

DEVELOPERS' PERCEPTION OF PRODUCTIVITY

The following document shows the survey we run online and within Microsoft with software developers. Please feel free to contact Thomas Fritz at fritz@ifi.uzh.ch if you have any further questions.

Survey

Introduction to the participant

Dear reader,

Are there days when your development work goes well and days when you just cannot seem to get anything done? We invite you to participate in our survey about your development work and how you track and improve it. Our aim is to create tools to help you better reflect and improve on your development work.

The following survey will take you **about 15 minutes** of your time. With your participation you get the chance to enter our lottery to **win one of two Amazon gift certificates with a value of \$200 each**.

We will keep your survey responses anonymous. We will NOT attribute answers to any particular participant. At the end of the survey, you are asked to insert your mail address voluntarily to contact you in case you want to participate in the lottery and/or in case you want us to email you the survey results.

We would greatly appreciate your participation!

Please feel free to contact Thomas Fritz at fritz@ifi.uzh.ch if you have any further questions.

Prof. Thomas Fritz and André Meyer (University of Zurich)

Survey

Questions about your Background

1. What is the size of the project you work for (in people)?

	1-20, 21-50, 51-100, 100+
	[radio-boxes]

2. Do you mostly have ...

	... open source project experience?
	... closed source project experience?
	[radio-boxes]

3. Which country are you working in?

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4. What best describes your primary work area?

Development, Test, Project Management, Other Engineer, Other Non-Engineer [radio boxes]

5. Which of the following best describes your role?

Individual Contributor, Lead, Architect, Manager, Executive, Other [radio boxes]
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6. How many years of software development experience do you have? [textbox allowing decimals]

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7. How many years of professional software development experience do you have? [textbox allowing decimals]

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8. What are the 5 software applications you use most during your workday?

Productivity

9. Please complete the following sentence in up to three ways:

I have a productive workday when...

10. Are you satisfied with your productivity of your prior workday?

	very unsatisfied, unsatisfied, undecided, satisfied, very satisfied [radio-boxes]
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11. Are you satisfied with your productivity last week?

	very unsatisfied, unsatisfied, undecided, satisfied, very satisfied [radio-boxes]
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12. How did you assess if you were productive last week (for the previous questions)?

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13. Which activities do you consider particularly productive in a workday?

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14. Which activities do you consider less productive in a workday?

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Goal Setting and Monitoring

15. Do you usually set yourself personal goals for how much you will accomplish in your software development project(s)?

You can select as many answers as you want.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, daily goals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, weekly goals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, yearly goals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No.

16. [if "yes" in question 15] What goals do you set yourself?

Please name example goals and also state if you set yourself the goals on a daily, weekly or yearly basis.

17. [if "yes" in question 15] Do you monitor your goals and if so how do you monitor your goals to see if you achieve(d) them?

We are interested in techniques, tools, methods, etc.

18. [if "yes" in question 15] Do you think that monitoring your work has any effect on your productivity? Why do you think so and what are the effects?

19. Does your company set goals that you have to achieve in your software development work?

You can select as many answers as you want.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, daily goals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, weekly goals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes, yearly goals.
<input type="checkbox"/>	No.

20. [if "yes" in question 16] What kind of goals does your company set?

Please also state if the goals are on a daily, weekly or yearly basis.

Goal Setting and Monitoring

21. Knowing the following would help me assess my personal productivity.

(1 = “strongly disagree”, 2 = “disagree”, 3 = “neutral”, 4 = “agree”, 5 = “strongly agree”).

Goals / Measurements	1	2	3	4	5
	[one X per line]				
Changes and Tests					
The number of commits I made.					
The number of lines of code that I changed per day.					
The number of code elements (e.g. packages or classes) that I changed.					
The number of code elements that I changed for the first time.					
The time that I spent writing code.					
The time that I spent in each code project or package.					
The number of test cases I wrote.					
The number of test cases I wrote that subsequently failed.					
The number of API method I learned each day.					
Email, Meetings, and Browsing					
The number of emails I wrote.					
The time it took me on average to respond to email.					
The time I spent in meetings.					
The number of meetings I attended.					
The time that I spent browsing the web for work related information.					
The time that I spent browsing the web for non-work matters during work.					
Work items and Code Reviews					
The number of work items (tasks, bugs) I closed.					
The number of work items I created.					
The number of work items I created that were fixed.					
The time I have spent on each work item.					
The number of code reviews I’ve contributed to.					
The number of code reviews I’ve signed off.					
The time it takes me on average to sign off on code reviews.					
The time I spend reviewing code.					

Productivity Revisited

22. What information do you wish you could measure to help you meet your goals and/or to improve your productivity?

23. What techniques do you use to be more productive?

24. How does a productive day, in comparison to an unproductive one, affect your...

... happiness: increases, no change, decreases	[radio-boxes]
... motivation: increases, no change, decreases	[radio-boxes]
... mood: increases, no change, decreases	[radio-boxes]
... concentration: increases, no change, decreases	[radio-boxes]

25. Assume we built a tool to monitor your productivity. What should it look like?
We are looking for possible concepts, features, functionality, looks, usage, etc.

26. Are you interested in the results as soon as they are published?

	Yes, no [radio-boxes]
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27. Are you interested in taking part in our lottery to win one of two Amazon gift certificates with a value of \$200 each?

	Yes, no [radio-boxes]
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28. Please insert your email address here in case you are interested in the results and/or want to participate in our lottery. We will not give it to any third party nor will it be used to interpret the data of the survey.

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Thank you very much for your time and valuable help!