

Hackathon Definition

- Hackathon - hack + marathon
- The term hackathon appears to be a pretty loose term
- Google's definition: "an event, typically lasting several days, in which a large number of people meet to engage in collaborative computer programming."
- From a freecodecamp article: "There are many different types of hackathons, but they all have several things in common:
 - Time limit—usually between 8 and 48 hours (* Ours will be a week!)
 - Theme—organizers will ask that you build a certain type of application (like Internet-of-Things) or they'll tell you to use a certain technology
 - Prizes—generally awarded for the best overall applications and for apps that fit into certain categories, or use a certain technology"

Why do it?

- When a group of people from different backgrounds focus on building something, super cool things can be created
- People who participated in hackathons say they learn a ton in the process; in addition to learning technical skills, you learn how to work as part of a team, communicate, work under the pressure of a deadline and more
- It gets you out of your comfort zone
- Network with people you may not have had the opportunity to meet otherwise