



BLOCK NONCE #12: The Boy Scout Principle

What?

The “Boy Scout principle” is the concept of leaving things better than you found them. In code, that means - when you’re already working on something, don’t ignore the mess nearby.

Why?

The code belongs to everyone, so every improvement you make helps the whole team. If each of us sees our tasks not just as individual work, but as part of a shared goal — we’ll build better products :)

How?

1. Fix that outdated comment that no longer makes sense.
2. Rename the variable that made you squint for 3 minutes.
3. Delete that ancient **TODO** that’s not relevant anymore.
4. Document the code that melted your brain.
5. Came across a small **TODO** assigned to someone who left a year ago? Rename it or handle it.

Small fixes? just do them on the way in your current PR.

Woke up happy and feel like taking on a bigger task? Awesome! Those changes deserve their own PR.

Remember: no improvement is too small, and the maximum size is totally up to you.

TIP Try applying this rule in your life too.

Call For Action!

Come claim your Good Boy Scout badge once you deserve it