

Checklists for Software Development

Patrick Joyce - pragmati.st/checklists

Before Submitting a Pull Request

THE SUBMITTER SHOULD ALWAYS ASK THEMSELVES THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Have I looked at every line of the diff between your branch and master?
- Is there anything in this patch that is not related to the overall change?
- Have I structured the commits to make the reviewer's job easy?
- Have I tested the code locally?
- Should QA look at this before I submit it for review?
- Does the Pull Request explain how to verify that the feature is working?

When Reviewing a Pull Request

THE REVIEWER SHOULD ALWAYS ASK THEMSELVES THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- Do I understand the goal of this change?
- Have I looked at every line of the diff between the branch and master?
- Have I used the code locally?
- Should this go through additional QA?
- Are there sufficient unit and functional tests?
- How will we know if this change "works"?

Before Deploying

THE SUBMITTER AND REVIEWER SHOULD ALWAYS TAKE A MINUTE AND ASK EACH OTHER THE FOLLOWING:

- What are we worried about going wrong?
- Is there anything different about this change in production vs. in dev / staging?
- Is now an optimal time to deploy this change?
- Is it possible or desirable to roll this out to a subset of our users?
- What specific steps will each of us take when the deploy finishes to verify that the changes work?
- If something goes wrong, what will we do? Is this safe to revert and re-deploy?