@jennydoesthings

Seems Good Enough to Me

Working With Testers to Derisk Elixir Upgrades

Jenny Bramble

- Director of Quality Engineering, Papa
- Tester by nature and nurture
- Pronouns are she/her
- I have stickers!

I don’t think I need to convince anyone in the room that keeping our ecosystem up to date is a good thing.

What problem do we want to solve?

What problem do we want to solve?

- Upgrades are risky but necessary.
- Most parts of our teams don’t understand how risky upgrades are or are not.
- Regression testing takes forever and uses a lot of our resources.
- If we mess up, it could be real bad.

@jennydoesthings

How do we make upgrades less risky?

I have an easy answer.

Do less testing.

@jennydoesthings

How do we make upgrades less risky?

I believe we derisk upgrades by testing the smallest set of features that give us confidence to move forward.

That seems obvious, right?

Let’s talk about ‘good enough testing’.

Good Enough Testing

- Thoughtfully and intentionally craft test scenarios
- Detail what we aren’t testing and why
- Don’t thrash
- Don’t toil
- Prioritizes whitewater kayaking and hiking

@jennydoesthings

Good Enough Testing

- Thoughtfully and intentionally craft test scenarios
- Detail what we aren’t testing and why
- Don’t thrash
- Don’t toil
- Prioritizes work-life balance

Testers hold the mental model of the system in our minds.

How do we express that in upgrades?

Spoiler alert: this isn't going to be a radical shift.

Start with the changelog.

Now communicate it.

For each thing we think will affect us, determine its risk profile.

@jennydoesthings

What if we get it right?

How would this express if we missed something?

Do we care?

How will we monitor and observe?

Stop throwing things over the wall…

....to production.

How will we monitor and observe?

Taadaa, risk profile!

Craft scenarios.

Defend yourselves.

@jennydoesthings

Defend yourselves.

elixir

elixir

elixir

elixir

This is how we introduce nuance to our testing.

This is how we derisk upgrades.

To recap:

Do less testing.

- Craft thoughtful, intentional scenarios.
- Describe what we aren’t testing and why.
- Embrace minimalism.

Communicate more.

- Share your plans.
- Defend your plans.
- Give others a reason to trust you.

Questions?

- jenny.bramble@gmail.com
- Twitter: @jennydoesthings

Credits

This is where you give credit to the ones who are part of this project.

- Presentation template by Slidesgo
- Icons by Flaticon
- Infographics by Freepik
- Images created Freepik
- Author introduction slide photo created by Freepik
- Text & Image slide photo created by Freepik.com