these textbooks cover math and CS courses, and they range from high school to college levels.

CSAwesome is a textbook specifically for Runestone that matches the AP Computer Science curriculum. It was originally based on Dr. Barb Ericson's Java Review college course. Over time, *CSAwesome* has grown to include interactive exercises and resources that are helpful for both teachers and students.

We will use the Runestone platform and the *CSAwesome* textbook for AP Computer Science A this year.

Assignment:

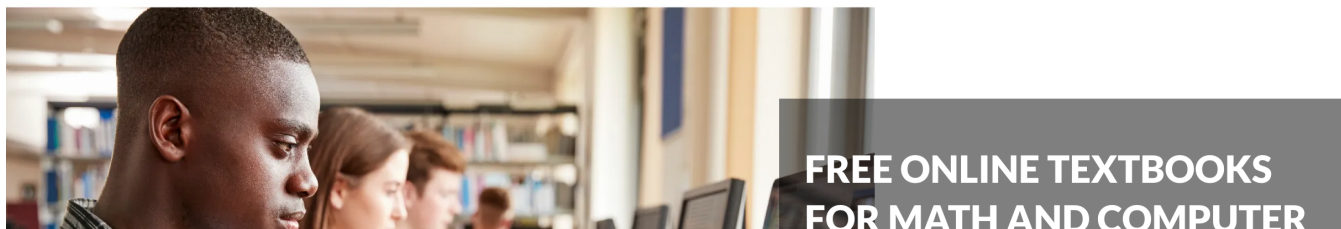
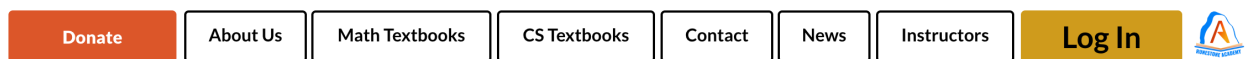
You will need to create an account on Runestone. Fill out the following information first.

Username: _____
Use *FirstName_LastName*. **Cannot** be changed later.

Email address: _____
We suggest you use your school address.

Password: _____
Yes, write it down and save this paper.

In a web browser, go to **runestone.academy**. The top of the page looks like this:



Click on the “Log In” box and it will take you to a login page. If you don’t have an account, click on “Register”.

You will be taken to a screen like below that asks to create an account. Fill in the fields using the information you wrote on the prior page. For Institution Name put “Monta Vista High School”. Click on “Create Account”.

A screenshot of the 'Create Account' form on the Runestone Academy website. The form is titled 'Create Account' in blue. It contains several sections: 'Your Name' with 'First Name' and 'Last Name' fields; 'Account Credentials' with 'Username' and 'Email Address' fields, and 'Password' and 'Confirm Password' fields; and 'Your Institution' with an 'Institution Name' field. Below the institution name is a checkbox for 'I am an instructor and want to create a course for my students.' At the bottom is a blue 'Create Account' button and a link for 'Already have an account? Log in'.

Once you are logged on you will enroll in the course for this class: **26-27-MVHS-APCS-A**

Inside the course find the online textbook *CSAwesome*.

