

Behavior Driven  
Development  
w/ RSpec

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# What is BDD?

- ◆ More than just “writing the test first”
- ◆ It’s “getting the words right”
- ◆ Focuses on business value
- ◆ Behavior comes first, testing second







# Well you could but...

- ◆ Test::Unit does not help you define behavior
- ◆ RSpec does
- ◆ ... and you can still unit test in RSpec
- ◆ ... and it has mocking and stubbing support baked in



- ◆ ... and you can coverage test with RSpec (using RCov) easily
- ◆ ... and it plays nicely with Heckle
- ◆ ... and you will (later) be able to integration test in RSpec
- ◆ ... and ... and ... and ...



Holy crap!  
That's a lot of stuff!

**DON'T PANIC!**

RSpec is easy to learn



# Sample Spec

```
include Adder

describe "My adder module" do
  it "should provide a method called 'sum'" do
    Kernel.should respond_to(:sum)
  end

  it "should accept two numbers" do
    lambda { sum(1, 2) }.should_not raise_error
  end

  it "should error if given a non-number" do
    lambda { sum("foo", 1) }.should raise_error(TypeError)
    lambda { sum(1, "bar") }.should raise_error(TypeError)
    lambda { sum("foo", "bar") }.should raise_error(TypeError)
  end

  it "should return a number" do
    val = sum(1, 2)
    val.should_not be_nil
    val.should be_a_kind_of(Numeric)
  end

  it "should return the sum of its two parameters" do
    sum(1,2).should == 3
  end
end
```



# Discuss!

```
include Adder
describe "My adder module" do
  it "should provide a method called 'sum'" do
    Kernel.should respond_to(:sum)
  end

  it "should accept two numbers" do
    lambda { sum(1, 2) }.should_not raise_error
  end

  it "should error if given a non-number" do
    lambda { sum("foo", 1) }.should raise_error(TypeError)
    lambda { sum(1, "bar") }.should raise_error(TypeError)
    lambda { sum("foo", "bar") }.should raise_error(TypeError)
  end

  it "should return a number" do
    val = sum(1, 2)
    val.should_not be_nil
    val.should be_a_kind_of(Numeric)
  end

  it "should return the sum of its two parameters" do
    sum(1,2).should == 3
  end
end
```



# Here's how you run it

```
[evan@Timmy:sample1]$ spec adder_spec.rb  
.....  
Finished in 0.005582 seconds  
5 examples, 0 failures  
[evan@Timmy:sample1]$
```

Ooh! That was hard!



What if I want to show my customer that I'm making progress?

```
[evan@Timmy:sample1]$ spec adder_spec.rb --format specdoc
```

```
My adder module
```

- should provide a method called 'sum'
- should accept two numbers
- should error if given a non-number
- should return a number
- should return the sum of its two parameters

```
Finished in 0.00537 seconds
```

```
5 examples, 0 failures
```

```
[evan@Timmy:sample1]$
```



Let's see what happens if we were to write a placeholder description in our spec...

```
it "should do something else"
```

```
[evan@Timmy:sample1]$ spec adder_spec.rb --format specdoc
My adder module
- should provide a method called 'sum'
- should accept two numbers
- should error if given a non-number
- should return a number
- should return the sum of its two parameters
- should do something else (PENDING: Not Yet Implemented)

Finished in 0.005466 seconds

6 examples, 0 failures, 1 pending

Pending:
My adder module should do something else (Not Yet Implemented)
[evan@Timmy:sample1]$
```



# WAA! I write Rails apps!

- ◆ No problem!
- ◆ RSpec and RSpec-on-Rails available as Rails plugins
- ◆ RSpec-on-Rails includes several handy-dandy generators



RSpec-on-Rails  
Demo



RSpec looks awesome! But how do I define behavior at a high level?

- ◆ Story Runner
- ◆ Currently in development...
- ◆ ... but it is available now from within edge RSpec
- ◆ Caveat: the Story Runner DSL is still evolving!



