

OLF *Live*
MENTORSHIP SERIES

How do I get started with an open source project?

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Agenda

1. Intro
2. What's unique about Open Source (and tech careers in general)
3. Valuable Resources
4. Helpful perspectives
5. Top 5 Do's and Dont's
6. Q & A

What's Unique About: Tech ?

'Orchestra' not 'soloist'

The Red Queen effect

Global in nature

Collaborative

Results > pedigree

What's Unique About: Software?

Code as resume

Ultimate 'search good'

Dependencies galore

Exploding scope

Lifelong learners

What's Unique About: Open Source?

Volunteer-ocracy

Behind your git handle nobody knows you're a ...

Dissociative anonymity

Asynchronous

> dopamine per pull request

Valuable Resources: People

Local meetup groups

Conferences

Mentors

Hackathons

Stack Overflow

Wikis

Valuable Resources: Documentation

Documentation (Man, info, help, etc)

Wikis

Readme.txt

Training courses (e.g. free from LF on License compliance)

Ma Google

Helpful Perspectives

Build relationships

Take a breath (and then another)

All roads lead to Rome

Look for patterns

Is the climb worth the view?

Top 5 Don'ts

There are (sorta) stupid questions

If the wheel exists, use it!

Don't assume the worst

Beware 'comfort zone'

Ignore licenses at your peril

Top 5 Do's

Learn the tools, languages, etc

Start small on something you're passionate about

Sometimes bug fixes > new features

Be confident and use your initial anonymity

Remember that open source is a team sport



Q & A

Thank you for joining us today!

We hope it will be helpful in your journey to learning more about effective and productive participation in open source projects. We will leave you with a few additional resources for your continued learning:

- The [LF Mentoring Program](#) is designed to help new developers with necessary skills and resources to experiment, learn and contribute effectively to open source communities.
- [Outreachy remote internships program](#) supports diversity in open source and free software
- [Linux Foundation Training](#) offers a wide range of [free courses](#), webinars, tutorials and publications to help you explore the open source technology landscape.
- [Linux Foundation Events](#) also provide educational content across a range of skill levels and topics, as well as the chance to meet others in the community, to collaborate, exchange ideas, expand job opportunities and more. You can find all events at events.linuxfoundation.org.