# Do’s and Don’ts

\* \*\*Search the solutions in the [troubleshooting guide](https://guides.cocoapods.org/using/troubleshooting.html).\*\* Or any of the many other [guides](https://guides.cocoapods.org).

\* \*\*Search tickets before you file a new one.\*\* Add to tickets if you have new information about the issue.

\* \*\*Only file tickets about the CocoaPods tool itself.\*\* This includes [CocoaPods](https://github.com/CocoaPods/CocoaPods/issues),

[CocoaPods/Core](https://github.com/CocoaPods/Core/issues), and [Xcodeproj](https://github.com/CocoaPods/Xcodeproj/issues).

If your question is regarding a library (to be) distributed through CocoaPods, refer to the [spec repo](https://github.com/CocoaPods/Specs).

If your question is “How do I […]”, then please ask on [StackOverflow](https://stackoverflow.com/search?q=CocoaPods) or our [mailing-list](https://groups.google.com/group/cocoapods).

\* \*\*Keep tickets short but sweet.\*\* Make sure you include all the context needed to solve the issue. Don't overdo it. Great tickets allow us to focus on solving problems instead of discussing them.

\* \*\*Take care of your ticket.\*\* When you spend time to report a ticket with care we'll enjoy fixing it for you.

\* \*\*Use [GitHub-flavored Markdown](https://help.github.com/articles/markdown-basics/).\*\* Especially put code blocks and console outputs in backticks (```` ``` ````). That increases the readability. Bonus points for applying the appropriate syntax highlighting. (Tip: Podfiles are written in a Ruby DSL.)

\* \*\*Do not litter.\*\* Don’t add +1’s \_unless\_ specifically asked for and don’t discuss offtopic issues.

\* \*\*Spell the name of the project correctly.\*\* It's CocoaPods. In upper camel case.

## Bug Reports

In short, since you are most likely a developer, provide a ticket that you \_yourself\_ would \_like\_ to receive.

We are \*\*not\*\* here to support your individual projects. We depend on \_you\_ (the community)

to contribute in making the tool better for everyone. So debug and reduce your own issues

before creating a ticket and let us know of all the things you tried and their outcome.

This applies double if you cannot share a reproduction with us because of internal company

policies.

First check if you are using the latest CocoaPods version before filing a ticket.

You can install the latest version with `$ [sudo] gem install cocoapods`.

Then check if the same problem applies with the same Podfile but in a \*\*completely new\*\*

and empty application Xcode project, thus excluding whether or not there is an issue with

conflicting settings.

Please include steps to reproduce and \_all\_ other relevant information, including the

version of CocoaPods and any template printed by the tool.

If questions in the error template are left unanswered, the issue will be closed

as a bad bug report.

If there is a regression in the projects generated by CocoaPods please include

the output (redacted if needed) of one of the following commands:

```

$ xcodeproj target-diff

$ xcodeproj project-diff

```

If you are familiar with Ruby, making a pull request with a failing test case

can speed up the resolution of the bug. If the issue is more complex you can

add an [integration test](https://github.com/CocoaPods/cocoapods-integration-specs/)

which doesn't require any ruby knowledge.

## Feature Requests

Please try to be precise about the proposed outcome of the feature and how it

would related to existing features.

From the [CocoaPods blog](https://blog.cocoapods.org/CocoaPods-0.28/):

> Fighting feature creep in CocoaPods is not easy. We hear about a lot of great ideas and many of them don't make the cut as they would not be useful for at least 80% of our users.

Should you require a feature isn't suited for mainstream users, consider suggesting a [CocoaPods plugin](https://blog.cocoapods.org/CocoaPods-0.28/) instead.

## Pull Requests

We \*\*love\*\* pull requests and if a contribution is significant we tend to offer

push access. We suggest you take a look at our [Contributing guide](https://guides.cocoapods.org/contributing/contribute-to-cocoapods.html) for info on development setup, and some of our best practices.

All contributions \_will\_ be licensed under the MIT license.

Code/comments should adhere to the following rules:

\* Names should be descriptive and concise.

\* Use two spaces and no tabs.

\* All changes require test coverage to ensure it does not break during refactor

work. (There are a few exceptions to this, which can be recognised by there

not being any coverage for similar code.)

\* CocoaPods uses [bacon](https://github.com/chneukirchen/bacon) as a test runner.

To run all tests, use `bundle exec rake spec` in the root of the

[Rainforest repo](https://github.com/CocoaPods/Rainforest). If you want to run

a specific test instead, use `bundle exec bacon spec/[folder]/[name]\_spec.rb`

\* All enhancements and bug fixes need to be documented in the CHANGELOG.

\* When writing comments, use properly constructed sentences, including

punctuation.

\* When documenting APIs and/or source code, don't make assumptions or make

implications about race, gender, religion, political orientation or anything

else that isn't relevant to the project.

\* Remember that source code usually gets written once and read often: ensure

the reader doesn't have to make guesses. Make sure that the purpose and inner

logic are either obvious to a reasonably skilled professional, or add a

comment that explains it.

\* The message of the commit should be prefixed by the name of the file which is

the main focus of the patch enclosed by square brackets (.e.g. `[Installer]

install pods`).

## [No Brown M&M’s](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Van\_Halen#Contract\_riders)

If you made it all the way to the end, bravo dear user, we love you. You can include

this emoji in the top of your ticket to signal to us that you did in fact read this

file and are trying to conform to it as best as possible: ?