

Characteristics of Software Products

General characteristics

Usability

Maintainability

Dependability

Efficiency

Good software products require good programming,

but ...

Programming quality is the means to the end, **not the end** itself.

Example: DEC's optical scanner



Variety of Software Products

Software products are very varied

--> Client requirements are very different

--> There is no standard process for software engineering

--> There is no best language, operating system, platform, database system, development environment, etc.

A skilled software developer knows about a wide variety of approaches, methods, tools. The **craft** of software engineering is to select appropriate methods for each project and apply them effectively.

