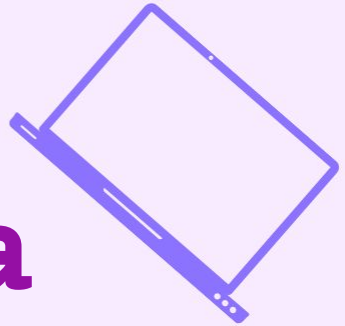
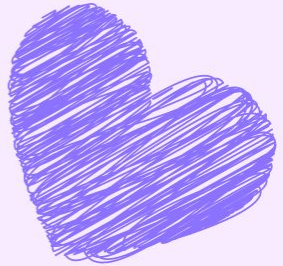


Versatility as a Devops Practitioner

carmenh.dev



I've been around for a minute.

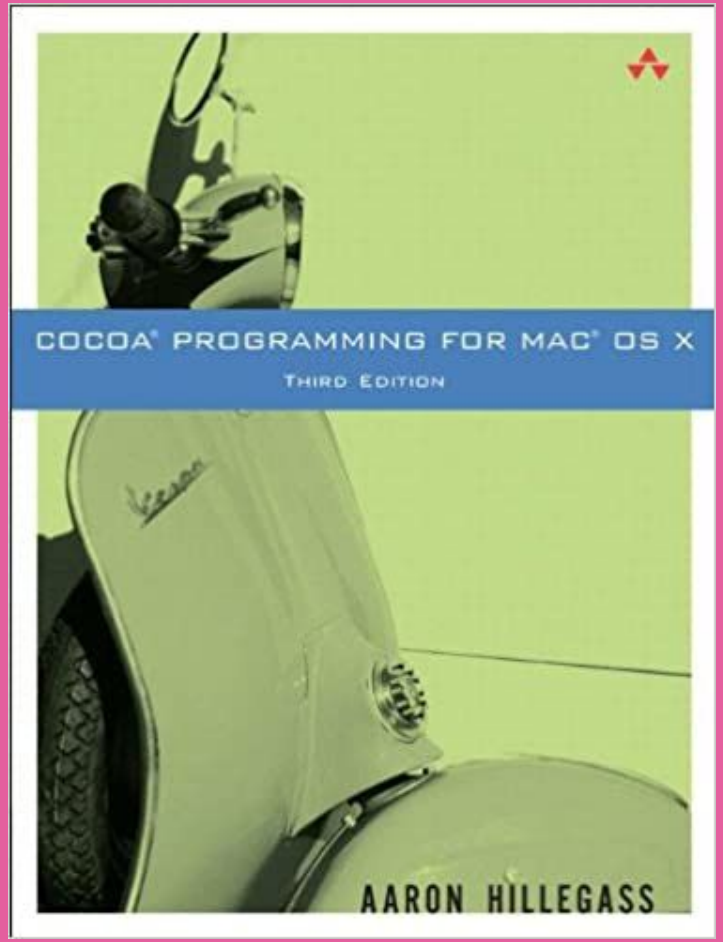
My first job was as a macOS developer

My first job was as a Mac OS X developer

“Carmen, you have no experience.
…Why did you apply for this job?”

Confidence?
What on earth

The language was Objective-C


COCOA® PROGRAMMING FOR MAC® OS X
THIRD EDITION
AARON HILLEGASS

It was on SVN

Pretty soon, my job there involved lots of ops

Which led me to Ruby on Rails

Which led me to Phoenix + Elixir

Which led me to JS/TS

Which led me to <insert stack here>

Which led me to DevRel

Which led me to Developer Education

2024 hits pretty different than 2009.

This job market is rough, y'all.

So I'm leaning into my versatility.

I'm Carmen! (she/her)

From 🇨🇱, living in 🇦🇹

Co-Founder: BadWebsite.Club

DevRel Strategy Consultant

egghead Instructor

Community member

Mozilla tech speaker alum

Kids' coding coach

Crafting Your Own Versatile Career

- What is versatility?

