

CODE REVIEW

Where we speak of code approval



"Ask programmers to review
10 lines of code, they'll find
10 issues.

Ask them to do **500 lines**
and they'll say **it looks**
good".

The harsh truth about code reviews.



Source : <https://fr.slideshare.net/GoAtlassian/code-reviews-vs-pull-requests-75670325>

How code review aligns with :

- **Agile manifesto**
 - Value : Individuals and interactions over processes and tools
 - *collective code ownership (or shared code)* : the code base is owned by the entire team (no notion of individual ownership of modules)
- **SCRUM guide**
 - Scrum pillars : Inspection
 - The Scrum artifacts and the progress toward agreed goals must be inspected frequently and diligently to detect potentially undesirable variances or problems.

Source : <https://agilemanifesto.org/>

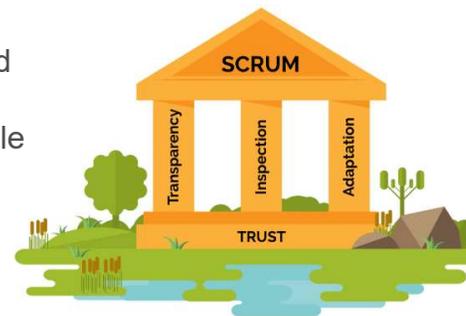
We are committed to discovering new ways to better deliver our products. In doing so, we value:

Individuals and Interactions over process and tools	Working products over comprehensive documentation.
Customer Collaboration over contract negotiation	Responding to Feedback over following a plan

That is, while there is value in the items on the bottom, we value the items on the top more.

Agile Principles

1 Our highest priority is to satisfy the customer through early and continuous delivery	7 Working product is the primary measure of progress
2 Welcome changing requirements, even late in development	8 Maintain a sustainable pace indefinitely
3 Deliver working product frequently	9 Give continuous attention to technical excellence
4 Business-people and cross-discipline teams must work together daily	10 Simplicity – the art of maximizing the amount of work not done is essential
5 Build projects around motivated individuals and trust them to get the job done	11 Teams self-organize
6 The most effective and efficient method of conveying information is face-to-face conversation	12 Teams regularly reflect and adjust to become more effective



- COURAGE**
Scrum Team members have courage to do the right thing and work on tough problems
- FOCUS**
Everyone focuses on the work of the Sprint and the goals of the Scrum Team
- COMMITMENT**
People personally commit to achieving the goals of the Scrum Team
- RESPECT**
Scrum Team members respect each other to be capable, independent people
- OPENNESS**
The Scrum Team and its stakeholders agree to be open about all the work and the challenges with performing the work

Credit: ABN AMRO Bank N.V.

