
Subject: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 00:15:49 GMT

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I have posted this topic because I need some ideas on programs to create. The reason I am asking is because I have run out of ideas and it is crucial to my future to keep on programming. I need to keep teaching myself and learning as I go. Without ideas I have nothing to program and work towards creating. If anyone has any ideas of any programs that would be neat to create, please post them. Post any idea of a program you have here, but please try to keep your idea realistic. Of course I refuse to make anything dangerous in nature, but any other ideas are good ideas.

Mainly, I am looking for ideas that you yourself think would benefit you. You know, those kinds of programs you wish you had, but no one has made yet, or you just can't find it?

Basically, this is just to crave my desire for more programming knowledge.

For anyone who does post ideas here, thanks!

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [DreamWraith](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 00:46:45 GMT

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A text file comparison program. They exist, but they cost money. a good example is CompareIT

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [rm5248](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 01:30:38 GMT

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Doesn't Word already do that?

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Apache](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 05:15:34 GMT

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One thing that I've always wanted, but never had was a simple program similar to Notepad that would allow me to fetch different files from my server, allow me to edit them, then have the ability to save directly to my sever. I'd save me tons of time with having to constantly upload files to check if they worked or not.

Another sweet addition would be if I could load up the page, and have stuff change in real time on the "browser" as I modify the code so I could check to make sure that everything is lining up correctly, or formatted in a way that I like. Also save me from uploading half a million times till I get the formatting just the way I like it.

It'd basically be like frontpage, or any other popular web development tool, but wouldn't change my code for me, or allow me to change stuff in the graphical preview, just show me what my coding is going to look like before I save it from the program directly to the server.

By the way, everything I do is done via includes files, so if I could have some way of pre-loading the index file, then have it save only the text inclusion files to the server, that'd be awesome.

If you are up to it, and it isn't out of the range of what you are wanting to do, you can add me on MSN (ZieglerDigital at hotmail.com) and I can go over what I'd want in better detail

Keep in mind that I won't be sorely dissapointed if you say no, or get started and give up on it. Beggars can't be choosers for sure

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [cmatt42](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 05:18:28 GMT
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A free Windows-based mIRCStats-like program.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [xptek](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 05:41:23 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

DreamWraith wrote on Fri, 28 July 2006 20:46A text file comparison program. They exist, but they cost money. a good example is CompareIT

GNU diff. There's a decent Windows port at
<http://gnuwin32.sourceforge.net/packages/diffutils.htm>.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [IronWarrior](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 05:44:28 GMT
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An program, where I could repeaty stab people in the face with a sharp wooden spoon so it would hurt more, though the screen.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [icedog90](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 06:07:53 GMT
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didn't you just read what he said? Even if you're trying to be funny, he's trying to be serious and

mature here. Apache had some really good ideas Dave.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [vloktboky](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 06:57:51 GMT

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Agreed. What you know, and what you want to know, are two necessary ingredients if you want to get any suggestions that pertain to you.

Now if you take Apache's idea, especially the HTML preview/edit idea, that would be a warm invention to look into MFC programming. If you take this idea, I suggest researching into Document/View Architecture (single document should suffice for this example) with a splitter window using an EditView on the one side and an HTMLView on the other side. The EditView would give you notepad-like control for editing the document. The HTMLView internally uses COM modules embedded in IE, allowing you to easily view pages as you would see them in IE. Since you'd be using DVA, you could easily migrate the two views, allowing changes made in the EditView to be directly rendered through IE in the HTMLView.

If you seriously consider this idea, here's a few references from MSDN that could help you get started:

Document/View Architecture

Splitter Window

CEditView

CHTMLView

You should be able to get away with most of the nitty-gritty work by making use of the AppWizard if you are using MSVS.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Feetseek](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 06:58:32 GMT

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Is there a program that allows you to make your own font?? I'd really like one

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [cmatt42](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 07:07:17 GMT

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Feetseek wrote on Sat, 29 July 2006 01:58 Is there a program that allows you to make your own font?? I'd really like one

<http://www.google.com/search?hl=en&q=font+maker&btnG=Google+Search>

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Xylaquin](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 07:54:28 GMT