You've probably heard of generalists

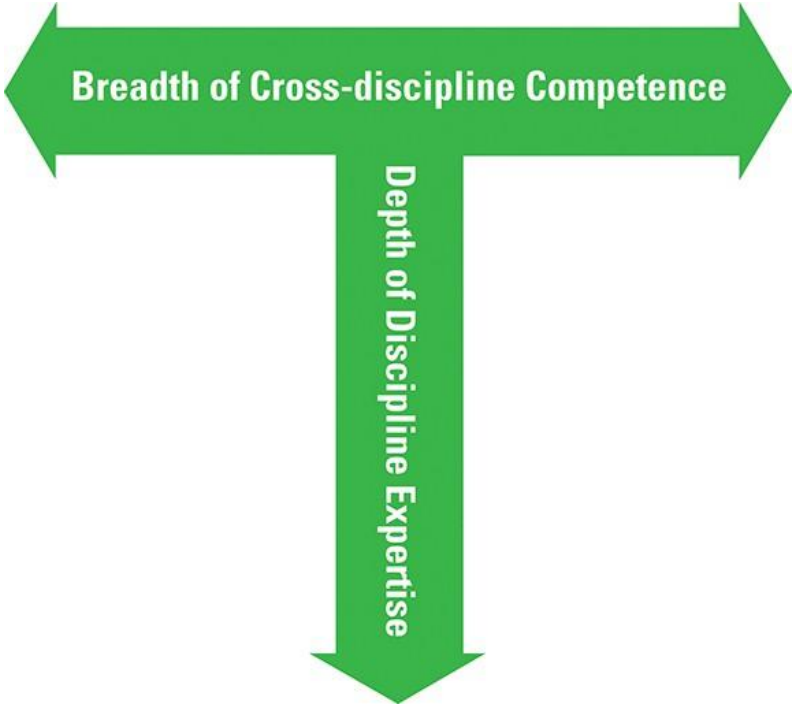
Generalists have a wide range of diverse skills.

You've probably heard of specialists

Specialists have a strong focus on one specific knowledge domain or set of skills.

What about the T-shaped technologist?

https://letslearnabout.net/blog/what-it-is-a-t-shaped-developer-and-why-you-should-be-one/



Jack of all trades, master of none.

Jack of all trades, master of none… but oftentimes better than master of one.

This talk is about none of that.

versatile adjective

'vər-sə-tᵊl

Definition of *versatile* >

- **as in *adaptable***

  able to do many different kinds of things

  > a *versatile* baseball player can play any position
  >
  > this tool is *versatile* enough to serve as a wrench

Crafting Your Own Versatile Career

- What is versatility?
- Why embrace versatility?

Career Resilience

Problem-solving agility

Fulfillment

Fulfillment?

Crafting Your Own Versatile Career

- What is versatility?
- Why embrace versatility?
- The importance of fundamentals

Tools come and go.

Frameworks come and go.

“Best practices” come and go

Fundamentals never change.

Fundamentals ~~never change.~~

Fundamentals move much slower.

Fundamentals

echo.

Crafting Your Own Versatile Career

- What is versatility?
- Why embrace versatility?
- The importance of fundamentals
- Soft skills

Crafting Your Own Versatile Career

- What is versatility?
- Why embrace versatility?
- The importance of fundamentals
- ~~Soft~~ Core skills

"Core" because they're a core part of us as technologists, team members, and humans.

Communication

Collaboration

Adaptability

Problem-solving

Getting unstuck

Asking for help

Learning

Lifelong Learning

Crafting Your Own Versatile Career

- What is versatility?
- Why embrace versatility?
- The importance of fundamentals
- Core skills
- Learning to learn

Constructivism

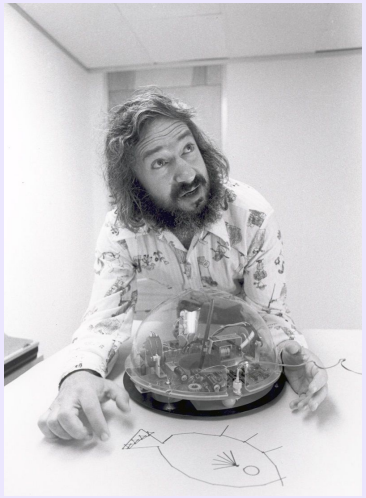
Jean Piaget

By Unidentified (Ensian published by University of Michigan) - 1968 Michiganensian, p. 91, Public Domain, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=53878611

Knowledge is built upon existing knowledge.