Source : <https://www.scrum.org/resources/what-is-scrum>

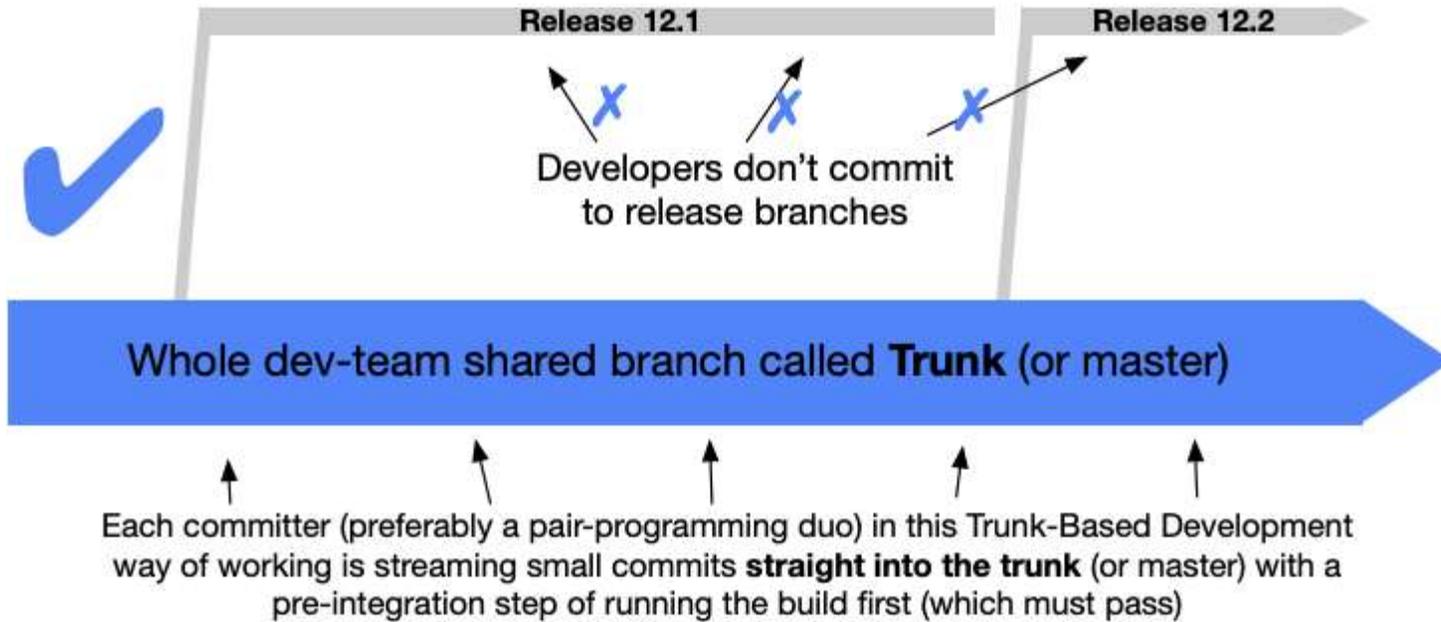


Two acceptions of *Code Review* term

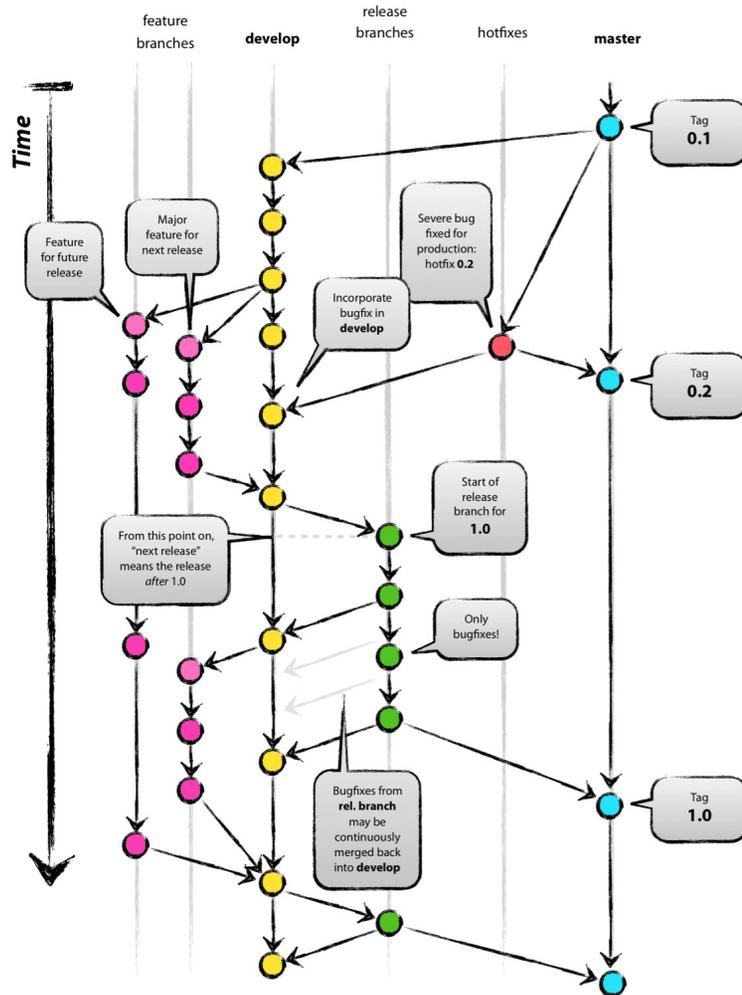
- **Code approval**
 - Domain : branching strategy
 - Intention : get approval of an *authority* to merge newly developed code
 - Implementation : PR (MR) requests
- **Peer review**
 - Domain : pair programming, mob programming, ...
 - Intention : get feedback from others to improve skills, share the best practices
 - Implementation : out of scope

Here the term *code approval* will be preferred !





