



# Software Patents

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## Klarquist

**Q** If I want to patent an invention that uses software, do I need to submit the computer source code as part of my patent application?

**A** No. In general, you are not required to submit computer code with your application for a U.S. patent. However, you will need to describe your invention, and you may wish to describe your algorithm as part of that effort. This detailed description may include text that summarizes your process or algorithm, flowcharts and diagrams that illustrate it, pseudo-code, and even possibly actual code in some instances, either in the form of excerpts, or as part of an appendix. An experienced patent attorney can help you weigh your options in your particular situation.