Software Development Principles

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February 13, 2014

Introduction

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- Focus on solving the issues that create value.

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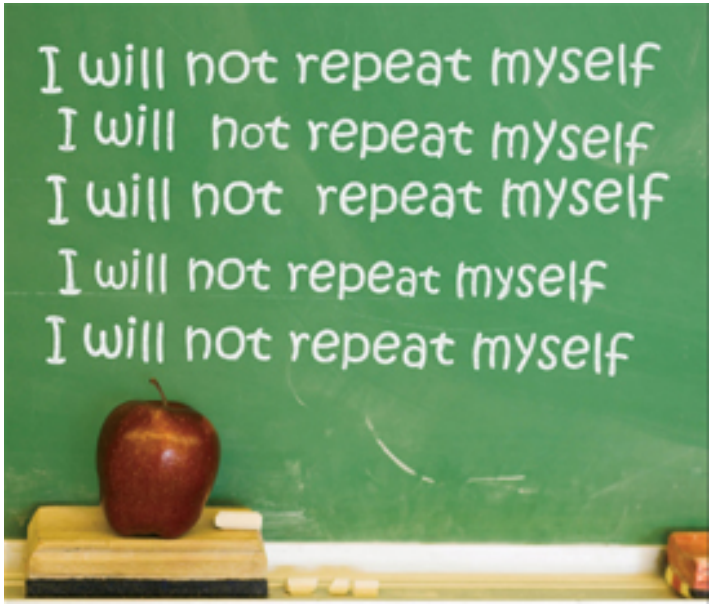
- optimize.
- refactor.
- (unit) test.
- deploy.

DRY


I will not repeat myself
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- No seriously, do not repeat yourself, ever.

DRY: Why?

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- "Every piece of knowledge must have a single, unambiguous, authoritative representation within a system."
- Implicit dependencies can and will eventually cause inconsistencies in your system.

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- Check for repetition during code review.

KISS


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simplicity /sim'p
being simple.
division into
ornament, etc.
ness. 5. lack
from L. simpl

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- Maintainability: "What you can't comprehend, you can't change with confidence."

Premature Optimization

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- Compilers and interpreters are far better at optimizing code. Some seeming optimizations may even block the compiler/interpreter from applying it's own optimizations.
- Beware: Don't pessimize prematurely! If it doesn't take longer to implement and doesn't reduce code clarity, please do it.

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- Run the optimized code in different scenarios, not only in the scenario you're trying to optimize.

SOLID

SOLID: Single responsibility principle

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- Always describe the responsibility of an entity in a comment inside the code. For variables, a descriptive name can be sufficient.
  - Rule of thumb: If the responsibility can't be described without conjunctives or disjunctives, then it violates this principle.

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  - No need for recompilation, code reviews, running unit tests of the original entity.

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- This principle imposes a number of requirements on the definition and implementation of subtypes and their methods.

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- Use concise, specific interfaces instead of bulky multi-purpose interfaces.

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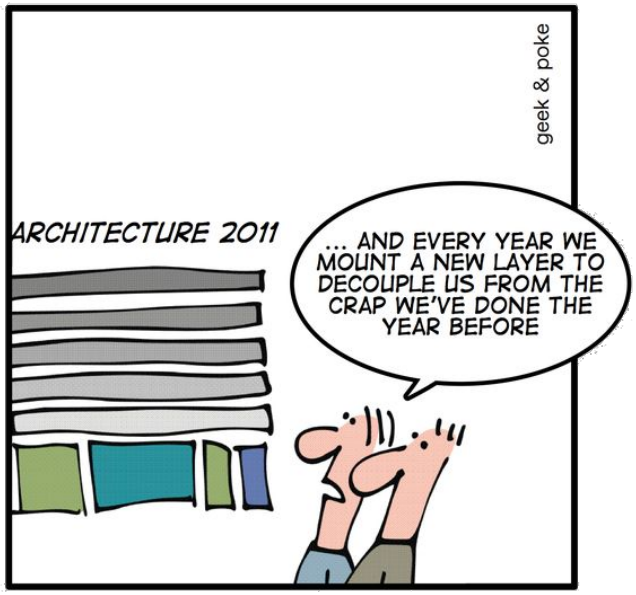
Best Practices



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- Prefer DRY comments. Don't repeat (parts of) other comments. Don't repeat logic that is already clear from the code.

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- Common vocabulary to use in design discussions.

Questions & Discussion