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You could help with RenHawk

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Doitle](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 08:49:10 GMT

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Dave I run into the same problem myself. I've been trying to teach myself C++ for a long time and the hardest part is coming up with things to do with it. I finally grasped OOP recently but I can't really show that, I have no programs featuring it and I can't come up with any uses for it. There IS a program I've been wanting to create for years but never have. A program that loads mp3s into it, most likely scanning entire folders, and uses an algorithm to give the song a score on the prevalence of bass in the song. Say, scanning through each bit of data in the mp3 disregarding data about the 100hz range and then outputting a score, into a database hopefully which you could look through and figure out which songs are the most bass heavy. I know I would love this program and others in the car audio community would appreciate it as well. I don't presently know how to do this yet :/ Otherwise I would have made it to help progress my programming.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Zion](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 10:05:27 GMT

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Doitle wrote on Sat, 29 July 2006 03:49Dave I run into the same problem myself. I've been trying to teach myself C++ for a long time and the hardest part is coming up with things to do with it. I finally grasped OOP recently but I can't really show that, I have no programs featuring it and I can't come up with any uses for it. There IS a program I've been wanting to create for years but never have. A program that loads mp3s into it, most likely scanning entire folders, and uses an algorithm to give the song a score on the prevalence of bass in the song. Say, scanning through each bit of data in the mp3 disregarding data about the 100hz range and then outputting a score, into a database hopefully which you could look through and figure out which songs are the most bass heavy. I know I would love this program and others in the car audio community would appreciate it as well. I don't presently know how to do this yet :/ Otherwise I would have made it to help progress my programming.

Get a Parametric EQ (or Graphic EQ if you dont know how to use parametric ones) and boost the lower frequencies. Don't forget, too much bass can destroy the cones, even though they look cool coming out half-a-meter it will destroy them depending on the amplifiers wattage output.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Scythar](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 10:20:31 GMT

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Merovingian wrote on Sat, 29 July 2006 06:05Doitle wrote on Sat, 29 July 2006 03:49Dave I run into the same problem myself. I've been trying to teach myself C++ for a long time and the hardest part is coming up with things to do with it. I finally grasped OOP recently but I can't really show that, I have no programs featuring it and I can't come up with any uses for it. There IS a program I've been wanting to create for years but never have. A program that loads mp3s into it, most likely scanning entire folders, and uses an algorithm to give the song a score on the prevalence of bass in the song. Say, scanning through each bit of data in the mp3 disregarding data about the 100hz range and then outputting a score, into a database hopefully which you could look through and figure out which songs are the most bass heavy. I know I would love this program and others in the car audio community would appreciate it as well. I don't presently know how to do this yet :/ Otherwise I would have made it to help progress my programming.

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Huh, what has that to do with what he said? :S

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [krayons](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 11:12:30 GMT

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Make a video game, it deosn't have to be elaborate or anything, just make something.

I'm curious to see what a C++ and Java Programmer that knows OOP well, can do.

You can't tell me you're just a software programmer either!, because if you do program, and you're good at it, you're always looking for new techniques, so you've had to of at least looked into game programming at least once, that's the nerdy instinct every dang programmer has.

I'm just breaking into OOP myself, it's just that I have only a basic knowledge of it right now, once I get a little better i'm gonna make a game too. (Yeah, yeah, I already know half you guys think i'm another one of those kids who thinks he's on top of the world.... think again Beantards!)

(Text file comparison programs? Haha, you guys are dorks. hahaha.)

A little video game would be more interesting and fun for everyone.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 14:55:12 GMT

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Quote:One thing that I've always wanted, but never had was a simple program similar to Notepad that would allow me to fetch different files from my server, allow me to edit them, then have the

ability to save directly to my sever. I'd save me tons of time with having to constantly upload files to check if they worked or not.

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If you are up to it, and it isn't out of the range of what you are wanting to do, you can add me on MSN (ZieglerDigital at hotmail.com) and I can go over what I'd want in better detail Very Happy

Keep in mind that I won't be sorely dissapointed if you say no, or get started and give up on it. Beggars can't be choosers for sure Very Happy

That sounds like it would be really fun to try and create. As a web developer myself, that would come in handy for myself as well.

