

The Art of the Spike

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DRY

So you're starting a
new project...

Let's pop the why
stack

Yes but why?

Business value

“Faster”

“Better”

“Easier”



A Jedi craves not
these things

Making money

Preserving reputation

Story time

We've just been
assigned a new
project

Credit card authorization

Very lean information
set

Number, available
credit, charge limit

Lookup by card number

Web service for charges

Transaction speed is essential

Ok let's get down to
planning

We've decided to use
clojure as a language

And compojure as a web framework

And PostgreSQL as a database

But wait!

Has anyone heard about Redis?

It might be a good fit
for this

We should spike it
out!

Research time

Record everything!



Time-box everything!

Download and install

How did it go?

Should we keep going?

Interfacing

Is there an SDK or
API?

In the language you
are using?

Does it work?

Should we keep going?

Prototype code

Simple CRUD

How long did it take?

Should we keep going?

Reference Example

What does my team think?

Should we keep going?

Operations

How do we deploy it?

How do we monitor it?

Should we keep going?

Performance

How fast can a single instance go?

Can it scale?

Should we keep going?

Management / Client

We did a spike and
here's what we found

Easy to install

Easy to use

The dev team has a
reference example

Dev team feels they
can be productive on
day one

Easy deployment

Easy monitoring

In memory

**Outperforms any
RDBMS**

Easy and fast scaling

We recommend
using Redis for this
project

Contact

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Questions?