How we support making architectural decisions

Olena Sovyn

- Staff Software Engineer
- 11 years inSoftware industry,6 of which atWebflow
- and



1 year ago...



Made the best architectural decisions



1 year ago...









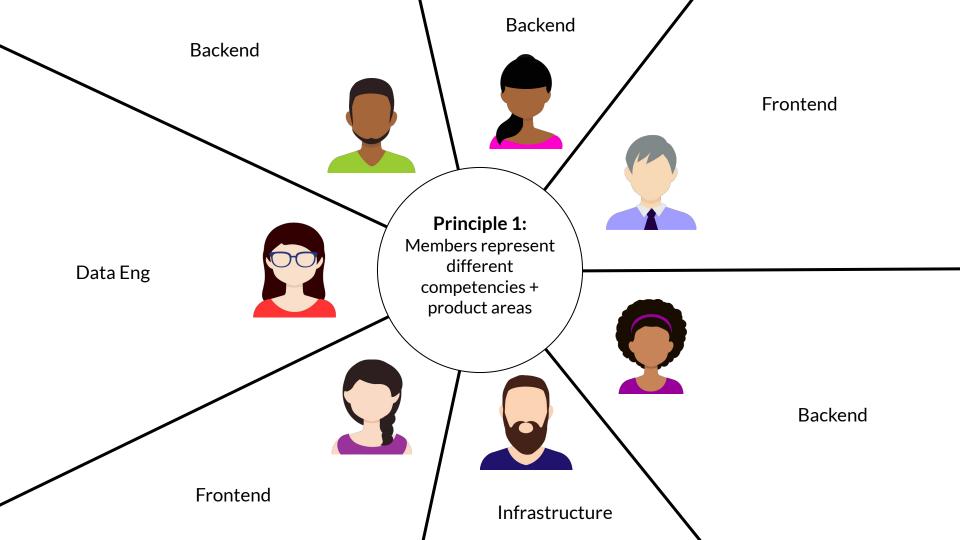




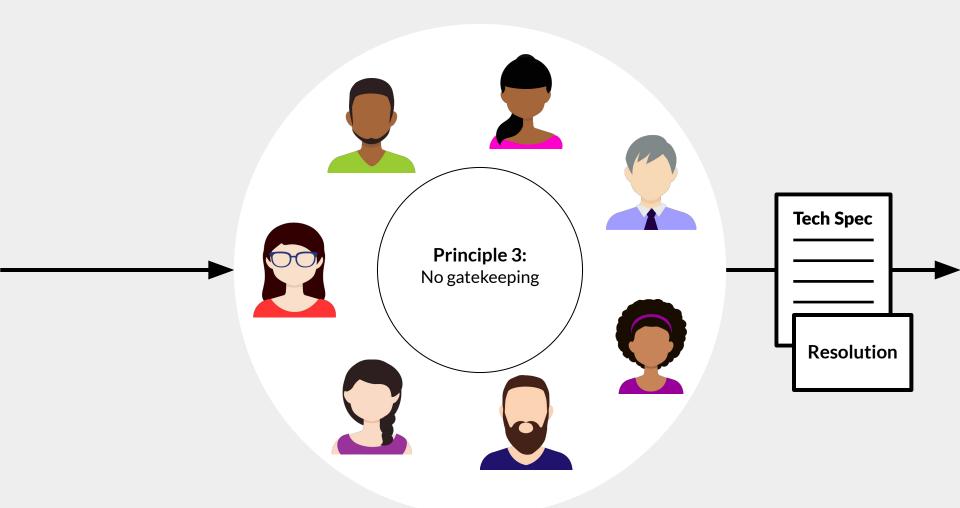














Essays, opinions, and advice on the act of computer programming from Stack Overflow.











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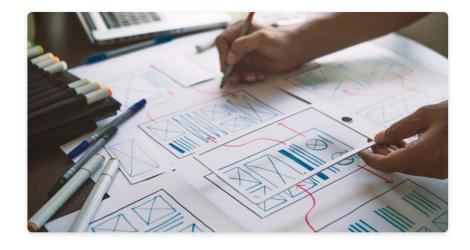
code-for-a-living

APRIL 6, 2020

A practical guide to writing technical specs

Writing a technical spec increases the chances of having a successful project, service, or feature that all stakeholders involved are satisfied with. It decreases the chances of something going horribly wrong during implementation and even after you've launched your product.





What is in our tech spec template?

