

Code Smell

The Metaphor

- Just like real-world odour, it is something that is indicative of some problem.

How it applies to coding?

- Are we choosing the right kind of variables?
- Are we naming the variables appropriately?
- The smell is instinctive.

Examples

1. Duplication
2. Unnecessary Complexity
3. Useless/misleading comments
4. Long classes
5. Long methods
6. Poor naming (of classes, methods, variables)
7. Unused code
8. Poor inheritance
9. Complex logic
10. Convoluted code
11. Tight coupling
12. Poor cohesion
13. Over abstraction
14. Overuse of design patterns

15. Clever code

How to deal with it?

- Keep an eye (or a nose ;)) on it.
- Actively refactor
- Pay technical debt
- Put effort to deodorise