Quote:Dave I run into the same problem myself. I've been trying to teach myself C++ for a long time and the hardest part is coming up with things to do with it. I finally grasped OOP recently but I can't really show that, I have no programs featuring it and I can't come up with any uses for it. There IS a program I've been wanting to create for years but never have. A program that loads mp3s into it, most likely scanning entire folders, and uses an algorithm to give the song a score on the prevalence of bass in the song. Say, scanning through each bit of data in the mp3 disregarding data about the 100hz range and then outputting a score, into a database hopefully which you could look through and figure out which songs are the most bass heavy. I know I would love this program and others in the car audio community would appreciate it as well. I don't presently know how to do this yet :/ Otherwise I would have made it to help progress my programming.

I have found that teaching myself C++ has been the best choice in my entire life. I have spent the last 5 years of my life developing things in random programing languages, hoping that I can gain enough knowledge myself, it would ease the strain when I have to learn even more of it in the future in college.

As for your idea, I have not worked with .mp3 files and programing, just .wav files, but now I am definately curious to look into it.

Quote:Make a video game, it deosn't have to be elaborate or anything, just make something.

I'm curious to see what a C++ and Java Programmer that knows OOP well, can do.

You can't tell me you're just a software programmer either!, because if you do program, and you're good at it, you're always looking for new techniques, so you've had to of at least looked into game programming at least once, that's the nerdy instinct every dang programmer has.

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(Text file comparison programs? Haha, you guys are dorks. hahaha.)

A little video game would be more interesting and fun for everyone.

Even though making a video game would be really cool, games just aren't what they used to be to me anymore. I am not putting your idea down if it seems that way, but my focus in programming is towards more helpful applications that would benefit people. However, I will keep your idea in mind as well.

Quote:Agreed. What you know, and what you want to know, are two necessary ingredients if you want to get any suggestions that pertain to you.

Now if you take Apache's idea, especially the HTML preview/edit idea, that would be a warm invention to look into MFC programming. If you take this idea, I suggest researching into Document/View Architecture (single document should suffice for this example) with a splitter window using an EditView on the one side and an HTMLView on the other side. The EditView would give you notepad-like control for editing the document. The HTMLView internally uses COM modules embedded in IE, allowing you to easily view pages as you would see them in IE. Since you'd be using DVA, you could easily migrate the two views, allowing changes made in the EditView to be directly rendered through IE in the HTMLView.

If you seriously consider this idea, here's a few references from MSDN that could help you get started:

- Document/View Architecture
- Splitter Window
- CEditView
- CHTMLView

You should be able to get away with most of the nitty-gritty work by making use of the AppWizard if you are using MSVS.

Not to offend, but MFC programming is really out of date. You should look into Windows Forms programming. It is the latest technology used for creating Windows Applications. It really takes advantage of the new Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0 as well. And soon in the future Microsoft will be releasing the .NET Framework 3.0 which will offer even more flexibility and technology.

I am not ready to pick any one certain idea yet to start working on. I am going to wait for more ideas to come. Considering this isn't the only forum this is posted on, I have alot more ideas to

scavage through. I also don't want to overload on projects...(I have 3 projects going on right now. It isn't that many, but I just don't want anything like 10-20 projects going on at the same time.)

I will keep all your ideas in mind and will probably contact each of you for further information on your ideas.

As for all you other programmers out there learning C++.... FORGET IT!!! Move on to C Sharp [C#]! Not only is it, and will be, the industry standard for many years to come, it is ALOT more flexible and more easy to work with. And if you already know some C++, you should have no problem switching to C Sharp since the way the code is written is very similar. You don't have to switch, (duh, it's your choice), but if you do, I am here to help!

I really appreciate all these ideas. If you have anymore, please post them and I will write them down.

EDIT: I had to ask this, because I usually wait until people become interested themselves, but if any of you C++ or C Sharp programmers would be interested in becoming a programmer at DCOM Productions I could really use the help. But please only contact me about this if you are actually interested by yourself, and not manipulated by me asking for help.

