Getting Started With Open-source The Right Way

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Hey!! I'm Dewan

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- From Moncton, NB (Atlantic Canada)
- everything cloud-native
- Focus on DevOps/GitOps tools



Agenda

- Understanding open-source projects
- Values of open-source

- Why YOU should contribute to open-source projects
- Who are open-source contributors?

- Three steps to your first open-source PR
- PR best practices

Q&A | Resources

Understanding open-source projects

Open Source != Free Software

What are the values of open source?

- Peer review
- Transparency
- Reliability
- Flexibility
- Lower cost
- No vendor lock-in
- Open collaboration

Why YOU should contribute to open-source projects

- Gaining experience

- Building new skills

- Building confidence

Who are open-source contributors?

- Software Engineers
- SysAdmins
- Project Managers
- Developer Advocates
- Technical Writers
- UX/UI Designers
- QA/Testers
- ... and more

Step 1: Learn git



Step 2: Choose an open-source project

Things to consider:

- The programming language (for code contributions)
- Area of interest
- Size of the project

Step 3: Start contributing - Go raise that first PR!

Suggested approach:

- Block your weekly contributing hours. Commit.
- Identify **good-first-issue** (or similar tags) on projects
- Discuss on slack (or other comms) on the requirement
- Assign yourself to that issue. Be committed and professional
- Discuss on slack (or other comms) on the implementation
- Sign the CLA (optional)
- Raise a PR (fork original, work on your feature branch & create a PR)
- Have patience :)

First PR Best Practices - For code contributors

- 1. Read the existing code
- 2. Ensure that your local dev environment is ready
- 3. Add value contributions don't fix a typo for the sake of a PR
- 4. Perform manual tests and then add unit tests
- 5. Prepare and review your own PR
- 6. Listen to feedback with objective self criticism

Resources

- Getting started with open-source a blog by Dewan Ahmed
- What is open source A Red Hat blog
- Atlassian tutorials on Git
- Awesome resources for first time contributors
- Curated easy pickings from popular open-source projects
- How to make first PR FreeCodeCamp

Thank you!

Questions?

