**How to Think Like a Developer**

Completing all tasks and projects is an essential part of the educational process at Practicum. However, this alone is not enough. To get the most out of this course, you need to be proactive. Rather than just blindly following a set of instructions, you should pay close attention to detail and find the best solutions on your own.

We've compiled a list of questions you should ask yourself when coding to help you stay on the right track. Don't limit yourself to reading through the lessons and doing the tasks in the platform. Challenge yourself to find your own solutions by asking these questions. Only then will you convert your theoretical knowledge into a solid foundation of hard skills.

* Will the thing that I'm doing now help me level up the skills required to be a professional web developer? Do I get sidetracked too easily?
* Can I explain why I've made this mistake to my friend or to [a rubber duck](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubber_duck_debugging)? How can I avoid making the same mistake in the future? What topics should I learn or brush up on?
* When I finally find the solution, do I understand why it took me so long to come up with? What can I do to solve these problems faster?
* Am I trying hard enough to find the solution on my own before asking for help?
* Am I overcomplicating things? Maybe there's a simpler, tried and tested solution out there.
* Do I get a sense of satisfaction from solving these tasks? If not, why so? What can I do to change that?

If you keep reminding yourself that your aim is to gain a deep understanding of a topic, to reinforce it, and develop skills by practicing it, the whole learning process will become significantly more efficient. Yes, it'll be more difficult, but it'll also be more interesting and rewarding.

Remember that studying at Practicum and receiving your certificate isn't the ultimate goal. To truly succeed, you need to think and act like a web developer.