
Code reviews / software inspections

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What is a Software Peer Review?



- Having other people read the code
- Why do that?
 - Because, in many studies, it is the single most effective way to find and fix bugs
 - Human beings are pretty smart
 - Open source theory “many eyes make for shallow bugs”

What Kind of Review?



- Ad hoc “look at this”
- Peer deskcheck / “pass around”
- Pair programming

- Walkthrough
- Team Review
- Formal Inspection

Differences?



- Vary in amount of planning required, amount of formality, number of people and number of roles
- More heavyweight tend to be more effective, and more efficient (“more bugs for your buck”) but sometimes aren’t possible

Formal Inspections



- Include all of the following:

- Planning
- Preparation
- An actual meeting
- Correction of found defects
- Verification of correction



- Role of moderator/reader is not given to the person/people who created the code in a formal inspection