

First a word from our “sponsors”

# Greetings fellow Newbies

So you're learning to code! Wonderful! There's so much information freely available!

# Where will we learn?

## E-Learning

Coursera,  
Codecademy, Udemy



## Community

Discord, Slack,  
Twitter, etc.

## Articles

Blogs from developers  
and companies

## Docs

Official documentation  
for easy digestion

# Docs

Let's start with the docs! No one knows how to use a product, language, app as well as the people who built it, right?

The screenshot shows the Twitter Developer Platform documentation page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Products, Docs (which is currently selected), Use Cases, and Community. On the far right, there are links for Support, Developer Portal, and user profile icons. The main content area has a dark header with the word "Documentation". Below the header is a search bar labeled "Search the docs" with a magnifying glass icon. To the left of the main content, there is a sidebar with a dark background containing several navigation items: "Getting started", "Fundamentals", "Tools and libraries", "Tutorials", "API reference index", "Twitter API", "Twitter Ads API", and "Twitter for Websites". The "Twitter API" item is expanded, showing its sub-sections. The main content area features a section titled "Docs" with a sub-section titled "Twitter API". This section contains a brief description of the API and links to "Twitter API" and "Twitter Ads API". Below this is another section titled "Twitter for Websites" with a similar structure. The entire page is framed by a thick red border.



#SchittsCreek



**AM I DUMB?**

TV LAND

# Lost in the DOCS

What I learned as a Newbie

# Who am I?

- Pj Metz | Developer Community Manager at ProjectDiscovery
- Former GitLab Education Evangelist
- Former High School English Teacher
- Big into the 80's, 90's vaporwave, and all kinds of music.
- Published poet, sometimes musician



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The pain... THE PAIN

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01

# From Poetry to Code-try

# 11 years in the classroom

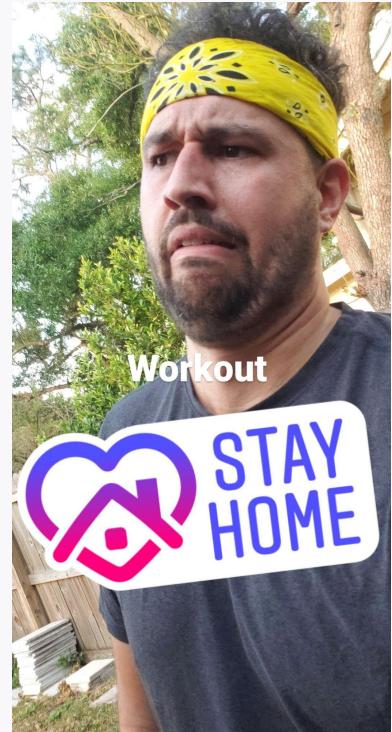
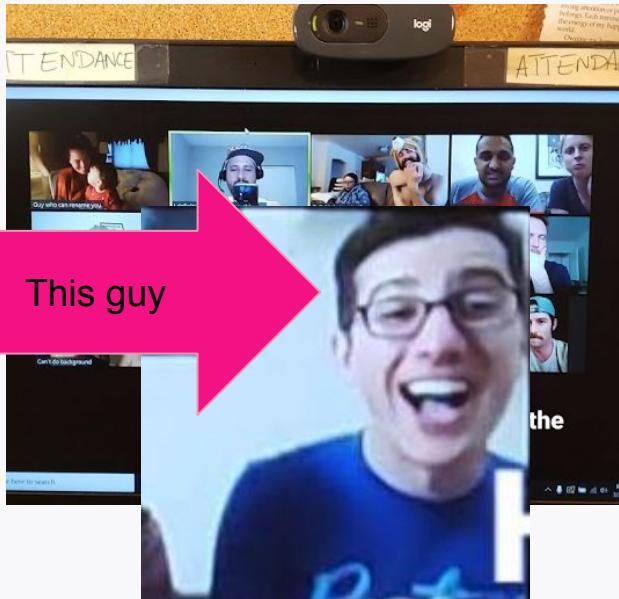


In the classroom, and as a teacher, documenting tasks and assignments with clear directions so students can follow along is a prerequisite of the job. Every assignment came with documentation...

But there was inevitable confusion... especially when you assume prior knowledge...



