

Project Evaluation

License

1. What is the project's license?
In most repositories there will be a file named LICENSE or something similar in the root level of the repository. This is the one to examine. There may be different licenses on specific files, but the project will have a main license.

Code Base

1. What is the primary programming language in the project?
1. What is the development environment, and how hard is it to download and install it? Is it easy to find information about this?
1. Does the project depend on external additional software modules such as database, graphics, web development, or other libraries?
1. Is the code easy to understand?
1. How many lines of code are there in total?
1. When was this project first started?
1. Does it have a stable release yet?
1. Does the repository have tests? Can they be run?
1. Does this project have a history of vulnerabilities in the National Vulnerability Database (<https://nvd.nist.gov/>)?

Documentation

1. Is there clear documentation in the code itself?
1. Is there documentation about the design?

Activity Level

1. How frequently do people commit? Compute the number of commits per week for the past twelve weeks.
1. How many issues are currently open?
1. How long do issues stay open?
Take the ten most recently closed issues and look at when each was first reported. Compute the number of days that each was open and take the average.
1. Is there active discussion on the issues?
1. Are issues tagged as easy, hard, etc.?
1. Are they triaged?
1. How many issues were closed in the past six months?
1. When was the last commit?
1. How many people are maintaining the project?
1. How many contributors has the project had in the past year?
1. How many open pull requests are there?
1. How long are pull requests remaining un-answered?
Look at the closed pull requests to see how long they stayed open. Take the ten most recently closed ones and look at when each was first reported. Compute the number of days that each was open and take the average.
1. Is there active discussion on the pull requests? Use the same method as you did for the issues.
1. How many pull requests were opened within the past month?
1. How recently were any pull requests accepted and merged?

Welcomeness

1. Is there a CONTRIBUTING document?
1. Is there a CODE OF CONDUCT document?
1. Do the maintainers respond helpfully to questions in issues? Are responses generally constructive?
1. Are people friendly in the issues, discussion forum, and chat?
1. Do pull requests get reviewed?
1. Do maintainers thank people for their contributions?