

Given a graph, a *vertex coloring* assigns a label, traditionally called ‘color’, to each vertex of the graph such that no two adjacent vertex have the same color. In this assignment, vertex coloring has been performed using the *backtracking* approach.

Algorithm vertex_coloring_using_backtracking

This algorithm tries to perform m -coloring of the given graph by using the backtracking approach.

Input: A graph $G(V, E)$ (where $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ with $n = |V|$, the number of vertices in the graph G and $E = \{(i, j) : \exists \text{ an edge between } v_i \text{ and } v_j\}$), the set of colors $C = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots, c_m\}$ with the total number of available colors $m = |C|$, the current vertex to be colored v_i (starting with v_1) and current vertex coloring as a mapping $f: V \rightarrow C$.

Output: Returns **true** when the graph is m -colorable, with the complete coloring in f . Otherwise, returns **false**.

Steps:

- Step 1: (If coloring is complete) If i is greater than n then
- Step 2: Return **true**.
 [End If.]
- Step 3: $k \leftarrow 1$.
- Step 4: Repeat step 5 to 18 while $k \leq m$.
- Step 5: $\text{valid} \leftarrow \text{true}$, $j \leftarrow 1$.
- Step 6: Repeat step 7 to 10 while $j \leq n$.
 (If vertices v_i and v_j are adjacent, v_j has been assigned a color, $f(v_j)$
 and $c_k = f(v_j)$, then the color c_k can not be used for vertex v_i ,
 so next color is tried.)
- Step 7: If $(i, j) \in E$, $f(v_j)$ exists and $c_k = f(v_j)$ then
- Step 8: $\text{valid} \leftarrow \text{false}$.
- Step 9: Break.
 [End If.]
- Step 10: $j \leftarrow j + 1$.
 [End of Repeat.]
- Step 11: If valid is **false** then
- Step 12: Continue at step 18 in the way towards next iteration.
 [End If.]
 (Assign $f(v_i)$ to c_k .)
- Step 13: $f \leftarrow f \cup \{(v_i, c_k)\}$
- Step 14: Recursively invoke vertex_coloring_using_backtracking
 with the vertex v_{i+1} to be colored, returning in success.
- Step 15: If success is **true** then
- Step 16: Return **true**.
 [End If.]
 (Discard and retract the mapping of $f(v_i)$.)
- Step 17: $f \leftarrow f \setminus \{(v_i, c_k)\}$
- Step 18: $k \leftarrow k + 1$.
 [End of Repeat.]
- Step 19: Return **false**.