

Refactoring golf

Dave Cleal, Mike Hill, Ivan Moore

Scoring

- The intent of the scoring system is to reward refactorings that are
 - Safe (most important)
 - Quick (less important)
- We reserve the right to change the scoring system as we go, either to penalise anyone that “games” it, or to make sure our favourite refactoring wins.

Points

- Zero points
 - Rename, Reformat, Navigate, Select
- One point
 - IDE-guaranteed refactorings: extract variable, extract method, etc
- Two points
 - All other moves that don't change the behaviour of the code (i.e. the tests still pass)
- Three points
 - All moves that DO change the code behaviour

While the code behaviour is changed...

- ***All*** moves count three points, including the one that puts it back.

What's a move

- Cut, paste, copy are all single moves
- A refactoring operation in the IDE is a single move, even if it involves a multi-field or two-stage dialog
- Typing is roughly one move per bit of syntax, but ask. For example “new Thing();” is one move, “Thing myThing = new Thing();” is two moves.