Characteristics of an Algorithm

Input	Zero or more quantities to be supplied.
Output	At least one quantity is produced.
Finiteness	Algorithms must terminate after finite number of steps.
Definiteness	All operations should be well defined. For example operations involving division by zero or taking square root for negative number are unacceptable.
Effectiveness	Every instruction must be carried out effectively.
Correctness	The algorithms should be error free.
Simplicity	Easy to implement.
Unambiguous	Algorithm should be clear and unambiguous. Each of its steps and their Inputs/outputs should be clear and must lead to only one meaning.
Feasibility	Should be feasible with the available resources.
Portable	An algorithm should be generic, independent of any programming Language or an operating system able to handle all range of inputs.
Independent	An algorithm should have step-by-step directions, which should be independent of any programming code