Ontology Best Practices - Checklist Summary

Rules	Description	More explanations	Difficulty (*, **, ***)	Status (Done, In progress) ?	Estimated time
Rule 1	Finding a good **ontology name**	Find an explicit name for your ontology, we frequently see “unnamed.owl”!	*		
Rule 2	Finding a good **ontology namespace**	Ideally on PURL or W3id. Otherwise, think about the server hosting the ontology (e.g., http://knoesis.org/ontology/nameOntology#)	**		15 mins
Rule 3	Sharing your **ontology online**	Accessible with an URL (http://knoesis.org/ontology/nameOntology#) No server? Push the ontology code on Github? No server? we can host the ontology code on the LOV4IoT server (but is the ontology stable version?)	**		
Rule 4	Adding **ontology metadata**	This is important to later reference the ontology on ontology catalogs, or even to provide automatic ontology visualization, ontology documentation, etc.	*		
Rule 5	Adding rdfs:label, rdfs:comment, dc:description for each concept and property	This is important to later provide automatic ontology visualization, documentation, etc. Some tools prefer dc:description, check which ones (e.g., LODE?).	*		
Rule 6	All classes should start with an uppercase and properties with a lowercase.	To follow usual software and ontology development guidelines.	*		
Rule 7	Submitting your ontology to **ontology catalogs**	Ontology catalogs: LOV, LOV4IoT, BioPortal. It depends on your applicative domain.	**		
Rule 8	Reusing and linking ontologies	Reuse an existing concepts and properties from an existing ontology/namespace (e.g., ssn:Device) Otherwise add owl:EquivalentClass, owl:sameAs, owl:equivalentProperty, etc.	***		
Rule 9	**Deferenceable URI**: copy paste the namespace URL of your	Important to automatize the tasks to automatically retrieve the ontology code for automatic analysis of ontologies	**		

	ontology in a web browser to get the code				
Rule 10	Checking **syntax validator**	TripleChecker tool is an easy web service to use. It can check incorrect use of ontologies. Other tools: OWL Validator, RDF Validator, etc.	*		
Rule 11	Adding **ontology documentation**	Ontology documentation can be done automatically with easy to use tools by using their web services if you have labels and comments. E.g., LODE, Widoco, Parrot.	*		
Rule 12	Adding **ontology visualization**	Usage of the WebVOWL tool to provide the ontology visualization automatically.	*		
Rule 13	Improving **Ontology Design**	Usage of the Oops tool to improve the ontology design.	***		