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# The Problem with Non-Coding Managers

Spoiler: It's That They Don't Code



The Secret Developer



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I know we're all experts in a dying field these days. Software developers are reaching the end of their shelf-life in respect of paid work.

This means that the rush to become *senior* is being replaced by a rush into *management*. After all, you can't easily automate those important people tasks like approving holidays and listening to your personal issues.

That doesn't make any sense. If there are no coders, who are you going to manage?

## The issue

Many technical managers are not coding managers. That is, they don't know about the technical detail of the work and the people they are managing.

## My current situation

My manager doesn't seem to do anything. They're a ghost. I think this might be because they don't have *confidence* in their code. It's a real shame for them, but also a real shame for our development team.

## Slow of Mind

They don't understand the technical challenges that their staff face. My current manager says that *they were the best coder at their previous office*.

## Sure

They don't participate in any code reviews and so do not know the detail of the technical work that takes place in the codebase. As time goes on, they become increasingly disassociated with any sort of technical work. Worse, it will take an increasingly long amount of time to *get back* to a competent level.

It kind of doesn't matter. Not looking at the codebase because nobody cares about the technical details is giving the lead in a way nobody should. It's a race to the bottom when you start doing this.

*Your leadership is leading us in the wrong direction*

## They still have some negative elements of the coder's outlook

This relates to my current manager, but it might strike a chord with many of you.

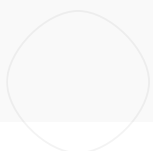
They are judgemental. They don't listen to other opinions. In this case, the idea is to



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9





## Written by The Secret Developer

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