Coding Dojo: Baby Steps May 2014

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Peter Kofler

- Ph.D. (Appl. Math.)
- Professional Software Developer for 14 years



- "fanatic about code quality"
- I help development teams

Coding Dojo? Expectations?

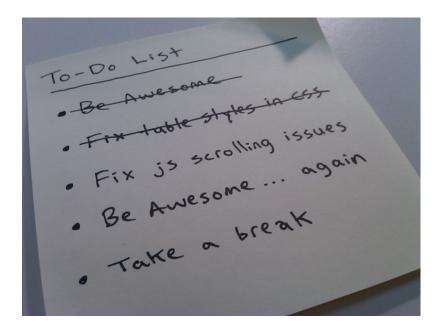
Coding Dojo Mindset

- Safe place outside work
- We are here to learn
- Need to slow down
- Focus on doing it right
- Collaborative Game



Dojo Structure

- Introduction 15'
- Coding 45'
- Interim (Retrospective) 15'
- Break 15'
- Coding 45'
- Retrospective 30'



TDD Skills

- Driving Development with Tests **←**
- Designing Test Cases
- Designing Clean Code
- Refactoring Safely

TDD should be...

- Add a little test for one concept/idea
- See it fail
- Add a little code to make all tests pass
- Refactor mercilessly
- Repeat

... but often is

- Write some high level test
- Write code for several different things
- Test and debug
- Test and debug
- Test and debug
- Add TODO to refactor later

Taking Baby Steps



Steps

- 1. Set up a timer for certain interval.
- 2. Write exactly one test
 - If the timer rings and the test is red then revert.
 - If the test is green before timer rings then **commit**.
- 3. Restart timer (no discussions in between timers)
- 4. Refactor
 - If timer rings and the refactoring is not complete then **revert**.
 - If the refactoring is complete before timer rings then **commit**.
- 5. Restart the timer (no discussions in between timers)
- 6. Go to 2 (next test) or 4 (continue refactoring)

Assignment: Tic-Tac-Toe



Tic-Tac-Toe

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tic-tac-toe
- Board 3x3
- X plays first, O plays second
- Implement
 - 2 Player Game
 - Determine Winner
 - AI Bot Player

Don't Focus on Getting it Done. Focus on Doing It Perfectly.

Prepare

- Find a pair.
- Choose a programming language.
- Set up the environment.
- Set up source control repository (hg/git).
- Set up a timer for 2 minutes interval.
- Timer must run continuously. Don't stop to talk!

\rightarrow Practice

Closing Circle

- What did you learn today?
- What surprised you today?
- What will you do differently in the future?





Game by Adrian Bolboaca @adibolb

http://blog.adrianbolboaca.ro/2013/03/taking-baby-steps/

CC Images

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- Baby https://www.flickr.com/photos/11904001@N00/3983980813/
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