(DCOM Productions is my company underway.. As of now, no profit, all of my services are free..(programs I make, web templates, ect)..);

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [almor999](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 16:16:03 GMT

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The problem with limiting yourself to .Net and other Microsoft technologies is that all you will be able to write applications for is Windows. If that is what you want, great, but if you want to be able to write programs for other OS's and maybe contribute to open source projects such as GNU/Linux you will want to learn how to use languages that do not rely on .Net and windows forms.

I think the HTML editor/viewer is a great idea. I do not do a lot of web stuff but when I do it would be easier than having to save it, then open it in a browser to see if it looks ok.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 16:22:48 GMT

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Quote:The problem with limiting yourself to .Net and other Microsoft technologies is that all you will be able to write applications for is Windows. If that is what you want, great, but if you want to be able to write programs for other OS's and maybe contribute to open source projects such as GNU/Linux you will want to learn how to use languages that do not rely on .Net and windows forms.

I think the HTML editor/viewer is a great idea. I do not do a lot of web stuff but when I do it would be easier than having to save it, then open it in a browser to see if it looks ok.

Yeah, I am strictly a Windows programmer. I currently have no interest in writing applications for other operating systems. When the time comes, I will get into it, but for now Windows programming is my thing.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [AmunRa](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 16:45:44 GMT
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On a side note, java is disgusting, I wish no one would ever use it and that it would die. C/C++ FTW!

I'm done

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [vloktboky](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 17:44:49 GMT
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@ Dave: So far out of date that many people still use it for development? You're a web developer; you're on the opposite end of the spectrum. I would expect a web developer to rely on forms, but MFC - with its use of OOP Architecture - allows for us to easily migrate engine code through COM into external tool apps such as map editors, model viewers, and particle editors. I can't speak for any other industry, but in the gaming industry, it's by no means dead.

And for him to continue to explore into his field of study, it would be the better choice. It may not be the best example of OOP Design with all the Afx "I'm Microsoft and I don't know how to throw anything out" style, but it would be a good exploration into GUI development, pending of course any previous history with the Win32 API.

The most important thing for anyone who is migrating into the C++ family is to immediately understand Object Oriented Design. Nobody in today's business uses procedural programming to solve complicated problems. Any company that does is going to feel the repercussions of that decision in the not-so-distant future.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [xptek](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 18:20:42 GMT
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almor999 wrote on Sat, 29 July 2006 12:16The problem with limiting yourself to .Net and other Microsoft technologies is that all you will be able to write applications for is Windows. If that is what you want, great, but if you want to be able to write programs for other OS's and maybe

contribute to open source projects such as GNU/Linux you will want to learn how to use languages that do not rely on .Net and windows forms.

I think the HTML editor/viewer is a great idea. I do not do a lot of web stuff but when I do it would be easier than having to save it, then open it in a browser to see if it looks ok.

Check out the Mono project.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [mision08](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 18:30:42 GMT

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A good editing tool with html templates and a preview area would be ultraedit, or maybe Stone's web writer.

I'm not sure if this does everything you want but I think it should.

Maybe if you knew how to use this it would be very inexpensive

I'm not trying to mess up your list just throwing it out there. It seems like it would be easy to think of a program, but I'm drawing a blank.

Also, not a programmer but from my understanding any programmer would be wise to stay away from writing video games. With the dual core processors flooding the market, it will only make for an unstable environment.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [krayons](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 19:26:58 GMT

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....Ok, ok, I understand.

But if you won't make a game, than maybe i'll have to!

Actionscript for life beeotch!

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [z310](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 19:36:37 GMT

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krayons wrote on Sat, 29 July 2006 15:26....Ok, ok, I understand.

But if you won't make a game, than maybe i'll have to!

Actionscript for life beeotch!

DO IT!

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [cmatt42](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 19:37:17 GMT

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Dave Anderson wrote on Sat, 29 July 2006 09:55

As for all you other programmers out there learning C++.... FORGET IT!!! Move on to C Sharp [C#]! Not only is it, and will be, the industry standard for many years to come, it is ALOT more flexible and more easy to work with. And if you already know some C++, you should have no problem switching to C Sharp since the way the code is written is very similar. You don't have to switch, (duh, it's your choice), but if you do, I am here to help!

