

Better Tech Notes @ MWUG - Bonus Notes

Notebook: andreasandrews's notebook

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Author: Andreas Andrews

Notes/inspiration/sources:

Difference Between Development, Stage, And Production

<https://dev.to/flippedcoding/difference-between-development-stage-and-production-d0p>

WP DevOps

<https://kinsta.com/blog/wordpress-devops/>

DevOps as a one man shop:

https://www.reddit.com/r/devops/comments/33xyos/devops_for_the_oneman_shop_can_it_be_done/

Agile Manifesto

<https://www.smartsheet.com/comprehensive-guide-values-principles-agile-manifesto>

DevOps Tools

<https://cloudandmobile.blog/2018/06/01/devops-tools/>

Title: Better Tech Notes

My journey into the world of DevOps
and some useful things I learnt along the way
that are relevant to WordPress users

Introduction:

Andreas Andrews aka Dre

Company: TechNote

Contact: andreas@technoteuk.com

For socials or anything else Google me!

Start with 'Why' - Sinek

Why DevOps?

It accelerates the SDLC (Software Development Life Cycle)

Why is it relevant to you and I?

If you use WordPress as blogger or business owner, developer or publisher chances are you'd like things to run as smoothly as they can.

The ever changing nature of the platform due to plugins, updates and released has shifted how developers update websites. The idea of periodic updates has instead been catapulted into the modern age of constantly updating systems as needed.

One common definition of DevOps is “Continuous improvement, feature releases and updating of an app or website to ensure smooth functionality without downtime or disruption.”

Sounds great right? So I assume you want things to run smoothly without downtime or disruption whilst speeding up your workflow, productivity so that you can release your website or app quickly and assuming you are in a competitive market, thus giving you an advantage.

Note: I'm going to try to tailor and cherry pick the best bits from 5 months of intensive training in DevOps earlier in the year in order to present not just a set of principles, but useful tools and techniques as well.

Housekeeping:

Assuming you are muted, if you would like to ask a question during the presentation feel free to raise your hand first (by clicking the button) or failing that you may unmute yourself to stop me and ask questions. I will be monitoring the Zoom chat for any written questions or feedback and will either answer or adjust things I go along or at the 10 min allocated Q&A at the end where I can go a little more in-depth for you.

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Breaking Down Silos

DevOps, which is a portmanteau of 'development' and 'operations' quite often relates to breaking down silos and allowing teams to communicate and work more effectively. As a one man band, one could say you are by nature more DevOps as there is no chance of a silo. Let's take a look at what it means to employ the practices and tools used by developers often working to a set of Agile principles and let's leave the terminology behind a little bit, whilst focusing on what matters most to you.

Agile Methodology

Whether you are in a team that answers to stakeholders and work within a framework (such as Scrum) or whether you're on your own and your stakeholder is simply your client, you can probably cherry pick from some of the principles & values from the manifesto and apply these to your day to day work.

Agile Values

1. Individuals and Interactions Over Processes and Tools
2. Working Software Over Comprehensive Documentation
3. Customer Collaboration Over Contract Negotiation
4. Responding to Change Over Following a Plan

The Twelve Agile Manifesto Principles

1. Customer satisfaction through early and continuous software delivery
2. Accommodate changing requirements throughout the development process
3. Frequent delivery of working software
4. Collaboration between the business stakeholders and developers throughout the project
5. Support, trust, and motivate the people involved
6. Enable face-to-face interactions
7. Working software is the primary measure of progress
8. Agile processes to support a consistent development pace
9. Attention to technical detail and design enhances agility
10. Simplicity
11. Self-organizing teams encourage great architectures, requirements, and designs
12. Regular reflections on how to become more effective

CI with WP

CI/CD means continuous integration and/or continuous delivery or continuous integration

<https://medium.com/@dinsaurenby/a-quick-free-way-to-use-continuous-deployment-with-wordpress-e5159920b1c4>

Tools

Firstly, there are a lot of DevOps tools out there so rather than focus on those which will be more than overwhelming for most I'm going to just rattle off a few tools that I found help me personally when working on any project and especially WordPress projects.

Productivity

I love using Toggl for tracking my time on projects, it's simple and easy to use and the free version is more than enough for my needs.

Slack is worth a mention as a viable alternative to emails. There is a WP slack community!

Working in teams, I opt for Trello for project management and having realised the benefits I now use it for my own solo projects and work also.

Sharing Knowledge

Now I've started on my path to learning a bit more programming and building on my developer practices I've realised the importance of sharing knowledge.

One of the things that I've realised is that as a developer you use Google a lot! One thing that occurred to me is that not many people know about the modifier tools when Google searching. If you put a dash '-' before a search term it will remove all instances of that term from the search results. ie. You might want to search for 'build tools' but you keep finding results about spanners, so you would search for:

build tools -spanners

That will effectively remove all the results about spanners.