# Y'all remember the pandemic?



# The teacher becomes the student

May 16, 2020 - “Hello World” in C#

Summer and Fall of 2020

- Asp.Net Core
- Html, CSS, C#,

Met Chloe Condon through Brandon

- Node.js
- Twitter bots

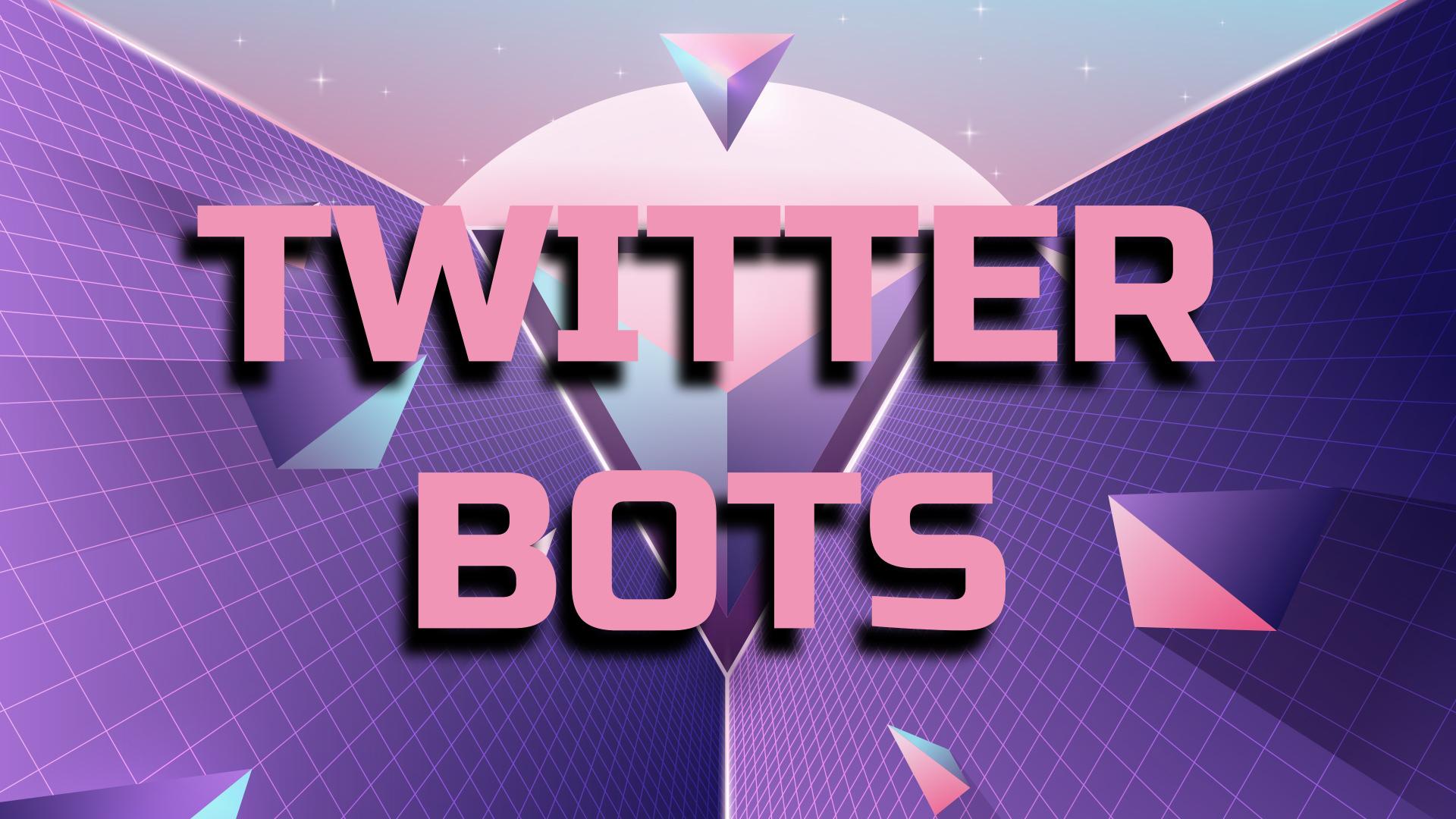




02

## My docs pain

# **TWITTER BOTS**





## Documentation

Search the docs

Getting started

Fundamentals

Tools and libraries

Tutorials

API reference index

Twitter API

Twitter Ads API

Twitter for Websites

# Docs

Guides and reference materials to help you get started, integrate, optimize and troubleshoot your use of the Twitter Developer Platform.

### Twitter API

The Twitter API enables programmatic access to Twitter in unique and advanced ways. Tap into core elements of Twitter like: Tweets, Direct Messages, Spaces, Lists, users, and more.

### Twitter Ads API

The Twitter Ads API provides programmatic access to advertising platforms and the needs of advertising partners.