Branches strategy : GitFlow



Source : <https://nvie.com/posts/a-successful-git-branching-model/>





Code approval must not impair DORA's « Lead time for change »

A code must not be approved when

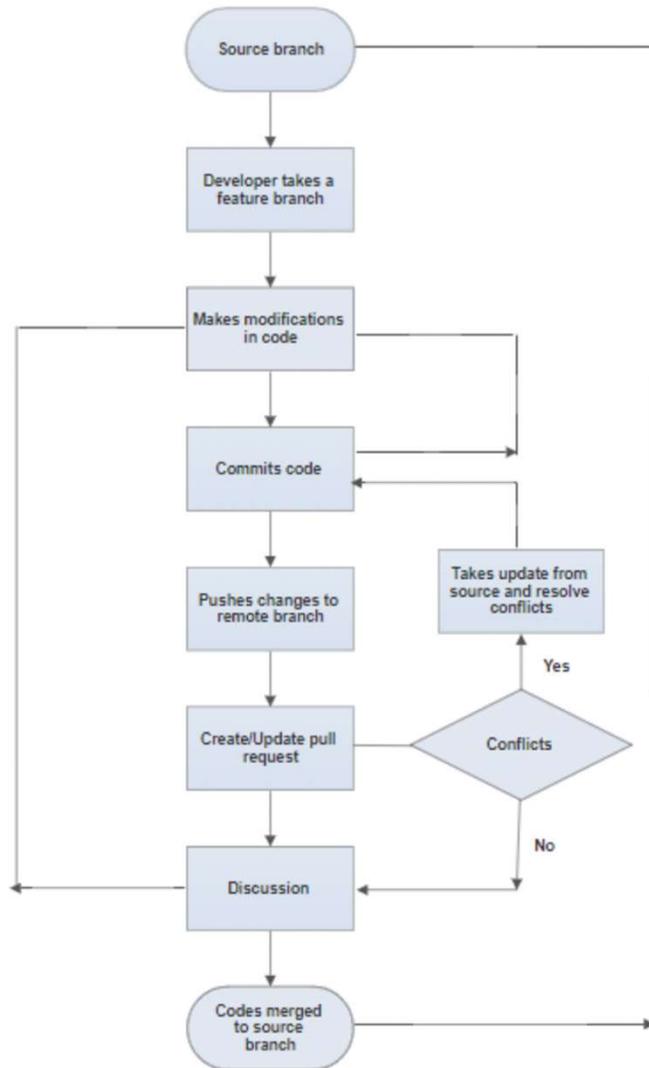
- Use case not covered
- Security matter

All other reason should not prevent approval, namely

- Maintainability



List of main steps of a MR or PR workflow





New Merge Request

From `docs-new-merge-request` into `master` [Change branches](#)

Title

Start the title with `WIP:` to prevent a **Work In Progress** merge request from being merged before it's ready.

Description **Write** Preview B I ” </> @ ☰ ☷ ☹ ↻

Describe the goal of the changes and what reviewers should be aware of.

Markdown and quick actions are supported [Attach a file](#)

Assignee [Assign to me](#)

Milestone

Labels

Merge request dependencies
List the merge requests that must be merged before this one.

