(Soft) Skills
for Developers

About me

- **Carola Helm**

- Co-Founder & Co-CEO of **DevCraft Academy**

- Living in Vienna, born in Carinthia

- Studied a few things and completed the most

- Mum of 2 and married to my Co-Founder

DevCraft Academy

- DevCraft Academy is a top-notch program designed for **junior** and **mid-level software developers**.

- Over 6 to 12 months, participants receive **personalized guidance** through daily lessons, **mentorship**, and engaging **projects** in both front-end and back-end development.

- The program is crafted to elevate developers **to a senior level**, offering a unique and high-quality learning experience.

~~Soft~~ Skills
for Developers

Core Skills
for Developers

Core Skills

- Project Management, which Core Skills to you need

- Time Management

- Leadership Skills

Project Management

Making sure a project goes well from **start to finish.**

It involves **planning**, organizing **resources**, keeping an eye on **progress**, and dealing with **changes**.

The goal is to **use time and money** wisely and make sure the project meets **quality standards** and keeps **customers** happy.

Project Management

For example, a **coach of a team**, he or she **keeps everyone on track** and ready for anything that might happen.

Project Management

- The **project scope** is like deciding the rules of the game – what's part of it and what's not.

- **Stakeholders** are your cheering fans who really care about your team's success.

- **Resources and budget** are like making sure your team has the right equipment and money to play.

- **Risks** are unexpected challenges during the game.

How to start with Project Management?

1. Define Clear Objectives

2. Break Down Tasks

3. Assign Responsibilities

4. Set a Timeline

5. Monitor and Adapt

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Imagine you're creating a cool game. First, we decide what the game will be about and what features it will have.

This step is like setting our **project vision**.

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Now, we break down the game into **smaller tasks**, like designing characters, writing code, and testing.

It's like dividing the game into plays.

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Each team member gets a specific job.

Someone designs characters, someone else writes code.

Making sure **everyone knows their position** on the field.

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We set a timeline, like a schedule, for when each part of the game should be finished.

It's like saying, "By this date, the characters need to be designed."

This approach is part of being **agile**.

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As we work, we regularly check if everything is going as planned.

If not, we change something, maybe giving more time to coding if it's taking longer.

This flexibility is part of our **agile strategy**.

Communication matters

Communication is our team huddle, **fixing issues quickly**. Effective communication ensures everyone is informed and can respond promptly.

Enhance Communication

1. Regular Meetings:

Hold sprint reviews, checking in with the team.

Regular meetings provide a platform for open communication and collaborative problem-solving.

2. Use Collaboration Tools:

Employ project collaboration tools, ensuring seamless communication.

Utilizing tools enhances collaboration, resembling passing the ball in a game to keep everyone involved.

Adaptability is essential

Adaptability is key, considering unexpected changes.

Like a sudden rule shift in a game.

Being adaptable ensures that the **project stays strong and capable** when confronted with challenges.

How to foster Adaptability

- **Regular Assessments:**

  Check progress regularly, adjusting plans – part of our iterative process.

  Regular assessments allow us to identify areas for improvement and make necessary changes.

- **Encourage Feedback:**

  Collect feedback, fostering continuous improvement. Encouraging feedback from all team members promotes a culture of learning and refinement.

Project Management

"A **structured** approach to **achieving** goals with a team."

Time Management

We **all struggle** with time.

Think about: multiple tasks, tight deadlines, and the ever-looming pressure to produce quality code.

So maybe „**Time Management**" will be **a good idea**.

The Myth of Multitasking

Many of us take pride in our ability to multitask.

However, studies show that **multitasking can lead to a significant loss of productivity** due to constant context-switching.

Instead, let's focus on **one** thing. You will have a much better outcome!

Time Management Strategies

Every strategy is good, so YOU have to test them, to find your perfect fit.

Lets talk about a few of them.

- The Pareto Principle

- Effective Task Breakdown

- The Pomodoro Technique

- Eat that Frog

- The Art of Saying „No"

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Also known as the 80/20 rule, states that 80% of our results come from 20% of our efforts.

