# Welcome to Coding Dojo

At Coding Dojo we believe anyone can learn to code. That sounds silly, but it's true as long as you are passionate and willing to commit to hard work and lots of hours. As one of our instructors once said: "We guide students to become learners, empowering them to teach themselves just about anything."

#### **Expectations**

#### Be Humble

It's important for you to know what we expect of you and what you can expect from us. We expect you to stay humble. This means being forgiving to yourself and others. Be kind and remember that everyone starts at a different relative skill level.

Always be prepared for each day's challenge and come with a great attitude, ready to give it your all.

### Strength Through Struggle

You are attending Coding Dojo to become a self-sufficient developer. We expect you to struggle through the material. A phrase you'll hear repeated often is "strength through struggle". When we ask you to struggle it is because we have seen first-hand that when a person perseveres in solving tough problems they gain skills faster and retain them for longer. Each time you hit a wall remember that all it takes is time. We will never ask you to solve problems that are impossible. Come with the attitude that you will never give up. Soon, each challenge becomes fun and interesting rather than frustrating.

#### 20-Minute Rule

Although we want you to struggle, we want to control that process so you're not feeling discouraged or spending too much time on one problem to maintain the required pace. After struggling with a problem for 20 minutes, ask your cohort-mates for help. If the two (or more) of you still can't solve the problem in another 20 minutes, ask an instructor. Your instructor won't give you the answer but will help guide you through the steps to figuring out the solution. This process provides you with a taste of the real world but prevents you from getting so discouraged that you give up.

## **Be Present**

If you're not here we can't help you. Being in an environment where everyone is working toward the same goal is one of your greatest resources. You may fall behind and start thinking it's better to work from home. This never works out! You don't want to miss lectures, group activities or any other events that happen throughout the day. Even if you're not caught-up, there is more learning happening here than on your couch!

#### Goals

Our goal is for each student to become a self-sufficient developer. We want all of you to earn a Black Belt in each stack. We will do everything in our power to help you reach that goal, but at the end of the day, you must be the one to challenge yourself.

Happy Coding!

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