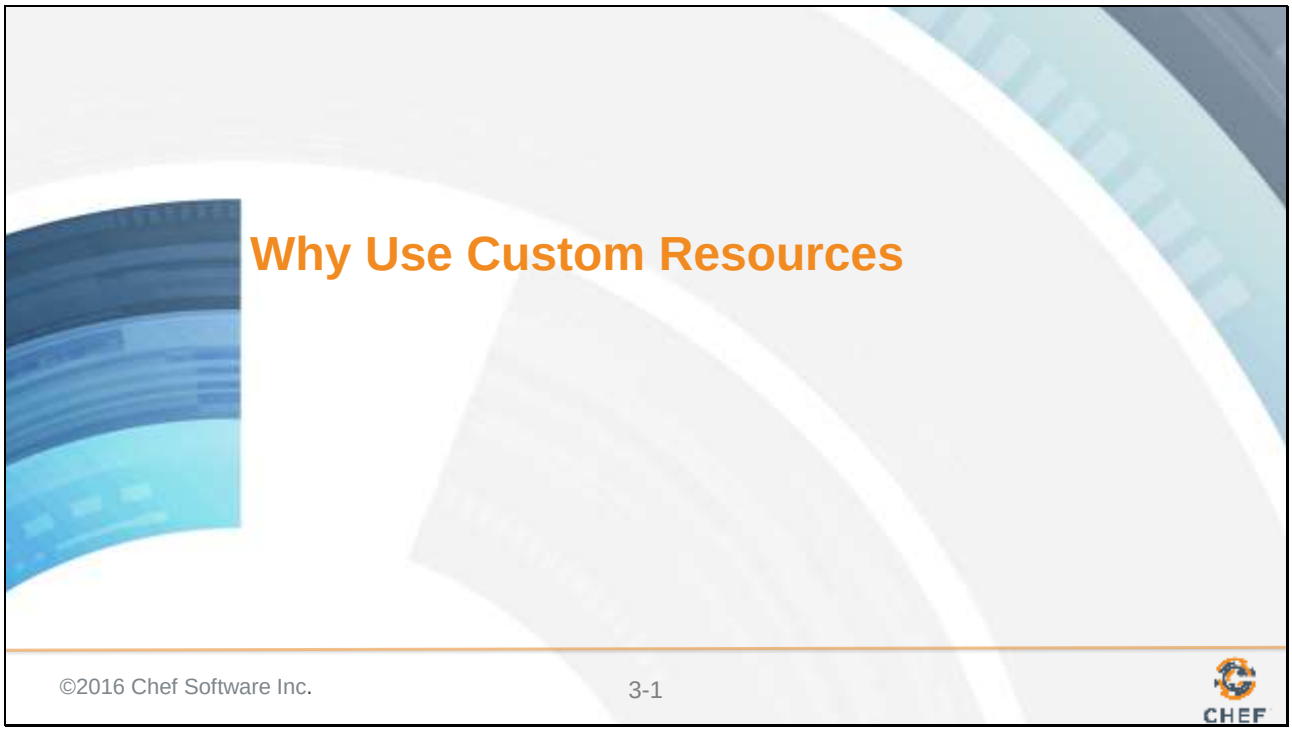
3: Why Use Custom Resources



As you can see there are more than a few ways to extend Chef and create a resource or resource-like implementation within your recipes. But before we do that, it is important to understand the value that a custom resource brings to a recipes.