Intro

- Glossary
- Background
- Goals, Non-goals, Future goals
- Assumptions
- Related Documents

Solution

- Current Solution
- Proposed Solution
- Alternative Solutions

Further Considerations

- Tech wealth
- Dependencies
- Documentation
- Risks

Development Plan

- Development stages
- Test plan
- Monitoring plan
- Release plan
- Infrastructure
- Analytics
- Performance
- Security

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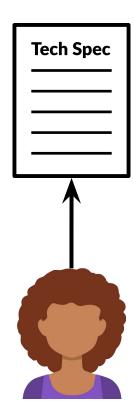
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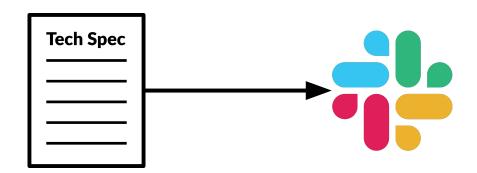
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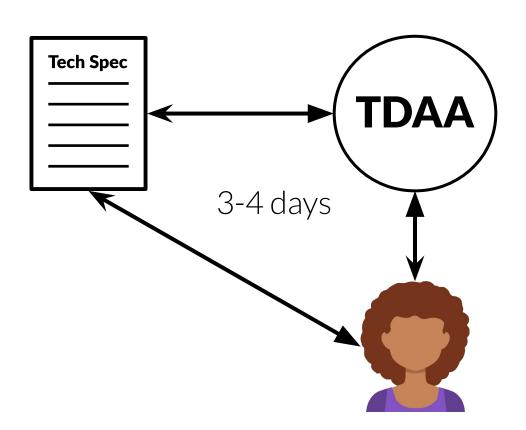
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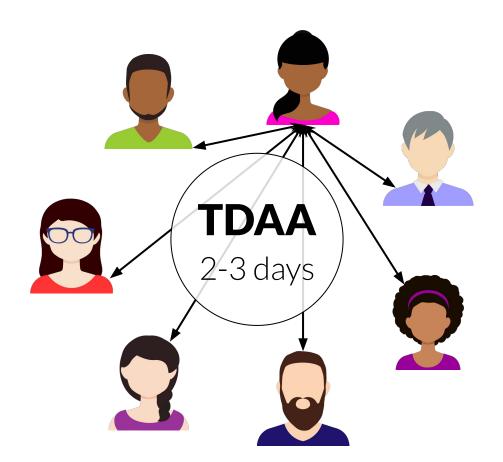
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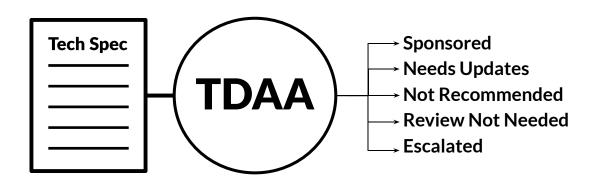


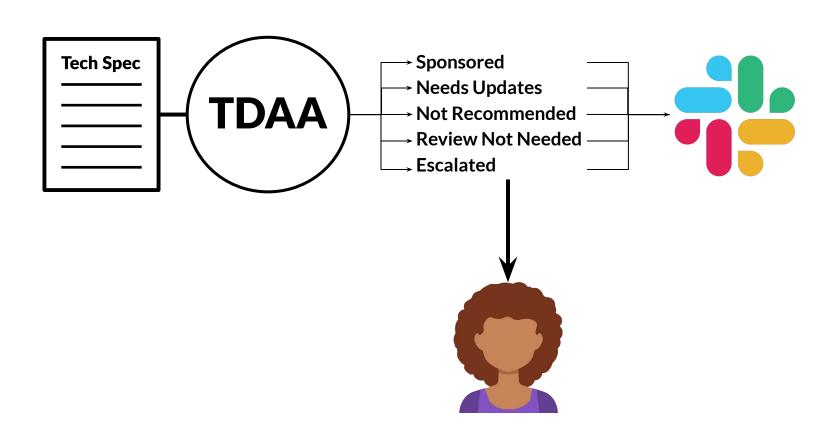


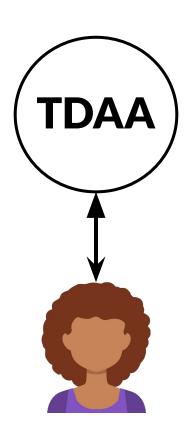


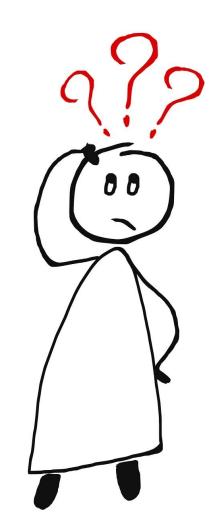


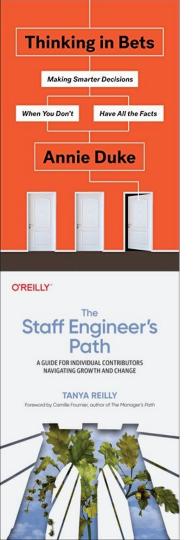












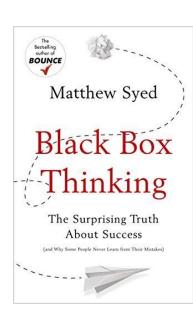
"Our lives are too short to collect enough data from our own experience to make it easy to dig down into decision quality from the small set of results we experience"

Decision are affected by individual biases:

- Confirmation bias
- Selection bias
- Hindsight bias
- etc.