### Installing

```
npm install twit
```

### Usage:

```
var Twit = require('twit')

var T = new Twit({
  consumer_key:      '...',
  consumer_secret:   '...',
  access_token:      '...',
  access_token_secret: '...',
  timeout_ms:        60*1000, // optional HTTP request timeout to apply to all requests.
  strictSSL:         true,    // optional - requires SSL certificates to be valid.
})

// 
// tweet 'hello world!'
//
T.post('statuses/update', { status: 'hello world!' }, function(err, data, response) {
  console.log(data)
})
```

# Shania bot





## Keys

Four keys to make the code work



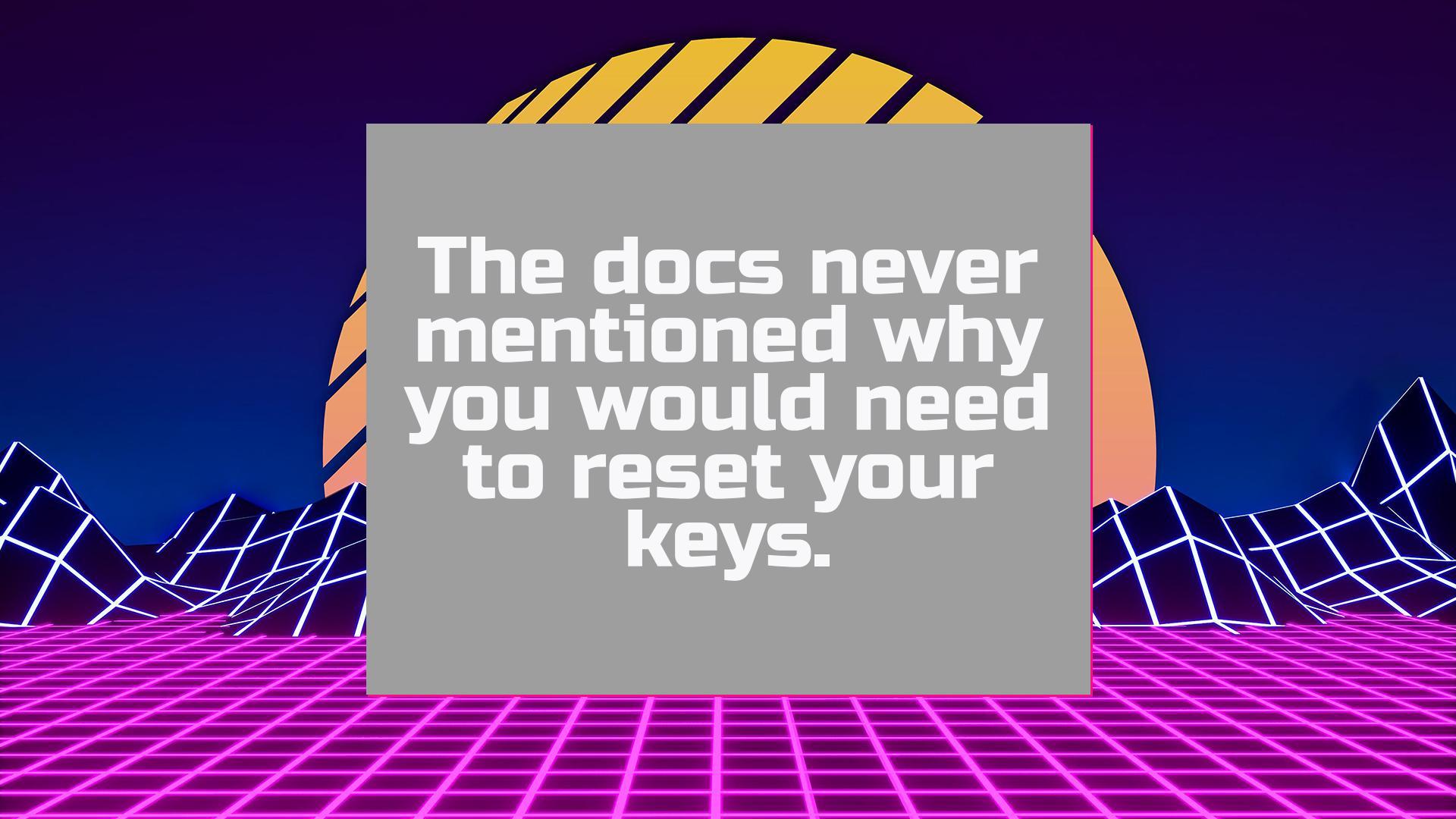
## Docs

Docs told us how to get the keys



## Problem

Permissions



The docs never  
mentioned why  
you would need  
to reset your  
keys.



