

MAGIC ATTITUDE

Ask yourself all the time: if in the future they repeatedly ask me to change and extend the code I'm writing right now, will it be easy?

Just by answering this question, you will automatically start writing testable, reusable and maintainable code. Your code will be well documented and will follow best practices.

That's almost magic!

There are some more questions you should ask, as you code:

- 1) How reusable is this code?
- 2) Can anyone understand it?
- 3) How easily can it be changed?
- 4) Is this the simplest solution?
- 5) How can I test the code?

These questions underly five good coding general principles: write code that is reusable (1), understandable (2), easy to change (3), simple (4) and testable (5).

Untestable code is usually not reusable; non understandable code is usually not easy to change and not simple. Follow that all these factors are interconnected.

Finally, these principles boil down to a single magic question: how easy is to maintain this code?