

# Documentation

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# It's a problem

- **GitHub's Open Source Survey:**
  - The biggest complaint was that 93% of developers loathed the docs provided
  - 64% of contributors never contribute to open source documentation.

**Documentation helps your users succeed with your software, empowers them to be self-sufficient, enables them to give further feedback, and is the organizational backbone of your project**

# Why should I care?

- If people don't know why your project exists, they won't use it.
- If people can't figure out how to install your code, they won't use it.
- If people can't figure out how to use your code, they won't use it.

# Open-source

- Just because you're offering something for free doesn't mean you can skimp on it
- Just because you manage an open source collaborative project doesn't mean you don't have to curate it.

# RTFM



# Open-source community

- Common wisdom: Everybody knows that the documentation is awful, that nobody wants to write it, and that this is just the way things are.

# LICENCE

- Apache License 2.0
- GNU General Public License (GPL)
- MIT license
- Mozilla Public License 2.0
- Common Development and Distribution License
- Eclipse Public License
- ...



# What makes good documentation?

- Simple
- Accurate
- Comprehensive
- Easy to maintain
- Easy to consume