

## Scale

With a balance you can compare the weight of two objects. How often do you need to measure to find the lightest of  $n$  objects?

- a)  $n \cdot n$    b)  $n$   
c)  $n-1$    d)  $n/2$

## Algorithm

Which numbers does the following algorithm print?

```
1: X = 1
2: X = X + 2
3: PRINT X
4: X = X - 1
5: IF X ≠ 6 GOTO 2
6: END
```

## How to participate:

1. Sign up on [soi.ch](https://soi.ch)
2. Solve the First Round online between 1.9–25.9 2026
3. Solve the tasks from the Pre-Round and learn basic programming
4. Come to our workshops to learn everything needed for the Second Round

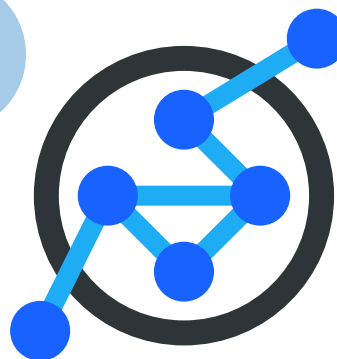
## Symmetric numbers

We call a number symmetric if it is the same read from front to back and from back to front. For example 12321 is a symmetric number, 123 is not.

- Q1) How many symmetric two-digit numbers are there?  
Q2) How many symmetric three-digit numbers are there?

Implement: Given a number, find the next bigger number that is symmetric. For example if you are given 864, output 868. Given 868, output 878.

These and more tasks on  
**[intro.soi.ch](https://intro.soi.ch)**



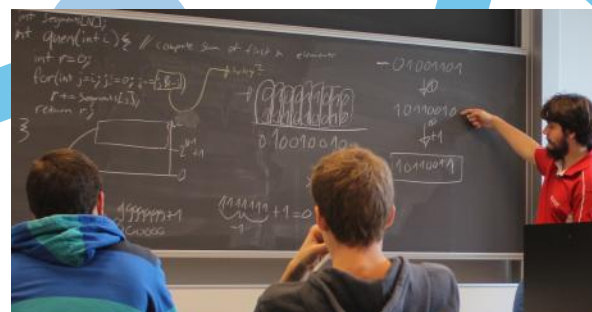
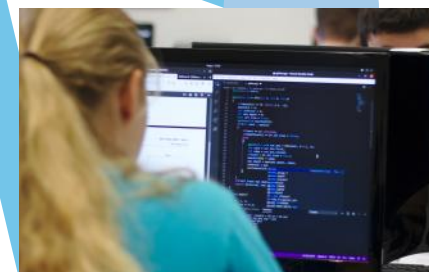
# INFORMATICS. OLYMPIAD.CH

INFORMATIK-OLYMPIADE  
OLYMPIADES D'INFORMATIQUE  
OLIMPIADI DELL'INFORMATICA

Programmierwettbewerb für Jugendliche  
Concours de programmation pour jeunes  
Gara di programmazione per giovani

## Swiss Olympiad in Informatics — how does it work?

For most tasks, you have to compute certain information based on input data. But rather than doing it yourself, you write a program which finds the answer for you. This can be quite tricky. Don't worry — you don't have to be able to code already.



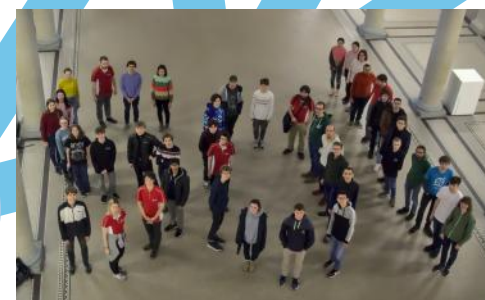
## How do I participate?

The First Round takes place on [soi.ch](https://soi.ch) from 1.9–25.9. You can also solve the Pre-Round and attend our algorithm workshops to get an introduction to competitive programming. More info and registration on [soi.ch](https://soi.ch).

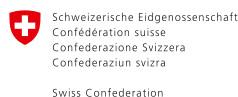
## Who is it for?

We recommend participation for students aged 12 and above. You're eligible if you're attending a Swiss school and are under 20 years old.

Learn more:  
**[soi.ch](https://soi.ch)**



## Partners



Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER  
State Secretariat for Education,  
Research and Innovation SERI



You may also be interested in our associated Olympiads in Astronomy, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Geography, Linguistics, Mathematics, Philosophy, Physics and Robotics.





## Pre-Round

The Pre-Round is a warm-up for the second and subsequent rounds. It consists of easy problems which can be solved online. The Pre-Round is suitable as an introduction to coding — you learn a little more coding with every problem.

## First Round

The first round is a 35-minute online quiz with multiple-choice questions about computer science. Basic programming knowledge is helpful, but not required to advance. It is also ideal for solving together in class; feel free to ask your teacher about it. It takes place from **1.9–25.9**. Approximately the best third of all participants will qualify for the second round.

## Workshops

During the Second Round, we offer workshops that teach the basics of competitive programming. They take place in **October**, in both **Lausanne** and **Zürich**. To attend a workshop, you need to have solved some tasks in the Pre-Round. Participation is highly recommended — the workshops are not only educational but also great social events.

## Second Round

In the Second Round you have 2 months to solve 5 challenging coding problems. You can submit your programs online and get instant feedback on their correctness. The Second Round runs from **1.10–30.11**. The Round is divided into two age categories: **Junior** and **Regular**. The best participants from both categories qualify for the SOI Finals and are invited to the SOI-Camp.



## SOI-Camp

In the Second Round, 24 participants qualify for a training camp held in **February**. At the camp, there are plenty of interesting lessons, mock contests and a fun programme of activities.

## Finals

The top 24 from the Second Round demonstrate their skills in two contests, each lasting 5 hours. The results will be announced at the Medal Ceremony, a one-day event with an exciting program at EPFL.

"Through SOI, you do not only learn how to solve complex problems, but you also meet many other people who share your passion. In addition, you can qualify for various national and international competitions or training camps, where you do not just program, but also enjoy plenty of fun activities alongside fellow participants."

*Laetitia, SOI-Participant 2026*



## Team-Selection

On two weekends in May with the best 12 finalists, we determine the delegations for the IOI, CEOI, WEOI, RMI and training camps at home and abroad in four 5-hour contests.



## European Girls' Olympiad in Informatics

The best four female participants in the Finals will represent Switzerland at the EGOI and meet girls from all over Europe who share an interest in computer science.



"At SOI, you meet like-minded people from all over Switzerland through various camps and workshops. You learn diverse, exciting concepts that can be applied to challenging problems in competitions. Everything takes place in a friendly, supportive atmosphere. And when you need a break from coding, you'll easily find people to play games with for hours on end."

*Mâté, SOI-Participant 2026*



## International Olympiad in Informatics

Over 80 nations send their best 4 participants to the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI). The IOI is the most important, but not the only international competition where the best SOI participants can compete and exchange ideas with other young people. The IOI 2027 will take place in **Germany**.