Skills Paper

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There are many important skills in the field of programming or software development. This role is a lot more than just utilizing programming skills and textbook knowledge. The top three important skills in my opinion are risk analysis, teamwork skills, and continuous improvement.

The first skill, risk analysis, is a major part of development. Its really important to utilize in all occupations. Risk analysis is the process of identifying and analyzing potential issues that could negatively impact key business initiatives or projects.[1] This skill takes often longer to develop that the actual application you are designing. With proper implementation, your software will be able to recover from most errors or exceptions that happens. Having a strong since risk analysis also saves a lot of time in the long run. This is because it would minimize the amount of work you have to go back and do to fix an issue if its already accounted for the first iteration.

The second skill is teamwork skill. This is important as it pertains to almost any job out there. Teamwork skills are the qualities and abilities that allow you to work well with others during conversations, projects, meetings or other collaborations. [2] Having good teamwork skills allows for a project or task to go smoother and more efficiently. This can save a lot of time and money. It can also help you build rapport with others. Building rapport can lead to deeper working relationships, new connections and possibly new opportunities.[2]

Finally, the third skill is continuous improvement. This skill is arguably the foundation of all the other skills. Thus, its arguably the most important skill out of them all. Continuous improvement, sometimes called continual improvement, is the ongoing improvement of products, services or processes through incremental and breakthrough improvements. These efforts can seek "incremental" improvement over time or "breakthrough" improvement all at once. [3] This is why continuous improvement is so important, it can pertain to a specific piece of software you are working on or another skill.

Having these three skills sets for software engineering is key to becoming successful at your job. These methods could also apply to many other occupations as well. Out of all three skills having the motivation for continuous improvement is key to mastering any skill that's desired.

Sources

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