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Code Smells Java Design Patterns Anti-Patterns +4

What is the difference between Code Smells and Anti- patterns?

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Scott Tunstall, Senior Software Developer. (1996-present)

Answered Sep 16, 2018



A code smell indicates a potential problem with your code. However, just because there's a smell it doesn't mean there's *definitely* a problem - its up to you to use your judgement.

For example, one code smell in Java is switch statements. However, I feel that using a switch statement inside a factory class is perfectly acceptable.

An anti-pattern on the other hand is not necessarily specific to code. You can

also use this term in other areas, such as software architecture. For example, one



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Bottom line (the TL:DR bit)

- code smell: related to code
- Anti-pattern: applicable to code and software design

[SourceMaking.com](#) - with which I have no involvement or working relationship whatsoever - has a good list of anti-patterns and code smells.

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Shamik Mitra, MVB at Dzone, Technical Architech CTS, Former IBMer, Author of A4academics

Answered Jul 7, 2017



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Steve Galache, CMO at Kiuwan (2016-present)

Answered May 29, 2017



The two terms can be used interchangeably. Feel free to download our webinar on this subject <https://www.kiuwan.com/events/sw...>

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Eliot Miranda, Author of the Cog and BrouHaHa Smalltalk VMs. Ex tech lead for VisualWorks Smalltalk ('99 - '06).


Answered Sat

They don't. Smalltalk has a tiny user base. Very few software engineers have tried the Smalltalk language. Many are prejudiced

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