Ruby Error *Checklist*

What to Do When You Have an Error in Your Code

✅ Read the ENTIRE error message. Even if you don't understand every word, you can most likely pick out important pieces of information.

✅ Check the line number in the error message and then the corresponding line in your code. Is anything missing? A quote perhaps??

✅ Check the values of the variables you are trying to use by printing them out. Are they what you expected them to be?

✅ Check your indentation. It's easy to miss bits of code if your code is not indented properly!

✅ Step awaaaaay from the computer. Do something to clear your head.

✅ Don't try to solve all the errors at once. Work through the errors one at a time, starting with the first and ending with the last.

✅ When trying to fix an error, try one change, save, and rerun your code. Lather, rinse, repeat. This lets you rule issues out one by one and get closer to the solution.

✅ Read your script line by line out loud, slowly. It sounds silly, but hearing your code may help you discover mistakes.

✅ If you're working with functions, make sure they are returning what you *think* they are returning, before you try to use those return values.

✅ Focus on the task at hand. Don't get distracted by other parts of your code. That is called yak-shaving and it will NOT help you fix your errors!

✅ If all else fails, ask someone for help!