

A Survey of Pull Request Description

Welcome!

Thank you for participating in our study on pull request descriptions. The purpose of this study is to validate several practices we discovered about writing a good PR description.

The survey will take about 3 minutes and has a total of 14 questions.

Thank you again for your help!

1. What kind of contributor are you? *

- ☐ Only write code
- ☐ Review code
- ☐ Write code and review code

Practices

We discovered 12 practices by analyzing reviewers' suggestions on editing descriptions. Please score the following practices based on importance and difficulty. The importance means the extent to which this practice may help the reviewers (or the community) to understand and accept the pull request. The difficulty means the amount of effort required to follow this practice.

2. Clearly state the motivation for the pull request in the description. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

3. If the pull request is related to an issue, add a link to the related issue in the description. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

4. If the pull request is a bug fix, briefly describe the bug that needs to be fixed. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

5. Accurately describe the functionality of pull requests, like high-level description about what the pull request does. After revising the code, update the description to make sure it describes the actual code. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

6. Fill in information for release note entries according to project requirements, such as providing a release note entry or explicitly indicating that the pull request doesn't need one. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

7. Clarify the effect of the pull request if the pull request will bring changes perceptible to the user. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

8. Explain the trade-offs if there is a cost accepting the pull request. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

9. Explain the technical details if the pull request involves complex code changes. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

10. Provide testing information in the description. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

11. Update the checklist in the description according to the current status and progress of the pull request. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

12. Follow the format requirements for pull request descriptions required by GitHub or the project. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|--|----|--------|--------|------|------|
|--|----|--------|--------|------|------|

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

13. Delete content in the pull request template that is not relevant to a specific pull request if the template asks to do so. *

| | No | Slight | Medium | More | Most |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Importance | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Difficulty | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

14. Are there any other practices about pull request description that you consider important but we missed? If there are, please provide.