I didn't spend \$35 on a C++ book just to forget its contents. C++ is still used in the industry today. Besides, I've looked into C#, I don't want to learn the Fisher Price of programming.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 19:40:46 GMT

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Quote:@ Dave: So far out of date that many people still use it for development? You're a web developer; you're on the opposite end of the spectrum. I would expect a web developer to rely on forms, but MFC - with its use of OOP Architecture - allows for us to easily migrate engine code through COM into external tool apps such as map editors, model viewers, and particle editors. I can't speak for any other industry, but in the gaming industry, it's by no means dead.

I may be a web developer, but hardly. I hardly do web development at all anymore. All my time is spent programming in C Sharp and C++...

As for MFC, even though it is out of date, I never said it was not used. I am fully aware that MFC is used widely across the world still; And as for using COM, Windows Forms have full functionality to interact with COM. Using Windows Forms you can still create 3D enviroments such as a model viewer; to do that however, you must implement DirectX, which I am also learning how to use.

Anyway, this isn't something that is on topic here. You can further argue your point via Personal Messaging, I am looking for ideas, not arguements here.

Quote:I didn't spend \$35 on a C++ book just to forget its contents. C++ is still used in the industry today. Besides, I've looked into C#, I don't want to learn the Fisher Price of programming. Rocked Over

I am a bit excited about C Sharp, you will have to pardon that. I still use C++ on a daily basis, it is a very good language to learn. I recommend C Sharp because it has alot C++ has and more. The concepts and logic are very similar, which makes it easy to learn.

You will learn in time that when you find tutorials for something that only comes in C Sharp code, it is really easy to translate it into C++. As for C++ code translated into C Sharp it is just as easy.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [luv2pb](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 19:50:08 GMT
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perhaps BHS could use your skills for some of there projects that they have had to but on the back burners since the current group blows.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 20:07:59 GMT
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Even if BHS did put up an offer to me, I would have to turn them down. I already have my hands full here at DCOM Productions.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [gh057](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 20:14:02 GMT
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does anybody have a serial i could borrow? i swear i wont get n e one banned, i just borrowed the game from my friend and he lost the case and everything. and i used to love this game, but i have no serial

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 20:47:45 GMT
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Sorry to be mean, but that is completely irrelevant to this thread. I believe you have already posted a thread asking, if someone is willing to give you a serial key, I am sure they will post in your thread.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [gh057](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 20:49:52 GMT
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yea srry. i just really want to play this gameee.
and they didnt exactly give me a very inviting title to the other thread.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [vloktboky](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 21:56:26 GMT
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Well, for someone who precedes himself with such talent, surely you don't need any suggestions. I'm sure you can come up with something to challenge yourself on your own. I'm glad I could be of assistance.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sat, 29 Jul 2006 23:09:23 GMT
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That has no relevance. I never once gloated in any post in this thread that I had talent. Just because I know programming and ask for ideas? Like I said in my post, I am getting ideas to challenge myself and learn more; to crave my need for more knowledge. As I also said in my post, I currently have 3 other projects going on, but I still want more ideas. I want ALOT of ideas. The more ideas I have, the more creative I can be with my programs.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [Viking](#) on Sun, 30 Jul 2006 02:46:26 GMT
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Here is what you should make!

A chat program like AIM that dosent suck like AIM!

That would be cool!

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.
Posted by [mision08](#) on Sun, 30 Jul 2006 02:55:34 GMT
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This assignment is more difficult than I imagined. Everything I want I can think of a program for. Accept vast knowledge and a decent text to speech program to run in windows. I don't know who was in charge of that SAM program but it sucks. Even the scripting guys at Microsoft joke about it. I just want something like Opera has. A decent synthesized voice engine that's configurable eg. prondict.ini. That is lite weight, just to read help and chm files to me while I mill about in areas I shouldn't be in. Although, this seems like it may encompass more than c++, I'm not sure.

Subject: Re: Looking for some ideas.

Posted by [Dave Anderson](#) on Sun, 30 Jul 2006 05:09:52 GMT

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After I have thought about all the ideas that have been bestowed upon me, I have become really interested in your idea, Apache. (I still have all other ideas written down in my list). I will be contacting you via email for more detailed information.
