

Pair Programming

Pair programming is often described as [Williams 2000]:

a practice in which two programmers work side-by-side at one computer, continuously collaborating on the same design, algorithm, code, or test. This method has been demonstrated to improve productivity and the quality of software products.

How Pair Exercises are Supposed to Be Done

- Each pairs team has one repository for pair exercises that each team member should clone to their ~/workspace folder.
- Only one team member at a time should be making changes/developing code.
- Development should be divided into logical units of work with team members alternating developing a unit of work.
- The team member not making the physical changes should be collaborating with their partner on what changes should be made and why.
- Team members should alternate making changes to the code.
- When you are ready to switch to the other team member making changes, be sure work done thus far is pushed and the other team member has pulled the new code.
- Members of the team should ALWAYS work together. Do not fall into the trap of one member working independently of the other. THAT is not pair programming.

Simultaneous changes to code by both team members should not be done!

This WILL lead to problems when you try to push/pull from your repository.