Identify the high-impact 20% that brings the most value and prioritize them.

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Break down into smaller, manageable tasks.

Tackling **smaller pieces** not only makes the workload more digestible but also provides a sense of accomplishment as you complete each task.

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Working in focused **sprints**, typically **25 minutes**, followed by a short break. After completing four cycles, take a more extended break.

This method enhances concentration and combats burnout.

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To tackle their most challenging and critical **tasks first thing in the morning**, ensuring that the rest of the day is smoother and more productive.

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Being realistic about your bandwidth prevents overcommitting and ensures that your **plate isn't overloaded**.

Time Management

Remember, efficient time management isn't about doing more, it's about **doing** what **matters most**.

Leadership Skills

Leadership is not just about managing teams or being at the top of the hierarchy.

It starts with **YOU!**

Leadership Skills

Leading Yourself

Leadership begins with leading yourself. It's about setting personal goals, managing your time, and staying motivated.

You decide where to go, navigate challenges, and overcome problems.

Leadership Skills

Teamwork

Developers usually work together. Leadership helps you communicate well, share ideas, and be a team player - who inspires and supports others.

Leadership Skills

Problem-Solving Mindset

Great leaders are awesome problem solvers.

Approach challenges with a positive mindset, breaking down complex issues into manageable parts.

Leadership Skills

Communication Excellence

Leaders communicate with clarity, empathy, and precision.

Never talk down as a leader; always communicate on an equal level.

Leadership Skills

Learning and Growing

Embracing a growth mindset

As a developing leader, you'll want to learn new things, keep up with tech trends, and help others do the same.

Delegating responsibility can be challenging, yet indispensable for a leader.

Use Leadership Skills

1. Set Clear Goals

2. Take Initiative

3. Embrace Collaboration

4. Seek Feedback

5. Be a good Example

Whether it's mastering a new programming language or completing a challenging project milestone -

setting clear goals **gives your work purpose** and **direction**.

Use Leadership Skills

1. **Set Clear Goals**

2. **Take Initiative**

3. **Embrace Collaboration**

4. **Seek Feedback**

5. **Be a good Example**

Don't wait for instructions!

Volunteer for tasks, propose innovative solutions, and show enthusiasm for tackling new challenges.

It's about **being proactive** in your professional journey.

Use Leadership Skills

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5. Be a good Example

Actively engage with your colleagues, share your insights, and foster a supportive team environment.

Collaboration amplifies the impact **of your individual contributions**.

Use Leadership Skills

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4. **Seek Feedback**

5. Be a good Example

Don't shy away from constructive criticism!

Instead, embrace it as an **opportunity to grow**.

Seeking feedback shows humility and a commitment to **improvement**.

Use Leadership Skills

1. **Set Clear Goals**

2. **Take Initiative**

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4. **Seek Feedback**

5. **Be a good Example**

Finally, the most impactful leaders **lead by example**.

Demonstrate the work ethic, positive attitude, and commitment you'd like to see in your team.

Your **actions** speak louder than words.

Leadership

As a team leader, your focus shouldn't be on who stays in the company the longest or agrees to everything -

but on how **you can motivate each individual** to bring out their best.

Leadership

It's about inspiring your team to **believe in themselves**, recognizing **their unique strengths**, and, most importantly, **nurturing those strengths.**

As a leader, you'll never be the best on your own; your strength lies in **empowering your team** and achieving success together.
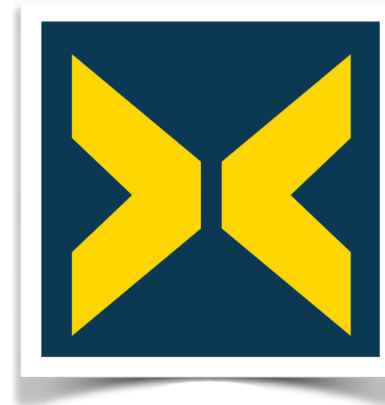
Thank you for your time!

Lets connect and talk in the break.

LinkedIn