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# SOK Development Guidelines

*A handbook created by developers for developers to help engineering teams to align their software practices and share know-how.*

Development Community



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This is a high-level document containing a collection of best practices, commonalities between projects and values proven to be practical. Team's should follow these guidelines when implementing their software.

## Contents

<b>Codebase</b>	<b>3</b>
Version Control . . . . .	3
Branching . . . . .	3
<b>Release Management</b>	<b>3</b>
Mobile Development . . . . .	3
<b>Environments</b>	<b>4</b>
Data . . . . .	4
Mobile Development . . . . .	4
<b>Architecture</b>	<b>4</b>
Infrastructure . . . . .	4

The key words “MUST”, “MUST NOT”, “REQUIRED”, “SHALL”, “SHALL NOT”, “SHOULD”, “SHOULD NOT”, “RECOMMENDED”, “MAY”, and “OPTIONAL” in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119.

## Codebase

### Version Control

- MUST use version control
- SHOULD use Git
- MUST use `master` branch as a base for development

### Branching

- MUST fork feature (and release) branches from `master` branch

### Mobile development

- SHOULD use fast-forward merges only from feature branch to `master` branch
- SHOULD implement bug fixes to feature branch and cherry picked them to `master` and potential release branch
- RECOMMENDED to squash feature branches before merging to `master` branch
- MUST preserve release tags forever

## Release Management

- SHOULD release to production from branch that's used for base of development
- MUST have identifiable releases
- RECOMMENDED to release smaller changes often over larger merges

### Mobile Development

- MUST use semantic versioning for releases (tags)

## **Environments**

### **Data**

#### **Mobile Development**

- SHOULD preserve all release artefacts forever

## **Architecture**

### **Infrastructure**

- SHOULD use semantic versioned Docker images for building releases