Slide 2

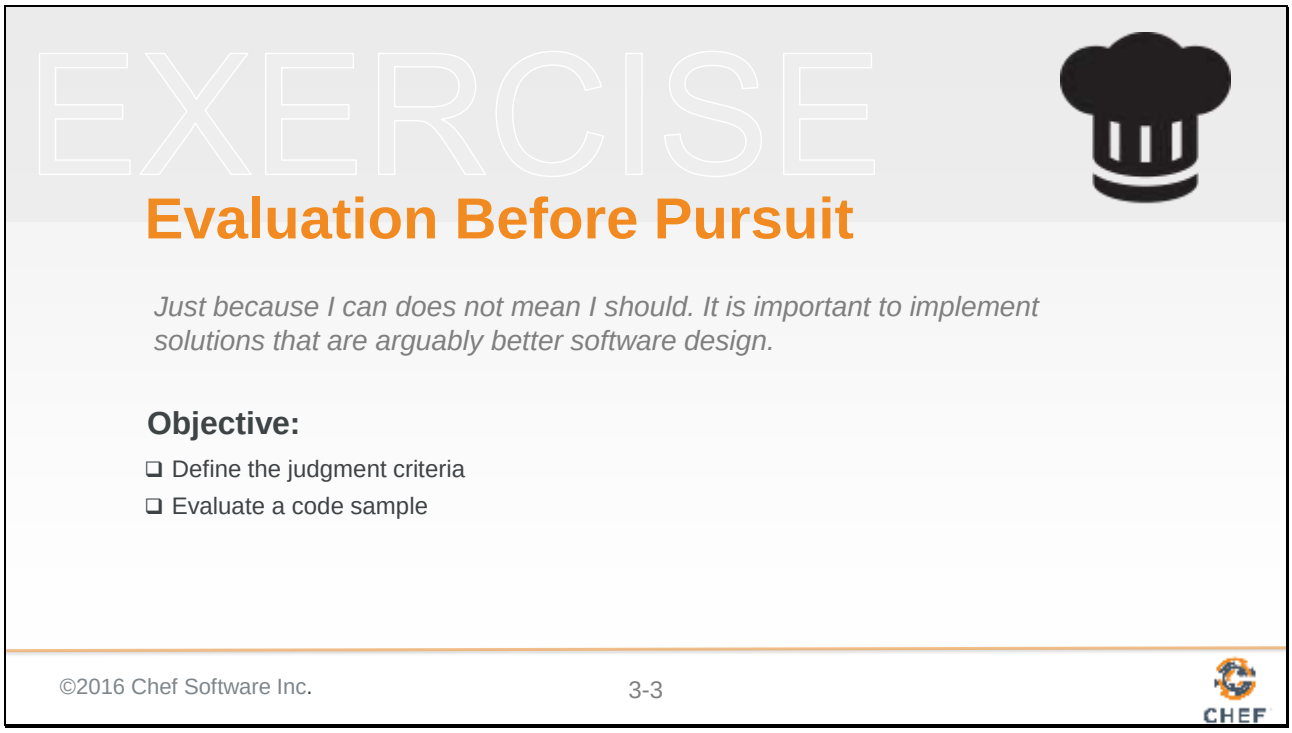
Objectives

After completing this module, you should be able to:

- Determine when a Custom Resource would be beneficial for clarity and reusability

After completing this module you will be able to describe when a Custom Resource would be beneficial for clarity and reusability.

Slide 3



As an group exercise we are going to look at a series of resources and discuss their quality. Quality can be rather variable unless we select a criteria for which to judge it.

Slide 4

When defining resources within our recipes we are writing software. Software has a number of quality characteristics that have already been defined. ISO/IEC 9126 is an international standard for evaluation of software quality.

Slide 5

This standard identifies 6 main quality characteristics. Let's talk about each one of these so that we have a shared understanding of what we mean when using them in this exercise.

Slide 6

Functionality is the essential purpose of any product or service. Does the code accomplish what it is designed to accomplish? Functionality may also be concerned with if it does so securely and within compliance guidelines.

