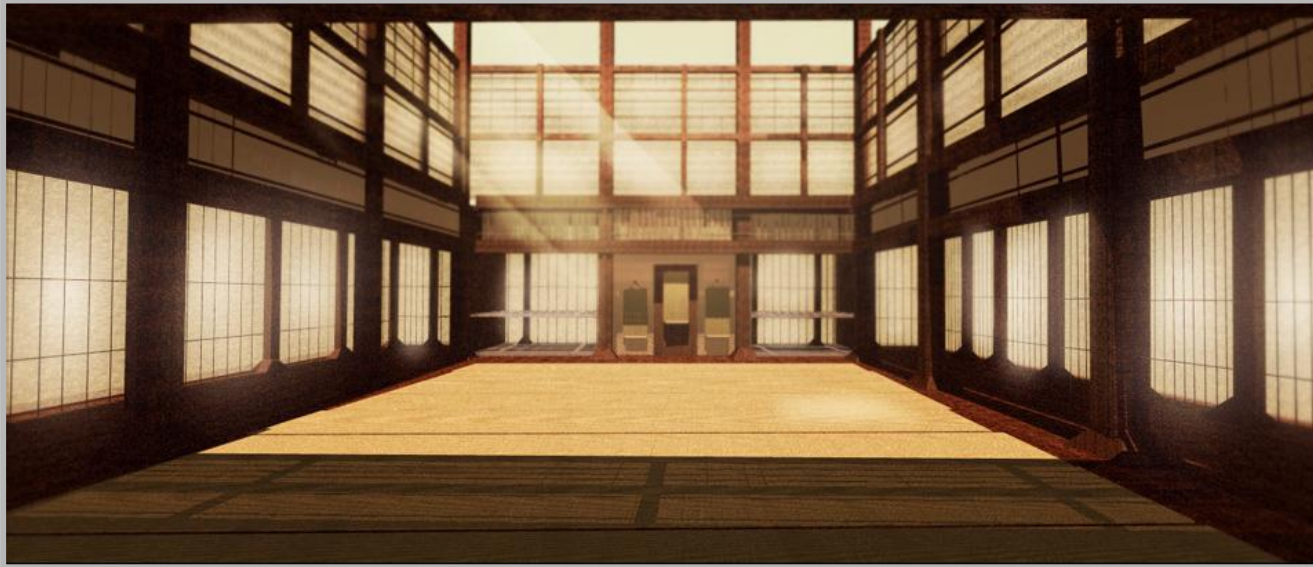


# Coder Dojo

by Dan Persa @ Shop Team @ Zalando

# What is a Dojo?

A **DOJO** is a formal training place for the Japanese **do** arts



# What are Katas?

Kata (型 or 形 literally: "form"?) is a Japanese word describing detailed choreographed patterns of movements practised either solo or in pairs.



**What's the link between this  
and coding?**

# Programming Is An Art

- We create something out of nothing
- There are many ways to do one thing
- Sometimes the solution comes from the gut
- You have to be able to react quickly

# Artists and Practice

Artists use more than 95% of their time to practice

The rest of the time is used for performing



# What About Us?

- Programmers are asked to perform most of their time
- We have to write production code, which is performing
- We have stress of deadlines
- We have pressure from different sides
- We don't have time to practice

# What do we need in order to improve?

- We need a safe place to practice
- Pressure off
- We have to learn how to play with code
- It has to be fun



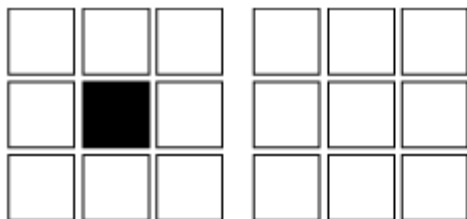
**Welcome To Our Coder Dojo**

# Coder Dojo

- 2 Sessions of 45 minutes
- Small retrospective after each session
- Pair-programming is necessary, as the knowledge transfer contained in that activity is essential to the practice
- Use Test-Driven Development (TDD)
- After each session, pairs should be swapped
- After each session, code must be deleted, not put in a branch, not stashed, just deleted with no trace left
- Feedback session after

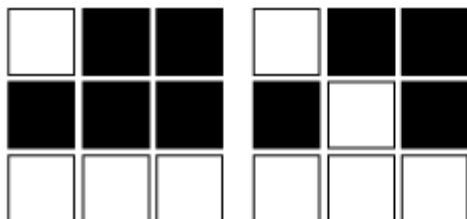
# **Meet the Coder Kata**

# Conway's Game of Life



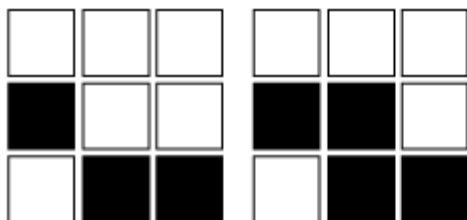
#### **Loneliness**

A cell with less than 2 adjoining cells dies.



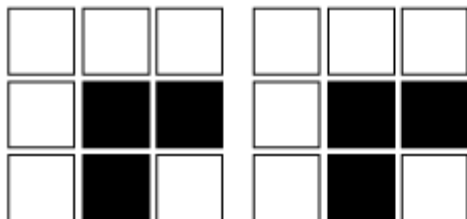
#### **Overcrowding**

A cell with more than 3 adjoining cells dies.



#### **Reproduction**

An empty cell with more than 3 adjoining cells comes alive.



#### **Stasis**

A cell with exactly 2 adjoining cells remains the same.

# Goals

- Learn new programming techniques
- Pair with strangers in languages you don't know
- Collaborate
- Getting away from the pressure of getting things done
- Get out of your comfort zone
- Have fun while coding

# Things You Shouldn't Do

- Try to finish implementing the problem
- Try to keep your code after the session is over
- Keep the same pair

# TDD - Test Driven Development

1. Write exactly one new test
2. Run the test to make sure it fails
3. Write the least amount of code to make the test pass
4. Refactor to remove duplication
5. Repeat the process



# Pair Programming



**WHEN YOU DON'T PAIR**

It makes pandas sad

**Remember: Whatever you  
do, don't forget to ENJOY!**

**Questions?**