

Appendix to
Do It Yourself!
Homegrown Tools in a Large Software
Company

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Technical Report
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Appendix to Do It Yourself! Homegrown Tools in a Large Software Company

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ABSTRACT

This document contains the surveys used in our study on home-grown tools at Microsoft.

APPENDIX

A.1 Developer Tools Factfinding Survey

After taking the survey click "Submit" to save your changes.

This survey is not anonymous

1. Spend one to two minutes listing as many of the tools you use to support your role as you can. (Max Characters: 2000)
2. Of the tools you just listed, which is the most helpful? Why? (Max Characters: 2000)
3. Have you ever authored a tool or augmented an existing tool to support your role? (Yes/No)
4. Do you know anyone that has authored a tool or augmented an existing tool? If so, please list their aliases below, separated by commas. (Max Characters: 2000)
5. This question is about all tools, not just home-grown tools. If you had unlimited time, energy, and motivation to improve a tool you use or write a new tool, what would you work on? (Max Characters: 2000)
6. Thanks for responding! That's the end of our survey. Can we follow up with you with any additional questions? (Yes/No)
7. Would you like to be entered into our drawing of one of two \$50 Amazon gift cards? (Yes/No)

A.2 Developer Personality Survey

We are researchers in Microsoft Research investigating how a developer's personality affects different activities. The answers to this survey will enable us to best focus our research on developer tools and processes to help developers in their daily tasks. As part of this survey you will complete a standard OCEAN 5-factor personality inventory; if you are interested, your anonymous results will be available at a link shared at the end of the survey.

We would be greatly appreciative if you would be willing to answer the following questions. The survey shouldn't take more than 10 minutes. Thank you.

This survey is completely anonymous and all questions are optional. No personal information will be collected. If you have any questions or if you'd rather not participate and want no further contact, please email cbird@microsoft.com.

We selected participants based on demographics such as their role at Microsoft. If you have a role title of SDE or SDET (at any level of seniority), but you do not write code as part of your job, please disregard this invitation.

Christian Bird (alias cbird)

Thomas Zimmermann (alias tzimmer)

Edward Smith (alias t-edwsmi)

1. Describe yourself as you generally are now, not as you wish to be in the future. Describe yourself as you honestly see yourself, in relation to other people you know of the same sex as you are, and roughly your same age. So that you can describe yourself in an honest manner, your responses will be kept in absolute confidence. Indicate for each statement whether it is 1. Very Inaccurate, 2. Moderately Inaccurate, 3. Neither Accurate Nor Inaccurate, 4. Moderately Accurate, or 5. Very Accurate as a description of you. (required) *This question is required.

Carry out my plans.

Do not enjoy going to art museums.

Waste my time.

Have frequent mood swings.

Insult people.

Am often down in the dumps.

Tend to vote for liberal political candidates.

Know how to captivate people.
Am not easily bothered by things.
Cut others to pieces.
Have little to say.
Seldom feel blue.
Suspect hidden motives in others.
Have a good word for everyone.
Accept people as they are.
Have a vivid imagination.
Panic easily.
Am always prepared.
Pay attention to details.
Dislike myself.
Believe that others have good intentions
Do just enough work to get by.
Don't like to draw attention to myself.
Avoid philosophical discussions.
Often feel blue.
Get chores done right away.
Don't see things through.
Keep in the background.
Feel comfortable around people .
Would describe my experiences as somewhat dull.
Do not like art.
Get back at others.
Feel comfortable with myself.
Enjoy hearing new ideas.
Don't talk a lot.
Find it difficult to get down to work.
Am the life of the party.
Am skilled in handling social situations.
Believe in the importance of art.
Respect others.
Tend to vote for conservative political candidates.
Am very pleased with myself.
Make plans and stick to them.
Rarely get irritated.
Have a sharp tongue.
Make people feel at ease.
Carry the conversation to a higher level.

Make friends easily.
Am not interested in abstract ideas.
Shirk my duties.
2. How long have you been with Microsoft in years?
3. How many times have you moved within the company of your own volition?
4. Are you an SDE or SDET?
5. Please answer the following questions about demographics.
Do you work remotely?
Do you work on games?
Are you a manager or lead?
Did you major in computer science?
6. Please answer the following questions about your behavior.
Do you code in your spare time?
Have you built a tool (a script, automation utility, Visual Studio plugin, debugger, etc.) of your own initiative to support your work?
Do you use Stack Overflow?
Do you listen to music while working?
7. Please answer the following questions about your opinions. All responses in this survey are anonymous. Options are:
Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, Strongly Disagree
Comments are not useful.
Code reviews make code better.
Distributed version control is better than centralized version control.
I like my manager.
Design patterns hurt design more than they help.
Readability is the most important aspect of code.
Static typing is better than dynamic typing.
There is no one-size-fits-all approach to development.
Less code is better than more.
Developers should test their own code.
Open workspaces are more productive.
Agile development is awesome.
8. Monitors
How many monitors do you use?
Are any of them in portrait orientation?
9. If you would like to receive your personality test results, enter an identifier here (try to pick something that will be unique) and we will post your score next to that identifier at <http://aka.ms/eseper-sonality2014> within one week.