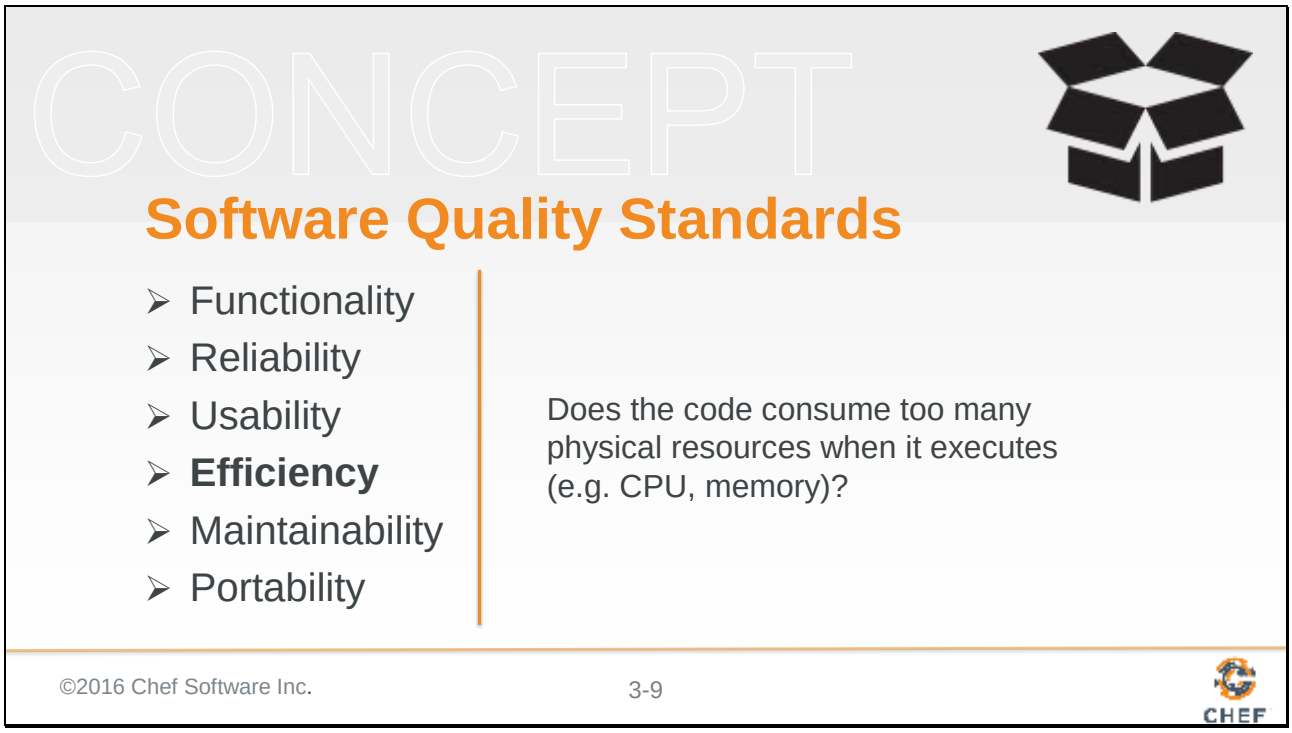
Slide 7

Reliability is a judgment of whether the code accomplishes its functional goal consistently, is able to withstand fault, and recover from a failure.

Slide 8

Usability refers to the ease of use for the given code. Is the code easy to understand? Is it easy to learn? Does it adhere to common team standards?

Slide 9



Efficiency is concerned with the system resources required to achieve the functionality. We may consider the time, CPU, memory, network requirements, or physical space it takes to accomplish the intended operation.

Slide 10

Maintainability measures the code to see if it is supportable. If there is a failure are you able to quickly identify the issue? Are you able to easily adapt the solution? Is it testable?

Slide 11

CONCEPT

Software Quality Standards

- Functionality
- Reliability
- Usability
- Efficiency
- Maintainability
- **Portability**

Can the software adapt to changes in its environment? Or changes to its requirements?

