Chapter 12: Collaboration



February 22, 2024

Programmers vs. People

- Note: the author overgeneralizes programmers at this point
 - Programmers find interpersonal relationships messy and unpredictable
 - Programmers prefer machines over people
 - We are happiest alone by ourselves deeply focused on a problem



Programmers vs. Employers

Author view of Debugging

Employers view of Debugging





Programmers vs. Employers

- Although it is good to be passionate about what you do, keep an eye on the goals of people who pay you
- The responsibility of an engineer is to meet the needs and ideals of an employer
 - Collaboration with your managers, analysts, testers, and other team members
- You don't have to become a sailor, you just need to pay attention to the ship you're sailing on

Programmers vs. Employers

- The worst thing a programmer can do is bury himself or herself in a tomb of technology and watch while the business crashes and burns all around them
- Your job is to keep the business afloat



Programmers vs Programmers - Owned Code

- Essentially when a programmer is overprotective of their code and lets nobody touch it
 - One of the worst symptoms of a dysfunctional team
- Among other programmers, this can lead to:
 - Massive duplication of code
 - Inconsistency among interfaces
- Solutions include:
 - Collective ownership
 - Pair programming (Yay! Everyone's favorite!)

Programmers vs Programmers - Collective Ownership

- The entire team owns the code
- Any team member can check out a module and propose changes they find appropriate
- Professional developers work with others on as much of the system as they can
 - At the same time, learn from the other developers
- It also discourages the blame game



Programmers vs Programmers -Pair Programming

- Professionals pair because it is the best way to share knowledge with each other
- Professionals learn the different parts of a system by pairing with each other
- Professionals pair because it is the best way to review code
 - The most efficient and effective way to review code is to collaborate in writing it



How We Can Work Together

- Professionals work together
- You sit around tables facing one another
- You should be able to overhear their frustrated mutterings
- You should be communicating as a unit



Chapter 12: Key Points

- Programming is about working with people
- Programmers have to work with our businesses and we have to work with each other
 - Our projects are greater than one person
- Be aware of yourself and your surroundings (in a professional sense)