Approval rules

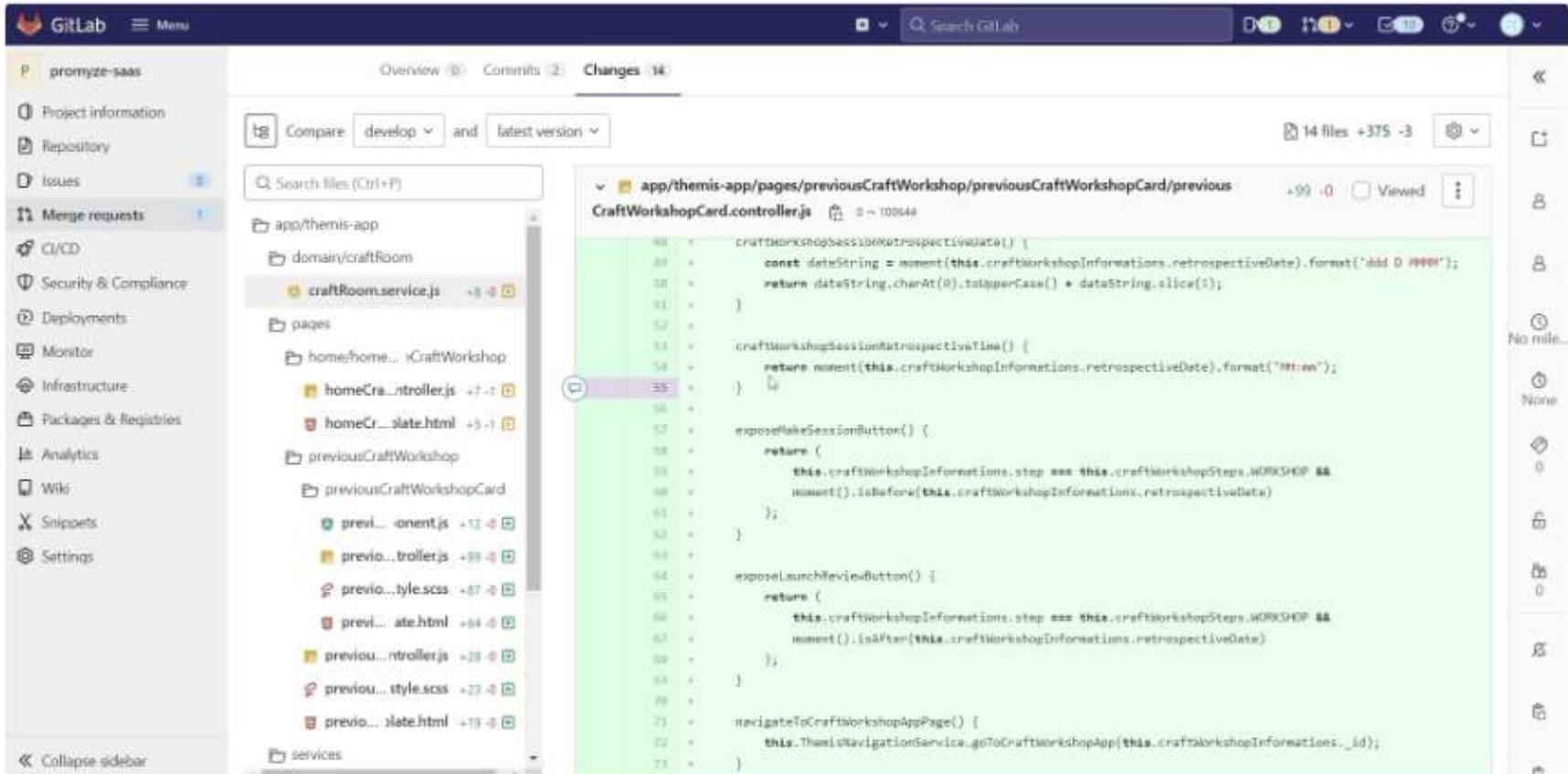
Approvers	No. approvals required
Any eligible user	<input type="text" value="1"/>
Add approval rule	

Suggested approvers: [Kushal Pandya](#)

Merge options Delete source branch when merge request is accepted.
 Squash commits when merge request is accepted.

[Submit merge request](#) Please review the [contribution guidelines](#) for this project. [Cancel](#)

Commits 2 Changes 3



Next code review you see a counter-example of the practice, just add a reference to the practice and the developer will get all the knowledge types in the practice. No need to re-type.

The image shows a code editor interface with several annotations and a dialog box. The code editor displays a code snippet with a comment icon and a line number '26'. A dialog box titled 'Create an example for a practice / topic' is open, showing options for 'Existing practice', 'New practice', and 'Topic / Question'. The 'Existing practice' option is selected. Below the dialog box, there are two buttons: 'Add as a positive practice example' and 'Add as a negative practice example'. The 'Identify a Promyze practice' button is also visible.

Annotations:

- Top-left:** Add a comment to this line, drag for multiple lines
- Top-center:** Select (highlight the code) that needs improvements and click on the comment icon
- Bottom-left:** Type the title of the practice to give some hints to improve (or correct) the code
- Bottom-center:** Click on button « Identify a Promyze practice » (added by the Promyze browser extension)
- Bottom-right:** Qualify the selected example (is it a good example of the practice or a counter example) ?



Numerous other tools are available to assist and optimize code approval

- **SmartBear Collaborator** : customize code approval workflows to your requirements
- **GitColony** : avoid titanic reviews before deploying