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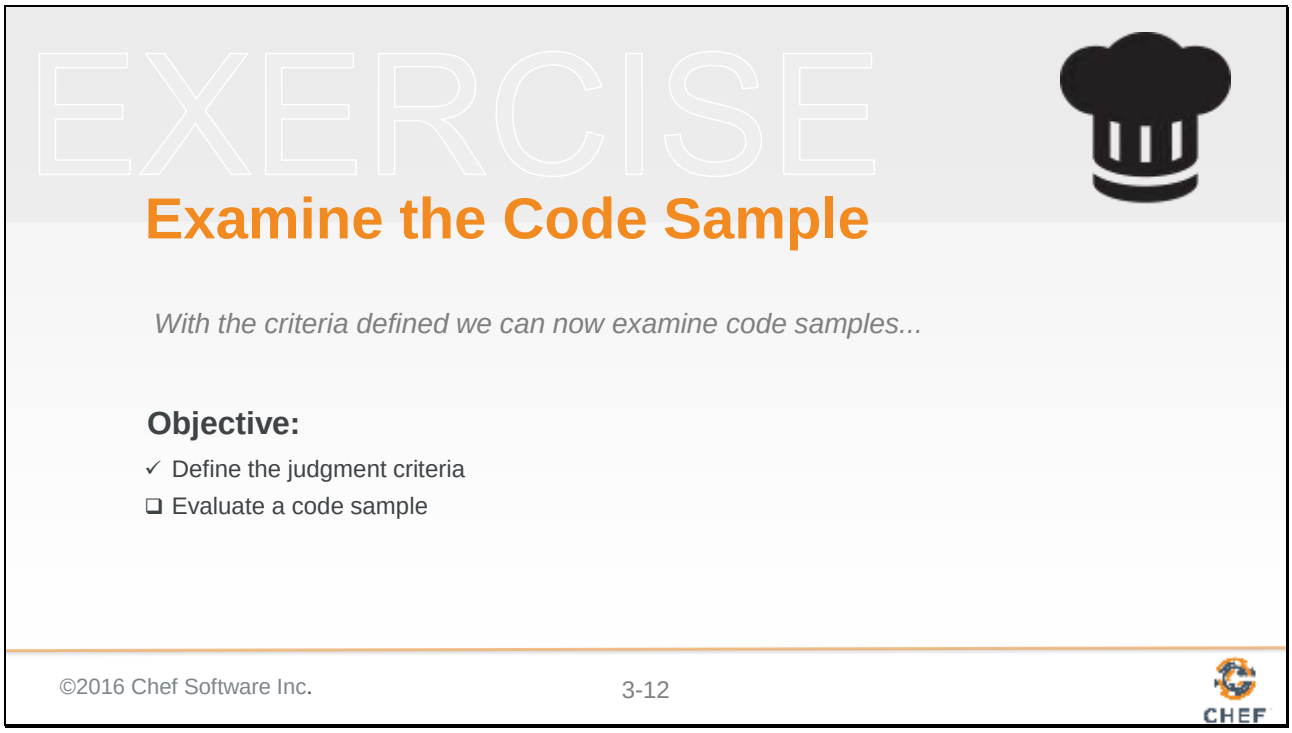
Portability refers to how well the software can adapt to changes in its environment or with its requirements. This may also include evaluating code for its adaptability and maybe even be easily replaced.

Slide 12



Let's examine this first example and apply the criteria that we have defined.

Resource Implementation v Custom Resource

```
directory '/srv/apache/admins/html' do
  recursive true
  mode '0755'
end

template '/etc/httpd/conf.d/admins.conf' do
  source 'conf.erb'
  mode '0644'

variables(document_root:'/srv/apache/admins/ht
ml',
port: 8080)
  notifies :restart, 'service[httpd]'
end

file '/srv/apache/admins/html/index.html' do
  content '<h1>Welcome admins!</h1>'
end
```

```
apache_vhost 'admins' do
  site_port 8080
end
```

Functionality | Reliability | Usability | Efficiency | Maintainability | Portability

Does the code accomplish what it is designed to accomplish?

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```

Functionality | **Reliability** | Usability | Efficiency | Maintainability | Portability

Is the solution able to withstand fault and recover from a failure?

Resource Implementation v Custom Resource

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Functionality | Reliability | **Usability** | Efficiency | Maintainability | Portability

Is the code easy to understand? Is it easy to learn?