Constructionism

Seymour Papert

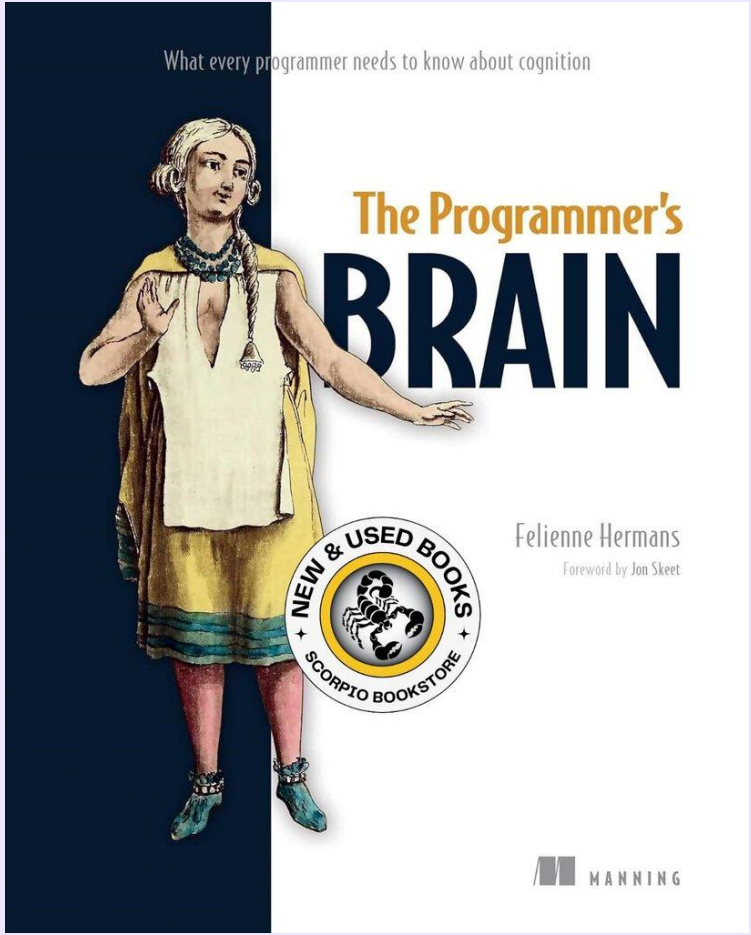


By Matematicamente.it - Matematica C3 Algebra DOLCE 1, Testo per il primo biennio della Scuola Secondaria di II grado, prima edizione anno 2014. Pagg. 344. ISBN 9788896354681; prezzo € 0,00; formato ebook pdf; licenza Creative Commons BY; editore Matematicamente.it: http://www.matematicamente.it/staticfiles/manuali-cc/algebra1_dolce_1ed.pdf, CC BY-SA 3.0, https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=46565196

Constructivism

+

Learning by doing


What every programmer needs to know about cognition
The Programmer's
BRAIN
Felienne Hermans
Foreword by Jon Skeet
NEW & USED BOOKS
SCORPIO BOOKSTORE
MANNING

CI stands for Continuous Improvement

Mentorship

Staying up to date

Curse of the new and shiny

Networking

We're here,
at DevOpsDays,
to learn.

But what about the opposite of versatile?

versatile adjective

ˈvər-sə-tᵊl

Definition of *versatile* >

- **as in *adaptable***

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- **Antonyms & Near Antonyms**

  limited **inexperienced**

Is being limited bad?

Jack of All Trades, Master of Adaptability.

We've got a whole day 2 ahead of us.

Go talk.

We've got a whole day 2 ahead of us.

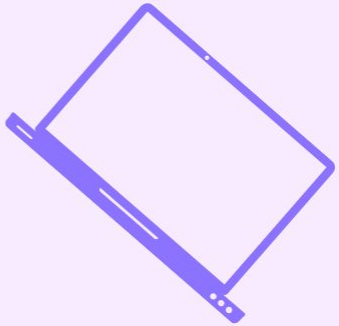
Go listen.

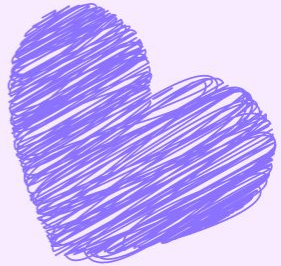
We've got a whole day 2 ahead of us.

Go be versatile.

carmenh.dev/devops-versatility.pdf

Carmen Huidobro



Thank you, Friends!

carmenh.dev/card