

# Hacker Nature

by José Ricardo de Oliveira Damico\*

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This text was written as a result of the analysis of the hackers' way of thinking and acting, with the aim to properly define and clarify their behavior.

Some definitions of nature explain that this word means the specific combination of original qualities, constituent or inborn to an individual, animal or thing; innate character, set of tendencies or inherent instincts which govern the behavior, personality, moral, temper, essence or condition that is typical of a being or a thing. These concepts and definitions were applied to the study of the hacker to explain and demystify their nature.

First, the nature of a hacker is alert and observant. That is to say, they possess a sharp perception of the environment in which they interact. This nature, this personality is also filled with a constant inquiry, non-conformism and an obsession for quality. Motivation and pro-activity are also evident characteristics of a hacker mindset. This happens in such a way that the hacker nature shapes the individual as an explorer who has no notion of limits in his/her search for efficient ways to solve their necessities.

The notions propelled by the hacker nature may at first seem individualistic, given the fact that they spring from the unique sensitivity of one person and his or her desire to change. However, the quintessential hacker nature will never be complete without the sense of cooperation. This means that the hacker must bring to the public eye the result and the process generated by his or her restlessness facing an incomplete situation.

The actions motivated by the hacker nature may at first seem individualistic. Cooperation and sharing knowledge are not merely parallel acts of the hacker way of thinking. Cooperation and sharing knowledge are underlying parts of the result as a whole, such that it becomes the simple resolution of an identified need if this is not connected to an open proposition, so that others reuse, discuss, perfect and redistribute such resolution. Truth is that this multi-point process permeated in the human relationship is what makes it rewarding, satisfying and feeds the hacker nature (besides, of course, the solution in itself) .

The complete result expected by the hacker personality motivates him or her logically in the acquisition of the necessary tools to help him/her successfully track the path to solution. Thus, the hacker nature possesses the capability to

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\*<http://dcon.com.br> (jd.comment@gmail.com).

objectively define its target, as well as visualize in an amplified way the main referential points that must be met for the fulfillment of the major aim.

The search for each referential point individually will show in details the lack of knowledge and experience that must be acquired. It is this depth in each nuance of the pathway to solution that unveils some more characteristics of the hacker nature: multitasking, persistence and concentration. Nevertheless, although there is substantial autonomous learning effort, it does not mean that the hacker is a self-learner. The community relationship set by the sharing of results promotes a learning environment based on concepts, cases and tutoring on specific needs. It is this environment that the hacker develops his or her interpersonal skills. Influenced by the concentration and persistence habits and by the acquired knowledge and experience, the hacker self-expression facing the group is punctual, objective and logic. The hacker nature is not identified with dispositions which drift apart from a clearly set end, or someone who tries to cover a fact or its discovery. For this reason, communication is based on an honest relationship departing from what the individual actually knows and where he or she wants to get to.

Radicalism and arrogance. These two characteristics may make part of the hacker nature and will be the last ones analyzed here. This is so because differently from the others that were objectively defined, these depend on the opinion and practice of an outsider, and not the individual him/herself. The hacker nature is against lies, lack of freedom and control of access, as a fruit of egoism. Being that any given person or group that practices any of these items or even agrees to them will probably see the hacker nature in this way (as an act of radicalism and arrogance). The same motivation used to discover and solve can be used in these two characteristics to fight or demean that which is against his/her nature. For the hacker, the sensitivity to spot what is appealing in small situations and details is the same applied to recognize what he/she defies.

Understanding the hacker nature is a process. It is a provocation. Understanding in itself leads the desire to feel and develop such nature in itself.