CHEF

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```

Functionality | Reliability | Usability | **Efficiency** | Maintainability | Portability

Does the code consume too many physical resources when it executes (e.g. CPU, memory)?

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Resource Implementation v Custom Resource

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Functionality | Reliability | Usability | Efficiency | **Maintainability** | Portability

Are you able to easily adapt the solution? Is it testable?

CHEF

Resource Implementation v Custom Resource

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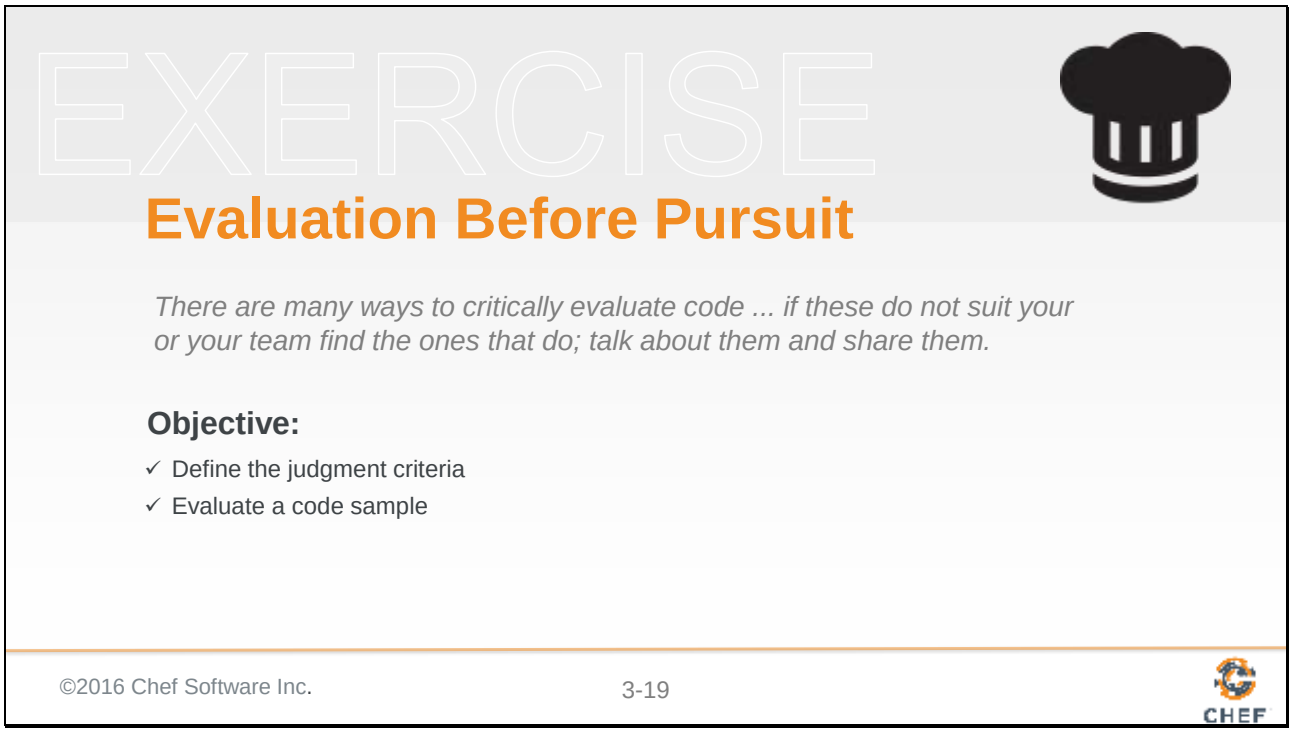
Functionality | Reliability | Usability | Efficiency | Maintainability | **Portability**

Can the software adapt to changes in its environment? Or changes to its requirements?

CHEF

Slide 19



We've evaluated one code sample, let's look at a second one.

Slide 20

DISCUSSION

Discussion

What value does reviewing code for functionality, reliability, usability, efficiency, maintainability, portability bring?

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Slide 21

DISCUSSION

Q&A

What questions can we answer for you?

Slide 22