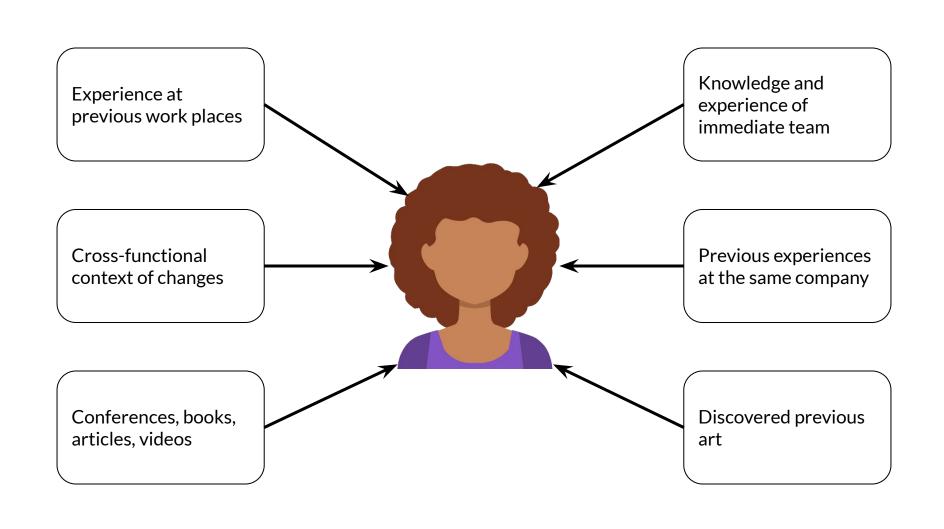
"Good decisions need context...

... best decision for a single group, might not be anything like the best decision when you take a broader view"

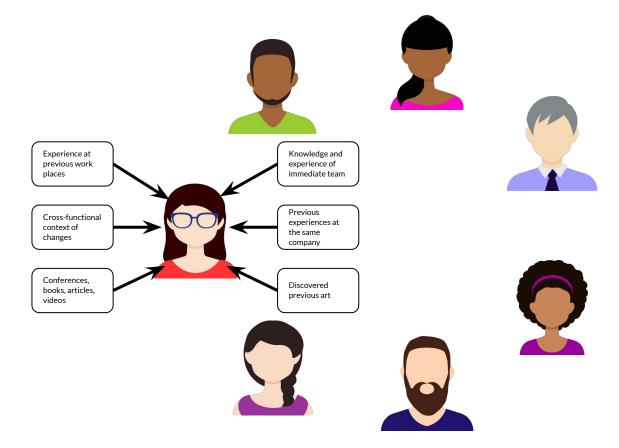


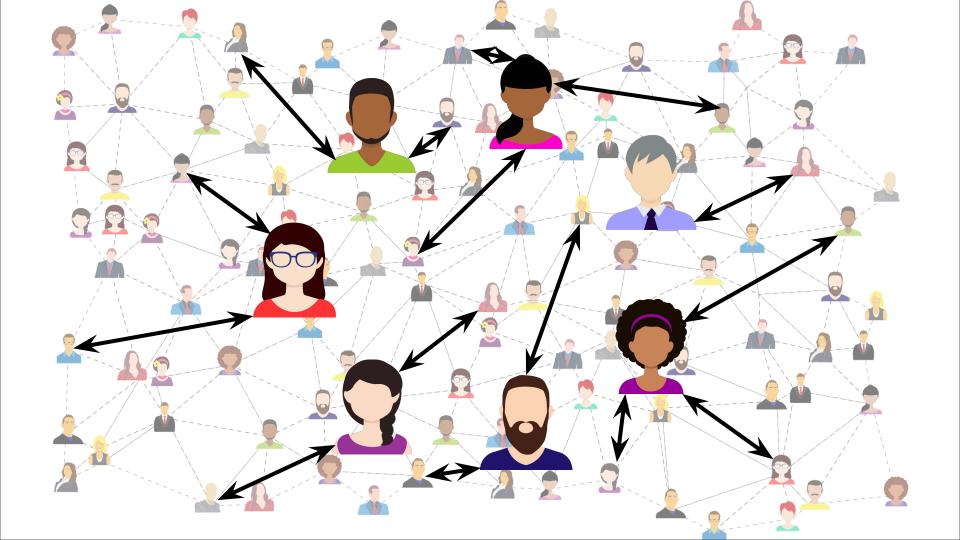
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Making decisions in public



Making decisions in public

Proposed changes	Resolution	Link to tech spec
Infrastructure Changes 1	Sponsored	https://docs.google.com/
Feature ABC	Review Not Needed	https://docs.google.com/
Refactoring proposal	Escalated	https://docs.google.com/





Made the best architectural decisions



Who was it?

It wasn't ONE person

