Joshua Bilsland

The Odin Project Notes

A collection of notes

Contents

# Foundations – Introduction

## How This Course Will Work

* “The Odin Project is an open-source community dedicated to providing the best information sources to take you from zero to a full-stack developer”
* Will go over the basics of internet, Git, GitHub, HTML, CSS, JS, back-end technologies, etc
* Lessons will contain questions that should be answered before moving on
* After the foundations course, the Full Stack JavaScript and Full Stack Rails paths can be taken
* A collection of the best sources that could be found by the community
* Some things made by the community themselves

## Introduction to Web Development

* Web development is project-focused and involves collaborating with a team that helps to co-ordinate the client’s needs into the end product.
* Front end:
  + What the website visitors see
  + The presentation of content and user interface elements
  + Use of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript
* Back end:
  + “The guts of the application”
  + Stores and serves data to ensure the front end has what it needs
  + Uses languages such as Java, Python, and Ruby
* Full Stack:
  + Developers that are comfortable working with both the front and back ends
  + The Odin Project focuses on teaching full-stack development
* Can work for large tech companies, startups, as a freelancer, or as a consultant
* <https://web.archive.org/web/20160925155912/http://www.happybearsoftware.com/how-to-get-a-programmer-job.html>
* Can help add to the project (Will be good for CV)
* <https://github.com/kamranahmedse/developer-roadmap>

## Motivation and Mindset

* Someone with a ‘fixed mindset’ believes that if they don’t get something on their first attempt, they never will
* Someone with a ‘growth mindset’ believes they can get better at anything with effort and persistence
* Intelligence is not fixed and can be developed
* ‘Focus mode’ is when your mind is focused on learning, reading, watching videos, or working on a project
* ‘Diffuse mode’ is when you are not actively learning and is the state where your mind starts to connect what you have been learning (This is why when you are falling asleep you might have a breakthrough on a problem you were stuck on)
* This is why taking a break when you are really stuck on a problem is good as you can usually come up with a solution
* Teaching things to others is a great way to solidify what you have learned

## Asking For Help

* It is essential to ask well formed questions to make it easier for people to help
* Always provide code and the surrounding context
* Ask for help, not the solution itself
* <https://medium.com/@gordon_zhu/how-to-be-great-at-asking-questions-e37be04d0603>
* Text

  Description automatically generated<https://xyproblem.info/> - When people ask about their attempted solution rather than their actual problem.
* <https://stackoverflow.com/help/how-to-ask>
* https://slash7.com/2006/12/22/vampires/

Question Answers:

1. Context or code
2. Where someone asks for help with Y to assist their solution with X when they really should be using an alternative X. Asking about their attempted solution rather than their actual problem.
3. Doesn’t google things/read docs, doesn’t ask specific questions, asks common questions that have already been answered before

## Join the Odin Community

* Working and collaborating with other people is an important part of working as a web developer
* Use the #TheOdinProject
* Community discord
* Rubber duck debugging – Go through the code line by line
* Use backticks in discord to show code different from the rest of the text.
* Use three backticks above and below code for multiple lines of code
* Specify the language after the three backticks to add colour