Step 1: Define inclusion-exclusion criteria:

Our primary goal of performing the SLR is to identify recommendations regarding newcomers’ task selection, and work practices. On this goal, we defined four inclusion criteria (IC) and eight exclusion criteria (EC) which we provided with supplemental materials.

Step 2: Search digital libraries:

We adopted a hybrid approach for performing SLR which involves searching in Google Scholar, Scopus, IEEE, and ACM. Following the suggestions of prior studies \cite{steinmacher2015social,steinmacher2015systematic} and considering our final goal, we defined our search string (provided with supplemental materials). We identified a total of 158 papers and after removing the duplicate entries, we were left with 100 papers.

Step 3: Select primary studies:

In this step, we downloaded and read the abstracts for those remaining papers to exclude irrelevant ones. This step resulted in the exclusion of a total of 71 papers. In the next iteration, we skimmed through each of the remaining 29 papers to apply our first five exclusion criteria (i.e., EC1 -EC5). After discarding 11 papers based on EC1-EC5, we identified a total of 18 studies, at the end of this step.

Step 4: Forward and backward snowballing:

Backward Snowballing is the process of examining the reference of a publication to select additional relevant studies. Using Backward Snowballing, we identified 6 additional studies. Forward Snowballing is the process of identifying relevant publications which cited our selected preliminary studies. In this step, we found 2 additional relevant studies. At the end of this step, we found a total of 26 studies.

Step 5: Include additional studies based on expert recommendation:

In this step, we decided to validate our list of 26 papers based on the opinions of expert researchers. We selected 3 expert researchers whose names appear more than three times among our list of 26 studies. We included additional 5 studies in this step.

Step 6: Prepare final section based on inclusion/ exclusion criteria:

In this step, we carefully went through the 31 publications and applied EC6, EC7, and EC8 (i.e., we discarded studies that do not provide recommendations regarding OSS newcomers' task selection or work practices). A total of 14 studies survived this step.

Step 7: Data extraction:

In this step, two of the authors went through the 14 papers independently and highlighted sentences suggesting recommendations to newcomers about task selection or work practices. We followed a card sorting technique as suggested by Zimmermann \cite{zimmermann2016card} to identify the list of recommendations. We also mapped each of the recommendations to one or more primary studies.