03

## Advice for Newbies





Docs.

Suck.

# FOUR ways to deal with bad docs



## Many paths, 1 destination

If the goal is to learn something, find multiple sources



## Participate

Forums, GitHub, Discord, even editing



## Take a Break

No, seriously.



## Start Over

Solidify earlier concepts





04

# Advice for Doc Creators

# Teaching and DevRel



## Education

An audience of people with some background knowledge **tasked** with increasing some skill or ability. Your job is to get your audience where they **need** to go.



## DevRel

An audience of people with some background knowledge **seeking** to increase some skill or ability. Your job is to get your audience where they **want** to go.



“What is the point of your docs?”

# Context

Links, acronyms, background knowledge

# Levels

Does your reader know who this is meant for?

# Learning styles

More than text

# Context



## Links

Links to more info, to blogs, to other resources that can be helpful for learning OR to add context to your information.



## Acronyms

TIIotMAWaEsPGSWTDKS

Full name at least once, then the acronym  
e.g. Software as a Service (SaaS)



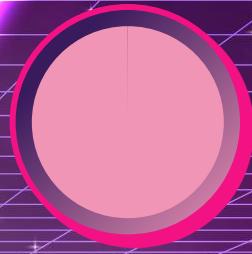
## Background Knowledge

What does your user already know?



"Mr Metz, what do  
you mean by  
annotate?"  
- like, fifteen  
seniors today.

# Levels



## Beginner

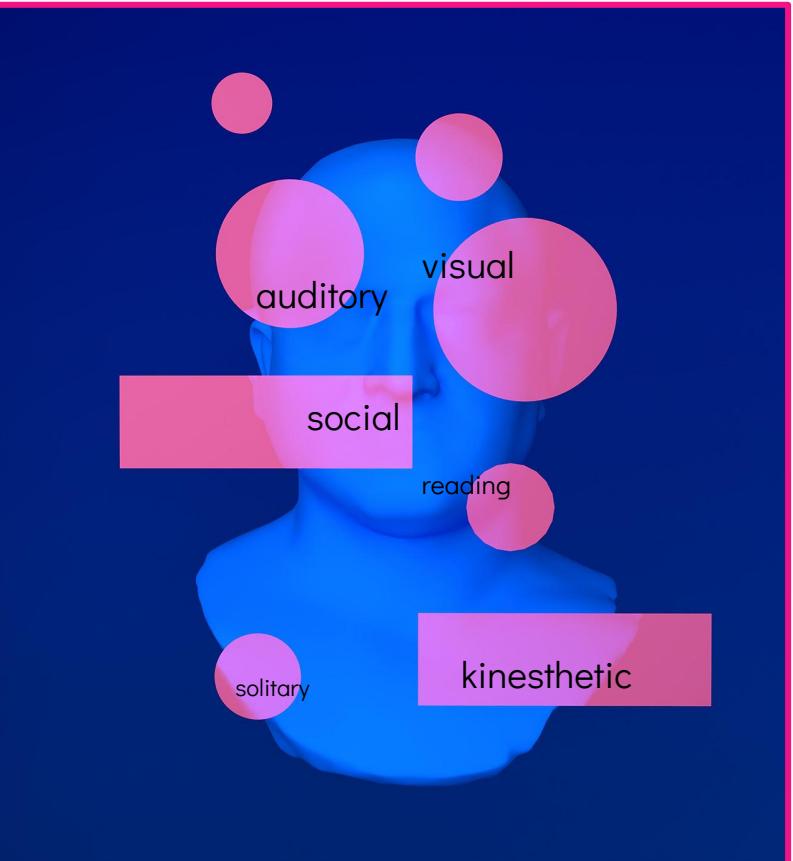
Lots of context, several language examples, links to more learning

## Intermediate

Integrations, automation, advanced techniques.

## Expert

Finding the specific thing they need quickly



# Learning Styles

More than instructions or how it's done,  
great docs inspire action

Consider:

- Adding video demo or work
- A sandbox
- Knowledge checks
- A place for feedback
- Links to the social areas for social learning



05

**Wrap up**





Docs.

Are.

Hard.

# EMPATHY

# THANKS

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@metzinaround



CREDITS: This presentation template was created by **Slidesgo**, and includes icons by **Flaticon**, and infographics & images by **Freepik**

Learn more about ProjectDiscovery!

